



Reef Rescue Indigenous Land and Sea Country Partnerships Program

TUMRA Development Funding Guidelines

Where does the funding come from?

In December 2008, the Australian Government committed \$10 million over five years towards the Caring for Our Country Reef Rescue Indigenous Land and Sea Country Partnerships Program. The Program is delivered by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA). A key objective of the Program is to expand the Traditional Use of Marine Resources Agreement (TUMRA) Program across the reef catchment. All funding to support TUMRA development at this time comes from this Reef Rescue source.

Who can apply?

Traditional Owner groups with Great Barrier Reef sea country or persons/legal entities acting under the direction and on behalf of Traditional Owner groups can apply. The GBRMPA may only enter into contracts with legal entities. Other financial means to support TUMRA development which are consistent with Australian Government requirements may also be considered.

What can you do with this funding?

Develop a TUMRA and seek accreditation of the agreement by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments. Traditional Owner groups who wish to develop other Sea Country Management Plans can apply for funding from the GBRMPA via the Sea Country Partnerships Grants Program.

What can the *TUMRA development* funding support?

Funding can support Traditional Owner groups in activities to develop a TUMRA including:

- obtaining resources and improving capacity to initiate steps to develop a TUMRA
- establishing and supporting a contact point or person to facilitate or manage the development of a TUMRA (which may include arranging accommodation, travel, meetings and co-ordinating and/or conducting TUMRA development activities)
- organising of scientific workshops and training and support of networking and communications within and amongst Traditional Owner groups
- managing and providing reports on all financial expenditure and agreed TUMRA development activities and milestones
- formulation of a TUMRA implementation plan
- producing and supplying (to the GBRMPA) all TUMRA documentation to enable consideration of accreditation.

(see http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/about_us/legislation_regulations) pertaining to TUMRAs.

How do you apply for funding?

Traditional Owner groups must:

- advise the GBRMPA in writing that they wish to develop a TUMRA
- consider the most cost-effective manner for their circumstances to support development of a TUMRA
- develop and submit to the GBRMPA a TUMRA development project proposal consistent with the above activities including a detailed project budget, along with any supporting evidence of proposed costs. The project budget should include the specific costs to hold any necessary meetings to enable the Traditional Owner groups to meet amongst themselves and neighbouring Traditional Owner groups and with the relevant agencies and parties to develop the TUMRA.

How will an application for TUMRA development funding be assessed?

The GBRMPA will assess applications for funding. Criteria that will be considered in assessing whether a TUMRA development proposal is funded and to what extent funding will occur include the:

- capacity of the Traditional Owner group to develop and subsequently implement a TUMRA
- amount of funds being sought and consideration of whether the details provided in the application, including a detailed project budget, provide adequate explanation of the project
- number of meetings proposed with Traditional Owner groups, neighbouring Traditional Owner groups, Government Agencies and other parties
- size and composition of the Traditional Owner group/s (e.g. number of clans/tribes or separate groups)
- geographic range of the Traditional Owner group (e.g. proposed TUMRA at clan, tribe, group or regional level comprising a number of Traditional Owner groups)
- remoteness of the location for which TUMRA development is proposed and whether there would be additional costs associated with bringing people together
- physical and minor equipment already held or accessible by the Traditional Owner groups to support TUMRA development
- explicit identification of the in-kind support required from the GBRMPA for the Traditional Owner groups to develop a TUMRA for consideration by the GBRMPA.

What amount of funding is available for TUMRA development?

The Caring for Our Country Reef Rescue Indigenous Land and Sea Country Partnerships Program has a proportion of funding available to work with Traditional Owner groups with Great Barrier Reef sea country. The amount of TUMRA development funding available will vary each year and not all applications for funding to develop TUMRAs may be successful. It is recognised that each Traditional Owner group will operate under different environments and circumstances to develop a TUMRA and as a result of this the amount of funding provided for successful individual TUMRA development projects will also vary. Funding to support implementation of accredited TUMRAs is not guaranteed after successful TUMRA development and TUMRA Implementation Funding Guidelines should be considered for these purposes.

As a general guideline the GBRMPA will consider provision of funding of up to \$50,000 for Traditional Owner groups to develop a TUMRA based on an assessment of their TUMRA development project proposal and project budget against the criteria detailed above. This figure should not be considered a standard figure for TUMRA development but more a maximum amount for a large and complex TUMRA for which a substantial proposal with a detailed and substantiated project budget will be required.

In exceptional circumstances and depending on funding availability from the Caring for Our Country Reef Rescue Indigenous Land and Sea Country Partnerships Program, the GBRMPA may, at its discretion, assess a TUMRA development application and approve funding that exceeds the \$50,000 maximum general funding cap.

Are there other TUMRA development funding conditions?

Funds to support TUMRA development are exclusively for this purpose. There is no provision to purchase capital items, including; land, buildings, motor vehicles, bicycles, boats, outboard motors, or other plant and equipment.

The purchase of minor equipment including furniture, fittings, computer hardware, printers, and scanners will only be funded if such equipment is deemed essential for TUMRA development. The purchase of these items to support TUMRA development should be considered extraordinary and will require detailed individual costings in the TUMRA development project budget and supporting evidence by way of quotations of proposed costs. Applicants for TUMRA development funding should discuss with the GBRMPA the need to purchase these items before seeking quotes and before their inclusion in any TUMRA development project proposal is submitted to the GBRMPA.

Should Traditional Owner groups require special consideration of some matters in regards to the development of a TUMRA which are not mentioned in these Guidelines, they are encouraged to contact the GBRMPA directly to discuss such matters.

For further information contact:

*Indigenous Partnerships Group
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority*

Freecall: 1800 990 177

Email: indigenous_partnerships@gbmpa.gov.au

Mail: PO Box 1379, Townsville Qld 4810

Or visit our website: www.gbrmpa.gov.au