

FACING THE FUTURE

food security and resilient food systems

A NEW FRAMEWORK

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Melbourne, Victoria 8–9 October 2026

An opportunity for food producers, agriculturalists, logistics experts, demographers, sociologists, researchers and government agencies to hear from each other and share ideas. The conference allows for interaction and discussion of key issues.

The socioeconomic, food production and logistics systems that we have taken for granted are being increasingly disrupted. Geopolitical shocks and changing climate show how dramatic these disruptions can be, with serious consequences for food security and resilience.

The overall food security framework of the future will be different from what we have now in ways we cannot easily predict. This conference allows us to review our current situation to identify potential problems which if left unattended may decrease food security and hinder achieving resilient food systems.

WHERE: The Forum, Melbourne Connect, 700 Swanston Street Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

WHEN: Thursday 8 and Friday 9 October 2026, 9am – 5pm

TO BOOK: Early-bird AU\$340.00 until 1 September 2026; Full registration AU\$400.00

Registration includes attendance, casual lunches and refreshments.

REGISTER NOW

For further information go to **RSA FOOD SECURITY CONFERENCE**



The Royal Societies of Australia

The conference program addresses

- ▶ The burden of history – reliance on food customs and production and farming techniques imported here by waves of migration.
- ▶ The changing world, with its cascading impact of geopolitical disruptions, technological developments, demographic changes, and damaging global changes to the natural world.
- ▶ Perverse laws and incentives affecting producers and consumers – maintaining our natural environment is fundamental to food production and resilient food systems, but environmental law is easily overridden.
- ▶ Poverty and health – poverty, inadequate access to health care and to dietary knowledge limit capacity to take advantage of food systems.

Speakers include

Dr Mark Stafford Smith

CSIRO

*Impacts of accelerating changes
in the natural world*

Professor Simone Warner

Agriculture Victoria Research

Better biosecurity efforts are critical

Professor Euan Ritchie

Deakin University

New environmental law – does it fall short?

Dr Courtney Quinn

University of Tasmania and CSIRO

Tipping points – challenges and opportunities

Professor Julianne Schultz

Griffith University

*How we see ourselves and
how this affects food issues*

Professor Andrew Campbell

Triple Helix Consulting

Reviving land and sea care

Hon Professor Mary Graham

University of Queensland

Land, law and relationships

Dr Jessica Danaher

RMIT University

Our food plate is changing

The conference will generate:

- ▶ awareness of the changing world that provides the context for challenges to our food security and to our food systems, while highlighting the problems we will face from trying to continue with a business as usual approach
- ▶ suggestions for changes in the overall food security framework to transition to a brave new world within which food systems exist if the identified challenges are to be met, and if we are to maximise value from the many more specific initiatives now underway
- ▶ useful inputs into the *Feeding Australia: A National Food Security Strategy initiative*, into the AgriFutures project *Systems Thinking: how agriculture can drive national resilience* and into decision-making around inequality issues, the structure of the Australian economy and Australia's international relations.

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