



An Australian Government Initiative



Regional
Development
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MID NORTH COAST

Operational Performance

2023 - 2024
September 2024

Local people developing local solutions rda.gov.au



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Bellingen LGA

During the Financial Year 2023-2024, Regional Development Australia Mid North Coast worked with stakeholders across the region to produce a Regional Plan 2023-2026. This plan is available [here](#).

As part of our consultation, we were asked to provide clear visibility into our plans and our activities. This summary aims to fulfil that request.

Priority 4: Leadership and Collaboration



The annual action plans are contained in the Regional Strategic Plan. We update and publish our projects and advocacy areas for each financial year to ensure that the document is relevant and can be used to achieve accountability and transparency with our stakeholders.

RDA Charter – Regional Investment Framework

The RDA network has a Charter to operate within the Regional Investment Framework (RIF). The focus of the RIF is **People, Places, Services and Industries**.

The following briefing summarises the activities we have undertaken in accordance with the Charter and our Mid North Coast Regional Plan 2023-2026.

Bellingen Highlights

Our work with Bellingen Shire over the past financial year has been focused on understanding the unique needs of the region and working on opportunities.

We have been focused on the opportunities in the following areas:

- Renewable energy
- Agri-manufacturing
- Infrastructure needs

Federal Government Priority Areas

Our Charter and funding agreement provides us with an outcome framework we are to work towards. These outcomes are in the following areas:

- Skills and Leadership
- Infrastructure
- Industry Growth
- First Nations
- Decarbonisation
- Connectivity

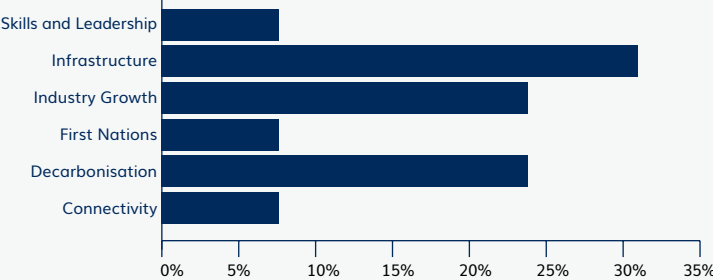
RDAMNC have collected data on our activity within the Bellingen Shire delivered over 2023-2024. This data relates to meetings, project support, forums held in the area, investment support and other activities.

Summary Statistics – Bellingen Shire

Engagements by Priority Area

Total	13
Connectivity	1
Decarbonisation	3
First Nations	1
Industry Growth	3
Infrastructure	4
Skills and Leadership	1

Table 1: Bellingen engagement by priority area



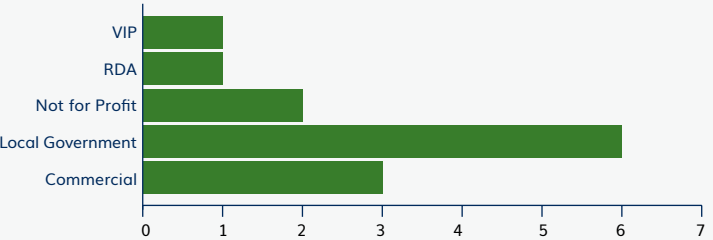
Our efforts in Bellingen have been focused on:

- Decarbonisation – working to identify opportunities to participate in the energy transition
- Industry Growth – improving structural barriers for firms such as energy and infrastructure
- Infrastructure – understanding the Council and industry’s needs and supporting efforts to secure funding from available grant pools.

Engagements by Sector

When viewed by sector, the engagement data demonstrates that our main focus area has been working with local government as the key stakeholder in the Shire for the priorities we’ve pursued.

Table 2: Bellingen engagement by sector



Summary Statistics – Mid North Coast

The following statistics reflect engagements encompassing all six LGAs on the Mid North Coast rather than individual LGA engagements.

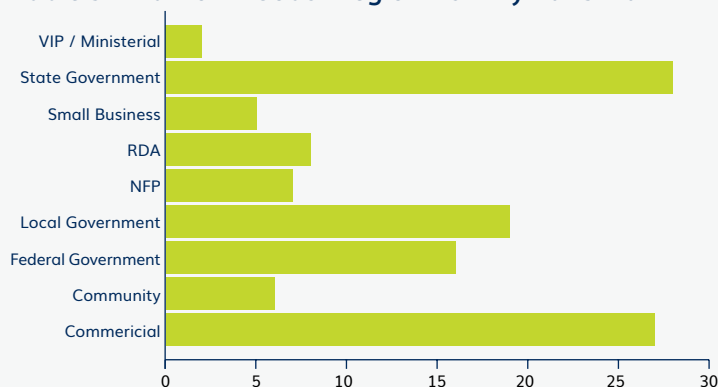
Engagements by Sector

Our total activity nationally, state wide, MNC and Norfolk Island are 515 for the financial year 2023-2024. Efforts centred purely on the Mid North Coast total 118 engagements. These engagements range from multi-stakeholder regional forums through to Teams meetings.

Mid North Coast Regional Activity	
Total engagement	118
Commercial	27
Community	6
Federal Government	16
Local Government	19
NFP	7
RDA	8
Small Business	5
State Government	28
VIP/Ministerial	2

RDAMNC has worked across the region to understand the needs of industry and commercial players and to fulfil our Charter across levels of government and regional stakeholders.

Table 3: Mid North Coast Region Activity 2023-2024



We delivered on the following projects this year:

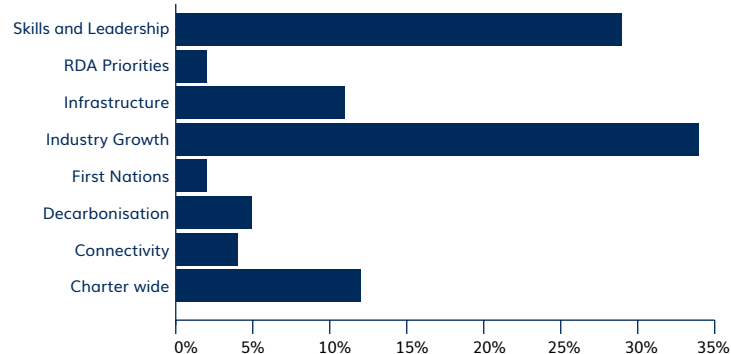
1. **MNC Labour Participation Study** with the Regional Australia Institute
2. **Early Childhood Education and Care Unmet Demand** analysis and advocacy
3. **MNC and Norfolk Island Renewable Energy Opportunity Study** with Australian National University
4. Delivered an **Energy Forum** for Industry and Essential Energy
5. Drafted and published the **MNC Regional Plan 2023-2026**

Organisational Performance – All regions combined

Engagements by Priority Area 2023-2024

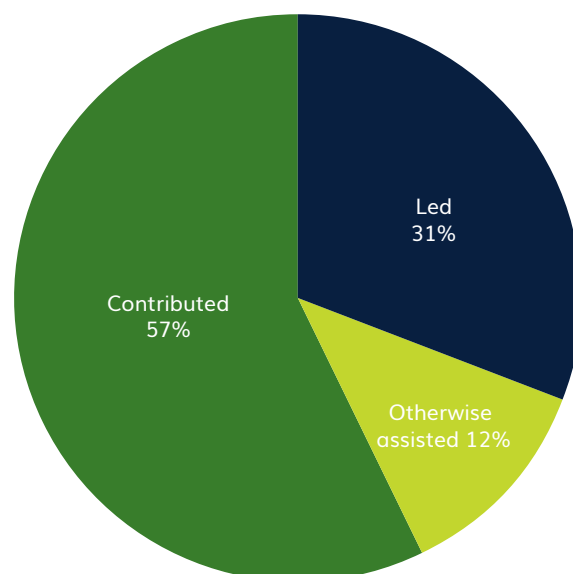
RDA Mid North Coast	Grand Total	Percentage
Charter wide	65	13%
Connectivity	21	4%
Decarbonisation	25	5%
First Nations	9	2%
Industry Growth	176	34%
Infrastructure	60	12%
RDA Priorities	10	2%
Skills and Leadership	149	29%
Grand Total	515	100%


Table 4: Engagement by initiative - All regions



Regional Development Australia committees are also required to report on their role in the region. RDA Mid North Coast has been pleased to lead on a number of initiatives and is a collaborative partner with the region's stakeholders.

Graph 1: RDAMNC Role in region





Thanks for your support and collaboration with Regional
Development Australia Mid North Coast. If you want to contact
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