

# INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

*March 2011*

Anthony Dow, Chief Executive Officer  
[www.rdacc.org.au](http://www.rdacc.org.au)



# RDA Central Coast

- RDA Central Coast commenced operation on 1 July 2009
- Location: University of Newcastle (UoN), Ourimbah Campus, Business Incubator.
- A total of 55 RDA's around Australia, report to Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government
- RDA is funded by Federal and NSW State Government. Project funding is sourced from all governments and private sector.

# Our Team

- RDACC currently has a staff of 4, being
  - Anthony Dow, Executive Officer
  - Elizabeth Westrup, Office Manager
  - Greg Combes and Jacquie Fredericks–Smith, Project Officers
- Our Board :
  - **Chair:** John Dawson
  - **Deputy Chair:** Maree Roberts
  - **Committee Members include:**

John Asquith	Paul Barnett
Susie Caldersmith	Stephen Crump
Simon Earthrowl	Chris King
Laurie Maher	Katie Smith
Lynne Webster	Kim Williams

# RDA Charter

RDA's focus is on economic, social and environmental issues affecting communities:

- Regional business growth plans and strategies
  - Support economic development
  - Creation of new jobs / skills development
  - Business investment
- Environmental solutions: support ongoing sustainability and management of climate change (including impact of drought, flood or bushfires); and
- Social inclusion strategies: bring together and support all members of the community.

# Achieving the Charter.....

We will achieve this Charter by bringing people together to discuss, debate and prioritise the needs of the Central Coast, and by communicating the region's desires with sound justification, to Federal and State government

# *Current Projects and Activities*

1. **NBN and Broadband**
2. **REDES Leadership**
3. **REDES Projects:**
  - I. **Infrastructure Priorities**
  - II. **Marketing the Central Coast as a Business location**
  - III. **Development Protocols**
  - IV. **Learning Board / and Future Skills**
  - V. **Innovation Festival 2011**
4. **Social Enterprise Strategy**
5. **Funding management associated with I&I's investment in the Central Coast Mariners and Bears**
6. **Creative Industries (Arts NSW, Create Innovate)**
7. **Green Skills partnership**
8. **Business Incubator**
9. **Regional Sponsorship Migration Scheme**

***Federal  
Governments  
Regional Agenda***

# *Federal Governments Regional Agenda*



Recent edited Quotes (Feb 17 2011) from  
Simon Crean:

“The 55 RDAs....They're going to be the eyes and ears of the government..the co-ordinating mechanism...the filter for the disbursement of funding options...it is important for all to understand the significance in the structure of delivering regionalism that the RDAs play”

# *Federal Governments Regional Agenda*



## Recent Quotes from Simon Crean:

“If the proposal stacks up, if it is seeking to draw resources from the three levels of Government and also incorporate the element of the private sector – where it is about addressing market gap – if you can build that sort of partnership, going forward, I think the opportunities are pretty exciting indeed.”

# Federal Governments Regional Agenda

## *My summary of Minister Crean's message*

*Create a regional vision,  
form delivery partnerships  
and develop a set of  
integrated regional programs  
that are supported  
by robust business cases.*

# Regional Development Australia Fund

- First round of applications received up to Friday 13 May 2011
- For projects between \$500,000 - \$25 million
- Matched funding for all projects, over \$5M must be \$ for \$
- First round allocation \$100M
- Open to local government & not-for-profit organisations
- Must have RDA committee endorsement & align to  
Regional Plans
- Funds available for projects that are “investment ready”
- Funding guidelines available tonight or [www.regional.gov.au](http://www.regional.gov.au)

# Regional Development Australia Fund

## How much can we expect???

ABS JUNE 2010 KEY FIGURES			
Population at end June Qtr 2010			
PRELIMINARY DATA	'000	%	
<b>New South Wales</b>	7238.8	32.4%	\$32.4M
Victoria	5547.5	24.8%	
Queensland	4516.4	20.2%	
South Australia	1644.6	7.4%	
Western Australia	2296.4	10.3%	
Tasmania	507.6	2.3%	
Northern Territory	229.7	1.0%	
Aust Capital Territory	358.9	1.6%	
<b>Australia(a)</b>	<b>22342.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	

# *Infrastructure Priorities*

# Introduction

- Regional Economic Development & Employment Strategy (REDES) launched early 2010
- Included an Action Plan with 7 strategy areas & 37 individual actions
- Including strategy area “Infrastructure to Support Economic Growth“
- Action, “Undertake a feasibility assessment of the Central Coast infrastructure needs which will contribute to economic development and employment”.
- *“Increased opportunity and urgency has been placed on this project due to the renewed focus of the Federal government on ‘Regional Australia’ and the release of a regional priorities infrastructure fund.”*

# Strategy Implementation Group (SIG)

- Central Coast Tourism
- Central Coast Regional Development Corporation
- Department of Planning
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Gosford and Wyong Councils
- Industry and Investment NSW
- Regional Development Australia Central Coast (RDACC)

# Process

- SIG commissioned review of all current Central Coast projects
- Identifying total 64 reports & 150 infrastructure projects
- Limited project detail and local rather than regionally significant
- Final report completed December 2010

# Criteria

- SIG developed a criteria based on consistent strategic objectives identified in the previous report review process :
  - Significant economic value
  - Improved Access
  - Improved Quality of Life
  - Significant benefits to Central Coast
- For a project to qualify it required a tick against all criteria

# Outcome

- This resulted in a suite of 38 Infrastructure projects being identified as priority and importance to the Central Coast as is shown on following [map click here](#)

# Timeline

Timeline	2010		2011				
	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Literature Review							
Mapping Priorities							
Programs/Projects Templates							
Local Member Consultation (State & Federal)							
Meeting with Council GM's				28 Feb			
Focus on the Coast (RTA, UDIA, NRMA, UoN)					17 Mar		
Programs/Projects Detail Complete					31 Mar		
Wider Consultation with Leads							
RDACC Approval						By 30Apr	
Central Coast Region Of Councils Approval							May
REDES Executive							By 31May
Detailed Assessment Stage							

# Infrastructure Priorities

## Next Steps

- Consult more widely with key stakeholders (that starts tonight)
- Test the robustness of the process and the level of agreement
- Gain agreement
- Region is ready to access Federal Infrastructure Funding.

# Regional Development Australia Fund



## Steps

1. Read Funding guidelines (copies here or website)
2. Complete Eligibility Checklist in Guidelines
3. Check alignment with RDA Central Coast Regional Priorities (available [www.rdacc.org.au](http://www.rdacc.org.au))
4. If qualified, contact RDA Central Coast to discuss project

**Question time  
will be held after  
all presentations.**

**Thank you**