



No surprises in the Rangelands:

Understanding global and national trends influencing your business and community

- Short Course -

INTRODUCTION

There are many forces driving economic, environmental and social change in the world that impact directly and indirectly on enterprises and communities in the rangelands. The consequences can come as a complete surprise to many people, and can have far reaching effects on livelihood and lifestyle. This one to one-and-a-half-day course is designed to assist you to be prepared – to raise your awareness of what's happening beyond the front gate or town; to develop the skills for exploring and tracking global and national trends, events and emerging issues that may influence your activities, planning, and even your future in the rangelands.

The focus will be on raising awareness, and on practical, basic tools for exploring key driving forces and their implications at the enterprise and community level.

If you are part of a group with a common interest (ie. same organisation, industry or community group) and are interested in developing specific scenarios for a group or region, a longer version of this course can be negotiated that will give you to more time for developing specific scenarios and exploring their implications.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

This course will help you:

- Analyse and understand major production and consumption trends, economic, environmental, and social trends; changing consumer, market and government expectations; and how these might impact on your future business environment and lifestyle in the rangelands
- Locate, select and analyse information to track current and emerging trends
- Develop and explore a range of future scenarios
- Incorporate futures thinking into everyday decision-making.

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

Course modules will cover:

- Thinking about the future
- Making sense of the future
- Exploring the future
- Incorporating futures thinking into everyday activities.

FACILITATOR

Emma Robinson and her husband run a beef property south of Charters Towers Q, and also works as a freelance consultant specialising in the areas of environmental scanning, long-term thinking, facilitation and strategy. Previously, Emma held extension and policy positions in the Queensland Department of Primary Industries. She holds a Bachelor of Applied Science (Rural Management), a Masters of Science (Strategic Foresight) and Graduate Certificates in Rural Extension and Technology Management.

TIME

There are two options for any group:

1. Where there is general interest in the topic – 1 day (ie. 0830-1630)
2. Where there is a group with common interests who wish to develop specific scenarios and explore their implications for a particular region in some detail – 1.5 days

8 or 12 hours, scheduled to suit the group.

PARTICIPANT AUDIENCE

Pastoralists/graziers, Landcare, catchment management and regional groups, government advisors and facilitators, agribusiness, consultants, community support officers, training and service providers.

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

\$500 plus GST for the 1-day course, or \$750 plus GST for the 1.5 day course, less any State/Territory applicable FarmBis or other subsidies available to eligible persons.

Participants would be responsible for their own accommodation arrangements/expenses for the 1.5 day course.

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. This was informed by the views of over 450 producers, agency staff and other stakeholders.

The structure, critical content and key resources were influenced by a panel of people (eg. Futurists, industry and bank analysts, etc) with experience and insight re: 1) the global and national trends influencing the rangelands, and 2) the tools and techniques that can help identify the key forces of change and their potential impact. The course was externally reviewed and successfully piloted in Emerald, Q.

The development of this course was funded by Meat and Livestock Australia and The University of Queensland.

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK

- *"Very informative and enjoyable"*
- *"Very good course"*

FURTHER INFORMATION

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