

Media Release  
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## International study tour gets a feel for the Goulburn Valley at Climate Smart Project Launch

Representatives from across seven Council areas came together to launch the Goulburn Broken Climate Smart Agricultural Development project on Friday 18 September 2015.

The project aims to enable Local Government, land managers and agricultural sectors in the Goulburn Broken region to better understand the effects of a changing climate.

A 25-strong international delegation, in Australia as part of the Victorian Government's Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources' Australian Award Fellows Program also attended the launch and took part in "A Sense of Place" agricultural tour while in the Goulburn Valley. The delegation will spend three weeks in Victoria assessing the link between industry and academia in Australia.

Moira Shire Mayor Marie Martin officially launched the Climate Smart Agricultural Development project in front of a crowd of more than 60 at the Olive House in Kialla.

Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance Executive Officer Tom Brown said understanding the long term impact of climate change on regionally important commodities and the integration of this knowledge into strategic planning processes and agribusiness development activities was critical in the ongoing success of agriculture in the region.

"The project aims to enable project partners to support the continued prosperity and development of the agricultural industry," he said.

Project Consultants Deakin University will undertake the project's research component through its Centre for Regional and Rural Futures.

Funded by the Victorian Government's Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning through a \$200,000 contribution, the project is being managed by the Goulburn Broken Greenhouse Alliance and is a partnership project between Benalla Rural City Council, Campaspe Shire Council, Greater Shepparton City Council, Mansfield Shire Council, Moira Shire Council, Murrindindi Shire Council, Strathbogie Shire Council and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

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