

# Partners in Grain: Building women's capacity for farm and rural resilience

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# Partners in Grain



# History

- 1998 – 2001 “Women in Grains” in Victoria
- 1999 – 2001 “Families in Agriculture” in WA and SA
- 2000 Meeting to explore national project idea
- 2001 Partners in Grain was launched
- 2009 Became Incorporated body
- Project funded by national industry body (GRDC)
- Providing training to grain growers

# Structure

- National and State Reference Groups
- Each state has autonomy in operation
- Reference groups are volunteers and mainly women
- Each State has a part time Coordinator
- SA has a focus on women, with continuous group

# What PinG does in SA

- 17 learning groups across South Australia
- Driven by a local group coordinator (volunteer)
- Group coordinator given training and support
- Group drives capacity building agenda
- Group dynamic provides support to members

# How do we do it?

- Group Ownership
- Direct health topics
- Benefits in times of stress (families and business)
- Social cohesion
- Individual health, family health, community health
- Helping women (young) find niche role in business





# How we do what we do: What makes PinG - SA unique?

- Leadership pathway – practice ground
- Funding model (business/ government/ industry)
- Run by women that have been there
- Volunteer group coordinators
- Training outcomes in a FUN way
- **Need to consider local logistics**



# Local Logistics

- During school term time
- During school hours, 9am and 3pm
- On days when daycare operates in the town
- Close to school
- Not during peak work time of farm
- On a day when women aren't working
- Some women need to be invited
- Lunch is important

# Benefits of the groups

- Ongoing learning in a supportive environment
- Women can share common issues
- Focal point for women in isolated communities
- Pseudos of belong to PinG



# Lessons Learned:

1. Group ownership

3. Capacity development methods

- Immediate and direct(women and families)
- Community level / other women (talking over the back fence)
- Contribution to formal structures (industry)

**4. All about people and relationships**

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