### COMMUNITY PROJECT



### **Background**

Much of Townsville's food organics and garden organic waste (FOGO) currently goes to landfill when it has the proven potential to instead enrich local soils through use in natural fertilisers.

In many Townsville households and businesses, there is a lack of knowledge of how to use organic waste resources for practical and positive outcomes — something which targeted communication can change.

A document educating Townsville about the potential value of organic waste products would promote new behaviour. From this awareness, linkages between producers and users of organic products can be developed to promote a circular economy, improve soil health, and reduce landfill.

This project aims to educate and encourage the community at a residential, small business, school, or sporting club level, to understand the value of their 'waste' in ensuring the health of their soils through natural fertiliser application. Ultimately, this will reduce nutrient runoff to local waterways.



### KEY ACTIONS on project roadmap

- ✓ Identify and engage with key stakeholders in high output and/or impact areas
- ✓ Educate the community about what healthy soil is, why it is important, and how can they achieve it
- ✓ Support schools, businesses, and community members to engage in implementation of soil 'best practices'





#### **Outcomes**

- Growth in community understanding and appreciation of circular economies
- 'Best soil practices' are commonly used within the community
- Carbon sequestration into the soil is increased
- Townsville has biologically active, deep, and infiltrating soils

# Potential partners for project delivery

Townsville City Council (TCC), Atlas Soils, Ausfield Services, VRM Biologik, Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Incorporated (CDTLI), NQ Dry Tropics (NQDT).

### **Healthier soils**

# Community values directly protected

- Terrestrial habitats
- Riparian zone
- Freshwater ecosystems
- Estuaries



#### **Outcomes Ultimate** Techniques reviewed, learnings captured □ Strategy ¬ Outcomes ─ Values ─ and adjustments made to program Air quality Improve soil Key stakeholders Education Stakeholders Stakeholders Townsville has health in the engaged and products and understand how implementing biologically active, deep and urban region participating activities to change their knowledge and **Terrestrial** infiltrating soils developed behaviour using products to improve soil Clarify what is healthy soil, why it Identify barriers to Education Riparian zone is good to achieve Schools recycle people changing products and organic resources behaviours activities delivered for gardens and Develop list of fields products from **Develop Case** organic 'waste' that Studies to promote Community and can be used on soil ideal behaviour: small business Chemical vs recycle organic biological products, resources for soil Research into Mangroves Infiltration products where high increased on output material is blocks, Carbon produced and what sequestration in soil Community Saltmarsh impact it has and small business recycle Understand products used Beaches **Engage with** quantity, values on community stakeholders in and nutrient gardens high output/high profiles for various Seagrass impact areas Nitrogen and meadows Carbon inputs Track use of products, carbon captured, soils Coral improved Marine animals Stakeholder values/world Marine water views are quality changed











