

Cassowary Credits

Accelerating investment into forest restoration
in the Wet Tropics



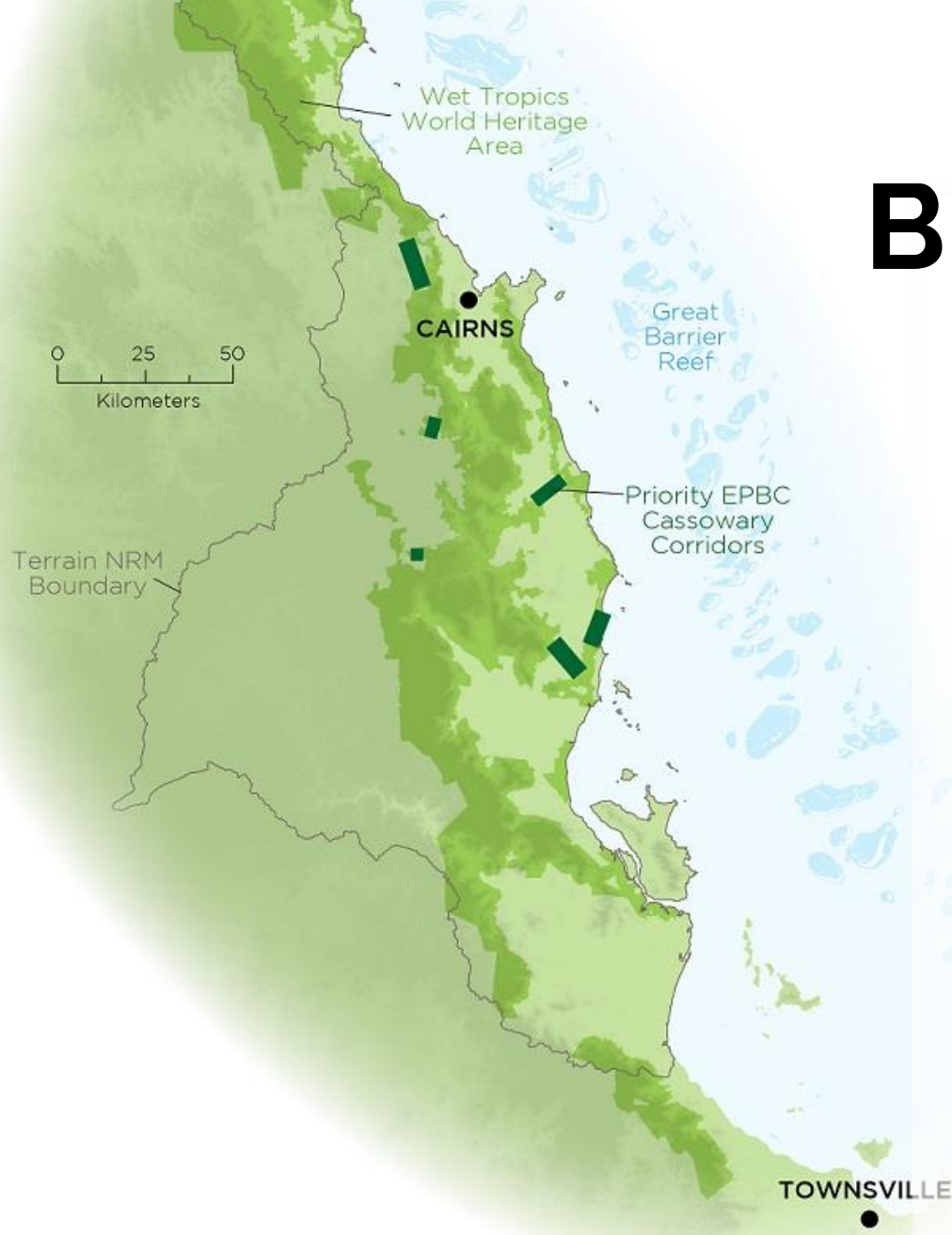
Wet Tropics...a biodiversity hotspot

- IUCN listed as second most irreplaceable place on the planet
- 2 interconnected World Heritage Areas
- Greatest diversity of plants and animals in Australia
- Most important climate refugia in Australia
- Rainforest Aboriginal people have inhabited > 5,000 years

But its at risk...

Our goal is to:

- Reconnect large areas of fragmented habitat
- Buffer World Heritage Areas



WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?

1

STRATEGIC APPROACH

- Regional collaboration
- Targeted long-term action plan

2

RESTORATION CLUSTER

- Growing capacity to deliver at scale
- Increasing skills & knowledge

3

INVESTMENT VEHICLES

- Developing new investment vehicles
- Blended finance

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

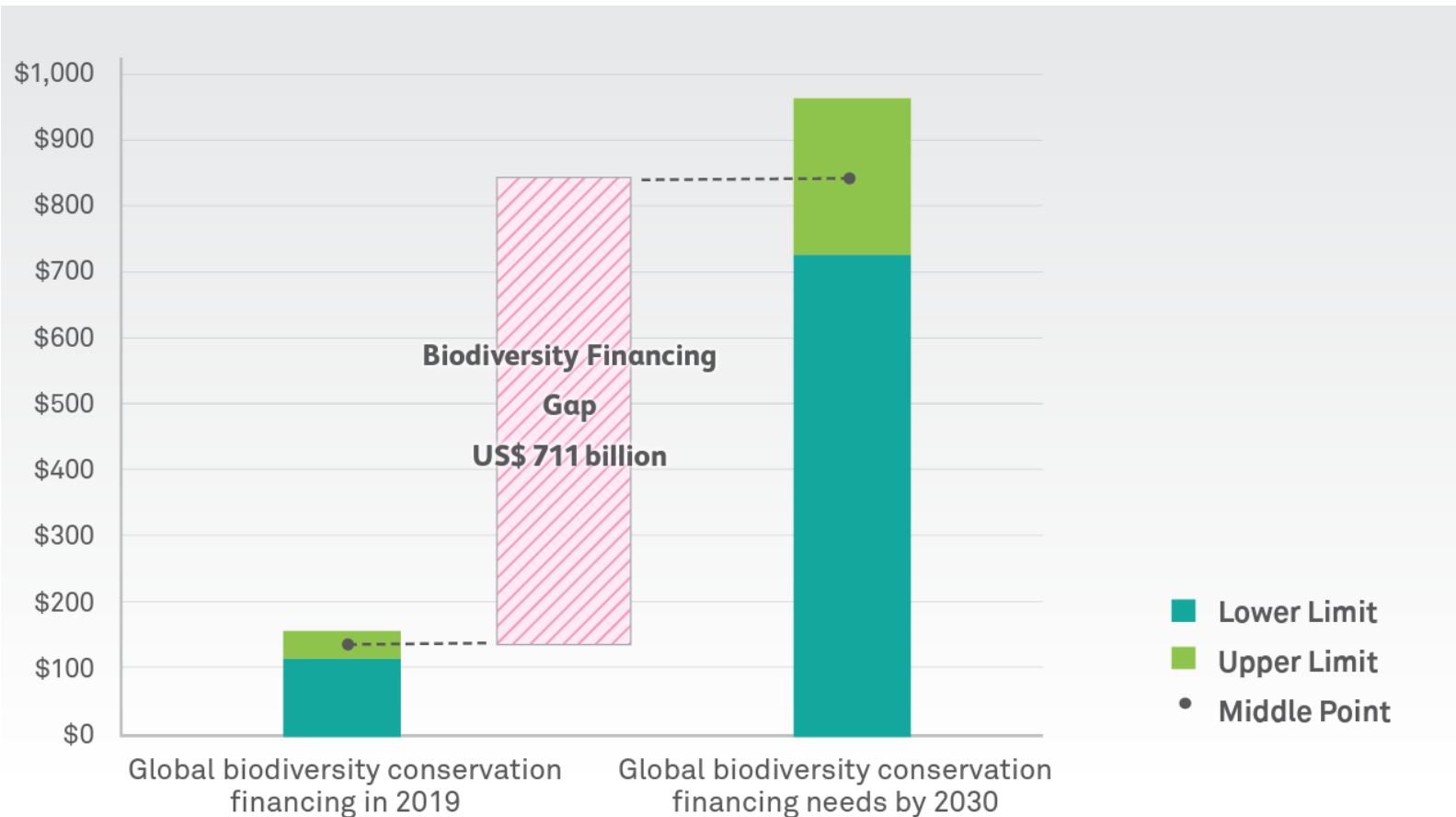
Insufficient, inconsistent investment



Wet Tropics World Heritage Area

<https://worldheritageoutlook.iucn.org/explore-sites/wdpaid/17757>

Finance Gap



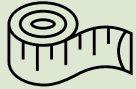
- Need to close USD 4.1 trillion finance gap in nature by 2050 to meet targets
- Currently estimated at 133 billion (mostly from public sources)

<https://www.unep.org/resources/state-finance-nature>

Cassowary Credit Scheme



Scientifically rigorous monitoring framework



Measurable and verifiable outcomes



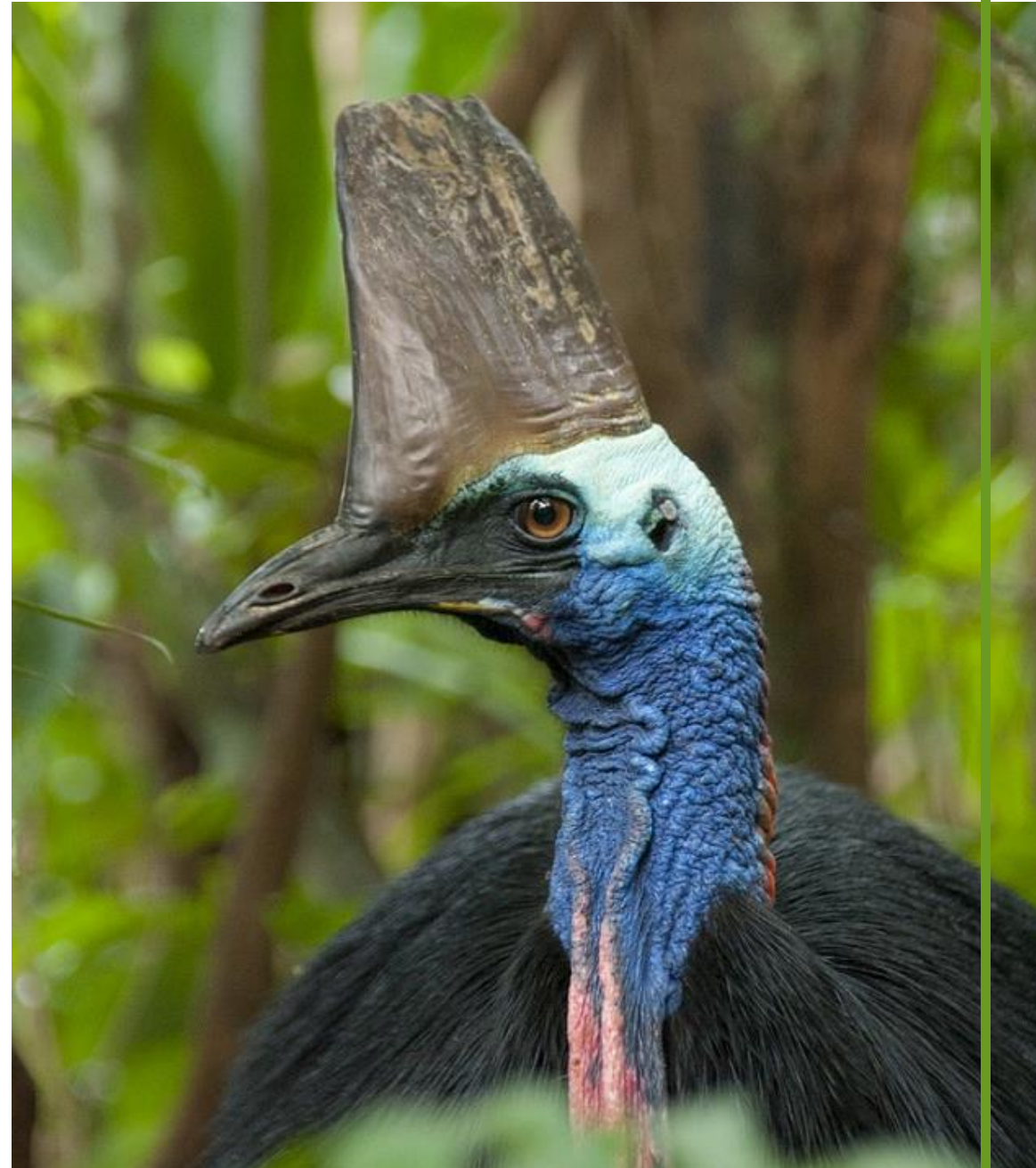
Internationally recognised region



Delivers regional aspirations



Skilled restoration community with capacity to scale up



Scheme targets

20,000 hectares restored in 20 years
Investment needed: \$2-4 billion

Multiple Finance Instruments



Grant programs:

- State and Federal Government



Environmental markets:

- Carbon credits + co-benefits
- Biodiversity credits



Financial instruments:

- Bonds
- Sustainability linked loans
- Impact investment

Investment and Use of Funds



Pilot phase – testing and refining method
\$500,000 - \$1,000,000



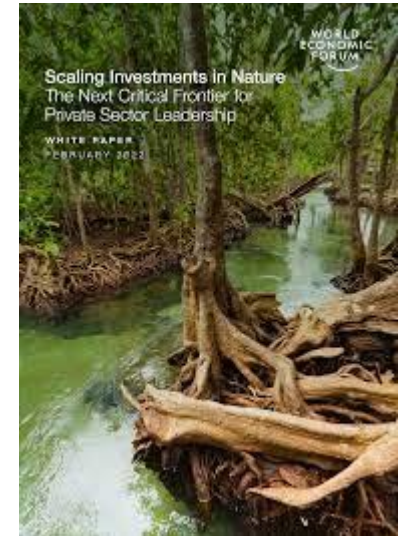
Pathway to investment model
\$200,000 - \$500,000

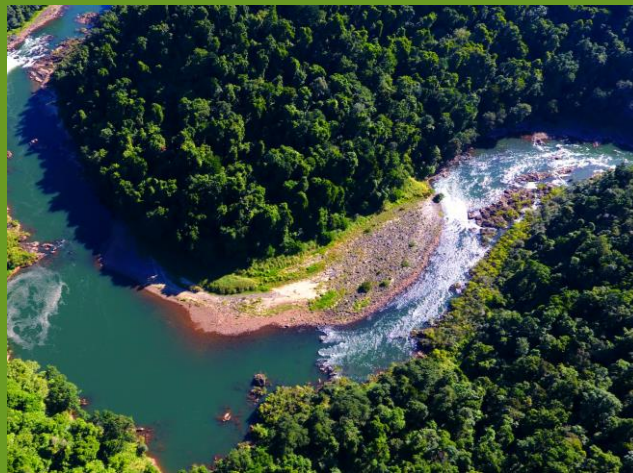


Sustainable Finance Enablers



Taskforce on Nature-related
Financial Disclosures





Who we are

- NRM organisation for the Wet Tropics
- Not for profit, community-based
- Established 20 years
- Focus areas:
 - Biodiversity, waterway health, soil health, climate, regenerative economy



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<https://terrain.org.au/what-we-do/biodiversity/green-connections/>