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AUSTRALIAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SUMMIT

2018

UNLOCKING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

OUTCOMES REPORT



The Australian SDGs Summit 2018 took place on 13 March 2018 in Melbourne and was co-hosted by a coalition of peak bodies in Australia. We are all leading advocates of the SDGs in our sectors, and we invite you to connect with us to stay up to date on Australian action to advance the SDGs.

Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)

ACFID unites Australia's non-government aid and international development organisations to strengthen their collective impact against poverty.

acfid.asn.au | [@ACFID](https://twitter.com/ACFID)

Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)

ACOSS is the peak body of the community services and welfare sector and the national voice for the needs of people affected by poverty and inequality.

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Global Compact Network Australia (GCNA)

The GCNA is the Australian business-led network of the UN Global Compact, the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative.

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Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Australia, New Zealand & Pacific

SDSN mobilises universities and knowledge institutions to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development, including the design and implementation of the SDGs.

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The UNAA aims to inform, inspire and engage all Australians regarding the work, goals and values of the UN to create a safer, fairer and more sustainable world.

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Australian SDGs Summit 2018: Unlocking the Opportunities of the Sustainable Development Goals: Outcomes Report

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INTRODUCTION

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – also referred to as the 2030 Agenda or the Global Goals – define global sustainable development priorities to 2030 and seek to mobilise global efforts to end extreme poverty, promote prosperity and wellbeing, reduce inequality and injustice, and protect the environment. They call on action from governments at all levels, as well as other actors such as business, civil society and academia, and recognise the importance of collaboration and innovation. Australia, as one of the 193 member states that agreed on the SDGs, is expected to report on its progress towards achieving the SDGs, including the action taken to implement them.

The SDGs provide a significant opportunity to address the social, environmental and governance challenges facing Australia and the world. They provide a shared and integrated framework that helps identify where action is needed, that seeks to mobilise local and global efforts around a common set of goals and challenges, and that allows us to track our progress.

To help realise this opportunity, the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), the Global Compact Network Australia (GCNA) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Australia/Pacific came together in September 2016 to hold the inaugural *Australian SDGs Summit*. The inaugural Summit recognised that the SDGs are ambitious and that ‘business as usual’ will not be enough to achieve them.¹ Our organisations, as leading advocates for the SDGs, have all worked since to develop awareness

and tools to support engagement and action on the SDGs across the sectors that we represent.

For Australia, 2018 has been a critical year for the implementation of the SDGs, as the Australian Government presented its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the implementation of the SDGs to the United Nations. The organisers of the *Australian SDGs Summit 2018* – now joined also by the United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA) – brought participants together to explore the current state of implementation, contribute to Australia’s first VNR, and inspire greater multi-sector action in Australia and beyond.

Reflecting the growing interest in the SDGs in Australia, the Summit, which took place on 13 March 2018, brought together close to 300 participants, representing almost 200 organisations from all sectors in Australia (see Annex 1).

The agenda (Annex 2) represented the opportunity for participants to discuss the SDGs and increase understanding on what Australia has achieved to date; as well as providing opportunities to discuss opportunities that can further accelerate action and achieve results. **Senator the Hon. Concetta Fierravanti-Wells**, then Minister for International Development and the Pacific, a strong supporter of the SDGs, and our Summit Co-Hosts and MCs, **Sam Mostyn** (Non-Executive Chair & Director) and **John Thwaites** (Chair, Monash Sustainable Development Institute and SDSN Australia/Pacific) were joined by a wide range of insightful and passionate speakers, who challenged participants to develop ideas and solutions to take action on the SDGs.

This report provides a summary of the presentations and discussions at the Summit, including of the key themes around how we can advance action on the SDGs in

¹ See: ACFID, ACOSS, GCNA and SDSN Australia/Pacific (2016) *Australian SDGs Summit: On the Road to Implementation: Outcomes report*, ap-unsdsn.org/report-advancing-action-on-the-sdgs-in-australia/.

Australia that emerged through the day. Where relevant new developments have occurred since the Summit, we noted those in the text or in footnotes. For other Summit-related materials, including photos, videos, and links to social media, we invite you to view the Summit website at ap-unsdsn.org/event-australian-sdgs-summit-2018/.

Finally, we would like to thank the Summit sponsors – the Australian Government, Yarra Valley Water, Melbourne Water, and the Monash Sustainable Development Institute.

The organisers:

- Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)**
- Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS)**
- Global Compact Network Australia (GCNA)**
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Australia, NZ & Pacific**
- United Nations Association of Australia (UNAA)**

November 2018

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

This message was sent to all participants in advance of the Summit, outlining the purpose of the event as well as critical issues for participants to explore on the day, and is reproduced here in full.

Why are we here?

We support the Sustainable Development Goals because they present a vision for a better future for Australia and the world.

The SDGs work for Australia because they address the core challenges that we face such as booming population growth in our major cities, uncertain future jobs, climate change, environmental degradation, inequality, and the decline of trust in government and business.

The SDGs are an acknowledgment that we all live in an interconnected world with shared goals. The SDGs provide an opportunity for Australia to improve health and wellbeing within our own country, while also promoting a sustainable path to prosperity within our region and beyond. Through the regional promotion of peace, prosperity and environmental sustainability, Australia is also securing its own environmental and economic future.

We want to take stock of where we are

In September 2016, ACFID, ACOSS, GCNA and SDSN Australia/Pacific held the inaugural Australian SDGs Summit. That Summit created a great energy and clear suggestions for what will help Australia advance in the implementation of the SDGs. The Summit identified that the SDGs could be used to build a vision for Australia's future and a plan on how to get us there.

Now is the time to ask how Australia is performing on the SDGs. What has changed since the last Summit and are we on track? We need to ensure that we are monitoring our performance on the SDGs and implementing plans and policies to make it more likely that we will achieve the SDG targets. This year's Summit will help identify the tools,

case studies and other resources needed for Australian organisations to contribute to achieving the goals.

It is also an opportune time to take stock as Australia will be undertaking its Voluntary National Review of the SDGs this year – reporting to the United Nations on our progress in implementing the goals.

Achieving the SDGs will require going “beyond business as usual”

The SDGs recognise that the challenges facing the world today are complex, and require new solutions. What we have done in the past will not be enough; all sectors need to go beyond business as usual if we are to achieve the SDGs.

The SDGs are an opportunity to address old challenges in new ways.

There has been significant action on the SDGs by all sectors since the last Summit, including exciting and innovative examples of “beyond business as usual”. This Summit will be an opportunity to hear from some of these leaders.

SDG action to date has not been sufficient if we are to achieve the SDGs by 2030

Despite our generally strong economic and social performance, Australia is performing poorly on many of the environmental goals and targets. Our biodiversity is declining and precious species are threatened with extinction. Australia is not taking the action needed if the world is to avoid the worst impacts of climate change and our greenhouse gas emissions are projected to be even higher in 2030 than in 2000. We need a transformation in our industries, cities and agriculture in order to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation if we are to meet the 2030 SDG targets.

Australia has enjoyed an extraordinarily long period of uninterrupted economic growth and is one of the healthiest and best educated nations in the world. Yet inequality remains pervasive and we are not achieving the goal of

improving income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population at a faster rate than the national average.

We should not be imposing the burden of our failure to act on the next generation with high levels of debt, low housing affordability and a degraded environment. And if we are to do our fair share as a wealthy nation contributing to achievement of the SDGs in the developing countries in our region, we will need to turn around the major decline in Australia's overseas development aid of the past 5 years.

We will be much stronger if we work together

Achieving the SDGs will require contributions from everyone.

The organisations behind the Summit bring together academia, business, government and civil society. Our five organisations have been leading SDG action in our sectors, but recognise the importance of cross-sector collaboration and coordination and the need to engage with others outside our sectors. We want to connect across sectors, learn from each other, and find ways of working together.

The Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved by government alone. We hope that the Summit will provide ways to coordinate action on the SDGs within government with the actions in business and the broader community. We should be incorporating the SDGs in national planning processes, policies and strategies and ensuring that general community is given a say in them.

We want to build on the momentum created by the VNR and Senate Inquiry

Australia will report to the United Nations in July this year on our implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals: a process known as the Voluntary National Review. This will be an opportunity to coordinate activities on the SDGs across government departments and to highlight case studies

demonstrating action by Australian businesses, universities and civil society.

The Australian Senate is conducting an Inquiry into the SDGs which will consider the potential opportunities and benefits for Australia in domestic implementation of the SDGs and appropriate governance and monitoring measures. The Senate Inquiry will also consider which of the SDGs Australia is best suited to achieving through its overseas aid program.

The Voluntary National Review and the Senate Inquiry are important opportunities to highlight the importance of the SDGs for Australia and to set in place collaborative plans and strategies that are most likely to lead to successful implementation of the SDGs between now and 2030.

Welcome to the Summit!

Australian SDGs Summit 2018 Co-Chairs

Sam Mostyn
Non-Executive Chair & Director

John Thwaites
Chair, Monash Sustainable Development Institute and SDSN Australia, NZ & Pacific

KEY MESSAGES AND NEXT STEPS

Speakers and participants across all sessions at the Summit gave their view on how Australia is going and what needs to happen for it to play its part in meeting the SDGs. This section summarises the key messages raised on the day and participants' suggestions for next steps to progress action on the SDGs across all sectors.

Overarching message: We need to accelerate action and move beyond business as usual

A strong sense of urgency emerged from the second Australian SDGs Summit. Now with less than 5000 days left until we reach the year 2030, the consequences of inaction in addressing our biggest challenges will be significant. Participants at the Summit were urged to move beyond 'business as usual' and take leadership and ownership over the goals.

The 2016 Summit identified several key elements for taking implementation of the SDGs forward in Australia, including communication and awareness raising; better national coordination and collaboration across all sectors; and the development of frameworks for ongoing monitoring of progress activities. It also identified some important starting points, including

- Using the SDGs to build a vision for Australia's future and a plan to get us there.
- Mapping how Australia is already performing against the SDGs – particularly to identify areas where we are not doing well.
- Mapping existing activities from across sectors which are contributing to the SDGs, on which to build.
- Developing the economic and strategic case to quantify a range of strategic, social, environmental and economic benefits in working towards and achieving the SDGs.
- Developing and sharing tools, case studies and other resources to assist Australian organisations in engaging with and contributing to the SDGs.

Since the 2016 Summit, progress has been made in some these areas, however action has varied across sectors and more will be needed if Australia is to play its part in global action towards the SDGs. During the 2018 Summit, common themes emerged in terms of the challenges that are currently holding back Australia's progress in implementing the SDGs, and the opportunities that exist if we can overcome these issues. These are summarised below, along with examples of action that emerged at the Summit and in the months since, as well as further steps that are needed.

Greater coordination and leadership from government to enable all sectors to play their part

The SDGs are an ambitious global agenda; meeting them will require all sectors to work together and play their part. The Summit identified strong examples across sectors of progress on the 2016 recommendations. The process for developing Australia's Voluntary National Review (VNR)² engaged Departments across Government in the SDGs, and heard from a wide range of stakeholders about their action on the SDGs. Much implementation action has been initiated and carried out by civil society, academia and business. With the establishment of a baseline through the SDG Transforming Australia project by the National Sustainable Development Council, an assessment is underway of Australia's progress and where we are falling short of our commitments.³ The SDGs toolkit developed by ACFID and the University Guide to the SDGs developed by SDSN⁴ provide practical guidance for organisations looking to change the way they work in response to the agenda. New initiatives announced after the Summit include the national SDG website containing case studies from across various sectors, developed by GCNA with support from DFAT, which showcases the work that organisations are doing to contribute to national SDG implementation and serves as a go-to resource hub for information on leading SDG projects

2 See dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/development-issues/2030-agenda/Pages/sustainable-development-goals.aspx

3 See www.sdgtransformingaustralia.com

4 See acfid.asn.au/learning/sdg-toolkit and ap-unsdsn.org/university-sdg-guide

in Australia.⁵ They also include the Australian Government's Reporting Platform on the SDG indicators.⁶

However, several speakers at the Summit noted that this de-centralised approach to implementation is ineffective and will not get everyone who needs to be involved on board or achieve the scale of action needed to realise this agenda.

A clear gap exists in terms of a coordinated, cross-sectoral plan to drive implementation of the SDGs. While all sectors will need to play their part, it would make sense for the Federal Government to coordinate and lead this effort, as they are best placed to coordinate actions across multiple levels of government, as well as civil society, academia and business. Beyond the VNR, leadership will be needed from Government to identify the gaps and challenges Australia faces in meeting the SDGs and develop a national action plan to drive implementation, and to invest in new initiatives to progress implementation of the goals. There also needs to be adequate funding to support community sector and multi-sectorial engagement.

Increasing public awareness and support for the SDGs

Lack of public awareness continues to be a challenge that Australia faces, as knowledge of the SDGs remains poor. There is a misconception in Australia, including amongst senior leaders, that the SDGs (like their predecessors the MDGs) are for developing countries, and Australia's role in achieving them is largely through our aid program. However, the core message of the SDGs aligns with established values of the Australian community such as cooperation, a fair go, and being a good neighbour. Aligning communication of the SDGs with the values of the Australian public will allow the public to engage with the agenda in a way that affirms Australia's place in the world.

Summit participants and speakers shared a myriad of examples of the strategies they are using to communicate the importance of the SDGs to their own constituencies. Since the Summit, DFAT has initiated a process to develop a narrative on the importance of the SDGs to Australia that can be adapted and used by different groups to communicate with their stakeholders and reach different segments of the Australian public.

⁵ See sdgs.org.au

⁶ See www.sdgdata.gov.au

While these actions are important, more is needed to ensure the Australian public understand the opportunity presented by the SDGs. Campaigns across sectors are needed to generate broader buy-in and understanding of Australia's commitment to the goals, and establish a mandate for greater action.

Breaking down siloes through partnerships and collaborations

Partnerships and collaboration were emphasised at the Summit as an important piece of the puzzle to address the gaps in implementation. Further, because the SDGs are interconnected and build on each other, achievement of each goal is contingent on the achievement of others. The pursuit of a few goals at the expense of the balance may undermine the achievement of the sustainable development agenda as a whole. Partnership and collaboration is critical to enabling actors who have expertise in one area of the agenda to harmonise their efforts with others working across the goals.

Summit participants heard about uBegin, a platform which enables organisations to connect and find collaboration opportunities around the SDGs. Following the Summit, uBegin mapped the skills, interests and projects of Summit participants and developed an opportunity map to highlight synergies and facilitate collaboration (see page 18). Additionally, the SDGs website developed by GCNA is increasing visibility of the work organisations are doing on the SDGs to facilitate greater collaboration, and ACFID's SDGs toolkit provides practical strategies to help organisations work in collaboration towards collective impact.

Investment in collaboration and partnerships will be needed across all sectors in order to meet the SDGs, and this requires leaders who are willing to make decisions that are not only in their individual or organisation's interests, but are for the collective good. It requires uncomfortable conversations, and a willingness to leave competition at the door.

Leaving no one behind

The rights and wellbeing of people are at the centre of the SDGs, and the principle of 'leave no one behind' was a common thread throughout all sessions of the Summit.

In particular, closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians was a theme that reverberated through all sessions across the day, with the importance of self-determination and local knowledge emphasised as critical to making progress. In addition, inequality in Australia and the number of Australian's living in poverty was emphasised, with particular reference to government policies such as the low level of Newstart payments highlighted as barriers to ensuring the SDGs can be met for all. The need for an agreed national definition of poverty and better

disaggregated data to identify those being left behind in Australia and beyond was also highlighted.

It's not enough for us to only meet the SDGs for some Australians; all need to be included for this agenda to reach its transformative potential. We need a process for developing an agreed national definition of poverty so that we can assess our progress in reducing poverty. Ensuring data accurately captures those who are missing out, and investing in evidence based, locally owned solutions are priorities that all sectors need to consider.

SESSION SUMMARIES

SESSION 1: THE SDGs: A SHARED VISION

The opening session of the Summit highlighted why the SDGs are important for Australia, what happened at the last SDG Summit, what has happened since, and what the objectives of the current Summit are.

Ron Jones, an Elder of the Wurundjeri Council, welcomed participants to the land on which the Melbourne Cricket Ground sits, emphasising that he is a “custodian” and not an owner of the land. Elder Ron gave an account of the history of his family and of Aboriginal people in Victoria since colonisation, referring to his mother and grandmother who played an active role contributing to the setting up of community services in Melbourne. However he commented that in the last few years things were going backwards for Aboriginal people in Victoria, and we have a long way to go.

Welcoming the participants to the Summit, **Co-Chairs Sam Mostyn and John Thwaites** emphasised the urgency of accelerating action on the SDGs in Australia, now that we are already two years in.

Cr Cathy Oke, Chair of the Environment Portfolio and Deputy Chair of the Transport and Finance & Governance Portfolios at the City of Melbourne, welcomed delegates to the City. Cathy emphasised the importance of cities and local governments to the SDGs, as the place where most people live, and as the closest layer of government to people. She described [work undertaken by Council](#) last year, which found that all 17 goals align with city strategies and that the SDGs can provide an integrated and holistic framework for strengthening the delivery of City goals.

Susan Pascoe AM, the newly installed President of ACFID and the former inaugural Commissioner for the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, spoke about how the SDGs are helping to shift the paradigm that “development” is just for developing countries and that developed countries have all the answers. She explained

that the SDGs highlight how global challenges – such as climate change – don’t respect borders and require global solutions. Furthermore, many challenges – such as gender inequality and sexual violence – are shared by both developing and developed countries and solutions and new approaches can flow both ways. She finished by emphasising that although the SDGs are complex, they were designed as a development tool that can provide a roadmap to transformation.

Rod Fehring, CEO Frasers Property Australia and Chair of the Green Building Council of Australia, demonstrated the need for urgent “beyond business as usual” action on the SDGs through the example of ensuring all new buildings have a zero-carbon footprint by 2030 – an important action for limiting dangerous climate change. Only small percentage of floor space built over last 12 years achieved low (not zero) carbon certification, and based on current trends this will be the case in 12 years’ time. We therefore need to accelerate technologies for zero carbon in the built environment, and we need to adopt a holistic approach to housing that embraces a partnership and collaboration approach by business and government.

Major General Mike Smith AO (retd), the National President of the United Nations Association of Australia and a Visiting Fellow at ANU, spoke about the need for Australia to lift its game on the SDGs compared with other countries. Australia was way behind both in terms of how we are going – currently only 26th on the SDG Index – and in terms of implementation. While some great things are happening, they are not enough. He particularly called for Government leadership on the SDGs, including through a shared national vision, a national commitment, national planning, greater coordination through the Government, and national champions. He also highlighted the urgent need for a public information campaign on the SDGs and how they are relevant for all Australians.

Senator the Hon. Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, then Minister for International Development and the Pacific

emphasised that the summit is part of a collective national approach to working towards implementing Australia's commitments under the SDGs. The Minister highlighted the benefits for Australia from engaging with the SDGs, as they are consistent with Australian values and priorities. In particular, she recognised that creating improvements in all areas of the SDGs helps create national and regional wellbeing and emphasised that the SDGs are consistent with the core Australian value of "a fair go" for everyone. From an international perspective, the SDGs provide Australia with a framework for supporting regional and global stability, security and prosperity, which are so important for Australia's own wellbeing and success in our interconnected world. In addition, the SDGs are an increasingly high priority for Australia's partners in ASEAN and the G20.

The Minister explained that because the SDGs are consistent with Australia's national values, they already form part of the Australian Government's agenda both domestically and internationally. Domestically, for example, innovation, infrastructure, and affordable energy are all major areas of Government focus. Internationally, the guiding framework of the [2017 Foreign Policy White Paper](#) calls for supporting developing countries to achieve their own SDG milestones. As an example, the Minister described the variety of initiatives the Government is supporting to address Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation) and SDG 3 (health), which she sees as core to the SDG agenda.

The Minister identified that bringing the public along on the SDGs is the key challenge to addressing the SDGs in Australia. While the people coming to the Summit understand the benefits to everyone of engaging with the SDGs, most other stakeholders do not. Raising awareness will therefore be key to addressing the SDGs, as will partnerships and innovation. The Government has been using the Voluntary National Review as an opportunity to bring as many people together on the SDGs.

The Minister concluded that while a lot of excellent work on the SDGs is already underway, what we need are champions to raise their profile, and that she will be playing her part.⁷

7 The full text of the Minister's speech can be found at ministers.dfat.gov.au/fierravanti-wells/speeches/Pages/2018/cf_sp_180313.aspx.

SESSION 2: HOW AUSTRALIA IS PROGRESSING ON THE SDGS

Following her keynote speech, the Minister joined a panel for the second session to discuss how Australia was progressing on the SDGs. Each of the panellists gave opening remarks, followed by a wide-ranging discussion moderated by Sam Mostyn.

In July of 2018, Australia will present its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the United Nations High Level Political Forum. When asked about how the Government is implementing the 2030 agenda and its preparations for the VNR, **Jason McDonald, Chief Adviser for the Domestic Policy Group at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**, said there is already incentive for the Government to resource the attainment of the SDGs, as they coincide with the priorities and values of the majority of Australians. The SDGs are helpful tool to look internally at how we are going, so it is important when Australia conducts its VNR that we do not try to hide or obfuscate in relation to areas of poor achievement. There is no need for any new plans or structures to address these gaps, as the current structure is working.

The inaugural SDGs Summit identified a gap in monitoring and recommended the development of a Baseline Report to monitor Australia's progress on the SDGs. Two years on, **John Thwaites, Chair of the Monash Sustainable Development Institute**, presented the [SDG Transforming Australia Project](#), developed by the National Sustainable Development Council, which identifies the priority targets for Australia and creates a baseline for how the nation is progressing in its achievement towards the Goals. So far, it has identified 72 targets and 133 indicators as the most relevant for Australia, where data is available, and uses a 'traffic light' system to assess how Australia is tracking on each. In partnership with superannuation funds, SDG Transforming Australia provides a way to influence companies that people invest in. Additionally, the report is undertaking a "leave no one behind" analysis on each target.

Beyond national implementation, Australia also has a role to play in global achievement of the goals. According to **Marc Purcell, CEO of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)**, Australia needs to plan better, resource better and implement better. We need

to talk more about the outcomes we want in order to get people on board. He called for a national action plan on the SDGs, as Australia already has a good track record on making plans, citing examples such as the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, and the Close the Gap campaign, to reduce the health inequalities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous population. There is already tremendous political capital and goodwill that can drive the development of a national agenda to produce the outcomes of the SDGs.

Catherine Hunter, Head of Corporate Citizenship for KPMG Australia and Chair of the Global Compact Network Australia, gave an overview of business and private sector support for the SDGs. She expressed the enthusiasm from the business sector about the opportunities that the SDGs present. Through the Global Compact's membership and the VNR process, there is clear evidence of businesses mapping their activities against the SDGs. However, whilst businesses are improving how they communicate the positive impacts they are making on the SDGs, there is opportunity for businesses to be more transparent in disclosing where they may be having a negative impact and the innovative solutions that they are developing to manage these impacts. Catherine also highlighted the role of business in advocating for positive action on social and environmental issues.

Cassandra Goldie, CEO of the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), was asked about the challenges of Australia meeting the commitment of leaving no one behind. As a keen and active participant in the implementation of the SDGs in Australia, ACOSS membership sees great potential in the SDGs, particularly Goal 1: No Poverty and Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities. A specific ask in Goal 1 is to require every government to develop a national definition of "poverty", but the process of developing one in Australia is yet to occur. She called on the Federal Government to commit to working on a national definition in order for us to track our progress on reducing poverty in Australia. Additionally, she expressed that with the amount of cynicism that exists around international processes such as the SDGs, accountability needs to be put on all actors, particularly the Government, to bring transparency to this effort.

The panel discussion touched on a number of issues, including:

- The importance of reaching out to the broader Australian community, including to small businesses, which cover half the workforce in Australia, and to migrants from diverse backgrounds
- The potential role of the SDGs in helping businesses regain trust from the community, on one side, and investors, on the other – both of which are currently very influential in business action.
- The national SDG implementation mechanisms needed for Australia, with opinions ranging from the need only for integration of the agenda into existing frameworks and policies, and not creating new entities or structures, to the need for new and dedicated central coordination structures.

SESSION 3: UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF THE SDGS

The third session of the Summit featured leaders and innovators in all sectors presenting case studies and highlighting opportunities for accelerating action towards the SDGs, and in particular 'beyond business as usual' action that happened because of the SDGs.

Cate Harris, Acting Executive Director of GCNA, started the session by describing the SDG-related activities of the Summit organisers:

- **ACFID** has been putting the transformative spirit of the SDGs into practice, through work that emphasises thinking systemically, working collaboratively, reporting on impact, and going beyond business as usual. It has developed an [SDG Toolkit](#) to help organisations apply the first of these two elements – systems thinking and collaborative approaches – to their work. They also coordinated input from the international development sector towards the VNR.
- **SDSN Australia/Pacific** aims to help strengthen and accelerate action by the university sector on the SDGs. Their SDG related activities include the [University Commitment to the SDGs](#), the guide '[Getting started with the SDGs in universities](#)', facilitation of sector input

to Australia's VNR, and support for the establishment of SDSN Youth.

- **UNAA** launched its National SDGs Program in 2017. Members and partners in their network are promoting and advancing the SDGs through innovative projects and events, professional knowledge sharing, networking, training and partnering with organisations within Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. In 2017 UNAA also appointed a Goodwill Ambassador for the SDGs.
- The **ACOSS** the Board endorsed the SDGs as a key framework for their advocacy and priorities for change, giving high priority to SDG1 on poverty. In addition to campaigning and lobbying for key poverty alleviation policies, they have established a partnership with UNSW to advance research on poverty and inequality.
- **GCNA** has been focussing on assisting their members in understanding the SDGs and the opportunities they present to business; and working with their members to deliver a variety of activities, including convening VNR feedback sessions for business, facilitating forums on a range of SDG-related topics, convening Communities of Practice around SDG related topics, and producing written submissions to government.

Dr Gillian Sparkes, Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria, discussed efforts to apply the SDGs framework at the state level, using scientific evidence as a basis to inform policy. The [State of the Environment Report](#) is a key platform that can show how the SDGs can be applied into the work of the Government. The Report uses the SDGs as a framework to develop socio-economic indicators and creates a prototype method to unlock ways for government, business and the community to take practical action on the SDGs. While the Report focuses on the environment, it can be replicated for other departments.

Susan Mizrahi, Head of Corporate Responsibility at Australia Post, presented [numerous examples](#) of the company making strides, in partnership with others, to embrace and prioritise the SDGs across the levels of leadership and their services. These have included materials to help small businesses engage with the SDGs, the Revamp Network, the Digital Inclusion Alliance, and Inclusive Australia. Additionally, she announced the release of Australia Post's SDG-themed postal stamps to provide more visibility of the goals.

Sam Loni, Global Coordinator of SDSN Youth, explained that young people possess many of the qualities required to successfully achieve the 2030 agenda. With an agenda that is ambitious and transformative, we need the idealism and creativity of young people to drive new thinking and develop innovative solutions. SDSN Youth sets out to empower youth to drive meaningful change through various programs – such as [Youth Solutions Platform](#), [Local Pathways Fellowship](#), and [Global Schools](#) – which have engaged tens of thousands of young people globally.

Nicole Bradford, Head of Responsible Investment at Cbus Super, stated that the core mission of Cbus is to help its members retire with dignity, and the SDGs are a means to facilitate that mission. The goals drive and shape the environmental and social context in which their members work and retire, and are needed to drive economic growth. At the same time, the SDGs can benefit from superannuation fund investments to which also strengthens their impact. Cbus is currently contributing to the SDGs by investing globally to influence organisations to take up the SDGs and collaborating with other organisations and investors.

Jen Dollin, Sustainability Manager at Western Sydney University, presented the university's transformative education efforts, which go beyond business as usual to deliver education that allows students to understand complexity and uncertainty, be critical thinkers, and develop systems thinking and cultural competencies. Additionally, the university is host to the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development – Greater Western Sydney, which has over 25 regional partners committed to developing on-ground initiatives and local action. She also shared the video '[Western Sydney Matters](#)', created by students, showcasing their efforts to spread SDG awareness on campus.

Dermot O'Gorman, CEO of WWF-Australia, demonstrated how blockchain technology can be used to deliver on the SDGs, specifically how it can help stamp out illegal and unregulated fishing practices, bring greater transparency to the fishing industry and remove some of the human rights abuses that occur within the industry. Through a pilot project in the Pacific, WWF applied blockchain technology to track fish from capture to delivery to the airport. The pilot is now entering its second phase which

looks at how the technology can be taken through to the global supply chain and engaging consumers and retailers.

Gary Oliver, CEO of the National Congress of Australia's First People, highlighted the challenges faced by the Indigenous communities in Australia and linked the SDGs to work that is being done around the Closing the Gap Refresh and the Redfern Statement. Raising the issue of the negative budget spend on Aboriginal people, the failure of The Intervention, and the 17,600 Aboriginal children who are not sleeping in their homes, he called for the next generation to be at the forefront of the work that we do, allowing future generations to participate in the SDGs. Within the Goals, there are specific, measurable targets that are relevant to Aboriginal people, which Aboriginal people have the solutions for, and are identified throughout the Redfern Statement. At present, Australia continues to fall short on attaining many of the goals to reduce inequalities between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous population. With much of the progress still to be made, he asked for the 97 percent of non-Indigenous Australians to walk alongside the 3 percent of Indigenous Australians.

SESSION 4.1: ADVANCING SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN AUSTRALIA: COMMUNICATING THE SDGS

Lack of awareness is seen as one of the major barriers to the successful implementation of the SDGs in Australia and globally. One of the biggest challenges with creating awareness of the SDGs is communicating them in a way that the audience is able to connect with, feel a sense of empathy towards and identify ways in which the SDGs are meaningful and can be acted on. This breakout session used a behaviour change model to identify messages and strategies for increasing awareness and action on the SDGs amongst different audiences.

Setting the scene, **Sam Loni, Global Coordinator of SDSN Youth**, provided an overview of global SDG communication campaigns, their narrative approaches, and key messages they try to convey.

Following Sam, **Bill Shannon of the Shannon Company** introduced the 'key ingredients' of effective communication for change, and outlined the structure of behavioural change communication, which consisted of:

- Identifying the target audience
- Identifying the actions the target audience is being asked to take
- Determining the target audience's existing beliefs that could be tapped into, and the current habits that need to be changed in order for them to take the desired actions
- Designing the campaign 'hook' by establishing the audience's emotional connection with the SDGs and the impact of the actions they are being asked to take
- Developing a campaign pitch which addresses the narrative at the heart of the campaign and the methodology for delivering the core campaign messages

Participants then worked in groups to develop a communications pitch addressing one of five target audiences: big business, rural Australia, youth, federal politicians and mainstream media. To develop the pitch the groups were led through a simplified version of Bill's process, consisting of the following questions:

1. What actions do you want your target audience to take with the SDGs?
2. What are the existing beliefs and habits of your target audience that you could tap into in order to get them to take those actions?
3. Identify the campaign "hook" using the key communication ingredients (such as emotional connection, social norms, and impact of action)

Campaign ideas generated for the different audiences included:

Big business:

- **'Turn them into champions':** This campaign seeks to establish an emotional and personal connection with the SDGs to inspire leadership and cultural change by business leaders by demonstrating how the SDGs work alongside profit generation and shareholder value as part of a broader purpose-driven strategy whereby business leaders also become 'champions' of the SDGs.

Rural Australians:

- **'It's a great place to live. Pass it on!':** Rural communities often face concerns that their towns are

losing their populations and the relevance they once had, particularly as more people migrate to urban areas. This campaign seeks to appeal to the hospitality and civil mindedness of residents in rural communities and encourage them to become more welcoming and inclusive to migrant communities, allowing their communities to survive and thrive.

- **‘Keep the farm, do less harm’:** Tapping into values of mateship, volunteerism, self-determination and perseverance, this campaign aims to bring together rural communities and their local leaders to initiate dialogue and consolidate sustainable practices, with the aim of creating positive social norms amongst the communities.

Federal politicians:

- **‘Great leaders leave legacies’:** Politicians, while often driven by opinion polls and short term thinking, nevertheless desire to make a change and to be remembered. By appealing to these aspirations, this campaign aims to create an emotional impact with leaders, to get them to legislate to make SDG reporting compulsory, and lead the movement for the youth of Australia to follow.
- **‘Trust me, I’m an SDG politician’:** This campaign aims to encourage politicians to take the lead and integrate the SDGs in their policy framework and budget. By awarding and showcasing the achievements of politicians aligning themselves with the SDGs, the campaign taps into motivations for re-election and raising their public profile, providing them with greater incentives to take action.

Youth:

- **‘SDGs for us, on us’:** Young people in Australia are creative, idealistic and eager to contribute to a better world if given the chance. This campaign seeks to utilise new media to create an app or game that appeals to young people, generating social credit for taking action and completing challenges. The social credit aspect encourages youth to take ownership over the SDGs and make meaningful changes in the way they live their lives.

Mainstream media:

- **‘Your readers care about these issues’:** Media outlets are an influential tool to generate an emotional

connection and drive action. Targeting conservative and less progressive mainstream media outlets, this campaign encourages them to report on issues relating to the SDGs, particularly localised, human-interest stories. By appealing to the values of mateship, national identity and fairness within their readership, these stories will aim to inspire and incite action.

At the conclusion of the session, it was evident that powerful engagement strategies can be generated when the beliefs, values and habits of the target audience are understood, and campaigns are devised to appeal to existing beliefs and values, rather than conflict with them.

SESSION 4.2: ADVANCING THE SDGS COMMITMENT TO “LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND”

At the core of the SDGs are the commitments to leave no one behind. This session provided a forum for participants to workshop ways to overcome the challenges associated with ensuring nobody is left behind in the SDG implementation process, by discussing some of the key ingredients needed to ensure the right people are reached, alongside new ideas and strategies being pursued across different sectors.

Introducing the session, Chair **Jane Edge, CEO of CBM Australia**, noted that the SDGs were different from the MDGs in their explicit recognition of disadvantage and disability, which are addressed across the goals. She highlighted the need for intentional efforts to include people who have been systematically excluded.

Following her introduction, presenters showcased initiatives they have taken to close the gap and address inequalities.

Sharon Smees, Senior Research, Policy and Advocacy Advisor, IWDA: The Individual Deprivation Measure (IDM) is a gender-sensitive and multidimensional measure of poverty developed by the International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA). This measure takes into account various material and non-material characteristics that shape poverty, and affect the individuals living in it, not just households. The IDM moves beyond the use of money as the primary indicator of poor or non-poor status, and incorporates 15 key dimensions of life which assesses the causes and extent of poverty at the individual level.

Catherine Brown, CEO, Lord Mayor's Charitable

Foundation: Philanthropy is a key driver of SDG action and innovation, but its purpose extends beyond simply grant-giving. The Foundation's 'Philanthropy Toolbox' demonstrates that philanthropy can be a means of influencing policy, collaboration, research, impact investment, strategic communications, and initiative designing.

Ciara Sterling, Thriving Communities Partnership: The Thriving Communities Partnership is a collaborative network of over 140 organisations across corporate, community and government sectors. It creates a unified system which taps into the resources of all the organisations, facilitating shared growth and knowledge. The goal of the partnership is to ensure everybody has fair access to the modern essential services they need to thrive in contemporary Australia, such as utilities, financial services, telecommunications and transport.

At the conclusion of the session, participants identified several key priorities to address to the challenges of leaving no one behind:

- **Self determination:** The session emphasised the need for people affected by the decisions defining the issues, controlling the solutions and driving change. Pathways to achieving this were to secure long-term financing for investment into communities, bringing transparency of outcomes to government and the community, and decentralised budgeting with self-governing structures in place.
- **Money matters:** Financing for investment in people and services is crucial to enabling participation. Investing in services such as Newstart allowance and rent assistance is needed to alleviate poverty and increase participation.
- **Better data:** There are hidden forms of vulnerability that are not picked up in traditional analysis or fall between the data sets. This calls for more intersectional analysis methodologies for data collection which are co-designed by those affected by the data, which gives voice and representation to those hidden groups.
- **Political will:** Securing long-term political commitment and maintaining public support to ensure that the commitment is sustained.

SESSION 4.3: PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONTEXT

This session focused on determining the priorities for implementation of the SDGs in Australia, drawing on participants' knowledge and experiences from across their varied sectors and areas of expertise. Over 80 participants representing business, civil society, academia and government were led through a process of 'appreciative inquiry' by **Cate Harris, Acting Executive Director of the Global Compact Network Australia**, who emphasised that there are now less than 5,000 days to achieve the UN Agenda 2030 and therefore wherever possible we need to build momentum, innovate and scale up solutions to drive action.

Using the appreciative inquiry approach to unpack and address the topics in a positive, proactive and empowering way, participants worked on what needs to be done now and into the future to deliver on the SDGs, in the Australian context. The approach moved through four phases: Discover, Dream, Design and Deliver.

In the Discover phase, participants identified best practice examples of SDG leadership, innovation and inspiration, and explored how these examples can be applied to the Australian context. Examples included an initiative by the Oil Search Foundation to partner with local community leaders to develop literacy libraries in the Papua New Guinean highlands, and France's marginal tax exemptions for food donation, which has delivered a 25% increase in food rescue.

With these examples in mind, the groups explored how they can be applied to the Australian context, offering them an opportunity to dream big, and deepen or broaden the initiatives that were discussed in the first phase. Several themes emerged, including: creating commercial opportunities out of the SDGs, achieving at-scale data gathering, putting people at the centre of decision making, setting national targets, moving the dial on Indigenous inequality, tying government funding to SDG impacts, broadly shifting to long-term strategic thinking and planning to create win-wins. Some of the more specific ideas to be applied in the Australian context included: fostering young and progressive champions, utilising energy efficiency rating

tools for all existing properties, introducing sustainability education within the school system, encouraging businesses to align their strategies with the SDGs, setting up part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics to collect and report on SDG metrics, providing resources for SDG initiatives at all levels of government - local, state and federal, ensuring urban, regional and remote areas all have access to job opportunities, revising the taxation treatment of capital and re-examining equitable income distribution.

To discover the broader themes for SDGs in the Australia context, the Design phase asked groups to consider what solutions, programmes or initiatives may benefit specific sectors or SDGs and what small change could make the largest or quickest impact. There were calls for investment funds to review their investments through the lens of the SDGs, to launch a neutral online collaboration space and case study repository for Australian organisations, and to develop tools to match investors with projects in a similar way to how the Clean Energy Finance Corporate functions in relation to clean energy projects. Setting up a national framework and specific taskforce with cross-sectoral representation and support from the top to work vertically and horizontally with whole of government to maintain accountability was considered important by the group. Likewise moving beyond election cycles and developing a multi-decade strategic plan, similar to that of Melbourne Water, was mentioned and governments and corporates were encouraged to adopt a similar approach.

In the final Deliver phase, the aim was to elicit specific actions or one single thing that individuals or organisations can commit to doing in the next month. Commitments included: writing a submission to the senate inquiry, raising SDGs with local members of parliament, baselining data, mapping SDGs and setting targets internally to seek out beyond business-as-usual improvements, conducting a senior leadership workshop on how to implement the SDGs across an organisation and setting KPIs for the executive team, pilot 'badging' of SDGs across all activities and in organisational literature, and several commitments to share SDG-related case studies should an Australian-based SDG website or hub be developed.

The pressing need to unite and collaborate with a sense of urgency was a clear outcome of this breakout session, with an acknowledgement that collectively we have the

knowledge and resources to be able to capitalise on the opportunities the SDGs present to drive change and improve outcomes in the Australian context.

SESSION 5: REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The **Hon. Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Australia's Shadow Attorney-General and Shadow Minister for National Security**, opened the final session with a note that a summit on the SDGs is a very timely initiative. Emphasising the importance of Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, Dreyfus asserted that strong domestic and international institutions are essential to the delivery of all the goals. The goals provide a new benchmark for measuring progress that goes beyond the narrow focus on economic development, to focus on the development of human and social capital. This holistic approach to development is critical to building the capacity needed to eradicate poverty and hunger, and put the citizens of all nations towards a path of equality and inclusive prosperity.

Wrapping up the Summit, co-chairs of the Summit Sam Mostyn and John Thwaites called on **Cameron Cross, CEO and Founder of uBegin**, an online collaboration platform for the SDGs, to invite participants to participate in the post-Summit "opportunity mapping" process to help keep the momentum going through new partnerships for the goals.

Finally, the co-chairs invited final comments from the floor, some of which included:

- **Verity Firth, Executive Director of Social Justice at the University of Technology, Sydney**, stated that UTS is committed as a change agent on social justice internally. As universities are publicly funded institutions for the public good, collaborations and the role universities play should be looked at. Harnessing the collective power and leaving competition at the door is critical for universities to achieve the agenda.
- **Tony Worby, Director of CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere**, said that if we are going to make serious progress about the challenges ahead, we must utilise that capital to move beyond 'Business As Usual'. The essential ingredients to achieve the SDGs are capital, science and policy, and as there is no shortage of capital, the scale of the challenge is not beyond us.

- **Rosalind Croucher, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission**, said the SDGs should be an accountability template, calling for the mapping of disability, women's rights, poverty and other issues across all goals as a lens. The role of the Australian Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Commissions all over the world is to be the bridge builder between government and civil society. Where the AHRC can help is to assist businesses and government to translate the goals to the 'lived grammar' and part of the public language.
- **Pat Turner, CEO of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation**, said that all the SDGs resonate in relation to social justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. While

Australia considers itself as a country with a 'fair go' for everyone, this is not the case for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. She emphasised that if Australia is to do the right thing on the SDGs, then it must lead by example and fulfil its full responsibilities to the First Nations peoples of this country.

In his final remarks, John Thwaites urged the Summit participants to 'lead by example'. With the enthusiasm witnessed in the room, there is also an imperative to accelerate, recognising that 'business as usual' is not going to allow us to achieve the Goals. However, with all sectors from businesses, governments, civil society and academia represented, we have a way forward to work together and collaborate to achieve the goals.

POST-SUMMIT OPPORTUNITY MAPPING

Achieving the SDGs will require new kinds of collaboration between organisations, individuals and networks. The Australian SDGs Summit 2018 worked with uBegin.com on an early stage deployment of their smart, online collaboration and opportunity mapping platform. The methodology used identifies opportunities for collaboration across an organisation, network or ecosystem, aligning resources and existing solutions to project needs, and collective impact on the SDGs. The mapping results are launched in online collaboration environments on uBegin to help unlock the ecosystems capability to connect and solve the SDGs together.

METHODOLOGY

Step 1 - Post-event submissions

Following the Summit, delegates made submissions via a survey to highlight areas of action and relationships to the SDGs:

- Leading SDG related projects (with project needs)
- Wanting to join SDG related projects (with resources)
- Offering services to support SDG related project
- Government or community leader interested or involved in city, regional or international SDG action

43 submissions were received from attending organisations, with interest across the full range of 17 SDGs. The needs identified by organisations ranged from financial support to communication, advocacy, or monitoring and evaluation skills.

Step 2 - Opportunity Mapping

Submissions were then filtered through uBegin's machine learning technology to identify strong opportunities for collaboration, and more broadly, alignments around the

SDGs. Each delegate received a unique login to uBegin with a personalised list of opportunities to take action with other delegates.

Step 3 - Ongoing Collaboration Environments

The results of the opportunity mapping were launched on uBegin in collaboration environments. The tools provided on uBegin support outcomes orient projects, self-organised action, and easily connecting ecosystem stakeholders for regional, national or international action.

OPPORTUNITY MAPPING RESULTS AND VISUALISATION

The following pages provide overview figures illustrating the results of the mapping. View all 2018 Australian SDGs Summit projects and collaborations here: ubegin.com/projects/2018-australian-sustainable-development-goal-summit/related-projects.

ABOUT UBEGIN

Over the past 4.5 years uBegin, a public benefit corporation, has been working and learning with over 1200 influential leaders and organisations across multiple continents. In 2017, uBegin was showcased by the United Nations at the Global Festival of Ideas in Germany and continues to grow early-stage project collaborations with some of the most passionate leaders and largest development organisations in the world. A primary strategy for uBegin is providing backbone infrastructure to connecting cities and communities around the Australia and the world. The more opportunities mapped, the faster we can learn, adapt, and scale solutions that work. To get involved visit www.ubegin.com or reach out to the uBegin team via info@ubegin.com.

Figure 1. Network SDG relationships

This highlights more an overall perspective of how interconnected each organisation is, through the SDGs. It also highlights clusters around particular SDGs giving a sense of where each organisation is within the ecosystem.

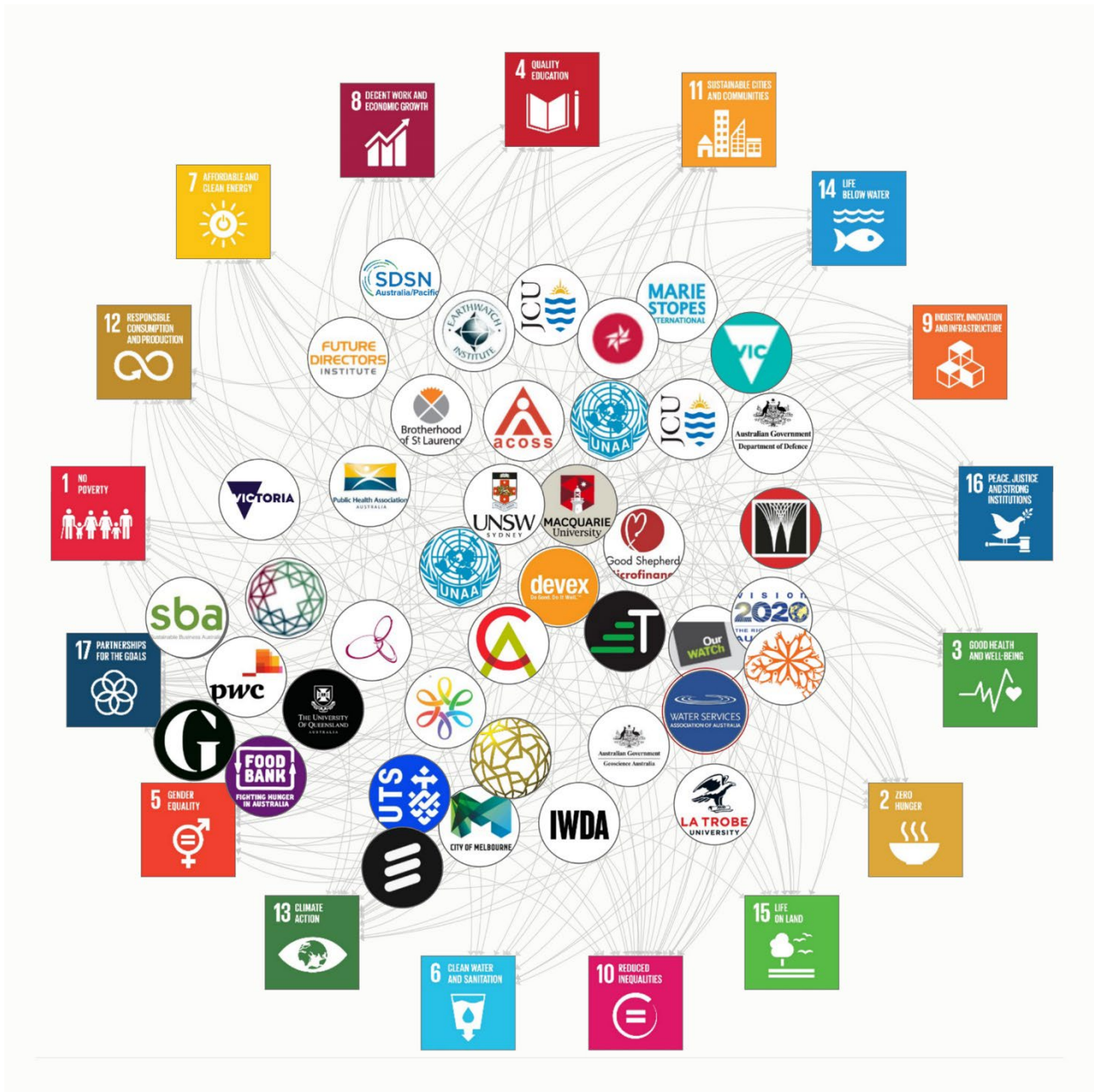
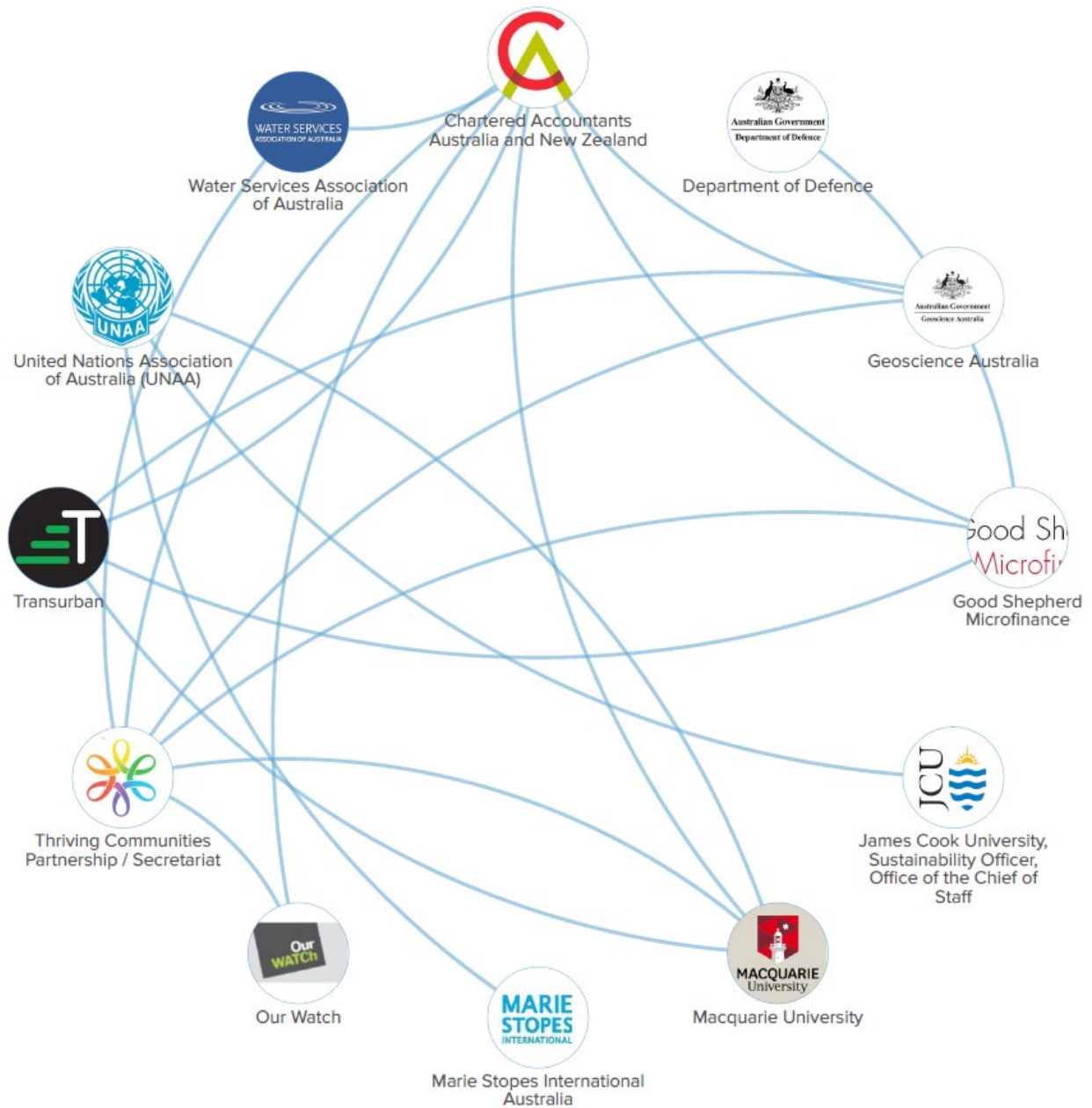


Figure 2. Strongest opportunities identified

Strongest opportunities have been filtered through target SDGs and by matching project needs to offers. These organisations were identified as holding the strongest opportunities for collaboration.



ANNEX 1: PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

ActionAid Australia	Cardno Emerging Markets	Devex
AGL Energy	CARE Australia	Earthwatch Institute Australia
AIESEC in Melbourne	Caritas Australia	Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Human Settlements Australia
Allens	CBM Australia	Ericsson
ANZ	Cbus Super	EY
Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability	Centre for Policy Development	Family Planning NSW
Australia Post	Centre for Social Impact	Foodbank Australia
Australia-China Belt and Road Initiative	Chartered Accountants ANZ	Frasers Property Australia
Australian Academy of Science	ChildFund Australia	Fuji Xerox Australia
Australian Association of Social Workers	City of Melbourne	Future Business Council
Australian Bureau of Statistics	City of Sydney	Future Earth Australia
Australian Business Volunteers	ClimateWorks Australia	Futureeye
Australian Committee for IUCN	Coffey International Development	Geoscience Australia
Australian Council for International Development	Cohealth	Glencore
Australian Council of Social Service	Committee for Melbourne	Global Citizen
Australian Council of Superannuation Investors	Commonwealth Bank of Australia	Global Compact Network Australia
Australian Disability and Development Consortium	Compass Housing Services	Global Ideas
Australian Education Union	Corporate Citizenship	Global Mosquito Alert Consortium
Australian Human Rights Commission	COTA Australia	Good Shepherd Microfinance
Australian Library and Information Association	CPA Australia	Green Building Council of Australia
Australian Parliament	CSIRO	Greening Australia
Australian Red Cross	Currie Communications	Guardian Australia
AustralianSuper	Curtin University	Healthy Cities Illawarra
AVI	Deakin University	HESTA
Bank Australia	Deloitte	Human Rights Law Centre
Banksia Foundation	Department of Defence	IKEA
Barwon Water	Department of Education and Training	Impact Investing Australia
Brambles / CHEP	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Indigenous Business Australia
Brotherhood of St Laurence	Department of Health	International Association of Public Participation - Australasia
Buddhist Federation of Australia	Department of Jobs and Small Business	International Council for Monuments and Sites
Bureau of Meteorology	Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet	International SOS
Cancer Council Australia	Department of Social Services	International Union for Conservation of Nature
	Department of the Environment and Energy	

International Women's Development Agency	Office of the Minister for International Development and the Pacific	Transurban
Intrepid Group	Oil Search	uBegin
James Cook University	Orora Limited	UN Youth Australia
Know Studio	Our Watch	UNHCR
Konica Minolta	OzHarvest	UNICEF Australia
KPMG	Plan International Australia	United Nations Association of Australia
La Trobe University	Principles for Responsible Investment	United Nations Information Centre
LBG & Corporate Citizenship	ProBono	Uniting Church in Australia
Lendlease	Public Health Association of Australia	UnitingCare Australia
Live & Learn	PwC	University of Auckland
Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation	QBE	University of Melbourne
Macquarie University	Questacon	University of Queensland
Marie Stopes International Australia	RDI Network	University of Sydney
Mary Ward International Australia	Responsible Investment Association Australasia	University of Technology Sydney
McCabe Centre for Law and Cancer	Rio Tinto	University of Western Australia
Melbourne Water	RMIT University	University of Wollongong
Minister for International Development and the Pacific	Sustainability Victoria	University of New South Wales
Monash University	Sustainable Business Australia	Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Murdoch University	Sustainable Development Solutions Network	Vision 2020 Australia
NAB	Sydney Airport	Volunteering Australia
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation	Synergy2030	Water Services Association of Australia
National Congress of Australia's First Peoples	TEAR Australia	WaterAid Australia
National Council of Single Mothers & their Children Inc	Telstra	Wave Consulting
National Union of Students	The Ethics Centre	Western Sydney University
NSW Office of Environment and Heritage	The Fred Hollows Foundation	Westpac
Oaktree	The Hunger Project Australia	Woodside
Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria	The Lancet	World Vision Australia
Office of the Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP	The Shannon Company	WorleyParsons
	Thriving Communities Partnership	WWF Australia
	Transparency International Australia	Yarra Theological Union
		Yarra Valley Water
		YWCA Australia

ANNEX 2: SUMMIT AGENDA

8.30–9.00 Registration (tea & coffee)

9.00–10.00 Session 1: The SDGs: A shared vision

High-level perspectives on the importance of the SDGs for Australia.

Chairs: John Thwaites & Sam Mostyn

Welcome Messages

Ron Jones, Wurundjeri Elder – *Welcome to Country*

John Thwaites & Sam Mostyn – *Welcome from the Chairs*

Cr Cathy Oke – *Welcome from the City of Melbourne*

Cross-sectoral perspectives on the importance of the SDGs

Susan Pascoe AM, President, ACFID

Rod Fehring, CEO, Frasers Property Australia

Major General Michael G Smith AO (retd), UNAA National President

Ministerial keynote

Senator the Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Minister for International Development and the Pacific

10.00–11.15 Session 2: How Australia is progressing on the SDGs

How is Australia tracking on the SDGs? What are the challenges and opportunities in implementing the agenda to 2030?

Chair: Sam Mostyn

Panel: How is Australia progressing on the SDGs?

Senator the Hon Concetta Fierravanti-Wells, Minister for International Development and the Pacific

Jason McDonald, Chief Adviser, Domestic Policy Group, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet – *The Australian Government's implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including preparations for the VNR*

John Thwaites, Chair, Monash Sustainable Development Institute – *Australia's baseline performance on the SDGs*

Marc Purcell, CEO, ACFID – *Australia's international engagement and the SDGs*

Cassandra Goldie, CEO, ACOSS – *Challenges and opportunities in implementing 'Leave no one behind'*

Catherine Hunter, KPMG & Chair, GCNA – *Progress in business action on the SDGs*

11.15–11.45 Morning Tea

11.45–13.00 Session 3: Unlocking the potential of the SDGs

How different sectors are using the SDGs as a catalyst for "beyond business as usual" to address sustainable development challenges.

Chair: Sam Mostyn

Setting the scene

Cate Harris, Acting Executive Director, GCNA – *How different sectors are embracing the SDGs "beyond business as usual"*

Leaders & innovators – Short presentations

Dr Gillian Sparkes, Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Victoria – *Socio-economic indicators for the 2018 SoE report based on the SDGs*

Susan Mizrahi, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Australia Post – *Leading change through partnerships*

Sam Loni, Global Coordinator, SDSN Youth – *How SDSN Youth is empowering young people to act on the SDGs in Australia*

Nicole Bradford, Portfolio Head-Responsible Investment, Cbus Super Fund – *The role of the investment sector in supporting SDG implementation*

Jen Dollin, Manager, Sustainability, Western Sydney University – *Education and the SDGs as drivers of local sustainable development*

Dermot O’Gorman, CEO, WWF Australia – *Advancing the SDGs using blockchain in the tuna fisheries industry*

Gary Oliver, CEO, National Congress of Australia’s First Peoples

Breakout group introduction

Sam Mostyn and John Thwaites

13.00–14.00 Lunch

14.00–15.30 Session 4: Advancing SDG implementation in Australia

Parallel discussion sessions on how cross-sectoral SDG implementation in Australia can be strengthened.

Group 1: Communicating the SDGs

A lack of awareness of the SDGs is seen as one of the key barriers to implementation in Australia and globally. The aim of this session is to draw on the expertise of Summit participants to identify messages and strategies for increasing awareness of and action on the SDGs among different kinds of audiences in Australia. This hand-on session will get participants to design a targeted SDGs communication pitch through a design process based on behaviour change approaches.

Leads: SDSN Youth

Speaker: Bill Shannon, The Shannon Company

Group 2. Advancing the SDGs commitment to “leave no one behind”

At the core of the SDGs are the commitments to leave no one behind. This session will provide a forum for participants to workshop ways to overcome the challenges associated with leaving no one behind, by discussing some of the key ingredients we need to ensure we are identifying and reaching the right people, alongside new ideas and strategies being pursued across different sectors.

Lead: ACFID

Chair: Jane Edge, CEO, CBM Australia

Speakers: Sharon Smees, Senior Research, Policy and Advocacy Advisor, IWDA; Catherine Brown, CEO, Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation; Ciara Sterling, Thriving Communities Partnership

Group 3: Priorities for implementation of the SDGs in the Australian context

This session will draw on participants’ knowledge and experience from across their varied sectors and areas of expertise to identify priorities for implementation of the SDGs in Australia. Using the appreciative inquiry approach to unpack and address the topics in a positive, proactive and empowering way, participants will work on what needs to be done now and into the future to deliver on the SDGs, in the Australian context.

Lead: GCNA

15.30–16.00 Afternoon Tea

16.00–17.00 Session 5: Reflections and next steps

Reflections on the day and identification of concrete ways of moving forward.

Chairs: John Thwaites & Sam Mostyn

Closing keynote

The Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Shadow Attorney General

Report back from breakout sessions

Call to action

Cameron Cross, CEO & Founder, uBegin – *Post-Summit “opportunity mapping”*

Wrap up and what’s next

Vox Pop – *Brief reflections from participants on the day and what they want to see going forward*

Chairs – *Next steps and final reflections*

17.00–18.00 Networking drinks



AUSTRALIAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SUMMIT

2018

UNLOCKING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

#AusSDGs

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Water



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