



e-Newsletter

October 2010

Climate Change Vulnerability Guideline to be launched at AGIC Conference

Register now for AGIC's second National conference being held on Tuesday 26 October, 2010, in conjunction with the World Congress on Engineering Asset Management.

The conference will start at 9.00am and will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The event David Hood, Chairman of AGIC, will give an update on progress in developing the world's first full sustainability rating scheme for infrastructure.

The keynote address on *'The influence of sustainability assessment and award tools in civil engineering and public realm projects'* will be delivered by Professor Roger Venables, Managing Director, Crane Environmental UK, and will include the launch of [AGIC's Climate Change Vulnerability Sub-Category](#) and [Guideline](#), [AGIC's Knowledge Hub](#) and an overview of the [AGIC Infrastructure Sustainability Checklist](#).

Chief Executive of the UK's CEEQUAL Assessment & Awards Scheme in the UK.

Break-out sessions as part of the program include:

Materials and Performance Management;
Sustainability Change Management;
Australia's Changing Workforce;
Challenging the Precautionary Principle;
Sustainability in Operational Financing; and
Infrastructure Sustainability Case Studies.

The cost for members for the day (excluding Conference Dinner) is \$770 (incl GST) and non-members \$840 (incl GST).

For more details on the conference programme and registration form please [click here](#).

Be sure to book now!

AGIC Breakfast – 26 October 2010

AGIC will also be hosting a [pre-conference breakfast](#), sponsored by Tenix, at Rydges, South Bank, on the morning of the conference, commencing at 7.00am until 8.30am.

The breakfast will feature Romilly Madew, CEO of the Green Building Council of Australia, as guest speaker.

In addition a preview of the AGIC Knowledge Hub will be provided.

AGIC is able to offer one free admission per AGIC member and discounted tickets of \$44.00 for additional staff to attend the breakfast. The cost for non-members is \$66.00.

Please register your attendance via [this form](#).

Book now as numbers are limited!

Getting to the Conference

Where: Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Train: South Bank Station and South Brisbane Station are within a five minute walk of the centre.

Parking: Convention Centre parking can be accessed from Merivale and Melbourne Streets. For parking rates please follow the below link: <http://www.bcec.com.au/venue-and-services/car-parking.aspx>

Getting to the Breakfast

Where: Rydges Hotel, 9 Glenelg Street South Bank, Brisbane

Train: Closest stations are South Bank and South Brisbane

Parking: Available at the Convention Centre

Knowledge Hub submissions invited

AGIC is inviting organisations to showcase their sustainability achievements in the Knowledge Hub being launched at the AGIC National Conference in Brisbane on Tuesday 26th October 2010.

The Knowledge Hub is intended to be the Australian industry's website of choice for sharing better practices, lessons learnt, innovations and sustainable outcomes achieved during all life cycle phases and across a broad range of infrastructure types.

Sustainability achievements being sought include case studies, technical papers, conference papers and other material relating to one or more of the seven rating theme areas:

- Project Management and Governance
- Economic Impacts
- Using Resources
- Emissions
- Pollution and Waste
- Biodiversity
- People and Place and Workforce

Guidance on how to contribute material is available on AGIC's [Fact Sheet 10](#). Please forward any submissions or direct any queries on the Knowledge Hub to info@agic.net.au.

Information to include with each application (where applicable)

- Applicable state/territory
- AGIC scheme theme
- AGIC scheme category
- Infrastructure type
- AGIC rated project
- Project locality
- Links and references
- Contributor details- name and position of individual, name of organisation, phone and email of individual

NB only the contributor name and/or organisation will be listed publicly.

Chairman's Report



The past few months have seen things really start to move for AGIC. While the Federal election has been fun to watch with nothing much happening as parties negotiate for power, AGIC is storming ahead. The funding that we have received from the Commonwealth is sufficient to make a start on the scheme, and by the time you read this, we will have met with most of our category authors at a "kick-off" workshop in Sydney. This will see us releasing a pre-pilot version of the scheme next year, for industry to begin using and familiarising themselves with the assessment processes. We will be asking for feedback and running the designated pilot trials of the scheme in parallel before releasing the full scheme later in the year. The pre-pilot release will not include formal awards, so organisations will be able to come quickly up to speed with the assessment requirements in time to submit for formal awards when the full scheme is released.

Interest in what we are doing is growing with demands for presentations increasing over the past months. We ran a very successful networking session in Melbourne in late August thanks to Freehills and excellent coordination by Renee Garner and Rob Turk.

AGIC was cited in many of the presentations at Enviro 2010, and I am running a series of awareness seminars around Engineers Australia's divisions, and country centres, having done Sydney, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Mackay, and Lismore so far.

Memberships are also increasing and I'd like to welcome four new organisational members: Hyder, Ash Development Association of Australia and Australasian Slag Association and Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

Our conference is working up to be a great event in Brisbane on 26 October 2010, and I look forward to meeting as many of our members and volunteers as I can at AGIC 2010.

Cheers,

David Hood

Rating Scheme Authors briefed

For the past two years AGIC has been planning for and advocating the benefits of a national sustainability rating scheme for infrastructure to help industry achieve more sustainable outcomes and receive credible recognition for achievements beyond business as usual.

AGIC is pleased to announce that development of the rating tool is now well under way, with Category Authors for five of the seven themes now engaged. Industry can anticipate the Pre-Pilot Trial version for these categories to be available in the first half of 2011. The trial will enable those in the industry to familiarise themselves with the criteria and associated benchmarks which will assist in preparing projects for certified ratings once the pilot trials are completed and Version One is released in late 2011.

While the remaining funds are yet to be secured from government and private sources, the remaining two themes (Economic Performance, Workforce) will be developed and merged with the Pre-Pilot Trial version ready for formal pilot trials.



Category authors gain a common understanding at the Sydney briefing

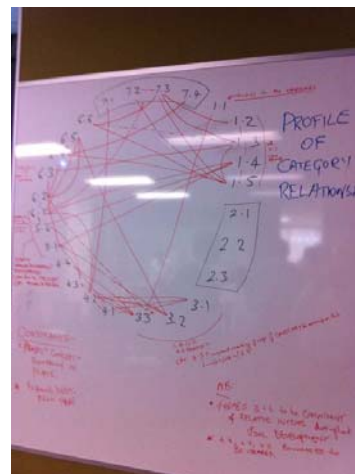


Quick Check release

In August AGIC released to members the 'Quick Check' - a handy, easy to use checklist which allows a project manager or sustainability advocate to quickly evaluate how sustainability has been, or could be, incorporated into a project's scope or to gauge sustainability performance throughout any project phase.

The MS-excel spreadsheet enables users to easily create a PDF of the output report for reporting and communication purposes, and provides recipients with the ability to track the status of sustainability performance on a project and align the project with a good AGIC rating once the full rating scheme is launched.

AGIC's Quick Check, developed and thoroughly tested by AECOM's Scott Losee as part of AECOM's contribution to Foundation Membership, will be outlined at the National Conference.



Identifying category synergies



New Board Member



Denis Cook, newly appointed AGIC board member, is the Queensland Regional Director at Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB).

The PB team has been committed to the concept of a sustainability rating scheme for infrastructure right from the beginning. PB provided a shared web document control system, founded and managed the Client Needs and Marketing Group and wrote AGIC's submission to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). PB was recognised as a founding member in 2008 for their contribution to AGIC's formation.

Denis' decision to become involved with AGIC, on a personal level, is also centred on the need to better understand sustainability in infrastructure.

"Many people talk about sustainability, but we all find it difficult to be specific about what it means.

"Applying the concept to infrastructure in all its forms is even more difficult, and I am keen to be part of an organisation that can advance industry and the community's understanding of these very complex issues," he says.

Denis brings a great deal of experience working at the interface of government, community and project proponents in the assessment and approval of major infrastructure projects to the organisation. A personal goal is to continue towards a better balance between economic, social and environmental objectives and to provide more clarity and certainty for key stakeholders.

AGIC would like to welcome Denis to the Board and also to the extended team.

Latest Foundation Member

AGIC would like to recognise one new Foundation Member, [AECOM](#).

To achieve Foundation Membership status, organisations must have provided additional startup contributions to the value of \$15,000 prior to 31 December 2009.

AECOM has been recognised as a Foundation Member for their contribution to a number of critical AGIC tasks including the completion of the handy 'Quick Check' self-assessment

checklist, facilitation of the 2008 tool development workshop, preparation of the Tool Development Project Manager contract and provision of administrative support relating to the pursuit of government funding.

AGIC would like to thank AECOM for their commitment to AGIC and its vision.

Foundation Membership is no longer available to new or current members who have not previously confirmed their intent to provide significant and direct support during AGIC's establishment. However, a number of our members are working through their in-kind contributions which must be completed or the balance paid out in cash by 31st December 2010 to be eligible for Foundation Membership.

AGIC welcomes Liz Conway

Liz Conway joined the AGIC team in August and over the past month has quickly found her feet as the AGIC Office Manager, with Doug Harland going on leave just two weeks after she started.

Liz will give direct support to Doug in his role as CEO as well as providing support for the volunteers of AGIC. As the organisation grows Liz's role will expand.

Before joining AGIC, Liz was the State Coordinator of Sands for more than a decade. Sands is the provider of bereavement support for families who experience the death of their baby. Liz's role included ensuring support services for parents were in place; advocating on behalf of parents; educating health care professionals; organisation of industry events.

Liz notes her significant achievement as having been involved in the production of two films- 'The Story of Daniel' and 'Grief in the Work place.'

In seeking a career change, Liz looked for an ethical and forward thinking organisation, and was attracted to the opportunities AGIC offered.

Liz lives in New Farm, the centre of really good coffee, and believes that most good food should contain chocolate and be accompanied by fine wine.

Liz's ideal holiday destinations are Antarctica, Easter Island, the Galapagos Islands and Europe. In her spare time she loves to read.

AGIC is pleased to welcome Liz to the team.

AGIC Out & About

Events at which AGIC has presented since July include:

- Jul 26: 3rd Global Infrastructure Projects Conference in Kuala Lumpur;
- Jul 31: Engineers Australia's (EA) Bundaberg Country Convention;
- Aug 5: 8th National Infrastructure Summit Sydney;
- Aug 7: EA Lismore seminar presentation;
- Aug 10: 6th Australian - New Zealand Climate Change and Business Conference Sydney;
- Aug 18: Austab Forum Gold Coast;
- Aug 24: AGIC Melbourne Networking Event;
- Aug 24: Energex Presentation Brisbane;
- Sep 16: Keynote presentation to AIRAH Conference;
- Sep 21: EA Brisbane seminar presentation;
- Sep 23: SSEE/AGDF/DEEDI Positive Communities Presentation;
- Oct 5: Australian Society of Concrete Pavements Brisbane



Left to right: Professor Joe Mathew, CEO of the CRC for Infrastructure and Engineering Asset Management (CIEAM) with AGIC Chairman, David Hood at the 3rd World Congress on Infrastructure Projects, Kuala Lumpur



Renee Garner, AGIC welcoming guests to the Freehills sponsored AGIC Victorian network group event in Melbourne.

AGIC featured at major Brazilian forum



Left to right: Simon Cavendish, former AGIC Director and current member, Marilena Lino de Almeida Lavorato, Manager FIBoPS, Brazil; Jose Maria Gasalla, Director ESADE, Spain

FIBoPS - Brazil's annual international trade fair on environmental best practice -was held from 27-29 July 2010 in Sao Paulo. More than 5,000 people attended to hear 82 speakers from eight countries.

Simon Cavendish, a member of the Australian Green Infrastructure Council (AGIC) and the director of Brisbane-based consultancy EnviroPartners, spoke at the prestigious event hosted by Instituto Mais which manages Brazil's environmental benchmarking system.

PLEASE NOTE

AGIC has a new home! Doug and Liz have set up the AGIC office in the Green Hub in Adelaide Street, Brisbane. The Green Hub is a generous initiative of ARUP and AGIC shares the office with GBCA, Greencross and Brisbane's City Smart. The new contact details including AGIC's new postal address are listed in the box below.

For more information please contact

Australian Green Infrastructure Council

PO Box 12765 George St Brisbane Qld 4003
Level 2, 79 Adelaide Street Brisbane
info@agic.net.au
+61 488 592 555

Doug Harland,
Chief Executive Officer
+61 7 4635 2592
+61 418 987 662
dharland@agic.net.au

Liz Conway
Office Manager
Phone: +61 488 592 555
lconway@agic.net.au

Foundation members



New AGIC members

AGIC would like to welcome the following members who have recently joined. A full list of existing AGIC foundation, organisational and individual members can be viewed at www.agic.net.au



Ash Development
Association of Australia

