



Welcome

We hope you enjoy reading this eBulletin - a first for sharing stories from all four Gippsland Smart Specialisation (GS3) sectors and an opportunity to spark cross-sectoral innovations and connections.

If you're new to the concept of GS3 we're excited to have you on board to help us expand and strengthen this way of working across community, industry, education and government.

Following an analysis of Gippsland's regional strengths in 2018, four key sectors were identified: Energy, Food & Fibre, Health & Wellbeing, and Visitor Economy. This eBulletin highlights innovation work underway for each.

For those that are already familiar with GS3 we look forward to continuing our work with you and expanding the networks to draw on more people's experience and knowledge - and we invite you to forward this eBulletin on to people you believe would be interested in the work.

GS3 stages and the design process are outlined in two diagrams on the following page. We will continue to share insights into the GS3 way of working in future editions. For more information on GS3 you can visit the Latrobe Valley Authority's website or contact us directly.

We would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of our former colleagues Scott McArdle and Jessie Horton and thank them for playing such an integral role in facilitating Smart Specialisation in Gippsland.

We look forward to sharing further stories and updates, and we would greatly appreciate your feedback and ideas.

Your GS3 Team leaders,



Carla Bruce

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Moragh Mackay

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Smart Specialisation is based on three principles (S3)



Smart

Identify the region's own strengths and comparative and competitive assets



Specialised

Prioritise research and innovation investment in competitive areas



Strategic

Define and develop a shared vision for regional innovation

The four growth sectors



Energy



Visitor economy



Food & Fibre



Health & Wellbeing

Upcoming events and innovation group meetings

Energy

- Bioenergy Innovation Group - 27/11/2020
- Geothermal Innovation Group - 25/11/2020
- Community Energy Innovation Group - 02/12/2020
- Smart Grids Innovation group - 30/11/2020

Visitor Economy

- Business and Revenue Models Innovation Group meeting 26/11/2020 10am-11:30am

Food & Fibre

- Combined Food & Fibre / Visitor Economy Innovation Group

Health & Wellbeing

- Survey to be released soon

Understanding Gippsland Smart Specialisation

GS3 Stages

Regional context analysis

- exploring Gippsland’s economic, social and environmental characteristics
- understanding the regions sectors and potential for growth
- selecting four sectors to explore in more depth



Sector innovation analysis

- discovering strengths, weaknesses and growth potential of each of the selected four sectors with sector-based stakeholders (Food & Fibre, Energy, Visitor Economy, Health and Wellbeing)
- surfacing themes and opportunities with potential for innovation, specialisation and competitive advantage



Theme-based innovation groups

- co-designing innovations, applying design principles, peer discussions and feedback
- collaborating on inquiry tasks for the themes discovered in each sector e.g. bespoke research, pre-feasibility studies and global market scans



Entrepreneurial discovery workshops

- exploring themes within each of the four sectors in more depth with sector-based stakeholder committees
- testing the growth potential of opportunities with a diversity of regional stakeholders and content experts



Innovation groups and project teams

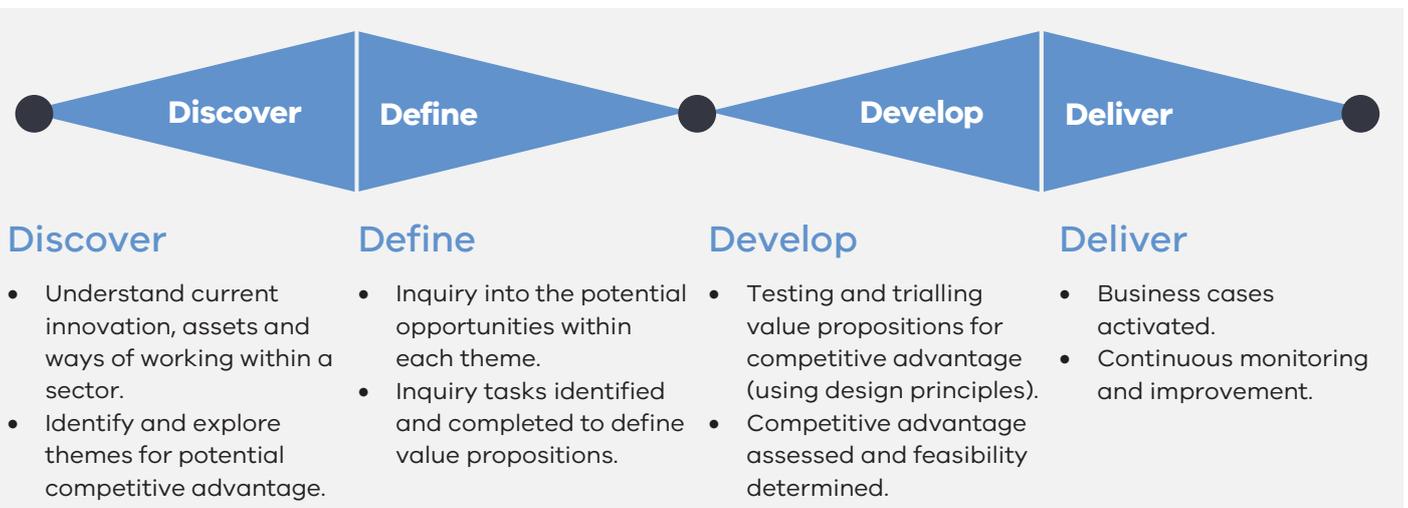
- co-evaluating outcomes from inquiry tasks
- testing value propositions and assessing comparative and competitive advantages to determine feasibility



Project teams

- activating business cases
- monitoring, improving, learning and discovery

Design Process





SECTOR UPDATES Energy

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Totally Renewable Phillip Island Pre-feasibility Study <DEVELOP STAGE>

Totally Renewable Phillip Island is a collective of individuals, community groups and organisations that formed in 2018 to pursue the goals of having 100% Renewable Energy and being Carbon Neutral by 2030.



TRPI, (Trippy) as it is affectionately known, has six working groups and a Core Group to facilitate planning, action & communications. The working groups focus on Carbon Accounting, Carbon Farming, Education & Communications, Food & Waste, Renewable Energy and Zero Emissions Transport.

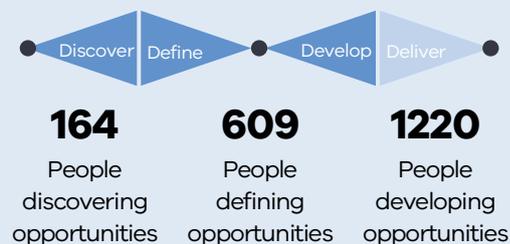
In 2020 TRPI, in partnership with the Energy Innovation Co-op and GS3, commissioned a Pre-feasibility Study on how they could achieve their 100% Renewable by 2030 goal.

Key recommendations from the study undertaken by Analytical Engines:

- Increase energy efficiency practices
- Develop 57MW of solar on houses, businesses and solar farms on vacant land at community scale
- Complement solar with 30MWH of battery storage
- Explore potential for wind generation
- Continue work on electric vehicles
- Explore bioenergy opportunities

➔ For more information and to request a copy of the report go to: [Totally Renewable Phillip Island](#)

Sector status



Key themes

- **Community energy**
- Geothermal
- Smart grids
- Bioenergy

Want to get involved in the work underway in the energy sector?

Contact **Ash Hall**
GS3 Project Manager, Energy
ashley.hall@lva.vic.gov.au

Congratulations Totally Renewable Phillip Island



Finalist in the Food & Fibre Gippsland Excellence in Collaborative Partnerships Award sponsored by TAFE Gippsland.



Read more [here](#).



SECTOR UPDATES

Food and Fibre

GS3 Food and Fibre stream, facilitated by Food & Fibre Gippsland in partnership with LVA and participating stakeholders, is currently focussing on the delivery of three primary projects; A High-Tech Vegetable Waste Processing Facility; a Regional Online Trading Platform; and a Collective Craft Malting Facility.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Vegetable Processing Hub < DEVELOP STAGE >

The High-Tech Vegetable Processing Facility has significant linkage to Gippsland's position as one of Australia's fresh vegetable and salad bowls, producing circa 25% of Victoria's fresh vegetables (exceeding 150,000t per annum).

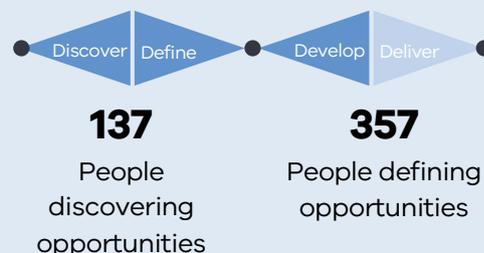
The concept aims to utilise the "non-consumed portion" from local horticultural production (i.e. out of specification fruit or veg; trim waste; pack house waste) as a feedstock for high-value nutraceutical and functional food production.

With a concept history spanning a number of years, and involvement from stakeholders ranging from producers to scientists (and all in between), the project has recently received a draft pre-feasibility document that spells out the investment logic for the facility as well as regional supply.



This information, along with previous work undertaken throughout the S3 process, will allow the GS3 team to work up an investment prospectus in collaboration with project stakeholders, with the aim for a bricks-and-mortar facility to be established in our region within the short - medium term.

Sector status



Key themes identified

- Collective malting and distilling facility
- **Vegetable processing hub**
- Regional trading platform

Want to get involved in the work underway in the food and fibre sector?



**Food & Fibre
Gippsland**

The GS3 Food and Fibre Stream invites any interested parties to please reach out to Project Manager, Ben Gebert at Food & Fibre Gippsland, should they wish to learn more or become involved.

Contact details:

Ben Gebert
GS3 Project Manager, Food and Fibre
ben.gebert@foodandfibregippsland.com.au



SECTOR UPDATES

Visitor Economy

The Visitor Economy Innovation Program, facilitated by Destination Gippsland in partnership with the LVA and all participating stakeholders, has several Innovation Groups collaborating on innovations focussed on Tracks and Trails.

INNOVATION GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Business and Revenue Models

Innovation Group < DEFINE STAGE >

The GS3 Business and Revenue Models Innovation group are exploring what economic and social benefits could come from the opportunities related to tracks and trails in Gippsland.

Gippsland has an extensive track and trails network and there is an appetite to construct a further \$100m+ worth of trails over the next 10 years.

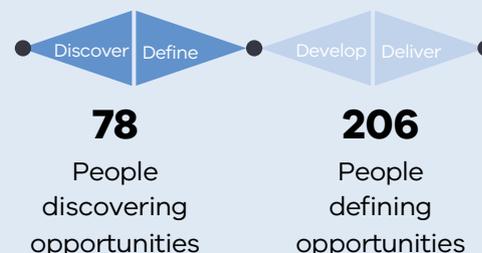
The problem explored by the GS3 Business and Revenue Models innovation group was the need to secure revenue for the ongoing maintenance, promotion and development of trails.

A range of options were explored ranging from revenue raising from user pay trails, merchandise sales, hire of equipment, transporting equipment and luggage, all the way through to social entity involved in trail design, maintenance and construction.



The Innovation group are exploring the opportunity of creating a co-op, social enterprise or 'for profit' design and construction company whereby profits made are re-invested back into the ongoing maintenance, promotion and development of the trail network, whilst also providing career pathways and employment opportunities for Gippslanders.

Sector status



Key themes

- Product innovation
- Technology fusion
- Design, construction and maintenance
- People innovation

Want to get involved in the work underway in the visitor economy sector?

Destination
GIPPSLAND

Contact details:

David Elder
GS3 Project Manager, Visitor Economy
delder@destinationgippsland.com.au



SECTOR UPDATES

Health and Wellbeing

The Health and Wellbeing Sector is one of the largest employers in Gippsland and is expected to grow. For that reason, the Sector has been identified as one that can help develop Gippsland's economic and social development into the future.

In the first half of 2020, nineteen leaders from business, research and education, community and government were interviewed, and research conducted as part of the first step understanding the Health and Wellbeing Sector in Gippsland. This information was collated into the *Regional Innovation System Mapping in the Health and Wellbeing Sector Report*.

The Report recognised significant challenges for the Health and Wellbeing Sector in Gippsland including social disadvantage, regional geography, recruitment, training and retention of workforce and a difficult funding landscape.

These difficulties have contributed to an uncertainty about the future of organisations and their strategic direction. Opportunities, such as digital health were also identified. Digital health has become increasingly significant to the Health and Wellbeing Sector due to the COVID 19 pandemic. This has resulted in an accelerated rollout of telehealth services and digital monitoring platforms.

The next steps for the Health and Wellbeing Sector will include a targeted survey to gather feedback on the Report from interview participants. The key findings of the Report and related feedback will be presented and workshopped at a future meeting to facilitate the way forward.

GS3 Health and Wellbeing Project Lead

Holly Perriam

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Kick Start Your Career in Health Program finalist in Learn Local Awards

Heyfield Community Resource Centre's Kick Start Your Career in the Health Industry Program is one of 20 Victorian finalists in the Victorian Learn Local Creating Local Solutions Awards.

The Awards honour the Learn Local sector and highlight the success of learners and the training providers who support them.

The Latrobe Valley Authority proudly supports the Kick Start Your Career Program delivered in partnership with local industry and education providers.

