

The Society for Sustainability and Environmental Engineering



...engineering in harmony with ecology

MEMBER BENEFITS GUIDE

THE SOCIETY

The Society for Sustainability and Environmental Engineering (SSEE) is a technical society of Engineers Australia. It was established in 1994, and has a rapidly growing membership across Australia.

The Society's mission is to provide a national focus and leadership within the engineering profession for the implementation of sustainability for the benefit of the Australian society. Membership is open to anyone with a desire and passion to find out more about, and contribute towards the advancement of environmental and sustainability issues.

The SSEE also provides opportunities for members to network with other environmental professionals and those interested in environmental issues. A program of continual education is maintained through regular seminars on a range of environmental issues. The SSEE publishes a quarterly national journal, 'The Environmental Engineer', which is provided free to members.

BENEFITS

Membership of the SSEE includes the following benefits:

- Contemporary and innovative technical sessions, seminars and conferences organised by the local Chapter. Each local Chapter coordinates up to twelve sessions during the course of a year.
- Four editions of 'The Environmental Engineer' journal a year with articles, Chapter updates and news items on environmental engineering and related issues.
- The SSEE collaborates with a number of specialist organisations in coordinating events so that overlap is minimised and increased value is created for members.
- Other value adding initiatives such as the development of relevant guidelines, user manuals, student initiatives, awards and prizes and relevant government submissions are made by the SSEE.
- Providing opportunities for networking with your fellow environmental colleagues. Whilst several events are free to members, some incur a small admission fee to cover catering costs.

WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING?

Environmental Engineering is a field of engineering that, in Australia, developed in the 1980s, in response to worldwide concern over the protection of natural systems, conserving resources and the need to achieve sustainability.

Sustainable development, with the interdependence of environment, society and the economy, has put new demands on the practice of traditional engineering. All engineers need to be concerned with the environmental impact of engineering activities and work towards sustainability.

The Environmental Engineer has another role in the development of new sustainable technologies and manufacturing processes. Traditional high resource use technologies need to be replaced or modified.

Environmental Engineers seek to optimise the net value of engineering projects through:

- Focusing on social outcomes
- Managing threats to ecological welfare
- Taking long term perspectives and solutions
- Controlling inputs/outputs of resource and waste products



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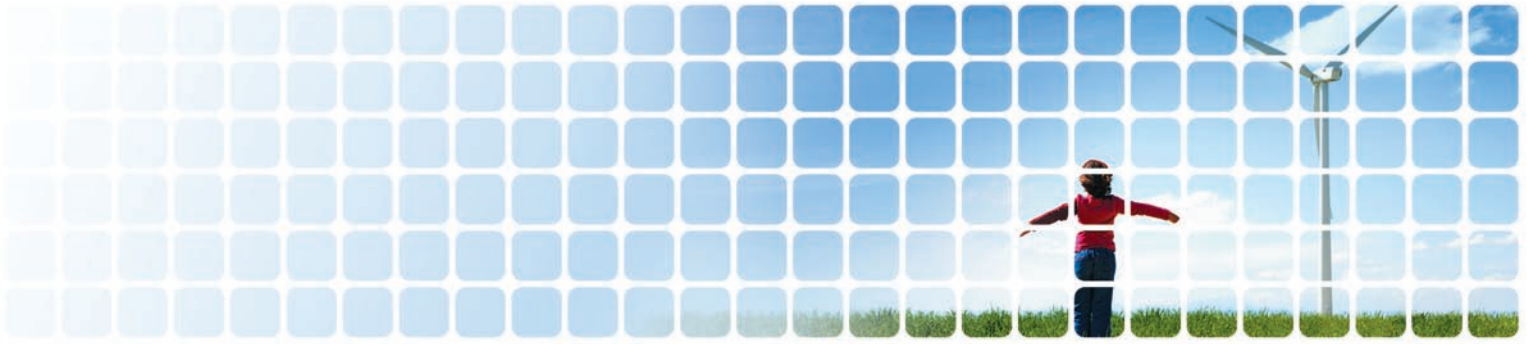


MEMBERSHIP

The SSEE relies on the active support and involvement of our members in order to achieve our goals and objectives and to be able to provide technical and professional development support for our members.

The SSEE is an inclusive industry association keen to welcome members including those professionals from other fields of engineering and the natural and social sciences working towards environmental sustainability.

Indeed, a significant number of the events and technical sessions organised by the SSEE are aimed at a broad range of environmental and sustainability issues.



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WHO EMPLOYS ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS?

The kind of work you may do as an environmental engineer is very diverse. The following examples are illustrative, not comprehensive:

- Government - in policy, infrastructure planning, environmental impact assessment and sustainability.
- Industry – in planning and developing corporate environmental management systems and programmes, managing environmental aspects of manufacturing and production processes and sustainability.
- Consultants – in providing environmental services to both public and private sector organizations on environmental and sustainability issues.
- Professionals from other disciplines such as natural and applied science, architects, town planners, lawyers, economists, civil, mechanical and chemical engineers may be involved in specialist fields such as hydrology, traffic planning, acoustics and pollutant dispersion.
- Universities that teach and direct research on environmental management.
- International agencies that transfer knowledge and technology to the developing world.
- Public-interest groups that advocate environmental protection.
- Principal areas of practice include:
 - Water and waste water treatment and environmental management, including application of re-use, recycling, etc
 - Waste management, including eco-efficiency and cleaner production concepts, life cycle assessment, etc
 - Surface and groundwater system environmental management, including water quality management
 - Contaminated land assessment and remediation
 - Environmental protection, management and pollution control
 - Environmental modeling
 - Environmental management system design, including environmental management planning, auditing, etc
 - Environmental impact assessment and environmental management planning
 - Environmental information systems
 - Natural resource management
 - Natural system accounting, including economic evaluation
 - Social impact analysis, community consultation, dispute resolution, etc
 - Sustainable energy planning and design, greenhouse gas mitigation and management
 - Sustainability policy and planning
 - Green purchasing
 - Socially responsible investment
 - Environmental risk assessment and management
 - Environmental policy formulation

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