Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership
We have delivered education and training to individuals, communities and organisations from more than 86 countries.

**86 countries**

We have welcomed more than one thousand water professionals through our education and training programs.

**1,000+ alumni**

We are now supported by a network of more than 170 partners, affiliates and associates from across the world.

**170+ partner organisations**

The Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership is the world’s first professional, postgraduate qualification in leadership for the water sector.

**#1**

SDG6

We develop water leaders who work toward achieving available and sustainable water and sanitation for all.

**SDG6**
We know there is a high and growing need for leadership knowledge, capabilities and skills in the water sector. We also know that projects and programs in the water sector, which increasingly need to deliver more integrated and sustainable outcomes, often critically hinge on good leadership. And, finally, we know that water leaders need to be able to operate in VUCA contexts, which are characterised by high levels of volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity. Water leaders are often tasked with managing complex problems that cross organisational boundaries, over long timeframes, with multiple stakeholder. These challenges require particular forms of leadership.

The Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership is the world’s first professional, postgraduate qualification in leadership for the water sector. The degree builds on and uses the development process of the award-winning Water Leadership Program, to deliver an additional level of academic rigour and learning. It is a part-time, one-year program delivered in partnership between the International WaterCentre (IWC) and Griffith University.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Graduate Certificate of Water Leadership features a balance of academic and real-world approaches to learning, including group mentoring activities with experienced water industry executives, one-on-one coaching sessions with specialist leadership coaches who work in the water sector, and content and case studies contextualised to the water sector.

During the program, you will also develop a personalised leadership plan and conduct a work-based leadership project, to ensure you focus your developmental activities, practise the application of new knowledge and tools in the workplace, get feedback and local support, and reflect on your learning, to accelerate your development.
DELIVERY FORMAT

This program is offered part-time over two consecutive trimesters and includes two face-to-face intensives. The program is flexible, to cater to professionals who are currently working. As a participant in the program, you will:

- complete pre-training exercises, reading and an online 360-degree feedback process
- attend a face-to-face intensive in Brisbane for five days in February, with a second intensive for two days in July
- build an individual leadership development plan, which includes a challenging water leadership project
- engage in several one-on-one coaching and mentoring sessions
- complete monthly activities between face-to-face intensives (e.g. online training and discussion forums) and assessment activities.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

You will benefit from the Graduate Certificate of Water Leadership by:

- improving your ability to drive change, especially when addressing 'wicked problems' that involve integrated water management
- enhancing your capacity to exercise influence in a variety of contexts
- learning new tools to help you continue to develop as a leader over your career
- developing greater self-awareness and improved ability to mentor and coach other developing leaders and staff
- gaining knowledge and guidance from researchers and highly-respected executives from the water sector
- improving your capacity to demonstrate many of the leadership behaviours needed for future executive roles
- building new social networks with emerging and executive water industry leaders.

DESIGNED FOR WATER PROFESSIONALS

The Graduate Certificate of Water Leadership is designed for emerging water leaders at the project-to-middle management level, with at least three years of experience in the water sector. The program is customised for the water sector through sound research and collaboration with experienced industry practitioners.

During the program, you will have opportunities to identify key leadership issues relevant to your individual context. This means that you will find the program highly beneficial and relevant regardless of which leadership roles you play, or where in the water sector you work.
TWO ENROLMENT OPTIONS

There are two ways to strengthen your water leadership capacity at the International WaterCentre:

- the Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership, which is a formal postgraduate program enrolled through Griffith University
- the Water Leadership Program, which is a professional development program, enrolled through the International WaterCentre.

Both programs are similar in content and delivery, except that students in the Graduate Certificate in Water Leadership also undertake a postgraduate-level leadership project, with a higher level of analysis and reporting, complete a higher level of assessment, and work to earn a university qualification. Water Leadership Program participants work to earn a Certificate of Excellence, but not a university degree.

If you are a graduate of the IWC’s Water Leadership Program, and finished with a Certificate of Excellence, you are eligible for advanced standing into the GCWL.

Advanced standing means that you will only be required to complete and formally write-up a challenging work-based leadership project to gain the Graduate Certificate. This involves completing both parts of the Leadership Development Project course (course number 7970) of the Graduate Certificate program.

Contact the IWC education team at education@watercentre.org to find out more and to discuss your options.
WHAT IS EFFECTIVE WATER LEADERSHIP?

We use a contemporary definition of leadership, drawing from Ernst and Chrobot-Mason (2011) and Drath et al. (2008), which defines leadership as a process of influence that accomplishes three outcomes:

- **direction:** a shared understanding of common goals and strategy (e.g. a shared vision for a new water management project or team)
- **alignment:** the joint coordination of resources and activities (e.g. aligning people, projects, funding and research within a team to deliver a shared vision)
- **commitment:** a personal commitment to collective success (e.g. motivating and inspiring others to achieve mutual interests).

This is sometimes referred to as the DAC Framework.

We also need to consider the context that the leader operates in, as well as the interplay of organisational, social, economic, regulatory and environmental factors on the leader’s ability to effectively employ their leadership attributes. Water leadership can defined as the ability to influence and manage change in the complex, cross-boundary and multi-stakeholder context of the water sector.

Broadly, we define a leader as someone who engages in leadership.

What’s the next step?

For detailed program information, including the program syllabus, time commitment required, and facilitator profiles, visit our website: [www.watercentre.org/study](http://www.watercentre.org/study)

Or, if you have any questions, contact the IWC training team.

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E: training@watercentre.org
INTERNATIONAL WATERCENTRE

The International WaterCentre was founded in 2005 with the vision of harnessing the diverse expertise of the world’s leading water professionals, to educate and empower individuals, communities and organisations, to build capacity to respond to water challenges in innovative ways.

Since its inception, it has grown to become a key player in the global water sector and an important feature of the Australian ‘water landscape’. The IWC plays a central role in stimulating and brokering relationships between Australian and international academics, researchers and practitioners, to collectively strengthen integrated water management approaches to tackling complex water challenges.

To date, more than one thousand water professionals from eighty-six countries have benefited from the IWC’s education and training programs. This community of water leaders now actively help their local populations and broader societies tackle complex water problems, for the environment, for communities and for the economy.

A global network of more than 170 partners and associates supports the IWC, providing a scope of expertise and experience rarely found in a single, water-dedicated organisation.

GRiffith UNIVERSITY

International WaterCentre programs are enrolled through Griffith University and taught from the Nathan campus.

Griffith University was created to be a different kind of university—challenging conventions, creating bold new trends and pioneering solutions through innovative teaching and research. Its high-quality degrees are specifically designed to prepare students for the future and are developed in consultation with industry, based on cutting-edge research, and taught by Australia’s most awarded teachers.

Since its beginning, Griffith has been deeply connected to the Asian region, environmentally aware, open to the community and industry focused. Always ahead of its time, Griffith studies and environmental science. Ranking in the top 2% of universities worldwide, Griffith hosts 50,000 students across six campuses in South East Queensland including its Digital campus. At Griffith, students benefit from an extensive network of industry partners to gain the skills and confidence that employers want.

The Nathan campus is situated in tranquil, native koala habitat on the edge of Toohey Forest, just 20 minutes from the Brisbane CBD. Griffith’s foundation campus, Nathan offers degrees in aviation, business, government, engineering, information technology, environment, humanities, languages, law, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and science. On-campus student accommodation is available.