## 17<sup>th</sup> International Riversymposium 2014 – Canberra, Australia

Excellence - Collaboration - Integration

## Overview - January 2014

The International Riversymposium provides a unique global forum for river managers, policy developers, scientists, consultants, NGOs, indigenous and community organisations to share their knowledge and experience and advance the agenda for river restoration and integrated river basin management worldwide. It is being held in Canberra on 15 – 18 September 2014, under the overarching theme of 'Large River Basins'.

## Format and opportunities

| Date         | Event                              | Opportunities for global partners   |
|--------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 13-14 Sept   | Professional development workshops | Deliver professional development river workshops – any format/style possible. Will be self-funding through registrations with IRF 20% management fee  |
| 15-17 Sept   | Main Conference                    | <ul> <li>Run a special 1 hour session on any river topic – cost<br/>\$3000</li> <li>Present a paper</li> <li>Chair a session</li> <li>Offer a keynote speaker</li> </ul>  |
| 15-17 Sept   | River Expo                         | <ul> <li>Market yourself through a booth (cost \$2800)</li> <li>Participate in the river photo competition</li> <li>Offer an innovative idea</li> </ul>   |
| 16 September | River <i>prize</i> Gala Dinner     | <ul> <li>Sit back and enjoy</li> <li>Organise your own table</li> <li>Share the stories of the Riverprize finalists through communications/website/social media</li> </ul>  |
| 18 September | Study tour                         | <ul> <li>Register for the official study tour</li> <li>Ask us to organise professional meetings with key agencies</li> </ul>  |
| 19 September | Professional Day                   | <ul> <li>Help us design this day for IRBM professionals</li> <li>Participate and contribute to the 'Canberra Declaration' on IRBM</li> </ul>  |
| Now on       | General help                       | <ul> <li>Join the Program Committee (one place vacant)</li> <li>Assist with abstract and paper reviews</li> <li>Comment on the program design</li> <li>Help us identify keynote speakers</li> <li>Help identify delegates from developing countries who may be eligible to attend and for funding</li> <li>Register for the 'very early bird' before 31 March</li> <li>Promote conference through communications or website/social media</li> </ul> |

The International Riversymposium will have numerous social, professional development and site visit opportunities. The delegates and their partners will have exceptional opportunities to experience Canberra, the Snowy Mountains and the Murray-Darling Basin, while Sydney is only a stone's throw away. In addition to the technical sessions, an added feature of the 2014 event will be integrating art, culture and education into the program and engaging with schools, local organisations and clubs. This will enrich the experience of the delegates and allow greater interaction with the local community. We also plan to feature a Mark Angelo film debuting at the Cannes Film Festival in 2014. For the first time a specialist 'Professional Day' will be added to the conference for those wishing to 'dig deeper' and exchange cutting edge thinking on integrated river basin management. This session will produce a 'Canberra Declaration' designed to feed into other international conferences and the global debate on river basin management. We are also considering raising the status of the event to meet academic requirements.