



# Place-based Impact Summit

# Program

15–16 June 2026 | Sofitel Brisbane Central

Across Australia, place-based initiatives tell us a consistent story: meaningful change is happening locally, but there is no shared or consistent way to define, measure or explain that impact. Different funders ask for different evidence. Different frameworks pull in different directions. Too much time is spent translating work into multiple reports instead of focusing on delivery.

The Place-Based Impact Summit is a two-day, hands-on summit focused on fixing that. It is a practical, applied event to align communities, initiatives, practitioners, funders and governments around clearer, shared approaches to impact.

This is a working summit with a program built for active participation, by bringing the place-based ecosystem together to build a shared understanding that incorporates different perspectives and experiences from across Australia, and a shared commitment to action.

# Program - Day One

**Focus:** Building shared understanding of place-based impact



9.00am – 10am	<b>Registration</b> (coffee and tea)
<b>Session 1</b> plenary	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Grounding in place and purpose</b></li></ul>
<b>Session 2</b> plenary and table discussions	<b>Unpacking the collective challenge:</b> how can we better understand and demonstrate the impact of place-based approaches?  <b>Morning tea</b>
<b>Session 3</b> breakout session	<b>What do we mean by place-based impact?</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hear from place-based practitioners and thought leaders about what impact looks like in their communities and what's so different about a place-based approach?</li></ul>
12:50pm – 1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Session 4</b> plenary, guest presentation and table activities	<b>Learning by doing - unpacking the people power ecologies in our places</b> An interactive and immersive experience led by Amanda Tattersall - Associate Professor in urban geography at the University of Sydney, and a leader in place-based research and community-led research methods.
2.45pm – 3:15pm	<b>Afternoon tea</b>
<b>Session 5</b> plenary	<b>Exploring existing options</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing frameworks and measures: what could form the basis of a shared approach to measuring place-based impact?</li><li>• Your say: Vote #1 - 'what's important in measuring place-based impact?'</li></ul>
<b>Session 6</b> plenary, panel	<b>Insights from the experts in place</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In conversation with place-based data dynamos</li></ul>
<b>Session 7</b> plenary	<b>Reflections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Framing for Day 2</li></ul>
4.45pm	<b>Close</b>
5pm – 6pm	<b>Networking drinks and conversations</b>

# Program - Day Two

**Focus:** Towards action on a shared approach to measuring impact



8.30am – 9.00	Coffee & tea
Session 1 plenary	<b>Welcome, Day 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Recap &amp; overnight reflections - Framing day 2</li></ul>
Session 2 plenary	<b>What does the data tell us?</b> Sharing the vote #1 results from yesterday
Sessions 3 & 4 breakout sessions	<b>Impact Measurement Marketplace &amp; Scalable impact measurement innovations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Scalable impact measurement innovations</b> – hear about different initiatives seeking to understand and measure impact at national scale</li><li><b>Impact Measurement Marketplace - see what's out there:</b> explore tools, platforms and supports available for place-based impact measurement</li></ul>
10:45am – 11:15am	<b>Morning Tea</b>
Session 5 plenary	<b>Your say:</b> Vote #2 on possible shared measures – elimination round
Session 6 plenary and table discussions	<b>Collective action requires</b> What will it take for a shared approach to impact measurement? Identifying what needs to be in place for implementation
12:30pm – 1:15pm	<b>Lunch</b>
Session 7 plenary	<b>The voting results</b> sharing the results of voting round #2
Session 8 plenary	<b>Special guest presentation/s</b>
Session 9 plenary	<b>Insights for action</b> Groups share their reflections and suggestions
Session 10 plenary	<b>Next steps and agreed actions</b>
3.15pm	<b>Close</b>