



AUSTRALIAN  
LEADERSHIP  
RETREAT 2025

# Integrated Strategic Investment

## Real options in a radically uncertain world

THURSDAY 14 AUG – SUNDAY 17 AUG 2025  
SANCTUARY COVE, GOLD COAST  
AUSTRALIA

ADCFORUM.ORG





An essential event for leaders committed to investing in the future prosperity of Australia

At a time when our world is in economic and geopolitical turmoil, it is essential for leaders from business, government and civil society to take an integrated strategic approach to making decisions which impact the future. ADC Forum has a 30-year history of bringing together leaders across all sectors to focus on the issues that are critical to our future prosperity.

				
<b>GAIN INSIGHTS FROM INDUSTRY LEADERS</b>	<b>DISCOVER INNOVATIVE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>NETWORK WITH PURPOSE-DRIVEN LEADERS</b>	<b>BE PART OF THE MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER FUTURE</b>	<b>INFLUENCE THE FUTURE OF IMPACT INVESTING</b>
Learn from top executives, policy-makers and thought leaders across diverse sectors, sharing strategies for impactful investments	Explore emerging trends, new markets, and transformative projects that align financial growth with positive societal outcomes	Connect with a global community of investors, entrepreneurs and change-makers committed to using capital as a force for good	Contribute to shaping the future of investment by engaging in critical conversations that address global challenges and drive meaningful change	Share your ideas and collaborate with key decision-makers to shape policies and practices that promote sustainable and ethical investment

## 2025 THEMES

Repositioning capital for national resilience and capacity building

Investing amid geopolitical realignment and trade fragmentation

Harnessing AI to redefine productivity and business models

Building energy and climate-driven competitive advantage

Navigating the global economy across public and private financial markets

Culture, information integrity, and institutional trust as global assets

Participants will include leaders from all sectors, including

- INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LEADERS, INVESTORS AND EXPERTS
- BUSINESS LEADERS – C SUITE EXECUTIVES
- GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND POLICY MAKERS (STATE AND FEDERAL)
- INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS
- CULTURAL AND ETHICAL THOUGHT LEADERS
- PRIVATE EQUITY FIRMS AND VENTURE CAPITALISTS
- FAMILY OFFICES
- LEADING ACADEMICS AND EXPERTS
- ENTREPRENEURS
- INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING DIPLOMATS
- CIVIC AND SOCIAL LEADERS AND NGO'S
- TECHNOLOGY INNOVATORS

As well as challenges, these times also present significant opportunities for decision-makers who have the courage to take a long-term perspective. To foster this, ADC Forum has re-focused its renowned annual leadership gathering to emphasise the importance of investment decisions – both private and public – in shaping our nation, in its global context, for the next fifty years.

This initiative will draw on ADC Forum's network of leaders and foremost thinkers from Australia and around the world. Participants will be given privileged information and deep insights into the major issues and risks in a world in turmoil to help identify real long-term opportunities to sustain our future. The discussions will explore emerging trends, new markets and transformative

projects that align impactful investments with financial growth and positive societal outcomes. Central to the program will be the opportunity for active engagement, with all participants being invited because of their calibre and status to make a substantial contribution to the issues we are confronting.

As well as the chance to totally immerse ourselves in the latest innovations and look over the horizon, this is an exceptional opportunity to make meaningful new connections as well as renewing friendships in an atmosphere which fosters free and open discussion around a joint commitment to positively impacting on our future.



INTERCONTINENTAL SANCTUARY COVE RESORT



2025 SPEAKERS



The program will feature both domestic and international leaders from key sectors, top CEO's, eminent academics and thinkers and decision makers. With more being added regularly, some of the prominent speakers we are already in discussion with for the program are as follows.



**ANTHONY SCARAMUCCI**

A seasoned financier and former White House Communications Director, known for his insights on global markets, hedge funds, and U.S. economic policy, he is Founder of Skybridge Capital.



**PAMELA MELROY**

A former NASA Space Shuttle Commander and served as Deputy Administrator of NASA, bringing decades of aerospace leadership and deep expertise in human spaceflight and international space policy.

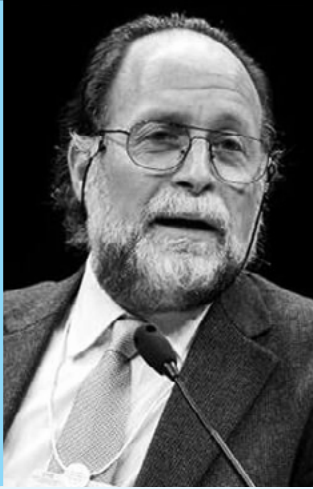
**LEE SENG HUANG**

A Malaysian businessperson who has wide-ranging financial services and real estate investment experience. He is the Executive Chairman of Mulpha International Bhd. as well as the Chairman of Mulpha Australia Limited.



**RICARDO HAUSMANN**

A leading economist specializing in economic complexity, development strategy, and global competitiveness for emerging and advanced economies, he is Founder and Director of the Harvard Growth Lab.



**YOSHITO HORI**

A prominent entrepreneur driving leadership education in Asia, with a focus on innovation, venture capital, and corporate transformation and Founder and President of GLOBIS University.



**GILLIAN TRIGGS  
AC**

A leading public international lawyer and expert on the liberal international order, and Australia's highest ever ranked official at the United Nations.



**KEYU JIN**

A former tenured professor at LSE and an academic member of the China Finance 40 Group and has worked with the World Bank, the IMF, the China Banking Regulatory Commission, a non-executive director of Richemont and Jardine Matheson.



**CLAUDE SMADJA**

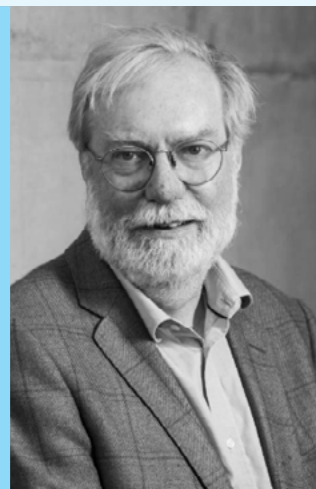
A Swiss media and business strategist, formerly Managing Director of the World Economic Forum. He is the founder of Smadja & Smadja, advising global leaders on economic and geopolitical trends.





**MARIA WILTON**

A thirty year history in the investment industry with leadership experience in asset management and superannuation, a member of the Board of Governors of the CFA Institute, Deputy Chair of Infrastructure Victoria and a Director of Victorian Funds Management Corporation.

**SIR PAUL COLLIER**  
CBE, FBA

A global expert on economic development across both developing and advanced economies, who is Director of the International Growth Centre and a Professor of Economics and Public Policy at the Blavatnik School of Government.

**SAUL ESLAKE**

A prominent Australian economist, commentator, and public speaker. He is the principal of Corinna Economic Advisory.

**JEFFERY SACHS**

World renowned economics professor and public policy analyst, bestselling author, innovative educator and global leader in sustainable development, he is Professor at Columbia University.

**RONNIE CHAN**

A prominent businessman and philanthropist, serving as the chairman of Hang Lung Group, with extensive commercial development experience in China and is a respected commentator on US-China Relations.

**SIMON HICKEY**

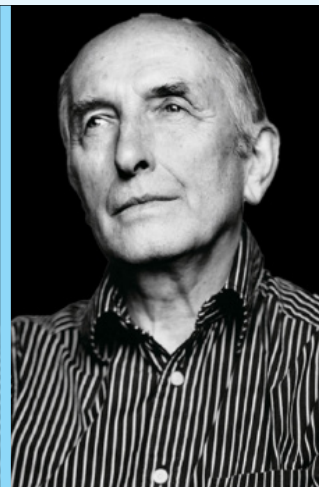
As CEO of Western Sydney International Airport, he leads one of Australia's largest infrastructure projects, leveraging decades of experience in aviation, logistics, and executive management.

**STEPHAN FRUEHLING**

Widely published on Australian defence policy, defence planning and strategy, nuclear weapons and NATO, he is Professor at the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre of the Australian National University.

**ADMIRAL (RETD) CHRIS BARRIE**  
AC

A retired Chief of the Australian Defence Force, he is a respected voice on strategic defence, national security, and climate resilience in the Indo-Pacific.

**VACLAV SMIL**

A scientist, polymath and prolific author who has influenced some of the world's leading public figures on energy policy, the history of technical innovation, food production, risk assessment, and public policy, he is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba.

**KEUN LEE**

A global expert rewriting key principles of economic development and innovation and what is required for rapid national development and outperformance in the era of deglobalisation, he is Distinguished Professor of Economics at Seoul National University.

**JONATHAN BERKSHIRE MILLER**

An expert in Indo-Pacific security and foreign policy, advising on geopolitical risk and strategic affairs across Asia. He is Co-Founder of Pendulum Geopolitical Advisory.

**ALAN KOHLER**

One of Australia's most respected financial journalists, known for his incisive analysis of markets, economics, and business trends and is Editor-in-Chief at InvestSMART Group.

**JOE SCHOENDORF**

Partner at Accel Partners, bringing decades of experience in technology and venture capital. He played a key role in global strategy and helped scale major tech companies.

**DION HERSHAN**

Executive Chairman and Head of Australian Equities, Yarra Capital Management. He is responsible for leading the Australian Equities team, and is focused on large cap, mid cap and Ex-20 equities.

**GREG MEDCRAFT**

Is a global financial leader and former OECD director, specializing in regulatory innovation, fintech, and capital market reform and currently Chairman of the Australian Financial Services Group.

**TREVOR BROWN**

Has extensive experience leading national energy strategy development and large-scale operations across global energy markets, he is CEO of Omega Energy and GasCo Holdings and a former Santos executive.



For more information and to register your interest,  
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## About ADC Forum



ADC Forum is an independent, non-partisan, not-for-profit organization, founded in Australia in 1996, bringing together the nation's foremost decision makers and thought leaders across all sectors to focus on the issues that are critical to future prosperity. ADC Forum is an internationally connected community, enabling a strategic architecture for business to intersect with governments and academia across the world. ADC Forum brings a unique perspective, reflecting the changing nature of Australia and the world and strategically positioning Australia to make a major contribution to our region.