

# WHAT IS ON THE HORIZON?



AUSTRALIAN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL

Australian Green  
Infrastructure Council  
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Firstly, my sincere condolences to any AGIC members and volunteers who may have lost loved ones, or suffered losses as a result of the tragic weather events that we have experienced across Australia in the past few months.

I spent time volunteering with cleanup squads in affected suburbs of Brisbane, and cannot imagine the feelings of having lost so much. Digging through the rubbish and uncovering photo albums, mementos, dolls, and other toys left me feeling sad, and far more exhausted than the physical work would have otherwise left me.

These events certainly reinforce the need for our critical infrastructure to be far more resilient to severe climate impacts. It is also quite well established that a warming biosphere will, over time, exacerbate both the intensity and frequency of such events as those that we experienced in Queensland through January.

While no single event can be directly attributed to global warming, we must take action to address both the probable cause of global warming, and to adapt to inevitable changes in our climate that we now know are occurring, and likely to become worse.

With these events fresh in our minds, the AGIC Board has moved fast to ensure that our Sustainability Rating Scheme is delivered to the market this year. We have decided to deliver the scheme early by deferring some lower priority categories in order for industry to build capability and experience in assessment as fast as possible. The deferred categories will be added in time, and as funding permits.

We have also appointed Rick Walters as AGIC's Technical Manager to oversee the scheme delivery program and provide the Board with the best technical advice on sustainability assessment and the mechanisms of rating sustainability on projects. I thank Rick for his significant contributions as a Director of AGIC since the beginning, and welcome him to our staff.

Members will be pleased with Rick's appointment, and volunteers can look forward to strong and sound support on technical matters. Rick will also be working closely with CIEAM Researchers and CIEAM's industry partners on the underpinning science, metrics, and management tools being developed by CIEAM, in support of sustainability in infrastructure asset management.

Once again, I must thank the dedication of our Board and our many volunteers for their on-going support and enthusiasm - AGIC could not have achieved so much in such a short time without you.

Best regards,  
David



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## TECHNICAL MANAGER APPOINTED

**AGIC has appointed Rick Walters to the position of Technical Manager to finalise the National Sustainability Rating Scheme for the Australian infrastructure industry.**

Rick is highly qualified to bring the AGIC scheme to market following more than 20 years experience in Sustainability, Environmental Management, Operations Management and Process Engineering with major Australian companies included Thiess, John Holland, Worley Parsons and Rio Tinto. This experience spans the full infrastructure lifecycle of design, construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning and closure of assets.

Rick Walters is an accredited Principal Environmental Auditor, a past EIANZ NSW Committee Member and a Green Star Accredited Professional. Rick was an AGIC Director and resigned his commission in January.

He has worked on the AGIC National Rating Scheme development since its inception in a voluntary capacity and his appointment as Technical Manager will help AGIC deliver a practical rating scheme to Industry by the target date of end 2011.



## NEW AGIC DIRECTOR APPOINTED

**Scott Lambert is a Partner with Holding Redlich Lawyers.**

Scott has more than 22 years experience in construction and infrastructure law and incorporates the latest legal developments and industry practices to provide his clients with the most appropriate documentation for their projects.

Over the past few years, Scott has become increasingly involved in a wide range of environmentally sustainable projects and is an accredited Green Star Professional.

He holds memberships with AMPLA, IAQ and the Queensland Resources Council and is National Chair of the Law Council of Australia Construction and Infrastructure Law Committee.



## AGIC INTRODUCES ANGELA REIDY

**The Education and Training Working Group has recently been re-activated in view of progress now being made on the tool development.**

The focus of the group is to guide the development of training material and develop a framework for the rollout of an appropriate program of training that supports AGIC goals.

The new working group is being led by Angela Reidy, an Associate at Arup based in Melbourne. Angela has a background as a civil engineer and project/program manager having worked in the initiation and delivery stages on a number of infrastructure projects across sectors such as transportation, water, maritime, education and community infrastructure.

The Education and Training Working Group comprises members from across the country who meet by teleconference every month. The group would welcome any new members who are interested in assisting in any capacity. For any further details, please contact Angela Reidy on 0408182816.



## NEW FOUNDATION MEMBER

Please welcome the following new Foundation Member to AGIC.



To achieve Foundation Membership status, Evans and Peck developed the AGIC Charter as their contribution to Foundation Membership and paid the remainder of the outstanding amount in cash.

## NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members to AGIC –

### The Water and Carbon Group

Our vision is to provide the market with world-class carbon sequestration and water treatment systems that deliver significant economic, biodiversity and community benefits.

### EPA Northern Territory

Our vision: A prosperous Northern Territory where the natural, cultural and social environments are cared for, valued and respected.

## AGIC OUT & ABOUT

AGIC has been represented at the following:

- ASBEC Annual General Meeting
- World Engineering Congress, Buenos Aires, 2010
- Australian Water Association (AWA) National Conference, Sydney
- Transitioning to Sustainability Conference, Auckland, December 2010
- Green Building Council New Zealand – regarding an AGIC/GBCNZ partnership
- EPA Northern Territory
- Manidis Roberts Sustainability Events: Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth.
- GreenTag National Advisory Committee
- Building Products Innovation Council Lifecycle Inventory Workshop

# SUSTAINABILITY RATING TOOL DEVELOPMENT MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

**AGIC's Sustainability Rating Tool development is making good progress and has reached the second (60%) milestone review stage.**

As a result of the 30% review, the number of categories has been reduced by merging several categories to create a more user friendly and streamlined tool. More details on this will be released when the draft tool is released.

By this second milestone, category authors have:

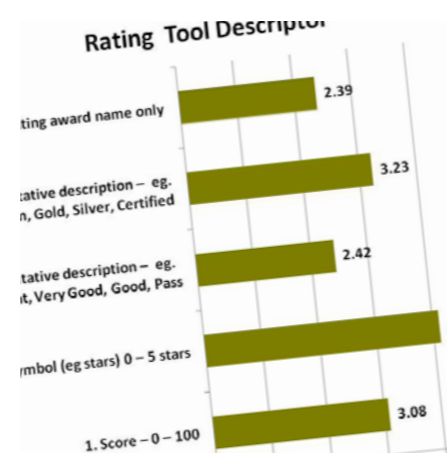
- Completed Theme and Category definitions
- Described the 'State of Play' for sustainability practices within their category
- Provided case study information
- Developed draft assessment criteria and benchmarks
- Provided draft evidence requirements

The category author material has been reviewed by selected peer reviewers and is now under review by the Global Review Panel (GRP). The GRP is a select group of 7 industry experts whose role is to review the rationale, consistency and congruity between categories, the relevance of content and usability of the overall tool as it proceeds through the development phase.

AGIC's new Technical Manager, Rick Walters is supporting the GRP in their role. Rick commented that "AGIC has been pleased with all the hard work undertaken by category authors, peer reviewers and the GRP so far and we look forward to seeing the results of this second important review phase. This review is vital since it is an important opportunity for the GRP to modify direction, where necessary, to ensure that the material comes together as a consistent and usable tool".

In the final phase of tool development, category authors will finalise their content based on review comments and all content will be combined to produce a draft rating tool. It is planned that this draft will be completed in May-June 2011 and released to industry for comment. At the same time a series of pilot trials will be undertaken to test the draft tool and refine it further.

**"AGIC has been pleased with all the hard work undertaken by category authors, peer reviewers and the Global Review Panel (GRP)"**



## WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT THE AGIC RATING SCHEME

**One hundred and forty-eight people participated in an on-line survey from late November 2010 – February 2011 to give their views on how the AGIC rating can be described on award.**

**Survey participants clearly indicated (by ranking each option from not preferred at all to highly preferred) that they prefer a 'symbol' to depict the sustainability rating (mean score of 4.12), followed by a qualitative description – e.g. Platinum, Gold, Silver, Certified (mean score of 3.23) to a score out of 0 – 100 (mean score 3.08).**

**In describing a preferred symbol, stars were considered a 'safe and popular' option with other ideas including planets, suns or green - earth, frogs, leaves to green ticks or hardhats.**

In seeking a name for the scheme three main themes emerged. These included:

- An emphasis on 'infrastructure', e.g. InfraGreen, InfraFootprint, Infrastar
- An emphasis on 'sustainability', e.g. Sustainability Rating/Scheme, Sustainable Infrastructure Rating Scheme, and
- An emphasis on 'green', e.g. Green Infrastructure Rating Tool, Green Infrastructure, Green Star, Greenbuild, GreenIndex.

A range of comments and thought starters were given on the grouping of the infrastructure delivery phases for award as well as branding attributes and branding strategies for consideration.

The respondent profile reveals almost three quarters (72%) of respondents were from the professional disciplines of planning, design and construction with government proponents comprising (8%) of respondents and asset maintenance and operations professionals (8%) with the balance from finance, communications and governance organisations.

The age of respondents was predominantly 36 – 45 years (29%), followed by 46 – 55 years (26%), 26 – 35 years (24%), 56 – 65 years (16%) and 18 – 25 years (5%).

All states were represented in the survey and 73% of respondents were male and 27% female.

"The survey provides an excellent starting point for creating the rating descriptor and we invite you to provide further comment on these initial views on the AGIC On-line Moderated Forum section of our website ([www.agic.net.au](http://www.agic.net.au)) during March and April," Mr. Doug Harland, CEO, AGIC said.

# PROFILE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS ON THE AGIC KNOWLEDGE HUB

Clem 7— lighting the way to a better future for sustainable transport options

The Knowledge Hub (K-Hub) is AGIC's online library, allowing organisations and individuals to share information and experiences regarding best practice, new technologies, and better ways forward in achieving sustainability in infrastructure.

**The Clem 7 - Excellence in Sustainable Water Management** case study highlights the project's 100% recycled water management system which saved Brisbane 1,500ML of town water and set a new benchmark for alternative, self-sufficient water supply for construction projects across the country.

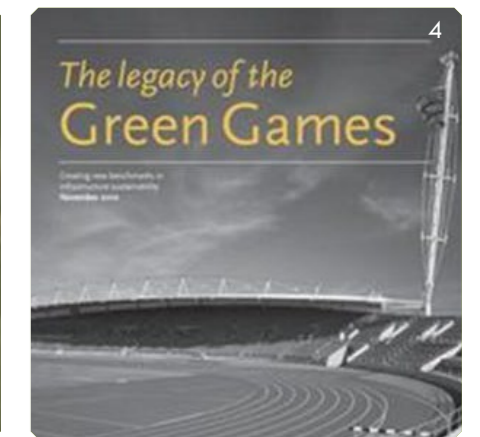
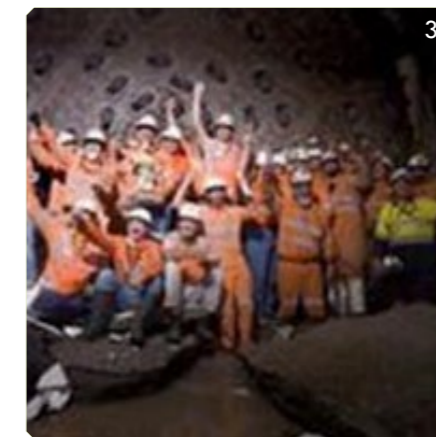
The joint venture's foresight and commitment to sustainability saw project partners Baulderstone, Leighton contractors and Bilfinger Berger, receive the Contractor Excellence award at the 2010 National Infrastructure Awards.

To read more: [www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/eastlink-treatment-of-water-runoff/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/eastlink-treatment-of-water-runoff/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1)

**The Northern Busway – Royal Children's Hospital** case study discusses the dual role of design and environmental management which allowed SMEC to embed environmental staff on the project team at the initial design stage and incorporate sustainability principles throughout the project.

Sustainable design features included in the infrastructure were solar power and water collection and reuse and the addition of a cycle centre. The cycle centre has enhanced active transport alternatives, making walking, jogging or cycling more attractive options for commuters and the community. These initiatives and others have created a benchmark for future projects.

To read more: [www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/northern-busway-project/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/northern-busway-project/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1)



**The legacy of the Green Games** is a thought piece on contributions made by the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and the London 2012 Olympic Games to infrastructure sustainability - in terms of environmental, social and socio-economic performance and outcomes.

It compares and contrasts the approaches to sustainability taken for these Games. This item was created and submitted by Manidis Roberts.

To read more: [www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/detail/66425/](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/detail/66425/)

**The E-Crete** case study was provided by Aurora Construction Materials and introduces a new low carbon concrete used for landscaping works and pathways at the CERES Community Environmental Park in Melbourne.

E-Crete features reused 'waste' materials as a cement replacement, reducing carbon output by as much as 80% when compared to conventional concrete.

To read more: [www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/e-crete-low-carbon-concrete/?LocatorGroupID=332](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/e-crete-low-carbon-concrete/?LocatorGroupID=332)

**The Ipswich Motor Upgrade – Safelink Alliance** case study provides an overview of the sustainability aspects and outcomes integrated into the Safelink Alliance.

Initiatives included solar bike track lighting, fauna crossings, a range of stormwater management controls, landscaping using native species and efficient irrigation, and crime prevention using design guidelines. Provided with thanks from Arup.

To read more: [www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/ipswich-motorway-upgrade-safelink-alliance/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/directory/ipswich-motorway-upgrade-safelink-alliance/?LocatorFormID=337&FromSearch=1)

To share your knowledge go to [www.agic-khub.net.au/contributor-registration/](http://www.agic-khub.net.au/contributor-registration/) and submit your case study.

1. Ipswich Motor Upgrade—using innovation for sustainable outcomes.
2. The Northern Busway—economic savings, innovation and benchmarking for the future.
3. A great sense of accomplishment!
4. Green Games Legacy— an athletic approach to sustainability.



## FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

2011 has already increased my respect for Mother Nature and highlighted the fragility of human beings when faced with the full brunt of natural forces. (One could say unnatural). I was in Toowoomba on January 10th and the magnitude of the extreme weather events that unfolded in Toowoomba and the Lockyer Valley still seem surreal and difficult to integrate in one's mind.

One continually asks "how can it be?" that a boiling seven metre high wall of water swept away people and brick homes, leaving some with only a bare concrete slab devoid of any fittings or tie bolts. A gentle meandering shallow creek where our family once picnicked in Murphy's creek is now a ravine metres deep and thirty metres wide. Disbelief still exists even in the minds of witnesses who experienced the seven metre water wall at Grantham, an area I regard as quite flat and on a large plain. The loss of this farmlands valuable top soil to the rooms and floors of Brisbane residences is another major impact.

In addition, the Brisbane floods (With 70% of Queensland under flood) combined with the outcomes of cyclone Yasi in North Queensland and flooding in southern states and fires in Western Australia has placed insurance companies under enormous pressure. The insurance industry graphs on weather related claim costs over the last decade are now starting to replicate an exponential curve.

Without doubt, in my view the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events is increasing.

It is fitting the first AGIC sustainability assessment category to be authored and completed was the Climate Change Adaptation category. The authorship of the whole scheme is now well advanced, with authors passing the 60% review milestone. The appointment of Rick Walters to AGIC staff as Technical Manager is welcomed, and will greatly assist the scheme's development and we all look forward to its release this year.

The huge volunteer effort that has underwritten the development of the Scheme needs to be recognised, and the Board is greatly appreciative of the efforts and the value of this significant in kind contribution.

Laura Raby, our Volunteer Coordinator recently facilitated a workshop with the Board to review how we can better engage, manage and communicate with our volunteers. This output will be linked into AGIC's policies and procedures with a formal induction component.

The volunteer Global Review Panel (GRP) and Category Peer Reviewers also represent a valuable professional resource contribution, and they are all very busy as the authorships move to the next milestone.

In spite of the challenging start to the year, the Board and I look forward to great progress being made by AGIC this year and I take this opportunity to wish all our members a productive 2011.

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## AUDITED FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS STATEMENT

As a result of advice from our Auditors, AGIC Directors wish to advise members of a revision to the Directors Declaration as provided below, that results from a change in the 2010 financial statement from a Special Purpose treatment in relation to the accounting of funding received to that based on a General Purpose standard.

### AUSTRALIAN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

On August 12th 2010 at the AGM, the directors issued an unqualified declaration in respect of the June 2010 financial statements.

Subsequent to that date, on advice from the auditors of the entity, the financial statements have been amended to reflect adherence to accounting standards in relation to general purpose financial statements. As such, an updated directors' declaration has been issued in respect of the audited financial statements as of June 2010.

The Directors declare that: The Financial statements and notes as set out on pages 8 to 18 presents fairly the company's financial position as at 30 June 2010 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional report requirements;

In the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Director	Mr David Anthony Hood
Director	Mr Glenn Anthony Hedges
Dated	3rd February 2011

Subsequent to the 2009 Annual General Meeting, the audit of the 2009 financial year was completed. At this time, the auditors brought to our attention and provided advice, that the manner in which grant funding had been reflected within the unaudited financial statements presented to the 2009 Annual General Meeting, did not conform strictly with the Australian Accounting Standards. Our entity which prepares its financial statements under what is titled the 'general purpose financial statements' concept, must conform to such Standards.

On this advice, the 2009 financial statements have been revised and an updated directors' declaration provided; the auditors have now issued their unqualified audit report. The major impact of the changes in relation to the draft 2009 financial statements provide to the Annual General Meeting are as follows:

### STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

<b>Profit before income tax</b>	Increased from \$72,843 to \$222,843
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### BALANCE SHEET

<b>Trade and Other Receivables</b>	Reduced from \$398,152 to \$183,152
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<b>Trade and other payables</b>	Reduced from \$129,916 to \$110,370
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<b>Other Current Liabilities</b>	Reduced from \$345,454 to \$Nil.
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<b>Equity – Retained profits</b>	Increased from \$127,182 to \$277,182
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If you wish to discuss the reasons for such changes, please do not hesitate to contact the Chairman, Mr David Hood or the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Doug Harland.



AUSTRALIAN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE COUNCIL

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FOUNDATION MEMBERS

