Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Regional Development**

Utilising a state-wide evaluation approach to capture data from diverse communities and direct future initiatives in Western Australia

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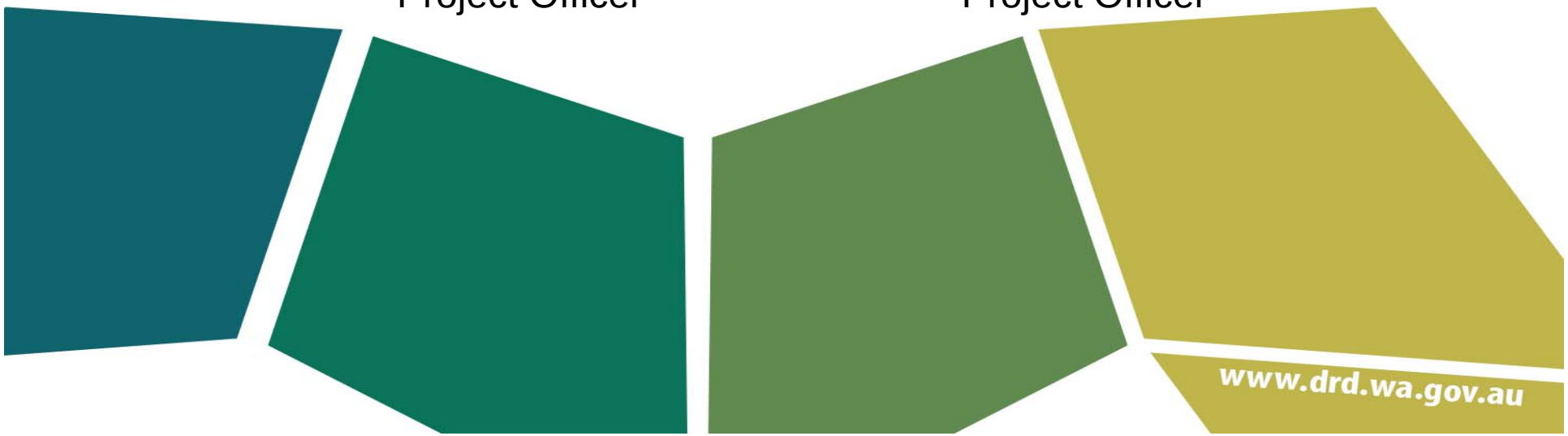
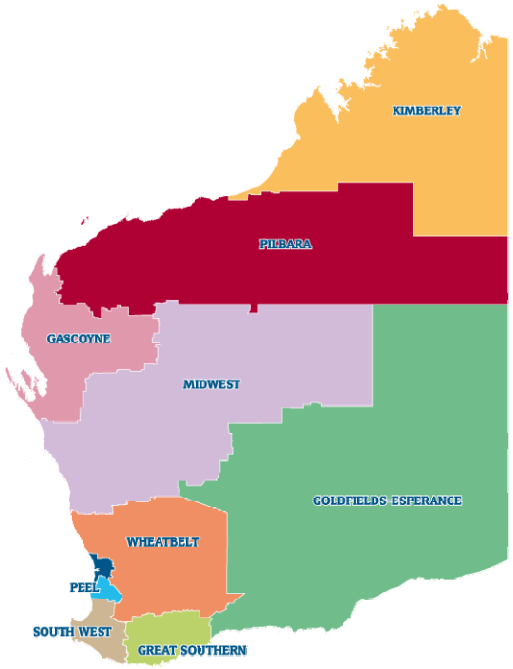


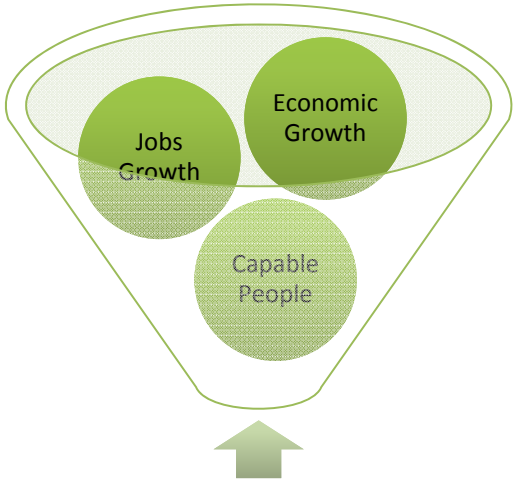
Background and context

- Royalties for Regions (RfR) – initiated in 2008
- Over $6 billion invested
- 3600+ projects and programs
- The Department of Regional Development (DRD) administers the RfR program.



Regional Development Strategy 2016-2025

- Released in June 2016
- Developed in conjunction with all major portfolio partners
- Building upon Royalties for Regions efforts so far.

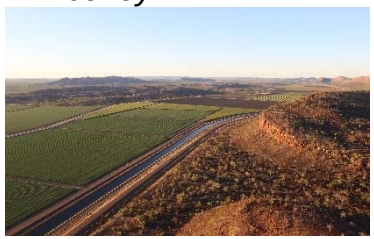


What is the environment?

- Western Australia is Australia's biggest state and the 2nd largest state in the world
- Perth is the most isolated city in the world
- Key challenges:
  - Remoteness and diversity of regions
  - Diversity of projects
  - Consequences of the RfR environment

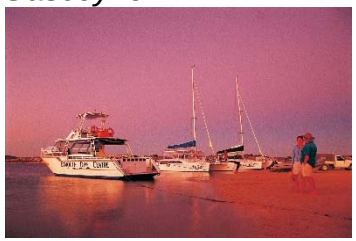
Remoteness and diversity of the nine regions

Kimberley



Pilbara

Gascoyne



Mid West

Goldfields-Esperance

Wheatbelt

Peel

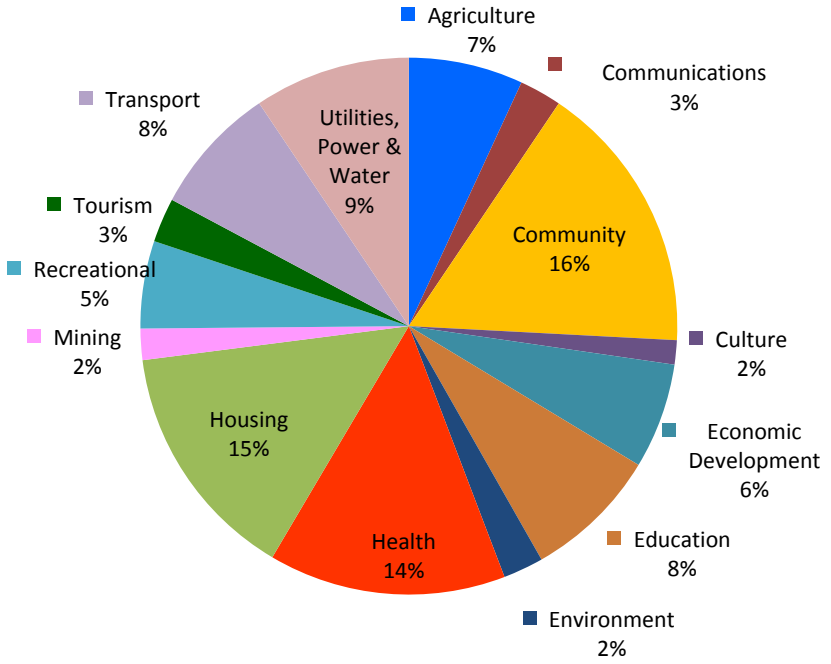
South West

Great Southern

www.drd.wa.gov.au

Project diversity

- Funded multitude of projects across the State
- Challenges in evaluating projects:
  - Purpose
  - Scale
  - Status
  - Outcomes
- Affects evaluation outcomes, findings and learnings.

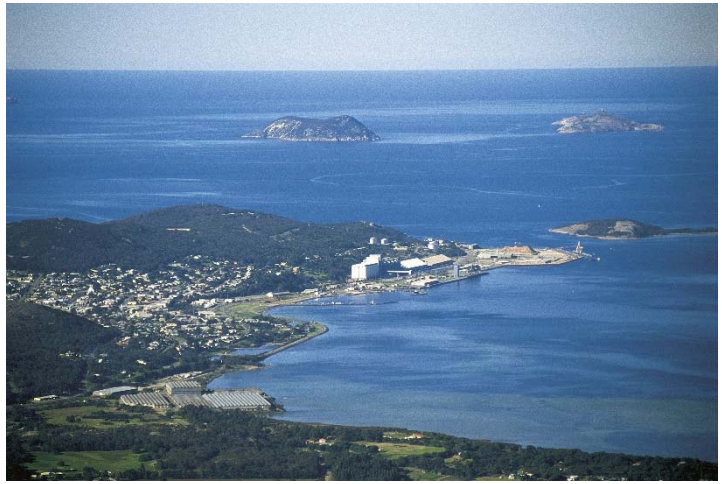


RfR expenditure by category 2008-2016

Consequences of the RfR environment

- Accessibility and availability of data to inform evaluations is varied across the different landscapes of the nine regions

- No data = evaluation unlikely to produce robust findings



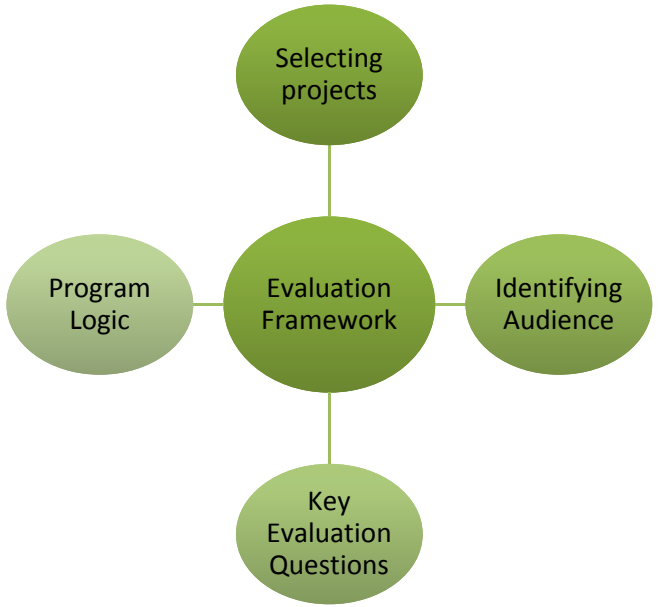
Albany ports, Great Southern

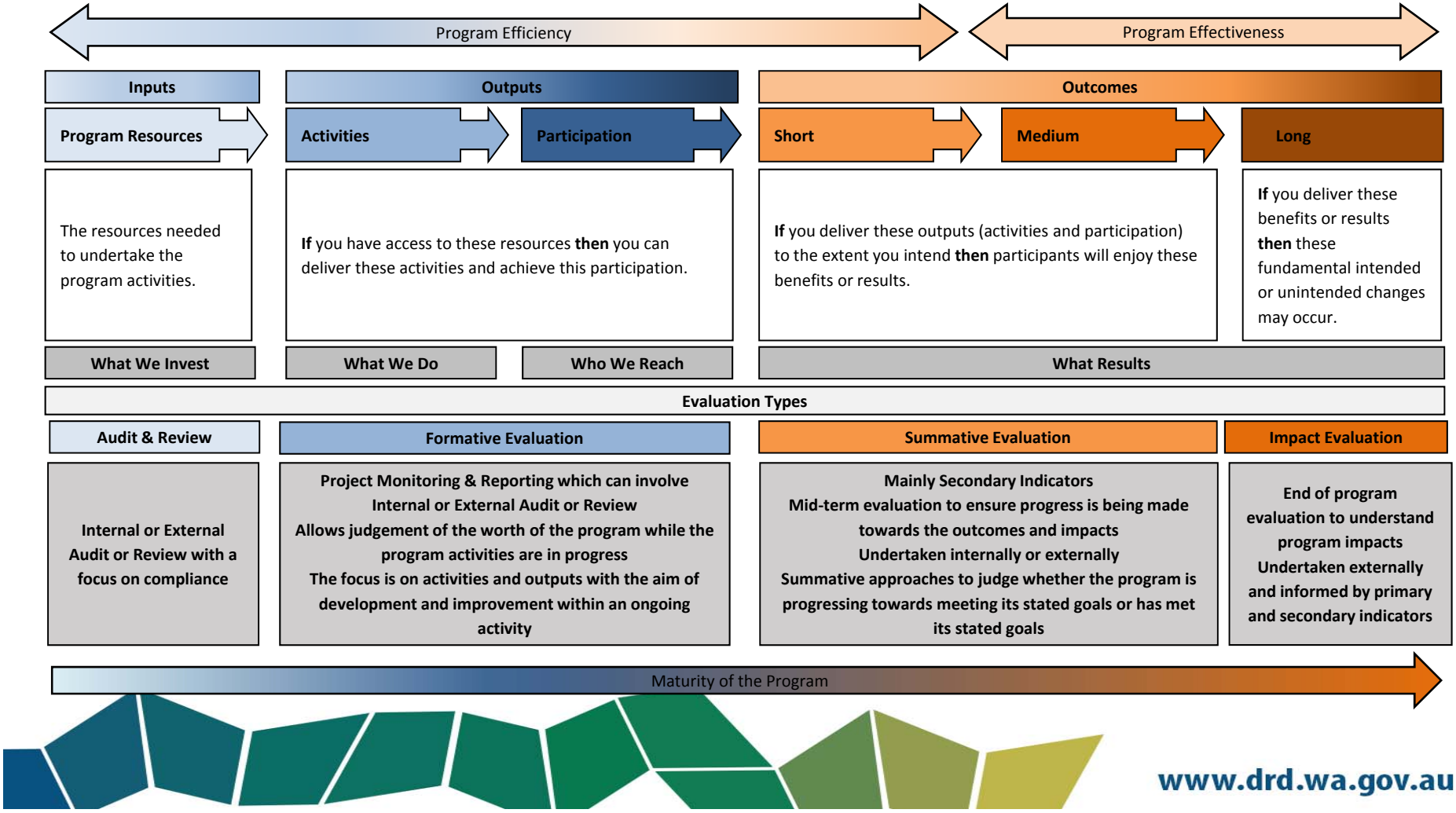
Evaluation providing clarity?

- Environments can lead to a fuzzy picture
- Our practices mitigate this
- Helps to provide clarity across diverse landscapes

Evaluation Framework guiding evaluation

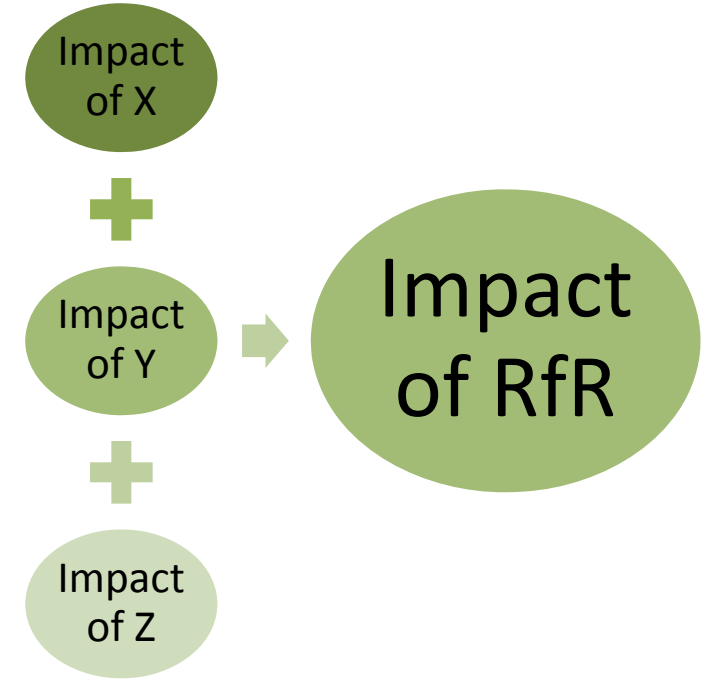
- Overarching approach
- Flexible
- Panel Contract




Program Efficiency
Program Effectiveness
Inputs
Outputs
Outcomes
Program Resources
Activities
Participation
Short
Medium
Long
The resources needed to undertake the program activities.
If you have access to these resources then you can deliver these activities and achieve this participation.
If you deliver these outputs (activities and participation) to the extent you intend then participants will enjoy these benefits or results.
If you deliver these benefits or results then these fundamental intended or unintended changes may occur.
What We Invest
What We Do
Who We Reach
What Results
Evaluation Types
Audit & Review
Formative Evaluation
Summative Evaluation
Impact Evaluation
Internal or External Audit or Review with a focus on compliance
Project Monitoring & Reporting which can involve Internal or External Audit or Review
Allows judgement of the worth of the program while the program activities are in progress
The focus is on activities and outputs with the aim of development and improvement within an ongoing activity
Mainly Secondary Indicators
Mid-term evaluation to ensure progress is being made towards the outcomes and impacts
Undertaken internally or externally
Summative approaches to judge whether the program is progressing towards meeting its stated goals or has met its stated goals
End of program evaluation to understand program impacts
Undertaken externally and informed by primary and secondary indicators
Maturity of the Program

Key Evaluation Question helping us to understand

- Relates findings
- Understand disparate and diverse landscapes
  - Uniform and consistent



Using portfolio knowledge and expertise

- Address project diversity by selecting projects to inform evaluation

- Engage and involve regional stakeholders:
  - Regional Development Commissions
  - Local and state governments
  - Regional community members

- DRD's active participation in evaluation project team

Site visit to the Goldfields region

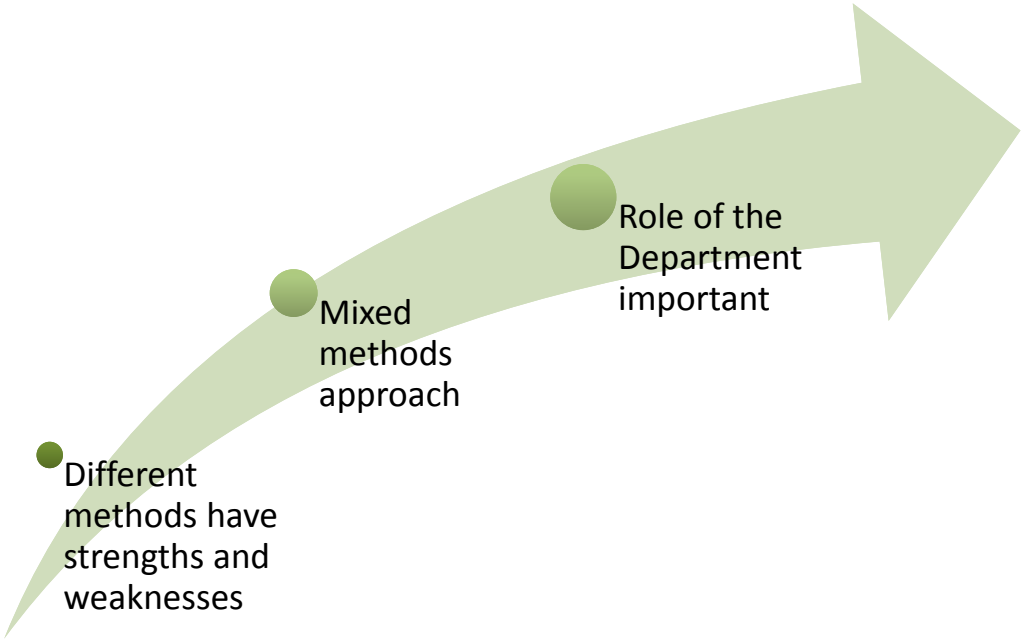
- Collating field data for an evaluation
- Spoke to key stakeholders
- *“It shows us that the government actually cares about our small communities and what we have to offer to the State.”*

Tennis courts, Norseman

Footpath upgrades, Coolgardie

What have we learnt?

- 14 evaluations
- 30 case studies



Directing future initiatives

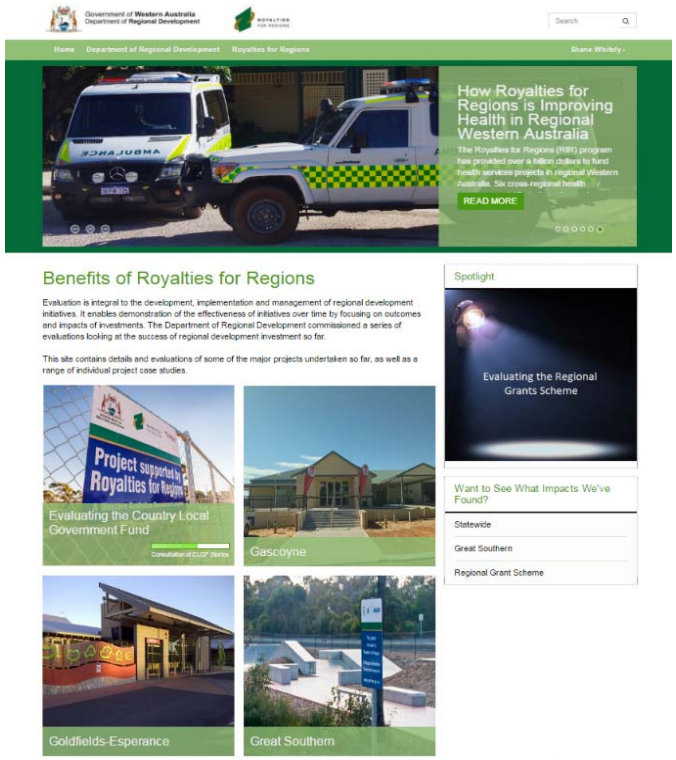
Policy Suite

Engagement platforms

Regional stakeholders

www.drd.wa.gov.au

Community Engagement Platform



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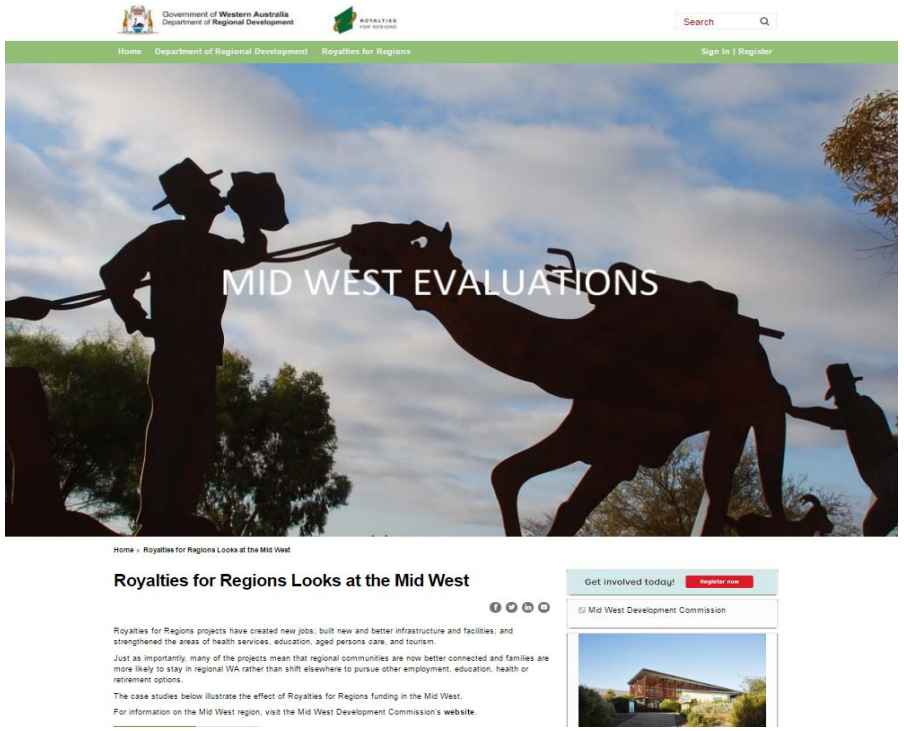
Engaging with RfR



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Summary

- Diverse landscapes have presented challenges and opportunities
- We have structured our approach to best understand these landscapes
- Allows for a more targeted approach to regional development going forward

Talk to us

www.engagingwithrfr.com.au