

Glossary of TOPICS: Australian Water School Webinars

1	Capacity Development	The process by which individuals and organisations obtain, improve, and retain the skills, knowledge, tools, equipment and other resources needed to do their jobs competently or to a greater capacity. Capacity building and capacity development are often used interchangeably.
2	Climate Adaptation & Environmental Management	The impact of changing water use on the environment. Includes environmental flows, changes in future climate in management decisions and managing water to maximise benefits to ecosystems
3	Community Engagement	Ensuring communities are included in and empowered by water management decisions.
4	Economic Efficiency & Water Markets	Analysing water use from an economic perspective. Includes water markets (the use of market mechanisms to share water resources) and watershed management. Requires measurement and water scarcity.
5	Energy	The relationship between water use and energy consumption
6	GESI – Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	Making water management decisions informed by needs of genders. Gender is socially constructed, not biologically determined.
7	Groundwater	Water beneath the ground surface. Includes interactions with surface water.
8	International development	Enhancing the social and economic development in a developing country (defined as a country with a less developed industrial base and a low Human Development Index (HDI) relative to other countries).
9	Irrigation & Agriculture	Changing water flows to grow agriculture products (food or fibre). Includes drainage.
10	Mining	The interaction between mining and the water cycle, and how this can be managed
11	Risk Management	Including quantitative or qualitative factors of risk in management decisions.
12	Sustainable Development Goals	Goals adopted by the UN aimed at improving livelihoods and the environment around the globe.
13	Technology & Innovation	The use of technology and innovation in improving water management. Includes software, modelling, GIS, moisture sensors, SCADA.
14	Water Infrastructure	Physical (eg dams, canals) and social (eg professionals, institutions) resources established for the improved management of water.
15	Water Management, Policy & Governance	The effective development of policy, legislation, regulations and rules for fair and equitable water management to address competing interests. Anticipating future human and environmental water needs and taking deliberate actions to prepare for them. Includes IWRM (Integrated Water Resources Management)
16	Water Modelling & GIS	The use of mathematical methods and quantitative data to make predictions about water management. Includes GIS data (from satellites).
17	Water Quality & Public Health	The impact of water characteristics upon public health. Includes toxins and other water characteristics.
18	Water Treatment & Reuse	Altering the chemical characteristics of water to change its use. Includes Drinking water (potable water). Capturing water to be used that previously may not have been used by humans.
19	Water Research	Scientific, social and cultural studies into water management. Includes indigenous and spiritual values for water.
20	International Engagement	