



SEGRA 2010

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention News Editors / Chief of Staff
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RIRDC funding for research into Regional Australia

Following on from a national survey last year into key issues affecting regional Australia and relevant criteria to assess and prioritise initiatives *Management Solutions QLD* is delighted to announce that **SEGRA** and the Regional Futures Institute, Southern Cross University have received joint funding from the Rural Industries Regional Development Corporation to conduct a follow-up survey to inform the development of industry-academic research into key issues for regional Australia. Data collected from the study will inform the forthcoming **SEGRA** workshop *Building Industry-Academic Research Collaborations* being conducted on 21 October 2010 in Townsville.

In awarding this funding the Rural Industries Research Development Corporation Chair , **Professor Daniela Stehlik** said RIRDC was delighted to partner in this initiative to support the development of long-term partnerships between industry and academia. “Research such as this ensures significant expertise continues to be applied to rural and regional issues and ensure a strong focus on the values of fundamental and applied research for sustainable development. It will also provide valuable educational opportunities for higher degree research students working on issues affecting regional Australia,” she said.

“The model of a university, government department and professional development and training company working in partnership to deliver this program is unique and delivers specific advantages over and above many research development opportunities” said Kate Charters, Convenor of **SEGRA**. “It will provide substantial skills based professional development for participants” she said.

Workshop facilitator Dr Peter Vitartas, from the Regional Futures Institute said “This funding will provide critical information that will inform and foster the development of collaborative research opportunities between business, practitioners and academics. The workshop will initiate important discussions, develop networks and create links that can lead to future collaborative research initiatives on potential areas for action on issues affecting regional Australia”.

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SEGRA 2010 is proudly supported by the Townsville City Council; the Queensland Government; Regional Futures Institute, Southern Cross University; and Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation

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