Hybrid Environmental Design Audit Tool (HEDAT)

Professional Training Course

Brisbane, Qld

Tuesday 14 May 2024

Course Outline

This professional development initiative offers training in the use of the cutting-edge Hybrid Environmental Design Audit Tool (HEDAT) developed by Chris Boulton and Tony Matthews based on research outcomes with their allied academic institutions and colleagues nationally. Correctly used, the HEDAT provides deep and rigorous auditing of outdoor areas to support improved urban cooling, access, and safety. Audit results are invaluable for prioritisation and targeting of place design and management interventions, as well as monitoring of implementation and outcomes.

The HEDAT fundamentally combines the principles of urban cooling, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), and Universal Design. Delivered via a half-day program, the training demonstrates how to use the HEDAT to quantify baseline conditions in an area, and how this information can be translated into many possibilities for place design and management interventions for outdoor spaces.

The purpose of the HEDAT course is to demonstrate the critical role of auditing external settings to inform safer, more comfortable, and climate resilient environmental design. The course provides the opportunity to develop and enhance the skills, knowledge, and capability of many different built environment professionals. Landscape architects, urban designers, place/facility managers, and architects with some experience in site assessment and/or evaluation of outdoor spaces will find professional benefit from knowing how and when to use the HEDAT.

The course is being delivered by The CityGreen Lab Pty Ltd and features information and demonstration sessions, field work, collaborative discussion, and group activities. It covers fundamental issues including place management, crime prevention, whole-of-life asset management, and climate adaptation. Moreover, it will include content drawn from evidence-based theory and practice; our HEDAT was developed and tested in collaboration with Aged Care Facilities across sub-tropical and tropical areas of Australia, varying in climate, scale, and urban density.

Course participants will have the opportunity to undertake a field activity with reporting to test their understanding and awareness of the content delivered.

Course Presenters

Dr Chris Boulton (RLA, AILA Fellow) is a multi-award-winning consulting greenspace researcher, recognised as one of Australia's leading urban greenspace practitioners: a practicing academic, the founding Principal and Managing Director of The CityGreen Lab Pty Ltd, and Adjunct Research Fellow with Griffith University's Cities Research Institute. Chris' current research provides empirical insights on the potential of green infrastructure to mitigate heat stress and improve access, inclusion, and safety in Australian aged care facilities. Chris has 30 years professional experience in urban greenspace provision – from management, planning, design, delivery, to operations.

As a Parks Manager for almost 10 years and with qualifications in landscape architecture, environmental planning, and criminology, Chris has an acute appreciation of the values, challenges, and opportunities for supporting healthy cities generally, and especially for vulnerable communities. In 2019, Chris established The CityGreen Lab to examine and inspire effective urban greenspace provision, founded on practice, research, and education, through collaboration.

Dr Tony Matthews (MRTPI, SFHEA) is an urban planner and an international advocate for good cities. His work addresses current and emerging urban challenges through research, engagement, and practice with the intention of translating knowledge insights into practical actions. His research has been translated into French, Italian and Spanish. Dr Matthews is recipient of three Awards for Excellence from the Planning Institute of Australia. Dr Matthews works with a roster of high-profile research, corporate and government clients. His expertise includes adapting cities to climate change, green infrastructure projects, policymaking for sustainable and low carbon design, the interplay between built environments and human health, heritage management, public art programs, and improving urban design for seniors.

Dr Matthews is a highly in-demand as course facilitator, public speaker, and media commentator. Through his advocacy, engagement and communication, Dr Matthews has informed policy decisions and shaped real-world outcomes in cities. His award-winning research on urban greenery, for example, has informed urban planning policy and design in Australia and beyond.

Course Program

Time	Activity	Description
10:50am	Arrival & registration	
11.00-12.20pm	**Introduction to HEDAT** (Classroom lecture)	Background on the development of the HEDAT, its applications and testing across sub-tropical and tropical areas of Australia, varying in climate, scale, and urban density; instructions will be provided for using the HEDAT in outdoor settings.
12.20-12.50pm	Lunch Break	
12.50-2.20pm	**Site Audit** (Field Work)	Participants allocated to groups to undertake field work to apply the HEDAT at an allocated site either adjacent to or nearby the training venue.
2.20-2.30pm	Short break	
2.30-3.45pm	**HEDAT Findings** (Classroom presentations & discussion)	Groups will return to the classroom to present and discuss findings; identify mitigation measures that could support safer, more comfortable, and climate resilient environmental design; demonstrations of equipment that can be used to further widen the application of the HEDAT.
3.45-3.55pm	Wrap-up & depart	

In the case of wet/severe weather event, the field work component will be delivered as a desk-based activity using digital images to audit the same sites that would otherwise be visited in-person.

Learning Outcomes for Participants in the HEDAT Course

1. Awareness and understanding of the factors that contribute to urban heat in outdoor spaces, and localised mitigation measures to support urban cooling.
2. Appreciate the scope and variability of environmental design spatially and temporally, including the attributes that support urban cooling, safety, and access.
3. Apply knowledge and practice through site assessments of outdoor areas to guide design proposals that are culturally, socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable.
4. Evaluate outdoor place design (proposals and/or existing settings) using defined criteria.
5. Leverage evaluations to generate suggestions for improvements places through environmental design and management interventions.

Costs and Inclusions

The HEDAT Professional Training Course is held in-person as a half-day event in Brisbane (inner suburb). The cost per participant is $595 + GST. Registration will be confirmed on receipt of full payment. Class size is limited to 20 participants; a waitlist may be established if demand exceeds our limit.

To register:

1. Visit The CityGreen Lab website – go to the training webpage: https://thecitygreenlab.com/training
2. Use the **Contact Form** to confirm your interest & billing information.
3. We will then reserve your place and email you an Invoice
4. Complete your payment to finalise your registration.
5. We will then confirm the details of the training location and directions.

Inclusions (included in the course cost):

- Each participant receives their own digital template of the HEDAT, which can be used in commercial practice for auditing outdoor areas.
- Digital copies of course content and audio-visual materials
- Demonstrations of equipment that can be used to further widen the application of the HEDAT (thermal camera; anemometer; wet-bulb globe thermometer).

Exclusions (to be provided by participants at their own cost):

- Travel arrangements to/from the course venue; parking expenses
- Meals/catering during the course
- PPE for fieldwork (e.g. hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, protective clothing)

Cancellations and refunds

Notice of cancellation received five (5) business prior to course commencement, will be partially fully refunded (50%); no refunds will be provided if notice of cancellation is received within five (5) business of the course commencement. Transfer of registration may be considered if requested in writing.