



Green roofs, walls and facades summit

Sydney | Melbourne

Summit organising committee:

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Green roofs, walls, and facades summits

- Thank you for your involvement in summits held in March & April 2019, across Melbourne & Sydney
- In total, 66 people attended from industry, government, academia, and the community
- Summits run using appreciative inquiry approach, designed to explore complex issues at the system level to generate new ways of doing things
- The following slides provide a high-level summary of discussions over the day across flourishing industry, collaborative networks, and steps to action
- **NEXT STEP: SUMMIT POSITION STATEMENT**

Summit approach: Appreciative Inquiry Principles

We move in the direction of the questions we ask: Systems move in the direction of the questions we most persistently inquire into. Every inquiry and question is a change intervention.

Positive emotions fire up engagement, relationships, creativity and energy. Our emotions are a result of a neuro-chemical mix in response to our thoughts and questions. Emotions are contagious. In a complex system people are attracted to and energised by positive emotions.

We move toward the images we hold of our future: Individuals and systems take action based on unconscious and conscious mental images.

It takes a whole system to change a system. The more we engage the whole system in designing change, the more effective the execution of change. Diversity and thinking as one system creates more robust possibilities and self organising change.

Healthy systems balance continuity, novelty (change) and transition: In order to thrive complex adaptive systems require anchoring in the best of the past, change & adaption to refresh, and well managed transitions.

Summit structure: Appreciative Inquiry Process



Summit agenda

- ***Discovery and Dream*** | Interviewing about Best Green Walls, roofs and facades, & collaborative networks
- Group discovery of ‘best of’ green roofs, walls, and facades, & collaborative networks
- ***Design to Deliver*** | Poster stations: Golden opportunities and critical changes for the Australian green roofs, walls and facades industry
- Group discussion and voting on golden opportunities & critical changes
- ***Aligning Strategic Direction*** | Milestones for action for flourishing green roofs, walls and facade industry in Australia

Discovery and Dream



Images of flourishing green roofs, walls and facades in Australia 2030.

Collective responses

- The city as a forest; connection between the built environment and surrounding natural environments, biodiversity in the city.
- Green roofs, walls, and facades (GRWFs) are accessible and have a positive impact on communities, providing calm, health, and happiness. People flourish and enjoy themselves.

Unique responses

- Flourishing GRWFs are multifunctional.
- Intentional design; flourishing GRWFs are site specific, and self-sustaining where appropriate.
- GRWF are part of the city's attractions; tours and activities are prominent features of the city.

Carry forward drivers to create a successful green roofs, walls and facades collaborative network.

Collective responses

- Meaningful collaborations and stakeholder engagement at all stages; diversity among stakeholders, respect for diversity of perspectives and willingness to engage in difficult conversations.
- Openness to change with adaptable, agile, and well connected and flexible teams; new technology is embraced, willingness to leverage learning and vision multiple ways forward.
- A strong common vision that speaks to the diversity of stakeholders involved.

Unique responses

- Leadership; having project champions and key decision makers at the table.
- A strong business case.
- Strategic thinking; aligning interests and resourcefulness to drive collaboration.

Future enablers for the successful collaborative network driving the flourishing of green roofs, walls and facades in 2030.

Collective response

- A strong vision backed by government leadership and policy, incentives, a strong business case, and reliable resourcing.

Unique responses

- Meaningful and expanding stakeholder engagement at all stages.
- Effective governance and facilitation.
- Community support and demand for GRWFs.
- Leadership in airspace; being at the forefront of developing, valuing and using "airspace" for GRWF.
- Diverse benefits; appropriately articulating the range of benefits from GRWF to all sectors of the community.

Design to Deliver



Actions to create flourishing GRWFs

The golden opportunities we will leverage to forward the development of green roofs, walls and facades in Australia.

- Creating real incentives at the city scale
- Levy on new developments
- Identify the economics of health/wellness from GRWFs
- Develop standards and update national building code
- National advocacy for GRWF
- Design standards to incorporate green and sustainable ratings

The critical changes (barriers to remove) we need to tackle to enable the development of green roofs, walls and facades in Australia.

- Shift towards mandatory requirements (rather than voluntary status quo) and use incentives (standards and guidelines)
- Overcome critical myths about GRWFs
- Scaling up of GRWFs to reduce cost & rebrand to reflect value vs. cost
- Framework around public health and heat
- Data/Metrics and general case studies

Actions to design collaborative networks to drive change

The golden opportunities we will leverage to build a collaborative network to drive change.

- New national body to be an effective voice for GRWFs advocacy and leadership; portal for knowledge sharing (public and industry)
- Link living infrastructure with “City Deal”
- Pilot projects – including both public and private research
 - Royal commission to state of our cities - evidence, witnesses, engage public, recommendations
 - Using existing data to identify opportunity for present GR installation, proactively identifying useful sites

The critical changes (barriers to remove) we need to tackle to grow a collaborative network able to drive change.

- Statutory mechanisms to support Policy
- Identifying key player and leaders to drive movement forward
- Addressing the perceived risk associated with GI
 - Key honest learnings from buildings; work out models for how to deal with commercial sensitivities (live knowledge hub)
 - Need for a national body or sector
 - Embed GRWF into curriculum for many disciplines

Aligning Strategic Direction



Short Term Milestones (1-2 Years)

Collective responses

- Develop the industry through education, national guidelines, establishing GRWFs standards and best practice.
- Policy action in the form of targets, incentives and mandated requirements.
- A peak industry body with an established common language.
- A hub or platform for knowledge sharing across industry, government and community.

Unique responses

- Increase public awareness of GI with an emphasis on value and benefits.
- Hold a national GI conference with key stakeholders.

Medium Term Milestones (4-5 Years)

Collective responses

- Mandated GI policy: National GI standards and requirements for industry and government; developer and community incentives, and targets in place.
- Focus on industry and developers: Mandated construction code, integration of GI in development, and training and accreditation.

Unique responses

- Knowledge hub active, project evaluation and success stories shared.
- Demonstration GRWFs: Interactive and best practice; used to educate and influence policy.
- Peak body established and active.

Long Term Milestones (8-10 Years)

Collective responses

- Industry is thriving: GRWFs normalised across all sectors and targets have been exceeded. Cities are driving progress through “show case” cities.
- Industry development: Widespread adoption of national policies, codes, and standards. Mandatory requirements for new developments.

Unique responses

- Progress and impacts (social, environmental) of GRWFs are measured and reported, improvements are made on these grounds.
- Industry development: accreditation/qualification in GRWFs established.

Next Steps



Conclusions

- Attendees valued sharing their views and appreciated the diversity of views, supported by open and honest engagement on the day.
- Attendees felt they could support GRWF flourishing by sharing back to their workplace, and supporting continued multidisciplinary stakeholder collaboration, industry forums and professional events.

NEXT STEP: Position statement

- Our summit position statement will help shape the future of GRWFs in Australia.
- We are working with industry and government stakeholders and want you involved. We will shortly invite contributions from interested attendees.

Summits facilitated by

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