

Invitation to The 12th Sustainable Business Forum:

Wed 18th August, 2004

Sustainable Water Resource Management in Dry Nations: Australian and Israeli /Palestinian Perspectives

a public forum on river restoration and urban water resource management



University of Technology, Sydney



Engineers Australia
Water Engineering Panel

Australia is facing an historic water crisis not just in individual water catchments but in whole river systems. Like other dry nations in the world, Australia has reached a point of recognition that water management regimes need major restructuring if catastrophe is to be avoided. What we need is a multi-level approach covering economic, social and technological issues. While we are now engaged in a major process of reform, it is time to look beyond our borders to global stories about what has worked to avert such crises elsewhere. We invite you to join us to hear about two multi-level approaches: a very interesting story of the restoration of the Alexander River in Israel and recent international innovations in waste and storm water management.

SPEAKERS:

Amos Brandeis: Architect and Town and Regional Planner; Manager and Chief Planner of the Alexander River Restoration Project; Vice-Chairman of the Israeli Association of Planners.

The Alexander River project in Israel is a comprehensive approach to the sustainable management of a river basin including the removal of pollutants, water resource management, regional irrigation systems, the development of river parks, ecological rehabilitation, public involvement. The project has become a unique bridge between the Israeli and Palestinian people, enabling cooperation on an ecological issue which knows no political borders. The project has won 5 prizes including the 2003 'International Thies River Prize' (Brisbane 2003).

Dr Simon Beecham, Director of Water Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, University of Technology, Sydney and member of UTS Institute for Water and Environmental Resource Management.

Simon's specialisation is in urban water resource management and he is an expert on Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD), a new technology that has evolved from advances in engineering, biotechnology and environmental management. WSUD challenges us to manage water systems in a different, more integrated manner. Wastewater and stormwater become resources to be harvested rather than waste streams to be treated at public expense. In this context, our current passion for rainwater tanks in Sydney will be compared with the huge municipal storage volumes per capita required to secure reliable supplies.

CHAIR Dr Suzanne Benn, Corporate Sustainability Project

PANEL DISCUSSANTS

Dr Cynthia Mitchell, Institute for Sustainable Futures. Since joining ISF in 2001 Cynthia has led projects in sustainable water service provision, sustainable urban form and buildings, and learning and education for sustainability.

Andrew Martin, Barrister-in-Law, currently researching water management at the Australian Centre for Environmental Law, Sydney University.

Robyn Sim, Storm Water Manager, Sydney Water, has a background in environmental science and water quality and 15 years experience in storm water management.

Please join us for the latest in leading edge thinking in Sustainable Business at the:

Sustainable Business Forum
Wednesday 18th August 2004

Entry free

Refreshments available from 5.30pm for
talks at 6.00pm in the Harricks Auditorium
Engineers Australia
Ground Floor, Eagle House
118 Alfred Street
Milsons Point NSW 2061

If you can come please rsvp to Phyllis Agius on
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The Sustainable Business Forum aims to help foster sustainable business and is an initiative of the Corporate Sustainability Project, Faculty of Business, University of Technology, Sydney in conjunction with The Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), KPMG, Australian Corporate Citizenship Alliance (ACCA), Dowse CSP, Big Switch Projects, B Cubed Sustainability, Futureeffect Pty Ltd., and ECOS Corporation.

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