



SEGRA
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH
FOR REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

**ALBANY &
GREAT SOUTHERN REGION
2016**



Raising our voices



Collaboration

- Many models of collaboration but most need some funding
- Talking to each other and connecting communities
- Threats as a driver of collaboration?
- Understanding how to enact collaboration
- RDAs and LG as coordinators of collaboration
- Allowing stakeholders to take risks
- Competitive govt funding works against collaboration
- Learning to live with 'coopetition'



Community diversity

- Welcoming 'people unlike us'
- Leadership can come from anywhere
- Creativity and growth
 - Growth of the creative workforce
 - Bringing the artistic into the community
 - KPIs for thinking
- Engaging young people in leadership and entrepreneurship
- Getting young people to bounce back to regions
- Targeting knowledge graduates



Connectivity

- The NBN is not the panacea
- Technology uncertainty but some path dependency in trends
- New models of connectedness
- Linking to other networks (eg AARNet)



Entrepreneurship

- Looking at all ideas (even the 'crazy' ones)
- The differences in regional businesses
 - Scale (usually SMEs)
 - Dependency of local economy
- Community hubs and business hybrids
- Increasing focus on the supply chain
- Big businesses grow from small businesses



Economy

- Living with uncertainty
 - Surfing or standing against the waves?
- Living with investment cycles in resource regions
 - Housing prices
 - Attention to other sectors
- Financing regional businesses
 - Local crowd funding
 - The case for external funding



Employment

- Investing in human capital
- The role of local government in remote area project development
- ‘Industrialisation not innovation’
- Regional areas and the impact of automation
- Health as a growth sector



Tourism

- Geotourism & geoparks
- The importance of (especially Indigenous) stories
- Restoration and tourism
- Cultural tourism through unique attributes
- 'Tracking' the tourists
- Collaboration on branding and attraction



Agriculture and food

- Productivity in peri-urban areas
- Collaborative models of business
- Generating the finance
- Value-adding in the region
- Food hubs and local food
- Food (and fibre) as part of a brand



Natural capital

- Dealing with socio-ecological systems
- Natural capital as an attraction
- Natural capital and economic development
- Sense of place in conservation and regional branding
- Supra-regional collaboration in NRM
- Learning from the MDB (collaboration and engagement)



Getting and using research

- Increasing the agility of research organizations
- Growing local consulting skills
- The potential of universities and the 'impact' agenda
- Connecting students to regional communities
- Data is out of date when you collect it



The roles of government

- Local governments are more than enablers (especially in remote areas)
- What are the roles and future of the RDA?
- Unlocking public sector talent
- Enabling communities to unlock their capital
- Accepting and allowing some risk
- Have the courage to trust the communities
- Has policy made a difference to regional development trends?