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1. **CRC for Organic Food and Farming Technologies (OCRC) – Bid Update** – CORE would like to thank those members that have submitted funds towards the OCRC bid including those who pledged funds through Compost Australia.

As part of the bid committee, CORE accepted the task of raising \$5,000 and up to \$10,000 from the organic input sector towards the bid funding due to the numerous advantages that the OCRC would have for product sales and market demand for this sector. The \$300,000 collected by the complete OCRC team has been committed to secure Birubi Innovations to engage the long list of participants and prepare the extensive and onerous documentation required for a CRC bid.

The current major participants in the OCRC besides the organic input suppliers include:

### Commercial Partners

- Coles Supermarkets
- National Association Sustainable Agriculture Australia
- Yates Australia (Orica)
- Botanical Resources Australia
- So Natural Foods
- Parmalat Australia
- Temple Bruer Wines
- Weston Technologies
- Rijk Zwaan (Australia)
- Omnia Specialities Australia
- Tatura Milk Industries
- Cleavers Organic Meats
- Organic Park Global
- Stoney Creek Oil Products
- The ERA Farming Company
- Biological Farmers of Australia (TBC)
- Centre for Organic Resource Enterprises

### Commonwealth Research Investors

- Rural Industries Research & Development Corporation
- National Food Industry Strategy PL
- Meat & Livestock Australia

### Research Partners

- NSW Agriculture
- Department of Primary Industry Queensland
- Department of Primary Industry Victoria
- Agriculture WA
- Tasmanian Department of Primary Industry, Water & Environment
- University of New England
- University of Western Sydney
- University of Sydney
- Swinburne University of Technology
- University of Western Australia
- Central Queensland University
- University of Tasmania
- NSW TAFE

The OCRC will position Australia to meet expanding global demand for organic foods, and foods produced from sustainable, natural agricultural systems. It will support commercialisation of a wide range of organic and healthy food products, develop organic food supply chains, improve soil health, farm performance and supply chain practices, and accelerate conversion to sustainable agricultural practices.

2. **New Consultative Committee Formed** – The new CORE Consultative Committee formed as a result of the more broad evolution of our organisation includes the following external advisors:

- Tony Kanak – EWT
- Peter Rutherford – Earth Solutions
- Ian Coffey – Ian Coffey and Associates
- Johannes Biala – The Organic Force
- Kevin Banner – Organic Recyclers

The inaugural meeting of this new committee is being held shortly. Additional committee members will be sought based on required competencies.

3. **Organic Waste Stream Mapping in the Riverina** – CORE has been selected to conduct a project to characterise organic waste within the Riverina Region of NSW. The project is designed to allow for the integration of bio-systems within existing local industries and to stimulate new industry development in order to manage integrated organic waste streams.

The project will include an assessment of all solid and liquid organic wastes suitable for aerobic and anaerobic digestion from the domestic sector, the commercial sector, the industry sector and from agricultural industries, including the meat and livestock industries.

The types of organics wastes will include at least:

- Agricultural waste (animal wastes) – feedlots, abattoirs, sale yards, breeding farms (beef, sheep, poultry, horse and piggeries) and dairy farms;
- Intensive agriculture – food production, wineries, irrigation and crop rotation;
- Broad acre cropping – cotton, rice and grain;
- Hospitality/catering industry – hotels, restaurants, hospitals, old age homes, commercial kitchens, education institutes, clubs, food courts and supermarkets;
- Municipal solid waste;
- Bio-solids – the treated solid residue from wastewater treatment; and
- Food – grease trap and residues from produce markets and supermarkets.

4. **Increasing Market Demand for Stormwater Products Containing Recycled Organics – Grant Update** – Over the past three months CORE has been continuing the technical research on the efficacy and longevity of stormwater treatment containing recycled organics in conjunction with the University of Technology Sydney (UTS). Early batch test results indicate the varying treatment properties of each constituent in terms of the volume of different contaminants they remove through chemical, physical and biological means.

In order to simulate the real life use of the media, it is expected that we will be starting the more detailed and long-term experiments, the column tests in the near future.

It is also expected that we will conduct a new field experiment in the future outside of the grant project. Some sites and organisations have already expressed a desire to become involved (although any more would also be welcome).

We have also started the market research into the use of these products in order to develop tools that can expand their adoption. An extensive stakeholder listing including over 300 contacts has been developed by CORE. Also, a survey instrument has been designed that will be piloted shortly. If your organisation would like to find out more then please contact us at [stormwater@corebusinessnet.com.au](mailto:stormwater@corebusinessnet.com.au).

- 5. International Update** - CORE has lodged a submission with Environment Canada to establish a CORE Marketing Network throughout Canada. This follows interest by Environment Canada reported in the last newsletter. Already Environment Canada has been actively linking CORE with key stakeholders in Canada to assist in the establishment process.

An implementation plan is being developed for the CORE Marketing Network that has been established in the United Kingdom. There has been keen interest in the network by both government and the private sector.

- 6. CORE Expands Membership Base** – CORE has significantly expanded its membership base in all active states. The new members include window composters, Advanced Waste Treatment (AWT) facilities, microbial providers for bio-based products and organisations with mineral and aggregate recycling solutions. Therefore membership is expanding to encompass a network of solutions within the bio-based economy model. The website (<http://www.corebusinessnet.com>) will be updated shortly to include the new members and their bio-based product details where supplied.
- 7. CORE Membership Services Praised by Members** – CORE has increased the number of emails sent to members this notifying them of relevant publications and tenders to their activities. In the period since the last newsletter (four months) there have been 100 emails sent to member groups in different states and industry sectors.

This has generated a lot of positive feedback from members that we appreciate greatly. However, if you would like to make changes to the types of materials and the volume (greater or smaller) we are sending please contact Kevin Morgan at [kevin@corebusinessnet.com](mailto:kevin@corebusinessnet.com).