

Dialogue Forums

The Dialogue Forums are a new feature designed to take advantage of the conference as a meeting place of ideas and people, to increase the exchange of ideas so as to move debates forward, and air different views. Each Dialogue Forum has a panel of speakers addressing a specific question. The presenters each give a short five minute presentation, and then a dialogue is held between the presenters and with the audience.

Dialogue Topics:

Do we have to choose between country and development, or can we have both?

Do we always have to be at logger heads between environmental and economic priorities? Can these goals be interrelated? Does the native title process facilitate the interrelation of these goals?

Panel members: Parry Agius, Nolan Hunter, Kate Jones, Glen Kelly, Greg McIntyre, Jessica Weir

How do we reform the proof of native title?

Proving native title under current legal arrangements is hard work. There is little regard for the effects of colonisation on native title applicants, who are required to show continuous connection to country. Is there a better way? Can we revise extinguishment and review continuity?

Panel members: Lisa Strelein, Graeme Hiley, Anoushka Leffner, Tony McAvoy, Austin Sweeney

Is the pressure of proactive case management worth it?

The Federal Court's proactive case management has sped up the processing of native title cases, putting pressure on all parties, but also leading to results. What is the impact of this pressure on native title groups? And is it worth it?

Panel members: Kevin Smith, Doug Bruce, Kym Elston, Sheila Begg, Ron Levy, Graeme Neate

What is a Native Title benefit and who should benefit?

The term "native title benefits" features in policy debates, yet is rarely defined. There has been little discussion around the broader social, cultural, environmental, economic and other values which the notion of a benefit gives rise to. This dialogue is not restricted by the legal technical framings, and instead embraces the broader agenda of the benefits of native title.

Panel members: Warren Mundine, Michael Neale, Shaz Rind, Mark Rumler, Brian Cobus

Constitutional reform: can it support land justice?

The Federal government has appointed an expert panel to lead the process of recognizing Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders in the Constitution. What are the options for Constitutional reform? How might Constitutional reform fit with land justice?

Panel members: Jackie Huggins, Josephine Bourne, Sean Brennan, Mick Dodson, George Williams