

Engaging with the Community

An NRM Perspective

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Natural Resources
SA Murray-Darling Basin



**National
Landcare
Program**



**Government
of South Australia**

What I'll cover

- SA Government engagement principles.
- Regional direction and planning.
- SAMDB Program delivery.
- An SAMDB Case Study.



WHY DO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN NRM?

- **Build relationships and establish trust.**
- Create better decisions.
- Align with community aspirations.
- Add value to project delivery – financial and social.
- Broad cross-section of involvement.
- Build knowledge and capacity
- Build wide-scale public support.
- **To achieve results at a sufficient scale.**



SA GOVERNMENT - BETTER TOGETHER

Six engagement principles to provide a consistent approach across government and to guide best practice:

-  We know why we are engaging
-  We know who to engage
-  We know the history
-  We start together
-  We are genuine
-  We are relevant and engaging










IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum



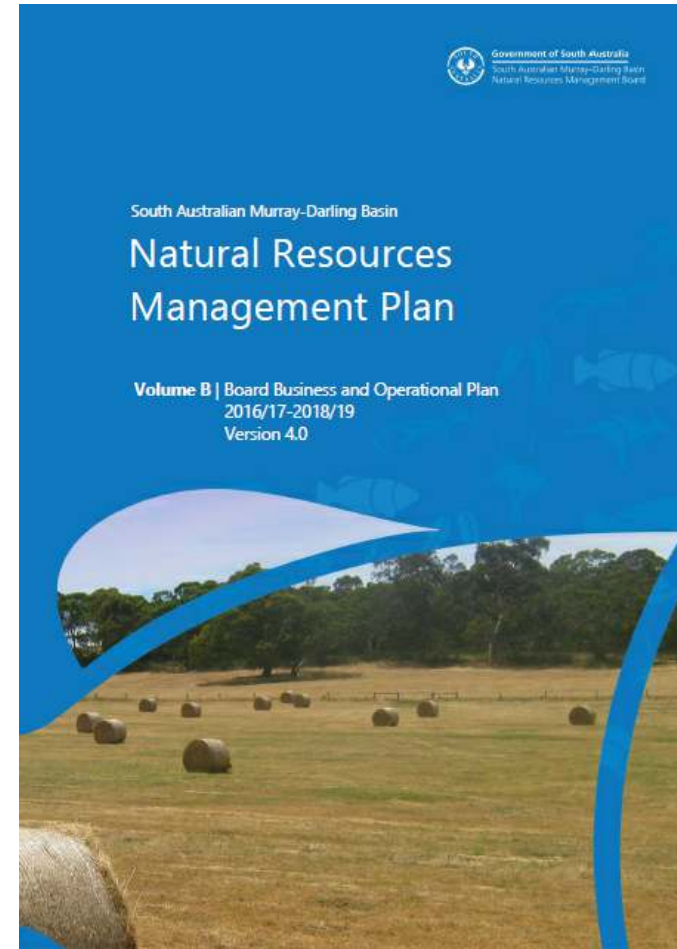
The IAP2 Federation has developed the Spectrum to help groups define the public's role in any public participation process.

The IAP2 Spectrum is quickly becoming an international standard.

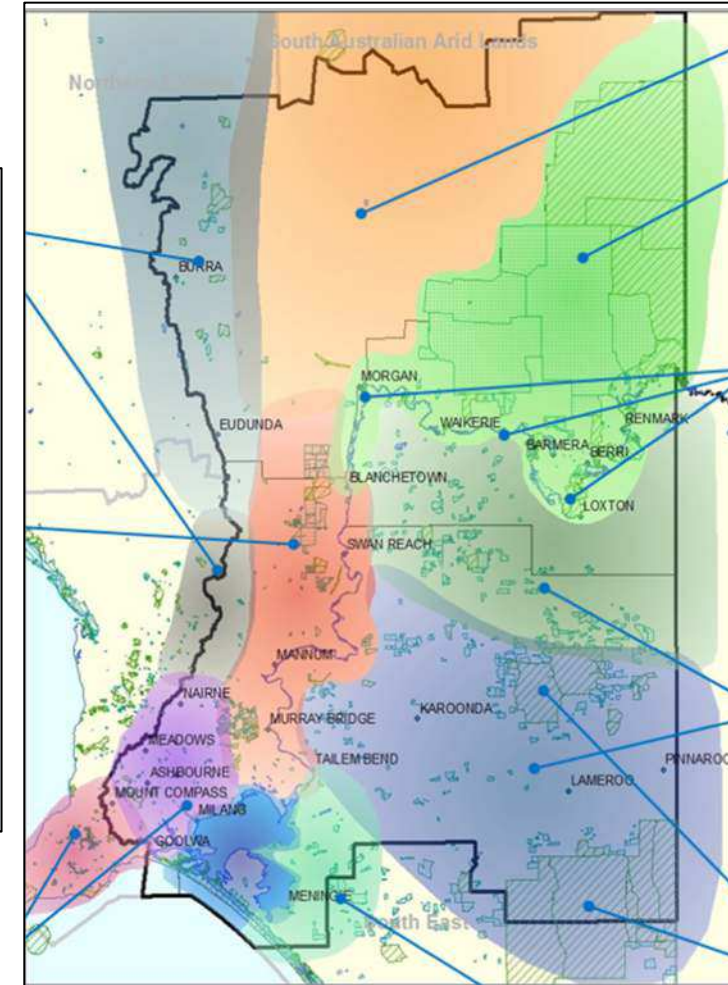
INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION					
					
	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Public Participation Goal	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
Promise to the Public	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

BOARD DIRECTION

- Organisational Values
- The Board's Mission
- Guiding Principles
- Focus and strategic directions



SOCIO ECOLOGICAL PLANNING



REGIONAL PROGRAM DELIVERY

- Regional Action Plan
- 11 Socio Ecological Systems (SES).
- 5 Key values
- Community identified and ranked priorities
- **Project alignment with priorities.**

Southern-Murray-Mallee



Soil health for sustainable production

●● Medium priority

Northern-Murray-Mallee



Reducing soil erosion risk

●● Medium priority

Eastern-Mt-Lofty-Ranges



Sustainable water resource management

●● Medium priority

Upper-Murray



Reducing soil erosion risk

●● Medium priority

Northern-Murray-Mallee



Soil health for sustainable production

●● Medium priority


Southern-Murray-Mallee



Reducing soil erosion risk

●● Medium priority

Northern-Murray-Mallee



Controlling agricultural weeds

●● Medium priority

Northern-Murray-Mallee



Reducing the impacts of pest animals

●● Medium priority



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

- Sustainable Production and People values and associated priorities.
- Identify projects being delivered by other organisations.
 - Opportunities for collaboration and co-investment.
- Project delivery aligns with priorities whilst meeting the specific needs of agricultural communities.



SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM

- Support annual field days:
- Ag Knowledge and other Grants:
- Trials and Demonstration sites:
- Provision of tools and Information resources.
- Monitoring and evaluation.



CASE STUDY - AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE GRANTS

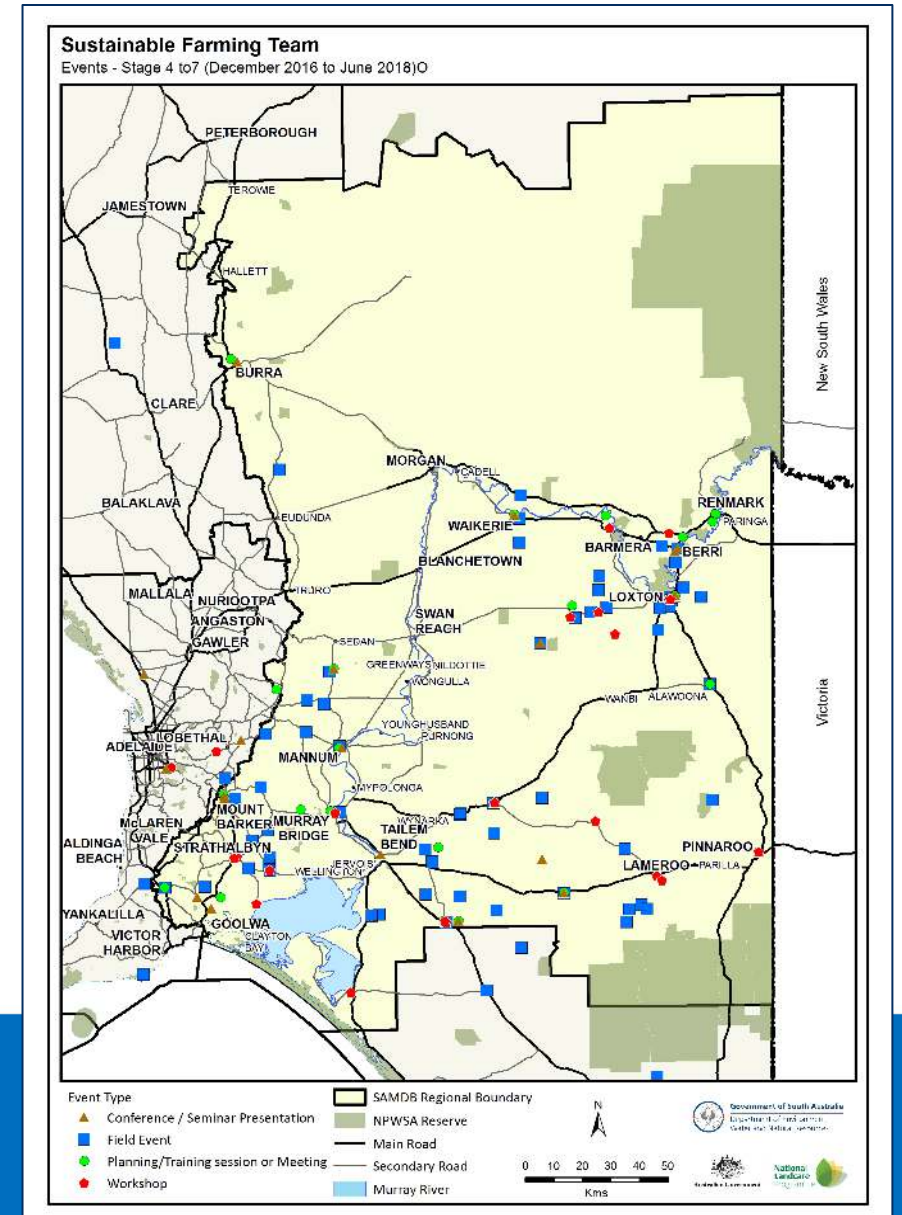
- For groups in the SAMDB NRM Region to run knowledge and skills building events.
- Alignment with Sustainable Production priorities.
- \$185,000 over 3 years.
- Up to \$3000 per grant.



CASE STUDY - AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE GRANTS

Measured Outcomes

- 76 grants delivered by 36 Groups with 2000 participants.
- Average: \$2435 / grant
- 93% of participants improved knowledge and skills.
- 80% of participants said they would change management.
- Management practice change adopted by 1247 farmers.



CASE STUDY - AGRICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE GRANTS

Additional Outcomes

- Built relationships and trust.
- Stimulated group activity
- Innovative and fresh ideas
- Financial and In-kind contributions
- Value add to other projects
- Engaged new groups.

Successful because:

- Community designed and owned the events.
- Delivery was relevant: locally, socially, seasonally, agronomically, and environmentally.



SUMMARY

- Community groups add immense value to projects:
 - Diversity.
 - Local knowledge.
 - Innovation and creativity.
 - Additional networks.
 - In-kind and financial contributions.
 - Cross sector engagement.
- Need to understand why and how you are engaging.
- Multiple benefits: NRM, economic and social outcomes.



Community engagement, design and delivery of projects is fundamental to the success of NRM Projects!



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