

Project Name	Inventory of Economic Development Initiatives
Program Area	Human Well Being
Element	HWB
Project No.	HWB 03a
Related Projects	HWB 01 HWB 02 AM 01
Start Date	February 1, 2008
Completion Date	April 30, 2008

Overview

Improving human wellbeing is an essential element of EBM on the Central and North Coast. EBM is both about enhancing the human well-being HWB of local First Nations and coastal communities and maintaining the ecological integrity of the region. The Coast Information Team's Ecosystem-Based Management Planning Handbook and the EBM Framework provide guidance on how human well-being is conceptualised¹. Human well being is defined as a condition in which all members of society can determine and meet their needs and have a large range of choices and opportunities to fulfil their potential. This requires a strong economy, with a diversified, sustainable private sector

The economy in most communities of the Central and North Coast is weak, with resulting high unemployment. By identifying the major constraints to the existing and high potential economic development initiatives, the study will assist the EBM WG to recommend policy or other changes that will assist the transformation of a weak, high unemployment economy to a strong, low unemployment economy.

Most economic and other statistics generated in the Central and North Coast do not fall precisely within the boundaries of the Central and North Coast. In addition, many of the isolated communities in the area support unique First Nation cultures, like Kitkatla, Bella Bella and Wuikinuxv Village or other distinct cultures, like Hagensborg and Prince Rupert. EBM will not be fully successful if some communities prosper economically, and others fail, because the unique culture or history of a community with a failed economy is at serious risk. Therefore, the 'metrics to track the growth and evolution of businesses' must be designed to work in the North and Central Coast area, and the individual communities within it.

¹ Available at www.citbc.org.

Objectives

- Identify existing and high potential significant² community and regional economic development initiatives³.
 - Economic sectors include but are not limited to: Forestry, Tourism, Mining, Energy, Aquaculture, Fishing, Transportation, and Services.
 - Include high potential regional economic initiatives even if there are no current plans to develop the business opportunity.
- Identify the major constraints that may be limiting the successful growth or initiation of these initiatives within the following categorization: (1) policy barriers; (2) lack of/access to infrastructure; (3) lack of/access to relevant human resources; (4) lack of/access to financial resources; (5) markets, and (6) other barriers.
- Recommend metrics to track the growth and evolution of businesses in the area.

Expected Use/User/Benefits

- The EBM WG will use the results of this research to recommend policy or other changes to support high potential economic development initiatives in the Central and North Coast

Key Tasks

- Confirm the list of contacts identified by the EBM Working Group members from the EBM WG Executive Director, and prepare a supplemental list for discussion for the meeting described below
- Upon project initiation, attend a 4 hour meeting with EBM Working Group members to discuss project deliverables, context, contacts identified by EBM Working Group members and additional contacts recommended by the proponent, and current knowledge related to economic development initiatives.
- Compile a list of plans and studies related to community economic development initiatives in the regions
- Interview selected contacts and summarize the:
 - existing and high potential significant community and regional economic development initiatives, and
 - growth potential and major constraints/implementation barriers that limit creation and growth of profitable and sustainable economic development initiatives they identify.
- Prepare and circulate a first draft report to the EBM WG. Also, circulate the draft report with a covering letter to a Focus Group, selected by the EBM WG, of successful community economic development contacts and business owner/managers.

² 'Significant' is either 25+ jobs regionally, or important (e.g. 5% increase to existing jobs) to one community.

³ 'Economic development initiatives' are long term profitable and sustainable businesses.

- The contractor will meet the Focus Group to validate the project findings and gather additional information. The Executive Director will organize the time and place of the Focus Group meeting; members of the EBM WG may also attend.
- Prepare the final report to the EBM Working Group, incorporating feedback from the Focus Group.
- Meet the EBM WG in committee or at the monthly meeting to present the findings of the report, and answer questions from the members.

Deliverable(s)

- Draft report for discussion in the focus group by May 16, 2008.
- Final report by May 31, 2008

Responsibilities

- The EBM Working Group (EBMWG) will award and manage the work to be completed under this project. Established with the responsibility to oversee technical and scientific work and make recommendations related to the further development and implementation of EBM in the Central and North Coast, EBM Working Group (EBMWG) membership includes members from First Nations and Provincial governments as well as stakeholder representation from the conservation sector, the forest industry, and local communities.
- A number of the EBMWG members have joined to form a steering committee to support the development and implementation of this project. The HWB 03 steering committee lead is Wally Eamer, email: wallyeamer@gmail.com

Linkages to other EBM Projects or Initiatives

- **AM 01- Adaptive Management Framework:** The inventory of existing and planned community and regional economic development initiatives, identified under HWB 03, could be used to test the effectiveness and rigor of the adaptive management framework currently under development.
- **HWB 02 – Human Well Being Baseline and Targets:** The compilation of social, economic, and cultural Human Well Being (HWB) determinants and the collection of baseline data for specific HWB indicators, identified in HWB 02, will serve as a basis to develop the HWB component of the adaptive management framework. The RFP for the HWB 02 project is available at:
http://www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca/open.dll/showDisplayDocument?sessionID=9926109&disID=10884492&docType=Tender&dis_version_nos=0&doc_search_by=Tend&docTypeQual=TN

Method of Implementation

- State the implementation approach (check box with an “X”):

- Contract: RFP, RFQ, etc.
- Expert Panel / Workshop
- Internal EBMWG Task
- Other: _____

Budget

Item	Budget	Source
Total consulting fees, including editing and graphics in final report	28 675	
Total travel fees	1 325	
Total project budget	\$30 000	EBM WG