

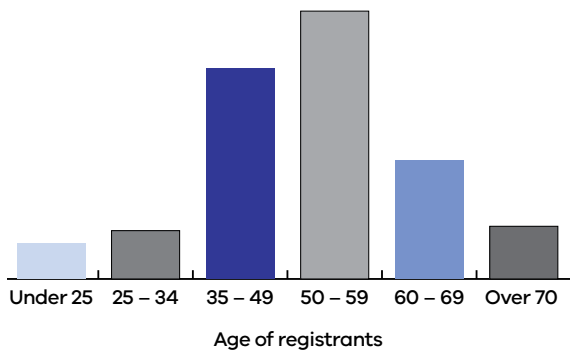
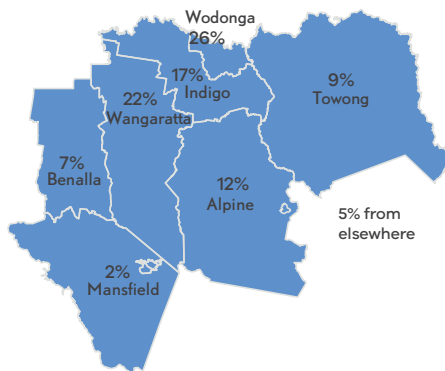


2017 Ovens Murray Regional Assembly

Wodonga, 27 July 2017

Around 220 attendees, including 170 community members, plus the Premier, Ministers, local MPs, senior Government representatives and Partnership members.

Demographics of registrants



49 per cent of those who registered were not on our original invitation list and were therefore new to Regional Partnership engagement.



Main themes discussed

The focus of our Assembly was on building a resilient, adaptable and innovative region with a strong future in a rapidly changing environment. The main topics discussed were:

- Entrepreneurship and start ups
- Smart technology
- Health and wellbeing
- Agriculture
- Environment
- Transport
- Collaboration
- Education and employment



Ideas proposed for innovation:

- Build a sustainable regional food system, strategic approach for agriculture
- A rural and regional business hub
- Bring international students into regions
- Community capability network to link people, places and projects
- Tinder style app for older volunteers to use their skills
- Toolkit for community owned renewable energy
- Digital support hubs
- Revolution in public transport
- Leveraging community finance
- SOS - Support our students to stay connected to the region
- Waking the Sleeping Mount Buffalo



2017 Ovens Murray Regional Assembly



Your voice making a difference

In 2016, following our Regional Assembly and consultation process, the Ovens Murray Regional Partnership identified funding for cycle tourism as one of our top priorities.

As a direct result of efforts by the Regional Partnership, the Victorian Government allocated \$12 million in the 2017/18 Budget to strengthen the reputation of North East Victoria as a world class cycling destination.

Partnership Chair Irene Grant welcomed the funding. "It will allow the region to capitalise on its strength in cycle tourism, supporting increased visitors, business activation and more regional jobs," she explains.

The funding for the North East Victoria Cycling Optimisation Project will help deliver world class cycling infrastructure and stimulate private investment in accommodation and tourism services.

Feedback on the Assembly

Nearly 60 people provided feedback on the Assembly and the engagement process. The feedback was predominantly very positive, with overwhelming agreement that everyone was provided with the opportunity to participate in discussions and activities at the Assembly.

Moving forward

The Regional Partnership is considering all information gathered at the Assembly, and from our other engagement activities. Our priorities will then be considered in the Government's Budget process.

