

Regional Advisory Panel Briefing document for 2016

Contents

Timeline for 2016	1
Tranche 2 update	2
CRCWSC Executive and Committee re-structure	3

Timeline for 2016

The table below outlines key dates and activities that the Regional Advisory Panel (RAP) need to be aware of or action throughout 2016:

Month	Date (if applicable)	Activity/Action
January	28/1/2016	CRCWSC to prepare for the forthcoming workshops for T2 Technology-focused Needs and Opportunities Workshop
February	2/02/2016 5/02/2016 15/02/2016	Southern Region Regional Advisory Panel meeting – SA Southern Region Regional Advisory Panel meeting – VIC T2 Project development workshop #2 (PDW2)
March		Develop T2 draft proposals (state based)
April		RAP members and researchers to review T2 draft proposals
May	TBC TBC 26/05/2016	Southern Region Regional Advisory Panel meeting – SA Southern Region Regional Advisory Panel meeting – VIC T2 program and project priorities (draft proposals) presented to CRC Board
June		Refine T2 proposals as per CRC Board suggestions
July	TBC	Researcher Workshop (conclusion on T1, introduction of T2)
August	25/08/2016	T2 project proposals to be approved by the CRC Board
September		T2 projects commence

Tranche 2 update

What happened in 2015

The development of the CRC for Water Sensitive Cities (CRCWSC) Tranche 2 research program kicked off in October/November with the Needs and Opportunities workshops in five locations Australia-wide. The main objective of these was to get a good understanding of the key issues and needs that are concerning our industry partners.

Participation was excellent with overall more than 180 attendees across the five workshops. Attendees were drawn from 58 CRCWSC participant organisations and other key stakeholders, as well as members of the CRCWSC Executive and Board.

The consolidated list of needs (based on hundreds of individual flip-chart contributions) made up of 17 different key needs, with some raised across all locations while others were more specific for particular states or cities.

In early December, approximately 50 researchers plus representatives from all Regional Advisory Panels, Research and Stakeholder Advisory Sub-Committees and the CRCWSC Executive put their thinking caps on to start developing key research activities that could help to address the 17 identified industry needs. This has led to the creation of five new “research clusters”.

Research Clusters

The research clusters are considered to be the core research activities that will be embedded in the regionally-focused projects to be developed (see below).

The cluster topics and proposed cluster leaders are:

- Steering and Influencing Transitions - Kelly Fielding
- Integrated Planning and Implementation - Darryl Low Choy
- Context Specific Solutions - to be confirmed
- Monitoring and Optimisation - David McCarthy/Angela Dean
- Evaluation Frameworks - Megan Farrelly/Rachel Cardell-Oliver

Presentations, materials and outputs can be viewed from the various workshop on the CRCWSC intranet site.

What's next for 2016

The ongoing process will see a growing involvement of the Regional Advisory Panels as they are invited to be the drivers and ‘champions’ of the location based projects will provide an overview to ensure a broad national approach on the key research activities is maintained the research clusters.

Technology-focused Needs and Opportunities Workshop - 28 January 2016 in Melbourne

This workshop will identify needs and opportunities relating specifically to technology developments and implementation required to transition to Water Sensitive Cities, as this was identified as a gap in the recent city based workshops.

To manage numbers, selected participant organisations will be invited to attend along with research cluster leaders (as listed above), other key researchers and select members from the CRCWSC Executive.

Project Development Workshop (PDW2) - 15 February 2016 in Melbourne

This workshop brings together the project ideas from the RAPs with the research inputs identified in the research clusters to develop the state based draft project proposals.

This event will be attended by 2-3 representatives from each RAP plus 2-3 researchers from each research cluster.

The workshop will develop draft proposals for each location/region based on the research activities and project opportunities identified in the city based needs and opportunities workshops.

These draft proposals will be disseminated among the RAP members and researchers to further refine the level of detail, followed by prioritisation of the proposals by the RAPs, the Research Advisory Committee and the CRCWSC Executive.

The proposed T2 program and project priorities will be presented to the CRCWSC Board in May for endorsement before recommending the final project proposals for approved at the August Board meeting.

Researchers Workshop - July 2016

The event will be held in Melbourne to introduce the T2 program and project priorities to the cohort of researchers.

WSC Conference - will not go ahead in 2016

Regional Advisory Panel (RAP) Activities

The RAPs for each region have been actively involved in all of the workshops and are expected to take a leading role in the next phase of the T2 project development activities. Each RAP should:

- Nominate 2-3 RAP members to attend the PDW2
- Identify 2-4 most important/beneficial projects (based on identified needs for the region and opportunities available) that you want to have included in the Project Development Workshop #2 (PDW2)
- Contribute to and review draft project proposals

CRCWSC Executive and Committee re-structure

From the middle of 2015, the CRCWSC has been reviewing its committee structure, and more recently its executive structure and service delivery model. These reviews are to help prepare for the commencement of the CRCWSC tranche 2 projects in the second half of 2016 and to position the CRC for a range of possible post-CRC entities in 2021.

The Executive Team has been working closely with the Board, the Essential Participants Reference Group, and the various program-level research and stakeholder advisory sub-committees in determining the transition of the current committee structure to one that better suits the nature of research and research adoption projects to be delivered in the Tranche 2 period (July 2016 to June 2021). The CRCWSC Executive and Administrative structure will also transition over the next 18 months to align to the delivery model for Tranche 2 activities and beyond at the end of June 2021.

- You will see a significant reduction in the size of the CRCWSC Executive team, most likely to four – the CEO, COO, CRO and Research Adoption Director to strengthen the line of
-

accountability for the three key service delivery functions of research excellence, effective research adoption by stakeholders and effective governance and administration.

- A number of portfolios sits beneath the four executive. The distribution of portfolios amongst the four executives is still to be confirmed.
- You will see a progressive winding down of the four programs A, B, C and D (Tranche 1)
 - Programs A and D winding down in mid-2016 as the vast majority of the projects within these programs would have concluded or are close to conclusion.
 - Projects in Programs B and C have some way to go to completion and will wind these programs down in mid-2017.
- There will be an increased emphasis placed on supporting the Regional Advisory Panels (RAPs).
 - New positions will be created to support the RAPs in the form of Regional Managers commencing from July 2016.
 - The principal role of the Regional Managers to be the representative of the CRCWSC executive team at the RAPs to coordinate and oversee the integrated execution of the Tranche 2 projects for the region and to provide the project management liaison between the RAP and the CRCWSC Executive.
- As we transition to strengthen the role of the Regional Advisory Panels (RAPs) in each of the key cities, we will also be reviewing the function of the Regional Executive Directors for the Eastern, Southern and Western regions in light of the new roles and responsibilities of the Regional Managers.