



MEDIA RELEASE

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MDBA and MDA Partnership Strengthens with new MOU

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) will strengthen their existing relationship by extending their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for a further five years on the 2nd of July 2019 at 5.00 pm at a small event at the Carrington in Shepparton.

Both the MDBA and MDA share a common interest in the sustainable management of the Murray-Darling Basin and the diligent implementation of the Basin Plan. And while the two organizations share more than a common interest – take their confusingly similar names and acronyms for example - their differences are important.

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is Australia’s peak body representing local government and the communities of the Murray Darling Basin since 1944. Like your local council, the MDA reports to members and residents.

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) is an independent expertise based statutory authority that oversees the implementation of the Basin Plan and operates the River Murray on behalf of Basin governments. The MDBA reports to all Basin water ministers.

“This partnership is tremendously important for communities and governments across the Basin,” MDA CEO Emma Bradbury said. “Councils have an important stake in the health and sustainability of the Murray Darling, and in the decisions that shape the future of our communities.”

Under the MoU both parties agree that local government and community issues within the Murray-Darling Basin should be given due consideration in the development and implementation of basin policies and programs. The MOU has a focus on engagement and information sharing regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) projects. The MDA and MDBA also agreed to develop an annual plan and summary report for activities and projects to be undertaken in the spirit of this MOU.

MDBA Chief Executive Phillip Glyde said the close working relationship with the MDA was highly valued.

“We recognise the crucial role that local government plays in the Murray Darling Basin,” Mr Glyde said.

“By working together, we can ensure communities have the best information and support when it comes to delivering the Basin Plan and managing our precious water resources.”

Background:

- [MDA website](#)
- [MDBA website](#)