



United
Nations
Association
of Australia

Forum
PROGRAM
20 and 21 April 2021
virtual event



UN SDGs LEADER TO OPEN THE FORUM

UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed will provide the opening Forum address from UN Headquarters in New York City.

Ms Mohammed, Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, joined the UN in 2012 as Special Adviser to former Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon with responsibility for post-2015 development planning.

Ms Mohammed led the process that resulted in global agreement around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the creation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

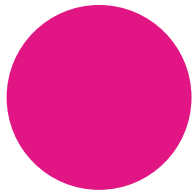
Prior to her appointment, Ms Mohammed served as Minister of Environment of the Federal Republic of Nigeria where she steered the country's efforts on climate action and efforts to protect the natural environment. Having begun her career working on the design of schools and clinics in Nigeria, she ultimately rose to the position of adviser to three successive Presidents on poverty, public sector reform, and sustainable development.

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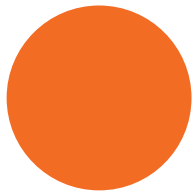
KEY FORUM RESOURCES

Our Forum has been planned around these three key resources. We urge all Forum participants to familiarise themselves with these highly informative and practical documents.



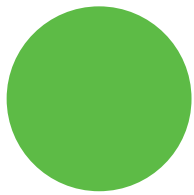
[THE SDG PARTNERSHIP GUIDEBOOK](#)

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.



[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.



[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.



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, schools, government agencies, start-ups and community groups will showcase what they are doing to progress the SDGs.

In individual virtual rooms, Showcasers will display video content and details about their work. Contact details will enable Delegates to connect with exhibitors throughout the Forum.

Then, from 1pm to 2pm on Wednesday 21 April, Delegates and Showcasers will be able to chat during a special live session.

We hope this provides a springboard for exciting new ways for Delegates and Showcasers to collaborate and partner with each other to advance the SDGs.



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FORUM PROGRAM

DAY 1: TUESDAY 20 APRIL

9.00AM – 10.15AM FORUM OPENING SESSION

WELCOME TO COUNTRY

OPENING ADDRESS:

Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations



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

10.15AM – 10.30AM BREAK

10.30 – 12 NOON ARE YOU FIT FOR PARTNERING?

Partnership Broker, Victoria Thom, will lead a practical and interactive session based on global emergent practice in multi-stakeholder partnering for impact. The case for partnering is clear, and progressive organisations have made public commitments to collaborate to achieve the SDGs. However, many are not set up to realise the potential value of effective partnering.

This session will explore dimensions of individual and organisational capacity to mobilise and scale up strategic and transformative partnerships.



12 NOON TO 1PM LUNCH BREAK

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

2PM – 2.15PM

BREAK

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 MBBS MD FRACP
- > Professor Tony Capon, Director, Monash Sustainable Development Institute



SESSION PARTNER



3.15PM - 3.30PM

BREAK

3.30PM – 4.30PM

PARTNERING WITH THE UN – AN INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

The UN and The Partnering Initiative (TPI) are working together to help accelerate partnerships to progress the SDGs.

TPI Executive Director Darian Stibbe will lead this discussion about how organisations can partner with the UN. Simona Marinescu, UN Resident Coordinator for Samoa, Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau will provide a regional perspective, while Jacyl Shaw, Global Director, GHD Digital D-Lab will discuss the opportunities presented by technology.



4.30PM - 4.40PM

DAY 1 REVIEW

4.40PM - 5.30PM

NETWORKING SESSIONS

Thematic Ideas Labs will be offered concurrently to bring Forum participants together informally.

6PM – 7PM

AN EVENING WITH GILLIAN TRIGGS

In this special session from Geneva, Gillian Triggs, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR, will discuss the world's need for a new social contract to embed the lessons learnt from the global pandemic.



“ The pandemic has taught us that with political will, we can find a way to respond to future emergencies, and there will be of course future emergencies, especially the impact of climate change. We can do this in creative and collaborative ways.”

Ms Triggs will be joined in conversation by Bianca Hall, Senior Journalist, The Age.

Ms Triggs was appointed to her role in the world's leading refugee agency by UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres after a long history of service to human rights and the refugee cause globally. Previously President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, Ms Triggs now oversees UNHCR's protection work for millions of refugees, internally displaced and stateless people.

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 21 APRIL

9.10AM DAY 2 WELCOME

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

As an internationally agreed framework and common language, the SDGs provide national governments with a roadmap to develop socially, environmentally, and economically coherent domestic policy solutions for our shared future. Collaborative partnerships with business and industry, civil society and academia have advanced implementation of the SDGs in Australia, but as recent research shows, if we are to ensure that no Australian is left behind national government leadership is essential - particularly as we recover from the effects of the global pandemic.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Leanne Smith, Executive Director, Whitlam Institute and Dr Claire Brolan, Research Fellow, University of Queensland, will discuss the partnerships needed to progress the SDGs at a national level with Kylie Porter, Executive Director of the Global Compact Network Australia and Cassandra Goldie, CEO, ACOSS.

10.15AM TO 10.30AM BREAK

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

University of Melbourne Enterprise Senior Fellow in Informed Cities, Dr Cathy Oke and Dr Alexei Trundle, Research Fellow in Sustainable Urban Development, Connected Cities Lab, will lead a discussion on and with cities, on partnering with their urban stakeholders and each other to effectively lead implementation of the SDGs at the local level.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



11.30AM – 11.45AM BREAK

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



Australian
Human Rights
Commission

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

1PM – 2PM
LUNCH BREAK

Take this opportunity to chat live to businesses, schools, government agencies, start-ups and community groups taking part in our SDGs Showcase.

2PM – 3PM

PARTNERING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

SESSION HOST

- > Imogen Wait, Creative Producer, UN Youth Australia

SPEAKERS

- > Lucy Stronach 2021 UN Youth Representative to the UN
- > Tim Lo Surdo, Adviser to the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
- > Manisha and Vishnal, Child Rights Advocates, India



3PM – 3.15PM

BREAK

3.15PM - 4.15PM

NEXT STEPS

Professor John Thwaites AM, Co-Chair, Leadership Council, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) will lead this session on the urgency of the SDGs.

SPEAKERS

- > Dr Gillian Sparkes, Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria
- > Andrew Gray, Director ESG and Governance, AustralianSuper
- > Dr Shirin Malekpour, Senior Lecturer, Monash Sustainable Development Institute



4.15PM - 4.25PM

FORUM CLOSE

Carlisle Richardson, former Ambassador of St. Kitts and Nevis to the UN and UN Economic Affairs Officer, will officially close the Forum. Carlisle was involved in the development of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the preparations for the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

4.30PM - 5PM

NETWORKING

Delegates will have an informal opportunity to discuss what they plan to do next and the partnerships they want to form.

2021 UN & Australia Sustainable Partnerships Forum Partners

FORUM PARTNERS



MONASH
University



SESSION PARTNERS



RMIT
UNIVERSITY



Melbourne
Water



VICTORIA
State
Government

Environment,
Land, Water
and Planning



Australian
Human Rights
Commission



GLOBAL HEALTH
ALLIANCE
AUSTRALIA

**PwC's Indigenous
Consulting**

FUTURE LEADERS PARTNERS



**Yarra
Valley
Water**



CONNECTING PARTNER

Wendy Brooks
& partners

SUPPORTING PARTNERS



International Association
of Business Communicators
Asia/Pacific Region

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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