

# ACLCA SA *ONLINE* PRESENTATION

## TOPIC: CONTAMINANTS BIOAVAILABILITY & SUSTAINABLE SOIL – SCIENCE VS REALITY

Presented by: Dr Fouad Abo – Senior Technical Director - Environment (GHD)

**Time:** 12:30 pm – until 13:30 pm (approx.) Australian Central Time (Adelaide)  
**Date:** Wednesday 23 November 2022  
**Via:** Zoom (details below)

### Synopsis:

Pollutant risks in soils continue to be assessed, largely based on total concentrations. However, the value that total contaminant concentrations offer in the context of sustainability and stewardship of land is increasingly being scrutinised. Using receptors provides better indicators for soil health as plants uptake mostly the bioavailable portion of pollutants. However, pollutant concentrations in plants are rarely considered in assessing toxicity of contaminants. Good Science is calling for such use in our industry across the world.

Unfortunately, it is not a common practice to collect plant samples when conducting site contamination assessments. So, are we missing a better use of science to assess soil sustainability?

Fouad will talk about the evolution of a trend to consider the origin and age of pollutants in risk assessments around the world over the years. In addition, Fouad will discuss why the common use of total contaminant concentrations in regulatory guidance is a “brain blocker” and present a science-based alternative.

### Presenter's Bio:

Dr Abo's experience spans over 35 years both in Australia and across the globe and includes contamination assessment, management, and remediation; fate and behaviour of contaminants; statutory environmental audits (25 years in Vic and one of the first appointed in SA); strategic advice; environmental due diligence; management of water resources, treatment, and risk related activities.

He has developed a well and widely recognised level of experience in independent reviews of assessment, remediation, and management of environmental impacts on water, soil, air, and human health exposure. His experience covers numerous sectors including Water Authorities, Energy and Resources, Defence, Manufacturing, Waste Management, Green Field, Agriculture, Refineries, and Ports.

## REGISTRATION

Registration for all ACLCA SA events is essential at:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZloce6gqTMsHNKtwWMdWZuSBKdCOUIP3zdJ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

**This workshop is free and open to employees of ACLCA member companies nationally and invited EPA SA guests only.**

*Are you a member of a professional association? This course is likely to be valid for CPD points (or similar).*