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Regional Crowd Funding Platform Launched

The opportunities for crowd funding as a potential new funding mechanism has increased significantly. Regional Australia can be front and centre of this with the launch of a new Regional Solutions Framework (RSF) Collaborative Investment Platform.

“For regional communities this change has reignited the opportunity of local investing as a supporting source of funds for local growth. ” said RSF co-founder Robert Prestipino in launching the platform in Alice Springs last week as part of the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (**SEGRA**) conference.

Local people have a passion for the future of their local community and for a long time there have been few ways to safely invest in local communities. This has now changed!

To accelerate the development of a customised investment platform for regionally significant projects, Regional Solutions has partnered with Paul Niederer, CEO of the Australian Small Scale Offerings Board (ASSOB), to develop a new regional collaborative investment platform.

ASSOB has been involved in equity crowd funding for Australian entrepreneurs since 2005. Today, over 300 organisations have benefited from raising funds on their platform totalling over \$141 million dollars with 63% of equity investors being local to the businesses they invest in.

“The goal is to encourage collaborative funding of public catalyst projects. These are projects that are seeded by government funds to de-risk communities and assist with the social and economic transformation of regional communities.” said Robert Prestipino.

The RSF Collaborative Investment Platform is a transparent capital raising platform that displays funding partners and the required tipping points to ensure there is partner support so the project can proceed to implementation.

“This allows passionate locals such as Social Entrepreneurs to invest not for high commercial returns but for the long term economic future of their community.”

The RSF Collaborative Investment Platform helps:

- Local investors to invest locally;
- Broaden project investment partners;
- Increase local stakeholder support;
- Delivers catalyst projects stalled by funding shortfalls.

SEGRA 2014 is proudly supported by Desert Knowledge Australia, the Northern Territory Government, Regional Development Australia – Northern Territory, Kimberley, Wheatbelt WA, Midwest Gascoyne, Far North Queensland and Torres Strait, Far North South Australia, Pilbara, Goldfields Esperance, NT Convention Bureau, Alice Springs Town Council and Bendigo Bank.

SEGRA Conference Convenor: Ms Kate Charters - 0408 882 871

Media enquiries about the RSF Collaborative Investment Platform: Robert Prestipino - 0414 550 975