

5th annual

ESG PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE 2026

Turning ESG commitments into smarter procurement & measurable ROI

15-17 September 2026 | Sydney Central Hotel

Speakers include:



Mat Langley
Head of Procurement
Metcash
Co-chair
The Sustainable Procurement Pledge



Lorraine Finlay
Human Rights
Commissioner
Australian Human Rights
Commission



Jordan Grace
Head of Sustainability
Performance & Engagement
NAB



Rosalinda Bustamante
Global Sustainability
Reporting Manager
Dyno Nobel



Andre Harvey
Chief Procurement Officer
Seqwater



Andres Naranjo
Director of Procurement
Zip co



Margot Brassil
Executive Director
Infrastructure NSW



Dr James Cockayne
NSW Anti-slavery
Commissioner



Dojo Esquivel
General Manager Supply
Chain
Australian Motoring
Services



Shaun Conroy
National Risk & Technology
Committee & Queensland
State Council Member
Governance Institute of
Australia



Joseph Degrazia
Head of Contracts &
Procurement
AMPOL



Coretta Bessi
Chair, Government
Procurement Board
ACT Government



Abbey White
Director of Community,
Sustainability and Social
Impact
CPB Contractors



Emilio Pardo Seoane
Major Projects
Commercial Director
Transgrid



Camille Soncini Bessiere
Procurement Lead -
Sustainability & Risk
Ausgrid

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Australia's premier **ESG Procurement Conference** returns!

The 5th annual **ESG Procurement Conference 2026** brings procurement, sustainability and supply chain leaders together to turn ESG commitments into smarter procurement, stronger supplier outcomes, and measurable business value.

Through real-world case studies, practical workshops and candid insights from procurement leaders across major organisations, you'll explore how to embed ESG into tenders, supplier engagement, category strategies and contracts. You'll also learn how leading organisations are managing Scope 3 emissions, modern slavery risks, sustainable sourcing and supplier verification while delivering commercial value and stronger procurement outcomes.

Our advisory board:



colesgroup

Vinay Parikh
Head of Procurement
Coles



Ausgrid

Camille Soncini Bessiere
Procurement Lead
Ausgrid



australianmotoringservices

Dojo Esquivel
General Manager Supply Chain
Australian Motoring Services



INFOLOB

Sandeep Chatterjee
Digital Supply Chain & Sustainability Director
INFOLOB
Chief Executive Officer & Chairman
ISCEA



Australia

David Hurrell
Head of Procurement
Tourism Australia

"A really inspiring event with a number of practical and scalable takeaways"

Contracts and Procurement Project Coordinator,
Bendigo TAFE (past attendee)



Top 8 Reasons to Attend:

- 1 Gain clarity on what supplier ESG data you can trust, use and act on
- 2 Move from Scope 1, 2 and 3 reporting to procurement action
- 3 Improve due diligence and supplier engagement without overloading the market
- 4 Strengthen contracts, manage ESG risk and drive outcomes that hold up
- 5 Explore practical AI and technology use cases that improve visibility and reduce manual work
- 6 Navigate climate disruption, supply continuity and competing procurement priorities
- 7 Learn what credible modern slavery and Indigenous procurement practice looks like in the real world
- 8 Make better calls on cost, risk and long-term value across decarbonisation and energy decisions



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Additional speakers include:



Catherine Maxwell
General Manager
Governance Institute of Australia



Chris Newman
Co-founder & Director
Social Procurement Australasia



Jeff Nelson
Associate Director Policy
NSW Treasury



Sharon Morris
Group Regional Head APAC
World Commerce & Contracting



Jackie McKeon
Program Director
Business Renewables Centre Australia



Jyoti Bhattacharjya
Lecturer
University of Sydney



Luke Kenny
Chief Executive Officer
Local Government Procurement



James Logie
Executive Director
Infrastructure NSW



Elodie Aime
Sustainable Procurement Lead
Transgrid



Moana Nottage
Senior Responsible Investment Analyst
Alphinity Investment Management



Jessica Vorreite
Senior Project Officer
NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water



Dr Carly Hollier
Associate Director
HealthShare NSW



Thomas Astrum
Head of Logistics



Sam Alderston Johnson
Founder & Managing Director
Impact Policy



Martin Loosemore
Distinguished Professor
University of Technology Sydney



Edward Baral
Former procurement leader across leading organisations
Woolworths, Westpac & Winc



Terri-Anne Daniel
Chief Executive Officer & Founding Director
Coöee Native Superfoods

"Showcasing the latest thinking in achieving ESG through the procurement function."

Director, Commercial Law and Procurement, **NSW Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development** (past attendee)



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08:30 Registration and welcome coffee

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair



Sharon Morris
Group Regional Head APAC
[World Commerce & Contracting](#)

09:00 **Using procurement as a strategic lever for resilience, risk & sustainability**

- Examining what boards and executives expect from procurement in navigating risk, trade-offs and long-term priorities
- Elevating procurement's role in the boardroom through stronger commercial judgement and risk insight
- Embedding social value in project planning & accounting for how you generated it
- Translating procurement decisions into business impact: cost, risk, continuity & reputation



Coretta Bessi
Chair - Government Procurement Board
[ACT Government](#)

From supplier data to ESG procurement action

09:30 Panel discussion: **What supplier ESG data is usable, what's missing, and what to trust**



- What do you do when data is incomplete?
- How much evidence is enough?
- What does relational contracting look like to ensure net benefit outcomes?
- When a supplier falls short: escalate or walk away?
- Setting clear thresholds for verification

Moderator:



Camille Soncini Bessiere
Procurement Lead
[Ausgrid](#)

Panellists:



Rosalinda Bustamante
Global Sustainability Reporting Manager
[Dyno Nobel](#)



Dojo Esquivel
General Manager Supply Chain
[Australian Motoring Services](#)



Arne Geschke
Chief Data Officer
[Fair Supply](#)

10:20 Morning tea and networking

10:50 **We've measured the risk and emissions... now what?**

Many organisations have now measured their carbon emissions and started to understand their supply risk. The real challenge is what comes next. This session focuses on how procurement teams move beyond measurement into action. It also challenges us to think beyond the metric and into the community centred success factors, like the value of storytelling as part of our standard reporting to shareholders and back to the communities we come in contact with.

- Engaging suppliers
- Building practical processes
- Embedding sustainability into day-to-day procurement decisions



Mat Langley
Head of Procurement, [Metcash](#)
Co-chair, [The Sustainable Procurement Pledge](#)

11:20 Partner Presentation

11:40 Case study: **Turning Scope 1, 2 and 3 supplier data into procurement action**



- Sharing what implementation looked like in practice for Transgrid
- Surfacing where the hardest data gaps appeared and how teams responded
- Prioritising suppliers and hotspots without waiting for perfect information
- Using better supplier data to shape procurement decisions, not just reporting outputs



Emilio Pardo Seoane
Major Projects Commercial Director
[Transgrid](#)



Elodie Aime
Sustainable Procurement Lead
[Transgrid](#)

12:20 **Bring your tender: a live ESG procurement problem-solving clinic**

- Workshopping real procurement challenges raised by the room
- Testing how to build sustainability into tenders with tight timelines and heavy renewals
- Learning from peers facing similar constraints, pressures and trade-offs



Andres Naranjo
Director of Procurement
[Zip co](#)



Chris Newman
Director
[Social Procurement Australasia](#)

13:00 Networking lunch

Managing risk, contracts & resilience

13:50 **You never want a serious crisis to go to waste**

Rahm Emmanuel, Chief of Staff for President Obama, famously referred to the GFC crisis as an opportunity to do things previously considered impossible. Learn how procurement professionals can apply the same approach to a crisis to achieve more strategic, longer-term and potentially ground-breaking solutions that address ESG, procurement & economic outcomes.



Edward Baral
Former procurement leader across leading organisations
[Woolworths, Westpac & Winc](#)

14:20 **Using collaborative contracting to allocate risk and deliver ESG outcomes**

Traditional contracts weren't built for sustainability, and it shows. This presentation challenges the old model of penalties and rigid compliance, and makes the case for a smarter approach: collaborative contracting that drives real ESG outcomes rather than just ticking boxes.

- Cutting through the complexity to cover what actually works: flexible performance frameworks, innovation clauses, and total cost of ownership thinking
- Breaking down organisational silos to turn ESG from a procurement footnote into a genuine competitive advantage
- Building ESG into the way you contract so it stops being a burden and starts being a differentiator



Sharon Morris
Group Regional Head
[WCC](#)

14:50 Partner presentation

15:10 Afternoon Tea

Using AI & tech in practice

15:40 **From compliance to impact: leveraging technology to rewire procurement as an ESG engine**

- Examining how leading organisations are using technology to move beyond ESG reporting into measurable procurement action
- Using AI & digital tools to strengthen supplier verification & surface risks that traditional processes can miss
- Improving visibility across multi-tier supply chains through stronger data platforms & real-time insight
- Embedding ESG into sourcing, supplier engagement & decision-making so it drives outcomes rather than extra process



Andre Harvey
Chief Procurement Officer
[Seqwater](#)

16:10 Panel presentation: **Where is AI actually delivering value in procurement today?**



- What are the biggest time savings?
- How can you use AI to enhance process automation?
- What are the risks of ungoverned automation or AI pilots?
- How can you be sure you can defend your ESG data using AI?
- How do you use AI to validate supplier ESG data and flag risk?

Moderator:



Jyoti Bhattacharjya
Lecturer
[University of Sydney](#)



Mat Langley
Head of Procurement, [Metcash](#)
Co-chair, [The Sustainable Procurement Pledge](#)



Thomas Astrum
Head of Logistics

16:50 Closing remarks from the Chair

17:00 End of Day 1 & Networking Drinks

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Book before 26 June and save up to \$600.

Book as a group and save up to 25%!



Conference Day 2 | Thursday, 17 September

08:30 Registration and welcome coffee

08:50 Opening remarks from the Chair



Shaun Conroy
National Risk and Technology Committee &
Queensland State Council Member
[Governance Institute of Australia](#)

Making responsible supply chains work

09:00 **Modern slavery: what "reasonable steps" look like under scrutiny**

- Identifying where procurement processes commonly break down across modern slavery compliance
- Engaging suppliers more effectively without overwhelming them with forms and duplication
- Building evidence that is credible, proportionate and more defensible under scrutiny
- Moving beyond box-ticking toward due diligence that is practical, visible and useful



Lorraine Finlay
Human Rights Commissioner
[Australian Human Rights Commission](#)



The Hon Dr James Cockayne
[NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner](#)

09:40 Panel discussion: **How can we realistically remove procurement barriers for Indigenous businesses?**



Chris Newman
Director
[Social Procurement Australasia](#)



Jeff Nelson
Associate Director Policy
[The Treasury NSW](#)



Sam Alderston Johnson
Founder & Managing Director
[Impact Policy](#)



Terri-Anne Daniel
Chief Executive Officer &
Founding Director
[Cooee Native Superfoods](#)



Joseph Degrazia
Head of Contracts & Procurement
[AMPOL](#)

10:20 Partner presentation

10:40 Morning Tea

Balancing competing ESG, procurement & business priorities

11:10 **Climate disruption and supply continuity: what procurement needs to protect first**

- Mapping where climate and other disruptions create risk
- Developing frameworks to navigate geopolitical risks
- Stress-testing sourcing strategies against volatility, outages and operational shocks
- Improving continuity planning amidst cost and delivery realities



Joseph Degrazia
Head of Contracts & Procurement
[AMPOL](#)

11:40 **Using procurement to deliver community value**

- Defining what "community value" actually means in governance, sourcing, contracts and supplier decisions
- Exploring how buyers are measuring and accounting for social outcomes rather than just promising them
- Balancing community benefit with cost, probity, delivery pressure and market reality



Luke Kenny
Chief Executive Officer
[Local Government Procurement](#)

The ESG business case: cost, risk & value

12:10 Panel discussion: **How can procurement policy & industry practice drive cultural, economic and environmental outcomes?**



Cara Wood
Consultant
[Indigenous Energy Australia](#)



Martin Loosemore
Distinguished Professor
[University of Technology Sydney](#)



Chris Newman
Director
[Social Procurement Australasia](#)



Abbey White
Director of Community,
Sustainability & Social Impact
[CPB Contractors](#)

12:50 Networking lunch

13:50 Fireside chat: **Market reality check: what's changing and what it means for ESG procurement**



- Interpreting shifts in investor, lender and corporate sentiment without overreacting to headlines
- Understanding why credibility, verification and practical action are under sharper scrutiny
- Examining what changing market signals mean for procurement priorities and supplier expectations
- Not another headline: Steering clear of good-washing

Moderator:



Catherine Maxwell
General Manager
[Governance Institute of Australia](#)



Panellists:

Moana Nottage
Senior Responsible Investment Analyst
[Alphinity Investment Management](#)



Jordan Grace
Head of Sustainability Performance & Engagement
[NAB](#)

12:20 **Social value at scale: leveraging the renewable energy transition as Australia's biggest social licence opportunity**



Michelle Cunningham
Chief Executive Officer
[The Fair Co.](#)

14:40 **The price of decarbonisation: what works, what doesn't & what to assess**

- Balancing decarbonisation targets with cost pressures, supply continuity, and operational realities
- Leveraging government procurement to create a market for low carbon products
- Managing competing government objectives in procurement
- How to assess cost - effectiveness and value for money for sustainability/decarbonisation options



James Logie
Executive Director
[Infrastructure NSW](#)

15:10 Afternoon tea and networking

15:30 **Delivering the renewable energy transition: PPAs, long-term value and what procurement needs to know**

- Understanding how PPAs can support emissions goals, budget certainty and supply resilience
- Clarifying the role procurement plays alongside sustainability, finance and operations
- Learning where these deals work well, where they do not, and what teams often miss



Jackie McKeon
Program Director
[Business Renewables Centre Australia](#)

16:00 **Using procurement to turn workforce participation targets into real outcomes**

- Converting policy ambition into requirements, contracts and delivery mechanisms that hold up
- Working with stakeholders to ensure targets are practical
- Measuring what is being achieved
- Identifying what tends to fall away under cost, timeline or delivery pressure



Margot Brassil
Executive Director
[Infrastructure NSW](#)

16:30 Case study: **Environmentally sustainable procurement in practice - lessons from NSW Government**



- Building capability of procurement teams around environmental sustainability
- Scaling change across NSW Government to drive market reform
- Working with suppliers on innovation in design, repair, reuse and end-of-life
- Embedding circularity into sourcing, specifications and commercial conversations
- Demonstrating where circular approaches improve both environmental performance and business value



Jessica Vorreiter
Senior Project Officer
[NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment & Water](#)



Dr Carly Hollier
Associate Director
[HealthShare NSW](#)

17:00 Closing remarks from the Chair

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Pre-Conference Masterclasses

Tuesday, 15 September

Separately Bookable

Available to book separately or as a part of your 3-day conference pass

The pre-conference masterclasses provide attendees with morning and afternoon tea breaks and a 1-hour lunch break allowing for extra networking opportunities and in-depth learning.

The masterclasses start at 9:00 and finish at 17:00.

Masterclass A: Building your ESG procurement playbook

This full-day masterclass is designed for procurement and ESG professionals who have frameworks in place but are grappling with the practical challenge of execution. The day moves through a logical journey: diagnose, design, embed, sustain. It combines structured content with hands-on application at each stage.

Participants will work with real challenges from their own organisations rather than hypothetical scenarios and leave with tangible outputs they can act on immediately.

Learning Outcomes:

- Develop a personal 90-day action plan aligned to your maturity gaps
- Apply the ESG Procurement Maturity Framework to assess where your function currently sits and identify priority gaps
- Reframe procurement from 'adding ESG' to 'building a function that delivers ESG'
- Understand the six operating model levers – structure, governance, process integration, capability, technology and culture – and what 'capable' looks like in practice
- Use a modified Kraljic lens to prioritise where ESG effort should be concentrated across your portfolio
- Avoid common mistakes in tender design, including unmeasurable criteria and mis-weighted ESG factors
- Develop a tiered supplier engagement model across strategic, critical and tail suppliers
- Translate ESG commitments into enforceable and proportionate contract obligations and escalation frameworks
- Build ESG capability in your team using a skills gap approach rather than a training catalogue
- Navigate ESG trade-offs using a defensible framework grounded in real-world decision-making

Participants will walk away from this masterclass with tangible outputs, practical frameworks and a clear pathway to embed and sustain ESG procurement practices within their organisation.

Facilitator:



Chris Hodgson
Director Advisory
Propello Procurement

"Energising, insightful and actionable."

Senior Manager Sustainability Partnerships, Westpac

Masterclass B: Beyond compliance: managing ESG risk, identifying exposure and protecting business value

Explore how procurement, risk and ESG leaders can move beyond checkbox approaches to understand real exposure, manage uncertainty, and protect long-term business value. Through a combination of practical frameworks and real-world scenarios, the session focuses on how to identify where risk truly sits across the supply chain, how to respond proportionately, and how to navigate increasing accountability, including directors' duties and legal liabilities in sustainability reporting.

Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of their organisation's ESG risk profile, and the tools to embed risk-informed, commercially grounded decision-making into procurement and supplier strategies.

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the evolving ESG risk landscape and increasing expectations from regulators, investors and stakeholders
- Identify and map ESG risk exposure across supply chains, including areas of highest vulnerability and impact
- Distinguish between compliance-driven activities and risk-based approaches that prioritise material risks
- Assess ESG risks in the context of financial, operational and reputational impact
- Navigate incomplete or uncertain ESG data and determine what constitutes sufficient and defensible evidence
- Prioritise supplier risk using structured frameworks aligned to materiality and business exposure
- Balance cost, risk and value when making ESG-related procurement decisions under pressure
- Define proportionate due diligence and supplier engagement strategies based on risk and influence
- Navigate directors' duties and legal liabilities in sustainability reporting and ESG disclosures
- Communicate ESG risk, trade-offs and decisions clearly to executives, boards and stakeholders

Participants will walk away from this masterclass with practical frameworks to identify and manage ESG risk, strengthen governance and accountability, and make confident, defensible decisions that protect both organisational value and reputation.

Facilitators:



Alan Dayeh
Partner, Sustainability
Strategy & Financial Services
ERM



Alexa Muratore
Consulting Director, Sustainability
strategy & supply chain
ERM



Annabel Hart
Partner
ERM

Become a partner at the ESG Procurement 2026

Partnering with **ESG Procurement 2026** puts your organisation at the centre of the conversations where sustainability actually turns into action. It gives you direct access to senior leaders across procurement, sustainability, risk, finance and government who are actively making decisions about suppliers, spend and ESG priorities. This is a highly targeted audience dealing with real challenges who are looking for practical solutions that work in the real world.



Contact **Milad Etemadi** on milade@questevents.com.au or **+61 (0) 478 195 857** to discuss how we can build a partnership that meets your business objectives.



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What past attendees say about the ESG Procurement Conference

“Amazing, jam-packed content to take back to the workplace and start to make a difference.”

Category Manager, **Hastings Deering**



“A great opportunity to interact with peers to help determine how we can collaborate to make a real difference.”

APAC Subcontract Category Lead, **Honeywell**



“The ESG Procurement Conference was a very informative event, and was a good opportunity to hear what is happening in the industry and network with like minded professionals.”

General Manager Strategic Procurement, **Stanwell**



“Anyone working in ESG needs to attend this conference in order to learn from each other, collaborate, share and build a movement for change.”

Executive Officer, **ACAN**



Registration

15 - 17 September
3 Day Standard Package

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All networking sessions

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Regular Price \$2,195



"What a turn out this year and so much fun. I feel each year gets better and better."

Managing Director, Procurement People

All prices are inclusive of GST

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James McCallum

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