



RECOVERING FROM DISASTER

EIANZ VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE

MEDIA STATEMENT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) is committed to the protection and enhancement of our world for current and future generations. It is the responsibility of all citizens to act in the most sustainable way they can. Environmental practitioners have the knowledge and experience to influence good practice environmental management and to seek the best outcomes for those projects that they are exposed to in their industries.

Since the term “sustainable development” was first coined in the 1987 Brundtland Report, it has never been more prevalent in our society’s needs. We are swiftly approaching a point of no return on the anthropogenic impacts of human induced climate change, destruction to our planet’s biodiversity and utilisation of our finite fossil fuel resources.

Last week marked National Recycling Week (9th – 15th November), which is now in its 25th year. National Recycling Week provides an important opportunity for councils, workplaces, schools and individuals to improve their recycling knowledge, build better recycling habits and build trust in recycling. This year’s theme is ‘Recovery - A future beyond the bin’. This is an opportunity for us all to show how we value our resources, giving them a second life by reducing virgin resource use, reusing and recycling. Reducing our waste keeps valuable materials out of landfill, as well as benefitting the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and our need for new materials.

World Fisheries Day (21st November) is celebrated on an annual basis to highlight the importance of healthy ocean ecosystems and to ensure sustainable stocks of fisheries in the world. Healthy oceans, with healthy fish stocks and a balanced ecosystem are critical to the sustainability of the world’s water resources.

Reducing our impact to the planet takes everyone’s involvement and the EIANZ is encouraged by the many environmental and community groups aimed at reducing our waste impact, lowering our reliance upon finite resources and the government plans to increase renewable energy hubs and electric vehicle charge points.

The Board of the EIANZ says “for a truly sustainable planet, we must embrace scientific knowledge and apply it to achieving good environmental outcomes. We must innovate and utilise renewable energy sources as a priority, not merely as a transition fuel. Looking to a circular economic model will achieve positive outcomes for the environment and reduce impacts to our finite resources.”

The EIANZ condemns the decision by the Australian Government to reduce funding to environmental courses across Australia. This will lead to a medium- and long-term skills gap, during a time when nothing short of investment, new ideas and innovative solutions will protect us from climate change induced risks.

As environmental practitioners, our members and Certified Environmental Practitioners (CEnvP) are well placed to assist the governments and industries to identify and promote effective environmental management to achieve sustainable outcomes across Australia and New Zealand.

We invite you to join us for our Annual Conference online, this year focussing on Recovering from Disaster. This week’s session on Wednesday, 18th November will be facilitated by Dr Fabian Sack. The EIANZ has partnered with the International Society for Sustainability Professionals (ISSP) for this webinar and will showcase a panel discussion with L. Hunter Lovins and Trisha Bauman, who will join us from the United States.

Learn more & register >

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