

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

SEGRA highlights regional issues

Opportunities and challenges in regional development were explored in detail at the Sustainable Economic Growth for Regional Australia (SEGRA) conference from 26 to 28 October.

Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC) Chair Ross Thornton said the conference was an outstanding success.

“Attracting a record number of delegates to the Great Southern for a conference of national significance is a great achievement for SEGRA at its 20th conference and a strong endorsement of the GSDC’s commitment to bid for the event,” Mr Thornton said.

“Proceedings at the conference explored some critical issues for continuing regional development, including the need to foster innovation, create agile organisations and build resilient communities.

“Keynote speakers confirmed directions set by the GSDC, for example, the potential of aquaculture as outlined in the *Great Southern Regional Investment Blueprint*.

“SEGRA delivered a wealth of information and new perspectives, and it was pleasing to host the event in such a wonderful location,” Mr Thornton said.

Mr Thornton acknowledged the support of co-host partners the City of Albany and Regional Development Australia-Great Southern. He said the Commission also valued the support of the other 14 partners in the bid process.

“Bringing SEGRA 2016 to Albany and the Great Southern was a cooperative effort that extended across the region, and the contributions of all supporters were invaluable.

“Their support enabled us to showcase Albany and the region and bring in a wealth of impressive speakers,” Mr Thornton said.

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Building partnerships for regional prosperity