



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand Inc.

THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY OFFSETS CONFERENCE

CANBERRA

Biodiversity offsets are now used by all levels of government throughout Australia to counterbalance significant residual impacts from deleterious actions on specific matters of national, state or local environmental significance.

Formal mechanisms for delivering biodiversity offsets have been emerging in Australia for at least 30 years. During this time, biodiversity offset frameworks have been ever-evolving; have frequently been complex; have involved multiple stakeholders; and are often controversial.

There is increasing interest in the use of biodiversity offsets across many sectors including mining, extractive resource, infrastructure and land development industries to address their environmental impacts. At the same time many policy makers, practitioners and academics are reflecting on the history of biodiversity offsets, present frameworks used in their delivery and the ways these frameworks can be improved to reflect market conditions and emerging science. Controversy continues to revolve around the effectiveness of current approaches and what are the key elements of successful programs.

The time is right for a national forum on biodiversity offsets to aid in shaping the future of environmental offsets in Australia. A national conference on biodiversity offsets will provide an opportunity to:

- discuss their history and effectiveness in addressing environmental impacts;
- share the experiences from all levels of government;
- learn from academics, the legal fraternity and those involved in offset markets;
- hear from individuals involved in the hands-on delivery of offsets;
- explore different metrics for measuring impact and calculating offset delivery; and
- debate the relative benefits of direct, indirect and 'pay and go' offsets.

This conference will be of interest to policy makers, regulatory authorities, academics, offset brokers, environmental practitioners, offset providers and the legal fraternity.

All participants will receive an understanding of every aspect of biodiversity offsets and the opportunity to participate in closing session aimed at identifying priorities for biodiversity offset policy, science, markets and delivery in Australia.

DATE

Monday 26 August - Tuesday 27 August 2019

VENUE

Hotel Realm
18 National Circuit, Canberra ACT 2600