



# Reef 2050 Plan

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## INDEPENDENT EXPERT PANEL – COMMUNIQUÉ 24 OCTOBER 2017

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The ninth meeting of the Reef 2050 Plan Independent Expert Panel was held today in Brisbane.

The Panel held a workshop to provide advice on the mid-term review of the Reef 2050 Plan. The Panel considered a range of actions that could be undertaken to manage the Reef, and the need to prioritise them, especially in the face of climate change.

The Panel agreed to the development of a process to consider the social acceptability of potential interventions. The Panel agreed that the human and community elements of the Reef 2050 Plan must be strengthened.

The Panel supported the inclusion of marine debris and island rehabilitation projects in the development of Reef Trust Phase VI investments.

The Panel endorsed the proposed approach for identifying and prioritising areas of focus for new water quality proposals through the Reef Trust.

The Panel received updates from the Independent Science Panel and on the Innovation Challenge.

The Panel is scheduled to next meet in February 2018.



## **Panel members**

### **Professor Ian Chubb AC (Chair)**

Australia's former Chief Scientist.

### **Dr Eva Abal\***

Program Director of the Global Change Institute's Sustainable Water Program.  
Chief Scientific Officer of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

### **Dr Andrew Ash**

Chief Research Scientist.  
CSIRO Agriculture.

### **Professor Damien Burrows**

Director of TropWATER.  
James Cook University.

### **Professor Bill Dennison**

Professor of Marine Science and Vice President for Science Applications.  
University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science.

### **Professor Ove Hoegh-Guldberg\***

Director of the Global Change Institute and Professor of Marine Science.  
The University of Queensland.

### **Professor Terry Hughes\***

Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies.  
James Cook University.

### **Professor Helene Marsh\***

Dean of Graduate Research Studies and Professor of Environmental Science.  
James Cook University.

### **Dr Russell Reichelt**

Chairman and Chief Executive.  
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.

### **Dr Britta Schaffelke**

Research Program Leader.  
A Healthy and Resilient Great Barrier Reef, Australian Institute of Marine Science.

### **Adjunct Associate Professor Stephan Schnierer\***

Southern Cross University.

### **Adjunct Professor Natalie Stoeckl**

Division of Tropical Environments and Societies.  
James Cook University.

### **Ms Jane Waterhouse**

Senior Partner, C2O Consulting  
Senior Research Officer, TropWATER, James Cook University

### **Dr Stuart Whitten**

Institutional and Environmental Economist  
CSIRO Land and Water

\* Apologies, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017.