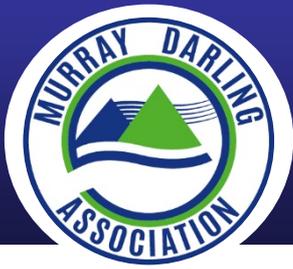


Socio-Economic Neutrality Definition & Assessment Framework Project Proposal

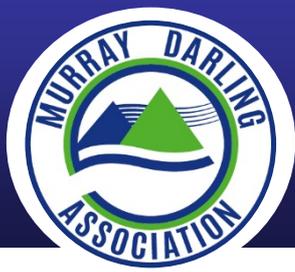




The Problem

- Tensions between and among state and federal governments over the recovery of the additional 450GL of up-water by 2024 has put the future of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan at risk.
- Tensions between some communities, researchers and activists, and the MDBA over the analysis of and response to the socio-economic impacts of the Basin Plan threatens to undermine the necessary trust, confidence and collaboration required to deliver the Plan on time and in full.
- **The problem lies not in whether or how the 450GL can be recovered, or even the impact of that recovery – although this is a major challenge for our state and federal governments and agencies.**

The problem arises from the absence of a fair and equitable, agreed definition of socio-economic neutrality, and community confidence in the process of assessing it.



The Solution

WATER RESOURCE ALLOCATION
SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE
FRAMEWORK

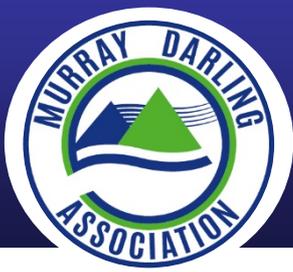
PROJECT PROPOSAL
MARCH 2018



Objective

To establish an agreed definition for socio-economic neutrality, and a fair, equitable and agreed framework for assessing it.

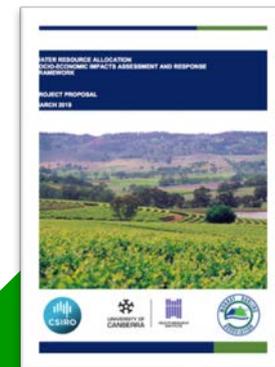
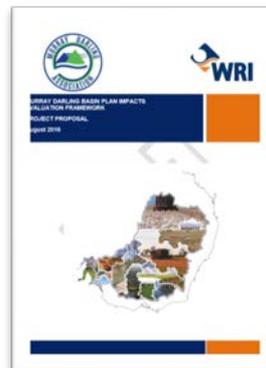
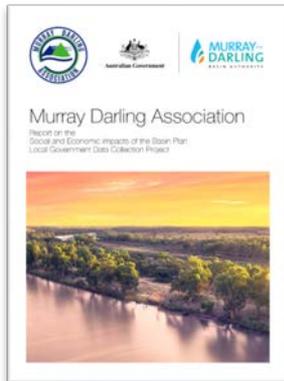


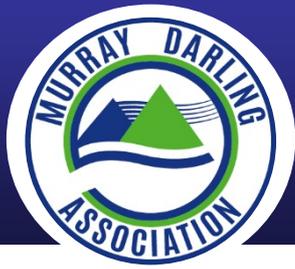


Developed Concept

Preliminary recommendation - Murray Darling Association Report on the Social and Economic Impacts of the Basin Plan Local Government Data Collection Project 2014

- Submission to the Select Committee on the Murray-Darling Basin Plan - September 2015
- Senate Public Hearing on the social, economic and environmental impacts of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan on Regional Communities: Hansard – November 2015
- Murray-Darling Basin Plan Impacts Evaluation Framework Project Initiative : August 2016
- MDA/CSIRO Joint Funding Application to Building Better Regions Fund 2017
- Meetings with Ministers and advisory staff throughout 2017
- MDA/CSIRO/UofC collaboration presented to MDBA and Dept of Agriculture 2018
- Submission to the Productivity Commission's Basin Plan Inquiry 2018

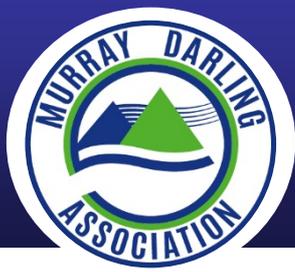




Benefits

This collaborative project seeks to develop an agreed definition for socio-economic neutrality and methodology of assessment that will

- Leverage existing work by the MDBA and others
- Draw on emerging methods in impact assessment field that use techniques from wider range of fields to add to traditional economic modelling
- Recognise cumulative impacts of the Basin Plan and other influences
- Inform decisions on SDLAM projects – 605GL
- Establish a pathway for the 450GL that ‘everyone can live with’
- Inform policy
- Build community buy-in and resilience



TRUST

450GL – Trust the Process

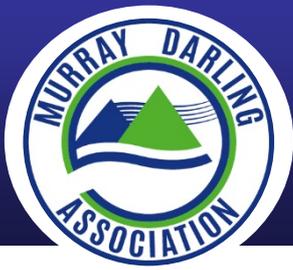
People – governments, agencies and communities - are more likely to accept results if they, or people they trust are involved in developing the process.

People are more likely to trust the results, even if they are different to their expectations, if they trust the process (incl methodology and definition)

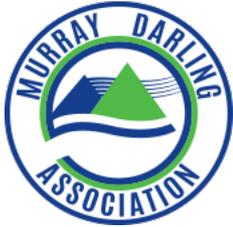
This project is about developing an agreed process, increasing perception of fairness, equity, independence and rigor of assessment.



Needs to be lead and driven by community who collaborate with researchers and develop a shared methodology.



COLLABORATION



"If the MDA didn't exist, we'd have to invent it,"

Murray Darling Basin Authority Chairman (2011-2015), Forbes 2014

Peak body representing local government and the communities of the Basin since 1944

Skill and institutional capacity in community consultation to inform policy development .

Rich and valuable regional networks



People trust CSIRO (90%)

CSIRO has technical capacity and expertise

a stated commitment to contribute financially to the project

Knowledge and experience working with the Plan



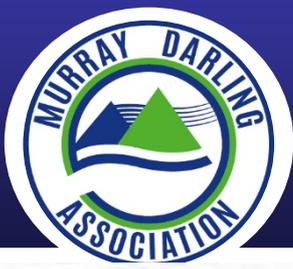
People trust Universities (80%)

People trust Dr Schirmer and RWS

UofC stated commitment to contribute to the project

Knowledge and experience with the Plan and the people of the Basin





COMPLEXITY

We recognise there are

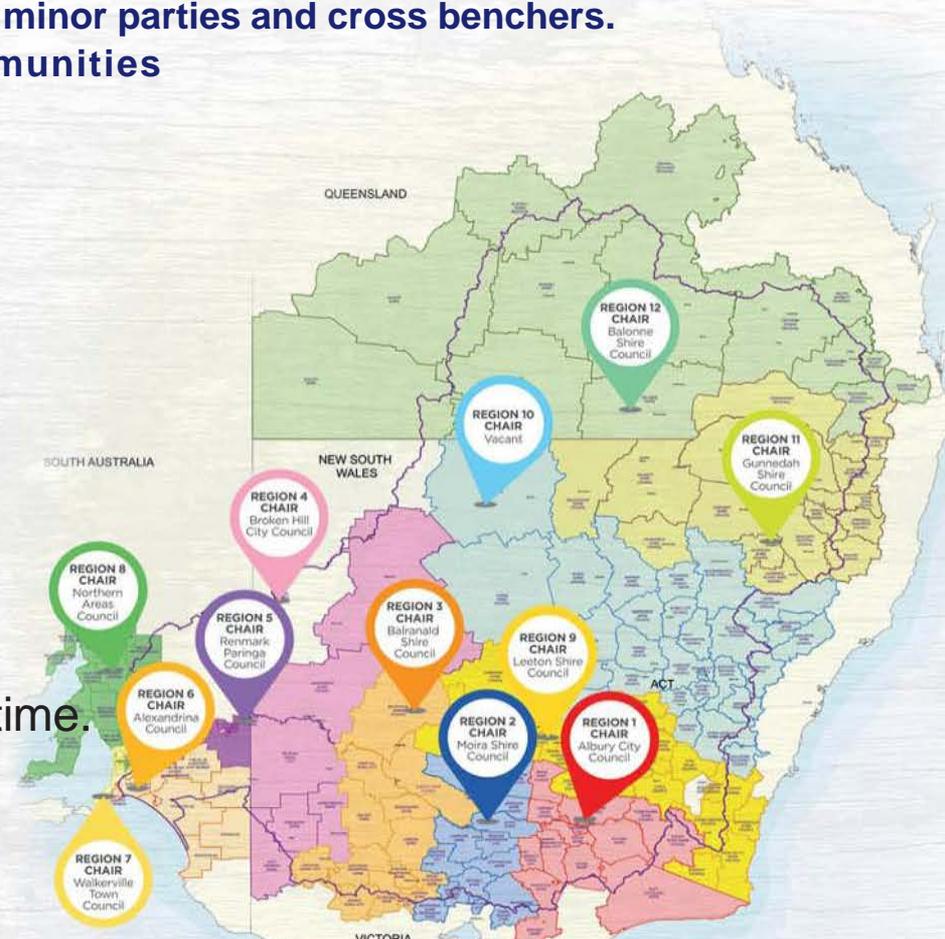
- 4 states, the ACT, and the Commonwealth, and countless agencies.
- Two houses, a government, an opposition, minor parties and cross benchers.
- 167 councils, and their associated communities

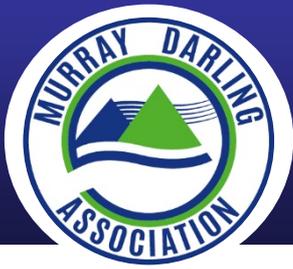
across the twelve regions of the Basin.

All have differing needs and demands.

Yet, all are united by our common commitment to a healthy working Basin,

And all have a shared interest in seeing the Basin Plan deliver, and delivered. On time. In full.





FUNDING & TIME



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture
and Water Resources**

50%



10%



10%



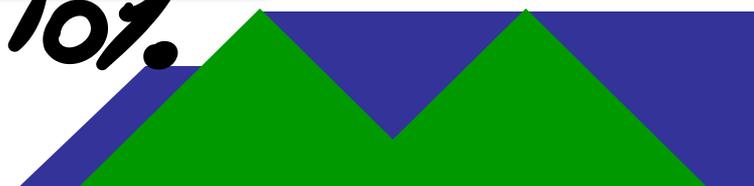
10%



10%



10%





Thank you