

Public forum: Systems Thinking How to tackle today's wicked problems

*Ever come across a problem that seems to be just too big or too complex?
Why not change the way you look at it?
Come to this public seminar to know how.*

Systems Thinking is a new way of tackling complex issues that assumes that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. 'Systems Thinking' assumes that all components of a problem are connected and therefore should be solved that way. Presentations by the two keynote speakers will be followed by debate with participation of the audience.

'Systems Thinking' to deal with the wickedest societal problems: sustainability and governance

*Dr Angela Espinosa, Scarborough Management Centre, Hull University,
United Kingdom, DPI Visiting Fellow*

This talk will introduce a specific system approach, particularly suited to support processes of organisational transformation in conditions of uncertainty, complexity and risk, like climate change impacts and adaptation. It will present international examples to deal with organisational issues in the natural resources and environmental sector. It will offer insights on how we can better deal with core issues of governance and climate change at all levels, from organisations to local, regional and national environmental systems.

Why Systems? An exploration of the nature and logic of systems approaches to human endeavours

*Professor Emeritus, Richard Bawden, University of Western Sydney,
Michigan State University, USA*

There is ever-increasing interest in the application of 'systems ideas' to all sorts of domains of purposeful human activity. The traditional ways of dealing with problematic issues are proving to be seriously inadequate in the face of the complexity, interconnectedness and sheer messiness of the pressing 'problems' of the day. This introduction to systems approaches will provide an overview of the foundations of their principles and the implications of these in practice, from their application as research methodologies and innovation through to a wide spectrum of organisational management and development processes.



**WHEN: Tuesday, 27 July 2010, 3.00pm – 5.30pm (coffee/biscuits from 2.30pm).
VENUE: DPI Theatre, Mezzanine level, 1 Spring Street, Melbourne 3000.
RSVP: André Kairouz – Telephone No.: (03) 8341 2409
e-mail: andre.kairouz@dpi.vic.gov.au by Friday 23 July 2010**