



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.