



Viv McWaters

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Viv lives in Australia, and has worked in over 40 countries.

Contact her directly for workshops, training and speaking engagements.

I once wanted to be an astronomical photographer but settled for agricultural journalist, which caused quite a hoo-ha as women weren't supposed to go to agricultural college back then. Rules weren't going to stop me (I had the rules changed). Now there's a clue about how I still approach life!

What matters to me is going beyond how we usually do things – going out on my edge; encouraging others to their edge; making discoveries and breakthroughs. I enjoy connecting people and ideas, looking for patterns, and finding new ways to relate to each other. I am excited and enthusiastic about what I do.

I've worked as a journalist, and in communications, and community education, training and strategy development. Now I specialise in group facilitation and participatory evaluation and draw on my background in the natural sciences and arts. I help groups discover new approaches to the work that matters for them. I design workshops, conferences and training to bring them to life. I am excited and enthusiastic about what I do.

I studied agricultural science at Longerenong Agricultural College, and have a Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies from RMIT University, and a Masters in Applied Science (Agriculture and Rural Development) from the University of Western Sydney.

Improvisation is a constant source of inspiration, as is nature, play, and the surprising things that people say and do. I'm researching the role of applied improvisation in preparing people to respond in uncertainty, particularly disaster response.

I live by the beach in southern Australia. I have worked in over 35 different countries, mainly in Asia and Africa, which has helped fuel my passion for birdwatching and street art.

Facilitation: I can design and facilitate workshops.

Training: I can design and facilitate experiential training, for groups and one-on-one. There's some training that I've offered quite frequently over the last few years: Creative Facilitation, Insanely Great Slideshow Presentations, Design for Aliveness, Open Space Technology.

Speaking: I'm happy to talk in front of groups, even large groups and challenge their expectations of what a talk might be.

Ideas and Connections: Maybe my greatest skill – I can see ways of applying things in different contexts, I make connections between ideas quickly, and I'm willing to try what hasn't been tried before.

Flexibility: I'm usually available at short notice (other work commitments notwithstanding) and willing to travel just about anywhere.

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