Goondiwindi Cultural Centre.

20-21August 2025

# Purpose

The purpose of the 2025 Annual Event is to continue to build on the ambitious, participatory and interactive success of the previous events and:

* Consolidate and continue to build a sense of collective ambition
* Showcase our researchers, students and projects underway
* Demonstrate progress on partner relationships, culture and capacity

# Objectives

* Continue to build a sense of ownership, excitement, and pride in the CRC with a particular focus on our research
* Clearly demonstrate progress in both what we are doing and how we are doing it
* All partners actively engaging, shaping and contributing to the research projects underway

# Pre/Post Event Activities

* Pre-Event Tour – 19th August: Cubbie Station
* Post-Event Tour – 22nd August: Warwick & Queen Mary Falls & Headwater of Condamine

# Day 1 – 20th August

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8:00 | **Arrival and registration check in** | |
| **Welcome and Introduction** | | |
| 8:30 – 8:50 | **Welcome to Country** | Bigambul Representative, Tanya Kirkegaard |
| 8:50 – 9:25 | **Event Opening & Introduction** | One Basin CRC CEO, Professor Mike Stewardson  One Basin CRC Chair, Dr Wendy Craik  Event MC, Marti Beeston – Goondiwindi Hub Manager, One Basin CRC |
| **Setting the scene – the grandeur of the Basin and the technical on how it works** | | |
| 9:25 – 10:00 | **Key Note**  ***“The grandeur of the Northern Basin and its partner the Southern Basin”*** | Stimulate insight and discussion about context, interactions and flows between northern and southern catchments, challenges, opportunities and decision making  Event MC, Marti Beeston – Goondiwindi Hub Manager, One Basin CRC  John Ruffini, Director of Water Planning Sciences (Dept. Environment, Sciences & Innovation) |
| **10:00 – 10:40** | **Morning Tea** | |
| 10:40 – 11:25 | **Panel Discussion** | An opportunity for local perspectives and discussion about how the Northern Basin operates in practice. Future climate for the Northern Basin differs from the Southern Basin.  Michael Scobie, University of Southern Queensland  John Ruffini, Director of Water Planning Sciences (Dept. Environment, Sciences & Innovation)  Zara Lowein, National Irrigators Council  Michelle Ramsay, RAC Member |
| **What we’re doing and results so far** | | |
| 11:25 – 12:25 | **Poster Presentations** | Build deeper understanding of projects and progress and generate enthusiasm, pride and a sense of momentum.  Event Facilitator, Russell Fisher – Atkinsons  Research leads & teams |
| 12:25 – 12:30 | **Project Sessions** | Professor Seth Westra, Director, Research & Technology and Opportunity Program Lead, One Basin CRC  Introduction and overview of Day 1 and Day 2 afternoon Project Sessions |
| **12:30 – 1:25** | **Lunch** | |
| **Deep dive into projects** | | |
| 1:40 – 3:10 | **Project Session 1** | CRC Program Leads and Research Project Leads  Presentations and discussion on current projects and achievements.  **STREAM 1 – Foresights and Decisions**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 1:40 - 1:50 | **PhD Talks**  Geospatial modelling of region-scale crop water-use to forecast climate change impacts on irrigation demand | Shahin Solgi | | 1:50 - 2:10 | QS7 - Predicting the impact of climate change on irrigation demand across the One Basin | Paul Petrie | | 2:10 - 2:30 | CRC049 - Putting people at the centre: towards transforming climate risk assessment for water security and delivery | Holger Maier | | 2:30 - 3:10 | Foresights and Decisions discussion | Ariella Helfgott |   **STREAM 2 – First Nations**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 1:40 - 2:40 | Rod's presentation will draw on his over 30 years of experience bridging cultural and business perspectives and explore an Indigenous-led business approach that integrates cultural integrity and community wellbeing within a business context. He will share insights about how the Gongan Model and Frameworks were not only conceptualised but learnt, lived, tested, and refined in practice across decades of engagement at the cultural interface, presenting an Indigenous "bottom line" for business that promotes productive and sustainable engagement with First Nations Peoples and their Country. | Uncle Rod Williams | | 2:40 - 3:00 | CRC053 - Stories of the One Basin | Peta Jeffries  Geoff Reid | | 3:00 - 3:05 | Koala Dreaming: An exploration of Indigenous methodology in ecology conservation. | Teresa Cochrane | | 3:05 - 3:10 | First Nations Summary of Projects Currently in Co-design  Billabong Project | Prof. Troy Meston | |
| **3:10 – 3:40** | **Afternoon Tea** | |
| 3:40 – 5:10 | **Project Session 2** | CRC Program Leads and Research Project Leads  Presentations and discussion on current projects and achievements.  **STREAM 1 – Technology and Opportunities**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 3:40 - 3:50 | **PhD Talks**  Cyanotoxin risk in recycled water used for food crop irrigation  Hydrogeological opportunities and constraints of the groundwater resource across the Murray-Darling Basin  Economic analysis of water banking and managed aquifer recharge as innovations for enhancing and regulating water supply | Shayne Faulkner  Nadeem Tariq  Leonidas  Manayubahwe Kazana | | 3:50 - 4:10 | QS6 - Opportunities and risks associated with identifying, sourcing and treating brackish groundwater | Michael Leonard  Julian Anese | | 4:10 - 4:30 | CRC054 - Water Banking for Enhanced Drought Resilience | Andrew McCallum  Ilka Wallis  Peter Reeve | | 4:30 - 4:50 | CRC095 - Understanding and reducing evaporative losses in the northern MDB | Michael Scobie | | 4:50 - 5:10 | CRC058 - Reducing Uncertainties and Enabling Multiple Benefits in Water Delivery Operations | Wendy Merritt |   **STREAM 2 – Adaptation and Innovation**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 3:40 - 3:50 | **PhD Talks**  Financing and incentivising ecosystem services to future-proof Basin producers against climate change  Ecological and physiological functioning of native grains production system  Regenerative agriculture impacts and opportunities | Champika Jayaweera  Anita Bhusal  Wiyanda Naufal | | 3:50 - 4:10 | QS3 - Organic waste conversion | Roger Knight | | 4:10 - 4:30 | CRC059 - Incentivising and investing in climate adaptation | Alex Sas  Nick Pawsey | | 4:30 - 4:50 | CRC091 - Decarbonising irrigated agriculture | James John | | 4:50 - 5:10 | CRC101 - Future Basin Economies | Speaker TBA | |
| **5:10** | **Close** | |
|  | **Free time** | |
| **6:30** | **Conference Dinner** | |

# Day 2 – 21st August

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 8:30 – 8:40 | **Introduction** | Reconnection and opportunity to reflect on yesterday’s activities and to identify insights and questions for further exploration  *Event MC, Marti Beeston – Goondiwindi Hub Manager, One Basin CRC* |
|  | | |
| 8:40 – 9:10 | **In Conversation: An Industry Perspective** | Call to action from local industry: the butterfly effect of research.  *Julia Spicer OAM, Australia’s Economic Accelerator* |
| **Deepening our understanding our local context** | | |
| 9:10 – 12:00 | **Site Visits** | Opportunity to engage and learn more deeply from visiting projects that are underway  *Event MC, Marti Beeston – Goondiwindi Hub Manager, One Basin CRC* |
| 9:10 – 12:00 | **Comms Training Wrap up** | Held at the Goondiwindi Cultural Centre, and the team will wrap the final Communications Training for Researchers. This will be the tenth session of the Communications Training.  Hosted by Leanne Wyvill and Angus Crossan |
| **12:00 – 1:00** | **Lunch** | |
| **Deep dive into projects (continued)** | | |
| 1:00 – 2:30 | **Project Session 3** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | CRC Program Leads and Research Project Leads  Presentations and discussion on current projects and achievements.  **STREAM 1 – Technology and Opportunities**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 1:00 - 1:10 | **PhD Talks**  Understanding community-wealth building programs and community readiness to adopt change  Multi objective model predictive control for pumped water distribution systems incorporating renewable energy | Miltone Kimori  Lang Zheng | | 1:10 - 1:30 | CRC050 - Unlocking collaborations for transformation: Towards a platform for data and knowledge sharing | Alyx Selsmeyer  Caroline Rosello | | 1:30 - 1:50 | CRC027 - Digital Irrigation Advisory Systems: Enabling extension and advisory services for agriculture's digital transition | Andy Clarke  Margaret Ayre | | 1:50 - 2:10 | CRC086 - Digital irrigated agriculture workforce futures | Pauline Rogers  Leigh Schmidtke | | 2:10 - 2:30 | CRC093 - Integrating digital technology to redefine the user experience for irrigators | Alyx Selsmeyer  Paul Petrie |   **STREAM 2 – Adaptation and Innovation**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **TIME** | **TOPIC** | **SPEAKERS** | | 1:00 - 1:10 | **PhD Talks**  Water Futures: Community change in the context of conflict | Kelsey Burns | | 1:10 - 1:30 | CRC056 - Future governance for water limited communities | Ariane Gienger | | 1:30 - 1:50 | CRC052 - Understanding future leadership needs | Hannah Feldman | | 1:50 - 2:10 | CRC051 - Water Futures | Mark Lamb  Margot Rawsthorne  Amanda Howard | | 2:10 - 2:30 | Wrap Up | Neville Crossman | | |
| **2:30 – 2:45** | **Break** | |
| **Integration and looking to the future** | | |
| 2:45 – 4:15 | **Integration & Impact** | Integrating our projects for greater impact  Professor Seth Westra, Director, Research & Technology and Opportunity Program Lead, One Basin CRC  Myles Coker, Innovation Practice Lead, One Basin CRC  Russell Fisher, Event Facilitator, Atkinsons |
| 4:15 – 4:30 | **Wrap Up & Looking Ahead** | One Basin CRC CEO, Professor Mike Stewardson |
| **4:30** | **Close** | |