

Plenary 3: Our Business

Moderator: Ms Cassandra Nichols (Australia): CEO, Earthwatch Institute: Australia



Cassandra Nichols is a motivational leader, a facilitator of cross sector partnerships and promoter of environmental stewardship. She is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Earthwatch Institute Australia, a leading global citizen science organisation. She is also a steering committee member of Australian Business and Biodiversity Initiative and an active ACIUCN member. Her career in the environmental field began with her completion of a Bachelor of Animal Science with honours. Pursuing her love for nature and science, Cassandra took up a position managing the Daintree Rainforest Observatory, a world class research station owned and operated by James Cook University, at which time her research

focused on sensitivity of rainforest flora and fauna to climate change. Leading student and community volunteer research programs, Cassandra soon recognised that there was a missing link between science and the greater community, awakening a passion within her to bridge this gap. Cassandra now develops experiential learning programs for business, educators and the general community, using science to inspire and create behaviour change. A key interest of hers is to work in partnership with business helping them realise their impacts and dependencies on nature and driving change to enhance sustainability. Cassandra has co-authored publications, featured in documentaries, advised on the National State of the Environment Report, led business and government round table discussions, contributed to State Government strategic plans, managed multimillion dollar cross sector partnerships and developed international corporate research programs.

Dr Matthew Bell (Australia): Oceania Managing Partner of Climate Change and Sustainability Services, Ernst and Young



Matthew is a Partner at Ernst & Young, where he leads the Oceania Climate Change and Sustainability practice, who specialise in climate change and energy; sustainability strategy and reporting; impact and outcome measurement; and health, safety and environmental work. His multidisciplinary team of scientists, engineers, economists, and policy specialists support some of Australia's largest companies on their sustainability agendas. Matthew is a registered greenhouse auditor, a published doctoral-level scientist, and has previously managed some of the UK Government's major research programmes, including on Climate Change. He holds committee memberships for the ACCA Global Sustainability Forum, the Asia Pacific Real Estate Association's sustainability committee, and sits on a number of IETA and SASB

working groups. Matthew is also a NSW Green Globes judge and a visiting lecturer at the University of Sydney.

Mr Adam Carlon (Australia): Assistant Secretary, Australian Government, Analysis Branch



Adam Carlon leads the Australian Government's Department of the Environment and Energy's Analysis Branch, where he is responsible for managing the Department's implementation of the Government's regulatory reform agenda; and providing analytical support across the Department through a range of specialist skills including innovation, behavioural insights, innovative partnerships, performance reporting and evaluation. For around 16 years prior, Adam worked at the Department of Employment and its predecessors where at different times he led the Evaluation, Research and Evidence Branch and Economics Branch. Here Adam provided advice on programme evaluation, research, public sector data management, the future of work, economic analysis of the Australian and global economy and productivity and participation and managing input into whole-of-

government reform agendas. Previously, Adam was responsible for designing and implementing the Social Enterprise Development and Investment Funds to catalyse the social investment market in Australia and support the social impact created by community organisations while improving their longer term financial sustainability. As a diplomat to Australia, Adam spent three years in Kuala Lumpur as the Counsellor (Education, Science and Training) responsible for Australia's education interests in Malaysia and Brunei. Adam completed the Australia and New Zealand School of Government Executive Master of Public Administration and has a particular interest in public sector reform including regulatory reform, public service delivery, leadership and performance and accountability.

Dr Tim Richards (Australia): Senior Adviser, Environment, Qantas Airways Ltd



Tim is Program Manager within the Fuel & Environment team for the Qantas Group. His role focuses on developing and implementing Future Planet, Qantas flagship carbon offset program as well supporting the broader environmental strategy at Qantas. Prior to joining Qantas, Tim was General Manager of the Carbon Market Institute where he led many initiatives on carbon market and climate change policy development at the federal and state levels. Tim has a deep understanding of corporate sustainability, climate change and the low carbon economy. He holds a

PhD in Environmental Science, a Bachelor of Environmental Science and a Bachelor of Natural Resource Management from the University of Adelaide.