

The True Value of the Natural Environment

The Sustainable Engineering Society

Date: 1st August
2013

Time: 5:30pm for a
6:00pm start

Venue:
John Connell
Auditorium
Engineers Australia
21 Bedford Street
North Melbourne

Cost:
EA/SEng member
free
Non-member \$30

Registration:
[Online here](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/events/true-value-natural-environment) or visit
[http://](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/events/true-value-natural-environment)
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[natural-environment](http://www.engineersaustralia.org.au/events/true-value-natural-environment)



Often in project planning or feasibility, the true value of the natural environment seems not to be accounted for. But what is the value of the natural environment and what, as engineers, can we do to ensure our natural environment is not undervalued?

This seminar will explore the emerging process of environmental-economic accounting both at a national level through the release of Australia's first environmental economic accounts, as well as at an international level.

Carl Obst
Editor, UN System of Environmental –
Economic Accounting

For the past 3 years Carl has lead the drafting and preparation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA). The SEEA includes an international statistical standard covering all aspects of environmental-economic accounting at the national level and encompasses significant advances in describing ecosystem accounting.

Carl's background for this work is a 19 year career with the Australian Bureau of Statistics, with experiences across a range of topics within economic statistics including quarterly national accounts, productivity and capital stock analysis, financial sector output and balance sheets, tourism satellite accounts, natural resource accounting, composite leading indicators and price indexes.

Carl has held executive roles as head of the ABS National Accounts Branch from 2003 to 2008, and as Regional Director of the Victorian ABS Office from 2008 to 2010. He also worked for 3 years with the OECD in Paris on economic data and sustainable development indicators.



Charles Berger, ACF

Charles Berger (Chuck) is Director of Strategic Ideas at the Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF), one of Australia's leading environmental advocacy organisations.

He leads ACF's efforts to ensure Australia's economy is ecologically sound and prosperous, through innovative research, policy development, and advocacy projects.

Chuck has previously worked as a graphic designer, a corporate lawyer in New York and Brussels, and then as ACF's in-house lawyer. He holds law degrees from Yale University and the University of Frankfurt, Germany.