

### Abstract Submission Form and Speaker Profile

Complete your details by typing in the **green** sections of the digital form below. If there are multiple presenters, please include their details where applicable (name, organisation, personal bio)

Save your completed form in PDF format and submit via the [submission form on the website](#).

<b>Title</b>	Ms	<b>First Name</b>	Linda Samala	and	<b>Family Name</b>	Tohver and Heart
<b>Position/Role</b>	Education Coordinator, Waste Ed Officer					
<b>Organisation you will represent</b>	North East Waste and Ballina Shire Council					
<b>Personal Bio</b> Max. 100 words	Linda and Samala are blessed to live and work in the Northern Rivers region of NSW. Linda has worked with NE Waste, a regional waste group, for almost 20 years and prior to that with state government and non-government organisations. Linda is passionate about driving behaviour change, community engagement and collaboration around sustainable resource management in the region. Samala has worked for Ballina Shire Council for the past 5 years and prior to that with Lismore City Council, Resource Recovery Australia and North East Waste. Samala brings a wealth of experience in the waste and resource recovery sector, and is a leader in collaboration and change in the region.					
<b>Title of Presentation</b>	Collaborative leadership: Driving regional and Council Transformation in the Waste and Resource Recovery Sector					
<b>Format of Presentation</b> (please select)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation (20 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 60 minutes (eg interactive indoor session) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 120 minutes (eg outdoor activity) Indicate your preferred presentation types (you may select more than one) NB: We may not be able to offer your preferred option					
<b>Which theme would you prefer to present under?</b> (please select)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1: Listen <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 2: Learn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 3: Transform					
<b>Introduction</b>	This presentation will highlight how collaborative leadership between educators in the Northern Rivers region is driving transformative change/engagement in the waste and resource recovery sector at the local and regional level, and establishing trust and ownership of education programs. The aim is to increase the skills of other educators of practical collaboration, sharing, networking, research and evaluation techniques. At the outcome, participants will also have access to a range of adaptable share-worthy resources, tried and tested in our region.					

<p><b>Presentation Abstract:</b> max. 300 words</p>	<p>Collaboration and partnerships between regional Councils can face a number of barriers - resource constraints, distance, capacity, politics, social demographics and infrastructure. Despite facing these challenges, NE Waste and its member Councils are driving change within and between their organisations through a collaborative leadership model.</p> <p>Collaborative leadership (in the context of resource recovery):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☑ Supports consistent community messaging across the region - alleviating confusion on what goes where, with all parties having a say on the messaging and ongoing access to the resources</li> <li>☑ community outreach education programs are designed and streamlined with all parties having a voice, creating accessible and flexible programming</li> <li>☑ cost effective and time efficient</li> <li>☑ facilitates networking, partnerships and knowledge between councils</li> </ul> <p>Participants will learn from this presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how the model has been established (and what keeps it going!)</li> <li>- what barriers have been overcome through the establishment of the group/model</li> <li>- practical examples of successes, from joint research to current programs that are being developed</li> <li>- challenges that have been faced (COVID, fires, floods, FOGO) and where to from here.</li> </ul> <p>Transformation has occurred both internally in Councils, between themselves (at least at the education level!), and this is reflected in the quality and diversity of education provided to the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Future in the sphere of the Circular Economy - how do we move towards an approach with encompasses and promotes the Circular Economy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key Message:</b> A short summary of presentation</p>	<p>Through collaborative leadership, transformative partnerships can begin to occur, which strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of education /community engagement programs. This presentation will highlight the challenges and successes of this approach in the Northern Rivers region and how it can be applied beyond.</p>

All abstracts must be received by 5pm **Friday 26 May 2023** (AEST).  
We expect to notify speakers by mid June

**Note:** confirmed presenters will be required to register for the conference and pay the relevant registration fees.