



PERSONAL

E ellen.wong@artd.com.au
T 02 9373 9990



EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science (Advanced) majoring in Ecology/Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, Honours (University medal, University of Sydney, 2021)
Indigenous Cultural Competence Training (Charles Sturt University, 2021)
Member, Australian Evaluation Society



Ellen has a background in human geography and environmental studies and brings this lens to her work in evaluation and public policy. She joined ARTD following experience in academia and the university sector and is passionate about using her proven research skills to enable communities, ecosystems, and people to thrive.

Curious and friendly, Ellen enjoys working closely with communities and clients to solve problems and achieve more socially just outcomes.



As an evaluator, my goal is to use my power to help amplify the voices of individuals and communities so they can be empowered to determine the best outcomes for themselves.

ELLEN WONG CONSULTANT



ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RECOVERY

Drawing on her unique human geography-based perspective, Ellen thinks critically about interactions between people and the environment and considers the best way to communicate complex scientific content to wider audiences.

- » **Cultural Watering Plan Project** (DPE Water, 2023): Drawing upon principles of culturally sensitive co-design, Ellen co-facilitated several on Country workshops with Traditional Owners from the Banbai Aboriginal community in Guyra and the Arakwal Aboriginal community in Byron Bay. Ellen also led a series of interviews with ecologists, hydrologists and water planners which involved advocating for community's aspirations for water, while also recognising opportunities for collaboration and two-way capacity-building. Following community engagement, Ellen contributed to the development of Cultural Watering Plans which communicate cultural and environmental aspirations for water to a range of government stakeholders.
- » **Overarching Bushfires Evaluation** (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2023-ongoing): Informed by a triple rubric approach, Ellen conducted a targeted desktop review of program documentation and conducted in-person fieldwork to produce case studies for two bushfire affected communities in NSW.
- » **Evaluation of the Environmental Research Grants Program** (NSW Environmental Trust, 2023): Ellen conducted interviews with grantees, applicants and program staff and led a comparative desktop review of similar ecological and environmental-focussed grants programs.
- » **Accreditation Framework Review – SME Australasian Recycling Label Program** (Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation, 2023): Ellen completed a targeted desktop review of comparative recycling label programs and supported a regulatory analysis, synthesising findings into a concise report.

COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Ellen has supported several evaluations which aim to empower communities and individuals who face barriers in accessing supports and services, including people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, LGBTQIA+ and culturally and linguistically diverse communities, and people who are living with suicidal thoughts and behaviours and mental health issues.

- » **COVID-19 Community Connection and Wellbeing Program Evaluation** (NSW Reconstruction Authority, 2023-ongoing): Guided by a most significant change approach, Ellen conducted a targeted literature review and supported a series of workshops with community representatives, then thematically analysed the data to provide a concise review of stories of change.
- » **Evaluation of the Towards Zero Suicides Initiative** (NSW Ministry of Health, 2023): Exercising a trauma-informed approach, Ellen worked with peer researchers to conduct a qualitative analysis of interview data using NVivo software and synthesised findings to provide timely feedback on six initiatives delivered by the Ministry.
- » **Sustaining Tenancies in Social Housing Initiative** (Department of Communities and Justice, 2023): Ellen analysed and synthesised interview data using NVivo software, and supported report writing.