

# 2023 JCU RED

## A Broken Promise? The 2030 Agenda's commitment to Leave No One Behind



27 – 29 September | The Cairns Institute (TCI)  
Lecture Theatre D3.054 | James Cook University  
Nguma Bada campus | Smithfield

**THE CAIRNS  
INSTITUTE**  
Researching  
tropical societies



Convenor: Dr Kearnin Sims

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## A Broken Promise? The 2030 Agenda's Commitment to Leave No One Behind

The 2030 Agenda<sup>1</sup> sets out a vision for sustainable development that places equality and non-discrimination at the centre of its efforts. To achieve this, the Agenda has the core commitment 'to remain steadfast in ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are implemented in accordance with international human rights law, eliminating gender inequalities and all forms of discrimination, [and] reaching out to those that are furthest behind first.'<sup>2</sup> Yet, having now passed the midway point of efforts to realise the goals, both inequality and discrimination remain pervasive. According to the 2022 United Nations SDGs progress report, 1 in 5 people have experienced discrimination on at least one of the grounds prohibited under international human rights law, while between-country income inequality has risen over recent years for the first time in a generation.<sup>3</sup> In 2020, the share of the world's workers living in extreme poverty increased for the first time in two decades, hunger and food insecurity is rising globally, and progress in many areas of gender equality is falling.<sup>4</sup> As Oxfam's 2023 inequality report notes, all of this is occurring at the same time as 'the very richest have become dramatically richer and corporate profits have hit record highs'.<sup>5</sup>

**The 2023 JCU Research for Ethical Development (RED) symposium seeks to grapple with the 2030 Agenda's 'central transformative promise'<sup>6</sup> to Leave No One Behind through a focus on three themes: power; discrimination; systemic injustice.**

The symposium calls for papers that consider one or more of these themes in relation to any of the 17 SDG Goals (see below). Submissions may focus on how discrimination and systemic injustice limits progress towards the goals, how power relations shape or constrain progress, or what new discourses, concepts, methodologies, and strategies exist for grappling with inequality and inequity within and across sectors of relevance to the SDGs. What new research is needed to think differently about how power circulates and gives shape to unjust social forces or institutions? Empirical case studies of places or sectors where particular forms of discrimination are embedded are welcomed, as are theoretical papers and multidisciplinary perspectives. While the 2030 Agenda focus on discrimination centres on people, contributions may also focus on the unfair or prejudicial treatment of flora, fauna, and natural environments. Collectively, the symposium aim is to explore how an attentiveness to unequal and unjust power relations might provide new ways forward for the SDGs broken 'transformative promise.'





## Symposium Programme

<b>DAY 1   WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>DAY 2   THURSDAY 28 SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>DAY 3   FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER</b>
<b>9:00-9:30</b>   Registration and Morning Tea	<b>9:15-9:30</b>   Registration	<b>9:15-9:30</b>   Registration
<b>9:30-10:00</b>   Welcome and Opening Remarks - Dr Kearrin Sims	<b>9:30-11:00</b>   Papers (Rafferty & Holland; Whitehouse; Ramoutsaki)	<b>9:30-11:00</b>   3 Papers (Rafferty; Jones; Peer)
<b>10:00-11:00</b>   Keynote Address: Australia and the Third World Project - Ass-Prof. Susan Engel	<b>9:30-11:00</b> Paper session cont.	<b>9:30-11:00</b> Paper session cont.
<b>11:00-12:00</b>   Master of Global Development Student Presentations: LNOB Profiles	<b>11:00-11:30</b>   Morning Tea	<b>11:00-11:30</b>   Morning Tea
<b>12:00-1:00</b>   Lunch (not catered) with silent auction.	<b>11:30-1:00</b>   Papers (Chigeza, Taylor & Mackie-Smith; Lowrie & Doyle; Dee)	<b>11:30-12:30</b>   3 Papers (Garang; Wood, Henry & Foale)
<b>1:00-2:30</b>   Papers (Taplin, Billing & Holland; Turnour et al.; Gopalkrishnan & Schmider)	<b>1:00-2:00</b>   Lunch (not catered) with silent auction.	<b>12:30-2:00</b>   Lunch (not catered) with silent auction.
<b>2:30-3:00</b>   Afternoon Tea	<b>2:00-4:00</b>   Panel Session: The Challenges in implementing inclusive educational practices in Indonesia. (Babacan, Fairman, Purwaningsi, Fizzanty)	<b>2:00-4:00</b>   Panel Session: Development in the era of great power competition (Hayes, Hillman, Ping & Wilson)
<b>3:00-4:30</b>   Papers (Towle & Townshend; Sims & Towle; Bragan, Balda, Case & Stanberry)	<b>4:00-4:30</b>   Afternoon Tea	<b>4:00-4:30</b>   Afternoon Tea
<b>4:30-4:45</b>   JTF Launch Prof. Peter Case	<b>4:30-5:30</b>   Keynote Address: The Education of the Heart is the Heart of Education: Path to compassionate social transformation - Ng Shui Meng	<b>4:30-5:30</b>   Keynote Address: Zimbabwe Peacebuilding Initiative - Sekai Holland
	<b>5:30-6:30</b>   Documentary Screening: The Enforced Disappearance of Sombath Somphone	<b>5:30 - 5:45</b>   Closing Remarks
	<b>7:30</b>   Symposium Dinner	

## Day 1- Wednesday 27 September: Governance

9:00-9:30 | Registration and Morning Tea

Ground foyer

9:30-10:00 | Welcome and Opening Remarks

Kearrin Sims

10:00-11:00 | Opening Keynote Address

### Australia and the Third World Project

**Associate-Professor Susan Engel, University of Wollongong**

Chair/moderator: Kearrin Sims

**Abstract:** To help set the scene for JCU's RED symposium on whether the globe is living up to the commitment to no one being left behind, this paper briefly surveys the history of Australia's engagement with the Third World and the Third World Project of independence, non-alignment, and equality in the post-World War II era. It does this using a critical international political economy framework that highlights not just the role of nation-states but also the way world orders and modes of production shape actions. Having surveyed Australia's legacy and the ideas that underpin it, the paper turns to Australia's contemporary commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. Focusing on Australia's development finance and development assistance, the paper will highlight the ways in which Australia's simplistic commitment to national interests has undermined any capacity to effectively engage with issues of systemic injustice.



### **Research Biography:**

*Associate Professor Susan Engel is Co-Director, Future of Rights Centre, and Associate Professor, Politics and International Studies, University of Wollongong. Her research is on the impact of neoliberalism on the theory and practices of development and development finance. She is a co-editor of the 2022 Routledge Handbook of Global Development and co-author of The Global Architecture of Multilateral Development Banks: A System of Debt or Development? (With AR Bazbauers, 2021, Routledge). She also has a 2010 book on the World Bank plus over 30 articles and book chapters. Susan is with indigo foundation Australia and was on the board from many years. She is also on the Research Committee of the Jubilee Australia Research Centre.*

\* Public Livestreamed Event:

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/89152315055?pwd=TjB1Wm9GUUVcrZEdsRFhZNW0xQ2E3dz09>

### Leave No One Behind: Country and Sectoral Profiles

Chair/moderator: Dr. Kearrin Sims

**Summary:** *EV5957: Equitable Development and Social Change* is a core subject in JCU's Master of Global Development. Students of EV5957 are required to complete two major assessments. For Assessment 1, students are required to “draw on academic and policy sector publications and data to produce a 3,500-word country and sectoral profile that responds to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals commitment to Leave No One Behind (LNOB).” Students are required to “identify a sectoral or thematic focus and then identify a key disadvantaged, marginalised or excluded group (1) briefly describing the identified group; (2) explaining the primary causes for why they are being ‘left behind’ (e.g. discriminatory laws or political systems, racism, gender norms, or other factors), and (3) provide an evidence-based suggestion or suggestions as to how challenges identified may be addressed.” In this session, a selection of students will provide a short, non-graded, presentation on their research.

### 12:00-1:00 | Lunch

Ground Foyer – PLEASE NOTE LUNCH IS NOT CATERED.

### 1:00-2:30 | Papers Session

TCI Main Lecture Hall (D003.054)

Chair/moderator: Professor Rosita Henry

### Leaving behind good governance: Exploring “justice” for those who reject liberal democracies.

Pascale Taplin, JCU RED; Lorelei Billing, JCU; Claire Holland, JCU

**Abstract:** Leaving no-one behind is a noble ambition, but how does that look in Australia for the growing numbers of people who reject the validity of our liberal democracy? Sustainable Development Goal 16 aspires to “provide access to justice for all.” Access to justice for all is a complex challenge, particularly when agents for the public good (such as police, Native Title anthropologists and lawyers) interact with unwilling or hostile citizens, such as Sovereign Citizens (SovCits). SovCit super conspiracy believers actively deny the legitimacy of societal institutions (such as the legal system) that underpin our liberal democracy, frustrating practitioners’ efforts to assist them, provide representation or advocacy. SovCits often form a vocal minority and amplify disinformation which may resonate with an already disillusioned audience.

This presentation will provide a reflection-on-action critique of engagement with SovCit super conspiracy believers, using Native Title anthropology fieldwork and legal examples of SovCit and practitioner interactions. Reflections in this presentation form part of a larger research project into emerging literature on problematic conspiracist beliefs that encourage anti-social and anti-democratic behaviours, exploring strategies for practitioners who engage with problematic conspiracy theory

believers. We argue that SovCits' interactions with the law, in both criminal or native title contexts, is a human rights issue because the state has obligations (codified under international human rights standards) to protect the cultural governance, and land rights of Indigenous People, and an obligation to all people to provide recognition and equality before the law. So how can practitioners provide access to justice to the unwilling?

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Pascale Taplin is an anthropologist with over twenty years of experience working with Australian First Nation communities. Pascale has an interest in belief in conspiracy theories, Sovereign Citizen rhetoric, and polarisation.*

*Lorelei Billing is Quandamooka, Bundjalung and South Sea Islander woman, born and raised in Townsville, and holds a Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice from the Queensland University of Technology and a Bachelor of Laws from James Cook University. Lorelei was admitted to practice in 2015 and has practised exclusively in Criminal Law. Lorelei is a criminal lawyer at Legal Aid Queensland and lectures in the subject Indigenous People and the Law at James Cook University. Lorelei also volunteers her time as President of the North Queensland Law Association, and Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville, a housing and homelessness organisation.*

*Claire Holland is the Director of the Conflict Management and Resolution (CMR) program at James Cook University. Claire has extensive experience and expertise in conflict management. She has worked nationally and internationally as a mediation specialist, is a practicing mediator, conflict coach, group facilitator, educator, and trainer. Claire is co-editor of an Australian academic journal, the Dispute Resolution Review, professional member of the Resolution Institute and the ADR Research Network and founding board member and vice-chair of Mediators Beyond Borders Oceania.*

### **Revealing and resolving governance system barriers to sustainable development: A Wuthathi First Nation case study**

Jim Turnour, JCU; Keron Murray, Wuthathi Aboriginal Corporation; Johnson Chippendale, Wuthathi Aboriginal Corporation; Hurriyet Babacan, JCU; Allan Dale, JCU; Ellie Bock, JCU.

**Abstract:** Societal governance systems are supposedly designed to support sustainable development but can perpetuate discrimination and injustice. We explore how this is occurring through a case study of the Wuthathi peoples struggle for self-determination within their homelands in Far North Queensland. The study reveals how conventional western environmental protection and management, embedded in the governance system, marginalises First Nation's peoples. The Wuthathi people of north-eastern Cape York Peninsula, removed through colonisation, are slowly regaining their lands and sea country, and returning to manage and protect it for future generations. The Wuthathi Aboriginal Corporation, representing Wuthathi people, has identified strong governance (tribal and corporate), planning, long term investment partnerships, capacity and capability building as important to achieving Wuthathi peoples' development goals and self-determination.

This case study explores how the governance system has hindered Wuthathi peoples progress towards leading the sustainable development of their country and their own self-determination. The reasons for this are discussed, including structural power imbalances between First Nation and mainstream Australian Institutions. Specific examples are raised in relation to land and sea

management and community development. These power imbalances hide discrimination and systemic injustices within the current governance system which are perpetuating the longer-term process of colonisation.

We consider how alternative conceptual approaches and governance tools can be applied to support improvements to the governance system and in turn Wuthathi self-determination. These approaches include the consideration of governance system analysis, management for public value, sustainable livelihood approaches, relational contracting, and the adoption of more adaptive management systems.

***Researcher Biographies:***

*Dr Jim Turnour is a Principal Strategic Regional Planner at The Cairns Institute, James Cook University.*

*Mr Keron Murray is Chairman of the Wuthathi Aboriginal Corporation.*

*Mr Johnson Chippendale is Chairman of the Wuthathi Tribal Elders Council and Deputy Chairman of the Wuthathi Aboriginal Corporation*

*Professor Hurriyet Babacan is Professorial Research Fellow, Rural Economies Centre of Excellence, Regional, Economic and Policy Development, The Cairns Institute, James Cook University Professor*

*Allan Dale is a Professor in Tropical Regional Development, The Cairns Institute James Cook University.*

*Ms Ellie Bock is a Regional Planner and researcher with The Cairns Institute and consultant with the Regional Advisory & Innovation Network (RAIN) Pty Ltd.*

## **Indigenous Social Enterprise in a Marketized World**

Narayan Gopalkrishnan, JCU; Joann Schmider, JCU

**Abstract:** Over the last few decades, social enterprise has rapidly gained momentum as an alternative to the traditional for-profit and not-for-profit silos, providing for economic sustainability while addressing the interests of vulnerable populations, cultures, and the environment. However, social enterprises must function within the context of a marketized world, where the mission of the organizations is often severely compromised by the structures within which they operate. Indigenous social enterprise provides unique opportunities to examine these market forces and environments and to explore how traditional sustainable practices can transform the ways that social enterprises and their eco-systems operate. This paper will explore several key aspects of Indigenous social enterprises, including the incorporation of different ways of being that are embedded in culture, the impacts of colonization, racism and inter-generational trauma, the visibility or invisibility of the sector and the role of academia and other institutions. The paper will close with recommendations for the social enterprise and economic development sector in general and for policymakers in particular.



**Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Narayan Gopalkrishnan is a Senior Research Fellow at the Cairns Institute. He has over thirty years of experience in Australia and overseas, working in universities, NGOs and the private sector.*

*Joann Schmider is a far north Queensland tropical rainforest Mamu person of the Dyirbal language nation. She is an active Rainforest Aboriginal peoples' regional leadership group member. Due to the partnership relationship between the group and The Cairns Institute, Joann has been a TCI, JCU adjunct research fellow since 2015. Joann holds qualifications and experience in education and training, community development, leadership, governance, and research, and is completing a PhD in supporting Aboriginal people in tourism cultural promotion.*

### 2:30-3:00 Afternoon Tea

TCI Foyer

### 3:00-4:30 Papers Session

TCI Main Lecture Hall (D003.054)

Chair/moderator: Professor Hilary Whitehouse

### Leave no one behind: Preventing child sexual abuse in remote Indigenous communities

Simon Towle & Kishani Townshend

**Abstract:** The rates of child sexual abuse in remote Indigenous communities have attracted controversial media attention for decades. Indigenous children aged 0 to 17 are nearly 8 times more likely to be victims of sexual abuse, neglect and child abuse than non-Indigenous children (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), 2014). Furthermore, youth in Aurukun had an average annual rate of sexual offences 6.6 times higher than the rest of Queensland (Smallbone, Rayment-McHugh, & Smith, 2013). Approximately 85% of the victims were under 17 years of age (Smallbone et al., 2013). Child sexual abuse has been associated with a wide range of psychiatric diagnoses in addition to negative psychosocial and physical health outcomes in adulthood (Hailes, Yu, Danese, & Fazel, 2019). Particularly strong evidence exists for links between child sexual abuse and later post-traumatic stress disorder, schizophrenia, and substance misuse (Hailes et al., 2019). One approach to addressing this complex issue has been implementing a range of interventions that target parts of the bigger problem, and then using evaluation outcomes to set the directions for continued improvement.

This presentation will describe the preliminary findings from JUTE Theatre Company's *Dare to Dream* program which has taken an all-Indigenous theatre production into remote schools in Far North Queensland to address complex issues of child sexual abuse. The aim of the project is to encourage children to speak out, by providing them with confidence, advice, and information on whom they can trust within their communities. The project has involved extensive consultation with elders, schools, health professionals and local authorities to ensure that the program is both age and culturally appropriate. It provides a thorough, community-specific, wrap-around mental health program to accompany the production, both on tour and afterwards. Each year, for three years the award-winning *Dare to Dream* program will visit 10 schools in remote Indigenous communities to deliver the week-

long theatre led program. This theatre-led project work with senior primary and junior secondary (Years 5-9) students, teachers, their families, and communities in remote Far North Queensland to raise awareness about consent and healthy relationships.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Simon Towle is a graduate of the University of Auckland in Antarctic environmental science, ecology, geography, political science, and environmental and planning law. He has worked for 40 years in community development, natural resource management, and public health with First Nations people in Aotearoa New Zealand, the South Pacific (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti), Papua New Guinea (East Sepik and Manus Provinces), the Torres Strait, and Northern Australia. Simon is an advisor to JUTE Theatre Company's Indigenous Dare to Dream program and a consultant with the EKOS Consulting Network on natural resource management and strategic planning for several Aboriginal Corporations including Mamu, Jabalbina, Nguddaboolgan and Yinhawangka, the Wet Tropics Management Authority, and The Pryce Centre for Culture and Arts.*

*Dr Kishani Townshend is an Australian trained, Registered Psychologist with over 18 years of counselling experience. She works as a Psychologist and Research Fellow at James Cook University. Her unique professional position as a clinician-researcher allows her to conduct research driven by clinical needs. Kishani has a diverse cultural background, having lived in Asia, Africa, England and Australia. This gives her a broad cross-cultural understanding of her clients, enabling her to help them develop their unique capacity for resilience. She completed a PhD at the University of Adelaide. Her triple majors in her undergraduate degree were in psychology, human resource development and counselling. Some of her research interests include facilitating behaviour change to reduce climate change, perinatal mental health, healthy ageing, ethical development, mindfulness and evaluating effective mental health treatments.*

## **Leave no one behind: Preventing road trauma through theatre in remote Aboriginal communities**

Kearrin Sims & Simon Towle

**Abstract:** While two thirds of the Australian population live in capital cities and metropolitan areas, more than half of road fatalities occur on rural and remote roads. Road trauma is a major cause of death in rural and remote Australia, and the risk of sustaining a road crash injury increases with degree of remoteness from metropolitan centres. Indeed, the risk of dying in a rural road accident is more than 4 times greater than accidents in urban settings. Moreover, many road safety interventions adopted in urban areas have not been effective in rural areas due to a lack of community relevance. The deceased in road accidents leave behind families, friends, and wider community trauma.

In this presentation we will discuss preliminary findings of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) research that is being undertaken for JUTE Theatre Company's 'Remote Road Safety Road Show' project. This project is a theatre-led engagement with senior primary and junior secondary (Years 5-9) students, teachers, their families, and communities across regional and remote Queensland. The Roadshow uses JUTE's award-winning *Dare to Dream* program to deliver week-long road-safety expo

in ten Aboriginal and/or remote communities per year for five years, with a specific focus on trying to address factors that are consistently associated with road crashes in rural areas.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Kearrin Sims is a Senior Lecturer in Development Studies at James Cook University. Kearrin is interested in the ways in which power and politics shape development efforts. He is particularly concerned with the localised effects of national and transnational development interventions on the lived experiences of the vulnerable and impoverished. Accordingly, his research combines political economy analysis with critical discourse analysis and a range of qualitative methods.*

*Simon Towle is a graduate of the University of Auckland in Antarctic environmental science, ecology, geography, political science, and environmental and planning law. He has worked for 40 years in community development, natural resource management, and public health with First Nations people in Aotearoa New Zealand, the South Pacific (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tahiti), Papua New Guinea (East Sepik and Manus Provinces), the Torres Strait, and Northern Australia. Simon is an advisor to JUTE Theatre Company's Indigenous Dare to Dream program and a consultant with the EKOS Consulting Network on natural resource management and strategic planning for several Aboriginal Corporations including Mamu, Jabalbina, Nguddaboolgan and Yinhawangka, the Wet Tropics Management Authority, and The Pryce Centre for Culture and Arts.*

### **Addressing inequality through Sustainable Development Goals: A critique and alternative framework for SDG analysis and implementation**

Janis Bragan Balda, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; Peter Case, JCU; Joanna Stanberry, University of Cumbria, Ambleside, UK.

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/82766698063?pwd=Nk8vRHdrZ1pNMC9vOVNPOEdFTUtdUT09>

**Abstract:** For several decades management scholars and practitioners have wrestled with the deleterious effects of capitalism on human-environmental systems. In *Exit, Voice, and Loyalty*, for example, Hirschman (1970) modelled its effects, while Gladwin et al. (1995, p. 875) ask pointedly if “the shared unwritten rules of management theory reflect an overarching anthropocentric paradigm”. Some critical management scholars have come to the radical conclusion that we should terminate our relationship with capitalism (Alvesson, 1984; Burrell; 2011). Others argue that capitalism is not a “fixed and unforgiving force” but, rather, a “heterogeneous and continually dynamic process of increasingly global connection” often made through awkward, makeshift, and surprising links (Thrift, 2006, p. 280). Rather than an outright rejection of capitalism, this perspective invites radical forms of inventive collaboration in research and practice (Suchman, 2013, p. 24).

In this paper, we present the *Picturing framework* (Stanberry & Balda, 2023) as a theoretical model and practical means of addressing the failure of growth-oriented development and neoliberal capitalism in relation to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The approach seeks to generate critical questioning that supports the normative aims of the SDGs to reduce inequalities and help the world's most vulnerable people, especially those in the Global South and tropics. We contend that the *Picturing framework* offers possibilities for adopting a practical ‘third way’ of navigating the contradictions presented by pursuing SDGs within the extant capitalist context. *Picturing* aims to

provide a pragmatic dialogical locus for arousing human-environment wakefulness and opening possibilities for reflexive action. We draw on an empirical case example of an ecotourism certification scheme (Huaorani Ecolodge) to illustrate the Picturing approach we advocate. The Picturing process also brings to light significant 'hidden' barriers that often remain obscured in the fragmentation of efforts to study and implement SDGs.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Janis Bragan Balda is Senior Lecturer in International Business at the Vackar College of Business and Entrepreneurship, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. With a broad background in international and non-profit law, and in teaching global management and leadership, her research focus is on sustainability leadership and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition to advising businesses and non-profits, she has been involved in board governance on a variety of boards, including the Executive Committee and Board of Directors of the International Leadership Association. Her advanced degrees include law degrees from Loyola University, Los Angeles, and Cambridge University, UK, as well as an MA in Management and Ph.D. from Claremont Graduate University.*

*Peter Case holds chairs in organization studies at JCU and the University of the West of England. His research encompasses organization development, international development, rural development, global health, leadership studies and organization theory & philosophy. For the past ten years Peter has acted as a programme management consultant for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation funded Malaria Elimination Initiative (MEI) based at the University of California San Francisco, advising on projects in the Africa and the Greater Mekong Sub-region. Peter has extensive experience of leading rural development projects in SE Asia, including several initiatives in Lao PDR funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research.*

*Joanna Stanberry is a postgraduate researcher at the Initiative for Leadership and Sustainability at the University of Cumbria, Ambleside, UK. Her research and practice explore localised contextualisation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in participatory cross-sector settings. Her doctoral research explores pathways for reframing leadership for sustainable futures through the Victorian educationalist Charlotte Mason's (1842-1923) emancipatory pedagogy of self-education. Previously, she worked for 15 years in New York City in non-profit marketing, tech, finance, and philanthropy. She has an MA in Organizational Leadership from Eastern University, Pennsylvania, and conducted her initial field research with an NGO serving the Aymara and Quechua peoples in Chili Marca, Bolivia, and an organisational study in five regions of Brazil.*

### 4:30-4:45 | Journal Tropical Futures Launch

Professor Peter Case

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/82766698063?pwd=Nk8vRHdrZ1pNMC9vOVNPOEdFTUtdUQ09>

The Journal of Tropical Futures: Sustainable Business, Governance & Development (JTF) is a peer-reviewed journal from SAGE Publications administered by James Cook University, Singapore. JTF is a multidisciplinary journal that promotes sustainable and responsible business, management and governance in the tropics. In this brief session Professor Peter Case will discuss the journal aims and scope. The session is intended to celebrate the launch of JTF and to encourage paper submissions by members of JCU RED.

### **End of Day 1**





JCU RED 2023

A Broken Promise? The 2030 Agenda's Commitment to Leave No One Behind

**27 – 29 September | The Cairns Institute (TCI)  
tre D3.054 | James Cook University Nguma Bada campus |  
Smithfield**





## Day 2 – Thursday 28 July: Education and Civil Society

9:15-9:30 | Registration

Ground floor foyer

9:30-11:00 | Papers Session

Chair/moderator: Dr Philemon Chigeza

### A planned approach to conflict engagement: Supporting parties in environmental conflicts

Judith Rafferty; Claire Holland, JCU

**Abstract:** SDG 13 calls for “urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts”. Climate change can significantly affect the livelihoods of individuals, communities, and whole nations in ways that will impact generations to come. Combatting climate change effectively will require significant changes to people’s behaviours. If not managed well, both the consequences of climate change and the necessary change processes to combat climate change can create ongoing conflict between multiple stakeholders.

Ongoing environmental conflicts cannot be “resolved” through negotiations. However, while resolution is unrealistic, it is possible to improve the conflict experience of affected parties by supporting them to engage effectively in the conflict. Effective engagement requires a structured approach that considers the ongoing and multifaceted nature of environmental conflicts. Currently, no practical framework exists in the conflict management field to support parties in strategic planning for engagement in ongoing conflicts.

To address this gap, the authors have developed a Planned Approach to Conflict Engagement (PACE) framework. In this paper, the authors will present key elements of this framework, such as developing sustainable and effective avenues of communication with major stakeholders, using power and escalation tactics effectively and developing a durable system of support. A case study of an environmental conflict about access to water will be used to illustrate how the framework can be used in practice. The application of this framework to conflict contexts, such as environmental conflicts, further supports the attainment of SDG 16, which focuses on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

#### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Judith Rafferty is a Senior Lecturer in the postgraduate Conflict Management and Resolution program at James Cook University, member of the Mediators Beyond Borders Oceania (MBBO) executive, and Chair of the MBBO Conflict Engagement Committee. Judith is an experienced conflict practitioner, researcher, and trainer. Her research focuses on vulnerable people impacted by conflict, their access to justice and experiences with justice processes, including in Australia and in international setting. For her PhD, Judith analysed the experiences of Rwandan women who suffered sexual violence during the genocide against the Tutsi and who raised their case at a local community court. Judith has also conducted research as a Conflict Resolution Specialist with International Rescue*

*Committee (IRC) to investigate formal and informal conflict resolution processes in remote villages of the Central African Republic. Judith has published in Australian and international journals and has presented at both Australian and international conferences.*

*Claire Holland is the Director of the Conflict Management and Resolution (CMR) program at James Cook University. Claire has extensive experience and expertise in conflict management. She has worked nationally and internationally as a mediation specialist, is a practicing mediator, conflict coach, group facilitator, educator, and trainer. Claire is co-editor of an Australian academic journal, the Dispute Resolution Review, professional member of the Resolution Institute and the ADR Research Network and founding board member and vice-chair of Mediators Beyond Borders Oceania.*

## **Volunteering at the edge of extinction: The work of championing interspecies justice**

Hilary Whitehouse, JCU

**Abstract:** In Australia, volunteers do much of the work for preventing the extinction of threatened species. This presentation will focus on the motivations and actions of volunteers with the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns and the Spectacled Flying Fox Recovery Team who are collectively trying to save a highly endangered flying mammal from complete extinction. Working from a position of interspecies justice, this varied group of people champion an animal who is a keystone species for the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and who also has the misfortune of being politically and socially reviled. In the absence of significant financial resources and materially enabling federal, state, and local government policy, the work of protection and extinction prevention of the Spectacled Flying Fox (SFF) falls to informed and caring community members. Clearly, this is not a sustainable situation with volunteer exhaustion and frustration being but two impediments. Volunteers continue to worry over the increasing effects of global heating and the ability of populations of Spectacled Flying Foxes to survive. Some volunteers carry trauma from witnessing previous heatwave mass deaths. This case study is indicative of how Australia's international governmental commitments are not yet being met in relation to UNSDG15 targets, and how the actual work is being covered by the community.

### **Researcher Biography:**

*Hilary Whitehouse is an adjunct /honorary Associate Professor with The Cairns Institute who publishes on biodiversity, climate education, gender, and environmental education. She is a long time Executive Editor with the Journal of Environmental Education and a member of the editorial team of the Australian Journal of Environmental Education. She volunteers with the Bats and Trees Society of Cairns.*

## **"I'm not greedy but I like a lot": attitudes to consumption in an oversized teacup**

Helen Ramoutsaki, JCU

**Abstract:** Human values and behaviour at both individual and societal levels can influence the success of goals for global sustainable development. This creative practice-embedded presentation addresses self-interested overconsumption in relatively affluent societies, such as Britain, the United States and Australia, which challenges attempts to achieve balanced, equitable economies and

sustainable lives within the more-than-human world. Kate Raworth's alternative Doughnut Economics model makes explicit the overshoot into environmental degradation and the shortfall in relation to the twelve social priorities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. However, Schokkaert's critique of the model acknowledges that while individuals can act altruistically, we cannot ignore the "self-interested free riders" and the state as "an instrument of the powerful and rich to exploit the poor" (2019, p. 130). The normalisation of exploitative excessive consumption is evident in material culture. The chance finds of an oversized vintage teacup made in England, inscribed with the motto, "I'm not greedy but I like a lot", led me into a creative and historical investigation of how the meme has been applied to corrupt councillors, over-taxing politicians, invading national leaders and to the enjoyment of home comforts in the form of a good cup of tea or cocoa. Taking the teacup and other oversized vessels with their accompanying slogans as materialised metaphors of excess consumption and unequal power relations demonstrates relative advantage, disadvantage, and attitudes to the concept of greed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, compared with contemporaneous attitudes. My grandmother alter-ego, MC Nannarchy, expresses her findings in her idiosyncratic spoken-word rapping style with a satirical message in her role as the Minister for the Economy and Gastronomy, delivered over her very capacious evening cup of cocoa.

### **Researcher Biography:**

*Dr Helen Ramoutsaki is a page and performing poet-natural historian, researcher and educator who has been immersed in the Wet Tropics communities of Far North Queensland for over twenty years. Helen's current practice draws on her experiences of her backyard and beyond to create multimodal poetic narratives of relationships within her bioregion. She has performed in theatre and festivals in Australia, the UK and Malaysia, sometimes accompanied by her rapping grandmother alter ego, MC Nannarchy. MC Nannarchy's Plastic Wrap was featured in the 2020 Biennale of Sydney Plastic-free Biennale project.*

*Helen's research positionality stems from her English Welsh Irish birth heritage, her experiences living, working, and birthing in England and on Crete, and her more than twenty years as a settler on Kuku Yalanji Kubirriwarra bubu in the Wet Tropics of Far North Queensland. Helen is an Adjunct Research Associate with The Cairns Institute at James Cook University.*

11:00-11:30 | Morning Tea

Ground floor foyer

11:30-1:00 | Papers Session

Chair/moderator: Dr Judith Rafferty

### **Quality education in rural and regional Australia**

Philemon Chigeza, Subhashni Taylor, Kerrie Mackey-Smith, JCU

**Abstract:** On 25th September 2015, the United Nations sponsored a common set of sustainable development goals (SDGs) for all countries to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all over the next 15 years. Providing all students with quality education was one of the 17 sustainable development goals sponsored. Researchers and policy makers argue that teacher quality underpins quality education. Yet, having now passed the midway point of efforts to realise the SDGs,

access to quality education in regional and remote Australia remains elusive. Last year, the Australian Education Minister released a draft plan to address this unprecedented teacher shortage in Australia (Australian Government, 2022). Especially, the prevalence of out-of-field teaching in English (literacy), Mathematics (Numeracy) and Science subjects in rural and regional Australia continues to limit students from accessing instruction from specialists. These core subjects are critical to students' future academic and career options and abilities to fully participate in society. Approximately 20% of Australian teachers are out-of-field. The percentage more than doubles in rural and regional schools, making the shortage most severe in rural and regional Australia. Concomitantly, narratives perpetuated through the media around the deficits of regional schools dissuades urban early service teachers from making this choice. Further, those who have not had a quality educational experience in the regions are less likely to be equipped to choose teaching as a career. This paper discusses the implications of sustained systemic inequality and inequity within and across the education sectors in rural and regional Australia.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Philemon Chigeza is a senior lecturer in mathematics education at James Cook University. His scholarship is committed to developments in enhancing accessibility through traditional manipulatives (including ones rooted in local cultures), virtual manipulatives, and emerging technologies to effectively teach developmentally appropriate and socially just mathematics to diverse students.*

*Dr Subhashni Taylor is a senior lecturer in science and sustainability education at James Cook University. Her area of research focuses on investigating student knowledge and attitudes towards complex socio-scientific issues (SSIs) such as vaccination and antibiotic resistance. She has developed expertise in mixed methods research and has published widely in the areas of science, Education for Sustainability and Science Education.*

*Dr Kerrie Mackey-Smith is a Senior Lecturer in literacy and English at James Cook University. She is an educational sociologist, whose key interest is in how literate capacities for young people contribute to curriculum equity and enable productive lives beyond schooling. Kerrie grew up in remote areas of northern Australia and this lived experience influences choices she makes for her work today. Kerrie brings a strong commitment to working towards educational justice for marginalised groups of young people. Where possible in her teaching and research she aims to marry her expertise in digital literacies together with an understanding of the importance of authentic community-connected learning experiences for children.*

### **The power of 'wellbeing': divergent discourses in health and education policy**

Kelsey Lowrie; Tanya Doyle, JCU.

**Abstract:** Wellbeing is a utopian idea that sits within sustainability frameworks and reflects global policy mobilities (Helne, & Hirvilammi (2015), Lingard (2021). Discourses of wellbeing are increasingly prevalent in educational policy "despite there being little critical analysis of wellbeing as an educational aim" (Powell & Graham, 2017, p. 214). Policy problems and solutions for wellbeing in schools involve an intersection of Sustainable Development Goals 3,4 10 and 17. Quality education is

premised on caring for the needs of the whole child within systems which support holistic development and wellbeing (Darling-Hammond et al, 2020; Roth & Erbacher, 2022).

This paper presents a critical discourse analysis of the shifts in policy which, more recently, shape 'wellbeing' as both an aspiration for the learner and learning communities and as a problem to be solved. We take up theories of power and governmentality from Foucault (1977; 1980; 1991) and Rose & Miller (1992). We invoke the ways in which the "microphysics of power" ... produce "new kinds of person: useful, obedient and self-monitoring" (Hay, Lister & Marsh, 2006, p. 167). Findings reveal ways in which Health and Education policies speak 'past one another'. This divergent discourse creates power relationships that place the onus on the individual student or child, teachers, and school leaders to respond without systemic guidance. Hence there are systematic inequities that potentially disempower key agents of change and prevent holistic and cohesive responses. We point to disruptive and new discourses that can progress the aim of wellbeing.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Kelsey Lowrie teaches curriculum studies in humanities education and service-learning subjects which seek to enact Education for Sustainability. Kelsey's research includes critical curriculum and policy studies in the areas of citizenship education, humanities curriculum, teacher education and education systems.*

*Dr Tanya Doyle teaches curriculum studies subjects in science education as well as teacher education professional practices subjects. Since 2018, Tanya has been co-leading JCU's work on the Graduate Teacher Performance Assessment (GTPA) and, as such, much of her work focuses on the preparation of graduate teachers in the final year of their program of study. Tanya's research interests range from STEM curriculum to preservice teacher education, with a focus on the role that education policy plays in shaping educational opportunities.*

## **How an Australian Basic Income could leave no-one behind**

Mike Dee, JCU

**Abstract:** The Covid-19 Pandemic created challenging economic, social, and political circumstances worldwide, persisting in what might be termed the post Pandemic era. In Australia, early in the crisis, Prime Minister Morrison along with other political leaders stressed that 'we are all in this together' as a suite of State and Federally funded income maintenance measures was initiated to provide economic support to individuals and businesses.

The doubling of Job Seeker Payment (JSP) overnight by a conservative government presaged an expansive role for the Australian welfare state in driving social and economic recovery through the Pandemic and beyond, as further pandemics may lie ahead. The possibility of securing a permanently increased rate of JSP was tantalizing and research points to the significant improvements in wellbeing and social inclusion experienced by JSP recipients, raising the potential of a Basic Income (BI) as an effective post Pandemic program to achieve economic and social stability and reduced inequalities. The recent failure by the Albanese Labor Government to increase the rate of JSP significantly (following reversion to its original low rate) in its recent budget, suggests a tolerance of poverty and preparedness to disregard the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



It is at this time of grave financial crises that disciplines such as social work can contribute to social policy formation by setting out a case for an Australian BI supporting the SDGs, to truly 'Leave No-one Behind.' This paper discusses these and other relevant issues towards an Australian BI.

**Researcher Biography:**

*Mike Dee has been active in the community sector and academia since 1977 in the social work, human services and youth and community development domains in Australia, Germany, and the United Kingdom. He is currently an Associate Lecturer in Field Education in Social Work at James Cook University based in Cairns. Previously he was a Senior Training and Development Officer, with the then Queensland Government Department of Children, Youth Justice, and Multicultural Affairs, supporting, coaching, and developing child safety staff. While there he undertook a secondment with Queensland Health as an assessor of border exemption applications during the height of the Covid 19 Pandemic. He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.*

1:00-2:00 | Lunch

Ground floor foyer – PLEASE NOTE LUNCH IS NOT CATERED.

2:00-4:00 | Panel Session

Chair/moderator: Dr. Anna Hayes

**The Challenges in implementing inclusive educational practices in Indonesia.**

Presenters (2 in person, 2 online): Hurriyet Babacan, JCU; Brian Fairman, JCU; Sri Sunarti

Purwaningsih, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia; Trina Fizzanty, National Research, and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia.

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/87074340889?pwd=dnBJcU5OK3QwazRoU3BURGZoODZadz09>

**Abstract:** Inclusion and disability are critical issues for Indonesia, we have seen unprecedented demands on educational systems to provide Access For All (SDG 4), and Indonesia is no exception. In Indonesia, inclusive education is a major educational reform, however discrimination and systemic injustice constrains this reform, currently no more than 12% of educational institutions in Indonesia are implementing inclusive educational practices. There is a dearth of evidence to guide policy and program implementation. This paper explores existing practice and constraints impacting on this reform, examining the current progress towards this reform with the intention to develop a meaningful 'model of inclusion' practice relevant in Indonesia. Working in collaboration with the National Institute for Innovation and Research (BRIN), Cairns Institute JCU is examining existing scholarship, policy frameworks and inclusive practices at both the national and international policy level, examining interventions that support inclusive practices. The paper will investigate the nature of the paradigm shift required at an institutional level to ensure appropriate future development of an agile and responsive Indonesian model of social inclusion.

**Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Brian Fairman has recently joined The Cairns Institute as a Senior Research Fellow focussing on international engagement. Brian has managed aid and development programs for The World Bank,*

*Asian Development Bank and DFAT across ASEAN countries. Brian has worked in the Australian University sector for Victoria University, The University of Queensland and The University of Melbourne managing numerous aid and development projects. Dr Fairman worked for the Government of Timor-Leste developing a national plan for a national vocational education and training system producing a Polytechnic Implementation Plan which involved conducting nation-wide consultations with private and public sector organisations, providing policy advice and technical advice on physical and social infrastructure requirements for the design and ongoing implementation of a national training system.*

*Dr Brian Fairman has a thorough understanding of the monitoring and evaluation implications of international development projects. Dr Fairman's thesis examined the implications of development aid in structuring engagement including monitoring and evaluation methodologies on development outcomes. Brian has designed a 'Model of Meaningful Practice Intervention' which is applicable across development interventions. Dr Fairman and Dr Adam Voak at JCU, have recently edited and published a Book on Developing a Culturally Relevant workforce in Indonesia, focusing on human capability development and western models of engagement.*

*Dr Sri Sunarti Purwaningsih has been a leading researcher at the Research Centre for Population – Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) now the National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) since graduating from Anthropology Department of Gajah Mada University in 1986. Dr Purwaningsih was conferred her PhD in Demography (1999) from the Australian National University, Canberra. Dr Purwaningsih's research focus includes Reproductive Health, Poverty and Health Insurance in the families of informal sector workers in urban areas. Recent research includes examining the Resilience of Families with the Elderly in the tourist villages of Yogyakarta during the COVID-19 pandemic, in addition to research on the Accessibility of Health services for Persons with Disabilities.*

*Dr. Purwaningsih has held significant roles in the disability sector, recently she was the executive secretary and Member of the Indonesian National Committee for the Management of Social Transformation (MOST) UNESCO Indonesia. A member of Board of Trustees SEASREP (South-East Asia Regional Exchange Program) from 2012-20. She was the Acting Head of the Research Centre for Population of LIPI (2010 - 2013) and the Head of the Research Centre for Society and Culture of LIPI. Research grants include Japanese (JSPS) research in Iwadeyama (2000), Sumitomo Foundation for research in Kikai Jima (2010) and Japan Foundation research in Amami Islands (2014) focussing on health and migration. Dr Purwaningsih was involved in research on inclusive development in Surabaya City, Makassar, and Padang Pariaman Regency. Dr. Purwaningsih was involved in National Priority research on Health Insurance in the Informal Sector in Surabaya City, including research on Family Resilience during the COVID-19 Pandemic, and Fulfilment of the right to Health Services for Persons with Disabilities.*

*Dr Trina Fizzanty is the Director for Research Centre of Education, National Research, and Innovation Agency (BRIN, Indonesia). Formerly, she was the Director for Research Centre for The Development of Science and Technology, Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI, Indonesia). Her research interest is on technology and education, management of innovation, social and digital innovation, R&D Management. Dr Fizzanty was conferred a PhD in Integrative Systems (Supply Chain Management) 2009 from The University of Queensland, Australia. In 2013 Dr Fizzanty held a Visiting Researcher role at Global Food Centre, The University of Adelaide, South Australia. Dr Fizzanty has undertaken training in various international organizations such as: Science Council of Malaysia-MTCP for Science*

and Technology Management, Science, Technology and Economic Policy Institute (STEPI)-KOICA on 'Technology and Policy', JICA R&D Management.

*Dr Fizzanty has presented numerous research papers in international conferences and published her research in international publications such as Asian Journal of Technology Innovation and International Journal of Agile Systems, as well as in Indonesian Journals. Her experience abroad as a speaker representing Indonesia in several international forums (Science Technology in Society Forum; Asia-Pacific NIS Forum, ASEAN Forum on APASTI, APEC Research & Technology Program). Dr Fizzanty has worked for international projects such as ERIA projects, OIC-UK Royal Society, and FAO (Food Agricultural Organization). She is actively involved as a peer reviewer for international and national STI Journals.*

*Professor Hurriyet is Professor of Regional Economic and Policy Development at the James Cook University and the Research Director at the Rural Economies Centre of Excellence. Hurriyet has a distinguished career over the last 25 years in senior leadership roles in higher education, public private partnerships, and the public sector. She has held roles such as the Victorian Manager of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; Executive Director, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Pro Vice-Chancellor; CEO of Tablelands Regional Council and director of research institutes. Hurriyet is well recognised nationally and internationally including publications, keynote presentations, capacity building and other activities. She has been a member of high-profile international working parties such as the wellbeing working party of Council of Europe and OECD and steering committee member of the United Nations-Queensland Government Engaging Communities initiatives, including a major global conference on community engagement. She has recently completed a TEDx talk on Inclusive Economic Development. Her recent research relates to regional resilience, gender, social inclusion, workforce development and labour markets, regional digital connectivity, climate change and livelihoods, circular economy, and waste management.*

*Hurriyet has been recognised for her work through several awards including the Order of Australia (AM) in 2014, Bi-Centenary Medal awarded by the Prime Minister, Telstra Businesswomen's Award, and the Multicultural Services Award. She is listed in the Australian Women's Archives as an Australian women leader.*

4:00-4:30 | Afternoon Tea

Ground floor foyer

4:30-5:30 | Keynote Address: The Education of the Heart is the Heart of Education:  
Path to compassionate social transformation

Ng Shui Meng, Independent Scholar

Chair/moderator: Kearnin Sims

**Abstract:**

Traditional Education in most countries, but especially in Asia, is content-heavy with emphasis on knowledge-based learning to equip learners with skills to pass examinations and achieve academic success for a rewarding career. It tends to neglect other aspects of learning to prepare individuals

with adequate analytical, social, emotional, and other life-skills to meet real-life challenges in the adult world.

This paper draws upon a development and education model proposed by Sombath Somphone, a community development and education practitioner from Laos, which proposes an innovative approach to holistic education and development known as “3-H learning”. The 3-H Learning refers to a process of learning and practice that places attention to using the “Head”, “Hands” and “Heart” simultaneously. It also proposes that of the “3-Hs”, education of the Heart is the most important. The paper examines how the 3-H education and development approach, and especially “Heart-based” or value-based education and development approaches can lay the foundation towards a form of social transformation that places the well-being of all, especially the marginalized and disadvantaged, as a development priority. It also provides a practical pathway towards closing the political, social, and economic divides that plague society, and addressing the many environmental and climate crisis that we face today.



Unfortunately, the experimentation of this education and development model was short-circuited by the enforced disappearance of Sombath Somphone 10 years ago. The paper asserts that it is the socially and politically transformative power of this education and development model that could have caused Sombath to be disappeared.

#### **Researcher Biography:**

*Shui-Meng Ng holds a MA in Sociology from the University of Michigan in 1973, and a PhD in Sociology from the University of Hawaii in 1979. Over the span of more than 40 years, Shui-Meng Ng accumulated a broad range of experience working in different countries and in different fields. After completing her studies, Shui-Meng Ng first worked in the Institute of Southeast Asia Studies based in Singapore as Senior Research Fellow focusing on research in population studies, gender and development, and politics and social change in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. In 1986, Shui-Meng Ng, left Singapore and moved to join her husband, Sombath Somphone, a Laotian agronomist and development specialist, to whom she married in 1983. From 1989- 2008, she worked with UNICEF, first as an Education Programme Officer in Laos, then developing women-focused poverty alleviation programs using micro-credit in China, then as Deputy Representative for UNICEF-Laos, and later as UNICEF Representative for Timor-Leste. After retiring from UNICEF, Shui-Meng Ng continued to be active in the development field, working as a specialist consultant in Myanmar and Laos. In 2012, her husband, Sombath Somphone, a respected and well-known development leader, was disappeared in Vientiane. Since her husband's disappearance, Shui-Meng Ng mounted a relentless campaign, inside and outside Laos, to get Sombath Somphone released and returned safely to her and her family.*

\* Public event with livestream

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/83967892070?pwd=bmtMQIFEM0NkYnZuU0NvcUtqMWdhUT09>

5:30-6:30 | Documentary screening: The Enforced Disappearance of Sombath Somphone

**Film Synopsis:** The Enforced Disappearance of Sombath Somphone surveys the life of Lao civil society leader Sombath Somphone. It places his development work within the historical and political context of Laos, a post-socialist country that gained independence after long years of struggle against colonialism and the geopolitical conflicts in Indochina. Sombath's commitment for sustainable and equitable rural development in Lao PDR was recognised through a 2005 ASEAN Ramon Magsaysay Award. The documentary depicts the tragedy of Sombath's disappearance on 15 December 2012, and its chilling aftermath. CCTV footage obtained by the family vividly shows the very act of Sombath's abduction in downtown Vientiane.

Year: 2017.      Director: Ran Quinn.      Duration: 55 minutes.      Language: English & Lao

\* Public event

7:30 | Symposium Dinner

Details on symposium dinner forthcoming

**End of Day 2**





JCU RED 2023

A Broken Promise? The 2030 Agenda's Commitment to Leave No One Behind

**27 – 29 September | The Cairns Institute (TCI)  
tre D3.054 | James Cook University Nguma Bada campus |  
Smithfield**



## Day 3- Friday 29 July- Health, Wealth, and Peacebuilding

9:15-9:30 | Registration

Ground floor foyer

9:30-11:00 | Papers Session

Chair/moderator: Associate-Professor Narayan Gopalkrishnan

### Conducting research with vulnerable populations: Challenges of interviewing victim-survivors of domestic and/or sexual violence in Queensland

Judith Rafferty, JCU

**Abstract:** Over one third of women worldwide is estimated to have experienced physical and/or sexual abuse at some stage during their lives. The term gender-based violence (GBV) is commonly used to summarise acts of violence committed against women because of their gender, including sexual and domestic violence. To support victim-survivors of GBV with their social and psychological “recovery” processes, it is important that they experience a sense of justice for their suffering. However, achieving justice for victim-survivors is a challenge. Conventional criminal justice responses to GBV have been criticised for harming instead of empowering victim-survivors. Relevant literature flags the need to improve access to justice and justice experiences of victim-survivors. More research is critical to better understand the benefits and limits of individual justice programs dealing with GBV. Such programs include restorative justice (RJ) programs, which are increasingly being used as an alternative and/or addition to conventional justice.

While research with vulnerable populations is important to “leave no one behind”, it requires careful planning, since participants may suffer repercussions if their identities are revealed to the public. In this presentation, Judith discusses the challenges associated with setting up her research with victims-survivors who have experienced sexual and /or domestic violence and whose cases were referred to Adult Restorative Justice conferencing (ARJC) provided by the Dispute Resolution Branch (DRB) of the Department of Justice and the Attorney-General (DJAG) in Queensland. These challenges include identifying safe and confidential spaces for interviews conducted via videoconferencing, considering potential retraumatisation of participants and referral to services.

#### **Researcher Biography:**

*Dr Judith Rafferty is a Senior Lecturer in the postgraduate Conflict Management and Resolution program at James Cook University, member of the Mediators Beyond Borders Oceania (MBBO) executive, and Chair of the MBBO Conflict Engagement Committee. Judith is an experienced conflict practitioner, researcher, and trainer. Her research focuses on vulnerable people impacted by conflict, their access to justice and experiences with justice processes, including in Australia and in international setting. For her PhD, Judith analysed the experiences of Rwandan women who suffered sexual violence during the genocide against the Tutsi and who raised their case at a local community court. Judith has also conducted research as a Conflict Resolution Specialist with International Rescue Committee (IRC) to investigate formal and informal conflict resolution processes in remote villages of*

*the Central African Republic. Judith has published in Australian and international journals and has presented at both Australian and international conferences.*

## HIV Testing Disruptions and Service Adaptations during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Systematic Literature Review

Gary Jones, JCU

**Abstract:** Access to treatment and care in safe clinical settings improves the lives of people with HIV. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted vital HIV programs and services, increasing the risk of adverse health outcomes for people with HIV and HIV transmission rates in the community. This systematic literature review provides a meta-analysis of HIV testing disruptions and a synthesis of HIV/AIDS services adapted during COVID-19. We searched scholarly databases from 01 January 2020 to 30 June 2022 using key terms on HIV testing rates and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. The process of how the included articles were identified, selected, appraised, and synthesized was reported according to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines. We included 17 articles that reported changes in HIV testing during the COVID-19 pandemic and 22 articles that reported adaptations in HIV/AIDS services. We found that HIV testing decreased by 37% since the emergence of COVID-19. Service providers adopted remote service delivery by expanding community antiretroviral therapy dispensing, setting up primary care outreach points, and instituting multi-month dispensing services to sustain client care. Therefore, service providers and policymakers should explore alternative strategies to increase HIV testing rates impacted by the COVID-19 situation and leverage funding to continue providing the identified adapted services.

### **Researcher Biography:**

*Gary Jones' background is in multi-sectoral Humanitarian-Development-Peace promoting participatory social development with the United Nations and Non-governmental Organizations; the private sector and business coalitions; and academic and research institutions. Building global networks involving consensus building, mediation, training, lecturing and mentorship, Gary has first-hand experience in humanitarian settings, fragile states, emerging economies, and mature democracies. Through advancing health, education, livelihoods, and sustainable environmental management among indigenous, resident, migrant, displaced and host communities, Gary, principally a qualitative researcher, has carried out forms of implementation research, crafted study designs and presented findings at global conferences, think tanks and centres of excellence. Gary is Global Advisor for the Dignity University Initiative and board member for the Slum Child Trust, South Sudan Peace Women's Peace Initiative and Strategic Advisor for the Africa Association and Maisha Bora. Gary is currently employed by JCU as a cohort mentor based in Cairns, Queensland.*

## NDIS and systemic injustice: The Sisyphean task of attempting equality through neoliberalism

Jasmin Peer, JCU.

**Abstract:** With a similar end date to the 2030 Agenda, Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031 plans on increasing inclusion and ensuring that services and systems create better outcomes for individuals

with disabilities in all areas of life. Based on the social model of disability, the Strategy is created with the understanding that attitudes, structures, and people often function as the barrier to equitable access for people with disabilities. With comprehensive goals created to boost the existing network of accessibility services, the strategy promotes a hopeful picture of improved equity, mirroring the 2030 Agenda's promise to 'Leave No One Behind'. Running alongside Australia's Disability Strategy is the Disability Royal Commission, which is investigating violence, abuse and neglect faced by people with disabilities from within the network of accessibility services and is slated to be concluded in September 2023.

The current approach to accessibility service provision is a largely neoliberal one, creating the sector as a profit driven industry, and thus creating complex webs of middlemen between the person with disability and the NDIS. Through participant observation within accessibility and advocacy services in Cairns during the height of the Royal Commission's investigation, this paper questions the hopefulness of Australia's Disability Strategy. This paper goes on to ask if a neoliberal accessibility system will only continue to open itself up to abuses of power and continued systemic injustice. Through the viewpoint of people within the accessibility industry, this paper thus discusses the failures of current accessibility services and how the accessibility system directly and indirectly creates instances of abuse, discrimination, and continued injustice.

#### **Researcher Biography:**

*Jasmin Peer is a PhD Candidate in James Cook University, Cairns. She currently works in the Indigenous Research and Education Centre in JCU as a Peer Assisted Learning Advisor. Her PhD explores the underlying principles that impact accessibility provision of d/Deaf communities in Queensland. Jasmin's passions lie in culture-based approaches to complex socio-political problems, along with the intersection of community centred change, art, film, and literature.*

11:00-11:30 | Morning Tea

Ground floor foyer – PLEASE NOTE LUNCH IS NOT CATERED.

11:30-12:30 | 3 Papers

Chair/moderator: Dr Kearnin Sims

#### **Challenges of building sustainable peace in South Sudan**

Kuol Garang, JCU

**Abstract:** The challenges concerning peace building within complex and fragile states are enormous. Nowhere is this more so than within South Sudan. The country is emmeshed in a protracted armed conflict despite achieving independence from Sudan in 2011. This paper explores and analyses the challenges of peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan. It begins by providing a historical overview of South Sudan's peacebuilding efforts, including factors that contribute to South Sudan's fragile peace – such as weak state institutions, lack of transitional justice and reconciliation, lack of security industry reform, as well as absence of permanent constitution to guide the country towards free and fair elections. It then presents a Philosophical–Actors–Tactical (P–A–T) theoretical framework of post-conflict peacebuilding dilemmas to assist in defining and conceptualizing the main concepts. The

paper discusses key challenges that impede progress towards sustainable peace, seeking to assist domestic and international actors to overcome peacebuilding limitations and seize the opportunity to build a sustainable and peaceful future for South Sudanese.

**Researcher Biography:**

*Kuol Garang is a PhD student at James Cook University. His thesis will identify the complexities of the South Sudanese conflict, ascertain meaningful peacebuilding approaches, and explore innovative adaptive practices that can be used to address the current limitations within peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan*

**Who, and what, got left behind when Patrol Officers helped create the Promises and Problems of an Independent PNG state?**

Michael Wood, Rosita Henry, Simon Foale, JCU.

**Abstract:** Our paper outlines some findings on how the last generation of patrol officers created and curated new political and economic institutions of the soon-to-be independent state of PNG. We argue that PNG patrol officers are largely absent from existing histories of PNG independence and that we need to replace this absence with their lively presence. Treating promises as attempts to define the future we show how PNG and Australian patrol officers worked to create new economic and political institutions for Independence that were concrete, if partial, manifestations of what that new state might become. For the PNG patrol officers these activities raised the issue, also crucial to Fanon and Chakrabarty, of what does it mean to come after the European? Did the patrol officers work in building bits of an independent state transform the present into something more than normal, into a threshold leading to 'new times' and to a world where the European masta would leave or be transformed into an advisor? What other relationships may have been expected or developed? We will use PNG and Australian patrol officers' records of their work to think about their understanding of these issues and other promises and problems of Independence. Rosita Henry will introduce some of the differences and similarities between the Australian and PNG patrol officers by outlining their preparations for Independence in the Highlands. Michael Wood, dealing mainly with material from Western Province, will then talk about changes in the way patrol officers reported what they did. Simon Foale will conclude our presentation by outlining how the global political economy, largely occupied by the Europeans, figured in officers' understandings of the changes Independence might bring.

**Researcher Biographies:**

*Associate Professor Simon Foale teaches anthropology in the College of Arts, Society and Education at James Cook University. Simon's research interests range between political ecology, the anthropology of development and the history and philosophy of science. His primary geographic focus is coastal Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and the Western Pacific. Simon is also an active unionist.*

*Professor Rosita Henry teaches anthropology in the College of Arts, Society and Education at James Cook University. Rosita's research concerns relationships between people and places across tropical Australia and the Pacific as expressed through cultural festivals, material culture, land tenure conflict*



*and the relationship between Indigenous peoples and the state. She has a major interest in the Western Highlands of PNG.*

*Dr Michael Wood is an anthropologist and adjunct with the College of Arts, Society and Education at James Cook University. His interest is primarily with Papua New Guinea (PNG), and he is currently researching Kamula speakers' responses to an increase in regional violence. This builds on prior research on industrial logging in PNG, new forms of state and corporate power and shifts in local cosmologies.*

12:30-2:00 | Lunch

Ground floor foyer

2:00-4:00 | Panel Session

Chair/moderator: Prof. Hurriyet Babacan

### Development in the era of great power competition

Anna Hayes (JCU); Ben Hillman (ANU); Jonathan Ping (Bond); Andrew Wilson (NWC)

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/87475633665?pwd=RWh5dFZlRnZ0Y1MwaUNHSThMVHN6dz09>

**Abstract:** In this panel, we will discuss some of the complexities that development theorists and practitioners need to consider in the era of geostrategic competition and rivalry between China and the United States. We note that locally constructed development models are the most functional as they provide self-determined outcomes specific to the requirements of the individuals and groups within their unique political economy. For the states and peoples of the Southwest Pacific the changed Indo-Pacific strategic environment is a potential catalyst to politically motivate and enable them to pursue their own indigenous development model. However, preserving the unique regional political economy of the Southwest Pacific requires they have sovereignty over their development outcomes. To achieve this, they will be required to conduct International Relations over the long-term within an increasingly complex environment characterised by great power competition. The region must create a united understanding of China-United States geostrategic rivalry and pass domestic laws and develop policies to enable collaborative interaction with China and the United States for their own benefit. Our discussion will also examine the Chinese model of development, both home and abroad, and how the Belt and Road Initiative fits into the Chinese grand strategy within the region, and the geostrategic competition that is unfolding.

### **Researcher Biographies:**

*Dr Anna Hayes is a senior lecturer in International Relations in the College of Arts, Society and Education at James Cook University, Cairns. She is also an Honorary Research Fellow at the East Asia Security Centre. Anna specialises in non-traditional threats to security, with a particular focus on China. She has presented numerous papers in Beijing, on topics ranging from the situation in Xinjiang, how the BRI has been viewed outside of China, as well as the Quad and the Indo-Pacific from the Australian perspective. Anna has published numerous articles, book chapters and edited books on these topics. She is currently co-editing a book examining the Chinese in Papua New Guinea.*



*In 2016 Anna co-edited: Inside Xinjiang: Space, place, and power in China's Muslim Far Northwest (Routledge, 2016) with Associate Professor Michael Clarke from the Australian National University.*

*Ben Hillman is Director of the Australian Centre on China in the World (CIW), and a specialist in politics, public policy, and public administration in China. Ben is the author or editor of seven books on China, including Patronage and Power (Stanford University Press, 2014), Conflict and Protest in Tibet and Xinjiang (Columbia University Press, 2016) and Political and Social Control in the PRC (with Chien-wen Kou), forthcoming (2023). Ben is Editor of The China Journal — the world's number one-ranked journal in China Studies.*

*Dr Jonathan Ping is an Associate Professor at Bond University. He is a graduate of the University of Melbourne and received his Ph.D. from the University of Adelaide. He is a political economist who specialises in the study of statecraft. In this area he has developed the first unifying theory of the middle power concept—hybridisation theory—as presented in his book Middle Power Statecraft. His work on statecraft has most recently been applied to China in the books China's Strategic Priorities and Chinese Engagements. His current research focus is on great power statecraft theory, middle power statecraft theory, and a theory of the nature of hegemony in and from Asia. He is Founder and a Director of the East Asia Security Centre. He has worked and undertaken research for government and non-government sectors. Dr Ping teaches courses on Political Economy, Asia, and Security at Bond University.*

*Professor Andrew R. Wilson is the John A. van Beuren Chair of Asia-Pacific Studies, and Professor of Strategy and Policy, at the United States Naval War College in Newport, RI, the world's oldest and most prestigious centre for senior military education. He received his Bachelor of Arts in East Asian Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and earned a Ph.D. in History and East Asian Languages from Harvard University with a specialization in the history of Pre-Modern and Modern China. He has published numerous articles and books on Chinese maritime history, the Chinese diaspora, Chinese military history, and the history of maritime Asia. Professor Wilson's research interests are not limited to history. He has also written on Chinese strategic culture, contemporary Asian security, Chinese politics, and Chinese military modernization. In addition, he is an expert on strategic thought and formerly served as the Naval War College's Philip A. Crowl Professor of Comparative Strategy. His books include Ambition and Identity: Chinese Merchant-Elites in Colonial Manila, 1885-1916; The Chinese in the Caribbean; and China's Future Nuclear Submarine Force. He has also taught for the Great Courses: with lecture series on The Art of War; Masters of War: History's Greatest Strategic Thinkers; and Understanding Imperial China: Dynasties, Lives and Cultures.*

4:00-4:30 | Afternoon Tea

Ground floor foyer

4:30-5:30 | Keynote Address: Zimbabwe Peacebuilding Initiative

Sekai Holland

Chair/moderator: Kearnin Sims

**Abstract:** Zimbabwe takes its United Nations membership seriously, as it does that of the African Union (AU). Our country's policies and programmes are influenced by those two organisations. In the

context of the above theme, the national vision for Zimbabwe, as espoused by our country's Head of State HE President Emmerson Mnangagwa is to move our country towards a Prosperous Upper Middle-Income Nation by 2030. Billboards with his message on the theme state: *'Every country is developed by its own Citizens'* and in this process, *'No one will be left behind'*. President Mnangagwa's era has achieved identifiable, quantifiable, and measurable development successes in many spheres around the country despite the



prevailing difficult environment. In this paper I discuss the work of the Zimbabwe Peacebuilding Initiative (ZimPi) in contributing to Zimbabwe's commitment to leave no one behind by bringing Zimbabweans together to resolve our common challenges. The focus of ZimPi's work is, always, towards development that emphasises synergies of Peace with Justice, Safety and Security, Happiness, and Prosperity for all. In line with these commitments, this paper will both outline ZimPi's work and consider persistent challenges of power, discrimination, and systemic injustice within Zimbabwe.

#### **Researcher Biography:**

*Dr Sekai Holland is a member of the Zimbabwean government and formerly Zimbabwean Co-Minister of State for National Healing, Reconciliation, and Integration. She has dedicated her life to campaigning for human rights, democracy, and the empowerment of woman. Her courageous spirit was recognised in 2012 with the Sydney Peace Prize, Australia's only international prize for peace. Holland was a founder of Australia's Anti-Apartheid Movement in the late 1960s. She also helped to establish the Murrawina Child Care Centre in Redfern and was active within the Aboriginal community during the land rights movement. UTS awarded Holland an honorary doctorate in 2013 in recognition of her outstanding contribution to human rights and the fight for democracy.*

\* Public event with livestream

<https://jcu.zoom.us/j/87096826508?pwd=b0cvZWNqU0o3NWxNcVBMTXRXeWg5QT09>

5:30-5:45 | Closing Remarks

Kearrin Sims

**End of Day 3**



JCU RED 2023

A Broken Promise? The 2030 Agenda's Commitment to Leave No One Behind

**27 – 29 September | The Cairns Institute (TCI)**  
**Lecture Theatre D3.054 | James Cook University Nguma Bada campus |**  
**Smithfield**

