



Being heard as a stakeholder in the rangelands

Short Course

INTRODUCTION

Members of rangeland communities are increasingly engaged in meetings to discuss and resolve natural resource management issues and/or participate in planning at a local or regional level. The outcomes of these processes, which can have important and far-reaching economic and environmental implications for rangeland enterprises, and wider implications for a rangeland community, depend on the effectiveness and resilience of the relationships among those involved.

This course is designed to assist you to become a better contributor in multi-stakeholder processes, and aims to develop the knowledge and skills necessary for an individual to achieve a satisfactory outcome from a multi-stakeholder engagement. The success of which depends on developing an appreciation of the diverse values and aspirations of groups with an interest in, or potential to impact on, the future of Australia's rangelands. Building inclusive processes with pastoralists, indigenous people, scientists, environmentalists, miners, bankers, government agencies, tourist operators and the urban public requires:

- knowledge of yourself and others,
- attitudes that are open to difference,
- the ability to value all perspectives and
- the skills of listening, building coalitions, and effective verbal interactions.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will help you to:

- Act with integrity in a stakeholder process
- Understand why various stakeholders are interested in the rangelands, what they value, and their viewpoints on rangeland issues
- Develop mutual understanding of a region's cultures, by understanding and de-mystifying the stereotypes
- Appreciate and value your own culture; respect other cultures, values and perspectives that exist in the rangelands
- Develop empathetic listening and other communication skills, including ways to communication with diverse personalities
- Develop a cohesive point of view to engage more confidently in cross-sectoral debates and decision making
- Progress negotiations and partnerships by identifying the common ground
- Develop a more inclusive and unified vision for a sustainable future for the rangelands.

Completion of this course can help you gain further formal qualifications such as a Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma. This is because the content of the course has been mapped to one or more units of competency from nationally accredited training packages such as the Conservation and Land Management training, Amenity Horticulture, Rural Production and Business Services training packages. If you satisfactorily complete all the assessment activities during and after the course, you will be awarded a **Statement of Attainment**. This is issued by the University of Queensland Gatton Campus Vocational Training Framework. You will learn more about these requirements at the course.

Of course, if you are **not interested** in gaining **formal recognition** for the course, your participation will still be formalised with a Statement of Participation, issued by Rangelands Australia, so that you have a record of the learning which you have completed.

COURSE STRUCTURE

- Building a band
- Understanding self
- Understanding others
- Working with others
- Building consensus
- Why am I involved?
- What do I want to say?
- How will I say it?
- Active listening
- Where will I say it?
- Building my capacity as an effective stakeholder

TIME

8 + 7 hours (i.e., 2 consecutive days)

PARTICIPANT AUDIENCE:

All rangeland stakeholders (i.e. pastoralists and graziers, agency staff, agribusiness, policy makers, bankers, service providers, educators, local government, community groups, etc.).

DELIVERY

This course will be activity-based and delivered at various locations in a face-to-face workshop in the rangelands. Minimum numbers apply.

COST

\$950 plus GST, less any State/Territory applicable FarmBis or other subsidies available to eligible persons.

BACKGROUND TO THIS COURSE

The need for this course was identified by a national survey of education and skills needs for success in the rangelands. Development of skills in this area was seen, by all stakeholders, to be most important for future success in the rangelands. The structure, content and key resources were influenced by producers from New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia and agency staff and social scientists from the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland. This course was successfully piloted in Emerald, Queensland.

This short course was developed with funding from MLA and the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry through the national Farmbis program.

PARTICIPANTS FEEDBACK

"Useful course for people new to community groups and rural extension"

"Very informative"

"Excellent"

FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact Rangelands Australia by telephone on (07) 5460 1660 or by email at rangelands@ugg.uq.edu.au .