

## SEGRA 2015 – Bathurst, NSW – 20 - 22 October

### SEGRA 2015 Call for Contributions Now Open



The **SEGRA** 2015 Conference, *Leading and Growing Sustainable Regions*, is being hosted by Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, New South Wales from 20 – 22 October.

The Call for Contributions is now open. For further information and to submit your abstract, please visit: [http://www.segra.com.au/segra\\_submit.html](http://www.segra.com.au/segra_submit.html)

Submissions close on **Monday, 15 June 2015**.

View the 2015 Call for Contributions Flyer at:  
<http://www.segra.com.au/PDF/2015/2015cfp-flyer.pdf>

### Mark Your Diaries Now



**SEGRA** 2015 – Leading and Growing Sustainable Regions

#### Action Agendas:

- The regional landscape and environment: maximising opportunities in appropriate management of water, plants, and ecosystems including mining, gas extraction and farming
- Fair Trade Agreements: how will regions be impacted and benefit in the age of emerging economies in Asia, Africa and Latin America. What will be the emerging opportunities for economic and employment growth?

- Regional value-add through investment in advanced industries: making the most of clean technology, renewable technologies and agricultural intensification
- Economic consolidation, resource optimisation, fuel security, social capital, technological take up including NBN; industrial diversity and employment opportunities, regional education and sustaining regionally significant investment and national infrastructure funding
- Engaging with our communities and their history in the context of an aging population, workforce demographic transition, viability and financing of agriculture, embedding lifestyle health, education and business values into sustainable economic outcomes
- Building capacity: key policy trends including multi-level governance and decisions that will raise up leadership and get things done in the regions

## SEGRA Challenge



## Design, Fund and Sustain Regionally Significant Projects

### **Opportunity for Regional Agencies and Development Authorities**

The RSF Business Case Kickstarter is an opportunity for Regional Agencies and Development Authorities to accelerate the development of locally driven Regionally Significant Projects (RSPs) that are well aligned with public and private sector investment opportunities. This targeted and fast tracked series of Business Case development exercises works with local leaders and project advocates to develop the most investable projects that address the region's critical economic development issues.

To find out more, visit: <http://www.regionalsolutions.net.au/bck/>

## Around the Regions

### Free Trade Agreements Benefit Regional Australia – the Cherry Story



Australia's on a high as its quality cherry fruit is reaping rewards with a 30 per cent increase in cherry exports totalling around \$47 million for the 2014/15 season.

Figures just released by the industry have indicated overall nearly 3500 tonnes were exported to protocol and non protocol markets in the 2014/15 season.

Cherries from across Australia were exported over 30 countries with about 90% of these going to Asian countries. Exports volumes were up from Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia this year too with a slight fall from New South Wales.

Cherry Growers Australia (CGA) National President, Andrew Smith said: "Australia has the production potential to more than double its exports from 3500 tonnes to 7000 tonnes within the next five to seven years which could equate to about \$90 to \$100 million in export value. The industry is seeing strong demand coming from across all of Asia, the Middle East and other global markets including getting back into Russia and Vietnam where bans currently exist".

To read more, visit: <http://www.segra.com.au/PDF/IssuesPapers/CherryGrowersMR.200415.pdf>

Simon Boughey will be leading a session on taking advantage of Free Trade Agreements at **SEGRA** 2015.

## SEGRA NSC Members Visit Central West NSW

Peter Waterman and Kate Charters recently drove through Central West NSW to meet with economic development colleagues in Bathurst, Canberra, Wagga Wagga and Albury.

“It was wonderful to travel through the diverse Murray Darling landscapes and visit famous Australian historic sites including Cowra, Lambing Flats and the historic settlement of Carcoar, land of the Wiradjuri Aborigines,” said Peter Waterman.

Once one of the most important government centres in Western NSW, Carcoar is a National Trust classified town with a significant number of intact 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings in bluestone, brick and timber. When Peter and Kate visited the town, it was buzzing with film stars including Sigrid Thornton and Rebecca Gibney shooting the Peter Allan TV biopic.



Image: Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre  
Source: Kate Charters



Image: Carcoar, NSW.  
Source: <http://nswforeveryone.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Carcoar.jpg>

# Workshops

## Geotrails



Image: Govetts Leap, Blue Mountains  
Source: Angus M. Robinson

Geotrails is the key theme of the **SEGRA** 2015 Geotourism workshop.

Geotourism is emerging as a new global phenomenon which is tourism focusing on an area's geology and landscape as the basis for providing visitor engagement, learning and enjoyment. Geotourism can be delivered within a wide range of both protected and non-protected areas, as exemplified overseas particularly within geoparks, and so far in Australia through Australian National Landscapes such as the Greater Blue Mountains including the Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve.

The concept of geotrails has provided an alternative and attractive approach to nurturing regional development by celebrating geotourism, geological and mining heritage (of which the Modern Mining Trail of Central-West NSW and the Hill End Historic site located just north of Bathurst are other outstanding local examples). The **SEGRA** Geotourism workshop will explore the exciting opportunities for geotrail development across Australia. Pre and post conference tours are currently being planned in support of this concept.

## SEGRA 2015

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Deadline for submission of articles and images for the next edition of *SEGRA* Walks to Talk is **Monday, 18 May 2015**

Please send your articles and images to: [info@segra.com.au](mailto:info@segra.com.au)

