



Sustainable Futures Forum

ClimateWorks Australia held its first Sustainable Futures Forum on February 5th and 6th 2010, addressing responses to climate change by rural Australia, co-hosted with the Cranlana Programme.

The Cranlana Programme is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organisation that seeks to foster enlightened and responsible leadership. Since it was established in 1993, it has sought to provide a forum in which business, government and community leaders come together to enhance their understanding of the philosophical, ethical and social issues central to creating a just, prosperous and sustainable society in Australia, and reflect on the underlying values of contemporary society.

The private forum for discussion was held in Melbourne at Cranlana, the former Toorak residence of Sidney Myer. The Australian Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Tony Burke, was the keynote guest, and was joined by an eminent group of participants, including peak rural representative group leaders, current and former farmers and land managers, research leaders and government and industry practitioners engaged in land use issues affected by climate change.

The group met over two days and discussed opportunities and challenges in harnessing economic benefits from land use change to lower emissions. The fruitful and constructive discussion highlighted the need for targeted communication and engagement of rural farmers and families, with a focus on the productivity improvements that can be achieved while reducing carbon emissions.

ClimateWorks Australia sincerely thanks the National Australia Bank for their financial support of this event and active participation in it.