

BEDP ENVIRONMENT DESIGN GUIDE

AN ENTRY PORTAL FOR NEWCOMERS TO THE ENVIRONMENT DESIGN GUIDE

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This Note offers a methodology to provide an easy introduction to the Environment Design Guide's wealth of papers that have been growing for over 13 years. At the time of going to press there were over 270 peer-reviewed papers in what is a potent, though somewhat daunting resource for those considering sustainability in the built environment.

Note: This paper has not been subjected to peer-review.

1.0 COMMENTARY

Who will find this Helpful?

This paper is aimed at practitioners seeking to integrate sustainability in built environment project proposals.

What is EDG?

The BEDP Environment Design Guide (EDG, which is commonly referred to as 'edge') is a quarterly journal which seeks to illuminate issues of sustainability in the built environment. Most papers are reviewed by two 'blind' peer reviews, and come with a summary cover page that highlights the salient points and references.

EDG is divided into specific sections covering:

GEN – General Issues: General background and key themes in the discussion of sustainability and the built environment, including policy documents and overviews.

TEC – Technology: Details of specific technologies that can be used within a broader sustainable design approach.

DES – Design Strategies: Topic-specific strategies and actions to assist designers at all stages of the design process.

NOT – Notes: Useful aids and references such as glossaries, directories, reports, summit proceedings and general industry resources.

PRO – Products and Materials: Describes various products and materials, their impact on human and environmental health and opportunities for their sustainable use.

CAS – Case Studies: A series of case studies which explain built projects and in some cases review building performance using qualitative and quantitative data.

NEWS – Newsletters: With each quarterly publication of the journal a newsletter is printed, containing articles, dates of upcoming events, news from each state and territory and book reviews

What is the aim of this paper?

This paper targets the essential introductory material contained within the immense detail of the Environment Design Guide (EDG) papers, enabling rapid engagement between an individual project proposal and sustainability.

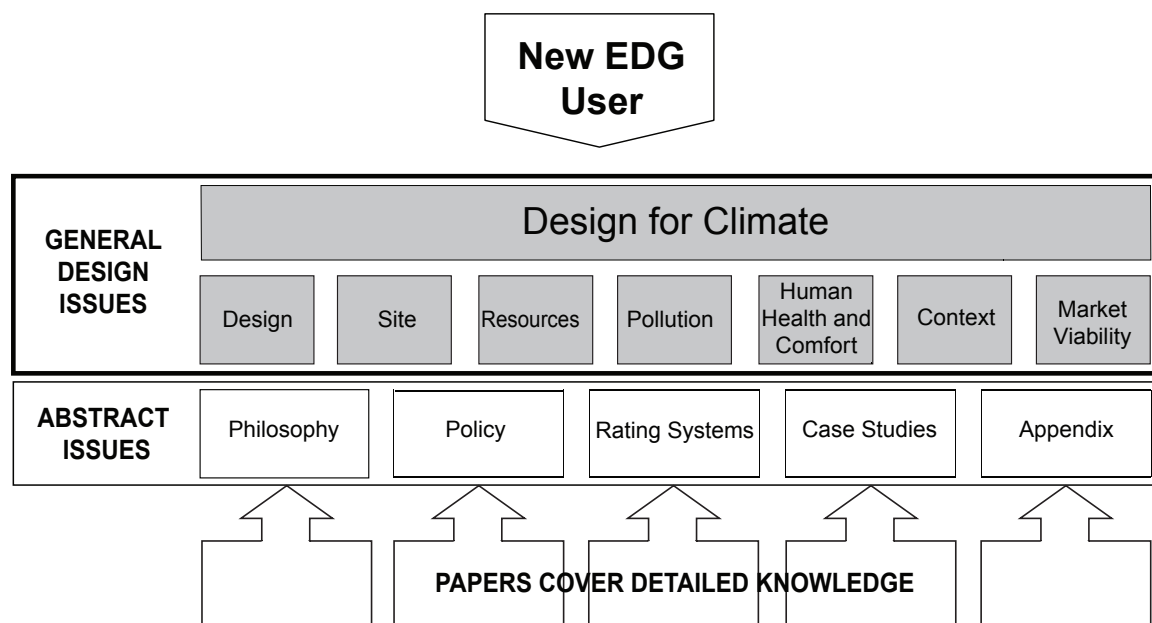


Figure 1. Diagrammatic of EDG entry portal

Where to begin?

The easy-to-use path begins with fundamental design considerations emphasising the specific climate location of the project. Good sustainable built form begins with good passive building elements of orientation, insulation, thermal mass, glazing and shading. This sets the project's basic resource and operational demands where the most significant impact of good design can be made. Without this basis, any other sustainability elements will only be 'clip-ons' of marginal subsequent beneficial contribution.

The path shown in Figure 1 takes new EDG users through the ten most common issues in sustainability. Additionally, case studies provide an important testing ground for the principles of sustainability, and also are able to offer "lessons learnt". The practitioner is encouraged to select those which are most applicable to their immediate project needs at the time. These varied topics are widely divergent in emphasis, but such hierarchy in a subject as 'all encompassing' as sustainability in the built environment cannot be avoided. Some papers target detailed issues in sustainability including site, resources, pollution and human impacts from development. Some categories encompass context considerations such as locality, land use and transport as sustainability targets. Some categories canvas broad issues, such as philosophy or policy evolution in sustainability. Where appropriate, the case studies are linked in this path to the sustainability categories above.

One category is devoted entirely to the subject of ratings tools in sustainability. It is good to remember that rating methods are not sustainability themselves rather these rating schemes are attempts to measure some aspects within the subject. Their measure can only be comparative rather than definitive of real world performance. The EDG papers show the diversity of approaches and scope that various instigators have built-in.

Further EDG papers can be tracked via the existing main index for more specific reading on topics. For example, within the 'resources' category, the index identifies related subjects including materials choice, construction methods, energy and water use.

1.1 Finding Content

The subject of sustainability canvasses a wide spectrum of issues and topics. EDG has evolved to exceed 270 papers which contribute to knowledge across this spectrum. Because of the breadth of both the issues and the papers, much of the content of EDG can be related to different and overlapping 'tags' or subject areas. To help readers find the specific information they might require there are a range of measures built into EDG. More advanced readers will find the papers' abstracts listed online helpful. There are six modes for searching content:

Index – Lists the full title of papers by relevant keywords

Table of Contents – Lists papers under the relevant sections by which they are categorised and coded

Search Engine – EDG Online enables the user to search the content of papers by subject via a search function on the 'content' pages

Author – Search by the author, noting that papers by multiple authors will be repeated for each author

Topic – Links to a series of generic topics and will direct you to the most appropriate papers on the issue, similar to the results you would obtain using the search function

Design Process – This is a matrix that outlines the stages in the design process and highlights the papers that might be useful at each of those stages.

This entry portal has been developed to fulfil that more basic need – to provide easy-to-use steps when first encountering EDG, the subject of sustainability, and seeking to apply these to a particular built environment project.

1.2 The Entry Portal

The layout of this portal is –

- a short list of 'essential reading' to give a framework to design toward sustainability in the built environment
- using the Australian Institute of Architects Environment Policy in paper (GEN 1) to extract a short list of the most used search category headings
- listing detailed information papers under most commonly used further headings

This entry portal is not intended to be exhaustive nor definitive, as the bibliography and index sections fulfil that role. Nor is it intended that the headings and papers listing is definitive. These are used here to provide a context purely for the 'easy-to-use' purpose of this paper. The papers individually provide a much wider and relevant key word spread.

2.0 ESSENTIAL READING FOR THOSE INVOLVED IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

This part focuses on understanding the fundamentals of sustainability in the built environment. The exemplar fleshed out here uses the building designer's needs as the springboard. It is also possible to extract essential reading papers for other reader priorities, by looking up the applicable category in the appendix. For example, a planner might select papers from the 'context' category below which embraces land use and transport issues.

2.1 Design for Climate

For the designer, appreciation of sustainability begins with design-for-climate essentials, and the EDG policy basis for this is expanded on in Section 3. EDG provides essential reading for both residential and commercial scale projects in most climate zones:

Commercial	
GEN 3	Biodiversity and the Built Environment
GEN 36	The Relationship between Housing Density and Non-Transport Energy Use
TEC 12	Ventilation – Emerging Technologies

Residential
GEN 12 Residential Passive Solar Design
TEC 2 Natural Ventilation in Passive Design
DES 3 Design Considerations for the Australian Alps
DES 20 Arid Climates and Enhanced Natural Ventilation
DES 41 Remote Area Building and Ecologically Sustainable Development
DES 42 School Buildings in Tropical Climates – Thermal Comfort

2.2 Sustainability background

For those interested, a philosophy and broad policy foundation to the subject of sustainability in the built environment is provided in papers below. These form part of the history of the global sustainability advancement:

NOT 3	The Brundtland Report (1987): Revisiting the Report of the United Nations World Commission on the Environment and Development – Our Common Future
NOT 8	Rio Declaration on Environment and Development

3.0 FOCUSING ON BUILDING DESIGN

EDG was created to provide a resource for architects after the Australian Institute of Architects wrote its Environment Policy in 1995, and this founding paper is still the first paper in EDG (GEN 1). Since that time EDG has grown to be used by all those involved in the built environment. In GEN 1 Sustainability was briefly characterised in 5 principles, as being the protecting and enhancing of: biodiversity, resource use, pollution mitigation, user health and comfort and environmental awareness. Added to these are additional categories, considered to be most important to understand sustainability in the built environment:

Focusing on Building Design:

- General Building Design Principles
- Site
- Resource Use
- Pollution Mitigation
- Human Health and Comfort

Broader Sustainability Issues such as:

- Context
- Market Viability
- Philosophy
- Policy
- Rating Systems

And Case Studies of built projects

3.1 General Building Design Principles

In line with the environmental awareness principle above, this paper seeks to provide a path for rapid appreciation of the subject and its integral issues. For the designer, the papers in 2.0 above provide the essential design-for-climate emphasis, without which a project cannot achieve its sustainability potential, irrespective of how much other issues are embedded. The papers below extend beyond the essential reading to encompass individual detailed topics.

Development density
GEN 36 The Relationship between Housing Density and Non-Transport Energy Use
Thermal mass
DES 4 Thermal Mass in Building Design
Day-lighting
DES 6 Daylighting of Buildings
DES 63 Lighting – <i>Incorporating an Integrated Design Process</i>
Green roofs/walls
DES 53 Roof and Facade Gardens
Leading case studies
CAS 16 Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) Horse and Cattle Pavilions, Homebush Bay, New South Wales
CAS 36 CH2 (Council House 2), Melbourne Victoria
CAS 49 Pemberton House, Hobart – <i>Implementing Thermal Design Principles for Housing in a Cool Temperate Climate</i>

4.0 BUILDING SUBJECT SPECIFIC CATEGORIES

From the principles in 3.0 above, the information categories used here are in line with the biodiversity principle and:

- *Site* – category integrates land, site water, and vegetation papers
- *Resource* use principle draws in the broad areas of materials, construction, energy and water
- *Pollution* mitigation principle encompasses toxicity, out-gassing, waste and wastewaters
- *Human health and comfort* principle focuses on occupant protection and satisfaction.

4.1 Site

The individual EDG papers which provide information on land issues such as site water, bio-diversity, and vegetation are as follows:

Site bio assess
GEN 37 Land Resource Assessment
GEN 59 Biodiversity – <i>Site Assessment for Sustainable Development</i>
DES 40 Planting Guidelines for Public Spaces
Landscape water use
DES 43 Water – <i>Minimising Use in Landscapes</i>
CAS 46 Water Sensitive Urban Design in the Melbourne Docklands – <i>An Overview</i>
CAS 47 Water Sensitive Urban Design in the Melbourne Docklands – <i>Raingardens and Bioretention Tree Pits</i>
CAS 48 Water Sensitive Urban Design in the Melbourne Docklands – <i>Wetlands, Storage and Reuse System</i>
Stormwater
DES 19 Stormwater Recycling in Landscapes
DES 44 Stormwater – Strategies for Use
CAS 30 Restoring the Waters Project, Clear Paddock Creek, New South Wales
Permaculture
GEN 9 Permaculture and Urban Farming – An Introduction

Arid lands
DES 54 Water and Landscape Design in Arid Climates
Salinity
GEN 43 Salinity in Australia

4.2 Resource Use

This is the largest body of information, and is further detailed under individual subject headings in the EDG Index, and includes material types, construction mode, energy supply and demand, water and services:

Nature based materials
PRO 11 Renewable Resources – <i>Materials Survey</i>
Straw bale
PRO 12 Straw Bale Construction
Timber
PRO 10 Renewable Resources – <i>An Introduction to Building Materials</i>
PRO 15 Timber Resources and Sustainability
PRO 30 Timber and Wood Products – <i>Applications</i>
PRO 33 Timber and Wood Products from Environmentally Certified Forests and Plantations – <i>Overview</i>
PRO 34 Timber and Wood Products from Environmentally Certified Forests and Plantations – <i>Background</i>
PRO 35 Timber and Wood Products from Environmentally Certified Forests and Plantations – <i>In Australia</i>
CAS 17 New Directions in Timber – <i>Selected Case Studies</i> , Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland
Embodied energy materials
DES 35 Building Materials Selection – <i>Greenhouse Strategies</i>
GEN 58 Embodied Water of Construction
Embodied energy
PRO 7 The Environmental Impact of Building Materials
Insulation
PRO 7 The Environmental Impact of Building Materials
PRO 8 Strategies and Resources for Material Selection
Phase change materials
TEC 20 Phase Change Materials – <i>Overview</i>
Glass
PRO 19 Commercial Buildings – <i>Advanced Glazing Systems</i>
Steel
PRO 26 Steel – <i>An Introduction</i>
Concrete
PRO 31 Concrete – <i>An Introduction</i>
Water
DES 14 Water Efficiency – <i>Design Solutions</i>
DES 27 Water Use
PRO 25 Water Conservation in Buildings
CAS 25 Urban Water Conservation, Harvesting, and Reuse – <i>Selected Case Studies</i> , South Australia

Wastewater
DES 24 Domestic Wastewater – <i>On-site Treatment and Reuse</i>
TEC 11 Greywater and Blackwater Treatment Strategies
Solar hot water
TEC 5 Solar Hot Water Systems
Energy use
DES 37 Energy Systems, Appliances and Equipment
Photovoltaic (solar) cells
TEC 4 Photovoltaic Cells – <i>How they Work</i>
TEC 8 Remote Area Power Supply Systems
On-site services
GEN 18/19 Urban Autonomous Servicing
Lighting
GEN 61 Lighting – <i>Best Practice and Sustainability</i>
DES 7 Artificial Lighting and Energy Efficiency
DES 62 Lighting – <i>Incorporating an Integrated Design Process</i>
TEC 9 Electric Lighting – <i>Emerging Technologies</i>
Lighting control
TEC 3 Lighting – <i>Energy Management</i>
TEC 16 Lighting – <i>Energy Management and Occupant Well-Being through Integrated Control</i>
Geothermal
TEC 6 Ground Source Heat Pumps – <i>An Introduction</i>
Mechanical / air-conditioning systems
TEC 13 Refrigerant-Cycle Chiller Optimisation
Chilled beams cooling
TEC 18 Chilled Ceilings and Beams

4.3 Pollution Mitigation

This category brings together papers on material toxicity, out-gassing, waste and wastewater papers.

Contaminated Land
GEN 32 Contaminated Land
Erosion and Sediment Control
DES 52 Erosion and Sediment Control
Construction Waste
GEN 21 Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery
GEN 29 Waste Minimisation and Building Design Professionals
TEC 1 Waste Minimisation – <i>Source Reduction</i>
Chemical Risks
PRO 4 Chemical Risks in the Built Environment – <i>An Introduction</i>
PRO 5 Chemical Risks in the Built Environment – <i>A Survey</i>
PRO 6 Chemical Risks in the Built Environment – <i>Reduction Strategies</i>
Lead Hazards in Construction
PRO 20 Lead Hazards in Construction
Architectural Coatings
PRO 28 Architectural Coatings – <i>Managing Environmental Impacts</i>
Office Furniture
PRO 27 Office Furniture – <i>Key Issues and Specification Guidelines</i>

Indoor Environment and Health
GEN 15 Indoor Environment and Health – <i>An Introduction</i>
Urban Air Quality
GEN 34 Urban Air Quality
Legionella
GEN 50 Legionella
Radiation Exposure
GEN 76 Electromagnetic Fields in the Built Environment – <i>Design for Minimal Radiation Exposure</i>
Light Pollution
GEN 24 Light Pollution

4.4 Human health and comfort

This category encompasses widely differing issues in buildings affecting occupancy, and is listed by subject.

Design for adaptable uses for maximum building service life
GEN 66 Design for Adaptability – <i>An Introduction to the Principles and Basic Strategies</i>
Mental landscapes
GEN 55 Mental Landscapes – <i>The Forgotten Element in Sustainable Design</i>
Human comfort ventilation
TEC 2 Natural Ventilation in Passive Design
TEC 25 Circulating Fans for Summer and Winter Comfort and Indoor Energy Efficiency
Shade
GEN 35 Solar Ultraviolet Radiation – <i>Protective Measures</i>
Safety bushfires
GEN 53 Bushfires and Building – <i>An Introduction</i>
Safety termites
PRO 23 Subterranean Termites – <i>Management Strategies for New Buildings</i>

5.0 BROADER SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

The EDG papers' topics suggest these further categories which are set out in Sections 3.7 and onwards.

- Context and planning sustainability issues
- Market viability
- Philosophy and policy
- Rating systems
- Case studies

5.1 Context

A range of EDG papers discuss locality, land use and regional sustainability issues beyond the individual built form project.

Triple bottom line
GEN 17 Urban Planning for Sustainability
Community
GEN 62 Sustainable Communities
GEN 70 Liveable Communities – <i>Fostering Sustainable Cities and Regions</i>
CAS 31 Doncaster Hill Urban Village, Doncaster, Victoria

Urbanism
GEN 71 Towards Sustainable Urbanism
GEN 74 Urban Greenfield Communities – <i>Addressing Sustainability in New Developments</i>
DES 8 Residential Sites – <i>Analysis for Sustainability</i>
DES 48 Landscape Planning, Design and Management
DES 50 Urban Containment and Sustainability
Housing density
GEN 36 The Relationship between Housing Density and Non-Transport Energy Use
DES 9 Residential Sites – <i>Sustainable Developments</i>
DES 17 Cohousing – <i>An Introduction to a Residential Alternative</i>
DES 18 Cohousing and Rethinking the Neighbourhood: The Australian Context
Habitat
GEN 39 Ecosystem Services for Regional Sustainability
GEN 72 Planning the Green City
DES 51 Catchment Management – <i>Integrated Natural Resource Management</i>
DES 58 Urban Freeway Vegetation Design and Management
DES 66 Vegetation and Habitat Conservation – <i>A Strategic Framework</i>
DES 68 An Ecological Design Strategy for the Planning and Development of Healthy Urban Habitat
Infrastructure
TEC 17 Energy and Power Distribution
Transport
GEN 45 Urban Development, Accessibility and Transport in Australia – <i>Facing the Challenge</i>
GEN 47 Urban Freight Systems
DES 15 Planning for Transit-Oriented Development in Australian Cities
DES 16 Sustainable Metropolitan Transport – <i>Design Strategies</i>
DES 46 Urban Forms – <i>The Impact of Transport</i>
CAS 27 Australian Solutions – <i>Selected Case Studies of Sustainable Accessibility and Transport, Melbourne, Victoria; Brisbane, Queensland and Perth, Western Australia</i>
Car impact
GEN 48 Travel Demand Management and Vehicles
Tourism
GEN 69 Tourism Architecture in Special Places
Geographic information system & Remote sensing
TEC 15 Transport, Land Use, Site Planning and Landscape Planning – <i>GIS and Remote Sensing</i>

5.2 Market Viability

Important in some sustainability advocacy is the capability to relate sustainable outcomes to conventional development pressures: return-on-investment, profitability and market acceptance, are canvassed in these papers:

Data points
TEC 19 Building Operation – <i>Data Collection</i>

Financials
GEN 44 Economics of Sustainable Building
Productivity
GEN 79 Impact of Indoor Environment Quality on Occupant Productivity and Well-being in Office Buildings

5.3 Philosophy

EDG papers include these which set out the ethical and sociological foundations in favour of sustainability in the built environment:

Ethical behaviour
GEN 2 Environmental Design and Architecture
Climate change
GEN 7 The Greenhouse Effect – <i>General Considerations</i>
GEN 68 Climate Change and Sustainability
State of environment
GEN 11 2001 State of the Environment Report – <i>Human Settlements</i>
GEN 46 Changing the Signs, Making the Connections
Education
GEN 23 Educational Facilities – <i>Using School Buildings to Teach Environmentally Sustainable Design</i>
GEN 31 Education for the Next Industrial Revolution – <i>Teaching Resource Efficiency and Effectiveness in Environmental Literacy</i>
ESD
GEN 40 Implementing Ecologically Sustainable Development
DES 34 Urban Air Quality
DES 36 The Relationship between Housing Density and Non-Transport Energy Use
Greenhouse Gas Emissions
GEN 33 Greenhouse Gas Emissions – <i>Reduction through Design</i>
GEN 52 Greenhouse Policy – <i>Implications for Buildings and Building Designers</i>
DES 38 Energy Performance Contracting – <i>An Introduction</i>
DES 39 Ecosystem Services for Regional Sustainability

5.4 Policy

Policy on sustainability differs from ‘philosophy’ in that the focus is to provide a structure for all the diverse detail as identified in other categories:

1987 Brutland
NOT 3 Windows in Building Design – <i>Energy Impacts</i>
Client briefing
DES 5 Architects and Sustainable Design – <i>A Client Briefing</i>
DES 25 Green Building
Life cycle assessment
GEN 16 Environmental Assessment Management Tools – <i>An Overview</i>
GEN 22 Life Cycle Energy Analysis
DES 21 Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery
Disassembly
DES 31 Design for Disassembly – <i>Themes and Principles</i>
Embodied energy
PRO 2 Embodied Energy of Building Materials

Professional policies
GEN 25 Building Design Professions – <i>Position on the Environment</i>
GEN 26 Australian Institute of Landscape Architects – <i>Environmental Policies</i>
GEN 27 Engineers Australia – <i>Policy on Sustainability</i>
GEN 28 Planning Institute of Australia – <i>Ecologically Sustainable Development Policy</i>
Commercial buildings
TEC 14 Energy Efficient Strategies for Existing Buildings
DES 2 Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings
DES 49 Building Services Systems – <i>An Integrated Design Approach to Building Performance</i>
DES 67 Commercial Building Refurbishment – <i>Government Programs</i>

5.5 Rating Systems

This section provides a selection of papers on the plethora of ratings systems that have arisen in the attempt to measure, codify and set benchmarks for a diverse number of issues in sustainability. There are ratings systems for materials, buildings, neighbourhoods, and even whole precincts, however it is important to remember that these ratings systems are not ‘sustainability’, and do not measure the totality of sustainability. They reflect values within the assumptions and framing principles used to develop them, and the limitations of method and data. It is also important to remember that these tools reflect the point of history when they were written, and as awareness grows, and more data is available, they are frequently revised or superseded.

This subject is segregated into – overview, score systems, life-cycle assessment, regulatory compliance, and design tools:

OVERVIEW
Greenhouse gas emissions
NOT 9 Residential Building Baseline Study
Tools globally
DES 33 Building Performance Assessment – <i>The Role in Design</i>
Tools select
GEN 57 Environmental Design and Assessment Tools – <i>A Guide</i>
SCORE SYSTEMS
Greenstar
GEN 63 Green Star – <i>A User’s Perspective</i>
ABGR (Now referred to as NABERS Energy)
GEN 65 Designing Buildings that Actually Perform
NABERS
GEN 56 The National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS)
Glazing
PRO 32 Timber and Wood Products from Environmentally Certified Forests and Plantations – <i>Overview</i>
Life cycle assessment
GEN 10 Life-Cost Studies
GEN 51 Life Cycle Assessment – <i>Application in Buildings</i>
Windows
PRO 9 Strategies and Resources for Material Selection

REGULATORY TOOL	
AccuRate	
DES 23	AccuRate – <i>Second Generation Nationwide House Energy Rating Software</i>
Expert judgement	
TEC 21	Applying Expert Opinion to Domestic Building Energy Assessment
DESIGN TOOLS	
Comfort	
DES 57	Comfort in Buildings – <i>Applying an Adaptive Model</i>
Shade	
DES 32	Shade Audit – <i>NSW Cancer Council</i>
Tools globally	
DES 70	Sustainability Rating Tools: A snapshot study
Tools Australia	
DES 21	Building Energy Performance Software – <i>An Introduction</i>
Post occupancy	
GEN 42	Post Occupancy Evaluation
Eco tourism	
GEN 75	Ecotourism Certification
Wind farms	
DES 64	Wind Farms – <i>Guidelines and Principles for Visual Assessment and Design</i>
Master specification	
PRO 17	Green Specifying – <i>The Role of National Master Specification Systems Part 1</i>
PRO 18	Green Specifying – <i>The Role of National Master Specification Systems Part 2</i>
MABEL	
DES 69	Mobile Architecture and Built Environment Laboratory (MABEL) – a Building Performance Evaluation Tool

5.6 Case Studies

Beyond the CAS section within EDG which are all specific case studies, the papers below are other EDG papers which contain content on 'case studies':

GEN 30	Project Waste Management Plans – <i>Costing and Quantifying Construction Waste</i>
GEN 73	Urban Greenfield Communities – <i>Addressing Sustainability in New Developments</i>
TEC 7	Operational Energy Minimisation Technologies – <i>An Overview from the Green Building Challenge 1998</i>
DES 28	Photovoltaics – <i>Architectural Applications</i>
DES 47	Windsor Court Redevelopment, Tasmania
DES 60	Energy Efficiency and ESD – <i>Implementation from a Development Perspective</i>
NOT 4	Websites on Built Environment Sustainability – <i>Part 1</i>
NOT 6	Websites on Built Environment Sustainability – <i>Part 2</i>
PRO 29	Office Furniture and Fitouts – <i>Recent Case Studies</i>

FURTHER EVOLUTION

The easy-to-use path is expected over time to develop further. Clearly, within each category, some subjects are widely canvassed; some less so. This is expected to lead to further papers on targeted matters to be commissioned to fill in gaps where current material is insufficient. There is scope to summarise topics for which there is currently an array of papers.

EDG is a constantly evolving body of knowledge and as such there is scope to increase the detailed information provided on the subjects in some papers. To assist the editorial team, readers are encouraged to submit feedback on existing papers, as well as new material via the *Content page of EDG Online*. For example, on wastewater processes, common water use quantities related to system size and specific inclusions may be possible. This can increase the useful detailed design contribution by EDG information to practitioner project design

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In 2008 the Sustainable Built Environment working party of the South Australian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects reviewed the contents of EDG and prepared this paper to make EDG more easily accessible, in particular for those unfamiliar with sustainability issues.

BIOGRAPHY

Emilis Prelgauskas is an architect in private practice with an extensive portfolio of best practice completed projects. He worked on government committees leading up to the introduction of mandatory minimum energy requirements in South Australia, was peer referred to the SA government Building Rules Assessment Commission, and now is one of the two deemed 'experts' on thermal performance of buildings in South Australia.

Emilis collaborates with Atelier Urban+Environmental on building performance research, and carries out expert opinion assessment on applicable building proposals. AU+E is an Adelaide based collaboration of four architectural practices that share primary research data on post-occupancy evaluations of housing.

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