

Accelerating Responses to a Changing World - Developing Innovative Cultures in Land Management Organisations

Leonie NEWNHAM, Australia

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ABSTRACT

Land Management is an underpinning building block of all societies. As an established function that has been operating for a number of years the organisations involved in delivering the various component parts of the system tend to be older more structured organisations. This is particularly so with the components that deliver the government managed components. The stability and certainty that is often desired and expected by those receiving services can restrict the ability of the organisations to respond to the demands of a changing world. There is an increasing recognition that change is needed within organisations to respond to the challenges presented by population, economic, social and climate change. The demands are ones that challenge world leaders and impact directly on how land is managed and competing usage needs. Solutions will demand that new approaches are used as the old ones are not adequate to the size and scale of the problems. This paper will review how organisations are adapting to changes and trying new approaches to manage in complex and often chaotic environments. It will use case studies on private and public organisations from research on innovation in organisations to provide ideas and examples that have been used successfully and identify ones that may be useful to land management organisations. It will present a case study on the development of a Strategy and Innovation Unit in the Department of Sustainability and Environment in Victoria Australia to work on developing a more innovative culture in the Department. Reviewing this approach will provide an example of one way of approaching the challenge. The paper will conclude by identifying additional ways to build understanding and ideas across the FIG community and share collective knowledge and experience.

CONTACTS

Ms. Leonie Newnham, Manager Innovation
Department of Sustainability and Environment
13/8 Nicholson Street
East Malbourne
Victoria 3002
AUSTRALIA
Tel.: + 61 (0) 3 9637 8651
Fax: + 61 (0) 3 9637 9558
Email: leonie.newnham@dse.vic.gov.au