

**EIANZ ANNUAL CONFERENCE** 

Tu Kaha: Stand Tall Fronting up with wicked solutions

29 October - 1 November 2017 | Wellington | New Zealand







# TU KAHA: STAND TALL!

It is my pleasure to introduce this Call for Papers for EIANZ's 2017 Annual Conference. This year our Conference will be hosted by EIANZ's New Zealand Chapter. It will be held in Wellington, New Zealand with activities happening across Sunday 29 October to Wednesday 1 November.

This is a milestone year for EIANZ - our 30th Anniversary year- and our Conference theme, challenges us to Stand Tall.

We can, of course, Stand Tall because our efforts across 30 years has made a real difference around the world, within our region and across Australia and New Zealand - creating better and more sustainable places.

However, we must continue to Stand Tall because our work is not yet done. Wicked problems abound, and as a profession we have our work cut out.

Wicked problems need wicked solutions and so our conference theme challenges us not only to Stand Tall, but also to Front Up in Wellington with those Wicked Solutions.

And what is a Wicked Solution?

Like their problem counterpart, Wicked Solutions need to reflect the complexities of the our world and of the environmental issues we face. They respond to the interconnected nature of environmental, social and economic factors. They are more nuanced, sophisticated and systemic than their often more simple predecessors. Environmental practitioners, trained in systems thinking and armed with multidisciplinary skills sets, are well positioned to find Wicked Solutions.

While our 2017 Annual Conference will reflect on the contribution of EIANZ across 30 years, it also needs to generate the new tools and new solutions – the Wicked Solutions – to solve the increasingly complex problems before us.

I invite you to Front up and Stand Tall! Join us for the Institute's 2017 Conference in Wellington, respond to this Call for Papers, and build the Wicked Solutions we need for the 21st century.

Michael Chilcott FEIANZ CEnvP President, EIANZ

Michael Chilat

# ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Our environmental work is increasingly confronted by wicked problems: those that seem difficult or impossible to solve because of incomplete data; complex and contradictory factors; and the risk of unforeseen consequences.

This conference will focus on wicked solutions: those solutions that are innovative, collaborative, and multi-disciplinary; that take approaches which can be shared across disciplines; and use tools and techniques that apply in different environments.

It is time to stand tall, stand together and front up with wicked solutions to ensure that we, as environmental professionals, are leading by example and doing our part to achieve excellence in environmental practice.

# DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAM

#### MONDAY 30 OCTOBER 2017

8:15am	REGISTRATION
8:45am	WELCOME AND CONFERENCE OPEN Michael Chilcott FEIANZ CEnvP, EIANZ President
9:00am	WELCOME TO WELLINGTON  Mayor Lester
9:15am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
9:35am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
10:30am	MORNING TEA
11:15am	CONCURRENT STREAM SESSIONS
1:00pm	LUNCH
2:00pm	CONCURRENT STREAM SESSIONS
3:30pm	AFTERNOON TEA
4:00 - 5:00pm	PLENARY
6.30pm	GALA DINNER AND EIANZ MERIT AWARDS EIANZ 30th Anniversary celebrations

#### TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2017

8:00am – 9:00am	EIANZ ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
9:15am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
9:45am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
10:15am	KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
11:00am	MORNING TEA
11:30am	CONCURRENT STREAM SESSIONS
1:00pm	LUNCH
2:00pm	CONCURRENT STREAM SESSIONS
3:30pm	AFTERNOON TEA
4:00pm	PLENARY
4:45pm	CLOSING PLENARY AND INVITATION TO 2018 EIANZ CONFERENCE
6.30pm	PUB QUIZ

#### WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2017

9:00am - 4:00pm	CONFERENCE FIELD TRIPS
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# **CONFERENCE STREAMS**

# EFFECTIVE MONITORING AND MEASURING

The importance of how we measure and what we measure tends to be unrecognised or undervalued.

- Are we measuring for success?
- Are we measuring the significant and cumulative impacts?
- How are unknowns and uncertainties being accounted for?
- Are the appropriate standards being used?
- How do we ensure there is accountability for monitoring?
- Is adequate information being collected, and is it being effectively communicated to inform decisionmakers?

#### CHANGING BEHAVIOUR

Environmental practitioners urgently need to find effective methods to bring about changes in attitudes and behaviour that are threatening environmental sustainability.

- What are the effective tools to bridge the gap between knowledge of environmental issues and personal action?
- What motivates the general public to act on environmental issues?
- What factors motivate suppliers of goods and services to act?
- What factors motivate consumers to act?
- How best to deal with deniers in the post-truth era?

#### COMMUNICATING SCIENCE

In this age of 'alternative facts' communicating real science is critical.

- How do we translate complex environmental matters into simple messages?
- Who should tell the story environmental practitioners, scientists or professional communicators/journalists?
- What tools can be used to best communicate science?
- What effect does mainstream media and social media have on environmental outcomes?
- How do we ensure accuracy in social media how do we deal with 'alternative facts'?
- How do we listen to the community's questions about environmental practice and science?

#### **TEAMING UP**

We need to stand together and pool our knowledge and resources to develop wicked solutions.

- How do we choose the right knowledge sharing frameworks and tools for early and effective collaboration, communication and application?
- How do we account for different research assumptions?
- How can we better foster self-awareness within disciplines and achieve mutual understanding?
- How does the system set us against each other?
- Can we work together to break down commercial sensitivity?
- What is the true value of 'Value Engineering'?

#### **BUILDING RESILIENCE**

Implementing and incorporating resilience is the start of a journey.

- What challenges will growing populations, urbanisation and climate change bring to our society and the natural environment?
- What can we do today to ensure that we don't just survive but thrive?
- What can we do today to ensure that the natural environment is not just preserved but is restored to its full capacity?
- What parts of the system need the most urgent intervention – is it communities, built environment, natural environment, financial systems or our decision-making processes?
- Where do we start to build resilience?

#### STRATEGIC THINKING

Strategic thinking requires an approach that enables multi-disciplinary, multi-agency and community involvement – providing for processes and environmental outcomes that are wider than originally envisaged.

- How does a strategic approach address political barriers, define the environmental problem, and activate all necessary participants?
- How do we make time to be strategic and step back from the urgent?
- What are the real benefits and challenges of developing a strategic framework?
- Is a strategy a process or a destination?
- How does strategic environmental assessment (SEA) assist with strategic thinking?

# COMMERCIAL SECTOR INVOLVEMENT FOR GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES

The commercial sector may help solve wicked problems that have traditionally been the responsibility of central and local government.

- How are the private and commercial sectors involved in the achievements of good environmental outcomes?
- Do we compromise the outcome when seeking commercial funding and sponsorship?
- What models or incentives are effective for commercial involvement?
- Do regulations help or hinder commercial sector involvement?
- Should the environment be framed in commercial terms eg ecosystem services or natural capital thinking?
- How can we make new technologies available and affordable?

# **ESSENTIAL INFORMATION**

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

- Abstracts must be submitted online using the following link: <a href="https://www.eianz.org/membership/type/conference-call-for-papers">https://www.eianz.org/membership/type/conference-call-for-papers</a>
- Abstracts must be submitted by Friday 26 May 2017
- Abstracts must be no more than 300 words
- Biographies must be no more than 200 words
- Authors must supply a photo
- Abstracts must address one of the streams and some or all of the related questions raised under that stream
- Abstracts and biographies may undergo editing before being published in conference materials and on the EIANZ website.

#### **REVIEW PROCESS**

The EIANZ Conference Planning Committee will review all submitted abstracts and assess them in relation to quality and relevance to the conference streams and the questions raised.

Authors will be informed by **Friday 14 July 2017** whether or not their paper has been accepted. Where an abstract for a paper is accepted, revisions or changes of emphasis to match the conference stream may be requested.

Authors will be advised of their allocated time and the format for their presentation upon acceptance of their abstract. All presentations will be required to provide a recommended action for EIANZ or the environment profession in response to the concerns or issues discussed in their paper and presentation.

Written papers for presentations must be submitted to the EIANZ Conference Planning Committee by **Friday 13** October 2017.

#### PRESENTER REGISTRATION

It is a condition of being able to present that all presenters must register for the day on which they are presenting at the conference at their own cost. Following notification of acceptance of their abstract, all presenters will receive the EIANZ member discount for conference registration.

Presenters may be withdrawn from the conference program if their conference registration and payment is not received by **Friday 13 October 2017**. Conference registration will open June 2017 and presenters will be notified whether their abstract has been accepted by 14 July 2017.

Presenters must meet their own travel and accommodation costs.

#### PUBLICATION OF PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

All abstracts, full papers, presenter biographies, profile photos and presentations will be published on the EIANZ website and provided electronically to conference delegates as part of their registration pack.

Authors seeking more formal peer reviewed publication of their work (in addition to presenting at the conference) are invited to submit papers to EIANZ's Australasian Journal of Environmental Management in accordance with its editorial policy and guidelines.

# **KEY DATES**

Abstract submissions open	Wednesday 29 March 2017
Abstract submissions close	Friday 26 May 2017
Conference registrations open	June 2017
Notification of acceptance	Friday 14 July 2017
Deadline for full papers / presentations	Friday 13 October 2017
Presenter registration deadline	Friday 13 October 2017
EIANZ Annual Conference	Sunday 29 October – Wednesday 1 November 2017

# MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions, please contact EIANZ Central Office for more information by telephone on +613 8593 4140 (AU) or +64 9887 6972 (NZ) or by email on <a href="mailto:conference@eianz.org">conference@eianz.org</a>.



Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Suite 3, 255 Whitehorse Road Balwyn VIC 3103

AU +613 8593 4140 | NZ +64 9887 6972 office@eianz.org | www.eianz.org

ABN 39 364 288 752| NZBN 9429041314777