



## **Regional Event Sponsorship and Professional Development Application Guidelines & Assessment Process**

### **How to apply for event sponsorship and professional development under the NRM Plan?**

The Burnett Mary Regional Group for Natural Resource Management Inc (BMRG) is the peak coordinating body for natural resource management in the region under the Natural Heritage Trust and National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality programs. As a non-government, non-profit organisation BMRG is working with the community, industry and local government to manage, restore, use and conserve the diverse and highly valuable natural resources of the vast Burnett Mary region.

Identified in *County to Coast – A Healthy Sustainable Future* and associated Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) is the Community Capacity and Partnerships Action Program. This Program outlines activities to be implemented that strive to establish links between government, industry, community and R&D organisations and increase regionally focused research and the regional skill-base in NRM.

This program also aims to significantly increase the participation of the Indigenous sector in NRM.

A major emphasis of the program is to improve the awareness levels of the broader community on NRM to achieve an increased level of engagement in on-ground activity. This outcome is likely to assist our community to achieve biophysical natural asset targets detailed in *Country to Coast*.

### **How much and how long?**

The current funding offer is available from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2008.

### **What is the process for receiving funds for event sponsorship or professional development opportunities?**

BMRG have developed these Guidelines to assist Members with applying for event sponsorship and/or professional development type activities for the duration of the RIS.

### **Who will assess the applications?**

1. A panel comprising the NRM Program Manager, relevant Action Program Coordinator and Sub-Program Coordinator
2. Action Program Technical Advisory Working Groups (TAWG) where technical advice is identified.

The application will be assessed by one, some or all of the above processes dependent on level of funds and number of submissions received for assessment.

## **EVENT SPONSORSHIP**

Applications will be called for event sponsorship from all Members early in April 2007 and on a quarterly basis thereafter to June 2008. An application form is available in hard copy but can also be downloaded from the BMRG website [www.bmrg.org.au](http://www.bmrg.org.au).

The application process will be open for one month from the start of each quarter and all applications received will be assessed and applicants advised within one month of the closing date.

Events that occur on an ad hoc basis and require maximum support up to \$1,000 may be considered for assessment on a one-off basis outside of the normal assessment timelines. We request that the application form provided for Event Sponsorship should also be used for these submissions.

### **How will applications for event sponsorship be assessed?**

The applications for event sponsorship will be assessed against the following broad criteria:

- Alignment to Natural Resource Management Action Programs outlined in the NRM plan
- Alignment of the values of both parties
- Degree of involvement by other NRM organisations or community groups
- Level of support from non NRM groups
- Communication of NRM values promoted by the event
- Benefits to the broader community
- Value of the sponsorship to BMRG

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Applications to fund professional development opportunities (ie conferences, workshops, training, etc) will be open for Members all year round for the duration of the RIS. An application is available in hard copy but can also be downloaded from the BMRG website [www.bmrg.org.au](http://www.bmrg.org.au).

All applications received will be assessed and applicants advised within one month of submission of application.

### **How will applications for professional development opportunities be assessed?**

The selection of applications for professional development will be determined based on the following broad criteria:

- Alignment to Natural Resource Management Action Programs outlined in the NRM plan
- Alignment of the values of both parties
- Evaluation of the professional development/training
- Opportunities for sharing of knowledge with other interested parties
- Value of the sponsorship to BMRG

Figure 1 displays the application and assessment process for event sponsorship opportunities.

**Figure 1 Event Sponsorship Application & Assessment Process**

