

## Food Security and Supply Chain Resilience

7:00am – 8:45am Wednesday 17 August 2022

Speakers' Hall, Queensland Parliament House, Corner of George and Alice Streets, Brisbane

### Researcher biographies

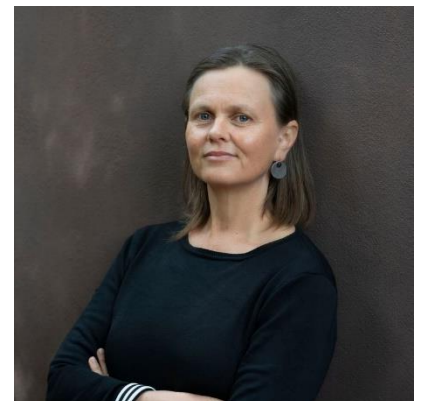
#### **Dr Kiah Smith – ARC DECRA Senior Research Fellow and Future Earth Fellow, School of Social Science, The University of Queensland**

Dr Smith is a Sociologist, ARC DECRA Senior Research Fellow at UQ, and Future Earth Fellow. Her research applies critical social science theories and qualitative methods to investigate the connections between complex sustainability challenges (such as climate change, land access, disasters) and social and economic inequality – around food insecurity, hunger, poverty, gender and health – in order to progress deeper understandings of food system transformation. She has published on food justice, food security, supply chain resilience, financialisation, ethical trade, green economy, ecofeminism, governance, and the Sustainable Development Goals. She currently leads an *Australian Research Council* study 'Fair Food Futures, Civil Society and the SDGs', where she works with civic stakeholders to co-design future scenarios to inform policy and advocacy on food justice and Zero Hunger in Australia.



#### **Dr Natalie Jones – Lecturer, School of Agriculture and Food Science, The University of Queensland**

Natalie is co-leader of the Regenerative Agriculture Group within the School of Agriculture and Food Sciences at the University of Queensland. The focus of the research group is to extend scientific understanding of natural processes that can restore and protect ecological function in agricultural systems to deliver a range of food system benefits. The group is committed to interdisciplinary research, combining expertise in soil, plant, animal, food and social science. Natalie is also currently leading the social component of a forestry project in Fiji, funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). She has conducted applied social science research within a number of research teams involving Indigenous groups, Government and non-government organisations.



**Professor Sagadevan G. Mundree – Director, Centre for Agriculture and the Bioeconomy, Faculty of Science, Queensland University of Technology**

Professor Mundree is currently the Director of the Centre for Agriculture and the Bioeconomy at Queensland University of Technology. Prior to joining QUT, he was a Senior Executive in the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (QPIF) where he led a Team that was responsible for QPIF’s Investments in Research, Development and Extension in all the primary industries of Queensland.

He is a former academic from the University of Cape Town and served as Chief Executive Officer of South Africa’s National Innovation Centre for Agricultural Biotechnology. He holds a PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology, which he completed at Auburn University (USA) on a Fulbright Scholarship, an MBA from the University of Cape Town and is a Senior Executive Fellow of the Harvard Kennedy School. He is a member of the South African Academy of Science and served on the National Biotechnology Advisory Council.



**Dr Hope Johnson – Senior Lecturer, School of Law, Faculty of Business and Law, University of Technology**

Dr Johnson is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Law at QUT. Her research focuses on the regulation of food systems in Australia and internationally. She uses a mix of legal and sociological methods to investigate how best to regulate for the future of food. Her current research projects are about alternative proteins (plant- and cell-based foods) and food waste respectively. Key themes in

Hope's research include sustainable diets, food labels, food and agricultural technologies, human rights and regulatory studies. Hope is a member of the Law and Society Association's Collaborative Research Network "Law and Food Systems" and a Chief Investigator to the Centre for Agriculture and the Bioeconomy's Agrifood Systems Research Program.



## **Dr Kimberley Reis– Lecturer, School of Engineering and Built Environment, Griffith University**

Dr Kimberley Reis is a Lecturer in the School of Engineering and Built Environment at Griffith University. Kim leads the project on ‘Local Food Resilience and Contingency’ at the Cities Research Institute. Contingency planning is about having choices to access fresh food and maintaining continuity of local trade. Kim’s research improves local food planning processes to address spiked instances of food shortages and ongoing experiences of food disadvantage. In 2022 Kim was awarded the “Excellence in Disaster Management Research” by the Queensland Government’s Office of the Inspector General Emergency Management for research in local food resilience during severe weather and pandemic events.



## **Professor Rebecca Ford – Dean (research) Griffith Sciences – Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor and Professor (Molecular Plant Pathology), School of Environment and Science and Environmental Futures Research Institute**

Professor Rebecca Ford is a highly collaborative, interdisciplinary and outcome focused research leader. Her broad focus is to improve sustainability of food production systems, in developing and implementing novel tools for informed disease management and selective breeding. She has developed new varieties with resistance to major fungal pathogens and molecular diagnostic tools. This has directly led to the training of the next generation of agricultural industry professionals, increased productivity, and economic returns to the growers, and improved environmental impacts through reduced chemical use. Professor Ford is a strong advocate for women in science, in mentoring the progression of women to senior levels within academia and industry.

