



# APEN International Conference

## Townsville, North Queensland, Australia

### 12-15 September 2017

<http://www.gfrasapenint2017.com/home.html>

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

# Facilitating Balanced Change for Rural and Urban Communities

Profitability & sustainability, land & sea, private & public, farms & communities

### About the conference

The conference is being held jointly with GFRAS (<http://www.g-fras.org/en/>) and follows the 2017 GFRAS Annual General meeting to be held in Ingham, North Queensland. The conference is an international meeting for rural advisory practitioners, researchers and academics that combines the best extension research and practice from developing and developed countries. In North Queensland we have both wet and dry tropical agriculture and a very large marine park that is managed for a range of uses. We will showcase the integration of production and natural resource management extension in the wet and dry tropics that focuses on achieving outcomes that meet the environmental needs of the rainforest and reef as well as the economic and social needs of dryland and irrigated agricultural production in the tropics. Key conference themes are:

- Gender balance and affirmative action
- Planning, monitoring and evaluating
- Developing agricultural innovation systems
- Building social capital and resilience
- Incorporating new media in extension
- Policies and trends in rural advisory services
- Achieving health, NRM, production and social outcomes

### About APEN

The Australasia-Pacific Extension Network (APEN) is a professional organisation for extension workers and those interested in extension (<http://www.apen.org.au/>). APEN members are involved in community and rural development, adult education, communication, industry collaboration, industry development, industry services and other related fields. Our network represents over 450 extension professionals across Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific.

### APEN Conference Call for Abstracts

We are inviting submission of abstracts of potential presentations at the conference. Options for presenting may include oral presentations of approximately 20 minutes, soap box presentations of approximately 10 minutes, poster presentations, workshops, open space and panel discussions. Based on the abstract, your preferences and timeliness of submission and registration, the Conference Program Committee will allocate presentation times and formats. If your paper is accepted for presentation in one of the formats:

- You will be confirmed on the program when the presenting author has registered.
- Your abstract will be included in the conference program.
- You will be eligible to publish your paper in the Research or Practice sections of the Rural Extension and Innovation Systems Journal provided it meets the standards required. For information on the journal requirements see: <http://www.apen.org.au/rural-extension-and-innovation-systems-journal>.

### Deadlines & submission

- Abstracts due 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017 to [roy@agribizrde.com](mailto:roy@agribizrde.com). Use the abstract guidelines and template available from <http://www.gfrasapenint2017.com/home.html>.
- Authors notified 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017.
- Authors submit paper to journal for review 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017 (only those seeking to publish).

### Queries

Questions about the conference can be directed to Rosemary Currie APEN Secretariat ([info@apen.org.au](mailto:info@apen.org.au); +61 2 6024 5349) or Lawrence Di Bella ([ldibella@hcpsl.com.au](mailto:ldibella@hcpsl.com.au); +61 7 47761808).