

## REGIONAL AND REMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The Regional and Remote Economic Development Training Program is developed and delivered pro-bono by Economic Development Australia (EDA) members. The program provides a series of case studies, local community economic development workshop and outlines the role that Economic Development Practitioners undertake.

### BACKGROUND

This program provides additional professional development opportunities for EDA members whilst providing a positive impact to remote motivated communities who are willing to move forward. The EDA Regional and Remote ED Training Program recognises that regional and remote areas of Australia are currently missing out on some of the expertise available in economic development.

### Concept

A group of 3 EDA members donate 2-3 days of their time (either annual leave or with employers permission) to travel to remote and small regional communities and undertake economic development workshops. These are designed in consultation with Regional Development Australia, Regional or Local Govt Associations. They allow a tailored 2-3 days for workshops and 1 on 1 session with the local community members who are interested in economic development.

### Target

Local Govt elected and staff, State and Commonwealth Regional Offices, Regional Development Australia staff and committee members, tourism and community development organisations.



Providing a positive  
impact for remote  
and regional  
communities of  
Australia

## Results

- ✓ Increased awareness in regional and remote areas of Australia of economic development.
- ✓ Increased capacity for regional areas to progress their economies.
- ✓ Promote the synergies between regional and remote Australian and major centres.
- ✓ Increased skill level for those who undertake the workshops.

*The full program consists of:  
(This can be varied depending on the community involved)*

- ✓ Day One evening - introduction and overview of background of EDA presenters including case studies.
- ✓ Day Two morning – Economic Development Toolbox presentation.
- ✓ Day Two afternoon – informal community interaction.
- ✓ Day Three morning – facilitated community discussion regarding opportunities for progression.

Following the sessions an overview of the outcomes (primarily drawn from the final morning session) is prepared and provided to the organisers for dissemination back through the community.

## Outcomes

The program has been a success not only for the practitioners involved in the delivery but most importantly to the community, with the tool box presentation being used as a valuable resource.

The facilitated workshops on the final morning are integral and provide the opportunity for community members to have open dialogue amongst themselves, in a structured manner. By providing a report on these discussions it results in a concrete outcome that the community can work from. It allows all members of the community to have input rather than one or two.

The mix of EDA members involved in this program is excellent with members coming from diverse backgrounds and experiences and able to add significant value.

## Cost

If you community would like to host one of these EDA Regional and Remote Economic Development Training Programs all that is required is for you to meet the costs of travel, accommodation and meals plus a commitment of time and enthusiasm. EDA members provide their time pro-bono as their investment to Australia.

*The following link is to the EDA website  
<http://www.edaustralia.com.au/content.php?id=972>  
This has some further information and copies of reports from previous communities.*

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