



Who let the economists into the decision making tent? Insights from urban waterways in Victoria

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Biography:

Lili is an environmental economic practitioner with over 17 years' of postgraduate experience. A major focus of her work is the integration of environmental and social values into economic analysis, decision-making and investment. She has led numerous projects within the urban and rural water and wastewater sectors in Australia and the UK, including work for:

- City West Water – Capital program review
- Melbourne Water - Benefit cost analysis of 5 Star Standards
- Department of Sustainability and Environment - The economic value of Victorian rivers
- National Water Commission – Water and climate change policy project
- New South Wales Department of Water and Energy - Socio-economic assessment

framework for 'Sustaining the Basin' projects

She also has experience providing strategic and policy advice to public sector clients, including Victorian and Tasmanian Departments of Treasury and Finance, and the Smart Water Fund.

Recent years have seen a greater recognition that enhancement of waterways (built and natural) is not just important for improving environmental outcomes – it also delivers economic benefits to the community surrounding waterways and downstream communities that rely on the health of those waterways.

This presentation will outline how the economic analysis and the use of an ecosystem services framework can contribute to enhanced waterways management. Practical examples from applied work in Moreland and for the Yarra will be used to demonstrate the key concepts and techniques.