



PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS: **DISCUSSIONS AND RESOURCES**



United
Nations
Association
of Australia

**UN & AUSTRALIA SUSTAINABLE
PARTNERSHIPS FORUM**
20 and 21 April 2021



ABOUT UNAA

The United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) works to increase awareness of the UN and its work and to engage Australians in key UN programs such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UNAA state divisions run events and programs to raise awareness of the SDGs, in partnership with government, business and civil society.

UNAA, which has UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Consultative Status - is seeking to progress achievement of the SDGs through collaborative partnerships that inspire interest, mobilise resources, encourage dialogues and guarantee positive impact.

www.unaa.org.au

ABOUT THE FORUM

The UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum was originally scheduled to take place face to face in April 2020 but was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In late 2020, UNAA decided to deliver the Forum virtually as an opportunity to bring in a wider range of national and international speakers and an international audience.

The Forum was ultimately delivered virtually on 20 and 21 April, with an audience of 350 from across Australia, Asia, South Pacific, Europe and the US. Participants took part in Plenary sessions around partnering and Breakout sessions under four UN themes: Climate and Planet, Gender Equality, Human Rights and Justice and Poverty and Inequality. Attendees listened to and interacted with some 54 Speakers and 22 Session Hosts.

Participants were also able to view a curated exhibition of art previously shown at the UN in Geneva and watch graphic harvester Fiona Miller work as she captured session discussions creatively.

Start-ups, government departments, community organisations and companies demonstrated their work to progress the SDGs in the Digital SDGs Showcase, and facilitated networking opportunities were provided on both days.

UNAA Victoria provided the Forum Secretariat, which was managed by Sophie Arnold, Executive Manager, with the assistance of Sally Northfield, Global Education Program Manager, and Katie Reyers, Global Education Program Officer. Forum Working Groups were made up of UNAAV Board members Michael Henry, Carlisle Richardson and Warwick Peel; former UNAA Executive Director Lachlan Hunter, UNAAV Young Professionals Partnerships Lead, Laiza Garcia, and Partnerships Coordinator, Fran Grossi. Volunteer support is acknowledged on P.49.

The Forum was delivered in partnership with JT Production Management
- <https://www.jtproductionmanagement.com/>

**If you have any queries relating to the Forum, please contact
Sophie Arnold at office@unaavictoria.org.au**

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17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Creating Partnerships



20-21 APRIL 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

www.partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au



INTRODUCTION

While we did not meet face to face as originally planned, the virtually delivered UN and Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum allowed us to ultimately present a two-day event on 20 and 21 April 2021 which provided participants from Australia, the Asia-Pacific region, Europe and the US with access to an inspiring, diverse and challenging line-up of speakers.

Participants were united by a driving desire to work in partnership to progress the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in the aftermath of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Recognition of the SDGs as the blueprint for positive worldwide recovery resonated across the Forum sessions.

During the Forum, we discussed partnering at the international, national and city level and the importance of ensuring that young people are truly included as partners in decision-making. Climate and Planet, Gender Equality, Poverty and Inequality and Justice and Human Rights provided the thematic frameworks for our breakout discussions.

Our Forum would not have been possible without the ongoing support of our Forum partners, who have remained with us for some 18 months. Thank you also to our Forum Speakers and Session Hosts whose expertise inspired delegates to think creatively about how to partner and who to partner with to progress the SDGs.

Thank you to all participants for joining us. We hope that the work we did together during the Forum will build a foundation for working together over the next decade to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

And finally thank you to the Forum Secretariat, Sophie Arnold, Sally Northfield and Katie Reyers, who committed to delivering an event at the MCG in April last year and then successfully moved – with the support of all the Forum partners – to delivery of an effective and interactive online event.

This report provides a recap of the UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum and its many highlights. We hope it inspires readers to remain engaged with us as we move forward with a shared purpose.

Mario D'Elia
President
UN Association of Australia (UNAA)



PARTNERS

FORUM PARTNERS



MONASH
University



SESSION PARTNERS



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning



Australian
Human Rights
Commission



GLOBAL HEALTH
ALLIANCE
AUSTRALIA

**PwC's Indigenous
Consulting**

FUTURE LEADERS PARTNERS



CONNECTING PARTNER

Wendy Brooks
& partners

SUPPORTING PARTNERS



**SHARED
VALUE
PROJECT**



International Association
of Business Communicators
Asia/Pacific Region

A MESSAGE FROM OUR THREE FORUM PARTNERS



MONASH UNIVERSITY

Monash University was a proud partner of the 2021 UN and Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum.

In 2016, Monash made a landmark commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and is the first Australian university to commit to an energy reduction target through an initiative to achieve net zero emissions by 2030.

In 2021, Monash reached 18th in the world on the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which measure university action against the SDGs. The University is also home to the Monash Sustainable Development Institute (MSDI), one of the leading interdisciplinary research and education institutes for sustainable development. SDG leadership is a core focus of MSDI.

Monash University hosts many cross-disciplinary programs that combine our sustainable development expertise with governments, businesses, and communities to deliver real-world impact. Working closely with industry, government and other research organisations, Monash develops and tests world-leading emission-reduction technologies and market mechanisms.

We invite you to explore Monash's comprehensive activities on sustainability, sustainable development and the SDGs through the Monash Sustainable Development webpage www.monash.edu/msdi. You can also connect with Monash on LinkedIn, Twitter or Instagram.





THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

The University of Melbourne has a strong and enduring commitment to sustainability, contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals through academic expertise, University operations and partnerships. Released in 2020, the Advancing Melbourne strategy (<https://about.unimelb.edu.au/strategy/advancing-melbourne>) defines the university's purpose to "benefit society through the transformative impact of education and research". The University's Sustainability Plan to 2020 enabled delivery of significant achievements, including the establishment of a sustainability fellowships program to integrate sustainability into core curriculum, and development of the 'Wattle Fellowship' co-curricular program for students to foster leadership on global sustainability.

Our academic mission is also reflected in the approach to operating our campuses, with a long-term commitment to energy reduction on campus and wind farm power purchase agreements now in place. These achievements deliver the target of zero net emissions electricity and progress towards our commitment of Carbon Neutrality before 2030. A new Sustainability Plan is now under development to elevate sustainability endeavour and outcomes across all University activities to 2025 and beyond.

The University is committed to developing real world solutions for a safer climate future. The Melbourne Climate Futures initiative launched in March 2021 builds on decades of University research in a diverse range of areas - from climate change impacts in the Pacific to environmental politics on the global stage, energy futures and bushfire resilience to better global health outcomes. The establishment of Melbourne Climate Futures enables the University to strive for further ambitious climate actions as a focus of activities under the next Sustainability Plan.

The Connected Cities Lab provides leadership for the urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals, bringing interdisciplinary teams of researchers and practitioners together with industry and government. The UNAA Forum showcased the SDGs Cities Challenge, which supports participating cities to localise urban SDG targets and indicators to inform city projects. Building on this engagement, CCL has worked in partnership with City of Melbourne to integrate the SDGs as part of a strategic prioritisation framework, and work towards a Melbourne Voluntary Local Review.

UoM signed the University commitment to the SDGs (<https://ap-unsdsn.org/regional-initiatives/universities-sdgs/university-commitment/>) in August 2016. The SDGs are incorporated across curriculum and research - this webpage - <https://sustainablecampus.unimelb.edu.au/sustainable-research> - showcases some of the UoM research integrating the SDGs.



PWC

The UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outline a set of goals to address global issues relating to climate, planet, poverty, inequality, justice and human rights. A concerted effort to realise the goals will not only address environmental and social challenges - it will also be a driver of future economic growth.

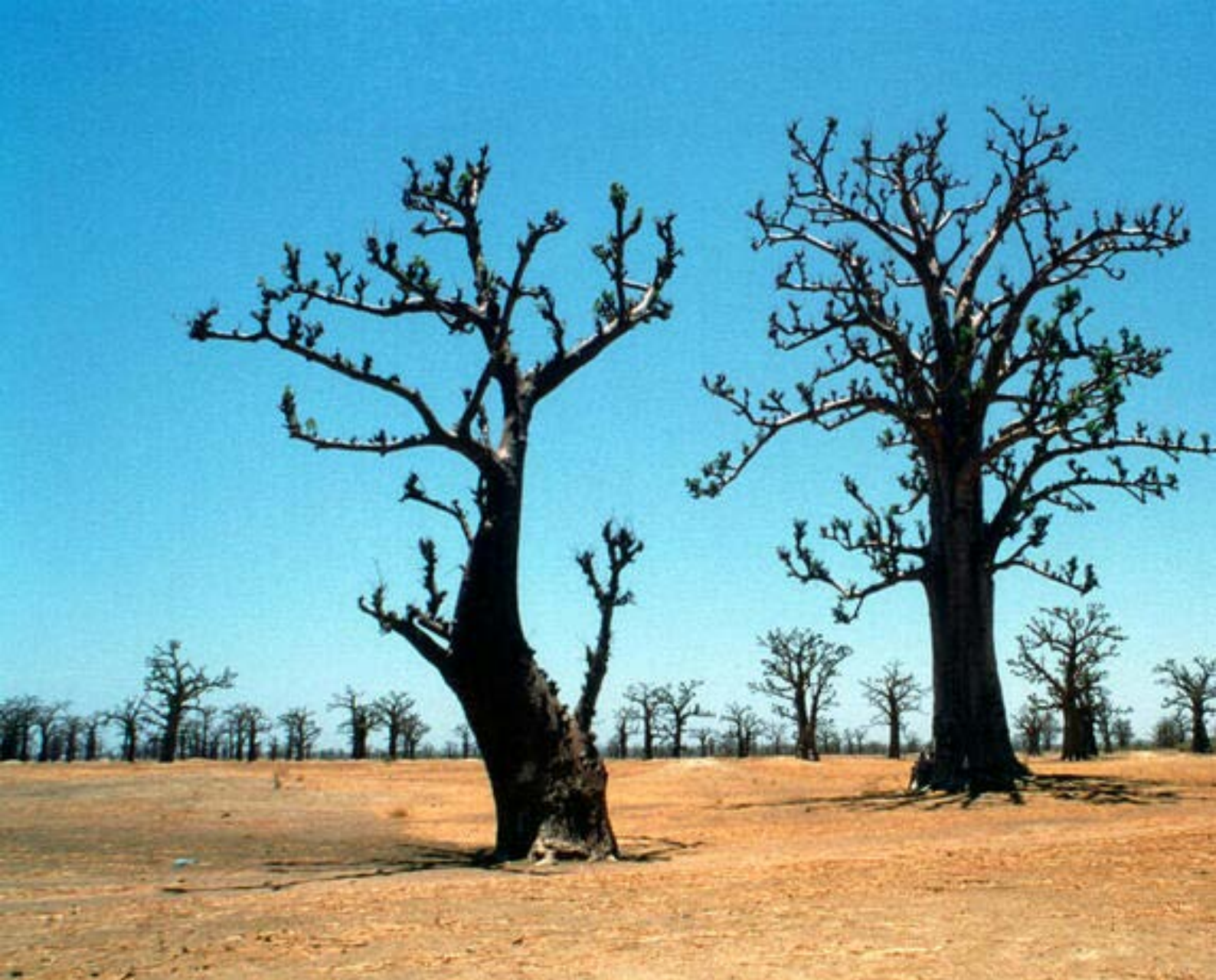
PwC supports the SDGs and is committed to working closely with government, businesses, academia, social enterprise and communities to drive meaningful change to advance the global goals. As a firm, we continue to support the SDGs through our operations, client engagements and involvement in public policy discussion.

For example:

- > In our operations: We have undertaken an internal SDG mapping exercise to understand our firm's impact on each of the goals and have prioritised the goals which are most material to our operations. We're embedding a focus on SDGs in our corporate strategy, and we're committed to reporting our contribution towards the goals on an ongoing basis, both as a firm and also through PwC's Foundation Trust.
- > Supporting our clients: We support our clients to map, measure, monitor and report their own contributions to the SDGs in a strategic and coherent way. PwC has developed market-leading tools to support clients along this journey.
- > Participating in public policy discussion: We contribute to public discussion on the SDGs through involvement in government submissions and development of thought leadership. In 2018, PwC was the only professional services firm to make a submission to the Australian Parliamentary Inquiry to the SDGs - see Submission 30. Many of PwC's recommendations to the Senate have been highlighted in the Inquiry report published by the Government as critical recommendations and next steps.

For more information, please contact Rosalie Wilkie, leader of Social Impact at PwC, via rosalie.wilkie@pwc.com





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Looking to the Future



20-21 APRIL 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

www.partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au



KEY FORUM RESOURCES

The Forum was planned around these key resources listed below.
A full Resources List is included in the Appendices.



THE SDG PARTNERSHIP GUIDEBOOK

This is the flagship publication of the SDG Partnership Accelerator, a collaboration involving The Partnering Initiative and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, UN Office of Partnerships, UN Global Compact, and UN Development Coordination Office.

<https://thepartneringinitiative.org/publications/toolbook-series/the-sdg-partnerships-guidebook/>



TRANSFORMING AUSTRALIA: SDG PROGRESS REPORT

Prepared in partnership with the National Sustainable Development Council and the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, this report - updated in 2020 - provides a comprehensive, independent and data-driven assessment of Australia's progress towards meeting the SDGs.

<https://www.sdgtransformingaustralia.com/>



NO ONE LEFT BEHIND: IMPLEMENTING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN AUSTRALIA

This Whitlam Institute report analyses SDGs best practice around the world and offers tools for the Australian Government to take charge of SDG implementation across Australia.

<https://www.whitlam.org/publications/2020/6/17/no-one-left-behind-implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals-in-australia>



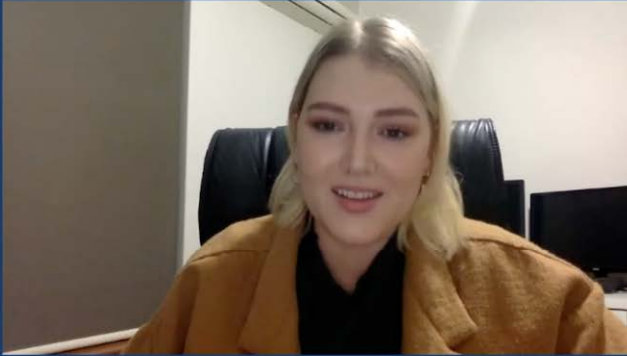
If you haven't already done so, please take this opportunity to watch [NATIONS UNITED: URGENT SOLUTIONS FOR URGENT TIMES.](#)

SDGs DIGITAL SHOWCASE

During the Forum, businesses, government agencies, universities, start-ups and non-profit organisations showcased their work to progress the SDGs.

Delegates were able to click on each Showcase and watch video presentations before chatting live to the Showcasers on Day 2.

A full list of the participating organisations is included in the Appendices.



SPECIAL FEATURES: CONVERSATIONS WITH UN LEADERS

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed in conversation with 2021 Australian Youth Representative to the UN Lucy Stronach.

This was a fantastic way to kick off the Forum, with Lucy and DSG Mohammed engaging in a wide ranging conversation around the SDGs, post-pandemic recovery and the importance of young people and gender equality to the world's future.

When asked by Lucy how organisations can provide opportunities for young people to shape decisions, DSG Mohammed said established leaders have to see that this is not about giving up their own authority.

“When I yield the chair to the youngest person around the table, I’m not yielding my job. I’m yielding my chair in the discussion to give a young person the experience of looking across the table and thinking oh crumbs these are my bosses, these are my colleagues, this is the person who is leading this particular area.”

When asked what more is needed to ensure gender equality around the world, DSG Mohammed said it is “not for want of knowing what we need to do, it is finding the way to do it and not to do it as a cookie cutter”.

“Half of humanity is female and has value to add and no-one is going to fly a plane on one wing. We are bringing value to the game and there should be no tokenism around that conversation,” she said.



SPECIAL FEATURES: CONVERSATIONS WITH UN LEADERS

AN EVENING WITH GILLIAN TRIGGS

In this special session from Geneva, Gillian Triggs, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR, talked with Bianca Hall, Senior Journalist, The Age, about the impact of the global pandemic on refugees, asylum seekers and displaced people, the need for a new global social contract to ensure the world recovers better from the pandemic and the urgent need for gender equality around the world.

The conversation led to an article in The Age on 19 April 2021, which can be read here: <https://www.smh.com.au/national/a-great-disappointment-triggs-issues-rallying-cry-over-treatment-of-women-20210416-p57jv9.html>



PLENARY WRAP-UP



FORUM OPENING

OPENING ADDRESS:



MS AMINA J. MOHAMMED
Deputy Secretary,
United Nations



LUCY STRONACH
2021 Australian
Youth Representative
to the UN

SPEAKERS:



SENATOR THE HON MARISE PAYNE
Minister for
Foreign Affairs



SARAH MEREDITH
Australian Country
Director, Global
Citizen



PROFESSOR MARGARET GARDNER AC
President and
Vice Chancellor,
Monash University

“Partnerships are critical. Today, it is beyond the capacities of any government to deliver on this agenda. It is huge, the challenges are very complex. And so, partnerships with civil society, with different groups in business, with academia, with science, there is a multiplicity of partnerships that are necessary now so that we get the depth and the breadth of the ambition of the SDGs”

- UN Deputy Secretary-General Ms Amina J. Mohammed, 20 April 2021

Speaking in conversation with 2021 Australian Youth Representative to the UN, Lucy Stronach, Deputy Secretary-General Mohammed restated the centrality of the SDGs as the world emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic.

“The SDGs with their universal scope, their interlinked nature and a focus on leaving no-one behind, which is the most important decision that we came to, have never been more essential. They can serve as a roadmap to guide COVID-19 responses to not only provide immediate assistance but as an opportunity to recover not only better but different.”

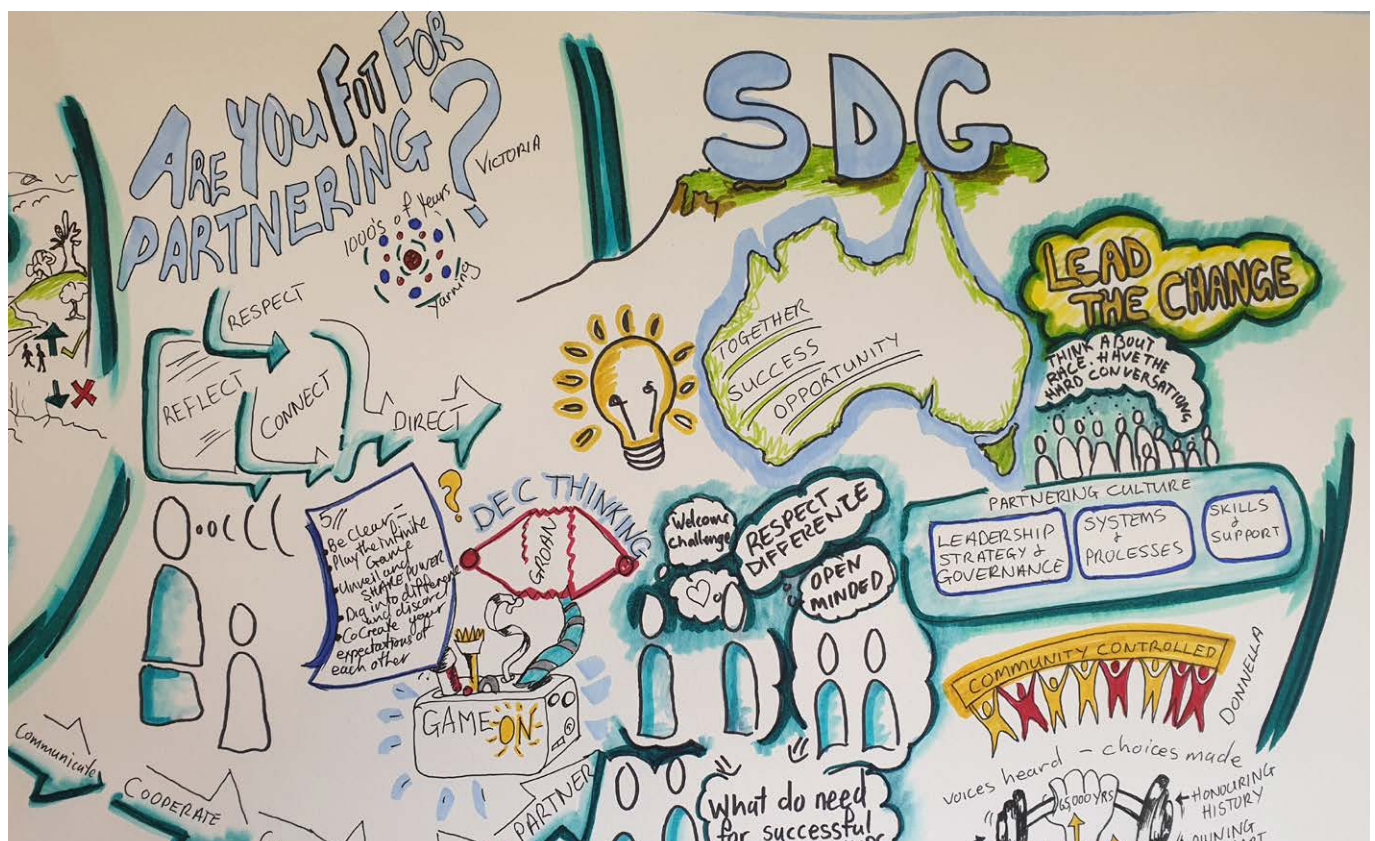
DSG Mohammed outlined her working breakdown of the SDGs: “The first six goals are the unfinished business of the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals), SDGs 7-15 are where the real investments need to be made to transform our economies and become more inclusive. Goal 16 is about the governance and the institutions that this has to sit on to deliver the scale and 17 is the partnerships - and partnerships are critical”.

Sarah Meredith took up the partnership theme when explaining its primacy to the work Global Citizen is doing globally to eliminate extreme poverty. “Everything we do around our mission is around our partnership model. We partner with artist ambassadors, we partner with corporates, we partner with governments and high net worth individuals all with the goal of ending extreme poverty.”

Sarah took delegates through Global Citizen’s five-point Recovery Plan for the World (<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/info/2021/>) and said it is the “time for us to take action. This is the moment that all of us need to stand up and say that we have the opportunity to see the global goals realised. We have the opportunity to protect the planet and we need our governments, corporates and the world’s wealthiest people to stand up”.

In outlining the commitments made by Monash University to integrate the SDGs into research, student education and campus operations, President and Vice-Chancellor Professor Margaret Gardner AC said today’s “major challenges are global rather than local and universities can play a significant role in addressing these challenges. We have the capacities, we have the people, we have the reach, and we have the aspiration to provide solutions which will have a positive impact on communities around the world”.

Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator Marise Payne told delegates that the Forum was an “invaluable opportunity to reflect on how positive and constructive connections between governments, multilateral institutions, humanitarian agencies and civil organisations are pivotal in ensuring we continue to work towards a more just, fair and secure world”.



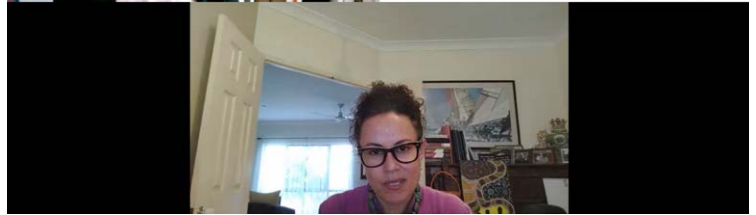
PLENARY 2

ARE YOU FIT FOR PARTNERING?

SPEAKERS:



**VICTORIA
THOM**
Founder &
Principal,
Reimagine Action



The Forum's focus on sustainable partnerships began with an interactive workshop led by Victoria Thom, a social impact strategist and partnership broker with more than 20 years' experience working with not-for-profits, multinational corporations, governments and international organisations. After breaking into small groups during the workshop, participants developed a *Manifesto for Partnering for the SDGs* (https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-UNAA_Manifesto-for-Partnering-for-SDGs.pdf) which was then used as a reference underpinning the remainder of the Forum's breakout and plenary sessions.

Victoria outlined her belief to delegates that partnering is about bringing the best of humanity for the good of humanity, with the SDGs providing a "huge space for more effective and transformative partnerships" that can move organisations from symbolic to substantive change.

"Partnering is an essential capability and approach for us to individually manage risk and add value to address the wicked problems of our time: climate change, poverty, gender inequality, systemic racism, global pandemics and more. And it even has its own SDG." However, the potential value will not be achieved unless organisations invest in strengthening their capacity to partner effectively.

Victoria shared with delegates the five steps which need to be taken to effectively partner – be clear about why you are seeking to partner; play the infinite game; unveil and share power; dig into difference and discord and co-create your expectations of each other – and discussed the way that partnering can provide the capability and methodology to achieve stakeholder and sustainable outcomes.

Victoria then discussed the ways in which organisations can become partners of choice by using examples of organisations she has worked with which best illustrate the importance of:

- > Leadership, Strategy and Governance: The Thriving Communities Partnership - <https://thriving.org.au/>
- > Systems and Processes: The BHP Foundation:
<https://www.bhp.com/sustainability/community/bhp-foundation>
- > Skills and Capability: Pearl Consulting: <https://pearlconsult.com/>
- > Partnering Culture: To discuss the characteristics of partnering culture, which include awareness of self and others; flexibility to adapt and change and lead that change and clarity and commitment of purpose, Victoria brought into the conversation Donnella Mills, Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (<https://www.naccho.org.au>).

Donnella discussed the necessary steps organisations must take if they want to partner effectively with First Nations organisations, including recognising Aboriginal and Torres Strait history, expertise and resilience and being willing to dedicate sufficient time to "sit with us and learn from us".

Donnella said it is also vital to understand the role of culture. "Culture is key to us. Culture is a determinant that increases our protection to be able to navigate in the systems that are designed not with us but for us", she said.

Organisations wanting to work with a First Nations community also need to be willing to put the community "front and centre" and build relationships "not just with the CEO but with everyone in the community". Building genuine and respectful relationships will be key to shifting from tokenism to tangible change in reconciliation and equity.

PLENARY 3

PARTNERING WITH THE UN



Caption: Top L-R Darian Stibbe, Executive Director, The Partnering Initiative; Dr Angela Pratt, Director, WHO Western Pacific; Andrew Peterson, CEO, Business Council Sustainable Development Australia (BCSDA). Bottom L-R Simona Marinescu, UN Resident Coordinator, Samoa Multi-Country Office and Jacyl Shaw, Global Director, GHD Digital D-Lab.

Darian Stibbe, whose organisation assists the UN to set up and support partnerships for the SDGs through the Partnership Accelerator (<https://thepartneringinitiative.org/global-impact/the-partnership-accelerator/>), told delegates that the SDGs have placed partnerships at the forefront of the development agenda.

Darian attributes this to the universality of the SDGs as an agenda which provides genuine roles for all sectors and actors, including governments, businesses, universities and community organisations, and requires everyone to work together to achieve the scale required.

The UN, he said, has a critical role to play both as a partner which is implementing new programs all the time and as a convenor or a neutral broker able to bring people together.

Simona Marinescu explained the vital role that partnerships play in enabling small Pacific Islands with limited resources and government capacity to develop and meet the needs of their populations. She said this had been particularly critical during the pandemic and the Measles outbreak which affected several Pacific Island nations prior to COVID-19.

Working in partnership with civil society and governments, the UN, she said, can develop programs with a broader reach and longer-term impact. Working within these communities, Simona said the UN's Samoa and Fiji-based teams can also provide partners with information about prevailing cultures and needs and help to ensure that there is local buy-in.

Simona called on participants to make contact with the UN in the Pacific if they are seeking to establish new partnerships, particularly in areas such as health, energy transition, digital transformation and waste management.



Without local partners, nothing will be translated into action”.

Dr Pratt said the first question she asks when partnerships are suggested is for what purpose. “The most impactful partnerships, the ones that really make a difference... are the partnerships that have a very clear purpose, where there are genuinely shared interests and where each partner brings their unique comparative or strategic advantages”.

Andrew Peterson said that the business sector is becoming increasingly aware that the SDGs require transformational change to be achieved and that the partnerships they enter into need to be able to “transform not just their own business operations and not just their own supply chains but, critically, entire sectors and, ultimately, value chains”.

Jacyl Shaw said digital technology and innovation can play enormous roles in effective partnerships but it is vital that humans are at the centre. “We often don’t fund into projects or spend enough time in projects up front with our leaders in our communities to help them understand really what the challenge is and opportunity at stake and we don’t spend enough time in the human to human, bringing people along the journey”.

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PLENARY 4

PARTNERING AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

SPEAKERS:



LEANNE SMITH
Executive
Director, Whitlam
Institute



DR CLAIRE BROLAN
Research Fellow,
University of
Queensland



KYLIE PORTER
Executive Director,
Global Compact
Network Australia



CASSANDRA GOLDIE
CEO, ACOSS

Leanne Smith and Claire Brolan began this session with a recap of the Whitlam institute commissioned research - No-one left behind: Implementing the SDGs in Australia – <https://www.whitlam.org/publications/2020/6/17/no-one-left-behind-implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals-in-australia>.

In addition to analysing the 164 submissions made to the Federal Parliamentary inquiry into the SDGs (https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/SDGs/Submissions), this research looked at the policies and practices of Germany, Indonesia and Mexico - three countries identified by many of the submissions as those from which Australia can learn.

They then moved to a discussion with the speakers about the importance of national leadership on the SDGs and the impacts if such leadership is not present.

Leanne Smith said that at the national level “on both sides of politics, the SDGs continue to be treated as a foreign policy and an international development issue. Something Australia should support in other countries, but not a responsibility for domestic law and policy making”.

Leanne said the Australian Government released its voluntary national review in 2019 - https://www.sdgdata.gov.au/sites/default/files/voluntary_national_review.pdf - but has not, in the period since, introduced any sort of national plan of action, policy or accountability mechanisms, or Budgetary connection to the SDGs.

Claire said an SDG Momentum Matrix, included on P.32 of the No-One Left Behind report, provides clear guidance for integrating international best practice into national actions, but the Government has not yet taken up the challenge presented by the SDGs to “stop working in silos” and discuss how best to work in government and across government to implement the agenda.

Cassandra Goldie said the SDGs provide governments, community organisations, universities, and businesses with a “very clear framework of what we want”.

“If we agreed that these were the targets and goals that we are here collectively to deliver upon, then it would help to foster a much stronger collaborative culture about the how we get there. Because we are not debating what we want anymore”.

She said, however, that because the Government has not agreed to measure its own policies and programs against the goals, “it undercuts the collaborative efforts of others”.

Kylie Porter said that achieving the SDGs requires multi-stakeholder partnerships and collaboration that can mobilise the shared knowledge, expertise, technology, and financial resources that will achieve inclusive and transformative economic growth.

She said it is now estimated that the SDGs drive US\$12 trillion in opportunities predominantly in the energy, cities, food, agriculture, health and wellbeing sectors “which is a really huge opportunity to drive progress at scale”.

Kylie said the 2021-2023 Global Compact Network Strategy released earlier this year - <https://unglobalcompact.org/library/5869?subject=> - outlines how businesses can particularly lead and shape SDGs 5 Gender Equality, 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, 13 Climate Action, 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and 17 Partnerships for the Goals, with private public partnerships having already shown their capacity to drive systemic change.

“Sustainable development in the 21st century is not something which happens to somebody else, somewhere else. We all have a stake in it – and every country has work to do to progress towards it.”

– HELEN CLARKE, FORMER NZ PRIMER MINISTER, 2015



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Erika Feller

UNAA Goodwill Ambassador
for Refugees



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CITIES LEADING THE SDGs: PARTNERING AT THE SUBNATIONAL LEVEL

With cities on track to house two-thirds of the global population by 2050 and the recognition that some 65% of the UN's 2030 agenda will not be achieved without the active participation of local centres, this panel discussion provided a great opportunity to hear more about what cities are doing to integrate the SDGs into their planning and programs.

Dr Cathy Oke, Research Fellow, Connected Cities Lab, University of Melbourne, said the SDGs provide cities with an opportunity to not only engage at the local level but also on a global scale.

Amelia Leavesley, Research Fellow, Urban Sustainability, Connected Cities Lab began the session with a presentation around the ways in which cities can be agents for transformative change and drivers for such global frameworks as the UN Convention on Biodiversity and the UN Framework on Climate Change - <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Cities-and-the-SDGs-UNAAV-21-April-2021.pdf>

Being well networked, more flexible politically than national governments and closest to the communities they serve, SDGs provide cities with an “enormous opportunity to step up and lead on sustainability”. Amelia also discussed how cities can assess and report progress against the SDGs through Voluntary Local Reviews - <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/voluntary-local-reviews>

Dr Alexei Trundle, Research Fellow, Connected Cities Lab then brought representatives of three cities into the conversation – all of which had been part of the 2020 SDGs Cities Challenge – <https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/connected-cities/projects/sdgs-cities-challenge>

Sabareesh Suresh, Consultant for the City of Dehradun (India), told delegates that the centrality of cities to achievement of the SDGs means that cities cannot just be SDGs implementers, they also need to be co-creators of policies and programs needed to achieve the SDGs.

Candace Jordan, Climate Change Adaptation Officer, City of Melbourne said the common language provided by the SDGs assists in working internally and externally and the SDGs provide ways for Councils to align investments for the benefit of their communities and opportunities to benchmark against other local authorities.

Emily Davies O’Sullivan, City Activation Officer, City of Newcastle said with cities having both the biggest impact on global economies and on consumption, cities have a responsibility to take “tangible action”. The SDGs, she said, were great drivers for innovation and collaboration and offer opportunities for cities to learn from each other and from the private sector.

Cathy Oke concluded the session by announcing that the 2021 SDGs Cities Challenge will be carried out in collaboration with ICLEI USA, ICLEI Oceania, the Brookings Institute, University of Texas and UNAA Victoria and will include six US cities – Maui County, San Antonio, Atlanta, Orange County, New Haven and Dallas – along with Australian cities soon to be finalised.

PLENARY 6

PARTNERING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

SPEAKERS:



IMOGEN WAIT
Creative
Producer, UN
Youth Australia



**LUCY
STRONACH**
2021 UN Youth
Representative to
the UN



TIM LO SURDO
Adviser to the
UN Secretary-
General's Envoy
on Youth



**MANISHA AND
VISHAL**
Child Rights
Advocates, India



“I think we need to be more creative, more welcoming of young people so that they are in discussions not just as a token, but to be heard”

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed, 20 April, 2021

UN Youth Australia Creative Producer, Imogen Wait, hosted this session which focused on the very real benefits that come from organisations partnering with young people if this collaboration is genuine, resourced and focused on the world's most critical issues.

After speaking to DSG Mohammed during the Forum's opening session, Lucy Stronach talked to delegates about the need for companies and organisations to include young people in all levels of decision-making “not because they demand it but because they deserve it. Young people are incredibly innovative, knowledgeable and open-minded”. Lucy said solutions young people put forward are community based and evidence informed, and they have the skills and the sustained passion to ensure social justice and change.



Lucy said consulting young people must be given sufficient time for real conversations and solutions to emerge within a safe and inclusive environment. Young people should be paid for their time, she said, and not shut down if their views challenge existing thinking and practices.

Tim Lo Surdo said young people will be attracted to partner with organisations which can demonstrate they recognise the scale of the world's current crises and are genuinely committed to fixing root causes, not just proposing band-aid solutions.

Manisha and Vishal, Children's Rights Advocates and alumni of the Indian Children's Parliament system, said while there should be an SDG dedicated to the needs and rights of children and young people, the goals provide opportunities for young advocates to engage with and represent young people and keep governments accountable. A Children's Manifesto linked to the SDGs was recently used as a campaign tool in the lead up to Indian elections, they said.

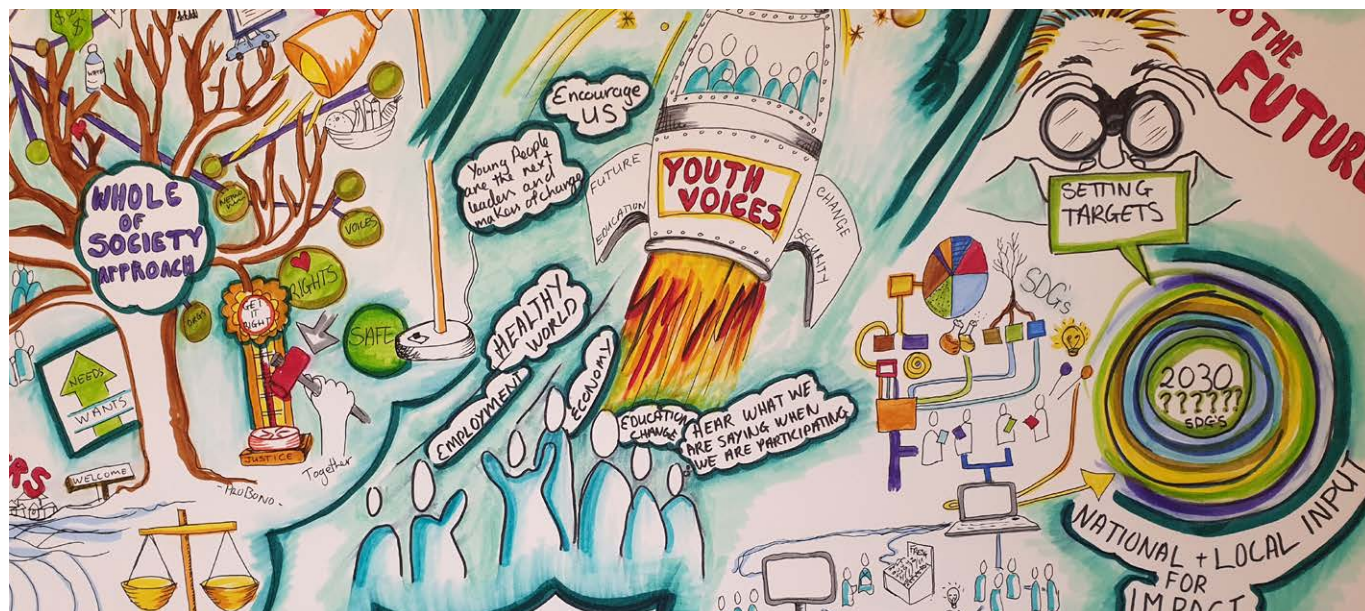
<https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/library/india-its-children-childrens-manifesto-2019>

All speakers said that engaging with young people at a tokenistic level was guaranteed to end in failure, with accountability needed to ensure that the contribution of young people is reflected in outcomes and final decisions. "Box ticking" is instantly obvious, Lucy said, while Tim said that young people would not be interested in organisations seeking their involvement or views "only because they feel socially obliged to do so".

Two-way, intergenerational mentoring was a concept supported by all the speakers, with Lucy saying there is a lot of evidence to show the success of such mentoring in workplaces. Tim said it was incumbent on people with privilege and power to pass power on to young people.

When asked by Lucy Stronach on Day 1, what advice she would give young people wanting to be heard, DSG Mohammed said:

“Sometimes young people become very polite in the midst of a lot of older people who have been there a long time and that's okay, we don't want you to say something that will get you fired. But what we are saying is have the courage of what you know, your lived experience, the skill set you bring to offer something on the table. Challenge that uneasy environment that is not quite sure what you will say if they give you the floor. And if you are not given the opportunity to take the floor, you need to find a way to demand it.”





LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

SPEAKERS:



PROFESSOR JOHN THWAITES AM

Co-Chair, Leadership Council, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)



DR GILLIAN SPARKES

Commssioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria



ANDREW GRAY

Director ESG and Governance, AustralianSuper



DR SHIRIN MALEKPOUR

Senior Lecturer, Monash Sustainable Development Institute

John Thwaites began this discussion with a presentation of key findings of the Transforming Australia 2020 Update (<https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/042121-UNAA.pdf>) which shows where Australia stands in relation to the SDGs. This data clearly shows, John said, that a business-as-usual approach is not going to be enough to achieve the SDGs by 2030, particularly in the wake of the global pandemic.

“Australia’s effective response to the global pandemic has demonstrated the importance of evidence and following evidence and good data. Unfortunately, we haven’t been doing that across a lot of the Sustainable Development Goals. But it also demonstrates the need to have clear targets and I would hope we can start a national conversation now around our targets for 2030 across all the Sustainable Development Goals. And we need to do that with business, the non-government sector, government and science”.

Dr Gillian Sparkes told delegates that the SDGs “provide an enormous opportunity to bring together a whole of systems approach”, which is why they are now being embraced in Victorian State of the Environment reporting (see how here: <https://www.ces.vic.gov.au/reports/framework-victorian-state-environment-soe-2023-report/>).

Dr Sparkes also talked about the importance of localising the SDGs in partnership with stakeholders. She said her team are now focusing on co-designing local targets and activities in collaboration with stakeholders which fill knowledge gaps, take advantage of new ways of monitoring and align policy and action. Engagement with stakeholders will always be strongest, she said, when working on local areas and issues they know and are interested in.

Andrew Gray said the SDGs are increasingly being seen by investors like Super funds as a “great framework or even a great business plan for a long-term sustainable economy” which is essential to deliver the best results for members. He said, in this context, the risk of not achieving the SDGs can now be seen as an investment risk.

The SDGs, he said, can also help meet increasing member and stakeholder demands for funds to measure and report on the impacts of their investment programs. Andrew outlined the creation of the Sustainable Development Investments Asset Ownership Platform (<https://www.sdi-aop.org/>) as a way to develop a global standard for investing in the SDGs by assessing some 10,000 companies’ contributions to the SDGs.

Andrew also reported to delegates that as more and more investors and companies become aware of the significant overlap between environmental, social and governance (ESG) focus areas and the SDGs, there is increasing momentum to embrace the SDGs as a “very useful framework to measure impact” in such areas as climate change, modern slavery, diversity and circular economy.

Dr Shirin Malekpour, one of only 15 scientists - and the only one from the Asia-Pacific region - invited by UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to develop the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/globalsdreport/>), outlined her desire to engage Australian stakeholders in preparation of the report.

Dr Malekpour said that while the previous report identified governance, business and finance, individual and collective action and science and technology as the four key levers for change, this report will focus on how best to put these levers in practice.

She said she will be keen to share Australian success stories in the report but also “really understand why we are not seeing the progress we want in some areas”. Having an Australian representative involved in the process, she said, will also provide an opportunity for Australia to influence the “global debates and agendas that will follow the SDGs” after 2030.



2021

UN & AUSTRALIA SUSTAINABLE



This colorful infographic explores the intersection of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Gender Equality. The central theme is "SDG'S and GENDER", with a focus on "TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE".

- Circular Economy:** A large section on the left features a circular flow diagram labeled "CIRCULAR ECONOMY" and "17 SDG'S". It includes icons for recycling, reuse, and repair, along with the phrase "MEASURE WHAT MATTERS".
- Youth Voices:** A rocket ship labeled "YOUTH VOICES" is depicted launching upwards, symbolizing youth leadership and participation. It is surrounded by phrases like "Encourage US", "Young People are the next leaders and makers of change", and "HEALTHY WORLD".
- Women in Leadership:** The top right corner highlights "WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP" and "SUPPORT WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP?". It includes a "LEADERSHIP TABLE OF CONTENTS" and mentions "The Glass Cliff".
- Looking to the Future:** On the right, a cartoon character looks through a telescope at a target labeled "2030 ???? SDGS". This section emphasizes "SETTING TARGETS" and "NATIONAL + LOCAL INPUT FOR IMPACT".
- Whole of Society Approach:** A tree-like structure on the bottom left represents a "WHOLE OF SOCIETY APPROACH", branching into areas like "NEEDS", "WANTS", "JUSTICE", and "TOGETHER".
- Other Key Elements:**
 - A clock face labeled "NOW" with the text "THERE IS NOT ONE PERSON, ONE SECTOR OR ONE DEPARTMENT TO BLAME... WE ARE ALL ACCOUNTABLE TO CHANGE AND BE LEADERS. WE CAN ALL CHANGE THE WAY FOR A HEALTHIER ENVIRONMENT WITH BETTER PRACTICES."
 - A heart labeled "HOPE" with arrows pointing towards "GROWTH", "POWER", and "KNOWLEDGE".
 - A speech bubble saying "WE ALL HAVE A ROLL TO PLAY".
 - A large blue hand holding a globe, with the text "THANK YOU" written vertically.
 - A scale of justice labeled "Collaboration - Lawyers".
 - A sign that says "LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND".
 - A sign that says "UNAA".

The infographic is rich in detail, featuring numerous small illustrations, icons, and handwritten-style text that convey a message of collective responsibility and positive change.

Fiona Miller
0414 537578
fiona.miller@...



8.6%

of the global economy is circular: <https://www.circularity-gap.world/2020>



70%

of global carbon emissions come from cities: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cities/>



28%

of all species face extinction: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>



BREAKOUT REVIEW CLIMATE AND PLANET

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLIMATE

Presented with the support of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), this session – hosted by Susan McHattie, Norton Crumlin & Associates, – clearly demonstrated the necessity for partnerships if transformation to a circular economy is to be achieved.

Brooke Donnelly, CEO, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO), said that SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals guides much of APCO's work – “we clearly recognise that the work of the circular economy does not happen by a single organisation, government or individual”.

Entire supply chains, she said, need to take a holistic and systemic view of the issues around a circular economy so that they understand the interdependencies and can “build shared capability and capacity with all stakeholders”.

Brooke said that when this happens, “essentially what you create is a collective movement towards change that is far greater, has this unstoppable momentum and is much more powerful than any government, organisation or individual”.

Alicia Darvall, Director, Sustainability Victoria, outlined how the Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre (<https://www.cebic.vic.gov.au/>) is working collaboratively across sectors to develop best practice and eliminate green tape and other barriers to businesses moving to a circular economy. Long-term collaborations, she said, are the “only way we are ultimately going to make change”.

Ainsley Simpson, CEO Infrastructure Sustainability Council Australia (ISCA), explained that ISCA is accelerating sustainability in infrastructure through collaboration and is currently supporting the infrastructure sector to make progress in 15 of the 17 SDGs.

Michael O'Neill, Senior Manager, DELWP said that the Victorian Government is now working to embed the Recycling Victoria (<https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-02/Recycling%20Victoria%20A%20new%20economy.pdf>) circular economy framework into different sectors through partnerships with industry, governments, academia, non-government organisations and communities. This is what will make the biggest impact, he said.

Michael said the water sector is particularly well set up to work in partnership to achieve a circular economy because the water cycle is not only a pointer to a successful circular model, but it also crosses over most sectors including waste, energy, food, infrastructure, natural regeneration, and health.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Presented in partnership with Melbourne Water and RMIT and through the lens of SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, this discussion – hosted by Mirerva Holmes, National Trust Australia, focused on the role of cities as a focal point for so many current challenges, including population growth, densification, transport and social inclusion,

and the effect that the global pandemic has had on what people now want from their cities and communities.

Lauren Mittiga, Manager, Melbourne Water discussed the centrality of good water management to a sustainable city and the pressures being brought to bear on planning and management of cities by both climate change and urbanisation. Water authorities, she said, are now working through an integrated water management model which involves all stakeholders having input into decisions around what is possible and necessary in their local areas.

In developing a new greenfield corridor on Melbourne's fringe which is predicted to double its population in the next 20 years and experience water shortfalls by 2032, Lauren said Melbourne Water is working with its partners to divert additional stormwater away before it negatively impacts on the area's waterways and find new ways to reuse this water to decrease reliance on drinking water. Another project close to the CBD which includes land subject to flooding but dry for long periods of time is now being discussed with community stakeholders to determine if sporting facilities and passive recreation could be available on the land when it is dry.

Steve Gawler, Regional Director, ICLEI Oceania said urban councils are grappling with how they can create the village settings within cities, which are being sought by many people moving to rural areas in the wake of the pandemic. Councils, he said, will need to act on what people are saying they now want from their local communities, which includes recognition of the urgency of climate action.

He said while the SDGs have been seen by some local authorities as a global agenda that is not directly relevant, there are now more cities seeing the benefits of localising the Goals. He said ICLEI Oceania has been working with the Honiara Council to build greater resilience into their planning and service delivery for when natural disasters strike, with ward councillors now working with their own communities to develop even more localised plans.

RMIT Professor Lauren Rickards said while partnerships are vital in planning and managing sustainable cities, it is equally important that these involve partners "standing side by side with each other looking out together at a shared pathway".

"We also need to ensure that the partnerships we create are porous and flexible so that they don't just reinforce exclusion and injustices".

Lauren said there were already many good examples of such partnerships, including Greenhouse Alliances (www.victoriangreenhousealliances.org/), networks of Councils working to create zero carbon societies protected from the impact of climate change and the Climate Change Exchange (www.climatechangeexchange.org.au/) – a not for profit, multi-sector network of practitioners and researchers collaborating on how best to transition to a sustainable and just future.

BIODIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT: HUMAN SOLUTIONS FOR TACKLING BIODIVERSITY LOSS

This session, presented in partnership with Zoos Victoria and hosted by Graham Hunter, looked at the opportunities created by the events of 2020 for humans to establish a "new deal" with nature.

Discussing the need to ensure that people feel that there is still time and the tools to correct loss of biodiversity and species extinction, Dr Sally Sherwen, Director, Zoos Victoria said the recently released UN Report Making Peace with Nature (<https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>) provides a welcome summary of the scientific evidence but is also a "guidebook for what we can all do".

The 2020 bushfires, Sally said, provided a very visible example of the benefits of partnerships in helping nature to recover. "It was without a doubt the most collaborative conservation action with everyone swooping into action with their areas of expertise and the role they could play".

WWF Australia Chief Conservation Officer, Rachel Lowry, said she hopes that the 2020 bushfires prove to be a watershed moment for Australia, with people understanding that everyone can and needs to take action.

"If we believe that it is human behaviour that is driving this cycle of loss around biodiversity, deforestation and species loss, we can actually take hope from that. Because if humans can drive these losses, we can turn it around and humans can drive the gains. We've seen it happen a number of times," she said.

Rachel said that there are currently political barriers to dealing with the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss, but these also provide opportunities for people to keep a spotlight on the issues and, most importantly, the solutions needed. "We have more solutions at our disposal than we have ever had before. It's on us to make sure those solutions are amplified, and those win-wins are too hard to ignore".

Rachel said that the current review of Australia's nature laws provides a very timely opportunity for people to take action, with information available through the Places You Love Alliance: <http://www.placesyoulove.org/>

PHORIA Co-Founder, Trent Clews de Castella, told delegates that developing technologies such as virtual and augmented reality are providing opportunities to educate people about current conservation threats in ways that make them feel encouraged to take action rather than disheartened.

He said PHORIA, WWF Australia and Zoos Victoria are partnering to bring nature to people in ways which empowers them to "connect and partner up to tackle these challenges".

5 GENDER EQUALITY



23%

global gender pay gap: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures>



25%

of national MPs internationally are women: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/leadership-and-political-participation/facts-and-figures>



98%

of Wiyi Yani U Thangani participants said experience would make a positive personal difference: <https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/publications/wiyi-yanis-u-thangani-0>



BREAKOUT REVIEW GENDER EQUALITY

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

This session, hosted by UN Women Australia Executive Director Janelle Weissman, discussed the importance of partnering by showcasing two key UN Women partnerships which are having real impact in empowering women and girls.

Janelle said these partnerships have shown her the importance of partners feeling comfortable enough to take risks in seeking solutions, but also confident that they will be able to share along the way what works and what does not.

“If we want to tackle some of the world’s most wicked problems like half a billion women being illiterate and develop innovative solutions so that women have access to education, to learn, to develop knowledge, to be leaders, to be income earners, we have to take risks”, she said.

Preeya Ieli, Specialist, UN Women Fiji, spoke about how COVID 19 and climate change in the Pacific have underscored the importance of women’s economic empowerment and that it is now essential that governments, donors, and partners prioritise women’s economic empowerment.

The overrepresentation of women in sectors and jobs that have been most impacted by the economic effects of the pandemic, such as tourism, retail, and hospitality, she said, has shown how vulnerable women in the informal employment sector are to events such as pandemics, cyclones, and climate change.

Preeya said the Markets for Change (<https://unwomen.org.au/markets-for-change/>) program in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Samoa, is proving effective in elevating the economic resilience of women in informal economic sectors. Financial and business management training has assisted women to establish resilient businesses and encouraged them to take up leadership positions in market vendor associations, which have then introduced practical reforms which have made marketplaces safer and more accessible for women vendors, particularly those from rural areas.

Brodie Vansleve, Program Director, BHP Foundation said the Second Chance Education and Vocational Learning Programme (https://www.bhp.com/-/media/documents/community/bhpfoundation/190704_bhp-foundation-second-chance-education-and-vocational-learning-programme.pdf?la=en), run through a partnership involving UN Women and the BHP Foundation, focusses on illiterate women who are outside traditional learning systems.

Brodie told delegates that the project is founded on research which clearly shows the multiplier effect of education, with women likely to invest 85% of their income back into their family and community and children four times more likely to go to school if their mother is educated. Since the program commenced, some 60,000 people have participated in Chile, Mexico, India, Jordan, Cameroon, and Australia.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Advocate Yasmin Poole hosted this session which began with a video presentation by Professor Michelle Ryan, inaugural Director, Global Institute of Women's Leadership (ANU) about her research relating to the "glass cliff", which shows that once women break through the glass ceiling and take on leadership positions, they often do so when organisations are in crisis or performing poorly and, as a result, face greater risks of failure.

Michelle said, with multiple examples of this occurring across different sectors, this situation needs to be recognised as a "new and relatively subtle form of discrimination," which means that women are not being given the same opportunities as men to succeed.

Action Aid Australia Head of Global Engagement, Stav Zotalis, said there needs to be more recognition of women's leadership at a grassroots level which, in some of the world's poorest countries, is saving lives. She said there is still too much discussion about women needing to be the beneficiaries of aid assistance and not enough acknowledgement that so many of these women are leaders and have agency.

Programs which do not consider the totality of women's lives and needs, Stav said, will not lead to lasting change, particularly if they do not factor in the often-increased burden on women and girls and the violent backlash they face from "those who see empowerment as threatening".

Victoria McKenzie-McHarg, Director, Women's Environmental Leadership Australia, said, in Australia, we are still not speaking enough about the different impacts on women of climate change and environmental crises and that, when solutions are discussed, this is often through the lens of technology, energy, money and politics – "four of the most masculine dominated domains of existing power structures".

"Lifting women's voices, working in partnership to create new frames of discussion or change the voices of those who are currently shaping those frames is essential if we are going to find a gender just set of solutions that are actually capable of creating the future that we need".

WIYI YANI U THANGANI: WOMEN'S VOICES

This session, presented in partnership with the Australian Human Rights Commission and hosted by PwC Australia Director, Taryn Lee, focused on the biggest, nationwide engagement of First Nations women and girls in more than three decades – the results of which have been captured in Wiyi Yani U Thangani: Women's Voices (<https://humanrights.gov.au/our-work/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-social-justice/projects/wiyi-yanu-thangani-womens>)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, June Oscar AO, who led the consultation, said that Australia is in the grip of a "reckoning with patriarchy and an institutional and systemic culture of misogyny" and women need to unite to achieve intersectional gender equality.

She said, however, that Australia cannot continue without a nationally consistent and cohesive approach to the many dimensions of intersectional gender equality. "Without frameworks and mechanisms that enhance the voices of women, to occupy decision making roles, to design policies and legislation, the structures in Australia and everywhere are blind to the needs of women and girls. It is for this reason that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and girls have been marginalised and made invisible to broader Australian structures for too long".

June said that First Nations women and girls took the opportunity of the consultation to speak up again about what they want and need, with the difference being that "this time we captured it so their voices in their entirety would be on the public record".

Kimberley activist Janine Dureau said she immediately recognised the Wiyi Yani U Thangani report as "something we could use as a tool for advocacy and implementation" and design of a Kimberley Women's Action Plan and Representative Council – something that women in the area have been calling for over the past two decades.

In response to the report's release, Janine said that she has been seeking the "genuine partnerships" needed to achieve gender equality within a generation. Such partnerships, she said, involve "working together with people in all different spaces to have a genuine and deep conversation, to share our ideas, our hopes and dreams and then to work collaboratively with all your different skills and talents to translate vision into reality".

In early May 2021, 100 women, including 85 Kimberley Aboriginal women, gathered for a three-day roundtable to begin developing a regional action plan and establish the Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council - <https://humanrights.gov.au/about/news/media-releases/media-statement-kimberley-aboriginal-women-develop-regional-action-plan>.

Agreed regional priorities included:

- Practising and embedding language, law and culture and recognising their importance as key determinants of health and wellbeing and intergenerational success
- Breaking cycles of inter-generational trauma through development of holistic culturally centred early intervention and prevention initiatives
- Guaranteeing strong developmental pathways in education, training, and employment.

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



8%

more of world population could live in global poverty because of pandemic:
<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/>



\$5-7 US

trillion per year to achieve SDGs:
https://uneplive.unep.org/media/docs/assessments/UNEA_2_Fact_Sheet_sustainable_finance_NR.pdf



40%

of world's displaced people are children:
<https://www.unhcr.org/en-au/figures-at-a-glance.html>



BREAKOUT REVIEW POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Presented in partnership with SDGx, this session hosted by AustralianSuper Senior Analyst, Sandra Silea, discussed the “mass awakening” that has occurred across global finance, banking, and insurance sectors in recent years about the relevance of the SDGs, sustainability and climate to their performance and obligations.

Simon O'Connor, CEO, Responsible Investment Association Australasia, said this has resulted in these sectors actively analysing climate and sustainability issues to understand their role in ensuring that global investment assists in meeting international obligations such as the Paris Climate Agreement and the SDGs to ensure future sustainability and prosperity.

By 2025, he said, there is expected to be some \$50 trillion of assets globally – or one-third of all professionally managed assets – which will actively take into consideration environmental, sustainability and corporate governance issues when decisions are made about investing, banking, lending, and insuring. Further evidence of this shift can be seen, he said, in the increasing pressure investors are putting on companies to provide data relating to their climate risks.

Partnering, he said, will be crucial to bring about the systemic change required to accommodate these shifts, with a contemporary example being the Australian Sustainable Finance Initiative (<https://www.sustainablefinance.org.au/>), which brought together 140 people from 90 financial institutions, universities, civil society organisations, governments and regulators.

This two-year project resulted in a 10-year roadmap which shows how these sectors can help to deliver national sustainability and climate goals, eliminate barriers and increase incentives “to ensure capital flows in the right direction”, minimise risks and build sector resilience <https://www.sustainablefinance.org.au/roadmap-1>

NAB Director Alison Chan said investors are increasingly using balance sheets to talk about their values and the values of the companies they invest in and consumers are using their voice to demand information from banks about how they are making their businesses, and those they lend to, sustainable and responsible.

She said NAB has become a signatory to the UN's Principles for Responsible Banking (<https://www.unepfi.org/banking/bankingprinciples/>) and is partnering with other finance sector organisations such as AustralianSuper and ClimateWorks Australia in the Australian Energy Transition Initiative (<https://energytransitionsinitiative.org/>).

NAB is also now working with businesses which can develop measurable targets relating to sustainability outcomes such as emission reduction, for example, so that when these targets are achieved, adjustments occur to their interest rates.

FINANCING THE SDGS

This session, hosted by SDGx Partner Zameen Pavri, explored the issues around how not-for profit organisations and social enterprises can be funded to ensure they are able to provide much needed services, particularly in areas such as domestic violence, homelessness, and food relief.

Zameen said with some 3.25 million Australians living below the poverty line, 700,000 of which are children, and the global pandemic hitting hardest those who are poor and marginalised, there has never been more need for innovative financial solutions to assist for-purpose organisations.

Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association President Nicole Battle outlined the incredible work being done by Australia's 1000 neighbourhood houses and centres to localise the SDGs in areas such as education and training, decent work, gender equality and reduced inequalities, but said that these organisations often struggle to access sufficient funding, particularly as they are not seen as obvious candidates for bank loans.

Zameen told delegates that impact investing is providing new opportunities for financing the SDGs, given its focus on generating positive and measurable social or environmental impact and financial return. The 2020 Global Impact Investing Report (<https://thegiin.org/research/publication/impinv-survey-2020>) shows that the impact investment market is now at over \$USD700 billion worldwide.

Impact Investing Director, Elyse Sainty explained that Social Ventures Australia's work to build thriving Australian communities is done in partnership with other organisations equally dedicated to social purpose, particularly where organisations would struggle to otherwise access finance.

SVA, she said, is currently working with Industry Super fund, HESTA, to provide a range of different investment opportunities through its \$90 million capital pool and with high-net-worth individuals and philanthropists who have contributed to a \$15 million pool which provides funding to smaller social enterprises. The recently developed Synergis fund is a collaboration to drive greater provision of quality social housing for disabled people.

Elyse said she is also working through social impact bonds to drive progress across many of the SDGs, including in mental health (SDG 3 Good Health and Wellbeing), social housing (SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities and SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities), youth employment (SDG8 Decent Work) and re-engaging children into education (SDG4 Quality Education).

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

The following summary of this session was featured in the Refugee Legal E-News to members and supporters on 28 April. It is reprinted in full here with the permission of author David Manne.

“I had the privilege to present at the 2021 United Nations & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum, hosted by the United Nations Association of Australia, along with Erika Feller (Vice-Chancellor's Fellow at the University of Melbourne and former Assistant High Commissioner (Protection), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees), Paul Power (CEO of the Refugee Council of Australia) and chaired by Lorna Deng (DivTal Co-Founder).

Drawing on the 2018 UN Global Refugee Compact (<https://www.unhcr.org/en-au/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html>), we addressed the question: ‘How can we build stronger protection for refugees globally and locally through whole of society partnerships - involving all of us together?’

Erica highlighted the major potential - and challenges - for the UN Global Refugee Compact and Global Refugee Forum (<https://www.unhcr.org/en-au/global-refugee-forum.html>) to produce positive, concrete outcomes through multi-stakeholder approaches to cooperation and burden sharing. Paul underscored the importance of working in respectful partnership with refugees and the need to include the voices of those seeking asylum in decision-making. (Paul outlined the Refugee Council's work to support the growing movement for refugee-led advocacy

- https://www.startts.org.au/media/RT34_Refugees-advocate-for-their-rights.pdf.

I focused on two initiatives - one global, one local - which Refugee Legal has been deeply involved in. Both of these demonstrate the powerful potential of the legal community to change the lives of people seeking safety.

At the global level, I highlighted our work with key partners to further develop the Global Refugee Forum 'Legal Community' Pledge aimed at mobilising the global legal community in solidarity to address the acute unmet legal needs of refugees and others forcibly displaced. Together, we are leveraging networks, partnerships, and resources - including boosting pro bono hours - to increase access to justice for many more displaced people around the world.

The reality is that most refugees globally cannot access the legal help they desperately need to secure protection and other basic rights. However, within that challenge lies a promising and potent fact: there exists a vast reservoir of untapped resources and goodwill within the global legal community.

Partnerships present powerful potential to address this unmet legal need to protect and find solutions for refugees - and the major potential for fundamental change.

At the local level, I highlighted our work, day in and day out, through our Refugee Legal Clinic model.

Refugee Legal's Clinic model, in partnership with 16 pro bono law firms, assists thousands of people seeking asylum each year. This model was recognised as a form of international best practice by the UNHCR at the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019 -

https://refugeelegal.activehosted.com/social/ec5dec-ca5ed3d6b8079e2e7e7bacc9f2.126?fbclid=IwAR-3ZUA6wK6Jcc50FsSueVRvU5feA6dj6_gLoe76Qh2-OqT3-5cvonHDLt8

Through this model, we harness the immense goodwill, skills and resources of the private sector and transform them into concrete and direct legal help for people seeking asylum.

Right now, as the Federal Government ramps up the processing of people left in legal limbo for years, our Clinic model will be a critical frontline response to providing urgent legal assistance to many hundreds of people in desperate need. Together with our pro bono partners, we are scaling-up our Clinic capacity, to rise again to this profound challenge. This fundamental question of justice is on our doorstep.

It's a powerful reminder of how global challenges have local dimensions - and how partnerships can provide real solutions."



United Nations Association of Australia

Tanya Hosch

UNAA Goodwill Ambassador for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples



20-21 APRIL 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

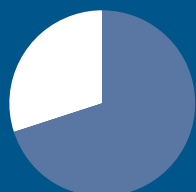
www.partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



2 billion

of First Nations produced goods and services bought by companies with a RAP: <https://www.reconciliation.org.au/reconciliation-action-plans-delivering-tangible-and-sustained-benefits-for-a-reconciled-future/>



71%

of global deaths annually result from non-communicable diseases: <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>



40.3%

million people living in modern slavery in 2016: <https://www.developingfreedom.org/report/>



BREAKOUT REVIEW JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

DRIVING SUSTAINABLE RECONCILIATION EFFORTS THROUGH AN INDIGENOUS RIGHTS LENS

Recognising that Australia is 30 years along the path of formal reconciliation, Dr Michelle Evans, University of Melbourne, hosted this discussion about how corporates and First Nations People can partner to drive sustainable reconciliation in line with international human rights frameworks.

Michelle told delegates that in the 20 years since the establishment of Reconciliation Australia, over 1,110 organisations have developed Reconciliation Action Plans, with these being a vehicle to drive human rights conversations in organisations. She said, however, “we really do need to take the next great leap forward”.

Amber Roberts, Senior Manager PwC’s Indigenous Consulting, said the relationship between corporate Australia and Aboriginal Torres Strait Islanders has traditionally been characterised by the damage caused to communities by development and corporate business activities. However, “innovative partnerships” are now leading to improved

lived experiences and socio-economic health and wellbeing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and communities on a local and global scale.

Amber said that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and communities know what their priorities are and just need the space, tools, and resources to address them. This had been shown most recently through the Aboriginal led-response to COVID-19.

More sustainable, respectful partnerships with Australia’s First Nations peoples and opportunities for innovation, Amber said, could be achieved by businesses embedding into their operating frameworks the SDGs and international instruments such as UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (https://www.ohchr.org/documents/publications/guidingprinciplesbusinesshr_en.pdf) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf).

Acknowledging the 30th anniversary of the Royal Commission into Deaths in Custody, AFL Inclusion and Social Policy General Manager, Tanya Hosch, said that the data shows that there is still an enormous amount

of work to be done in preventing further deaths from occurring. She said this raises the question as to how we can continue to develop reconciliation plans with integrity in a context of living in a country that is still struggling to bring together all the important threads that would offer recognition to indigenous Australians.

Tanya said it was critical that the people who lead the largest organisations which drive enormous commercial returns take the time to understand and reflect on the intersection of their relationships with First Nations peoples.

This is a crucial first step, she said, in “then understanding how you can build a reconciliation plan or a reconciliation approach for your workplace”.

Ongoing insufficient understanding about systemic racism could also be improved, Tanya said, through companies building anti-racism education and vehicles into their reconciliation action plans. She said the *Do Better - Independent review into Collingwood Football Club's responses to Incidents of Racism and Cultural Safety in the Workplace* Report (https://resources.afl.com.au/afl/document/2021/02/01/0bd7a62e-7508-4a7e-9cb0-37c375507415/Do_Better.pdf) highlighted the impact of systemic racism within an organisation.

GLOBAL HEALTH

This session, presented in partnership with the Global Health Alliance and hosted by Professor Barbara McPake, Nossal Institute, discussed the ongoing challenges to addressing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in our region and the impact that the global pandemic has had on drawing attention away from NCDs, which are the leading cause of death globally.

VCS Foundation Executive Director, Professor Marion Saville AM, told delegates that cervical cancer is a “slow moving pandemic” for too many older women in our region who did not have access to the now-available vaccine when they were younger and may not have had access to regular screening.

She told delegates that the World Health Organisation (WHO) has a three-pronged approach to eliminating cervical cancer by the end of this century - <https://www.who.int/initiatives/cervical-cancer-elimination-initiative> – and that partnership funding by the Mindaroo Foundation will have a significant impact on our region - <https://www.mindaroo.org/collaborate-against-cancer/news/collaborative-cervical-cancer-program-established-in-the-western-pacific-through-landmark-investment/>

Professor Susan Sawyer AM, Royal Children's Hospital, said for the first time the global health community is now recognising adolescent health as a “profound period of growth and development in which the assets and capabilities that underpin future adult health and wellbeing, social wellbeing, parenting and employment are established”.

Research by the UN's Population Fund (UNFPA), she said, shows that for every \$1 spent on adolescent health, there is a tenfold return on investment. Given that there is now the largest ever cohort of people between 10 and 24 years old globally, Susan said countries need to do everything they can to ensure these people can be educated and employed. This is particularly important in countries such as the Solomon Islands where young people make up one-third of the population.

The health benefits of keeping young people in school, she said, are becoming better recognised, along with the increased likelihood of young people outside the school system becoming exposed at an earlier age to impacts of substance abuse, sexual diseases and mental health disorders.

Professor Tony Capon, Director, Monash Sustainable Development Institute told participants that the global pandemic has meant that, while other health issues such as non-communicable diseases have been neglected, the big challenge is ensuring that the world can “deliver a healthy, fair and low carbon recovery”.

Climate change, Tony said, is affecting people's health in Australia and around the world, so it is vital that recovery focuses on the impacts of energy systems which produce toxic emissions, for example.

“It's about rethinking the way we feed, move, house, power and care for people”, he said.

Tony referred delegates to the WHO's manifesto for a healthy recovery from COVID as a “path forward” - <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/who-manifesto-for-a-healthy-recovery-from-covid-19>

MODERN SLAVERY

This session, hosted by Human Rights Legal Centre Senior Lawyer, Freya Dinshaw, began with a poll which reported that 61% of delegates would not have included modern slavery in the top three business priorities in 2016.

Vanessa Zimmerman, CEO Pillar Two, said she too would have listed other issues as more pressing, but that the requirements of the Australian Modern

Slavery Act (<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2018A00153>) and the work by organisations, such as Walk Free, have had a huge impact on raising awareness over the past five years.

Vanessa said it is imperative that none of this momentum is lost and that companies show they are committed to taking “genuine steps within their own operations and their supply chains to address modern slavery”.

Collaboration, she said, is also necessary, between companies and industry sectors but also between companies and other stakeholders such as civil society, investors, unions, and governments. Good examples of collaboration, she said, include the Global Compact Network Australia’s Modern Slavery Community of Practice (<https://unglobalcompact.org.au/business-human-rights/modern-slavery/>), the National Roundtable on Human Trafficking and Slavery and the Federal Government’s Modern Slavery Expert Advisory Group (<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/criminal-justice/Pages/modern-slavery.aspx>).

Walk Free Founding Director, Grace Forrest, said that Australian governments and companies cannot focus their modern slavery efforts on international supply chains and not take action to address the estimated 15,000 people living in modern slavery in Australia (Global Slavery Index: <https://www.walkfree.org/projects/the-global-slavery-index/>).

“It is about addressing exploitation where it occurs and ensuring that there is adequate information

and training around what modern slavery really is,” she said.

Grace told delegates that Walk Free’s work to map modern slavery in Commonwealth countries has made clear that Australia’s Pacific neighbours are “calling for Australia’s leadership, to lean in and talk about labour abuses where they occur”.

UN University Visiting Fellow, Professor James Cockayne said, as part of the work done to prepare the landmark Developing Freedom Report (<https://www.developingfreedom.org/>), released early in 2021, investigation of official development aid between 2000 and 2017 showed that the equivalent of \$USD12 was being spent on each modern slavery victim per year. “A very low amount when you think about the kind of systemic transformation we need to see”.

James said it was also important to recognise slavery’s negative impact on the environment, as companies taking advantage of modern slavery to remain financially sustainable skew the economy to unsustainable, labour intensive methods often linked to illegal deforestation, fishing, and land use. This then leads to less space for carbon sequestration, increased carbon emissions and loss of biodiversity and natural capital stocks.

“In all these ways, tackling slavery would actually be a way to improve our environmental and other sustainable development outcomes”.



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Grace Forrest

UNAA Goodwill Ambassador
for Modern Slavery



20-21 APRIL 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

www.partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au

SPECIAL FEATURES:

AUSTRALIAN ART AND THE UN

The UN declared 2021 to be the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, and designated 21 April, (Day 2 of our Forum) World Creativity and Innovation Day to raise awareness of the role of creativity and innovation in all aspects of human development.

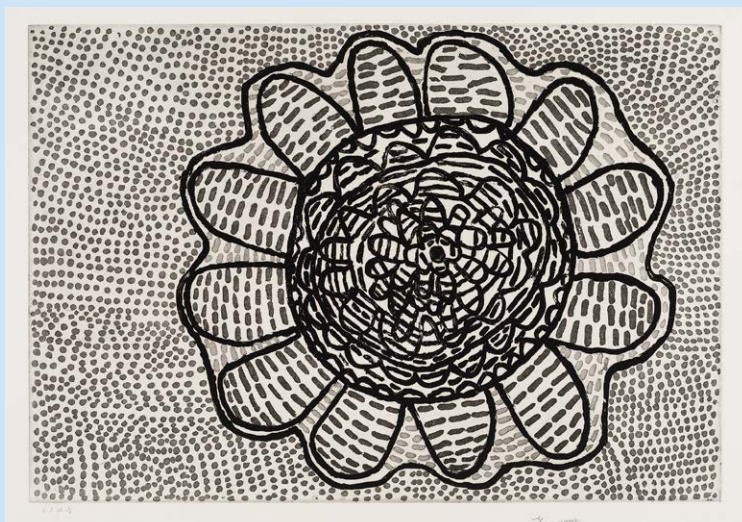
UNAA was delighted to partner with the Australian Print Workshop (APW) to present an online art exhibition as a special feature of the UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum.

This exhibition was a re-creation of selected works from *People in a Landscape: Contemporary Australian Prints* - the first Australian exhibition to be shown at the Palais des Nations, the UN's Headquarters in Geneva.

With 30 limited edition prints from 20 of Australia's best-known artists who work in print, this 2003 exhibition was curated by APW Director, Anne Virgo, who has also curated this online re-creation. An artwork from the 2003 exhibition artists was acquired for the Palais des Nations permanent collection - a lasting presence of the APW and Australian artists in the UN.

Browse the Exhibition Catalogue here: <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/People-in-Landscape-Catalogue.pdf>

Artist details for the images below are included in the Appendices.



APPENDICES



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FORUM PROGRAM

DAY 1: TUESDAY 20 APRIL

9.00AM – 10.15AM FORUM OPENING SESSION

10.30 – 12 NOON ARE YOU FIT FOR PARTNERING?

1PM – 2PM BREAKOUT SESSION 1

CLIMATE AND PLANET

Circular Economy and Climate

SESSION HOST

> Susan McHattie, Executive, Norton Crumlin and Associates

SPEAKERS

- > Michael O'Neill, Senior Manager, Partnerships and Sector Performance, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)
- > Ainsley Simpson, CEO, ISCA – Infrastructure Sustainability Council Australia
- > Brooke Donnelly, CEO, Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation (APCO)
- > Alicia Darvall, Director, Regions and Partnerships, Sustainability Victoria

SESSION PARTNER



Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning



GENDER EQUALITY

Economic Empowerment of Women and Girls

SESSION HOST

> Janelle Weissman, Executive Director, UN Women Australia

SPEAKERS

- > Preeya Ieli, Women's Economic Empowerment Programme Specialist, UN Women Fiji Multi-Country Office
- > Brodie Vansleve, Program Director, Global Education Equity, BHP Foundation



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Sustainable Finance

SESSION HOST

- > Sandra Silea, Senior Analyst, ESG and Stewardship, AustralianSuper

SPEAKERS

- > Alison Chan, Director, Sustainable Finance, NAB
- > Simon O'Connor, CEO, Responsible Investment Association Australasia
- > David Galipeau, Founder UN Sustainable Finance Initiative, Partner SDGx

SESSION PARTNER



JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Driving sustainable reconciliation efforts through an Indigenous rights lens

SESSION HOST

- > Dr Michelle Evans, Associate Professor in Leadership, University of Melbourne

SPEAKERS

- > Amber Roberts, General Manager, PwC Indigenous Consulting
- > Tanya Hosch, Executive General Manager, Inclusion & Social Policy, AFL and UNAA Goodwill Ambassador for Indigenous Issues

SESSION PARTNER

PwC's Indigenous Consulting



2.15 – 3.15PM: BREAKOUT SESSION 2

CLIMATE AND PLANET

Sustainable Cities and Communities

SESSION HOST

- > Mirerva Holmes, Executive Manager, Commercial, National Trust of Australia

SPEAKERS

- > Professor Lauren Rickards, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University
- > Lauren Mittiga, Manager, Water Services Planning, Melbourne Water
- > Steve Gawler, Regional Director, ICLEI Oceania

SESSION PARTNERS



GENDER EQUALITY

Women in leadership



SESSION HOST

- > Yasmin Poole, Speaker, Writer and Youth Advocate

SPEAKERS

- > Stav Zotalis, Head of Global Engagement, ActionAid Australia
- > Victoria McKenzie-McHarg, Strategic Director, Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA)
- > Professor Michelle Ryan, Inaugural Director, Global Institute for Women's Leadership

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Financing the SDGs



SESSION HOST

- > Zameen Pavri, Partner, SDGx and Senior Advisor (Australia/NZ), Global Impact Investing Network

SPEAKERS

- > Elyse Sainty, Director, Impact Investing, Social Ventures Australia
- > Nicole Battle, President, Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (ANHCA)
- > Associate Professor Ben Neville, University of Melbourne

JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Global Health



SESSION HOST

- > Professor Barbara McPake – Director, Nossal Institute for Global Health, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health

SPEAKERS

- > Professor Marion Saville AM, Executive Director, VCS Foundation
- > Professor Susan M Sawyer AM, Centre for Adolescent Health Royal Children's Hospital; University of Melbourne
- > Professor Tony Capon, Director, Monash Sustainable Development Institute

SESSION PARTNER



3.30PM – 4.30PM

PARTNERING WITH THE UN – AN INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

4.30PM - 4.40PM

DAY 1 REVIEW

4.40PM - 5.30PM

NETWORKING SESSIONS

6PM – 7PM

AN EVENING WITH GILLIAN TRIGGS

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL

9.10AM DAY 2 WELCOME

9.15AM – 10.15AM PARTNERING FOR THE SDGS – A NATIONAL FOCUS

10.30 – 11.30AM CITIES LEADING THE WAY ON SDGS – A SUBNATIONAL FOCUS

11.45AM – 12.45PM BREAKOUT SESSION 3

CLIMATE AND PLANET

Biodiversity Spotlight: Human solutions for tackling biodiversity loss

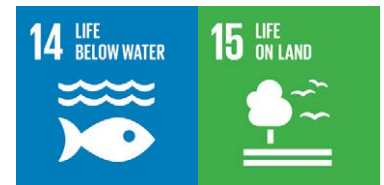
SESSION HOST

- > Graham Hunter, Inaugural Executive Director, Greening Australia

SPEAKERS

- > Dr Sally Sherwen, Director, Wildlife Conservation and Science, Zoos Victoria
- > Rachel Lowry, Chief Conservation Office, WWF Australia
- > Trent Clews-de Castella, Co-founder, PHORIA

SESSION PARTNER



GENDER EQUALITY

Wiyi Yani U Thangani - Women's Voices

SESSION HOST

- > Tarryn Lee, Director, PwC's Indigenous Consulting

SPEAKERS

- > June Oscar AO, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner Poverty and Inequality
- > Janine Dureau, Kimberley Community Leader - remove Service Development Manager, Juniper General

SESSION PARTNER



POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Refugees and Asylum Seekers

SESSION HOST

- > Lorna Deng, Founder, DivTal

SPEAKERS

- > David Manne, Executive Director, Refugee Legal
- > Erika Feller, Vice-Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne and UNAA Goodwill Ambassador for Refugees
- > Paul Power, CEO, Refugee Council of Australia



JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Modern Slavery

SESSION HOST

- > Freya Dinshaw, Senior Lawyer, Human Rights Legal Centre

SPEAKERS

- > James Cockayne, Senior Fellow, UN University Centre for Policy Research's Modern Slavery Programme
- > Grace Forrest, Founder, Walk Free and UNAA Goodwill Ambassador for Modern Slavery
- > Vanessa Zimmerman, CEO, Pillar Two



1PM – 2PM

SDGS SHOWCASE LIVE

2PM – 3PM

PARTNERING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

3.15PM - 4.15PM

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

4.15PM - 4.25PM

FORUM CLOSE

4.30PM - 5PM

NETWORKING

RESOURCE LIST

RESOURCES

UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum 2021 Communique - <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/UNAA-2021-UN-Australia-Sustainable-Partnerships-Forum-Communique.pdf>

SDGS

Transforming Australia 2020 Update - <https://www.sdgtransformingaustralia.com/>

Transforming Australia Forum Presentation: <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/042121-UNAA.pdf>

No One Left Behind: Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in Australia - <https://www.whitlam.org/publications/2020/6/17/no-one-left-behind-implementing-the-sustainable-development-goals-in-australia>

Federal Parliamentary inquiry into the SDGs - https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/SDGs/Submissions

Australian Voluntary National Review: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/sdg-voluntary-national-review.pdf>

UN Global Compact Strategy 2021 - 2023: <https://unglobalcompact.org/library/5869?subject=>

Global Sustainable Development Report 2019 - <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/globalsdreport/2019>

PARTNERING

Manifesto for Partnering for the Sustainable Development Goals - https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/2021-UNAA_Manifesto-for-Partnering-for-SDGs.pdf

Reimagine Action – www.reimagineaction.com

The Partnering Initiative: <https://thepartneringinitiative.org/>

Partnership Accelerator <https://thepartneringinitiative.org/global-impact/the-partnership-accelerator/>

The SDG Partnership Guidebook: <https://thepartneringinitiative.org/publications/toolbook-series/the-sdg-partnerships-guidebook/>

The Partnership Brokers Associations: <https://www.partnershipbrokers.org/>

CLIMATE AND PLANET

Uniting the world to tackle climate change: COP 26 - <https://ukcop26.org/>

Climate Council Aim High Go Fast <https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/resources/net-zero-emissions-plummet-decade/>

A technology pathway to zero carbon: UNAA and SDGx White Paper - <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/SDGx-UNAA-White-Paper-A-technology-pathway-to-zero-carbon.pdf>

State of the Environment 2018 - <https://www.ces.vic.gov.au/reports/state-environment-2018>

Framework for the State of the Environment 2023 - <https://www.ces.vic.gov.au/reports/framework-victorian-state-environment-soe-2023-report>

CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND CLIMATE

Recycling Victoria: a new economy - <https://www.vic.gov.au/transforming-recycling-victoria>

Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre (CEBIC) - <https://www.cebic.vic.gov.au/>

Climate Change Exchange - <https://climatechangeexchange.org.au/about>

BIODIVERSITY IN SPOTLIGHT

UN Summit on Biodiversity - <https://www.cbd.int/>

Making Peace with Nature - <https://www.unep.org/resources/making-peace-nature>

WWF and Open Science: <https://www.wwf.org.au/get-involved/panda-labs/opensc#gs.04lhu7>

SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Cities and the SDGs - <https://partnershipsforum.unaav.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Cities-and-the-SDGs-UNA-AV-21-April-2021.pdf>

SDGs Cities Challenge - <https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/connected-cities/projects/sdgs-cities-challenge>

City Climate leadership a model for sustainability - Pursuit article 20 April 2021.
<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/city-climate-leadership-a-model-for-sustainability>

SDGs for Melbourne - <https://sites.research.unimelb.edu.au/connected-cities/projects/sdgs-melbourne>

City of Newcastle Community Plan - <https://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/getmedia/c642bf2e-74df-4eaa-8931-526df94598dc/3119-CSP-Strategy-FINA>

Net Zero Momentum Tracker: <https://www.climateworksaustralia.org/news/local-governments-helping-cut-resident-and-business-emissions-to-zero/>

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-values/sustainable-development-goals/goal-11>

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS

Markets for Change: <https://unwomen.org.au/markets-for-change/>

Second Chance: https://www.bhp.com/-/media/documents/community/bhpfoundation/190704_bhp-foundation-second-chance-education-and-vocational-learning-programme.pdf?la=en

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Women Rise for All: <http://webtv.un.org/search/women-rise-for-all-%E2%80%93%E2%80%9Ctogether-we-are-stronger%E2%80%9D/6199004553001/?term=amina%20mohammed&sort=date&page=2>

Discovering the glass cliff: Insights into addressing subtle gender discrimination in the workplace: <http://psychology.exeter.ac.uk/cic/about/theglasscliff/>

Women's Environmental Leadership Australia Collection: https://commonslibrary.org/collection/wela/?fbclid=IwAR35OQLgwKgC41WjxsZBLKONbsagy110UvbN6KRyKyAlms_wD2ZEwvP04hs

ActionAid Australia Activist Toolkit: <https://actionaid.org.au/home/take-action/activist-network/activist-toolkit/>

WIYI YANI U THANGANI - WOMEN'S VOICES

Wiyi Yani U Thangani – (Women's Voices): Securing our Rights, Securing our Future Report: <https://wiyiyaniuthangani.humanrights.gov.au/>

Wiyi Yani U Thangani – (Women's Voices): Community Guide - <https://wiyiyaniuthangani.humanrights.gov.au/report/community-guide>

Kimberley Aboriginal Women's Council - <https://humanrights.gov.au/about/news/media-releases/media-statement-kimberley-aboriginal-women-develop-regional-action-plan>

POVERTY AND INEQUALITY

Global Citizen Recovery Plan for the World - <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/info/2021/>

Sarah Meredith, Global Citizen Australia Country Director's Presentation Slides - <https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Global-Citizen-Presentation-for-UNAA-2021-compressed.pdf>

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

UN Principles for Responsible Investment: <https://www.unpri.org/sustainability-issues/environmental-social-and-governance-issues>

Australian Sustainable Finance Initiative Roadmap - <https://www.sustainablefinance.org.au/roadmap>

Sustainable Development Investing Asset Ownership Platform: <https://www.sdi-aop.org/>

UN's Principles for Responsible Banking - <https://www.unepfi.org/banking/bankingprinciples/>

Australian Energy Transition Initiative - <https://energytransitionsinitiative.org/>

FINANCING THE SDGS

Financing for Sustainable Development 2021 - <https://developmentfinance.un.org/fsdr2021>

Australian Government Principles for Social Impact Investing - <https://treasury.gov.au/programs-initiatives-consumers-community/social-impact-investing/australian-government-principles-for-social-impact-investing>

2020 Global Impact Investing Report - <https://thegiin.org/research/publication/impinv-survey-2020>

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

UN Global Compact on Refugees - www.unhcr.org/en/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html

UN Global Compact on Refugees Developing an Australian National Action Plan - <https://refugeeresearchonline.org/un-global-compact-on-refugees-developing-an-australian-national-action-plan/>

Refugee Legal's Corporate Clinic Presentation to the UN: https://refugeelegal.activehosted.com/social/ec-5decca5ed3d6b8079e2e7e7bacc9f2.126?fbclid=IwAR3ZUA6wK6Jcc50FsSueVRvU5feA6dj6_gL0e76Qh2-OqT3-5cvonHDLt8

Refugees Advocate for their Rights:

https://www.startts.org.au/media/RT34_Refugees-advocate-for-their-rights.pdf

UN Global Compact on Refugees Forum - (<https://www.unhcr.org/en-au/global-refugee-forum.html>) to produce

DRIVING CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH AN INDIGENOUS LENS

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People: https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2018/11/UNDRIP_E_web.pdf

Do Better: Independent review into Collingwood Football Club's responses to Incidents of Racism and Cultural Safety in the Workplace - https://resources.afl.com.au/afl/document/2021/02/01/0bd7a62e-7508-4a7e-9cb0-37c375507415/Do_Better.pdf

Indigenous Business Snapshot Study - <https://about.unimelb.edu.au/newsroom/news/2021/april/indigenous-business-booming-new-data-reveals-sectors-success>

GLOBAL HEALTH

WHO Manifesto for a healthy recovery from COVID-19 - <https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/detail/who-manifesto-for-a-healthy-recovery-from-covid-19>

WHO: Non-Communicable Diseases - https://www.who.int/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases#tab=tab_1

For the Future: Towards the Healthiest and Safest Region:

<https://issuu.com/alexdesigns/docs/wpr-2020-rdo-001-eng>

VCS Foundation Overview: https://partnershipsforum.unaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/20210420_VCS-Foundation-Overview-for-SDG-Partnerships-Forum.pdf

WHO Cervical Cancer Elimination Initiative - <https://www.who.int/initiatives/cervical-cancer-elimination-initiative>

Mindaroo Collaborative Cervical Cancer Project - <https://www.mindaroo.org/collaborate-against-cancer/news/collaborative-cervical-cancer-program-established-in-the-western-pacific-through-landmark-investment/>

MODERN SLAVERY

Developing Freedom: <https://www.developingfreedom.org/>

Global Slavery Index: <https://www.walkfree.org/projects/the-global-slavery-index/>

Stacked Odds: <https://www.walkfree.org/reports/stacked-odds/>

The Australian Government's 5-year plan to combat modern slavery – what does it mean for business? <https://www.pillar-two.com/featured-insights/2020/12/15/the-australian-governments-5-year-plan-to-combat-modern-slavery-what-does-it-mean-for-business>

UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights - https://www.ohchr.org/documents/publications/guiding-principlesbusinesshr_en.pdf

Australian Modern Slavery Act - <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2018A00153>

Global Compact Network Australia's Modern Slavery Community of Practice - <https://unglobalcompact.org.au/business-human-rights/modern-slavery/>

Australian Government: Modern Slavery - <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/criminal-justice/Pages/modern-slavery.aspx>

IMAGE CREDITS

P.4 Victoria Yutronich

P.6 UN Photo/Rick Bajornas

P.7 and P.8 UN Photo/Manuel Elias

P.9 Image 1 UN Photo/Evan Schneider Image 2: Victoria Yutronich

P.11 UN Photo/Mark Garten

P.21 Victoria Yutronich

P.28 UN Photo/Mark Garten

P.30 UN Photo/Manuel Elias

P.32 UN Photo/Evan Schneider

P.34 Victoria Yutronich

P.35 UN Photo/Evan Schneider

P. 37 Victoria Yutronich

P.38 Left: Graham Fransella, Beach Figures. Top Left: John Wolseley, Botanist's Camp, Top Right: Lily Karadada, Untitled (#5). Bottom: Tommy May, Untitled.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the volunteers whose contribution made the Forum successful:

- > Forum MCs: Monica Lillas and Kathryn Smith
- > Workshop Host: Alice Greenhill
- > Networking Hosts: Warwick Peel, Iain Butterworth, Alyse Sue, Brendon McAtee, Melissa Hartmann and Emma Lucia
- > Session Support: Rosie Dalheim, Fran Grossi and Victoria Yutronich



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2021

UN & Australia
SUSTAINABLE
PARTNERSHIPS

forum



SHOWCASE PARTICIPANTS



MONASH
University



Yarra
Valley
Water



CAPRICORN
POWER

heartfulness
purity weaves destiny



corporate2
community
building disaster resilience



Rocket Seeder



communitier



PARTICIPANT ORGANISATIONS

Actionaid Australia	Communitier	Australia
Athena Infonomics	CPSU Victoria	Global institute for Women's Leadership - ANU
ACOSS	Compass Housing Services	Great Place to Work Australia New Zealand
AECOM	Connected Cities Lab, University of Melbourne	Griffith University
AFL	Consult Urth Pty Ltd	Heartfulness Institute Australia
Australia for Cedar Tanzania	Corporate2community	Herbert Smith Freehills
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research	CWB Ventures	HousingFirst
Australian Global Health Alliance	DAMSY HR	Human Rights Legal Centre
Australian Human Rights Commission	Delcerra Pty Ltd	Iain Butterworth and Associates
Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association	Democracy in Colour	IdeaScale
Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	ICLEI Oceania
Australian Print Workshop	Department of Education and Training	Indiana Institute of Technology
AustralianSuper	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	INKLUDEM
Australian Sustainable Investment Initiative	Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	IQ Energy Australia
Beaker & Flint	DivTal	Infrastructure Sustainability Council of Australia (ISCA)
BHP Foundation	Dr Isabella Allan Consulting	Inspiring Australia NSW
Business Council for Sustainable Development Australia	DRIVENxDESIGN	International Association of Business Communicators Asia Pacific
Capricorn Power	Econome	Jeder Institute
Castlemaine Community House	Edith Cowan University	James Cook University
City of Melbourne	Enviro Peace	J.T Production Management
City of Newcastle	Family Business Australia	Kokoda Track Foundation
Civability	Family Safety Victoria	La Trobe University
Comacon Pty Ltd	Fifteen Trees	Lawyerbank
Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability Victoria	FrontierSI	Life Saving Victoria
Committee for Melbourne	GHD Digital	Local Community Services Association
CSIRO	Global Citizen	Izerobzero
	Global Compact Network	

Mary Ward International Australia	SDGx	Victorian Council of Social Service
Melbourne Water	Shared Value Project	Walk Free
Merri Health	SLM	Wendy Brooks and Partners
Mindaroo Foundation	Social Ventures Australia	West Gippsland Libraries
Monash Sustainable Development Institute, Monash University	Southern Rural Water	Whitlam Institute
Monash University	SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre Inc	Wilderness Society Tasmania
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	Strategy Shop	Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA)
NAB	Sustainability Victoria	Workforce Plus Inc
National Trust of Australia	Sustainable Development Solutions Network Australia, New Zealand and Pacific (SDSN)	World Health Organisation (WHO) Western Pacific
Neighbourhood Houses Victoria	Synergy2030	WWF-Australia
Norton Crumlin & Associates	TD Business Solutions Pty Ltd	Wyndham City Council
Nossal Institute for Global Health	Telstra	Yarra Valley Water
Office Chief Parliamentary Counsel	The Age	Zoos Victoria
Parks Victoria	The Fred Hollows Foundation	Zoos Victoria LEAP
Pearl Consulting	The Partnering Initiative	
PHORIA	Transhumanism Australia	
Pillar Two	United Nations Information Centre	
PKF Australia	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	
Plan International Australia	UN Women Australia	
Policy Tracker	UN Women Fiji	
PRATYeK	UN Youth Australia	
Prince's Trust Australia	Unity Housing	
PwC Australia	University of Melbourne	
PwC's Indigenous Consulting	University of NSW	
Reimagine Action	University of Nottingham	
Refugee Council of Australia	University of Queensland	
Refugee Legal	VCS Foundation Ltd	
Responsible Wood	Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission	
Responsible Investment Association Australasia	Victorian Ombudsman	
Royal Children's Hospital - Centre for Adolescent Health	Victoria Police	
RMIT University	Victoria University	
Rocket Seeder		



United
Nations
Association
of Australia

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Forum



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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