



The Tropical Green Building Network steering committee

About the Tropical Green Building Network

The Tropical Green Building Network (TGBN) consists of professionals and individuals working towards creating an energy-efficient, climate-appropriate built environment in our region. The group was established in 2008, and has been steadily growing since then. The TGBN and CAFNEC, with the support of the Cairns Regional Council, employ a part-time Urban Sustainability Officer.

The work of the TGBN includes the tropical application of building regulations and codes for rainwater tanks and energy efficiency performance provisions; the tropical use and application of insulation; addressing poor air-conditioning design and use practices; developing 'Greywater Use' maps; running Sustainable House Day; developing a Waste Management Code and Plan; developing a 'sustainable affordable house'; supporting and promoting new 'green' building technologies, systems and services in the tropics.

Until the formation of the steering committee in March 2011, there was no formal structure for guiding the direction of the group or for making decisions. With the network expanding and seeking greater efficiency, a steering committee has been formed to provide guidance and assist with decision-making. The committee will also aspire to encourage greater collaboration between member organisations.

About the steering committee

The committee is made up of representatives from industry and government, who hold an interest in a sustainable built environment. The current list of committee members is included below. We are still in communication with the UDIA, MBA and JCU about representatives from those organisations.

Organisation	Representative
Housing Industry Association (HIA)	Peter Collins
Building Designers Association of Queensland (BDAQ)	Sophie Barrett
Planning Institute of Australia (PIA)	Nikki Huddy
Qld Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI)	Kathy Rankin
Advance Cairns/Australian Tropical Expertise (Austropex)	Nicky Swan
BlueScope Water	Nick Skutenko
Cairns Regional Council, Planning and Environment	Peter Boyd
Australian Institute of Architects	Edi Piagno (Total Project Group)
Engineers Australia	Daniel Kennett (ARUP)
James Cook University	Dr Lisa Law

What will the steering committee do?

The main purpose of the steering committee is to provide strategic guidance for the network and to improve communication and collaboration between member groups. Members of the steering committee will assess the network's progress and discuss projects and issues that have arisen. The steering committee will also act as a communication channel between the TGBN and the Austropex project and the Sustainable TNQ group on projects and issues relating to the built environment.