



**BACK OUR
REGIONS TO
COMPETE
GLOBALLY**



**WE WILL WORK WITH REGIONAL
COMMUNITIES TO GROW THEIR UNIQUE
COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE TO BUILD
INDUSTRIES AND CREATE JOBS.**

From Coolangatta to Cooktown and Charleville, Advance Queensland is supporting innovators to harness local opportunities and create jobs.

Over 60 per cent of Advance Queensland funding recipients are located in regional Queensland and delivering projects that are supporting over 7,400 jobs.

Regional Queensland is rich with innovation potential and many examples of ground breaking innovations. Through Advance Queensland programs, a wide range of regional entrepreneurs and organisations are being supported to adopt new technologies, create jobs and secure new markets and emerging business opportunities.

DIRECTIONS

UNIQUE COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

Industry, business, startups, local governments and communities will work together to grow their strengths and use innovation to build industries, harness opportunities and create jobs. We will continue to build local partnerships that are based on local strengths. We will enhance the connections required for local solutions to achieve commercial success and reach global markets.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples inherit a rich history of innovation, solving challenges and adapting to changes in the environment. They have much to offer and contribute to Queensland's innovation economy. The Deadly Innovation Strategy provides an approach to deliver economic opportunities to Indigenous communities. It supports a pathway for Indigenous businesses and innovators to achieve success, broaden access to existing opportunities and provide opportunities to secure funding for innovative businesses created, led and managed by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

COLLABORATING FOR GLOBAL OPPORTUNITIES

We will build regional strengths and make global connections. We will connect regional Queenslanders to markets, talent and opportunities so they can better participate in the new economy. Forging strong partnerships will help local innovators commercialise ideas through broader access to knowledge, support and markets.

Following a two year partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Queensland will continue to deliver a regional entrepreneurship acceleration program. This program will engage stakeholders across the innovation ecosystem to identify opportunities to accelerate the state's innovation success.

The program will move to Toowoomba, Gladstone and Mackay. Led locally, these projects will build connections across the region's innovation ecosystem and identify local solutions to accelerate the success of local entrepreneurs.

READY FOR WORK AND CHANGE

Existing and new workers will have the skills they need for the future of work. Future jobs will be different from today's jobs, involve different industries, different occupations and different tasks.

The pace and impact of current changes requires agile learning. Digital technologies enable new modes of teaching and opportunities to learn, anywhere and anytime. We will develop flexible ways that workers can get the skills that they need and employers want, and keep up to date.

SCALE ACROSS INDUSTRY SILOS

Our capability in emerging technologies, such as drones, remote sensing and image recognition, are transforming industries. We will identify the business leaders that are harnessing technology to solve problems in their industry and help them to apply their experience in other industries.

QCN FIBRE TO ADVANCE CONNECTIVITY

Regional Queensland has some of the least competitive internet markets in Australia. The backhaul component can cost significantly more for regional Queensland compared to metropolitan areas of Australia. The Queensland Government has a plan to deliver faster, more reliable internet to businesses and homes with the establishment of QCN Fibre.

QCN Fibre will use spare capacity on the government-owned optical fibre network to sell backhaul services to telecommunications companies. This network runs along the east coast of Queensland and through centres including Toowoomba, Bundaberg, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns as well as many smaller communities close to these cities.

