

Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast

BOOSTING REGIONAL GROWTH THROUGH THE EMERGING BIO BASED SECTOR

The term 'bio economy' is being referenced across the globe, but what does it mean? Why is it important? How can we capitalise on the opportunities within the bio economy in the Limestone Coast region?

The bio economy is exciting and in broad terms comprises those parts of the economy that use renewable resources from the land and sea – such as crops, forests, fish and animals - to produce food, materials and energy. For regional areas, it offers the chance to create new value chains between sectors, revitalise rural and coastal areas and disused industrial sites and provide regional growth and jobs.

To address these issues, and unearth the full spectrum of bio economy topics, **Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast (RDALC)**, in partnership with **The Department of Industry Innovation and Science, Office of Green Industries South Australia** and the **Limestone Coast Local Government Association (LCLGA)** are holding an event bringing together leaders in bio based sector, with regional business and government organisations.

Callena Rawlings, Regional Manager Southern South Australia for the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science states that “AusIndustry is always looking for ways to support sharing of new information in the Limestone Coast to encourage innovation and help businesses realise their potential. As well as creating opportunities to learn, such as this event, we also have a range of programs which can support entrepreneurs to innovate, undertake R & D, bring new products to market and improve their business efficiency.”

Andrew Hutcheon, Principal Adviser Industry Sustainability for Green Industries SA agrees – “The South East region is rich in biomass waste and has a long history of utilising residues wherever possible. However new technologies are making the up-valuing of some biomass waste streams much more economically feasible. New technologies, rising energy costs, rising waste management costs and expensive raw material costs means the timing is right to hear from our guest presenters, all of whom have been involved in up-valuing biomass waste by producing energy and/or secondary products. Using waste more effectively presents an opportunity to reduce operating costs and, in some cases, build business expansion value too.”

At a Regional Level, the appointment of **June Saruwaka** as **Regional Waste Coordinator to the LCLGA**, demonstrates the Limestone Coast Region's commitment to achieve best practice in waste management, an exciting platform from which the region can advance into the bio economy space.



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Themes for the events include: the combustion of dry biomass waste for energy, bio refinery, government and research, wastewater treatment and organic waste solutions and the commercialisation of marine secondary products.

The diversity in key note speakers is outstanding as they hail from Victoria, Adelaide, New Zealand, and New South Wales.

The event will take place on Thursday 31st March, City Hall, Main Corner Mount Gambier from 9.45-3.00. Registration commence at 9.30.

This is a free event, but numbers are limited so to book your place please contact: **Taylah Connolly, Regional Development Australia Limestone Coast** on (08)8723 1057 or visit www.rdalimestonecoast.org.au for online registration.



June Saruwaka
Regional Waste Management Co-ordinator
LCLGA



Barbara Lightburn
Manager Economic and Business Development
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From Left:

Andrew Hutcheon, Principal Advisor
Industry Sustainability Green Industries
SA

Jayne Miller, Communications and
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RDALC

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