



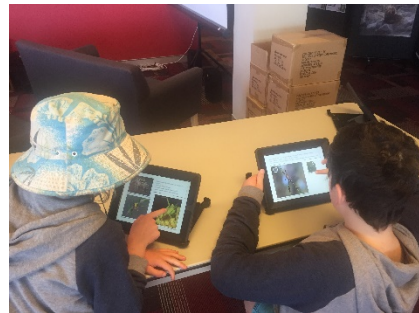
STRATEGIC PLAN
Sapphire Coast Regional Science Hub Sustainability Education Network

HUB POWER - Sapphire Coast Science Festival - 7 days, 1342 participants



Questacon Sustainable Development Goals

Atlas of Life display



Bournda EEC iPads & Biodiversity iBooks

Exploring virtual environments using Bournda EEC STEMShare



Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre Display and Touch Tank

Atlas of Life Digital Microscope





Questacon - Fascinating Science

Background

Members of the Sapphire Coast Regional Science Hub (SCRSH) participated in the AAEE NSW 'Equipping Regional Sustainability Education Networks for Creating Change' Project 2016- 2018.

The aim of this project is to increase the capacity and effectiveness of the Regional Sustainability Education Networks (RSEs) operating across rural, regional and metropolitan NSW. Regional Sustainability Education Networks (RSEs) are independent and volunteer-run organisations that are not governed by AAEE NSW.

As many of the SCRSH members work as sustainability educators, our aim has been to integrate RSE activities into the Science Hub. In 2017-18 Hub members collaborated on the Birds of a Feather project with support from AAEE.

SAPPHIRE COAST REGIONAL SCIENCE HUB AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION NETWORK (SCRSH-SEN) STRATEGIC PLAN 2018- 2020

VISION

SCRSH-SEN promotes the sustainable use and enjoyment of the natural environment and works to share the joy of life-long learning and its importance in creating understanding and stewardship of our world; we foster and celebrate community involvement in real scientific endeavour that contributes to sustainability. We are building a community of educators, from a diverse range of organisations and sectors (including natural resource management), collaborating to undertake best practice science and sustainability education and engagement for our region's communities and environment.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together and communicating regularly on projects whilst supporting each other and encouraging best practice science and sustainability education and engagement.

ETHOS

Network members:

- 1. Agree to take an active role in making our network supportive, fun and successful;*
- 2. Acknowledge that our network has no formal leadership roles and that we all share the responsibility to lead collaboratively;*

3. *Share information about their projects both at and between meetings in an open and transparent manner;*
4. *Find opportunities to “cross pollinate” ideas and projects;*
5. *Work together on the Sapphire Coast Science Festival, Bioblitzes, the Whale Festival and other major events;*
6. *Share promotion of member projects through the SCRSH-SEN Facebook page and other media outlets;*
7. *Contribute to the development and direction of the SCRSH-SEN, recognising that it is a community driven and resourced program;*
8. *Integrate, where possible biodiversity data in the Atlas of Life/NatureMapr platform;*
9. *Share content to the SCRSH-SEN page at <https://atlasoflife.org.au/science-hub/>;*
10. *Seek funding to support the SCRSH-SEN and the activities of individual members. E.g apply for funds and support member applications for funds.*

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. *Best practice science and sustainability education/engagement projects:*
 - a. *Share the values of sustainability - defined as ‘balancing the community’s economic and social needs within the planet’s ecological limits’;*
 - b. *Encourage the community to be active citizens in caring for our environment;*
 - c. *Respect and reflect local Aboriginal culture and heritage and include cultural and place-based learning;*
 - d. *Reflect and address the needs of target audience and engage these participants through critical thinking, problem solving and action;*
 - e. *Have reflection, monitoring and evaluation built into their design, to allow for continuous improvement;*
 - f. *Are achieved through the collaborative efforts of multiple partners from different organisations and sectors.*
2. *SCRSH-SEN endorses ‘Make the Change: A Framework for education and engagement for environmental sustainability 2014- 2021’ and is committed to using the framework to help achieve our vision;*
3. *SCRSH-SEN acknowledges the support provided by the Australian Association for Environmental Education NSW Chapter (AAEE NSW) and will work with them to enhance sustainability education and engagement across our region.*

GOALS/ OBJECTIVES

1. *Increase communication and collaboration between network members;*
2. *Increase our membership numbers, and the number of sectors that are represented, by encouraging other organisations to join the SCRSH-SEN;*
3. *Work with at least 6 natural resource management groups on a NatureMapr based project*
4. *Develop a greater understanding of the potential of the NatureMapr platform and the Atlas of Life database for their current and future work;*

5. *Create a strong culture of mutual support and recognition and encourage greater ambitions for community engagement in science and sustainability projects in future*
6. *hold quarterly meetings to share progress and at least one joint celebration/event each year*

EVALUATION

1. *Annually invite all members to comment on the purpose and administration of the network to identify areas for change/improvement to meet network goals and member needs;*
2. *Contribute (where possible) to the AAEE NSW annual state-wide RSEN evaluation, by providing data on the following outcomes:*
 - a. *Meeting frequency and attendance numbers;*
 - b. *Number of members and number of sectors represented;*
 - c. *Projects worked on and other indicators of collaboration within the network.*

MEMBERSHIP*

1. *SCRSH-SEN has been established by science and sustainability educators from the Sapphire Coast, which is located in the Bega Valley LGA. We are working with other educators throughout the South East of NSW and beyond.*
2. *Science and Sustainability educators/facilitators from all sectors are welcome to become members of the SCRSH-SEN.*

These sectors include (but are not limited to); Aboriginal communities; agriculture & primary industries; business; community & environment groups; culturally & linguistically diverse (CALD) communities; early childhood; local government; natural resource management; school education; state government; TAFE; waste education- local government; waste industry; and youth engagement;

3. *Those who have an interest in this region (even if they don't reside within it) may also become members of SCRSH-SEN;*
4. *Sector-based sustainability educator networks are welcome to become members of SCRSH-SEN;*
5. *Membership is free and is automatic upon joining our network email list.*

ADMINISTRATION*

1. *Meetings will be between 1-2 hrs long and held quarterly, with at least one meeting per year being purely a social gathering e.g. Green Drinks;*
2. *Meetings will be rotating, with a different location, chair and minute-taker for each meeting;*
3. *Meetings may be held using 'online meeting room' technology provided by AAEE NSW, to avoid travel time and embrace members who are not centrally located;*
4. *The role of the Convenor is to:*
 - a. *Organise the date, location, chair and minute-taker for each meeting;*
 - b. *Email meeting invitations and minutes to network members;*
 - c. *Maintain the network contact list/database.*
5. *Once a year the Convenor will be asked if they wish to remain in that role or if they would like to 'hand the baton' onto another network member;*

6. Any funding applied for by this network will refer to 'Make the Change: A Framework for education and engagement for environmental sustainability 2014- 2021' and acknowledge the support provided by AAEE NSW.

SCRSN-SEN Members

Organisation	Contact person	Contact email
Atlas of Life	Libby Hepburn	libby@atlasoflife.org.au
Bega Valley Shire Council Libraries	Scott Baker	SBaker@begavalley.nsw.gov.au
Bournda EEC	Doug Reckord	douglas.reckord@det.nsw.edu.au
Far South Coast Conservation Management Network	Alison Rodway	info@fscmn.com
On the Perch Bird Park	Steve Sass	steve@ontheperch.com.au
Panboola Community Wetlands	Michelle Richmond	Panboola Coordinator panboola@gmail.com
Sapphire Coast Marine Discovery Centre	Kerryn Wood	kerryn.wood@sapphirecoastdiscovery.com.au

SCRSN-SEN Achievements in 2017/18

- Aug 2017 Sapphire Coast Science Festival
- May 2017 Science Engagement Event – Hub in the Pub with Dr Crid Fraser
- Aug 2017 Science Engagement Event – Hub in the Funhouse – Taming Tinder
- Nov 2017 Science Engagement Event – Hub in the Bird Park with Steve Sass
- Feb 2018 Science Engagement Event – Hub in the Wetlands – Macrophotography with Harrison Warne
- April 2018 Science Engagement Event – Hub in the Pub – Climate Change with Dr Matthew Nott
- Aug 2018 Sapphire Coast Science Festival
- Aug 2018 Birds of a Feather AAEE Case Study
- Aug 2018 AAEE NSW Leadership for Sustainability Program