



Regional
Development
Australia

P I L B A R A

ANNUAL REPORT

2019/20



An Australian Government Initiative





Contents

ABOUT US	3
RDA PILBARA COMMITTEE 2019/2020	4
SUMMARY OF KEY ACHEIVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR	5
Pilbara Quarterly Economic Updates	6
Initial Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in the Pilbara Economy	6
RDA National Forum – November 2019	6
Economic Prospects and the Cost of Doing Business in the Pilbara 2020	6
Infrastructure Australia Priority List	7
West Pilbara Communities for Children	7
West Pilbara Children and Families Community Directory 2019/2020	8
Town of Port Hedland Community Directory 2019	8
Australian Government Guide to Coronavirus	8
Northern Regional Development Australia Alliance	8
WA/NT RDA Meetings	8
Submissions 2019/2020	8
E-News	8
Collaborative Forums	8
Events/Workshops	9
OUTCOMES 2019/2020	10
TABLE OF OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES for 2019/2020	10
CASE STUDIES	22
Economic Prospects and the Cost of Doing Business in the Pilbara – An Executive Update	22
Pilbara Quarterly Economic Updates	25
THIRD PARTY CONTRACTS	26

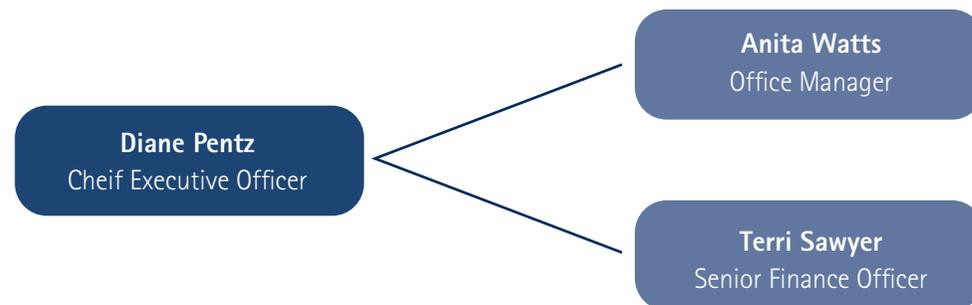
About Us

Working in partnership with all tiers of government, as well as local industry, business and community organisations, RDA Pilbara is strongly committed to supporting the growth and development of Australia's Pilbara region.

The organisation is focused on building robust relationships with key regional stakeholders to provide strategic and targeted responses to economic, environmental, cultural wellbeing and social issues affecting the Pilbara.

RDA Pilbara is part of a national network of RDA committees serving rural, regional, remote, and urban communities across Australia. RDA committees are responsible for delivering information about the regional development programmes, services, grants, and initiatives on offer to local stakeholders.

Committees are also encouraged to be the first point of contact for government agencies who want to consult with the region.



RDA Pilbara is working to achieve regional growth and development by engaging in the following activities:



Consult and engage with the community on economic, social, cultural wellbeing and environmental issues, solutions, and priorities.



Liaise with governments and local communities about government programmes, services, grants, and initiatives for regional development.



Support informed regional planning.



Contribute to business growth plans and investment strategies, environmental solutions and social inclusion strategies in their region.

Further information about RDA Pilbara can be found at www.rdapilbara.org.au

RDA Pilbara Committee 2019/2020

Our committee is committed to developing and growing the Pilbara region and has identified six priority areas that include the following:

1. Supporting businesses and economic recovery post COVID-19.
2. Attracting, facilitating, and supporting infrastructure investment in the Pilbara.
3. Promoting economic diversification and capitalising on the Pilbara's competitive advantage in the resources sector and location in proximity to Asia.
4. Supporting priority sector investment projects that meet the aspirations of longevity and sustainability.
5. Supporting business development, expansion, and job creation for the region; and
6. Providing advocacy to support sustainable practices and development across the Pilbara.

The committee members attended six meetings and one annual general meeting this financial year. The committee members engaged with both state and federal government to promote the studies undertaken throughout the year by RDA Pilbara.

The RDA Pilbara Committee consists of strong voices from the Pilbara region.

Name	Position	Location	Term Expiry
Ms Fiona White-Hartig	Chair	Wickham	31 December 2020
Ms Kerry White	Deputy Chair	Onslow	30 June 2021
Mr David Yakas	Committee Member	Dampier	30 June 2021
Ms Teresa Lewis	Committee Member	Newman	30 June 2021
Mr Eric Brahim	Committee Member	Perth	30 June 2021
Ms Jennifer Collard	Committee Member	Perth (<i>Resigned</i>)	
Ms Angela Rooney	Committee Member	Port Hedland (<i>Resigned</i>)	
Mr Rodney Evans	Committee Member	Port Hedland	30 June 2021

Summary of key achievements over the past year

The RDA Pilbara Committee has continued to focus on maintaining good relationships with key stakeholders, industry, and business operators. The Committee has been committed to supporting a diverse and sustainable economy across the region which has been facilitated through the delivery of several studies and initiatives.

With the advent of COVID-19 the RDA Committee has focused on working closely with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the dissemination of information pertaining to Federal and State Grants and Initiatives to support businesses across the region. The development of a report, in collaboration with the Chambers of Commerce, detailing the impact of COVID-19 on businesses and not-for-profit organisations was released in May 2020. Further, RDA Pilbara has participated in teleconferences with the Minister for Regional Development in providing updates and information to support Federal funding responses.

RDA Pilbara continues to work in collaboration with RDAs across WA to deliver a coordinated response to economic development across the State. The organisation is also a member of the Northern Regional Development Australia Alliance that comprises of eight RDAs all located within northern Australia. The purpose of the Alliance is for all members to act collaboratively through engagement and to identify and make recommendations in regard to growth opportunities and to develop initiatives and projects to meet the needs and capture opportunities for economic growth in the northern Australian region.

RDA Pilbara continues to engage with both state and federal government departments to ensure information and data relating to the Pilbara is made available to inform decision making.

The summary below provides a snapshot of the projects and initiatives RDA Pilbara has been involved in.



Pilbara Quarterly Economic Updates

RDA Pilbara released its first Pilbara Quarterly Economic Update in August 2019. RDA Pilbara prepares a wide range of socio-economic studies and undertakes initiatives for the Pilbara region that supports the overall objectives of RDA "an Australian Government initiative that brings together all levels of government to enhance the development of Australia's regions."

This periodic update on the economy of the Pilbara includes drivers of change and will assist in adjusting development strategies and policies, regional planning, business planning and identifying emerging opportunities and risks.

Further updates were released in October 2019, January and April 2020 and will continue for the 2020/21 financial year.

Initial Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in the Pilbara Economy

RDA Pilbara, in collaboration with the Chambers of Commerce, undertook a study on the early impacts of COVID-19 on the Pilbara economy. This study drew on information provided through REM Plan as well as surveys distributed by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The report concluded by providing a suite of recommendations to support small business and not-for profit organisation recovery.

RDA National Forum – November 2019

On the 26th to 28th November 2019, RDA Chair and CEO attended, in Canberra, the 2019 RDA National Forum. The theme of the Forum was 'Influence and Impact'.

There were over 150 delegates from RDA Committees and Federal and State Government Departments. Workshops focused on raising RDA Committee profiles, building capacity, establishing collaborative partnerships, providing leadership, influencing decision-makers and supporting regionally significant projects.

The formal dinner was hosted by Assistant Minister for Regional Development and Territories, the Honourable Nola Marino.

Economic Prospects and the Cost of Doing Business in the Pilbara 2020

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara has been reporting on the economic and business environment through annual Cost of Doing Business studies since 2013. This report, release in February 2020, provides an executive update on this theme.

The Pilbara contributes to the economic development of the State and Australia more than any other region in Australia. It now has a broader and deeper extractive industries sector and opportunities afforded by the abundance of renewable energy and marine resources are increasingly being recognised as providing enhanced prospects for a greater degree of diversification.

The focus is on understanding the drivers and constraints to economic development in the Pilbara. Policies that seek to alleviate the constraints and enhance further development, need the ongoing attention of government agencies at all levels.

RDA Pilbara is a strong advocate of economic diversification and a supporter of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and Non-Government Organisations (NGO) sectors as key pillars for the sustainable future of the Pilbara. Clearly it is in the best interests of all businesses that costs are controlled and the enabling environment for investment is sustained and enhanced.

Infrastructure Australia Priority List

RDA Pilbara worked in collaboration with Pilbara Ports to identify an infrastructure proposal of economic significance to the Pilbara, WA and Australia economy to be included on the Infrastructure Australia Priority List.

The 2019 Australian Infrastructure Audit identifies the opportunity for further economic growth in Northern Australia through natural resources, such as rare earth materials, lithium and copper.

The initiative is for increasing port capacity at Port Hedland, which will need to be considered in the context and system of ports in the Pilbara.

Options include making better use of the existing port infrastructure, major upgrades to port facilities, or developing new port infrastructure. It could also include developing new land for port activities and landside improvements, such as a logistics hub or road access upgrades.

The role of port-user charging should be considered as part of the funding options for the initiative.

A proposal was finalised and has been accepted, in February 2020, by Infrastructure Australia and has now been formally included on the Infrastructure Priority List.

West Pilbara Communities for Children

The West Pilbara Communities for Children (WPC4C) Initiative is part of the Family and Communities Programme delivered by the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS). Funded by DSS, RDA Pilbara has been allocated \$5.8 million from 2014 to 2019. In 2019 DSS provided an extension of the programme for an additional 12 months of \$1.1 million ending in June 2020.

The WPC4C Initiative funds innovative local programmes that target children aged from birth to 12 years and their families who are at risk, isolated, and vulnerable.

RDA Pilbara is the Facilitating Partner for the Initiative in the West Pilbara. The role of RDA Pilbara is to manage the day to day running of the project, which includes the identification and contracting of agencies (called 'Community Partners') to deliver programmes.

Community Partners are local community organisations and groups within the geographic region covered by WPC4C, the City of Karratha and the Shire of Ashburton. They assist RDA Pilbara in fulfilling the Communities for Children objective of creating strong child-friendly communities that understand the importance of children and apply this capacity to maximise the health, wellbeing and early development of young children at the local level.

The Community Partners meet bi-monthly to exchange information with RDA Pilbara. The purpose of these meetings is to encourage collaboration and feedback and information exchange.



The WPC4C Initiative has a Committee which drives its direction and assists RDA Pilbara, as the Facilitating Partner, to plan, guide and support the Initiative. The Committee which meets bi-monthly consists of representatives from Government agencies, community members, local service providers, schools, and early childhood educators.

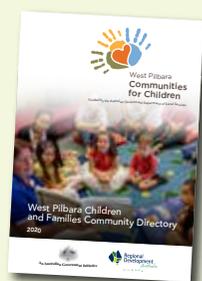
The WPC4C strategic objectives were developed with the WPC4C Community Strategic Plan, 2015–2019. They include the priority areas of health and wellbeing; families; transition to school; sense of belonging and participation; suicide awareness and prevention; and connections between adult and children's services.

RDA Pilbara funded seven Community Partners over the 2019/20 period. They include Empowering People in Communities Inc (EPIC), The Federation of Western Australia Police and Community Youth Centres Inc (PCYC WA), Karratha Community House, Yaandina Family Centre, V Swans, Aboriginal Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Limited (ABCFL) and Pilbara Health Network (PHN).

West Pilbara Children and Families Community Directory 2019/2020

This Directory provides a brief description of and contact details for organisations, government agencies, and Aboriginal Corporations who deliver services and support for children and families in the West Pilbara.

First published in 2013, the Directory is updated and published each year and has seen strong demand and positive feedback on its usefulness from several agencies and individuals.



Town of Port Hedland Community Directory 2019

RDA Pilbara, in partnership with Town of Port Hedland and support from Hedland Collective has produced a revised edition of the Town of Port Hedland 2019 Community Directory.

This directory provides contact details for community groups, government departments, disability services, Aboriginal organisations, sporting clubs, schools and facilities that support the local community.



Australian Government Guide to Coronavirus

During COVID-19 restrictions, RDA Pilbara in collaboration with WA RDAs compiled a guide in an attempt to round up information to a single useful source. This guide provided useful links to funding support packages, health alerts and key government agencies that were offering assistance during this difficult time.

WA/NT RDA Meetings

RDA Pilbara works collaboratively with all WA and NT RDAs to ensure that projects and advocacy for the regions are reflective of the national RDA Charter. Meetings held throughout the year provide an opportunity for RDAs to determine key projects that will help deliver effective and efficient outcomes for the regions and to seek information from key state government bodies such as Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and federal government agencies including Austrade, AusIndustry and Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development.

Submissions 2019/2020

- Australian Infrastructure Audit 2019;
- Effectiveness of the Australian Government's Northern Australia Agenda;
- Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments Draft Report;
- Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 review;

E-News

RDA Pilbara in 2019/2020 distributed 17 E-News editions to over 500 organisations and individuals, keeping stakeholders and networks abreast of relevant issues, achievements, events, funding grants and opportunities.

This newsletter is also published on the RDA Pilbara website and Facebook page.



Northern Regional Development Australia Alliance

Eight RDA Committees located in northern Australia have been meeting to explore common interests and issues and to prioritise the most significant policy and investment opportunities for the development of northern Australia. The RDAs included are:

- Northern Territory
- Kimberley
- Pilbara
- Mid-West Gascoyne
- Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday
- Fitzroy and Central West
- Townsville and North West, and
- Far North Queensland and Torres Strait.

Collaborative Forums

- West Pilbara Communities for Children Committee
- Woodside Community Liaison Group
- Port of Dampier Community Consultation Committee
- Port of Port Hedland Community Consultation Committee
- WA RDA EO Collaboration meetings
- Northern RDA Alliance

Events/Workshops

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC & EARLY YEARS EXPO – AUGUST 2019

RDA Pilbara on the 20th August held a stall at the Teddy Bears Picnic and Early Years Expo. RDA Pilbara has supported this event for the last three years and have seen an overwhelming amount of young families and children services organisations participate in this event.

The event was full of activities and performances and engaged the children into learning and having fun.

RDA Pilbara was able to provide attendees with a goody bag containing helpful and practical items that can be used daily by children and their families. Such items included sunscreen, bucket hats, hand sanitisers, frisbees, back sac bags, reusable shopping bags and drink bottles.

PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOUR TRAINING IN ROEBOURNE – AUGUST 2019

PCYC Roebourne, with support from RDA Pilbara, hosted a two-day Protective Behaviours workshop in mid-August. This workshop provided sixteen attendees the opportunity to develop child protection and safety practices that can assist in creating child safe environments for children, young people and staff.

The workshop also provided an opportunity for attendees from WAPOL, Roebourne School, REFAP, BighART and PCYC to collaborate more effectively with all children and youth service providers.



Outcomes 2019/2020

TABLE OF OUTCOMES, OUTPUTS, ACTIVITIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES for 2019/2020

OUTCOME THEME 1	Increased economic opportunities and investment in Your Region		
OUTPUT i.	Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 1.1: Meet with resources industries that are currently established in the Pilbara in a support role.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara met with key resource industry personnel to understand opportunities and challenges facing the sector across the region.	RDA Pilbara has gathered information that has informed studies and submissions to both State and Federal Government. Further, information gathered has also informed discussions on COVID-19 implications and has tailored responses to Minister for Regional Development and State Government Ministers.	Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i> Activity 1.1 10 Companies and organisations 1.2 3 Economic Updates 1.3 Potential Jobs 1.4 4 Forums attended 1.5 5 Forums attended 1.6 7 Letters of support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries Research and Development Corporation will provide training for Aboriginal people. Archipelago Adventures will potentially employ up to 13 crew and staff.
Activity 1.2: Meet with Chamber of Minerals and Energy (CME) to exchange information and provide support.	RDA role: Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEO attended an information sundowner with CME on 8th August 2019. Meeting held with Anthony Miller, State Manager – Regional WA – 23rd June 2020. 	There was exchange of information regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the resources sector and the measures that are being taken to ensure this sector continues it high level functioning. Information was also made available regarding the redundancies within the LNG sector and the reviewed timeframes for expansion.	1.6 7 Letters of support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries Research and Development Corporation will provide training for Aboriginal people. Archipelago Adventures will potentially employ up to 13 crew and staff.
Activity 1.3: Meet with resources industries that are seeking to establish in the Pilbara in a support and advocacy role.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara has met with the resources sector, new and emerging interests in the Pilbara and has provided information and contact links to promote these developments.	RDA Pilbara is now seen as an organisation that offers support and information to emerging industries and as established contacts at a Federal and State level to support these initiatives	1.7 2 Meetings attended 1.8 4 Editions released
Activity 1.4: Representation on resources industry community forums.	RDA role: Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDA Pilbara attends the Woodside Community Liaison Group meetings held quarterly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th September 2019 6th December 2019 28th February 2020 12th June 2020 	RDA Pilbara continues to attend forums and public consultations on resource industry updates, expansions and special meetings of interest. RDA Pilbara provides input at these forums and plays a role in disseminating of information.	

OUTCOME THEME 1	Increased economic opportunities and investment in Your Region		
OUTPUT i.	Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.		
Activity 1.5: Representation on Pilbara Port Authority Community forums.	RDA role: Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RDA Pilbara attends quarterly meetings with the Dampier and Port Hedland Pilbara Port Authority. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 24th October 2019 - Dampier - 25th February 2020 - Dampier - 26th May 2020 - Dampier - 15th August 2019 - Port Hedland - 21st November 2019 - Port Hedland 	RDA Pilbara is recognised as an important stakeholder to the Pilbara Port Authority and is annual invited to attend the quarterly community forums in both Dampier and Port Hedland Ports. RDA Pilbara provides updates and receives valuable information on port activities and expansion.	
Activity 1.6: Advocate for private and public-sector investment for key infrastructure to support economic growth.	RDA role: Support Letters of support provided to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kuarlu Marine Charters Onslow WA – July 2019 – seeking funding for the establishment of a marine charter business in Onslow. • Telethon Speech and Hearing Pilbara – July 2019 – seeking funding from the Pilbara Port Authority for a family transportation vehicle. • Destination Pilbara – August 2019 – seeking funding through the Regional Economic Development grants for assistance to deliver Marketing Masterclasses for new and existing tourism operators. • Fisheries Research and Development Corporation – March 2020 – seeking funding for a project titled “Combining traditional with western knowledge and building capacity to develop an indigenous sea cucumber fishery in WA. • Karratha Central Healthcare – March 2020 – seeking NDIS accreditation. • Saving Animals from Euthanasia (SAFE) – May 2020 – letter of support in recognition of the contribution and value that SAFE provides across the Pilbara. • Archipelago Adventures – June 2020 – seeking funding through the Regional Economic Development grants for the establishment and development of a marine based tourism business by Archipelago Adventures Pty Ltd. 	RDA Pilbara is actively involved in providing letters of support for development of key infrastructure across the region and provides data and key information to support these business cases.	

OUTCOME THEME 1	Increased economic opportunities and investment in Your Region		
OUTPUT i.	Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.		
Activity 1.7: Advocate for reduction in insurance costs across North Western Australia.	RDA role: Support Second Interim Report from ACCC released in December 2019.	RDA Pilbara continues to actively advocate for lower insurance premiums across the Pilbara and distributed an E-News with the attached report to over 500 stakeholders.	
Activity 1.8: Maintain the Pilbara Quarterly Economic Update.	RDA role: Lead <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edition 1 – July 2019 • Edition 2 – October 2019 • Edition 3 – January 2020 • Edition 4 – April 2020 	Distributed to over 500 stakeholders per quarter. Copies distributed in Canberra during the RDA National conference held in November 2019.	

OUTCOME THEME 2	Increased trade and job creation.		
OUTPUT ii.	Connect Your Region with industry sectors, international trade partners, financial markets, regional entrepreneurs and business leaders to attract investors to explore new opportunities to grow local jobs in Your Region.		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 2.1: Ongoing relationship through regular meetings, information exchange and support with Chamber of Commerce and Industry Western Australia (CCIWA), Karratha & Districts Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KDCCI), Port Hedland Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PHCCI), Newman Chamber of Commerce & Industry (NCCI), Onslow Chamber of Commerce & Industry (OCCI) and Pilbara Inland Chamber of Commerce & Industry (PICCI).	<p>RDA role: Lead/Support Meeting held to share information with Port Hedland Chamber of Commerce and Industry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27th September 2019 • 12th June 2020 <p>CEO attended a Business After Hours event held through the PHCCI and Town of Port Hedland and hosted by the Port Hedland Pilbara Regiment – October 2019.</p> <p>Discussions have been held with KDCCI, NCCI and PHCCI in relation to COVID-19 and the effects that are being seen across the Pilbara.</p>	<p>RDA Pilbara works closely with the Chambers of Commerce and Industry across the Pilbara in supporting economic diversification and small businesses.</p> <p>RDA Pilbara as the lead, in collaboration with the four CCI's across the region and the WA CCI developed report on the impacts of COVID-19 on businesses across the Pilbara.</p> <p>Information provided from CCI's has been shared with the Federal Government to assist in decision making of emergency policies being considered during COVID-19.</p>	<p>Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i></p> <p>Activity</p> <p>2.1 35 Meetings. Collaboration in supporting businesses and jobs.</p> <p>2.2 Workforce and training input to support local community.</p> <p>2.3 Priority infrastructure to support jobs and resources exports.</p> <p>2.4 4 Meetings</p> <p>2.5 4 Meetings</p> <p>2.6 5 Meetings</p> <p>2.7 Distribution of information and meetings to support local businesses accessing Pacific Labour Scheme.</p>
Activity 2.2: Ongoing relationship through regular meetings, information exchange and support with Austrade, AusIndustry, Office of Northern Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and Infrastructure Australia.	<p>RDA role: Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CEO met with ONA, Mark Coffey during the Developing Northern Australia (DNA) conference in Karratha in July 2019 to discuss funding for the Northern Australia Investment Portfolio. <p>RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO met with Infrastructure Australia, Romilly Madew during the NRDA meeting and shared information relating to the Investment Projects List.</p>	<p>Business case forwarded to ONA.</p> <p>Ongoing discussions with the NRDA to further this initiative.</p> <p>RDA Pilbara provided a submission to Infrastructure Australia regarding potential projects for investment that will support economic development in the Pilbara.</p> <p>The submission was successful, as the Port Hedland port expansion has been included in Infrastructure Australia's Priority List.</p>	
Activity 2.3: Ongoing relationship through meeting, information exchange, support and advocacy with the resources industry and CME.	<p>RDA role: Support Meeting held with Anthony Miller, State Manager – Regional WA – 23rd June 2020.</p>	<p>Exchanged information regarding resource industry expansion and the impacts of COVID-19 on the industry and the rescheduling of shut down activity due to restrictive travel arrangements.</p> <p>Information was also made available regarding the redundancies within the LNG sector and the reviewed timeframes for expansion.</p>	

OUTCOME THEME 2	Increased trade and job creation.		
OUTPUT ii.	Connect Your Region with industry sectors, international trade partners, financial markets, regional entrepreneurs and business leaders to attract investors to explore new opportunities to grow local jobs in Your Region.		
Activity 2.4: Ongoing meetings with Pilbara Port Authority to support the increasing exports through expanding the Pilbara ports.	RDA role: Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information exchange with Roger Johnston, CEO from Pilbara Port Authority – 19th July 2019. Stakeholders meeting with Pilbara Ports regarding Port Improvement Rate Projects in Port Hedland – October 2019. Information exchange with Roger Johnston, CEO from Pilbara Port Authority and David McCormick from Imani – 20th January 2020. Information exchange with Roger Johnston regarding the effects of COVID 19 to Pilbara Ports – 17th March 2020. 	RDA Pilbara provided a submission to Infrastructure Australia regarding potential projects for investment that will support economic development in the Pilbara. The submission was successful, as the Port Hedland port expansion has been included in Infrastructure Australia's Priority List. Ongoing meetings with the CEO of Pilbara Ports to exchange information and provide RDA Pilbara updates.	
Activity 2.5: Ongoing meetings with the Business Centre Pilbara, and Many Rivers to support small business development.	RDA role: Support Discussions have been held with the Business Centre Pilbara and Many Rivers regarding the effects of COVID-19 on the Pilbara region.	Information provided has been shared with the Federal Government to assist in decision making of emergency policies being considered during COVID-19. RDA Pilbara also met with Board members to discuss the ongoing relationship between RDA and the Business Centre and the potential role that this organisation can play in supporting micro businesses across the Pilbara.	
Activity 2.6: Ongoing meetings with Aboriginal Corporations to support job creation and business opportunities.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara has provided information on grants and funding to support the development on Aboriginal businesses.	RDA Pilbara has provided letters of support for Aboriginal corporations and businesses to access grants and funding to support new and expanding businesses across the region.	
Activity 2.7: Regular meetings with State Government departments to discuss regional development and job creation.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO participated in a teleconference interview regarding the Pilbara Labour Market Review being conducted by the WA Government, Department of Training and Workforce Development – 18th September 2019.	This labour market review aims to inform the Department, regional TAFE colleges and industry and community stakeholders on current and future labour market trends, current attraction and retention issues being experienced by employers, and education and training issues identified in each region.	
	RDA Pilbara CEO met with Melissa Denning, Labour Scheme Facilitator, WA Vegetable Growers Association Inc to discuss a funded programme by DPIRD to assist business in rural and regional Australia to utilise the Seasonal Worker Programme and the Pacific Labour Scheme – 31st January 2020.	Melissa presented to the RDA Pilbara Committee in February 2020 to provide information relating to the Pacific Labour Scheme and Seasonal Worker Programme.	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.		
OUTPUT iii.	Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 3.1: Ongoing meetings with Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund (NAIF).	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO met with Laurie Walker, NAIF during the DNA conference in July 2019.	RDA Pilbara met with NAIF CEO to discuss local projects and exchange information.	Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i> Activity 3.1 2 Meetings 3.2 4 Meetings 3.3 Event postponed 3.4 20 Meetings plus 5 teleconferences with the Minister. 3.5 1 Directory completed and 1 letter of support provided. 3.6 5 Meetings 3.7 1 Meeting during DNA conference and 1 meeting in Canberra. 3.8 1 Guide completed. 3.9 10 Meetings with groups, 10 meetings with organisations and 1 presentation 3.10 20 Meetings
Activity 3.2: Collaboration and cooperation with AusIndustry, Office of Northern Australia, Austrade, DFAT and Infrastructure Australia.	RDA role: Support CEO met with ONA, Mark Coffey during the DNA conference, July 2019, and discussed the Northern Australia Investment Portfolio project on behalf of the NRDA.	Business case was forwarded to ONA.	
	CEO met with Infrastructure Australia, Romilly Madew during the NRDA meeting and shared information relating to the Infrastructure Priority List.	RDA Pilbara provided a submission to Infrastructure Australia regarding potential projects for investment that will support economic development in the Pilbara. Infrastructure Australia has included Pilbara Ports into the IA Priority List.	
Activity 3.3: Regular meetings to exchange information and seek opportunities for partners and collaboration with State Government departments.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara has become a bronze sponsor to participate in the WA Showcase event to be held in March 2020.	Event postponed due to COVID 19	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.		
OUTPUT iii.	Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.		
Activity 3.4: Regular meetings to exchange information and seek opportunities with Federal Government Departments and Ministers.	<p>RDA role: Support</p> <p>Chair and CEO met with Ministers in Canberra on 22/23 July 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke O'Sullivan, Adviser to Minister Michael McCormack; • Minister Nola Marino; • Minister Melissa Price; • Dept of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development; • Regional Australia Institute <p>Chair and CEO requested meetings with Ministers during the RDA National Conference in November 2019:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristy Domitrovic – Adviser to Minister Ley • Minister Nola Marino; • Minister Melissa Price; • Mike Websdane & Beatrice Pyne – Adviser to Senator Anne Rushton • Anne Stunzner – Adviser to Senator Matthew Canavan 	RDA Pilbara Chair and CEO met with Ministers and Advisers to discuss projects and initiatives in the Pilbara and provide information on the region.	
	Weekly teleconferences facilitated by Minister Nola Marino with all RDAs to determine what the effects of COVID-19 are having on the regions.	RDA Pilbara participated in teleconferences to provide information on the impact of COVID-19 in the region.	
Activity 3.5: Ongoing meetings with Local Government Authorities to ensure collaboration and partnership opportunities in tourism and economic diversification.	<p>RDA role: Lead</p> <p>Joint project with the Town of Port Hedland reviewing and updating the Community Directory has been completed and distributed – August 2019</p>	<p>The Town of Port Hedland Community Directory is well received by the community and distributed up to 500 copies and produced an online interactive directory located on the RDA Pilbara website.</p> <p>Regular meetings with local government representatives to exchange information.</p>	
	<p>RDA role: Support</p> <p>Letter of support provided to City of Karratha regarding the Inter-Regional Flight Network. This service of flights will provide travel for Karratha to Newman, Broome and potentially Paraburdoo and Exmouth.</p>	<p>These flights will provide support for businesses, not-for-profit organisations, government travel, tourism growth and the resources sector to have a greater connectivity in the regions.</p> <p>The inter-regional flights have commenced.</p>	
Activity 3.6: Ongoing meetings with Aboriginal Corporations to further economic diversification and job creation.	<p>RDA role: Support</p> <p>RDA Pilbara has provided information on grants and funding to support the development on Aboriginal businesses.</p>	RDA Pilbara has provided letters of support for Aboriginal corporations and businesses to access grants and funding to support new and expanding businesses across the region.	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.		
OUTPUT iii.	Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.		
Activity 3.7: Work in partnership with Northern RDA Alliance.	RDA role: Support Informal meeting held with the NRDAA members who attended the DNA conference. NRDAA met in Canberra during RDA National Conference in November 2019. Teleconferences held bi-monthly	RDA Pilbara participates extensively in NRDAA activities to meet the aspirations of the Northern Australia White Paper.	
Activity 3.8: Joint partnership with WA RDAs.	RDA role: Support WA RDA's created an Australian Government Guide to Coronavirus in April 2020.	Compiled by Regional Development Australia, this guide rounded up information to a single source displaying direct links to government agencies offering support to businesses. This was circulated extensively and placed onto the RDA Pilbara website and Facebook page.	
Activity 3.9: RDA Pilbara as facilitating partner for West Pilbara Communities for Children (WPC4C) will continue to manage the Initiative which includes the identification and contracting of agencies to deliver programmes.	RDA role: Lead Regular meetings held with Community Partners contracted to deliver C4C programmes. o 31st July 2019 o 22nd October 2019 o 10th March 2020 o 5th May 2020	RDA Pilbara has delivered the WPC4C Initiative and successfully met the criteria and desired outcomes to support children and their families who are isolated and disadvantaged.	
	Regular meetings WPC4C Committee meetings held: o 31st July 2019 o 5th November 2019 o 11th March 2020 o 11th May 2020		
	Combined meeting with Community Partners and WPC4C Committee members held on 31st July 2019 with guest presenter Dr Jennie Grey from WACOSS. Presentation provided was regarding statistical information on <i>"Poverty and place and the impact on children"</i> .	Dr Jennie Grey presented on findings with regard to families living in poverty across Australia with specific reference to Western Australia.	
	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara through the WPC4C funding was able to co-fund Empowering People in Communities (EPIC) in hosting the Teddy Bears Picnic on 20th August 2019.	This event again was successful and saw over 1000 children and their families attend. This event provides children service providers the opportunity to share programmes and services that are offered within the City of Karratha.	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.		
OUTPUT iii.	Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.		
Activity 3.10: Ongoing meetings with small businesses, community and not-for-profit organisations to share and disseminate collaborative information.	RDA role: Support	These meetings provide opportunities to share and gather information relating to gaps and issues that small businesses, community groups and not-for-profit organisations are experiencing. RDA Pilbara continues to share funding grant opportunities and advocacy to these organisations to improve economic outcomes within the region.	
	Meeting held with Nick Furnivall from Yaandina – 28th August 2019.		
	Meeting held with Liam Sorrell from Hope Foundation – 12th September 2019.		
	Meeting held with Jane McNamara from NBN – 28th August 2019.		
	Meeting with Peter Carter in Port Hedland – small business owner – September 2019 and June 2020.		
	Meeting held with Stephanie Soter from EPIC – 1st November 2019.		
	Visit to Canberra, during RDA National Conference, with Leichhart Industrials Pty Ltd.	RDA Pilbara facilitated meetings with Federal Ministers and Advisers to showcase Leichhart Industrials Pty Ltd and their project in the Pilbara.	
Ongoing discussions with local businesses regarding COVID 19 restrictions and the effect on businesses in the Region – March/April 2020.	Meeting with local businesses and not-for-profit organisations provided information dissemination and support.		

OUTCOME THEME 4	Achieve Government program objectives.		
OUTPUT iv.	Assist in the delivery of Commonwealth programs including public and private sector decentralisation.		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 4.1: Ongoing meetings and support for NAIF.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO met with Laurie Walker, NAIF during the DNA conference.	Information exchange and opportunity to discuss upcoming and proposed projects and initiatives.	Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i> Activity 4.1 2 Meetings 4.2 1 Meeting during DNA conference and 1 meeting in Canberra. 4.3 4 Meetings 4.4 2 Meetings 4.5 7 Letters of support 4.6 1 Partnership agreement and 5 teleconferences.
Activity 4.2: Provide support and advocacy to progress the Northern Australia White Paper through membership of the NRDA.	RDA role: Support Informal meeting held with the NRDA members who attended the DNA conference. NRDA met in Canberra during RDA National Conference in November 2019. Teleconferences held bi-monthly.	RDA Pilbara participates extensively in NRDA activities to meet the aspirations of the Northern Australia White Paper.	
Activity 4.3: Ongoing meetings with the Pilbara Port Authority in the development of Lumsden Point multiuser facility.	RDA role: Support Information exchange with Roger Johnston, CEO from Pilbara Port Authority – 19th July 2019.	RDA Pilbara has been a strong advocate for the development of Lumsden Point for many years. The organisations continue to support this development.	
Activity 4.4: Work with local stakeholders for the Regional Growth Fund and Building Better Regions Fund.	RDA role: Support Chair and CEO met with Andrew Morris in Canberra to discuss BBRF 23rd July 2019. RDA Pilbara distributed through the E-News on 14th November the BBRF Round 4 for drought affected regions to over 500 stakeholders.	RDA disseminates information on these funding initiatives and supports organisations in their bid for funding.	
Activity 4.5: Work with local stakeholders for any Federal Government funding opportunities as they arise.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara has provided support through meeting with local stakeholders providing information and letters of support.	RDA Pilbara has provided letters of support as well as data in support of funding applications.	
Activity 4.6 Provide support to University of WA School of Agriculture and Environment - CRC	RDA Pilbara has signed a Partner Declaration to support and work collaboratively toward the Transitions in Mining Economies research.	RDA Pilbara has provided support to the CRC in securing this funding and continues to collaborate with the organisation to achieve its outcomes.	

OUTCOME THEME 5	Maximise access to Government programs and grants.		
OUTPUT v.	Promote and disseminate information on Commonwealth policies and grant programs and support community stakeholders in Your Region to develop project proposals to access funding.		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 5.1: Provide support for NAIF.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO met with Laurie Walker, NAIF during the DNA conference in July 2019.	RDA Pilbara met with NAIF CEO to discuss local projects and exchange information.	Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i> Activity 5.1 2 Meetings 5.2 2 Meetings 5.3 6 Funding grants advertised throughout the year, 17 E-news distributed, and 1 guide created. All advertising located on RDA Pilbara website and Facebook page.
Activity 5.2: Ongoing dissemination of Indigenous Advancement Strategy to support Aboriginal business development and job creation.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara CEO provided a presentation to the Northern Australia Indigenous Reference Group on 9th July 2019. Information regarding social and economic challenges and opportunities that are experienced in the Pilbara was provided.	The presentation was well received and provided information and data on local social issues.	
Activity 5.3: Advertising and support for any Federal Government funding opportunities and initiatives.	RDA role: Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger Communities Programme – Round Five – Advertised August 2019 • Small and Medium Export Hubs Initiative – Round Two – Advertised September 2019 • Safe Communities Fund – Round Five – November 2019 • BBRF – Round Four – November 2019 • Boosting Female Founders Initiative – Round One – March 2020 • Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program – May 2020 	RDA Pilbara has disseminated information on funding initiatives. All information is distributed via E-news to over 500 key stakeholders, located on the RDA Pilbara website and Facebook page.	
	E-news alerts distributed throughout the COVID-19 restrictions advertising Federal Government initiatives to support businesses and communities during this crisis period.		
	WA RDA's created an Australian Government Guide to Coronavirus in April 2020.	Compiled by Regional Development Australia, this guide rounded up information to a single source displaying direct links to government agencies offering support to businesses. This was circulated extensively and placed onto the RDA Pilbara website and Facebook page.	

OUTCOME THEME 6	Advice supports development outcomes.		
OUTPUT vi.	For Your Region:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide evidence-based advice to the Commonwealth on critical regional development issues; and • Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and community sectors. 		
What will we do?	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 6.1: Provide advice to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on the Northern Australia Insurance Inquiry.	RDA role: Support RDA Pilbara provided information and made available the Comparative Analysis of Insurance and Banking in the Pilbara study as well as attended community forums to support the ACCC.	RDA Pilbara continues to support the ACCC in its pursuit of lower insurance premiums across Northern Australia.	Priority Performance Measure(s) <i>Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.</i> Activity 6.1 2 Meetings 6.2 2 Reports 6.3 4 Submissions
Activity 6.2: Provision of information to the Federal Government through RDA Pilbara Annual Business Plan and Annual Report.	RDA Pilbara Annual Business Plan 2019/2020 approved by the Department in July 2019. RDA Pilbara Annual Report 2018/2019 submitted in October and approved in November 2019.	RDA Pilbara met its reporting requirements in relation to the Annual Business Plan and Annual Report.	
Activity 6.3: Scan the environment and provide submissions as sought by the Federal Government.	Submission to Infrastructure Australia regarding the update of the Infrastructure Priority List – August 2019.	RDA Pilbara provided a submission to Infrastructure Australia regarding potential projects for investment that will support economic development in the Pilbara. Infrastructure Australia has included Pilbara Ports into the IA Priority List.	
	Submission to the Select Committee on the Effectiveness of the Australian Government's Northern Australia Agenda – August 2019.	RDA Pilbara completed and submitted on the Effectiveness of the Northern Australia Agenda.	
	Submission to Productivity Commission regarding the Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments Draft Report – October 2019.	RDA Pilbara submitted on the Remote Area Tax Concessions and Payments Draft Report.	
	Submission on the review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999 – March 2020.	RDA Pilbara submitted on the EPBC Act 1999.	

Case Studies

Economic Prospects and the Cost of Doing Business in the Pilbara – An Executive Update

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Pilbara has been reporting on the economic and business environment through annual Cost of Doing Business studies since 2013. This report, published in February 2020, provides an executive update on this theme.

The Pilbara contributes to the economic development of the State and Australia more than any other region in Australia. It now has a broader and deeper extractive industries sector and opportunities afforded by the abundance of renewable energy and marine resources are increasingly being recognised as providing enhanced prospects for a greater degree of diversification.

The focus is on understanding the drivers and constraints to economic development in the Pilbara. Policies that seek to alleviate the constraints and enhance further development need the ongoing attention of government agencies at all levels.

The findings of this research report will be used to:

- Inform businesses about the business environment, the prevailing cost structure and future costs, to improve planning and operations;
- Inform government agencies so that policy formulation can be adjusted to take the prevailing constraints into account.

RDA Pilbara is a strong advocate of economic diversification and a supporter of the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and Non-Government Organisations (NGO) sectors as key pillars for the sustainable future of the Pilbara. Clearly it is in the best interests of all businesses that costs are controlled and the enabling environment for investment is sustained and enhanced.

Recent Developments in the Pilbara Economy

The economy of the Pilbara has strengthened markedly and contributes significantly to the economic growth of Australia, and Western Australia in particular. This is the result of anticipated investments by the resources sector in the order of \$120 billion between 2019 and 2025. However, costs are rising for most goods and services and accommodation, and labour availability are becoming significant constraints to businesses, particularly for SMEs.

Key recent trends in the Pilbara economy that reflect both the opportunities and constraints are as follows:

- **Business Environment:** There are increased opportunities for SMEs with an improved business environment and a greater demand for a wide range of goods and services.
- **Labour Force:** The local labour force is too small to supply all of the skills and the number of workers required for business expansion, and the availability and cost of labour are emerging as major constraints to business.
- **Accommodation Costs:** The property market has improved significantly, and rising purchase and rental costs are of concern, particularly in Karratha. SMEs cannot compete with large resource companies and lack of accommodation is a major constraint to business survival let alone expansion.
- **Diversification:** Although there has been increased diversification of the resources industry, which in turn can supply the raw materials for further diversification, such as natural gas to the proposed



major fertiliser projects near Karratha, there are limitations for industries not related to the resources sector. This is primarily due to high operating costs, distance and access to markets.

- **Local Market:** Although the population has started to rise slightly following the recent downturn, it is relatively small, and the limited local market is a constraint to the further development of the non-resource related sectors of the economy.

Recommendations

The remarkably high value of the economy of the Pilbara to the State and the nation needs to be supported by appropriate policies.

- **Labour:** Although avenues exist for businesses to employ workers from outside Australia in regional areas the high and still rising cost of labour requires enhanced flexibility in regulations related to employment of overseas workers. Enhanced skills development programmes are also required for the local labour force.
- **Accommodation:** A major constraint, particularly in Karratha, is the rapidly increasing cost of accommodation. The need to secure the investment of the private sector in construction activities is becoming urgent, as stock levels are very low. Increasingly, prospective employers and employees are simply unable to find affordable accommodation.

- **Markets for SMEs:** Increasing markets for SMEs in the non-resources sector is a priority. Both local and export opportunities need to be constantly appraised and more attention should be given to opening up markets and further stimulating innovation in a practical manner. In this regard fact-finding trade missions for small business need to be expanded, and the Enterprise Hubs in the Pilbara would benefit from deeper linkages with similar organisations in other Australian States and overseas to foster innovation and to link enterprises using a value chain approach.
- **Insurance:** Rapid implementation by policymakers of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) recommendations from their report on Northern Australia Insurance Inquiry aimed at reducing the cost of insurance, across the community as a whole, and for business in particular.
- **Higher Value-added Enterprises:** Encouraging higher value-added enterprises to locate to the Pilbara, particularly with regard to supplying digital and additive technologies to the resource industry needs to be supported.
- **Air Links:** The need for establishing more cost competitive air links is a priority. In particular the flight costs from Perth to the Pilbara are prohibitive when compared to flights from Perth to the East Coast of Australia.

- **Liveability:** Further investments in making the Pilbara an attractive place to live are required, particularly in Newman and Port Hedland. There is a need for a continuing effort to reduce the fly-in-fly-out (FIFO) component of the workforce through encouraging local residency by appropriate urban renewal and housing programmes.

Conclusion

The Pilbara is in a new phase of mining resource investment. However, most analysts do not envisage a full "boom" effect, which can be very disruptive. Due to the very significant infrastructure, housing and community investments that have taken place in all of the towns in the last 10 years, but particularly in Karratha, the region has been future proofed to a degree. Nevertheless, there has been little increase in housing supply in the last three years and already sales and rental prices are moving upwards. This could have a significantly negative impact on the cost of living and will mostly affect small businesses, not for profits and the community services sector.

The availability and cost of labour are also of concern. A number of mining investments are entering the construction phase at the same time, and this has begun to affect costs for contractors and new hire costs. This will have a knock-on effect, some positive some negative. For those employed within the resources sector they may see wage increases and more disposable income, which could benefit local businesses. On the negative side non-resource companies may struggle to retain staff or attract new staff, as they are unable to compete in the labour market.

As demonstrated by the data, the overall cost of living and doing business in the Pilbara remains stubbornly high and this curtails economic diversification and discourages workers transitioning from FIFO to residential. The number of businesses operating in the Pilbara has remained static for the last three years.

Policy interventions that can tackle high labour, insurance, transport, and utility costs, combined with innovative de-risking of the housing market will go a long way in ensuring that the economic growth in the Pilbara will be sustainable, and will improve the livelihoods of those who reside in the region which is the powerhouse of Western Australia.



Pilbara Quarterly Economic Updates

RDA Pilbara prepares a wide range of socio-economic studies and undertakes initiatives for the Pilbara region that support the overall objective of RDA "an Australian Government initiative that brings together all levels of government to enhance the development of Australia's regions".

These studies also assist the RDA Pilbara committee in its functions "to consult and engage with communities; provide information and advice on their region to all levels of government and support informed regional planning".

However, although **existing in-depth studies** are very useful, they can **quickly become out of date**. The **drivers of socio-economic development** change rapidly. At international, national, State and local levels these drivers include:

- Politics and Policy
- Economic developments
- Social developments

1. Pilbara Economy – Periodic Update: Concept and Objective

The concept is to provide a periodic update on the economy of the Pilbara, including the drivers of change. The objective is to assist in adjusting development strategies and policies, regional planning, business planning, and identifying emerging opportunities and risks.

2. Indicators

The focus is on data and information supplied on economic drivers of change not already supplied by other development organisations in the Pilbara. There is no other such system in WA as far as is known.

2.1 Commodity Markets and Prices

Changes in commodity markets and prices are one of the main drivers of investments in the dominant resources sector. Information and data on market developments and prices will be provided for.

- Iron Ore
- Oil
- LNG
- Lithium
- Gold
- Copper
- Beef

2.2 Private sector investments

Changes in investments influence all other socio-economic developments. Information and data are supplied on capital investments by private sector companies.

2.3 Other data and information

Data and information are also supplied, as it becomes available, on political and policy developments, and other socio-economic indicators, such as demography, incomes, accommodation, and utility costs that are useful for regional development planning and the business sector.

3. Data Analysis

The impact of changes in the indicators on the socio-economic development of the Pilbara are briefly analysed, with supporting commentary in the updates.

Third Party Contracts

Over and above the funding that RDA Pilbara has received from the Federal Government – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development, several other sources of funding have been secured.

RDA Pilbara has one significant ongoing third-party contract, the West Pilbara Communities for Children Initiative funded by Department of Social Services and one with the Town of Port Hedland, finalised June 2019.

West Pilbara Communities for Children Initiative	
Funding Body:	Department of Social Services (DSS)
Detail:	<p>The West Pilbara Communities for Children (WPC4C) Initiative is part of the Family and Communities Programme delivered by the Australian Government Department of Social Services (DSS). Funded by DSS, RDA Pilbara has been allocated \$5.1 million from 2014 to 2019. In 2019 DSS provided an extension of the programme for an additional 12 months of \$1.1 million ending in June 2020.</p> <p>The WPC4C Initiative funds innovative local programmes that target children aged from birth to 12 years and their families who are at risk, isolated, and vulnerable. RDA Pilbara is the Facilitating Partner for the Initiative in the West Pilbara. The role of RDA Pilbara is to manage the day to day running of the project, which includes the identification and contracting of agencies (called 'Community Partners') to deliver programmes.</p> <p>These programmes are aimed at creating child-friendly communities, healthy young families, supporting family and parents, early learning and school transition and engagement.</p>
Timeline:	<p>1st July 2014 – 30th June 2020</p> <p>Note: Contract has been extended to 30th June 2021</p>
Total Amount of Funding:	\$5,800,681 (ex GST)
<p>Chair's Certification: Annual Report 2019/2020 Certified as Correct by:</p> <p>Name of RDA Chair: Fiona White-Hartig</p> <p>Signature: </p> <p>Date: 18th August 2020</p>	