



Australian
National
University

Rio+20: Towards sustainable development

Wednesday 23 & Thursday 24 November 2011

Hyatt Hotel Canberra Commonwealth Avenue, Yarralumla

SESSION 1

Professor Brendan Mackey

Professor of Environmental Science, Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University.

Professor Mackey's research and teaching is in the field of ecosystem science and policy with applications in the fields of biodiversity and climate change. He serves on the global Council of the IUCN and a member of its Rio+20 task force. He is also Co-Chair of the Earth Charter initiative. At the end of this year he is leaving ANU to take up the Directorship of the Griffith University Climate Change Response Programme.

Mr Malcolm Thompson

Deputy Secretary, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

Mr Thompson has over 20 years experience in the Australian Government. After studying economics at the University of Queensland, he began his career in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He has also worked in the Treasury, the Assistant Treasurer's office (1995-96), and the Department of Transport and Regional Services. From 2003 to 2007 Malcolm concentrated on water policy, including helping to develop the National Water Initiative, and the establishment of the National Water Commission.

Malcolm joined the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts in 2007 as head of the Policy Coordination Division. He was appointed Deputy Secretary in September 2009 with responsibility for energy efficiency policy and programs, waste policy and corporate divisions. From March to September 2010 he was seconded to the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. He is currently working on sustainable population and affordable housing, waste and corporate matters in the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

SPEAKERS & PANELISTS

SESSION 2

The Hon. Tony Burke MP

Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

Tony Burke is the Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities and the Federal Member for Watson. As Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities Tony will work to build an Australia for the future that is more sustainable, makes better use of our natural resources and gives Australian families a better quality of life. For the first time, the Government will be looking at the challenges and opportunities of population including infrastructure, water, environmental, housing and health needs.

Tony Burke was appointed as Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in 2007 and then Minister for Sustainable Population in 2010. As Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Tony said he would not simply take advice from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and peak industry groups, but also through meetings with people who work the land, on their land. During his time as Minister he travelled more than 150,000 km across Australia, meeting people working on farms and in the fishing and forestry sectors.

His achievements include the development of a plan to reform drought assistance, reforming the nation's biosecurity system, delivering major economic reforms to the bulk wheat export marketing system and overseen nearly 50 trade market access wins, including in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific and Africa.

In previous roles, Tony was appointed directly to the front bench on entering Federal Parliament and served as Shadow Minister for Small Business and Shadow Minister for Immigration. He has also served as a Member of the NSW Legislative Council.

Dr Karen Hussey

Senior Lecturer, Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University.

Dr Hussey undertakes research on the theoretical and policy dimensions of sustainability, institutional arrangements for resource management, climate change adaptation, and global environmental governance. Her most recent publications include a Cambridge University Press book *Water Resources Planning and Management*, and special issues of the international journals *Ecology and Society* exploring the energy-water nexus, and the *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, focusing on "behind the border" regulation and its effect on global trade.

Dr Hussey is Co-Chair of the ANU Water Initiative, Board Member for the ANU-UNESCO Chair in Water Economics and Transboundary Water Governance, and Chief Investigator for an ARC Linkage project on trade relations between Australia and the European Union. From 2007-2010 Dr Hussey was the ANU Vice Chancellor's Representative in Europe, where she was responsible for developing the ANU's research relationships and profile with European research teams and institutions.

Dr Hussey has a PhD in Political Science from the University of Melbourne, an M.Econ.Sc from University College Dublin, Ireland, and a B.A (Economics and Politics) from the University of Melbourne.

The Hon. Robert Hill

National President, United Nations Association of Australia

Robert Hill is a former Federal Senator and Representative of Australia to the United Nations. He is currently the National President of the United Nations Association of Australia, and Chancellor of the University of Adelaide. He was Senator for South Australia from 1981 until 2006 and held appointments as Leader of the Government in the Senate (1996–2006), Minister for the Environment and Heritage (1998–2001) and Minister for Defence (2001–06). Following his resignation from the Senate in March 2006, Hill was appointed Permanent Representative to the United Nations for Australia, and he served in that position until May 2009.

Previously, Hill was an Adjunct Professor in Sustainability at the US Studies Centre at the University of Sydney in 2009 where he was involved in the development of the \$2 million Dow Sustainability Program, funded by the US-based Dow Chemical Company Foundation, to bring together academic and policy experts from Australia and the US to develop action-oriented solutions to a range of sustainability challenges concerning energy, water, food and biodiversity that are technologically innovative, commercially scalable and politically viable. In July 2009, Hill was appointed by the Australian Government to head the Australian Carbon Trust.

Dr Michael Smith

Research Fellow, Fenner School of Environment and Society, The Australian National University

Dr Smith has been a Research Fellow at the ANU Fenner School of Environment and Society since 2006. He also co-founded and was Research Director of the Natural Edge Project (TNEP) (2002-2009), an award winning Australian sustainability think tank.

He has a strong track record of researching and publishing on “green growth” and the “green economy”. To this effect he has co-authored 4 international book publications, one of which *Cents and Sustainability: Securing Our Common Future by Decoupling Economic Growth from Environmental Pressures* (Earthscan, 2010), provides a detailed guide on how to achieve “green growth” and the “green economy”. It is a resource to help all nations develop national sustainable development strategies in the lead up to Rio+20. This publication was recently ranked 5th by Cambridge University in its “Top 40 Sustainability Books for 2010” list.

Dr Smith is also co-author of *Factor Five: Transforming the Global Economy through 80% Improvements in Resource Productivity*, which shows how to achieve a step change in resource productivity to enable the achievement of a “green” economy. This publication was ranked the 12th best publication for 2010 by Cambridge University.

Dr Smith is also formally an external expert to the UNEP International Resource Panel and co-lead authoring two reports on aspects of the green economy for Rio+20 including UNEP’s next flagship decoupling report. He is also currently leading an ANU consortium to develop content on energy efficiency for all business sectors for the COAG National Framework for Energy Efficiency’s web portal to be launched next year.

Finally, in the new year, Dr Smith will start a new project on “green growth” collaborating with Professor Robert Hill, at the United States Study Centre, University of Sydney.

Dr Mark Stafford-Smith

Science Director, Climate Adaptation Flagship, CSIRO

Dr Stafford-Smith has worked on the impacts of climate variability in desert areas around the world since 1975, and is now playing a key role in the CSIRO Climate Adaptation National Research Flagship.

Dr Mark Stafford-Smith is Science Director of CSIRO's Climate Adaptation Flagship, and is also co-chairing the major international global change conference Planet Under Pressure in London next March, which is particularly addressing issues in the lead up to Rio+20. His background is as a systems ecologist, with a particular focus on drylands, and with involvement in global change and development issues throughout his career.

Dr Jill Charker

Acting First Assistant Statistician, Population Labour, Industry, and Environment Statistics Division, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Dr Charker is the acting First Assistant Statistician of the Population, Labour, Industry and Environment Statistics Group (PLIES) with responsibility for a diverse range of statistical programs including the Population Census, labour market statistics, demography, industry statistics, agriculture and environmental statistics.

Dr Charker holds a PhD from Griffith University, and a Class I Honours degree in psychology, majoring in statistics. She also has completed an Executive Masters degree in Public Administration through the Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG). Jill joined the ABS in 2007, and worked in the ABS' methodology division prior to joining PLIES.

Before joining the ABS, Jill worked in various statistical, epidemiological and program evaluation roles in a range of Queensland Government agencies, and most recently in Queensland Treasury. Jill maintains an ongoing adjunct role as a research fellow in the School of Human Services, Griffith University. She has a long-standing commitment to improving public policy and decision-making through better collection and analysis of statistical information.

SESSION 3

Professor Douglas Fisher

School of Law, Queensland University of Technology

Educated in Edinburgh in Scotland. Professor Fisher holds a MA LLB and PhD from the University of Edinburgh and has been admitted as a solicitor in Scotland and Queensland, Australia. He has held academic appointments at Universities in the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Australia and has been a Professor of Law since 1982.

Professor Fisher has specialised in the area of natural resources law and environmental law both professionally and academically since 1975. He has written six major books and a number of shorter contributions in this area of the Law. Professor Fisher is currently a Professor of Law at the Queensland University of Technology.

Mr Gerald Miles

Regional Director, External Affairs and Policy, Asia Pacific, The Nature Conservancy

Mr Miles is The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Regional Director for External Affairs and Policy – Asia Pacific – based in Brisbane. Over the past 30 years he has worked in the mining industry, urban planning, government and multilateral policy (United Nations) and development assistance within Australia, the Asia-Pacific region and globally. He was responsible for the Pacific Island preparations for the Earth Summit in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002; was an architect of the Global Programme for the Sustainable Development of Islands; advised the Indonesia, Philippines and Pacific Constituency of the GEF Council and is actively involved in the negotiation of the United Nations Conventions on climate change and biological diversity. In 2005 he completed the Sustainable Financing Options for Palau's Protected Areas Network that led to new political commitments linking conservation and livelihoods across Micronesia. He received the Conservancy's Outstanding Performance Award (2007) for his role in mobilising political support for conservation at regional and global scales – the Micronesia Challenge has led to similar commitments by heads of Government in the Caribbean, and through the Coral Triangle Initiative. His work to build a broader constituency for conservation led to the establishment of the Global Islands Partnership that is now hosted by the World Conservation Union (IUCN). He currently teaches national and international conservation policy at the University of Queensland.

Dr Hugh Saddler

Principal Consultant - Energy Strategies, Pitt & Sherry

Adjunct Professor, Crawford School of Economics and Government and the Fenner School of Environment and Society, ANU

Dr Saddler is Principal Consultant – Energy Strategies, in the Climate Change Business Unit of Pitt & Sherry and an Adjunct Professor jointly in the Crawford School of Economics and Government and the Fenner School of Environment and Society, at the Australian National University. He has a degree in Science from Adelaide University and a PhD from Cambridge University. He has been fully engaged in the analysis of major national energy policy issues in the UK and Australia, as an academic, government employee and consultant, since 1973 (the year of the First Oil Shock).

Since 1990 he has undertaken a large amount of work relating to greenhouse policy, including the design of emissions trading schemes, and analysis of policies relating to energy efficiency. He is the author of a book on Australian energy policy and of over 70 scientific papers, monographs and articles on energy, technology and environmental policy.

Between 1991 and 1995 he was a member of the Board of the ACT Electricity and Water Authority, and he has served on many other government advisory bodies. Since 2001 he has been a member of the UNFCCC Roster of Experts with respect to greenhouse gas inventory issues and reviews of national communications. He is a Director of the Climate Institute and a member of the Grattan Institute's Energy Program Reference Group. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Energy and a member of the International Association for Energy Economics.

Professor Peter Langridge

Director and Chief Executive Officer, Australian Centre For Plant Function Genomics

Professor Langridge was awarded a PhD in 1980 from ANU. Joining the University of Adelaide in 1984, he became a Professor in 1996 and from 1998 to 2003 was the Research Director of the CRC for Molecular Plant Breeding. In 2003, he became the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Centre for Plant Functional Genomics, a major research Centre based in Adelaide. ACPFG works to improve the tolerance of cereal varieties to environmental stresses; particularly, drought and salinity.

He has supervised over 50 PhD students and published well over 300 scientific publications in his field. He is on the editorial panels of several agriculture journals and is Editor-in-Chief of *Agronomy*. Professor Langridge is very active in the international research sector and is involved in joint research programs with scientists in the European Union, USA, Canada, China, Mexico and India. He sits on several international boards and advisory groups.

Professor Langridge served on the Scientific Advisory Panel for the CGIAR Generation Challenge Program and has worked closely with this program to establish breeding programs in India and China to enhance drought tolerance in local varieties. In 2010, Professor Langridge chaired the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council Expert working group on "Australia and food security in a changing world".

Dr Joshua Bishop

National Manager - Markets, Sustainability and Business Partnerships, World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) Australia

Dr Bishop is a natural resource and environmental economist with over 20 years experience. His work focuses on the links between conservation and development, the economic case for conservation, and the development of market-based approaches to environmental management.

Dr Bishop joined WWF Australia in October 2011 as National Manager – Markets, Sustainability and Business Partnerships. In this role he manages WWF-Australia's portfolio of corporate partnerships and engages with corporate and resource management leaders to drive demand for and uptake of sustainably produced commodities that support sustainable natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in WWF priority places in Australia and internationally. Before joining WWF Australia, Dr Bishop worked as Senior Advisor and Chief Economist at the Global Headquarters of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Previously he led a team of economists at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), in London, in West Africa as a consultant economist to the European Commission, the World Bank and FAO, as a rural extension officer with IUCN, and as a volunteer with the US Peace Corps, in Mali.

Dr Bishop holds a BA in Literature from Yale, a Masters in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, and a PhD in Economics from University College London.

SESSION 4

Dr Heinz Schandl

Senior Science Leader, Social and Economic Sciences Program, CSIRO

Dr Heinz Schandl, PhD in Sociology from the University of Vienna, Austria, is a senior science leader at the Social and Economic Sciences Program of CSIRO Ecosystems Sciences based in Canberra. He is an adjunct Professor at the Crawford School of Economics and Government, ANU and a visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Environmental Studies of Nagoya University, Japan.

His research is focused on environmental and resource information systems, sustainable consumption and production, green economy and how social development may be guided towards sustainability. He has been the lead author of a recent UNEP report *Resource Efficiency: Economics and Outlook for Asia and the Pacific* and has lead projects for UNEP, ESCAP, ADB, the European Commission and the World Bank.