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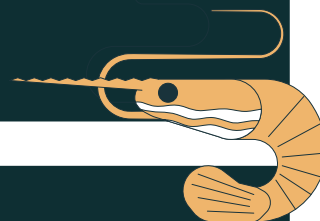
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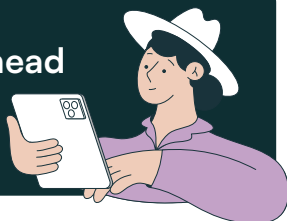
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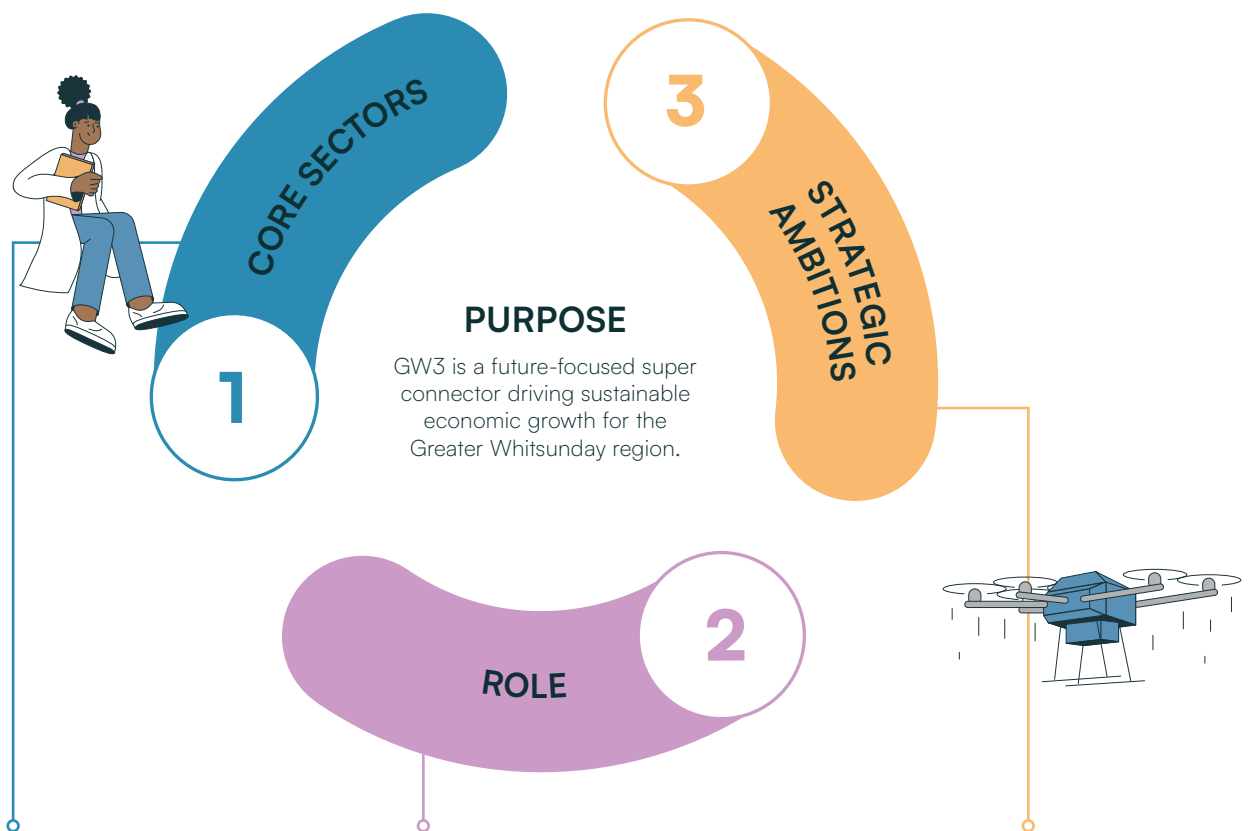
The Road Ahead



The Greater Whitsunday Alliance team live and work in Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region and long before these places were known by their colonial names they were actually known as Yuwibara, Koinmerburra Barada Bana, Wiri, Birri, Ngaro, Gia, Juru, Jangga and Birriah respectively. We would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the Greater Whitsunday region, and their continuing connection to the land, water and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Our Why

GW3 is an independent, regional economic development body that represents and advocates for the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region.



Core sectors are the backbone of our economy and reflect our regional economic identity:

- Mining + METS
- Tourism
- Agriculture

Everything we do is underpinned by our **core roles**:

ADVOCATE, COLLABORATE, ATTRACT and INFORM.

Advocate: Be a strong voice for economic development opportunities on behalf of the region.

Attract: Encourage investment, funding and business growth in the region.

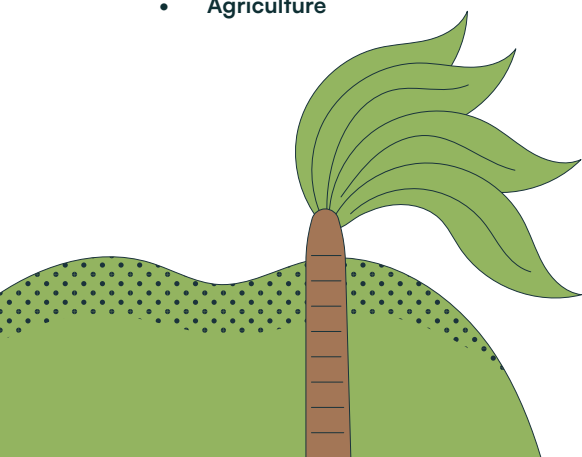
Collaborate: Convene, partner and facilitate alignment of key stakeholders to advance collective objectives.

Inform: Track and consolidate economic development resources and data to inform strategic decisions.

GW3 has identified five strategic and interconnected accelerators that exist across all sectors, and targeted program with a distinct focus on specific regional needs and challenges.

Accelerators:

1. Decarbonisation
2. Digital
3. Diversification
4. Infrastructure Energy +Water
5. Workforce Development



Message from our Chairperson

A year of connecting regional strength with practical opportunity.

The Greater Whitsunday region has always been defined by its ability to produce, adapt and contribute. Across Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday, our established industries continue to underpin Queensland's prosperity, while our communities, businesses and institutions prepare for the technologies, skills and investment that will shape the decades ahead.

For Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3), 2025/26 has been a year of continuing to turn opportunity into action. While identifying the opportunities that can shape our region's future remains an important part of our role, our focus is increasingly on how we transition those opportunities into practical outcomes that create lasting economic and community benefit for the Greater Whitsunday region.

As the region's future-focused super connector, GW3 plays an important role in bringing together the partnerships, evidence, investment and leadership required to make this happen. Throughout the year, we have continued to strengthen the connections between industry, government, education and community, ensuring regional priorities are supported by a shared vision and, importantly, coordinated action.

Across Greater Whitsunday, we have seen organisations, communities and leaders continue to work together to strengthen our region's competitiveness, build capability and create confidence in what comes next.

That momentum has been reflected across GW3's work, from supporting future workforce pathways and digital capability to advancing opportunities around critical minerals, post-mining land use, resource reinvestment, water, innovation and emerging industries. While many of these opportunities will take time to fully develop, our objective is clear: to help move them beyond discussion and into initiatives that deliver tangible outcomes for our region.

As our focus has evolved, so too has the composition of the GW3 Board. We have continued to bring skills and experience to the Board table that provide deeper insight into emerging sectors and opportunities, while complementing and strengthening the strong governance foundations that already exist within the organisation. This diversity of experience is increasingly important as GW3 works across both the traditional industries that underpin our economy and the new sectors that will contribute to its future.

During the year, Sean Milfull and Asher Telford stepped down from the Board as they relocated and pursued other opportunities. On behalf of GW3, I sincerely thank Sean and Asher for their invaluable contributions around the Board table. Both brought considerable experience, insight and commitment to the organisation, and their contribution to GW3 and the broader region has been greatly appreciated.

I would also like to acknowledge my fellow Directors. Board membership at GW3 is a voluntary commitment, and I am extremely grateful for the time, experience and energy each Director contributes. Their willingness to share their expertise and challenge our thinking is an important part of GW3's success and ensures the organisation continues to operate with strong governance and a clear strategic focus.

GW3 continues to enjoy a positive and productive relationship with our three primary shareholders: Mackay Regional Council, Isaac Regional Council and Whitsunday Regional Council. I would like to thank Mayor Greg Williamson, Mayor Kelly Vea Vea and Mayor Ry Collins, together with their respective councillors and teams, for their ongoing support and commitment to regional collaboration.

Throughout the year, GW3 has also continued to build its profile as a trusted regional voice through strategic communications, advocacy and stakeholder engagement. By sharing stories of innovation, investment, workforce opportunities and industry leadership, we are showcasing the strengths of Greater Whitsunday while building greater awareness of the opportunities emerging across our region.

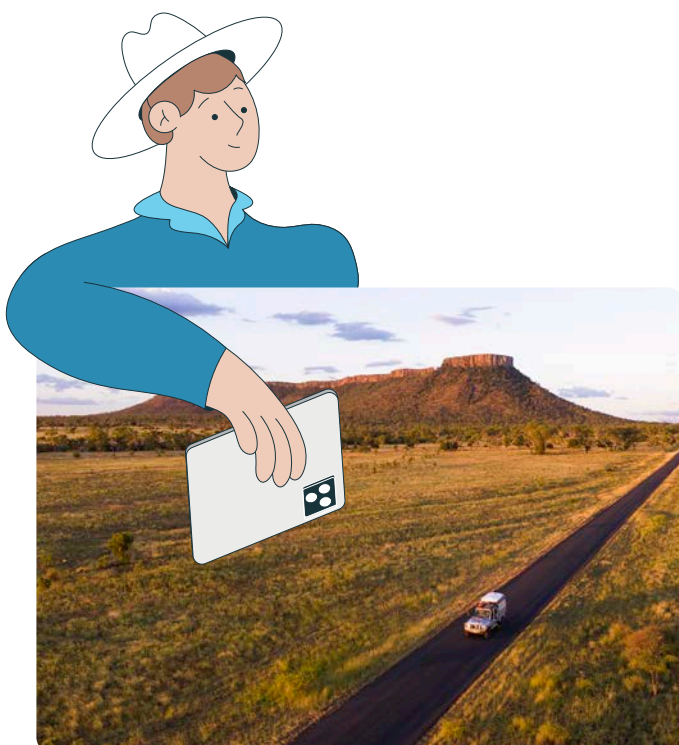
Finally, I would like to recognise and thank the entire GW3 team for another successful year, led by CEO Kylie Porter. Our people are at the heart of many of the great things GW3 achieves. Their passion for the region, their relationships across our communities and industries, and their commitment to turning ideas into action are fundamental to the organisation's success. On behalf of the Board, we are extremely grateful for their work and contribution throughout the year.

As we look ahead, GW3 remains committed to celebrating and supporting the traditional industries that have built the prosperity of Greater Whitsunday, while ensuring our region is positioned to capture the opportunities that will shape its future.

The foundations are strong, the opportunities are significant, and our focus is increasingly on converting those opportunities into outcomes. By continuing to connect the right people, ideas, investment and capability, GW3 will play its part in ensuring Greater Whitsunday continues to prosper for generations to come.

Tony Caruso

Chairperson
Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3)



Board of Directors



Melissa Halliday
February 2019 - Current



Asher Telford
February 2022 - 2025



Carolyn Fritz
December 2017 - Current



Mayor Ry Collins
February 2022 - Current



John Fordyce
May 2020 - Current



Andrew Wheaton
January 2025 - Current



Tony Caruso
December 2020 - Current



Sean Milfull
January 2025 - 2026



Kylie Porter
CEO November 2019 - Current



Connecting the Dots

Our Year of Impact

GW3's impact is best understood through the connections it creates: evidence to advocacy, industry to government, education to employment, and regional ambition to practical delivery.

150+

STAKEHOLDER
MEETINGS

\$1.208.750.64

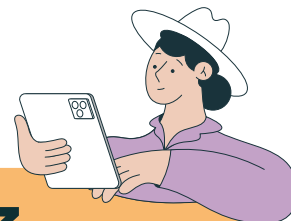
PROJECT FUNDING

6

BOARD
MEETINGS

3

FAR COMMITTEE
MEETINGS



Communications impact

250K+

Facebook reach

Building awareness across regional and stakeholder audiences.

1,961

LinkedIn followers

GW3's key professional and advocacy channel.

76K+

Short-form video views

Video-led storytelling is driving engagement.

40+

Traditional media stories

Extending GW3's voice across regional media.

60+

Videos produced

A strong multimedia pipeline across key projects.

37–40%

Newsletter open rate

Consistently strong stakeholder engagement.

15K+

Website visitors since relaunch

Growing trust in GW3 as a go-to source of regional insight.

94.7K

METS & MORE campaign views

A standout cross-platform campaign driver.

NEW IN 2025

Instagram launched

48K reach and 231 followers by November 2025.



Key achievements

- Launched Greater Whitsunday Future Finder as a regional careers platform.
- Completed the region's first comprehensive digital capability ecosystem assessment.
- Moved Decarbonisation Accelerated from awareness toward practical implementation.
- Developed An AgTech Ready Region: 2026 & Beyond as the foundation for Phase 2.
- Progressed evidence and opportunity development across post-mining land use, critical minerals, reinvestment and future industries.

The Story of Our Region

A productive region, building its next advantage.

Greater Whitsunday is a region of national significance. Its resources, mining and METS industries, agriculture and aquaculture, tourism and manufacturing create jobs, exports and value far beyond Greater Whitsunday.

The region's future is also being shaped by urgent questions: how to secure the workforce industries need, lift digital capability, build business resilience, diversify productive land and assets, and attract the next generation of technology and investment.

THE YEAR'S STORY

In 2025/2026, the story was not one of replacing established strengths. It was about using those strengths as the platform for what comes next.

Making opportunity visible

Young people can only choose careers they can see. Businesses can only act on technology and sustainability opportunities they can understand. Investors and governments can only respond to a region whose evidence and priorities are clear. Future Finder, digital capability mapping, regional economic analysis and strategic prospectuses made opportunity more visible and easier to navigate.

Building the capability to act

Businesses asked for practical support, so Decarbonisation Accelerated paired masterclasses with mentoring and local expertise. Producers and technology providers tested AgTech in real operating conditions. Educators gained new tools to connect learning with local careers. This was capability-building grounded in the realities of regional people and enterprises.

Connecting the region to what comes next

Relationships with research institutions, government, industry groups and emerging-technology leaders connected Greater Whitsunday to networks beyond the region. From quantum readiness to critical minerals, post-mining land use and resource reinvestment, the objective was consistent: position the region early, bring local knowledge into wider conversations and create pathways through which future opportunity can land here.

One region, connected priorities

Workforce affects technology adoption. Digital capability affects productivity. Water, land and infrastructure affect diversification. Evidence affects advocacy and investment. GW3 connects these priorities across sectors and geographies so the region can act with greater coordination and confidence.

Accelerating Greater Possibilities

GW3 delivers impact through five interconnected accelerators that cut across all industries. Together, they drive sustainable growth, investment, and opportunity for the Greater Whitsunday region

Decarbonisation

Supporting businesses and industries to transition to **low-carbon futures**.

Delivering practical tools, benchmarking, and events to **build awareness and adoption**.

Partnering with **education and industry** to create new skills and innovation opportunities.



Digital

By 2032, Greater Whitsunday aims to be Australia's most **hyper-connected** region.

Advocating for **digital infrastructure** and **connectivity upgrades**.

Enabling **technology adoption** that boosts productivity and creates smarter regional economies.



Diversification

Expanding and **transforming** legacy industries like METS, agriculture, and mining.

Attracting **new industries** such as biomanufacturing, aquaculture, and aerospace.

Positioning the region to **lead** in **future industries** and **global markets**.



Infrastructure, Energy & Water

Championing **critical infrastructure** like the Bruce Highway and regional water security.

Driving **renewable energy** adoption and investment in sustainable resources.

Exploring **innovative post-mining land use** and long-term regional planning.



Workforce Development

Putting **people at the heart** of regional growth.

Building pathways between education and industry to develop a future-ready workforce.

Supporting **local talent** to thrive in traditional and emerging sectors.



OPPORTUNITIES OF TOMORROW

Partnerships + Advocacy



Advocacy in Action

Release of the Coal and the Regional Economy: Greater Whitsunday Scenario Modelling report.

Strong advocacy starts with strong evidence. In 2025-26, GW3 commissioned and released the Coal and the Regional Economy: Greater Whitsunday Scenario Modelling report to better understand the mining sector's contribution to the regional economy and the potential impacts of future change.

The modelling confirmed the significant role the resources sector continues to play across Greater Whitsunday, supporting regional jobs, local businesses and economic activity. It also provided decision-makers with clear, evidence-based insights into how changes in employment or supply chain spending could flow through the broader economy.

By translating complex economic data into practical regional insights, GW3 strengthened its ability to advocate for policies, investment and infrastructure that support both the region's existing economic strengths and its long-term prosperity.

The report reinforced the importance of informed planning, regional competitiveness and future-focused decision-making.



Coal and the Regional Economy



Greater Careers Connect Funding

GW3 successfully secured \$119,000 through the Queensland Government's Growing Workforce Participation Fund to deliver Greater Careers Connect, a program connecting young people with local career opportunities, mentoring and industry networks.

The funding strengthens workforce pathways, supports local talent retention and helps ensure regional industries have access to the skilled workforce needed for future growth.

Strengthening workforce pathways and supporting local talent retention.



Learn more here





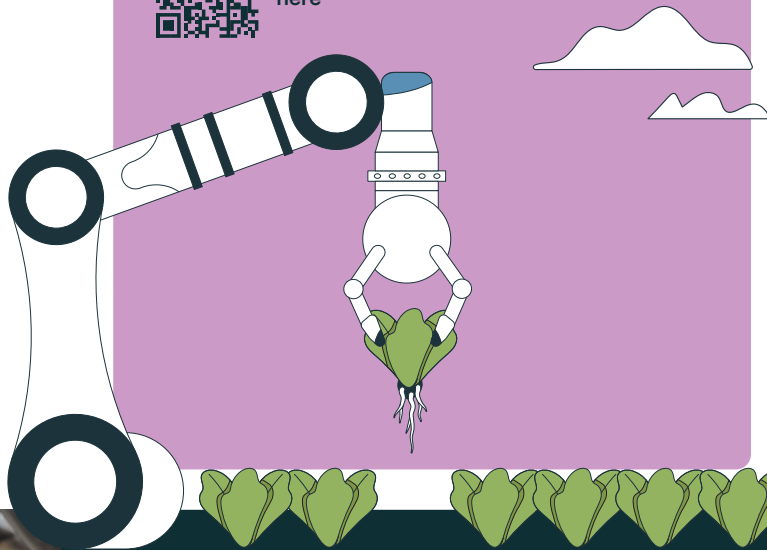
Accelerating AgTech Readiness

A Greater Whitsunday delegation attended EvokeAG 2026 to connect with national AgTech leaders, emerging technologies and future industry trends.

The insights gained are helping shape the next phase of the Greater Whitsunday AgTech Hub, supporting regional innovation, technology adoption and investment attraction while strengthening the region's position as an emerging leader in agricultural technology.



Learn more here



GW3's advocacy and impact is made possible through strong partnerships across government, industry, and community. These collaborations provide the foundations for regional growth, investment, and innovation.

Powered by Partnerships

GW3's advocacy and impact is made possible through strong partnerships across government, industry, and community. These collaborations provide the foundations for regional growth, investment, and innovation.

- **Mackay, Isaac & Whitsunday Regional Councils** — founding members driving liveability, economic strength, and regional collaboration.
- **Advance Queensland** — fostering innovation, science, and entrepreneurship to drive new jobs in regional economies.
- **BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA)** — strategic partner in preparing the region for diversification, technology adoption, and workforce transformation.
- **Local Buying Foundation (LBF)** — supporting local business development and capacity-building across the Isaac region.
- **Queensland Government** — co-investing in workforce development, digital skilling, biomanufacturing, and the METS diversification agenda.

Together, these partnerships ensure GW3 can advocate with authority, deliver practical outcomes, and amplify the Greater Whitsunday region's contribution to Queensland and the nation.

DIVERSIFICATION IN ACTION

BIOVISION

Showcasing a Biomanufacturing Future

GW3 launched BioVision, an innovative digital platform showcasing Greater Whitsunday's biomanufacturing capabilities, feedstocks, infrastructure and investment opportunities. The tool strengthens the region's investment attraction efforts and supports its ambition to become a nationally significant biomanufacturing hub.

WORKFORCE IN ACTION

Helping Young People Navigate Their Future

GW3 launched Future Finder, a region-first online platform helping young people explore local careers, industries and training pathways across Greater Whitsunday. By connecting students, parents and educators with real opportunities close to home, Future Finder supports workforce development, strengthens career awareness and helps build the region's future talent pipeline.



Learn more here about BioVision



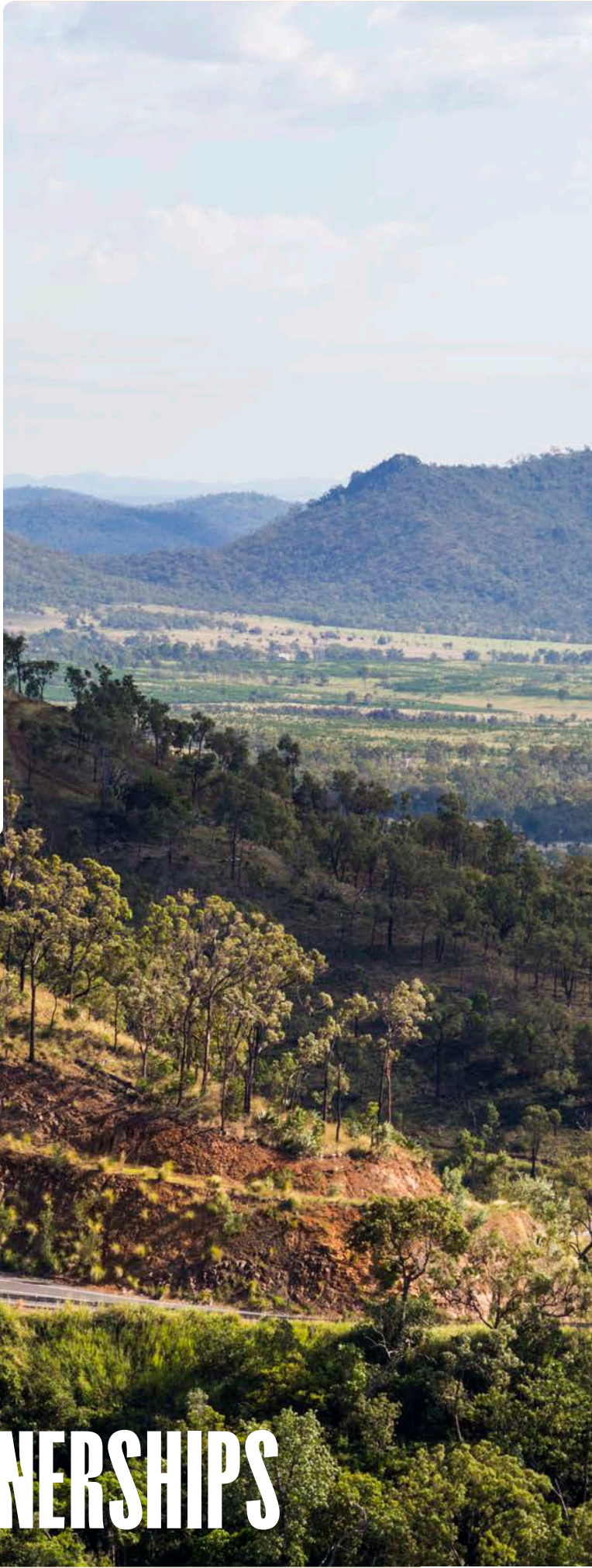
Learn more here about Future Finder



Greater Whitsunday Alliance + C-RES

Greater Whitsunday Alliance is the parent company of C-Res — a cost neutral entity which delivers the Local Buying Program through a strategic partnership with BHP.

The Local Buying Program is now proudly delivered across all BHP Minerals Australia assets in Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia. A Local Buying Foundation operates in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia and is a critical element of the Local Buying Program in these states.

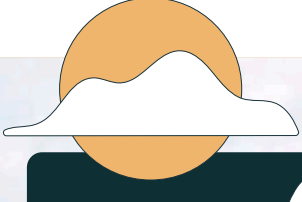


\$1.76bn

**TOTAL ACTUAL SPEND
SINCE 2012**

(2012-30/06/2026)

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

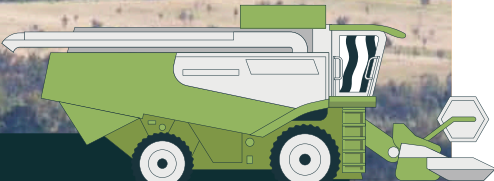


\$160.1m

**TOTAL ACTUAL SPEND
2025-2026**

6.6

**AVERAGE PAYMENT
DAYS 2025-2026**



21,710

**PAYMENTS TO LOCAL
BUSINESSES 2025-2026**

Audited Financial Statement

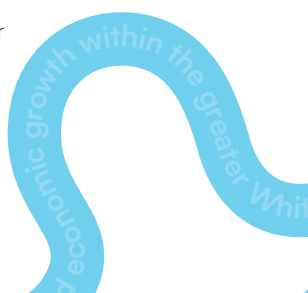
Greater Whitsunday Alliance invests in its resources to facilitate activities that support the growth and development of industry, business and community in the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday region. GW3's core activity is to drive advocacy efforts and investment in areas that diversify the regional economy; infrastructure development; liveability and supply chain enhancement. GW3 maintained a surplus in the 2023-2024 financial year and received an unqualified audit from independent auditors.

The Greater Whitsunday Advantage

The Greater Whitsunday region is one of Queensland's most productive and diverse economies.

With an annual economic output of **\$82 billion**, a population of **192,302 people** and **97,582 jobs**, the region combines globally significant industries with emerging opportunities that will shape the future economy. Figures should be verified against the final approved REMPLAN dataset before publication

GW3 is proud to be the region's super connector, bringing together industry, government, education and research to advocate for regional priorities, attract investment and ensure the Greater Whitsunday story is heard where decisions are made.



Driving Growth Through Connection

Industry Strengths

- Mining and METS
- Agriculture and aquaculture
- Tourism
- Manufacturing

These industries continue to underpin regional prosperity, export capability and economic resilience.

Future Opportunities

- Biomanufacturing
- Critical minerals
- Decarbonisation
- Circular economy
- AgTech
- Geospatial technology
- Aerospace
- Post-mining land use
- Digital capability

These emerging sectors are creating new opportunities for investment, innovation and long-term economic growth.

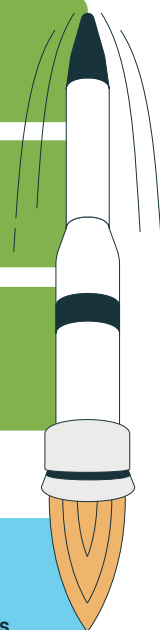
\$82bn ANNUAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT* (as of June 2026)

192,302 REGIONAL POPULATION*

97,582 JOBS SUPPORTED*

90,000+km² OF RESOURCE-RICH LAND

*Subject to final verification against approved economic data sources.



A Region Backed by Evidence

During 2025-26, **GW3 strengthened the region's investment** proposition through a suite of industry-led reports, prospectuses and strategic projects, including:

- Digital Capability Ecosystem Mapping, identifying opportunities to accelerate digital adoption and innovation across the region. +
- BioVision, an interactive platform showcasing the region's biomanufacturing capability, feedstocks, infrastructure and investment potential.
- Reimagine Rehab, positioning Greater Whitsunday as a leader in post-mining land use opportunities.
- Coal and the Regional Economy: Greater Whitsunday Scenario Modelling, providing data-driven insights to support long-term economic planning and advocacy.
- An AgTech Ready Region: 2026 & Beyond, helping define the next phase of regional AgTech development and investment attraction.

Together, these initiatives have strengthened the region's ability to advocate, attract investment, inform decision-making and accelerate future opportunities.

The Super Connector Role

- GW3 connects industry, government, education and research around shared regional priorities.
- Builds the evidence base needed to support investment, infrastructure and policy decisions.
- Showcases regional strengths, opportunities and capabilities to state, national and international audiences.
- Helps attract investment, partnerships and new opportunities into the Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday region

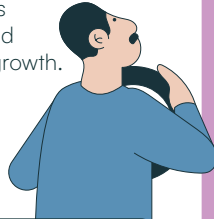
GW3 helps the region speak with clarity and confidence about its contribution, priorities and future potential. By connecting evidence, partnerships and opportunity, we help create the conditions for sustainable economic growth across Greater Whitsunday.

Stories as Evidence:

The Power of Regional Storytelling

At GW3, storytelling is more than communication. It is how we make opportunity visible, showcase regional capability and connect people with new possibilities. Behind every project, business success and innovation story are lessons that can inspire others, strengthen confidence and help attract investment, partnerships and future growth.

The **Greater Possibilities** stories highlighted throughout this report demonstrate GW3's purpose in action.



People-powered AI...

...showed how regional businesses can embrace emerging technology while remaining firmly **grounded in human connection**. Through the Greater Digital Skills Program, CJ Fitos transformed lived experience into a scalable digital solution, demonstrating how AI can be used to solve real-world challenges and create new opportunities for regional entrepreneurship.

Digital confidence can turn local ideas into innovations with far-reaching impact.



Scan to read
the full story



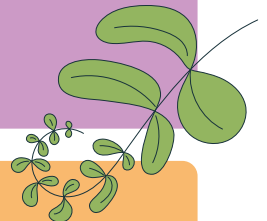
40 Years of Evolving with Industry...

...demonstrated that diversification is rarely about a single moment or dramatic change. The story of M&P Services showed how regional businesses continue to adapt, innovate and respond to industry needs over time. It highlighted the resilience, entrepreneurial spirit and practical innovation that underpins many of the region's long-standing success stories

Together, these stories capture the broader role GW3 plays as a regional super connector. They show how building digital capability, strengthening workforce pathways, supporting business innovation and exposing the region to new ideas all contribute to a stronger, more resilient and opportunity-rich Greater Whitsunday. Most importantly, they remind us that regional development is ultimately about people: their ideas, their adaptability and their willingness to embrace what comes next.



Scan to read the
full story



Connecting Classrooms to Careers...

...highlighted the importance of helping young people understand the opportunities that exist in their own backyard. Through industry-connected STEM programs, students gained practical insight into the careers, technologies and industries shaping the future of Greater Whitsunday.

The story **reinforced the value of connecting education with employment** and helping young people see a future for themselves in the region.



Scan to read the
full story

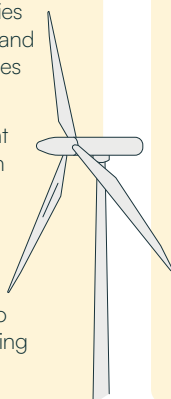
Stories are evidence of progress. They help make opportunities visible, build confidence in regional capability and demonstrate what is possible when people, industries and ideas are connected. Through storytelling, GW3 helps amplify the region's strengths, inspire action and showcase Greater Whitsunday as a place where possibility becomes progress.

Deliverables



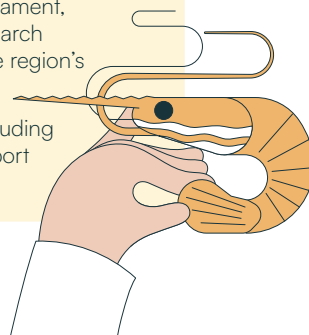
Decarbonisation Accelerated

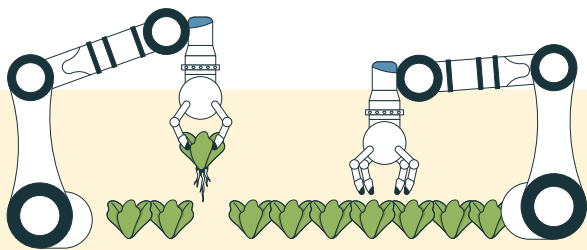
- Progressed Decarbonisation Accelerated from awareness raising to **practical business implementation** through targeted sustainability, ESG and decarbonisation support programs.
- Launched the **ESG Masterclass & Mentoring Series** and continued delivery of the Climate Change Reports for Businesses project in partnership with the University of Queensland and Think Zero, supporting 15 businesses through structured capability-building activities
- **80%** of participating businesses reported increased confidence in implementing sustainability and decarbonisation initiatives.
- Expanded the ESG Service Provider Network to **14 providers**, strengthening access to local expertise, with 100% of providers reporting value in participation.
- Supported **five technology-focused initiatives** and introduced businesses to emerging solutions including ESG AI platforms, artificial intelligence applications and geospatial technologies.
- Released the **2026 Decarbonisation Benchmarking Survey** to capture regional sustainability trends, challenges and opportunities.
- Recorded more than **5,700 website visits** and engaged approximately 1,000 newsletter subscribers through ongoing communications activities.
- **Delivered four Decarbonisation Accelerated Leaders Group meetings**, bringing together industry, government, education and sustainability stakeholders.
- **Showcased regional sustainability and decarbonisation opportunities** at major industry events across the Greater Whitsunday region and beyond including Energy Exchange Australia, Tech Verge, the Moranbah Renewable Energy Supply Chain Forum and the Proserpine Renewable Energy Forum.
- Worked in partnership with the Local Buying Foundation, University of Queensland, Think Zero, Mackay Manufacturing Hub, Central Queensland University, the ESG Service Provider Network and the Decarbonisation Accelerated Leaders Group to **expand project reach** and impact.
- Will complete the ESG Masterclass & Mentoring Series and deliver **sustainability roadshows** across Isaac and Whitsunday, extending practical support to businesses across the region.
- Will deliver the **Continuing the Conversation** event and release findings from the 2026 Decarbonisation Benchmarking Survey, strengthening regional understanding of sustainability, decarbonisation and emerging opportunities.
- Will deliver the **Future Green Leaders Challenge** and engage young people in developing solutions to real regional sustainability challenges while showcasing sustainability-related career pathways.



Diversification

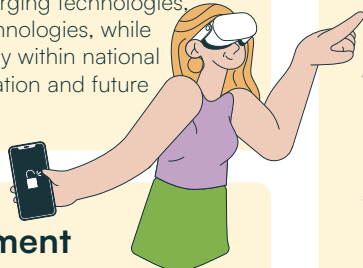
- Delivered the Greater Whitsunday Diversification Forum in February 2026, bringing together nearly 70 representatives across METS, industry, government, researchers and regional businesses. Participant understanding of diversification **increased significantly** starting at 30.2% at the start **to 75%** at the end of the forum.
- Designed and delivered a **diversification self-assessment checklist** where participating businesses scored an average diversification readiness level of 3.4 out of 5, suggesting targeted enablement will unlock action. As a result, a diversification toolkit initiative is being explored.
- **Explored opportunities** in critical minerals, post-mining land use, biomanufacturing, advanced manufacturing, and other emerging supply chains through presentations, panels and workshops.
- **Strengthened regional collaboration** and showcased local industry capability and increased awareness of market opportunities beyond traditional mining sectors.
- Connected regional businesses with **emerging industry pathways** and future growth opportunities.
- **Delivered** in partnership with Mackay Manufacturing Hub, Resources Centre of Excellence, Resource Industry Network, local governments and industry stakeholders.
- Led development and launch of the **Reimagine Rehab Prospectus**, highlighting post-mining land use opportunities across the Greater Whitsunday region.
- Established a **multi-stakeholder Leaders Group** to guide long-term economic opportunities, in parallel to, and beyond mining. In doing so, brought together industry, all levels of government, researchers, sector stewards and regional stakeholders around a shared vision.
- **Strengthened regional collaboration** and shared ownership of rehabilitation outcomes.
- **Delivered** in partnership with Isaac Regional Council, Resources Centre of Excellence, industry stakeholders, researchers and community representatives.
- **Increased the visibility** of the region's capability to transform rehabilitated land into productive future industries.
- Developed the Greater Whitsunday **Critical Minerals Processing and Services Hub Roadmap** to strengthen the region's position, identify opportunities, and leverage the region's industrial capability, skilled workforce and established supply chains.
- Established a framework to **support future investment** attraction and industry development.
- Highlighted Greater Whitsunday's **competitive advantages** in servicing critical minerals processing and supply chain opportunities.
- Created a foundation for **future collaboration** between industry, government and investment partners.
- Launched BioVision, attracting more than **5,600 visits** and showcasing the region's biomanufacturing capability, feedstocks and investment potential.
- **Delivered BioWilling** at Queensland Parliament, connecting government, industry and research stakeholders while raising the profile of the region's bioeconomy ambitions.
- **Commenced Queensland BioSkills**, including a workforce and skills gap analysis to support future biomanufacturing growth.





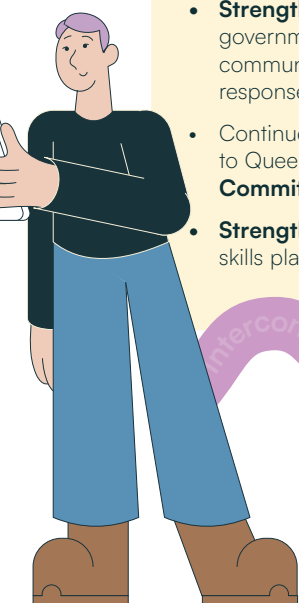
Digital

- Delivered the region's first Digital Capability Ecosystem Assessment, mapping more than **135 organisations and stakeholders** across the digital ecosystem.
- **Surveyed 73 businesses** and engaged 16 stakeholders to identify digital capability strengths, barriers and future priorities.
- Found that **54.8%** of businesses are "middle adopters" and **68.5%** are already using AI regularly, highlighting strong potential for digital uplift.
- Delivered six strategic recommendations to **support implementation** of the **Greater Whitsunday Digital Roadmap**.
- Established a strategic partnership with **Quantum Australia**, connecting the region with Australia's emerging quantum technology ecosystem.
- Secured Quantum Australia as a major sponsor and contributor to **Tech Verge 2026** and facilitated engagement with regional industry, government, education and innovation stakeholders.
- **Increased awareness** of emerging technologies, including AI and quantum technologies, while positioning Greater Whitsunday within national conversations on digital innovation and future industries.



Workforce Development

- Secured a new **two-year contract** for the Greater Whitsunday Regional Jobs Committee, extending the program to 2027 and confirming GW3 as the host organisation.
- **Refreshed the Committee** with strong industry representation and broader perspectives from across the region.
- Progressed regional workforce priorities through the **RJC Action Plan**.
- **Strengthened connections** between industry, government, education, training, employment and community stakeholders to support coordinated responses to workforce challenges.
- Continued contributing Greater Whitsunday insights to Queensland's network of **12 Regional Jobs Committees**
- **Strengthened the region's voice** in workforce and skills planning across Mackay, Isaac and Whitsunday.



Infrastructure, Energy and Water

- Advocated for priority infrastructure, energy, water and digital connectivity projects that **support regional growth and productivity**.
- **Progressed regional priorities** across roads, telecommunications, water security, water reuse and post-mining land use.
- Worked with industry, government and research partners to **strengthen the evidence base for regional investment and planning**.
- **Strengthened regional advocacy** and alignment around key infrastructure priorities.
- **Improved understanding** of the enabling infrastructure needed to support diversification and future industry growth.
- Development of the **Greater Whitsunday Project Register**.



AgTech Hub

- **Developed An AgTech Ready Region: 2026 & Beyond**, providing a clear direction for the next phase of regional AgTech development.
- Delivered **ZeroIn demonstrations** focused on robotics and irrigation technologies, helping identify adoption opportunities and barriers for local producers.
- **Contributed regional insights** to Queensland Government agriculture, innovation and productivity discussions.
- Strengthened the region's ability to advocate, attract investment, collaborate and make evidence-based decisions on **AgTech priorities**.
- Built a **stronger understanding** of regional AgTech capability, opportunities and industry needs.
- Established a clearer and more **consistent AgTech story** for Greater Whitsunday.
- **Increased recognition** of the region's AgTech capability and investment potential.
- Improved collaboration across the AgTech ecosystem and strengthened the evidence base for **future investment and advocacy**.
- Worked with **AgTech Activators, RDA, DPI, DETSI, Sugar Research Australia** and regional industry partners to strengthen ecosystem coordination and connections.



The Road Ahead

connected economic growth within the Greater Whitsunday



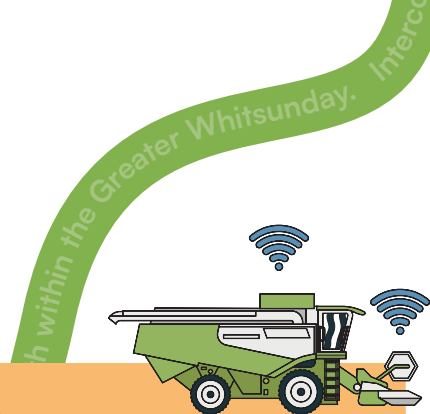
Decarbonisation

- Complete the **ESG Masterclass & Mentoring Series** and deliver regional roadshows.
- Release the **2026 Decarbonisation Benchmarking Survey** and use insights to inform future action.
- Expand the ESG Service Provider Network and **strengthen regional sustainability leadership**.
- Deliver the Future Green Leaders Challenge to **build awareness** of sustainability careers and innovation.
- **Promote practical technologies** that support decarbonisation, productivity and business resilience.
- Grow business adoption of sustainability and ESG practices through **mentoring, capability building** and industry **collaboration**.
- **Position Greater Whitsunday as a leader** in business sustainability and decarbonisation while supporting businesses to respond to evolving market and regulatory expectations.



Infrastructure, Energy and Water

- Continue **advocating** for infrastructure, energy, water and digital connectivity priorities.
- **Progress opportunities** in water security, water reuse and post-mining land use.
- **Support investment** and long-term planning that strengthens regional productivity and economic growth.



Diversification

- Continue the diversification uplift of the Greater Whitsunday METS sector through **strategic initiatives** and promote investment attraction.
- Expand the **METS & MORE campaign** to include more interactive digital resources and sector-specific opportunity guides, as well as business case studies.
- **Accelerate investment attraction** in biomanufacturing, including launching and promoting BioVision.
- **Commence BioSkills project** to develop a pilot training framework that fosters a skilled workforce capable of supporting the biomanufacturing industry.
- Facilitate cross-sector partnerships in key emerging sectors to **accelerate diversification**.
- Connect stakeholders with the **Reimagine Rehab Prospectus** and identify and advance tangible initiatives that will progress economic opportunities connected to Post Mining Land Use.



Workforce Development

- Deliver the **RJC Action Plan** and progress priority workforce initiatives in 2026-2027.
- **Strengthen industry participation** and identify emerging workforce and skills challenges.
- **Improve connections** between industry, education and training providers to support pathways into local employment.
- Deliver the Workforce Development Mastermind to **identify gaps, risks and opportunities** across the regional workforce system.
- Use the Mastermind findings to guide workforce **planning, advocacy, investment** and practical regional **action**.



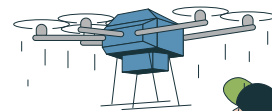
Digital

- Use ecosystem mapping insights to guide **Digital Roadmap delivery** and future funding opportunities.
- **Improve coordination and visibility** of digital support services across the region.
- Support “middle adopter” businesses to **accelerate digital capability** and technology adoption.
- **Build regional capability** in AI, emerging technologies and digital innovation.
- Continue collaboration with the **Digital Leaders Group**, industry and government partners.
- **Strengthen partnerships** with Quantum Australia to connect the region with national expertise and future technology opportunities.
- Position Greater Whitsunday as a **digitally capable, innovation-focused** and **future-ready** region.



Agtech

- **Launch Phase 2 of the AgTech Hub** with a stronger focus on economic development and producer outcomes.
- Strengthen collaboration, visibility and connectivity across the regional **AgTech ecosystem**.
- **Attract** new technology, investment, capability and partnerships into Greater Whitsunday.
- Build the evidence base needed to **support future advocacy**, investment and AgTech adoption.



Every partnership, every project and every conversation has a purpose: connecting people to possibilities. **In 2025-2026, GW3 helped turn ideas into action, data into advocacy and regional ambition into tangible outcomes, creating stronger foundations for Greater Whitsunday's future**



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