

MEDIA RELEASE

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NAIF changes coming to benefit more businesses

A series of reforms are proposed for the Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund (NAIF) that will allow more business to access the fund. To ensure businesses in our region are prepared for these changes, Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland (RDA) is collaborating with NAIF to facilitate webinars about the upcoming changes to NAIF.

The webinars will introduce NAIF, what their goals are and how it works. Each webinar will discuss the upcoming changes and what business should consider approaching NAIF as well as provide examples of projects that have received support to date.

Gerard Paynter, Executive Director, Stakeholder Relations and Communications, NAIF will be presenting and covering two focus areas relevant to our region, being Agricultural and then Mining and Manufacturing.

Gerard said: "NAIF's mandate has been extended by the Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia until 2026. Legislation has recently been introduced to the Australian Parliament to allow NAIF to be even more flexible, increase its risk appetite and widen the scope of projects eligible for NAIF funding. This webinar will discuss how NAIF works, provide examples of projects being supported by NAIF and highlight the proposed changes that will benefit more companies and potential proponents".

Glenys Schuntner, CEO, RDA, said: "RDA encourages all companies and project proponents with investment opportunities in our region to register and learn more about NAIF. Our role is to grow strong and confident regional economies and we would like to see more NAIF funded projects turn soil in our region".

NAIF is a \$5 billion development financier that provides loans to infrastructure projects in the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia. NAIF's mission is to be an innovative financing partner in the growth of northern Australia. A key focus of any financing is to drive public benefit, economic and population growth and Indigenous involvement in northern Australia.

Registrations are open now for the Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd March events.

Agricultural Focus: <http://bit.ly/3t7RWzk>

Mining and Manufacturing Focus: <http://bit.ly/2OKKfzS>

NAIF Media contact: Matt Pitman 0448 114 986

RDA Media Contact: Glenys Schuntner 07 4410 3655