



Dr Elizabeth Saxon

Education

**Doctorate of Philosophy:
Sustainability Assessment in Tourism** **2002**
Australian School of Environmental Studies
Griffith University

Scholarship: Australian Postgraduate Award with Stipend

Developed a triple bottom line framework for use by nature based tourism operators that:

- integrates environmental and social aspects into business planning;
- enables the development of context specific indicators to benchmark, measure and monitor social and environmental performance; and
- facilitates the development of triple bottom line reporting.

Bachelor of Science (First Class Honours): Integrating Environmental Ethics and Ecological Economics

School of Science and Technology
Griffith University **1996**

- Developed processes to integrate environmental and social values into economic models and market frameworks.

Bachelor of Science (Australian Environmental Studies) **1995**
Australian School of Environmental Studies
Griffith University

Majors: Environmental Policy and Economics Society; Culture and the Environment
Science, Technology and Society

Private Sector Positions

Tony Charters & Associates **2005-**

Principal Tourism Analyst

- Conduct and analyse tourism related market and environmental research.
- Develop and manage tourism and conservation partnership projects and liaise with government, non government and private sector stakeholders.
- Contribute to the development of nature based recreation concept plans for private operators and local government agencies.
- Provide expert advice on social impact assessment, engagement and facilitation methodologies and facilitate stakeholder workshops and partnership development projects.
- Develop advocacy and stakeholder partnership strategies for tourism and non government clients.
- Prepare project proposals, tender documents and research, planning and policy reports.
- Analyse relevant policy and legislation and prepare written submissions on behalf of tourism and NGO clients.

Key Clients & Projects:

- **Torres Shire Council:** Strategic Tourism Plan (2008)
- **Tourism Australia:** Environmental Sustainability Assessment (Head Office Operations) (2008)
- **Ecotourism Australia:** National Climate Change Certification Scheme for the tourism industry (2008)
- **Moreton Bay Environmental Alliance and Manly Chamber of Commerce:** Concept Development and Feasibility Study for a Moreton Bay Discovery Centre (2007)
- **Conservation International and UNEP:** Best Practice Guide for Land Based Tour Operators; Best Practice Guide for Rainforest Tour Operators; Best Practice for Mountain Based Tour Operators (2006-7)
- **VIC Dept Sustainability and the Environment/ Alpine Resorts Coordinating Council:** Rapid Assessment of all Victorian Alpine Resort Strategic Management Plans including recommendations for improvement.
- **QLD Dept Employment, Education and Training/ Tourism Queensland:** Engaging the Grey Nomad Mobile Workforce – Market Research and Strategic Plan; Peak Industry and Regional Development Organisation Consultation; pilot employment program (2006-2008)
- **Logan City Council/ QLD Parks and Wildlife Service Daisy Hill Koala Centre:**
 - Prefeasibility Study. Market Research and Concept Plan Development (2006);
 - Development of a Nature based Recreation and Interpretation Concept Plan for Logan Wetlands (2005)
- **Department of Industry Tourism and Resources:** Development of the National Tourism and Conservation Vision and Agenda (2005).
- **The Campervan and Motorhome Association of Australia:** Development of a National Issues Paper and ongoing Advocacy Program (2005 -2006).
- **FEROS Care Byron Bay:** Development of a Nature Based Recreation and Interpretation Concept Plan for Sandhills Estate Byron Bay (2006).

Corporate Experience

**Tourism Queensland Sustainable Tourism Department
Senior Tourism Advisor**

2004- 2005

- Provide specialist and operational advice on: community engagement, triple bottom line reporting, sustainable tourism in protected areas, social impact assessment, marine tourism, engagement with conservation stakeholders; sustainability indicators and assessment frameworks; economic instruments; and marine tourism issues.
- Manage the delivery of key projects within the Queensland Ecotourism Plan 2003-08 including: Triple Bottom Line Guidelines for Ecotourism Operators; Identifying the Social Impact of Nature Based Tourism; Identifying Training and Skills Needs of Ecotourism Operators; and Estimating Economic Value of Tourism in Protected Areas.
- Establish and maintain business partnerships with conservation organizations, research bodies and the Environmental Protection Authority.
- Represent ecotourism interests in relevant interdepartmental and interagency forums and committees as well as working on collaborative tourism in protected area projects.
- Write reports, ministerial briefings and provide comments on policies, plans, strategies and legislation where they impact on sustainable tourism issues.
- Draft agency budget bids and assist regional tourism organizations in the preparation of funding applications for ecotourism development.

Government Experience

Logan City Council Environment Services
Senior Project Officer

2003 – 2004

- Design internal change management and team building strategies
- Establish and maintain community and business partnerships for improved environmental management
- Review community engagement strategies and social research methods
- Design and manage projects in key program areas within the Logan Environmental Management Plan including: Cities for Climate Protection; Greenhouse and Energy; Air Quality and Sustainable Transport; and Sustainable Urban Design
- Develop Triple Bottom Line policies and performance indicators
- Manage project budgets, administration and the development of key performance indicators
- Coordinate multidisciplinary project teams
- Manage staff
- Represent council the on South East Queensland Regional Organization of Councils Greenhouse and Energy Group

Research Experience

Griffith University Australian School of Environmental Studies
Senior Research Assistant

2002 - 2003

Project: Economic assessment of the willingness to pay for various short course models

- Design research methodology within budget and resource constraints
- Conduct interviews and manage questionnaire distribution and collection
- Analyze and report results
- Construct willingness to pay demand schedules and course cost schedules
- Recommend best profit alternatives

Project: Social assessment of student expectations from degree programs

- Design research methodology within budget and resource constraints
- Conduct interviews and manage questionnaire distribution and collection
- Analyze and report results
- Identify strengths and weaknesses of current degree components

Griffith University CRC Water Catchment Hydrology
Senior Research Assistant

1999 - 2001

Project: Social Assessment of Community attitudes to proposed Water Market Reforms

- Analysis and reporting of primary research results

Publications

Environment and Ecotourism (2008) – Sustainable Queensland Volume 3, Information Paper 90, Committee for Economic Development of Australia (CEDA)

Academic Experience

University of Southern Queensland Lecturer Level A

2004

- Design and deliver lectures, tutorials, course materials and assessment
- Manage student projects and assessment
- Manage web based classrooms and course materials

Department of Tourism and Marketing (Undergraduate Level Course)

- Introduction to Tourism

Griffith University Lecturer Level A

1997 –2003

- Design and deliver lectures, tutorials, course materials and assessment
- Manage staff and resource budgets
- Co-ordinate and manage interdisciplinary teaching teams
- Manage student projects and assessment
- Manage web based classrooms and course materials

School of Australian Environmental Studies (Masters Level Course)

- Environment & Development – International Perspectives

School of Australian Environmental Studies (Undergraduate Level Courses)

- Introduction to Environmental Policy;
- Australian Environmental Policy Making;
- Environmental Policy and Regulation;
- Environmental Economics 1;
- Environmental Economics 3;
- Economics and Natural Resources;
- Environmental Dispute Resolution;
- Society, Culture and the Environment;
- Understanding Environmental Issues

School of Science and Technology (Undergraduate Level Courses):

- Science, Ethics & Values;
- Science Technology and Society;
- Science, Technology and World Development.

Specific Knowledge & Skill Areas

- Social Impact Assessment
- Economic Impact Assessment
- Community Consultation and Engagement Strategies
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Processes
- Environmental Economics (e.g. tradable permit schemes; economic valuation of natural resources)
- Environmental Planning, Policy and Regulation
- Sustainability Assessment and Triple Bottom Line Performance Indicators
- Niche Markets: Ecotourism, Marine tourism and Grey Nomads