



Guest Speaker

Dr Jason Byrne

Senior Lecturer, Griffith University School of Environment

Urban planning and adapting to Climate Change

Traditionally, urban areas in Australia have spread over large expanses, creating an unsustainable, car-reliant sprawl.

Instead of creating environmental and social problems, could good urban development and planning actually provide sustainable solutions?

The Gold Coast is regarded as one of the most at-risk places in the world from the impacts of climate change. How can we plan our cities and suburbs to adapt to climate change?

Our speaker, Dr Jason Byrne, will focus his presentation on transit-oriented development, urban consolidation, climate change adaptation, and the concept of ecological modernisation. He will share his experiences from overseas research as well as more local areas.

With the recent Carbon Tax debate, some may see environmental targets as costing the economy. However, “ecological modernisation” takes a more optimistic view, seeking to achieve ‘win-win’ rather than ‘win-lose’ outcomes for the environment and the economy.

Transit-oriented development aims to create compact, high density, liveable urban areas within 10 minutes walk of rapid and frequent public transport. Urban consolidation, or increasing development density in existing areas, is the opposite of urban sprawl.

Dr Byrne is currently researching urban greenspace and climate change adaptation in Hangzhou, China, as well as on the Gold Coast.

Wednesday 27th April, 2011 | Gecko House
6.30–8pm | 139 Duringan St, Currumbin

All are welcome to this free* presentation

* A gold coin donation is requested per glass of wine and nibbles.

Gecko presents a free guest speaker night on the 4th Wednesday of each month on topical environmental issues. For catering purposes and to prevent waste, RSVP by 3pm on the day before the event to speakers@gecko.org.au or call 5534 1412.

Gecko encourages vegetarian/organic/environmentally-thoughtful food options at all of its events.

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