



# The Research - Engagement Loop

Matthew Nichol - Coordinator Economic Research Unit  
La Trobe University  
Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities



# What is REMPLAN ?

Regional Economic Modelling and Planning System

## What does REMPLAN do?

Generates economic data specific to a region, including:

- Gross Regional Product (GRP)
- Output
- Regional Exports



# Economic Impact Analysis

ECONOMIC IMPACT				
EMPLOYMENT		Units		
	Final	Industrial	Consumpn	Total
SECTOR	Demand	Effect	Effect	
Agriculture,Forest,Fish	0	1.498	0.249	1.747
Mining	0	0.104	0.009	0.113
Manufacturing	28	6.140	2.101	36.242
Electricity,Gas&Water	0	0.428	0.295	0.723
Construction	0	0.049	0.035	0.083
Wholesale Trade	0	2.432	1.374	3.805
Retail Trade	0	2.370	13.333	15.702
Accomm.,Cafes&Rest.	0	1.299	3.423	4.723
Transport & Storage	0	2.230	0.693	2.923
Communication Serv	0	0.361	0.543	0.904
Finance & Insurance	0	0.429	1.112	1.541
Property&BusinessServ	0	4.232	2.305	6.538
Govt Admin & Defence	0	0.234	0.138	0.372
Education	0	0.262	1.984	2.246
Hlth&Community Serv	0	0.123	3.526	3.649
Cultural&Rec Serv	0	0.119	1.496	1.614
Personal & Other Serv	0	0.334	2.053	2.387
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>85</b>
		Type 1		Type 2
Employment Multiplier		1.81		3.05

# Why was REMPLAN developed?

Ian Pinge, Senior lecturer at La Trobe University, Bendigo, was undertaking research into the impact of poker machines on Bendigo's economy. Ian sought an off the shelf product to track flow-on impacts. Nothing was available.

Ian's gambling research gained wide exposure.

A great deal of interest was expressed by economic development practitioners regarding the region specific economic data that Ian's model had generated.

Engagement, combined with, an entrepreneurial spark, and an opportunity to further develop the model provided by the Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities, led to REMPLAN.



# Where is REMPLAN being used



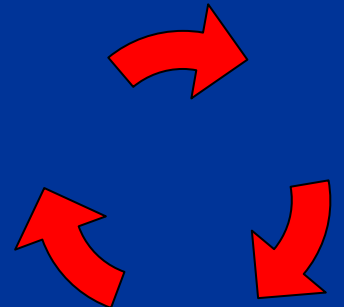
# Why is REMPLAN a valuable tool?

- Generates detailed data at a regional level
- Benchmarking
- Strategy development
- Identify opportunities for further import replacement & value-adding
- Investment attraction
- Identify the contributions of existing firms / industries
- Identify, and then hopefully, mitigate the impacts of a firm's downsizing / exit from the regional economy.
- Adds weight to feasibility studies and grant applications.
- Media

# Supply versus Demand

Prior to the supply of REMPLAN by La Trobe University, there was not an articulated demand for a desktop regional economic modelling capability.

Since the roll out of REMPLAN there have been a number of demand driven improvements, and new modules.

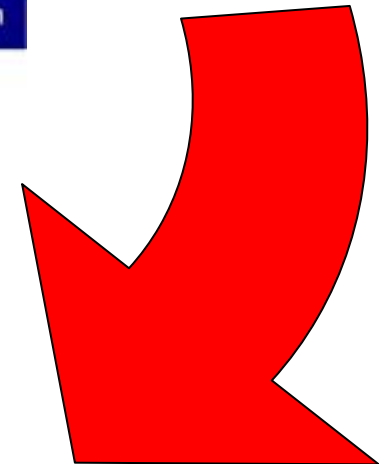
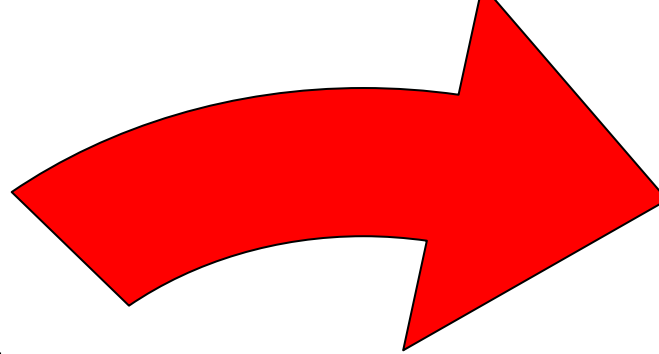
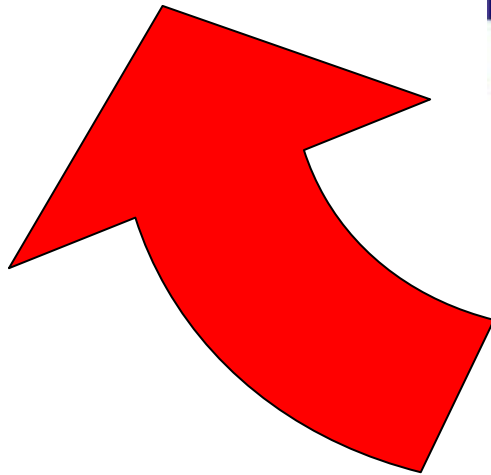


**Research**  
(Supply)

**Consulting**

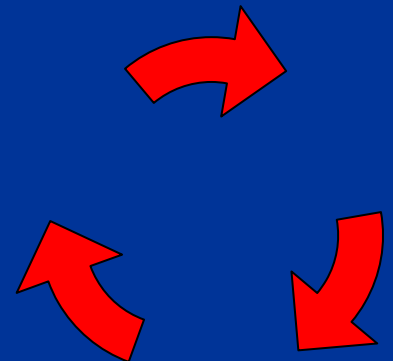


**Gaps  
Identified**  
(Demand)



# Demand Driven Developments

- Output (\$) calculator
- Colour coding of industry sectors
- Greenhouse gas and energy module
- Gap analysis – *identifying import replacement and value-adding opportunities*



# **Engagement and Research Opportunities**

**Longitudinal studies of model performance**

**Constraint / capacity analysis**

- social capacity**
- human resources**
- environmental capacity / natural resource management**

**Delivery of targeted education and training**

# Future Directions

- Develop innovative engagement modes centred on REMPLAN.
- Use these modes to create a REMPLAN user / economic development community.
- Extend this community overseas – develop REMPLAN models for overseas markets.
- Continue to use REMPLAN as a vehicle to engage with businesses and communities far beyond the existing student catchment area. Investigate opportunities to leverage this experience with REMPLAN.

The logo features the word "REEMPLAN" in large, bold, orange letters with a white outline. Each letter is contained within a white rectangular box of varying height. A vertical orange line is on the left, and a horizontal orange line is below the letters. A small white starburst icon is positioned to the left of the text below the horizontal line.

**REEMPLAN**

 **Regional Economic Modelling & Planning System**