

Position Description:

Community Media Business Feasibility Consultant

Assignment number: PAU011330
Partner organisation name: Mallacoota and District Recovery Association (MADRA)
Partner organisation location: Mallacoota, Victoria
Key dates: May-July 2026

Assignment time commitment: 6-8 hours per week

Assignment mode/location: Online with some travel at the start of Assignment.

About the Resilient Regions Program:

Resilient Regions is a place-based, community-led program that builds disaster preparedness, economic resilience and social cohesion across small towns in East and Central Gippsland. It focuses on communities in Latrobe City, Wellington Shire and East Gippsland Shire that are highly exposed to climate-related disasters and have limited access to recovery and preparedness services.

ABV's skilled business volunteers support local community action by strengthening the resilience of communities, not-for-profits and small businesses. Volunteers work directly with community partners to build local systems, economic resilience and the capacity to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

Purpose of the Role:

Mallacoota's longstanding local publication closed in 2023, leaving the community without a trusted source of information. This assignment will assess the feasibility of re-establishing a community-led communications platform and develop a sustainable business, governance and funding model to support its long-term viability. Working with MADRA in a geographically isolated, disaster-prone region, the role will help rebuild reliable local communications that strengthen social connection, community participation and resilience before, during and after emergencies.

This is a senior business and feasibility assignment rather than a communications delivery role. The consultant will lead analysis, stakeholder consultation and business modelling to test the viability of a community-led local media platform, identify sustainable revenue and funding options, and provide clear, practical recommendations to guide future investment and decision-making. Candidates with experience in business feasibility, sustainability planning, funding strategy and governance—particularly in community, not-for-profit or place-based contexts—will be well suited to this role.

The deliverables of this Assignment are:

- Review the history, previous model and current proposal for the publication
- Conduct stakeholder consultations with community members, potential contributors and sponsors
- Analyse demand, audience needs and appropriate delivery formats (print, digital etc)
- Assess financial viability, including cost structures and revenue options (subscriptions, advertising, sponsorship, grants)
- Establish other required resources including time, volunteer contributions, governance structure etc
- Develop a sustainable business model and operating plan
- Identify funding opportunities and prepare a funding strategy roadmap
- Provide a final feasibility report with clear recommendations and next steps

Selection Criteria:

- Experience in business feasibility and sustainability planning
- Proven ability to develop practical business and funding models
- Understanding of governance and risk frameworks
- Strong stakeholder engagement skills, particularly in community settings
- Ability to deliver clear, actionable recommendations

Prerequisites for undertaking volunteering assignments:

- To register with ABV (if not already registered):
 - ✓ At least 5 years relevant professional experience
 - ✓ You must be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident residing in Australia. Australian Citizens residing overseas may be considered on a case by case basis.
 - ✓ Willingness to complete a police check and Working With Children Check
 - ✓ Willingness to be interviewed and have references checked
- Once you have passed registration phase:
 - ✓ Willingness to interview for the role with ABV program staff
 - ✓ Acceptable police check and Working with Children Check before commencement
 - ✓ Sign the ABV Letter of Agreement (Code of Conduct, etc)
 - ✓ Medical check (external and ABV), compliance with all travel, entry and in-country requirements (where required).
 - ✓ You are expected to abide by any COVID regulations of the destination country or the partner organisation with whom you may work. These regulations will be made known to you.

How to Apply:

Please refer to this page on the ABV website for role closing dates: [ABV Open Assignments](#)

Email your Expression of Interest to volunteers@abv.org.au with:

If you're a Registered ABV Volunteer:

- Role name + Assignment Number
- A short paragraph response to this question: *Tell us about how your experience aligns with the selection criteria and how you would approach this work.*
- Any special considerations



If you're Not Registered:

- Role name + Assignment Number
- Confirmation you're willing to complete ABV's screening
- Your CV
- A short paragraph response to this question: *Tell us about how your experience aligns with the selection criteria and how you would approach this work.*
- Any special considerations

What will happen next?

- ABV will review all applications as they are received.
- Shortlisted candidates will be sent a Terms of Reference (ToR) document (aka Assignment Description).
- Candidates will be advised whether they are shortlisted for interview.

ABV is an equal opportunity employer and Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples, people from culturally & linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds are encouraged to apply for this position.