Never has there been a more opportune time for a conference on mine closure than at present. Whereas two years ago the prospect of wholesale mine closures was unthinkable, it is now very much a reality. Around the world, mining professionals are grappling with how to close or to scale down operations with minimal impact on affected communities and on the surrounding environment.

This annual conference, which is now the fourth in the series, brings together a range of professionals at the cutting edge of dealing with mine closures; past, present and future. A unique aspect of the preceding mine closure conferences has been the diversity of disciplines and expertise that comes together to focus on the pressing issue of dealing with mine closures in a responsible and economical manner. This year was no different, with papers being presented on a diverse range of issues, from appropriate financing options through to final land use options that include harvesting of medicinal products.

This year’s conference also had a range of papers dealing with extremely important topics, with case histories from the arid plains of Namibia to the tropics of northern Australia. As with previous conferences, papers were presented in specialised sessions, with session topics covering closure planning, financing, water management, legacy issues, dealing with stakeholder concerns, appropriate cover systems, ecosystem reconstruction and management, the impact of climate change on mine closure and post-closure monitoring.

Readers should find a wealth of useful information contained in the papers in these proceedings, which provide a comprehensive summary of the current state-of-the-art in mine closure internationally.

Content
- Planning for closure
- Mine site rehabilitation in a changing climate
- Financing closure
- Post-closure monitoring and final relinquishment
- Reducing long-term water management costs
- Ecosystem reconstruction and pedogenesis
- Dealing with stakeholder concerns
- Appropriate cover systems — designing for perpetuity
- Legacy issues from abandonment to asset

Contact the ACG for a comprehensive list of our Mine Closure publications

Purchase this publication, or individual papers, from our online shop: www.acg.uwa.edu.au/shop