



Resource centre

Legislation, governance, programs and industry links to help guide your sustainability development.



AGIC sustainability rating scheme underway

The recent announcement by the Commonwealth Government of \$500,000 in funding to the Australian Green Infrastructure Council (AGIC) will see the content of the sustainability rating scheme for infrastructure progressed.

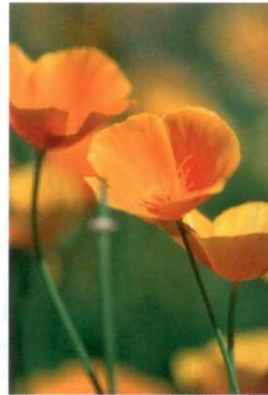
The AGIC sustainability rating scheme consists of a rating tool covering seven categories - project management and governance, economic performance, resources, emissions, pollution and waste, biodiversity, people and place and workforce. The rating assessment tool is supported by relevant case studies and assessment training.

The voluntary sustainability assessment will be independently verified and a certification awarded in three phases - after design and planning, construction and operation of an infrastructure project.

"The AGIC Board and I are extremely pleased with the Commonwealth funding support of \$500,000. This money, together with \$50,000 from the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and \$100,000 from AGIC members, will enable five of the seven categories to be authored. AGIC looks forward to additional funding being awarded by state governments to complete the tool," Doug Harland, CEO, AGIC, said.

"The funding will enable the content of the rating tool to be progressed over the next two years. This time period will enable the rating tool content to be developed, peer reviewed, trialled and released for further industry testing on projects covering a range of road, water and wastewater, port, rail, bridge and other infrastructure projects," Harland said.

For further information, go to www.agic.net.au.



National initiative for environmental education

A new national initiative to improve the delivery of environmental education programs was launched at the Enviro10 Conference in Melbourne in July.

The National Professional Development Initiative for Sustainability Educators will equip environmental educators with the right skills to deliver environmental education programs. The initiative follows research which identified a need for a consistent and strategic approach to training, for those responsible for the delivery of 'Education for Sustainability' programs. Launching the initiative, Grahame Collier, the Project Management Group Chair, said: "It is essential that communities, industry and governments understand and respond to the challenges of sustainability. Individuals involved in sustainability education programs play a key role in improving understanding around sustainability so it is important that they have the right skills to deliver these programs effectively."

The initiative has been developed and supported by four peak environmental education organisations:

- the Waste Management Association of Australia
- the Australian Water Association
- the Australian Association for Environmental Education
- the Marine Education Society of Australasia

The National Professional Development Initiative for Sustainability Educators is funded by the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. The first modules will be delivered during August 2010.



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