

Paris Agreement: Are we there yet?

A Panel Discussion to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the COP21

Christchurch 11 December 2 pm

University of Canterbury
[Engineering Core, Lecture Theatre E5](#)

Zoom link:

<https://canterbury.zoom.us/j/95985645764?pwd=YkhDVVhJTXZDQ2JITHkvdVE1NVRUQT09>

Passcode: 727990

PROGRAMME

2.00-2.15 pm	<p>Opening HE Sylvaine Carla Le-Vert, Ambassador of France in New Zealand</p> <p>Welcome Geoffroy Lamarche, President of FAST!</p>
2.15-3.10pm	<p>Pre-panel short talks</p> <p>We must take urgent action to fight climate change.... You can't unless engineering changes Prof Susan Krumdieck, Institute for Governance and Policy Studies, Victoria University</p> <p>Nature's contributions to people's climate change adaptation Dr Sandra Lavorel, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Lincoln</p> <p>Climate change and island people Kate Brown, Executiv Director at Global Island Partnership</p> <p>Process heat decarbonisation and its challenges in NZ Dr Alelign Gessese, Lumen</p>
3:30-4:30	<p>Panel discussion Facilitated by Prof Mathieu Sellier, Fast! Treasurer, and James Nikitine, founding director of Blue Cradle Joined by FAST! Wellington</p>
4.30-5.30	<p>Wine and cheese tasting Suppliers</p>



Prof Susan Krumdieck

School of Energy, Geoscience, Infrastructure and Society, Heriot Watt University & Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Canterbury

Professor Susan Krumdieck has carried out research in a number of fields related to energy transition. Over the past 20 years, her research group has developed a methodology that could be the missing link between the climate crisis we face today and the future we want to gift to our children and grandchildren. Her recent book, *Transition Engineering, Building a Sustainable Future* sets out the Interdisciplinary Transition Innovation, Management and Engineering (InTIME) Methodology. The book has been listed as a top seller amongst engineering texts this year, and she is working with engineering societies around the world to deliver short-courses for Carbon Emergency Response Training.



Dr Alelign Gessese

Senior Energy Engineer at Lumen

Dr Alelign Gessese is a senior engineer at Lumen who has been working in the process heat industry for the last 8 years helping industrial, commercial, and institutional clients. He has worked with many organisations and help them to reduce their energy consumption, reduce carbon emissions, and transit to low carbon energy future.

He is passionate about taking part in activities that helps reduce green house gas emissions and eventually help the environment.

He would like to share his experience about process heat decarbonization activities and its challenges.



Dr Sandra Lavorel

Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Lincoln

Trained as an agronomer, Sandra Lavorel has been a researcher at the French CNRS since 1994, where she is now a top-level Senior Researcher at the Alpine Ecology Laboratory in Grenoble. Sandra is currently on secondment to Landcare Research in New Zealand. Since 2012 she has also been a visiting scientist at CSIRO in Canberra, Australia. After a PhD in plant community ecology, Sandra's career has been dedicated to linking global change impacts on biodiversity to changes in ecosystem functioning, known as the Holy Grail for functional ecology. Sandra's current research focuses on impacts on ecosystems and their services of combined changes in climate and land management, and how their understanding can support social adaptation to climate change.

Sandra Lavorel has received numerous awards including the Silver Medal of CNRS (2013), the Alexander von Humboldt Medal of the International Association for Vegetation Science (2015) and the Marsh Award of the British Ecological Society (2017). She was elected as a member of the French Academy of Sciences in 2013, and as a foreign member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences in 2020. She chaired the French National Ecosystem Assessment from 2013 to 2019, and has been an active contributor to assessments of the International Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IPBES). She joined the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel of IPBES in 2018.



Kate Brown

Global Island Partnership

Kate Brown is the Executive Director of the Global Island Partnership, a platform that enables island leaders and their supporters to take action to build resilient and sustainable island communities. Kate is a passionate advocate for islands. She is a valued and trusted international partnership and collaboration leader, with a unique ability to connect dots for issues and people. Kate has extensive experience in all island regions globally, and brings an extensive network of island leaders, blue sky thinkers and people dedicated to supporting islands.

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