



**Seminar**

**March 8 2012**

**Beehive Theatre**

**Parliament Buildings Wellington**

**RIO+20**

**The Future we Want**

**United Nations Association of New Zealand  
with assistance from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.**

The RIO+20 Summit will be held in Rio de Janeiro June 20 – 22 2012 - 20 years on from the Earth Summit.

Since then a number of Declarations have been agreed on but in reviewing progress to date, while there have been some inspiring examples of progress, there have also been setbacks because of multiple interrelated crises – financial, economic and volatile energy and food prices. Food insecurity, climate change and biodiversity loss have adversely affected development gains.

Scientific evidence points to the gravity of the threats we face. New and emerging challenges include the further intensification of earlier problems calling for more urgent responses. 1.4 billion people still live in extreme poverty and one sixth of the world's population is undernourished, and pandemics and epidemics are omnipresent threats. Unsustainable development has increased the stress on the earth's limited natural resources and on the carrying capacity of the ecosystem. Our planet supports seven billion people expected to reach nine billion by 2010. <sup>1</sup>

National commitment to sustainable development has deepened and many Governments now incorporate environmental and social issues into their economic policies.

Prior to the Meeting in June of Governments NGOs and other sector groups a Zero Document is being negotiated to address these,]. The New Zealand Government submission focussed principally on a Green Economy, Oceans and a Blue Economy, Fossil Fuel subsidies Sustainable Agriculture and the Institutional Framework to address these.

NGOs and Sector groups have made submissions through their international bodies and thereby contributed to the Zero Draft Document currently being prepared. The UNANZ Seminar focused primarily on the issues covered by the New Zealand Government submission and NGOs and sector groups presented their proposals but other substantive matters were discussed.

We thank the experienced and informed speakers from a range of relevant backgrounds who gave of their time so that we could have an opportunity to dialogue on matters critical to our future. Representatives of Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry for the Environment and DOC, were present through the day,

1. **Zero Draft Document Jan 2012**

## **Rio + 20 – The Future We Want Programme**

**Date 8 March 2012**

**Venue: Beehive Theatre Parliament**

**9.00 Welcome and Intro Michael Powles**

**9.10 Opening Address Hon Dr Nick Smith Minister for the Environment**

**9.30 Keynote Panel:** Chair: Sir Douglas Kidd  
Sustainable Business: Phil O'Reilly Business NZ  
Economic priorities and environmental issues: Dr Rick Boven - Dir NZ Institute  
Science perspective: Sir Peter Gluckman - Govt Science Adviser

11.15 M/t

**11.30 NGO Overview** Chair: Dr Roderick Alley  
Sustainable Development: Barry Coates Oxfam  
Dr Gray Southon – UNANZ WFUNA Rep  
Children's Rights – UNICEF: Pip Bennett  
Rio+20 Platform Committee Diana Shand

1.00-2.00 Lunch – not included

**2.00 Specialist Panel:** Chair Dr Adrian Macey  
Oceans and Biodiversity: Dr Carolyn Lundquist - NIWA  
Energy-Smart Food for People and Climate: Prof Ralph Sims Massey  
Protection of Animals: Bridget Vercoe – World Society for the Protection of Animals

3.00 A/t

**3.15 Institutional Framework** Chair: Diana Shand  
Institutions of Trust Building: Prof Klaus Bosselmann – Environmental Law  
Auckland University  
Respons-Ability An integrating Ethic for Sustainability: Betsan Martin - Response

**Indigenous Perspective:** Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorp – Bill Hamilton

**4.30 – 5.30 Panel : Voice of Youth** Chair: Jimmy Green Generation Zero  
Emma Moon – 350 degrees and NZ Youth Delegation  
David Tong P3:  
Sudhvir Singh – Medical Students for Global Action:  
Will Watterson Global Poverty project

**Closing Comments:**

## **Brief Bios of Participants**

**Hon Dr Nick Smith** Minister for the Environment, Minister for Climate Change, Minister for Local Government\*

Nick Smith was born and educated in North Canterbury where his parents founded a construction and crane company. He was an AFS scholar in Delaware United States, in 1983 and subsequently completed a first class Honours degree in Civil Engineering and a PhD in landslides at Canterbury University.

Nick was politically active from a young age and was elected to Rangiora District Council at 18 while still at secondary school. He held many offices in Young Nationals and in the senior National Party prior to being selected as the National candidate for Tasman in 1989.

Nick won the Tasman seat in the 1990 election and doubled his majority in 1993. Following the MMP reforms in which Tasman was split between Nelson and West Coast, he won the seat of Nelson in 1996 for National and has been re-elected in 1999.2002. 2005. 2008 and 2011. Neither Nelson nor the Tasman electorates had been held by National in the preceding years.

Nick has held ten Ministerial portfolios in the Bolger, Shipley and Key Cabinets, covering Conservation Education Immigration Corrections Social Welfare treaty negotiations ACC. He is currently Minister for the Environment, Climate Change and the Local Government.

His greatest passion has been improving New Zealand's management of the environment and natural resources. In 1998 he founded the Bluegreens as a group within National that wish to advance policies that support economic prosperity and a clean green New Zealand.

Nick's recreational interests including kayaking, tramping, tennis, golf and he plays the left wing in the Parliamentary Rugby team. He completed the Coast to Coast and kayaked the Cook Strait with Bill English.

He is married to Linley, and is the proud father of Hazel and Logan and stepfather of Samantha and Alexander.

- Dr Smith has since resigned his portfolios

**Phil O'Reilly** is Chief Executive of BusinessNZ, New Zealand's largest business advocacy group, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes.

Internationally, Mr. O'Reilly represents New Zealand employers at the International Labour Organisation, contributes to the governing body of the ILO, and is a Board member of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD.

Nationally, he chairs the Government's Green Growth Advisory Group, the Capitalising on Research & Development Action Group and the Redundancy &

Employment Transition Advisory Group, and is joint chair of the New Zealand Workplace Health & Safety Council and board member of the Innovation Board of the Ministry of Science & Innovation and the Council of the Royal Society of NZ. He serves on a number of other Ministerial and advisory groups.

**Dr Rick Boven** is the Director of the New Zealand Institute.

He was a strategic management consultant for more than 25 years and the founding partner of the Boston Consulting Group in New Zealand.

Rick has worked with leading companies in Australia, New Zealand and the USA in a wide range of industries including financial services, industrial distribution, energy, telecommunications, information technology, transport, manufacturing and agriculture.

An Accredited Fellow of the Institute of Directors, Rick was a director of ASB Bank and Sovereign Insurance as well as of technology based exporters.

He has a PhD. in Environment Management from the University of Auckland, a Master of Business Administration from the Australian Graduate School of Management and a Master of Arts (Psychology) from Victoria University of Wellington.

Rick has university teaching experience in psychology, social work, research methodology, business strategy and managing change. He has publications in social welfare, mathematical psychology, educational sociology, strategic management, business ethics and economic development.

**Professor Sir Peter Gluckman** was the founding Director of the Liggins Institute and is one of New Zealand's best known scientists.

His research has won him numerous awards and international recognition including Fellowship of the Commonwealth's most prestigious scientific organisation, The Royal Society (London). He is the only New Zealander elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies of Science (USA) and the Academy of Medical Sciences of Great Britain.

In 2009 he became a Knight of the New Zealand Order of Merit replacing the 2008 Distinguished Companion of the NZ Order of Merit, for services to medicine and having previously been made a Companion of the Order in 1997. In 2001 he received New Zealand's top science award, the Rutherford Medal. In July 2009 he was appointed as the first Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Professor Sir Gluckman is an international advocate for science, promoting the translation of discoveries in biomedical research into improvements in long term health outcomes. He is the author of over 500 scientific papers and reviews and editor of eight books, including three influential textbooks in his subject area.

**Barry Coates** is Executive Director of Oxfam New Zealand, an affiliate of Oxfam International. Oxfam is committed to eliminating poverty, alleviating suffering, and helping vulnerable people and communities build a better and more sustainable future. Oxfam focuses on our Pacific neighbourhood, particularly Melanesia, where

people do not have basic human rights such as safe water and adequate sanitation, education and a decent livelihood.

Oxfam's international campaign, GROW, focuses on the broken world food system. Around one billion people are hungry while a similar number are overweight or obese. Oxfam is supporting producers' organisations on sustainable agriculture and food security, tackling land grabs, and working with allies around the world to prevent dangerous climate change. Oxfam runs events in New Zealand such as Oxfam's Biggest Coffee Break to promote fair trade, and the amazing Oxfam Trailwalker event to raise funds. Generous donations from the public account for most of Oxfam's income.

Barry's past work on sustainable development includes attendance at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio, work on indicators of well-being, and campaigning on climate change, international trade and corporate social responsibility. Barry is a Board member of Fair trade Australia and New Zealand and the Global Campaign for Climate Action; and he was a past chair of NZ Council for International Development. Barry has worked internationally in the NGO, business and public sectors, and he has a Masters degree from Yale University.

**Dr Gray Southon** has been active in the United Nations Association, on the National Executive and held various Special Officer positions, taking a special interest in the functioning of the UN and public understanding of it. He was originally educated in Physics and worked in the health industry, developing a keen interest in the dynamics of complex organisations, an interest he has carried over to the United Nations. He is now President of the Tauranga Branch and Special officer for UN renewal. He sees that Sustainability is currently one of the key tests of UN effectiveness.

**Pip Bennett** is the International Advocacy Officer at UNICEF New Zealand. She has studied development studies at both undergraduate and postgraduate level and is currently completing her Masters degree in International Relations. Pip has a keen interest in equality, especially for children, young people and women. She has held various volunteer roles, including being selected as an Oxfam International Youth Partner 2007-10 working in Wellington Women's Refuge and being on the Steering Committee for the Civicus Youth Assembly for 2010 and 2011

**Diana Shand:** is currently chairing the New Zealand NGO Rio+20 Platform. She is also on the Rio+20 Task Force for IUCN (the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources), being an Oceania Regional Councillor and one of four Vice-Presidents for that organisation. Diana has a long history in Rio+20 issues. IN 2004-2009 Diana was National Project Manager for Communities for Climate Protection working with local government councils to systematically address reduction of carbon emissions. She has a strong history in local government and natural resource management having served on Canterbury Regional Council for 15 years. She attended the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit as a NGO member of the Government Delegation.

Diana's early career started as a University lecturer in business. She worked as a marketing and business consultant for many years particularly with SME (Small and

Medium Sized enterprises) and community tourism. Appointed to the Human Rights Commission 1983-1988 she has retained her interest in matters of social equity and justice and the interconnectedness of this to the health of the natural environment

**Dr Carolyn Lundquist** is a marine ecologist at the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) in Hamilton. She is currently seconded to the Department of Conservation to lead the Marine Conservation Planning theme of PlanBlue, DoC's new strategic approach for marine conservation in New Zealand. Carolyn moved to New Zealand in 2000 after completing an undergraduate degree in Marine Biology at the University of California at Los Angeles and PhD in Conservation Ecology at the University of California at Davis. Her research interests incorporate a strong commitment to ensuring that conservation science is incorporated into resource management and policy, and communicated to the public and to policy makers. She serves as President of the Oceania section of the Society for Conservation Biology. She also represents the Society as a delegate at Plenary sessions of the United Nations International Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

**Prof Ralph Sims** began his career in Sustainable Energy at Massey University, New Zealand in 1971 making and testing biodiesel. After 4 years based at the IEA (International Energy Agency) in Paris as a senior analyst working on renewable Energy and climate change mitigation, he has now returned to his position of Professor of Sustainable Energy and Director Centre for Energy Research. For the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that was awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace prize he was lead author covering renewable energy and agriculture for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Assessment Report (2001) led the chapter on Energy Supply in the IPCC 4<sup>th</sup> assessment Report 2007, the "integration" chapter in the Special report on Renewable Energy for Climate Change Mitigation (2011) and is currently leading the "Transport" chapter of the IPCC 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report (to be published in 2014) Ralph is currently consulting projects for UNEP, UNFAO, the Global Environmental Facility (World Bank) REN 2! and OECD. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Professional Engineers and of the UK Institute of Agriculture Engineers, a Companion of the Royal Society of New Zealand and received the 2010 Outstanding Achievement Award from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) of which he was a Ministerial Board Member appointee for 3 terms.

**Bridget Vercoe** is the Country Manager for the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) in New Zealand. The WSPA seeks to create a world where animal welfare matters and animal cruelty has ended. To achieve this we are active in more than 50 countries working directly with animals and with people and organisations that can ensure they are treated with respect and compassion. We campaign effectively to combat the world's most intense and large-scale animal welfare issues, and are the world leader in animal focussed disaster response and risk reduction. Locally we improve animals' lives by working directly with communities and owners. Globally we hold consultative status at the Council of Europe and collaborate with national governments and the United Nations to introduce animal welfare into the most pressing global debates.

**Professor Klaus Bosselmann**, PhD, is Director of the New Zealand Centre for Environmental Law at the University of Auckland, Faculty of Law. He is chair of

various international professional bodies including the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law Ethics Specialist Group and the Global Ecological Integrity Group.

He is a member of the board of directors of Sustainable Aotearoa New Zealand (SANZ) and chair of Earth Charter New Zealand (ECANZ). Prof Bosselmann has been a consultant for UNEP, IUCN, the EU and the German government and was a delegate at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. He has authored or edited 25 books in the area of international environmental law, NZ environmental law and sustainability approaches to law-making and global governance. In 2009 he was the inaugural winner of the Senior Scholar Prize of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law (with a membership of 180 law professors).

**Dr Betsan Martin** is Director of RESPONSE, an organisation working on Ethics, Responsibility and Governance, and engages in research, development projects and initiatives to support integrated governance. RESPONSE programmes are undertaken in partnership with tangata whenua/Maori and indigenous peoples of the Pacific region. RESPONSE is an associate of the The International Forum on Ethics and Responsibility currently focussing on a Charter for Universal Responsibilities for the Rio+20 agenda. This involves international engagement as well as participating in the NZ NGO Platform for Rio+20 and working with Pacific regional networks. Betsan's academic background is in philosophy of education and an ethics of responsibility and she writes and publishes in these fields. With research as well as applied interests Betsan is involved in both social and environmental projects, and is currently co-ordinator of a national Methodist Public questions network. Her research interests and project leadership are directed towards integrating social environmental and economic fields in support of sustainability and stewardship in the context of climate change.

**David Tong** .David works in commercial litigation at a large New Zealand law firm. He graduated from the University of Auckland in 2009 with conjoint bachelors degrees in law and arts, completing his honours dissertation in law on New Zealand's emissions trading scheme under Professor Klaus Bosselmann. In arts he doubled majored in politics and philosophy. From 2009-2010 he worked as a judges' clerk at the High Court in Auckland.

He has numerous volunteer positions. He is the chair of the p3 Foundation, a member of Generation Zero and a former Vice President of UN Youth. He attended the 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Durban last year with the New Zealand Youth Delegation. In 2008 he was a senior editor of the Auckland University Law Review and was awarded a certificate for outstanding pro bono service by the University of Auckland Equal Justice Project. He is a keen cyclist, runner and hiker (having completed the 100 km Oxfam trailwalker and in training for a fifth, hoping to break the 20-hour barrier.

**Dr Sudhvir Singh** works as a clinician at North Shore Hospital. He completed his medical training at the University of Auckland as the most distinguished graduate in his cohort. In addition to studying Medicine, he completed a research degree in Public Health and graduated with First Class Honours. He has published on the health impacts of climate change in the well respected medical journal The Lancet and co-edited the Environmental Health chapter in the leading textbook on global

health. He has held numerous leadership positions with Non Governmental organisations, including terms as President of the Auckland Medical Students' Association and President of UN Youth in Auckland. He helped establish Medical Students for Global Awareness and subsequently led the organisation as it became the largest social advocacy organisation for medical students in New Zealand. He attended the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Cancun in 2010. Currently he is the New Zealand Co-ordinator of the Climate & Health Council and an active member of Generation Zero.

**Emma Moon** is a current Masters of Environmental Studies Candidate at Victoria University of Wellington. She plans on writing her Masters thesis this year on REDD+, the United Nations Forest conservation policy. In 2010 and 2011, she was a member of the New Zealand Youth Delegation to the annual United Nations Climate Change Conferences in Mexico and South Africa respectively. In 2010 Emma addressed a UN Conference plenary session on forestry issues on behalf of the global youth constituency. In 2011 Emma co-convened the youth delegation of ten young people from around New Zealand. Emma was also a founding member of climate change NGO Generation Zero and is currently New Zealand co-coordinator for 350 Aotearoa. Emma has a strong interest in youth engagement in climate change issues and is part of the planning committee for an exciting youth conference in December called Powershift NZ-Pacific. Powershift hopes to mobilise hundreds of youth and re-activate the climate change movement in New Zealand.

**Will Watterson** (NZ Country Director) brings to the Global Poverty Project over a decade of experience in theatre, storytelling for change, international development, campaigning, global education and youth work. He's passionate about connecting everyday Kiwis to the big global issues of our time in a way that empowers and excites them to be part of the solution. As Country Manager he is responsible for the management and execution of the Global Poverty project in Aotearoa New Zealand. This includes setting up the country's strategy, and building a team, partnerships and funding to execute that strategy, with the support of the international secretariat. In his spare time he likes to climb mountains and strum his guitar

## **SUBMISSION FOR THE RIO+20 PROCESS BY NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT**

New Zealand welcomes this opportunity to make a submission on the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. We look forward to engaging with other stakeholders through the process of consideration of a focused, action- oriented outcome document.

New Zealand has not sought to comment on every element of the sustainable development agenda in this submission. Rather, we have focused on our top priority issues for the purposes of this document.

New Zealand is currently Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum. The annual Pacific Islands Forum Leaders' meeting in Auckland in September 2011 contained a number of themes that are of direct relevance to Rio+20. We have highlighted several in this submission. The relevant outcomes of the Forum meeting will also be relayed separately to inform the Rio+20 process of the priorities of the Pacific region.

### **Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 and preference for the format of the outcome document**

New Zealand notes that the objective of Rio+20 is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

Accordingly, New Zealand envisages Rio+20 producing a short, focussed outcome document containing implementable political outcomes. We wish to see an emphasis on political commitments and actions to achieve them.

Working within that context New Zealand wishes to highlight a number of priority areas which it regards as strong candidates for international agreement and action.

### **Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

New Zealand considers pursuit of a green economy to be a pragmatic approach, not a new paradigm – it is as much about how we grow as it is about how much we grow. New Zealand supports mutually reinforcing environmental, social and economic policy that makes the most of opportunities to develop new industries, jobs and technologies to clean up polluting sectors, seek efficiencies in resource use and transform consumption patterns. New Zealand does not consider that it is desirable or possible to take a one-size-fits-all approach to achieving a green economy. A flexible approach to the green economy will allow countries to implement policies and activities suitable to their own national context. It is vital that the pursuit of a green economy avoid trade distorting measures and imposing new, green, barriers to trade.

### **Oceans and Marine Living Resources : The ‘Blue Economy’:**

For us, and for other Pacific Island Forum countries, a crucial element of the “green economy” is the “blue economy”. Capitalising on the potential of our oceans is crucial for the future of the Pacific and the livelihoods of its peoples. In the Waiheke Declaration on Sustainable Economic Development of September 2011, Pacific Islands Forum leaders recommitted to pursuing a goal of ensuring a sustainable economic environment for all.

In September 2011, PIF Leaders noted the region’s unique dependency on the Pacific Ocean as the basis for their livelihoods, food security and economic development. New Zealand as Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) reiterates the PIF Leaders’ call for the Rio+20 conference to recognise the significant global value and contribution of the Pacific Ocean to sustainable development, and to acknowledge the stewardship of Pacific Island Countries.

New Zealand also reiterates the PIF call for the international community to work towards integrated oceans management, for which the Pacific Oceanscape<sup>1</sup> could be a model, with the aim of realising relevant international goals to contribute to the health and vitality of the ocean environment, and the maximisation of returns to Small Island Developing States from the sustainable use of ocean resources.

### **Health of the Oceans:**

New Zealand strongly supports the completion of the first global integrated assessment of the state of the marine environment (Regular Process for the Global Marine Assessment) by 2014, which was mandated by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and calls for adequate resourcing for the first assessment. New Zealand emphasises the importance of the Regular Process for the Global Marine Assessment as a credible, robust process and calls for a commitment to an ongoing process of assessments after 2014. New Zealand calls on states to take account of the Regular Process for the Global Marine Assessment outcomes and act upon them in formulating national, regional and global oceans policy. We note ongoing concern

about ocean acidification and other climate change effects on the oceans especially in the Pacific region.

**Sustainable fisheries management including greater return to small island developing states from their fisheries resources:**

New Zealand emphasises that generating greater returns from sustainable fisheries is a high priority for the Pacific. Support for sustainable development of Pacific fisheries and securing a greater proportion of returns for Pacific Island countries and territories are key themes of New Zealand's Pacific fisheries engagement, in terms of our participation in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and our development assistance.

New Zealand urges renewed commitment to improved oceans governance, including adherence to the key principles of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, including a reinforcement of the precautionary approach. We recognise the important link between fisheries and food security. We call on RFMOs dealing with highly migratory species to continue to coordinate among themselves to develop and adopt best practice in the conservation and management of these species and their ecosystems. We also call on RFMOs dealing with straddling stocks and on coastal states to cooperate in the sustainable management of stocks. We underline the need for quality, targeted and better-resourced science and for RFMO decisions to be made on the basis of that science. New Zealand also urges a focus on improved fisheries management within Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). This would involve analysis of and emphasis on fisheries sustainability within EEZs (which is where more than 90% of global fishing takes place). States must also take action to ensure their management of fisheries within their EEZs faithfully implements the UNCLOS requirement to conserve and manage fisheries resources, in accordance with international commitments.

1 The Framework for Pacific Oceanscape was agreed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in August 2010.

**Fisheries subsidies:**

New Zealand believes that Rio+20 must address harmful fisheries subsidies that contribute to overfishing and overcapacity, and impact negatively on sustainable development. Fisheries subsidies can undermine fisheries management decisions, contribute to illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing, create perverse economic incentives which impact on the long term sustainability of global fisheries, and add pressure on the last remaining, not fully exploited fisheries. Ultimately the impacts of subsidies will fall most heavily on countries and communities that depend on fisheries resources for livelihoods, development and employment. In this context, as a complement to ongoing WTO negotiations, countries should re-commit at Rio+20 to eliminate subsidies which contribute to overcapacity, as well as subsidies for activities that affect already overfished stocks, and subsidies for vessels and enterprises found to be engaged in IUU fishing. Countries should also undertake to pursue further unilateral or plurilateral reform of subsidies that contribute to overfishing, commit to significant improvement in the transparency of current subsidy programmes, and consider greater accountability for non-notification.

**Marine Conservation and Marine Protected Areas:**

New Zealand reaffirms the importance of creating, based on sound science, an environmentally sound, representative network of Marine Protected Areas that advance biodiversity. We recall the international commitment, by 2020, for at least 17% of terrestrial and inland water, and 10% of coastal and marine areas, especially

areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, to be conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascapes. We endorse ongoing work to identify and protect Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems.

#### **Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU):**

New Zealand urges the international community to take effective measures against IUU fishing including: increased monitoring, control and surveillance measures; commitment by the flag state to enforce RFMO and coastal state measures against their vessels, including full compliance with reporting obligations; implementation of port state measures, including ratification of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement and development of RFMO IUU vessel blacklists; implementation of clear and equitable market measures, including the development of appropriate catch certification schemes and international standards for fisheries product certification; and encouraging states to take action against those responsible for IUU fishing, including their own companies and nationals. We urge governments, industry and NGOs to work together to combat IUU fishing. We call for the IMO and FAO to continue their joint work on flags of convenience. We reiterate the importance for the Pacific region of actions to combat IUU fishing and improve monitoring, control and surveillance, and recognise progress to this end, including under the Niue Treaty.

#### **Reform of inefficient Fossil Fuel Subsidies:**

A key impediment to the successful transition towards a green economy is the existence of perverse incentives that continue to encourage practices harmful to the environment and which inhibit new sources of economic growth.

One of the key commitments in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development Johannesburg Plan of Implementation was to “remove [energy] market distortions including the restructuring of taxes and the phasing out of harmful subsidies”.

In 2009, under the leadership of G20 and APEC Leaders, this issue received attention again. Since then G20 and APEC, together representing 54 economies<sup>2</sup>, have repeatedly recognised that subsidies for fossil fuels encourage wasteful consumption, distort markets, impede investment in clean energy sources and undermine efforts to deal with climate change. The Report of the Secretary-General’s High-level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing found that freeing up fossil fuel subsidies in developed countries alone could raise up to \$8 billion/year that could potentially be redirected to climate change finance.

G20 and APEC Leaders have committed to rationalise and phase-out over the medium term inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption, while recognising the importance of providing those in need with essential energy services (through targeted case transfers and other appropriate mechanisms, for example).

In addition, the 2011-2020 Convention on Biological Diversity Strategic Plan, agreed in Nagoya in 2010, calls for the removal, phase out, or reform by 2020 of incentives, including subsidies, that are harmful to biodiversity.

New Zealand acknowledges the leadership shown by G20 and APEC economies. New Zealand believes that Rio+20 should join these other international efforts to reform inefficient fossil fuel subsidies over the medium term, while mitigating adverse impacts on vulnerable groups.

New Zealand urges Rio+20 to extend to all UN members the G20 and APEC commitments to phase out over the medium term, inefficient fossil fuel subsidies that encourage wasteful consumption and undermine sustainable development, while mitigating adverse impacts on vulnerable groups, to all Rio+20 Parties. Mechanisms to support such a commitment should include regular reporting of expenditures and actions taken to reduce subsidies; technical assistance underpinned by research and development; and the sharing of tools needed to achieve reform. An outcome from Rio+20 in this area would complement and build on the commitments made by G20 and APEC leaders. A Rio+20 outcome on inefficient fossil fuel subsidy reform would help address a current impediment to green growth.

New Zealand is working with the other members of the Friends of Fossil Fuel Subsidy Reform group to highlight the potential climate, economic, trade and energy security benefits of fossil fuel subsidy reform and support the G20 implement their commitments.

2 19 members of the G20 plus the EU Presidency, which represents an additional 23 European countries, plus 12 member economies of APEC (in addition to those G20 members of APEC already counted).

### **Energy**

New Zealand sees access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy as essential for sustainable economic development, including in our own region the Pacific. In the Pacific, there is an extraordinarily high dependence on imported fossil fuel for transport and electricity needs. Projects to reduce this dependency have the potential to improve energy security, provide greater access to energy services, and decrease vulnerability to price volatility - all of which are positive for sustainable economic growth. New Zealand is supporting the Pacific region in actively exploring enhanced use of renewable energy sources for electricity generation, including solar, wind, hydro power, bio-energy, and geothermal energy, including through fast start finance contributions. Enhanced energy efficiency measures are a fundamental part of this ongoing work.

New Zealand strongly supports the Secretary General's initiative to achieve the goal of Sustainable Energy for All by 2030 through three interlinked targets<sup>3</sup>. We see access to clean and affordable energy as a key element of sustainable economic development.

A comprehensive, planned approach is required to develop the energy sector. In this respect the use of "energy roadmaps" pulling together country-specific information, including the availability of energy resources, current and future energy use, distribution and transmission constraints, proposed improvements, policies, targets and regulatory issues, can provide a robust framework for donors and partners to coordinate their development efforts, including financing. New Zealand would encourage more widespread use of energy roadmaps as part of the broader consideration of sustainable development at Rio+20.

### **Sustainable agriculture**

For New Zealand and for many other Pacific Islands Forum members, immense potential rests in our productive sectors, including sustainable agriculture. Capitalising on this potential is crucial for the future of the Pacific and the livelihoods of its peoples.

New Zealand believes that efforts to reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions must not compromise global food security. New Zealand has been a lead voice in

calling for greater international attention to, and investment in, agriculture greenhouse gas mitigation research and better coordination of efforts. To this end, New Zealand launched the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases in December 2009 in the margins of the UN climate change conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. Over 30 countries, spanning all continents, are now members of the Alliance.

The Alliance is focused on research, development and extension of technologies and practices that will help deliver ways to grow more food (and more climate-resilient food systems) without growing greenhouse gas emissions. The Alliance seeks to deepen and broaden existing networks of agriculture mitigation research and build new ones; enhance scientific capacities; increase international investment; improve understanding and measurement of agricultural emissions; and improve access to and application of agricultural mitigation technologies and best practices. The Alliance invites new members and partner organisations to support this vitally important work for the benefit of all countries.

3 - achieving universal access to modern energy services; improving energy efficiency by 40 percent; and producing 30 percent of the world's energy from renewable sources.

### **Fresh Water Resources**

New Zealand considers the issue of wise management of water resources to be critical for sustainable development. In the Pacific and particularly for those living on small islands the availability of a safe and reliable supply of fresh water for both potable use and for agriculture is a critical issue. In many cases it is the limiting factor in agriculture development and the supply is precarious at best and unseasonal periods without rain can cause severe shortages (as is occurring at present in Tuvalu, Tokelau, and the outer islands of the Cook Islands). Population growth, development pressures and climate change are making the situation more unstable and less reliable. Options for increasing supply are very limited as many islands have no surface water sources and very limited ground water sources and are required to depend on rain water collection.

### **Institutional framework for sustainable development**

There are various proposals for structural changes to the United Nations' institutional framework, some of which are potentially far-reaching. Before embarking on change it is necessary to have agreement on the objective - what are we trying to achieve? New Zealand considers that form should follow function, that is, the institutional structures should not be an end in themselves but should enable achievement of the objectives set by the international community.

The UNs institutional framework for sustainable development has two main functions: to set international norms relating to sustainable development and to assist countries with implementation. It is timely to review the effectiveness of the current framework. We recall that the 2005 Millennium Summit outcome document flagged the need to explore system wide coherence in relation to environmental activities. This is relevant for all the pillars of sustainable development.

In reviewing the institutional framework for sustainable development, it is necessary to consider the following elements:

- effective policy integration of the three pillars of sustainable development at all levels (ie aspects of each should be considered in the development of policies for the other.)
- closer cooperation and coordination between and among institutions;

- avoidance of overlap and duplication;
- continuation of the principles of partnership at multiple levels arising from the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21;
- good value for money for member states and effective delivery of assistance;
- adequate resourcing;
- monitoring results (in particular, the effectiveness of development assistance).

New Zealand does not want to prejudice the final format of the institutional framework, particularly on the question of intergovernmental bodies. New Zealand's preference has to date been to focus on pragmatic reform of existing institutions, rather than larger-scale institutional change, ensuring that reforms are practical, achievable and effective at the national level. We would look, however, to apply the elements listed above to any proposals. Further, it will be important that States have a full understanding of the financial, legal and comparative advantages of all proposals for structural reform.

New Zealand is a strong supporter of the Delivering as One initiative, considering a unified and coherent UN structure at the country level is beneficial both for the UN system and the country concerned. In our view, the pilots have worked well as they have reduced waste and improved delivery on the ground and demonstrably supported national strategies, institutions and systems to achieve the particular government's development goals. The initiative should be expanded and applied to sustainable development generally.

#### **Sustainable development goals**

New Zealand is interested in the proposal that Rio+20 consider a process to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). New Zealand considers the proposal to have some merits and would support further development of the concept. It would be important that the focus of the SDGs be tightly defined. We consider it important that any process established should not detract from the continuing collective international effort to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

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### **Summaries of Papers Presented.**

#### **Hon Dr Nick Smith – from his Press Release**

Full address available on request.

“New Zealand's priority at the United Nations Rio+20 Summit in June will be on improving environmental management of Oceans and opportunities from greening growth, Environment Minister Nick Smith said when opening the United Nations Association New Zealand Conference in Wellington today.

“We are putting strong emphasis on Oceans in New Zealand's contribution to Rio+20 because it is so important for our part of the world and more needs to be done globally to protect the marine environment. Our concern is that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing continues unchecked and often supported by Government subsidy.”

“New Zealand will also be promoting its ideas around greening growth at the Rio+20 Summit. We have a real contribution to make noting our ranking as best performer in the 2011 Global Green Growth Index. The global community, in these difficult times, needs to focus on policies that enable improved living standards and incomes while ensuring better stewardship of natural resources.”

“We will be particularly active in advocating for reform of fossil fuel subsidies. The debate on carbon pricing to reduce emissions is undermined by global subsidies of \$500 billion per year of fossil fuels. There is real opportunity for significant emissions reductions and saving for governments from removing these distorting subsidies.”  
“Real gains were made at the original Rio Earth Summit with conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification. Our ambition for Rio+20 is for progress to be made on improving management of our oceans and on greening global economic growth.”

## **KEYNOTE PANEL**

### **Phil O'Reilly CEO Business NZ**

The Green Growth Advisory Group report had been launched earlier in the week and its Chair Phil O'Reilly summarised its 26 recommendations. The 60 page report is available on [www.businessnz.org.nz](http://www.businessnz.org.nz) or [www.med.govt.nz](http://www.med.govt.nz). Its findings acknowledge that there is no choice but sustainability and it needs to be part of mainstream business noting that green jobs are only green if you “green” every aspect of them. Business needs to lead and Governments follow and their role is not to pick winners but rather to set stands for business to comply with e.g. Food standards. Acknowledging that we currently need 1.4 earths to sustain ourselves and we are taking from the future we therefore need innovation – clean technology derives High technology. In answer to a question he recognised that different countries need different solutions – ours is not like Australia – but we can learn from different countries and what is necessary is to get everyone on board. This is the purpose of Rio.

### **Green Growth Advisory Groups Recommendations to New Zealand Government:**

1. Publish Green Growth Indicators every 3 years
2. Guide collaboration between central and local government in managing natural capital and resolving issues of economic development and environmental protection
3. Help coordinate and integrate capability-building in small and medium size enterprises
4. Provide information on improving environmental performance to small and medium size enterprises
5. Promote standards and certification aimed at raising environmental and economic performance
6. Refocus the role of EECA towards helping businesses, farms and households reduce their greenhouse gas emissions, with a particular focus on small and medium size enterprises

7. Promote early implementation of demand management technology to improve energy efficiency
8. Continue current reforms in the innovation system including changes within Crown Research Institutes, establishment of the Advanced Technology Institute, and better links between science and business
9. Support transfer of knowledge and technology from overseas to facilitate green growth
10. Include green growth considerations in funding programmes in science, innovation and tertiary education
11. Provide a public information resource on the New Zealand brand, including elements such as greenness, creativity, authenticity, freedom from corruption, resourcefulness, stability, trustworthiness
12. Consider New Zealand's reputation and market positioning when proposing regulation of foreign exchange-earning industries
13. Use the international information-gathering capabilities of Ministries and Crown entities to keep New Zealand business informed on green growth opportunities and challenges in international markets
14. Ensure sustainability principles are put into practice as part of the Government's Public-Sector-wide procurement policy
15. Designate construction and healthcare as green growth sectors for the purpose of public sector procurement
16. Consider establishing an 'invest to save' fund to help public sector agencies shift sooner to greener technologies and practices and to encourage innovation among their suppliers
17. Create a nationally consistent biodiversity offsetting regime that will facilitate projects for economic growth while delivering net gains to biodiversity and environmental quality
18. Support research that increases understanding of biological systems and biosecurity risks associated with the food and beverage sector
19. Develop programmes to transfer new knowledge and technology between the innovation system and New Zealand farm businesses
20. Promote collaboration to resolve environmental issues related to farming, fishing, horticulture and forestry practices
21. Encourage livestock farmers to invest in technologies for managing diffuse source pollution including greenhouse gas emissions
22. Work with the tourism industry towards a strategy for gaining high-value tourists in the greener market segment

23. Investigate promoting high-profile New Zealand tourist destinations as models or exemplars of green growth in this sector
24. Include consideration of green growth when considering recommendations in advisory reports relevant to the high-value manufacturing and services sector
25. Provide information on environmental and economic risks and benefits, and promote discussion towards consensus among New Zealanders, regarding which and how much of New Zealand's mineral and petroleum resources should be available for extraction and under what constraints
26. Investigate wider benefits from petroleum and minerals royalties, such as long-term infrastructure provision; biodiversity and environmental protection; social or other programmes for communities, iwi and regions most directly affected; or a sovereign wealth fund or similar to create long-term intergenerational benefits

*The Green Growth Advisory Group's report is available on [www.med.govt.nz](http://www.med.govt.nz) and [www.businessnz.org.nz](http://www.businessnz.org.nz)*

## **Economic Priorities and Environmental issues**

### **Dr Rick Boven – Director NZ Institute**

With a population of 7 billion people, Earth's economy and environment are inextricably linked. The economy depends on the environment for resources and conditions that sustain life and commerce. A strong economy is required to allow protection of environment resources and to produce technologies and products that will improve environment outcomes.

In the short run, improving environment outcomes provides economic benefits for some businesses and many leaders of those businesses are using their influence to improve environment outcomes. Businesses should pursue those win/win opportunities vigorously. Where business interests are not aligned and environment risks are material, governments are expected to regulate.

Developed economies have been struggling recently because of a recession exacerbated by excess debt and a financial crisis. They are also under pressure from labour markets and competitive effects of computers, robotics and offshoring.

Prices for important commodities have increased very strongly during the last decade, possibly signalling the emergence of an age of scarcity. New resources are often higher cost than existing resources. Resource price rises are creating cost pressures for households, especially in developing countries that import resources. Protests and disruption have resulted in the Middle East and North Africa.

Twenty years after Rio, carbon dioxide concentration continues to grow strongly. Business-as-usual energy projections indicate ongoing emissions increase while prudent climate management requires a material emissions decrease. Two-thirds of the services provided by nature are in decline. As a result the carrying capacity of Earth, with current technologies, is declining.

**Technology development in the past has increased carrying capacity dramatically. Fossil fuels, agricultural technologies and trade have allowed a huge increase in the sustainable population density. However the ecological footprint of humanity passed one Earth around 1980, is now around 1.5 Earths and on the current course is heading for two Earths in 2050.**

Scientific arguments for greater efforts to sustain environmental productivity and reduce environment risks are compelling. Many technologies and policies are available to improve environment outcomes but not enough are being deployed to reverse or even slow the adverse trends. However, there is not yet a sense of urgency. It is generally left to the market, with some incentives but also some continuing harmful subsidies.

The issue now is mobilising effort. Economies and populations are usually mobilised when serious issues arise, for example in wars. This time several obstacles are combining to weaken the response.

Two paradigms are in conflict. The economic paradigm assumes the economy is small relative to the environment and that resources can be drawn from the environment and wastes disposed of into the environment without limit. This paradigm predicts the future will be an extension of the past and the societal goal should be to maximise GDP per capita.

The ecological paradigm assumes the economy has become large relative to the environment, creating risk of an overshoot crisis. In this paradigm, the future will not be an extension of the past and the societal goal should be to manage risks. Adherents to the two paradigms often talk past one another without confronting the fundamental differences between their world views.

Incumbent businesses threatened by regulation may also slow the response by their lobbying efforts. Capital markets discount rates mean businesses place a low value on outcomes beyond ten or fifteen years. Directors are legally required to act in the interests of the company and are not free to pursue environmental goals where these conflict with company interests.

Governments in democracies provide what voters want or are replaced. Voters want more consumption and evaluate governments on GDP growth. Governments may be influenced by lobbying from incumbent businesses unless countered by influence from civil society.

Activists and others who wish to improve environment outcomes should focus their efforts on increasing public engagement. Influencing opinion-leaders who influence the public builds the demand for sustainably provided goods and services and increases the pressure on governments to act to reduce long-term environment risks.

**Science Perspective:  
Sir Peter Gluckman**

While we need to sustain a level of economic growth sustainability tensions occur between the needs of the people and their expectations concerning resource consumption. The population is predicted to be nearly 10 billion by 2050 with unrealistic and irreconcilable expectations. We need a legitimate balance. Our knowledge will always be incomplete – post normal science – and Science will never be value-free. Values are not linear. Risk is not linear. When do we have enough data to decide on action? The Climate Change debate was not about the amount of data but about intergenerational equity. The Media have not always helped. We do need a balance between growth and sustainability and there is a need for a more balanced approach. Risk analysis is not something the general public understand well. The role of the Government is to manage risks – to keep society safe. We need to be both realistic and ambitious but we do need a balance between extraction and resource preservation.

## **NGO OVERVIEW**

### **Barry Coates CEO Oxfam**

#### **RIO+20: Action for sustainable development**

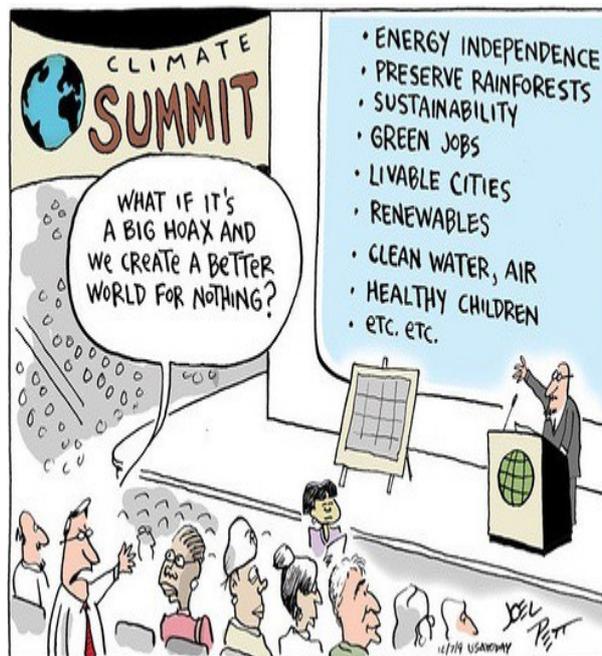
Oxfam has engaged in sustainable development issues at a local, national and international levels since well before the work was termed ‘sustainable development’! A crucial element of the negotiations in Rio is likely to be the shaping of the outcomes, so that the lead-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 (RIO+20 process) is able to lead to action rather than merely re-stating of the Rio principles and Agenda 21.

Oxfam considers that this is an opportunity for world leaders to re-mandate the international system to make tangible progress towards sustainable development in a coherent way. The UN agencies, specialised agencies and bodies (including the IMF, World Bank and WTO), inter-governmental agencies and regional bodies should be charged with a clear direction to adopt a consistent and coherent approach to sustainable development throughout their work.

The Rio+20 conference will be followed by the High-Level Summit on the Millennium Development Goals in 2013 There is a growing debate on how to draw up renewed and expanded global development goals which bring together the twin objectives of poverty eradication and environmental sustainability. Any vision of sustainable development fit for the 21st century must recognise that eradicating poverty and achieving social justice is inextricably linked to ensuring ecological stability and renewal. Progressing towards that vision requires clear goals and indicators to act as a compass for the journey ahead.

Oxfam's Discussion Paper, "A Safe and Just Space for Humanity: Can we live within the doughnut?" available at <http://www.oxfam.org.nz/resources/onlinereports/dp-a-safe-and-just-space-for-humanity-130212-en.pdf> aims to present a framework and explore ideas that could help to provide such a compass. The paper sets out a visual framework for sustainable development – shaped like a doughnut – which brings planetary boundaries together with social boundaries, creating a safe and just space between the two, in which humanity can thrive. Moving into this space demands far greater equity – within and between countries – in the use of natural resources, and demands far greater efficiency in transforming those resources to meet human needs.

Oxfam New Zealand believes that, over the next decade, we need to make a rapid transition to a new model of prosperity, one which delivers economic development, respects planetary boundaries, and has equity at its heart. The New Zealand government can and should play a crucial role in this process, both as a country widely perceived as a leader in sustainable development and as the Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum



## Dr Gray Southon - United Nations Association of New Zealand

The United Nations Association promotes the understanding of the United Nations and engagement with it, working with the community, NGOs etc. ...

Whatever way you look at it though, sustainability is clearly an issue that demands effective international cooperation. There are 7 billion of us sharing the one planet and much of what we do is related. Many global systems are being stressed, some of them irreversibly. We have an economic system inherently dependent on growth, and about 80% of the population poorly developed, seeking the standards that we enjoy in the developed world. We are heavily dependent on non-renewable

resources, all of which are essentially unsustainable. Our legacy for future generations is looking rather grim....

Much is said about political will, or the lack of, accounting for the poor progress to date. Underlying this is a lack of national capacity and popular will. Both rich and poor countries seem to be suffering from lack of resources and poor governance, and desire for improved material wealth. The continuing dependence on growth and fossil fuels make the radical changes that many prescribe very difficult. The alternative to effective action could be a saga of resource wars while the global commons degenerates – an outcome which is too horrible to contemplate....

We now have fresh set of documents, many urging widespread change, including some from such organisations as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development and the World Economic Forum. There are pressures for change coming from many directions, but also widespread resistance.

**So what about Rio+20?** This, of course, will be not only a diplomatic exchange between governments, but also a massive global exchange of diverse parties involving possible 24,000 attendees. We hope there will be a formal outcome agreement, but there will also be a host of informal outcomes arising from exchanges between these people and the events that they organise. Perhaps the substantial outcome may come more from the informal than the formal.

#### **Where does NZ fit in?**

The government's position is relatively cautious, arguably in line with our limited international influence and the resources made available for the project. It is good that the Minister of Foreign Affairs is leading the team, and the issues selected are of importance to NZ and to its Pacific partners. However, one could be forgiven for suspecting that the government wanted to avoid any issues sensitive to New Zealanders themselves. Such a suspicion would be re-enforced by the minimal publicity currently given to this event....

#### **Children's Rights -Pip Bennett UNICEF**

Pip stressed the need to have young people in the delegation as children need to be at the centre of sustainable development – intergenerational responsibility. So far there has been no NZ youth consultation. UNICEF and UNESCO are planning Youth Rio+ 20 Seminars in the main centres and this will be fed back into MFAT.

#### **Diana Shand – NGO+20 Platform Committee Chair**

Diana stressed the need to focus the Conference on Sustainable Development not just the Environment. The NZ submission had focussed on the Blue Economy, reducing Fossil Fuel subsidies and Institutional Framework. The NGO Platform focus has been on assessment of results from MEAs, creating an enabling environment – ability to access policies on Government's alternatives to GDP and green economy They have prepared a paper on alternatives to GDP and are currently preparing a CSO/NGO position paper. See website [www.angoa.org.nz/angoa\\_docs](http://www.angoa.org.nz/angoa_docs) 2012-03-09. Working with the Institute of Policy Studies they are holding two lunch hour Seminars in May on Measurements for sustainability including alternative measures to GNP and on Youth participation in sustainable development.

## **SPECIALIST PANEL**

### **Oceans and Biodiversity: Dr Carolyn Lundquist – NIWA/DOC**

New Zealand is an internationally recognised global hotspot for biodiversity, with 80% of the nation's total biodiversity found in the sea, and high proportion of our marine species (44%) found only in New Zealand. The biodiversity in our oceans is important for key economic sectors, including tourism, recreation (including recreational fisheries), and commercial fisheries. There is also growing recognition of the importance to society that ecological goods and services – the benefit arising from the ecological functions of healthy marine ecosystems - provide for health, social, cultural, and economic needs. Renewable goods from the oceans include the use of marine fish, invertebrates and seaweeds for food and other raw materials, medicinal or chemical products from marine species, and energy (wind, wave, tidal) and water resources. Non-renewable goods include oil and gas resources, sand and gravel mining, and marine mineral resources.....The ecosystem goods and services provided by the biodiversity in our oceans are important drivers of sustainability, and these goods and services are the scientific foundation upon which we should evaluate management of New Zealand's marine ecosystems for sustainability, including new management strategies such as Marine Spatial Planning.

#### **Talking Points**

- New Zealand's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is over 4 million km<sup>2</sup> and ranges from subtropical to subantarctic over 30 degrees of latitude, and from shallow coastal and estuarine habitats to 10 km deep abyssal trenches.
- New Zealand is an internationally recognised global hotspot for biodiversity, with 80% of the nation's total biodiversity found in the sea, and high proportion of our marine species (44%) found only in New Zealand.
- The biodiversity in our oceans is important for key economic sectors, including tourism, recreation (including recreational fisheries), and commercial fisheries.
- There is also growing recognition of the importance to society that ecological goods and services – the benefit arising from the ecological functions of healthy marine ecosystems - provide for health, social, cultural, and economic needs.
- Renewable goods from the oceans include the use of marine fish, invertebrates and seaweeds for food and other raw materials, medicinal or chemical products from marine species, and energy (wind, wave, tidal) and water resources.
- Non-renewable goods include oil and gas resources, sand and gravel mining, and marine mineral resources.

- Ecosystem services are often more difficult to put economic value upon, and include atmospheric and climate regulation, carbon sequestration, coastal protection and erosion control, habitat structure including nursery habitats for commercial fisheries, and nutrient cycling, biological regulation, and waste processing.
- We also derive significant social and cultural services from our oceans, including tourism, leisure, and recreation, cultural heritage and identity, education and research, and aesthetics.
- We do have the technology and the skill base in New Zealand to map the ecosystem goods and services provided by our oceans at a spatial scale relevant to local, regional and national marine management.
- We also have the technology to predict our Environmental Futures, or how the goods and services provided by our oceans are likely to change as climate changes and biodiversity is faced with higher temperatures, changing storm frequency, increasing ocean acidity, and sea-level rise.
- The ecosystem goods and services provided by the biodiversity in our oceans are important drivers of sustainability, and these goods and services are the scientific foundation upon which we should evaluate management of New Zealand's marine ecosystems for sustainability, including new management strategies such as Marine Spatial Planning.

## **Energy-smart Food for People and Climate**

### **Prof Ralph Sims Massey University**

The presentation (pdf provided) gave an overview of a recent UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) report the author was commissioned to produce late last year and that was launched by FAO at the U N Climate Change COP 17 conference in Durban, South Africa.

At the Wellington RIO+20 event, the presentation linked closely with other presentations covering food, water and energy. Indeed, an additional slide was added to show the IEA analysis of fossil fuel subsidies – having been raised in earlier presentations and discussions that morning. (The author had been based at the IEA as a Senior Analyst for 4 years, before returning to Massey University at the end of 2010, and had worked on various relevant publications including the World Energy Outlook).

The FAO report on *Energy-Smart Food for People and Climate* was commissioned by the FAO due to their projection that the world will need 70% more food by 2050 due to population growth and improved diets, but there are growing concerns at the high dependency of the entire food supply chain on fossil fuels. For example fertiliser manufacture currently consumes around 5% of total natural gas demand. The global agriculture and food supply industry, including that of New Zealand, therefore must reduce its dependence on fossil fuels to secure food supply in the future.

The current dependence of the food sector on fossil fuels may limit the sector's ability to meet future global food demands so the challenge is to decouple food prices from fluctuating and rising fossil fuel prices. The food supply chain already uses 32 per cent of total global energy and produces 22 per cent of greenhouse gases. But then we fail to consume one third of all the food the world produces. This leads to a high wastage of land, water and direct and indirect energy inputs.

So from 'paddock-to-plate' the industry has to become smarter. Variations in energy demand, GHG emissions and losses occur between high and low GDP countries but all have the opportunity to produce and deliver food more efficiently. Food loss reductions can occur during improved storage, preparation and consumption habits, and demand reduced by diet change and reducing obesity levels.

High and fluctuating prices of fossil fuels and growing doubts regarding their future availability at low prices, mean that agri-food systems need to shift to a more "energy-smart" model, and "energy-smart is climate smart".

**At each stage of the food supply chain, current practices can be adapted to become less energy intensive. Efficiency gains can often come from modifying, at no or little cost, existing farming, fishing, food processing, transport, storage, retailing and cooking practices. Steps that can be taken at the farm level vary between subsistence farming in developing countries and family and corporate farming as in NZ, but can include the use of more fuel efficient tractor operation, the use of precision fertilizing and nutrient recycling, irrigation monitoring and targeted water delivery, adoption of no-till farming and conservation practices and the use of crop varieties and animal breeds that need fewer inputs. After food has been harvested, improved transport infrastructure, better insulation of food storage facilities, reductions in packaging and food waste, and more efficient cooking devices offer the possibility of reducing energy use throughout the entire food system.**

In addition, farmers, fishers and food processing companies usually have renewable energy resources available on-site (such as wind, solar, mini-hydro, animal wastes, crop residues, food processing rejects), that can be converted cost-effectively to provide heat, electricity and transport fuels (including bio-gas) for their own use or for sale off-site to generate additional business revenue.

Many good examples already exist in New Zealand. Fonterra, for example, has reduced the greenhouse gas emissions from its farm suppliers by 8.5 per cent per litre of milk and its energy inputs per tonne of milk product by 13.9 per cent. This is a start, but purchasers of our food products continue to investigate farm and food processing practices with ever-increasing scrutiny – feeding dairy cattle on palm oil residues being just one example.

A positive message for New Zealand from the report is that food miles are less important than choosing food from regions of high productivity not involving high input levels. Producing urea from lignite would be just one example of failing to maintain our present natural advantage, which is imperative if New Zealand is to become a leader of energy-smart food production.

The full report can be found as a free download at:  
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2454e/i2454e00.pdf>

## **Protection of Animals**

### **Bridget Vercoe - World Society for the Protection of Animals**

One billion of the world's poor rely on animals for work/income, food production etc and issues include overfishing, water use animals products and spreading of diseases.

Livestock are a major part of food production using 70% of arable land. There have been increases in large scale commercial farming and this has created greater problems than it has resolved. Rio +20 Document needs to encompass the protection of animals.

## **INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

### **Institutions of Trust Building: Prof Klaus Bosselmann Auckland University**

#### **1. Lost Trust?**

The 1992 Earth Summit did not bring about the changes that the 1987 Brundtland Report had called for with its plea for a new ethic and a Charter promoting strong sustainability. Initial moves within the UN to adopt an Earth Charter were not followed through by governments. Instead, the 1992 Summit settled for the less aspirational Rio Declaration leaving aside the all critical question how sustainable development should be defined and how it should be incorporated in international law. The leadership gap between civil society (calling for strong sustainability) and governments (allowing weak sustainability and business-as-usual) has never been bigger than today.

The only significant step taken in NZ was the adoption of the 1991 Resource Management Act. Its potential was, however never realised. NZ has fallen well behind international efforts to shift towards sustainable development. Today, it is one of very few OECD countries without a national strategy, without an independent sustainability council and without legally enforceable sustainability policies. Neither past governments nor the present government have shown any leadership to initiate the necessary dialogue on meaning, status, legal and institutional implications of sustainable development.

#### **2. Rebuilding Trust**

Dialogue, openness and a relationship of mutual trust are indispensable for achieving sustainable development (as articulated in the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21). In many countries, the Earth Charter has served as a framework and catalyst for building such relationships. NZ should follow that example. Continued dialogue (e.g. GOV/NGO platform), national gatherings (e.g. 'sustainability summit'), drafting of a national strategy and Charter, and establishment of an independent (statutory) sustainability council would enable Government to rebuild trust. Fundamentally, democracy is governance built on trust (between the *demos* and the *kratos*).

### **3. Building Institutions of Trust**

As an essentially ethical concept, sustainable development must be underpinned by shared values and principles. The two key themes of Rio+20 are intertwined - no green economy without effective institutions - but also require commitment to a shared morality for the common good. This kind of morality is lacking in both, economic markets and current governance mechanisms. Therefore, we will only reach our objectives through reforms in governance above and beyond the market-based reforms being proposed for a green economy. The necessary reforms need to be framed by the reality that Earth is our common home with natural limits to its exploitation, and that people in all nations have a common destiny and shared interest in protecting the commons (water, oceans, biodiversity, atmosphere). In institutional terms, this calls for trusteeship for the global commons. At Rio+20, NZ should therefore support proposals for institutional reform (e.g. World Environment Organisation) based on the principles of trusteeship and responsibility.

## **Respons-Ability: An integrating Ethic for Sustainability: Dr Betsan Martin**

The International Forum on Ethics and Responsibility is cultivating cultures of responsibility in regions across the world in professional and social networks such as environmental education. A Charter for Universal Responsibility was drafted in 2003 and this is now being proposed as a third “pillar” or agreement for international life. Respons-ability speaks to governance and decision-making. It provides a framework for integration of social environment and economy for development of a green economy which addresses poverty and is a counterpoint to a rights based strategy. Responsibility is proposed as an institutional framework to navigate towards sustainable development in a globalised and interdependent world. It would provide a relational ethic and basis for collaboration aligned with indigenous systems of integrated decision-making and aspirations for kaitiakitanga, manaakitanga and sustainability.

## **Indigenous perspectives – Bill Hamilton Ngāti Kahungunu**

Ngāti Kahungunu, as an Indigenous people, define our identity as a people through our inalienable, inherited connection with the natural environment that forges a reciprocal relationship whereby our ancestral landscape gives us holistic sustenance as a people, and we cherish our obligations to the environment to act as guardians, protecting the ability of our descendants to have a living and full relationship with the natural environment.

Ngāti Kahungunu consider Indigenous peoples contributing leadership to sustainable development is a fundamental aspect of our status as Indigenous peoples and a necessary expression of our inherited values and relationship with the natural environment. Recognising the alignment between our values and the driving objectives of Rio +20, we share the optimism of many that the conference will galvanise a step change in global practice toward sustainable development and green growth.

Ngāti Kahungunu wish to signal our aspiration to develop, in advance of Rio+20, a partnership contributing Indigenous peoples, private sector and state leadership in

the protection and restoration of the Pacific Ocean.

For Ngāti Kahungunu, the Pacific Ocean is fundamental to our identity as we are a voyaging people who trace our migration to New Zealand across the Pacific Ocean, and through our migration, forged strong genealogical connections with many of the peoples of the South Pacific. In addition to tracing our identities to the Pacific Ocean, we also celebrate the critical role of the Pacific Ocean in contributing to carbon sequestration and the wider sustenance of many states and communities.

Our vision is to restore Indigenous knowledges and peoples to being active guardians of the Pacific Ocean, generating economic, environmental, social and cultural outcomes. In advance of Rio+20, we intend to explore the development of a multi-stakeholder partnership amongst Indigenous peoples, states and private sector actors in the form of payment for ecosystems services arrangement.

## THE VOICE OF YOUTH

### **Emma Moon, David Tong, Sudhvir Singh, Will Watterson**

Chaired by Jimmy Green from Generation Zero it was acknowledged that while New Zealand has been a leader on many issues it needs to focus more on the need to change.

The message of the Youth Forum was that Young people need to be consulted and really listened to. The future is theirs and they look forward to it focussing on what has been achieved and what more can be achieved. Young people can and do reach other young people both here and internationally.

**Emma Moon** 350 Aotearoa who attended both Cancun and Durban said Civil Society needs to push for a more ambitious agenda.

**David Tong** Chair of P3 – a Youth Poverty Eradication programme now recognises that it needs to encompass sustainable development more into its agenda. Youth are the key to civil society movement. In Durban “we were told that youth were the hope of the Conference” and then we were ignored. You have been negotiating, he reminded us, all our lives. He did though accept though that youth need to be encouraged to be more involved in the Political system. The Greens were the most successful of the Political parties in enrolling them.

**Dr Sudhvir Singh** Med Students for Global Action - had attended Cancun and as a medical Doctor said that Climate Change was a major health issue. What is good for the Environment is good for health. He agreed with Sir Peter Gluckman that there was a manipulation of science by the media.

**Will Watterson:** said he believed through the Global Poverty Project we are leading Governments. The programme focuses on delivering the Millennium Goals which include environmental issues. There have been some successes but more needs to be achieved if we are to meet the targets by 2015.

Full summaries of Papers presented with power point presentations are being prepared and will be on the on the UNANZ website [www.unanz.org.nz](http://www.unanz.org.nz) and available on request, **Please contact me on [rhalliday@paradise.net.nz](mailto:rhalliday@paradise.net.nz) with an address if you would like this report in Hard copy.**

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