




The Garden of Origins

Annual Report
2022



‘What we do now,
and in the next
few years, will
profoundly affect
the next few
thousand years.’

Sir David Attenborough

Broadcaster & Natural Historian

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Mossman Botanic Garden would like to acknowledge the peoples who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land, our Eastern Kuku Yalanji Bama (people).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF BAMA

Our members, directors and management team would like to pay our respects to Yalanji Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other First Nations Australians from Queensland's Wet Tropics Rainforests and nationally with whom the Garden's work.

We acknowledge the contribution of our Eastern Kuku Yalanji Bama for guiding the establishment and development of the Garden.

In the Port Douglas, Mossman, Daintree and Wujal Wujal areas, the Traditional Owners are the Eastern Kuku Yalanji Aboriginal people. For the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people many natural features of the landscape have spiritual significance including Wundu (Thornton Peak), Manjal Dimbi (Mount Demi), Wurrmbu (The Bluff) and Kulki (Cape Tribulation).

A rich array of plants and animals provided reliable food for the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people as they travelled seasonally throughout the area. The coastal lowlands were particularly productive and could sustain a relatively large population.

Understanding the weather cycles and the combination of vegetation types allowed the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people to find a variety of food throughout the year—when jilngan (mat grass) is in flower, it is time to collect jarruka (orange-footed scrubfowl) eggs and when jun jun (blue ginger) is fruiting, it is time to catch diwan (Australian brush-turkey). Many tree-dwelling animals were also hunted including murral (tree-kangaroos), yawa (possums) and kambu (flying foxes).

The islands, beaches, creek mouths and estuaries, backing dunes and lowland tropical rainforest of the Daintree area also provided a major focus for camping and other uses for the Kuku Yalanji. Combined with the fringing reef and sea, a diverse range of resources were available to the Yalanji people on a systematic, seasonal and cultural basis.

Characteristic cultural features of the Daintree region include a complex network of First Nations walking tracks. These were based around two major tracks, one along the coast and one further inland which were joined by an intricate network of associated tracks which connected all destinations, places of cultural importance and resource use. Many of these were later developed into the roads and tracks used today.



The changing face of botanic gardens.

Professor Tim Entwisle

For nearly five hundred years, botanic gardens have adapted and evolved in response to the changing needs and expectations of the communities around them. Today, most of them contribute actively to nature conservation and addressing the impacts of climate change on the world's flora and fauna.

This transition, or pivot as we have got used to saying post-pandemic, is not always easy, particularly for historical gardens created for other purposes.

That isn't the case for Mossman Botanic Garden. Here is a dedicated Wet Tropics botanic gardens in its formative years, with a clearly stated emphasis on ex situ conservation and management. A huge opportunity to reimagine a botanic garden suite to the twenty-first century. Not only supporting and promoting biodiversity conservation but also the deep human cultural history of this land. From day one, the design of this landscape can embrace the knowledge and culture of First Nations.

There are so many more opportunities too. The living collections and seed banks can support much-needed horticultural research and phenological (seasonal) observations, as well as providing raw material for habitat restoration and ethnobotanical investigations led by First Nations researchers.

Working within the World Heritage protected area presents a unique opportunity to showcase the extraordinarily rich plant diversity of the region while highlighting the major risks to its survival and the vital importance of protected areas.

I see Mossman Botanic Garden becoming a world class research facility built on a commitment to collaboration and open-source knowledge. Through partnerships with both Governments, major regional institutes, corporates, regional businesses, the local community and particularly with traditional owners, Mossman Botanic Garden - the Garden of Origins is now poised to step up and deliver this missing piece of the conservation jigsaw.



Simon Towle

Education and research are core activities for the Mossman Botanic Garden.

Education and research are core activities for the Mossman Botanic Garden. Indeed, a Botanic Garden cannot call itself a 'Botanic Garden' without them. The past two years have seen the MBG make significant strides on both fronts. We have signed Memoranda of Understanding with JCU, CQU and TAFE, and these relationships are already benefitting both the MBG, and the wider regional community.

TAFE is the Registered Training Organisation for the MBG, and in an exciting new development, students at Mossman State High School will be offered opportunities to complete school-based traineeships leading to TAFE certificates in horticulture commencing in 2024 using the MBG as their training ground, and a potential employer.

TAFE is also working with our partners at the Jabalbina Aboriginal Corporation to train Eastern Kuku Yalanji people in horticulture, conservation and ecosystem management at the MBG, who will help alleviate the regional skills shortage in horticulture that is afflicting those involved in various regeneration projects in the Wet Tropics and private firms such as landscapers.

As I write, Mossman State School, Jabalbina, TAFE and the MBG are about to meet to develop a major joint application that will establish a junior ranger program at the school commencing in 2024 that will provide additional training and employment opportunities.

Our close relationship with James Cook University continues to flourish. JCU's long-serving Provost, Emeritus Professor Chris Cocklin has joined Australian Tropical Herbarium Inaugural Director, Prof Darren Crayn on the MBG Board. Your Board now comprises Professors Cocklin and Crayn, Dr Georgina Davis, CEO of Queensland Water, Mr Leon Yeatman, CEO of North Queensland Land Council, Mr Barney Swan, CEO of Climate Force, Dr Lucy Holmes McHugh, a Fulbright scholar who has recently completed her doctorate looking at climate change policy and World Heritage sites at the University of Michigan and eminent horticulturalist and Hortulus CEO, Mr John Sullivan. Our patron Prof Tim Entwisle is also kindly providing his time and encyclopaedic knowledge of botany and botanic gardens as the MBG readies itself for Stage 1 in late 2023.

Our inaugural JCU intern Mr Markus Kauffman from Switzerland completed two year's sterling work with the

MBG earlier this year as our Board secretary, and we welcome not just one but two new interns to the MBG: Ms Sabrina Sluvis from Argentina, who will be working with us this semester, and Ms Jacky Tshuma from Zimbabwe will be joining us formally at the beginning of 2024 academic year. These roles bring talented graduate students to share their considerable skills and knowledge with the MBG, while in exchange, providing valuable insights into the unique cultures and biota of the Wet Tropics, and the operations and governance of an expanding not-for-profit organisation.

During the past year we have also greatly expanded our stakeholder network with government agencies such as the Wet Tropics Management Authority and Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on biosecurity and training, and the private sector.

KPMG in collaboration with our CEO Nicky Swan have developed a strategic road map for the Mossman Botanic Garden and Nicky has subsequently visited Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane meeting with various industry leaders, politicians, corporates and senior public servants to discuss how we will now be moving forward.

Nicky and the Board have also spent much of the past year working methodically through all our policy and legal documents to ensure that they are fully compliant with state and federal law and have also begun working with architects Gary Hunt and town planner Dominic Hammersley from WildPlan to lodge preliminary development approval applications with the Douglas Shire Council.

By the time you read this, we will also have launched our exciting and completely innovative new funding platform 1SQM which will be totally dedicated to fund-raising on behalf of the Garden. I invite you to get behind this remarkable initiative, and together we will finally see the MBG bloom. The donation platform be easily accessed via the MBG website.

Finally, as chair I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to our wonderful CEO Nicky without whom none of this would have happened. I am very excited about the future. Solid foundations are now in place to achieve all the amazing potential that the MBG offers.



Bringing a big idea to life has been our major push over the last year.

Nicky Swan

Up here in Far North Queensland bringing a big idea to life has been our major push over the last year. Botanic Gardens are special places and each one is unique, and they are generally created in large spaces, this one is no different.

Botanic gardens celebrate plants and biodiversity and as the Mossman Botanic Garden and its unique Wet Tropics collections grow, it is natural that it will evolve and change however the main area that is often overlooked in this ongoing process is the operational side that supports and develops this.

Everyone from the highly experienced design team to the executive team, the Board, the plant collection and documentation team and the planners of initial programmatic activities that include research and education are all vital for the eventual success of the project. These skills sets and the key projects within such a large-scale project all take time to develop and need money to keep them moving forward.

Fund raising is the very lifeblood of any charity and building a 21st century research botanic garden in the Wet Tropics is no different. It's vital that the Mossman Botanic Gardens looks at new and engaging solutions to help supplement its memberships and other fundraising activities. Alongside continuing to seek capital contributions from the Australian and Queensland governments as well as the philanthropic and corporate sectors we think that we've come up with a compelling way of leveraging all our hard work that will help us build our regional rainforest conservation capacities and lift awareness around the critical importance of retaining and improving our precious biodiversity and at the same time create financial support for the MBG. We are looking forward to the launch this new funding portal ISQM by the end of June.

It would take too long to thank all the people that continue tirelessly to support the gardens as we move forward but suffice to say they help because they want to see it built, they know the change that this amazing project would deliver to our wonderful community and region and that's what keeps them going. I am constantly amazed and humbled by that support so thank you, you all know who you are.

Finally, we have transitioned our Board to a skills-based Board and look to them to help us continue to develop and secure our key strategic partnerships while enabling the MBG with their skills and expertise to achieve its long-term goals and objectives.

Thank you to them all for their continued support.

THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION & QUEENSLAND'S WET TROPICS

Queensland's Wet Tropics were inscribed on the World Heritage Register in 1988. The Wet Tropics of Queensland, which stretches along the north-east coast of Australia for some 450 km, is made up largely of tropical rainforests. This biotope offers a particularly extensive and varied array of plants, as well as marsupials and singing birds, along with other rare and endangered animals and plant species.

The Wet Tropics of Queensland, or Wet Tropics, stretches along the northeast coast of Australia for some 450 kilometres. Encompassing some 894,420 hectares of mostly tropical rainforest, this stunningly beautiful area is extremely important for its rich and unique biodiversity.

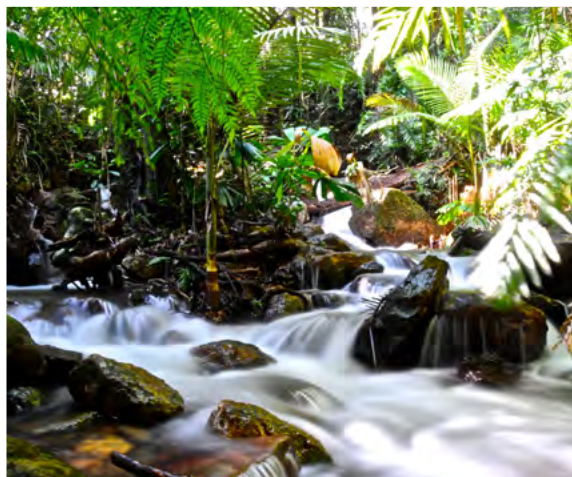
It also presents an unparalleled record of the ecological and evolutionary processes that shaped the flora and fauna of Australia, containing the relicts of the great Gondwanan forest that covered Australia and part of Antarctica 50 to 100 million years ago. All of Australia's unique marsupials and most of its other animals originated in rainforest ecosystems, and their closest surviving relatives occur in the Wet Tropics.

Mossman Botanic Garden will demonstrate the value of tropical rainforest biodiversity globally, through documented-collections of living plants and customary connections in a curated, world-class, horticultural setting. The Garden will provide a leading, living-display of biodiversity to enable and advance scientific and cultural knowledge capture, skill development and understanding of the crucial role these forests play.

Mossman Botanic Garden is at the epicentre of biodiversity in Australia. Uniquely, Mossman which is surrounded by the Daintree National Park is the only place in the world where two natural World Heritage areas - the Wet Tropics Rainforests and the Great Barrier Reef - exist side-by-side. The Douglas Shire is the most biodiverse LGA in Australia.

Mossman Botanic Garden is a research botanic garden for Australia's UNESCO World Heritage listed Wet Tropics. The Garden aims to be the preeminent garden for Australia's wet tropics. The core of Mossman Botanic Garden's mission is to demonstrate biodiversity - the floral diversity of Australia's tropical rainforests and their relationship to the tropical rainforests and peoples of the world.

Globally, rainforests contain more than fifty per cent of the world's non-marine biodiversity yet occur on less than five per cent of the world's land surface. It is estimated they are disappearing at the rate of a football field every two seconds. In Australia, tropical rainforest covers just 0.26 per cent of the continent, yet is home to 65 per cent of our fern species, 30 per cent of our orchid species and nearly 3,000 plant species from 221 families of which 576 species and 44 genera are endemic, including the greatest number of primitive flowering plant families found anywhere on earth.



Mossman Botanic Garden emphasises conservation through understanding by bringing together the world's old living rainforest with the world's oldest living culture - now where else on earth does such a relationship exist.

Mossman Botanic Garden's biodiversity goal comprises the following objectives:

Documented collections of living plants and cultural connections for the purposes of scientific research, conservation, display and education, the aim of which is the advancement and dissemination of knowledge and appreciation of plants by;

- growing them in a horticultural setting;
- conducting research on the botany, horticulture, cultural and economic opportunities of Australia's wet tropics flora; and,
- providing displays and interpretative services that highlight the ethnobotanical significance of Australia's wet tropics rainforests
- to protect and share culture by building on over 50,000 years of continuous customary connection
- facilitate world-class research partnerships and internationally recognised training and education programs, including the development of tropical specialised curricula;
- enable plant collections that provide unique experiences in a dynamic botanic garden setting and its relationship to culture, science and education; and,
- connect all visitors through a virtual, physical and spiritual rainforest garden and cultural journey.

The Garden will be established, from day one, as a world-class botanical institution and horticultural collection of international significance. Creating a garden and collection of this nature will take many decades.



MBG Milestones achieved during the year included:

- The development of a strategic roadmap by KPMG for the Mossman Botanic Garden that maps out the overall significance of this major program regionally
- Establishing important collaborative working partnerships with Terrain, the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) and several important regional Rainforest Regen groups including Rainforest Rescue and ClimateForce (spelt like this)
- The development of a collaborative Cert 2 and 3 training partnership with TAFE and Jabalbina Aboriginal corporation
- Engaged with Mossman State High School and TAFE to develop school-based traineeships in horticulture, conservation and land management.
- Set up a dedicated new funding platform, ISQM, for the Mossman Botanic Garden.
- Co- hosted a significant tree planting day attended by senior banking executives from CBA to the Garden of Woven Memories in conjunction with Managing Destinations Australia (MAD)
- Core partners in an award-winning plant conservation project with the Australian Tropical Herbarium, focussed on saving the plants of the mountaintops of the Wet Tropics World Heritage area
- Moving forward on designs and planning with Gary Hunt Architects and WildPlan for Stage 1 of the Gardens
- Working with Green Food Australia on a collaborative project to develop Humi-soil from tree mulch and food waste for use in the gardens to improve soil quality

Halting biodiversity loss
is critical for maintaining
conditions in which all life,
including humanity,
can thrive.



The Garden of Origins

OUR PURPOSE, OBJECT, VISION, MISSION AND GOALS

The charitable purpose of Mossman Botanic Garden is conservation through understanding by bringing together the world's oldest living rainforest with the world's oldest living culture.

PURPOSE

The charitable purpose of Mossman Botanic Garden is conservation through understanding by bringing together the world's oldest living rainforest with the world's oldest living culture.

VISION

The vision of Mossman Botanic Garden is to demonstrate globally, the crucial role that rainforests, including Australia's tropical rainforests, play in survival of life on earth and humanity.

MISSION

A 21st century botanic garden that demonstrates the crucial contribution of tropical rainforests to life on earth

Key Economic Drivers
People - Planet - Sustainability

OBJECTIVES

To this end, the organisational objectives of Mossman Botanic Garden are the protection and enhancement of the natural environment, focusing on tropical rainforest flora, and the provision of research, learning, training, education and information about the natural environment, focusing on tropical rainforest botany.

FOUNDATION

To support the charitable purpose and ensure delivery of the organisational objectives of Mossman Botanic Garden, the Garden has in place the Mossman Botanic Garden Foundation Public Fund, the rules of which are set out in the constitution of the company.

GOALS

The framework for Mossman Botanic Garden to operationalise its vision, is its mission.

The Mossman Botanic Garden will demonstrate the value of tropical rainforests globally, through documented-collections of living plants and customary connections in a curated, world-class, horticultural setting.

The Garden will provide a leading, living-display of biodiversity to enable and advance scientific and cultural knowledge and create skills development and understanding of the crucial role these forests play. Its living and customary collections, together with the Garden's scientific and cultural pursuits will be underwritten by innovative thinking and knowledge sharing.

Mossman Botanic Garden also recognises that being at the forefront of innovation will be vital to participation through communication, experience and connection for all generations. To achieve this outcome, it recognises the need to operate at the cutting-edge of technology.

The Garden will communicate the extraordinary relationships between the world's most ancient

surviving rainforest and humanity's oldest living rainforest culture. There will be highly interactive conversations through story-telling, visuals and metrics that disseminate knowledge, distributes skill and enhances understanding. Mossman Botanic Garden's success in communication will be evidenced through broad and diverse support for the Garden.

All aspects of the Garden's development and its projects will be underpinned by experiences that are internationally unique and inherently authentic. Mossman Botanic Garden's authenticity is founded in common ownership as a membership-based organisation and the garden's focus on common good and public interest through charitable status.

Ultimately, Mossman Botanic Garden can only validate the crucial role that all species of plants on Earth including tropical rainforests play, if we connect. The company will connect with people as widely as possible on local, regional, national and global stages to enable virtual and physical visitation of the Garden. Success will be achieved through engaging and measurable information, product and service delivery.

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THE YEAR AHEAD

The Board of directors of Mossman Botanic Garden have identified, scoped and agreed a suite of priorities for delivery through the financial year ending 30 June 2022 and ongoing. The board of directors has committed to these priorities to put in place the organisational preparedness, capability and capacity for the future success of the Garden.

Mossman Botanic Garden priorities moving forward include;

- Groundworks to commence Stage 1 of the Garden.
- Ongoing development of the botanical plans for the overall Garden including how the horticultural collection will be managed and how records will be kept for phylogenetic conservation (including living and dried herbaria items) with the Australian Tropical Herbarium.
- Preparation and confirmation of detailed construction costings and purchasing plans for phase one of the Garden.
- Seeking capital contributions for construction of the Garden from the Australian and Queensland governments, as well as the philanthropic and corporate sectors.
- Deploying our new funding platform 1SQM July 1 2023
- Preparation and development of or garden operating plans and strategies, including enabling technology systems.
- Subject to finance commence detailed design for regulatory and town planning approvals in readiness for construction of Stage 1 of the Garden.
- Development of our Garden operations manual and Garden operations policies and procedures, including compliance requirements for operations (including workplace health and safety requirements, working with chemicals requirements, customised and tailored training delivery and skills development).
- Continue developing skills and knowledge capability with the ATH Herbarium and Jabalbina, this includes planning into the future for the plant-out of the entire site including ongoing collection and propagation of seed from native species and string up the first onsite greenhouse to receive rare and endangered plants that are currently being housed in various locations.
- Continue building on our strategic partnerships including with the Commonwealth Government, James Cook and Central Queensland Universities, the Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA), Terrain NRM, Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand, BGANZ, departments and agencies of the Queensland Government and TAFE North Queensland as well as with key national and international philanthropic organisations and Australian and international corporates.

- Continue strengthening the communications, governance, management and operational capability and capacity of the Garden, including:
- The ongoing development and revision of a suite of governance and management policies and procedures
- Reinforcing key strategic partnerships with organisations such as KPMG, QTFN, Accounting for Nature that have the skills and expertise to assist Mossman Botanic Garden achieve its long terms goals and objectives
- Ongoing development of the board of directors to a skills-based board with a rotation of some of the longstanding Board members
- Further development of the management and operation teams of the Garden; and reviewing and refreshing the Garden's strategic plan, management arrangements and operational budgets.

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew released in 2021 their Manifesto for Change 2021-2030 strategy mapping out its mission and areas of focus for the next decade. The world leading plant science institute pledges to intensify efforts to understand and protect plants and fungi, for the well-being of people and the future of all life on Earth.

The Mossman Botanic garden will seek to incorporate the 5 key organisational principles outlined by KEW Gardens as part of the scientific and cultural basis of the Gardens and build on these principles as we create our research Botanic Garden in the heart of the Wet Tropics. <https://www.kew.org/about-us/press-media/manifesto-for-change-2021>

- Moving forward these are the principles that we would seek to adopt;
- Delivering science-based knowledge and solutions to protect biodiversity and use natural resources sustainably: to identify and strive to protect species of plants and fungi globally, as well as revealing those that could be new sources of food, medicine, fuel or materials.
- Inspiring people to protect the natural world: promote and provide access to knowledge, ideas and beautiful gardens that motivate individuals to be advocates for nature.
- Training the next generation of experts: The world needs brilliant scientists, land managers and horticulturists.
- Extending our reach: as a charity the gardens must be for everyone, disseminating its knowledge and collections both physically and digitally for global benefit.
- Influencing national and international opinion and policy: to speak with confidence and prominence to advocate policies aligned with our mission. To be an exemplar of environmental responsibility in all that do.



STAGE ONE - ENTRANCE



STAGE ONE - NATURE PLAY



STAGE ONE - CONSERVATORY



VIEW OVER SWALES





TREE PLANTING TEAM



SEED COLLECTING



COMMUNITY IN ACTION

Mossman Botanic Garden's current Board of Directors



Simon Towle

Simon Towle is an Adjunct Research Associate at The Cairns Institute, James Cook University, currently working with Traditional Owners in the Pilbara to develop a ranger program and cultural heritage strategy, and on a post-Covid recovery plan for the performing arts industry in the Northern Territory and Regional Queensland.

Simon has qualifications in Antarctic environmental science, ecology and geography, political science, planning and environmental law, small business management and industry qualifications in journalism. Simon was previously CEO for the Gunggandji Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC and Regional Manager, Cape York Peninsula, for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

He worked for the QLD Govt in the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships on Thursday Island and for the Department of Environment and Resource Management in Cairns as Team Leader for the successful Wild River Ranger program.



Prof. Darren Crayn

Professor Darren Crayn is the inaugural Director of the Australian Tropical Herbarium and he has led this organisation through its formative, establishment and growth phases. It now boasts a significant national and international profile.

His research interests include studies of the taxonomy, evolution and conservation of Australia's and the region's tropical flora. His career has involved research in many tropical countries.

As a leader in the plant sciences in northern Australia, Prof Crayn has held many positions on a wide range of advisory and representative bodies including roles advising state and Commonwealth governments, leadership roles in professional societies and sector peak bodies, and roles on granting bodies.





John Sullivan

John Sullivan (Bach.App.Sc.Hort.) is principle Landscape Designer at Hortulus, Port Douglas. John has specialised in tropical horticultural for over 30 years working to identifying a strong sense of place, environment and the future management of landscapes for both commercial & residential clients.

John has been actively involved in the horticultural industry, being a founding member of the Cairns Landscape Industries Cluster Inc, a member of Landscape Queensland and a past member of the Australian Institute of Horticulture.

He and his company volunteered & presented at the Cairns Tropical Garden Show for several years and he has been a contributor to several gardening publications. John is currently a committee member for the Douglas Shire Ratepayers Association Inc and was the previous MBG Chair.



Dr. Georgina Davis

Dr Georgina Davis in the Chief Executive Officer for qldwater, the central advisory and advocacy body within Queensland's urban water industry, working with its members to provide safe, secure and sustainable urban water services to Queensland communities.

Georgina has a strong history in advocacy and leading peak bodies including as CEO for the Waste and Recycling Industry Queensland (WRIQ) and previously the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF).

She brings to the table a great understanding of board governance, environmental regulation, water planning and legislation, and the impacts of climate change on land management.



Barney Swan

Barney Swan through a regenerative portfolio accelerates ecosystem protection, carbon drawdown and leadership expeditions.

He is currently in Far North Queensland, Australia, leading a project to restore 370 acres of the world's oldest rainforest: Daintree.

Prior to Founding the charity, ClimateForce Limited, Barney skied 1,000km over 60 days to the South Pole, pulling a sled with supplies and shelter. Surviving off clean technologies including a NASA-designed solar ice melter, biofuels made from waste products, vacuum flasks, and solar batteries.

With a spirit of collaboration, he connects audiences to better understand their environmental footprint and the responsibility to do more about it. Open-sourcing solutions and making sustainable development inclusive to businesses, students, and families.



Chris Cocklin

Emeritus Professor Chris Cocklin brings 35 years of experience in higher education leadership, governance, research management and the environment to the Board of the Mossman Botanic Gardens (MBG). His specialist expertise is in strategic planning, research development and design, stakeholder engagement, and organisational design.

He has held academic appointments at the University of Auckland, Monash University and James Cook University and has international experience in Canada, the UK, Singapore, Laos and the UAE. His forty years of experience in research and consultancy on sustainability and the environment has included work for clients such as the Mekong River Commission, Victorian Department of Natural Resources and Environment, CSIRO, NZ Seafood Industry Council, Environment Australia, Victorian Environmental Protection Authority, NZ Department of Conservation, Environment Canada, and New Zealand Forest Research Institute.

In addition to his role with the MBG, Chris currently sits on the Boards of the Gulf Savannah NRM, Russo Business School, and the Townsville Grammar School. Over the course of his career, he has served as a member of more than 30 Boards and Advisory Committees.



Lucy Holmes McHugh

Lucy is an interdisciplinary social scientist, specialising in environmental governance, public policy, and sustainable landscapes. Her PhD research, supported by a Fulbright scholarship, explored how social systems navigate climate crisis across scales, focused on UNESCO's World Heritage system and the Great Barrier Reef.

She previously worked at the Centre for International Forestry Research in Indonesia. She holds a Master's in Development Practice and a Master's in Public Policy.

“All life depends on plants and fungi, but natural resources are being degraded and destroyed at a rate unprecedented in human history. We stand at a crossroads - the next decade will be critical if we are to reverse this environmental devastation.”

Richard Deverell

Director of RBG Kew

Photo of the indigenous rainforest flower
Faradaya splendida by Ray Wilson

Mossman Botanic Garden is a member of Botanic Gardens Conservation International and Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand, the leading international and Australia and New Zealand botanic garden industry associations. Memberships of these two bodies enables Mossman Botanic Gardens to be nationally and internationally connected.

Photo of the indigenous rainforest flower *Tecomathe burungu* by Alex Pawlow taken in the gardens of local artist Ms Betty Hinton, Daintree

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is a plant conservation charity based in Kew, London, England. It is a membership organisation, working with 800 botanic gardens in 118 countries, whose combined work forms the world's largest plant conservation network.

Founded in 1987, BGCI is a registered charity in the United Kingdom, and its members include the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, as two of its key supporters. The founder and director from 1987 to 1993 was Professor Vernon H Heywood. He was followed in 1994 by Dr. Peter Wyse Jackson (as Secretary-General) who led BGCI till 2005 when Sara Oldfield succeeded him. BGCI's patron is HRH Charles, Prince of Wales. Lady Suzanne Warner was Chair of BGCI from December 1999 - December 2004. She received an OBE in the Queen's 2006 New Year's Honours for her services to plant conservation.

Dedicated to plant conservation and environmental education, the charity works to support and promote the activities of its member gardens. Its official stated mission is to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and planet. As a global organisation BGCI has projects in a variety of different countries, with major ongoing projects in China (where half of the wild magnolias are threatened), North America, the Middle East and Russia. Two of its major projects are the creation of on-line searchable databases listing the world's botanic gardens (Garden Search) and plants in cultivation among participating botanic gardens (Plant Search).

On 18 January 2008, Botanic Gardens Conservation International (representing botanic gardens in 120 countries) stated that 400 medicinal plants are at risk of extinction, from over-collection and deforestation, threatening the discovery of future cures for disease. These included yew trees (the bark is used for cancer drugs, paclitaxel); Hoodia gordonii (from Namibia, source of weight loss drugs); half of Magnolias (used as Chinese medicine for 5,000 years to fight cancer, dementia and heart disease); and Autumn crocus (for gout). The group also found that 5 billion people benefit from traditional plant-based medicine for health care. In 2017 Botanic Gardens Conservation International published a list of 60,065 tree species worldwide obtained from information supplied by its member organisations. The aim of the project was to identify trees that are in danger of extinction and promote efforts to conserve these trees.



Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand

Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand - BGANZ was registered as an Incorporated Association on 6 April 2004. The BGANZ Council conducts the affairs of the Association.

The Constitution states that the Council will have a maximum of 15 members and shall be comprised of:

- One regional representative from each Australian State and Territory nominated by the regional group or groups in those Australian States and Territories in which such groups exist
- In any Australian State or Territory where there is no formal regional group, one regional representative nominated by institutional members located in the relevant State or Territory
- Two representatives from New Zealand botanic gardens nominated by regional group or groups in New Zealand
- A maximum of two members nominated by the Capital-city Gardens
- A Councillor-at-Large nominated by the representatives of Associate members and Individual members
- The Immediate Past President

Botanic Gardens Australia and New Zealand:

- Represents the interests of botanic gardens in Australia and New Zealand
- Promotes the interests and activities of Australian and New Zealand botanic gardens and botanic gardens generally
- Enhances the state of botanic gardens for the benefit of the community

The aims of BGANZ are:

- Providing a forum for information exchange and coordinated planning
- Fostering best-practice standards amongst Australian and New Zealand botanic gardens and other botanic gardens internationally
- Being an advocate for the interests of Australian and New Zealand botanic gardens
- Providing policy and legislative advice affecting botanic gardens
- Advocating plant conservation and fostering the plant sciences and social and cultural heritage programs
- Building and maintaining links with relevant national and international bodies





STAGE TWO - AMPITHEATRE

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd
ABN 36 635 423 068
For the year ended 30 June 2022

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DIRECTORS REPORT

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2022

Directors Report

The directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

Information on Directors

The names of each person who was a director for the 12 months ended 30 June 2022 and up until the date of this report:

Director	Appointment/Resignation Date
John Sullivan	Appointed - 30/10/2019
Roy Weavers	Appointed - 30/10/2019
Nathan Clarke	Appointed - 23/07/2021
Darren Crayn	Appointed - 28/02/2021
Georgina Davis	Appointed - 08/04/2021
Erin Murray (Secretary)	Appointed - 23/07/2021
Jeffery Schrale	Appointed - 08/04/2021
Barnaby Swan	Appointed - 08/04/2021
Simon Towle (Chair)	Appointed - 02/01/2021
Sheena Walshaw	Appointed - 24/06/2021

Operating Result

The operating profit for the financial year amounted to \$159,333

Principal Activities

Recognising that the gardens will be established on the Traditional Lands of the Eastern Kuku Yalanji people, our plan for the Mossman Botanic Garden is to:

- Establish and maintain a community owned world-class botanical institution and horticultural collection, which will provide new jobs and skill sets for the region
- Provide a facility to host a range of festivals, conferences, concerts and community events in the Douglas Shire
- Increase the whole of destination touring experience in Far North Queensland to increase domestic and ultimately international visitor numbers to the region
- Build an attraction of international standard which would indirectly contribute to the economic growth and development of the Far North Queensland tourism industry.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the financial year.

Events After The Reporting Date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

Dividends Paid or Recommended

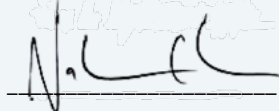
The Constitution of the Corporation prohibits any distribution of profits to members. No dividends/distributions were paid or declared at the start of the financial year. No recommendation for payment of dividends/distributions has been made.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors on:



Simon Towle (Chair)

Date 23/02/2023



Nathan Clarke (Director)

Date 23/02/2023

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2022

	NOTES	2022	2021
Income			
Donations	6	30,000	25,050
Grants	7	180,000	430,136
Unexpended Grant Movement		93,319	(93,319)
Memberships		4,203	3,523
Total Income		307,522	365,390
Gross Surplus		307,522	365,390
Other Income			
Interest Income		-	56
Royalties Received		20	1,062
Total Other Income		20	1,118
Expenditure			
Accounting Fees		3,800	4,130
Advertising & Branding		4,640	8,895
Bank Charges		3	134
Board Meeting Expenses		595	566
Bookkeeping		1,500	1,592
Computer Expenses		250	100
Consultants		90,000	108,334
Event Expenses		82	1,200
Filing Fees		-	383
Insurance		3,445	4,351
Legal Fees		197	-
Office Expenses		881	4,484
Rates		3,672	2,875
Subscriptions & Memberships		3,906	2,189
Project Management		10,000	52,000
Software & Website Expenses		-	4,776
Travel & Accommodation		752	331
Watering & Planting Costs		19,494	15,094
Donations Expenses		400	-
Meeting Expenses		2,666	-
Total Expenditure		146,285	211,432
Current Year Surplus/ (Deficit) Before Non-Cash Adjustments		161,258	155,076
Non-Cash Adjustments			
Depreciation		1,925	11,689
Total Non-Cash Adjustments		1,925	11,689
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit) After Non-Cash Adjustments		159,333	143,387

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd
As at 30 June 2022

	NOTES	30 JUN 2022	30 JUN 2021
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	22,634	198,613
Trade and Other Receivables	3	7,694	1,630
Total Current Assets		30,329	200,242
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	4	1,808,525	1,618,289
Total Non-Current Assets		1,808,525	1,618,289
Total Assets		1,838,854	1,818,531
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	5	904	46,595
Unexpended Grant Funds		-	93,319
Total Current Liabilities		904	139,914
Total Liabilities		904	139,914
Net Assets		1,837,950	1,678,617
Member's Funds			
Capital Reserve		1,837,950	1,678,617
Total Member's Funds		1,837,950	1,678,617

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2022

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001.

The corporation is a not-for-profit entity and AASBs include requirements for not-for-profit entities which are inconsistent with International Financial Reporting Standards. Hence, these financial statements and associated notes do not comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Property Improvements, Office equipment & Computer Software are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Land is measured at cost and has not been revalued.

Architecture & Sites plans are recorded at cost.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

Cash & Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held on call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

Trade & Other Receivables

Trade receivables and other receivables, including distributions receivable, are recognised at the nominal transaction value without taking into account the time value of money. If required a provision for doubtful debt has been created.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Trade & Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities for goods and services received by the company that remain unpaid at 30 June 2022. Trade payables are recognised at their transaction price. They are subject to normal credit terms and do not bear interest.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

	2022	2020
2. Cash & Cash Equivalents		
ANZ General Account 44197	235	213
NEW Westpac Membership 9696	4,484	-
NEW Major Grants 9717	431	-
NEW Westpac Public Funds 9688	16,599	-
OLD Westpac Public Fund Account 0990	-	100,597
OLD Westpac Project Account 1010	885	-
OLD Westpac Investment Account 1029	-	103
OLD Westpac Membership Account 1002	-	4,282
OLD Westpac Major Grants Account	-	93,319
Petty Cash	-	100
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	22,634	198,613

3. Trade & Other Receivables

	2022	2020
GST	7,694	1,630
Total Trade & Other Receivables	7,694	1,630

4. Property, Plant & Equipment

	2022	2020
Design & Civil Planning	398,229	233,710
Land at Cost	1,375,698	1,375,698
Property Improvements - at Cost	35,642	8,000
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Property Improvements	(2,427)	(1,192)
Office Equipment at Cost	2,918	2,918
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Office Equipment	(1,536)	(845)
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	1,808,525	1,618,289

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2022	2020
5. Trade & Other Payables		
Trade Creditors	904	46,595
Total Trade & Other Payables	904	46,595

6. Total Donations to Date

Financial Year	Amount Received
2016	\$7,000
2017	\$20,000
2018	\$25,052
2019	\$100,500
2020	\$161,200
2021	\$25,050
2022	\$30,000
Total	\$368,082

7. Total Grants to Date

Financial Year	Amount Received
2016	\$130,000
2017	\$80,000
2018	-
2019	\$50,000
2020	\$28,500
2021	\$430,136
2022	\$180,000
Total	\$898,636

8. Entity Details

The principal place of business:

2 Foxtan Avenue
MOSSMAN QLD 4873

9. Events after the Reporting period

The directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

These notes should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd
For the year ended 30 June 2022

CAPITAL RESERVE

Movements in Equity**Prior Year**

Opening Balance	1,535,230
Net Surplus / (Deficit) attributable to members	143,387
Total Prior Year	1,678,617

Current Year

Opening Balance	1,678,617
Net Surplus / (Deficit) attributable to members	159,333
Total Current Year	1,837,950

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
1. Statement of Cash Flows		
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts from Donations	30,000	25,050
Receipts from Grants	180,000	430,136
Receipts from Memberships	4,203	3,623
Receipts from Royalties & Interest	20	1,118
Payments to Suppliers & Employees	(198,041)	(162,765)
Total Cash flows from operating activities	16,182	297,162
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments - Design & Civil Planning	(164,519)	(229,164)
Payments - Office Equipment	-	(2,184)
Payments - Property Improvements	(27,642)	-
Payments - Software	-	-
Total Cash flows from investing activities	(192,161)	(231,348)
Cash Flows from financing activities		
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	-	(31,350)
Total Cash Flows from financing activities	-	(31,350)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(175,979)	34,464
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	198,613	164,149
Total Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	198,613	164,149
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	22,634	198,613

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These statements should be read in conjunction with the attached Independent Auditors Review Report.

DIRECTORS DECLARATION

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2022

The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this general purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, present fairly the company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Chair: SIMON TOWLE

Simon Towle

Date: 23/02/2023

Director: Nathan Clarke

Nathan Clarke

Date: 23/02/2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REVIEW REPORT

Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd For the year ended 30 June 2022

Conclusion

We have reviewed the 2022 financial report of Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the declaration by those charged with governance.

Based on our review, which is not an audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying 30 June 2022 financial report of Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd does not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2022, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the 12 months ended on that date, in accordance with Corporations Act 2001.

Basis for Conclusion

We conducted our review in accordance with ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity. Our responsibilities are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Review of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants that are relevant to our audit of the annual financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

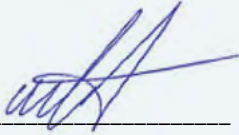
Responsibility of Management for the Financial Report

Management of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the 2022 financial report in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control management determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the 2022 financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Review of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on our review. ASRE 2410 requires us to conclude whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report does not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the 12 months ended on that date, in accordance with Corporations Act 2001.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Auditor's signature: 

Mitchell K Williams (CPA)

Auditor's address: 26-30 Macrossan St PORT DOUGLAS QLD 4877

Dated: 23/02/2023

FIRST PEOPLES OF THE WET TROPICS

ALTOGETHER, THERE ARE 18 RAINFOREST ABORIGINAL TRIBAL GROUPS IN THE WET TROPICS WORLD HERITAGE AREA, STRETCHING FROM JUST NORTH OF TOWNSVILLE IN THE SOUTH TO COOKTOWN IN THE NORTH. THE RAINFOREST ABORIGINAL PEOPLES' ALLIANCE (RAPA) WAS ESTABLISHED IN 2009 TO SUPPORT TRADITIONAL OWNERS IN THE WET TROPICS.

The Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area spans the Ancestral homelands of some eight distinct language family groups encompassing some 20 distinct Traditional Owner (TO) groups, who today number about 20,000 Rainforest Aboriginal peoples (RAP) (Rainforest Aboriginal Peoples' Alliance (RAPA), 2010). These Traditional Owner (or tribal) groups include approximately 120 clans comprising about 600 distinct family groups (Schmider, 2014b).

The Australian Government's 1986 assessment of significance of the values of the WTQWHA as a potential world heritage site: The Wet Tropics of North-east Australia preserves the only recognised extant Aboriginal rainforest culture and is therefore a major component of the cultural record of an Aboriginal society which has a long continuous history in the nominated area for at least 40,000 years (Rainforest Conservation Society of Queensland, 1986).

This recognition responded to the World Heritage Operational Guidelines at the time which included, as part of the criteria for natural heritage significance, superlative examples of "man's interaction with nature" (Rainforest Conservation Society of Queensland, 1986). However, it is evident from the historical record that the traditional Aboriginal custodians of the tribal estates within the Wet Tropics region were excluded from any meaningful involvement in defining either the nominated area or the content of the original nomination itself (Disko & Tugendhat, 2014; Marrie & Marrie in Bama Wabu, 1996).

The focus of the 1988 nomination was exclusively on the outstanding 'natural' values of the region. The property was listed for all four of the natural World Heritage criteria in place at the time, including that related to "man's interaction with nature". Rainforest Aboriginal peoples' contemporary rights and obligations to respective Ancestral territories, including to the We Tropics, are founded in their occupation as Indigenous societies with their own sui generis law systems developed over millennia (Pannell, 2008a, 2008b).

In Australia, Indigenous peoples maintain distinct forms of governance despite their location in a postcolonial frame in which the nation-state has overarching sovereign power. Distinctive features include an emphasis on networks, nodal modes of leadership within these networks, and dispersed distribution of powers among self-defined social groups (Hill et al., 2012; Smith & Hunt, 2008).

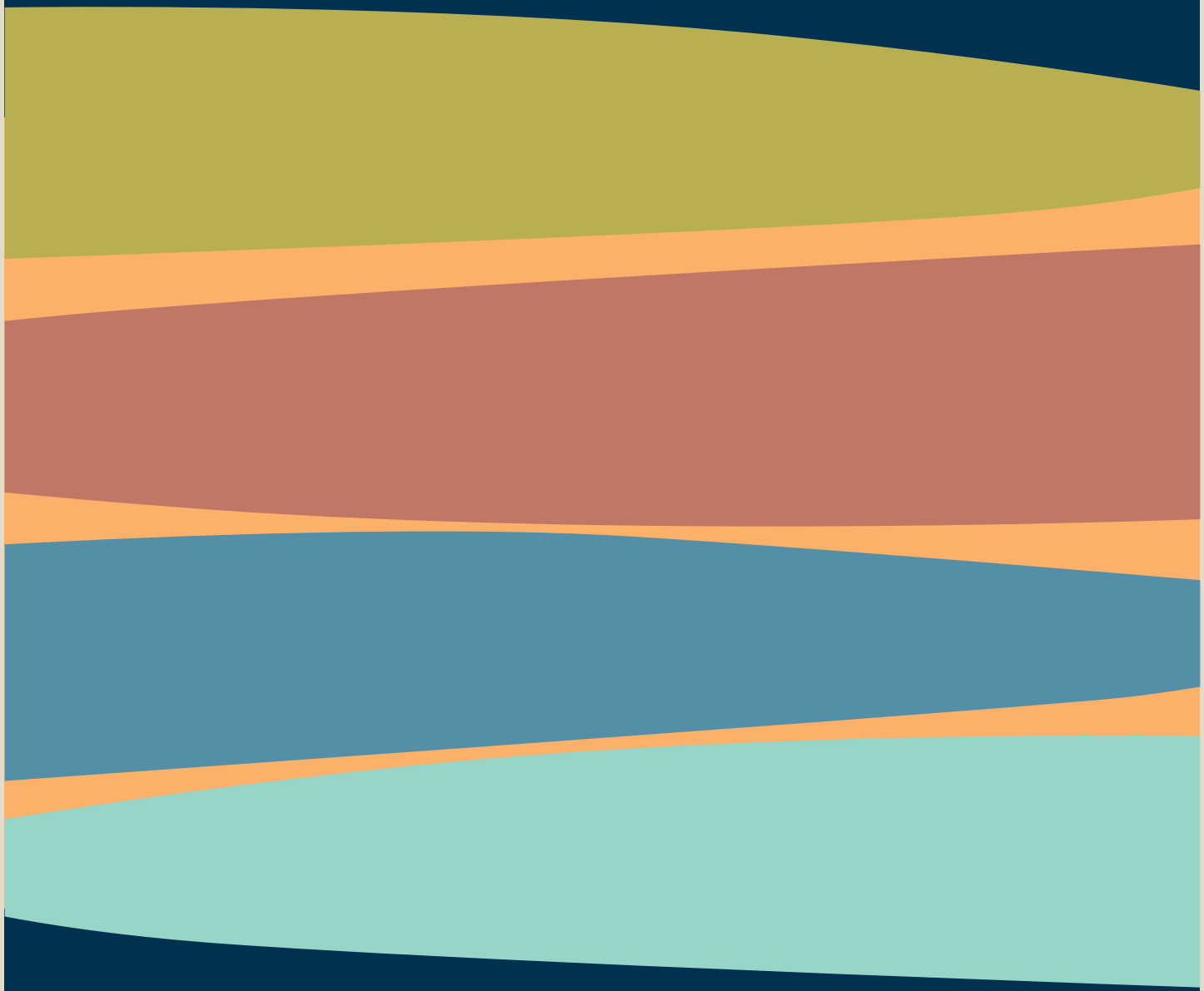
Across the Wet Tropics region today, there are about 80 legal entities representing or progressing Rainforest Aboriginal peoples' interests (Figure 3). These include at least 18 registered native title body corporates (RNTBCs, operating pursuant to the Native Title Act, 1993 (Commonwealth)), five cultural heritage bodies (operating pursuant to the Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003) and 18 registered Land Trusts (operating pursuant to the Queensland Aboriginal Land Act 1991).

The region also features several long established community-based Rainforest Aboriginal Traditional Owner organisations, and falls into the operational areas of two Native Title Representative Bodies (NTRBs), the North Queensland Land Council and the Cape York Land Council (Schmider, 2014b). These legal entities and corporations increasingly constitute multi-tiered Indigenous governance at the intersection between Indigenous knowledge and more localised 'country-based' governance systems, and the Australian nation-state's statutory and legal systems developed to recognise Indigenous territorial rights and other claims.



Mossman

BOTANIC GARDEN



Mossman Botanic Garden Ltd.

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