



SYDNEY COASTAL COUNCILS GROUP INC.
councils caring for the coastal environment

Executive seminar Planning for adaptation

18 October 2016

Program



Australian Government



**SYDNEY COASTAL
COUNCILS GROUP**

*This seminar is supported by
Sydney Coastal Councils Group
through funding from the
Australian Government.*

Background



SCCG

Established in 1989, the Sydney Coastal Councils Group (SCCG) is a co-operative organisation that advances sustainable management of Sydney's urban coastal environment. We comprise 11 Member Councils who represent over 1.3 million Sydneysiders. Collectively we cover an area of 1,284km² adjacent to Sydney's coastal and estuarine areas, encompassing the waterways of Broken Bay, Pittwater, Port Jackson, Middle and North Harbours, the lower Lane Cove River, Botany Bay, the lower Georges and Cooks Rivers and Port Hacking.

The Salty Program

Sydney's Salty Communities is a three-year grant program funded by the Australian Government, focusing on research, capacity-building and on-ground rehabilitation for biodiversity and carbon storage in 'salt-influenced ecosystems' across Sydney's coastal and urban waterways. Local and regional projects and workshops have catalysed the development of key relationships, a primary legacy of the Salty program.

The Climate Ready Tool

As part of the Salty Program, SCCG partnered with CSIRO to deliver the [Climate Ready Tool](#). The tool is designed to help councils and other natural resource managers to understand the long-term implications of climate change on the biodiversity of their areas, to overcome barriers to adaptation decisions and to plan near-term biodiversity conservation initiatives that allow for future adaptation to climate change scenarios.

Current events

Ongoing amalgamations combined with the formation of the Greater Sydney Commission represent a timely opportunity to review obligations for adaptive management and planning with an eye to a strategic, effective and perhaps simplified local and regional approach. The latest thinking on adaptive natural resource management will provide key tools to make best use of opportunities and both meet local government's obligations and respond to community concerns.

Executive seminar: local solutions to regional biodiversity issues

This event is offered by the Sydney Coastal Councils Group with the support of the Department of the Environment to executives working across the Salty Program area.

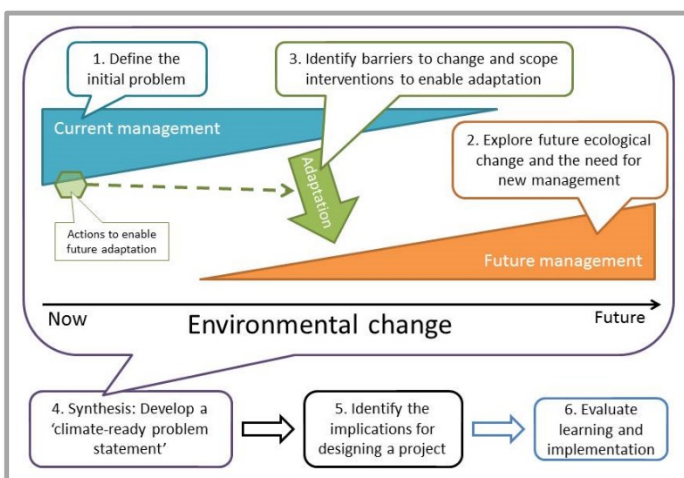


Settler's Hall, Waterfront, The Rocks.

Objectives of the Seminar

The objectives of today's seminar are:

- to share insights from international and national leaders on adaptive management and the opportunities regional collaboration provides.
- to raise awareness of the limits of traditional asset planning and vulnerability assessments.
- to introduce a more effective tool for managing biodiversity for change.
- to share how the Climate Ready approach works in practice.
- to have informed leaders who support adaptive management at an institutional level and are aware of tools to assist their resources managers to achieve this.
- to build support for the community of practice engaged with managing Sydney's coastal natural resources in a changing climate.
- to understand the challenges for natural resource management in the context of federal government programs and the opportunities presented by the formation of the Greater Sydney Commission.



Adaptive management



On ground implications

Photo: [Seabamirum](#) (CC BY 2.0)

AGENDA

Date:	Tuesday 18 October 2016
Time:	9am – 1pm
Location:	Settler's Room, Waterfront Restaurant 27 Circular Quay West The Rocks New South Wales 2000

9.00-9.10 Registration, coffee

9.10-9.25 Mr Geoff Withycombe – EO, SCCG
Ms Fiona Shadbolt – Manager, Salty Program

Welcome and background of SCCG's regional-level efforts around biodiversity, including the Salty Program.

9.25-9.35 Mr Paul Ryan – Australian Resilience Centre

Paul will introduce the seminar's speakers and facilitate an exploration of the limits of existing tools, and the value of new ones, in effective adaptive management.

THE GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE—adaptation: systemic risks and responses

9.35-10.15 Dr Mark Stafford Smith – Chief Coordinating Scientist – Adaptation, CSIRO, "Future Earth" Chair, International Council for Science

A global perspective on threats and responses to both built and natural infrastructure, the limits of traditional approaches, and the opportunities to better manage such threats at the local and regional level.

REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES—regional environmental planning

10.15-10.45 A / Prof Rod Simpson – Environment Commissioner, Greater Sydney Commission

Overview of opportunities for biodiversity management in the Greater Sydney Commission. An urban landscape perspective: promote, protect and enhance.

10.45-11.00 Morning Tea

REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES—the shift from static to dynamic planning

11.00-11.30 Prof Darryl Low Choy – Environmental & Landscape Planning, Griffith School of Environment

Following particularly from his role as Team Leader on the CSIRO's 'South East Queensland Climate Adaptation Research Initiative', Darryl will discuss opportunities and challenges for local government collaboration at regional level around adaptive management of biodiversity.

11.30-12.00 Mr Paul Ryan – Australian Resilience Centre

Paul will facilitate a session on the role of the Climate Ready Tool in biodiversity management at a local and regional level. He will sketch the broad principals behind the tool, illustrate what a Climate Ready approach looks like in practice, and demonstrate how it makes an effective difference.

12.00-12.30 Panel Discussion

12.30-1.00 Lunch



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