

Independent Chair

Reef 2050 Independent Expert Panel

Duration:	Fixed Term – Five Years August 2023 – July 2028 with the option for extension	Remuneration:	Attendance fee \$1229 per full day meeting and 2 days of preparation for each day of meetings.
Type of appointment:	Joint appointment by the Australian and Queensland Environment Ministers		
Location:	Flexible, meetings in Brisbane and online	Contact:	Catharina van Moort, Director, Reef 2050, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

The Reef 2050 Independent Expert Panel

The Reef 2050 Plan Independent Expert Panel (IEP) provides scientific and expert advice related to the Great Barrier Reef (GBR), including support for the implementation and review of the Reef 2050 Plan, Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan and other matters, as requested.

The Reef 2050 Plan Independent Expert Panel will provide advice to the Ministers on Reef science matters and will advise the Australian and Queensland Governments on implementation and review of the Reef 2050 Plan, including its objectives and goals, knowledge gaps and science priorities for delivery. This will include:

- Providing expert advice on the achievement and review of objectives and goals
- Providing strategic scientific input into development and implementation of the Reef 2050 Plan, including priorities for delivery and investment (including but not limited to investments under the Australian Government's Reef Trust)
- Conducting scientific reviews where requested by Ministers or the Reef 2050 Executive Steering Committee (senior executives from the Australian and Queensland government agencies with jurisdictional responsibility for the Great Barrier Reef)
- Providing advice on research and monitoring priorities
- Providing advice on science communication activities to be delivered to ensure appropriate communication of reef science matters and implementation of the Reef 2050 Plan to both technical and non-technical audiences
- Providing advice on integrated monitoring and reporting to ensure outcomes of investment can be measured and reported over time
- Providing advice on emerging scientific matters related to the Great Barrier Reef, where requested by the Ministers or the Reef 2050 Executive Steering Committee
- Providing input into reviews of the Reef 2050 Plan.

The IEP is chaired by an Independent Chair, appointed jointly by the Australian and Queensland Environment Ministers.

The Chair will convene meetings and report on behalf of the members to Ministers.

The Chair will report directly to the Ministers on scientific and technical matters related to implementation of the Reef 2050 Plan.

Your contribution

This position may be required to travel occasionally, including overnight stays, travel expenses will be paid by the Australian and Queensland governments according to their Guidelines for Committees

The Independent Chair of the Reef 2050 Independent Expert Panel will:

- Champion independent review of the reliability and relevance of research and evidence underpinning GBR actions, promoting integrity and confidence in the science
- Ensure, where feasible, that multiple lines of evidence are considered including the strength of the evidence in Panel technical decision making
- Ensure any conflicts of interest are openly discussed and managed to maintain the independence of the IEP

- Proactively consider emerging issues and suggest actions to address unresolved or uncertain science
- Support transparency in IEP processes and respect for divergent approaches
- Encourage a transdisciplinary approach considering the big picture across environmental, social, economic and indigenous interests
- Seek Scientific Consensus wherever possible
 - Scientific Consensus is seen as a public statement on the scientific knowledge on land use impacts on Great Barrier Reef water quality and ecosystem condition, drawn from multiple lines of evidence. It is generally agreed by a diverse group of experts drawing on the strength of evidence. The consensus does not necessarily imply unanimity
 - Comments and objections are considered during the development of consensus using fair, impartial, open and transparent processes using all the best available, peer reviewed and publicly available science from a range of disciplines
- Participate in out-of-session working groups and activities resulting from IEP decisions or as relevant to IEP discussions and decisions
- Support the secretariat with the replacement of members when required
- Periodically review the performance indicators and success metrics for IEP

Expected time commitment

Based on the previous 12 months, it is expected that the time commitment in fulfilling the role and consultations and out of session activities will require in the order of 5-10% of time of a working week. The Reef 2050 Independent Expert Panel meets at least two times per year.

The candidate for whom we are looking:

- Has chaired similar committees or panels previously with successful outcomes
- Has proven and effective facilitation, relationship-building and communication skills.
- Is an experienced and respected scientist with a higher degree in an aspect of science from a recognised institution.

It is not a pre-requisite to have a background in one or more Reef-related fields of science (i.e. marine ecology, geomorphology, oceanography or landscape ecology). However, candidates will need to demonstrate ability to understand the science underpinning the various ecosystems of the Reef, it's management and how these relate to environmental, social, economic and cultural values

It is recommended that an applicant review the advisory bodies as listed on <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/great-barrier-reef/protecting/reef-2050-plan/advisory-bodies> and in particular the Terms of Reference for the IEP. Also, the Reef 2050 Plan document <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/parks-heritage/great-barrier-reef/protecting/reef-2050-plan>