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Foreword

The 41st ANZRS AI Annual Conference

Our 41st annual conference was hosted in December 2017 by the Institute for Resilient Regions at the University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba. The theme of the conference was [Fostering Regional Resilience, Engagement and Innovation](#).

ANZRS AI wishes to thank the following sponsors who contributed to the success of this conference:

- The Australian Government Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development through the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics
- The University of Southern Queensland, Australia
- The AERU at Lincoln University, New Zealand
- The Regional Science Association International

We also thank our keynote speakers. Some of our speakers and the topics of their presentations follow.



Professor Robyn Eversole is Deputy Director of the Centre for Social Impact at Swinburne University of Technology. She is the author of *Knowledge Partnering for Community Development* (2015) and *Regional Development in Australia* (2016), both published by Routledge. An anthropologist who studies regional and local development, Robyn is involved in practical development work in Australia, Asia, and Latin America. She is a leader in the Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network (SRARN) that links Regional Research Centres in Australia, Chile and Argentina, and a Board member of the Council on Australia–Latin America Relations.

Professor Eversole was President of ANZRS AI in 2016 and 2017. She was invited to give a Presidential Address to the conference, speaking on the topic of *Regional Research for Impact – A Global View*.

Professor Eversole also joined Professor Rolf Gerritsen and Dr Evelyn Colino in a co-facilitated and collaborative research workshop between ANZRS AI and the Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network (SRARN). SRARN invites regional research centres and other interested researchers to work towards developing forward-looking research collaborations with a focus on developing a shared collaborative research agenda around how universities can support rural, remote and resource-based regions.

Dr Evelyn Colino from National University of Rio Negro, Argentina presented on *Intermediate Cities, Tourism Destinations and Resilience: The Case of Bariloche, Argentina*

Dr Evelyn Colino is Director of CIETES (Interdisciplinary Centre for Studies on Territory, Economy and Society) at the National University of Rio Negro, Argentina. She is a CONICET Fellow (Fellow of the National Research Council of Argentina). She previously worked with the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. CIETES is a Regional Research Centre that focuses on problems of local and regional development in the Northern Patagonia region. Recent projects include “The social and solidarity economy as a catalyst for territorial development: An empirical analysis of San Carlos de Bariloche”.



Evelyn is a leader in the Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network (SRARN) that links Regional Research Centres in Australia, Chile and Argentina.



Associate Professor Budy Resosudarmo is President of the Regional Science Association International and a member of the Crawford School of Public Policy at Australian National University, Canberra. He presented on *Lagging Regions in Asia and the Pacific: How Regional Science Can Contribute to Address the Issue*

He is an economist working on the economy-wide impact of economic and environmental policies on household incomes, analysing the impact of fiscal decentralization policies on local economies, and investigating the political economy of natural resource utilisation.

Dr Manuel Palazuelos Martínez is the Project Leader for the S3 Platform, which assists EU countries and regions to develop, implement and review their research and innovation strategies for Smart Specialisation. The Platform is hosted by the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (IPTS) in Seville, part of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre.

Manuel Palazuelos presented on *Smart Specialisation Policies in the European Union*





John Rolfe is Professor of Regional Economic Development at CQ University at Rockhampton. He is a resource economist, and has extensive experience with environmental, resource and development issues across Queensland and Australia. John has led more than 40 major research projects over the last ten years and is the past Editor-in-Chief for the *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*. He is involved in a number of technical and policy committees, and is currently the Independent Chair of the Science Panel for the Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership. Professor John Rolfe presented on *Factors Affecting Workforce Mobility in Regional Australia*.



**REGIONAL
AUSTRALIA
INSTITUTE**

**DELIVERING RESEARCH IMPACT FOR
POLICY CHANGE: WORKING IN AND FOR
REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

This workshop aimed at helping researchers increase their skills on how to design and deliver research for impact – which is now an important personal as well as institutional driver for success. The Regional Australia Institute (RAI) has recently been investigating and sharing insights on how to deliver research impact to policy makers. These insights have been framed for enhancing researcher impact, leading to policy change.

This participatory workshop challenged participants to think about how and why they can deliver real research impact that leads to policy change at local, state, and national levels. It addressed three key themes: (1) What impact do you want to have? (2) How can you deliver impact through the research process? (3) Sharing what works and why. The workshop leader, Dr Leonie Pearson (Research Leader at RAI), worked with an experienced panel of academics who have delivered real world policy change.

THE NSW REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND ITS DEVELOPMENT

The New South Wales Department of Industry (now within the Department of Premier), based in Orange, has responsibility for developing and conducting research on regional economic development in NSW to underpin the government's program for regional development. This has included developing a framework that is being used for consultants to work with a selection of regions to undertake an economic development strategy, using a common methodology.

RSAI and ANZRSAI Distinguished Fellow, Robert Stimson, has been an Expert Advisor for this process. He and representatives from the group in Premier and Cabinet made presentations on the NSW regional economic development program and its development. This included papers on the Regional Enablers Report that has been undertaken, the framework for and undertaking of the REDS case studies, and discussion of the way forward.

TECHNOLOGY, DISRUPTION, AND REGIONAL FUTURES



This session aimed to set an agenda for regional research and policy during rapid technological change the pace of which, over the next thirty years, may exceed that of the past three hundred. Digital technologies are becoming ubiquitous, bringing opportunities for connectivity across geographical space, automation and artificial intelligence, reshaping the nature of work and everyday life. What might it be like living in nonmetropolitan regions 15-20 years from now?

The panelists Tony Sorensen, Rolf Gerritsen, Neil Argent and Evelyn Colino, appraised future economic and social landscapes in regional Australia, focusing on winners and losers; changes in cultures, lifestyles, work, employment, and industries, and suggesting how regional leadership and all tiers of government can be proactive in embracing opportunities and managing threats.

Commentary

Ministers for Regional Development

In the Australian Commonwealth Parliament

“John McVeigh (BBus, MBA, PhD) has been appointed Minister for Regional Development in the Commonwealth Parliament.

“John McVeigh was declared as the Federal Member for Groom on 22 July, 2016.

“He was sworn in as the Minister for Regional Development, Territories and Local Government on December 20, 2017.

“Before his elevation to Cabinet he was a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade; the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit; and the Standing Committees on Industry, Innovation Science and Resources; and Agriculture and Water Resources.

“John also chaired the Coalition’s Policy Committee for Industry, Innovation, Science and Northern Australia and was the chair of the Federal Government’s Select Committee on Regional Development and Decentralisation.

“John was the Member for Toowoomba South in the Queensland Parliament (2012 – 2016) during which time he served as the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and as a member of the four-minister Cabinet Budget Review Committee.

“He was also the Shadow Minister for Science, Information Technology and Innovation.

“He was previously a Councillor on the Toowoomba Regional Council from 2008 to 2012 where he held the Corporate Services Portfolio and Chaired the Audit Committee.

“John spent his early childhood on a Darling Downs grain farm starting school at Jondaryan State School and completing his schooling at St. Joseph’s and finally Downlands College in Toowoomba.

“John has a Bachelor of Business (Marketing & Economics) (University of Southern Queensland), Master of Business Administration (Bond University) and a PhD in Agribusiness Management (University of Queensland).

“His commercial career prior to politics included administrative, marketing and management positions with the Bank of Queensland, Elders Pastoral, Cargill Australia, Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries Research And Development Corporation and the International Food Institute of QLD.

“In 1996, John established a management consulting practice based in Toowoomba and went on to manage projects covering aquaculture, beef, cotton, dairy, grains, horticulture, timber, wool and food processing throughout Australia and New Zealand and in America, Brazil, China, Europe and South Africa.

“John is proud to live with his wife, Anita, and six children in Toowoomba and is passionate about the role that regional Queensland will play in the future of our nation.

“Mr McViegh said his [previous] role as a minister for the Newman government not only covered the regional industries of agriculture, fisheries and forestry but he also sat on some COAG committee with other states, territory and federal ministers, including the Northern Australian Ministerial Forum.

"So I have had a lot of experience working with other states, particularly across the Northern Territory and Western Australia in collaboration with Queensland so [I have] a good background in reaching out beyond the state boundaries in that role," he said.

"In the last six months or so I've chaired the parliamentary selection committee for regional development and decentralisation and through that role have been to every state and territory in the country in recent months so have had a little bit of a head start there as well."

“Mr McViegh said he was thrilled to be able to join with the likes of Peter Dutton and Steven Ciobo from Queensland in the cabinet.”

In the New Zealand Parliament

“Shane Jones is a List MP based in Kerikeri. He was Ambassador for Pacific Economic Development, with a particular focus on fisheries, agriculture and tourism, given the significance of these resources to enhancing economic development in the region.

[A list MP is a Member of Parliament (MP) who is elected from a party list rather than from a geographical constituency. Their presence in Parliament is due to the number of votes that their party won, not to votes received by the MP personally. Editor]

“Mr Jones was a Member of Parliament from 2005 - 2014. During his nine years in Parliament, Mr Jones held positions that included Minister of Building and Construction, Associate Minister of Immigration, Associate Minister of Trade, Associate Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations, and Chair of the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee.

“Mr Jones has a long history of involvement in the fisheries sector and New Zealand’s Māori fisheries settlement. Mr Jones was Chair of Te Ohu Kaimoana (the Māori Fisheries Commission); Chairperson of Sealord Products Limited, and has held a number of senior positions more broadly in the public and private sector.

“Shane Jones was born in Awanui, Northland, New Zealand. His Maori tribal links are to Te Aupouri, Ngai Takoto. He has a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) from Harvard University earned on a Harkness Fellowship.

“A recent initiative is the new \$1 billion per annum Provincial Growth Fund which was officially launched in Gisborne by Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones.

“...Nearly half of us live outside our main cities. If this country is to do well, then our provinces must thrive.

“Our first regional packages support ...Northland, Tairāwhiti-East Coast, Hawke’s Bay and Manawatū-Whanganui and the West Coast of the South Island.

“We are providing an immediate boost to these areas by investing \$61.7 million into forestry initiatives, tourism ventures, rail and roading projects, and supporting these regions develop their proposals further to help them get off the ground.

“The first of many projects the PGF will support will create more than 700 direct jobs, and 80 indirect jobs – an impressive start to what will be an exciting three years for our provinces.

“If all the projects we’re funding realise their full potential, this will equate to more than \$344 million of public and private investment for our regional economies.”

“The PGF aims to enhance economic development opportunities, create sustainable jobs, contribute to community well-being, lift the productivity potential of regions, and help meet New Zealand’s climate change targets.

“The \$3 billion will be fully committed over three years, making investment in the provinces more attractive for private sector investment, which has strongly favoured our main urban centres in recent years.

“All regions are eligible for funding.

“An Independent Advisory Panel has been appointed to assist the decision-making of ministers and officials, supported by a new Regional Economic Development Unit within the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment to work directly with regions, ensuring this isn’t a Wellington-driven Fund.

“Our provinces are full of ideas and proposals. I have been heartened by the aspirations of so many businesses and investors, local councils, iwi, and community groups and I’m pleased to say that we now have a mechanism to see these realised.”

Ed.: The contrast between regional development ministers in Australia and in New Zealand suggests that there are lessons to be learned from mutual discussion. Perhaps the New Zealand idea of a list MP might provide way to engage indigenous communities in government.

From the Regional Australia Institute

Australian small towns and access to services

1.8 million people live in small towns across Australia, and according to the latest Census data, this number is growing.

This week we released our latest work reviewing how we as a nation have fared providing essential service professionals to those living in small towns. While the story being told isn't new, it is the first time this topic has been analysed to this extent by researchers in Australia.

The report [*Pillars of Communities: Service Delivery in Small Australian Towns*](#) and the supporting [*Small Towns Report Card*](#) track the number of police, teachers, doctors, nurses, paramedics, dentists, psychologists and social workers in towns with 5,000 people or less over a 30 year period.

The report found many people in Australia's small towns are unable to access the basic services mentioned above and improvements need to be made to boost health and education outcomes in these areas.

We suggest supporting community initiatives, greater role flexibility, increased delivery of online services and more targeted funding could help improve the current situation and get things back on track.

This new work raises a number of challenging questions for professions, communities and policy makers which we aim to explore in more detail in 2018. For now, it is a great conversation starter and we look forward to your thoughts and comments. To stay tuned, follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) for the latest updates and information.

From Gippy Chat

Research collaboration opportunities open

Farming Together has collaboration opportunities for researchers with an interest in applied agricultural research and related fields. To register interest, submit details [here](#)

Ed: ANZRS AI members seeking to collaborate in research may find an opportunity here.

From the Regional Universities Network (RUN)

MEDIA RELEASE 15 January 2018

Funding freeze will damage important progress in building Regional Australia

Seven regional universities have slammed the Federal Government's decision to freeze their funding because important advances in living and education standards for Regional Australia will be dismantled.

Although regional communities were on the brink of benefitting from new education and work opportunities, many new initiatives will be put on hold as a result of the decision to freeze funding for Commonwealth Grant Scheme places for two years.

"Regional universities hold the key to unlocking a new future for regional Australians, helping create new businesses and a re-skilled workforce – but those initiatives have suddenly and unfairly been put on hold by the Federal Government funding freeze," Professor Greg Hill, the Chair of RUN said.

"The Federal Government's policy change has pulled the plug on a raft of new opportunities which will hit regional communities hard."

The Vice-Chancellors of seven regional universities – the six member universities of the Regional Universities Network (RUN) and Charles Sturt University – met to analyse the impact of the proposed changes on their universities and communities.

Examples of initiatives under threat include:

- Changes to funding have put Charles Sturt University's plans for a \$45 million expansion of vital health courses in Port Macquarie in jeopardy. The campus in Port Macquarie has delivered significant economic benefits to the region as well as providing students with vital opportunities to become job ready. The Federal Government's cuts means that the future growth and expansion of Port Macquarie will be put at risk.
- USQ has a new campus at Ipswich in South East Queensland concentrating on health sciences, in one of Australia's most rapid population growth areas, with some programs still in development. Future growth to meet the needs of the community will be jeopardised by the freeze.
- A new \$12m allied health sciences facility in Coffs Harbour to offer new programs in areas of community need such as Mental Health, Nursing and Midwifery, Paramedic Nursing, Indigenous Health and Exercise Science is under threat. While the government has provided funding to construct the facility – which is due to start imminently – Southern Cross University will not be funded to enrol any students into the new courses.
- Student fees will not cover the cost of student nurse hospital placements, so even if the communities that CQUniversity serve need nurses, the University won't be able to train them. This will therefore impact nursing courses across the University footprint.
- USC will not be able to recoup the significant investments already made in campus initiatives at Hervey Bay, Caboolture and the Sunshine Coast University Hospital and the well advanced partnership, with the government, for a major (\$200 million+ for Stage 1) campus development at Petrie, in partnership with Moreton Bay Regional Council.
- In 2016, UNE completed infrastructure upgrades in Armidale and Tamworth for teaching and research in agriculture and science. UNE has invested significantly in ensuring a strong future for the agribusiness sector, only to be undercut by lack of support and understanding of the significance of the funding freeze on regional universities.
- In 2017 Federation University Australia began operating at a new campus in Berwick, an area of growing student-age population and significant unmet demand for Higher Education. The funding freeze puts in jeopardy the ability of FedUni to meet this demand and creates a negative economic impact as industry and public services in this rapidly expanding outer metropolitan area East of Melbourne will not receive the necessary supply of quality graduates.

"We've all made very substantial financial investments in the initiatives in which we will be left high and dry. Our business models, entered into in good faith, and in most instances with government blessing and co-investment, mean we can only remain financially viable if we have growth in student numbers to cover outlays already made," Professor Hill said.

"These initiatives have been under development, in most cases, for years so the government should be fully aware of the outcomes of universities not being able to meet their commitments to their communities, to business, as well as the more direct threat to the financial viability of the institutions themselves."

“This policy is likely to see some regional campuses close and will terminate many initiatives which have been cross-subsidised by universities to build capacity in regional communities,” Professor Hill said.

“The Federal Government’s policy is slamming the door on the future of thousands of regional Australians. Meanwhile regional universities are all concerned that they are being pressured to sign new, inadequate funding agreements within the next week.

“This policy is a blunt instrument which will have a vast and disproportionate impact on regional Australia – and we are calling for a re-evaluation of this policy as quickly as possible.”

Contact: Professor Greg Hill

Ph: 07 5430 1101

Chair, Regional Universities Network,

Find out more about the Regional Universities Network at www.run.edu.au Follow us

on: Twitter: @RegUniNet Facebook:

www.facebook.com/RegionalUniversitiesNetwork

Issued by: Diana Streak, RUN Media Adviser, 0422 536 064

THE CONVERSATION

Australia is missing the Closing the Gap employment target by decades

Feb 13, 2018

Zoe Staines

Research Consultant; Research Assistant, Queensland University of Technology

Australia is missing its target to halve the unemployment gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australia by several decades, according to the latest Closing the Gap report.

The report also highlights many other problems with current Closing the Gap targets. For instance, the unemployment target misses other aspects of economic life, such as income. The targets need to be rethought so that they address economic well-being and more closely guide strategy and policies on the ground.

<https://theconversation.com/australia-is-missing-the-closing-the-gap-employment-target-by-decades-91648>

<https://closingthegap.pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/ctg-report-2018.pdf?a=1>

From the Cockatoo Network

By courtesy of Rod Brown

The Shoalhaven region in NSW – opportunities in wine and dairy

The region has a mix of manufacturing, services, retail and lifestyle, with a population of almost 100,000. Nowra (pop. 35,000) is the focal point.

Shoalhaven oyster growers are increasingly active in export markets. And the NSW Government's recent approval of a large lease (50 ha) for a mussel farming operation in Jervis Bay is noteworthy. This is long-awaited development, and is expected to open up export opportunities with Asia.

Wine

The region is not widely known for its wineries, and there are only a dozen or so. But they are quality operations. Below is a sample.

Crooked River Winery is an example of a recently established winery. It dates only from 1998 as a family owned and operated winery. It is based at Gerringong where rich volcanic alluvial soils are found. The commercial winery consists of 280,000 litres of stainless steel fermentation and storage tanks and 70,000 litres of oak barrels. The winery has won multiple awards for its premium red and white wines, and is the largest vineyard on the South Coast - 125,000 bottles per year.

Silos Estate Winery can be traced back to 1870. It produces a range of premium wines that emphasises the unique characteristics of the Shoalhaven region viz. local maritime Shoalhaven climate with cool, moderate sea breezes during the ripening period. There are 12 acres of vineyard - seven varieties of grapes - Chardonnay, Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc, Shiraz, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. The company produces champagne, which retails at \$20-30 per bottle. The company matches this with oysters in its restaurant, but not on a regular basis.

Coolangatta Winery was established in 1822, and is the site of the first European settlement on the South Coast. It is located on the foothills of Mt. Coolangatta, two hours south of Sydney. It offer tastings of its estate-grown wines from the cellar door as well as accommodation in convict-built cottages. Tourists can take a stroll through historic grounds, and enjoy the view and fresh local produce.

There are about a dozen wineries in the region, and they could collectively build a sizeable food-wine tourist trail. The particular opportunity is to further develop the region as front-of-mind gourmet food and wine weekend destination for residents of Sydney and Canberra, as well as interstate and international tourists. The Barossa and Yarra Valley might be seen as models.

The region is also undergoing a population growth spurt, which will also should boost local demand for local food and wines.

Dairy

The South Coast Dairy at Berry is an example of a boutique producer of quality milk, cream and yoghurt. It is a division of the Berry Cooperative Society and gets supplies from seven farmers. It has recently established a new plant.

Unicorn Cheese in Nowra is another go-ahead company. Its brand began in 1977 when Frenchman Gilbert Pesenti established Piam Pty. Ltd as a small cheese factory in Yagoona, NSW. In 1980 the business was moved to the current site in the Flinders Estate, Nowra. The company won the 2016 Dairy Industry Association of Australia's (DIAA) best cheese and the most outstanding show exhibit awards, specifically for 'the Emporium Selection Washed Rind', a cheese made for ALDI.

South Coast and Highlands Dairy Group

This is a potentially important organisation. The DIG (South Coast and Highlands Dairy Industry Group) was formed in 1991 to:

- Improve the lifestyle and profitability of dairy farmers by promoting and coordinating action on relevant industry issues.
- Foster industry cooperation between milk producers, processors, regulators, advisors and researchers.
- Maintain, encourage and develop dairy industry research and effective communication of results.

The original group consisted mostly of representative farmers from each of the Dairy Farmer Association sub-branches in the district, together with representatives from NSW Agriculture, NSW Dairy Corporation and Australian Cooperative Foods.

The DIG membership was enlarged by additional representation from the Dairy Women's Group, Future Dairy Leaders Group and local farmer regional discussion groups to reflect DIG's changing role as a Regional Development Group with links in strategic direction and funding from Dairy NSW.

DIG's boundaries are delineated by the boundaries of the five local Councils: Wollongong, Shellharbour, Kiama, Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee.

John Dunn of the NSW Farmers Federation, based at St. Leonards in Sydney (0411 833 559 dunnj@nswfarmers.org.au) is keen to test the potential to develop dairy product and meat exports by getting the farmers engaged in collaborative development agendas.

The process of farmer engagement in collaborative agendas (as above) would seem to depend heavily on identifying 'champions' among the farmers and local ancillary businesses such as abattoirs, transport companies, restaurants etc. There is also a need to get the NSW Department of Agriculture on-side so that funding for a facilitator can be accessed.

Cluster agendas – the smart way forward

Arguably the best way forward for companies wanting to push the envelope in the Shoalhaven wine and dairy industries would be to learn from overseas cluster experts who are further down the track.

In this regard, we met with Andrew Martin of the Welsh Food Cluster in June 2017 to discuss the possibility of collaborative activities between Welsh and Australian food and beverage networks i.e. for companies to pick up ideas, marketing techniques and leads, commercial opportunities from each other. Andrew is an impressive chap and has a wealth of knowledge and a range of contacts. He would be an ideal speaker at farmer gatherings around Shoalhaven and indeed across Australia if funding can be arranged.

Such a visit might also involve Ifor Ffowcs-Williams (Welshman based in NZ), who tours the world educating businesses and governments on the benefits of clustering concepts, how to facilitate business collaboration, and how to make contact with like clusters and networks in other countries.

Prepared by the Cockatoo Network, Canberra. Please contact us to collaborate in this region via apdcockatoo@iprimus.com.au OR phone 0412 922559.

Forwarded by Rod Brown

From the Productivity Commission

Inquiry into the reform of Australia's water resources sector

Background

State and Territory governments are primarily responsible for the management of water resources within their jurisdictions. The Commonwealth has played a role in funding the acceleration of reform, leadership and coordination, and management of some transboundary resources where agreed by relevant jurisdictions.

While Australia's water resources are generally regarded as well managed, our need to do so is also greater than most countries. There is scope to further improve the water sectors' effectiveness and efficiency, including through consistent and coordinated regulatory and management arrangements that are aligned with the NWI.

Reform of the water sector has been ongoing over several decades, reflecting the fundamental importance of water to our economy and the significant challenges involved in managing a shared natural resource often impacted by periods of scarcity. A national approach to water reform started in 1994 through the landmark COAG water reform framework and has continued through subsequent initiatives such as the NWI (2004), the Water Act 2007 (Cwth) and the Murray-Darling Basin Plan (November 2012).

The Inquiry into the reform of Australia's water resources sector will also fulfil the statutory requirement for the first of the Productivity Commission's triennial assessments of progress towards achieving the objectives and outcomes of the NWI required by section 88 of the Water Act 2007 and should be read in conjunction with that Act. The findings and outcomes of the 2014 Triennial Review of the NWI undertaken by the National Water Commission are also relevant to the Inquiry.

Under the Water Act 2007, the Productivity Commission is also responsible for five-yearly inquiries into the effectiveness of the implementation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and the associated Basin state water resource plans, with the first inquiry to be completed by 31 December 2018.

Scope of the inquiry

The Inquiry should assess progress towards achieving the objectives and outcomes of the NWI. The Commission should draw on published reports, available data sources and information requested from NWI parties. As the NWI was agreed in 2004, the scope of the Inquiry is broader than that explicitly required by legislation. The Inquiry should also examine whether the water reforms agreed in the NWI, along with any other subsequent reforms adopted by COAG, are achieving their intended outcomes.

In undertaking the Inquiry, the Commission should assess:

- progress in jurisdictional adoption of NWI principles
- the outcomes to date of the NWI and related water reform efforts, taking account of other drivers of reform
- progress against the recommendations in the National Water Commission's National Reform Assessment 2014, and
- the extent to which the NWI reforms are adequate to support government responses to emerging or changing water management challenges, including in the urban sector.

The Commission should also consider:

- the potential and realised benefits of NWI implementation
- the scope for improving the NWI, addressing current and future challenges
- broader water policy issues and the role of the NWI in improving outcomes, in particular:
- the interaction of water policy with other policy areas such as energy, agriculture, planning, urban supply
- whole-of-cycle water management
- provision to regional, rural and remote communities, and
- the economically efficient provision of water infrastructure.

The Commission should avoid any duplication between this Inquiry and the subsequent Inquiry into the effectiveness of the implementation of the Basin Plan and the state and territory water resource plans.

The Commission should make recommendations on actions that the parties to the NWI might take to better achieve the NWI objectives and outcomes, and recommendations for future reform priorities.

The prioritisation of areas for future reform efforts should reflect the Commission's view as to those areas where continued efforts are required to improve economic, social and environmental outcomes, maintain the gains achieved to date, or where improved outcomes will be delivered from further development of water resources. In doing so, the Commission may consider the effectiveness of water reforms adopted by COAG subsequent to the NWI, such as the 2008 Work Programme on Water and the 2012 Next Steps in National Water Reform: Preparation for the Future .

The inquiry will assess progress in achieving the objectives and outcomes of the National Water Initiative (NWI) and the need for any future reform.

[Ed.](#) Given the suspected upstream diversion of water from the Murray Darling, publication of this report may be controversial.

CONFERENCES and STUDY OPPORTUNITIES



It is our pleasure to announce the 25th APDR Congress, to be held at the Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal, from July 5 to July 6, 2018.

Theme of the Conference: *Circular Economy, Urban Metabolism and Regional Development: Challenges for a Sustainable Future*

Themes of specific interest are:

- ☐ RS01 - Conceptualisation and models in regional development
- ☐ RS02 - Territorial development policies for circularity
- ☐ RS03 - Strategies of Circular Economy
- ☐ RS04 - Technological innovation, new products and business models
- ☐ RS05 - Regional innovation, clusters and ecosystems
- ☐ RS06 - Reverse cycles and innovation in logistics
- ☐ RS07 - Sectoral policies and circularity
- ☐ RS08 - Circular Economy and labour markets
- ☐ RS09 - Circular Economy and promotion of territories
- ☐ RS10 - Management of urban and peri-urban metabolism
- ☐ RS11 - Energy production and consumption for a sustainable future
- ☐ RS12 - Urban regeneration, real estate markets and Circular Economy
- ☐ RS13 - Cities and spatial planning in the Circular Economy
- ☐ RS14 - Management of resources and natural systems
- ☐ RS15 - Conserve and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources
- ☐ RS16 - Production, consumption and food waste in the context of the Circular Economy
- ☐ RS17 - Circular Economy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Special Sessions already accepted!

SS01 - BIM Technology in Resource Optimization Alcínia Zita Sampaio (Chair)

SS02 - Waterfront Redevelopment Processes: New Issues and Challenges André Fernandes (Chair), João Figueira de Sousa, João Pedro Costa and Bruno Neves

SS03 - Understanding Decision Making Processes in Wicked Problems: Conflicts and Collaboration in Urban Areas of Illegal Genesis Sara Encarnação (Chair) and Margarida Pereira

Deadline for Special Session proposals: March 31th, 2018. Proposals should be sent by to the secretariat of the Congress (apdr@apdr.pt).

Deadline for Abstracts submissions: May 6th, 2018. Abstracts should be submitted electronically, using the platform available on the Conference website: <https://events.digitalpapers.org/apdr2018/>

All information at the congress website: <http://www.apdr.pt/congresso/2018/>

Looking forward to meeting you in Lisbon!



The Organizing Committee and the Board of APDR
25th APDR Congress

The 14th IRSA International Conference.

Welcome to the 14th Indonesian Regional Science Association (IRSA)
International Conference.

This annual conference will be held on 23-24 July 2018 in Surakarta, Central Java, and is hosted by the Faculty of Economics and Business, Sebelas Maret University in collaboration with IRSA. Sebelas Maret University is an Indonesian public university that plays an important role in promoting research and education in Indonesia. The theme of this year's IRSA conference is Strengthening Regional and Local Economies.

The Conference

This conference is IRSA's main annual event that promotes the advancement of research across the country. The conference will facilitate open discussions and debates, transfer of knowledge, strategies for policy formulation, and networking amongst scholars and policymakers. Each year since its establishment, the IRSA annual conference has been attended by a large number of academics and policymakers from numerous Indonesian institutions. IRSA has also created a large network of academics and policymakers who are concerned with issues of regional development. This network has now reached a critical mass that can play a major role not only in the academic arena through research and publications but also contribute to the evidence-based regional development policies nationally, regionally, and locally.

The Location

Surakarta or popularly known as Solo is located at a strategic point that connects Semarang to Yogyakarta, and Surabaya to Yogyakarta. Located in a strategic position, Solo becomes an important business centre for the surrounding districts. Solo is recognized as a traditional Javanese city that preserves local traditional values and culture. Moreover, Solo is well-known as the city of culture and the capital of batik. With the slogan "Solo, the spirit of Java", the city is determined to maintain, preserve and develop local culture. Finally, Solo is the main centre of services industry particularly trading in Central Java that has worked collaboratively with the surrounding districts. The main trading centres are Pasar Klewer, the main textiles and batik trading centers and Laweyan Batik Village.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Indonesian Regional Science Association (IRSA) in collaboration with Sebelas Maret University invite scholars, practitioners, and students to submit papers to be presented in the 14th IRSA International Conference. The theme of the conference is Strengthening Regional and Local Economy, and it will be held in Surakarta – also known as Solo, Central Java on 23-24 July 2018.

Potential topics to be discussed in the conference include, but not limited to

- Local business (including MSMEs) development and competitiveness,
- Improving the effectiveness of regional growth centres,
- Local government innovation, governance and business climate,
- Green growth framework for local development,

- Regional standard minimum services across Indonesia,
- Local infrastructure, basic utilities and city management,
- The role of village funds in developing physical and social infrastructure to enhance rural and periphery economy,
- Local government budget and its impact on economy growth, human capital development, poverty alleviation and inequality,
- Income inequalities and regional disparities,
- Decentralization and sustainability,
- Trade and regional development,
- Macro and financial policies and local development.

Extended paper abstract of about 250-500 words should be submitted online via <http://www.conftool.com/irsa2018> by 1 April 2018.

Abstract should consist of background, data and methodology, potential contributions, and keywords. Abstracts must be submitted in English, as also the full paper.

Paper sessions are seminar-style for each paper and ample time for discussion and for participants to provide constructive feedback to authors. Paper presentations will be in English.

Apr 1st, 2018 : Abstract Submission Deadline	Jun 23rd, 2018 : Full Paper Submission Deadline
May 1st, 2018 : Early Bird Registration Open	Jun 25th, 2018 : Paper Presenter Registration Deadline
May 1st, 2018 : Notification of Abstract Acceptance	Jul 13th, 2018 : Non Presenter Registration Deadline
Jun 1st, 2018 : Early Bird Registration End	Jul 21-22nd, 2018 : Pre-conference Training

<http://surakarta2018.irsa.or.id/>



12th World Congress of the RSAI

The Regional Science Association International (RSAI) and the Regional Science Association of India invite regional scientists, economists, economic geographers, urban planners, policy makers, and researchers of related disciplines to participate in the 12th World Congress of the Regional Science Association International, with the main theme "*Spatial Systems: Social Integration, Regional Development and Sustainability*". The Congress will be hosted by the Regional Science Association of India.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 11, 2018 - Pre-Registration Due - **NEW Deadline**

April 27, 2018 - Presenters Must Register

April 27, 2018 - Advance Registration Due

May 1, 2018 - Deadline for Submission of Papers

May 29 to June 1, 2018 - Congress dates

<http://regionalscience.org/2018worldcongress/>

CURRENT RESEARCH ABSTRACTS

Regional Science Policy and Practice

9(4) November 2017

Pages 231-249

Enrico Giovannetti and Francesco Pagliacci

Natural disasters as stress-tests for housing systems. Vulnerability and local resistance to the 2012 earthquake in Italy.

Abstract: Earthquakes often occur in Italy: for built-up areas, they represent exogenous stress tests, acting as catalysts for long-term socio-economic processes and testing local resilience and resistance. This work considers damages to residential buildings after the 2012 earthquake in Emilia, at census tract level. First, cluster analysis points out which are the most vulnerable census tracts in the affected area, according to their socio-economic characteristics; second, quantitative data about reconstruction (released as open data) are adopted to compute a sensitivity index. It emerges that clusters with poorer socio-economic and building conditions have been damaged more than others. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12110

Pages 251-268

Dieter von Fintel and Eldridge Moses

Migration and gender in South Africa: Following bright lights and the fortunes of others?

Abstract: Internal migration in South Africa has a strong gender dimension. Historically, the apartheid-era migrant labour system meant that predominantly black African men moved to urban areas without their families. After the abolition of influx controls in 1986, many women relocated, presumably to join their male partners. The period of migration feminization was also coupled with labour market feminization. However, existing research shows that increased female labour

supply was poorly matched by labour market absorption, leading to rising unemployment among black African women. This paper studies incentives for female migration in this context, by building a gravity model of male and female inter-municipal migration. We find that neither men nor women move primarily for family reasons. Instead, they follow the traditional male migrant route to well-lit economic centres. Women also do not migrate primarily for increases in their own labour market opportunities, but tend to flock to regions where other fortunate groups have higher earnings potential. While this might signal that migrants base relocation decisions on incorrect information (and could in turn explain why many migrants have unfulfilled expectations), our results also show that women not only move for work, but for public services. The implications are twofold if migration is to alleviate poverty in the long run: first, in the short run, management of public resources must improve, as poor (women) place large emphasis on their effect; and second, labour market barriers – especially into the informal sector – should be better understood. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12106

Pages 269-284

Werner Ruch and Hermanus Stephanus Geyer Jr

Public capital investment, economic growth and poverty reduction in South African Municipalities

Abstract: This study examines the relationship between public-sector capital investment, economic growth and poverty reduction at a municipal level in South Africa between 2001 and 2011. While much progress has occurred since 1994, poverty and inequality remain key developmental challenges for the state. Despite tremendous spending in capital investment programmes over the last decade, it is unclear how much this investment has contributed to the improvement in the living conditions and poverty status of households. Panel regression was used to analyse this relationship and the

results support the hypothesis that there is a strong and positive relationship between economic growth and poverty reduction. The study's findings indicate that economic growth plays a significant role in reducing poverty; a 1 per cent increase in GVA correlates to between a 1.2 per cent and 1.5 per cent decrease in poverty levels. However, the results indicated relatively large increases in capital investments only result in small poverty reductions. Thus, this study raises doubt about the use of capital investment as a tool towards achieving poverty reduction targets as set by the South African government. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12104

Pages 285-300

João Reis and Ana Rodrigues

Agricultural land-use change and its drivers in Terceira Island, Portugal (2008–2013)

Abstract: This work aims at analysing how compensatory direct payments regimes to farmers influence land-use patterns and changes on agricultural landscape. For this purpose a case-study examines land-use changes in Terceira Island (Azores, Portugal) for the period of 2008–2013. It is specifically focused on the land-use changes associated to maize for silage annually declared on the detailed land parcels by farmers which apply for direct payments under the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). A total increase of 28 per cent is reported on arable crops area (mostly maize silage) for the period. This process should be related not only to the agricultural coupled support policy for arable crops but also to the relative prices of farm products and raw materials for animal feed. The access facilities to the land parcels appear to be another major farm-related factor at local context. A logistic regression analysis is performed at the land parcel level and the occurrence of the agricultural land-use 'maize for silage' is explained by a set of explanatory variables. The independent variables comprise biophysical factors and socio-economic factors. Results indicate biophysical factors

(average annual temperature, annual accumulated precipitation, slope and soil agricultural use capability), accessibility, farm typology, previous land-use, arable crops aid, milk price and bovine meat price as key factors for maize silage land-use occupancy on Terceira Island. These conclusions seem valuable for decision-making on the implementation of coupled support schemes under agricultural policies and their impacts on spatial arrangements in land-use dynamics and landscape change. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12101

Pages 301-315

Manuel Gómez-Zaldívar, Marco T. Mosqueda and J. Alejandra Duran

Localization of manufacturing industries and specialization in Mexican states: 1993–2013

Abstract: We document how the localization of production in Mexico's range of manufacturing subsectors and the specialization of its states have evolved as a result of the process of trade opening. We use the global estimate methodology to calculate the extent to which all industries are localized or all regions specialized. The results show that: (i) since 1993, there has been an increase in global localization and specialization in manufacturing production; (ii) transportation equipment, chemicals, and food products account for the greatest share of the overall increase in localization during this period; and (iii) those states closest to the US contributed most to the overall increase in specialization. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12111

Papers in Regional Science

97(1) March 2018

Special Issue: The trade, geography and regional implications of Brexit

Philip McCann, Editor.

Pages 9-24

Swat Dhingra, Gianmarco Ottaviano, Veronica Rappoport, Thomas Sampson, Catherine Thomas

UK trade and FDI: A post-Brexit perspective

Abstract: Leaving the EU will reshape the UK's economic relations with the rest of the world. This paper summarizes the findings of recent research studying the UK's role in the global economy, and the consequences of Brexit for UK trade, investment, and living standards. We emphasize that international integration affects investment and labour flows as well as trade in goods and services. There are important interdependencies between different forms of integration that should be accounted for when evaluating policy changes. Brexit is likely to make the UK poorer by reducing trade and investment flows, but the magnitude of the economic decline will depend upon the nature of the UK's post-Brexit economic relations with the EU and the rest of the world. We conclude by considering options for UK-EU relations after Brexit and how the UK should approach future trade negotiations. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12345

Pages 25-54

Wen Chen, Bart Los, Philip McCann, Raquel Ortega-Argilés, Mark Thissen and Frank van Oort

The continental divide? Economic exposure to Brexit in regions and countries on both sides of The Channel

Abstract: In this paper we employ an extension of the World Input-Output Database (WIOD) with regional detail for EU countries to study the degree to which EU regions and countries are exposed to negative trade-related

consequences of Brexit. We develop an index of this exposure, which incorporates all effects due to geographically fragmented production processes within the UK, the EU and beyond. Our findings demonstrate that UK regions are far more exposed than regions in other countries. Only regions in the Republic of Ireland face exposure levels similar to some UK regions, while the next most affected regions are in Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and France. This imbalance may influence the outcomes of the negotiations between the UK and the EU. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12334

Pages 55-72

Steven Brakman, Harry Garretsen and Tristan Kohl

Consequences of Brexit and options for a 'Global Britain'

Abstract: The United Kingdom has opted to leave the European Union. The consequences of Brexit on international trade are large and negative. While the UK aims for new, ambitious trade agreements after Brexit, it is not explicit about the type of agreements it envisions or with whom specifically. This paper considers the UK's options. We confirm Brexit's substantial, negative trade effects for the UK, EU, and major countries around the world. After reviewing all potential options, our answer to the question whether the UK has an alternative for the existing agreement with the EU is: No. Paradoxically, only a trade agreement with the EU can compensate for Brexit's trade losses. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12343

Pages 73-90

Roberta Capello, Andrea Caragliu and Ugo Fratesi

The regional costs of market size losses in a EU dismembering process

Abstract: The paper measures regional GDP growth losses that a smaller market size

caused by the reintroduction of legal and administrative barriers would cause. We model augmented barriers in a Keynesian framework, pointing at four effects: a border effect, stronger for regions close to borders; an exposure effect, stronger for regions open to trade; a centrality effect, affecting areas close to the economic core; a demand concentration effect, stronger for regions close to large trading partners. By estimating border effects with data on EU NUTS 3 regions and simulating a general increase in barriers among EU countries, the four regional effects clearly emerge. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12347

Pages 151-170

John Bachtler and Iain Begg

Beyond Brexit: Reshaping policies for regional development in Europe

Abstract: Regional development is one of the main EU spending priorities through its Cohesion Policy. Brexit is among several influences on the future of the policy, whose evolution is part of a wider reshaping of the principles and practice of regional policy in Europe. In the context of emerging policy challenges and recent contributions to the regional policy literature, the article highlights innovation, human capital and effective institutions as three crucial dimensions of future policy. It argues that a shift in regional policy priorities, governance and territorial focus is underway – partly influenced by place-based policy thinking - at EU level under Cohesion Policy as well as under national regional policies in the EU27 and the UK. DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12351

Australasian Journal of Regional Studies

Vol. 23, No. 3, 2017. Regional Futures

Pages 295-

Mike Hefferan, Bruce Wilson and Lauren Rickards

Regional Futures

Welcome to this special issue of the Australasian Journal of Regional Studies. Over the past year, the Journal has published a diverse range of articles on various aspects of regional studies, reflecting different approaches and parts of Australia and New Zealand.

The concluding issue for 2017 is more focused. This issue focuses on regional futures, and particularly as possibilities for regional futures are played out in one particular region, the Latrobe Valley in Victoria. This topic has been of growing concern as the prospects for a transition from coal and energy came into sharp relief with the decision by a French company, Engie, to close the Hazelwood site.

Researchers at RMIT University have been engaged with various aspects of the transition and possible futures for the region for several years. Dr Lauren Rickards, the Convenor of the RMIT Regional Futures Network offered to bring together members of the Network to produce a special issue. Several members of the Network were joined by other Valley researchers to contribute the seven articles which make up the special issue.

Dr Rickards has written an introduction and Professor Lars Coenen from the University of Melbourne has provided some concluding thoughts.

We hope that it contributes to discussion about regional futures in Australia and New Zealand and look forward to further contributions to the Journal on this topic. Our thanks to all those whom have contributed.

Pages 305-320
Robyn Eversole

Economies with people in them: Regional futures through the lens of contemporary regional development theory.

Abstract: Regional development theory seeks to understand why some regions are prosperous and others not, and what less-prosperous regions can do to improve. Theories of regional development originated in the field of regional economics, based on the analysis of economic dynamics at regional scale. Contemporary regional development theory now incorporates cross-disciplinary insights about how social processes such as collaboration and innovation drive regional economic competitiveness. In Australia, however, the regional development situation is complicated by cultural and policy attitudes that homogenise and peripheralise regions beyond the capital cities. Regional development theory gives practical guidance as to how rural and resource-based regions such as the La Trobe Valley can respond to the challenges of economic restructuring using endogenous development approaches. Yet in Australia, current ways of working regularly undermine the capacities that regions need to succeed.

Pages 321-343
Andréanne Doyon, Brian Coffey, Susie Moloney, Fjalar de Haan, Karyn Bosomworth

Exploring the contribution of Transitions Management to inform regional futures.

Abstract: Regions around the world are facing intersecting challenges associated with economic and industrial restructuring, demographic changes, urbanisation, and climate change. Regional development efforts have primarily focused on an economic agenda but, have struggled to fully integrate environmental and social concerns. Climate change requires an integrated approach to addressing multiple regional challenges. This

paper illustrates how Transition Management (TM) can provide coherence and direction to the transformative efforts of regional actors. TM is an innovative governance framework for managing complex problems. Informed by theory and practice, it has achieved considerable policy success in Western Europe. Yet, TM has only begun to be explored in Australian contexts. Our paper considers what transitions theories can contribute to regional scholarship and practice in Australian regions experiencing major economic, social, and ecological restructuring.

ABOUT ANZRS AI

New members of ANZRS AI Council

ANZRS AI welcomes three new members of ANZRS AI Council.

Vincent Mangioni, University of Technology Sydney. Vince Mangioni is Associate Professor in Property Economics and Development in the School of Built Environment UTS. His research interests are in Land Tax, Compulsory acquisition of land, Valuation, and Tenancy and property management.

Khorshed Alam is Associate Professor (Economics) at University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba. His research interests include Regional economic development, Technology adoption, digital economy and productivity, and Agricultural, environmental and resource economics.

Megan Woods is lecturer in Management for the Tasmanian School of Business and Economics at University of Tasmania. Her research interests include Qualitative research, Computer assisted qualitative data analysis (eg NVivo), Adaptive learning, Interorganisational collaboration, and Innovation.

The 2018 ANZRS AI conference will be held in Canberra from 5 to 7 December, at ANU.

The 2019 ANZRS AI conference is to be held in Cairns in the first week of December.

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