

# Reef Trust Partnership



## Activity Gantt Chart 2018/2019



Australian Government

REEF TRUST



Great Barrier  
Reef Foundation

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*Photography: Gary Cranitch, Queensland Museum*

## Preface

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The Great Barrier Reef (the Reef) is the largest living structure on the planet and is so large it can be seen from space. It's home to the most extraordinary array of animals and birds, and is often referred to as the rainforest of the sea. Sir David Attenborough describes it as:

*“one of the greatest, and most splendid natural treasures that the world possesses.”*

Today, however, the Reef is under threat from climate change and local stresses. We need the help of all Australians to protect and restore the Reef. Over the last two decades, the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF) has drawn together the many groups who are working to protect the Reef. There are hundreds of people and organisations working to achieve this including universities, research institutions, government agencies, scientists, traditional owners and community groups. The GBRF is the place where these myriad groups (large and small) come together to work on the highest priority projects which will have the greatest impact on protecting and restoring the Reef.

Our projects have had a measurable impact on the health of the Reef including monitoring reef health in near-real time (eReefs) to securing the future of green turtles on Raine Island (Raine Island Recovery Project), to developing the first portfolio of projects to address the resilience of reefs adapting to climate change. We also have a track record in innovation, developing solutions such as the RangerBot which detects and addresses threats to coral reefs.

Underpinning this partnership is a record government investment of \$443.3 million to tackle critical issues of water quality and crown-of-thorns starfish control, harness the best science to restore reefs and support reef resilience and adaptation, enhance Reef health monitoring and reporting, and increase community engagement on the Reef.

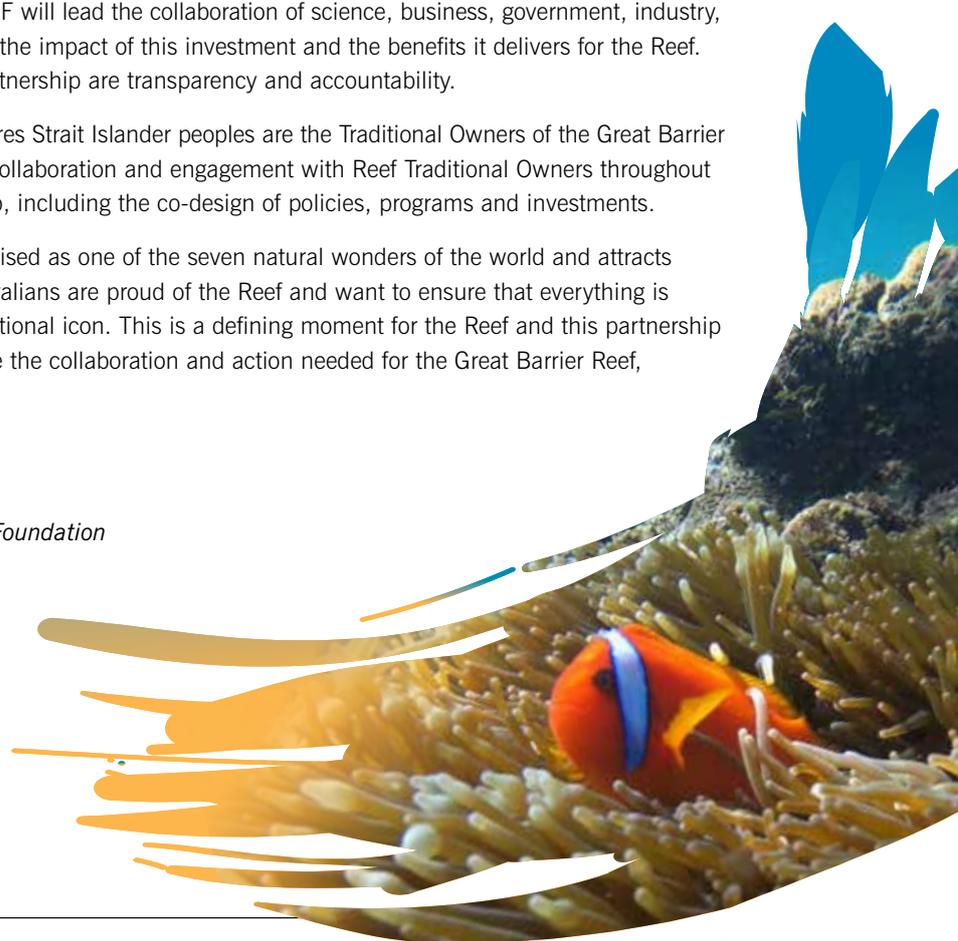
Through the Reef Trust Partnership, GBRF will lead the collaboration of science, business, government, industry, philanthropy and community to amplify the impact of this investment and the benefits it delivers for the Reef. Our guiding principles to deliver this partnership are transparency and accountability.

The GBRF recognises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the Traditional Owners of the Great Barrier Reef. We are committed to meaningful collaboration and engagement with Reef Traditional Owners throughout the delivery of the Reef Trust Partnership, including the co-design of policies, programs and investments.

The Great Barrier Reef is globally recognised as one of the seven natural wonders of the world and attracts over two million visitors each year. Australians are proud of the Reef and want to ensure that everything is being done to protect and restore our national icon. This is a defining moment for the Reef and this partnership is an unprecedented opportunity to drive the collaboration and action needed for the Great Barrier Reef, now and for the future.

Anna Marsden

*Managing Director, Great Barrier Reef Foundation*



## Reef Trust Partnership Activities in 2018/2019

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In accordance with the Reef Trust Partnership (RTP) Grant Agreement, activities in year one (from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019) will focus on developing an Investment Strategy and Annual Work Plan for the Activity, describing how the RTP investment across the Activity Components will be designed to deliver high impact outcomes for the Great Barrier Reef in accordance with the Reef 2050 Plan framework. This includes ensuring fit for purpose and best practice governance, project management, and monitoring and evaluation systems and processes are in place to support the effective and efficient delivery of this investment.

This document is referred to as Activity Gantt chart in the RTP Agreement and sets out the GBRF's plan and associated budget for implementing the RTP Agreement in the 2018-19 Financial Year, providing an overarching view of the various streams of work, key activities and associated milestones. Progress against this plan will be reported throughout this financial year in specific deliverables in accordance with the Grant Agreement. In particular, activities relating to the overarching governance framework are detailed in the RTP Governance Arrangements document finalised on 31 August 2018. Activities in the Gantt chart relating to resourcing, co-financing strategy and risk management planning will be detailed in subsequent plans due to be finalised by 30 September 2018. The Activity Gantt chart will necessarily be refined and updated on an ongoing basis as the program evolves.

The RTP has five Activity Project Components: Water Quality; Crown-of-Thorns Starfish Control; Reef Restoration & Adaptation Science; Indigenous & Community Reef Protection Activities; and Reef Integrated Monitoring & Reporting. These are referred to in this plan as Project Components and principles underpinning the planning associated with these Project Components for the 2018-19 Financial Year are described in more detail below.

### Common activities across Activity Project Components

In accordance with the RTP Grant Agreement, GBRF will ensure each Project Component is carried out for the benefit of the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area in a manner that gives effect to and is consistent with the Reef 2050 Plan. The following guiding principles will be used in developing and implementing the Investment Strategy and Annual Work Plans:

- seek to address the highest priority threats to the Great Barrier Reef in the highest priority locations;
- protect and improve the Great Barrier Reef through on-ground change;
- complement previous and current investments in the Great Barrier Reef and associated catchment area;
- effect the most amount of environmental benefit for each dollar of the Grant;
- use co-investment, strategic collaborations and partnerships in Projects; and
- select investments guided by the best available scientific research and expert knowledge.



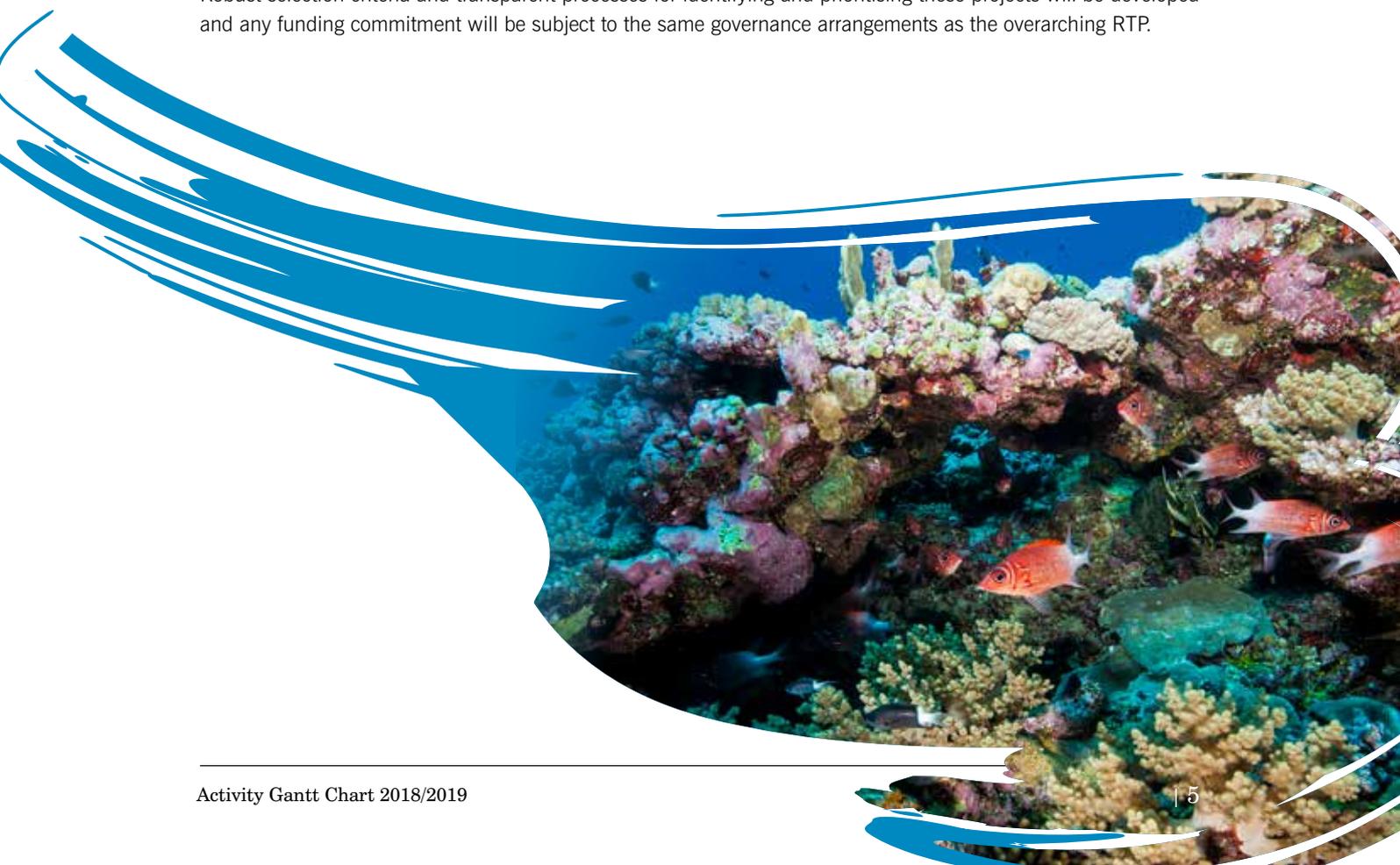
A common set of planning activities have been identified that will apply to each Project Component and underpin the development of the Activity Investment Strategy and Annual Work Plans. For each Project Component, GBRF will:

- Establish a dedicated Working Group, providing expert knowledge and access to relevant networks;
- Develop and implement a targeted communication and engagement plan to support investment planning activities;
- Identify, review and assess existing (previous and current) investments and delivery programs as well as the current state of scientific understanding relevant to each component in order to ensure the RTP can build on the learnings and collective knowledge developed over many years;
- Identify priority areas for investment and their phasing based on the above reviews, Traditional Owner and stakeholder engagement, and in accordance with the RTP guiding principles detailed above and in the Grant Agreement;
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for measuring the effectiveness and impact of activities on the health of the Great Barrier Reef and the associated co-benefits; and
- Design appropriate governance arrangements for the delivery of the Investment Strategy in relation to the Project Component.

## Early Project Commencement

The RTP Grant Agreement states that the GBRF must be able to commence delivery of all components by July 2019. Through the planning process, GBRF will seek to identify some projects to commence earlier – within the 2018/2019 year – particularly in relation to the Water Quality Project Component. These projects will seek to build on existing programs whose performance has been demonstrated in the past, address clearly articulated and demonstrable needs, and lay the foundations for the longer term RTP Investment Strategy.

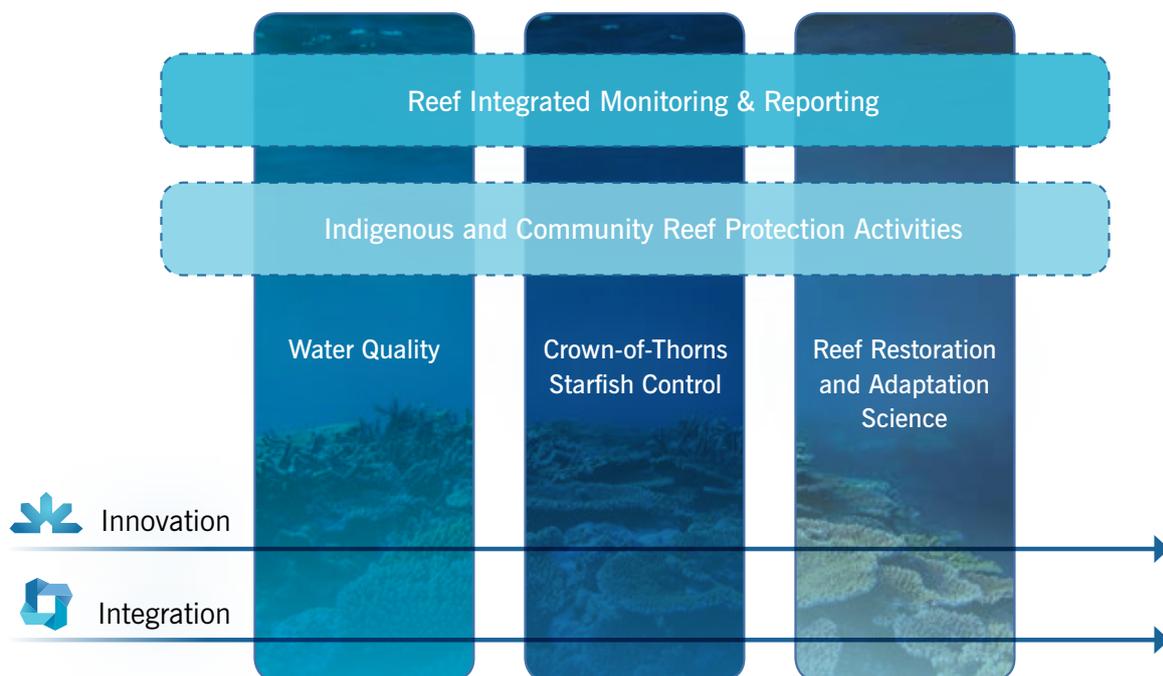
Robust selection criteria and transparent processes for identifying and prioritising these projects will be developed and any funding commitment will be subject to the same governance arrangements as the overarching RTP.





## Integration & Innovation

The five Project Component areas are strongly interrelated with some specific Project Components cutting across the entire domain, such as the Reef Integrated Monitoring & Reporting and Indigenous & Community Reef Protection, as shown in Figure 1 below. To ensure the full synergistic benefits of the RTP are realised beyond the value of each individual Project Component, GBRF will ensure there is a strong focus on both integration and innovation throughout the program design.



## 2018/2019 Budget

- Project Component activities (referred to as Components 2-6 in the Grant Agreement): up to \$25M. This encompasses projects identified and prioritised for early project commencement referred to above.
- Administrative Activities (referred to as Component 1 in the Grant Agreement) as described in the Activity Gantt chart: \$7.3M.

Significant work will be undertaken in 2018/2019 to ensure comprehensive, fit for purpose, and best practice systems and processes are in place to enable the effective and efficient delivery of this investment across the six years of the RTP. This encompasses implementing peer-reviewed systems and processes for governance, project management, and monitoring and evaluation commensurate with an investment of this scale. It also includes developing and implementing key strategies that work across all Project Components including science and innovation; communication and stakeholder engagement; community reef protection activities; Indigenous communities and Traditional Owner engagement; fundraising (co-financing); program impact assessment and evaluation; resource management; risk management; and fraud prevention as per the Activity Gantt chart.

