

# Ensuring a water sensitive future

As an interdisciplinary research centre, the **Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities** has brought together world renowned subject matter experts and industry thought leaders who want to *revolutionise urban water management*.

## We have made significant progress

Working with our 80+ partners, we have made significant progress towards achieving our mission to:

- Research **interdisciplinary responses** to water problems
- Synthesise diverse research outputs into practical solutions
- Influence **policy, regulation, and practice** to promote adoption and results on the ground.



## Our achievements to date include

### Research


**6...**  
WATER SENSITIVE CITIES  
TRANSITION STRATEGIES

**1K+**  
RESEARCH OUTPUTS  
INC. **230** PEER REVIEWED  
JOURNAL ARTICLES

  
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL  
AWARDS FOR RESEARCH  
EXCELLENCE AND INNOVATION

 **3**  
NATIONAL CRCWSC  
CONFERENCES WITH OVER  
**800** ATTENDEES

### Synthesise

**25**   
APPLICATIONS OF THE  
WSC INDEX TO BENCHMARK  
CURRENT WATER SENSITIVE  
CITY STATUS

 **15**  
IDEAS FOR  
SYNTHESIS PROJECTS

  
USEFUL TOOLS AND  
PRODUCTS TESTED VIA  
**12** CASE STUDIES

### Influence

 **50+**  
POSITION PAPERS,  
GIVING EXPERT ADVICE ON POLICY

**5**  
REGIONAL ADVISORY PANELS  
AND A NATIONAL CAPACITY  
BUILDING NETWORK

 **50+**  
CASE STUDIES AND GUIDELINES

  
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION  
SUPPORTING WSC INVESTMENT  
IN MORE THAN A DOZEN COUNTRIES

## But there is more to do

Our current term expires on 30 June 2021. We will have much to celebrate by then, but we know that there will be more to do to:

- ensure Australia remains a global leader in urban water collaboration, research and application
- build on progress made relating to the institutions, regulations, technical tools and industry networks necessary to scale up and lock in water sensitive practices
- continue to challenge the status quo and support city transitions with science-based advocacy.

**Our first two tranches of research and adoption activities were built on genuine engagement—understanding our partners' and industry needs and priorities. Engagement is just as important as we look ahead to a potential third wave of research and adoption (T3).**

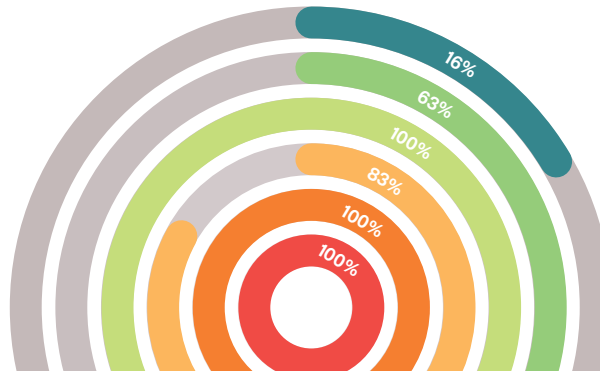
# More about our work so far in **Western Australia**

**Vision and Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive Greater Perth** — identifies strategies to realise Perth's aspiration of becoming a water sensitive city. The highlight has been the establishment of a broad and strategic community of practice called the Perth Transition Network. This group shares the goal of Perth to become Australia's most water sensitive city within five years. It achieves this through: influencing policy and governance; more effective community engagement and communications; coordination of technical capacity building and partnerships; and addressing cross-sector research priorities.



**Canning City Centre Plan** — embeds Water Sensitive Cities thinking and principles. A CRCWSC-led design charrette workshop was fundamental to embedding Water Sensitive Cities principles into the Canning City Centre Structure Plan and City Vision for a 'Riverine City'. The city has allocated \$76M to see this vision become reality. And after undertaking the WSC Index, the city has been working to embed Water Sensitive Cities thinking and project across its organisation and city as a whole, via an internal cross-departmental working group, policies and projects that support this transition to a water sensitive city.

**Benchmarking using the WSC Index for local governments** — has provided a benchmark for 8+ local governments in and around Perth for key water sensitive indicators. This has provided a starting point for conversations within councils with many going on to developing a vision, strategic plan, and actions on the ground. The WA Water Corporation and the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation identified the value of the framework in helping them support their Water Wise Councils Program.



## We would love to **hear your views**

Over the next 9 months, we will be seeking your views on the issues that will shape our future cities, the action needed to respond to those issues and how Integrated Urban Water Management can contribute.

You can have your say by:

- Joining us at our T3 workshop on 5-6 December in Melbourne
- Contacting us directly via our dedicated [T3@crcwsc.com.au](mailto:T3@crcwsc.com.au) email
- Talking to your Regional Manager or contributing to Regional Advisory Panel discussions
- Joining us in Brisbane for our 4th Water Sensitive Cities Conference, 26-28 March 2019.



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# More about our work so far in **South Australia**

## **Vision and Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive**

**Adelaide**—is guiding Adelaide's next steps towards its water sensitive future. This vision encapsulates:

- terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems that are diverse, healthy and productive
- water systems that are smart, sustainable and flexible
- an urban form that integrates water and highlights Adelaide's unique features
- communities that actively engage in water management
- water that supports a strong economy
- governance arrangements that can adapt to complex challenges.



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**The Salisbury East Rejuvenation Project**—is planning and designing a water sensitive infill precinct, in an area of Adelaide that is likely to experience significant infill in coming years. The City of Salisbury is seeking new approaches to housing typologies, streetscape design and multiple uses for public green spaces, that improve liveability and connectivity, and result in attractive urban renewal of the whole precinct. Importantly, future developments must meet residents' expectations, while also implementing water sensitive solutions.

**Adelaide Airport Irrigation Trial**—uses stormwater to irrigate the flight strips at Adelaide Airport, to maintain appropriate vegetative cover and cool the area around the airport. So far, the trial shows irrigated areas are over 3°C cooler on hot days than unirrigated areas. The trial is also examining ways to use the land productively, planting Lucerne hay instead of grass. Using the area for cropping could help Adelaide Airport recoup some of the irrigation and maintenance costs.



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# More about our work so far in **New South Wales**

**Vision and Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive Greater Sydney**—envisioned Sydney as a beautiful, prosperous and resilient city with thriving communities, healthy ecosystems and cherished urban landscapes supported by active water stewardship. Stakeholders are now identifying the next steps for Sydney's transition, and how they and other organisation might go about achieving this vision.



**Orange stormwater to potable case study**—examines the city's innovative approaches to developing a diverse water supply in a regional area. The case study examines the city's experience in capturing and treating urban stormwater to supplement the potable water supply. It is a real-life project that is building evidence to support and encourage the adoption of CRCWSC research outcomes.

**Cooks River Catchment** —is part of the Sydenham to Bankstown Urban Renewal Corridor. We are working with the Cooks River Alliance and other stakeholders to combine our multidisciplinary knowledge with local understanding and ideas, and develop practical options to guide water sensitive development of this significant area.



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# More about our work so far in **Victoria**

**Aquarevo**—an urban residential development in Melbourne, demonstrates water sensitive planning at a precinct scale, and integrates a range of water sensitive initiatives. This collaboration between a water utility (South East Water) and a developer (Villawood Properties) includes water management initiatives that will reduce potable water use for each home in the development by up to 70%.



**Vision and Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive Bendigo**—defines a vision of a water sensitive future for Bendigo: a thriving inland city, where water innovation supports healthy people, green environments and resilient systems. The strategy also outlines the broad steps that Bendigo should take to enable transition. It follows 9 months of research, analysis and engagement with the city's water, planning and development, environment and community sectors.

**Fishermans Bend**—is Australia's largest urban renewal project, with a projected 80,000 residents and 80,000 jobs by 2050. The CRCWSC has an ongoing role with the Fishermans Bend Taskforce, examining solutions that marry grey and green infrastructure to manage the effects of flooding. These proposed solutions include technical responses—such as levees, pumps and areas to capture water in streets—as well as social responses related to planning controls and community engagement.



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# More about our work so far in Queensland

## Vision and Transition Strategy for a Water Sensitive Townsville—

envisioning an attractive, resilient city that manages water to enhance healthy ecosystems, embrace dramatic natural water cycles, drive world leading innovation, and support citizens who are proud of their dry tropical identity. Stakeholders are examining ways to achieve the vision, stretching their ambitions beyond today's systems and constraints.



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**Solutions for Norman Creek**—aims to help Brisbane become a city that 'lives with flooding well'. The report presents and explains seven ideas to address overland flooding in both public and private spaces in the heavily urbanised Norman Creek catchment. Ideas include adventure corridors, a beltway of backyards, activated floodways, six pack development typologies, smart rainwater tanks and water sensitive streets.

**Ideas for Flood Resilience**—explores short and long term ideas that can improve flood resilience of housing developments. Working with the Queensland Government and local governments in south east Queensland, the CRCWSC examined ways of building in flood risk areas, and how we can use new policies and technologies to make developments more resilient.



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