



An Australian Government Initiative



EYRE PENINSULA

22|23

Annual Report

Local people creating local opportunities

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work, live and play and their continuing connection to land, sea, culture and community. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and we extend that respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community.

Photographers

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EYRE
S T H • A U S

Key Stakeholders

Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula would like to acknowledge the support of our key stakeholders:



An Australian Government Initiative



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1. STRATEGIC CONTEXT





Bryan Trigg AFSM, Chair RDAEP

1.1 Chair's Message

Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula (RDAEP) is the lead agency for driving economic, business and tourism development in the Eyre Peninsula. We connect Australian, State and Local Government agencies, industries, businesses, community groups and individuals to grow economic opportunities.

We welcomed new Board Members: Pam Schlink, Joshua Telfer and Matthew Waller in July 2022, each bringing knowledge and skills from varying industries and a passion for our wonderful region. Bi-monthly meetings were held at Cleve, Lock, Ceduna, Port Lincoln, Kimba and Cummins enabling our Members to meet with our local government partners.

As part of the funding agreement with the Australian Government, RDAs were required to coordinate the development of a strategic regional plan to align with the Commonwealth's regional priorities. RDAEP could see the benefit to be gained by working collaboratively with the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association (EPLGA) and Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board (EPLB) and proceeded to prepare a joint Strategic Regional Plan, which was subsequently adopted by each of the 3 organisations in early 2023.

July 2022 saw funding agreements being renewed between RDAEP and both State and Local Governments, and later in 2022 local government elections took place bringing in some new Mayors and elected members.

Regional Development South Australia (RDSA) were active with a number of Eyre Peninsula businesses being

highlighted at a Regional Showcase in Adelaide in August 2022. The RDSA Annual Summit was held at Murray Bridge in September 2022 with a focus on 'The Future of Regional Housing and Workforce' and RDSA also launched the 3rd edition of The Regional Blueprint.

Water security on Eyre Peninsula has and continues to be a major issue, with the State Government and SA Water making the decision that the desalination plant will be built at Billy Lights Point. We will continue to work hard to ensure that the current world class aquaculture industries currently operating in Proper and Boston Bays are not affected. The Eyre Peninsula region has towns that have new housing developments unable to be connected to the mains supply, and this is also a big concern for the growth of our region.

RDAEP has also engaged with the Northern Water Supply project which is being designed to supply much needed water to mining operations north of Port Augusta, as well as supporting Hydrogen project at Port Bonython, near Whyalla. There is also a need for more domestic supply to be included in the scheme.

Hydrogen and renewable energy are new topics of discussion and RDAEP has been involved with the proposed

sites at Whyalla and Cape Hardy. Many countries in the world want to transition to green hydrogen by 2030 and are looking to Australia for supply given our strong renewable energy sector, so this is an exciting opportunity for Eyre Peninsula.

ElectraNet has completed the upgraded power line from Cultana to Port Lincoln. RDAEP has undertaken a lot of pre-work on a large funded solar project planned for the Cleve area, to connect to the upgraded network and the Yadnarie substation. This will give our region reliable green power and storage capability.

The space industry on the Eyre Peninsula continues to look promising with Southern Launch still pursuing launch facilities. Thank you to the Koonibba Community Aboriginal Corporation for their excellent work in promoting this exciting development.

Doctor recruitment and retention is of concern right across Eyre Peninsula. RDAEP, along with local councils, have tried very hard with both State and Australian Governments to rectify the issue. This is a critical issue for the liveability of our towns and in attracting the workforce needed to support business growth and diversification.

1.1 Chair's Message (continued)

Job vacancies, housing shortages and childcare services are also pressing issues in all of our council areas.

RDAEP is working with councils to fix these issues, as they affect all local businesses and the continued economic viability of our region.

In areas adjacent to Spencer Gulf, a native seaweed project is starting with both onshore and offshore facilities planned across the Eyre Peninsula. This is a globally significant start-up industry as once in production, the powder feed will reduce the carbon output from cattle on a huge scale. The employment

opportunities that this industry will create will be of significant benefit to the region.

I thank our 10 Member Councils and the Australian and South Australian Governments for their continued support. Thanks also to our CEO Ryan Viney and his staff for the fantastic work they have done in making Eyre Peninsula a great place to live and work.

Whyalla City Council made the decision to rejoin the Eyre Peninsula RDA and at our June Board meeting we accepted their application. We look forward to working with the

Mayor, CEO and Whyalla Council to enhance the economic development of the area which has reached an advanced stage due to the Port Bonython proposed development.

I look forward to working with the RDAEP Board and continuing our efforts in ensuring this region remains the most productive region in the State with \$14.4 billion in proposed investment in Eyre Peninsula enhanced by the proactive, dedicated, and enthusiastic leaders of our community.





Ryan Viney, CEO/Director Regional Development

1.2 CEO's Message

It is with great pleasure I present the Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula (RDAEP) 2022-23 Annual Report celebrating key achievements over the last twelve months, all of which could not have been realised without the support of the three levels of Government, Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association (EPLGA) and Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board (EPLB).

This report reinforces the role of RDAEP in undertaking regional economic development projects, activities and services across the Eyre Peninsula, assisting industry growth, infrastructure investment, job creation, and to develop and support partnerships and networks, providing leadership and coordination. A substantive component of RDAEP's work is to also identify relevant State and Australian Government initiatives which have relevance and opportunity to the region and to apply, advocate and attract such programs and funding for the greatest benefit of the region.

One of the key achievements, in collaboration with the EPLGA and the EPLB, was the development of the new Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023 –2026. This plan delivers a unified vision and set of region-wide strategies for attaining sustainable economic development over the next three years. It provides a strong foundation to assist the region to grow, enhance and diversify its economy in a sustainable manner, by providing stakeholders, potential investors and policymakers with a better understanding of the region, its strengths, challenges and needs. The Plan will ultimately guide investment by all levels of government and industry and assist the region to achieve its economic ambitions in a strategic and guided way. It is important for key regional stakeholders to agree on a set of common needs and priorities for the

region, such that they can coordinate their collective efforts in a manner that ensures outcomes are maximised. As a facilitator of economic development, RDAEP has an important role to play in bringing stakeholders together under a common strategic plan for the Eyre Peninsula.

The visitor economy has continued to excel, generating \$503 million, an increase on the previous financial years and exceeding the State Government target for 2025 by \$106 million. We developed and launched a new destination brand positioning 'Eyre' as South Australia's 'Wild Side', replacing the Seafood Frontier brand developed in 2006, to strengthen the region's identity and further grow the visitor economy. The new regional brand is now much more inclusive and encompassing of the entire region, which was achieved through extensive consultation with stakeholders.

The past year has been highly productive for Eyre Peninsula with the regional economy thriving due to strong grain prices and record yields, keeping Viterro, Flinders Port Holdings and the newly established T-Ports busy.

Several key projects intent on growing the region's diversity in response to green market signals and a global desire to decarbonise industry have continued to strengthen.

The SA Water Desalination Plant, Northern Water Project, Hydrogen Jobs Plan, Koonibba Test Launch

Facility, Cape Hardy Hydrogen Project, Andromeda Great White Kaolin Project, Renascor Graphite Project and Photon Energy Yadnarie Solar Project are just a few of the projects that have taken significant steps forward, along with the completion of the \$300 million upgrade of the double-circuit 132kV transmission line from Cultana to Port Lincoln, via the Yadnarie sub-station.

Moving forward with this pipeline of projects, the region has the capability of delivering \$14 billion of investment and over 25,000 jobs, however workforce attraction, retention, training and support, along with the various components of liveability, such as housing, healthcare, childcare, education and urban amenity will be vital in realising this level of investment.

In this regard RDAEP will continue to work alongside government, developers, industry, small businesses and community to ensure regional economic growth by drawing these different initiatives into a coordinated narrative.

I would like to acknowledge the guidance provided by the RDAEP skills-based Board lead by Bryan Trigg, and the support of our highly professional and dedicated staff.

1.3 About Regional Development Australia

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is an Australian Government initiative that brings together all levels of government to support the development of Australia's regions.

Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula (RDAEP) is part of a national network of 52 committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups with a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies.

RDAEP is funded via a tripartite agreement between the Australian, South Australian, and local governments to undertake economic development projects, activities and services across the region; assist industry growth, infrastructure investment, and job creation; and develop and support partnerships and networks, providing advocacy, regional leadership and coordination.

Strong, Confident & Vibrant Regions

Collaborating with other RDA Committees, all levels of government, and the private sector, RDA Committees will:

- a) Facilitate regional economic development outcomes, investment, local procurement and jobs.
- b) Promote greater regional awareness of and engagement with Australian Government policies, grant programs and research.

- c) Improve Commonwealth regional policy making by providing intelligence and evidence-based advice to the Australian Government on regional development issues.
- d) Co-ordinate the development of a strategic regional plan or work with suitable existing regional plans that will align with the Commonwealth's regional priorities.

Regional Priorities

RDAEP's theme for 2022-23 was "Regional Liveability" with the top 6 key priority areas focused on addressing workforce shortages:

1. **Healthcare** – attracting doctors, and other healthcare professionals to the region to facilitate a quality healthcare service, thus attracting and retaining the workforce needed to support business growth.
2. **Housing and Accommodation** – development of strategies for the supply of "shovel ready" residential land; adaptive reuse of buildings; accessing finance and reducing the cost of delivering infrastructure will be critical in providing a mix of housing choice across the region to meet demand.

3. **Population Attraction, Retention and Training** – attract, retain and train workers to facilitate greater workforce participation to meet workforce needs. Improved healthcare services, education/training, childcare and telecommunication connectivity will be vital.

4. **Economic Diversification** – support the establishment of new and emerging industries with a particular focus on "green" production to decarbonise the economy and to facilitate sustainable career opportunities (circular economies, renewable energy, mining, sustainable tourism, hydrogen production and Space Industry).

5. **Infrastructure Provision** – continue to advocate for nationally significant infrastructure including placemaking initiatives to improve regional amenity, as well as new and upgraded infrastructure to drive down costs of production and facilitate value adding opportunities.

6. **Visitor Economy** – improved visitor experience by increasing product offerings, promotion/marketing/branding and improved infrastructure.

RDAEP BOARD MEMBERS



Bryan Trigg AFSM
Chair



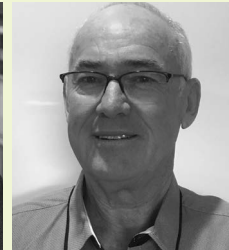
Malcolm Catt
Deputy Chair



Heather Baldock
Executive Member



Sue Chase AM
Executive Member



Neville Starke
Committee Member



Allan Suter OAM
Committee Member



Travis Barber
Committee Member



Matthew Waller
Committee Member



Pam Schlink
Committee Member



Joshua Telfer
Committee Member

Farewell to **Thomas Antonio** - Committee Member

RDAEP STAFF

Ryan Viney – Director Regional Development / Chief Executive Officer

Trevor Smith – Economic Development Manager

Howard Coote – Indigenous Economic Development Manager

Annabelle Hender – Tourism Development Manager

Tamsin Scholz – Regional Workforce Coordinator

Casey Peters – Project Support Officer

Roger Paul – Manager Corporate Services

Wendy Ettridge – Executive Assistant

Sue Henriksen – Business Support Officer

Farewell to

Peter Scott – Economic Development Manager

1.4 Regional Snapshot

Eyre Peninsula is a land of rugged coastlines, expansive crops, plentiful seafood, sandy beaches, national parks, rich mineral deposits and an abundance of solar, wind and wave energy.

It comprises the regional cities of Port Lincoln and Whyalla and the District Councils of Ceduna, Cleve, Elliston, Franklin Harbour, Kimba, Lower Eyre, Streaky Bay, Tumby Bay and Wudinna, along with remote unincorporated areas serviced by the Outback Communities Authority.

The region is rich in environmental assets. Eyre Peninsula's incredible landscapes deserve celebration and protection. The region is renowned for its coastal and marine environment, with its rugged and largely undeveloped coastline making up almost one half of South Australia's coasts. Marine and conservation parks include 250 islands that support an abundance of Eyre Peninsula's plants and wildlife.

Aboriginal communities have lived on and cared for this Country for tens of thousands of years. Their connection

to the land and waters continues to this day, and it is important that we listen to, learn from and work with them.

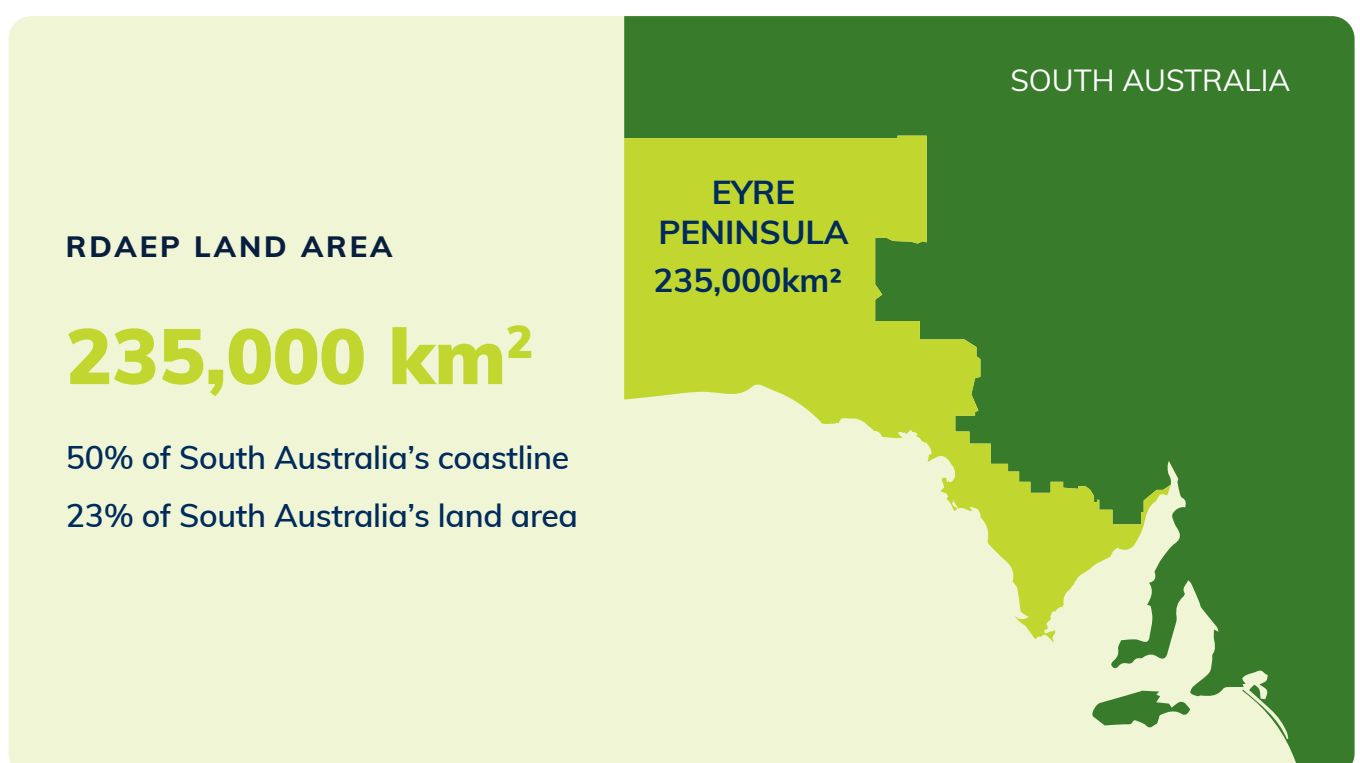
Eyre Peninsula is one of South Australia's most productive regions, generating over \$4.05 billion in Gross Regional Product annually. The region is highly export oriented and benefits from established agriculture, commercial fishing and aquaculture industries. Several other industries continue to strengthen and offer exciting opportunities into the future including mining, renewable energy, hydrogen, space and tourism.

With a large share of regional output linked to primary production, changes in sea and air temperatures threaten to have significant impacts. Many of Eyre Peninsula's primary producers are already working to adapt their operations to reflect climatic variation.

The changing climate also presents opportunities for the region to attract economic development linked to the generation of renewable energy. This includes energy drawn from solar farms, wind, and green hydrogen.

Many of the region's opportunities will not be achieved without substantial upgrades to critical infrastructure such as water, power, telecommunications, roads, rail and ports.

While the emergence of new industries has the potential to be transformational, it will not be fully attained if the region cannot provide the workforce needed. Attracting, retaining and training the workforce to support these industries and those of existing businesses requires the foundations of health care, childcare and housing.



GROSS REGIONAL PRODUCT

**\$4.05
BILLION**

Contributes \$4.05billion
to SA's GRP (3.44%)

AGRICULTURE

\$1002.5m in exports



40% of
SA's wheat



24% of
SA's barley



22% of
SA's oats

AQUACULTURE AND FISHING

\$403.4m in exports | 82% of SA's Seafood product



100%
Bluefin Tuna



97%
Oysters



92%
Mussels



62%
Abalone

POPULATION

58,947

(ABS ERP 2022)



22% aged 0-17



27.9% aged 60+



6.7%
First Nations
Australians



89.1%
Australian
citizen

(compared to 2.4% in SA)



HOUSING



29.5%
Lone
Person
household



59%
purchasing
or fully own
their home



20.3%
renting
privately



9.9% in
social
housing

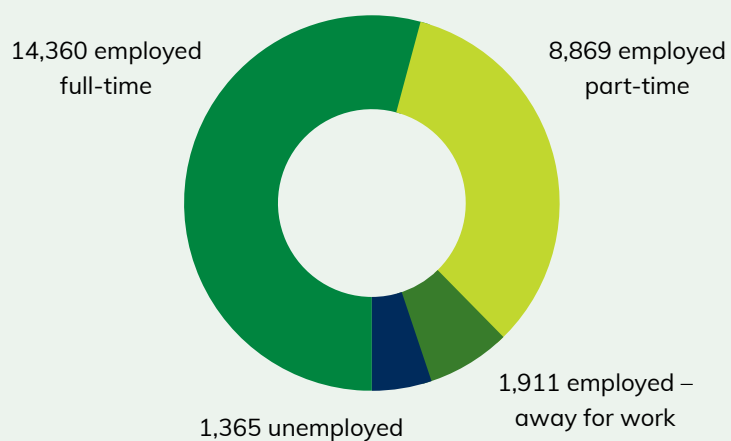
Average Household size 2.23 (persons per dwelling)



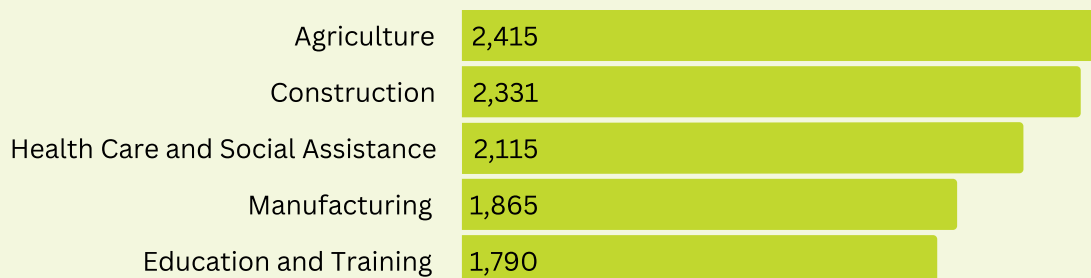
EMPLOYMENT

26,505

Labour force (participation rate)



TOP EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY (FTE)



2. KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



2.1 Activity Snapshot

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Subscription + Following



4,500 subscribers
to RDAEP's regional
e-newsletter



38,684 followers
@eyrepeninsula
Instagram



26,456 fans
Eyre Peninsula
Facebook
(formerly Eyre Peninsula
Australia's Seafood Frontier)



2,064 followers
RDAEP
Facebook

Website Views



96,000
page views
rdaep.org.au



276,485
page views
eyrepeninsula.com



30,000
page views
nullarbormap.com.au

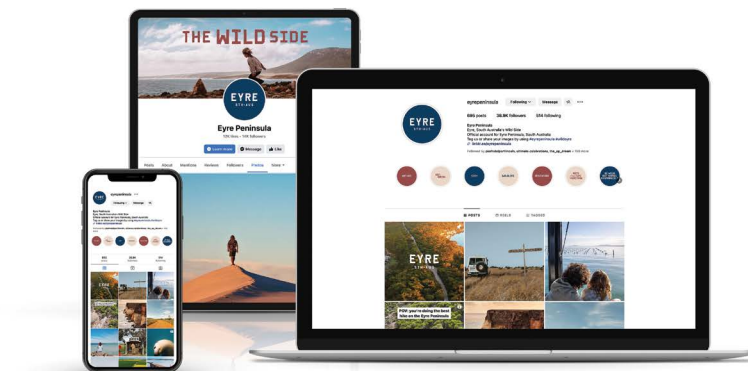
Guide Distribution



60,000
Eyre Peninsula
Visitor Guides
distributed



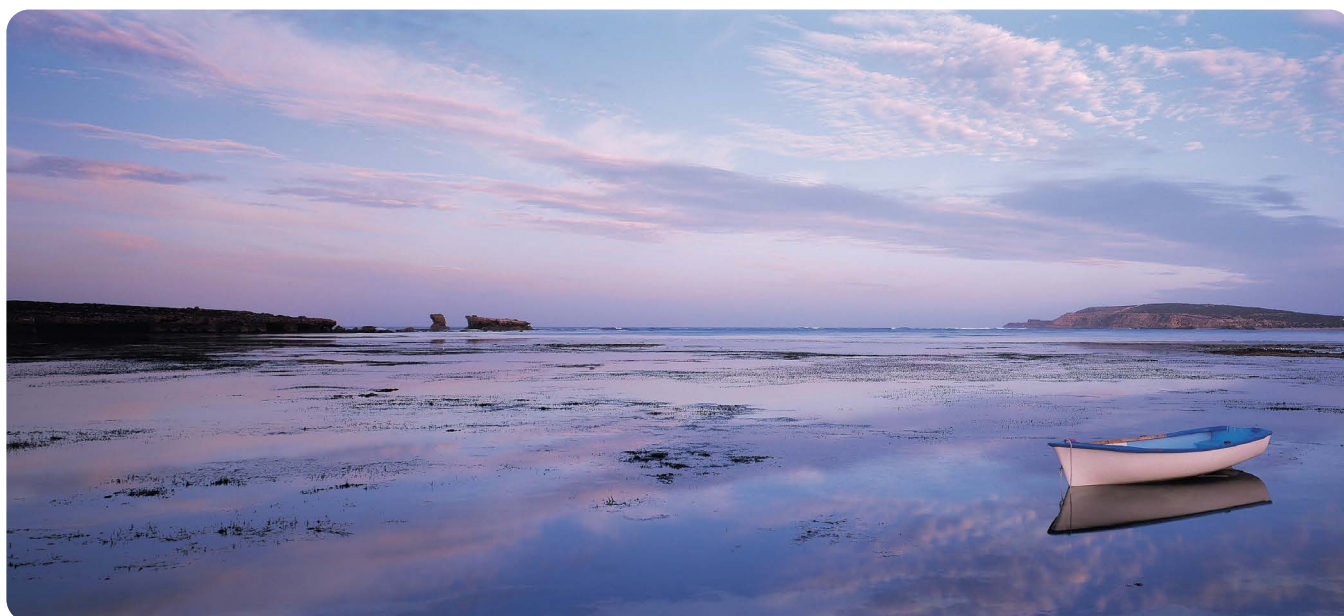
30,000
Nullarbor Maps
distributed



Eyre Peninsula social media accounts

Key Activity Statistics

Local Government Meetings & Workshops Attended	85
State Government Meetings Attended	18
Australian Government Meetings Attended	22
Business / Industry Meetings Attended	86
Social Media Posts - RDAEP	135
Tourism Posts - Facebook	151
Tourism Posts - Instagram	156
Eyre Peninsula Tourism Network - Facebook	300+ members
Eyre Peninsula Tourism Network - SharePoint	110+ members





2.2 Summary of Key Achievements

Highlights of the 2022-23 year include:

Strategic Regional Plan

The Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026 (the Plan), developed in partnership with the Eyre Peninsula Local Government Association (EPLGA), and Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board (EPLB) provides an overarching vision and enables RDAEP and respective regional councils to advocate collectively with a unified voice. (Case Study 1)

Health

The Strategic Regional Plan identified access to health services as a major concern affecting the growth prospects of the region. The decline in local health professionals, particularly doctors, was identified as the main issue. The Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance (NEPHA) commissioned a report in 2020, titled "Proposal to Address Failure of Medical Services on Northern Eyre Peninsula", which outlined a sustainable model for GP practices in the region. (Case Study 2)

Tourism

Eyre Peninsula generated \$503m in visitor expenditure in 2022 (an increase of 3% on 2021), making it the third highest regional tourism economy in South Australia, after the Fleurieu Peninsula and Flinders and Outback. Having already surpassed the \$500m target set for 2030, tourism is regarded as a valuable industry owing to its capacity to provide employment and sustain communities across the Eyre Peninsula. The region's tourism industry supports over 600 tourism businesses and in 2022 employed 4000 people through direct and indirect jobs (an increase of 48% from 2021). While the COVID-19 pandemic created significant challenges and disruption to the sector, it has also presented opportunities to improve the visitor experience through increased investment and a renewed focus on sustainability.

Key tourism projects in 2022-23 :

- **New Eyre Peninsula Brand Launched** 15 years since its inception, a review of the Eyre Peninsula Australia's Seafood Frontier brand was undertaken to ensure it encompassed the region's competitive strengths, supported regional priorities, and resonated with past and prospective visitors, while also providing a holistic and

inclusive regional identity.

'Eyre – The Wild Side' was launched in March 2023 and will be used for tourism related marketing. (Case Study 3)

- **Destination Marketing Plan**

Development of the Eyre Peninsula Destination Marketing Plan (DMP) included a full assessment of the region's marketing assets and framework, which identifies the core experience pillars and high potential target visitors, and provides a recommended framework for measuring success.

The DMP Implementation Plan includes visitor personal journey maps, storytelling frameworks and provides a detailed action plan by 3 priority areas: destination stewardship, brand marketing, and strategic partnerships.

The DMP is underpinned by a compelling vision, mission, mindset, guiding principles and priorities that will ensure the Eyre Peninsula remains a special place for locals and visitors alike.

Written by Tourism eSchool, the DMP leverages the vision of the Destination Management Plan 2025. It provides an amplified focus on strategic marketing and sets a framework for a consistent and collaborative approach to tourism



promotion on Eyre Peninsula. The DMP provides a real opportunity for Eyre Peninsula to strengthen its position as a tourism destination and to improve management of the sector.

- **Eyre Peninsula Destination Management Plan 2030 reviewed and updated**
- **Regional Image Audit conducted**
Over 20,000 images analysed, and image gaps identified.
- **Eyre Peninsula Visitor Guide**
Content refreshed to drive dispersal across seasons and areas, and 60,000 copies printed.
- **RAA Eyre Peninsula marketing campaign**
- **Tourism Australia Responsible Tourism Survey** 167 responses received.
- **Eyes on Eyre camping project**
\$500k grant obtained by RDAEP fully expended and deliverables achieved. (Case Study 4)
- **EP Tourism Network SharePoint page** A SharePoint site was established to share tourism information and resources to businesses and councils on Eyre Peninsula. It shares news, data from the South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) and relevant grant opportunities, as well as providing links to a whole range of tools and tourism plans (local, state, and national). Tourism operators

and councils are also able to submit product updates and send images for promotional purposes.

The council specific page allows for regional collaboration on key projects such as marketing and infrastructure and allows for improved communication across the tourism network.

The SharePoint went live in June 2022 with a soft launch with councils, followed by a broader launch with industry. It is intended to provide efficient and effective communication across the sector. As of June 2023, there were 113 SharePoint subscribers and 1,561 total page views.

Eyre Peninsula: Make the Move

A promotional campaign was released in November 2022 targeting potential workers currently located in Australian cities and working in key industries such as health care, hospitality, social services, construction, and agriculture as well as entrepreneurs and those interested in job hunting.

The campaign, consisting of two promotional videos, went live on social media and directed people to the EP Jobs page. The campaign had a reach of 186.5k and encouraged 2,945 link clicks through to the RDAEP EP Jobs page.

Eyre Peninsula Leadership Development Program

In 2023 RDAEP teamed up with Champions Academy to deliver a deep impact leadership program, designed to empower individuals to recognise and apply their human potential, to shape the future that they want for Eyre Peninsula.

Uni Hub

RDAEP worked closely with Spencer Gulf Uni Hub, City of Port Lincoln, and the Local Jobs Program for the establishment of a Uni Hub in Port Lincoln, including the ability of Spencer Gulf Uni Hub staff to hot desk within RDAEP offices until the new premises became operational in March 2023.

Skilled Migration Presentations

RDAEP ran two Skilled Migration Workshops in Port Lincoln and Whyalla with participation from the Australian Department of Home Affairs and the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science. The workshops were well attended and informed key regional employers and local businesses about visa options for employing overseas workers to address identified shortages in local employment.



StudyAdelaide Tour

The Strategic Regional Plan acknowledged the challenges of workforce shortages, upskilling, education, and training in the region. To address these issues, RDAEP collaborated with StudyAdelaide to promote the Eyre Peninsula as an attractive destination for international students and graduates studying in Adelaide. (Case Study 5)

Regional Workforce

The Regional Work SA Project (RWSAP) was completed in December 2022.

Key program priorities included:

- Addressing regional workforce issues resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Providing support for those wishing to relocate to the region
- Providing support to regional employers with positions to fill
- Understanding regional workforce opportunities and challenges
- Undertaking a place-based project (workforce accommodation gap analysis).

There are ongoing challenges in the region, with remoteness a key factor in attracting and retaining staff. A survey to businesses around workforce attraction found a majority of respondents had refilled at least one of the same positions over the course of the previous 12 months.

A lack of qualified applicants was one of the key issues, as well as local accommodation, cost of living concerns and a lack of workers willing to work on weekends.

Regional Work Coordination and Collaboration Project – RDAEP Place Based Project - Accommodation Needs

Significant work was undertaken to progress the Place Based Accommodation Project, including engagement with the real estate, and building industries.

A survey was sent to real estate agencies around the Eyre Peninsula, seeking information about rental and sales rates. A common theme amongst respondents was the lack of rental properties available, confirming anecdotal evidence.

Businesses in the residential building industry were also contacted, with two workshops held on 20 July 2022. While participation levels were low, the feedback from those who either took part in the workshops or provided written responses highlighted increasing material costs and wait times, issues with attracting qualified tradespeople and overall pressure on the industry. While this also confirmed anecdotal evidence, there was also feedback regarding caps on builders and the role this is potentially playing on new start home builds.

RDAEP also engaged with councils to develop a list of key employers in the region, following which a survey to determine current and expected future employment requirements was sent.

Far West Aboriginal Tourism Strategy

The South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) recognised the need for an Aboriginal Tourism Strategy and chose the Far West region to develop and implement it. The region, with its existing tourism ventures and active Aboriginal corporations, was well-suited for this endeavour. The strategy has been successful in upgrading and marketing existing ventures while establishing new activities.

Ceduna Arts and Cultural Centre

Since 2019, RDAEP has collaborated with Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation (CAC) and District Council of Ceduna to build a new Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Centre, addressing the need to replace existing inadequate facilities. With tourism as a priority, the project aligns with the Far West Aboriginal Tourism Strategy. RDAEP played a crucial role by assisting with funding, establishing a Project Plan, and participating in the Steering Committee. In April 2023, CAC secured \$6 million from the Community-led Solutions Economic Development (CSED) grant program



for stage one of the Centre, aiming to create employment opportunities and break the welfare dependence cycle. The project will significantly benefit Eyre Peninsula, especially the Far West region. (Case Study 6)

Strengthening Partnerships with First Nations

The Chairs of South Australia's nine Landscape Boards made a strong commitment to reconciliation and to strengthen partnerships with First Nations across the state by signing a Statement of Commitment. The Statement marks an important formal commitment by the Boards to collaborate with First Nations in working toward state-wide landscape priorities.

In late 2022, RDAEP agreed to honour this Statement and further strengthen partnerships with Aboriginal organisations, businesses and communities on Eyre Peninsula.

Eyre Peninsula Water Taskforce

In November 2022, RDAEP wrote to the CEOs of SA Water and the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) seeking to resurrect the Eyre Peninsula Water Taskforce with proposed membership from the EPLB, SA Water and DEW. Its role is to:

- Encourage the development of fit-for-purpose and sustainable water supplies that support regional development;
- Inform local government,

communities and agencies; and

- Understand the current and future threats to water availability and quality.

The first meeting of the EP Water Taskforce was held in December 2022. Discussion took place on establishing Terms of Reference for the group, updates from each organisation, and priority actions.

Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant

On 22 December 2021, the Minister for Environment and Water advised that the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant proposed at Billy Lights Point had been put on hold to enable the State Government and SA Water to collect additional baseline scientific data and undertake further investigations in the Boston and Proper Bay areas.

RDAEP participated in the Eyre Peninsula Desalination Plant Site Selection Committee (SSC), established to investigate alternative desalination plant sites, with Billy Lights Point as a base case. The SSC completed 12 months of work in February 2023 following 16 meetings across the year.

The SSC comprised senior representatives from key industries, council Mayors, Chief Executives of a range of community-based organisations such as the EPLGA, EPLB, and was chaired by Peter Treloar. The SCC made a recommendation to SA Water and the

Government of South Australia that a new site at Sleaford West would be suitable to host the desalination plant. Reasons behind its selection included it being rated by the Committee as the most favourable in the categories of environmental management, and social and community benefit. The preferred new site at Sleaford Bay was referred to the SA Water Board and the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water for consideration.

In March 2023, Deputy Premier Susan Close announced that the South Australian Government had accepted advice from SA Water that Billy Lights Point is the preferred location and preparatory work would begin on the \$313 million plant. A final decision on the plant will be informed by a separate business case being prepared by Infrastructure SA.

Space Industry

RDAEP established the Eyre Peninsula Space Industry Taskforce to ensure the region obtains maximum benefit from the investment being made in developing a Space Economy, and to capitalise on the region's competitive advantage as a "first-mover". The inaugural meeting was held on 7 September 2022.

In September 2022, Southern Launch spent multiple days at the Koonibba Test Range testing new technology and systems. The T-Minus Engineering DART rocket suffered an anomaly during lift-off and did not reach the expected speed or altitude.

December 2022, ATSpace and Southern Launch attempted the launch of two Kestrel I rockets. The VSO2 Mission resulted in the detection of a leak during oxidiser loading and the launch was scrubbed while the VSO3 Mission was scrubbed at T-15 minutes due to a technical issue with the ATSpace launch vehicle.

Rocket Factory Augsburg AG, Europe's leading launch service provider, has partnered with Southern Launch allowing for the German launcher RFA ONE to be launched. Eight space and defence companies from across Australia, including Southern Launch, also formed a new collaboration. The Australian Defence Industry Space Capability Alliance will ensure local industry leads the development of Australia's space capabilities by offering a range of expertise for key space-related projects. Also in 2022, Southern Launch was granted a share of the \$4.95m Australian Government's Modern Manufacturing Initiative.

With significant assistance provided by RDAEP, Koonibba Aboriginal Corporation, working in partnership with Southern Launch was successful in receiving \$4.479 million from the CSED grant program. The funding will invest in the construction of a permanent rocket launch facility and space observatory on Koonibba Community lands, creating enduring income, jobs, training, and two new economic streams through space launch and tourism.

RDAEP continues to assist Southern Launch and is working with key stakeholders to establish critical infrastructure and the development of ancillary industries locally.

Hydrogen

South Australia's Hydrogen Jobs Plan seeks to capture first-mover advantage established on Eyre Peninsula in the race to launch a competitive and sustainable green hydrogen sector. The \$593m plan centres on the development of a hydrogen electrolyser, a hydrogen-fuelled power plant, and a hydrogen storage facility in the vicinity of Whyalla. This investment will deliver thousands of new jobs and be the catalyst for further growth in the region's world-class renewable energy sector and position the State as a hydrogen innovator to further support the State's transition to a low-carbon future.

RDAEP has been engaged to be on the Expert Panel for site selection, following a Hydrogen Jobs Plan briefing by the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM). One or more sites suitable for hosting the hydrogen facility near Whyalla must be identified early in the project cycle. These sites can then be advanced for further investigation and consideration during the facility analysis, design and procurement stages of the project. Throughout 2022-23 RDAEP met with the DEM to seek input on the criteria and other considerations deemed important in

selecting sites to develop the required hydrogen infrastructure. As such RDAEP provided regional intelligence relative to logistics, connection to local industry, export and future growth opportunities as well as proximity to regional infrastructure, existing and future capacity/demand and export potential.

Canberra Delegation

RDAEP in partnership with the EPLGA facilitated a delegation of Eyre Peninsula councils attending our Nation's Capital as part of the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in June 2023. The delegation met with the Hon Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories to present the recently adopted Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026 (the Plan). The Plan delivers a unified vision and region-wide strategies for attaining sustainable economic development on the Eyre Peninsula over the next 3 years. It presents a series of shared priorities over the short to medium term, which is important as it will guide the allocation of resources by all levels of government.

The delegation also met with Senator Karen Grogan at Parliament House to present the recently adopted Plan and advocated for funding for key priorities such as regional General Practitioner recruitment, more childcare facilities and other regional issues.



3. CASE STUDIES



3.1 CASE STUDY 1 : Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026

The Eyre Peninsula Regional Strategic Plan adopted in 2019 required updating due to the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic, which led to significant disruptions in both international and domestic supply-chains, high inflation, record interest raises and increased cost of living pressures.

It also triggered regionalisation with people exiting urban centres for regions leading to a housing shortage across regional Australia. The region has identified an unprecedented level of investment in new and emerging industries intent to decarbonise industry in response to green market signals, all of which could be transformational for the regional economy.

It is important, to the extent possible, economic development stakeholders agree on a set of common priorities for their region to coordinate their collective efforts in a manner that ensures the achievement of outcomes is maximised. As a facilitator of economic development on the Eyre Peninsula, RDAEP has an important

role to play in bringing stakeholders together under a common strategic plan for the region.

With this in mind, RDAEP in partnership with the EPLGA and the EPLB commenced a process to jointly prepare a new Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan to deliver a unified vision and set of region-wide strategies for attaining sustainable economic development over the next three years. It was hoped that the Plan, once developed would guide investment by all levels of government and industry and assist the region to achieve its economic ambitions in a strategic and guided way.

A Strategic Regional Plan Working Group was established to provide oversight and guidance in the development of the new Plan. To kick-start the stakeholder engagement process a Discussion Paper and an online survey were prepared and released in September 2022 to better understand what stakeholders saw as the key challenges and opportunities for the sustainable economic growth of the Eyre Peninsula. This would also ensure that it reflected the expectations of the community and gave a strong sense of regional ownership. The survey received a total of 84 responses.

Following the results of the survey six workshops were held across the region in September 2022 (Ceduna, Streaky Bay, Port Lincoln, Cummins, Kimba and Whyalla), with over 100 people attending. Further individual meetings were held with each of the 11 Local Councils across the region in September and October to better understand the challenges and opportunities of Local Government as a key stakeholder.

Once the DRAFT Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026 was prepared, the document was released for an eight-week public consultation period between 5 December 2022 and 27 January 2023. Ten submissions were received through this engagement period. Feedback received was constructive with most submissions commending the RDAEP, EPLGA and EPLB for a well delivered plan. Upon review of the submissions, various changes were made to update and finalise the Plan.





The Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026 (the Plan), adopted by RDAEP, EPLGA and EPLB, identified the themes of Social Capacity, Infrastructure Capability, Economic Prosperity and Environmental Sustainability as key pillars. These themes are underpinned with 17 Priority Areas with associated strategies.

Priority Area 1: Housing and Accommodation - Increase housing supply, mix and choice to support population growth.

Priority Area 2: Healthcare Services - Improve access and quality of healthcare services to support improved community health and wellbeing.

Priority Area 3: Aged, Disability and Child Care - Facilitate greater access to aged and childcare services to drive workforce participation in the region.

Priority Area 4: Education and Training - Expand educational and training opportunities to develop the skills needed to meet workforce shortages.

Priority Area 5: Urban Amenity, Sustainability and Lifestyle - Enhance urban amenity and lifestyle pursuits in towns to support population attraction and retention.

Priority Area 6: Transport (Roads/ Ports/Rail) - Facilitate investment in strategic transport infrastructure to create new avenues to export markets, reduce costs and facilitate opportunities for local processing and value adding ventures.

Priority Area 7: Power Supply - Improved power supply and reliability through enhanced transmission infrastructure to meet expected future demand and facilitate further investment in renewable energy generation.

Priority Area 8: Water Security - Secure scalable sources of non-climate dependent water to support population and industry growth.

Priority Area 9: Telecommunications Connectivity - Increase the region's online capabilities through enhanced high-speed connectivity and associated mobile services coverage.

Priority Area 10: Economic Diversification - Support the development of new and emerging high value industries to diversify the regional economy.

Priority Area 11: Business Growth - Support sustained business growth by reducing input costs and improving operational efficiencies.

Priority Area 12: Visitor Economy - Facilitate a sustainable expansion of the visitor economy.

Priority Area 13: Collaboration and Cooperation - Provision of regional leadership through collaboration and cooperation.

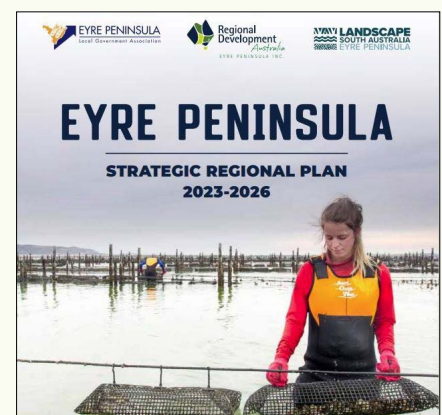
Priority Area 14: Water Resources Management - Effective ongoing management of water resources for future generations.

Priority Area 15: Land Care - Facilitate sustainable agricultural practices to ensure productive landscapes.

Priority Area 16: Pest Management - Support landowners to minimise the economic and environmental impacts of pest plants and animals through appropriate control.

Priority Area 17: Biodiversity - Protect, restore and enhance biodiversity and natural assets.

RDAEP have received very positive feedback on the Strategic Regional Plan from a variety of stakeholders and have committed to review and monitor the Plan. The Strategic Regional Plan will also inform activities of the RDAEP, EPLGA and EPLB Board's Annual Business Plans over the next 3 years.





3.2 CASE STUDY 2 : Health Roundtable

Access to health services was viewed as a major concern with the potential to negatively impact on the growth prospects of the region.

The issue is blamed on the declining numbers of health professionals employed locally, especially doctors. The 2022-23 RDAEP Annual Business Plan elevated health to the number one priority issue impacting on liveability in the region.

There has been a great deal of effort undertaken in this sector however the single biggest piece of work was commissioned by the Northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance (NEPHA) in 2020 with the assistance of a grant from the Hon. Greg Hunt, the Minister for Health in the previous Australian Government.

The report, "Proposal to Address Failure of Medical Services on Northern Eyre Peninsula", detailed a model for conducting GP practices across the NEPHA region that would be sustainable in the long term. The report proposed recruitment and retention incentives, and the provision

of modern executive level housing and upgrades to medical practice infrastructure. The model recognised the lifestyle requirements that younger GPs are demanding and, no longer willing to be the sole GP in a town on call 24/7.

To assist NEPHA in sending a message to the Australian Government and bringing the model to their attention for funding consideration a health roundtable was organised with invites sent to the Australian Government, the State Government, Eyre and Far North Local Health Network, and representative bodies for GPs.

Senator Karen Grogan, a South Australian Senator with a demonstrated interest in health issues, was nominated by the Australian Minister for Health and Ageing, the Hon. Mark Butler, to represent the Australian Government at the roundtable. An independent facilitator, Wendy Campana, was utilised to chair the discussion.

A focus was to highlight that the Northern Eyre Peninsula region is essentially a snapshot reflective of a national issue and that the model

proposed in the NEPHA report could be a pilot program capable of being rolled out across the nation.

A major outcome was to bring together all the issues impacting on the recruitment of GPs including university intake numbers, issues with gaining accreditation for overseas trained GPs, failings of the Medicare system and the application of the Monash Medical Model, higher salaries and better working conditions of specialists compared with GPs and the decline of the single GP medical practice with recent graduates preferring a better work/life balance.

While no immediate impact or benefit for the Eyre Peninsula was forthcoming in the subsequent Australian Government budget the plight of the region, and rural and remote Australia, regarding the lack of GPs, has been brought to Canberra's attention and RDAEP is committed to continuing the advocacy on this issue until the situation improves.

3.3 CASE STUDY 3 : Eyre Peninsula Regional Brand Project

RDAEP completed the development of a regional tourism brand; positioning 'Eyre' as South Australia's 'Wild Side'.

The project, commencing in July 2022, followed a 2-stage process to firstly review the Eyre Peninsula – Australia's Seafood Frontier brand and consult with community and stakeholders, and secondly brand identity development on the recommendation of stage 1.

Developed over 9 months of intensive community engagement, 'Eyre – The Wild Side' captures the unique essence of Eyre Peninsula's truly wild tourism product offering. It was evident through consultation that sustainability and preservation are a high priority for our communities, which mirrors the vision for tourism management of the region.

The branding project was a recommendation from the 2018 signage strategy: "The regional tourism brand message, positioning and image for the Eyre Peninsula be clarified and created. It should be used to guide the development of

a consistent message and tourism signage approach throughout the region. The brand should be applied in all marketing promotional and information materials for the Eyre Peninsula including online, in print and on signage."

RDAEP appointed Fuller, a South Australian brand communications agency, who led the project with support and guidance from the region's 11 councils.

The new brand was revealed on March 30 2023 in the company of the Hon Zoe Bettison MP, Minister for Tourism and Multicultural Affairs, and Emma Terry, the newly appointed CEO of the South Australian Tourism Commission, at an event attended by over 100 stakeholders and community.

'Eyre – The Wild Side' finds a common ground in which all 11 councils and their communities, both inland and coastal, feel included and celebrated, while also positioning Eyre as a must-visit destination.

Along with the recent development of the Eyre Peninsula Marketing Plan, the strengthened brand positioning provides an opportunity to celebrate

what makes us unique, and to attract our best visitors. The Eyre brand will be used moving forward for tourism promotion as an evolution from the previous 'Seafood Frontier' branding, which will continue to support the seafood industry.

The new brand presents a new era for Eyre, enabling the region to not only attract the right visitors, but to evoke a sense of pride and unity within local communities. It will attract visitors who travel respectfully and want to connect with our region on a deeper level – just as the locals do.

The new branding was made possible thanks to the vision and collaboration of the region's 11 councils, who collectively contributed to the project.

To access the new brand style guide visit:

www.rdaep.org.au/economic-programs/tourism-development

EYRE
STH•AUS



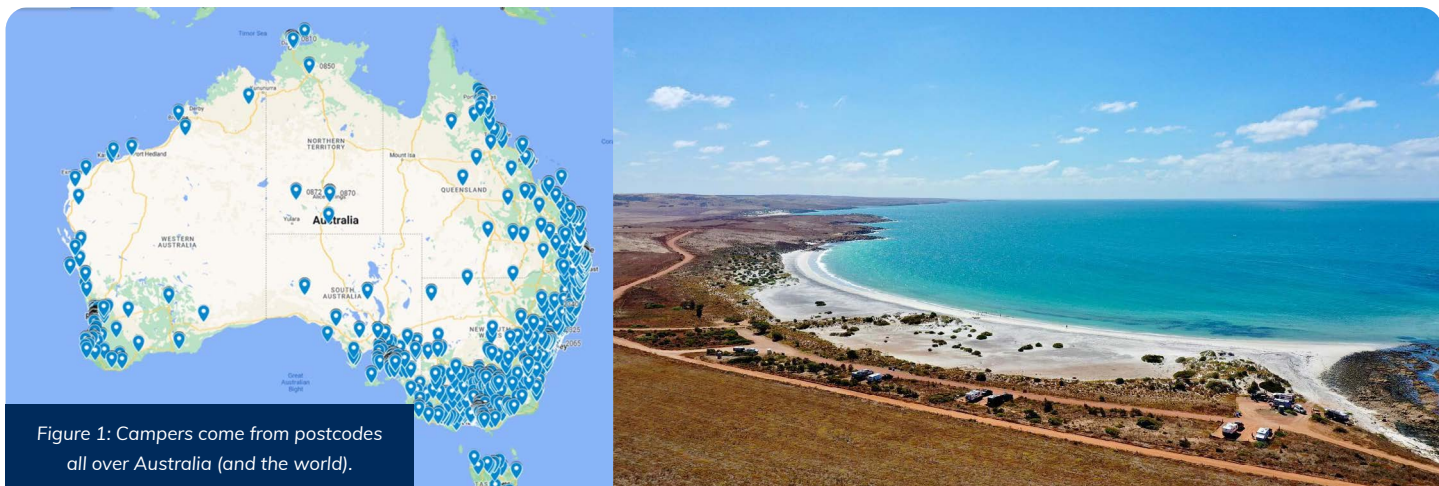


Figure 1: Campers come from postcodes all over Australia (and the world).

3.4 CASE STUDY 4 : Eyes on Eyre Update

In 2021, a significant challenge emerged on the Eyre Peninsula - campgrounds started to suffer from over-visitation, leading to negative environmental impacts.

In response, the Eyes on Eyre Online Camping Project, a comprehensive and sustainable approach to campground management, was born. This effort was facilitated by a collaborative partnership involving RDAEP, EPLB, local councils, and the EPLGA.

The project was established to upgrade camping grounds to a minimum and consistent quality standard of facilities and signage, while also tackling the environmental issues at each location. By leveraging technology, it was aimed to establish WiFi nodes and create an online booking system, inspired by the success of other camping grounds, particularly those in National Parks. The online system served not just as a booking platform but also as an educational tool, fostering respect for the environment, promoting good camping practices, and sharing seasonal highlights.

In 2022, RDAEP utilised a \$500,000 grant from Department of Environment and Water (DEW) to support infrastructure upgrades to improve campground management on the Eyre Peninsula and fund an online booking system now managed by the EPLGA.

During 2022, in partnership with EPLB and Councils, RDAEP delivered remarkable results with several councils coming on-board the booking system in conjunction with campsite upgrades and clear, consistent signage. The platform for online bookings is promoted via www.eyrepenninsula.com/camping.

Notable outcomes include:

1. Consistent booking process for a better visitor experience.
2. Increased length of stay from visitors traveling from both within and outside the state.
3. Effective use of digital technology and cashless payments.
4. Creation of value-adding opportunities for new service businesses.
5. Better protection for Eyre Peninsula's unique environment through the establishment of capacity limits and zoning for campgrounds.

6. A replicable camping node model that delivers best practices for councils and regional stakeholders.
7. Successful adoption of an online booking system, mirroring the success of other campgrounds in National Parks.

RDAEP promotes the online booking platform on the Eyre Peninsula website, attracting high-value visitors while providing them with the confidence and knowledge to travel to Eyre Peninsula.

In 2022-23, the online booking system saw 14,000 bookings, catering to 35,000 visitors, for a total of 29,000 nights. Revenue has increased by 220%, allowing councils to offset waste management costs and reinvest in better camping facilities. The data collected has proven invaluable in guiding the decision-making process.

The Eyes on Eyre project has proven to be an enormous success, being featured in several articles including in both Glam Adelaide and Eyre Peninsula Advocate publications. The council-managed campgrounds have reported improvement in environmental health and visitor satisfaction. Travellers, particularly those from interstate, are staying longer and exploring more of the Eyre Peninsula. The online system has improved visitor behaviour and minimised environmental impacts.



3.5 CASE STUDY 5 : StudyAdelaide Tour

The Eyre Peninsula Strategic Regional Plan 2023-2026 identified workforce shortages, upskilling, education and training as a challenge across the region.

To assist with overcoming this RDAEP worked closely with StudyAdelaide to promote the Eyre Peninsula as a destination for international students and graduates currently studying in Adelaide.

Fifty students on a bus for three days and two nights - sounds like a challenge! However, when the international students are mature age graduates, many with a Master's degree, and all coming to the Eyre Peninsula on a mission to find work, then the tour becomes an enjoyable task introducing students to prospective employers and highlighting the many attractions of the region.

The trip occurred in April 2023 and is hopefully the first of many repeat journeys to help alleviate the skilled employee shortage across the Eyre Peninsula. The focus of this trip was Whyalla and Port Lincoln where the students stayed overnight with stops at Tumby Bay and Cowell on the way.

Students were treated to functions hosted by Councils and UniSA to meet employers in engineering, health, hospitality and other sectors. Community leaders spoke passionately about what the region has to offer and current residents from overseas related their experience with moving to the region and integrating into the local community.

The regional response from employers to the trip was positive with between 20 and 30 businesses at the evening sessions at Whyalla and Port Lincoln. Engineering students toured the GFG Whyalla Steelworks and health students toured Whyalla Hospital, Helping Hand and Port Lincoln Hospital.

Many students were contacted by businesses with some positive employment outcomes anticipated. Some businesses unable to attend the sessions contacted RDAEP asking for contact details of students in their industry sector.

In the follow up survey after the trip, over 90% of students responded that they would work in a regional area with over 75% stating that the trip had changed their perceptions of living and working in regions. At least 18 students had applied

for jobs with negotiations ongoing. Additionally, 80% of the students that were currently studying said that they would consider doing work placement or summer intern program in a regional area while studying.

For the businesses the benefits are many with students being brought to the region to familiarise themselves with the local area and meet with businesses on their doorstep. Graduates in many industry sectors do not require expensive visas and do not require sponsorship with the ability to work in Australia for up to seven years. And lastly the students all nominated for the trip with the intention of finding employment.

Planning the trip was undertaken by StudyAdelaide, and RDAEP with assistance from Workforce Australia. Funding was provided by StudyAdelaide with assistance from Port Lincoln City Council, Whyalla City Council and RDAEP sponsoring functions and providing tour guides for some local sightseeing.

With the 50 students being handpicked from over 180 registrations, and with the skilled workforce shortage being an on-going issue the potential for repeat trips is positive.

3.6 CASE STUDY 6 : Ceduna Art and Cultural Precinct

In March 2018 RDAEP was approached by the Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation to discuss the concept of the establishment of an Aboriginal Art and Cultural Centre in the main business area of Ceduna.

RDAEP developed a business plan that included the history of the current Arts Ceduna operation which is still in use however is in need of demolishing and rebuilding.

The new concept included the purchase of parcels of land that encompassed the Ceduna Visitor Centre and vacant allotments adjoining. The new building was to incorporate the Visitor Centre, which is owned by the District Council of Ceduna. Whilst the concept had in principle support from elected members, regulatory council processes meant that funding time deadlines would not be achieved.

Jointly with RDAEP, it was decided to change the building design and

approach the project in two stages, Stage 1 being the building of a waterfront gallery on land in the town centre, near the Ceduna jetty and close to the Aboriginal fish traps. The site is also close to the Ceduna Foreshore Hotel Motel and one of the town's leading caravan parks.

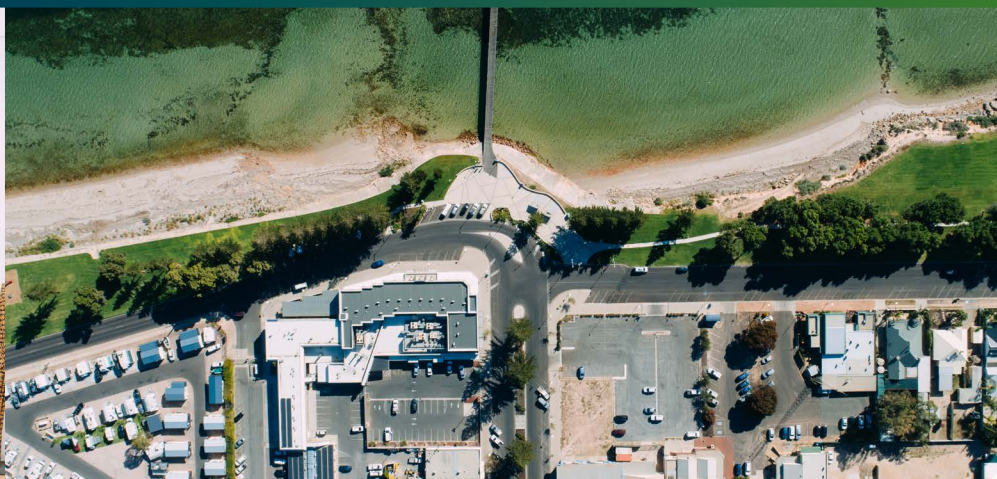
Stage 2 incorporates redevelopment of the existing Arts Ceduna and Far West Languages Centre buildings on the Eyre Highway. This will include the much-needed upgrade of the existing main building together with the addition of two purpose-built buildings incorporating an artist training workshop facility and language recording studios. Extensive car parking and landscaping will also be part of this stage of works.

RDAEP provided valuable assistance in developing Terms of Reference, sourcing funds, and engaging a business agent that specialises in planning relative to Aboriginal Art and Language Centres. This project is also underpinned by the Far West Aboriginal Tourism Strategy that RDAEP is developing jointly with input from the Far West Aboriginal

Corporations, tour operators, and other interested stakeholders.

In January 2023, with detailed planning and strategic support, the Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation was invited to apply for funding from the Australian Government to engage builders and other infrastructure providers, plus architects, designers, planners, and suppliers. Local builders and suppliers will be used with Aboriginal employment both in the initial activity and ongoing, as a priority.

With RDAEP's input the Ceduna Aboriginal Corporation was able to show they were shovel ready and able to successfully apply for funding to build what will be an asset to the Far West of South Australia. Funding of \$6m has been approved. It is intended to complete the building and commence Stage 1 in March 2024.



4. FINANCIAL REPORT



2022-23 RDA EYRE PENINSULA AUDIT COMMITTEE – ANNUAL REPORT

The Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula (RDAEP) Audit Committee (AC) is constituted and operates under Terms of Reference (ToR) established by the RDAEP Board. The Audit Committee is appointed by the Board. The ToR were reviewed and updated by the Board on 25 February 2021.

Audit Committee membership and meeting attendance - of three meetings held in 2022-23 - was:

- Rob Donaldson, Independent Chair (three meetings)
- Delfina Lanzilli, Independent Member (three meetings)
- Bryan Trigg, RDAEP Chair (three meetings)
- Malcolm Catt, RDAEP Deputy Chair (three meetings)
- Sue Chase, RDAEP Board Member (two meetings).

Meetings were held at the RDAEP Boardroom with virtual participation enabled and regularly and effectively used. The Committee acknowledges the excellent work of RDAEP key staff in providing administrative support and professional advice and in relation to matters requiring review.

A Work Plan is in place to guide the Committee's an annual cycle of deliberations, aligned to the ToR requirements and the Board's key business and financial planning and reporting milestones.

The Work Plan has been consistently implemented, and any outstanding Work Plan actions are tracked until completed.

Notable Committee outcomes for 2022-23 included:

- review of the 2021-22 financial statements and external audit with the Board's Auditor, and relevant advice to the RDAEP Board
- minor revision of the Work Plan
- increased focus on risk management, compliance and due diligence in the Committee's review considerations and recommendations.

The Committee has provided advice and/or recommendations to RDAEP administration or the Board as and when required or determined appropriate.

I thank the Committee members and staff for their contributions and diligent, practical and balanced approach to the Committee's business throughout 2022-23.

Rob Donaldson - Independent Chair RDAEP Audit Committee. October 2023

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Your committee submit the financial statements of the Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Committee Members

The following persons were members of the incorporated association during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Chairperson:	Bryan Trigg	
Public Officer:	Ryan Viney	
Committee:	Malcom Catt (Deputy Chair)	Sue Chase
	Allan Suter	Neville Starke
	Heather Baldock	Travis Barber
	Pam Schlink	
	Matthew Waller	
	Joshua Telfer	

In accordance with Section 35 (5) of the Associations Incorporation Act (1985), the committee hereby states that during the financial year ended 30 June 2023:

- the committee members are paid a sitting fee from non Commonwealth funding for the meetings they attend to cover their time and any minor outgoings incurred.

Apart from the above:

- a) no officer of the Association
no firm of which an officer is a member, and
no body corporate in which an officer has a substantial financial interest,

has received or become entitled to receive a benefit as a result of a contract between the officer, firm or corporate body and the Association.
- b) No officer of the Association has received directly or indirectly from the Association any payment or other pecuniary value.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were to:

- Provide assistance via various external funding activities to the community, industry and business, and Government agencies in the following broad areas:
 - Economic Development
 - Indigenous Economic Development
 - Tourism Development
 - Employment and Training Programmes
 - Business Development programmes
- Note that the complete range of actual programmes is published in our annual plan and can be made available on request

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.


REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Operating Result


	30/06/2023	30/06/2022
	\$	\$
The surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities amounted to:	151,126	74,917

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee



Chairperson

Dated this 27 day of October 2023



Deputy Chair

Dated this 27 day of October 2023

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue	2	2,045,387	1,677,698
Expenses			
Employee expenses		(760,722)	(1,017,821)
Depreciation expense		(28,177)	(25,712)
Advertising and promotion expense		(5,314)	(8,207)
Rental expense		(32,737)	(38,939)
Project funding expenses		(742,873)	(201,316)
Estimated Credit Loss Provision		-	-
Sundry expenses		<u>(324,438)</u>	<u>(310,786)</u>
Current year surplus / (deficit)		151,126	74,917
Income tax expense		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net current year surplus / (deficit)		<u><u>151,126</u></u>	<u><u>74,917</u></u>

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,690,022	2,206,382
Accounts receivable and other debtors	5	298,063	115,993
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,988,085	2,322,375
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	148,176	123,013
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		148,176	123,013
TOTAL ASSETS		2,136,261	2,445,388
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other payables	7	96,255	177,749
Employee benefits	8	79,433	148,993
Unexpended Grants		494,189	802,752
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		669,877	1,129,495
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	9	21,072	21,707
		21,072	21,707
TOTAL LIABILITIES		690,949	1,151,202
NET ASSETS		1,445,312	1,294,186
EQUITY			
Reserves	10	1,428,961	1,428,961
Retained surplus / (deficit)		16,351	(134,775)
TOTAL EQUITY		1,445,312	1,294,186

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Retained Deficits \$	General Reserves \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	(209,692)	1,428,961	1,219,269
Net deficit for the year	74,917	-	74,917
Transfer to reserves	-	-	-
Transfer from reserves	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2022	(134,775)	1,428,961	1,294,186
Net surplus for the year	151,126	-	151,126
Transfer to reserves	-	-	-
Transfer from reserves	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023	16,351	1,428,961	1,445,312

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Grants operating received		613,000	1,621,499
Project funding		926,767	546,499
Other receipts		-	-
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,017,773)	(1,555,420)
Interest received		11,945	3,209
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities		<u>(466,061)</u>	<u>615,787</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(66,541)	(59,366)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		16,242	-
Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities		<u>(50,299)</u>	<u>(59,366)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		(516,360)	556,421
Cash on hand at beginning of financial year		2,206,382	1,649,962
Cash on hand at end of financial year	4	<u><u>1,690,022</u></u>	<u><u>2,206,382</u></u>

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act SA. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

(a) Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Property, Plant & Equipment is carried at cost, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the incorporated association. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

(b) Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognized in the income and expenditure statement.

(c) Employee Provisions

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee provisions have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(e) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discount and volume rebates allowed.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

(f) Revenue and Other Income (continued)

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt.

If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

(h) Accounts Payable and Other Payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(i) Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

(k) Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(k) Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions (Continued)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic

Judgement has been exercised in considering the impacts that the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had, or may have, on the incorporated association based on known information. This consideration extends to the nature of the products and services offered, customers, supply chain, staffing and geographic regions in which the incorporated association operates. Other than as addressed in specific notes, there does not currently appear to be either any significant impact upon the financial statements or any significant uncertainties with respect to events or conditions which may impact the incorporated association unfavourably as at the reporting date or subsequently as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 2: Revenue and Other Income		
Administration grants	1,103,634	1,127,859
Project funding	926,767	546,499
Interest received	11,945	3,209
Other income	3,041	132
	<u>2,045,387</u>	<u>1,677,699</u>
Note 3: Auditors' Fees		
Remuneration of the auditor of the association for:		
Auditing the financial report	9,800	8,650
Auditing project grant acquittal reports	945	875
Other services	2,693	2,295
	<u>13,438</u>	<u>11,820</u>
Note 4: Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash in hand	200	200
Cash at bank	329,948	777,742
Cash on deposit	1,359,874	1,428,440
	<u>1,690,022</u>	<u>2,206,382</u>
Note 5: Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors		
Project debtors	298,063	115,084
Other debtors	-	909
	<u>298,063</u>	<u>115,993</u>
Note 6: Property, Plant and Equipment		
Office Equipment - at Cost	114,644	114,644
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(101,410)</u>	<u>(99,343)</u>
	<u>13,234</u>	<u>15,301</u>
Motor Vehicle - at Cost	219,361	184,730
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(84,419)</u>	<u>(77,018)</u>
	<u>134,942</u>	<u>107,712</u>
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	<u><u>148,176</u></u>	<u><u>123,013</u></u>

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial period are set out below:

	Carrying Amount at 30 June 2022	Additions	Disposals	Depreciation Expense	Carrying Amount at 30 June 2023
Office Equipment	15,301	-	-	(2,067)	13,234
Motor Vehicle	107,712	66,541	(13,201)	(26,110)	134,942
	<u>123,013</u>	<u>66,541</u>	<u>(13,201)</u>	<u>(28,177)</u>	<u>148,176</u>

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 7: Accounts Payable and Other Payables		
Sundry and other creditors	6,859	76,388
Credit card control account	11,143	3,503
GST payable	28,321	19,216
Payroll liabilities	<u>49,932</u>	<u>78,642</u>
	<u>96,255</u>	<u>177,749</u>
Note 8: Employee Provisions - Current		
Annual leave entitlements	57,688	85,448
Long service leave entitlements	<u>21,745</u>	<u>63,545</u>
	<u>79,433</u>	<u>148,993</u>
Note 9: Employee Provisions - Non-Current		
Long service leave entitlements	<u>21,072</u>	<u>21,707</u>
	<u>21,072</u>	<u>21,707</u>
Note 10: General Reserves		
Reserves - project allocation	<u>1,428,961</u>	<u>1,428,961</u>
	<u>1,428,961</u>	<u>1,428,961</u>
Note 11. Operating Lease Commitments		
Being for rent of office and motor vehicles:		
Payable - minimum lease payments:		
-not later than 12 months	33,556	32,737
-between 12 months and five years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>33,556</u>	<u>32,737</u>

Note 12. Contingent liabilities

RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc. have bank guarantees in place to cover payroll processing with their external provider.

These were in place for 30 June 2023 and 30 June 2022.

RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc. currently has no ongoing legal activity.

Apart from above, RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc. had no other contingent liabilities.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

Note 13. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2023 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc's operations, the results of those operations, or RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc's state of affairs in future financial years.

Note 14. Economic Dependence

The ongoing operations of RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc is dependent on receiving operational funding from the Local, State and Federal governments.

In addition to the current projects that are funded to promote economic development in the region, RDA Eyre Peninsula Inc. continue to run a number of unfunded programs using their own operational funding. Without the the support of the government, the special projects may not be viable to continue.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.


STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements as set out on pages 3 to 13:

- 1 Presents fairly the financial position of Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Inc. as at 30 June 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



Chairperson

Dated this 27 day of October 2023.



Deputy Chair

Dated this 27 day of October 2023.

**RSM Australia Pty Ltd**

Level 4, 191 Pulteney Street Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 973 Adelaide SA 5001

T +61 (0) 8 8232 3000

F +61 (0) 8 8223 3555

www.rsm.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**To the Members of Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Incorporated****Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit and loss, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Incorporated as at 30 June 2023, and its performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Note 1 to the financial statements and the Associations Incorporation Act (SA) 1985.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Incorporated in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Regional Development Australia & Eyre Peninsula Incorporated to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (SA) 1985. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD**AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING**

RSM Australia Pty Ltd is a member of the RSM network and trades as RSM. RSM is the trading name used by the members of the RSM network. Each member of the RSM network is an independent accounting and consulting firm which practices in its own right. The RSM network is not itself a separate legal entity in any jurisdiction.

RSM Australia Pty Ltd ACN 009 321377 atf Birdanco Practice Trust ABN 65 319 382 479 trading as RSM

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Stenhouse'.

Ged Stenhouse
Director

RSM Australia Pty Ltd

Adelaide, South Australia
Dated: 30 October 2023

**RSM Australia Pty Ltd**

Level 4, 191 Pulteney Street Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 973 Adelaide SA 5001

T +61 (0) 8 8232 3000

F +61 (0) 8 8223 3555

www.rsm.com.au

AUDITOR'S DISCLAIMER**REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INCORPORATED**

The additional financial data presented in the following pages is in accordance with the books and records of the Association which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2023. It will be appreciated that our audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person, (other than to Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors or omissions therein however caused.

Ged Stenhouse
Director

RSM Australia Pty Ltd

Adelaide, South Australia

Dated: 30 October 2023

THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD
AUDIT | TAX | CONSULTING

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REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
INCOME			
Interest Received		11,945	3,209
		<u>11,945</u>	<u>3,209</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Administration Grants		1,103,634	1,127,859
Project Funding		926,767	546,499
Wage Subsidies		-	-
Office Subrental		-	132
Profit on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		3,041	-
		<u>2,033,442</u>	<u>1,674,490</u>
		<u>2,045,387</u>	<u>1,677,698</u>
		2023 \$	2022 \$
EXPENDITURE			
Advertising & Promotion		5,314	8,207
Audit & Accounting Fees		12,218	11,820
Bank Charges & Taxes		441	667
Board Meeting Expenses		40,595	43,636
Cleaning and Repairs		8,144	6,766
Computer Expenses		46,025	30,354
Consultants Fees		742,873	201,316
Depreciation		28,177	25,712
Electricity & Gas		-	2,833
Estimated Credit Loss Provision		-	-
Fringe Benefits Tax		15,234	17,852
Insurance		2,082	2,438
Legal Costs		4,955	9,711
Loss on Disposal of Assets		-	-
Motor Vehicle		26,153	46,952
Photocopier Expenses		1,536	883
Postage		2,522	2,154
Project Expenses		-	-
Printing & Stationery		4,536	2,893
Publications		57,754	43,790
Rates & Taxes		-	-
Rent		32,737	38,939
Security		556	593
Seminars		6,835	1,048
Sponsorship		9,614	8,000
Staff Amenities		2,951	2,418
Subscriptions		12,352	14,388
Sundry Expenses		393	65
Telephone		11,058	20,251
Travel & Accommodation		58,484	41,274
Payroll		813,389	1,009,499
Payroll Overheads		(52,667)	8,321
Asset Expenses		-	-
		<u>1,894,261</u>	<u>1,602,781</u>
Net current year surplus / (deficit)		<u>151,126</u>	<u>74,917</u>

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA EYRE PENINSULA INC.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Net current year surplus / (deficit)	151,126	74,917
RETAINED DEFICIT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	(134,775)	(209,692)
NET TRANSFERS FROM RESERVES	-	-
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION	16,351	(134,775)
RETAINED DEFICIT AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	16,351	(134,775)



EYRE
STH • AUS

Regional Development Australia Eyre Peninsula Inc.

Email : reception@rdaep.org.au

Website : www.rdaep.org.au