



KEYNOTE

Women Leading Change – why women’s leadership for our environment and climate action can transform Australia’s response to these crises.

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Abstract

The world now faces an unprecedented set of environmental and climate crises. Overwhelmingly, our existing political, business and civil society leadership has failed to adequately respond to these crises. It’s time for leadership change. Put simply, we will not get out of this by relying on the same leadership that got us into it. Instead, leadership styles that are collaborative, networked and responsive to communities will be essential elements in the transition to a sustainable future. Qualities we see in abundance in women’s leadership.

International evidence indicates that more women in decision making leads to better environment outcomes. While many women are already leading for our environment in Australia, this leadership has largely remained unsupported, unseen and unfunded – limiting its impact and influence. Women’s Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA) is empowering, supporting, funding and diversifying women’s leadership for our environment and climate action, so that women’s insights, knowledge and contributions are fully integrated and valued in the changes we need to make to save our future.

Speaker Profile

Victoria McKenzie-McHarg is the Strategic Director of Women’s Environmental Leadership Australia (WELA). Victoria has spent the last 15yrs as a climate campaigner, as Manager of the Climate Campaign at the Australian Conservation Foundation and Environment Victoria, and as Manager of Strategy at Bank Australia. Victoria is also the Chair of the Climate Action Network of Australia (CANA).

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