



The Global Foundation
Together, we strive for the global common good

STATE OF THE WORLD

ROUNDTABLE 2025

Part One

'Shaping Global Governance, Climate & Nature'
Progress & Prospects

Thursday, 30 January 2025

Summary Statement*

*Full report to come



Key Partners



**KING & WOOD
MALLESONS**
金杜律师事务所



Partners



SQUITCHY LANE





Summary Statement

On Thursday, 30 January 2025, the Global Foundation convened the fifth consecutive edition of its **'State of the World' Roundtable** online, bringing together a group of distinguished global citizens from multiple continents to discuss the Foundation's global project, **'Shaping Global Governance, Climate and Nature,'** launched seven months ago at its **Rome Roundtable** meeting.

Against the backdrop of a changing geopolitical context, characterised by uncertainty and tensions, roundtable participants embraced the opportunity to work more closely together in advancing the global energy transition and the preservation of nature and called for greater cooperation to find solutions that benefit the common good of humanity.

As global governance falters, it is time for 'business with purpose' to play a bigger role

alongside institutions and civil society, and in working with governments, to ensure global sustainability.

As a consequence, the Global Foundation has further mobilised, to play such a facilitation role as an enabler of private sector contributions, alongside official processes and the important work of civil society.

"Business with purpose' is the mantra we espouse, a sentiment increasingly supported by the international community with which we affiliate. We have more to gain by working together than by pulling apart – our planet demands this of us."

Ms Louise Watson

Chairman of the Board,
the Global Foundation



Speakers



Ms Jo Tyndall
Director, Environment
Directorate, Organization for
Economic Cooperation and
Development (OECD)



Mr Gustavo Pimenta
President & CEO, Vale



Mr Aurélien Hamelle
President, Strategy &
Sustainability, TotalEnergies



Ms Sylvie Lemmet
Ambassador for the
Environment, Ministry for
Europe & Foreign Affairs,
Government of France



Mr John Denton AO
Secretary General, International
Chamber of Commerce (ICC)



Ms Svetlana Klimenko
Global Lead for Sustainable
Finance and Lead Climate Finance
Specialist, The World Bank



Mr Tom Tayler
Head of Climate Finance,
Aviva Investors

Leadership team



Dr Mark Cutifani CBE
Chair, Global Advisory Council and
Co-Chair, 'Shaping Global
Governance, Climate and Nature'
Project Steering Committee, the
Global Foundation



Ms Sharan Burrow AC
Deputy Chair, Global Advisory
Council and Co-Chair, 'Shaping
Global Governance, Climate and
Nature' Project Steering Committee,
the Global Foundation



Ms Louise Watson
Chairman of the Board,
the Global Foundation



Mr Steve Howard
Secretary General,
the Global Foundation



Summary Statement

People of Goodwill

Roundtable participants came from global businesses, institutions, think tanks and civil society, across four continents. All shared a common ambition of advancing the global energy transition and the preservation of nature, to secure a sustainable and just future for humanity.

Everything has changed in light of economic, environmental and political circumstances. Economic globalisation, that has lifted millions out of poverty and increased living standards over recent decades, is now in further doubt. Forecasts for global economic growth in 2025 are modest, with all major economic institutions warning that emerging nations are at risk of being left behind.



For the global energy transition to address climate change, the trajectory is generally positive, however the speed and scale of action and agreement to act in concert are far less than is required. This contrasts with the reality that more than 4 billion people on the planet still do not have adequate access to energy.

Paradoxically, at a time when collaboration on matters affecting the global commons is needed more than ever, the whole concept of international co-operation, over and beyond national borders and interests, is under threat.

Progressing the Global Transition

Momentum is well underway in the private sector to finance and develop the global transition to clean energy and to support nature. These opportunities are not limited to the 'West'.

On the contrary, in fact, emerging nations have the opportunity to become global leaders in sustainability and are actively seeking to shape the enabling finance and economic tools. The Foundation will support Brazil, in particular, as it will host the official COP30 climate negotiations later this year.

The roundtable re-confirmed the Foundation's special role in bringing together those individuals and organisations who want to embrace their agency in advancing the global energy transition.

Though the old forms of multilateralism may no longer function as before, the private sector, and civil society have agency and can still take action together and working with governments and institutions to advance the energy transition and the preservation of nature.

"These partnerships are even more important in today's context of increasing geopolitical fragmentation. Reaching out collectively to others around the world is a sign of building the democratic legitimacy we require for the pace and scale of this challenge."

Ms Sharan Burrow AC

Deputy Chair, Global Advisory Council and
Co-Chair, 'Shaping Global Governance, Climate
and Nature' Project Steering Committee,
the Global Foundation





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Announcing the Foundation's newest Global Partners: Vale & TotalEnergies

At the roundtable, the Foundation was thrilled to announce new partnerships with Brazilian mining company Vale, and French energy company TotalEnergies.

The partnership with Vale demonstrates its commitment to being a global leader in sustainable mining and the Foundation's ongoing advocacy of **'business with purpose'**.

The centrepiece of the partnership will be the most important global roundtable meeting of the Foundation for 2025, to be held from 12-15 August 2025 in Carajas, Brazil, the site of the world's largest iron ore mine. The roundtable is to be held ahead and in support of Brazil's hosting of the United Nation's global climate event, COP30, in November.

"Vale is delighted to be partnering with the Global Foundation to promote positive dialogue among different sectors and joint efforts to tackle the most pressing issues of our time. We understand that large organizations have a role to play in driving change. At Vale, we are committed to a responsible mining model, that integrates environmental protection, community well-being and economic development; and we believe that important players in the public and private sectors can converge in this same direction."



Mr Gustavo Pimenta
President & CEO, Vale

Located at the edge of the Amazon Rainforest, Carajás is emblematic of the dual need to care for our tropical forests while sourcing the raw materials needed to build renewable energy technology and sustainable infrastructure.

Vale will host the roundtable meeting, which will showcase the reforestation of more than 1 million hectares of the Amazon.



In addition, the partnership with TotalEnergies reflects its intention to help drive sustainable progress and adaptation within the energy industry and beyond.

"TotalEnergies is eager to participate in the Global Foundation work that brings together civil society organisations, representatives of international organisations, officials and academia as well as corporate actors. Such global cooperation is key in achieving the sustainable development goals and advancing the energy transition, which is in tune with TotalEnergies' ambition."

Mr Aurélien Hamelle
President, Strategy &
Sustainability, TotalEnergies





Summary Statement

Global focus must continue

At global level, the Foundation will continue to convene cross-sections of global talents, as well as leaders from business, institutions, civil society, along with governments, to help build a shared narrative that to date is flagging.

A growing number of affiliates to the global project and the method of engagement may be found [here](#).

"Our global project is galvanising support and involvement from all sections of society. There is a growing recognition that enlightened business needs to be given greater voice in official channels in shaping and co-owning and investing in this global transformation."

Mr Steve Howard

Secretary General, the Global Foundation



Dr Mark Cutifani CBE concluded the roundtable, summarising the key takeaways from the discussion.

"For me, it's three points:

- 1. Bringing the story together into one coherent conversation that people can get their arms around.*
- 2. Identifying who we should work with to help them understand what levers they have and how they can be applied to make a difference.*
- 3. Releasing funds to go to the right areas to provide both an economic return and a social return. Both are as critical as each other and impact each other."*

Dr Mark Cutifani CBE

Chair, Global Advisory Council and Co-Chair, 'Shaping Global Governance, Climate and Nature' Project Steering Committee, the Global Foundation



The Global Foundation will continue its 'State of the World' Roundtable discussions in Part Two, on **Wednesday, 19 February at 5:15pm AEDT**.

Refer to the list of time zones below:

Sydney & Melbourne AEDT

5:15pm - 7:00pm

Beijing & Singapore CST/SGT

2:15pm - 4:00pm

Jakarta WIB

1:15pm - 3:00pm

Paris & Rome CET

7:15am - 9:00am

London GMT

6:15am - 8:00am

Rio de Janeiro BRT

1:15am - 3:00am

NYC/ Washington EST

3:15am - 5:00am

Part Two will take place in hybrid form, online and in Melbourne, with **HE Xiao Qian**, the Ambassador of China to Australia, as the guest of honour.



HE Xiao Qian

Ambassador of China to Australia

The roundtable will focus on the Asia-Pacific region, whose role in the energy transition and the preservation of nature is critical.

Participants will also discuss opportunities for Australia to work with its region to grow green technology and sustainable infrastructure, as well as the preservation of nature, in particular the protection of oceans and marine ecosystems.

Please contact Ms Natalia Cikorska on natalia.cikorska@globalfoundation.org.au to register your interest and for further information.