

PERI-URBAN

2014

JULY 2014

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN SYDNEY,
PARRAMATTA CAMPUS, NSW

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PERI-URBAN LANDSCAPES: WATER, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY



COMPETING FOR NATURAL RESOURCES IN CHANGING PERI-URBAN LANDSCAPES

Peri-urban areas are zones of transition from rural to urban land uses located between the outer limits of urban and regional centres and the rural environment. The boundaries of peri-urban areas are porous and transitory as urban development extends into rural and industrial land. Irrespective of how the boundaries move there will always be peri-urban zones.

There are growing concerns about water and food security to meet increases in population in urban areas. For cities to be liveable and sustainable into the future there is a need to maintain the natural resource base and the ecosystem services in the peri-urban areas surrounding cities.

Development of peri-urban areas involves the conversion of rural lands to residential use, closer subdivision, fragmentation and a changing mix of urban and rural activities and functions. Changes within these areas can have significant impacts upon agricultural uses and productivity, environmental amenity and natural habitat, supply and quality of water and water and energy consumption. These changes affect the peri-urban areas themselves and the associated urban and rural environments.

In the past, cities and towns have been established in areas that had secure water and energy supplies and fertile lands for food production. The burgeoning population growth and expansion of urban centres worldwide has placed increasing pressure on potable water supplies, energy and food supplies and the ecosystems services on which the community and the liveability of the community depend. The themes of the conference are selected to focus on critical natural resource, socio-economic, legal, policy and institutional issues that are impacted by the inevitable drift of cities into peri-urban areas.

Peri-urban 2014 is the first of its kind; an international, transdisciplinary conference which provides a valuable opportunity to explore these issues.

www.periurban14.org

PARTNERS



WHY PRESENT AT PERI-URBAN '14?

Presenting a paper at Peri-urban '14 in Sydney is an excellent opportunity. It provides an international platform to build your personal and corporate profile with peers and potential clients, across all sectors of water, land and industry. In addition, presenters will have the opportunity to:

- Exchange valuable knowledge and experiences with their peers
- Keep up-to-date on the latest industry trends and information
- Network with water industry professionals
- Be published in the Peri-urban 14 conference proceedings and in a special issue of a peer reviewed international journal
- Enhance and explore career opportunities

BEST PAPER AWARDS

The best platform and poster presentations will be awarded the Peri-urban Best Presentation Awards.

PRESENTATION TYPES

Abstracts will be considered for platform (oral) presentation or poster presentation. Authors are required to select their preference or "either" if willing to present a poster if their abstract cannot be selected for platform presentation.

PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS

Platform (oral) presentations will be scheduled at 20 minutes each (including speaker introduction) plus 5 minutes question time. Audio Visual support will be in PowerPoint format.

ePOSTERS

Selected posters will be displayed in electronic format for the duration of the conference. ePosters are webpage documents produced by the authors prior to the conference. The posters include text, figures and images, just as in traditional paper posters. ePosters can be browsed by session and topic, and can be searched using author names and keywords, all in a few seconds, from one computer. "Meet the Author" sessions will be scheduled during Peri-urban '14 to give conference delegates the opportunity to speak with poster authors. The ePosters will be included in the conference proceedings.

SELECTION OF PRESENTATIONS

The selection of papers to be presented at Peri-urban '14 will be determined by an abstract peer-review process guided by the Peri-urban '14 Program Committee. Scoring will be based on:

- Relationship and significance to the themes of the conference
- Originality
- Status of the project
- Technical content
- Interest and significance to peri-urban planning and management
- Quality (spelling, layout, etc.)

Presentations must be based on outcomes, not future projects.

SUBMISSION OF EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

Extended abstracts for papers may only be submitted through the official Peri-urban '14 website: www.periurban14.org. Emailed or faxed abstracts will not be considered.

Abstracts are to be submitted as a Word document, using the template and guidelines available at www.periurban14.org. Extended abstracts are a maximum 2 x A4 pages of text with up to 3 additional A4 pages of supporting tables and graphics.

Abstracts may be amended or withdrawn before 9 August 2013.

By submitting an abstract, it will be assumed that all authors have consented to its submission and that all copyright provisions listed elsewhere have been met. The paper accepted into the Peri-urban '14 program must not have been presented or published previously.

CONDITIONS OF PRESENTING AT PERI-URBAN '14

For a paper to be accepted and presented at the conference:

- A paid registration (full conference or at least on the day of presentation) must be received in advance from the presenting author. The deadline for presenter registration will be March 2014. This applies to both platform and poster presenters.
- Authors must be prepared to confirm their copyright ownership of the paper, the originality of the work, that the paper has not been previously published in any other form and that the Australian Water Association will be granted permission to publish the paper. This must be confirmed at time of online abstract submission.
- A full paper (platform presenters only) must be submitted for review in January 2014.

PEER-REVIEW AND PUBLICATION OF FULL PAPERS

Full papers for accepted oral presentations must be submitted in January 2014. Full papers will be peer-reviewed for a quality check for publication in the conference proceedings. Some authors may be required to revise their full paper based on reviewers' comments.

All papers accepted into the final program will be published in the conference proceedings and provided to all delegates who attend Peri-urban '14 and will be available for purchase from AWA after the conference.



CONFERENCE THEMES

The conference concerns the sustainability and security of peri-urban aspects of water, land, food, ecosystems services and liveability of regions. Within these themes, contributions from the following sectors will be presented:

PERI-URBAN LAND USE CHANGE IMPACTS

- Water cycle management (including flooding)
- Ecosystems services
- River health
- Groundwater-surface water connectivity
- Biodiversity
- Temperature change due to 'heat island effects'

URBAN AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Land and water availability
- Food production
- Future food security of cities
- Urban food security and climate change
- Institutional aspects of food security
- Rural-urban linkages and migration
- Formal and informal markets and their interactions
- Urban food system infrastructure

WATER SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

- Safe and sustainable water and sanitation services
- Ecohydrology for sustainability
- New and innovative approaches for urban water management
- International experience and initiatives (e.g., UNESCO-IHP, UNESCO Switch-in Asia, World Bank, FAO, ADB, AfDB and AusAID)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

- Economic value and markets
- Livelihoods and economic activity
- Future impacts on water dependent businesses
- Community engagement
- Urbanisation trends
- Land use planning
- Water and food security impacts
- Water availability and liveability of cities
- Capacity building

LEGAL, POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL CHALLENGES

- Governance and water reforms
- Water rights and water trading
- Integrated planning and management
- Legal and institutional frameworks

COPING WITH PERI-URBAN LANDUSE CHANGES

- Water reuse
- Stormwater management
- Alternative energy sources
- Land use planning
- Water sensitive urban and peri-urban design
- Aquifer recharge, storage and recovery
- Water use efficiency
- Bio-trading
- Desalination

FINAL DATE FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

23 AUGUST 2013

Visit www.periurban14.org for specific submission information. Note the deadline policy is strict, and late proposals will not be accepted. To avoid missing the deadline, start preparing your abstract now.

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS

The Organising Committee is also calling for 90 minute or 120 minute interactive workshops at Peri-urban '14. Workshops should have a high proportion of audience participation which is achieved via formats such as World Café. Refer to www.periurban14.org for application information.

Please note, workshop presenters must be confirmed prior to submitting the application.



www.periurban14.org

PERI-URBAN '14 PROGRAM OUTLINE

TUESDAY 8 JULY 2014

- Keynote presentations followed by concurrent sessions
- Welcome Reception

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2014

- Keynote presentations followed by concurrent sessions
- Conference Dinner

THURSDAY 10 JULY 2014

- Keynote presentations followed by concurrent sessions

FRIDAY 11 JULY 2014

- Offsite Technical Tours

IMPORTANT DATES

23 AUGUST 2013

- Abstract submission deadline

SEPTEMBER 2013

- Abstract review

OCTOBER 2013

- Notification of acceptance of abstracts

JANUARY 2014

- Full papers due

FEBRUARY 2014

- Full paper peer-review

MARCH 2014

- Presenter conference registration due

MARCH 2014

- Revised full papers due (if required)
- ePosters due

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Water, food, ecosystems services and liveability issues will increasingly head the agenda in many countries as they strive to secure safe, potable water and provide adequate water supplies for agriculture, environmental river flows and greenfield recreation sites. For this reason, the importance of Peri-urban '14

presented by the WISER Network and Australian Water Association cannot be over-emphasised.

Our major task as practitioners in this field is to provide policy makers with solid, evidence-based knowledge that will enable appropriate and beneficial outcomes for the people they represent. A further challenge is to help relevant stakeholders and organisations address the problems they face in their communities at international, national, state and regional levels; whether by improved strategic planning or by the development of sound practice. To this we should add, at the political level, not because we want to get political, but because the best political decisions are those that offer the smallest possible target for criticism, that is, decisions based on sound practice.

We also need to understand that research outcomes geared towards academic publication may not be the same as those geared to policy development within government agencies, and conversely that time spent writing material for 'on the ground' practitioners may not always be recognised as valuable within academia. We must however remain cognisant of the fact that it has been clearly established that the majority of public policy is made within very short time frames, from a few days down to a few hours. If therefore we are to have an influence on water policy and the decisions that flow from it, we need to recognise that most policy making involves an incremental approach, that is, small adjustments to existing policies. To make an impact we need to ensure that our research is of the highest order, easily understood and immediately accessible because evidence-based research is but one source of input to policy making in the world of politics, power and interest groups.

It is my hope that Peri-urban '14 will provide a much needed platform at the international level to meet the most common policy imperative – the need for rapid but well-informed decisions in the ever changing and complex world of peri-urban landscapes.

The Hon. Kevin Rozzoli AM



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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