

Water Governance. Lessons from Australia

By Dr Paul Martin

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Wednesday, 20 June 2018

10 am – 12 pm

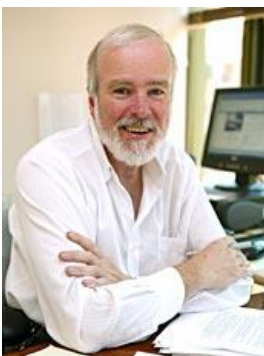
Seminari 1

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ABSTRACT

Faced with severe dryness and over-exploitation of surface and groundwater, Australia has embraced the use of environmental market instruments, including fully private agricultural water rights. Spain, facing similar problems, has taken some steps in this direction, with a partial market for agricultural water. Australia has significantly reduced the waste of water, but not without a high cost, and significant questions and criticisms. Professor Martin will outline Australia's approach and the lessons he has learned from the Australian experience, that might inform Spanish water researchers and policy makers.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Professor Paul Martin heads the Australian Centre for Agriculture and Law (www.une.edu.au/aglaw), and is on the Governing Board of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law. His research focus is institutional aspects of legal governance of the environment and rural communities. He has carried out research projects on water in Australia, with some collaborative investigations of other countries. He has also carried out projects on issues including environmental governance, the effectiveness of environmental law, and indigenous justice issues. He is currently writing a book on innovation and environmental governance.