

Building Sustainable Small Business

Common Sense Sustainability: Your business, your prosperity, your future

Free Workshops Program Overview

What is BSSB all about?

Building Sustainable Small Business (BSSB) is all about improving small business skills, small business prosperity and local economic resilience in The Scenic Rim Region.

Core small business skills including business planning, customer service, marketing, financial management and product development are at the heart of this program. They are linked with small business preparation for impending environmental threats such as climate change, water scarcity and increasing fuel and energy costs which are already impacting on agriculture and farming, food, tourism, development and some cottage industries and home-based businesses.

BSSB focuses on practical, common sense business and sustainability tools to improve the prosperity, adaptability and resilience of your business and our local region's economy.

There are three components to Building Sustainable Small Business that are open to small business owners, operators, managers and key staff:

1. Free workshops at Beaudesert, Tamborine Mountain and Boonah
2. Mentoring, Training and Leadership Program
3. Region-wide Sustainable Business Networking

Free Workshops Program Overview

The BSSB free Workshop Program offers an exciting opportunity for small business owners, managers, operators and key staff to explore and learn about sustainability in a practical, interactive, common sense and hands-on way.

A series of 3 consecutive workshops will be conducted in each of Beaudesert, Mount Tamborine and Boonah during 2009. The first series will commence in Beaudesert in late February, followed by Tamborine Mountain starting in May and Boonah later in the year.

Each series is designed to suit the busy small business person and will include 1 evening workshop per month for 3 months. Each workshop will be approximately 2 hours long.

The aim of the workshops is to support and develop sustainability in the business sectors most relevant to our region. This includes the agriculture, food, tourism, ecotourism, service industries, as well as other sectors like manufacturing, small-sale urban development, home-based and cottage enterprises.

The workshops are free for small business owners, operators and key staff. They will provide participants with practical steps for reviewing and implementing sustainability measures and activities that work for your business.

The format of the workshops will be flexible and adaptable to maximise relevance to participants' needs, interests and businesses.

Industry-specific content and guest speakers will be included in the workshop format where relevant and possible.



This project is funded and supported by the Ethos Foundation, AusIndustry and the Scenic Rim Regional Council.

This project is proudly supported by



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How will this program help you and your business?

The workshops are designed to provide you with an accessible and practical introduction to sustainability for your business.

You will be able to gather information about how sustainability could improve your business and what next steps to take, while enjoying the opportunity to meet, discuss and network with other small business people from our region.

Workshop benefits include:

- Gain a practical understanding of what sustainability is;
- Understand how sustainability is relevant to your business;
- Learn how sustainability relates to the basics of successful small business;
- Identify emerging issues, opportunities and threats for your business in relation to external drivers such as climate change, peak oil and resource scarcity including water;
- Understand our local region's business and economic landscape and how globalisation and the rise of localisation might affect our region's economy;
- Understand and identify practical sustainability strategies and methods relevant for your business;
- Identify and apply relevant tools, resources and practices that can introduce sustainability into your small business;
- Identify sustainability-linked incentives, rebates and grants and other resources that are available to small businesses;
- Improve your skills in networking, alliance building and collaboration with other small businesses, customers and other stakeholders including local government;
- Gain access to the Building Sustainable Small Business website and online resources;
- Create a network with your colleagues, peers and co-learners;
- Provision of tools and resources to help you implement sustainability in your business;
- Gain access to the Sustainable Business Networking program and have the opportunity to promote your business throughout the region.

You will also have the opportunity to participate in a whole-of-region workshop in late 2008 or 2009 that will bring together participants from all the workshops for an interactive, collaborative, strategic visioning session at Beaudesert.

2008 Workshop Dates and Locations...

2009 workshop dates and locations will be confirmed in early 2009.

The proposed dates and locations of the workshops are listed below. Any changes to these dates will be advised. Light refreshments provided.

Beaudesert Workshop Series

The Centre for Beaudesert Shire Arts and Culture
82 Brisbane Street, Beaudesert

Dates: Wednesday 27 February
Wednesday 26 March
Wednesday 30 April
Time: 6pm to 8pm

Tamborine Mtn Workshop Series

Vonda Youngman Community Centre
2-4 Knoll Road, North Tamborine

Dates: Wednesday 28 May
Wednesday 25 June
Wednesday 30 July
Time: 6pm to 8pm
(time may be amended to suit participants – check for details)

Boonah Workshop Series

Boonah Cultural Centre – RSL Room
3 High Street, Boonah

Dates: Wednesday 27 August
Wednesday 24 September
Wednesday 29 October
Time: 10am to 12noon

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Register your interest and obtain more detailed information about the program:

The Ethos Foundation
(07) 5533 3144
info@bssb.org.au
www.bssb.org.au

Or Scenic Rim Regional Council
Tanya Lipus - Economic Development
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(07) 55405281
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Enrol in the free Workshops Program

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