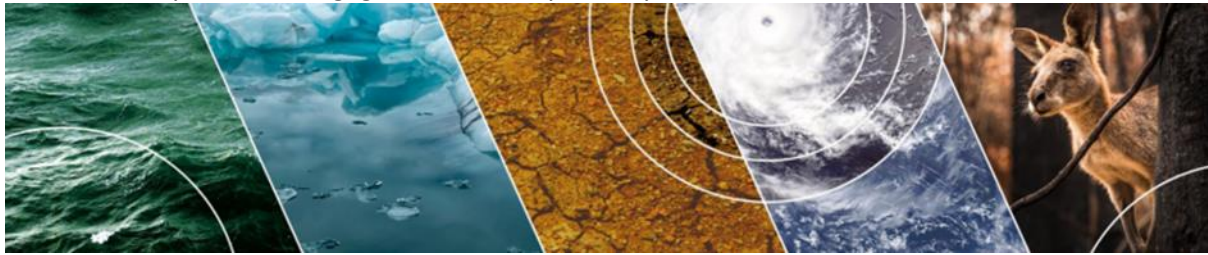




**Climate Change: Impacts on Rural Regional &
Remote Women & Communities**

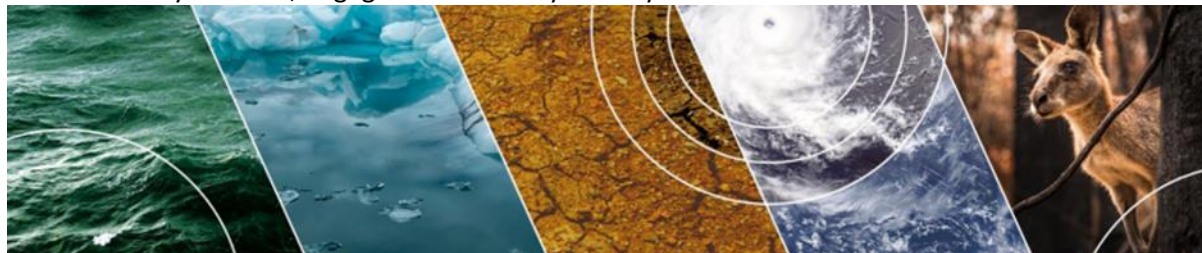
Held on

Wednesday February 17th, 2021



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NRWC Roundtable

Theme: Climate Change: Impacts on Rural Regional & Remote Women & Communities

Run Sheet

Wednesday February 17, 2021

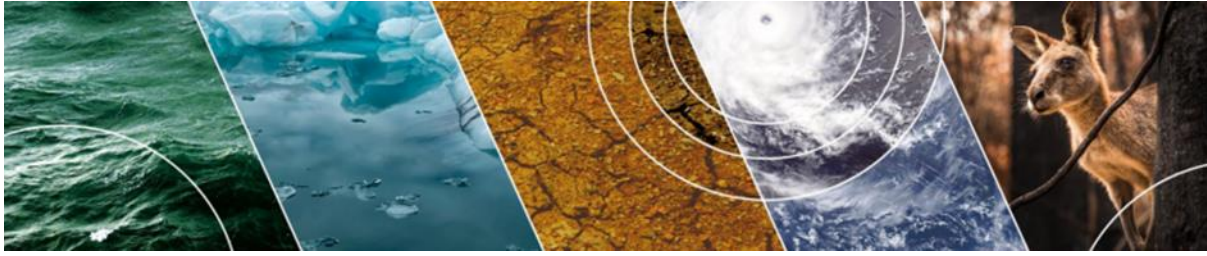
| Time | Mins | What | Who / Intro |
|-------------|------|--|---------------|
| 8:30-8:45 | | <i>Tea/coffee on arrival</i> Room: JFK | |
| 8:45 – 8:50 | | Welcome & Housekeeping | Keli McDonald |
| | | <i>Keli to Introduce Cara Peek</i> | |
| 8:50 | 5 | Acknowledgement to Country | Cara Peek |
| 8:55 | 5 | Introduction of NRWC President Leonie Noble | Cara Peek |
| 9:00 | 15 | Setting the Scene for the Roundtable Introducing NRWC NRWC Programs | Leonie Noble, |
| | | <i>Introduction of Dr Marji Puotinen - Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIM) and is a Spatial/Ecological Data Scientist.</i> Topic: Climate Change Rising sea temperatures and sea levels – what does this mean for a land girt by sea. | Leonie Noble |
| 9:15 | 30 | Dr Marji Puotinen | |
| | 5 | <i>Q&A</i> | |
| | 5 | <i>Leonie to thank Dr Marji Puotinen</i> | Leonie Noble |
| | 5 | <i>Tech</i> | |
| 9:45 | | Introduction: Dr Robyn Alders -AO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Policy Centre, Australian National University. • Senior Consulting Fellow, Centre for Universal Health, Chatham House, London, UK Topic: Climate Change: A Situational Report of where rural Australia is at: climate, energy, water & food. Solutions & opportunities | Leonie Noble |
| | 20 | Dr Robyn Alders -AO | |
| | 5 | <i>Q&A</i> | |

NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



| | | | |
|-------|----|---|--------------|
| | 5 | <i>Leonie to thank Dr Robyn Alders AO and invite all to Morning tea</i> | |
| 10:10 | 15 | Morning tea | |
| 10:25 | | Introduction: Dr Jo Walker – Board Director - Climate and Health Alliance Topic: Climate Change is a health Issue for Rural, Regional and Remote women. | Leonie Noble |
| | 15 | Dr Jo Walker | |
| | 5 | Q&A | |
| | 5 | <i>Leonie to thank Dr Jo Walker</i> | |
| | 5 | <i>Tech</i> | |
| 10:55 | | Introduction: Councillor Linda Scott –President - Australian Local Government Association Topic: Rural and Regional Towns what are the risks of Climate Change, how are they being addressed. What are the opportunities? | Leonie Noble |
| | 15 | Presenting via pre-recording video | |
| | 5 | <i>Leonie thanks Linda Scott</i> | |
| | 5 | <i>Tech</i> | |
| 11:25 | | Introduction: Dr Heather Boetto – Senior Lecturer, Social Work and Human Services, Charles Sturt University Topic: Climate Change: A Gendered Impact | Leonie Noble |
| | 15 | Dr Heather Boetto | |
| | 5 | Q&A | |
| | 5 | <i>Leonie to thank Dr Boetto</i> | Leonie Noble |
| | 5 | <i>Tech</i> | |
| 12 | | Introduction: Wendy Cohen – CEO - Farmers for Climate Action Topic: Solutions and Opportunities for Working with Climate Change for Primary Production | Leonie Noble |
| | 15 | Wendy Cohen | |
| | 5 | <i>Tech</i> | |
| | 5 | Q&A | |
| | 5 | <i>Thank you and wrap for lunch</i> | |
| 12:30 | 45 | Lunch | |
| | | <i>Leonie Welcome everyone back – set goals for workshop session</i> | Leonie Noble |

NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



| | | | |
|-------|-------|--|----------------|
| 13:15 | 10 | Summary & Re-cap | Rechelle Leahy |
| 13:30 | | Workshop | Leonie Noble |
| 15:15 | | Summary Next Steps Thank you & Close | Leonie Noble |
| 15:30 | | <i>Afternoon Tea & Farewell to Guests</i> | |
| 16:30 | 60min | NRWC Board – day in review & discussion with Policy Writer: Dr Hannah Holland | |



Climate change: Impacts on Rural Remote and Regional women and Communities

Aim

The National Rural Women's Coalition Roundtables draw a diverse group of women together to focus on a specific topic derived to support the themes of CSW or issues raised by the RRR Women through engagement with the NRWC. These provide:

- Education to women to increase their understanding on topics.
- Inclusion of women from diverse backgrounds.
- A policy platform on topics for future action.
- Quantitative data to be used for consultation.
- Potential solutions and direction on how to overcome / change / assist /manage the issue.
- An opportunity to obtain input for inclusion in the draft papers for CSW66.

In November 2019 the National Rural Women's Coalition attended the Beijing +25 Regional Review in Bangkok, Thailand, the CSO Forum and the Inter-governmental Meeting, one of the themes arising from this gathering was the impacts of Climate Change on women

As women living and working in rural regional and remote Australia, including living on Australian rural and remote coastlines and working on living on islands and working on the oceans.

Presenters

Dr Marji Puotinen - Australian Institute of Marine Science

Dr Robyn Alders AO – Australian National University

Dr Jo Walker – Director Climate & Health Alliance

Councillor Linda Scott – President, Australian Local Government Association

Dr Heather Boetto – Senior lecturer, Charles Stuart University

Wendy Cohen CEO – Farmers for Climate Action

Please see Biography of each presenter below.

Workshop Participants

National Rural Womens Coalition



Leonie Noble – Women in Seafood Australasia

Sarah Parker – Australian Women in Agriculture

Rechelle Leahy - Independent

Jo Stewart Rattray - Independent

Jan Clifford – Australian Local Government Women’s Association

Cara Peek - Independent

Tanya Cameron – Country Women’s Association of Australia

Melanie Saba – National Rural Health Alliance

Australian Women in Agriculture

Natalie Sommerville - Director

Naina Sher Gill - Member

Australian Local Government Women’s Association

Flora Lepouras

Country Women’s Association of Australia

Lisbet Sheill

Margaret Abell-Muspratt – NSW Ag & Environment Committee

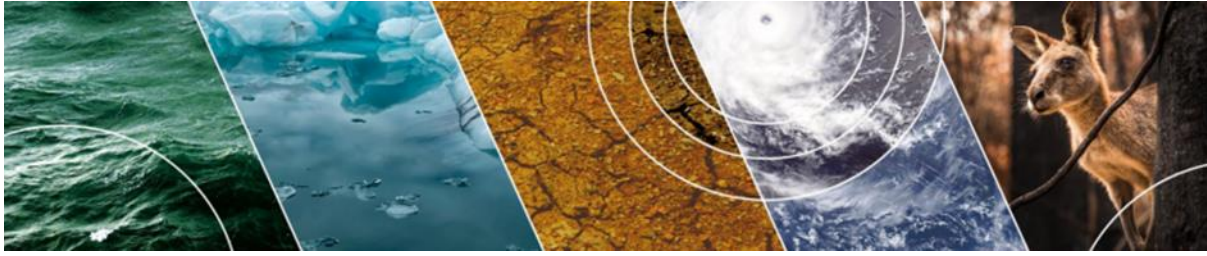
National Rural Health Alliance

Women in Seafood Australasia

Karen Holder – President

NRWC Roundtable Outcomes

- A broader understanding across the complex and interlinked issues for NRWC member Organisation
- A position paper to be written and shared with member organisations.
- A clear understanding that positive action is required to in preparation and mitigation actions to reduce the impacts of Climate Change on rural women and girls and the communities where they live



Presenters

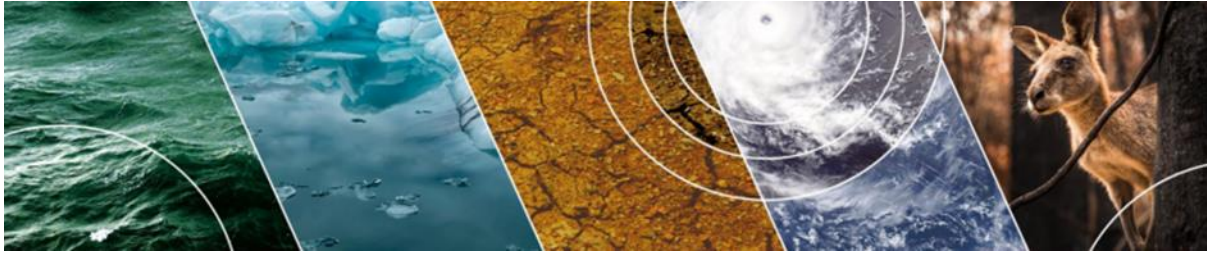


Dr Marji Puotinen

Australian Institute of Marine Science

Dr. Marji Puotinen is a Spatial-Ecological Data Scientist at the Australian Institute of Marine Science. She aims to help prioritise where to focus coral reef conservation in the face of climate change by reconstructing past and future time histories of tropical cyclone impacts on the world's reefs. In her spare time, she teaches people of all ages – but particularly kids - about climate change and its impacts on our oceans by asking 'what do penguins and coral reefs have in common?'

<https://www.facebook.com/australianmarinescience/>



Dr Robyn Alders

ANU

Robyn Alders is an Honorary Professor with the Development Policy Centre within the Australian National University, a Senior Scientific Advisor with the Chatham House Centre on Global Health Security, Chair of the Kyeema Foundation, an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Infectious Disease and Global Health, School of Veterinary Medicine, Tufts University and Chair of the Upper Lachlan Branch of the NSW Farmers' Association. For over 30 years, she has worked closely with family farmers in sub-Saharan Africa, SE Asia and Australia and as a veterinarian, researcher and colleague, with an emphasis on the development of sustainable infectious disease control in animals in rural areas in support of food and nutrition security.

In May 2002, Robyn was the recipient of the Kesteven Medal, awarded by the Australian Veterinary Association and the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in recognition of distinguished contributions to international veterinary science in the field of technical and scientific assistance to developing countries. In January 2011, she was invested as an Officer of the Order of Australia by the Governor General of Australia for distinguished service to veterinary science as a researcher and educator, to the maintenance of food security in developing countries through livestock management and disease control programs. In February 2017, Robyn was the recipient of the Inaugural Mitchell Global Humanitarian Award which recognises Australians and others supported by Australian aid who have made an outstanding contribution to the cause of international development

<https://researchers.anu.edu.au/researchers/alders-rg>



Dr Joanne Walker

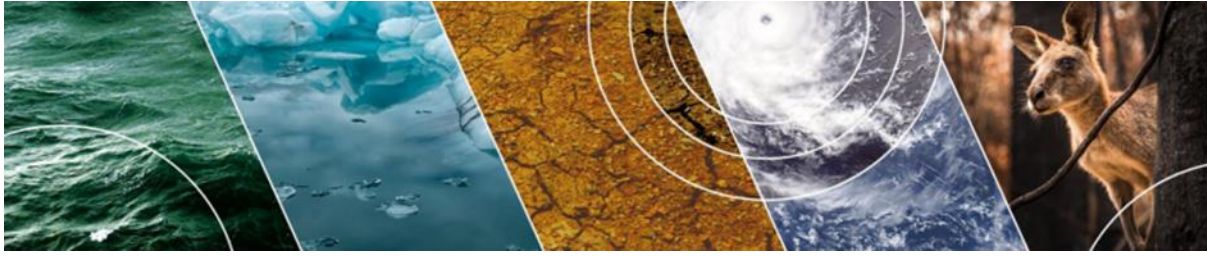
Director

Climate and Health Alliance

Dr Joanne Walker has extensive experience in public health, health promotion, health service management and working within health NGOs, having spent over 25 years+ working at a senior management and Executive level in local, state and national capacities. Dr Walker has significant expertise in health policy development and implementation, working with a wide range of stakeholders ranging from community groups, corporate and industry stakeholders and government decision makers.

Dr Walker is widely recognised for her expertise in health promotion, rural health and Australian health policy development, designing and implementing evaluation and monitoring frameworks. She is genuinely committed to ensuring that public health policy is evidence based and addresses social and health equity.

Dr Walker has a background in national health policy development, state-wide program design and management, nursing and midwifery and has two higher research degrees; a doctorate of public health and master degree in public health.



Councillor Linda Scott(Psych.), GAICD, JP)
President Local Government Association Australia

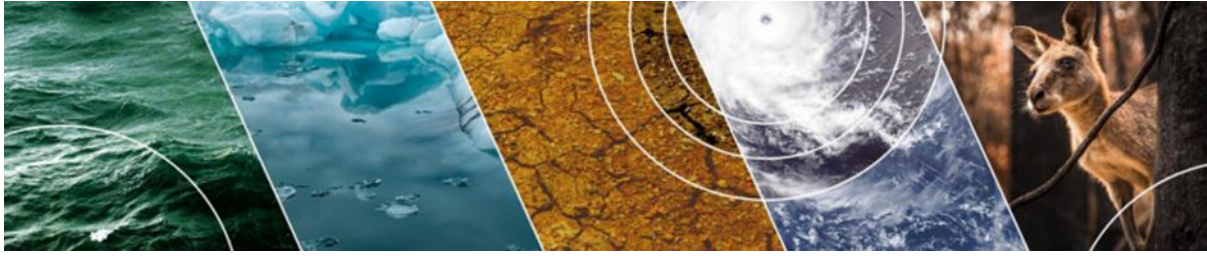
Councillor Linda Scott is an experienced local government leader who believes that local government holds our nation's communities together. Linda was elected unopposed as the President of the Australian Local Government Association in November 2020, having been Vice President since November 2018 and a board member since 2017. Linda has been the President of Local Government NSW since 2017 and has served as a board member since 2015. As President, Linda has successfully secured the doubling of library funding for NSW local government libraries, led a state-wide campaign to save recycling and successfully advocated for fairer and more transparent electoral funding laws.

Linda was first elected as a Councillor on the City of Sydney in 2012 and was re-elected in 2016. She has served as Deputy Lord Mayor and on the Council's committees, including the Central Sydney Planning Committee. During her time on the City of Sydney Council, Linda has successfully advocated for more affordable housing and green spaces, increased early education and care centres, new skate parks, and boosted city funding for climate change action. Linda is an accomplished non-executive Board Director and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. She is the Deputy Chair of CareSuper, an industry superannuation fund with nearly \$20 billion under management. She serves on a range of NSW Government boards and advisory groups, including the NSW Environmental Trust, the Local Government Ministerial Advisory Group and NSW Smart Places Advisory Committee. Linda volunteers as a mentor for the University of Sydney Dalyell Program, raises funds for homelessness services in the annual Vinnies CEO Sleepout and is a Justice of the Peace.

Linda is a regular media commentator, having appeared on panel shows such as The Drum (ABC), The Project (TEN) and the Paul Murray Program (Sky).

With first class honours in psychology from the University of New South Wales, Linda was a researcher prior to her time in local government. She worked at the University of Sydney and the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research.

Linda lives in inner Sydney with her husband and two sons, and loves live music, art, bushwalking and swimming.

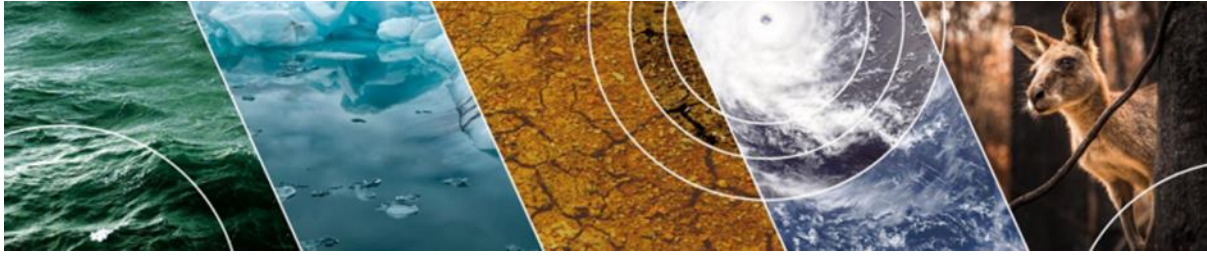


Dr Heather Boetto

PhD, M Soc Wk, BSW, BA

Senior Lecturer, Social Work and Human Services, Charles Sturt University

Heather is a senior lecturer in Social Work and Human Services at Charles Sturt University. Heather's research focuses on environmental social work, climate change and disasters. Using a feminist lens, Heather understands issues associated with masculinity and the gendered impacts of the global environmental crisis on women and children, particularly women from disadvantaged backgrounds. Heather's research in relation to the environment have involved rural and regional women, older people, community service organisations, and the development of an environmental practice model for social workers. Heather is currently leading a research project with human service organisations aimed at developing disaster preparedness, which is funded by the *NSW Government Community Resilience Innovation Program*.



Wendy Cohen

CEO

Farmers For Climate Action

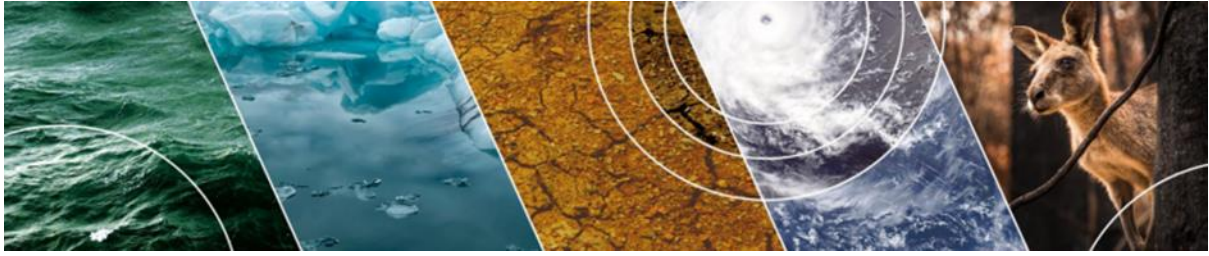
<https://youtu.be/yzTxqdZX4To>

Wendy is from the regional centre of Orange, in Central-West NSW, although as the daughter of a school principal she's also lived in many other country towns – including Barry, Carrathool, Beckom, Monteagle and Nashdale.

What are the biggest challenges facing Farmers for Climate Action right now?

In a way our biggest challenge is also our biggest opportunity and that's the time frame we're dealing with. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change made it clear late last year that the window for effective action on climate action is closing fast and that we have no time to lose. But at the same time, we've got massive momentum for change right now. The elevation of climate change in our political and news agendas gives farmers — the ones who are living and breathing the impacts of climate change already — a platform to be heard.

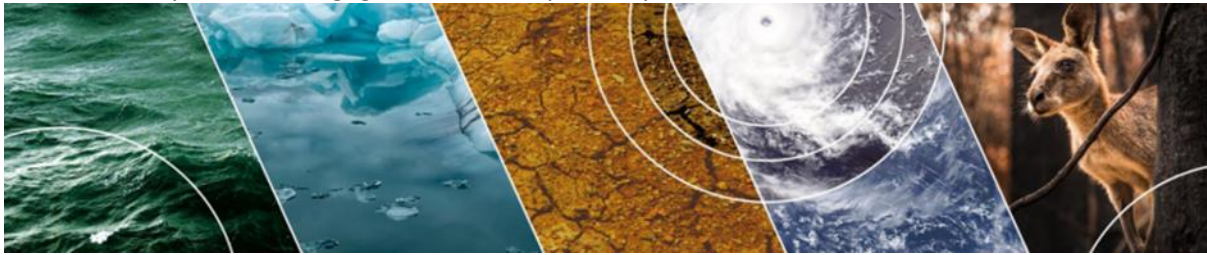
<https://farmersforclimateaction.org.au/about-fca/>



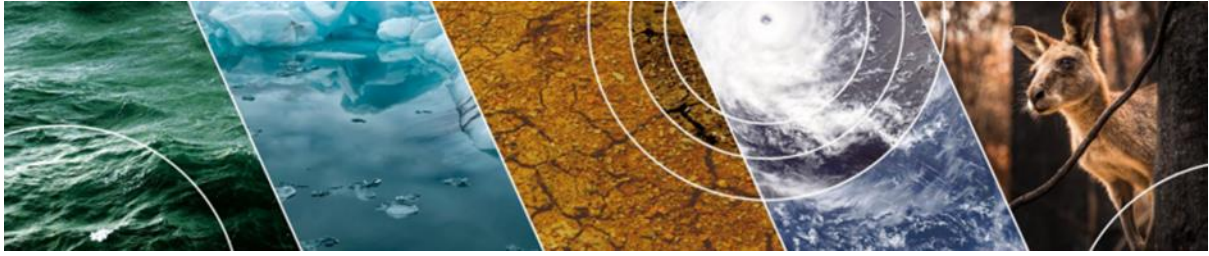
Research

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rKurR5_9QPHAQeb-z_eRqAJ-Ba4WNTPY?usp=sharing

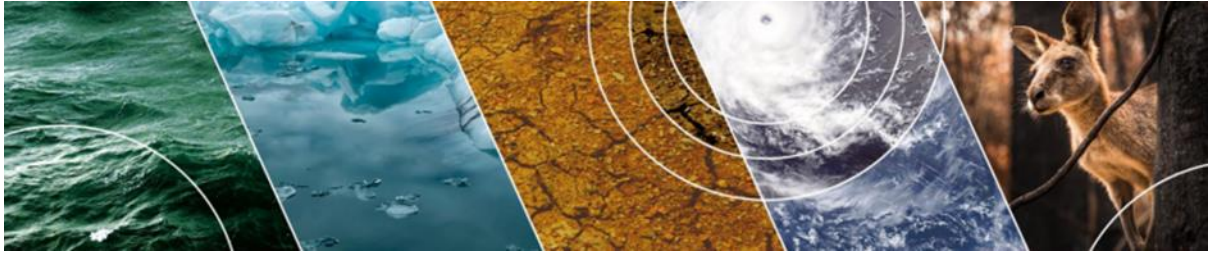
NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



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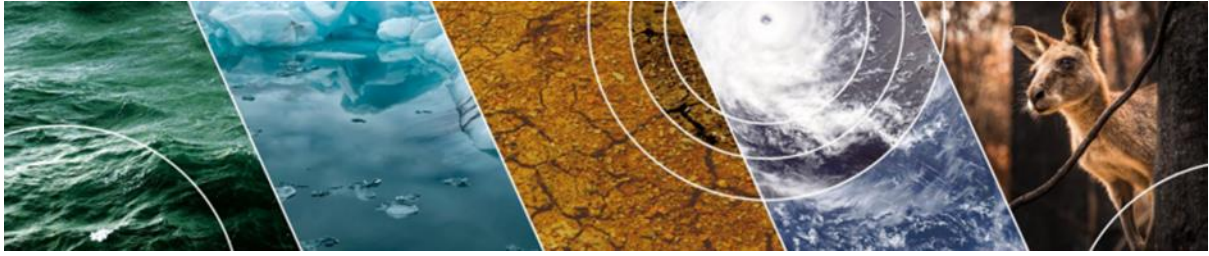


NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



Liesbet Sheill & Margaret Abell-Musoratt representing Country Women's Association of Australia with NRWC President Leonie Noble

NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



Naina Sher Gill & Nat Sommerville from Australian Women in Agriculture with Leonie Noble



Blended workshopping the issues

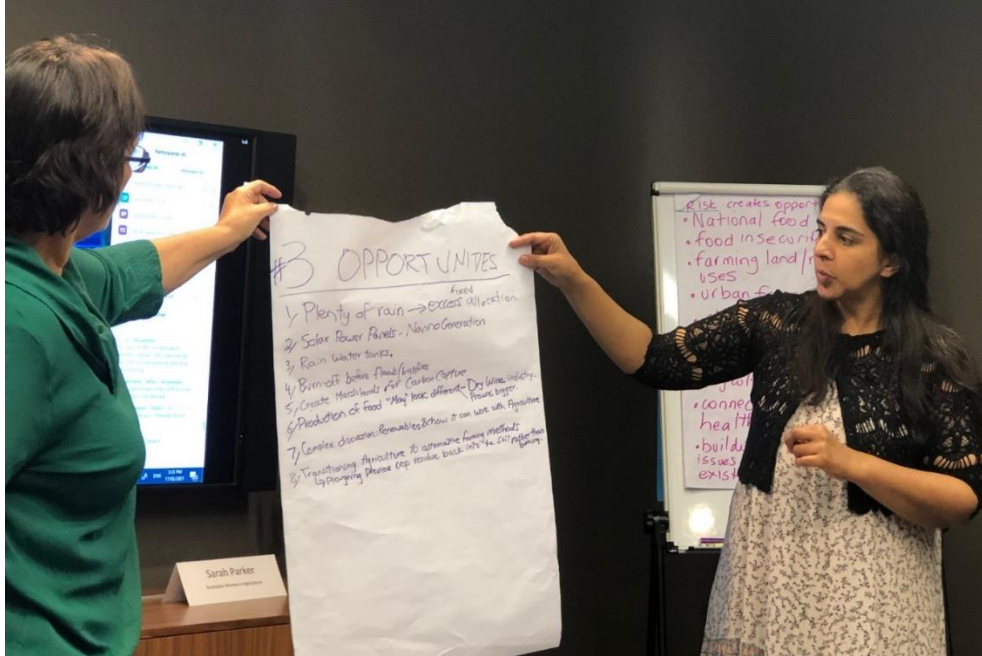
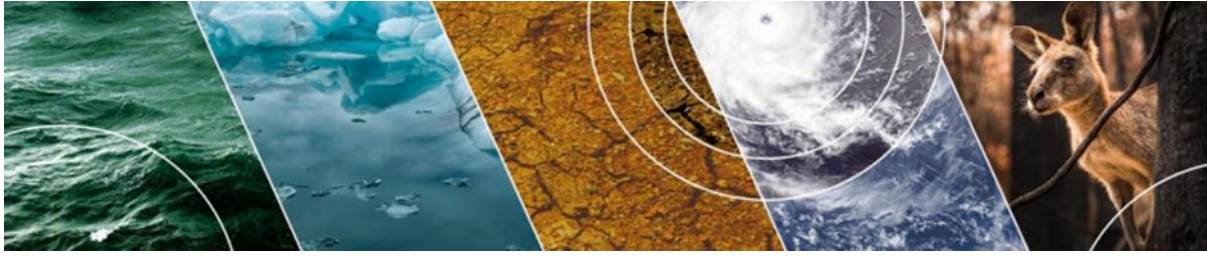
NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



Working on issues in to report back to the group

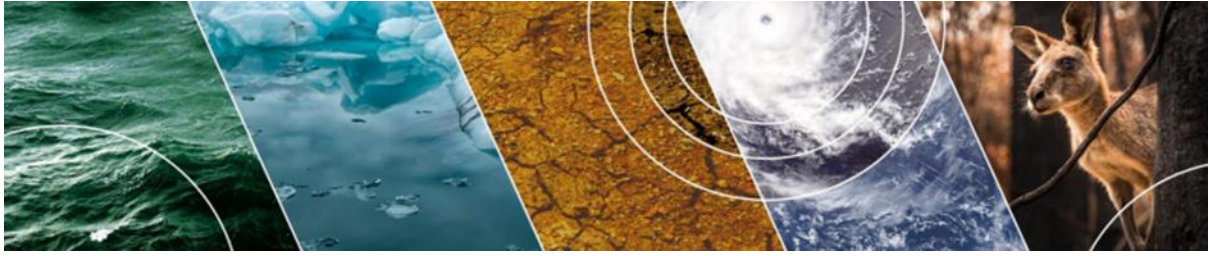


NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table



MOST IMPORTANT TODAY:

- 1) Water Security - ~~Araba~~ land
- 2) Cyclone awareness on land & Water
- 3) Questionable resources required for Wind Energy
- 4) Connection of food consumption & Climate (change)

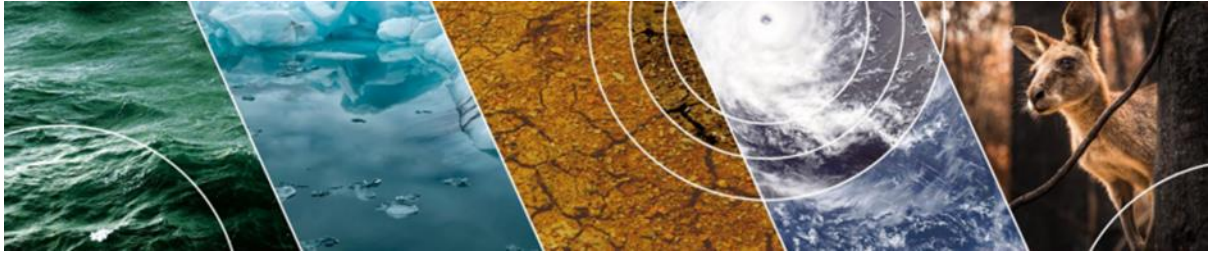


#3 OPPORTUNITIES

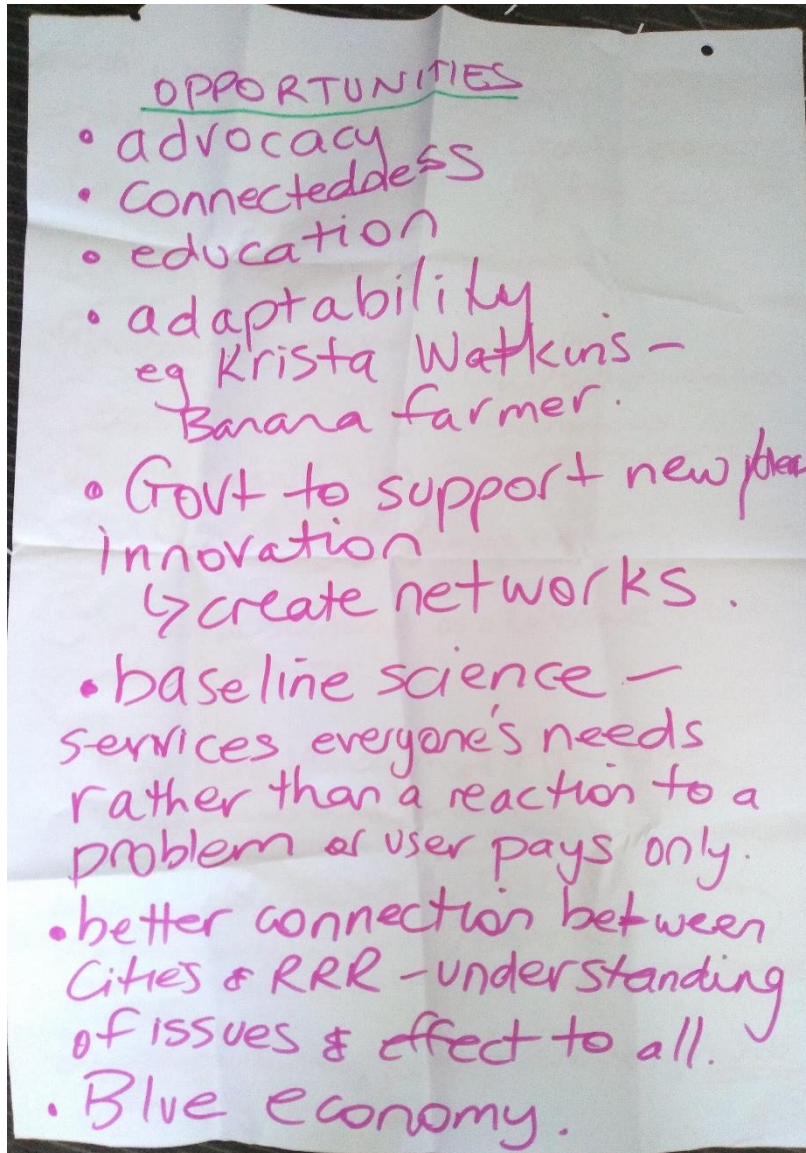
- 1/ Plenty of rain → excess ^{fixed} allocation
- 2/ Solar Power Panels - Nano Generation
- 3/ Rain Water tanks.
- 4/ Burn-off before floods/bushfires
- 5/ Create Marshlands for Carbon Capture.
- 6/ Production of food "May" look different → Dry Wine industry. Proves bigger.
- 7/ Complex discussion: Renewables & how it can work with Agriculture
- 8/ Transitioning Agriculture to alternative farming methods
↳ Ploughing previous crop residue back into the soil rather than burning.

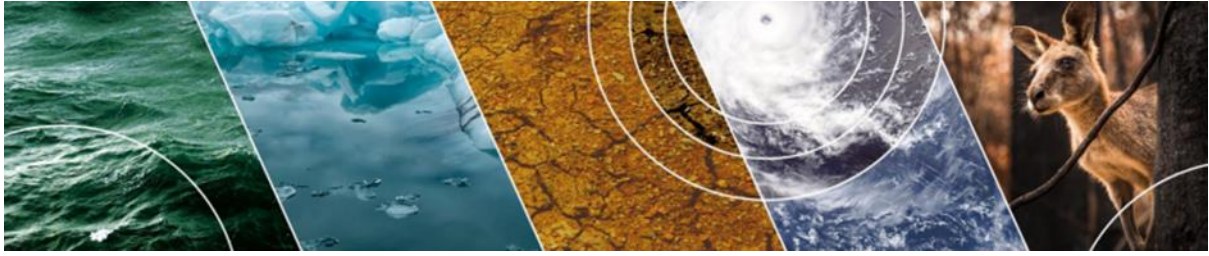
#2 RISKS

- 1/ Loss of water
- 2/ Lack of farm workers ✓ Gov Payment ^{required}
- 3/ Cost of Power: NANO GENERATION: CRISIS REQUIRED
- 4/ LACK OF BASELOAD POWER
- 5/ DEMARCATION BETWEEN SERVICES
- 6/ DEVELOPMENT ~~AND~~ TAKING OUT NATURAL MARSHLAND, MANGROVE or HABITAT
- 7/ LACK OF ^{EXCESSIVE} RAIN: AFFECTS WINE INDUSTRY
ABILITY TO PRODUCE
- 8/ Lack of investment to ~~market~~ capacity in marginal ^{market} production.

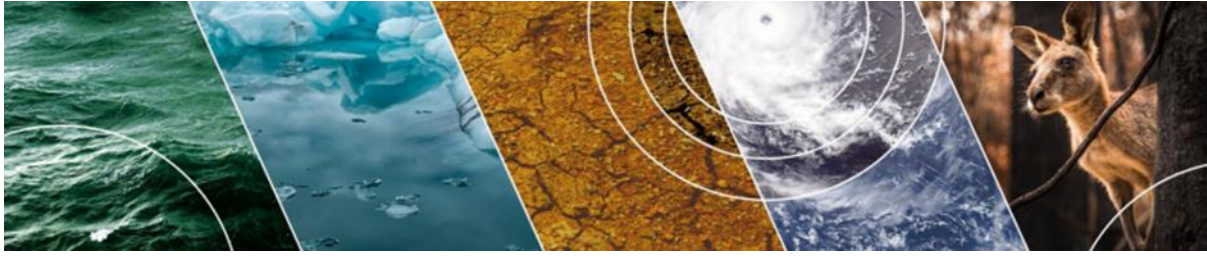


- National food plan
- food insecurity
- farming land / related uses.
- Urban farms
- Challenge of different communication / education methods - eg use different messaging eg national approaches. eg cultural burning.
- connection to mental health & PTSD & DV
- building climate change issues "the lense" with existing issues / frameworks policies





- * Food Waste
 - Water + Energy
 - opps in circular economy of food production
 - ↑ Micro nutrients focus + soil health
- Carbon Market → related Capital
- Participation in Carbon Market → city paying to make better purchases
 - Bush food industry → conscious consumerism
- Valuing Native Veg
 - ↳ Carbon capture / encourage nurseries
- Push for 2030 target as a Collective
 - what incentives
- Holistic Land Management Approaches
 - indigenous voice/knowledge
- Addressing/Acknowledging PTSD + Trauma
 - enables Policy change / better access
 - GP for Mental health idea / finding of better services
- Engagement - further/better/acknowledge whole community ie TSI etc



Rechelle Leahy presented the summary of the day to the Roundtable

Notes from the day

Climate Change Round Table

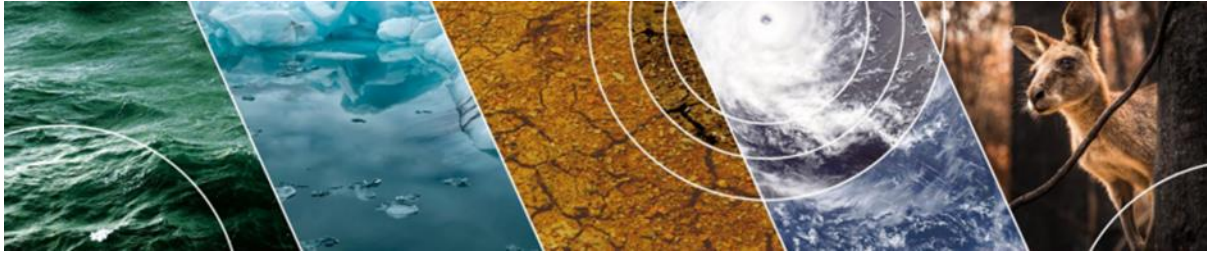
Session 1

Dr Marji Puotinen

Aus. Inst Of Marine Science (Ecological Data Scientist)

Ocean consequences of climate change:

- **Sea level rise**
- **Coral reef bleaching (Temp of ocean)**
- **Majority of Aust live in coastal fringes (esp. Since Pandemic)**
- **Every second breath you take comes from ocean i.e., underwater plant eco-system (50-70% of oxygen in air)**
- **1 in every 5 breaths come from phytoplankton in ocean. Bassus for entire marine food chain.**



Issues

- **Chemical Pollution**
- **Climate change**
- **Atmospheric aerosol loading**
- **Change in land use etc.**



Greenhouse Effect

- **In 1950 Co2 exceeded 300 parts per million (before that stayed under for hundreds and thousands of years)**
- **CO2 is a pollutant.**
- **Can make you sick (asthma)**
- **Causes earth to heat up.**

Earth is warming.

What does a half a degree mean?

- Extreme heat, decline in animal marine catch.
- Species loss, loss of sea ice
- Carp yield down.
- Decline in coral reefs, sea rise.

Average earth temp is 1.5 degrees higher.

Intergovernmental panel on climate change

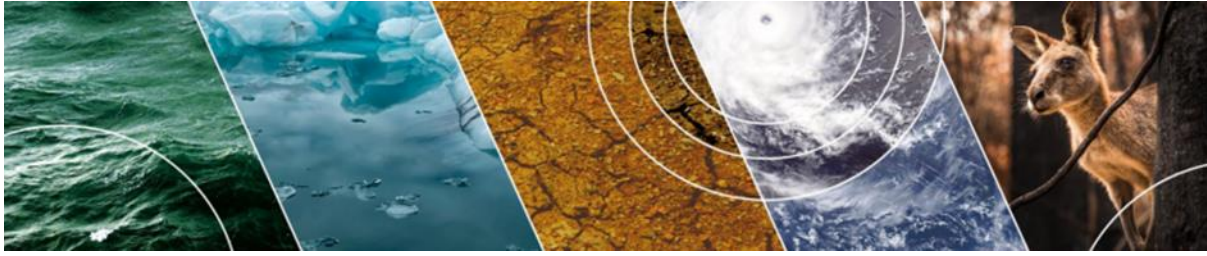
Pans Climate agreement – looking at 3 degrees change is achieved not good enough – need to pull back to 1.5 degrees.

Bulk of extra warming is in oceans 93.4% (sea level rise, storm damage and coral bleaching)

Warming seas – more damaging tropical cyclones, drought, flood, heat waves and storms.

Bleached coral can starve to death if they do not recover in time.

- Coral built by tiny animals.
- Plant inside make sugar from sunlight.



- Prolonged hot water damages their corals. Rock, animal, and plants at the same time,
- Coral spits out algae in overheated water – therefore starves to death.
- 3 mass bleaching events 16/17/120.

Blue Carbon Restoration

Sea grass

Mangroves

Tide Marsh



Important to maintain/redevelop.

Restore as carbon mitigation of restore 10% of loss can reduce emissions by 6-8%

Also protects coast – develops fisheries.

Before the flood – Online platform for sea level rises

Engage more with indigenous Aust to learn better ways of managing land and sea.

Did you know?

At least every **second breath** you take comes from the oceans!

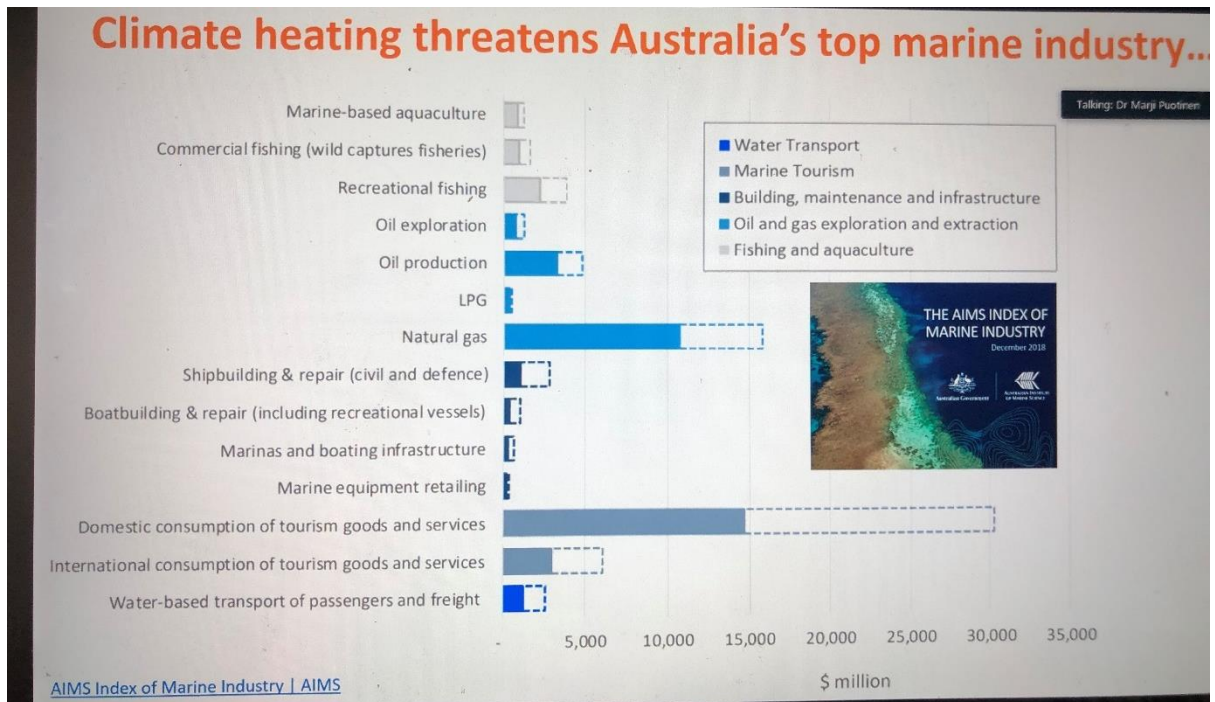
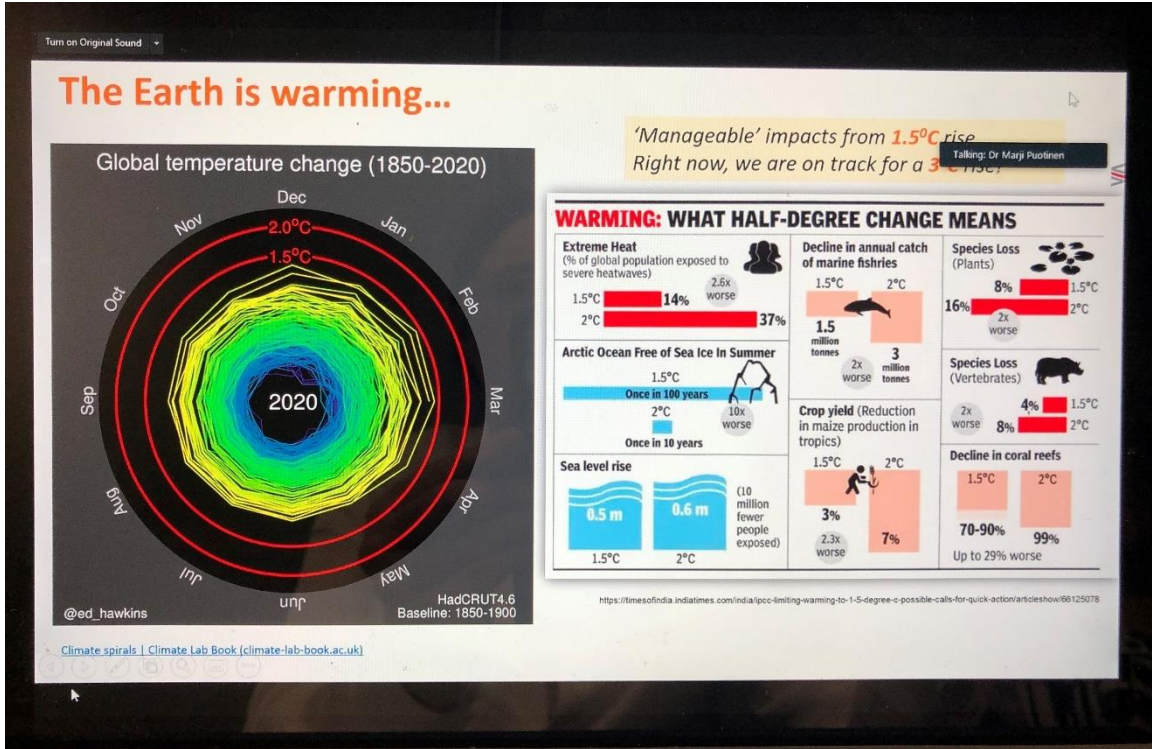
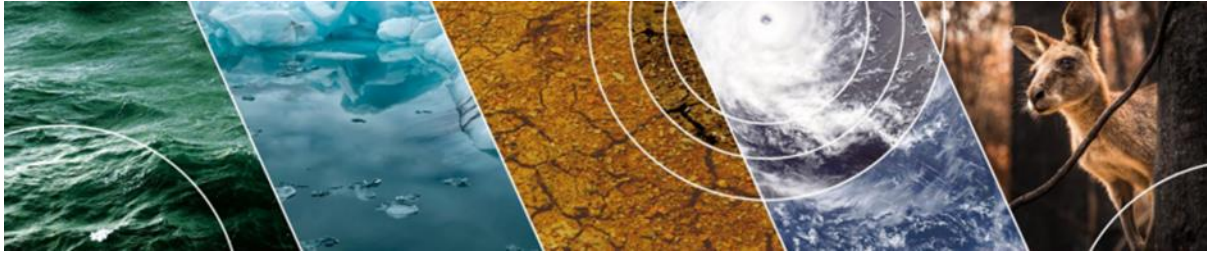
~50-70%

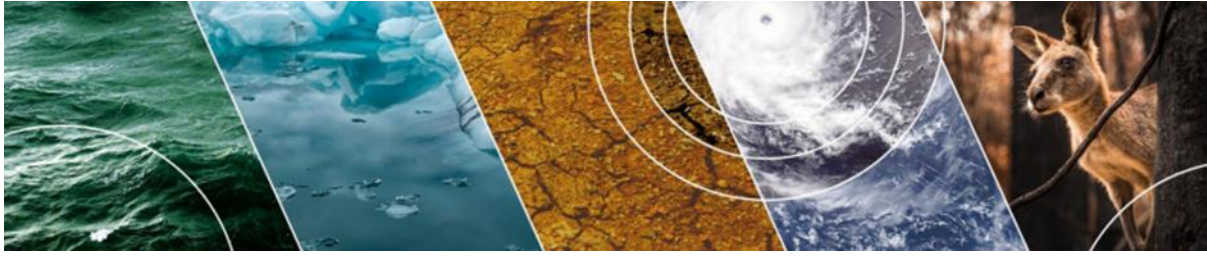
Kelp

Phytoplankton

Talking: Dr Marji Puotinen

Other plankton





Australian National University **Climate adaptation – 4 interventions**

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU B...)

Agroforestry

Integrated systems agriculture

Sustainable forestry

Rehabilitation of degraded pastures

Source: World Resources Institute 2019 11

Australian National University **Australian rainfall: record dry**

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU B...)

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

Australian Rainfall Deciles
1 January to 31 December 2019
Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Australian Bureau of Meteorology

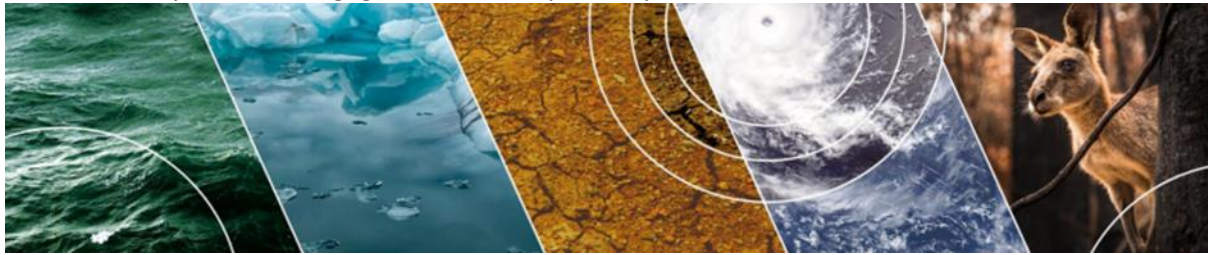
© Commonwealth of Australia 2020, Bureau of Meteorology ID code: AWAP Issued: 27/01/2020


Rainfall Decile Ranges

| | |
|-----|-------------------------|
| 10 | Highest on Record |
| 9 | Very Much Above Average |
| 8-9 | Above Average |
| 4-7 | Average |
| 2-3 | Below Average |
| 1 | Very Much Below Average |
| | Lowest on Record |

- Driest year on record (277.6mm)
- Record positive Indian Ocean Dipole event
- Many places worst drought on record
- Towns and rivers running dry, massive fish kills
- But also record rain and severe floods

Source: BoM 2020 via @ProfMarkHowden 16



 **Water scarcity**

“A key recommendation from this research is that on farm water risk is considered as a formal part of every agribusiness loan application process.”
(Kelly et al. 2019)

- **Regen Ag Win-Win-Win**
 - increase soil organic carbon
 - increase water retention
 - increase soil health

Source: <https://soilsforlife.org.au/faq-regenerative-agriculture/>

WATER SCARCITY RISK FOR AUSTRALIAN FARMS & THE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FINANCIAL SECTOR

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU &...)

17

INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE
Institute for Sustainable Future
University of Technology Sydney

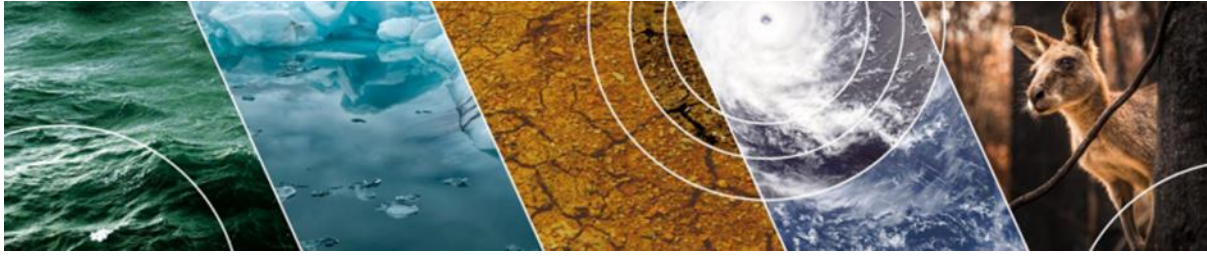
“Food is the most interconnected policy issue any government faces” (Commission for the Human Future 2020)

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU &...)

- **Resilience and redundancy are not systemically built into the food supply chain**, which is vulnerable to disruption
- **Poor nutrition and ultra-processed foods** are driving major health issues
- **Scope and quality of agricultural research, development and innovation** has been declining for decades

The need for strategic food policy in Australia

Governing for a healthy, sustainable, economically viable and resilient food system



Australian National University

One Health

Family farmers and fishers - central to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2: Zero Hunger

Circular food economies valuing all inputs - including labour, nutrients, soil, and water

Ref: 2020 Global Hunger Index Essay 'One Health, Zero Hunger'

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU &...)

Australian National University

A grand vision....

Talking: Robyn Alders (ANU &...)

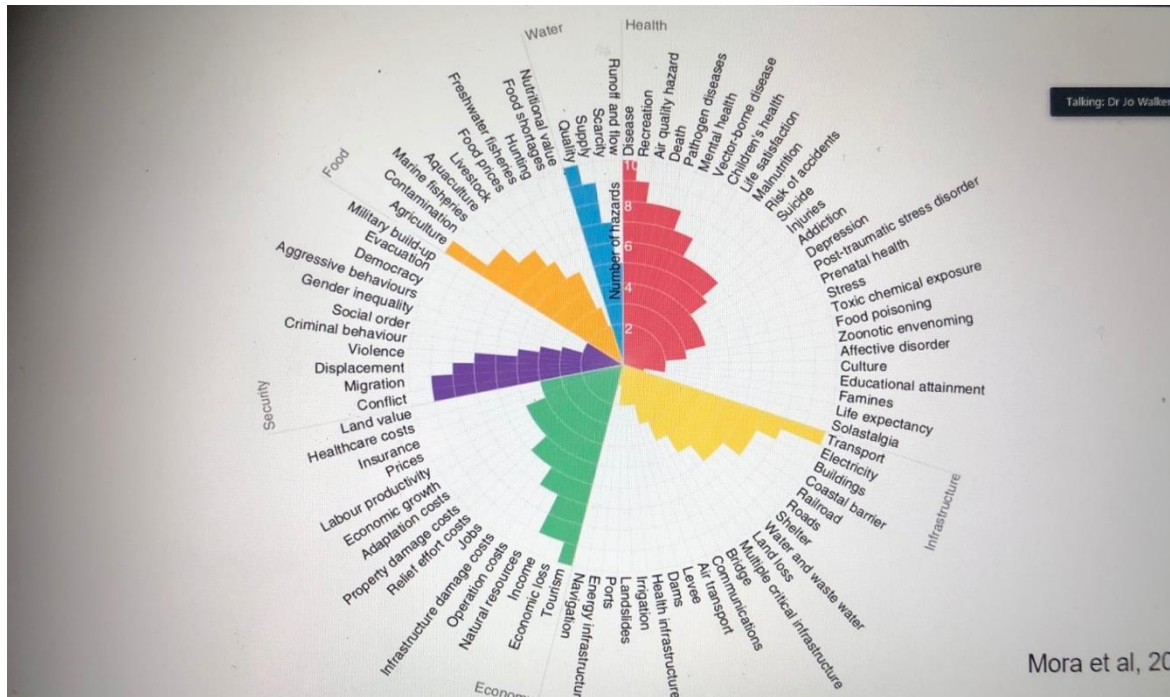
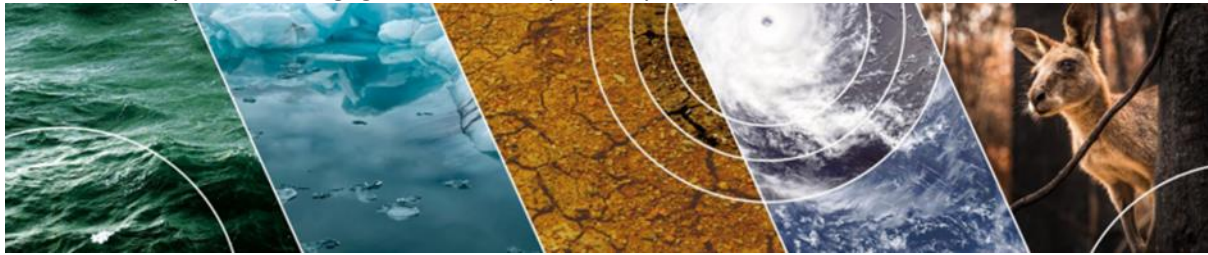
-  **Value family farmers and fishers** who produce quality, sustainable food
-  **Ensure a dignified income** that allows them to care for their families and their country
-  **Facilitate transition pathways** to alternative livelihood strategies for those whose holdings are no longer viable

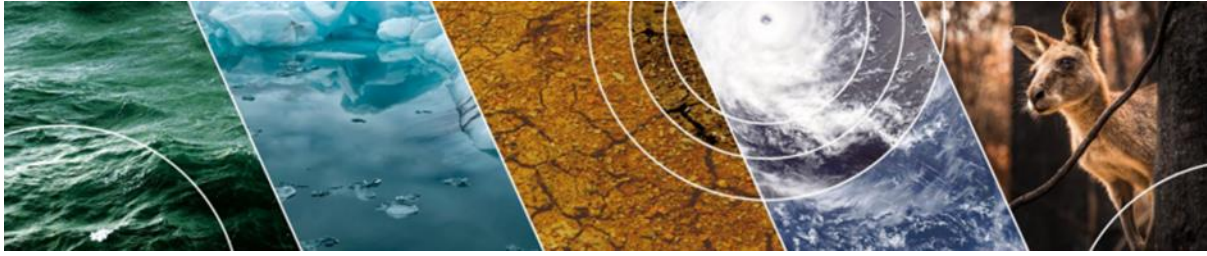


Transform health services so that farmers, fishers, food makers and distributors are recognised as essential partners in delivering good health and wellbeing for people and our planet

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NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table





Food and Nutrition

Obesity Issue on Aust

- 25% of Aust. are obese.
- Cost Aust 856.6 Billion
- Women have inadequate iron intake (23% women)
- Overweight people often deficient in micro-nutrients
- 43% Junk food consumption

5% of Australians food insecure – Pre Covid more since Covid.

6.1% available land in Aust to grow veggies and crops.

Need to eat more fruit and vegetables.

Survey with children – not getting enough vitamin C.

Need to diversify sources of key nutrients.

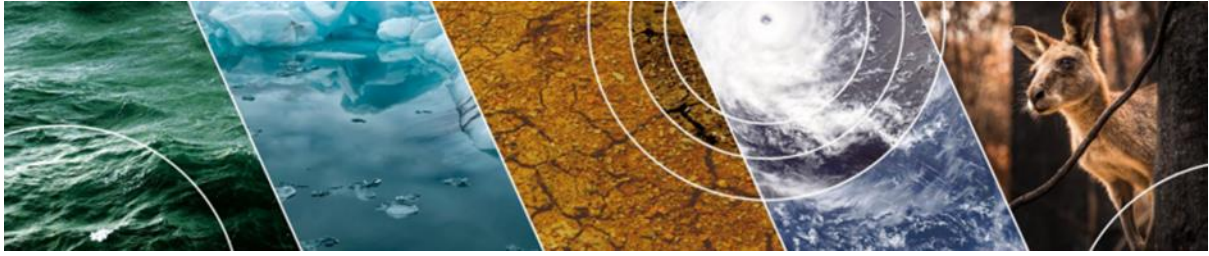
Agro- ecological situation

Nose – to – tail – consideration

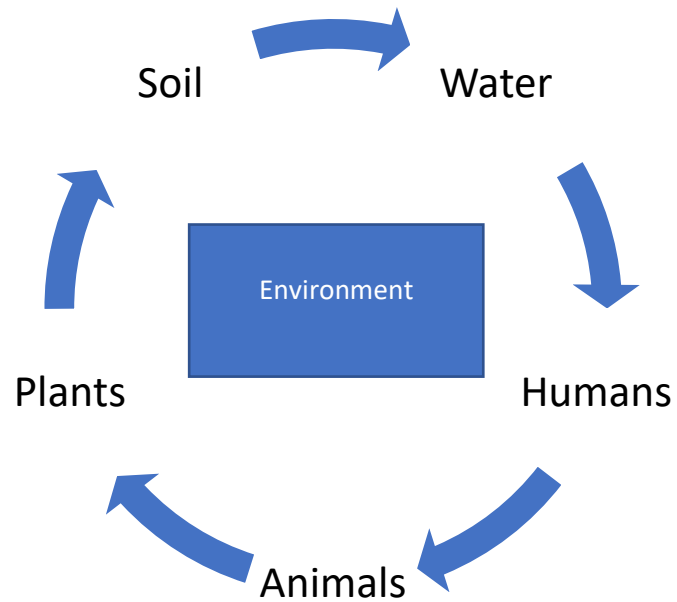
Vale – Farmers / fishers – ensure dignified income – facilitate transition pathways – transform health services – food makers essential partners in good health.

Commission for the future Human Future 2020

- Food is most interconnected policy issues.
- No resilience in food supply chain
- Poor nutrients- poor food choices
- Ag research declining for decades.

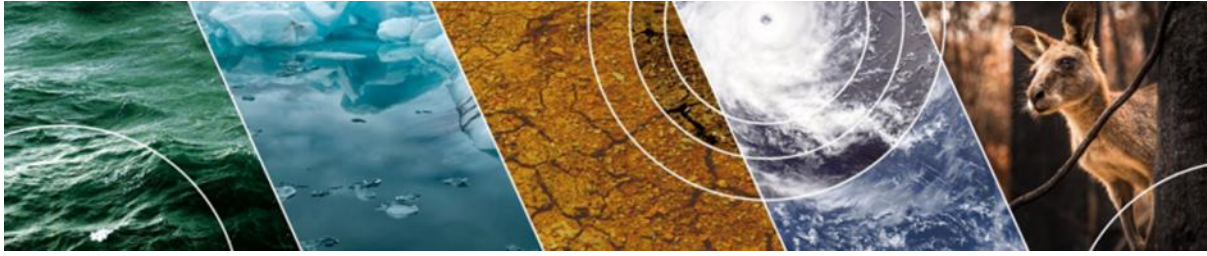


Humans, animals, plants, water, and soil linked.



Circular food economies – labour, nutrients, soil, water (should all be considered)? In costs i.e., facilitating preventative medicine.





Session 3

Dr Jo Walker

Climate and Health Alliance (Alliance of 50 orgs.)

Connecting Climate Change and Health

Climate change as a health issue for RRR Women.

Bo where in the world that will not be affected by climate change.

Climate change: RRR, fires, Floods, drought, and fish kill etc.

Climate change is the risk multiplier.

Impact on health

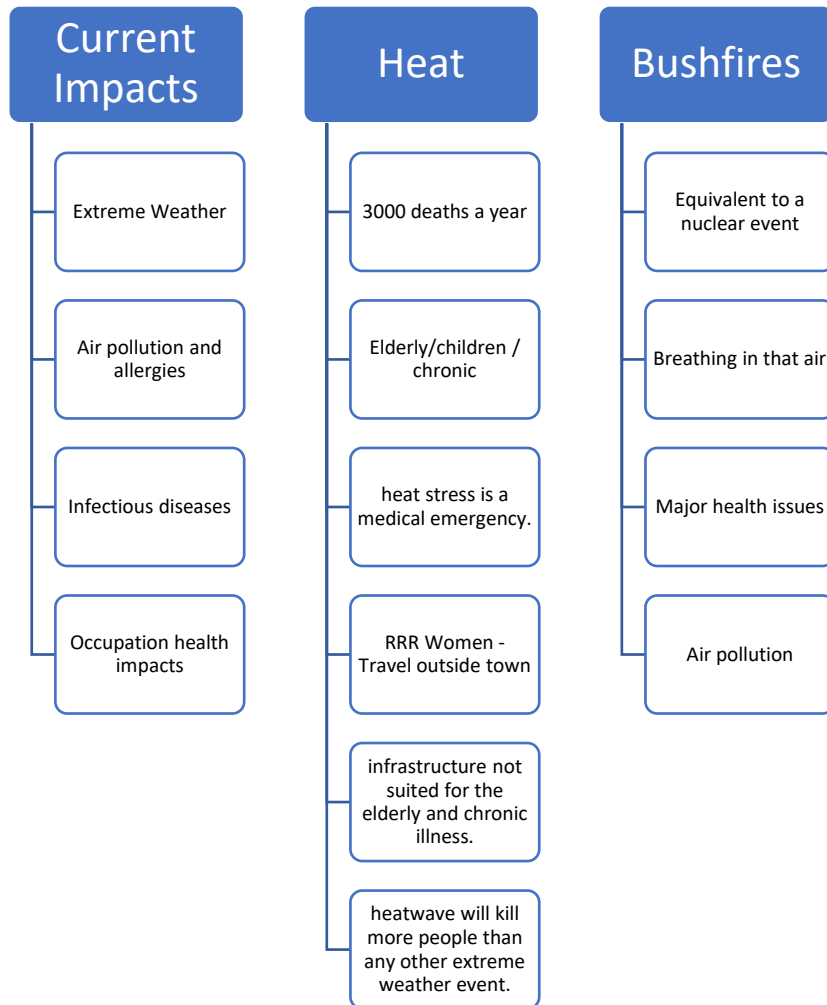
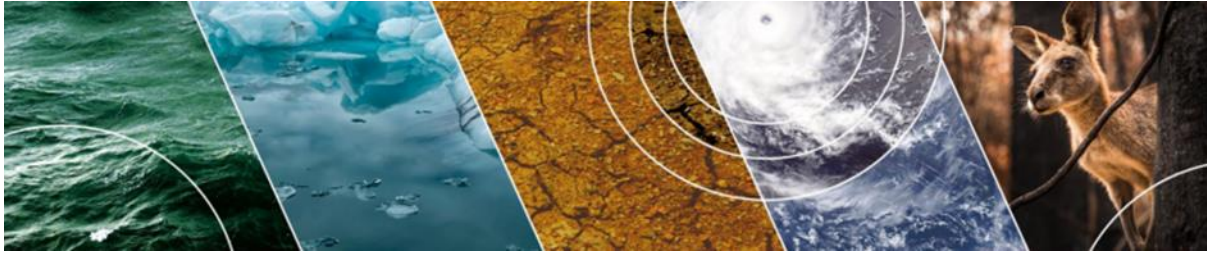
Poor nutrition

Extreme heat (Killer) – cardiovascular failure

Mental health impacts

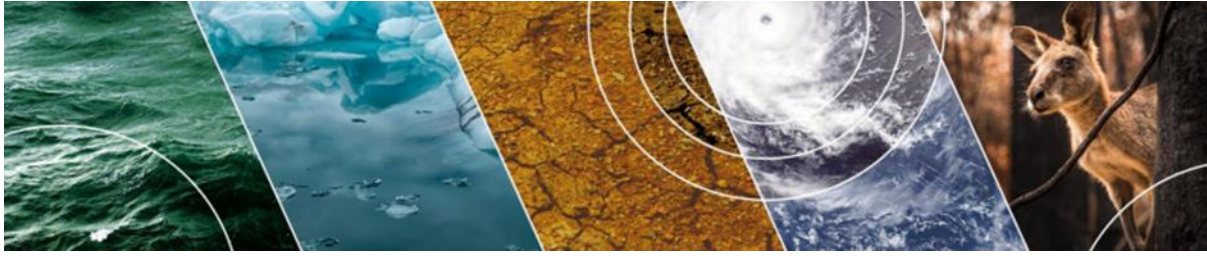
Environmental degradation (forced migration, civil conflict, mental health, loss of jobs)

Severe weather (injuries, fatalities loss of homes and mental health).



Women

- Worldwide suffer death or injury from extreme weather
- In Aust more likely to die of heatwaves
- Poor Mental health
- Partner violence
- Food insecurity
- Poor reproductive and maternal health (also related to suicide – PTSD after events, infectious diseases from extreme events)



Framework and Ecosystems

Health is a climate change issues.

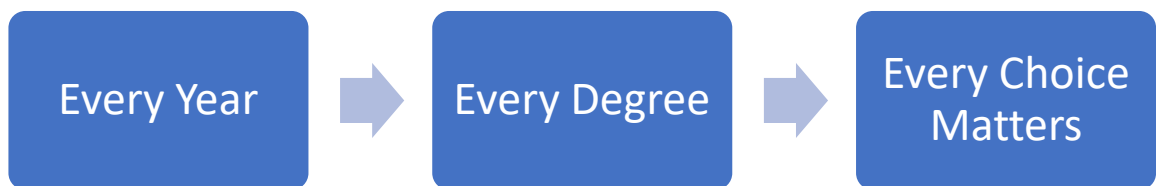
- Health professionals' advocates for change
- Build public support through communication of health issues.
- Advocates for national and global actions
- Support health sector to cut emissions/build climate health resilience.

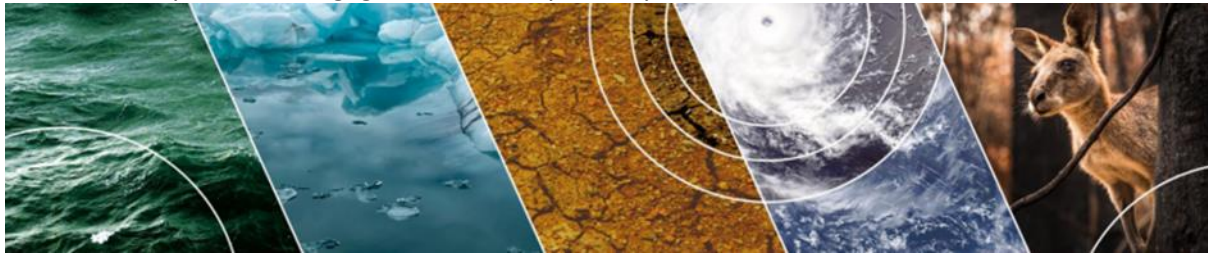
Public do not link health and climate change.

- Environmental damage
- Extreme weather
- Rising cost of energy

Changes – Co benefits

- Low emission vehicles
- Alternative renewable energy sources.
- Encourage locally produced food.
- Reduce solid fuel use where possible.





Turn on Original Sound

Prevention is better than cure.

Are you concerned about climate change and its impact on health?

Health professionals and health organisations are joining the campaign for a National Strategy on Climate, Health and Wellbeing to prevent the potentially catastrophic health impacts of climate change. Your voice is important.

Join us at ourclimate-ourhealth.org.au
Email your MP climateandhealth.good.do

OUR CLIMATE. OUR HEALTH.

- The foundations of human health and wellbeing are collapsing and, on our watch,
- Tackling climate change (and protecting nature) the biggest priority for human survival
- People do not readily connect climate change with health
- Rural communities, particularly women are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change
- Health is a critical pathway to communicate about climate, highlight the risks, makes it personally relevant, and inspires action

Talking: Dr Jo Walker

CLIMATE AND HEALTH ALLIANCE

The public do not link health and climate change

Talking: Dr Jo Walker

Environmental Damage

Extreme Weather

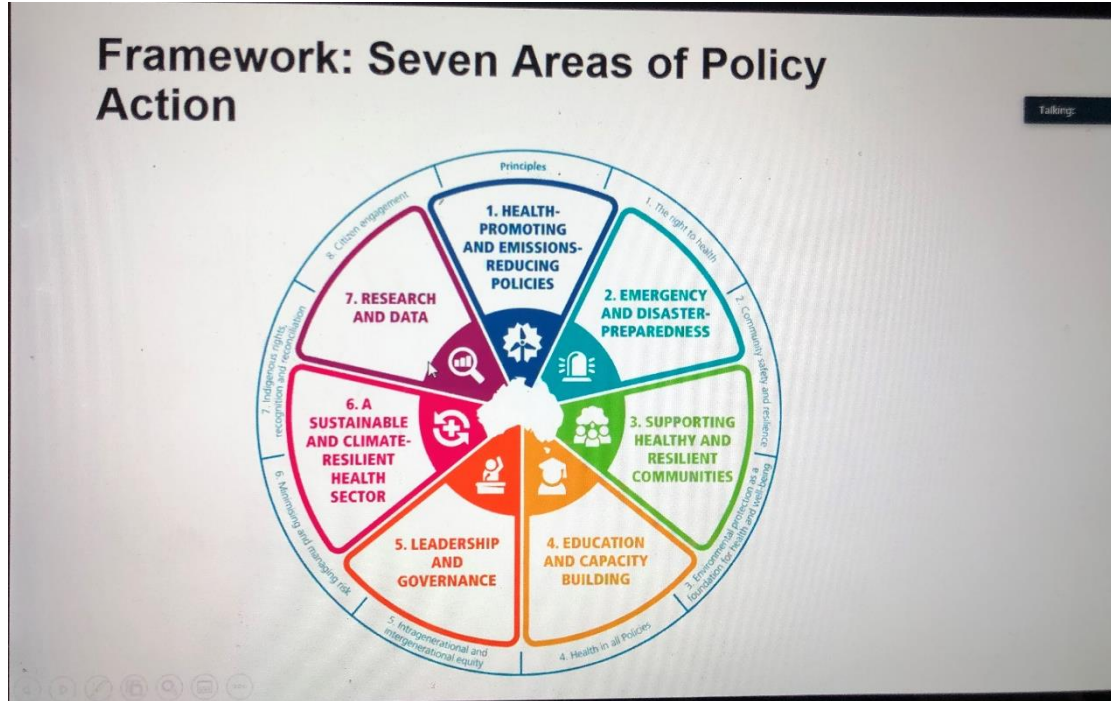
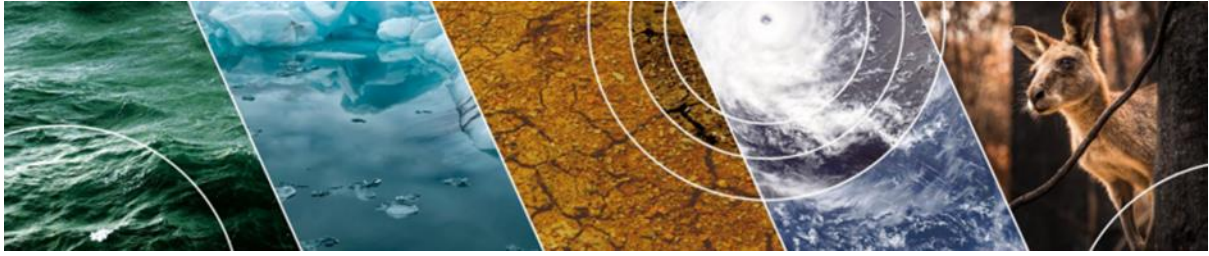
Hotter Summers

The Rising Cost of Energy and Food

Climate Change

“ I have never thought there is direct influence between climate change and health – but after reading those statements (from WHO), we need to stop and think. ”

People are **unlikely to spontaneously think of health** when asked about the impact of climate change





Session 4

LINDA Scott (Video Session)

537 Councils across nations

65 % LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN Rural and Regional parts of Aust – demographics diverse

Manage \$460 billion in infrastructure.

Climate change

- Damage to infrastructure
- Affect wellbeing and communities.
- Unexpected budgetary impacts

Linked to a stronger community resilience.

110 LGA's affected by bushfires.

100 LGA's drought affected.

Costs

Rebuild community/ mental health.

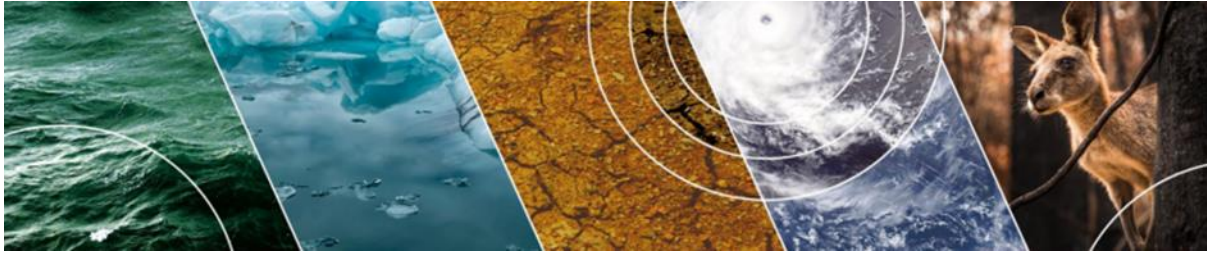
Pandemic – changing peoples' ideas about viable availability.

Causing some infrastructure/housing/ services pressure

However new opportunities/work/economic.

RRR Councils

- Heat wave kills more people than any other natural disaster.
- Many councils have taken climate change risk assessments.



Heat Risks

- Failure of tech/Electrical
- Affects community facilities.
- Long term exposure to UV
- Water capture being used to help cooling.
- Build infrastructure for shade/Protection.

Example

Planting of different species of trees, better shade coverage, lower land temp

Water Security

- Irrigation
- Pods empties
- Ability to build roads impacted.
- Mental health issues increased.
- Southern Downs still under water restrictions (severe) 120L per person per day.
- Coastal councils affected by rising sea levels, weather events coastal erosion.

Waster Generation

- Recycling lower than global average
- 3.5 Billion dollars every year spend to deal with waste.
- Costs include waste levy.





Session 5

Dr Heather Boetto

Charles Sturt Uni

Climate change a Gendered Issue.

- Sustainable Dev Model
- Social (People)
- Economic (Prosperity)
- Environmental (Plant)
- (3 P's)
- Nothing Natural about it – do not accept the deficit Mode. – already because of structural inequalities – need to address pore-existing inequalities

Rural Disadvantages

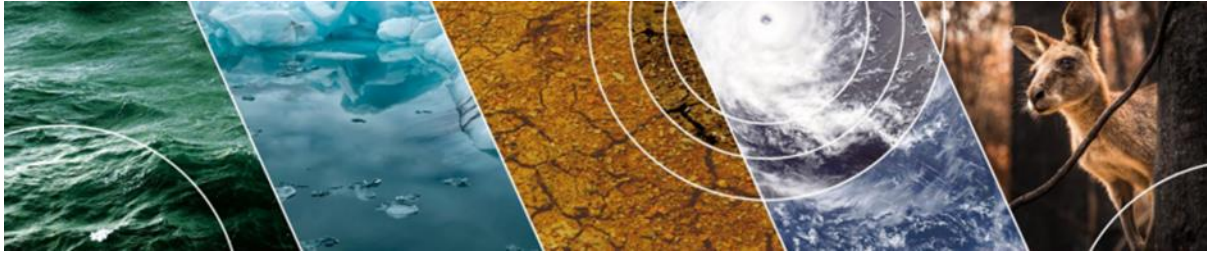
- Poor health outcomes
- Reduced incomes
- Lack of infrastructure

Rural Women's disadvantage

- Limited ownership of property
- Heatwaves
- 3.5 times increase in DV.
- Increased econ hardship
- Higher workloads
- Poorer conditions at work
- Involuntary separation from families for work

Complex cultural and social aspects of Rural Life

- Intergenerational property inheritance
- Ambivalence to external interventions
- Conservative views of women's roles
- Traditional views on leadership
- Mateship issues – i.e., DV (Pressure of negative masculine expectations)
- Power imbalance
- Gender income gap



- Super 46% of men's equivalent

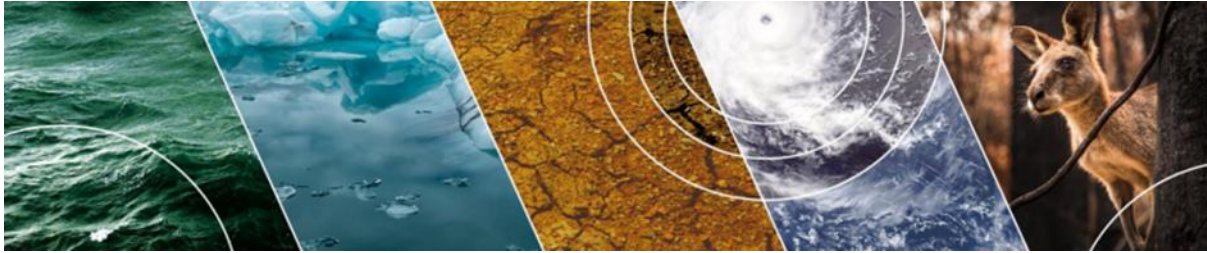
Multidimensional Approach

- Structural
- Community
- Group
- Individual
- Personal

Women and Children in Crisis

- ↑ violence against Australian women and children
 - During heatwaves
 - Following natural disasters e.g. 'Black Saturday' bushfires
 - During COVID-19

(ABC News, 2019; Kennedy, 2020; Parkinson & Zara, 2013)



Lifecycle Disadvantage

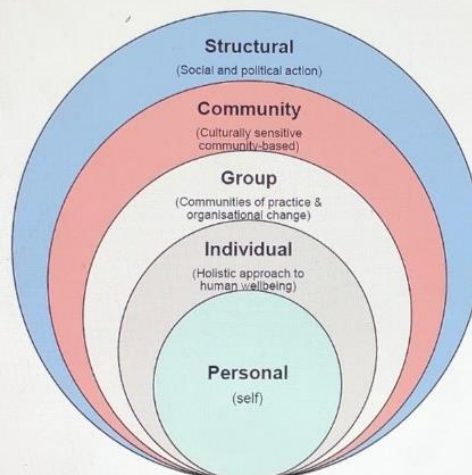
- Matrilineal land inheritance @ 5-10% for rural women
- Gender income gap @ 14%
- Average superannuation for women >60 yrs as a proportion of men's @ 46%
- Economic participation and political representation ranked 44th out of 153
- Break from labour force due to child birth
- Limited employment opportunities

(WGEA, 2020; ABC Rural, 2016; AHRC, 2009; WEF, 2019)

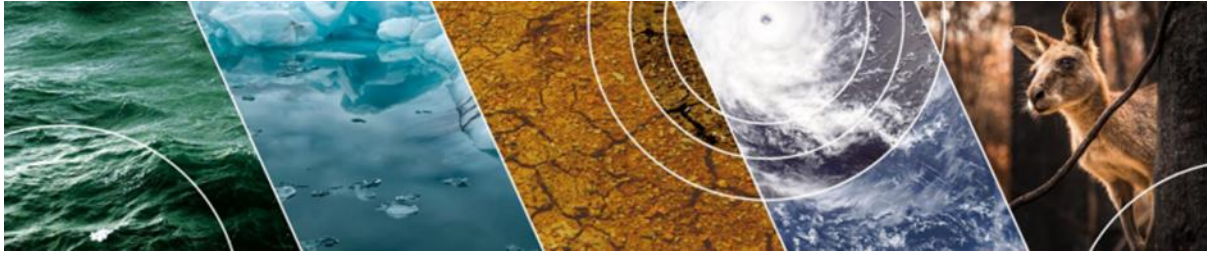


A Multidimensional Approach

Talking: Dr Heather Boetto



(Boetto, 2017; 2018)



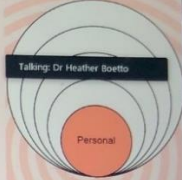
Personal Level

- Need to examine our own values and beliefs about:
 - Climate change
 - Our relationship with nature
 - The position of women in rural Australia
 - The causes of women's oppression in rural Australia
 - Over-consumption and an unregulated market system

Opportunities:

- Rural women's education programs
- Awareness and consciousness raising

What do we want for the future generation of rural women?



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Individual Level

- Holistic understanding of health and wellbeing
 - Human health and natural environment are inextricably linked
 - Environmental, social, cultural, physical, emotional and economic aspects

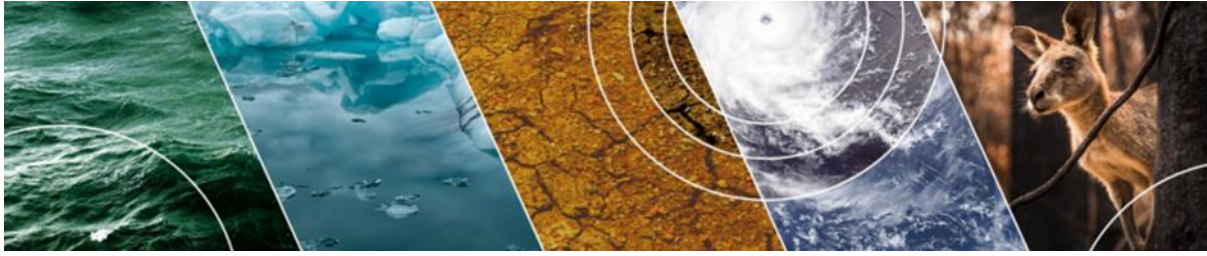
Opportunities:

- Disaster preparedness e.g. household preparedness
- Women's capacity building e.g. leadership programs
- Harnessing women's household decision-making capacity
- Promoting alternative economic systems and strategies that care for the environment e.g. farmers markets
- Intergenerational knowledge sharing programs



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Group Level

Talking: Dr Heather Boetto

- Developing communities of practice whereby rural women come together to learn and share from one another to fulfil individual and group goals

Implications and opportunities:

- Increasing grass-roots community-based activities
- Women's leadership in promoting sustainable practices
- Engaging in partnerships with 'green' organisations
- Reducing inequalities of disadvantaged women
- Promoting inter-professional and inter-sectorial networking
- Removal of local environmental hazards
- Social media groups



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Structural Level

Talking: Dr Heather Boetto

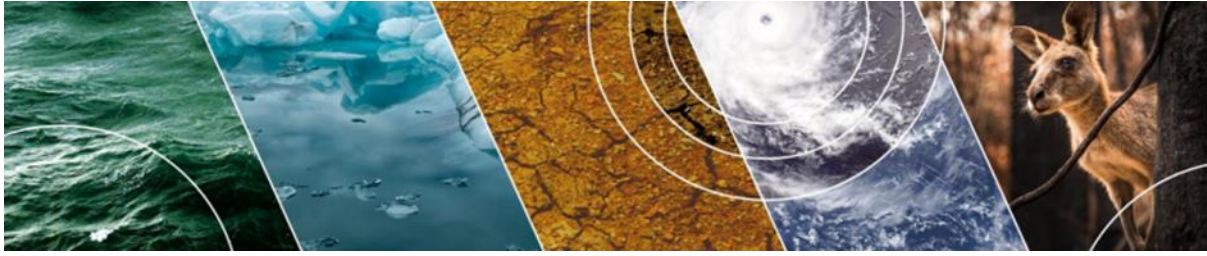
- Involves action at the broader level of society, including social, political and economic structures in society

Implications and opportunities:

- Political representation of rural women
- Building a climate-resilient rural health sector
- Building sustainable business opportunities
- Increasing rural women's health specialist services
- Social media information campaigns
- Rural infrastructure development
- Public education campaigns
- Developing renewable energy opportunities
- Advocate for policy change to reduce carbon emissions



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Session 6

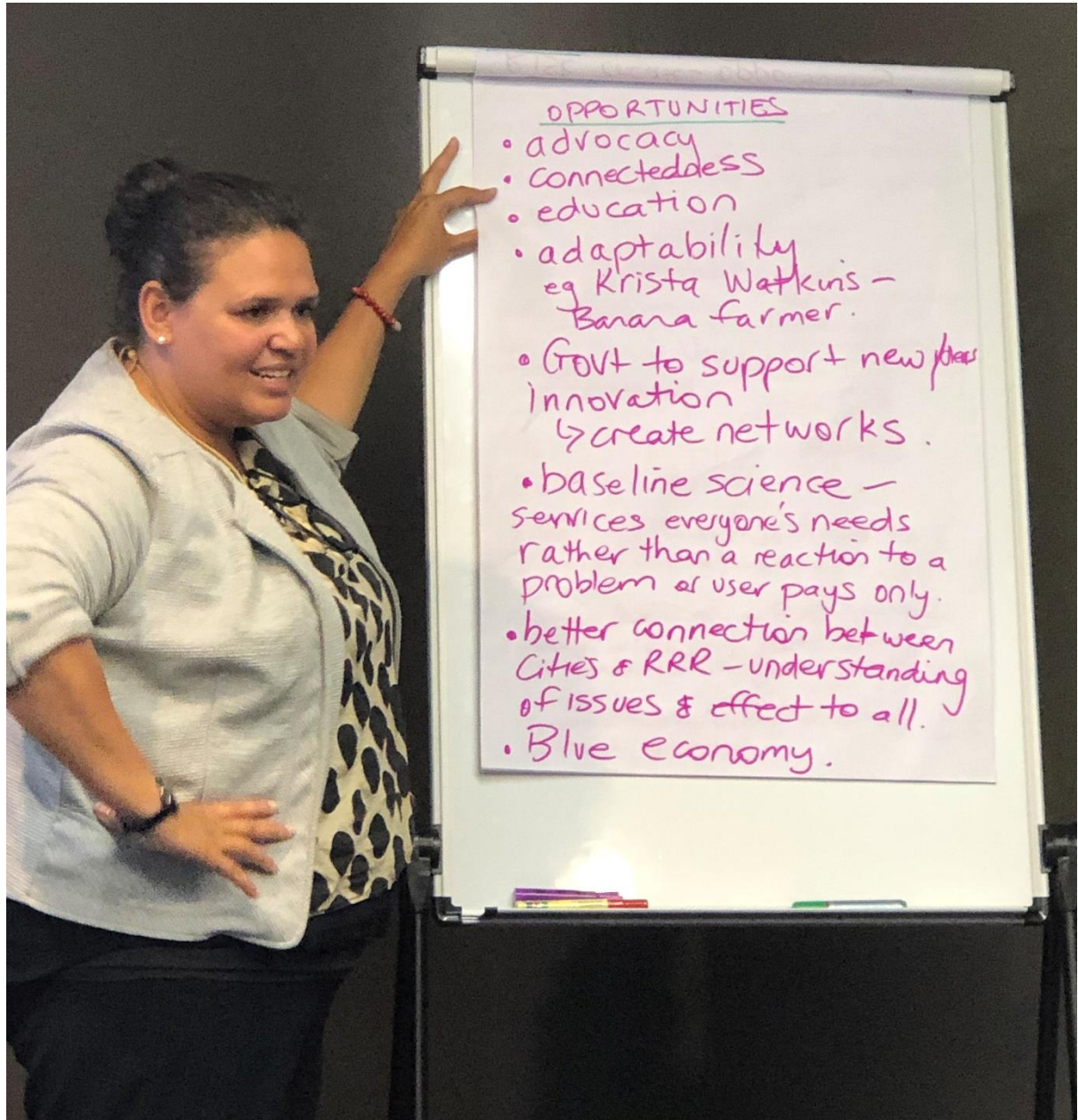
Wendy Cohen

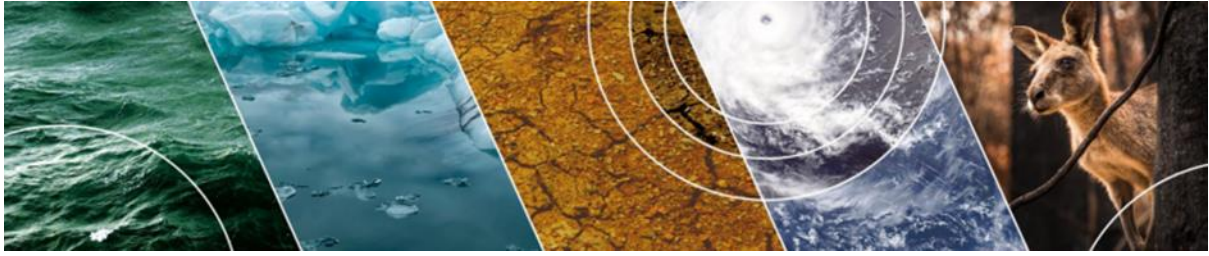
Farmers for Climate Change

- Emissions reduction, carbon captures, substantiable land management
- Reintroduction of USA to Pari Agreement a good thing
- More women starting to raise their voices on this issue.
- Farming communities have been looking at sustainability for some time including.
 - Better Land stewardship
 - Soil Improvement
 - Carbon Capture
 - Lower emissions productivity
- Reduce emissions – moving away from fossil fuels i.e., mobbing to solar, reducing CO2 emissions.
- Conversation around not zero (2030)
- highly charged space.
- For every 1 degree to climate (i.e., subtropical moving down south)
- Climate shift changing face by types of productivity.
- Temp, soil, drought, rainfall – how is this change being managed, adapted?

Questions

- Fund work plan for Org?
- Security framework/policy to work with?
- Pandemic recovery factored in priority of needs of RRR women, - Resilience Hubs? (Drought Resilience)





NRWC President Leonie Noble with Policy Writer Dr Hannah Holland

NRWC: Priority: Consult, Engage & Inform. Key Activity 1.3 Round Table

