



Call for Abstracts

2015 APEN Conference

**ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
10 - 12 NOVEMBER 2015**

The Australasian Pacific Extension Network (APEN) will present its bi-annual Conference in Adelaide from November 10 to 12. The Conference aims to arm attendees with knowledge and skills needed to embrace the challenges of the changing world before us. Changes include developments in communication, the adoption of social media, the increasing use of on-line communication platforms and challenges in sourcing funding as government policies change.

The theme for this year's Conference is '**Managing change, innovation and action in an ever-shrinking world**'. Under this banner, key focus areas are:

The 'On-line' world | Measuring effectiveness | Change and innovation | Meaningful engagement

The APEN Conference committee is now **calling for abstracts** from researchers, science communicators and extension practitioners wanting to take part in the event as a presenter and/or by submitting a paper for publication.

The Conference program will feature a number of 10 to 30 minute sessions that will run concurrently over two days. Abstracts will be reviewed by the Committee and successful applicants will be invited to deliver a presentation and/or a poster or paper for publication in the APEN Rural Extension and Innovation Systems Journal.

To submit an abstract for the 2015 APEN Conference, please refer to the conference abstract guidelines and abstract sample format on the APEN Website at www.apen.org.au/Conference_2015. Submit by email: info@apen.org.au.

What to include?

Abstract should summarise the important points of the proposed presentation and highlight the original content to be communicated. It needs to be concise yet informative, and contain an outline of the aims, methods, relevance, results and conclusions (key learnings) of the work reported.

Note:

- Abstracts must follow the sample abstract format (see www.apen.org.au) and not exceed 350 words.
- The file name of the document should be the same as the title of your abstract.
- The corresponding author must include their telephone, email and social media contact details.
- Those submitting abstracts should indicate whether they want to be considered for an oral or a poster presentation. They should also indicate whether they would like to provide a Practice paper (maximum 6 pages) or a Research paper (maximum 10 pages) for publication in the REIS journal.

Dates and deadlines

Paper abstracts are due by 3pm, March 31, 2015. Authors will be notified of outcomes by May 1. Poster only abstracts are due July 17, 2015. Questions about the abstract submission process can be directed to info@apen.org.au.

Abstract Format

Abstract title [Title style]

NOTE: Authors, you can save this file to your computer. It is a Word template file formatted in the REIS journal style using Word styles. If you know how to use Word templates and styles you can save it as a template in the appropriate directory. The main styles are in the Quick Style Gallery. Please delete this paragraph from the final abstract.

Mary Smith¹ and John Jones² [Author style]

1 Organisation One, Address, Town, State 8888 [Authors contacts style]

2 Organisation Two, Address, Town, State 8888

Email: email address of contact author only in 8 pt font

Abstract: Maximum length of abstract is 350 words. Abstracts exceeding this length will be returned for editing. However, papers accepted for publication in the REIS Journal will need to be shortened to 150 words. Do not change fonts, font sizes or line spacing as consistency in submissions will assist APEN in easily formatting the final conference proceedings. The abstract should conclude with a sentence on the key lesson/s from the work reported. [Abstract style]

Keywords: Six key words not used in the title of the abstract; the seventh word and beyond will be deleted. [Abstract style]

Type of paper [Heading 1 style]: Please indicate whether you wish to publish a paper in the REIS Journal, either in the Research section, the Practice section, or if you only wish to present and not publish a paper. Please check the appropriate box below. [Body text style]

- Research Practice No paper (conference proceedings abstract only)

Type of presentation: Presenters should note their presentation choice/s for the conference. Please note that Posters will be displayed throughout the conference and the conference program will include poster presentations.

- Oral presentation
 Poster display with speaking opportunity
 Poster display without speaking opportunity
 Other, please advise _____

Research section [Heading 2 style]: REIS Journal reflects the multidisciplinary character of APEN, encompassing work relevant to academic researchers and extension practitioners in agriculture, agribusiness and natural resource management. The Research section publishes research into agricultural and natural resource change management, extension, development and innovation systems issues that follows a rigorous and recognised disciplinary research methodology and has been double-blind reviewed by Editorial Board members and selected reviewers. It targets professional extension practitioners, researchers and educators.

The editor appraises a submission to the Research section, determines whether it meets the journal's criteria, and if so sends it to two reviewers for a blind review. If a submission does not meet the criteria, the editor will either reject it or return it to the author with suggestions for revision. A maximum of 10 pages in the journal format is desirable.

Practice section: Critical reflection is an important element of learning and development for individuals and the community of practice of which they are a part. The aim of the Practice section of the REIS Journal is to provide a forum for practitioners and academics to share their experiences and practical innovations with others in the fields of agricultural extension, farm management and natural resource management. The focus is on informal, accessible articles that document not only successes, but also failures and the lessons from extension professionals' experiences. A maximum of six pages in the journal format is desirable.

Abstract submission dates and methods: Abstracts must be received electronically by 3pm Tuesday 31 March 2015 to info@apen.org.au. Authors who are not able to submit their abstract online are asked to contact info@apen.org.au to arrange to submit a hard copy. Questions about the submission process can be directed to info@apen.org.au or by phoning APEN Secretariat on 02 6024 5349.

Manuscript preparation: Authors should submit their manuscripts electronically as Word files, using the journal style and format described below. Further information on the REIS Journal style and requirements can be found at <http://www.apen.org.au/rural-extension-and-innovations-systems-journal>.

Biography: A 100 word biography of the lead author including positions, career details and major work achievements are to be submitted with your abstract. Please use full sentences rather than dot points and write in the third person. Should your abstract be accepted, your biography will be published on the website, in relevant conference documents and may be used when introducing you if you are present at the conference. Your biography should include your name, address, email and social media details.

Images: Abstracts should be accompanied by a high resolution JPEG of the author and up to 5 high resolution JPEGs about the abstract/project which can be used in conference publications and journals at the discretion of APEN.

Key Learning/s: Abstracts should conclude with a sentence on the key learning/s from the work reported.

2015 APEN CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 10-12 2015 ADELAIDE, SA EMAIL: info@apen.org.au