



Environment Institute
of Australia and
New Zealand

EIANZ 2024 NATURE POSITIVE CITIES SYMPOSIUM

Tuesday 26 March - Wednesday 27 March
Sheraton Grand Sydney Hyde Park
161 Elizabeth Street, Sydney



SARAH DELAHUNTY
General Manager of
Impact & Investment at
Queensland trust
for Nature

ABSTRACT

Creating Nature positive BiodiverCities

As urbanisation intensifies, the imperative to balance human development with ecological sustainability is increasingly critical. QTFN advocates for a holistic approach that integrates ecological restoration, green infrastructure, and community engagement to foster nature positivity in cityscapes. By facilitating partnerships, we can connect local wildlife habitat corridors and foster a biodiverse and resilient urban landscape. This can include rehabilitating pockets of greenery, and incorporating green infrastructure, such as green roofs, vertical gardens, and permeable surfaces. These sustainable interventions not only provide habitat for various species, but also help to mitigate the urban heat island effect, improve overall environmental quality, and increase the standard of living/community wellbeing. Community engagement is positioned as a cornerstone of this approach. By involving residents in biodiversity monitoring, conservation activities, and educational initiatives, we strive to cultivate a sense of environmental stewardship. Empowering citizens to play an active role in creating habitat and sustaining urban biodiversity fosters a collective responsibility for the well-being of local ecosystems. Using public spaces such as South Bank as a focal point will also contribute to the broader dialogue on achieving nature positivity in the ever-evolving landscapes of our cities.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

With over 20 years of extensive experience spanning various sectors managing stakeholders and fostering strategic partnerships, Sarah joined Queensland Trust For Nature as the General Manager of Impact and Investment.

Through her work she has seen the evolution of Corporate Responsibility from being the 'nice to have' through to the present where ESG and Nature Positive agenda have become integral components of core business. Sarah is passionate about creating connections for people and organisations to appreciate and value nature – knowing that changes either big or small can make the world of difference.