



Delivered by Sustainable Table



PROJECT MANAGER – RIPE FOR CHANGE, MACKAY-WHITSUNDAYS

Part-time contract role (9-months with plan to extend)

.6 FTE (negotiable/variable)

Location - Mackay-Whitsundays region (remote office)

Salary: Based on experience (part-time contract or contractor arrangement)

BACKGROUND

[Ripe for Change](#) is a place-based program designed to improve our food-system and deliver enhanced health, employment and sustainability outcomes for the population and environment.

The Ripe for Change pilot was launched in 2017-18, following an in-depth review of local food-system challenges in Victoria, which uncovered how philanthropy could best engage in the space. This revealed that a community grants program, structured around four defined [Impact Areas](#), would most effectively empower community-led solutions. Adopting a 'place-based' approach further enhanced the impact of the program by building strong local networks and pathways for collaboration and knowledge-sharing.

Ripe for Change has since developed deep connections within the Casey, Cardinia and Mornington Peninsula region of Victoria; a highly productive peri-urban area of Melbourne's foodbowl. Expanding Ripe for Change to the Mackay-Whitsundays region, marks the first replication of the program and its first representation outside Victoria.

The Mackay-Whitsundays region has been selected for its proximity to the Great Barrier Reef and its unique farming landscape. Ripe for Change represents an opportunity to work collaboratively with farmers to reduce impacts on the Reef, deliver innovative food-system employment pathways and engage with the community to inspire action-based solutions to farming and food-system challenges.

Since 2018, Ripe for Change has been delivered by environmental not-for-profit, Sustainable Table, in partnership with founding philanthropic partners, Morris Family Foundation and Garry White Foundation. Since inception, over \$350,000 has been awarded in food-system community grants, strong relationships have been formed and much advocacy and impact work has evolved out of these relationships. The Ripe for Change philanthropic collaboration continues to grow and welcome new partners each year.

With a proven framework to deliver this program and a desire to extend the reach and success of this model, we are now seeking a driven individual to lead the Mackay-Whitsundays Ripe for Change Community Grants Program and associated outreach.

Ripe for Change Mackay-Whitsundays is being championed and funded by the Morris Family Foundation (MFF), so this new role will work collaboratively with both MFF and Sustainable Table to deliver the goals of the program.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

The purpose of this new role is to lead and coordinate the delivery of a grants program in the Mackay-Whitsundays region and to support subsequent impact and advocacy work.

Community Grants Program

In Victoria, Ripe for Change began as a Community Grants Program, offering food-system grants of up to \$10,000 under four [Impact Areas](#). Working in collaboration with the Ripe for Change Victoria team, you will build the best model for replication in Queensland by leveraging the learnings from the Victorian program, whilst bringing an understanding and appreciation of the unique contexts of the different farming and food-system landscapes in each region.

Impact and Advocacy Work

A key aspect of the Ripe for Change model is to capture and measure the impact of the work being delivered in the focus region and to nurture, support and encourage collaboration. This may evolve in many forms including; stakeholder workshops, government advocacy, case studies and exploring increased funding pathways. The Project Manager role will support and, in some cases, be responsible for leading this work within the region.

ROLE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support Queensland-based NGO, The Next Economy, to conduct research, workshops and consultations and assist in the delivery of a report to understand opportunities and barriers to increasing the sustainability of the local food-system and transitions to regenerative agriculture in the Mackay-Whitsundays region.
- Relationship development and stakeholder management across the Ripe for Change focus region; including being the key point of contact for all grant-related and program enquiries and building a strong local network of farmers and local food-system representatives.
- Plan, manage and launch the Ripe for Change Community Grants program within the local region, including leading the local promotion of the grants program (identifying key networks for sharing, advertising and cross-promotional opportunities).
- Manage grant applications (including receiving, reviewing, summarising and shortlisting) to present to the Ripe for Change selection committee to agree on successful projects to fund.

- Manage relationships with successful and unsuccessful grantees, including updates and reporting on their work and opportunities to connect them to relevant opportunities, projects and collaborations.
- Work with local partners to identify farms that are showing innovation and leadership in regenerative agriculture and assist in developing locally relevant case studies.
- Identify and support the creation of a plan for farms to undertake a supported transition into regenerative agriculture methods.
- Work in partnership with other regional Ripe for Change programs and Sustainable Table to develop a model that can be replicated in other regions, and to feed learnings back into the broader Ripe for Change program.
- Provide input into the design and implementation of an evaluation framework for Ripe for Change.
- Maintain a central register of key local contacts and notes associated with dealings with them.
- Identify key themes and areas for broader advocacy work or opportunities for Ripe for Change to positively influence farming and food-system practices.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES + QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate the following:

- Proven knowledge, contacts and trust within the local food-system in North Queensland
- Excellent communication, consultation and listening skills
- Proficient computer literacy, including Microsoft Office suite
- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Ability to work with a remote team
- Skills or experience in facilitating groups
- Excellent stakeholder management skills with ability to put aside personal opinions
- Understanding of Climate Change threats and run-off impacts on the Great Barrier Reef
- Relevant qualifications to support the skill-set we're seeking e.g. environmental studies, regenerative agriculture, communications, facilitation (not essential)
- Farming experience a bonus (but not essential!)
- Current driver's licence and access to a vehicle

HOW TO APPLY

Please provide your CV with a cover letter addressing why you're the perfect candidate for the role! Identify past roles and experience that illustrate the skillset and type of person we are looking for.

Please email applications:

Subject line for an application: Application - Ripe for Change - *your name*

Subject line for a question: Question - Ripe for Change - *your name*

Attn: Hayley Morris + Cassie Duncan

info@sustainabletable.org.au

Please direct any questions to the above email address. As Melbourne (our location) is now under stage 4 restrictions due to COVID-19, our normal working hours are affected and email is our preferred contact method. If you think your question cannot be answered via email, first email the question and request a call back. Thank you.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5PM FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2020

For more information on Ripe for Change and Sustainable Table, visit:

ripeforchange.org.au

sustainabletable.org.au