REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) GRANTS

RED Grant Objectives and Gascoyne Development Commission (GDC) Regional Priorities

The Regional Economic Development Grants (RED Grants) program is a State Government initiative that is investing $60.85 million over 11 years in locally driven projects to stimulate economic growth and development in regional WA. When preparing your application, it's important to clearly demonstrate how your project aligns with one or more RED Grant Objectives and the GDC's Regional Priorities.

RED Grant Objectives

Make sure your project clearly ties in with one or more of the RED Grant Objectives below. Each objective is different, so address them separately, focus on the ones that really apply to your project, and avoid repeating the same points.

1. *Sustainable jobs*
   Projects that create new jobs (can be seasonal, full time or part time, trainees, apprenticeships etc). Consider:
   - How many new jobs will your project create?
   - What type of jobs will be created? Are they full-time, part-time and/or casual?
   - Does your project drive new job creation in other organisations (e.g. in your industry or the local economy?) How?
   - Will your project result in new jobs for Aboriginal people?
   - Will you employee trainees or apprentices as part of your project?

2. *Expanding or diversifying industry*
   Projects that expand existing business operations or diversify into a different industry. Consider:
   - How will your project grow or expand your existing business operations?
   - Will it open up new markets, products, or services?
   - Does it strengthen an existing industry or introduce a new one to the region?
   - What economic benefits (e.g. increased sales, visitor spend, supply chain opportunities) will result from your project?
   - Does your project encourage collaboration or partnerships across industries?
   - What impact will it have on the region's economy?
   - Have you considered using tools like REMPLAN to measure economic impact?

3. *Developing skills or capabilities*
   Projects that strengthen the skills of people and the overall capabilities of businesses within the region. This could include training new or existing staff, introducing new technology or systems, or building organisational capacity through innovation or service expansion. Consider:
   - Will your project introduce new technology or modernise practices?
   - Will it help redeploy or upskill existing workers?
   - Is there a skills gap your project will address?
   - Could it attract workers with specialist skills to the region?

4. *Attracting new investment in the region*
   Projects that stimulate investment, attract new businesses, or support industry growth. Consider:
   - Will your project help other businesses start or grow?
   - Will your project unlock future investment in your business, either through funding or research and development?
   - Will your project allow new industries to emerge, or attract business to relocate to the region?

5. *Increasing productivity*
   Projects that improve efficiency, output, or quality. Consider:
   - Will your project make operations more efficient or safer for workers?
   - Could it increase the quality, yield, or value of your product?
   - How will you measure increased productivity, through revenue, sales, new markets or products?
   - Could it boost local consumption or create other flow-on benefits?

GDC Regional Priorities
The GDC has identified key regional priority areas as part of its Strategic Plan. Projects that demonstrate alignment with the region's priorities are viewed favourably through the RED Grants Program.

1. *Land and housing development*
   Projects that release or develop land and housing. Consider:
   - Does your project bring new residential, commercial, or industrial land to market?
   - What kind of built form?
   - Does the project address land constraints or support future development opportunities, to enable new land development?
   - Will it enable or attract further private or government investment in the area?
   - How does it contribute to long-term regional growth and liveability?

2. *Workforce accommodation*
   Construction of accommodation to support the regional workforce. Consider:
   - Does your project provide new worker accommodation?
   - What kind of built form? (e.g. house(s), modular or prefabricated housing, transportable units etc)
   - How will it help attract and retain workers in the region?
   - Does the accommodation support a specific industry, project, or regional growth area?
   - Is the development scalable or adaptable for future workforce needs?
   - Will it help alleviate existing housing pressures in nearby towns or communities?

3. *Low carbon transition*
   Projects that support renewable energy efficiency, emissions reduction, or sustainable practices that reduce the region's carbon footprint. Consider:
   - Will your project reduce emissions or energy consumption?
   - Does it introduce renewable energy or other sustainable technologies?
   - How does it contribute to regional sustainability or climate resilience?
   - Could your project encourage other businesses or industries to adopt low-carbon practices?

4. *Diversification of the local economy*
   Projects that broaden the economic base of the region (or town) by introducing new industries, products or services. Consider:
   - Does your project introduce a new industry, service, or product to the region?
   - How does it build resilience in the local economy by reducing the town (or region's) reliance on a single sector?
   - Will it attract new markets, partnerships, or investment opportunities?
   - Does it create opportunities for collaboration between industries or communities?
   - How will the project contribute to long-term regional growth and sustainability?
   - How will your project contribute to a more diverse and resilient local economy?