



Reef 2050 Plan

INDEPENDENT EXPERT PANEL – COMMUNIQUÉ 28 FEBRUARY 2019

The thirteenth meeting of the Reef 2050 Plan Independent Expert Panel was held on 28 February 2019 in Brisbane.

The Panel received an update on the feasibility stage of the Reef Restoration and Adaption Program. The Panel noted that work is ongoing to finalise the business case and that the findings will inform the allocation of funds for Reef Restoration and Adaptation Science through the Reef Trust-Great Barrier Reef Foundation Partnership. The Panel discussed its role to review the final business case and provide advice to the Australian Government.

The Panel held a joint briefing session with the Reef 2050 Advisory Committee (Committee). The Panel and Committee received information about the:

- 2019 Great Barrier Reef Outlook Report that examines the Great Barrier Reef's health, pressures, and likely future,
- State Party Report to the World Heritage Committee on the State of Conservation of the Great Barrier Reef,
- approach and progress to date on the review of the Reef 2050 Plan, including the recommendations from the Reef 2050 Traditional Owner Aspirations Project, the modelling to prioritise management actions under different climate futures and the revision of the Reef 2050 Plan's outcomes framework.

The Panel and Committee jointly discussed the review of the Reef 2050 Plan. The Panel provided advice on the review, focusing on the Plan's vision, outcomes, and its operating context.

The next meeting of the Panel will be held in May 2019.



Panel members

Professor Ian Chubb AC (Chair)

Australia's former Chief Scientist

Dr Eva Abal*

Adviser – Strategic Partnerships and Projects, International Water Centre

Adjunct Associate Professor, Advanced Water Management Centre

The University of Queensland

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

Emeritus Professor

James Cook University

Dr Russell Reichelt FTSE FAICD

Environmental science and sustainable use

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

College of Business, Law & Governance

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

Professor Kerrie Wilson

* Apologies