

**Organisation: Department of Education, Small Business and Training (Queensland)**

**Question 1. How can government, institutions and communities better promote the valuable and unique experience of studying and living in regional Australia?**

By highlighting the tangible benefits, such as cost of living, safety, small communities to navigate, and accessibility to accommodation. A greater promotion of the fact that Australia is not just about the capital cities, and regional centres offer a full range of services.

**Question 2. What are the barriers to regional destinations and their education institutions hosting more international students?**

Depending on where the students are from will influence where they choose to study. Immigration agents will generally focus on promoting the higher education providers that they have financially beneficial deals with. So the higher education providers need to negotiate business arrangements with immigration agents to promote regional centres.

**Question 3. How can metropolitan and regional education institutions work together to create regional study opportunities for international students in ways that benefit the students, the regional communities and the institutional partners?**

By offering students the opportunity to experience regional Australia and by promoting the benefits of being located in a region.

**Question 4. What are the best ways to communicate the benefits of spending time in regional Australia to prospective international students and their parents? Via the immigration agents.**

See the answer to question 1.

**Question 5. Given the strong interplay between tourism and education, particularly in regional settings, how can government, institutions and the community capitalise on the relationship, map its value and promote regional strengths?**

Promote the tourism aspects of each regional centre.

**Question 6. What role could fee structures and scholarships, education agent promotions, and changes to government policy settings play to encourage more students to study in regional Australia (e.g. migration incentives)?**

It would be effective if studying in regional centres was supported via incentives to all the stakeholders involved in the supply chain of international students.

**Question 7. Is there a need for greater insights into the motivations and the experience of international students in regional areas relative to metropolitan areas, using instruments such as the International Student Barometer and/or other targeted research?**

Yes

**Question 8. Any other comments?**

No