



Investing in Rural Community Futures Program

Community Roadmap Review – Bay & Basin

Thursday 9 June – The Country Club, St Georges Basin

Fourteen participants came together to review the community roadmap created as part of the Investing in Rural Community Futures (IRCF) Program. These organisations were represented: Sussex Inlet Chamber of Commerce, Sussex Inlet Neighbourhood Centre, Tomerong School of Arts, Vincentia High School P&C, Bay & Basin Community Resources, Uniting Church Husky Op-shop, Sanctuary Point Community Pride, Basin Villages Forum, Firefly, Shoalhaven Council, Sanctuary Point Community Champions and Vincentia Ratepayers and Residents Association. The workshop was hosted by Mel and Ronan from Campfire Coop, and Lauren and Deb from FRRR. Michael Robinson ([Djiriba Waagura](#)) welcomed us to Country.



What brought you here today?

Here's a summary of responses to our check in:

- To connect with community and collaborate with others
- A conduit for resolving issues with Council, to meet you all and listen
- Keen to progress an idea for all community organisations in Sussex Inlet to collaborate
- Passionate believer in collaboration over competition
- Looking to work with partners here. Keen to learn more about the nuances of all different community groups. Listen, learn and collaborate.



- To learn more about Bay & Basin as we know it and see if I can make a contribution in some way
- Vision ignited by last year's workshop. Sometimes you have to stand still to move forward
- From Tomerong - it's great to be part of this circle for Bay & Basin
- To hear back how things are going. Keen to look for partnerships for common good of communities
- It's important for us to recalibrate after the last session and move forward.

Revisit Vision and Principles

We revisited the Vision and Principles and made changes where it was felt necessary. The changes are reflected below (changes and additions in bold).

Vision

- Our organisations are connected, complementary and cooperative
- We are powerful advocates for our community
- We are shaped by the voices and aspirations of our community
- Our organisations are welcoming, inclusive and have opportunities for growth and development
- ~~➤ Young people have a place in our organisations and we are meeting their needs~~
- **Young people have a voice in our communities and a place in our organisations and we work in partnership with them to meet their needs**
- Our volunteer community is vibrant, active, and evolving
- Our organisations are adaptive, strategic, and sustainable
- All Bay & Basin organisations are a culturally safe space for a strong first nations voice

Principles

- We focus on building our relationships and collaborate where it makes sense to do so
- ~~➤ We welcome the contributions of newcomers and emerging leaders~~
- **We value newcomers and emerging leaders of all ages as contributors in our communities**
- We pay special attention to staying familiar and accessible, keeping our close connections with community
- We seek to apply local wisdom and creativity to local challenges and opportunities
- We seek allies and partners to best advocate for the big issues
- We take care to align people's passions and skills to unlock their potential
- We actively seek opportunities to listen to, learn from and work with Aboriginal communities and organisation



Sharing stories

We heard stories from some participants implementing their projects funded by FRRR start-up and partnership grants:

- **Uniting Church:** Grow Husky Op-Shop to optimal place to fund social enterprises
- **Bay & Basin Community Resources:** Engaged Marketing and Communications coordinator – real benefits coming back
- **Sussex Inlet Chamber of Commerce:** Growth - community resilience coordinator, expand website
- **Huskisson Public School P&C:** Succession planning, strategic planning, laptop, and insurance
- **Sanctuary Point Community Pride:** Website, communication strategy and accounting software
- **Vincenia High School P&C:** Project manager Walawaani Ngaarn integrated community health hub
- **Lady Denman Heritage Complex:** museum cataloguing software
- **Sanctuary Point Community Pride:** Youth practitioner to develop youth forum and youth-led projects
- **Vincenia Ratepayers and Residents Association:** Develop a strategic vision and plan
- **Tomerong School of Arts:** Newsletter and welcome pack for new residents





Review and refine goals

We refined goals - updating wording, moving them, dropping some and adding new ones, and matched existing projects to each goal. A summary of the goals, in each IRCF Priority Area are provided below:

People
Our organisations have strong Aboriginal representation
Our people are culturally aware and engaged (<i>changed wording</i>)
Enhanced social media skills and digital literacy
A pipeline of suitably qualified staff for service sector organisations
Social engagement & networking to reward and support volunteers
Access to mentoring capability and resources locally
Confident and trained Committees and Boards - Governance
Access to project management support for new initiatives

Sector efficiencies
Localised and customised policies and procedures
"Volunteering" Bay & Basin
Collective voice to advocate for Bay & Basin challenges and needs
Centralised facility asset and resource booking 'library'
A shared communication strategy for Bay & Basin organisations
Network of Bay & Basin organisations
P&Cs are working together

Systems & Structure
Current hardware & software that is well support, adaptable and user friendly
Vibrant, sustainable digital platforms for local organisation to connect to community



Systems & Structure

Access to reliable telecommunications and Internet (*updated*)

~~Efficient and affordable access to all compliance and governance expenses (Goal removed due to duplication)~~

~~Shared secretariat function for sustainability (goal removed)~~

Investing in strategy

Support to design sustainable social enterprises

External support to develop strategic plans and growth strategies + viability for organisations

Effective, clear and accessible communications and engagement strategies in place (*updated*)

Tools and strategies to engage well with youth (*new goal*)

~~Tools and strategies to engage well within organisation and community (Goal removed due to duplication)~~

~~Our organisations have Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs) in place (Goal removed as it's included elsewhere)~~

Who is missing?

We identified those people or organisations who were missing and who should be part of these conversation. Which organisations are not here and need to be invited into this process?

Here's a snapshot:

- Wreck Bay Community Council
- School SRC reps
- Disability Support
- SCC YAC - B&B reps
- First Nations voice
- Disengage youth / youth voice
- Aboriginal groups
- All CCBs (or rep for all)
- NSW Health - outreach
- Reps of bus, community transport
- Ward 1 - 2 Councillors



Further ideas and initiatives

We discussed in groups what ideas and initiatives were bubbling up now to make our organisations even stronger.

- Off-site education for disengaged
- Local directory of support. Specific - social services, food
- Community organisations + NFP forum
- Work with youth organisations to develop youth service and activities for Sussex Inlet
- Request support from Council to develop survey to map skills and assets of community organisations
- Build a register of Community assets and skills (sector efficiencies)
- Community workshops on key issues
- Cultural awareness workshop
- Pooling local assets – facilities and skills
- Community strategic plan and implementation
- Pilot PCYC outreach
- Project design and management for a stage design
- Consultant to develop “Bay + Basin Beyond Barriers” Map-overlap-priorities
- Effective communications within B&B Community – research and mapping
- Coordinating the intersection of IRCF projects with existing strategic plans and community consultation
- Program/strategy for work/life training for young people to keep them in the region
- Structure/mechanism in place for ongoing sharing of ideas and resources
- Communication strategists for all local organisations





Initiative & project design

Using a [co-design graphic template](#), we worked on potential initiatives and projects that may seek funding through IRCF.

Project

Tomerong School of Arts — Collaboration to Develop Policy & Procedure Manual

Bay & Basin Beyond Barriers — Identify community Assets / Capacity

BBCR Strategic Vision — Work life and Training Centre for all young people

Help Neighbourhood Centre take the next step

Activate Walawaani once building completed (funding launch, a film)

Get a project to 'ready stage' for Council - build a pavilion in the Francis Ryan Reserve

Next Steps

Contact Kangaroo Valley collaborator

BBRC - approach to lead project

Looking for local partners

Fund additional support:

- Finance system
- Review of services

Consult community and fill communication gap

Meet with Bruce





Next steps

- We have 5 workshops reviewing the Community Roadmaps during June, in Nowra, Bay & Basin, Kangaroo Valley, Ulladulla and Batemans Bay.
- The next round of partnership grants opens 20 June, and closes 26 July, announced by end of October, for funding before Christmas. Evaluation will happen again around March next year.
- Carolyn and Lauren from FRRR are available for support and help write applications
- Toolbox funding is available for collaborative quick response grants

What gems are you taking with you?

Here's a summary of your responses to our check out from the day:

- Feeling far more energised! Badly needed.
- All people I've met today
- When we work together and share - what we can for our communities
- So heartening to be with people who collaborate
- Welcome pack Tomerong has created
- Collaboration
- Thanks for the invitation. Lots of scope for collaboration going forward
- Great vibe
- Opportunity to meet face to face
- Power of networking and collaborative minds
- Excitement, gracious for time, grateful for insights
- Come to school to learn how to learn - learned a lot today
- Amount of collaborative work, outstanding projects, get to know each other, joy

