

Closing Plenary: Our Way Forward

Moderator: Prof Kate Auty (Australia): Commissioner for Sustainability and Environment, Australian Capital Territory



Dr Kate Auty is the ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment. She holds post graduate qualifications in law, history and environmental science. Kate is a member of the Victorian Bar. She has held appointments as a magistrate and coroner (Victoria and Western Australia). She has also held appointments as a WA mining warden and industrial magistrate. Kate was instrumental in establishing Aboriginal sentencing courts in both Victoria and Western Australia (2000-2009). Subsequent to those appointments she was the Victorian Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability from 2009-2014 and she continues as a Vice Chancellor's Fellow with University of Melbourne through to 2017. Current boards and advisory roles include - Director on the McPherson Smith Rural Foundation, Member of the Advisory Board to AURIN and Member with the MDBA ACSEES. Kate was until very recently a City of

Melbourne Ambassador in the development of the Future Melbourne Plan 2026 with a portfolio responsibility in climate change. In accepting the ACT Commissioner role Kate relinquished advisory roles with La Trobe University in Research Focus Areas involving sustainability, transformation of cities and in respect of water and agriculture. She also relinquished the role as Chair of the Advisory Board to NeCTAR and, more recently she stepped down as Chair of the Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute (University of Melbourne).

Dr Frank Casey (United States): Ecosystem Services Theme Lead, Science and Decisions Center, United States Geological Survey



Dr. Casey is an agricultural and natural resources economist and serves as the Ecosystem Services Theme Lead for the Science and Decisions Center at the US Geological Survey. His responsibilities include incorporation of ecosystem services and their valuation (including market mechanisms) in adaptive management research and planning for resource conservation on both public and private lands. Dr. Casey directs a seminar series on economic valuation of ecosystem services, participates in several governmental and external advisory committees related to ecosystem service measurement and valuation, and is active in applying ecosystem services concepts and valuation in the context climate change, the conservation of at-risk species, public forest and rangelands, refuges, and on private California agricultural lands. Dr Casey served as the Chairperson of the bi-annual **conference of A Community of Ecosystem Services (ACES)** in 2012 and 2014. He recently completed an assignment as the Deputy Assistant Director for Ecosystem Services at the White House Council on Environmental Quality to assist in the development of implementation guidance for incorporating ecosystem services into Federal decision making. Dr Casey has a PhD in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida and an MS in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University.

Prof David Griggs (United Kingdom/Australia): Professor of Sustainable Development, Monash University and Warwick University



David Griggs is Professor of Sustainable Development at Monash University (Australia) and Warwick University (United Kingdom). He was heavily involved in the development of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including representing the Science and Technology Major group in the SDG negotiations and writing two papers published in Nature on the SDGs. Until 2015 he was Director of the Monash Sustainability Institute (MSI) which aims to deliver solutions to key sustainability challenges and CEO of ClimateWorks Australia (CWA), an independent, research-based non-profit organisation committed to catalysing greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Previous positions he has held include Deputy Chief Scientist at the UK Met Office, Director of the Hadley Centre for Climate Change, and Head of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) scientific assessment unit. David is a past vice-chair of the World Climate Research Programme. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering.

Stella Miria-Robinson (Papua New Guinea/Australia): Pacific Island Council of Queensland



Stella obtained a Bachelors of Arts at the University of Papua New Guinea (PNG) in the late 1970s at a time when few women were given the opportunity to pursue university education in PNG. She later graduated with a Masters in Business Administration at Deakin University in Victoria. Stella has a background in administration, management and human resource management. She has worked in the public and private sectors in PNG and Australia and has been working in the community services sector for the past 10 years. She has a passion for education, cultural diversity, climate change, volunteerism, empowerment of women & youth, strengthening of Families and Faith. These passions

are reflected in her work with Rotoract and Lions Club Youth Programs in PNG; her participation in the UN's Development Program's Role Model sessions for young women in senior high schools; Business & Professional Women's Club of Port Moresby, member of the PNG Law Reform Commission on Domestic Violence; the United Pacific Islanders of Wide Bay; and more recently her work with the Lifeline Fiji Twinning Project. Stella continues this passion through her work as a Multicultural Advisor State-wide with UnitingCare Community and also as a volunteer to the Pacific Islander communities in South East Queensland through the Pasifika Women's Alliance Inc., the Pacific Islands Council of Qld and the Brisbane/Gold Coast PNG Catholic Community. Stella was also the opening speaker at the Brisbane People's March on Climate Change in November 2015 attended by over 10,000 people. Stella is the immediate past President of the Pacific Islands Council of Qld and an Ambassador for the Council in her efforts to advocate for Pacific Islanders including being one of the voices in raising awareness around the impact of climate change in our Pacific Island nations.