



# Regional Development Australia

NORTHERN INLAND NSW

## EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

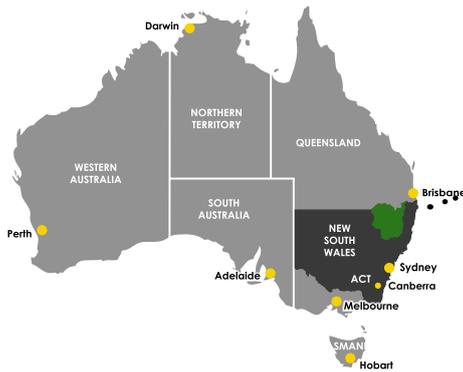
### Who Are We?

Regional Development Australia Northern Inland (RDANI) are your Incorporated Not-For-Profit Association that works together with all levels of government. Our aim is to enhance the economic development of Australia's regions through analysis of business proposals and policies, attracting and sourcing funding for projects and working closely with Local Government, businesses and communities to progress their needs. We aim to be the driver of business growth, new jobs, innovation, skills development and business investment within the Northern Inland region.

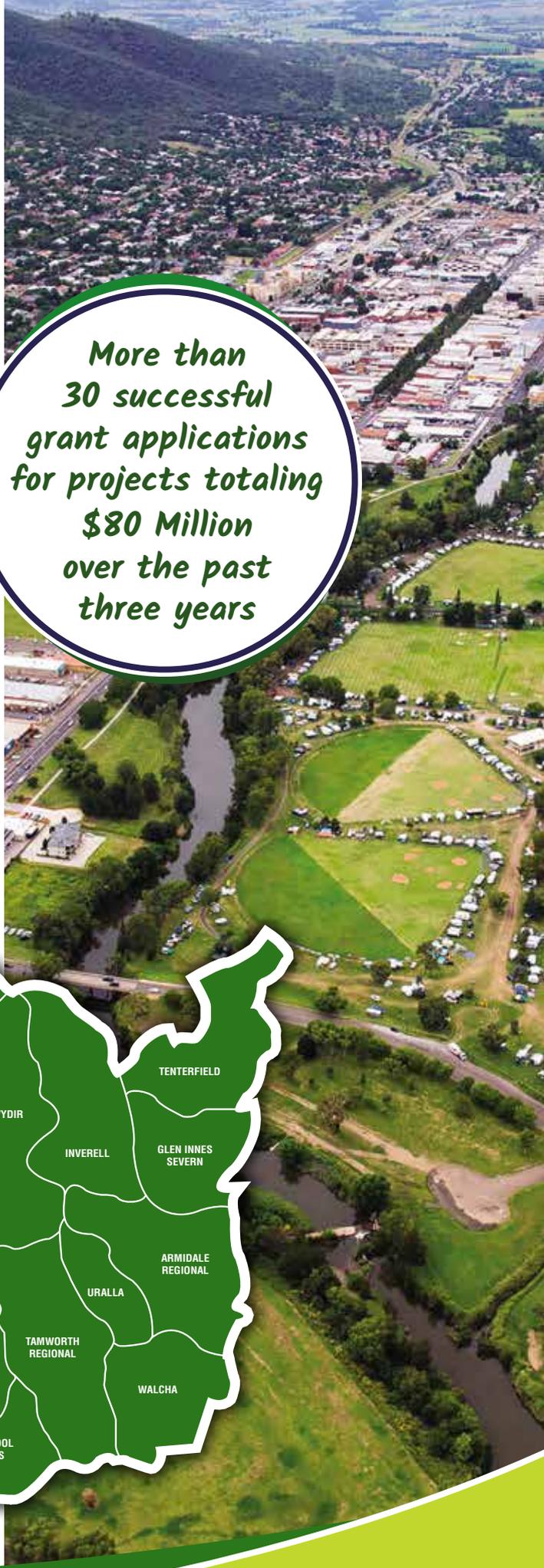
RDANI is overseen by a local Committee and Chair appointed by the Australian Government. We receive funding from the Australian Government and source other funding for specific projects managed in-house which align with our objective of advancing economic development in the region. The day-to-day operations of RDANI are managed by an Executive Officer and conducted by our five talented staff, who undertake project work, management and administrative functions.

*"RDANI have provided extensive assistance to Armidale Regional Council for a number of years now. They are our first port-of-call when seeking an evidence base to progress new projects and initiatives. Their collective knowledge of and access to socio-economic data at the local and regional level is unsurpassed."*

*Will Winter  
Principal Advisor, Economic Development  
Armidale Regional Council*



*More than  
30 successful  
grant applications  
for projects totaling  
\$80 Million  
over the past  
three years*





## What Do We Do?

Our primary objective is to work with local stakeholders (private, public and Not-for-Profit) to advance economic development in the region. Our emphasis is on economic development and employment growth. As a Not-For-Profit, we are able to offer our Research and Consultancy services at a far more attractive rate than the private sector, with all profits invested back into the region.

***"RDANI assisted our business with the development of a complex funding application, including the development of financial reports and forecasting for future business growth. Their knowledge base is exceptionally broad. I would recommend RDANI and their services to anyone seeking funding."***

*Steve Field – Director, Field's Environmental Solutions Pty Ltd, Uralla NSW.*

## Our Staff Skill-Set and Resources

- Networks into all tiers of government and in-depth local knowledge
- Economic analysis (benefit-cost analysis, economic impact assessments, feasibility studies, business cases etc.)
- Financial analysis (business case profitability, cash-flow, return on investment etc.)
- Impartial analysis and advice
- Access to REMPLAN Economic Impact Modelling Software
- Crown Lands Plans of Management
- Project management
- Marketing and Public Relations
- Graphic design
- Conference/workshop organisation
- Skilled migration assistance
- Media production (written, sound, video)
- Translation services
- Survey design and analysis

***"I would like to offer the Board's sincere appreciation and congratulations on the completion of an outstanding Namoi Investment Prospectus in terms of content, structure and presentation which promises to attract significant agricultural value-added investment to the Namoi Region."***

*Clr Andrew Hope, Former Mayor Liverpool Plains Shire Council and Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Chairperson.*

## Examples of Our Work & Achievements:

- Developed an **Investment Prospectus** for North West NSW, in both English and Simplified Chinese as a consultancy project for the Namoi Joint Organisation of Councils.
- Undertook an **Assessment of Regional Business Energy Use** including information for businesses on how to reduce their energy costs, what to look for if installing renewable energy, how to finance their energy investments and sources of government funding/assistance. Business workshops were held to communicate results. Conducted for the NSW Department of Industry.
- Conducted a **Benefit-Cost and Economic Analysis** of road upgrades spanning three council areas for the Namoi Joint Organisation of Councils.
- Working directly with businesses to help them grow and boost employment (e.g. the **Business Growth Mentoring** Project assisted 6 businesses, creating 12 new jobs and saving a further 12 jobs).
- **Sourcing Grant Funding** for local government and regional infrastructure (e.g. the Regional Development Australia Fund attracted \$9M of Commonwealth funding across three projects, the Northern Lights Project attracted \$581,000 of government funding to upgrade street lighting and undertake energy efficiency activities).
- **Developing Business Cases** for new economic activity (e.g. renewable energy, Uralla ZNET Project to assess options for potentially saving \$20-30M in energy expenditure leakage from our region, Apsley Dam proposal, Armidale Airport Business Park and New England Rail Trail).
- **Assisting Businesses, Local Councils and Community Organisations with Grant Applications** including economic impact data and full applications.
- Over the past ten years, we have **Facilitated Over 1,500 Skilled Workers** and their dependents to come to the region to assist local businesses address skill shortages (our Skilled Migration Program).
- **Media Promotion** such as developing videos for the Innovation Awards, Skilled Migration Program and AGCAP youth training program.
- **Analysis and Research** for local government (e.g. producing in and out migration maps for councils, estimating ratepayer cost savings from LED street lighting, Skill shortages analysis, Labour Market Analysis).
- **Economic Analysis** (e.g. Road Freight Study to prioritise freight route upgrades, potential biogas to electricity projects in Guyra, Gwydir and Tamworth, impacts of the Murray Darling Basin Plan on our regional economy, implications of demographic data).
- Providing **Analysis and Commentary on Government Policy** (e.g. the Murray Darling Basin Plan).
- **Promoting The Region** as a place to live and establish a business (e.g. the Come On Inland campaign and the development of a Regional Investment Profile).
- Making **Submissions To Government** to support the interests of the region (e.g. the Murray Darling Basin Plan and transport issues).





## *How can we Assist Governments and Businesses?*

- Source funding for infrastructure and other projects;
- Develop funding applications on behalf of proponents;
- Develop business cases for investments and projects;
- Conduct economic analyses of projects and proposals;
- Customised industry research reports;
- Provide research and analysis of data relevant to government and industry decision making;
- Assist councils and industry with funding bids (e.g. supply demographic and economic data);
- Alert councils and industry to new funding opportunities;
- Run the annual Northern Inland Business Innovation Awards – an opportunity for councils and their local businesses to promote their innovative practices at the regional level;
- Develop networks and contacts for councils and industry;
- Advocate on behalf of regional issues;
- Make submissions to support council plans and policy positions;
- Provide energy efficiency information for local residents and businesses.

*"RDANI helped us to complete a complex funding application for a new multi-million-dollar sporting facility at the school in a highly professional and timely manner".*

*Mary-Anne Evans, Principal, New England Girls School, Armidale NSW.*

## *Contact*

To see how we can assist your business, Local Government or organisation, please contact:

**Nathan Axelsson**

Executive Director

Phone: 0412 308 114

E-mail: [naxelsson@rdani.org.au](mailto:naxelsson@rdani.org.au)

**Russell Stewart**

Chair

Phone: 0457 922 878

Email: [rstewart@rdani.org.au](mailto:rstewart@rdani.org.au)

**[www.rdani.org.au](http://www.rdani.org.au)**