



## MEDIA RELEASE

July 2008

### Global experts to stream into Brisbane for major river management forum

For the first time, Australia's largest annual river management forum, the International *Riversymposium* will provide discussion and feedback from key sessions to the 5<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Turkey next year.

The 11<sup>th</sup> International *Riversymposium: A Future of Extremes*, will take place in Brisbane from Monday 1 to Thursday 4 September 2008.

More than 600 delegates from 40 countries will come together for the four-day forum to explore the challenges associated with the increased incidence of flooding and drought expected with climate change in future years.

Feature sessions and plenary presentations throughout *Riversymposium* will be delivered by the world's foremost scientists and academics.

A group of inspiring leaders from countries including Switzerland, Germany and Australia will lead discussions on hot topics including:

- Climate change and rivers – building climate resilience into rivers;
- Drought management and planning – water management with drying dams;
- Floodplain rivers – flood mitigation and maintaining ecological values;
- Preparing our urban waterways; and
- Maintaining food production.

The 11<sup>th</sup> International *Riversymposium* will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Thies River *prize*, presented by *Riverfestival* and the International Riverfoundation. The winners of the 2008 National and International Thies River *prize*, the most prominent awards in their field, will be announced at a gala evening on Monday 1 September. The 2008 *Riversymposium* Young Water Scientist Award will also be presented at *Riversymposium* by partner GHD.

**What:** 11<sup>th</sup> International *Riversymposium: A Future of Extremes*  
**Date:** 1 – 4 September, 2008  
**Venue:** Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre  
Brisbane, Australia  
**Website:** [www.riversymposium.com](http://www.riversymposium.com)  
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Riverfestival is an initiative of Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government