



# Annual Report 2013-14



Environment Institute of  
Australia and New Zealand Inc.

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## Message from the President

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The year continued to be one of significant change for the environment sector broadly, as well as for the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand Inc. (EIANZ).

There have been significant shifts in Government policy across all jurisdictions, and the realisation by environmental professionals that we must continue working hard to ensure that environmental conservation, and good practice environmental management that enhances integrity, resilience and the capacity for adaptation, remain the focus of the community's sustainable development agenda. Never before has there been a more important time for recognition of the role that environmental practitioners play in ensuring a sustainable future for planet earth, whether they work in government, industry or the community.

In the past year, the Institute embarked on the implementation of the EIANZ Strategic Plan, by:

- Designing and implementing a smaller, more effective and efficient means for governance of the EIANZ.
- Appointing a General Manager to manage the business affairs of the EIANZ and provide administrative and policy support for the governance of the organisation including supporting the integration and alignment of the business functions of the Australian Chapter Divisions and the New Zealand Chapter, implementing strategic initiatives, facilitating engagement with government and coordinating the efforts of a large volunteer-based group of environmental professionals.
- Implementation of the EIANZ Steps Program - a professional development program tailored to student and early career environmental professionals.
- Engagement with government and industry to promote the role and value to the community of professionally credentialed environmental practitioners who practice in accordance with a code of ethics.

In 2013 it was agreed by members that amendments to the EIANZ Rules of Association that would restructure the governance arrangements of the Institute, and align the Rules with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic) would be prepared.

Considerable time has been invested by the EIANZ Council and members, working with appointed legal advisors, to draft the proposed amendments to the EIANZ Rules of Association, and, as a registered charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth), to formally establish operations in Australia and New Zealand as follows:

- The Institute became a Registrable Australian Body, which allows it, as an incorporated association in Victoria, to have legal standing in all Australian jurisdictions.
- The Institute became registered as an overseas company trading in New Zealand.
- Shortly after the reporting period, new Rules of Association were adopted by members at a Special General Meeting on 17 September 2014, and approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria to take effect from 30 September 2014.



This reporting period brought the regular cycle of biennial elections for roles on the EIANZ Executive Committee, which is part of the Institute's Council. I wish to formally record my thanks to Michael Chilcott FEIANZ, CEnvP for his term of leadership of the Institute as its President, and previously as its Treasurer. My thanks also go to members for giving me the opportunity to lead the Institute through a process of transformational change in governance and the education of the community about the value of professional environmental practitioners and good practice environmental management.

This report shows the EIANZ is an active and vibrant organisation, focused on educating and assuring the community about the professionalism of environmental practitioners, setting standards for good practice environmental policy and management, and building a reputation as the leading body for certifying and representing environmental professionals in Australia and New Zealand. There is much more to be done, and with the support of the membership, we can achieve the vision of being recognised as the pre-eminent body representing environmental professionals in Australia and New Zealand.

Thank you to all those many members of the Institute who volunteer their time and professional expertise to ensure its success. With that support, the EIANZ continues to expand its influence, and bring assurance to the community of the professional standing of environmental practitioners across Australia and New Zealand.

Yours sincerely

Jon Womersley FEIANZ, CEnvP, AFAIM, NMAS Accredited  
President

## About us

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The Environment Institute of Australian and New Zealand Inc. (EIANZ) was formed to educate and inform the community and environmental practitioners about good practice environmental management, and assure the community about the professional good standing of environmental practitioners. It is a not-for-profit, professional association. Founded in 1987, the Institute is multi-disciplinary in its membership, providing scope and opportunity for professional and academic interchanges across all aspects of good practice environmental management.

The EIANZ is a single business entity comprised of an Australian Chapter and a New Zealand Chapter. The Australian Chapter has Divisions in each state and territory, with Queensland divided into South East Queensland and Far North Queensland. The New Zealand Chapter operates as a single Division.

## Our Vision

By 2020, our distinctive ability to certify the proficiency of environmental professionals, hold them accountable to standards, and support their career development; and add value to the development of environmental policy and practice; will result in EIANZ being recognised as the pre-eminent body representing environmental professionals in Australia and New Zealand.

## Our Values

The values of the EIANZ are embodied in its Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, to which all members agree to abide in conducting their professional practice. The EIANZ values excellence in environmental practice.

This kind of practice is characterised by:

- The protection and enhancement of the environment for future generations through leadership in avoidance and mitigation of harms and adaptation to change.
- The preference given to the integrity and resilience of biological systems essential to the sustained wellbeing of human beings.
- Honest, objective and well-founded environmental practice based on scientific evidence.
- Environmental practice that goes beyond the minimum legal requirements.
- Environmental practice that is multidisciplinary and collaborative, integrating knowledge across domains and between stakeholders.

## Our governance

During the reporting period, the EIANZ was governed by a Council, comprising:

- Axel von Krusenstierna MEIANZ, CEnvP (Tas)
- Bill Haylock FEIANZ, CEnvP (SEQ) - to 22 October 2013
- Bryan Jenkins FEIANZ (NZ) - from 22 October 2013
- Claire Gronow FEIANZ, CEnvP (SEQ) - from 22 October 2013
- David Carberry FEIANZ (SEQ)
- Dianne Buchan MEIANZ, CEnvP(IA Specialist) (NZ)
- Dugal McFarlane MEIANZ CEnvP (ACT)
- Fiona Gainsford MEIANZ, CEnvP (NSW)
- Jeff Richardson MEIANZ (NT)
- Jo Buckner MEIANZ (NZ) - to 22 October 2013
- Johanna Taylor MEIANZ, CEnvP (NZ) - from 22 October 2013
- John Braid MEIANZ, CEnvP (WA)– to 22 October 2013
- Jon Womersley FEIANZ, CEnvP (SEQ) - from 22 October 2013
- Kim Wright MEIANZ (FNQ)
- Leo Fietje MEIANZ (NZ) - to 22 October 2013
- Melody Valentine MEIANZ (Vic)
- Michael Chilcott FEIANZ CEnvP (NSW)
- Paul Keighley MEIANZ CEnvP (ACT) - from 22 October 2013
- Rebecca McIntyre MEIANZ CEnvP (FNQ) - to 22 October 2013
- Stewart Duncan MEIANZ CEnvP (SA)
- Tiffany Thomson MEIANZ (SEQ)
- Toni Munro MEIANZ CEnvP (WA)

Each Australian Chapter Division and the New Zealand Chapter has its own elected committee responsible for the day to day running of the Chapter / Division and the organisation of local educational, professional development and networking events. Details of the members occupying leadership roles in the EIANZ can be found on the website at [www.eianz.org](http://www.eianz.org) .

## Operational Highlights

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### Governance arrangements

At the 2013 Annual General Meeting of the EIANZ members agreed to the preparation, circulation and consideration of amendments to the EIANZ Rules of Association to restructure the governance arrangements of the EIANZ, for decision at a Special General Meeting of the EIANZ at a date, time and place to be fixed.

Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers were engaged to assist in this task and to align the EIANZ Rules of Association with the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic) under which the EIANZ is incorporated in Victoria and operates across Australia and New Zealand.

By the end of the reporting period work on the new EIANZ Rules of Association was nearing completion, and subject to the approval of members the governance of the Institute would move to a small Board, with linkages to the Australian Chapter's Divisions, the New Zealand Chapter and the Special Interest Sections through an Advisory Council.

### Election review

Following the 2013 EIANZ elections members at the Annual General Meeting requested the Council undertake a review of the election process.

With the endorsement of Council the Executive Committee established an Election Review Committee, comprising members of the Institute: Professor Peter Skelton HFEIANZ (NZ) (Chair); Melody Valentine MEIANZ (Councilor for Victoria) and Kim Wright MEIANZ (Councilor for Far North Queensland).

The Election Review Committee undertook a review of the 2013 election process and submitted its report, in accordance with the Terms of Reference provided by the Council. As identified in the Report:

*"The outcome of the 2013 elections is now history and the lessons to be learnt from them should be applied towards ensuring that future elections follow a better and more robust process rather than attributing blame which can only result in negative consequences."*

In summary, the Election Review Committee made the following recommendations:

1. The current Rules of Association and the By-law relating to elections be revised.
2. Ensure that Central Office is adequately staffed and procedures be improved to handle the election process in an efficient and effective way.
3. The EIANZ Secretary have official oversight of all election processes.
4. The register of members is accurate and up to date, particularly in the period leading up to the elections.
5. Council give serious consideration to appointing a paid member of the Central Office staff to manage the Register of Members, with particular responsibility for



conferring on a very regular basis with the New Zealand Chapter to ensure both sets of membership records are aligned at all times.

6. Move to electronic voting to replace postal ballots for the future elections, contracting an outside agency to perform this service and avoiding the process problems that arose in the 2013 elections.
7. Seek members views on preferential voting. The Committee advised that this is not common in New Zealand except for hospital boards and not mandatory in Australia.

Work has commenced on the evaluation and implementation of these recommendations, so there are documented and robust procedures in place in time for the next round of elections due in the 2015-16 reporting year.

## Legal status

Work has continued on clarifying the legal status of the EIANZ. The Institute is a single business entity incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic), and a registered charitable institution under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth). Under the former the Institute's members enjoy limited liability, subject to the good governance of the association. Under the latter, the Institute is endorsed to access tax concessions relating to GST, FBT and income tax.

In order to facilitate and regularise its operations across all Australian jurisdictions, and acting on legal advice from Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers, the EIANZ, has been registered as a Registrable Australian Body under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

Minter Ellison Rudd Lawyers in New Zealand were engaged to assist the EIANZ apply as an overseas company registered to operate in New Zealand. Registration has been approved. The outcome of the Institute's application for charitable status in New Zealand is pending.

By the end of the reporting period significant progress had been made in clarifying, and where necessary, regularising the EIANZ's legal status as a registered charitable institution operating as a single business entity across Australia and New Zealand.

## Member services

The EIANZ has implemented an online process for membership renewal through its website, which provides:

- A streamlined process that eliminates the need for paper-based forms
- An online mechanism for documenting a member's annual commitment to the EIANZ Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct
- Multiple payment options – credit card, bank deposit or cheque in addition to the previous option for making credit card payments over the phone.

The EIANZ maintains a relationship with underwriters Marsh Pty Ltd, which provides a customised professional indemnity product specifically for environmental practitioners who are members of the Institute, with rates that are to the benefit of members.



## Strategic partnerships

The EIANZ has continued to maintain relationships with other associations and peak bodies in Australia and New Zealand, and elsewhere overseas. There are opportunities to strengthen the partnership arrangements that the Institute enters into so that they are directly relevant to members.

During the year under review the EIANZ entered into an arrangement with the National Standards Development Organisation Ltd (NSDO), becoming a founding member as a Collective Stakeholder Organisation. Membership of the NSDO is consistent with the EIANZ Strategy that includes:

*"Designing and promoting a suite of highly regarded reference standards and position statements for good practice environmental management that provide a consistent approach across Australia and New Zealand."*

Of recent interest to the EIANZ is the NSDO work on the NS 11000 series of standards which deal with the labelling and declaration of the environmental attributes of building products.

The EIANZ is represented at General Meetings and Member Assemblies of the NSDO by Suzanne Little MEIANZ from the NSW Division.

The forthcoming reporting period will see a review of current affiliations and memberships to ensure that the EIANZ is working with organisations aligned with its vision and values, and ones that provide value and opportunities for members.

## Representation, submissions and correspondence

In the reporting period the EIANZ prepared and provided submissions to the:

- House of Representatives Standing Committee on the Environment's Inquiry into streamlining environmental regulation, 'green tape', and 'one stop shops'
- Regulatory Reform Taskforce – One Stop Shop Policy
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Assessment Bilateral Agreement (Queensland)
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* Assessment Bilateral Agreement (Western Australia)
- Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications References Committee Inquiry into environmental offsets
- Great Barrier Reef Taskforce and Minister for Environment (QLD) – Great Barrier Reef Strategic Assessment Reports
- Queensland Government – draft Cape York Regional Plan
- NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure – draft Planning Growth Act Bill
- NSW Office of Environment and Heritage – draft Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects.

During the year, the Institute corresponded with the Prime Minister to express concern regarding statements that were made in relation to adequacy of the National Reserve System.

The President and representatives of the ACT Division met with the Hon. Greg Hunt, Federal Environment Minister and senior ministerial and departmental staff on two occasions to promote the role and value of the EIANZ, provide advice regarding the streamlining of environmental regulation and seek support for the Steps Program.

## Events

The Institute held 62 events, designed to achieve its educational purposes for members and the wider community across Australia and New Zealand during the reporting period. These events covered a broad range of topics from changes in legislation, to threatened species management, to networking events for young professionals. Further details of key events are provided under 'Chapter and Division Highlights'.

## EIANZ Annual Conference 2013

The EIANZ annual conference was held in Melbourne in October with the theme of 'Business as Usual is Not an Option - Adapt, Innovate and Advocate'. The theme provided thought provoking discussion and debate for delegates from across Australia and New Zealand. Keynote speakers included Tim Low, Dr. Mark Stafford Smith, Paul Maguire and Gail Hochachka. The EIANZ Merit Awards were presented at the Gala Dinner, which were held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.



**2013 Award winners:** Tom Davies (Mary Lou Morris Award), Elizabeth Buchan (Tor Hundloe Award), Greg Greene (Sydney Catchment Authority - EIANZ Corporate Award), Helen Ross (Simon Molesworth Award), Claire Gronow (Certified Environmental Practitioner of the Year Award) and Graeme Pearman (Eric Anderson Award)

## Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme

The Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme is another of the success stories for the EIANZ. Celebrating its tenth anniversary during the reporting period, it provides the framework for the impartial assessment and certification of the proficiency of environmental practitioners.

The certification of environmental practitioners is an important hallmark of the environmental profession. It is also an important assurance to the wider community of the quality and standing of an environmental practitioner.

## Steps Program

The Steps Program Foundation Year – the EIANZ's professional development program for early career environmental practitioners – was endorsed by Council in early 2014. Following a request for service process, suitably experienced providers were appointed to deliver modules for the Steps Program.

The quality and enthusiasm of responses enabled the EIANZ to partner with a variety of service providers to develop content and deliver the first four modules, with the potential for repeat modules across Australia and New Zealand in late 2014 and early 2015. These modules are:

- Environmental risk and impact assessment
- Environmental ethics
- Professional writing
- Communication and consultation

Steps Program events are being scheduled across Australia and New Zealand, and registrations are open.

## Australasian Journal of Environmental Management

The Australasian Journal of Environmental Management continues to be a successful joint publishing venture with the Taylor and Francis. The Journal publishes peer reviewed articles covering a broad spectrum of subjects relevant to environmental policy and good practice environmental management.

In the reporting period the Australasian Journal of Environmental Management celebrated 20 years of publication. The Journal has earned distinction among world journals, a considerable feat from a period of self-publishing. In 2013, the Thomson Reuters (ISI Web of Knowledge 2012) impact factor for the Journal had risen from 0.45 in 2011 to 0.6. The impact factor is the key measure of a journal's influence and is calculated on the basis of the number of citations per paper published over the previous two year period.

Particular thanks are due to the EIANZ members who are the editors and associate editors of the Australasian Journal of Environmental Management. Without the ongoing contribution of Prof. Helen Ross FEIANZ and Prof Bill Carter MEIANZ, this significant contribution by the Institute to academic discourse on environmental policy and good practice environmental management would not be possible.

## The Environmental Practitioner

The Environmental Practitioner– the Institute's quarterly newsletter to members – continued to provide a regular means of communication with members about activities, industry related news and events in the EIANZ. At the close of the reporting period the Institute had commenced a review of the design and format of The Environmental Practitioner.

Thank you to Rebecca McIntyre MEIANZ, CEnvP and Claire Gronow FEIANZ, CEnvP for their role as editors of The Environmental Practitioner.

## Central Office

Jacquie White was appointed as the EIANZ General Manager in February 2013. This appointment was an important step in helping to improve the governance and administration of the organisation.

In June 2014, after eight years as the EIANZ Operations Manager, Anne Young left the employment of the Institute. Anne played a pivotal role in managing Central Office activities, supporting the annual conference and other key initiatives of the Institute. The Institute is grateful for her the service and wishes her well for the future.

At the close of the reporting period, the EIANZ was in the process of restructuring the Central Office roles and recruiting a small team. This new team will support the administrative functions necessary for the operations of the organisation.

## A note of thanks

The EIANZ extends its thanks to the people who have provided professional services in support of the Institute in the past year, and have had an integral part in the Institute's achievements:

- *Matt May, Mindful Accounting*
- *Danielle Bolton, Association Solutions*
- *James Rogers, Rodger and Co*
- *Rachel Grima, Marsh Pty Ltd*
- *Anthony Presutto, Mackinnon Jacobs Lawyers*
- *Andrew Rose, Minter Ellison Rudd Lawyers*

## Chapter and Division Highlights

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### New Zealand

Highlights from the New Zealand Chapter include:

- The second annual symposium themed 'Life on the edge: managing our rural/urban fringe environments', held in Christchurch (March 2014) with a broad range of engaging presentations.
- Securing a grant that enabled the appointment of Bronwen Harper, to provide contract services focused on member development, improved services to members and retaining and membership growth in New Zealand
- Presenting a submission on the *Resource Management Act 1991* (NZ) National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management highlighting a number of issues around interpretation and implementation. The Ministry for the Environment reported that the submission contributed to improvements that have been or are to be made to the policy.
- Engaging with and supporting students and those in the early stages of their careers through initiatives such as attending a Student Expo and establishing a Facebook page to encourage networking.
- The development of a guideline for ecological impact assessment in New Zealand. This document is nearing completion and has been put together by Judith Roper-Lindsay MEIANZ and other members who are ecologists. The guidelines will make a significant difference to the standard and outcomes of ecological assessment in New Zealand.
- Continuing to profile the Certified Environmental Practitioner scheme to increase understanding of the role that certification plays in raising the standards of practice and hence outcomes. As a result, there has been an increase in applications for certification.

### Australian Capital Territory

Highlights from the Australian Capital Territory Division include:

- Assisting the EIANZ President with national matters including meetings with Federal Environment Minister, the Hon. Greg Hunt MP, and senior Department of the Environment officials and representing EIANZ at consultation forums on the 'One Stop Shop'.
- Conducting six public forums on topics ranging from the impact of light rail to one-stop shop environmental approvals.
- Engaging with students and building membership by conducting careers functions with students from the Australian National University.
- Being invited by the Australian Capital Territory's Sustainability Commissioner to coordinate the peer review of its State of the Environment Report in 2015.

## Far North Queensland

Highlights from the Far North Queensland Division include:

- Organising and participating in five events including a public forum on endangered and threatened species (attended by around 40 people) and a presentation from several industry leaders on the development impacts of coal ports (attended by around 30 people).
- Updating and expanding Divisional information on the EIANZ website to include information on the committee, issues and past events.
- Contributing articles to the SEQ Division newsletter and the EIANZ e-newsletter *The Environmental Practitioner* and distributing a media release on the Endangered Species Forum.
- Providing advice to the government and community on several emerging environmental issues, including: the draft Cape York Regional Plan and the draft Great Barrier Reef Strategic Assessment.
- Investigating topical issues and suitable locations to grow the range of events and professional development opportunities for the Division.

## New South Wales

Highlights from the New South Wales Division include:

- Hosting 12 professional development, training and networking events open to members and non-members on topics including social sustainability and bushfire resilience.
- Delivering nine newsletters to members with content on events, policy reform and environmental news.
- Increasing membership within the Division over the last 10 months by 16 per cent.
- Delivering training to members and non-members through the 'Learning to Adapt' Climate Change Adaptation series of workshops from March to June 2014, and commencing preparations to roll-out the series nationally, with Melbourne and Brisbane set to host courses in the next reporting period.
- Engaging with students and early career professionals through a highly successful mentoring program and mentoring networking drinks, to further connect mentors and mentees and reforming the EIANZ NSW Student Prize Policy to offer better value to students.
- Responding to environment policy submissions to the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure on the draft *Planning Growth Act Bill* and the Office of Environment and Heritage on the draft *Biodiversity Offsets Policy for Major Projects*.
- Growing the number of Certified Environmental Practitioners in the state with an increase of 15 per cent in new registrations in 2013-14. New South Wales now has 97 Certified Environmental Practitioners.

## Northern Territory

Highlights from the Northern Territory Division include:

- Holding erosion and sediment control training in Darwin and Alice Springs. This training was sponsored by SKM and the Alice Springs Airport and initiated competency-based training for people responsible for construction erosion and sediment control works, including consulting engineers, environmental practitioners and construction supervisors and foremen. The five-day Darwin course had 20 attendees and the one-day Alice Springs course had 15 attendees. The courses were open to members and non-members of the Institute.
- Raising the Division's profile through a monthly email advertising upcoming environmental events, open to members and non-members, was distributed to Divisional members and 'friends' (over 110 recipients).
- Continuing initiatives to attract sponsors for programs.

## South Australia

Highlighted from the South Australian Division include:

- Delivering an active program of events open to members and non-members. Of particular interest have been events focused on environmental management and Indigenous perspectives.
- Engaging with Flinders University open days and now with UniSA and Adelaide University to encourage student membership in South Australia and beyond.

## South East Queensland

Highlights from the South East Queensland Division include:

- Delivering an effective professional development program with topics such as environmental ethics, threatened species and changing biodiversity legislation covered.
- Supporting the Renovating Matthew charity by managing a fundraising ball for 550 guests. This charity supports Matthew Ames - an environmental professional in South East Queensland – who lost all four of his limbs fighting a streptococcal infection.
- Addressing key policy matters through formal submissions on:
  - The Queensland Plan
  - Queensland's proposed 30 year electricity strategy
  - Draft *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* Assessment Bilateral Agreement (Queensland)
  - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Strategic Assessment
  - Standardised outcome – focused conditions for Resource Projects – second consultation draft
  - Proposed *Offsets Bill* and related policy
  - Queensland Waste Strategy



- Engaging student and early career professionals through events such as speed Mentoring and talks at Griffith University and the University of Queensland.



***The Renovating Matthew Ball which was attended by 550 people and raised \$27,000 for the Renovating Matthew Foundation***

## Tasmania

Highlights from the Tasmania Division include:

- Organising a forum on assessment and compliance under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* with presenters from industry and Commonwealth and State agencies.
- Conducting a training workshop on erosion and sediment control which was led by an interstate expert and attended by members and non-members.
- Participating in the planning and organising of the EIANZ annual conference, associated field trips and social functions, to be held in Hobart in October 2014.
- Reconnecting with the University of Tasmania with a view to building student memberships by awarding essay prizes to students.
- Investigating topical local issues to grow the range of events and professional development opportunities for members and non-members that are undertaken by the Division.

## Victoria

Highlights from the Victoria Division include:

- Engaging members, the wider environmental profession and students in professional development and networking opportunities and events such as the Meet the Policy Drivers forum. At this forum, senior representatives from the Office of Living Victoria, the Department of Environment and Primary Industries, the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure and the Department of State Development, Business and Innovation provided presentations and discussion on their current and upcoming policy direction and reforms.





- Hosting the 2013 EIANZ annual conference (including the Awards Dinner at the MCG) and the Early Careers Congress in October. The theme for the conference was 'Business as Usual is Not an Option - Adapt, Innovate and Advocate' and provided thought provoking discussion and debate for delegates from across Australia and New Zealand to respond to the challenges in a time of uncertainty and change.
- Providing ongoing support for student and early career practitioners through presentations at a number of events in partnership with universities.
- Communicating local EIANZ and other environmentally related professional development and networking activities to members in a monthly email bulletin 'Enviro-List Victoria', which was extended during the year to include details of environmental policy and regulatory submissions and other industry news.

## Western Australia

Highlights from the Western Australia Division include:

- Delivering the Winter Seminar Series with high profile presenters such as Karl Heiden of National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA), Dr. Paul Vogel Chairman of the Environment Protection Agency Western Australia, and Dr. Phil Gorey, Executive Director (Environment) of the Department of Minerals and Petroleum, Western Australia. These events were attended by some 240 members and non-members.
- Together with the General Manager of the EIANZ, planning commenced for the 2015 EIANZ Conference in Perth.
- Completing nine interviews for the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme (CEnvP) bringing the total of Certified Environmental Practitioners in Western Australia to 46. Certifications continue to show a strong growth.
- Collaborating with the Environmental Consultants Association Western Australia, a local body representing environmental consultants, with EIANZ representatives attending a committee meeting to promote the Steps Program and Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme.
- Submitting comments on the Draft Assessment Bilateral Agreement with Western Australia under Section 49A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act*.

## Special Interest Sections

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### Impact Assessment Special Interest Section

- EIANZ signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) to promote ongoing cooperation and collaboration in impact assessment
- The Special Interest Section established a group site on LinkedIn. This is open to members of the EIANZ, the International Association for Impact Assessment and the New Zealand Association for Impact Assessment. The site currently has 79 members.
- The Special Interest Section Management Committee was re-established after a hiatus. Committee members are Lachlan Wilkinson (Chair), Anu Datta, Carolyn McCallig, Claire Gronow, David Hogg, Garry Middle (representing IAIA), Kristy Hall, Mandy Elliot, Nikki O'Donnell and Paul Greenhalgh
- The SIS developed a section on its page on the EIANZ website dedicated to resources on impact assessment.
- The Special Interest Section submitted a draft Position Statement on Incorporating Environmental Considerations into Development Projects to the EIANZ Policy and Practice Standing Committee for consideration.

### Climate Change Special Interest Section

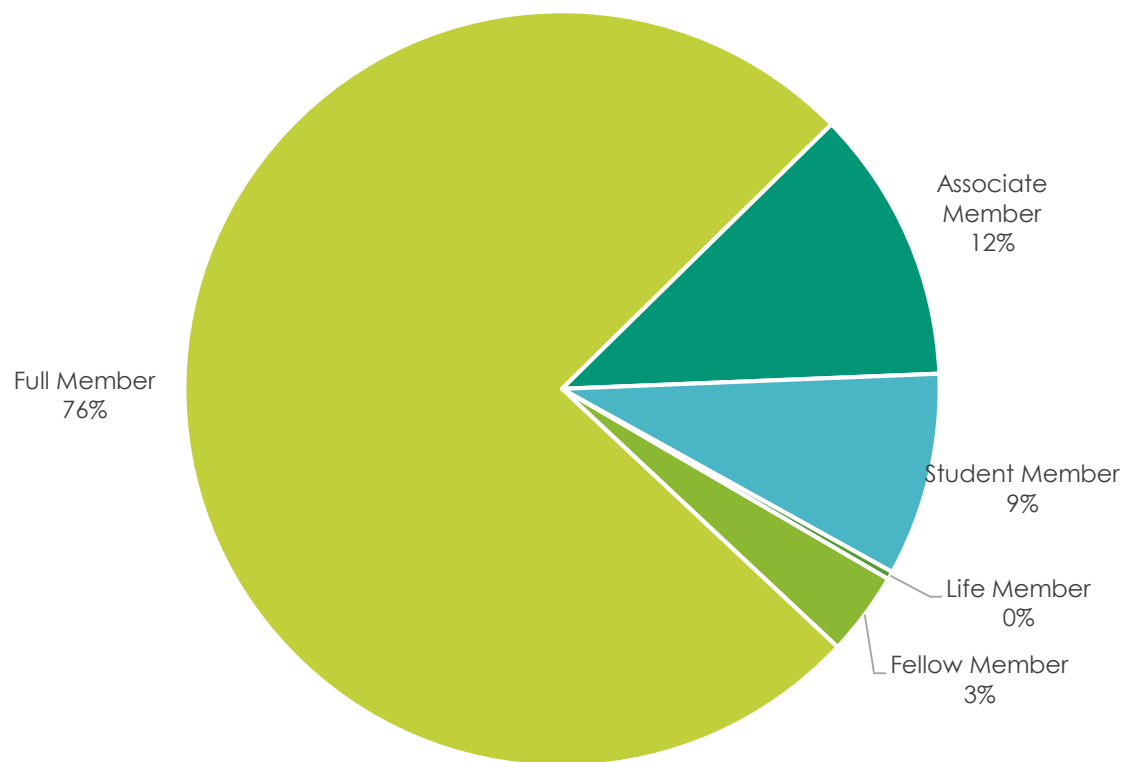
The Climate Change Special Interest Section continued to implement objectives from its 2011 business plan. Progress for the year to date includes:

- A Climate Change Specialist certification was launched as part of the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme.
- An expert steering group was established to assess applications and lead progress in the Climate Change Specialist certification.
- The Learning to Adapt professional development program was delivered in New South Wales as a three module, three day course attracting continuing professional development points from the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme, Green Building Council of Australia, and Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia; also recognised by the University of New South Wales.
- Planning for Learning to Adapt as a national course with delivery proposed for Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane in the next reporting period.
- Holding discussions with the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility to establish and collaborate in a knowledge hub and professional training entity.
- Providing comment, advice and recommendations on public policy and advocacy in forums.
- Delivering conference papers in Iceland and at the Gold Coast National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility on the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme Climate Change Specialist certification.

## Membership profile

Membership Type	as of 30 June 2014
Life Member	5
Fellow Member	51
Full Member (incl. 26 retired)	1079
Associate Member	167
Student Member	124
<b>Total</b>	<b>1426</b>

### Memberships as at 30 June 2014





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