

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 2025

Ann Harding Conference Centre,
Canberra & Virtual

The 3rd National Forum on Australia's Wellbeing acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where the University of Canberra's Bruce Campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.

ABOUT THE FORUM

The National Forum on Australia's Wellbeing is the leading event for researchers, policymakers, industry professionals, practitioners, and advocates working to build an economy that enables people, communities, business, and nature to thrive. Now in its third year, the Forum brings together diverse voices from government, business, community, and academia to share insights, explore innovations, and strengthen the growing movement for wellbeing-centred decision making.

In 2025, the Forum shifts from setting the wellbeing agenda to putting it into action. It will explore best practices Australia could adopt across the community, business, and government sectors to create thriving wellbeing for people and the planet.

3 Key THEMES FOR 2025



COMMUNITIES AND GRASSROOTS ACTION

How communities are driving systems change to shape wellbeing



REDEFINING BUSINESS

How the private sector and social enterprise can contribute to increasing wellbeing



GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC POLICY

How wellbeing can be embedded in policy, budgeting, and regulatory frameworks

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING



DAY 1 PROGRAM

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

REGISTRATION (8.30-9.00 AM), FOYER

ALL SESSIONS ON DAY 1 WILL BE IN HELD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM

- 9:00-9:10 AM WELCOME TO COUNTRY**
Aunty Violet Sheridan
- 9:10-9:20 AM WELCOME & INTRODUCTION TO CONFERENCE**
The Honourable Bill Shorten, Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Canberra
- 9:20-9:50 AM THE CURRENT STATE OF WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA**
Jacki Schirmer (University of Canberra) & TBC
Chair: Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)
- 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: Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)

MORNING TEA (11.00-11.30 AM), FOYER

- 11:30-12:30 PM SESSION 1: WHOLE GOVERNMENT POLICY - LESSONS LEARNED**
Kinga Tshering (Founder of the Institute of Happiness, Bhutan), Matt Donoghue (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), FOYER

- 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 (University of Melbourne)
- 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)

NETWORKING (4:00-4:30 PM), FOYER

- 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 PROGRAM

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

REGISTRATION (8.30-8.50 AM), FOYER (MOVE TO CONFERENCE ROOM AT 8.50AM FOR CONFERENCE START)

9:00-10:00 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1

SESSION 1.1: ECONOMIC MODELS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Kaj Löfgren (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 (SEMINAR ROOM)

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), FOYER

10:30-11:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS 2

SESSION 2.1: IMPROVING CHILD WELLBEING AND REINVENTING SCHOOLS FOR WELLBEING (CONFERENCE ROOM)

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 (SEMINAR ROOM)

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 (CONFERENCE ROOM)

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 (SEMINAR ROOM)

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), FOYER

1:20-2:20 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3

SESSION 3.1: HOW WELLBEING BUDGETS OR FRAMEWORKS ARE TRANSFORMING OUTCOMES ACROSS EACH STATE? (CONFERENCE ROOM)

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

SESSION 3.2: BUILDING WELLBEING INTO LOCAL COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (SEMINAR ROOM)

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

2:20-3:20 PM

ORAL PRESENTATIONS

COMMUNITIES & GRASSROOTS ACTION (ROOM 22B14)

Jodie Cooper (Positive Psychology), Michelle Macaskill (Hauraki Opportunity Case Study, NZ; Huber Social), Annie Smits (Neighbourhood Economics) & Alison Holloway (SGS Economics and Planning); Chair: Kim Houghton (University of Canberra)

GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC POLICY (SEMINAR ROOM)

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

REDEFINING BUSINESS (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Vanessa Pilla (Pathmaker), Natalie Paine (ANZ), Emilie Perrot (WelInclusive), Darren Coppin (Azurum Pty Ltd); Chair: Min Seto (Australian Social Value Bank)

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

3:40-4:40 PM WORKSHOP: SELLING AN ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET TO AUSTRALIANS (CONFERENCE ROOM)

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

6:00-10:00 PM CONFERENCE DINNER (THE MARION, BARRINE DR, PARKES) HOW TO MAKE WELLBEING A POLITICAL PRIORITY

Benson Saulo (The Torch), Adam Vise (Australian Unity); Chair: Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING

2025 National
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DAY 3 PROGRAM

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

REGISTRATION (8.30-9.00 AM)

9:00-9:30 AM

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION (CONFERENCE ROOM) **PREVENTING PLANETARY HEALTH INEQUITY: A KEY PATHWAY TO WELLBEING**

Professor Sharon Friel (Director, Planetary Health Equity Hothouse, Australian National University)

9:30-10:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 4

SESSION 4.1: TRANSFORMATIONAL FUNDING MODELS FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Sarah Hardy (Philanthropy Australia), Ian Bird (Community Foundations Australia), Natalie Egleton (Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal); Chair: Melissa Kennedy (Deakin University)

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

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

MORNING TEA (10:30-11.00 AM)

11:00-12:00 PM

KEYNOTE PRESENTATION (CONFERENCE ROOM) **LIVING WELL WITH NATURE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN LAW, POLICY AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE**

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

12:00-1:00 PM

WORDS TO ACTION: SHAPE THE FUTURE OF WELLBEING IN AUSTRALIA (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)

LUNCH (1:00-2:00 PM)

2:00-2:30 PM

CONFERENCE CLOSE (CONFERENCE ROOM)

Simon Faivel (Social Ventures Australia)

FOR MORE
INFORMATION ON
THE SESSIONS,
ABSTRACTS & THE
FORUM:



SCAN HERE

INVITED GUESTS



AUNTY VIOLET SHERIDAN

Ngunnawal Elder

Aunty Violet Sheridan is a pillar of the community in Canberra and the region. She is a passionate Ngunnawal Elder who shares her cultural knowledge and expertise with the entire community. She generously donates her time at events, schools, and for a broad range of organisations – in a bid to bring all Australians together.



THE HONOURABLE BILL SHORTEN

Vice-Chancellor and President, University of Canberra

Bill began his role at the University of Canberra after nearly two decades in federal politics. He previously served in leadership roles with the Australian Workers' Union and was a long-standing Member of Parliament, including six years as Leader of the Opposition. He joined UC in 2025, driven by the belief in the transformative power of education, working with students and staff to develop a modern Australian university that not only reacts to society's demands but also anticipates them.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



LORENZO FIORAMONTI

Academic Director of NATIVA

Lorenzo is a leading advocate for the wellbeing economy, serving in academic, policy, and leadership roles, including Academic Director of NATIVA Campus. A former Italian Minister of Education, he introduced mandatory sustainability education and is widely published on post-growth economics. His work bridges academia, policymaking, and public engagement.

PRESENTING: Day 1 Keynote Presentation (9.50-11.00 am)
Setting the scene: A vision for the role of community, business, and government in creating an economy that enables wellbeing for all

PANEL MEMBER: Day 1 "Purpose" MOVIE SCREENING + Q&A (4.30-6.30 PM)



CARRIE EXTON

Senior Counsellor, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) WISE Centre

As deputy to the Director, Carrie supports the overall leadership of OECD's Well-being, Inclusion, Sustainability and Equal Opportunity Centre, providing strategic advice on developing the evidence base for more inclusive, sustainable and people-centred policies. This includes guiding technical work to develop and analyse data on economic, social and environmental outcomes 'beyond GDP', alongside advancing policy tools to improve well-being and support equal opportunities. Carrie also oversees the Centre's in-depth work on subjective well-being, mental health and social connections.

PRESENTING: Day 1 Keynote Presentation, Virtual (2.30-3.00 PM)



PROFESSOR SHARON FRIEL

Director, Planetary Health Equity Hothouse, Australian National University

Sharon Friel is an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow and Professor of Health Equity, with interests in the political economy of health equity; governance of the social, commercial and planetary determinants of health inequities; climate change, food systems, trade and investment. She is Director of the Planetary Health Equity Hothouse, and the Australian Research Centre for Health Equity (ARCHE) at the School of Regulation and Global Governance (RegNet), Australian National University. She is also a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences Australia and the Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, and Principal Visiting Fellow at the United Nations University, International Institute for Global Health.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)
Commercial determinants of health and wellbeing (good and bad) - Setting the priorities for a new translation centre

Day 3 Keynote Presentation (9.00-9.30 AM)
Preventing planetary health inequity: a key pathway to wellbeing

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



PASTOR RAY MINNIECON

Scarred Tree Indigenous Ministries

Pastor Ray Minniecon is an Indigenous elder statesman. He is a descendant of the Kabi Kabi nation and the Gurang Gurang nation of South-East Queensland, along with the South Sea Islander people from Ambrym Island. Pastor Ray is a Director of Bunji Consultancies and the Co-Chair of the Indigenous Peoples Organisation. He is a current Board Member of NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning Community and the Pastor and Director of Scarred Tree Indigenous Ministries at St. John's Anglican Church, Glebe NSW.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Keynote Presentation (11.00-12.00 PM)
Living Well with Nature: Challenges and Opportunities in Law, Policy and Behavioural Change



PROFESSOR LIAM SMITH

Director and Co-founder of MSDI's BehaviourWorks Australia

As one of Australia's leading authorities on behaviour change, in 2011, Liam was invited to establish and lead a new 'Behaviour Change Initiative' (now BehaviourWorks Australia) by the Monash Sustainability Institute. Since then, Liam has been directly or indirectly involved in over 400 behaviour change research projects across a wide range of industries and sectors. He has led the development of a unique research methodology (The BehaviourWorks Method), which is used to inform, develop and design behaviour change interventions and improve their efficacy.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Keynote Presentation (11.00-12.00 PM)
Living Well with Nature: Challenges and Opportunities in Law, Policy and Behavioural Change



DR ERIN O'DONNELL

Senior Lecturer and ARC Research Fellow, University of Melbourne

Dr Erin O'Donnell (settler) has over 20 years of experience in water law and policy and is recognized internationally for her research into the legal rights for rivers and Indigenous rights to water. Since 2018, Erin has been a member of the Birrarung Council, the voice of the Yarra River in Melbourne. In 2023, Erin commenced an Australian Research Council research fellowship to explore the opportunity of treaty to address aqua nullius and create more sustainable and legitimate settler state water laws.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Keynote Presentation (11.00-12.00 PM)
Living Well with Nature: Challenges and Opportunities in Law, Policy and Behavioural Change

INVITED SPEAKERS



PROFESSOR JACKI SCHIRMER

Director, Centre for Environmental Governance, Wellbeing and Resilience Unit Lead, University of Canberra

Jacki's work focuses on understanding how we can maintain a good quality of life in situations of change and challenge, with a particular focus on climate change, natural resource management change, and natural hazards (drought, bushfire etc). She is a specialist in the measurement of human wellbeing and resilience, and measurement of change in socio-economic conditions and resilience of rural and regional communities in Australia.

PRESENTING: Day 1 (9.20-9.50 AM)

The current state of wellbeing in Australia

CHAIRING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)

Filling gaps in wellbeing measurement

PRESENTING & CHAIRING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9.30-10.30 AM)

The role of data - how we drive the measurement of wellbeing for people and planet



KINGA TSHERING

Founder of the Institute of Happiness, Bhutan

Kinga is the founder of the Institute of Happiness, a think and do tank for curating ideas that bridge Bhutan's traditional wisdom towards the digital future in the service of a happy humanity. He is a change leader who makes compelling and transformational impacts on society at the intersection of politics, development, technology (AI), finance, and investments. Kinga is the former Chief Executive Officer of the Bank of Bhutan and a former Member of Parliament in the National Assembly of Bhutan. He is currently completing the Masters in Divinity program at the Harvard Divinity School and undergoing Dzogchen practices focusing on mind training and awareness sharpening.

PRESENTING: Day 1 Session 1 (11.30-12.30 PM)

Whole Government Policy - Lessons Learned

Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9.30-10.30 AM)

The role of data - how we drive the measurement of wellbeing for people and planet

INVITED SPEAKERS



MATT DONOGHUE

Director, Early Intervention and Reform Team, Department of Treasury and Finance (Vic.)

Matt oversaw the establishment and embedding of wellbeing impact analysis in budgets through the Victorian Government's Early Intervention and Investment Framework. He has extensive experience in Treasury and was previously the Director in the Office of the Secretary. Prior to that, he spent a significant amount of time in utility regulation and completed a Master of Economics at the University of Melbourne.

PRESENTING:

Day 1 Session 1 (11.30-12.30 PM)

Whole Government Policy - Lessons Learned

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (1.20-2.20 PM)

How wellbeing budgets or frameworks are transforming outcomes across each state?



DR ANGELA JACKSON

Commissioner, Australian Government Productivity Commission

Dr Angela Jackson was recently appointed as a Commissioner with the Australian Government Productivity Commission. She began her career as an economist at the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and served as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Australian Finance Minister during the Global Financial Crisis. Angela is the National Chair of the Women in Economics Network and an adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Tasmania. She holds a Masters with Distinction from the London School of Economics and a PhD from Monash University on the Economics of Disability.

PRESENTING:

Day 1 Session 1 (11.30-12.30 PM)

Whole Government Policy - Lessons Learned

PANEL MEMBER:

Day 1 Panel (3.00-4.00 PM)

What is the role of growth in the economy? Do we need growth? If so what type of growth?



TAYLOR DEE HAWKINS

Managing Director, Foundations for Tomorrow

Taylor is an award-winning entrepreneur focused on future-driven leadership, policy innovation, and social impact. She is the Managing Director of Foundations for Tomorrow, a non-profit dedicated to advancing the protection of future generations' interests in Australia, which recently launched the Australian Parliamentary Group for Future Generations and the Intergenerational Fairness Coalition.

PRESENTING & CHAIRING:

Day 1 Session 2 (1.15-2.30 PM)

Future Generations - How do we provide the foundations for future generations wellbeing?

INVITED SPEAKERS



DR SOPHIE SCAMPS MP

Federal Member for Mackellar

Dr Sophie Scamps is the Independent Federal Member for Mackellar on Sydney's Northern Beaches. Before being elected in 2022, Dr Scamps worked as an emergency doctor at Mona Vale Hospital and as a local GP. Scamps studied Medicine at the University of Sydney and has a master's degree from Oxford University and a Master of Public Health with the University of NSW. She also founded Our Blue Dot, a community-led non-profit organisation that aimed to reduce waste and emissions. In 2025, Sophie was re-elected on a platform of addressing intergenerational inequality, tackling the cost of living and climate crises and supporting small businesses and better health outcomes.

PRESENTING:

Day 1 Session 2 (1.15-2.30 PM)

Future Generations - How do we provide the foundations for future generations wellbeing?



ANGELICA OJINNAKA-PSILLAKIS

Project Manager, Future Healthy Countdown 2030

Angelica (she/her) is a global social development and youth advocate, social researcher, and thought leader on inequality. She drives advocacy, research, and creative projects on youth and child rights, social development, health, intersectionality, and justice. Angelica serves as the Oceania Representative on the WFUNA Youth Advisory Council (2023-2026), manages evidence-based advocacy with the Future Healthy Countdown 2030, is Chairperson of the African Australian Youth Suicide Prevention Group and African Women Australia and advises organisations including UNESCO, the Centre for Adolescent Health, and Yung Prodigy.

PRESENTING:

Day 1 Session 2 (1.15-2.30 PM)

Future Generations: How do we provide the foundations for future generations wellbeing?

**PRESENTING
& CHAIRING:**

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)

Improving child wellbeing and reinventing schools for wellbeing



AMIE FURLONG

Government Relations & Research Adviser, Foundations for Tomorrow

Amie is a policy and advocacy professional and has experience in management roles across government and not-for-profit sectors. She is the Research Lead of Foundations for Tomorrow, a youth-driven not for profit advocating for governance structures and decision making incentives that make sure generations in the future are fairly considered in today's world.

PRESENTING:

Day 1 Session 2 (1.15-2.30 PM)

Future Generations - How do we provide the foundations for future generations wellbeing?

INVITED SPEAKERS



DR KATHERINE TREBECK

Economic Change Lead, The Next Economy

Katherine is a political economist, writer and advocate for economic system change. Her roles include writer-at-large and co-director of the Compassion in Financial Services Hub at the University of Edinburgh, Economic Change Lead at The Next Economy, and Strategic Advisor to the Centre for Policy Development. She co-founded the Wellbeing Economy Alliance (WEAll) and also WEAll Scotland, its Scottish hub.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9.30-10.30 AM)

The role of data - how we drive the measurement of wellbeing for people and planet

PANEL MEMBER: Day 1 Panel (3.00-4.00 PM)

What is the role of growth in the economy? Do we need growth? If so what type of growth?

Day 1 "Purpose" MOVIE SCREENING + Q&A (4.30 - 6.30 PM)



DR RICHARD DENNISS

Executive Director, The Australia Institute

Executive Director of the Australia Institute, Richard is a prominent Australian economist, author and public policy commentator, and has spent the last twenty years moving between policy-focused roles in academia, federal politics and think-tanks.

PANEL MEMBER: Day 1 Panel (3.00-4.00 PM)

What is the role of growth in the economy? Do we need growth? If so what type of growth?



KAJ LÖFGREN

CEO, Regen Melbourne

Kaj is the CEO of Regen Melbourne, a collaborative network of over 200 organisations working towards a regenerative future for Melbourne. He is also the Director of the Small Giants Academy Action Labs, where he leads the incubation and development of new initiatives. This has included launching B Corporation in the region, bringing the School of Life to Australia and co-creating the Mastery of Business and Empathy.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)

Economic models for a sustainable future

INVITED SPEAKERS



DR MARTIN GEISSDOERFER

Associate Professor of Circular Economy, Monash Sustainable Development Institute

Dr Martin Geissdoerfer is an Associate Professor of Circular Economy Transitions at the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, an Associate at the Circular Economy Centre at Cambridge Judge Business School, a guest lecturer at several universities, and a former project manager at McKinsey & Company. Martin's research investigates circular economy transitions and sustainability strategy, with a special focus on the role of business model innovation and ecosystems. He investigates factors driving environmental, social, and economic performance of circular business model innovation, how AI can be leveraged in circular ecosystems, and the role of simultaneity in sustainability-focused system change.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)
Economic models for a sustainable future



LACHLAN FEGGANS

Senior Director for Sustainability and Regeneration, Brambles

Lachlan is a sustainability professional with over 20 years experience. He currently serves as the Senior Director for Sustainability and Regeneration at Brambles, a company recognised for its circular business model. In this role, Lachlan focuses on re-establishing the connection between the company's dependencies and their impacts on natural capital, while also creating value for all stakeholders through an ambitious 2030 sustainability strategy and targets.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)
Economic models for a sustainable future



PROFESSOR GARY SACKS

Professor of Public Health Policy, Deakin University

Gary Sacks is Co-Director of the Global Centre for Preventive Health and Nutrition (GLOBE) at Deakin University, Australia. He was also recently appointed as Director of a new research translation centre focused on the economic and commercial determinants of health. His expertise is in food policy and corporate influences on health.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)
Commercial determinants of health and wellbeing (good and bad) - Setting the priorities for a new translation centre

INVITED SPEAKERS



BONNIE MATHESON

Manager, Commercial Determinants of Health, VicHealth

Bonnie is an experienced public health and social policy leader who has worked across local, state and federal governments, and the not-for-profit sector. Her career has focused on enabling Aboriginal self-determination, tackling systemic and structural racism and reshaping systems to protect and promote health for all. At VicHealth, Bonnie leads a team to address the systems, practices and pathways through which commercial and economic actors influence health, wellbeing and health equity. Bonnie has worked with ministers, government departments, non-government organisations and communities to deliver social policy and self-determination reform, truth-telling, municipal public health and wellbeing planning and health promotion initiatives.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1 (9:00-10:00 AM)

Commercial determinants of health and wellbeing (good and bad) - Setting the priorities for a new translation centre



PROFESSOR SHARON GOLDFELD

Theme Director, Murdoch Children's Research Institute

Professor Sharon Goldfeld is a paediatrician and Director, Centre for Community Child Health at the Royal Children's Hospital, Theme Director, Population Health at the Murdoch Children's Research Institute. She has held senior roles in health and education policy and leads national research on childhood adversity and systems change. Her work focuses on evidence-based, sustainable solutions to eliminate child inequities. She received the Marles Medal in STEM (2020), an Order of Australia (AM), and was elected Fellow of the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences in 2024.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)

Improving child wellbeing and reinventing schools for wellbeing

CHAIR: Day 2 Oral Presentations: (11:30-12:30 PM)

Wellbeing in schools and for Youth



PROFESSOR LINDSAY OADES

Deputy Dean, Faculty of Education and Professor of Wellbeing Science, University of Melbourne

Professor Lindsay Oades is a globally respected expert in wellbeing education, wellbeing psychology, leadership and systems transformation. He is a scholar and founder of Wellbeing Literacy- how we communicate about and for wellbeing, pioneering Thriveability Theory, a transdisciplinary framework advancing sustainable human flourishing. A trusted advisor to governments, corporates, and global institutions, he brings transdisciplinary insight, human-centred leadership, and a track record of designing scalable programs that align policy, culture, and performance.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)

Improving child wellbeing and reinventing schools for wellbeing

INVITED SPEAKERS

2025 National Forum on Australia's Wellbeing



JUSTIN VAUGHAN

Associate Director Strategy and Impact, Indigenous Business Australia

Justin leads IBA's strategic policy, planning, research, and evaluation activities. He oversees IBA's impact framework, which considers the wellbeing effects of inclusive, equitable, and fair access to capital and finance. It explores impact from the perspective of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, going beyond the numbers to uncover stories that reflect diverse cultures, views, and experiences.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)
Business incorporating social value measures and targets



JUSTINE FELTON

Group Social Sustainability Manager, Stockland

Justine is an executive with over twenty years' experience in Social Impact across the Not-for-Profit, Business and Government sectors, in the United Kingdom and Australia. As Group Social Sustainability Manager at Stockland, Justine leads the Social strategy and its business integration across the diversified portfolio of assets. Prior to joining Stockland, Justine worked as a senior advisor in the NSW Department of Planning and Environment and as Director of Social Impact at professional services firm PwC Australia. Justine is passionate about education and was a Director on the Board of Primary Ethics.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)
Business incorporating social value measures and targets



DANIEL MARLAY

Associate Partner, Ernst & Young

Daniel is an Associate Partner at EY with 25 years' experience in applying advanced data analysis to support strategic and operational business decision making across government, financial services, airlines, and other industry sectors. Over the last decade, he has worked extensively on projects using linked government administrative data and microsimulation models to support decision making in the areas of health and human services. Most recently this has included working with DVA to develop wellbeing data assets as part of the Data Sharing and Analytics Solution (DSAS) project with Defence.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)
Business incorporating social value measures and targets

INVITED SPEAKERS



REGAN LU

Department of Veterans' Affairs, Australian Government

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2 (10:30-11:30 AM)
Business incorporating social value measures and targets



XUAN DENG

Director, Performance Budgeting Framework, NSW Treasury

Xuan is a public policy professional with extensive experience across Federal and State government. She has advised on a broad range of policies including budgeting frameworks, economic evaluation, regulation and competition and federal financial relations. Currently, Xuan leads a team that uses economic wellbeing frameworks, data and evidence to improve the living standards of NSW residents, through better government decision making.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 3 (1:20-2:20 PM)
How wellbeing budgets or frameworks are transforming outcomes across each state?



ELEANOR WILLIAMS

Managing Director, Australian Centre for Evaluation, Australian Department of the Treasury

Eleanor is the Managing Director at the Australian Centre for Evaluation, with responsibility for the Measuring What Matters framework. She has over 20 years experience in senior management roles in government policy, strategy, research and evaluation and founded the Australian Public Sector Evaluation Network in 2019. Eleanor holds Masters-level qualifications in evaluation, public policy and management and is currently undertaking a PhD with supervisors at the University of Queensland and University College London with a focus on evidence use in fast-paced policy environments.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (1:20-2:20 PM)
How wellbeing budgets or frameworks are transforming outcomes across each state?

INVITED SPEAKERS



LAUREN CLIFT

Senior Director, Wellbeing Evidence, Insights, and Budgeting - ACT Government's Wellbeing Branch

Lauren has 20 years' experience leading strategic policy, data innovation, and digital transformation across the Commonwealth and ACT Governments, driving the implementation of the ACT Wellbeing Framework since 2021. She has advanced data-informed decision-making and led cross-sector collaborations to generate actionable wellbeing evidence and insights, focusing on using these to guide policy and investment decisions through the Budget process. She holds a Bachelor of Social Science and a Master of Education Policy (International).

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
How wellbeing budgets or frameworks are transforming outcomes across each state?



DR KATE SOLLIS

President, Bega Valley Data Collective & Research Fellow, University of Tasmania

Kate is a passionate advocate for engaging deeply with community members when developing wellbeing policy and measurement frameworks. She is a Research Fellow at the University of Tasmania, the 2025-26 Post-Doctoral Research Fellow for ISQOLS (the International Society for Quality of Life Studies) and President of the Bega Valley Data Collective.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
Building wellbeing into local community initiatives

CHAIR: Day 3 Keynote presentation (11:00-12:00 PM)
Living Well with Nature: Challenges and Opportunities in Law, Policy and Behavioural Change



SHAYNE HYMAN

President of Stratford Community Association in Gippsland, Victoria

Educator, facilitator, developer, creator, and currently President of Stratford Community Association in Gippsland, Victoria. Committed to place-based decision making and collective leadership practices for improving the wellbeing of individuals, businesses, and community organisations especially in regional settings. Encouraging and empowering by showing up and stepping up!

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
Building wellbeing into local community initiatives

INVITED SPEAKERS



LEXI RANDALL- L'ESTRANGE

Executive Director, Castlemaine Institute

Lexi is a Non-Executive Director, founder and business owner with experience across public, private, non-profit, and social enterprise sectors in Australia and internationally. Her career has spanned climate change adaptation, software and IT, water, health and aged care, research, and regional and economic development. Lexi is currently Non-Executive Director of Coliban Water, Dhelkaya Health, and Castlemaine Institute, where she is part of the Wellbeing Economy team.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
Building wellbeing into local community initiatives



MELINA CHAN

Lead - Facilitation, Design and Innovation & Program Lead - Wellbeing Economy Learning Circle, Castlemaine Institute

Melina Chan is the Castlemaine Institute 'Lead - Facilitation, Design and Innovation', as well as 'Program Lead - Wellbeing Economy Learning Circle'. They have two decades of experience in innovation with purpose in Australia and internationally, including extensive work in social enterprise, start ups, and collective impact, supporting organisations and networks to unlock and repurpose resources to achieve lasting change. Melina is also a consultant with DSIL Global and works on neighbourhood scale innovation and prevention, including work on natural hazards and social resilience.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
Building wellbeing into local community initiatives



PROFESSOR BRYDIE-LEIGH BARTLEET

Queensland Conservatorium, Griffith University

Brydie-Leigh Bartleet is a Professor at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University. Over the past twenty years she has led an innovative program of research that advances our understanding of the role that music and the arts can play in addressing complex social challenges in communities. Her current work examines how participation in communal music making can open up pathways for greater social justice, equity, inclusion and wellbeing, especially in communities where entrenched social disadvantage, displacement and division exists.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3 (11:30-12:30 PM)
Building wellbeing into local community initiatives

INVITED SPEAKERS



MELISSA COADE

Journalist, The Mandarin

Melissa is a journalist reporting from the federal Parliamentary Press Gallery. She writes about government and the APS for The Mandarin and has more than 15 years' experience in media and the justice sector. She is a Legal journalist with experience writing and reporting for the Law Society of NSW Journal (LSJ) and Australian legal publication Lawyers Weekly.

PRESENTING & CHAIRING:

Day 2 Workshop (3:40-4:40 PM)

Selling an economy that works for people and planet to Australians



LACHLAN WILLIAMS

Associate Director, The Shape Agency

Lachlan is a communications and public affairs strategist whose work spans media, data storytelling, advocacy, leadership communications and public policy. He was previously communications director at the Centre for Policy Development where he led the organisation's inaugural Purpose of Government Pulse data project. Lachlan has led communications for the Australian Council of Trade Unions, produced award-winning agency campaigns and advised CEOs and boards on sensitive issues such as leadership transitions, organisational mergers and market entries.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Workshop (3:40-4:40 PM)

Selling an economy that works for people and planet to Australians



ANDREW REEVES

Head of Strategy, The Royals

Andrew is the head of strategy for The Royals, a leading independent creative agency based in Melbourne. He is driven by a 'Most Interested' ethos, which is about being curious about everything. This ethos is about asking the best possible questions and uncovering gnarly problems that, in turn, lead to the development of the best ideas.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Workshop (3:40-4:40 PM)

Selling an economy that works for people and planet to Australians

INVITED SPEAKERS



BENSON SAULO

Chairperson, The Torch

Benson Saulo is a descendant of the Wemba Wemba and Gunditjmara peoples of Victoria. Benson has over 20 years experience spanning economic development, social impact, and international engagement. In 2021, Benson was appointed an Australian Consul-General, and Senior Trade and Investment Commissioner, based in the US and leading Austrade's Health and Life Sciences trade and investment team for North America. In 2025, Benson was the Liberal Party Candidate for the Federal Seat of Macnamara (VIC), while unsuccessful, he achieved the 4th highest swing for any Liberal candidate across the country. Benson is a husband and father of three.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Conference Dinner (6:00-6:30 PM)
How to make wellbeing a political priority



ADAM VISE

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Wealth & Capital Markets, Australian Unity

Adam oversees one of the country's largest social infrastructure portfolios—spanning healthcare and aged care property, retirement living, specialist disability accommodation, childcare, and student accommodation. He is a passionate advocate for impact investing, bringing strategic clarity and financial discipline to Australian Unity's purpose to deliver measurable wellbeing outcomes alongside commercial returns. Adam's career is defined by a commitment to innovation and impact, including the development of a methodology to systematically measure the 'S' in ESG.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Conference Dinner (6:00-6:30 PM)
How to make wellbeing a political priority



SARAH HARDY

Deputy CEO, Philanthropy Australia

Sarah Hardy brings more than 30 years of cross-sector leadership experience spanning philanthropy, local government, and the not-for-profit sector, much of this time spent in the health and education sectors. Sarah Hardy is currently the Deputy CEO at Philanthropy Australia and holds board positions at VCOSS, Community Foundations Australia and Southside Community Foundations.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9:30-10:20 AM)
Transformational funding models for community wellbeing

INVITED SPEAKERS



IAN BIRD

CEO, Community Foundations Australia

Ian leads the community foundation movement in Australia, the fastest growing sector in philanthropy with aims to repatriate and organize community resources under community governance. An innovator in the field of collective action and network leadership, Ian comes to Australia following his tenure as CEO at Community Foundations of Canada and Chair of the Global Fund for Community Foundations. He is a former sport advocate and Olympian in field hockey, having represented Canada at two Olympic Games. Ian's civic engagements include contributions as a member of the Wasan Network and as a director of the Community Forward Fund.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9:30-10:20 AM)
Transformational funding models for community wellbeing



NATALIE EGLETON

Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR)

With a 25-year career in the non-profit and philanthropic sector in consulting, fundraising and partnerships, and organisation development roles, Natalie is passionate about facilitating effective and enduring responses to issues facing rural communities. Since becoming CEO of FRRR in 2015 she has led the organisation through a period of significant growth and impact, facilitating over \$170m in funding to remote, rural, and regional communities through hundreds of partnerships and collaborations. Natalie holds a B. Social Science (Public Policy/Research/Public Relations), Grad Dip Applied Science (Organisation Dynamics), and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9:30-10:20 AM)
Transformational funding models for community wellbeing



ANDREW MCDONALD

Project Manager (Director), Closing the Gap Dashboard, Productivity Commission

Andrew is a non-Indigenous project manager who has worked on the development of the Closing the Gap dashboard since its inception. He has over 25 years' experience working with data in government, reporting against performance frameworks including Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage, Indigenous Expenditure Report and the Report on Government Services. Andrew is committed to improving transparency and outcomes for First Nations communities through data-driven insights and collaborative policymaking.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9.30-10.30 AM)
The role of data - how we drive the measurement of wellbeing for people and planet

ORAL PRESENTATION SPEAKERS



DR GWENETH LEIGH

University of Canberra

Dr Gweneth Leigh is a Research Fellow at the University of Canberra's Health Research Institute, where she investigates how urban design influences community health. With two decades of experience as a landscape architect and a PhD in public health, her work revolves around the creation, management and evaluation of outdoor environments on user health and behaviour.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Wellbeing in schools and for youth

DR EMMA KNIGHT

Australian National University

Dr Emma Knight is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at The Australian National University. She conducts quantitative analyses (e.g., agent-based modelling) of nationally-representative datasets to examine youth mental health, school experiences, wellbeing, and educational outcomes.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Wellbeing in schools and for youth

DR PAUL CAMPBELL

Australian National University

Dr Paul Campbell is a postdoctoral fellow at the ANU, working on the ACT Wellbeing Framework project. His research focuses on childhood disadvantage, wellbeing determinants and frameworks, and mental health.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Wellbeing in schools and for youth

FRANKA VAUGHAN

University of Melbourne

Dr Franka Vaughan is a VicHealth Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne, where she is exploring a co-designed, whole-of-system approach to anti-racism (2025-2028). Her research program focuses on race relations in settler states, global histories of race and colonialism, governance and statebuilding in post-conflict settings, migration and diasporas, and antiracism praxis in research and curriculum.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Filling the gaps in wellbeing measurement

ORAL PRESENTATION SPEAKERS



DR MATTHEW IASIELLO

BeWell Co/University of Adelaide

Dr Matthew Iasiello is wellbeing researcher focused on translating science into real-world applications. He holds a position at the University of Adelaide and Be Well Co, a social enterprise owned by Camp Quality.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Filling the gaps in wellbeing measurement

MARKETA REEVES

University of Western Australia

Marketa Reeves is a senior project manager with over 20 years' experience leading data-driven initiatives to improve child and youth wellbeing. She brings expertise in research, stakeholder engagement, and strategic planning, and currently manages the Australian Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlas.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (11.30-12.30 PM)
Filling the gaps in wellbeing measurement

KRISTI MANSFIELD

Seer Data and Analytics

Kristi is the CEO and Founder of Seer Data, leading the company since it was founded in 2016. She is recognised as a leading voice for community-led data access, sharing and storytelling and was awarded the Trans Tasman High Growth and Innovation Award in 2022.

PRESENTING: Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4 (9:30-10:20 AM)
The role of data - how we drive the measurement of wellbeing for people and planet

JODIE COOPER

Positive Psychology

Jodie Cooper is a positive psychology coach and speaker with a Master's in Applied Positive Psychology and over 20 years' experience helping people and teams prioritise their wellbeing and lift performance.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Community and grassroots action

ORAL PRESENTATION SPEAKERS

MICHELLE MACASKILL

Huber Social

Michelle Macaskill is the CEO of Huber Social. As a Social Enterprise, Huber Social's mission is to lift wellbeing through better impact practice: in terms of both measurement and decision making. Just as longitude is to latitude, we need social value and financial value to know that we are on track. Working across the private and social sector globally, Huber Social is dedicated to measuring what matters, so that resources can be directed to where they create the most social value. Michelle believes that incorporating lived experience into decision-making—and acknowledging its significance—will benefit us all.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Community and grassroots action

ANNIE SMITS & ALISON HOLLOWAY

Neighbourhood Economics & SGS Economics and Planning

Annie Smits is the co-leader of Neighbourhood Economics, a place-based initiative reimagining how local economies can be fair, regenerative, and community centered. Her work focuses on building democratic ownership, shared value, and generative local enterprise to transform entrenched disadvantage from the ground up. Before this, Annie spent over a decade leading The Difference Incubator (TDi), advancing social enterprise and impact investment across Australia and the Pacific. She has worked alongside Indigenous entrepreneurs and community leaders to strengthen ecosystems, unlock opportunity, and create new pathways to market.

Alison is a Principal and Partner at SGS Economics and Planning, a BCorp and for purpose employee-owned public policy advisory. She is an Economic Geographer with a Masters in Environmental Planning who brings a long term, evidence based and integrated approach to strategic planning for the future of communities, cities and regions. Alison is Chair of UNSW City Futures Advisory Centre Advisory Panel, a Director of the Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals and a Trustee of the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Community and grassroots action

ADELAJDA SOLTYSIK

Centre for Policy Development

Adelajda is a Senior Advisor at the Centre for Policy Development. She has over a decade of experience across peak bodies, non-profits, Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, and government agencies, focusing on early childhood, education, justice, health, and child protection law reform and policy. She holds a Bachelor of Laws and International Relations from the Australian National University, a Graduate Certificate in Economics from UNSW, and is currently completing a Master of Economics at Monash University.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Government and public policy

JOANNE RATHBONE

Australian National University

Dr Joanne Rathbone is a Research Fellow at The Australian National University and the Academic Lead for the ACT Wellbeing Framework Project. Her research uses social-psychological theory and mixed methods to tackle major social determinants of health and wellbeing, including stigma and social connection.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Government and public policy

CHELSEA HUNNISETT

Australian National University

Chelsea is an ARC Laureate PhD Scholar and Government Relations Specialist at the Planetary Health Equity Hothouse at The Australian National University. Her research is focused on planetary health equity and Australia's approach to the development of a wellbeing economy. She is a government relations specialist with expertise in planetary health policy, wellbeing economies, food systems, preventive health and the social determinants of health.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Government and public policy

JANE BODY

Think Forward

Jane Body is the General Manager at Think Forward and co-founder of Australia's Intergenerational Fairness Coalition. With a background in global development, she's worked with communities worldwide to address systemic injustice. Now, she's focused on how Australia's tax system can help build a fairer, more sustainable society.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Government and public policy

VANESSA PILLA

Pathmaker

Vanessa Pilla is the co-founder of PATHMAKER, a social enterprise, providing strategic advisory services that empower organisations to create, deliver and measure social value.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Redefining business

ORAL PRESENTATION SPEAKERS

NATALIE PAINE

ANZ

Natalie Paine is the Social Impact Research & Reporting Lead at ANZ. Natalie oversees ANZ's social impact research including ANZ's surveys of financial wellbeing, collaborations with social research partners, and the ongoing evaluation of ANZ's financial capability programs MoneyMinded, MoneyBusiness and Saver Plus, which are delivered in partnership with community organisations. Natalie has a background in economics and has worked for more than 25 years in public policy and financial inclusion.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Redefining business

EMILIE PERROT

WeInclusive

Emilie Perrot is the Founder and Director of WeInclusive, a consultancy specialising in human-centred transformation, leadership development, and systemic culture change across essential service industries such as transport, energy, and education in Australia and internationally. She brings more than 18 years' senior leadership experience in the transport industry in Australia and overseas, and since 2018 has focused on executive coaching and facilitation with boards, CEOs, and senior teams. Emilie is also Chair of WIRE, Victoria's leading gender equity for-purpose organisation, and is currently integrating Gestalt psychotherapy training into her leadership practice to redefine business success through wellbeing, connection, and sustainable performance.

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Redefining business

DR DARREN COPPIN

Azurum Pty Ltd

Darren's PhD explored how behavioural science and wellbeing interventions can drive positive change in the lives of unemployed people. Since then, more than 200,000 people across six countries have gone through his behavioural change programmes. His passion lies in uncovering fascinating new behavioural science and translating it into real-world impact (when he's not clearing up after potty lambs on his farm near Bathurst). His first book, 'It's All B.S.', will be published in the US next Fall (whatever that means).

PRESENTING: Day 2 Oral Presentations (2.20-3.20 PM)
Redefining business

SESSION CHAIRS



SIMON FAIVEL

Director, Consulting - Social Ventures Australia

Simon is a nationally recognised leader in social impact measurement and Social Value. He has played a foundational role in shaping the field, including as the Founding Chair and current Co-Chair of the Social Impact Measurement Network of Australia (SIMNA), and as a Senior Advisor to Social Value International. With over 15 years at SVA, Simon brings deep expertise in strategy, governance, and outcomes measurement, and has trained thousands of practitioners across Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore.

Day 1: The current state of wellbeing in Australia (9.20-9.50 AM)

Day 1: Keynote Presentation (9.50-11.00 AM)

Day 2: Conference Dinner (6:00-9:00 PM)

Day 3: Words to Action - Shape the future of wellbeing in Australia (12.00-1.00 PM)



ANDREW HUDSON

CEO, Centre for Policy Development

Andrew Hudson is CEO of the Centre for Policy Development and has previously led Crisis Action, Human Rights First as well as other NGOs, the UN, the private sector and government. He has 25 years of experience in public policy, advocacy and senior leadership. He is an expert in building collaborations and changing systems to improve the lives of disadvantaged people.

Day 1 Session 1: Whole Government Policy - Lessons Learned (11.30-12.30 PM)



MIKE SALVARIS

Director of Australian National Development Index (ANDI)

Limited, Hon Senior Research Fellow, School of Education, University of Melbourne

With a background in social justice and human rights, Mike Salvaris has worked for the past 25 years to develop new citizen-engaged goals and measures of progress and wellbeing that go 'beyond GDP'. He has advised many Australian and international organisations and governments, including the OECD, the UN, the governments of New Zealand, Canada and Bhutan, the Senate and local governments. Mike is a Director of ANDI (the Australian National Development Index) and a convenor of the Australian Hub of the international Wellbeing Economy Alliance (WEAll). He has a particular interest in the question 'What kind of economy will best promote equitable and sustainable wellbeing?'

Day 1 Keynote Presentation, Virtual (2.30-3.00 PM)

SESSION CHAIRS



WARWICK SMITH

Research Director, Wellbeing Economy, Centre for Policy Development

Warwick is Research Director with the Centre for Policy Development's Wellbeing Government team, where his work focuses on the integration of wellbeing economy concepts and frameworks into government policy and decision making. He is also a founding Director of both the Castlemaine Institute and the Castlemaine Community Investment Cooperative and an honorary fellow at the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne.

Day 1 Panel: What is the role of growth in the economy? Do we need growth? If so what type of growth? (3.00-4.00 PM)



DI BOWLES

Wellbeing Policy Advisor, Co-Convenor of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance Australia Hub, Centre for Policy Development

Di is a Policy Advisor with the Centre for Policy Development's Wellbeing Government Team, where she promotes values-driven, holistic, and preventative policy that meets the needs of people and the environment. As co-convenor of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance Australia Hub, she connects stakeholders committed to advancing the principles of the wellbeing economy. She navigates complexity to create pathways for systemic change, fostering a more hopeful, equitable, and sustainable future.

Day 1 "Purpose" MOVIE SCREENING + Q&A (4.30 - 6.30 PM)



ALEJANDRA MENDOZA ALCÁNTARA

Policy and Evaluation Lead (Strategy and Engagement), Monash Sustainable Development Institute

Alejandra Mendoza Alcántara is an economist with extensive experience in policy analysis and evaluation across sustainable development, economic policy, and international trade. At the Monash Sustainable Development Institute, she leads research and capability-building programs that equip decision-makers with tools for evidence-informed policy. Previously, Alejandra worked at the World Bank in Washington D.C. designing and implementing impact evaluations in developing countries. Across her career, she has collaborated widely with governments, NGOs and business leaders to use data and stakeholder engagement to shape strategic policy agendas. Alejandra holds a Master's in Public Administration from Columbia University and a Bachelor's in Economics from ITAM (Mexico).

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1: Economic models for a sustainable future (9.00-10.00 AM)

SESSION CHAIRS



JONATHAN FINIGHAN

Principal, Consulting - Social Ventures Australia

Jonathan has almost 20 years' experience helping non-profits, government agencies, philanthropic foundations and corporates to make a positive difference. He has led strategy, evaluation, facilitation and systems change projects for a broad diversity of organisations, with a focus on initiatives that strengthen community wellbeing and drive meaningful outcomes. Jonathan brings a collaborative, evidence-informed approach to complex challenges.

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 1: Commercial determinants of health and wellbeing (good and bad) - Setting the priorities for a new translation centre (9:00-10:00 AM)



SIOBHAN HENDERSON

Head of Social Impact and Strategy Manager, Australian Unity

Siobhan leads Australian Unity's social impact work, including the Australian Unity Wellbeing Index and their wellbeing outcomes measurement framework. This framework assigns a financial value to Australian Unity's social impact, which is used in reporting and informing strategic and investment decisions. Siobhan is focused on aligning organisational strategy and commercial endeavours with meaningful positive social impact.

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 2: Business incorporating social value measures and targets (10:30-11:30 AM)



NICOLE DUCKER

Senior Policy Adviser, Centre for Policy Development

Nicole is a Senior Policy Adviser in the Wellbeing Government Focus Area at the Centre for Policy Development. She brings expertise from her background in the Australian Public Service, working on policy development, program management and service delivery focused on improving the wellbeing of children, families and communities. Nicole holds a Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) from the University of Newcastle, a Graduate Certificate of Policy and Applied Social Research from Macquarie University, and a Master of Politics and Policy from Deakin University.

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3: How wellbeing budgets or frameworks are transforming outcomes across each state (1.20-2.20 PM)

SESSION CHAIRS



DR GEOFF WOOLCOCK

Senior Research Fellow (Regional Community Development), University of Southern Queensland

Geoff Woolcock is a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Southern Queensland's Institute for Resilient Regions. His long-standing work with the public, private and not-for-profit sectors concentrates on developing qualitative and quantitative measures of progress and community wellbeing, closely collaborating with local communities in place-based, early intervention/prevention initiatives. Geoff is an experienced social researcher with considerable expertise in social and community service planning and evaluation, including social impact assessment and project evaluation, social capital and community capacity building.

Day 2 Concurrent Sessions 3: Building wellbeing into local community initiatives (1.20-2.20 PM)



DR KIM HOUGHTON

Specialist in Regional Communities, Health Research Institute, University of Canberra

Dr Kim Houghton is part of the UC WellRes team, working on creating wellbeing frameworks with two regional Victorian communities. Kim has over 25 years' experience researching local economic development issues, helping communities understand these challenges and develop effective responses. Kim has worked in the public, private, corporate and academic sectors, and was Chief Economist at the Regional Australia Institute think tank for eight years.

Day 2 Oral Presentations: Communities and Grassroots Action (2.20-3.20 PM)



RYAN MARTIN

Policy Adviser, Centre for Policy Development

Ryan is a policy adviser working in the social services and wellbeing focus areas at the Centre for Policy Development. He is passionate about using community collaboration and a range of research methods to inform practical and sustainable social change. He is particularly dedicated to connecting communities, practitioners, and policy makers to produce a more equitable system for all.

Day 2 Oral Presentations: Government and Public Policy (2.20-3.20 PM)

SESSION CHAIRS



MIN SETO

Executive Officer, Australian Social Value Bank

Min is the Executive Officer of the Australian Social Value Bank, leading Australia's foremost platform for measuring and valuing social impact. With a career spanning strategy, innovation, and impact measurement across government, corporate, and for-purpose sectors, Min helps organisations move beyond numbers to understand the real value they create for people and communities. She is passionate about making social impact measurement accessible, practical, and powerful—helping leaders use wellbeing data to guide decisions that strengthen communities and drive meaningful social value.

Day 2 Oral Presentations: Redefining Business (2.20-3.20 PM)



DR MELISSA KENNEDY

VicHealth Post-Doctoral Fellow, School of Psychology, Deakin University

Dr Melissa Kennedy is a VicHealth Post-Doctoral Fellow at Deakin University, researching how place-based approaches can progress a Wellbeing Economy. With a background in planning and human geography, her work explores how communities can lead local economic transformations that prioritise wellbeing over growth. Her work is grounded in the diverse and community economies framework developed by J.K. Gibson-Graham and the Community Economies Research Network, with a strong focus on rural and regional communities.

Day 3 Concurrent Sessions 4: Transformational funding models for community wellbeing (9:30-10:30 AM)

THIRD NATIONAL FORUM
ON AUSTRALIA'S WELLBEING



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Is supported by a collaborative organising committee from University of Canberra, Australian Unity, Deakin University, Australian National Development Index, Australian Social Values Bank, Centre for Policy Development, Monash Sustainable Development Institute, and University of Tasmania.

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