

# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Promises and Challenges Workshop

Summary of discussions

Written by: Ayla Black

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**HUMANITARIAN  
ADVISORY GROUP**



17/31 Queen St Melbourne VIC 3000  
info@humanitarianadvisorygroup.org  
ABN 17 164 772 936



**School of Social  
and Political  
Sciences**

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# INTRODUCTORY NOTE

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This one-day workshop held on Thursday 10 March 2016 examined the implications of the 2030 agenda for the aid industry and development studies, as well as the challenges that lie ahead. The event engaged voices from academia, the development and humanitarian sectors, as well as the Australian government, focusing on exploring key avenues for collaborative action between key players within and beyond the Australian context. The event was keynoted by Professor David Hulme from Manchester University (UK) and featured thematic panel discussions on inequality, conflict, mobility/displacement, and climate change. For the full program please see Annex 1 and for a list of speaker bios, see Annex 2.

## BACKGROUND

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The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the UN Sustainable Development Summit September 25–27, 2015, in New York marked a fundamental shift for the global development agenda. The Agenda consists of seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. Unlike the poverty-focused Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that exclusively targeted less developed countries and regions, the SDGs are a part of a more comprehensive, progressive and innovative agenda, designed to effectively address the complex challenges faced globally, today and into the future. The SDGs are concerned with changing values and norms on the global scale, broadening our conception of development in both thematic and geographic terms. Set to span the next fifteen years, it is unequivocally acknowledged that this process needs to include a globally collaborative and concerted effort, with commitment from all 193 United Nations Member States. The Agenda is not legally binding, but it will certainly shape the global development agenda across the next fifteen years due to the large-scale, consultative development process involving all 193 UN Member States, the private sector and civil society, which has generated ‘unprecedented buy-in’.



# EMERGING CONSIDERATIONS

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## Summary:

- International Development is now a global agenda item. The SDGs are not just for 'developing' nations, but rather for all nations. They are as applicable in the Australian context as they are anywhere else in the world.
- Inequality is continually rising. Today, just 62 people own half the worlds wealth. Left unchecked, inequality will continually hinder development progress.
- Climate action needs to be central to the 2030 Agenda and SDG action as it is central to almost every goal. Climate change has the potential to undo gains in almost every other goal.
- The inclusion of Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions presents a welcome opportunity to 'do things differently'.
- If Australia is to meet the SDGs nationally, we need to reinvigorate Australian politics with a bit of vision and excitement.

## Keynote Address, 'From SDGs Formulation to Policy, Practice and Action'

The SDGs formulation process reveals a big political change globally— 'Development' now belongs to all countries of the world, not just wealthy countries and international agencies. This is opposed to the MDGs, which were ultimately decided upon at the World Bank by a number of executives, self selected to drive specific agenda. The SDGs were a part of a large consultative process. They are big, and they are complex. There are 17 goals, 169 targets and potentially thousands of indicators. The SDGs are a political product, not a theory of development to criticise or debate. With this perspective the SDGs are surprisingly

coherent. They present opportunity. It is ultimately not what they are, but how you use them; they can be utilised by everyone working in the development sphere. The SDGs demonstrate that it is a time for creativity and for action.

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*'The SDGs reflect big political change. Development **now** belongs to all countries of the world, not just rich ones' – Professor David Hulme*

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As with the Millennium Declaration, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is non-binding. Similarly, the SDGs adopt a results based management format, using goals, targets and indicators. Though some things remain the same, there have been many other significant changes. Overall, the SDGs have a lot more content than the MDGs. There are a few obvious changes in the content addressed in the SDGs. These include energy, growth and jobs, reducing inequalities, peace and justice and the environment. The SDGs ultimately adopt a much more holistic approach to development. With the MDGs essentially about poverty reduction, the SDGs signal a return to a focus on national development, particularly on sustainable development, and a focus on national ownership. The SDGs are universal goals, for all countries that strive to 'leave nobody behind'. The process itself, behind the SDGs varies greatly from the process by which the MDGs were developed. The MDGs were driven by needs and preferences of OECD members and aid agencies, The SDGs demonstrate that we no longer have goals set by wealthy countries to drive the development agenda in poorer countries, but rather global goals developed by all 193 United Nations Member States. Development is now a global agenda item.

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*'The SDGs are a messy advance towards inclusive development in an imperfect world'*  
– Professor David Hulme

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Many of these changes have occurred as a result of the shift in capabilities from 2000 to 2015. These shifts can be seen in the rise of BRIC countries and growth in Africa. There are numerous countries that now, compared to the MDGs, have the capability to play a major role in shaping the development agenda. There has also been a noticeable shift in ideas, moving from a focus on poverty reduction to sustainable development. As well as new alternatives to established institutions, i.e. World Bank or the International Monetary Fund, such as the New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank.

### Policy, Practice and Action

The SDGs focus on leaving no-one behind and sustainability: these notions are applicable everywhere, from Melbourne to Dhaka, not just in developing nations. North-South partnerships have undergone a transformation, with greater emphasis on national governments autonomously leading the way in shaping the development agenda in their own countries. With the role of outsiders increasingly being to contribute to this process rather than shape it. There are opportunities to consider how to get the SDGs as a part of a discussion about national planning, and how to best implement them in the specific context; for example, potentially adjusting targets to be higher/lower depending upon the particular challenges faced. We need to consider if there are better, more legitimate measures and datasets that could be used for analysis.

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*'3-4 years of intense political negotiation lends the SDGs substantial political weight'*  
– Professor John Langmore

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The SDGs also need to be discussed widely; if they're only ever talked about at universities and NGOs are they doomed to fail? Probably. The Global Goals campaign aims to widely promote the goals and generate awareness. While the SDGs might appear big and messy, there is a lot of potential. One of the questions we need to be asking is perhaps, how can north-south partnerships benefit the process; this was lacking in the MDGs.

### Panel Discussion 1: Inequality

Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities focuses specifically on the issue of inequality. A new goal entirely, there was no inequality-specific focus in the MDGs. Inequality has been labeled the defining challenge of our time. Widening economic inequalities are becoming more ever-present. Economic inequalities lead to inequality in health and education, further leading to reduced employment opportunities, perpetuating the cycle.



Oxfam recently released research on growing inequality that showed 62 individuals owned the same amount of wealth as half of the world's population – 3.5 billion people.

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*'While poverty alleviation was at the core of the MDGs, and garnered substantial support globally, it remains to be seen whether 'sustainability' will prove as*

*attractive a unifying focus for the SDGs’ –  
Professor Mark Turner*

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Inequality is not poverty; poverty may be the result of structures of inequality but it is not inequality itself. Inequality, and its reduction, permeates almost every single goal of the SDGs. For example, Goal 1: No Poverty requires change in power relationships which maintain structures of inequality, and Goal 3: Good Health and Wellbeing means ensuring equitable access to healthcare. Inequality, left unchecked, will continually hinder development progress. Many people are theoretically in favor of reducing inequalities, but sadly in practice perceived interest and its potential impact upon it often wins out; that is, when the impact of reduced inequalities upon ones own interests does not seem beneficial some may find maintaining inequality to their benefit. In many countries around the world, inequality is both entrenched and increasing. In many of these places politics is held captive by the power dynamic. In countries where you have a wealthy political elite who are shaping how policies are developed and governments are run. In these cases, many services such as health and education are ‘politically captured’. The impact of political capture is striking, affecting both rich and poor countries alike.

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*‘Did you know that the wealthiest 62 people own as much as the poorest 3.5 billion people?’ – Anthea Spinks, Oxfam*

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Inequality takes many forms, including gender inequality, inequality of access for persons with disability, and inequality among indigenous populations or minorities. We must consider the dynamics at play and how they are shaping this inequality. These are issues not just in

developing nations. In Australia, inequality among indigenous Australians is a very real issue. Gender inequality exists in every country around the world. People with disability remain at the margins in many parts of the world. The MDGs were a narrative of hope for many, but they did nothing for disabled persons. The targets of the MDGs did very little to address those at the margins.

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*‘We need to make wealth history’ – Dr  
Hans Baer*

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Another prominent issue, tax justice, will be critical for effectively addressing Goal 10. Every year, around \$100 billion in tax revenue is lost in developing countries. Following the Ebola crisis in West Africa, it became apparent that in Sierra Leone 59% of the nation’s entire budget was equivalent to the tax breaks and concessions it afforded to just 6 companies. This revenue could have been poured into an already struggling health system, allowing it to be better prepared to respond to the influx of cases brought about by the Ebola epidemic. This missing tax revenue had very real implications for Sierra Leone’s health system and its ability to respond effectively. Deliberate abandonment of high-income tax and inheritance tax in places around the world has further contributed to rising inequality. Economist Thomas Piketty has proposed a Global Wealth Tax as the potential solution to this rising inequality. Most reviewers have called this notion nonsense, but perhaps by 2020 or 2025, it may not seem like nonsense. We need to ‘make wealth history’. Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions will also contribute to reducing inequalities, particularly in developing countries if they are able to effectively build up their capacity.

What can be done to address this inequality? The SDGs provide a lot of scope for creativity. We need to make politicians and opinion leaders interested; to convince them to ensure there is a sharp focus on addressing inequality, to call out power structures, to eliminate discriminatory laws. We need to dissolve the current interface between power and inequality, which is driving these inequalities. We need to bring the policy and research agenda behind Goal 10. Need to use the tax system more actively, effectively addressing the tax challenge both in Australia and in the international tax system. Linking it with other systems that sit behind it, such as education and health. Encouraging the use of innovative sources of tax, e.g. inheritance tax, resource rent tax. Enhancing the representation of developing countries in global governments, groups and panels. People from the margins, who aren't used to being at the table, need to be included. The system needs to be accessible to all. Most importantly, there should be employment available to everyone who wants it. Nothing creates more poverty than the inability to earn an income, further perpetuating a cycle of inequality. This means ensuring there is credit available to organisations, such as microfinance.

### Panel Discussion 2: Climate Change

Goal 13: Climate Action is arguably central to the entirety of the goals. Nearly every single goal will be impacted by climate change. It can undo development progress and hinder future gains. It threatens all of



the other sectors in which we work: livelihoods, disease patterns, and food security can all be impacted by climate change, as well incurring financial losses from disaster and lives lost from disaster. Development and climate are intrinsically linked. Historically, academia often viewed development exclusive from environment, while environment practitioners viewed environment and climate independently from development. But today, they are being examined in relation to one another, considering how they can and will impact one each other long term versus short term. Climate change can ultimately have an impact on what poverty can be alleviated around the world.

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*'Climate change has a significant impact upon what poverty can be reduced in the world; it also has the potential to undo development gains' – Dr Adam Bumpus*

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There are often too many agencies competing for already limited funds. A consolidated approach will eliminate unnecessary time wasting. The Paris Agreement reached at COP21 in December 2015, and signed by 169 nations, shows great promise. It will follow on from the Kyoto Protocol that expires in 2020. The Agreement aims to keep rising temperature levels below 2 degrees, and aim for 1.5 degrees; it will be monitored and updated every 5 years. We won't see the real benefits of this for a number of years, but the Agreement will play an important role across the next 15-years in the context of the SDGs. \$100 billion per year is needed to combat climate change effectively. In order to realistically meet this target, the private sector will be largely responsible. Private sector businesses are increasingly taking a big interest in climate change for various

reasons; predominately, because they want to make money, but also because climate change likely actually scares them.

Recent research by Price Waterhouse Cooper has demonstrated that 92% of big businesses have awareness of the SDGs. Though there are big gaps between ambitions of business and practice. There are new tools coming online to help navigate the goals. Private sector is not just 'big business', it is also many small businesses who will help make this happen. Renewable energy sources are increasingly being looked to as a big part of the solution. In July 2015, Germany was producing 30% renewable energy, and is on track to produce 80% of its energy from renewable sources. This is in stark contrast to Australia, where upon meeting our targets we proceeded to wind back our program. It was argued that if it is possible for the world's fourth largest economy to decouple economic growth from fossil fuel consumption, it appears very feasible for Australia to do the same. Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy seeks to ensure universal access to clean energy sources. The main challenge we face is to move from 84% fossil fuels to 90% renewable by 2030. In Australia, this challenge will include producing large amounts of energy for transport, etc.

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*'Germany isn't know for its boundless sunshine, yet they are on track to reach renewable energy targets very quickly' – Adam Bandt, MP*

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This shift from fossil fuels can only occur with strong government coordination. Australia needs a government who is willing to be the midwife of a clean energy society.

What will this take? A pathway to help Australia make this transition has already been mapped out. Similar to the path taken in many other parts of the world, the government will need to promise to cover the difference if the selling price falls below a predetermined amount. But the government will not bear the risk of setting up the plant. Solar will continue to grow. Fossil fuels will decline. The government needs to further consider pollution tax. As mentioned previously, not only is this central to climate goals but all of the goals. The German economy has remained strong in the financial crisis gripping parts of Europe, they offer cheap, clean energy, their initiative has generated 400,000 jobs, and effectively no one has been left behind. All of this needs to be central to Australia's thinking in the coming years.

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*'We need intersectionality between Australian aid projects, acknowledging climate change weaves through each of the SDGs' – Pia Treichel, Plan International Australia*

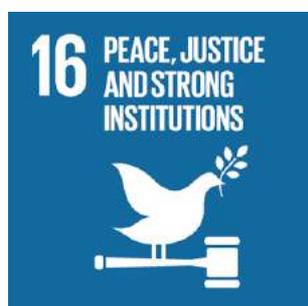
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What can innovation do? Innovation is often hailed as a would-be saviour in climate change discussion, but there is a lot of technology that has been around for years which is still being under used. For example, solar panels are not innovative, but are still often seen as such in Australia. This is the same in developing countries; cook stove technology in itself is not new, but it can often be challenging getting people to adopt new methods. They like the familiarity of an established, traditional system, it may provide heat, or maybe they simply enjoy how it makes their food taste. However, innovation and world leading research is taking place in Australia, with massive investments being made in the CSIRO.

Grassroots engagement will prove fundamentally important, as the desired ‘trickle down’ effect is not always attained. Speaking to people on the ground allows for a connection to be made between individuals and decision makers, and ensures their voices are heard and they are being spoken for. Youth can play a vital role in climate action. Young people care about this, are affected by it, and are scared of it, and they must be engaged in discussion. In Australia our aid funding has been increasingly continually cut, making it increasingly difficult to have a comprehensive program in the midst of this. The key challenge will be to keep pushing for the Australian implementation of these goals with the government in a coordinated way. Communicating climate change issues effectively will also be essential to the success of the goals. One method is by doing your best to make climate change relevant to the person you’re trying to talk to. Australia also needs strong political leadership on the issue – people care, but it’s so often talked down in Australian politics.

### Panel Discussion 3: Conflict, Security and Development

The notable absence of peace and security in the MDGs has been remedied by the inclusion of this theme in the SDGs. There is a lot of empirical evidence out there that makes it impossible to ignore the link between conflict, security and development. An estimated 1/5 of global poor live in fragile states. Because of the unfolding



conflict in Syria, more people than ever before in history are in need of humanitarian assistance. We live in a time when violent conflict doesn’t respect international borders – it is transnational, regional and global. There are whole ranges of reasons why we need to take conflict seriously. Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions focuses upon this issue. Security and governance are at the heart of state security. Some countries didn’t want this included in the goals as it was considered more of a state issue. There is a tendency to view internal conflict as a problem with an external solution but the SDGs present the opportunity to turn a mirror to this notion and demonstrate that this conflict is often a result of a nation’s own policies.

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*‘What do the SDGs mean for Conflict, Security and Development? The opportunity to do things differently.’ – Sharon Smeed, IWDA*

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While gender features prominently throughout the SDGs, the absence of a target addressing women, peace and security under Goal 16 has been highlighted. While efforts towards peace and security are welcomed and necessary, the absence of the role of women is a great oversight. The 12 targets under goal 16 make no reference to gender at all. The most widespread form of violence is violence against women. Evidence has shown that peace negotiations influenced by women are more likely to be successful. Despite the absence of gender from Goal 16, we cannot overlook the link between Goal 5: Gender Equality and Goal 16. And in turn, how civil society relates to that goal. 54 countries developed national action plans in relation to UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, we need to consider how this

related to existing ways of working, and consider adaptations to incorporate women, peace and security into the SDG agenda.

The biggest issue with this goal will be acquiring accurate comprehensive data. There is a host of new data sets on violent conflict, terror and terrorism, but the SDGs refer to violence in all of its forms. This includes structural, gender based, domestic and criminal violence. Data in these other areas is patchy at best, for example obtaining national data on rape is very difficult and it is incredibly skewed. There are tensions around whether or not you're actually making a difference. For example, the MDGs made excellent ground on reducing poverty but how much did they actually have to do with it and how much was rapid economic growth that was already underway? The SDGs, and Goal 16, are great because of the space they create to discuss these issues beyond the aid agenda. As we continue to catalyse the private sector, aid money becomes a small and decreasing part of that picture.

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*'Goal 16 creates a space for opportunities, a political space that we didn't have before' –  
Hannah Bleby, DFAT*

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What should we focus on? Investment in better, more comprehensive data collection, and improved research capacity, particularly in fragile states. The capacity to collect data makes society legible (taxation, demographics, etc.). The grassroots and NGO community can do more to get vernacular stories about security, and narratives to engage with these strategies. Women are essential for long-term change. Women and how to do this must be central to discussion of aid organizations. We also

need to think about existing mechanisms and how we may catalyse these for action, rather than reinventing the wheel repeatedly.

## Conclusion

Ultimately, the goals are good. And they are just that: goals. Not a strategy for implementation. The implementation will depend in part on the work done by nations, by civil society, by NGOs and by academic groups. There is an enormous amount of work to be done on the implementation of the goals, and as the indicators are developed we'll be able to begin formulating implementation mechanisms. Though if we are to meet the SDGs in Australia, we need to reinvigorate Australian politics with a bit of vision and excitement.

## ANNEX 1 – WORKSHOP PROGRAM

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Time	Agenda
8:45am	Arrival, registration and seating
9:00 – 9:15am	Introduction and Welcome Address from Head of School, Professor Adrian Little
9:15 – 10:00am	<b>Keynote Address – Professor David Hulme</b> , Professor of Development Studies Executive Director of Global Development Institute, University of Manchester
10:00 – 10:30am	Q&A Moderated by Dr. Lan Anh Hoang, Director of Master of Development Studies
10:30 – 11:00am	TEA BREAK
11:00 – 12:30pm	<b>Panel 1 – Inequality, followed by Q&amp;A</b>  Moderator – Dr. Elise Klein, Lecturer, Master of Development Studies  Speakers – <b>Professor Mark Turner</b> , Visiting Professor, UNSW Canberra and Emeritus Professor, University of Canberra; <b>Anthea Spinks</b> , Associate Director Program Partnerships, Oxfam; <b>Professor John Langmore</b> , Professorial Fellow, UoM and; <b>Sarah Dyer</b> , Director, Pamodzi Consulting
12:30 – 1:30pm	LUNCH
1:30 – 3:00pm	<b>Panel 2 – Climate Change, followed by Q&amp;A</b>  Moderator – Beth Eggleston, Director, Humanitarian Advisory Group  Speakers – <b>Dr Adam Bumpus</b> , Senior Lecturer, School of Geography, UoM; <b>Adam Bandt</b> , Federal Member for Melbourne, Australian Greens; <b>Pia Treichel</b> , Program Manager - Climate Change Adaptation, Plan International Australia and; <b>Dean Thomson</b> , Principal Specialist – Environmental Markets and Finance, World Vision Australia
3:00 – 3:30pm	TEA BREAK

3:30 – 5:00pm

**Panel 3 – Conflict, Security and Development, followed by Q&A**

Moderator – Dr. Violeta Schubert, Master of Development Studies

Speakers – **Professor Jonathan Goodhand**, Professor in International Development, School of Social and Political Sciences, UoM; **Hannah Bleby**, Acting Director, Fragility and Conflict, DFAT; **Sharon Sme**, Research and Policy Advisor, IWDA and; **Nichola Krey**, Head of Humanitarian Affairs, Save the Children Australia

5:00pm

Close of workshop - Professor Jonathan Goodhand

## ANNEX 2 – BIOS OF SPEAKERS

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### **Professor David Hulme, University of Manchester**

David Hulme is Professor of Development Studies at The University of Manchester where he is Director of the Brooks World Poverty Institute (Global Development Institute) and CEO of the Effective States and Inclusive Development Research Centre. Currently, He is the president of the Development Studies Association. He has worked on rural development, poverty and poverty reduction, microfinance, the role of non-government organisations in development, environmental management, social protection and the political economy of global poverty for more than 30 years. His main focus has been on Bangladesh but he has worked extensively across South Asia, East Africa and the Pacific. Recently, he has been a leading international expert in the discussion of the Millennium Development Goals and the Post-2015 Development Agenda.



### **Professor Mark Turner, UNSW Canberra, University of Canberra**

Mark Turner is Visiting Professor at the School of Business, UNSW Canberra and Adjunct Professor at the Korea Research Institute, UNSW. He is also Emeritus Professor at the University of Canberra where he was formerly Professor of Development Policy and Management and Head of the Government Discipline. He has previously worked at the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies at the Australian National University and the Administrative College of Papua New Guinea. Mark has extensive experience of research, consultancy and teaching in the Asia-Pacific region. He has special interests in public sector reform, decentralisation, development policy and politics of the Asia-Pacific and has published widely on these subjects. His books include *Governance, Management and Development: Making the State Work*, Palgrave Macmillan 2015 (With D. Hulme and W. McCourt) and *Challenging Global Inequality*, Palgrave Macmillan 2007 (with A. Greig and D. Hulme)



### **Anthea Spinks, Oxfam Australia**

Ms Spinks is currently the Associate Director, Program Partnerships for Oxfam Australia. In this role she oversees the units within Oxfam that implement international programs across 25 countries as well as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander programming that is implemented alongside partners in Australia. Anthea has over 15 years of experience working in international programmes with a focus on humanitarian and conflict affected contexts. As Associate Director Ms Spinks is part of the executive leadership team within Oxfam Australia and she is responsible for



leading programs and partnerships that support countries to achieve their goals of ending poverty and inequality. Prior to her current role, Ms Spinks worked for World Vision for over 10 years and has covered emergencies in Nepal, Haiti, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Myanmar, Horn of Africa, Southern Africa, Mali and Niger.

### **Professor John Langmore, University of Melbourne**

Professor John Langmore is an international political economist in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne. He teaches graduate subjects on the United Nations in the MIR and on socio-economic development for the MDS.

He has been a national planner in Papua New Guinea; Economic Advisor to the Parliamentary Labor Party; and the MP for Fraser in the ACT for 12 years. In 1997 he was appointed Director of the UN Division for Social Policy and Development in New York for five years and then Representative of the ILO to the UN for two.



### **Sarah Dyer, Pamodzi Consulting**

Sarah has 20 years experience in international development and a further 10 years of professional experience in the public health sector and working with civil society and not for profit organisations in Australia and in the UK. She has worked in over 30 countries in the Asia and Pacific regions, throughout Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and Central Asia with national and international NGOs, United Nations agencies, the Australian Government's International Development Assistance Program, and with the private and corporate sector. Sarah's skills and expertise include human rights, disability rights and inclusive development.



### **Dr Adam Bumpus, University of Melbourne**

Adam has worked in environment-development for twelve years both in the private sector and academia. Adam's 2009 PhD thesis from Oxford University, focused on the governance of carbon offsets and the use of carbon finance for community development and poverty alleviation in Latin America.

He has consulted widely for governments, UN agencies and the private sector. Currently Adam is a Lecturer in Environment and Development at the University of Melbourne, Australia. He maintains Associate Fellow's positions at the Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, and the School of international



Development, University of East Anglia. He is also the lead researcher and manager of the international Carbon Governance Project (CGP), focusing on low carbon business transformation. He has recently led work on the use of mobile communication technologies for improving effectiveness of climate and development projects in the Pacific.

### **Adam Bandt MP, Australian Greens**

Adam Bandt is the Federal Member for Melbourne. Adam is the first member of the Australian Greens to be elected to the House of Representatives in a general election. Adam has portfolio responsibilities for treasury, employment and workplace relations, industry and innovation, science and research and the arts.



Before becoming an MP, Adam worked as a public interest lawyer representing some of Melbourne's lowest paid workers, including outworkers in the clothing industry. Adam has also represented many unions and worked on cases involving freedom of speech and implementation of international covenants into Australian law. Adam received undergraduate Law/Arts Honours degrees at Murdoch University, where he won the Sir Ronald Wilson Prize for Academic Achievement. He completed a PhD at Monash University in 2008, which looked at the recent trend of governments suspending basic human rights in areas such as migration, workplace relations and criminal law.

### **Pia Treichel, Plan International**

Pia Treichel is the Program Manager Climate Change Adaptation at Plan International Australia. In 2013, after almost 5 years working for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on international climate change policy in both Bangkok and New York, Pia returned to Australia to begin working for Plan, where her work focuses mainly on the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to her work with UNDP, Pia was based in Melbourne with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, on the Cities for Climate Protection Program. Pia has a Master of Environment degree from Melbourne University. Her current area of focus is on child-centred climate change adaptation, and Pia has experience in designing, implementing, and monitoring and evaluating climate change projects; climate change policy at both the international level and national level – particularly in developing countries; and knowledge management, communication and training on climate change.



### **Dean Thomson, World Vision Australia**



Dean is a Principal Advisor for Environmental Markets and Finance. For the past 5 years Dean has provided program support and negotiated new funding deals on a range of climate change mitigation projects that are certified to standards such as the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and Gold Standard Foundation. Dean is also currently a member of the Gold Standard Foundation's Water Technical Advisory Committee. In this role he is advising on the development of a new Standard which will measure benefits from water projects. Dean has also worked as a consultant advising organisations on climate change mitigation projects and for the Australian Government's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory team. In this role Dean supported the development of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory and the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting legislation

### **Professor Johnathan Goodhand, University of Melbourne**

Jonathan Goodhand is Director of the Melbourne School of Government's Master of Development Studies program. He is Professor in Conflict and Development Studies and Chair of the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus at SOAS, University of London, which specialises in the study of Asia, Africa and the Near and Middle East. Jonathan studied at the Universities of Birmingham and Manchester, with qualifications in education as well as development -BA PGCE(Birmingham) MSc (Manchester) and PhD (Manchester). He worked for some years managing humanitarian and development programmes in conflict situations in Afghanistan/Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and has extensive experience as a researcher and advisor in South and Central Asia for a range of NGOs and aid agencies including the World Bank, the Department for International Development (UK), the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Development Programme. His research interests include the political economy of aid and conflict, NGOs and peace-building and 'post conflict' reconstruction.



### **Hannah Bleby, DFAT**

Hannah has worked on Australia's aid program for the past 10 years, with AusAID and now DFAT. Her focus is fragility and conflict, particularly Australia's international policy engagement with partners such as the G7+ group of fragile states, World Bank, OECD, Asian Development Bank, and UNDP. Her team develops policy and support for country teams across DFAT on conflict sensitivity and analysis, Do No Harm approaches to the SDGs and New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. Previous work has spanned the aid White Paper, Papua New Guinea, development banks and a posting for three years to establish Australia's aid program to Haiti and the small islands of states of the Caribbean. Her academic background is in conflict and culture, studying at Flinders University, UniSA and University of California.



### **Sharon Smee, International Women’s Development Agency**

Sharon is a qualified lawyer and has a Masters Degree in Peace and Conflict Studies, from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies with a dissertation in post-conflict gender justice. Sharon represents IWDA on the Steering Committee of the Civil Society Coalition for Women, Peace and Security and leads IWDA’s policy work on the SDGs, women, peace and security and violence against women. Working as a policy advisor and consultant for approximately the last 10 years, Sharon has developed extensive experience in researching women's rights issues and analysing gender and development policy and practice including as chair of the UK Gender and Development Network (GADN) Working Group on Violence Against Women and ActionAid UK’s Women’s Rights Advocacy and Policy Advisor. As a consultant, she provided research, policy analysis and technical support across a broad range of women’s rights issues to International Non-Government Organisations and networks.



### **Nichola Krey, Save the Children**

Nichola Krey is a humanitarian with 13 years international experience working in disaster, development and conflict settings. She is currently the Head of Humanitarian Affairs for Save the Children Australia. After volunteering for Austcare/ActionAid in Timor Leste from 2003 - 2004, Nichola continued her humanitarian journey and led the emergency response in Aceh after the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. Nichola then accepted a role with Austcare/ActionAid as the Middle East Director based in Ramallah, Palestine. This was an influential period and she stayed in the role for three years working in Gaza, The West Bank, Jordan and Syria before returning to Sydney with a very young baby to complete her Masters in Peace and Conflict Studies in 2009. Upon completing her Masters, Nichola worked with Save the Children as the Vanuatu Country Director and for the next three years, led a team of 60 staff working across the country to deliver health, education and protection outcomes for children.



## ANNEX 3 – KEY REFERENCES

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- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([Full-text](#))
- [The Sustainable Development Solutions Network: Australia and the Pacific](#) (SDSN A/P)
- SDSN A/P [Resources](#)
- UN Secretary General's report on [Critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level](#)
- [Partnerships for the SDGs: A legacy review towards realizing the 2030 Agenda](#)
- [From Policy to Action: Australian Aid and the Sustainable Development Goals](#), ACFID, March 2016
- [Global Sustainable Development Report](#)
- [Global Development](#), Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

# ANNEX 4 – EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY





