



THE NATURAL EDGE PROJECT

UPDATE 6

20TH OF JULY 2003

Supported by:



Greetings to the supporters and teams of The Natural Edge Project.

The opportunity to bring together such volumes of amazing material in the development of the publication has been both overwhelming and exhilarating. Attempting to develop this first edition of Natural Advantage of Nations is a major undertaking made possible only by the ongoing support from partners and the amazing contributions from our co-authors, partners, editorial team, working group and supporters.

We have the pleasure in announcing that the final structure for the publication has been drafted and we hereby invite your comments and feedback. We are particularly interested in how your work can be incorporated into the overall model to strengthen it and provide the breadth of knowledge needed to undertake such a task. Comments will be received in an ongoing way however the earlier the response the more likely it will be incorporated into the material.

The next phase will be the release of the 50% First Draft which will effectively be a precis of the full publication in approx. 150 pages, summarising the argument and illustrating it with our best thoughts on case studies and material. This document is currently being prepared and we anticipate release by the end of July.

We appreciate the patience and ongoing support you have all given our team and we have been very focused on producing a document that reflects this support and the contributions made in a strong framework that can be the basis of a nation achieving natural competitive advantage.

Highlights of this period have been the opportunity to focus our attention on the bring together of the various materials and contributions into the first draft of the publication. Further to this we have gained the support a number of new partners to the project. The Institution of Engineers Australia, through the Environment College and the Environmental Engineering Society has been accepted as a Principal Partner further strengthening the strong support given to the project from the Institution. The Board of Triple Bottom Line Australia has formally endorsed the project and we are looking forward to working with them to ensure the accounting sections of the publication are up to date and presenting the strongest case.

Kind Regards

Karlson 'Charlie' Hargroves
Project Coordinator

Content Update

Over the last 2 months, our team has been developing a 150 page version of the publication as a 'July Précis' that follows the 1st, 2nd and 3rd level headings detailed in the brief and incorporates the work of co-authors, partners and contributors.

The July Précis will provide a base for review of the arguments being developed in the publication, building on from the release of the original material in the précis from January 2004. We felt it valuable to provide a Précis with a detailed system of headings for comment with the sample chapters to follow incorporating feedback, peer review and comments received over the coming months.

We have made a great deal of effort to summarise the sections into precis format as we appreciate how genuinely busy you all are. The discipline of first writing a 150 page version has been valuable in requiring us to constantly be clear and succinct, and to constantly be looking for the best ways to link ideas, present them as diagrams, integrate and communicate clearly and simply such a large field. It also ensures that we will bring this book together within the 300 page target.

We hope that the July Précis will;

- a) Allow editors, and co-authors to rapidly identify any areas for which they have additional ideas, papers, reports that could be considered and referenced.
- b) Allow rapid identification of ways to improve integration and flow of the material, and additional ways to link ideas across such a book.
- c) Ensure that everyone involved with the project is clear on the direction of the book to date, and has as much chance as possible to comment.
- d) Form the basis for engagement with the project as the team seeks to meet with stakeholders and discuss the précis over the coming months to build the final manuscript.

Clearly we cannot hope to cover all we would like to in the book, as there is so much great work going on, but we are trying as much as possible to cover crucial areas that add value and build on from existing work, and then refer people to relevant web sites, reports, publications etc. for further information.

Kind Regards



Michael Smith

Content Coordinator

The latest information regarding the project can be found in the **Document Store**¹ and contains;

1. The [Publication Brief](#), including the new Content Map and new Executive Summary,
2. The [Partnership Prospectus](#) and [Partner Information Form](#),
3. Project [Update 4](#), [Update 5](#) and [Update 6](#)

¹ Document store can be accessed at <http://www.naturaledgeproject.net/Documents/>

Summary of Update:

- TNEP Partner Profiles;
 - a) *Principal Partner – Environmental Engineering Society and Environment College of the Institution of Engineers Australia,*
 - b) *Project Partner – Sustainable Industries Division, Queensland Environmental Protection Agency*
- Formal endorsement from Triple Bottom Line Australia for TNEP
- TNEP Working Group Member Profile – Rob Murray-Leach

TNEP Partner Profile

Principal Partner: Engineers Australia (Environment College/Environmental Engineering Society)

The **College of Environmental Engineers** was approved by a resolution of the Council of the Institution in April 2000. The College aims to promote the practice of Environmental Engineering through:

- Providing leadership and focus within the Institution on environmental policy and sustainable pursuits
- Co-ordinating continuing education for professional development for Environmental Engineers
- Professional accreditation of registered schemes including the management of the National Professional Register for Environmental Engineers, and
- Providing direction and co-ordination on environmental matters in Engineers Australia dealings with Government, other professions and the community.

Skills in elements of environmental engineering are now widely used in many fields of engineering. The College of Environmental Engineers will therefore consult with other Colleges of Engineers Australia with the objective of developing joint programs to meet the core and elective professional development requirements of all Engineers Australia members who require professional skills in environmental engineering and related disciplines. The aim of the consultation shall be to ensure complete coverage of professional development needs in an efficient and effective manner, and the harmonisation of standards for assessing member development.

The **Environmental Engineering Society** was established in 1994 from its predecessor, the National Committee on Environmental Engineering.

The objectives of the Society are to:

- Promote professional ethics through adherence to the Environmental Principles for Engineers
- Promote national excellence in the practice of environmental engineering
- Promote participation in and contribution to activities of the Society
- Provide at the National level, the focus and co-ordination mechanism for professional society matters, policy formation and communications
- Facilitate linkages at the international level, enabling members to benefit from international exchanges in matters concerning environmental engineering
- Provide a focus and co-ordinating mechanism for professional society functions concerning research, education and information dissemination in environmental engineering
- Facilitate active participation from other professions
- Communicate knowledge about environmental engineering with and to promote collaboration between members, organisations and other societies
- Provide expert advice to the Institution, Government, industry and the community
- Set guidelines and standards for incorporation of sustainability principles into engineering education and professional practice
- Influence community, corporate and regulatory attitudes and practices in relation to sustainability

The Society administers an Environmental Engineering category for the National Professional Engineers Register (NPER3). Registration on NPER3 is encouraged for all corporate members and application can now be made for registration by all environmental engineers.

The Society is administered by an executive comprising the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer. The Board can comprise up to 13 members. It meets formally twice yearly. The subcommittees of the Board are Procedural, Education, Submissions, Journal, Sustainability and Conferences. Journals are produced four times per year. The Society holds a National Conference every 3 years.

TNEP Partner Profile

Project Partner: Sustainable Industries Division, Queensland EPA

The secretariat would like to formally thank Dr John Cole, Director, Sustainable Industries Division, Environmental Protection Agency Queensland for recently committing to support TNEP by becoming a Project Partner together with Cheryl Desha, member of the TNEP working group for her lead in developing this relationship.

The Sustainable Industries Division is a solutions-driven EPA initiative at the forefront in assisting Queensland industry achieve higher levels of environmental performance while boosting profitability and competitiveness. Through voluntary partnership arrangements, business assistance programs, and information facilities, the Sustainable Industries Division has helped industry and communities better integrate business and environmental decision making in the achievement of eco-efficiency, innovation and business growth. Program focus areas include the agri-business and food processing sectors and also the urban development and the built environment industries. Major programs have been delivered in cleaner production, renewable energy rebates, water recycling, and greenhouse gas abatement. The Division is currently re-organising its activities into three signature programs: WasteWise Queensland, EnergyWise Queensland, and WaterWise Queensland.

Formal endorsement from Triple Bottom Line Australia

Through the ongoing support of Andrew Donovan TNEP will receive support in ensuring that the models and frameworks developed in the publication 'Natural Advantage of Nations' are truly integrated and have the ability to deliver solutions that are genuinely progressive long term.

Established in 2002, TBL Australia is a not-for profit company limited by guarantee providing assistance to industry, government and community groups to work on projects of an integrated (i.e. triple bottom line) nature and which are in the public interest.

TBL Australia provides assistance by helping groups to:

- Raise and explore the critical issues and opportunities
- Attract other people, organisations, networks and communities to the issue
- Foster and support champions within the organisation/network/community

TBLA has a small but powerful formal network list and have several key partner networks and are able to access a number of other high value networks. We are knowledgeable in a range of community building tools (such as Open Space Technology) and have experience at mentoring existing and emerging community leaders. The TBLA directors are Faye Adams, Andrew Donovan and David Kimber.

Working Group Member Profile

Rob Murray-Leach, Project Manager, Green Transport Project, Conservation Council of SA

Rob works with businesses, government agencies and NGOs in Travel Demand Management, focusing on facilitating workplaces to improve the social and environmental impacts from their transport. His research interests relate more generally to the matrix of behavioural factors underlying environmental issues, currently focusing on demand-side management in water conservation. These are related to a broad-based academic background including sociology, epidemiology and ecology.

Rob will be working with the Content Coordinator to develop material relating to sustainable transport planning.

The members of the secretariat wish to thank the following supporters of the project;

- [Australian Conservation Foundation \(ACF\)](#),
- [Australian Green Development Forum](#),
- [Australian Virtual Engineering Library \(AVEL\)](#) – Sustainability Knowledge Network
- [The Barton Group](#),
- [Business Council for Sustainable Energy](#),
- [Centre for the Encouragement of Philanthropy in Australia](#),
- [CSIRO](#),
- [Environment Business Australia](#),
- [Green Innovations](#), [EcoFutures](#), [Arup](#) and [Hatch](#),
- [Institution of Engineers Australia](#),
- [International Young Professionals Foundation](#),
- [Nature and Society Forum](#),
- [Queensland Environment Protection Agency – Sustainable Industries Group](#),
- [Rocky Mountain Institute](#),
- [Triple Bottom Line Australia](#),
- [University Leaders for a Sustainable Future \(ULSF\)](#),
- [UN International Environment Technology Centre \(IETC\)](#),
- [World Federation of Engineering Organisations - ComTech](#),
- [Young Engineers Australia](#).

	<p>The Natural Edge Project Website is under construction! The development of the website has moved into the initial operations phase, with hosting by Bulletproof achieved through support from the Environmental College of the Institution of Engineers Australia. click here for Izilla.</p>
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Please contact the team at secretariat@naturaledgeproject.net or on +61 (0)8 8361 6929 or +61 (0) 412 427 543 for any queries regarding the project.

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