Investigating Water Sensitive Urban Design opportunities using UrbanBEATS – a case study on Georges River catchment

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Project end date: Dec. 2019

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) has been implemented around the world not only for stormwater pollution management, but also microclimate and urban landscape improvement. However, with rapid urbanisation there are still some planning challenges with regards to WSUD, and there is lack of evidence on potential benefits. UrbanBEATS (http://urbanbeatsmodel.com/) is an integrated modelling tool that can assist the planning of WSUD within urban catchments and is gaining popularity among councils and industries in Australia. In this study, we will firstly collect local spatial data (elevation, population, land-uses etc.) to generate input files, and the urban form will be calibrated. Then we will explore WSUD opportunities for Georges River catchment under various urban planning scenarios, and assess various benefits.