

# 2024 AUSTRALASIAN AID CONFERENCE

PROGRAM

10 YEARS #AAC2024





# FROM THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

## **Welcome to the 2024 Australasian AID Conference.**

Thank you for joining the tenth AAC as we bring together the academic, policy and practitioner communities for the region's premier conference on aid and international development (AID).

We welcome speakers and delegates from across Australia, New Zealand, Asia and the Pacific and further afield to share insights on the world's most pressing development challenges in pursuit of enhanced collaboration, greater impact and better evidence-based policy.

We hope you enjoy the conference over the next few days. We look forward to hearing your ideas and advancing the conversation on the future of AID.

### **Stephen Howes**

Director, Development Policy Centre

### **Cameron Hill**

Senior Research Officer, Development Policy Centre

### **Aloha Jeon**

Program Officer, Development Policy Centre

### **Estelle Stambolie**

Research Officer, Development Policy Centre

### **Amita Monterola**

Research Communications Coordinator,  
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### **Anthea Mulakala**

Senior Director, International Development  
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### **Peter Yates**

Australian Representative, The Asia Foundation

### **Hayley Primrose**

Program Coordinator, The Asia Foundation

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*The views expressed in AAC2024 conference materials or publications and by speakers and chairs, do not necessarily reflect those of Development Policy Centre, The Asia Foundation or the conference sponsors. Program content is correct at time of printing and may be subject to change.*

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## CONFERENCE APP

Download the free official Australasian AID Conference app, Whova, available on Apple or Android. Search for AAC2024.

Whova can be used to view the conference program, customise your conference schedule, network with other attendees and receive last minute schedule updates or announcements.

## CONFERENCE VENUE

Crawford School of Public Policy  
Australian National University  
132 Lennox Crossing, Acton ACT

## DINNER VENUE

**(ticket holders only)**

National Museum of Australia  
Lawson Crescent, Acton ACT  
(400 metres from the Crawford School)

Both venues are wheelchair accessible.

## HEALTH GUIDELINES

Everyone has an important role to play in keeping our campus safe. The venue will be professionally cleaned throughout the day during business hours. Hand sanitiser will be available in all foyers and common areas to help maintain good hand hygiene.

Please do not attend the conference if you have any COVID-19 or flu symptoms including fever, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or a runny or blocked nose.

Wearing of face masks within ANU venues is optional.

## VENUE ACCESS

The best way to get to the Crawford School is by public transport [transport.act.gov.au/home](https://transport.act.gov.au/home) or on foot.

**There is limited paid parking available on campus.**



## Taxi and rideshare services

Wheelchair accessible taxis must be booked ahead. Phone 139 287, email [bookings@13wats.com.au](mailto:bookings@13wats.com.au) or online [13wats.com.au](http://13wats.com.au).

### ACT Cabs

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### Canberra Elite

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### Silver Service

13 31 00 or [silverservicecanberra.com.au/book-online](http://silverservicecanberra.com.au/book-online)

### Uber

[uber.com/global/en/cities/canberra/](http://uber.com/global/en/cities/canberra/)

A taxi from Canberra Airport to ANU campus takes around 20 minutes and will cost approximately \$30-\$40, depending on traffic.

### Shebah

[shebah.com.au](http://shebah.com.au)

Shebah is a all-women rideshare service.

### Bus

Bus route 53 stops on Lennox Crossing in front of the Crawford School building.

[transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/journey-planner](http://transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/journey-planner)

### Light rail

The closest light rail stop is Alinga Street station, a 25-minute walk to the Crawford School building.

[transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/journey-planner](http://transport.act.gov.au/getting-around/journey-planner)

### E-scooters

Neuron at [rideneuron.com](http://rideneuron.com). Road rules and conditions apply.

### Parking

Very limited paid visitor parking is available on Lennox Crossing opposite the Crawford School building. Parking fees apply between 8am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

Paid parking is also available at the National Museum of Australia, a 400 metre walk from the conference venue.

## WIFI

Free wifi internet access is available for conference attendees.

Network: ANU-Secure

Username: AAC2024

Password: ANUAAC

## DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options are all available in the main service area. For other special dietary requirements that have been specified, please make yourself known to the catering staff.

## QUIET SPACE

Seminar Room 9 has been set aside as a quiet space for attendees.

## SPEAKER RETREAT

Seminar Room 8 can be used by speakers to prepare for their presentation.

## MEETING ROOM

Seminar Room 7 is available for informal meetings.

## LUGGAGE STORAGE

Seminar Room 2 is available for luggage storage. Please be advised that the room will not be locked, and the conference organisers will not take responsibility for lost or stolen items.

## LOST PROPERTY

Lost property enquires are handled at the conference registration desk.

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# CRAWFORD MAP LEVEL 1

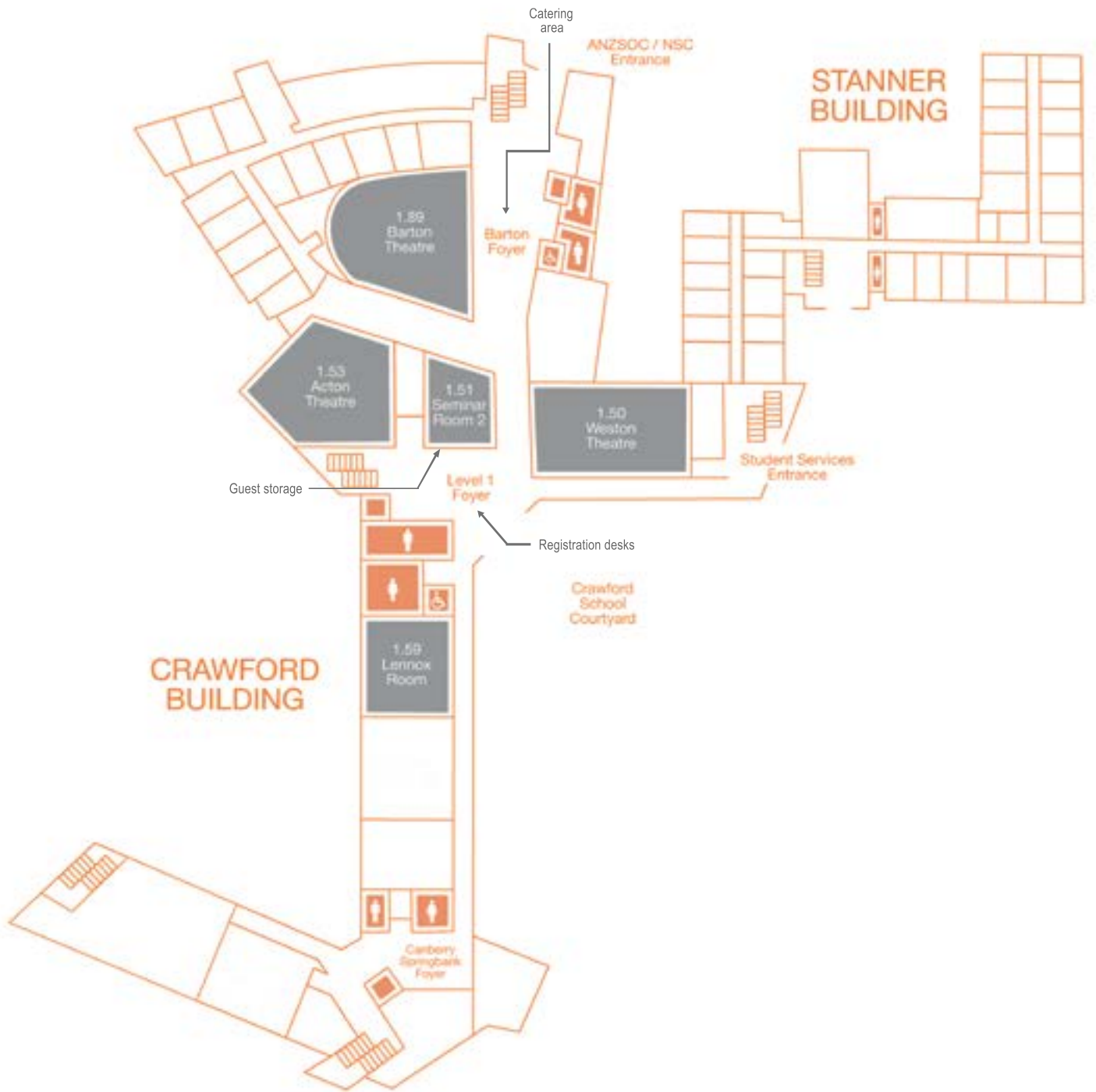
OPENING ADDRESS

#AAC2023

Business  
Development

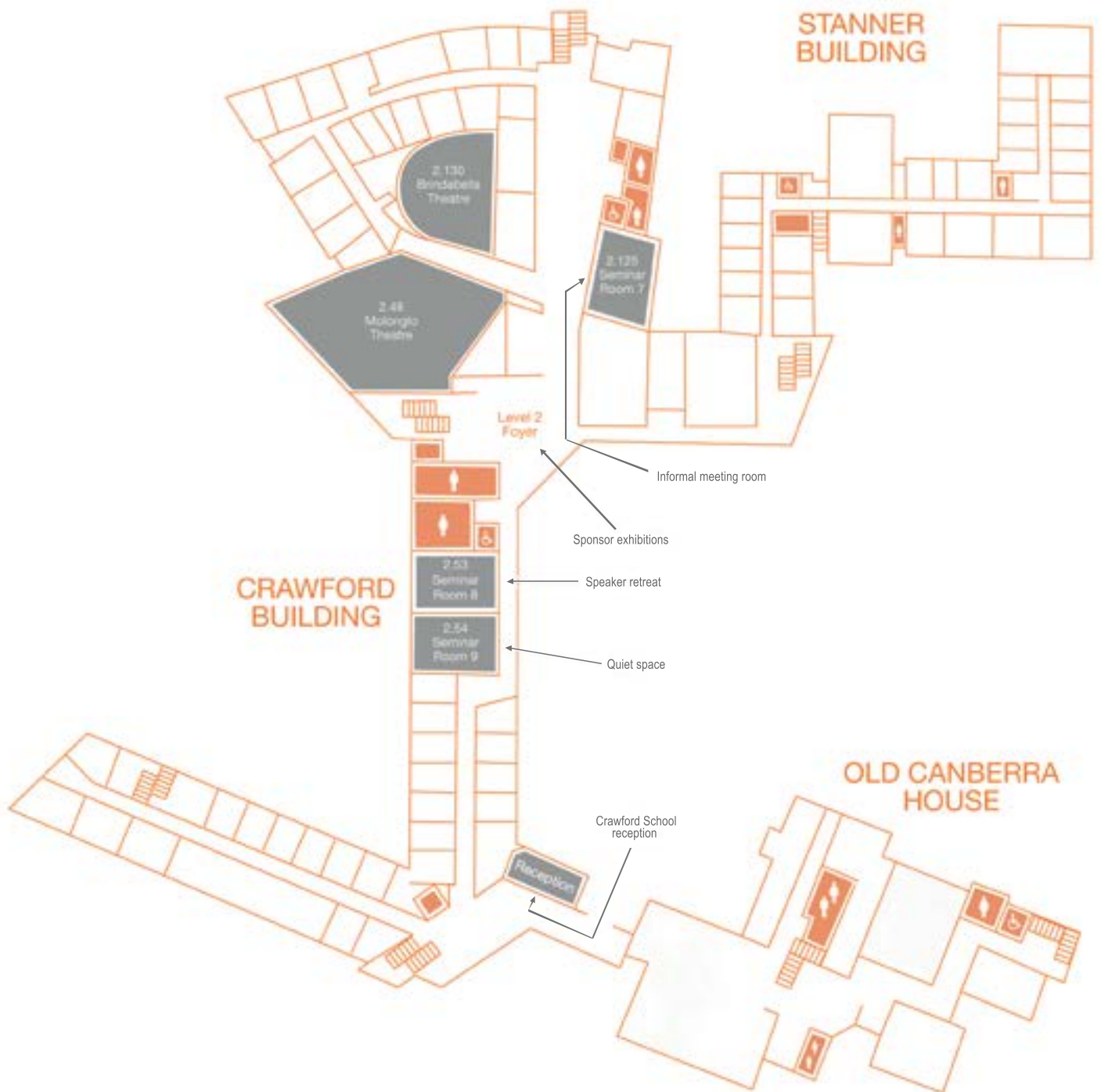
DEVELOPMENT

The Asia Foundation





# CRAWFORD MAP LEVEL 2



# TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER | PRE-CONFERENCE EVENTS

1.30-2.40pm	Preview Demonstration: Australian Aid Transparency Portal <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	
2.40-3.10pm	Afternoon tea	
3.10-4.20pm	Launch: 'Prioritizing global responsibilities' (Professor Luke Glanville, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, Australian National University)  <i>Barton Theatre</i>	Launch: 'Partner of choice? Southeast Asian views on Australia as a development partner' (Development Intelligence Lab)  <i>Acton Theatre</i>
4.20-5.30pm	Launch: 'Putting AI in AID: DragonFly Thinking and Development Intelligence' Professor Miranda Forsyth, School of Regulation and Global Governance, Australian National University and Co-founder and Director, DragonFly Thinking, and Bridi Rice, Chief Executive Officer, Development Intelligence Lab <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	
5.30pm	Welcome to Country and opening reception <i>Crawford School courtyard</i>	

# WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER | DAY ONE

7.20am	Registration; tea and coffee					
8.10-8.30am	Conference introduction <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i> [Overflow: Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre]					
8.30-9.30am	OPENING ADDRESS Dr Arsenio Balisacan, Secretary, National Economic Development Authority, Republic of the Philippines <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i> [Overflow: Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre]					
9.45-11.15am	Panel 1a Progress made or promises pending? A one-year review of Australia's International Development Policy <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	Panel 1b Understanding and responding to intersecting disadvantage in aid <i>Weston Theatre**</i>	Panel 1c Climate, conflict and China in Africa <i>Barton Theatre**</i>	Panel 1d The critical intersections of social protection systems and climate change <i>Acton Theatre</i>	Panel 1e The Global Partnership for Education: a demand-driven approach to strengthening national systems <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	Panel 1f Focus on Indonesia: policy, governance and infrastructure <i>Lennox Room</i>

\* Session will be livestreamed \*\* Hybrid session

11.15-11.45am	Morning tea					
11.45-1.15pm	<b>Panel 2a</b> Australia's approach to locally led development: policy drivers and emerging good practice <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	<b>Panel 2b</b> What happened to the "almost revolution"? Reflections on Political Economy Analysis and its impact <i>Weston Theatre **</i>	<b>Panel 2c</b> The political economy of debt in South Asia <i>Barton Theatre **</i>	<b>Panel 2d</b> Collaborative research partnerships for inclusive development <i>Acton Theatre</i>	<b>Panel 2e</b> Total value creation: cooperatives as models of social business in the Asia-Pacific <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	<b>Panel 2f</b> Climate resilient food systems in Southeast Asia and the Pacific <i>Lennox Room</i>
1.15-2.30pm	Lunch					
2.30-3.30pm	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS 'Multilateralism in Action: The Global Fund's Impact in the Indo-Pacific'</b> Lady Roslyn Morauta, Board Chair, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria <i>Molonglo Theatre* [Overflow: Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre]</i>					
3.30-4.00pm	Afternoon Tea					
4.00-5.30pm	<b>Panel 3a</b> Measuring what matters: understanding impact in social change programs <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	<b>Panel 3b</b> Health and WASH in Indonesia: working with vulnerable groups, communities and local authorities <i>Weston Theatre**</i>	<b>Panel 3c</b> Climate change, food security and gender: Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Pacific <i>Barton Theatre**</i>	<b>Panel 3d</b> Gender and transformative change: foreign policy, conflict and leadership <i>Acton Theatre</i>	<b>Panel 3e</b> Economic diversification in Timor-Leste <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	<b>Panel 3f</b> Culture, faith and trust in humanitarian and gender equality aid <i>Lennox Theatre</i>
5.30pm	Close					
6.00pm	<b>Pre-dinner drinks</b> (ticket holders only) <i>Garden of Australian Dreams, National Museum of Australia</i>					
6.30pm	<b>Conference dinner</b> (ticket holders only) <b>After dinner speech: 'Responding to family and sexual violence in PNG'</b> Eily Toimbo, Manager, Goroka Case Management Centre, Femili PNG <i>Peninsula Room, National Museum of Australia</i>					

\*Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

# THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER | DAY TWO

8.30am						Registration; tea and coffee						
9.00-10.30am	Panel 4a Countering the global anti-rights movement <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	Panel 4b Labour trafficking in Southeast Asia: vulnerabilities and responses <i>Weston Theatre**</i>	Panel 4c Aid and the private sector: challenges, opportunities and lessons from Indonesia <i>Barton Theatre**</i>	Panel 4d Australian aid: statecraft, contest, and public opinion <i>Acton Theatre</i>	Panel 4e Change from within: lessons learned from efforts to affect systemic change within government <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	Panel 4f Focus on Cambodia: technology, inclusion and Australian aid <i>Lennox Room</i>						
10.30-11.00am						<i>Morning tea</i>						
11.00-12.00pm						2024 MITCHELL ORATION 'Development cooperation in a contested world' Sir Masood Ahmed, President Emeritus, Center for Global Development <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i> [Overflow: <i>Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre</i> ]						
12.00-1.00pm						<i>Lunch</i>						
1.00pm-2.30pm	Panel 5a The end of the development era: causes, consequences and pathways forward <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	Panel 5b Governance, crime, and development: addressing the human impact of scam networks in Southeast Asia <i>Weston Theatre**</i>	Panel 5c The practice of localisation and inclusion <i>Barton Theatre**</i>	Panel 5d A regional crisis: how technology is being used to exacerbate gender-based violence <i>Acton Theatre</i>	Panel 5e Enabling civic space in Asia <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	Panel 5f Effectiveness and impact in tertiary education programs <i>Lennox Room</i>						
2.30-3.00pm						<i>Afternoon Tea</i>						
3.00-4.30pm	Panel 6a Forecasters, unite! Anticipating and meeting the needs of the future development sector <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i>	Panel 6b Negotiating digital development: Timor-Leste, Indonesia and regional civic space <i>Weston Theatre**</i>	Panel 6c Case studies in participatory research from the Pacific and SE Asia <i>Barton Theatre**</i>	Panel 6d Localising humanitarian preparedness and response in disasters and conflict <i>Acton Theatre</i>	Panel 6e Women environmental defenders as solidarity movements for climate justice <i>Brindabella Theatre</i>	Panel 6f Health and social protection: regional experience and lessons from COVID-19 <i>Lennox Room</i>						
4.30-5.15pm	PLENARY PANEL Three-Minute Aid Pitches (3MAPs) <i>Molonglo Theatre*</i> [Overflow: <i>Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre</i> ]						*Session will be livestreamed ** Hybrid session					
5.15pm						Closing Reception <i>Crawford School courtyard</i>						

# TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER | PRE-CONFERENCE

1.30PM

## Preview Demonstration: Australian Aid Transparency Portal

Molonglo Theatre\*

This panel will provide a preview demonstration of the new Australian aid transparency portal. It will discuss how greater transparency of development spending and performance supports more effective aid and stronger partnerships.

Chair: Joanne Choe, Managing Director, Asia-Pacific, DT Global

### Panelists:

Catherine Gill, Assistant Secretary, Development Strategy Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Leah Odongo, Head of Effectiveness, CBM Australia

Dr Terence Wood, Fellow, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University



2.40PM AFTERNOON TEA

\* Session will be livestreamed



Australian Government

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International Agricultural Research

## THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH-FOR-DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

ACIAR brokers, facilitates, invests in and manages strategic partnerships with public and private research institutions to improve the productivity and sustainability of agricultural systems and the resilience of food systems in partner countries.

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- 3 Enhancing human nutrition and reducing risks to human health
- 4 Improving gender equity and empowerment of women and girls
- 5 Fostering more inclusive agrifood and forestry value chains, engaging the private sector where possible
- 6 Building scientific and policy capability within our partner countries



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# TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER | PRE-CONFERENCE

3.10PM

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## Launch – ‘Partner of choice? Southeast Asian views on Australia as a development partner’

*Acton Theatre*

Author: Mira Sulistiyanto, Senior Analyst, Development Intelligence Lab

Chair: Peter Yates, Australia Representative and Regional Director (Governance), The Asia Foundation

Discussants:

Aedan Whyatt, Assistant Secretary, Southeast Asia Development Policy and Programs Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Anna Winoto, Indonesia Country Representative and Strategic Adviser, Abt Global

## Launch – ‘Prioritizing global responsibilities’

*Barton Theatre*

Author: Professor Luke Glanville, Department of International Relations, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, Australian National University

Chair: Dr Benjamin Day, Department of International Relations, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, Australian National University

4.20PM

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## Launch – ‘Putting AI in AID: DragonFly Thinking and Development Intelligence’

*Molonglo Theatre\**

This address will showcase how technology can help development practitioners engage with complexity and how new structured analytic techniques and novel frameworks, powered by AI, can help them consider different perspectives, generate dynamic analysis, and enable better foresight and decision-making.

Chair: Mark Keonig, Vice President, Programs, The Asia Foundation



### Panelists:

Professor Miranda Forsyth, School of Regulation and Global Governance, Australian National University and Co-founder and Director, DragonFly Thinking (pictured)

Bridi Rice, Chief Executive Officer, Development Intelligence Lab

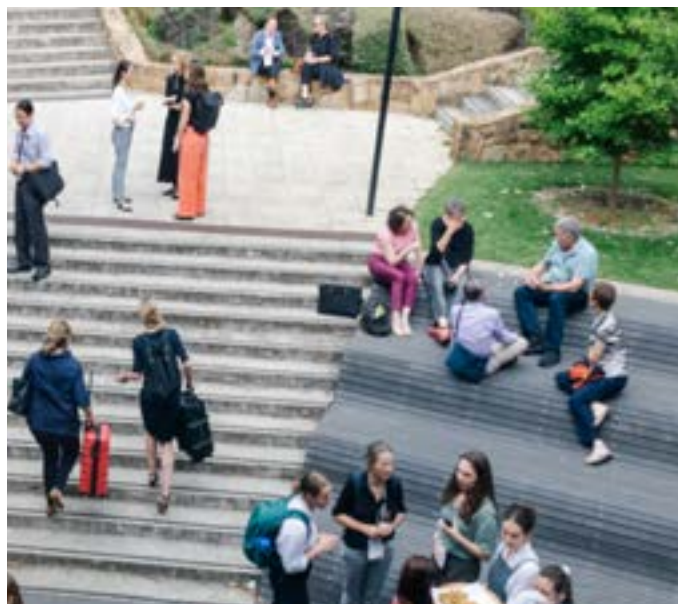
5.30PM

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## Welcome to Country and opening reception

Serena Williams, Ngunnawal-Wiradjuri woman, Ngunnawal elder

*Crawford School courtyard*



# WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER | DAY ONE

## 7.20AM REGISTRATION

8.10AM

### Conference introduction

*Molonglo Theatre\**

*[Overflow: Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre]*

### Welcome

Dr Cameron Hill, Senior Researcher, Development Policy Centre, Australian National University

### Opening remarks

Thomas Parks, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, The Asia Foundation

8.30AM

## OPENING ADDRESS

*Molonglo Theatre\**

*[Overflow: Weston Theatre, Barton Theatre]*

Chair: Professor Janine O'Flynn, Director, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University



**Dr Arsenio Balisacan**, Secretary, National Economic Development Authority, Republic of the Philippines

The background image shows a newsroom with several people working at computers. In the top left corner, there is a yellow circular logo for 'ABC INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT'. Three yellow circular callouts are overlaid on the image, each containing an icon and text.

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## **Panel 1a – Progress made or promises pending? A one-year review of Australia’s International Development Policy**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

This panel will bring together a group of experts from government, private sector, NGOs and academia to analyse implementation of the 2023 International Development Policy. The discussion will focus on whether the progress made thus far meets the goals set by the policy and what more needs to be done to turn promises into tangible outcomes. The panel will focus on progress against the development policy’s commitments on gender, civil society, locally led development, including alignment with partner systems, and provide an analysis of Australia’s climate aid contributions.

Chair: Catherine Gill, Assistant Secretary, Development Strategy Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### **Panelists:**

Dr Terence Wood, Fellow, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

Michelle Higelin, Vice President, Australian Council For International Development & Executive Director, ActionAid Australia

Dr Neelesh Gounder, Chief Policy Advisor, Government of Fiji

Stuart Schaefer, Country Representative, Papua New Guinea, DT Global

## **Panel 1b – Understanding and responding to intersecting disadvantage in aid**

*Weston Theatre\*\**

Intersectionality has emerged as a critical concept within international development and social policy over the past five years. Understanding the complex interplay of different forms of discrimination – and how these interactions create advantages for some while disadvantaging others – is vital for fostering development that leaves no one behind.

*\* Session will be livestreamed*

*\*\* Hybrid session*

**14 | AAC2024**

A crucial aspect of this effort is developing practical understandings that go beyond simply listing identity characteristics and explore the interconnected systems of privilege and disadvantage in specific contexts. This approach aims to design interventions that create transformative change. Perhaps most importantly, it encourages critical reflection on the role of development actors – from individuals to institutions – to consider whether they are perpetuating or challenging the status quo.

Chair: Elizabeth Cowan, Senior Specialist Advisor (Gender Equality), Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### **Panellists:**

Dr Vania de la Fuente-Núñez, Senior Advisor, Healthy Ageing, The Fred Hollows Foundation

Leah Odongo, Head of Effectiveness and Program Impact, CBM Australia

Megan Carrol, Data Technology and Insights Manager, Equality Insights, International Women’s Development Agency

## **Panel 1c – Climate, conflict and China in Africa**

*Barton Theatre\*\**

### **From aid to conflict? New evidence on emergency food aid’s impact on conflict in sub-Saharan Africa**

Dr Dessie Ambaw, Lecturer in Economics, University of South Australia [online]

### **Food security and protection in a changing climate: a case study**

Mudasser Siddiqui, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Plan International Australia and Claire Walker, Contract Management Coordinator, Oxfam Australia

### **Chinese aid and environmental impact: reimagining human security in Zimbabwe**

Kudakwashe Praise Mutukura, PhD Candidate, RMIT University

Chair: Estelle Stambolie, Research Officer, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

**> More panels in this session on following page**





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### **Panel 1d – The critical intersections of social protection systems and climate change**

*Acton Theatre*

As climate change intensifies, social security systems face mounting pressures from increased demand for benefits and services while simultaneously grappling with eroding fiscal capacity due to climate-induced economic disruptions. This is especially pronounced in agrarian and fisheries-based economies in which significant portions of the population rely on these sectors for their livelihoods.

Social protection systems serve as safety nets for individuals and communities, providing essential support during times of crisis. As extreme weather events disrupt livelihoods and exacerbate poverty, it is imperative that social protection systems are designed to be resilient, responsive and easily scalable. This panel will explore the critical intersection of social protection and climate change, with a particular focus on the unique challenges and opportunities in the Asia-Pacific.

Chair: Jamie Isbister, Deputy Head, Office of the Pacific and Head, Strategic Infrastructure and Economic Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### **Panelists:**

Dr Stephen Kidd, Senior Social Policy Specialist, Development Pathways

Dr Melanie Pill, Research Fellow, Indo-Pacific Development Centre, Lowy Institute

### **Panel 1e – The Global Partnership for Education: a demand-driven approach to strengthening national systems**

*Brindabella Theatre*

The Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has adopted a systems transformation approach to strengthening national education systems.

A key element of this approach is the role of global and regional partners in supporting countries' knowledge and capacity needs,

thus ensuring they have the capabilities to transform their education systems. GPE has incorporated this focus through the GPE Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) mechanism.

KIX is a demand-driven program launched in 2019 that connects the expertise, innovation and knowledge of GPE partners to support more than 70 countries. This panel will highlight experiences and insights from one of four regional hubs in facilitating knowledge generation, mobilisation and capacity strengthening across 36 GPE partner countries.

Chair: Sally-Anne Henfry, Assistant Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### **Panelists:**

Aditi Desai, KIX EMAP Knowledge Lead (Southeast Asia), NORRAG Global Education Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute

Nuong Nguyen, Vietnam Country Director, Room to Read

Tshelthrim Dorji, Planning Officer, Policy and Planning Division, Ministry of Education and Skills Development, Government of Bhutan

Arushi Terway, Senior Technical Advisor, KIX EMAP, NORRAG Global Education Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute

### **Panel 1f – Focus on Indonesia: policy, governance and infrastructure**

*Lennox Room*

#### **The role of think tanks as policy entrepreneurs: case studies from Indonesia**

Ria Arief, Head, Knowledge to Policy Unit, Australian Embassy Jakarta, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### **Public financial management: the key to achieving equity at scale?**

Heracles Lang, Lead, Public Financial Management and Minimum Service Standards, Synergies and Collaboration for Service Delivery Acceleration Program (SKALA), Indonesia

## **Innovative financing to close Indonesia's financing gap**

Steven Chaytor, Head, Australia Indonesia Partnership for Infrastructure (KIAT)

Chair: James Gilling, Regional Vice President, East Asia and the Pacific, Abt Global

### **11.15AM MORNING TEA**

**11.45AM**

## **Panel 2a – Australia's approach to locally led development: policy drivers and emerging good practice**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

This panel will explore the topic of locally led development through the lens of both policy and practice. We will introduce DFAT's new guidance which was produced in a consultation process with 33 partner countries and reflect on areas of emerging good practice and challenges across different partners and modalities across the DFAT portfolio, including budget support, managing contractors, and civil society organisations.

Chair: Kirsten Bishop, Assistant Secretary, Development Performance and Advisory Services Branch, Development Effectiveness and Enabling Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### **Panelists:**

Ayesha Lutschini, Team Leader, PNG Women Lead, Abt Global

Pranil Singh, Public Financial Management Adviser, Fiji Support Facility

Bishnu Adhikara, Governance Director, The Asia Foundation, Nepal

Kirsten Hawke, Lead Adviser, Design and Locally Led Development, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## **Panel 2b – What happened to the “almost revolution”? Reflections on Political Economy Analysis and its impact**

*Weston Theatre\*\**

For over 25 years donor agencies across the world have increasingly invested in political economy analysis (PEA) as a tool, framework and way of thinking and working that aims to operationalise the recognition that development is inherently a political undertaking. This has taken different forms – from Sida's “Power Analysis” to DFID's “Drivers of Change” analysis to the World Bank's “problem-driven PEA”. Closer to home, DFAT has a PEA Guidance Note and conducts regular PEA training.

This panel will provide an interactive facilitated discussion of the status of PEA. It will deliver a frank reflection with diverse perspectives on where the development community is when it comes to the “almost revolution”, what are the results, and what the next steps might entail.

Chair: Hannah Bleby, Director, Governance, Education and Thematic Coordination, Development Advisory Services, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### **Panelists:**

Dr Lisa Denney, Acting Director, Centre for Human Security and Social Change, La Trobe University

Graham Teskey, Principal Global Lead for Governance, Abt Global

Dr Nicola Nixon, Senior Director, Governance, The Asia Foundation [online]

Jimmy Morona, Independent development practitioner [online]

\* Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

## Panel 2c – The political economy of debt in South Asia

*Barton Theatre\*\**

South Asia's debt landscape has been marked by varying levels of fiscal distress, influenced by both domestic political decisions and international financial dynamics.

The objectives of this panel are to critically analyse the political and economic drivers of debt accumulation in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal, and to explore the consequences of these debt crises on economic sovereignty and development in the region. By examining the unique challenges each country faces, the panel will provide insights into sustainable debt management practices and offer policy recommendations that can help these nations avoid future fiscal distress whilst promoting long-term regional economic stability.

Chair: Anthea Mulakala, Senior Director, International Development Cooperation, The Asia Foundation

### Panelists:

Kshitiz Dahal, Senior Programme Officer, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment, Nepal

Dr Faisal Bari, Chief Executive Officer and Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Development and Economic Alternatives, Pakistan [online]

Yolani Fernando, Executive Director, Arutha, Sri Lanka

## Panel 2d – Collaborative research partnerships for inclusive development

*Acton Theatre*

The KONEKSI program is a joint initiative between the Australian and Indonesian governments to promote equitable knowledge partnerships to produce high-quality, multidisciplinary research to support Indonesia's national development priorities.

This panel will discuss how collaborative partnerships are strengthening research, innovation and reform in Indonesia and Australia.

\* Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

Panelists will speak on the ways gender equality, disability and social inclusion are being elevated through the program and how collaboration is building mutually beneficial institutional and people-to-people links. They will also discuss the key issue of impact: how KONEKSI partnerships are supporting "research to innovation" and "research to policy" pathways and leading to practical, evidence-based solutions.

Chair: Jana Hertz, Team Leader, KONEKSI

### Panelists:

Dr Agus Haryono, Deputy for Research Facilitation and Innovation, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Government of Indonesia

Ria Arief, Head, Knowledge to Policy Unit, Australian Embassy Jakarta, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Professor John McCarthy, Resources, Environment and Development Program, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

Charina Chazali, Executive Director, AKATIGA Centre for Social Analysis

## Panel 2e – Total value creation: cooperatives as models of social business in the Asia-Pacific

*Brindabella Theatre*

Co-operatives are a proven model for inclusive economic development, supporting the livelihoods of 10% of the world's working population. Globally, the top 300 co-operatives and mutuals have a combined turnover of more than US\$2.4 trillion.

There is a strong case for the Australian government to commission co-design work that lays out the opportunities to support Asia-Pacific co-operative development in 2025 and beyond, including through: 1) improved legal frameworks for co-operatives to operate, supporting governments with national legislation, regulations, strategies and regional harmonisation; and 2) supporting Ministers from the Asia-Pacific in their call for the establishment of a Pacific Network of Co-operatives.

Chair: Michael Pilbrow, Director and Chairman, Strategic Development Group

### Panelists:

Melina Morrison, Chief Executive Officer,  
Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals

Dulce Bustamante, Chairperson International  
Co-operative Alliance, Asia Pacific Committee on  
Youth Cooperation & Executive Director, Union of  
Legitimate Service Contracting Cooperatives, The  
Philippines

Setareki Macanawai, Global Disability Inclusion  
and Equity Advisor, former Chief Executive  
Officer of the Pacific Disability Forum

### Panel 2f – Climate resilient food systems in Southeast Asia and the Pacific

#### *Lennox Room*

The impacts of climate change on agriculture have been felt worldwide, particularly in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Amidst these changes, building climate-resilient food systems is imperative for ensuring food security alongside sustainable development. International development projects have provided access to critical resources which enable adaptation to climate change. However, one significant challenge persists: identifying and establishing the right incentives that motivate stakeholders to adopt new, climate-resilient farming and land use practices where change is needed.

This panel will share research findings and practical insights about the development of climate-resilient food systems in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, drawing from ongoing projects in Papua New Guinea, Vietnam, and Tonga.

Chair: Ewelina Przybyszewski, Program Manager,  
Climate Resilient Food Systems, Institute for  
Climate, Energy and Disaster Solutions (ICEDS),  
Australian National University

### Panelists:

Bianca Suarez, Research Project Officer, ICEDS  
Australian National University

Jennifer Kelly, Senior Innovation Systems Broker,  
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research  
Organisation

Dr Mona Mahani, Senior Research Analyst, ICEDS,  
Australian National University

Harry Myrans, Research Fellow, Institute for  
Climate, Energy & Disaster Solutions, Australian  
National University

## 1.15PM LUNCH

## 2.30PM

### KEYNOTE ADDRESS

*Molonglo Theatre\**

*[Overflow: Weston Theatre and Barton Theatre]*

**‘Multilateralism in action: The Global Fund’s  
impact in the Indo-Pacific’**



**Lady Roslyn Morauta, Board Chair, The Global  
Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria**

Lady Roslyn Morauta will explore the critical role of multilateralism in the Indo-Pacific, focusing on how the Global Fund strengthens partnerships to improve health outcomes across the region. The address will highlight the unique advantages of multilateral approaches, such as market shaping and fostering innovation at scale, breakthroughs in tuberculosis testing, and securing lower prices for essential health commodities.

Framing the discussion around key levers for sustainability and impact, Lady Morauta will address how the Global Fund fills critical funding gaps, increases the impact of investments, and promotes collaboration with other partners to deliver better health outcomes throughout the Indo-Pacific.

Chair: Helen Evans, Honorary Professor, Nossal  
Institute for Global Health, University of  
Melbourne

**3.30PM AFTERNOON TEA**

**4.00PM**

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### **Panel 3a – Measuring what matters: understanding impact in social change programs**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

At the 2023 Australasian Aid Conference, a keynote panel on aid effectiveness advocated for experimental approaches to impact evaluation to support the scaling of aid interventions. This panel builds on that discussion, exploring how complexity-aware and participatory approaches to impact assessment can help development policymakers and practitioners understand how well complex social change programs are working – and, importantly, why, how and for whom they are working.

Participatory and complexity-aware approaches to impact assessments present challenges for both evaluators and the programs that commission them. Consequently, there are few examples available of these approaches being used in practice.

This panel will present innovative approaches to impact assessments of DFAT-funded programs. Panelists will outline the reasons for the choices they have made about approaches and methods, and how they have managed the challenges they have encountered.

Chair: Erin Anderson, Technical Director Asia Pacific, Cowater International

#### **Panelists:**

Dr Elisabeth Jackson, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Human Security and Social Change, La Trobe University

Dr Ujjwal Krishna, Research Specialist (Governance), The Asia Foundation

Bethany Davies, Director for MERL and Performance, Synergies and Collaboration for Service Delivery Acceleration Program (SKALA), Indonesia

\* Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

### **Panel 3b - Health and WASH in Indonesia: working with vulnerable groups, communities and local authorities**

*Weston Theatre\*\**

**Reaching vulnerable groups through multisectoral partnerships on COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement (RCCE): strengthening health systems and building connections**

Dr Yulianto Kurniawan, Former National Coordinator, COVID-19 Program, Australia Indonesia Health Security Partnership [online]

**Best practices of grant implementation in the Indonesian health sector: pilot project of puskesmas (community health centers) accreditation**

Budi Perdana, Team Leader, Loan and Grant Team, Bureau of Planning and Budgeting, Ministry of Health, Government of Indonesia

**A whole-of-service approach to urban wastewater development in Indonesia**

Steven Chaytor, Head, Australia Indonesia Partnership for Infrastructure (KIAT)

Chair: Camilla Burkot, Senior Technical Advisor, Health Technical Hub, Global Health Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### **Panel 3c – Climate change, food security and gender: Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Pacific**

*Barton Theatre\*\**

**Food security in the Pacific Islands: a comparison between Fiji and Kiribati**

Danian Singh, Lecturer, Fiji National University [online]

**Adaption pathways among vulnerable communities in eastern Indonesia: understanding the food, climate and agroecology nexus**

Professor John McCarthy, Resources Environment and Development Program, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University and Charina Chazali, AKATIGA Centre for Social Analysis, Indonesia

**Women's economic empowerment to promote inclusive agri-food systems in Bangladesh: evidence and lessons in promoting systems change, gender equality and nutrition**

Ellie Wong, Economic Empowerment Manager, World Vision Australia

Chair: Robyn Alders, Honorary Professor, Development Policy Centre, Australian National University

**Panel 3d – Gender and transformative change: foreign policy, conflict and leadership**

*Acton Theatre*

**From standing out to fitting in: new feminist foreign policy trajectories since 2021**

Joanna Pradela, Director, Knowledge Translation and Equality Insights, International Women's Development Agency

**Women in war: unsung heroes, leaders and responders**

Dr Athena Nguyen, Senior Manager Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion, CARE Australia and Olivia Hartigan, Protection Advisor, CARE Ukraine

**Her voice, her leadership: promoting inclusive governance in Vanuatu and PNG**

Joy Waffi, Inclusive Governance Program Manager, CARE International

Chair: Dr Annabel Dulhunty, Lecturer, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

**Panel 3e – Economic diversification in Timor-Leste**

*Brindabella Theatre*

Timor-Leste is Asia's youngest democracy. Soon after independence in 2002, the country began to earn relatively large revenues from oil and gas activities in the Timor Sea. In the past 20 years, taxes, royalties and related investment returns have totaled US\$30 billion, more than the country's total GDP for that period. However, a consequence of this reliance on oil and gas is that non-oil sectors have developed very slowly. There are few formal sector jobs outside government with most households still reliant on traditional farming as their main source of livelihoods.

This panel will discuss the challenges and opportunities of economic diversification facing Timor-Leste focusing on: 1) current and potential areas of comparative advantage; 2) a labour market view of diversification, including gender gaps; and 3) the implications for the government of Timor-Leste's budget, including investment priorities and revenue opportunities.

Chair: Professor Brett Inder, Department of Econometrics and Business Statistics, Monash Business School

**Panelists:**

Amanda Robbins, Founder and Managing Director, Equity Economics

Jorania Alves, Research Engagement, PROVISU, Timor-Leste

Guteriano Neves, Research Coordinator, PROVISU, Timor-Leste

**Panel 3f – Culture, faith and trust in humanitarian and gender equality aid**

*Lennox Room*

**Gender and social capital in disaster resilience: a qualitative study of rural women leaders and social constructions of trust with international humanitarian organisations in the Philippines**

Kara Medina, Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist for Climate Finance Projects, The Pacific Community (SPC)

**"A disaster is not a punishment from God": The realities of a locally-led, faith sensitive approach to humanitarian work in the Pacific**

Chey Mattner, Director, CAN DO Secretariat

**Examining the influence of cultural and religious values on service provision for intimate partner violence in Timor-Leste**

Gabriela Leite Soares, Masters student, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

Chair: Dr Bernadette Whitelum, Board Director, Alinea International

**5.30PM CLOSE**





6.00PM

**Pre-dinner drinks**

*(Ticket Holders Only)*

*Garden of Australian Dreams, National Museum of Australia*



6.30PM

**Conference dinner**

*(Ticket Holders Only)*

*Peninsula Room, National Museum of Australia*

**AFTER-DINNER SPEECH**

**‘Responding to family and sexual violence in PNG’**

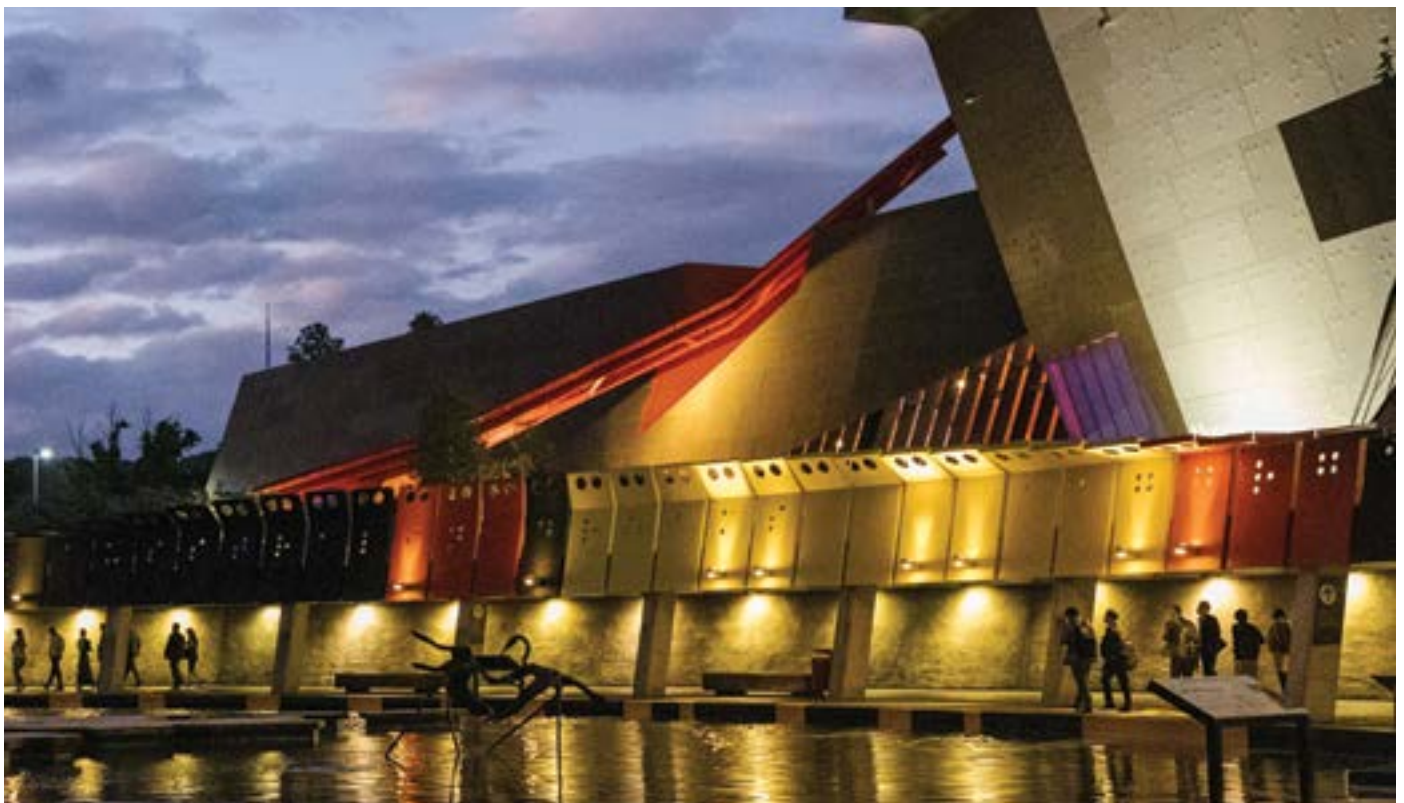
This year we shine a light on the growing response to family and sexual violence in Papua New Guinea at the conference dinner.

Femili PNG is a local NGO established in 2014 to help survivors of family and sexual violence in PNG access the support and services they need.

The stories of resilience, growth and change are ones we should all hear.



**Elly Toimbo**, Manager, Goroka Case Management Centre, Femili PNG



*National Museum of Australia*

# THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER | DAY TWO

8.30AM REGISTRATION

9.00 AM

## Panel 4a – Countering the global anti-rights movement

*Molonglo Theatre\**

A well-organised and resourced anti-rights movement is gaining increased legitimacy, threatening to reverse hard-won gains for gender equality and human rights. Emboldened by recent setbacks, including the overturn of *Roe vs. Wade* in the US, attacks on abortion, restricted access to contraception, comprehensive sexuality education and the rights of LGBTQIA+ peoples are becoming increasingly pronounced. There are now grave concerns for the future of reproductive and LGBTQIA+ rights around the world.

This panel will give audience members greater understanding of the transnational impacts of rising authoritarianism and radical anti-rights campaigns. Panelists will discuss strategies to counter the pushback against gender and sexual rights and explore the role of cross-sectoral partnership and movement building to counter regressive anti-rights campaigns. The panel will also unpack Australia's role in defending and promoting human rights, and the opportunities to engage through partnerships, diplomacy and aid.

Chair: Bronte Moules, Australian Ambassador for Human Rights, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

### Panelists:

Jelle Postma, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Justice for Prosperity, The Netherlands

Jack Hayes, PhD candidate and Research Assistant, Global Institute for Women's Leadership, Australian National University

Lady Nancy Lisondra, Youth and Advocacy Advisor, International Planned Parenthood Foundation, The Philippines

Mina Barling, Director, External Relations, International Planned Parenthood Foundation

\* Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

## Panel 4b – Labour trafficking in Southeast Asia: vulnerabilities and responses

*Weston Theatre\*\**

Labour migration can bring significant development benefits, particularly for countries in the region that rely on remittances. However, it can also expose individuals to the risk of labour abuse, exploitation and human trafficking.

Drawing on research conducted across all 10 ASEAN countries on the political economy of labour trafficking, this panel will examine the structural issues underlying labour migration as well as the individual vulnerabilities that migrant workers, including those with disabilities, face in relation to abuse and exploitation. It will also explore how governments, non-government organisations and migrants themselves are responding to this issue, and what can be done to enhance the protective capabilities and legal voice of migrants to reduce vulnerabilities and support more successful labour migration experiences.

Chair: Dr Lucia Pietropaoli, Team Leader, ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Program

### Panelists:

Dr Lisa Denney, Research Associate, ODI Global

Dr Andika Ab Wahib, Research Fellow, Institute of Malaysia and International Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia [online]

Nurul Qoiriah, Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion Director, ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Program

## Panel 4c – Aid and the private sector: challenges, opportunities and lessons from Indonesia

*Barton Theatre\*\**

Working more closely with the private sector to deliver development assistance can help Australia achieve faster and more sustainable development outcomes by promoting economic growth, reducing poverty and supporting the transition from aid relationships to economic partnerships.

There is a strategic opportunity to catalyse funding from the private sector, as well as a need to tap into private sector innovation to help solve development challenges.

This panel will explore the opportunities and challenges of working with the private sector in Indonesia and share the lessons that DFAT and its development programs have gained from that experience. It will also discuss the incentives, benefits, transaction costs, and risks for the private sector when engaging in development programs, drawing on experience and evaluations.

Chair: Caroline Scott, Director, Blended Finance and Investor Engagement Unit, Climate Diplomacy and Development Finance Division, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Panelists:**

David Goodwins, Deputy Team Leader and Lead Advisor, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, Indonesia Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, Economic Cooperation Program (Katalis)

Bram Marolop, Unit Manager, Economic Governance Section, Economic, Investment and Infrastructure Branch, Australian Embassy Jakarta, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

David Williams, Director, Economic Growth and Nature-Based Solutions APAC, Palladium [online]

Tissa Aunilla, Co-founder Pipiltin Chocolates, Indonesia [online]

**Panel 4d – Australian aid: statecraft, contest and public opinion**

*Acton Theatre*

**A new era of economic statecraft**

Melissa Tyler Conley, Executive Director, Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy and Defence Dialogue

**Minding the gaps: statecraft, policy legitimisation and Australia's aid**

Dr Cameron Hill, Senior Researcher, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

**The costs of contest: how geostrategic competition and fragility interact**

Martina Zapf, General Manager, Development Intelligence Lab

**Australian preferences for aid allocation: a discrete choice experiment**

Jack Hennessy, Senior Health Economist, The Fred Hollows Foundation and PhD Candidate, Monash University

Chair: Dr Benjamin Day, Lecturer, Coral Bell School of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University

**Panel 4e – Change from within: lessons learned from efforts to affect systemic change within government**

*Brindabella Theatre*

Australia's 2023 International Development Policy seeks to build "effective and accountable states that drive their own development". However, systemic change, particularly when it comes to tackling the "wicked problems" that characterise development, is complex. These problems often involve an agglomeration of technical, cultural and process challenges. They are also problems for which purely technical solutions are rarely apparent and that require multiple stakeholders — often with competing interests — to cooperate.

This panel will showcase three initiatives in Southeast Asia to pursue systemic reform in: health (in Timor-Leste), gender-based violence (in Cambodia), and social protection (in Indonesia). It will explore the perspectives and experiences from diverse stakeholders including government, implementing partners, and academia. The discussion will provide insight on how the design and delivery of development programs can better enable locally led systemic change.

Chair: Anna Winoto, Indonesia Country Representative and Strategic Adviser, Abt Global

**Panelists:**

Armandina Gusmao-Amaral, Program Director, Partnership for Human Development, Timor-Leste

Sochetra Nhean, Director General of Social Development, Ministry of Women's Affairs, Government of Cambodia

Vania Budianto, PhD Candidate, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

> More panels in this session on following page

9.00AM

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**Panel 4f – Focus on Cambodia:  
technology, inclusion and Australian aid**

*Lennox Room*

**Mapping the dimensions of poverty vulnerability through big data, socioeconomic surveys and machine learning in Cambodia**

Theara Khoun, Policy Analyst, Social and Economics, UN Development Programme, Cambodia

**Supporting services for children under five years old with developmental delays and disabilities in Cambodia**

Channy Check, Senior Disability and Social Inclusion Specialist, Research Triangle Institute, Cambodia

**Bridging the information divide: addressing the information needs for persons with disabilities in Cambodia**

Phoury Bun, Research Associate, Center for Educational Research and Innovation, Cambodia Development Resource Institute

**The impact of Australian aid on private sector development in post-civil war Cambodia: a case study**

Sithykun Chean, Senior Associate and Sithsakal Oum, Senior Analyst, Vriens & Partners

Chair: Micheal Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, eWater

**10.30AM MORNING TEA**



11.00AM

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**2024 MITCHELL ORATION**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

*[Overflow: Weston Theatre, Acton Theatre]*

**‘Development cooperation in a contested world’**



**Sir Masood Ahmed**, President Emeritus, Center for Global Development

Chair: Dr Jenny Gordon, Nonresident Fellow, Lowy Institute and Honorary Professor, Centre for Social Research and Methods, Australian National University

Following a quarter-century of unprecedented progress in global poverty reduction (1990-2015), international cooperation on development has entered a more contested era. The rise of China, emerging challenges like climate change and pandemics, the erosion of trust between the Global North and South, and the return of populism in the North have upended the “golden age” of development cooperation.

Masood will discuss these factors and the state of development in a new era of divergence, aiming to chart a course back to cooperation and growth in a new global context.

**12.00PM LUNCH**

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**Panel 5a - The end of the development era: causes, consequences and pathways forward**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

The relative peace of the past 70 years has delivered stability and unique development opportunities. But the prosperity-enhancing order that was built on this base is decaying. In response, Western countries, particularly in the Anglo-sphere, have sought to bolster security alliances and norms, and restructure trade rules. But they have also turned their backs on a global social contract that delivered regional and global public goods, serious sustained collaboration on common problems, and substantial development cooperation. Australia's repudiation of that global social contract is corroding the order the West wants to save.

Australia must rediscover creative middle power diplomacy and shape it for a multipolar world. This requires re-engaging on development with a different mindset, different perspectives and different instruments to overcome the growing litany of challenges that risk overwhelming us, our neighbours, and regional and global order itself.

Chair: Professor Caitlin Byrne, Pro Vice Chancellor (Business), Griffith University

**Panelists:**

Richard Moore, Principal Strategist, Positive Influence

Dr Benjamin Day, Lecturer, Department of International Relations, Coral Bell School of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University

Jacqui De Lacy, Chief Global Development Officer, Abt Global

**Panel 5b – Governance, crime and development: addressing the human impact of scam networks in Southeast Asia**

*Weston Theatre\*\**

In recent years scam operations and human trafficking have plagued the poorest nations of mainland Southeast Asia. These centres have sprung up in areas of Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar with weak or contested governance. Financed using significant Chinese private capital, these criminal activities have not just impacted Southeast Asia but have fleeced billions of dollars globally. The centres are run through cheap labour supplied by human trafficking rings that have exploited people from across Asia, Africa and Western nations.

This panel brings together researchers and experts to examine the activities of Southeast Asia's scam centres, the response of neighbouring countries and international organisations, and the broader implications for regional stability and development, including the role of regional donors such as Australia.

Chair: Nathan Shea, Assistant Director, Conflict and Fragility, The Asia Foundation

**Panelists:**

Professor Pinkeaw Laungaramsri, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Dr Lucia Pietropaoli, Team Leader, ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking Program

Laure Siegel, Investigative journalist, Visual Rebellion

\* Session will be livestreamed

\*\* Hybrid session

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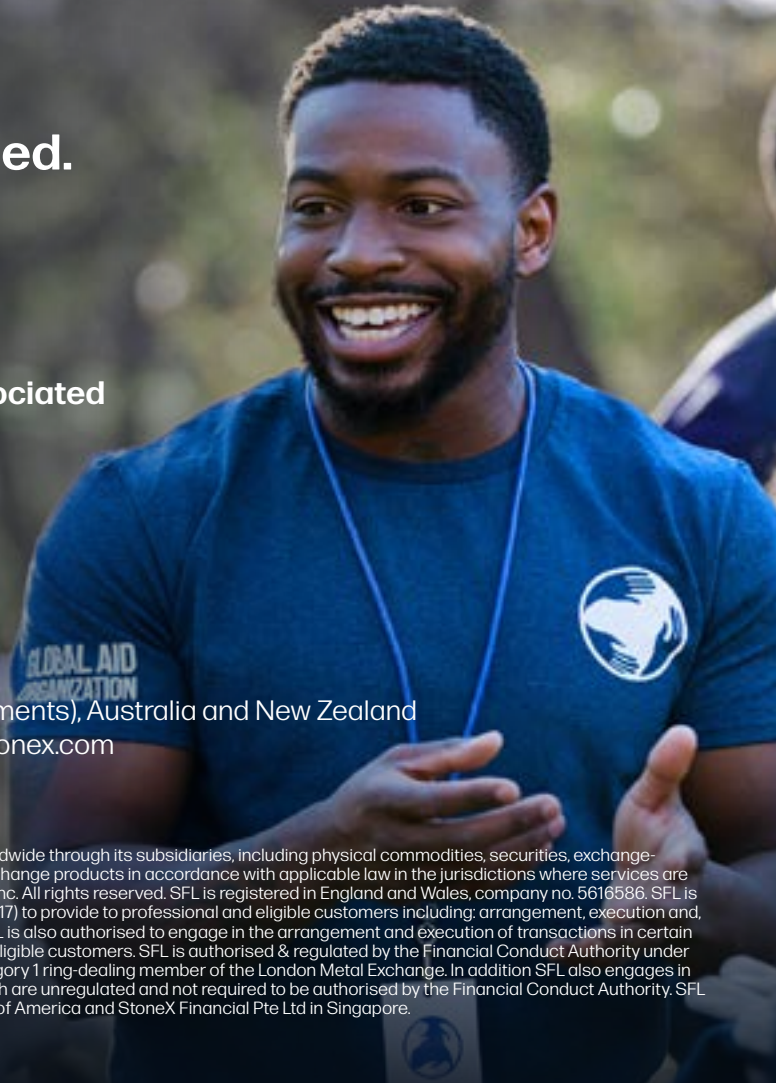


**Michael Stachowiak**

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Sydney: +61 8094 2003



### **Panel 5c – The practice of localisation and inclusion**

*Barton Theatre\*\**

The practice of localisation and inclusion demands substantial resources, including skilled personnel who understand both the technical aspects and the local context. Moreover, it requires a nuanced understanding of power dynamics and potential unintended consequences.

This proposed panel session will reflect on experiences and lessons in three countries through three different lenses: a donor (Global Affairs Canada in PNG); a managing contractor (SMEC in Indonesia); and an NGO (Cufa in Cambodia). In these diverse country settings, the effective promotion of GEDSI in the context of localisation has involved partnerships with local stakeholders, including community leaders, local civil society organisations and government agencies.

Chair: Darian Clark, Chief Executive Officer, Cufa

#### **Panelists:**

Alex Croyle, Manager, Canada Fund for Local Initiatives, Global Affairs Canada

Corin Mitchell, Global Executive Director, Surbana Jurong Group

Rany Teng, Cambodia Country Manager, Cufa [online]

### **Panel 5d – A regional crisis: how technology is being used to exacerbate gender-based violence**

*Acton Theatre*

Most people are familiar with the terms online abuse or cyber bullying, however less so the term Technology Facilitated Gender-Based Violence (TFGBV). TFGBV is impacting about 85 per cent of women globally, especially high-profile women such as politicians, sportswomen, and women in media. The endemic nature of TFGBV in the region needs to be better understood and urgently addressed.

In the absence of formal research, in the Pacific and Asia regions approaches like *talanoa* storytelling are being used to garner enough information and data, to fast-track evidence-based advocacy and lobbying for more resource mobilisation to better address TFGBV.

Chair: Jacqui Berrell, Communications Adviser, Pacific Women Lead, The Pacific Community (SPC)

#### **Panelists:**

'Ofa Guttenbeil-Likiliki, Director, Women and Children Crisis Centre, Tonga

Mereseini Rakuita, Principal Strategic Lead, Pacific Women and Girls, SPC

Rabindra Gautam, Technical Advisor, Pacific Regional Child Protection and Child Governance, Save the Children

Isabelle Glover, Policy and Project Officer, International Engagement, eSafety Commissioner, Australian Government

### **Panel 5e – Enabling civic space in Asia**

*Brindabella Theatre*

Australia's international development policy recognised the importance of civic space to effective and accountable states through its commitment to establish a new mechanism to support civil society in the region. However, understanding the ever-changing nature of civic spaces across the region, and both the new and longstanding challenges that such spaces face are critical to ensuring any support is effective.

This panel will explore both the current state of civic space in Asia, and emerging approaches and lessons as to how it can best be supported.

Chair: Peter Yates, Australia Representative and Regional Director (Governance), The Asia Foundation

#### **Panelists:**

Yolani Fernando, Executive Director, Arutha, Sri Lanka

Mandakini Surie, Independent Consultant



## **Panel 5f – Effectiveness and impact in tertiary education programs**

*Lennox Room*

### **Building partnerships for transformative innovation in agricultural research for development: learnings from fifteen years of ACIAR’s postgraduate scholarships program**

Dr Richard Markham, Agroecology Consultant and former Research Program Manager, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

### **A mixed-methods study on women’s participation in post-secondary STEM education and careers in Cambodia**

Saokeo Khantey You, Research Associate, Cambodia Development Resource Institute

### **Bridging the leadership gap: advancing women’s roles in health through an innovative partnership**

Nicole Murphy, Lead, Women in Health Leadership Project, The Fred Hollows Foundation and Thuy Vy Nguyen, PhD Candidate, Centre for Health Research and Implementation, Monash University

Chair: Dr Terence Wood, Fellow, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

## **2.30PM AFTERNOON TEA**

## **3.00PM**

### **Panel 6a – Forecasters, unite! Anticipating and meeting the needs of the future development sector**

*Molonglo Theatre\**

It’s the year 2040. What does our development sector look like? Who are we working with? What needs are we responding to? Is it enough? Do we, as a sector, have a shared view of our future capability needs? And, most importantly, what would we go back and tell our 2024 selves?

This panel will explore how the development sector can proactively prepare for future challenges by anticipating emerging needs, adopting innovative tools, and drawing on global best practices.

Chair: Nathan Hansford, Chief Executive Officer, International Development Contractors Community

#### **Panelists:**

Noha Hussein, Chief Global Growth Officer, DT Global

Bridi Rice, Chief Executive Officer, Development Intelligence Lab

### **Panel 6b – Negotiating digital development: Timor-Leste, Indonesia and regional civic space**

*Weston Theatre\*\**

#### **Navigating the impact of the Timor-Leste submarine cable: who’s in the chat group?**

Aaron Kearney, Director, Engagement and Programs and Laura McDowell, Research Analyst, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

#### **Building digital sandbags: enabling independent internet research and response in Asia**

Sumaya Saluja, Program Manager (Governance) and Toni Friedman, Assistant Director (Tech Policy), The Asia Foundation [online]

#### **Data in development: the political economy of objective facts**

Grace Palayukan, Data and Analytic Lead, Synergies and Collaboration for Service Delivery Acceleration Program (SKALA), Indonesia

Chair: Dr Amanda H A Watson, Fellow, Department of Pacific Affairs, Coral Bell School of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University

#### **> More panels in this session on following page**

*\* Session will be livestreamed*

*\*\* Hybrid session*

**Panel 6c – Case studies in participatory research from the Pacific and Southeast Asia**

*Barton Theatre*

**Understanding voter motivations in Vanuatu through adaptive research**

Seman Saraken, Senior Governance and Leadership Coordinator, Department of Women's Affairs, Government of Vanuatu and Wilson Toa, Country Manager, Balance of Power, Vanuatu

**Turning the tide: worker organising and the future of labour in seafood**

Dr Hasriadi (Ary) Masalam, Program Advisor, Freedom Fund, Indonesia

**Empowering women in leadership positions through development aid: evidence from female councillors and civil servants at the sub-national level in three provinces in Cambodia**

Sophany San, Gender Specialist, GIZ Cambodia

**Advancing gender equality through decolonial research and knowledge generation: experience from the WEAVERS research project**

Dr Sepoe Orovu, Gender equity and social inclusion specialist, PNG [online]

Chair: Dr Sonia Palmieri, Senior Fellow, Department of Pacific Affairs, Coral Bell School of Asia and the Pacific, Australian National University

**Panel 6d – Localising humanitarian preparedness and response in disasters and conflict**

*Acton Theatre*

**Culture and displacement management: lessons from the 2017-2018 Ambae island evacuations, Vanuatu**

Anna Naupa, PhD Candidate, School of Culture, History and Language, Australian National University

**Bridging the gap: pre-positioning response funding for rapid humanitarian action**

Jason Brown, Partnership Director, Australian Humanitarian Partnership Support Unit and Alex Overett, Disaster READY Coordinator, CARE Australia

**Helping children catch up: Save the Children's experience in providing education in conflicts**

Nora Cherif Chefchaoui, Lead Principal Advisor (Education), Save the Children Australia

Chair: Naomi Brooks, Humanitarian and Public Engagement Lead, Australian Council for International Development

**Panel 6e – Women environmental defenders as solidarity movements for climate justice**

*Brindabella Theatre*

Natural and human-made disasters trigger global climate change, and one of the reasons is poor environmental governance at the national and regional levels. Women are often excluded from local-land management decisions and on most issues of land and forest governance. They have limited access to information and processes that determine the fate of their forest and land. With their close relationship with the environment, increasing women's participation in decision-making is vital.

This panel will share The Asia Foundation's work to support and strengthen inclusive environmental movements led by women working to protect land and territory while supporting sustainable livelihoods. This session will focus on learnings from Indonesia and the Philippines to empower women's forest and climate leadership and highlight the importance of investing in women's environmental networks and movements for justice, especially those led by Indigenous women.

Chair: Christine Antoniette Ramos, Senior Program Officer, The Asia Foundation, The Philippines

**Panelists:**

Rahpriyanto Alam Surya Putra, Program Director, Environmental Governance Unit, The Asia Foundation, Indonesia

Marwiza Farhan, Director, The Hutan Alam and Konservasi Aceh (HAKA)

Cristi Marie Nozawa, Executive Director, The Samdhana Institute

## Panel 6f – Health and social protection: regional experience and lessons from COVID-19

Lennox Room

### Investing in social protection for good times and bad: an assessment of social protection financing in the Pacific and Timor-Leste

Jesse Doyle, Senior Social Protection Specialist (Economist), Partnerships for Social Protection

### Complex direct cash transfers and aid management during COVID-19: lessons-learned from the villages of Indonesia

Mirza Fanzikri, PhD Student, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universitas Islam Internasional, Indonesia

### Assessing the lasting household socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in PNG

Dr Darian Naidoo, Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank

### Health for All in action: lessons from Taiwan's international health partnerships

Yu-Jie Li, Assistant Specialist and Ching-Wan Tseng, Junior Specialist, International Cooperation and Development Fund, Taiwan

Chair: Dr Ryan Edwards, Deputy Director, Development Policy Centre, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University

\* Session will be livestreamed

4.30PM

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## PLENARY PANEL

Molonglo Theatre\*

[Overflow: Weston Theatre and Barton Theatre]

### Three-Minute Aid Pitches (3MAPs)

Chair: Anthea Mulakala, Senior Director, International Development Cooperation, The Asia Foundation

#### Contestants:

- Martina Zapf: 'Organisational culture: the missing piece in the locally-led development puzzle'
- Nicol Herbert: 'Making cents: reforming how the aid sector delivers cash'
- Stephen Kidd: 'From history to action: universal social protection for all in the Asia-Pacific'
- Natasha Turia: '2025: the perfect time for an Australia-PNG Engagement Visa'
- Ujjwal Krishna: 'Informing the "official mind": re-thinking who to listen to and what to believe'
- Jack Hennessey: 'Using beneficiary surveys to improve aid effectiveness'

### Closing remarks

5.15PM

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## Closing reception

Crawford School courtyard



# CONFERENCE HOSTS

## DEVELOPMENT POLICY CENTRE

[devpolicy.anu.edu.au/](http://devpolicy.anu.edu.au/)

Development Policy Centre (Devpol) is a think tank for aid and development serving Australia, the region, and the global development community. Devpol undertakes independent research and promotes practical initiatives to improve the effectiveness of Australian aid, to support the development of Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands region, and to contribute to better global development policy.

Devpol was established in September 2010 and is based at Crawford School of Public Policy in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University.

## THE ASIA FOUNDATION

[asiafoundation.org/](http://asiafoundation.org/)

The Asia Foundation is a nonprofit international development organization committed to improving lives and expanding opportunities across Asia and the Pacific. Informed by 70 years of experience and deep local knowledge, our work is focused on governance, climate action, education and leadership, inclusive growth, international cooperation, and women's empowerment and gender equality.

We work in more than 20 countries through our 17 permanent country offices and programs across Asia and the Pacific, supported by a headquarters in San Francisco and an office in Washington, DC. Our funding comes from a diverse array of bilateral and multilateral development agencies, foundations, corporations, and individuals.

# ADDRESSING COMPLEX CHALLENGES IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Over seven decades, The Asia Foundation has partnered with change-makers in government, civil society, business, and academia in solving some of the greatest social and economic challenges facing Asia and the Pacific.

Working in over 20 countries through permanent offices across Asia and the Pacific. For more information, contact our Australian Representative, Peter Yates at [peter.yates@asiafoundation.org](mailto:peter.yates@asiafoundation.org).

# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

The 2024 Australasian AID Conference is generously supported by our sponsors. Please visit the AAC2024 exhibitors in the Molonglo Theatre foyer to learn more.

## ABC INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

[www.abcinternationaldevelopment.net.au](http://www.abcinternationaldevelopment.net.au)

ABC International Development (ABCID) is the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's media development unit.

ABCID draws on the ABC's specialist media development and communications expertise, as well as knowledge and relationships across Australia and the Indo-Pacific region.

We support, connect and empower communities by fostering inclusive media, public interest journalism, behaviour change communications and research. Regional resilience is being profoundly challenged, and media development matters more than ever.

## AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

[aciar.gov.au](http://aciar.gov.au)

As world leaders in agricultural research, Australian scientists are encouraged and supported to use their skills for the benefit of partner countries while at the same time contributing to solutions to meet Australia's own agricultural challenges.

The diversity of our own agriculture sector, which extends from the tropics to the arid zone and to cool temperate continues to thrive while operating in highly variable and challenging climates with minimal external subsidies. This suggests the Australian agricultural sector has valuable knowledge and expertise to share with other countries facing similar challenges, including farmers, rural poor, consumers, researchers and policymakers.

Since 1982, ACIAR has supported research projects in the Indo-Pacific region. Our research projects focus on agribusiness, climate change, crops, fisheries, forestry, horticulture, livestock systems, social systems, soil and land management, and water.

To date, ACIAR has commissioned more than 1,500 research projects in approximately 35 countries, partnering with more than 400 institutions, including 60 Australian research organisations in any one year.

We broker, facilitate, invest in and manage strategic partnerships with public and private research institutions to improve the productivity and sustainability of agricultural systems and the resilience of food systems in partner countries.

## CADMUS

[cadmusgroup.com](http://cadmusgroup.com)

Cadmus is compelled to help solve the world's most challenging problems. Our approach to sustainable development focuses on digital transformation, economic growth and trade, governance, climate and resilience, and gender and social inclusion.

With broad experience implementing bilateral and multilateral donor-funded programs worldwide, Cadmus is uniquely positioned to deliver practical solutions to complex global challenges and achieve lasting development impact. From our in-house technical teams with extensive implementation experience to trusted regional and local professionals and partners, we assemble outstanding teams of leading experts with an ethos grounded in collaboration and a drive for success, who work seamlessly across disciplines and leverage transformative technologies to help our clients achieve extraordinary outcomes.

Together, we are strengthening society and the natural world.

## CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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### CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP

[centreforhumanitarianleadership.org](http://centreforhumanitarianleadership.org)

The Centre for Humanitarian Leadership (CHL) is transforming humanitarian leaders and influencing how organisations, and the system respond to an increasingly complex world.

By elevating local actors, centring the agency of affected communities, respecting diverse perspectives and furthering social justice, CHL strives to nurture a new generation of leaders in a world gripped by change and turmoil.

CHL is an innovative collaboration between Deakin University and Save the Children Australia.

We offer:

- accredited university courses and pathways through Deakin University
- leadership development and training programs for humanitarian professionals, incorporating mentoring and coaching, available in English, French, Ukrainian, Polish and Arabic
- Academic research and policy insights, focusing around three pillars: pedagogy, leadership development and systems transformation
- Globally recognised events and the ability to convene diverse audiences for challenging conversations

The result is a rich community of leaders dedicated to teaching, understanding, analysing, demonstrating, interrogating and constantly refining what it means to be an effective humanitarian leader.

### DT GLOBAL

[dt-global.com](http://dt-global.com)

**Creating Impact. Transforming Lives. Partnering for a Better World.**

DT Global is shaping a future where sustainable development and innovation empower individuals, communities, and nations. We work in partnership with local stakeholders to foster inclusive prosperity, social equity, and environmental stewardship. Our global team of 2,500 staff and experts work in over 90 countries to solve complex problems in the peacebuilding, governance, economic development, environment, and human development sectors. With a track record of technical excellence and more than 60

years of international development experience and relationships, we deliver innovative solutions that transform lives.

### DEVELOPMENT INTELLIGENCE LAB

[devintelligencelab.com](http://devintelligencelab.com)

The Lab is a think tank working on development cooperation in the Indo-Pacific. We're convinced that great development cooperation comes from unusual collaborations, inspired leadership, good natured debate, and cracking analysis.

We inspire ideas and debate, as well as solve live development challenges. Development cooperation is our clear focus – but we're constantly situating it within the broader terrain of Australian foreign policy, the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific, and – most importantly – the perspectives, insights and intelligence of people in the region.

The Lab is a world-class team of analysts and problem solvers with a breadth of experience ranging from on-the-ground development programming to government policymaking across the foreign policy, development, justice, and security domains. Ultimately, we aspire to be the premier link between Indo-Pacific peace, development and security insights, and those in the tough business of making decisions about how Australia provides its support.

We produce:

The Intel, a barometer for Indo-Pacific development issues with one topical question a fortnight and three expert responses.

The Readout, a podcast series where we take you behind the scenes to hear the conversations we have along the way.

The Pulse Check, delivering expert insights directly to Government as our participants are asked to make the tough choices faced by policymakers.

Our Analysis, the home of cutting-edge Lab commentary on live policy problems facing Australian development cooperation in the region.

# DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS

[developmentpathways.co.uk](http://developmentpathways.co.uk)

Development Pathways is an internationally renowned organisation working at the cutting edge of social protection policy and programme development.

We provide advisory services to governments and international organisations in **social protection; child-sensitive programming; meta-analysis and reviews; poverty and vulnerability analysis; social development and gender; disability; monitoring and evaluation; research; and training.**

Our technical services are delivered through three practice areas: **Social Policy, Socio-economic Analysis and Digital Technologies for Social Protection** (based in Kenya) for a variety of multilateral and bilateral institutions.

A joint UK and Kenyan company, we have **offices in the UK, Kenya, Australia and Jordan** and have **worked in over 60 countries** across Africa, the Middle-East, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Development Pathways is committed to designing evidence-based and context-specific solutions to social and economic challenges facing low- and middle-income countries, to **ensure policies and programmes are robust and benefit the most vulnerable.**

Our extensive research and **strong focus on evidence enables us to operate as a think-tank**, producing publications based on our in-house research. We are thought leaders in social protection and well-known for debunking myths that surround the subject area.

## SMEC

[smec.com/au](http://smec.com/au)

International Development Specialists

Healthy, sustainable cities and communities.

For 75 years, SMEC has built a reputation as a trusted partner on major Transport, Water, Energy and Urban projects around the world.

SMEC is committed to positively impact the people, the environment and the clients and communities we serve.

Through our network of global specialists, our teams draw on deep expertise and systems thinking to simplify the complex and deliver integrated engineering solutions across a range of diverse environments.

Across the world, SMEC has planned and implemented international development projects that spur inclusive economic growth, support sustainable development, and improve livelihoods.

SMEC's International Development expertise spans the following areas:

- Physical Infrastructure
- Economic Governance and Public Sector Reform
- Social development and Climate Resilience
- Program Management: Design, Monitoring and Evaluation
- Environmental and Social Advisory

As part of the Surbana Jurong Group, we have a global workforce of over 16,000 people across more than 40 countries.

## STONEX PAYMENTS

[stonex.com/en/payments/](http://stonex.com/en/payments/)

StoneX Payments specialises in transferring funds to the developing world. It provides customised foreign exchange and payment services for International Development Organisations, Corporations, Educational and Financial Institutions worldwide. Our network of 350+ correspondent banks helps us to deliver transparent and secure payments in 140+ currencies across 180+ countries. With more than 30 years of experience, we have developed extensive local market knowledge and expertise.

We are Cross-border payment specialists for:

### International development organisations

We help international development organisations: charitable organisations, governments, and NGOs maximise their impact.

### Corporations

We provide businesses of all sizes with a comprehensive payment solution to support their international operations.

### Educational institutions

We provide comprehensive payment solutions for the education sector, enhancing global reach.

### Financial institutions

We help financial institutions provide cross-border payments to their clients so they can enhance their FX capabilities.

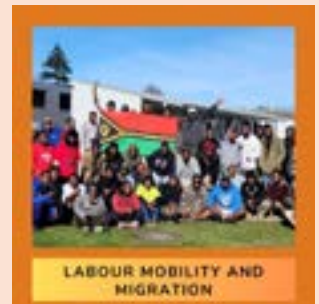
StoneX Payments is a division of StoneX Group Inc, a Fortune 100 publicly-traded company on the NASDAQ (SNEX). StoneX, including its subsidiaries, provides clients across the globe with a comprehensive array of customised financial services and tools to help them protect their margins and manage volatility. A pioneer in specialised financial services, we open markets for clients underserved by other financial institutions with insight, guidance and transparency.

# DEVPOLICYBLOG

The Devpolicy Blog provides a platform for the best in aid and development analysis, with a focus on Australia, the Pacific and Asia.

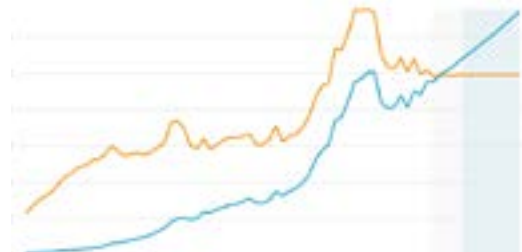
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We welcome contributions from aid practitioners, civil society and government partners, students and academics from all around the world. Visit [devpolicy.org/about-us](https://devpolicy.org/about-us) for our submission guidelines.



## AUSTRALIAN AID TRACKER

[devpolicy.org/aidtracker/](https://devpolicy.org/aidtracker/)



### TRENDS

How have Australian aid volumes changed over time?  
Are Australians becoming more or less generous?

### COMPARISONS

How does the size of Australia's aid program compare to other countries?

### DESTINATIONS

Which countries receive our aid, and how are our aid flows changing?

### SECTORS & PARTNERS

What does Australian aid fund? Who do we work with to deliver aid? How much do we spend on humanitarian aid?

### COMMITMENTS

How much does Australia contribute to international aid initiatives?

### EFFECTIVENESS

Is Australian aid effective? Explore evaluations, reports, rankings and more.



# 2024 PODCAST HIGHLIGHTS

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*and  
around the  
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# NOTES

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Search for AAC2024 and enter the code sent to the email used for conference registration.



The Conference Feedback Survey is under “Additional Resources”  
on the AAC2024 home page in the Whova app.

## IMAGES

Cover photo: Silhouettes of the people in the boat at sunset, The Philippines

By Natalia (Adobe Stock #354534448)

Other images from past conferences (AAC photographer: Alexandra Orme Photography)



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