

# JOLIE BAASCH

## Jolie Baasch, Interim General Manager, eWater Solutions, which is part of eWater Group.

In her role as interim General Manager, Jolie is responsible for the day-to-day operations of eWater Solutions and its people, ensuring the continued delivery of our world-class science and technology and supporting our transformation journey.

Jolie brings over 20 years of experience in strategy, data and analytics, helping to lead and transform organisations across software, financial services, insurance, property, leisure, and government sectors such as Westpac, Australian Securities and Investment Commission, CoreLogic, NSW Land Registry Services, Ernst & Young to name a few.

Jolie holds a Master of Social Research Methods and Bachelor of Commerce (Business Statistics / Actuarial Studies) from the Australian National University and an MBA

Executive from the Australian Graduate School of Management at the UNSW Business School. She is currently undertaking a PhD in Public Policy from the ANU.

In addition, Jolie is an active mentor in the Australian Computer Society's female mentorship programme and is recognised as a Top 25 Analytics Leader by the Institute of Analytical Professionals Australia.

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# HAMISH BUTLER

Hamish has close to 20 years' experience working in the Queensland public service largely in natural resource and environmental management roles.

He is currently in the role of Executive Director, South Region for the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water responsible for the sustainable management of Queensland's water resources.

Hamish's career has been largely focused on regional service

delivery, working to improve services and outcomes for Queensland communities. Hamish brings to the board strong experience in science and evidence-based water planning, compliance, and program implementation, as well as being an experienced leader with a passion for building technical and leadership capacity in the Queensland public service.

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## DR MELINA VIDONI

As a Software Development Lead at eWater Group, Dr Melina Vidoni manages the web and desktop software teams, ensuring the quality and reliability of our science-enabled software products. Dr Vidoni has over 13+ years of experience in software engineering, having consulted across a wide range of companies to direct their agile transformation and product roadmap.

Additionally, Dr Vidoni graduated summa cum laude from PhD in Software Engineering. Dr Vidoni is a Lecturer (on leave) at the Australian National University in the CECS School of Computing, with over a decade of experience as an academic.

Her main areas of research technical debt management in science-enabled software and software quality, collaborating with international partners in Canada and Germany.

Dr Vidoni is also an Editorial Board Member of Information and Software Technology, and four times recognised as an ACM Distinguished Reviewer.

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**JONATHAN  
MCKEOWN**

# Jonathan McKeown, Chief Executive Officer, Mekong Water Solutions

Jonathan has led our branch office in Cambodia since 2022. Mr. McKeown has held many distinguished roles over his 30-year career, including Chief Executive of the Australian Water Association, CEO of the NSW Farmers Association, and eight years heading up a management consulting firm based in Bangkok with clients across Asia.

Jonathan was also the Executive General Manager of SAGRIC International Pty Ltd (now Coffey International), where he first gained experience in development projects.

He continues to advise WaterNSW on a Program Review Committee that is overseeing the digital upgrade of WaterNSW's services.

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# SARAH RANSOM

Sarah Ransom,  
General Manager,  
Australian Water  
Partnership, which is  
part of eWater Group.

Ms Ransom has held the role of General Manager since 2022.

Ms Ransom is a former Australian diplomat with a background in international development with DFAT, AusAID, the Asian Development Bank and in the UN system. Ms Ransom's technical background is in managing programs on governance, gender and community and civil society engagement, and she has advised government on

peacebuilding, human rights and development policy.

Ms Ransom holds a Masters in Public and International Law, Bachelors of Law (Hons) and Asian Studies (Chinese) and is an accredited Partnership Broker.

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# MITCHELL ISAACS

Mitchell Isaacs has  
worked in water  
related roles in the  
NSW Government

since 2009 and from  
November 2020 as the  
Chief Knowledge  
Officer, Water Group,  
in the NSW  
Department of  
Planning, Industry and  
Environment.

Prior to joining the NSW Government, Mitchell worked as a research scientist in Australia and Japan, and as a project management advisor to the Cambodian Government's Fisheries Administration.

Mitchell also serves as the NSW Commissioner on the NSW-

DR GRACE MITCHELL

With 25 years'  
experience in water  
resource management,  
spanning research,  
policy and planning,  
and senior executive

# leadership, Grace brings a wealth of knowledge to the eWater Limited Board.

Grace has led numerous high-profile, complex, multi-disciplinary initiatives that have required significant stakeholder engagement and negotiation within and between state and federal governments.

With a PhD in Environmental Engineering from Monash University, Dr Mitchell has a proven track record in delivering complex policy initiatives and program outcomes, which will benefit the eWater Limited Board and eWater's government owners, customers, stakeholders, and clients.

Dr Mitchell has been recognised with a number of awards, including an Australia Day Achievement Medallion from the Bureau of Meteorology, and Early Research Career

Excellence Award from the Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand to name a few.

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# KATHRYN SILVESTER

Kathryn has dedicated her career and time in identifying opportunities to achieve better outcomes for whatever

# organisations she works with and create change for the betterment of people and planet.

Kathryn brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the eWater Board including her work at the Sydney Water Corporation as Resilience and Climate Changer Adaptation Manager, where she is leading complex programs of work to support Sydney Water. As System and Asset Planner at Sydney Water, she also integrated the planning of water/wastewater services to sustainably improve liveability for the growing population of Sydney.

Kathryn is a passionate water professional and has been a member of the International Water Association and Australia Water Association strategic councils, providing advice to

their Boards of Directors.

Kathryn was recognised as the youngest International Water Association Fellows in 2020 and awarded the AWA's Australian Young Water Professional of the Year in 2016 for her impact on the water sector.

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# GREG CLAYDON

Greg has extensive experience within the water industry as well as natural resources management knowledge and expertise, both in Australia and internationally.

He has been recognised at state, national, and international levels for his work in water and associated natural resources reforms, in whole of river basins planning and management,

and in integrated urban water management.

Greg has been responsible for leading and managing the development of, and providing expert advice about, strategic water policy, water related legislation, whole of basin water resource allocation and management plans, regional and urban water supply strategies, drought and flood response strategies, water infrastructure plans, water information and knowledge strategies and water quality improvement plans, and made significant contributions to national, trans-boundary and international water policies and programs.

Greg has held many board memberships including the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, CRC for Water Sensitive Cities, International Water Centre, COAG Water Reform Committee.

Greg's extensive experience within the water industry led to him being awarded the Public Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours in 2009, on recognition of his outstanding public service in natural resources and water management.

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# DEB BROWN

Deb Brown is the  
Executive Director,  
Catchment Waterways  
Cities and Towns in the  
Water and Catchments  
Group of DELWP.

Deb is a trusted and respected water leader with over 20 years' experience within the public sector. She has broad expertise across water resource management from strategic policy, planning to 'on the ground' management.

Deb has specialised in urban water management and

conservation, environment and river health improvement, and more recently in improving Traditional Owner inclusion in water management.

In 2020, Deb was awarded the Victorian Water Professional of the Year

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MARCUS TESSEMA

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MICHAEL WILSON

# Michael Wilson, Group Chief Executive, eWater Limited

Michael commenced as Group Chief Executive of eWater Limited in January 2022, having previously served as Chief Executive of the Australian Water Partnership. Michael joined eWater following a 25-year career in international development, national security and sustainable development policy, including as head of the Australian aid program in mainland southeast Asia (2011–14) based in Hanoi, Vietnam. He then headed practices within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade working on political governance; water resource management, sanitation and hygiene; and the effective delivery of development assistance in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

Michael has also worked in the private sector, including as a partner at global development company Palladium International, in management consultancy and as a principal

consultant with a global human resources firm.

Michael has worked on development cooperation strategies and programming across Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East. As Coordinator on Gender Equality in the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), he designed and oversaw new initiatives and performance standards aimed at driving gender equity, women's economic empowerment and women in leadership objectives across the Australian aid program.

Earlier in his career, Michael headed the International Section of the former federal Department of the Environment and Heritage, was a Principal Policy Adviser at the Australian Federal Police, and worked as a policy adviser to federal Ministers in the environment, trade and arts portfolios.

Michael holds a BA (Hons) in Political Science from the Australian National University and an MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science.

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# SAMIRA AZADI

## Samira Azadi, Hydrologist

Samira is a water and environmental engineer with over 10 years of research and academic experience in hydrologic and eco-hydrologic modelling, water resources management and environmental impact assessment. Samira has demonstrated experience in implementing remote sensing data, and advanced spatial analytical techniques to assess the impacts of climatic and anthropogenic disturbances on the ecosystem functionality and land degradation patterns across the remote landscapes in Australia. She also has developed skills in the use of hydrologic modelling for evaluating the effects of climate change on the efficiency of water management plans across agricultural catchments.

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# DR USMAN KHALIL

Dr Khalil is a water resources engineer, interested in water resources management, flood adaptation, and water storage.

Dr Khalil has worked with Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA), Pakistan and National Engineering Services of Pakistan (NESPAK) on World Bank and Asian Development Bank-funded projects, including the Dasu Dam Project, Sindh Water Sector Improvement Project, and Water Sector Capacity Building of Indus Basin. Dr Khalil has a teaching experience in Water Resources courses at the University of Wollongong Australia.

Dr Khalil holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering and a Masters of Hydraulics and Irrigation Engineering from the University of Engineering and Technology Lahore, Pakistan. Dr Khalil recently submitted his PhD Thesis in Water Resource Engineering at the University of Wollongong, Australia.

Dr Khalil is highly motivated to use his skills and experience

to increase economic development through sustainable water resource management.

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# DR SUDEEP NAIR

Dr. Sudeep Nair is a water resources engineer with experience in urban water systems modelling.

Sudeep has been part of projects related to water-energy nexus modelling, sustainability assessment of urban water systems and life cycle assessment. He has advanced skills in simulation and optimisation modelling of integrated urban water systems, which encompass centralised and decentralised water supply systems. Sudeep is also skilled in data analysis and interpretation using various tools to enable decision making in the water sector. He has strong knowledge and interests in water and wastewater management and agricultural engineering.

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# DR JIN WANG

## Dr Jin Wang is a Senior Hydrologist in eWater.

His combined knowledge and work experience in areas of hydrology, computer science and GIS are unique. He has over 20 years of experience in hydrology, water resource planning and management, and environmental information management.

He is an expert in using hydrological and hydraulic models for flood forecasting, hydrological and hydraulic analysis, stormwater analysis, and water resource assessment. His expertise also includes analyzing large spatial and non-spatial data to provide water/environment-related advice to policy areas within the Australian government agency.

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Education BEng and Meng (Water), MSc(Eng. Hydro),  
PGDip(IT), PhD

2007 Doctor of Philosophy, Victoria University, Australia

1999 PG.Dip. in Computer Science, Victoria University,  
Australia

1995 M.Sc. in Eng. Hydrology (First Class Honours), National  
University of Ireland, Ireland

~1989 M.Eng. and B.Eng. in Water Resources and  
Hydrology, Hohai University, P.R. of China

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# DAXA BHUDIA

Daxa has eight years of Australian and overseas experience in the IT industry, leading and working with cross-functional teams across various domains, including Accounting, ERP

systems, Supply Chain Management, Healthcare, Fleet Management, Logistics, and Oil & Gas. Daxa is experienced in .Net Development for Web Applications, Cross-Platform Mobile Apps, Desktop Applications, Web Services/APIs and Reporting Tools.

Daxa completed a Bachelor of Technology in Information Technology from CHARUSAT University, India.

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# TOM ROBERTS

Tom Roberts is the Desktop Applications Team Leader and Senior Software Developer. He has worked at eWater for 8 years.

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PRAVEENI  
PREMATILLEKE

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FELICITY PAUL

Felicity has worked in office administration for more than 20 years, with 10 years corporate knowledge of eWater and its operations.

She worked previously as Executive Assistant to Gary Jones (Chief Executive), initially with the CRC Freshwater Ecology then eWater CRC.

In her present role as Executive Officer eWater, her goals are to develop a professional and approachable culture, with quality customer service. Her current focus is ensuring that

eWater maintains ISO 9001 accreditation.