



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2021

#IWD2021 #womenlead

Media Package

IWD 2021 KEY MESSAGES

International Women's Day 2021: Accelerate the gender equality agenda, every day
UN Women's global International Women's Day 2021 theme: Women in Leadership
#womenlead

99.5 years of work to do in a decade: every day counts

The impact of 2020 has been hardest felt by women and girls, eroding the limited progress we had made in recent years on gender equality.

The shock of COVID-19 continues to reverberate across every community. Women and girls have been hardest hit on many fronts. Women are facing increased rates of domestic violence so pervasive that UN Women has coined the term the Shadow Pandemic of Violence. On average, women take on more than three times the burden of caring. Women are overrepresented in casualised workforces, with jobs and wages vulnerable due to COVID-19 shutdowns.

The pace of change is too slow

At the current rate of change, it is estimated to take 99.5 years to achieve gender equality.¹ We have 99.5 years of work to do in the next decade if we want to fulfil the UN's Sustainable Development Goals by the deadline of 2030. Achieving gender equality is not only one of these goals (#5), but it is also central to the entire agenda. Women bear the brunt of problems ranging from poverty to climate change, but they also possess assets and talents to solve them. Development will only be sustainable if its benefits accrue equally to both women and men; and women's rights will only become a reality if they are part of broader efforts to protect the planet and ensure that all people can live with dignity and respect.

Women leaders are making a difference, every day

The COVID-19 crisis has highlighted the disproportionate burdens that women carry and the centrality of women's contributions to decision making.

Across the globe, women are leading nations, organisations and institutions carrying out effective and inclusive COVID-19 responses, from the highest levels of decision-making through to frontline service delivery. Women bring different experiences, perspectives and skills to the table, and make invaluable contributions to decisions, policies and laws that work better for all.

And yet:

- Women are significantly under-represented in parliaments, holding only one-quarter of parliamentary seats worldwide.² In Australia, we fare only slightly better, and still fall short of the 50/50 goal: 30.46% of MPs are women.³
- In Australian companies, women represent just 17.1% of CEOs and 14.1% of board chairs.⁴
- Just one of the 25 CEOs appointed to lead ASX 200 organisations in the past year has been female.⁵
- While women comprise around 47 per cent of all employees in Australia⁶, they take home on average \$253.60 less than men every week (full-time ordinary earnings), making the national gender pay gap 14% -- a figure that has remained similar for the past twenty years.

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1 [The Global Gender Gap Index 2019, World Economic Forum](#)

2 [COVID-19 and Women's Leadership, UN Women](#)

3 [Australia, Inter-Parliamentary Union](#)

4 [Women in Leadership, WGEA](#)

5 [CEW ASX200 Census 2020](#)

6 [Labour Force, Australia, Table 01: Labour force status by sex \(December 2017\), ABS](#)

7 [Australia's Gender Pay Gap Statistics 2020, WGEA](#)

Accelerating the agenda: Every. Day. Women.

Progress on gender equality has been too slow. 2021 will herald a ten-year count down to the Sustainable Development Goal #5 on Gender Equality in 2030. Unless we accelerate our efforts, we will fail. In 2021, UN Women Australia is calling on everyone to pick up the pace of progress towards gender equality by making every day count. Join our campaign to prioritise gender equality at all levels of society by driving policy and action. Every. Day. Women. will accelerate progress.

International Women's Day 2021: Leadership Every Day

The **Every. Day. Women.** campaign will launch at International Women's Day 2021, focusing on the theme of Women in Leadership. We will share incredible stories from women who inspire, lead and are committed to making a difference every day.

Advancing women in leadership is central to creating more profitable and productive economies, flourishing businesses and a healthier and more peaceful planet. There is a growing understanding and expectation that leadership in all facets of economic, political and social life must reflect communities; organisations miss out if 50% of the talent pool – women in all their diversity -- is not around decision-making tables.

More diverse and inclusive groups have higher performance both on safety and operational performance.⁸

A recent Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) study shows that more women on Boards and in senior leadership roles result in improved company performance, profitability and productivity.⁹ Moreover, the appointment of a female CEO led to a 12.9 per cent increase in the likelihood of outperforming the sector on three or more metrics.¹⁰

When women are at the negotiating table, peace agreements are more likely to last 15 years or longer.¹¹ Research shows that female-led countries are handling COVID-19 more effectively than their male counterparts. "...women leaders reacted more quickly and decisively in the face of potential fatalities...analysis clearly confirms that when women led countries are compared to countries similar to them along a range of characteristics, they have performed better, experiencing fewer cases as well as fewer deaths,"¹² Supriya Garikipati, Developmental Economist from Liverpool University

Join us this IWD

In light of COVID-19, in 2021 UN Women Australia is doing things a little differently for International Women's Day. We will hold four live lunch events in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra, with a concurrent breakfast in Perth on Friday 5 March. In order to make the events as inclusive as possible no matter where you work, live or study, we will live stream the events to a virtual platform.

⁸ Mike Henry, BHP, quoted in [Women in Leadership: Lessons from Australian companies leading the way](#)

⁹ [More women at the top proves better for business, WGEA](#)

¹⁰ [More women at the top proves better for business, WGEA](#)

¹¹ [Women, Peace, Power, UN Women](#)

¹² [Female led countries handled coronavirus better, The Guardian](#)

“We know that gender equality and the true equal empowerment of women and girls can underpin success in all domains. So, whether that’s access to education, access to good jobs, access to capital and money, access to leadership roles – greater gender equality, we know, solves so many of the world’s greatest problems.”¹³ – Sam Mostyn, President, Chief Executive Women

IWD EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALIA ON THE 5TH MARCH

[Melbourne IWD Lunch](#) | Melbourne Cricket Ground
[Brisbane IWD Lunch](#) | Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre
[Perth IWD Breakfast](#) | Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
[Canberra IWD Lunch](#) | National Convention Centre Canberra
[Sydney IWD Lunch](#) | International Convention Centre
[Virtual IWD Event](#) | Online

For more information about the International Women’s Day Adelaide Breakfast [click here](#)

Inaugural Day of Giving: 8 March

New in 2021, UN Women Australia is launching our inaugural online Day of Giving for 24 hours only launching on the 8th of March. Everyone can play their part and make a tax-deductible donation in support of women leaders. Watch unwomen.org.au for news about the Day of Giving and ways to give.

How UN Women Australia’s pre-eminent International Women’s Day Events & Inaugural Day of Giving Make a Difference

This IWD 2021, a portion of ticket proceeds alongside all donations made at the events (5 March), and on the Day of Giving (8 March) support women as leaders, entrepreneurs and agents of change in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands through UN Women’s Markets for Change project. Between 75-90% of Pacific market vendors are women. Their earnings help support themselves and their families, and their businesses play a vital role in food security. UN Women delivers training and collaborates with local governments to ensure women market vendors have a seat around decision-making tables. Markets for Change nurtures women leaders, contributing to better working conditions, increased financial security, making for safer, more inclusive marketplaces. For example:

- **\$65** could support a woman to attend financial literacy training and open bank accounts
- **\$148** could supply sanitation and COVID-19 prevention materials to fourteen women market vendors to enable safe trading and play a vital role in food security
- **\$365** could deliver leadership training to prepare women to lead and manage market vendor associations, which improve working conditions and give women a voice in decision-making.
- **\$516** could provide four market vendors with farming tools and dry seeds following a natural disaster.
- **\$775** could provide a market vendor with business training to support existing and kick-start new businesses, to sustain and protect their livelihoods addressing the economic hardship caused by COVID 19, over the course of the year

¹³ [Sam Moystn, Philanthropy Australia](#)

IWD 2021 Social Media Package

Hashtags: #IWD2021 #womenlead
Images available to download [HERE](#)

Twitter

At the current rate of change, it is estimated to take 99.5 years to achieve gender equality. This pace of change is too slow. In 2021, @UNWomenAust is calling on everyone to pick up the pace of progress towards gender equality by making every day count. #IWD2021 | #womenlead | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: PROGRESS.gif]

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Across the globe, women are leading organisations & institutions carrying out effective & inclusive #COVID19 responses. This #IWD2021, I'm joining @UNWomenAust in celebrating these powerful women leaders. #womenlead | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: LEADERS.png]

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Women bear the brunt of problems ranging from poverty to climate change, but they also possess assets & talents to solve them. This #IWD2021, I'm celebrating women leading the way to an equal future with @UNWomenAust. #womenlead | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: #IWD2021 Twitter.jpg]

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While our dreams of achieving gender equality may seem too far away, they are not impossible to achieve. This #IWD2021, let's pick up the pace & accelerate progress for a better world. #womenlead | @UNWomenAust | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: 99.png]

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Great news! We can see an equal future.

Not so great news – it's still 99.5 years away.

Let's pick up the pace of progress towards gender equality by making every day count. #IWD2021 | #womenlead | @UNWomenAust | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: EQUAL_FUTURE.gif]

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The shock of #COVID19 continues to reverberate across every community, with women and girls hit hardest on many fronts. We must pick up the pace of change. #IWD2021 | #womenlead | <https://bit.ly/39Q6lcU>

[UPLOAD: IWD2021 Twitter.jpg]

Facebook/LinkedIn

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[UPLOAD: #IWD2021.png]

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[UPLOAD: LEADERS.png]

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@UN Women's Markets for Change project nurtures women leaders like Laretta Nasala, a market vendor in the Solomon Islands. Through various workshops, Laretta learned the skills to become a better businesswoman and has played a key role in the consultative process that lead to the opening of the new Gizo Market. Read her story and meet the market vendors leading change in their communities across the Pacific.

This International Women's Day, all donations made to @UN Women Australia will support women as leaders, entrepreneurs and agents of change in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands through the Markets for Change project. #IWD2021 | #womenlead | <https://bit.ly/3bRXrN5>

[UPLOAD: Laretta.jpg]

Instagram

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This International Women's Day, I'm joining @unwomanaust in celebrating these powerful women leaders.

#IWD2021 | #womenlead | unwomen.org.au

[UPLOAD: #IWD2021 Square.jpg]

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#IWD2021 | #womenlead | unwomen.org.au

[UPLOAD: Laretta Square.jpg]

Stories

In the words of Varanise Maisamoa: “We want to empower our market vendors to be climate resilient”

In February 2016, Tropical Cyclone Winston devastated Fiji, showing the heightened vulnerability of people living in the Pacific Islands, where climate change has led to a series of increasingly severe cyclones in recent years. Farms were decimated and markets, like the Rakiraki Market and accommodation centre for rural women, were destroyed, leaving many market vendors (three quarters of whom are women) without an income. Varanise Maisamoa was one of these women. Today, with the help of UN Women’s Markets for Change project, Varanise has not only got back on her feet, she has also become a strong leader in her community. This is her story.



Image: Varanise Maisamoa. UN Women/Murray Lloyd

“For most of us women market vendors, we focus only on coming to the market to make money. But what if there is a cyclone or flooding that makes it impossible for us to be in the market?

When I joined the Rakiraki Market back in 2007, I noticed the struggle that women market vendors were enduring day to day. Their security was not protected, there was a continuous disruption of the water supply, and there was no proper lighting. I realised that they had been in this situation for 15, 20 years or more, and nobody had ever listened to their plea.

I decided to form a women’s group to help us raise our issues as one voice. From then, I started knocking on doors and raising the issues that these women had been trying to resolve for years. That’s how, in 2015, I met two women in the market from UN Women’s Markets for Change project.

After attending the leadership and financial literacy workshops, forums and trainings organised by UN Women, I took up the initiative to form the Rakiraki Market Vendors Association in 2016.



Image: Varanisese Maisamoa. UN Women Asia and The Pacific

After Cyclone Winston, it was important to include everybody in market decision-making. We want to empower our market vendors to be climate resilient. Since then, we have worked with UN Women on the market's very first "Action Plan to Build Resilience to Climate Change and Disasters". We know that to be resilient we need to diversify [our sources of income], so we are training our women vendors on how to make handicrafts and in other small businesses such as money lending and catering.

My husband challenged me and said, "Talking on behalf of these women, will it help your business grow?" I said, if I am not speaking up for these women, I am not speaking up for myself, my daughters, my mother, or my grandmother.

Through UN Women's leadership training, I learned to be confident when speaking out about the issues affecting the market vendors and to negotiate with the market council management. Today I am proud of what the association has achieved in terms of improving the safety of the women vendors' working place. I'm looking forward to a market that is safer, better ventilated, with facilities such as changing areas for babies, improved toilets and a female market attendant. Our vendors also know what to do before, during and after a disaster.

We have been empowered by UN Women's Markets for Change project. Now it is our time, as women market vendors, to support economic growth for our villages, community and country."

As Founder and President of the Rakiraki Market Vendors Association (RMVA), Varanisese's insights have been critical in helping UN Women adapt the Markets for Change project to provide humanitarian support to market vendors impacted by the cyclone.

RMVA were also consulted throughout the reconstruction of the Rakiraki Market, which reopened in June 2020. The market now has enhanced amenities, improved water and sanitation, and better lighting, resulting in a safer, more secure venue for rural women vendors.

Chief Kachindamoto's life mission to end child marriage in Malawi



Image: Chief Kachindamoto. UN Women/Ryan Brown

In Malawi, only 45 per cent of girls stay in school past the 8th grade. With one in every two girls married before the age of 18, child marriage and pregnancy remain the main causes for this high dropout rate.

Child marriage has devastating impacts on the realisation of the rights of the child, from her right to an adequate education, to her right to sexual and reproductive health. Girls who have left school have few opportunities to earn a living, which leaves them exposed to various forms of gender-based violence.

When Chief Theresa Kachindamoto returned to her village, she was shocked to meet a young 13 year-old mother who had been forced to marry. She knew then that she was going to make it her life mission to end the practice of child marriage.

"I don't want youthful marriages," she said. "They must go to school ... no child should be found loitering at home or doing household chores during school time. I talk to the parents. I tell them: if you educate your girls, you will have everything in the future," she said.

Working with UN Women, the government, civil society and traditional leaders, Chief Kachindamoto contributed to the February 2017 adoption of a constitutional amendment raising the minimum age of marriage from 15 to 18 years.

Since becoming Chief, Chief Kachindamoto has annulled 3,500 child marriages in the central region of Malawi and has helped girls complete their education, often by subsidising their schooling.

17 year-old Bernadetta Matison was one girl to have her marriage annulled. Married at 15, she became pregnant in the same year. “I dropped out of school because I got pregnant,” she said. “When I think about it now, I realise that getting married at such a young age isn’t a good thing.”

Chief Kachindamoto’s achievements are against all odds—as the first woman leader in her village and in a village where child marriage is deeply embedded in cultural practice, her fight for cultural change has required determination, leadership and persistence.

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UN Women works with traditional leaders, like Chief Kachinamoto, and the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Welfare to ensure that changes in marital law are fully understood and implemented.



Image: UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka meets with Chief Inkosi Kachindamoto from Malawi during the 60th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). UN Women/Ryan Brown

Strengthening Women's Businesses: Laretta's Story



Image: Laretta Nasala. UN Women Asia and The Pacific

Laretta Nasala resigned from a full-time position in Honiara in 2007 to become a market vendor: she has never looked back and speaks of how she has become a better businesswoman as a result of her participation in the UN Women Markets for Change Program.

Laretta moved to Gizo in 2014 to resettle her family land and resumed her business at the (old) Gizo Market. In 2018, she saw the potential to improve her business and contribute to the Gizo Market Vendors Association, and jumped right in to drive change.

Laretta played a key role in the consultative processes that led to the opening of the new Gizo Market. Laretta has sold a diverse range of goods at the market, including pastries she bakes in a homemade wood-fired oven.

“But when I first came, I came as market vendor [and saw it as my means for] survival. I do not do budgets. I was just happy with the way things were and the monies I earned on a day to day basis. I am at peace knowing that tomorrow I will again earn money. Until I came to know the [Market Vendors] Association, and they trained me in management, budgeting and other trainings to do with gender equality. That really helped me...I started to build myself to know different things, I just learn a lot from the trainings that the project carried out.”

Laretta has sharpened her business, management and budgeting skills, and contributed to the new Gizo Market. Now, she is helping lead the way as a successful businesswoman and leader at the market.

Speakers and MCs

Grace Tame

Australian of the Year • Headliner • Live Streamed from Sydney



Grace Tame is a leader of positive change. She is a survivor-advocate for victims of sexual assault, particularly those who were abused as children.

In 2019 Grace was assisted via the #LetHerSpeak campaign who obtained a court order on her behalf, so she could speak out publicly, under her real name as an abuse survivor.

Now 26 and based in Hobart, Grace is a regular guest speaker for high-profile events and television programs. She uses her media profile to advocate for other vulnerable groups in the community.

She is also a passionate yoga teacher and visual artist, having toured the United States with John Cleese in 2018 (Monty Python) as his personal illustrator.

As well as a champion long-distance runner, Grace won the 2020 Ross Marathon in a female course record time of 2:59:31.

On the 30th of October, 2020, Grace was named Tasmanian Australian of the Year for 2021.

On the 25th of January, 2021, Grace was named Australian of the Year.

Zahra Al Hilaly

Youth Representative for UN Women's Global Generation Equality Task Force • Perth Event



Zahra is an intersectional feminist, pushing for equitable representation within decision making for marginalised constituencies, including women of colour and migrant and refugee women.

Zahra works within policy and advocacy at a local, national and international level. She currently represents Australia on UN Women's Generation Equality Task Force, is a part of the World YWCA Women's Leadership Cohort and sits on multiple advisory boards and round tables including the YWCA Australia Young Women's Council and the WA Ministerial Council.

Zahra believes that story telling is a profound value that will change the world, and it is the stories of underrepresented constituencies that will shift the narrative in creating an intergenerational ripple effect towards achieving gender equality.

Michelle Deshong

CEO Australian Indigenous Governance Institute • Canberra Event



Michelle Deshong is from Townsville, North Queensland and draws her connection to the Kuku Yulanji Nation. She has completed a Bachelor of Arts with First Class Honours in Political Science and Indigenous Studies and is currently completing a PhD. Michelle is the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Indigenous Governance Institute.

Michelle has worked in both the Government and NGO sectors, and has held many senior leadership roles. In 2013, Michelle was named in the Australian Financial Review/Westpac 100 Women of Influence Awards. She was also named as the 2015 National NAIDOC Scholar of the Year.

In 2016 Michelle undertook research in the USA and Canada as part of her Fulbright Scholarship to develop strategies for nation building, leadership, and gender equality.

Kate Jenkins

Sex Discrimination Commissioner

• *Melbourne Event*



Kate Jenkins became Australia's Sex Discrimination Commissioner in 2016.

She is leading a number of projects at the Australian Human Rights Commission, including the National Inquiry into sexual harassment in Australian workplaces and the Commission's collaborative project on cultural reform with the Australian Defence Force.

Kate is the convener of the National Male Champions of Change group (established 2015), and the Co-Chair of Play by the Rules, a joint project between human rights agencies and sports commissions to make grass roots sports safe, fair and inclusive.

Prior to joining the Commission, Kate spent three years as the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner. In that role she held an Independent Review into Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, including Predatory Behaviour, in Victoria Police.

She was also the Co-Chair of the Victorian Commission's Disability Reference Group and a member of the Aboriginal Justice Forum.

Kate spent 20 years as lead equal opportunity partner with Herbert Smith Freehills and has served on the boards of Berry Street Victoria, Heide Museum of Modern Art and the Carlton Football Club.

Kate was recognised in the 2015 AFR/Westpac 100 Women of Influence Awards for her work in public policy.

Kate grew up on a family orchard in outer Melbourne. She lives in Melbourne with her family, which includes her husband Ken, their 2 children and her 3 stepchildren.

Dr Kirstin Ferguson

Australian Company Director & Writer

• *Brisbane Event*



Dr Kirstin Ferguson is an Australian company director, writer and self-described “Accidental Activist”. Beginning her career as a military officer, she went on to become the CEO of a successful global consulting business. With university honours degrees in both history and law, Kirstin also has a PhD in leadership and governance for which she has received a number of academic and industry awards.

She has been named one of Australia’s 100 Women of Influence, is a Sir Winston Churchill Fellow, and was recognised by Women & Leadership Australia with an award for Excellence in Women’s Leadership. Kirstin was the creator of the widely acclaimed #CelebratingWomen campaign and is the co-author of *Women Kind* with Catherine Fox.

Marion Fulker

CEO Committee for Perth • Perth Event

Marion Fulker is recognised internationally as a leading expert in the future development of cities.

She is the CEO for think tank organisation Committee for Perth, board member of Infrastructure Australia and Adjunct Senior Research Fellow at The University of Western Australia. She has an MBA from Curtin Graduate School of Business and will graduate with an Executive MSc in Cities program at the London School of Economics and Political Science in 2021.

In her role at the Committee she has led a number of research projects to understand Greater Perth’s opportunities and challenges including topics such as economic diversity; brand and reputation, transport and congestion and gender inequality. Marion is a dynamic and sought after thought leader, researcher,

speaker, board member and community leader. Recognition of Marion’s accomplishments include the WA Women’s Hall of Fame, 2016 WA Telstra Business Woman of the Year and Australia’s 100 Women of Influence.



Yasmin Poole

Award winning speaker, writer and youth advocate • Sydney Event



Yasmin is an award winning speaker, writer and youth advocate. She is currently Plan International's National Ambassador and frequently appears on prominent Australian media programs to discuss the role of diversity in social change.

Yasmin is the Non-Executive Board Director of OzHarvest, Australia's leading food rescue charity and YWCA, a national feminist organisation that has supported women and girls for 140 years. She has also represented Australian youth at APEC and the G20.

In 2019, Yasmin was the youngest member of the Australian Financial Review 100 Women of Influence and Top 40 Under 40 Most Influential Asian Australians

Jamila Rizvi

Best-selling author, advisor and commentator • Melbourne Event



Jamila Rizvi is Chief Creative Officer for Nine's Future Women and a best-selling author for adults and children. She is an opinion columnist for The Age, The Sydney Morning Herald, Good Weekend and Sunday Life.

Jamila also co-hosts two podcasts, The Briefing and Anonymous Was A Woman. She has advised governments at the highest levels on gender equality, child care, media and employment. She was named in the Australian Financial Review's 100 Women of Influence and is a 2020 Women and Leadership Australia award winner.

Jamila is an ambassador for CARE Australia and the Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Foundation.

Elizabeth Broderick AO

Chair-Rapporteur of the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls

• Sydney Event



As Australia's longest serving Sex Discrimination Commissioner (2007-2015), Elizabeth worked tirelessly to break down structural and social barriers faced by women and men, and to promote gender equality. She is a globally acknowledged leader, social innovator and advocate.

She founded and convenes the 'Male Champions of Change' strategy activating influential men to take action on gender equality. She has led 13 major cultural reviews into Australia's leading national institutions including the Australian Defence Force.

In 2017, Elizabeth was appointed by the United Nations in Geneva as a Special Rapporteur and Independent Expert. She is currently Chair-Rapporteur of the UN Working Group on Discrimination against Women and Girls.

Elizabeth is a Board member of the International Service for Human Rights and a member of the Global Institute for Women's Leadership Advisory Council, Kings College London.

In 2016, Elizabeth was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia and was named 2016 NSW Australian of the Year.

She is an Adjunct Professor at The University of Sydney, an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering, holds Honorary Doctorates of Law from the University of Sydney, University of New South Wales and University of Technology and Honorary Doctorates from Deakin, Edith Cowan and Griffith Universities.

Julie-Ann Guivarra

Ambassador for Gender Equality

• *Canberra Event*



Ms Guivarra is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade where she served most recently as Australia's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain, Andorra and Equatorial Guinea. In this role Ms Guivarra became Australia's first female indigenous Ambassador.

Prior to that appointment she served as Australia's lead services negotiator for the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) while she was Assistant Secretary of the South East Asia Investment & Services Branch. She has multilateral experience, serving as the Counsellor (Agriculture) in the World Trade Organisation.

She has published on trade issues: "WTO accession negotiations: trends and results in agriculture plurilaterals", WTO Accessions and Trade Multilateralism: Case Studies and Lessons from the WTO at Twenty (2015). Her overseas postings include New Delhi, Geneva and Madrid and in Canberra she has also served as the Assistant Secretary of the South East Asia Analytical and Effectiveness Branch.

Ms Guivarra holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) from James Cook University and Master of Arts (Foreign Affairs and Trade) from Monash University.

Shelley Cable

CEO Generation One • In conversation with Tom Seymour • Brisbane Event



Shelley is a Wilman-Nyoongar woman from Perth, and the CEO of Generation One, part of Minderoo Foundation established by Andrew and Nicola Forrest.

Generation One has a mission to create employment parity, with and for Indigenous Australians, in one generation.

Shelley was previously a senior consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers' Indigenous Consulting. She is passionate about Indigenous economic empowerment through employment, business and financial literacy.

In 2017, Shelley was invited to attend the United Nations and presented to the UN's Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, on how financial empowerment can help protect and express human rights.

Shelley was also a delegate to the Uluru Convention on Constitutional Reform, which resulted in the Uluru Statement of the Heart. She is a Certified Practising Accountant, one of less than 75 qualified Indigenous accountants in Australia.

Tom Seymour

*CEO PwC Australia • In conversation with
Shelly Cable • Brisbane Event*



Tom Seymour is the CEO of PwC Australia, and leads a team of more than 700 partners and 8000 staff across PwC's three businesses – Assurance, Financial Advisory and Consulting.

Previously, Tom was Managing Partner of PwC Australia's Financial Advisory business, covering Tax and Legal services, Deals, Infrastructure advisory and Private Clients.

He was also the Tax Leader for PwC's Asia Pacific network, and part of the PwC Global Tax and legal leadership team.

Admitted as a partner in 2002, Tom has more than 25 years' experience on taxation matters, particularly in the infrastructure, mining and energy industry sectors.

Over his career Tom has led PwC teams advising on some of Australia's largest public and private transactions. He has played a key role in PwC's tax policy agenda, working with both state and federal governments seeking to improve Australia's tax system, and has been a regular contributor to public debates on tax policy and broader economic reform.

Tom is also the Chair of PwC's Elevate Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan, and a board member of Top Education Limited. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce from Queensland University of Technology, a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) from Bond University and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia. He lives in Brisbane with his wife and 3 children.