

**20 years of the EPBC Act
looking back, looking forward**

***Compliance
enforcement
&
institutional arrangements***

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in a private capacity**

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3 priority recommendations

- Establish a national Environment Protection Authority
- Establish a national & regional or IBRA-based participatory monitoring & reporting initiative & engage stakeholders & public with nature nationally
- Innovate with ADR & within the AAT & the Federal Court of Australia to create specialist environmental law rules & procedures

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Why a national EPA?

- The need is well recognised
- The current NEPC system is ineffective
- 2017-18 Vic EPA reforms a model
- Triggers for Cth pre-emptive regulatory intervention through audit/oversight processes
- Data from priority 2 reform helpful - regional environmental plans, government, citizen-science & corporate M&E reports

2. Improve monitoring & evaluation & engage stakeholders & public with nature

- The need is well recognised
- NRM & biosecurity requires SMART coordinated strategic regional planning & engagement in partnership with stakeholders, informed by sustainability principles e.g. PC, *Transitioning Regional Economies Report* (2017)
 - For large companies EMSs, sustainability plans with targets e.g. for GHGE reduction, circular economy targets, & annual reporting of env performance data
- Ecological data collection & intra & intergenerational opportunities in education, health & well-being, ecological rehabilitation

3. ADR, AAT & Federal Court reform

- Prevention: all Government agencies to develop stakeholder engagement, ADR plans
- Uniform liberal standing provisions
- Need more merits review/multi-disciplinary EDR
 - NSW L&E Court outstanding: UNEP Pring green tribunals report (2009/2016)
- Cth has announced FedCrt investment to strengthen capacity for corporate prosecutions – welcome – but need broader reform

More information?

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