



Global Compact  
Network Australia

# MAKING GLOBAL GOALS LOCAL BUSINESS AUSTRALIA

A New Era for  
Responsible Business

**11-12 May 2021**





## Tuesday, 11 May 2021

### Day 1 Agenda

12:00pm – 1:30pm	<b>Registration and Lunch</b>
1:30pm—2:00pm	<b>Opening Ceremonies and Welcome to Country</b>
2:00pm—3:30pm	<b>Defining Responsible Leadership in the Decade to Deliver</b>  The path to 2030 and delivering the SDGs will require ambitious and authentic leadership. Businesses will need to have the courage to stand up and stand out, even if it means standing alone. Doing so can create greater trust in key stakeholders, drive sustainable business returns and build resilient leadership teams. This session will include a keynote speech followed by a facilitated discussion on the values required of business leaders in the <i>Decade to Deliver</i> .
3:30pm—4:00pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
4:00pm—5:00pm	<b>Moving Beyond Incrementalism: Confronting Complexities, Unlocking Collaborations and Speaking Out</b>  From the devastating impacts of climate change, heightened human rights risks, widening inequalities and an unprecedented global health crisis, business leaders are being called upon to lend their voices and influence to solve the world's greatest challenges. We know that we cannot achieve the SDGs without the private sector and that collaborative action among business will be crucial to spurring the scale and speed of change necessary to deliver the 2030 Agenda. This session will explore why business leadership on the SDGs is so critical to driving transformative change and unpack how the actions of those courageous enough to speak out can tip an entire industry.
5:00pm—7:00pm	<b>Cocktail Reception</b>

## Wednesday, 12 May 2021

### Day 2 Agenda

8:00am—9:30am	<b>Registration and Continental Breakfast</b>
9:30am—9:45am	<b>Welcome Back</b>
9:45am—10:00am	<b>Sustainable Development at a Crossroads: Ambitious Business Action for the SDGs</b>  With a deadline of 2030, the countdown clock to the SDGs is ticking faster than we are acting. We know that the world is not on track to deliver this global agenda for sustainability. Urgent and radical action is needed to scale ambition and transform lives, businesses, economies and environments. While the magnitude of the challenge is immense, this session will highlight the progress made to date and give a call to action to Australian businesses to rise to the challenge posed by the <i>Decade to Deliver</i> .



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10:00am—11:00am **Overcoming the Inequality Virus: Leaving No One Behind**

2020 laid bare the structural inequalities embedded into our economies, political systems, justice systems and daily lives. In 2021, we have the opportunity to rebuild more inclusive societies and align our economy to sustainable and resilient outcomes. But unless progress accelerates, the core promise of the SDGs – to leave no one behind – will remain a distant goal by 2030. The promise of an inclusive and equitable Australia is one that rests on meaningful engagement with our First Nations people, reinforced by ambitious business and government action to create structural changes across our society. This session will unpack the opportunities for business to listen to, learn from, and act in partnership with Australian First Nations people to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

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11:00am—12:00pm **Pathways to Decarbonisation: Innovation and Opportunities**

There are decisions and actions we can take today that put us on the path to a green and inclusive future. Significant technological advances and ongoing innovation mean that the attainment of a decarbonised economy by 2050 is possible for Australia. But it is the real actions taken in the next ten years, not the ambitions set for the next 30, that will enable businesses and societies to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. This session will explore how businesses can harness existing technologies and opportunities to take radical actions to decarbonise their operations and supply chains and prepare for a net-zero future.

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12:00pm—1:00pm **Lunch**

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1:00pm—2:30pm **Breakout Sessions**

**Group 1: Tipping Points: Prioritising the SDGs for a Sustainable Recovery**

In 2020 the Australian economy recorded its deepest economic slump in modern history. While some thrived, many businesses were forced to pause, take stock, and often, evolve their strategy and operations to meet the demands of a changing business landscape. In 2021, we have the opportunity to reboot our economy and make profound changes across all sectors to recover in a way that prioritises sustainable development and the delivery of the SDGs. Drawing on the lessons learned from times of crisis, this session will explore how businesses can ensure that the building blocks of today's recovery can set us on a resilient and sustainable path to 2030.

**Group 2: A Planet Under Pressure: Reimagining Responsible Consumption**

Approximately eight million metric tonnes of plastic waste enter the oceans every year – the rough equivalent to one garbage truck worth of plastic being emptied into our oceans every minute (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, US Department of Commerce). And yet, we have the knowledge and the tools to reimagine and reinvent an economy that is fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century and no longer exists in opposition to our planetary boundaries. This session will bring together leaders on responsible consumption to unpack how businesses can drive the radical changes necessary to transition to a circular economy and mitigate the current levels of environmental degradation that are endangering the very systems on which our collective future depend.



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2:30pm—3:00pm	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
3:00pm—4:00pm	<b>Innovator Spotlight</b>  What does innovation, business success and driving progress towards the SDGs look like? New mindsets, business models, and disruptive technologies, products and services play a key role in accelerating progress towards creating systemic financial, social and environmental value through the SDGs. Drawing on diverse experiences from the entrepreneurial start-up world, this session will highlight the level of ambition, the values and the practical actions required to translate innovative ideas into transformative changes.
4:00pm—5:00pm	<b>Fireside Chat – Trust and Purpose: Licence to Compete</b>  The world is changing at a rapid pace. The modern day workplace has undergone fundamental transformations and the future of the changing global business landscape is far from certain. For business to thrive in the <i>Decade to Deliver</i> , purpose beyond profit can no longer be optional – it will need to be built into every aspect of the business. This session will unpack the importance of authentically defining a business’s purpose beyond profit and how doing so can build resilient and sustainable business models that generate both financial returns and social impact at scale.
5:00pm—5:15pm	<b>Closing and Thank You</b>



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