



Terms of Reference and Member Position Description – FRRR Outback Advisory Board

Introduction

The Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal - FRRR - (phonetically: F-triple-R) - is the only national foundation specifically focused on ensuring the social and economic strength of remote, rural and regional communities.

FRRR's unique model connects common purposes and investment with locally prioritised needs, to create communities that are vital and resilient. Since FRRR's start in 2000, it has delivered nearly \$200 million to over 15,000 projects.

Our Values

- **We Find Ways Forward** - A supporter and positive contributor to those we deal with.
- **Real World Problem-Solving** - Considered, hardworking people that come together to make things happen.
- **Finding Common Ground** - A grounded, connected start point for all we do.
- **Live the Experience** - The best way to lead is through listening, learning and knowing the facts.

FRRR Strategy

In 2020, FRRR launched its strategic plan for 2020-2025, which aims to grow FRRR's unique role in the national philanthropic, policy and regional development landscape with a vision of a vibrant, resilient and sustainable remote, rural and regional Australia.

Our ambition in Remote/Outback communities is to support the capacity and capability of these communities to be on the front foot of disruption, navigate transition and seek sustainable futures for themselves.

A mid strategy review in 2024 resulted in a refined set of priorities that subtly yet clearly shifts our framing and emphasis to focus our attention and resources on:

- **Outback/Remote livability.**
- **Growing and investing in the next generation of regional Australia.**



- **Supporting regions through transitions: economic, generational, disaster recovery and preparedness, land use.**
- **First Nations self-determination.**
- **Climate adaptation and solutions.**

Background

The Outback Advisory Board has developed from the relationship between FRRR and the Outback Alliance, a semi formal alliance of seven organisations with an interest in cross-sectoral, whole-of-Outback advocacy that formed in 2018.

A key objective of establishing the Outback Advisory Committee is to enable FRRR to better understand and work more deeply with Remote/Outback Australia, identify the most useful and appropriate roles for FRRR to engage philanthropy, corporate and government stakeholders in tailored support for Remote/Outback communities, and to develop and activate partnerships that can leverage FRRR's model to support and advance locally led priorities.

FRRR Outback Advisory Board

As a national organisation headquartered in central Victoria, FRRR is conscious that playing a valuable and meaningful role in Remote/Outback Australia will only be successful if informed, connected, and built from diverse on-ground perspective and strong relationships. To that end, the FRRR Board is seeking to establish an Advisory Board to be chaired by a FRRR Director and comprise eight-to-ten highly respected, politically neutral, and suitably networked individuals with expertise, lived experience and a passion for Remote/Outback Australia.

The Outback Advisory Board is a sub-committee of the FRRR Board. Members are appointed by the Board via the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, (a subcommittee of the FRRR Board) and act in accordance with FRRR rules, policies, procedures, and values. As outlined in the Terms of Reference, Board members serve for a period of three years.

The FRRR Board delegates the Outback Advisory Board to assist in carrying out its duties in strengthening the social and economic resilience and vitality of Remote and Outback communities. The Outback Advisory Board is supported by FRRR Place Lead and VIC/SA/TAS Program Manager (Secretariat).

Guiding principles and composition of the Outback Advisory Board aim to ensure there is independence from the FRRR Board and management; a breadth of representation; a diversity of membership for gender, culture, age, abilities, and world views; and promotion of accountability and trust amongst FRRR stakeholders.



The Board will operate in alignment with the Outback-related principles originally adopted by the Outback Alliance and supported by FRRR:

- **Connection to Country:** Recognition of the Outback as a place of belonging for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.
- **Environment:** An ecologically robust Outback that sustains and supports nature.
- **Health:** Healthy Remote/Outback communities that have access to the services they need.
- **Land-Based Livelihoods:** Resilient Remote/Outback land managers delivering positive outcomes for Australia.
- **Sustainable Economic Development:** Integrated and thoughtful policy adjustments that enable the Outback to better contribute to the Australian economy without depletion of natural resources.
- **Digital Inclusion:** Improved connectivity and digital inclusion to engage and strengthen Outback communities.
- **Inclusiveness:** All people, especially those who might otherwise be excluded or marginalised, such as people with a disability, and members of minority groups.
- **Partnership:** Work with others in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration.

It is anticipated that the Outback Advisory Board would meet up to four times per year, via zoom or in person. Background materials for meetings would be provided and presented by FRRR's Place Lead.

In line with the FRRR Board remuneration policy, the Outback Advisory Board members will be asked to contribute on a voluntary basis. FRRR will however reimburse any expenses incurred through the course of participation on the Outback Advisory Board such as travel and accommodation.

Key Responsibilities

This Board will draw on members' experience and knowledge to work with FRRR on contributing to the vibrancy and sustainability of Remote/Outback communities. Specific responsibilities are to:

- Provide strategic advice on the approach and implementation of FRRR's Remote/Outback-related FRRR programs and strategic initiatives;
- Advise the FRRR Board of regional development and socio-political, cultural, and environmental issues and opportunities in Remote/Outback communities;



- ▶ Assist FRRR to build partnerships and connections across Remote/Outback Australia by brokering introductions and notifying FRRR of suitable opportunities to build profile and networks;
- ▶ Partner with FRRR on identified activities (submission development, joint planning/co-hosting, co-convening); and
- ▶ Build a network of engaged Remote/Outback organisations through which to promote and share FRRR programs and opportunities, and generally champion FRRR's work across these networks.

Outback Advisory Board Member Position Description

Position Title	Outback Advisory Board Member
Organisation	Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)
Purpose	<p>The role of the FRRR Outback Advisory Board is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Provide strategic advice on FRRR's Remote/Outback-related programs and strategic initiatives;▶ Advise the FRRR Board of regional development and socio-political, cultural, and environmental issues and opportunities in Remote/Outback communities;▶ Assist FRRR to build partnerships and connections across Remote/Outback Australia by brokering introductions and notifying FRRR of suitable opportunities to build profile and networks;▶ Partner with FRRR on identified activities (submission development, joint planning/co-hosting, co-convening); and▶ Build a network of engaged Remote/Outback organisations to promote and share FRRR programs and opportunities, and generally champion FRRR's work across these networks.



Accountability	The Outback Advisory Board is a strategic level board appointed in an advisory capacity to the FRRR Board. It has no executive authority. The Board is chaired by an FRRR Board member.
Support	This is a voluntary position. The Board is supported by the FRRR Place Lead and VIC/SA/TAS Program Manager. Our aim is to have diversity of membership, so FRRR will consider supporting successful applicants to address barriers to participation. Support may also include reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for undertaking Board duties.
Time commitment	Members are appointed for a three-year term. The Board meets for approximately two hours once every three months or as needed (usually via Teams and between 1.00pm-3.30pm AEST/AEDT).

FRRR is seeking to establish an Outback Advisory Board of up to ten people, comprised of representatives who hold skills and experience, and networks across a range of sectors as outlined in the Selection Criteria below, and who are representative of diverse ages, cultural backgrounds, genders, and Remote/Outback geographic regions.

Selection Criteria

1. **Expertise and lived experience in Remote/Outback communities** including a sound understanding of current and future community issues;
2. **Experience working with local organisations**, which could include Local Government, volunteer organisations/management, Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations and community health/services;
3. **Understanding and experience in place making or place-based work** including having established active networks that contribute to these outcomes in a remote and very remote context;
4. **Strong communication skills**;
5. Able to contribute positively through relevant experience and specialist expertise in one or more of the following:
 - **Building equity**, which could include experience with socially disadvantaged, disaster impacted, CALD or First Nations communities in food & water security, physical and mental health, housing, aged care and human services;



- **Education**, particularly in the context of Remote/Outback Australia;
- **Remote/Outback economic and cultural development;**
- **Environment**, which could include climate change initiatives, sustainable farming and energy transition;
- **Remote/Outback policy development;**
- **Aboriginal land management and leadership;**
- **Infrastructure that supports connectivity of Remote/Outback communities**, including transport, digital, and community infrastructure;
- **Agricultural Farming;** and
- **Rural Leadership;**

Selection Process

A selection panel will assess applications and provide shortlisted applicants to the FRRR Nominations Committee for consideration and recommendation to the FRRR Board which will make final decisions on appointments to the Outback Advisory Board.

Induction of New Members

Induction to the Outback Advisory Board includes receiving the Board on-boarding pack, pre-joining briefing, developing a member bio for distribution to the rest of the Board and inclusion on the FRRR website, and signing the Code of Conduct and Confidentiality Agreement. Teams' familiarisation will be provided if necessary.

Contact

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