
Appendix three – Detail on progress of the IIAP

DPE's priority work streams and examples of projects and their reported status under the Integrated Improvement and Assurance Program, May 2022

1. Policy: integrating the Scheme into decision-making to support conservation and economic priorities

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'on track' or 'complete':

- Contributing to reviews and inquiries related to the Scheme
- Producing guidelines for government agencies participating in the Scheme

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'requiring action':

- Integrating the Scheme with other conservation and economic priorities e.g., considering additional flexibility for Critical State Significant Infrastructure; reforms to reduce uncertainty for developers where rezoning has already sought to offset and minimise biodiversity impacts.

2. Enabling participation: by providing tools, information, and other support

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'on track' or 'complete':

- Establishing a Scheme Helpdesk
- Establishing a concierge-style support for proponents of major projects

Examples of projects 'requiring action':

- Simplifying and improving public information about the Scheme
- Expanding landholder support to engage potential participants.

3. Improving market functioning: more certainty and visibility for participants, better matching of supply and demand

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'on track' or 'complete':

- Developing a business case and policy proposal for a Biodiversity Credit Supply Fund
- Engaging the Independent Price and Regulatory Tribunal to monitor and report on competition in the market

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'requiring action':

- Increasing credit supply by considering using public lands such as Crown lands and National Park estate to generate credits
- BCT to lead improvements to processing of BSAs to keep pace with demand
- Publishing regular forecasts of demand and estimated supply.

4. A credible science-based approach

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'on track' or 'complete':

- Aligning listing of NSW threatened entities with the Commonwealth
- Providing data and reviewing the scientific basis of Scheme requirements and rules

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'requiring action':

- Providing manual on the implementation of the Biodiversity Assessment Method
- Improving public systems to manage credit creation, transactions and retirements
- Developing other specific BAM guidance, mapping and survey data.

5. Ensuring confidence in the Scheme with a strong regulatory and governance framework

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'on track' or 'complete':

- Establishing governance framework for the IIAP
- Developing a risk framework, risk assessment and reporting approach
- Released template for Biodiversity Development Assessment Report to improve quality.

Examples of projects reported by DPE as 'requiring action':

- Developing a whole-Scheme communications strategy
- Replace the Biodiversity Offsets Payment Calculator
- Establish a framework for the management of the Biodiversity Stewardship Payments Fund.

Source: AO summary of DPE data.