

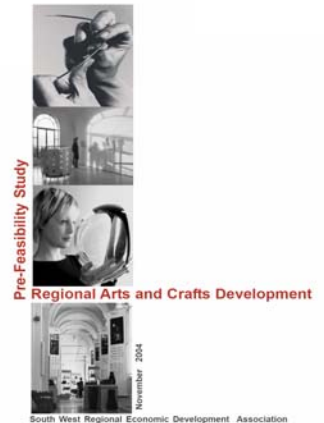
South West Regional Economic Development Regional Arts Trail

Project Outline

This project was aligned with the region covered by The South West Regional Development Association (SWRED), covering the shires of Bulloo, Murweh and Quilpie, which are located in the south west corner of the state of Queensland.

Following the initiatives of the regional arts and crafts groups and Murweh Shire Council, SWRED identified an opportunity for economic development within the region by combining the interest of all stakeholders.

The primary focus of the pre-feasibility was the development, marketing and promotion of the arts enterprise with a secondary component being a feasibility review of the development of a potential Centre of Excellence in Charleville.



Findings

The establishment of a regional arts and crafts development group would greatly enhance the capacity for future arts and crafts development at a local and regional level.

The establishment of a regional arts and crafts development group will:

- ➔ create a framework for arts provision and development within the Shires of Murweh, Quilpie, Bulloo and Paroo;
- ➔ provide a focus for a shared vision for arts provision;
- ➔ help the councils to be clear about their involvement in the arts and crafts; and
- ➔ help the councils achieve and demonstrate 'Best Value'.

Whilst the region has an established arts and crafts culture, a number of opportunities exist to further promote and develop new arts and crafts experiences for both the local community and the growing tourist market. The following summary of findings were established through extensive regional consultation with stakeholders and arts and crafts participants in Murweh, Bulloo and Quilpie Shires:

The establishment of new regional arts and crafts experiences and products will:

- ➔ generate additional economic development, job creation and tourism;
- ➔ raise the profile of regional artists and makers;
- ➔ encourage the formation of an artists' co-operative or consortium, to promote artist-led initiatives;
- ➔ encouraging the use of arts in promoting healthy living;
- ➔ create opportunities for artwork activities with some social services client groups including youth, the elderly and people with special needs;
- ➔ make stronger links between professional artists and education;
- ➔ promote opportunities for young people to engage with creative arts and crafts;
- ➔ encouraging creativity and commercial opportunities;
- ➔ use the arts as a route into learning for other ends, such as health promotion, adult literacy and basic skills.