

Celebrate people and nature

Biosphere nomination for the Sunshine Coast



Biosphere aim and objectives

The aim and objectives, which were developed with advice from key stakeholders, set out what the Sunshine Coast Biosphere hopes to achieve.

Governing principle: Balancing the environmental, social, cultural and economic needs of today, without compromising the ability to meet the needs of future generations.

Aim: The Sunshine Coast Biosphere will be internationally renowned as a place where people live, learn, work and play sustainably.

Objective 1: People – A sunshine Coast community that actively fosters and promotes sustainable practices, use and stewardship.

Focus areas include:

- Increasing options for, and encouraging sustainable choices and actions, in everything we do.
- Mobilising the significant “will” within the communities to work collectively towards a healthy, liveable and sustainable Sunshine Coast.
- Protecting, sharing and celebrating the cultural heritage of our communities.
- Improving connectedness within and between our ‘community of communities’.
- Celebrating and recognising the values, actions and achievements of our sustainability journey, and acknowledging contributions that inspire ongoing action.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving the resilience of people and infrastructure to the impacts of climate change.

Objective 2: Conservation – Conserving, maintaining and enhancing our natural environment from the hinterland to the coast, and connecting people and nature.

Focus areas include:

- Recognising, increasing understanding, strengthening and communicating the significance of the intrinsic and ecosystem service values of our diverse natural assets.



- Enhancing the condition and capacity of the natural environment to continue to provide essential services.
- Maintaining and enhancing the extent of Regional Ecosystems that underpin our significant terrestrial, waterway, marine and coastal biological diversity.
- Facilitating opportunities for Indigenous leadership and knowledge sharing for improved conservation outcomes.
- Encouraging community connections with and stewardship of our land and sea scapes.

Objective 3: Development – Demonstrating leadership in delivering a diverse and resilient economy.

Focus areas include:

- Promoting the attraction and development of high-value industries that are critical to strengthening the region's economy and supporting our region's sustainability journey.
- Recognising and promoting the region as a location where high-value products and innovative services are produced, delivered and exported in a way that reflects and is consistent with the region's values.
- Acknowledging and enhancing the land and sea that supports and leverages sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries as important parts of a stronger and more resilient economy, and the character of the Sunshine Coast.
- Promoting and encouraging the establishment of premium and sustainable nature-based and cultural tourism experiences that celebrate people, culture and nature.
- Encouraging responsible and sustainable development that contributes positively to our economy and community, while supporting affordable living outcomes.
- Promoting an integrated transport network that enhances connectivity, accessibility, economic performance and supports the retention and improvement of our region's environment and liveability.
- Creating an investment environment and infrastructure that supports and attracts business, including digital industries and sustainable technologies, which align with Biosphere ideals.

Objective 4: Logistical support – Inspiring and celebrating creativity, innovation, research and a learning community.

Focus areas include:

- Maintaining a future focus, with a commitment to youth involvement and the continuous improvement of our healthy, smart, creative region.
- Fostering a culture of collaboration between schools, academia, industry, business, community and government on issues and projects that enhance understanding, liveability, creativity and sustainable outcomes.
- Demonstrating leadership in the development of local solutions to current and emerging sustainability challenges and opportunities, and sharing them globally.
- Positioning the Sunshine Coast globally as a demonstration of excellence in balanced sustainability that actively contributes to strengthening the world network of Biospheres.