

**Role of the Committee**

The Scientific Advisory Committee supports the Wet Tropics Management Authority Board by providing advice on:

- scientific research and monitoring priorities which will contribute to the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and presentation of the Area;
- new information or developments in science relevant to protection, conservation or presentation of the Area
- the scientific basis for management policies and practices
- appropriateness of research proposed for approval by the Authority in terms of scope, quality and relevance to management of the Area
- maintenance of World Heritage values and integrity of the Area
- impacts of proposed developments on the World Heritage values of the Area
- engagement between the scientific community and the management agencies and communities in the Wet Tropics.

**Composition**

Members should be involved in or have sound scientific knowledge or expertise and/or traditional Indigenous knowledge or expertise in one of more of the following:

- biophysical sciences and ecology, especially in relation to the Wet Tropics
- natural heritage planning and/or conservation, including threatened species conservation
- bio-cultural expertise, knowledge and understanding—especially Aboriginal cultural heritage knowledge or expertise—including traditional ecological knowledge and policy or issues pertaining to Indigenous intellectual property and ownership rights of Aboriginal Rainforest peoples
- heritage presentation and/or nature-based tourism
- socio-economic disciplines including governance, social impact assessment, nature-based recreation and environmental economics
- disciplines related to biosecurity, fire ecology and climate change.

**Other knowledge and attributes of members**

In relation to the committee members' specific scientific disciplines, specialised knowledge or expertise, the Board will be seeking to include Committee members who have one or more of the following skills, attributes or interests:

- Scientific knowledge and experience relevant to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and its natural values and/or its Aboriginal cultural values.
- Broad knowledge or experience in a range of scientific disciplines pertaining to the protection, conservation and presentation of the attributes of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

- Proven scientific excellence in one or more fields relating to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.
- Experience in providing scientific advice in fields related to the protection, conservation and/or presentation of the attributes of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.
- Active engagement in research in tropical landscapes.
- Experience and understanding of collaborative governance arrangements and partnership development with the view to enhance and support genuine self-determination as expressed by Aboriginal Rainforest people in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.
- Ability to communicate the values of the Wet Tropic World Heritage Area, including the research and information needs required to provide a sound scientific basis for the development and application of Wet Tropics management policies and practices.
- Experience of putting research into practice.
- Familiarity with the concepts of evidence-based adaptive management.