

Kalgoorlie- Boulder Regional
Australia Summit 2009
Survey Results – challenges and
future policy criteria

Economic challenges:

- Appropriate and enabling policy and institutional settings to facilitate regional development – political commitment
- Returning royalties to the region
- Resource sector to invest in region where they operate
- Greater economic diversity

Infrastructure challenges:

- Ageing, inadequate and ineffective placement of infrastructure – how we use what & where
- Strategic placement and access to soft infrastructure and services
- Water reform, climate change, access and equity, TBL
- ITC platforms, communication and transport for global connectedness and competitiveness

Population and social challenges:

- Future community health and wellbeing of regional Australia
- Ageing and declining population base and skills shortage
- Indigenous policies and engagement that support positive and proactive leadership

Natural resource use management challenges:

- Declining natural asset/resources base
- Lack of planning certainty for land users
- Policy and institutions settings to effectively address NRM, biodiversity and sustainable management of resources
- Managing footprint of all land users
- Regional Australia and the carbon economy, renewables and rehabilitation

Cultural and land rights challenges:

- Policy to address the many disparities of Indigenous disadvantage – including health, education and cultural wellbeing
- Mechanisms to appropriately incorporate Indigenous society into the mainstream global economy

Future land use challenges:

- Carbon ecosystem services
- Lower footprint and impact of agricultural practices –scale, drought tolerant cropping
- Conservation and biodiversity
- Renewable energies and reduced energy uses
- Mining and mining exploration
- Ecotourism
- Infrastructure for communities

Future economic activities:

- Carbon economy, renewable energy especially power
- Value adding to existing uses – education, manufacturing, agribusiness, creative economy
- Ecotourism
- Mining services – education, housing, retail industry

Future economic activities contd:

- Agriculture
- Water management e.g. desalination
- Research and development
- Planned decentralisation from capital cities

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Criteria

Key governance criteria

Institutional arrangements

- Enables regional empowerment and governance
- Fosters devolution of :
 - Policy development
 - Decision making
 - Program development
 - Project management
 - Implementation
- Values diversity of settlements and communities in regional Australia

Key governance criteria

- Actively supports self sustaining rural and remote regional cities, towns and settlements
- Encourages greater inter and intra governmental collaboration over the regions

Legislation and policy:

- Fosters Indigenous involvement in regional policy formulation and decision making
- Establishes strong policy, legislative and regulatory frameworks for sustainable regional development

Key governance criteria

- Promotes a long term national vision for regional sustainability
- Seeks tax settings to encourage residential workers in regions and discourages fly in and fly out
- Enhanced knowledge of regional realities and resource constraints.

Key governance criteria

Management and administration

- Resources capacity building of government and non government in devolved governance
- Ensures transparency and accountability in decision making and development approval.
- Actively promotes stakeholder participation through proactive regional and community processes
- Devolve authority for rapid and transparent decision making for approvals.

Key Economic Criteria

- Local ownership
- Long term jobs
- Creates/sustains regional residential work force
- Social Economic indicators:
 - household income, financial stress, personal income, number of jobs and housing costs
- Promotes diversification of the economy

Key Economic Criteria

- Allows for development and retention of a skilled workforce of adequate number
- Satisfies TBL criteria
- Substantial measureable outcomes
- Profitable
- Incentives for energy reduction
- Adequate training and skills
- Adequate business planning

Key Economic Criteria

- Cost benefit analysis that considers:
 - community and social interests, national interests, extent of demand, future generations, degree of local ownership
- Supports infrastructure provision
- Increases export \$\$
- Establishes small to medium enterprises

Key Social Criteria

- Adequate resourcing (staff, facilities, budgets) for:
 - transport, communication (including interacting world wide), health, education, housing, culture, recreation , community facilities
- Community engagement – empowered, enabling
- Educational achievement – training opportunities, quality schooling

Key Social Criteria

- Satisfactory scoring on shore and long term measures of community well being:
 - inclusion, cohesion, law and order, integration of generations and cultures, sustainable lifestyle, social interaction and networks
- Economic participation
- Hard and soft infrastructure that allows for growth, economic diversity and alternative industry development

Key Social Criteria

- Benchmarking re provision of equitable regional services and programs
- Land access
- Sufficient population to allow diversity

Key Indigenous criteria:

- Resourcing of health, education, housing that:
retains culture in services, is culturally appropriate,
and includes Aboriginal design
- Provides local economic participation
- Achieves against 'close the gap' indicators
- Focuses on empowerment with involvement
by local Indigenous people

Key Indigenous criteria:

- Supports benchmark standards around the following measures (which may require better data):
 - number of residents per dwelling, % involved in mainstream economic activity, community wellbeing, health, local employment, education
- Provides mentoring and work based training, education and qualifications
- Reflects regionally appropriate differences in localised solutions by local Indigenous people

Key Indigenous criteria:

- Positive employment policies by companies
- Employment opportunities that support appropriate chosen lifestyle

Key natural resource criteria

- Support sustainable management of natural and human systems
- Works with industry to obtain sustainable investments
- Fosters responsible use of non-renewable and renewable resources
- Quantifies land use, patterns of change and areas under potential threats:
 - Biophysical, demographic, urban footprints

Key natural resource criteria

- Reduces environmental impacts from agriculture industry and urbanisation
- Acknowledges implications of extreme weather, climatic variability and change
- Fosters use of Indigenous and local knowledge
- Quantifies changes in number of threatened endangered species, on regional and local level

Key natural resource criteria

- Encourages focused fundamental and applied research