

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND  
CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS**



39th Annual Conference of the  
International Association for Impact Assessment

29 April - 2 May 2019  
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre  
Brisbane, Australia



# EVOLUTION OR *Revolution*: Where next for impact assessment?

## CONFERENCE THEME

- Will it be enough for IA to continue to evolve?
- Is there a better way to ensure that impact-assessable matters are taken into account in project and policy decision making?
- If revolutionary change is needed, what might it look like?

*Evolution* sees the gradual development of organizations, practice, and systems from simple to more complex forms. *Revolution* represents a dramatic and wide-ranging shift to an entirely new paradigm.

IA has shown both flexibility and resilience, its processes being adapted and applied in a wide range of contexts and settings across the world. It has diversified its focus to strategic, economic, social, health, and cumulative assessment as well as sustainability assessment.

But the utility of IA is under question on many fronts. IA is not without its critics. It has been attacked by project and policy proponents for impeding development, and by environmental and community interests for failing to meaningfully influence decision making and to protect environmental and social values. Both groups criticize it for being costly, overly

procedural, and political, and question the value it adds to development and environmental outcomes.

IA is generally mandated by statute law. But laws that fail to serve the interests of good governance of communities can become moribund and fail to be administered. IA will change as governments, proponents, and communities rationalize competing views about values.

The question is whether this should be a dramatic, revolutionary change—or an incremental, evolutionary change.

The conference theme is **deliberately provocative**, inviting delegates to consider IA from different viewpoints. It calls for reflection on the imperatives for change if IA is to be part of another half-century of good practice environmental management.

## Conference topics will allow participants to address questions such as:

- How can IA meet the challenges of the 21st century?
- How might evolution or revolution address common and long-standing criticisms of IA such as:
  - Lack of independence and rigor in preparing documentation
  - Ineffective community engagement in the process
  - Poor consideration of cumulative impacts
  - Limited influence on the political sphere of decision making
  - Lack of follow-up to determine predicted consequences and efficacy of avoidance and mitigation measures
  - Inadequate responses to trans-boundary and global scale threats such as climate change
- If revolution is the way forward, who will lead it, and to what end?
- What purposes are we seeking to achieve through IA?
- What is done well and can IA be further enhanced?
- What can we learn from the perceptions and practices of other disciplines?
- Does the focus of IA need to be narrowed or broadened?
- Are the different forms of IA evolving on convergent or divergent trajectories?
- Is IA based on theory or simply process?
- How can decision making, and political and dispute resolution theory, inform the practice of IA?

Discussions will also address general IA topics and the work of IAIA special-interest Sections. Check the IAIA19 web site for a full list.

**SESSION PROPOSAL DEADLINE: 16 July 2018**

# SUBMISSION INFORMATION

## PROCEDURE

Conference submissions take place in three phases.

- 1. Session proposals.** Session proposals are invited from May through 16 July 2018. Accepted sessions are listed on the web site in August.
- 2. Paper and poster abstract submissions.** From 16 August-19 October, papers and posters are invited on the topics and sessions listed online. Accepted papers and posters with the primary author registered by 25 January 2019 are listed in the final program.
- 3. Papers for online proceedings.** Through 27 February 2019, paper and poster presenters are invited to prepare 5-page papers to be included in a paper review process for online proceedings. To be published online, the paper or poster abstract must have been accepted by the program committee, and the presenting author must be registered with fees paid by 25 January. Preliminary instructions for paper preparation and submission are provided to authors upon both submission and acceptance of a paper or poster abstract.

## HOW TO SEND A SESSION PROPOSAL OR A PAPER/POSTER ABSTRACT

Follow the instructions at [www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org) > IAIA19 > Submissions. All submissions should be in English.

## LANGUAGE

English is the primary language used at IAIA conferences.

## ACCEPTANCE AND REGISTRATION

Session chairs and paper or poster authors will receive an immediate confirmation of successful online submission. If you do not receive an immediate confirmation of submission, do not assume it has been submitted. Please try again or contact [webmaster@iaia.org](mailto:webmaster@iaia.org) for assistance.

The Program Committee will notify session chairs of acceptance status for sessions by 9 August.

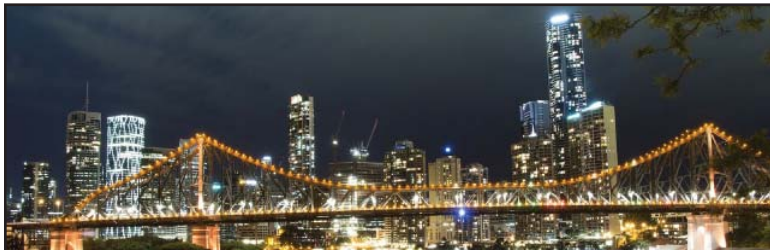
Session chairs will notify authors of papers or posters of acceptance status by 21 November.

All session chairs and presenting authors or speakers listed in the final program are required to submit a registration form, with full conference fees paid, by 25 January 2019. Please submit a session proposal or abstract only if you will have funding to cover your travel and registration. Individuals not able to comply with the registration requirement will not be included in the program and proceedings.

**REMEMBER:** Early registration will also save you money! IAIA does not have funds available to pay registration and travel expenses for program participants.

## SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings in conjunction with the conference must be listed in the preliminary program and on the registration form. Please contact IAIA HQ ([info@iaia.org](mailto:info@iaia.org)) for a proposal form. Forms must be received by 24 August 2018.



## ABOUT BRISBANE

Brisbane, the river city and capital of Queensland, is a bustling international metropolis. In the heart of the city, clustered on the south bank of the river, is the conference venue, the Brisbane cultural precinct containing internationally renowned visual and performing arts venues, and the Queensland Museum and Science Centre. Like the river that embraces the city, Brisbane and its people will embrace you and make you welcome.

## IMPORTANT DATES: MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!

### PHASE 1

#### SESSION PROPOSALS

- **16 July 2018**  
Deadline for session proposals
- **9 August 2018**  
Session chairs notified of acceptance status

### PHASE 2

#### PAPER & POSTER ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

- **16 August 2018**  
Paper and poster abstract submission opens
- **24 September 2018**  
Preliminary program information will be posted as it becomes available. Information will be complete by 24 September.
- **19 October 2018**  
Deadline for submission of paper and poster abstracts
- **21 November 2018**  
Authors notified of paper or poster acceptance status

#### REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- **25 January 2019**  
Registration and payment deadline for presenters and all individuals to be listed in the final program and proceedings

### PHASE 3

#### PROCEEDINGS

- **27 February 2019**  
Deadline for draft papers
- **25 March 2019**  
Paper reviews completed
- **12 June 2019**  
Deadline for revised papers
- **26 June 2019**  
Papers posted online

## TECHNICAL VISITS, TRAINING COURSES, AND MORE

In addition to conference sessions, training courses, and special meetings, we are planning a range of technical visits that will involve learning and laughter as we introduce visitors to this beautiful part of Australia. Potential visits include:

- **Great Barrier Reef:** Meeting the challenges of tourism, industrial, and port development in a World Heritage Area
- **North Stradbroke Island:** Transitioning a community from mining to ecotourism and conservation
- **Brisbane Air and Sea Ports:** Major infrastructure development, sustainability and environmental offsets
- **Gold Coast:** Urban development, environmental management, and the legacy of a major sporting event
- **Fraser Island:** Mining rehabilitation, ecotourism, dingoes and cultural heritage in a World Heritage Area
- **Darling Downs:** Coal mining and coal seam gas, water management and mine closure planning
- **Brisbane River:** Koalas, floods, urban development in the context of catchment management

## ABOUT YOUR HOST

Founded in 1987, the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ) is the peak self-governing professional association for environmental practitioners in Australia and New Zealand.

It is a membership-based organization that:

- Regulates the activities of its membership through a code of ethics and professional conduct.
- Certifies the proficiency of environmental practitioners, including impact assessment specialists.
- Advocates for good practice environmental management.
- Accredits academic training for those seeking to enter the profession.
- Publishes a respected academic journal dealing with environmental management.

Its membership is drawn from all areas of environmental practice, and includes practitioners with industry, government, community and academic careers. For more information, go to [www.eianz.org](http://www.eianz.org).



Environment Institute of  
Australia and New Zealand Inc.

**IAIA**  
International Association  
for Impact Assessment

[www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org)