



WAVE Newsletter

August 2017

WAVE AGM

Keep the date:

The WAVE AGM will be held on Thursday 19 October 2017 by teleconference at 4pm (AEST). At the AGM, elections will take place for all the leadership positions. If you are interested, please let us know and we will send you a nomination form. If you wish to take part in the AGM, again let us know and we will provide details. More information soon.

Equal Pay Day – 4 September 2017

The Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) calculates the national gender pay gap to be **15.3% at this time**. The national gender pay gap is the difference between women's and men's average weekly full-time base salary earnings, expressed as a percentage of men's earnings. It is a measure of women's overall position in the paid workforce and does not compare like roles. On 4 September we advocate for equal pay.

How can you mark Equal Pay Day?

1. Join the conversation on social media #EPD2017

Find us [@WGEAgency](#) and look out for our posts on the state of gender equality across Australia.

2. Take an Equal Pay Day selfie

Show your support by taking a selfie with a graphic from our [social media pack](#).

3. Find out what the pay gap is in your industry

Visit the Agency's [Data Explorer](#) and see what's happening in your industry, from gender pay gaps to women in leadership and support for parents and carers.

Or you may like to find out more by accessing the following link from economic Security 4 Women (eS4W): <https://www.security4women.org.au/equal-pay-equal-value>

Making the SDGs real in Australia's adult and vocational education

Report from the WAVE/ALA forum

On 10 August WAVE partnered with Adult Learning Australia, and with the support of the European Union (EU) Centre at RMIT University, held a forum '**Making the SDGs real in Australia's adult and vocational education**'. The focus of the forum were the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly those focused on adult and vocational education, and gender. These were SDGs:

4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.

Further information on the SDGs is provided in the link at the end of this report, enabling you to read about these 17 global goals that have been signed up to by the 193 Member States of the United Nations, including Australia. Australia, like the other members, is expected to report on policies and progress towards these goals and their targets.

We had a wonderful line-up of speakers at the forum, as you can see from the program on the link:

- Robbie Guevara, Associate Professor at RMIT University explained the SDGs under: "Education 2030: The Incheon Declaration & Framework for Action". His presentation is available via the link;
- Sally Moyle, Chief Executive CARE Australia spoke of the gender issues relating to the SDGs and Australia's responsibilities;
- Elaine Butler, WAVE Ambassador, considered the feminisation of VET, and the need to step up the progress toward gender equality and women's economic empowerment;
- Dr Sue Webb from Monash University addressed social inclusion and the SDGs. Her presentation is included;
- Professor Sue Shore from Charles Darwin University gave us a rural and regional perspective, around building alliances;
- Stephanie Yung from the Brotherhood of St Lawrence presented research around participation of young people in post-school education;
- Dr Caroline Lambert, Director of Research, Policy and Advocacy at the International Women's Development Agency, spoke of working with the SDGs with and for women and girls: education and economic empowerment. Her presentation is included;
- Bernie Lovegrove from ASPBAE, looked at linking Australia and the Asia/Pacific region in SDG4 related advocacy. His presentation is included.

- Professor Bruce Wilson, Director of the EU Centre at RMIT University looked at implementing the SDGs in Australia, the imperatives, issues and examples from the European Union.

The report and presentations will be on WAVE's and ALA's websites. Follow the link for further information: <https://ala.asn.au/making-the-sustainable-development-goals/>

The Plenary session

The Plenary session provided an Action Plan and some suggested next steps:

- 1. Goals and Programs:** To reaffirm SDG 4 with a long term vision for skills development for the future. This could include collaborative teaching models and extended use of the apprenticeship model.
- 2. The role of WAVE and ALA:**
 - To contextualise the SDG Indicators
 - To talk with peak bodies and bring them on-board – pool resources
 - Work with others to develop targeted packages for dissemination of information, recognising that strategic collaboration is most important
 - To undertake the recommendations below in 3.
- 3. Next steps**
 - **A public awareness campaign – ask the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet about a public awareness campaign**
 - **Work to ensure that education sectors support each other**
 - **Use the language around the SDGs to raise awareness eg. funding applications**
 - **Write to relevant Ministers asking what they are doing in their Portfolios to align with the SDGs**
 - **Support the work of the National Women's Alliances in this area – Equality Rights Alliance and National Rural Women's Alliance**

Keep up with WAVE campaigns through <http://wave.org.au/wave/>, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn. If you require a Word version of the Newsletter, let us know.

Linda Simon

WAVE National Convenor