



Local Government Association Conference NSW Local Government and Shires Associations & Tamworth Regional Council 2009

A Sustainable Conference

The LGSA and Tamworth Regional Council in association with Tourism Tamworth Ltd were committed to working together to create a sustainable LGA conference in 2009. A number of initiatives were implemented in the organisation of this event to reduce the impact on the environment and set a positive precedent.

 [LGSA & Sustainable Event Solutions Case Study - LGA Conference 2009 \(392KB\)](#)

Environmental Sustainability Commitment

The LGSA is committed to environmental sustainability at our events and conferences.

[*View LGSA's principles and guidelines for sustainable events*](#)

Initiatives - LGSA

The Local Government Association Conference in 2009 implemented the Sustainable Event Management System (SEMS) across the conference to understand the current sustainability performance of event production and delivery.

Outcomes from implementing SEMS at LGA were to:

- Educate and create awareness of best practice sustainability objectives to all staff and suppliers
- Measure performance to be able to set reduction and efficiency goals and targets for 2010
- Deliver a sustainability report to include carbon, waste and sustainability results to all stakeholders and attendees post the event.



SEMS is a sustainability solution for the events industry which enables event managers to track, report, and compare the sustainability of the events they manage. It assesses and reports on the environmental, social and economic parameters of the production of an event or meeting. SEMS has been developed for all event and meetings organizers/industry, government, private enterprise and NGO's. SEMS has been created by Australian company, Sustainable Event Solutions.

The LGSA worked with conference host councils to ensure sustainable initiatives were in place. For the 2009 LGA Conference, they included:

- 100% Green Energy used at the Entertainment Centre
- Fuel efficient bus transport schedules
- Implementation of a Waste Reduction Policy
- Name badges reused where possible
- All recycling opportunities were signposted
- Paper recycling was available
- All drink containers used throughout the conference were recycled
- All printers and photocopiers had a double sided printing facility
- Lights were turned off in areas of the Entertainment Centre when not in use for the conference



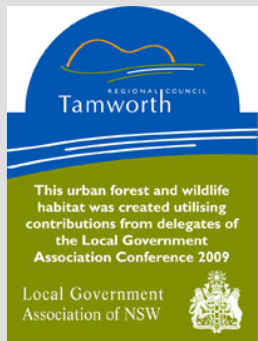
- Electronic communication was the preferred method throughout the planning of the conference
- Glasses and water jugs were used rather than bottled water
- Produce for catering was sourced locally, where possible
- All crockery and cutlery was reusable

This event powered by



Initiatives – Tamworth

Tamworth Regional Council in association with Tourism Tamworth Ltd endeavoured to make environmentally, socially and economically responsible decisions to reduce local and global negative impacts when organising, managing and designing this event.

	<p>Urban Forest and Wildlife Habitat by Tamworth Regional Council</p> <p>An essential criterion in the organisation of this event was to ensure sustainability and the leaving of a positive legacy. To this end, an offset fee was included in the registration cost for each delegate and allocated toward an offset program of planting trees as a direct mitigation of any carbon emissions. The project contributed to creating a small urban forest attracting birds and a suitable habitat for small animals.</p> <p>The trees were planted during the conference by Tamworth Regional Council Horticulture and Recreation Staff and there were opportunities for any delegate to visit the site and plant a tree.</p>
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Event aims

- Reduce the consumption of natural resources
- Avoid damage to the local and global environment
- Protect biodiversity and human health
- Reduce waste to a minimum
- Consider environmental, social and economic aspects.

The benefits

- Direct financial cost savings, mostly achieved by reducing energy and water costs (through reduction in use and employing efficient technology at each of the venues, all visitors were requested assist by efficiently utilising energy and water during their stay.)
- Waste separation and recycling (which contributes to reduced waste to landfill and support of local recycling businesses again visitors were requested to participate in ensuring that waste separation and recycling was undertaken at each of the venues)
- Stimulation of local/regional economies through the purchase of local products.

Predicted opportunities

- Raise awareness on sustainable development issues
- Encourage people to change their perceptions and behaviour
- Make responsible decisions that can reduce negative impacts on the environment and society.

Contacts

For more information on Tamworth's initiatives, please contact Robert Charlesworth on R.charlesworth@tamworth.nsw.gov.au.

For more information on LGSA's initiatives, please contact Claire Huckerby claire.huckerby@lgsa.org.au.