

The art of conversation; a low-tech approach to knowledge sharing

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The way in which we support learning, innovation and knowledge sharing is proving fundamental to more sustainable and integrated management of our catchments.

The Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC) recently examined the ways in which the catchment community is generating, managing and using knowledge. It concluded that 'knowledge broking' was fundamental to a new way of thinking about the movement of knowledge across Victoria's Catchment Management Framework.

The VCMC obtained NAP funding for a 'Catchment Knowledge Exchange' project, which commenced in October 2005. This includes a trial of the knowledge broking model. The trial has already served to underline the importance of conversation between broker and client. Models and tools play an important, but secondary, role.

The experience of the trial is informing the development of a business case for a knowledge broking 'service'. The service will likely involve a team of brokers across a range of NRM areas.