

## WORKSHOP 3

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO ASSESS ECOSYSTEM SERVICE POTENTIAL OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN ELEMENTS

**ORGANISER NAME(S):**

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**PRESENTER(S):**

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**TARGET AUDIENCE:**

All workshops participants are welcome; we especially encourage land use and regional planners, urban designers, architects, landscape architects, building designers, builders, developers, infrastructure providers & operators, facility managers, ecosystem service experts and all forum participants.

**WORKSHOP DESCRIPTION:**

'Biophilic Design Elements' are natural elements used purposefully as design features within urban landscapes. Recent publications on sustainability and design have enumerated what these design features are and have suggested that these design features can mitigate the detrimental effects of climate change through the provision of ecosystem services. An ecosystem service assessment of Biophilic Design Elements is necessary to show how these may become a medium through which the built environment mimics functions of the natural environment.

The objective of this workshop is to engage with the community to conduct this assessment using a participatory process to show the potential each of these 'Biophilic Design Elements' possess to provide ecosystem services. The existing South East Queensland Ecosystems Services Framework (SEQESF) which is now the 'agreed' framework for assessing ecosystem services within the South East Queensland (SEQ) region is used as a guide.

The agenda is to tap into the knowledge and experience of workshop participants to assess Biophilic Design Elements so that each Biophilic Design Element can be assessed against natural ecosystems. Workshop participants will be asked to consider each Biophilic Design Element as a reporting category and assess it on the basis of its ability to provide ecosystem services in comparison to natural ecosystems. Ecosystem Functions and Ecosystem services identified within the SEQESF will be included to ensure that the assessment is across identical criteria.

The workshop will demonstrate how ecosystem service concepts can find cross-disciplinary application. Knowledge sharing across disciplines will create a publicly acceptable Ecosystem Service Assessment of Biophilic Design Elements (ESA-BDE). This key takeaway will show how Biophilic Design Elements in urban landscapes provide ecosystem services and whether this can be on a scale similar to natural ecosystems in natural landscapes. This new knowledge will help workshop participants to decide whether Biophilic Design Elements possess any value and whether they are an appropriate measure against climate change. ESA-BDE will be the first step in integrating specialist ecological and design knowledge creating a quantitative basis for supporting design decisions for the built environment.