

PROJECT PHOENIX



PROJECT COMMUNIQUE

EXTERNAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

16 SEPTEMBER 2021



PROJECT PHOENIX

ESTABLISHING SEED SUPPLY FOR AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRE RECOVERY AND LANDSCAPE RESILIENCE

COMMUNIQUE

Title:	Project Phoenix ESC Meeting #17
Date:	Thursday 16 September 2021

Progress Update

Project Management

Through collaboration and broad engagement, Project Phoenix conducted an environmental scan of the Australian Native Seed Sector in 2020/2021. It produced 46 reports that spanned a wide range of topics relating to the management of native seed, identified businesses and networks, produced on-ground and research outcomes for threatened flora species affected by bushfires, reviewed and assessed policy settings impacting access to native seed, generated an objective framework for targeting investment in restoration nationally, assessed economic factors such as market operation and seed pricing, presented options for a National Native Seed Code-of-Practice and identified a long list of indigenous groups that are already engaged in native seed management or have an aspiration to do so.

In addition to some first time ever information gathering, the project also generated practical outcomes focused on sector participants benefits such as the new Florabank website, practitioner directory, public forums and importantly training associated with updated Florabank Guidelines. The interest and momentum generated has been a vital outcome of the project that will benefit the next stage of sector development, implementation of the strategy. Over 450 people are currently registered on the Phoenix network and have benefited from information sharing from across the sector. Expectations are high within the sector that this preliminary work will be supported to implementation.

All 30 Activities have now been completed and their corresponding reports and outputs published and made available to the sector.

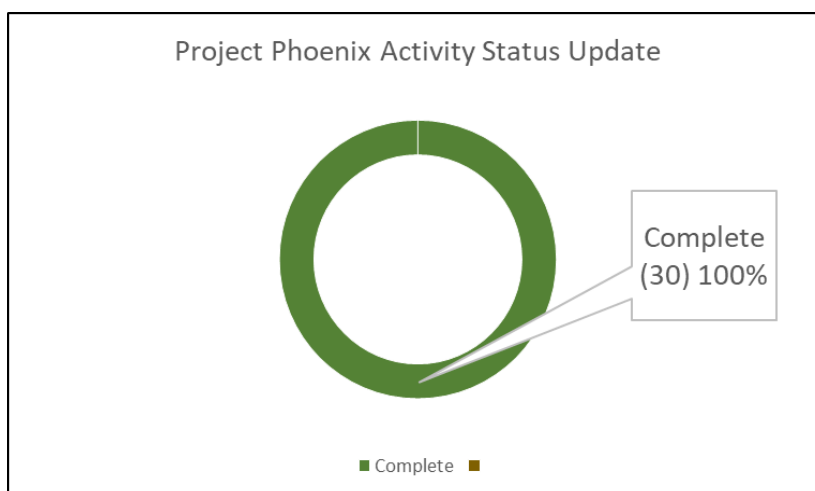


Figure 3. Project Phoenix Activity Status Update
*Status reflects 16/09/2021

Strategic Communications

The August newsletter focused on the launch of the Florabank website, with seventy subscribers engaged with the Florabank website by clicking through the August newsletter. The newsletter also continued to highlight the sector resources produced by Project Phoenix, which are available on the Project phoenix website.

Project Phoenix will feature in two articles being published in the Spring editions of both Wildlife Australia Magazine and Australian Wildlife Society, the latter of which was co-authored by the Project Manager, Samantha Craigie.

Ten-Year Strategy

Progress Update

In August, following public consultation, the final version of the National Native Seed Strategy was endorsed by the External Steering Committee and commended to the Commonwealth. On 30 August 2021 the final version was submitted to the Department with letters of recommendation from both the External Steering Committee and Greening Australia's CEO Brendan Foran. It is currently awaiting approval.