

Call for Papers

Securing Sustainable Energy Supplies in Europe and Australia Policy-Makers, Business, Scientists, NGOs on Energy and the Environmental Challenge

A Conference of the Monash European and EU Centre, the Monash Sustainability Institute, the Faculty of Business and Economics (Monash University , Melbourne), the Australian National University and the Delegation of the European Commission to Australia

Monash University Prato Centre , Italy 27-28 November 2008

To find reliable, diverse, affordable, publicly acceptable and safe ways to supply energy, while minimising climate-changing greenhouse gas emissions, is the number one priority and challenge for governments and private enterprise alike in the 21st century.

The challenge for governments is immense because energy markets are supplied by complex delivery systems, which often transcend a range of legal, regulatory, economic and territorial jurisdictions. For the business community, there is a need to manage uncertainty in the regulatory environment to ensure that reliable, considered and economically-feasible decisions can be made. For consumers, significant change in everyday energy consumption is manifest, and poses new challenges as we undertake the transformation to an environmentally sustainable society.

Securing sustainable energy supply has become a key priority in the European Union and is a growing concern in Australia . The diversity of responses to this problem in each of these jurisdictions offers rich opportunities for cross-learning, for example in relation to emissions trading, investment in climate change solutions, shared experience in managing the economic risks of adapting to climate change, and the opportunities presented by the Clean Development Mechanisms and Joint Implementation instruments in the Kyoto Protocol.

The purpose of this interdisciplinary conference is to provide a forum for academics, policy-makers, business representatives and environmental groups to explore, debate and compare the different approaches and experiences in securing energy supplies in Europe and Australia , with a view to facilitating the development of sustainable government and business strategy in both jurisdictions. In particular, the conference will focus on the interplay between policy-makers, scientists, business and environmental groups in securing sustainable energy supplies in the European Union and Australia .

Conference Themes

1. The role of government: comparing relations between government, scientists, business and environmental NGOs in Australia and in the European Union in securing sustainable energy supplies; the Climate Change Convention, the Kyoto Protocol and Bali Conference; regulatory and legal frameworks; policy initiatives and the means to drive investment; accountability of energy and environmental decision-makers; energy markets, renewable energies and clean coal; emissions trading, offset schemes and opportunities for investment.
2. The role of business: energy, environmental and social responsibility; enlightened self interest and the business case for sustainable energy supplies; interaction with governmental actors and environmental NGOs; regulatory and legal framework; supply and demand side issues (business as users of energy, or as generators of energy).

3. The role of environmental NGOs, consumer groups and local communities: turning science into politics; interaction with business and governmental actors; comparing the role of environmental NGOs in Europe and Australia; challenging decision-makers; building capacity in local decision-making; networking; accountability.
4. Risk, uncertainty and decision-making: integrating the science with economics; limits to growth, and inter-generational equity.
5. Energy security across borders: the federal, regional and global dimensions of energy security .
6. Technical, Ecological and Social Aspects of Clean Energy Technologies: Overviews of the various approaches to clean energy – including power generation and transport fuels (in terms of the technology itself and the ecological and social implications of adoption. With particular emphasis on activities in Australia and Europe .)

Scientific Committee

Prof. Amanda Lynch (Federation Fellow, School of Geography and Environmental Science/Climate Theme Leader, Monash Sustainability Institute), Prof. Kerry Pratt, Energy Theme Leader, Monash Sustainability Institute), Prof. Nigel Tapper (Head, School of Geography and Environmental Science, Monash University), Rowena Cantley Smith (Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Monash University), Jeffrey McLean (Senior Lecturer, Department of Management, Faculty of Business and Economics/Coordinator, Climate Change and Sustainable Business Project and Monash Sustainability Network), Wayne Gumley (Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Law and Taxation, Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University), Prof. Pascaline Winand (Director, Monash European and EU Centre, Monash University), Dr. Karen Hussey (Vice-Chancellor's Representative in Brussels/Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Europe Centre, Australian National University), Dr. Don Kenyon (Distinguished Visiting Fellow, ANU/member of the board of the Europe-Australia Business Council), Professor Simon Bronitt (Director, National Europe Centre, ANU), Dr. Ben Wellings (Deputy Director, National Europe Centre, ANU), Lynne Hunter (Adviser, Delegation of the European Commission to Australia and New Zealand).

Selected papers from the conference will appear in a refereed publication (European Policy, PIE-Peter Lang) and/or a major journal.

Papers should be submitted one month prior to the conference.

Abstracts of 250 words for papers aligned with the above themes, along with your affiliation and full contact details should be submitted via email to:

Ms Patricia Arnold, Event coordinator, Monash European and EU Centre, patricia.arnold@general.monash.edu.au ,
Ph. +61 3 9903 4638

The Closing date for abstracts is **15 May 2008**

Professor Pascaline Winand
Director - Monash European and EU Centre (MEEUC)
Postal address: PO Box 197, Caulfield East, Vic. 3145, Australia
Office location: Room H5.25, Building H, 900 Dandenong Road, Caulfield East
Melbourne, Australia
Ph: +61 3 990 34633
Fax: +61 3 990 34686