

INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY: MANAGING FOR BETTER OUTCOMES

UTS CENTRE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

A FIVE DAY PROGRAM COVERING KEY ISSUES IN SUSTAINABILITY AND HOW SUSTAINABILITY PRINCIPLES
CAN BE APPLIED THROUGH INTEGRATED PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

UTS: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WHY UNDERTAKE THIS PROGRAM ?

This is a practical program geared to the needs of a broad cross-section of local government professionals. It provides up-to-date skills in integrating 'sustainability' across the full range of councils' programs.

For close to a decade New South Wales councils have been required to apply the principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development through their Management Plans and other planning processes. However, this is still often seen as a narrow 'green' requirement, rather than an opportunity to pursue an effective 'triple bottom line' agenda.

The course covers a wide range of processes and techniques that will improve local government's performance in promoting sustainability and achieving a better balance between environmental, economic and social outcomes. This is particularly important at a time when both governments and communities have increasing concerns about quality of life issues and higher expectations of local government's performance.

After completing this program, participants should have a clear understanding of:

- Concepts of sustainability, ecologically sustainable development and the 'triple bottom line'
- Roles and capacity of local government in pursuing sustainability
- Council decision-making processes and how these influence outcomes
- The legal and planning framework for decision-making affecting sustainability
- A range of strategic and operational tools to promote better 'triple bottom line' planning and management
- Issues to consider when integrating sustainability initiatives into wider Council activities
- Key factors in effective implementation.

PROGRAM CONTENT

The program blends theory and principles with workshop sessions, including a hypothetical, and case studies presented by expert practitioners.

DAY ONE	SUSTAINABILITY IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT: CONCEPTS AND ROLES Defining sustainability, ecologically sustainable development and the triple bottom line. Council's roles, responsibilities, functions and capacity. Decision-making and corporate management: stakeholders, politics, organisation structure and culture. Case study.
DAY TWO	MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORKS Aspects of environmental law. Linking State of Environment reports and Management Plans. Engaging the community. Case study.
DAY THREE	INTEGRATED PLANNING Effective environmental/economic/social planning. Promoting sustainability through available planning frameworks and control of development. Case study.
DAY FOUR	MANAGEMENT TOOLS Environmental audits and management systems. Contract management. Field visit.
DAY FIVE	MAKING IT HAPPEN Using sustainability indicators. Implementation planning – team work, external partnerships, publicity and marketing, education and training, funding opportunities. Workshop. Course review.

PRESENTERS

A team of expert practitioners, all of whom have extensive local government experience, will present the course. Presenters will include:

- **PETER DAVIES** Sustainability and Catchments Manager with Ku-Ring-Gai Council.
- **DR ANDREW KELLY** Lawyer and Town Planner. Andrew has been teaching planning law to Council staff and elected representatives for over a decade. He is the Senior Lecturer at the University of Wollongong's Faculty of Law and is a member of the University's research Institute of Conservation, Biology and Law.
- **ROBERT MELLOR** Program Manager of the UTS Centre for Local Government, with extensive experience in sustainability and community engagement.
- **RANSCE SALAN** Sustainable Development Manager with Eurobodalla Shire Council.
- **GRAHAM SANSOM** Director of the UTS Centre and Course Coordinator, formerly a senior planner and manager in local and State government.

Other guest presenters, including Council managers, will provide case studies and give their perspectives on how to promote successful integrated management for sustainability.

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

The program includes an optional Action Research Project. Using the knowledge and skills learned in the course participants will review their Council's organisation and operations and plan a project/program and implementation strategy addressing priority sustainability issues. A Certificate of Successful Completion will be issued if the project is satisfactory. Alternatively, participants can receive a Certificate of Attendance.

ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre was established in 1991 as a cross-faculty centre of excellence within the University of Technology, Sydney. Its mission is to support the advancement and improvement of Australian Local Government through leadership in education and research, and by providing specialist consultancy services. The Centre works collaboratively with Local Government organisations, State and Commonwealth agencies, and international partners.

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

Successful completion of this short course can count towards a postgraduate qualification in Management or Business.

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