

2025 National
Forum on
Australia's
Wellbeing

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING



Wellbeing in Action

An economy that enables
people, communities, business,
and nature to thrive

October 21-23

Canberra & Virtual

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING



DAY 1

Tuesday, 21 October, 8:30am-6:30pm

REGISTRATION (8.30-9.00 AM)

9:00-9:10 AM WELCOME TO COUNTRY

9:10-9:20 AM WELCOME & INTRODUCTION TO CONFERENCE

The Honourable Bill Shorten, Vice Chancellor, University of Canberra

9:20-9:50 AM THE CURRENT STATE OF WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA

Jacki Schirmer (University of Canberra), Maddy Stamatescu (Australian Unity); Chair: Simon Faivel

9:50-11:00 AM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

SETTING THE SCENE: A VISION FOR THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY, BUSINESS, AND GOVERNMENT IN CREATING AN ECONOMY THAT ENABLES WELLBEING FOR ALL

Lorenzo Fioramonti (NATIVA); Chair: Katherine Trebeck (The Next Economy)

MORNING TEA (11.00-11.30 AM)

11:30-12:30 PM SESSION 1: WHOLE GOVERNMENT POLICY - LESSONS LEARNED

Kinga Tshering (Founder of the Institute of Happiness, Bhutan), Matt Donohue (Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria State Government), Angela Jackson (Australian Government Productivity Commission); Chair: Andrew Hudson (Centre for Policy Development)

LUNCH (12:30-1:15 PM)

1:15-2:30 PM SESSION 2: FUTURE GENERATIONS - HOW DO WE PROVIDE THE FOUNDATIONS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS WELLBEING?

Taylor Dee Hawkins (Foundations for Tomorrow), Sophie Scamps MP (Federal Member for Mackellar), Angelica Ojinnaka-Psillakis (Future Healthy Countdown 2030), Amie Furlong (Foundations for Tomorrow); Chair: Taylor Dee Hawkins (Foundation for Tomorrow)

2:30-3:00 PM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION (VIRTUAL)

Carrie Exton, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD); Chair: Mike Salvaris

3:00-4:00 PM PANEL: WHAT IS THE ROLE OF GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY? DO WE NEED GROWTH? IF SO WHAT TYPE OF GROWTH?

Katherine Trebeck (The Next Economy), Richard Denniss (The Australia Institute), Angela Jackson (Australian Government Productivity Commission); Chair: Warwick Smith (Centre for Policy Development); Chair: Warwick Smith

NETWORKING (4:00-4:30 PM)

4:30-6:30 PM "PURPOSE" MOVIE SCREENING + Q&A

Lorenzo Fioramonti (NATIVA), Katherine Trebeck (The Next Economy); Chair: Di Bowles (Centre for Policy Development)

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING

2025 National Forum on Australia's Wellbeing

DAY 2

Wednesday, 22 October, 8:30am-9:00pm

REGISTRATION (8.30-9.00 AM)

9:00-10:00 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1

SESSION 1.1: ECONOMIC MODELS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Kaj Lofgren (Regen Melbourne), Martin Geissdoerfer (Monash Sustainable Development Institute), Lachlan Feggans (Brambles); Chair: Alejandra Mendoza Alcantara (Monash University)

SESSION 1.2: COMMERCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING (GOOD AND BAD) - SETTING THE PRIORITIES FOR A NEW TRANSLATION CENTRE

Sharon Friel (Australian National University), Gary Sacks (Deakin University), Bonnie Matheson (VicHealth); Chair: Jonathan Finighan (Social Ventures Australia)

MORNING TEA (10:00-10.30 AM)

10:30-11:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2

SESSION 2.1: IMPROVING CHILD WELLBEING AND REINVENTING SCHOOLS FOR WELLBEING

Sharon Goldfeld (Murdoch Children's Research Institute), Lindsay Oades (University of Melbourne), Angelica Ojinnaka-Psillakis (Future Healthy Countdown 2030); Chair: Angelica Ojinnaka-Psillakis (Future Healthy Countdown 2030)

SESSION 2.2: BUSINESS INCORPORATING SOCIAL VALUE MEASURES AND TARGETS

Justin Vaughan (Indigenous Business Australia), Justine Felton (Stockland), Daniel Marlay (Ernst & Young) and Regan Lu (Department of Veterans' Affairs); Chair: Siobhan Henderson (Australian Unity)

11:30-12:30 PM

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

WELLBEING IN SCHOOLS AND FOR YOUTH

Alister Ferguson (Maranguka Community Hub), Gweneth Leigh (University of Canberra), Emma Knight & Paul Campbell (Australian National University), Paul Campbell (Australian National University); Chair: Sharon Goldfeld (Murdoch Children's Research Institute)

FILLING THE GAPS IN WELLBEING MEASUREMENT

Franka Vaughan (University of Melbourne), Matthew Iasiello (BeWell Co/University of Adelaide), Marketa Reeves (University of Western Australia); Chair: Jacki Schirmer (University of Canberra)

LUNCH (12:30-1:20 PM)

1:20-2:20 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3

SESSION 3.1: HOW WELLBEING BUDGETS OR FRAMEWORKS ARE TRANSFORMING OUTCOMES ACROSS EACH STATE?

Matt Donohue (Department of Treasury and Finance, Victoria State Government), Xuan Deng (NSW Treasury), Eleanor Williams (Australian Centre for Evaluation); Chair: Nicole Ducker (Centre for Policy Development)

SESSION 3.2: BUILDING WELLBEING INTO LOCAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Kate Sollis (Bega Valley Data Collective), Shayne Hyman (Gardiner Foundation), Lexi Randall-L'Estrange/Melina Chan (Castlemaine Institute), Brydie Leigh-Bartleet (Creative Change Project); Chair: Geoff Woolcock (University of Southern Queensland)

2:20-3:20 PM

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNITIES AND GRASSROOTS ACTION

Jodie Cooper (Positive Psychology), Michelle Macaskill (Hauraki Opportunity Case Study, NZ; Huber Social), Annie Smits (Neighbourhood Economics)

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC POLICY

Adelajda Soltysik (Centre for Policy Development), Joanne Rathbone (Australian National University), Chelsea Hunnisett (Australian National University), Jane Body (Think Forward)

REDEFINING BUSINESS

Vanessa Pilla (Pathmaker), Janet Liu (ANZ), Emilie Perrot (Weinclusive), Darren Coppin (Azurum)

AFTERNOON TEA (3:20-3:40 PM)

3:40-4:40 PM

WORKSHOP: SELLING AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET TO AUSTRALIANS

*Melissa Coade (The Mandarin), Lachlan Williams (The Shape Agency), Andrew Reeves (The Royals)
Chair: Melissa Coade (The Mandarin)*

6:00-9:00 PM

CONFERENCE DINNER, THE MARION

*Benson Saulo (The Torch)
Chair: Simon Faivel*

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING

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DAY 3

Thursday, 23 October, 8:30am-2:30pm

REGISTRATION (8.30-9.00 AM)

9:00-9:30 AM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

TBC

9:30-10:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4

SESSION 4.1: TRANSFORMATIONAL FUNDING MODELS FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING

Sarah Hardy (Philanthropy Australia), Ian Bird (Community Foundations Australia), Natalie Egleton (Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal)

SESSION 4.2: THE ROLE OF DATA - HOW WE DRIVE THE MEASUREMENT OF WELLBEING FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

Jacki Schirmer (University of Canberra), Kinga Tshering (Founder of the Institute of Happiness, Bhutan), Andrew McDonald (Productivity Commission), Katherine Trebeck (The Next Economy); Chair: Jacki Schirmer (University of Canberra)

MORNING TEA (10:30-11.00 AM)

11:00-12:00 PM KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

LIVING WELL WITH NATURE: RIGHTS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor Ray Minniecon (Scarred Tree Ministries), Liam Smith (Monash Sustainable Development Institute), Erin O'Donnell (University of Melbourne)
Chair: Kate Sollis (Bega Valley Data Collective)

12:00-1:00 PM WORDS TO ACTION: SHAPE THE FUTURE OF WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA

Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)

LUNCH (1:00-2:00 PM)

2:00-2:30 PM CONFERENCE CLOSE

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