

Synopsis

Big-picture societal and environmental strategist, climate and ecosystems scientist, public policy analyst, global and regional policy strategist, I'm internationally known for impactful science-policy work on climate, ecosystems, energy, risk and resilience.

I have worked globally, bioregionally and nationally in governments, NGOs, academia and international nonprofit initiatives. Globally, I was a UN negotiator at the Convention on Biological Diversity while coordinating Namibia's national biodiversity and climate change programmes, and began a CBD Bureau process of aligning the work programmes of the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CMS and Ramsar Conventions. I was a board and exco member of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; and chief science and technology officer for the World Bank-funded Global Invasive Species Programme. Nationally and bioregionally, I worked with governments and academia in southern Africa, where for 21 years I founded and led influential national climate and biodiversity programmes in post-independence Namibia and post-apartheid South Africa. During these times, I founded and developed streamlined but highly collaborative, structured programs with the full range of themes developed by working groups. Our work was awarded (to me personally) globally by the Society for Conservation Biology's 2002 Distinguished Service Award for government work, in the same year that Sir David Attenborough and Prof Georgina Mace won it for media and academia respectively. Since returning to the USA in 2017 to lead and co-lead three international and global environmental and societal NGOs, I have focused work increasingly on the human policies, behaviors and perceptions that drive biodiversity loss, climate change and other symptoms of ecological overshoot.

I am a core co-author of the World Scientists' Warning of a Climate Emergency papers in *BioScience* and *Scientific American* in 2019-2021, the first co-signed by 13,802 scientists from 156 countries, and lead author of the World Scientists' Warnings into Action: Local to Global paper in *Science Progress* in 2021 (for COP26), co-signed by 3000+ scientists from 110+ countries. I'm intent on speeding their implementation around the world, through transformative and collaborative action at multiple scales on energy, pollution, nature, food systems, population, and economic goals. These are highly challenging, complex tasks requiring the utmost coordination, strategy and morale-building across human organizations.

Especially in the last decade, I have a 'fire in my belly' for accelerating transformative change. I am increasingly known for:

- facilitating strategic, cross-pollinating collaboration of governments, academics, nonprofits and communities;
- strategic, cost-effective, impactful and compassionate strategies which rethink systems and better ways of working;
- deft approach to meeting multiple policy goals through reframing questions and solutions
- gently persuasive support to high-level policymakers, academic, nonprofit and community leaders.

A quite highly ranked and impactful scientist, strategist and communicator, I can cross-pollinate effectively between siloed disciplines. I've been honored with an award for bringing people together on some of our most challenging wicked problems in science and society, and I write and speak extensively on adapting to the 21st century from wasteful western lifestyles.

After hours, I also co-produce films, working with my filmmaker husband on small films on big societal issues. One of our current projects is an independent global documentary series, ***Back to Our Future: Climate Restoration and Survival*** on how nature-based carbon removal approaches and large-scale ecosystem restoration can together stabilize our planet, climate and societies.

In the last decades I've been a Fulbright Scholar, Distinguished Service Awardee of the Society for Conservation Biology, and Forbes Distinguished Professional Achievement Awardee. For fun, I climb active volcanoes and snowy mountains, and grow a community vegetable garden.

I'm a US citizen and have lived in Africa, North America and Europe, with permanent residence in Namibia and South Africa.

Contacts

Based in: Mount Vernon, Washington State, 98273, USA. Telephone +1 360 914 2307 (mobile)

Emails: phoebe.barnard@stableplanetalliance.org (work) | phoebebarnard2018@gmail.com (private)

Work:

- **Chief Executive Officer, Stable Planet Alliance**, a global alliance of lively dynamic organizations and experts, Calabasas, CA, USA
- **Founder, Global Restoration Collaborative**, a global process to align ecosystem restoration, climate restoration and youth leadership alliances globally, and thus accelerate progress in the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration
- **Affiliate Full Professor** (conservation biology; environmental futures; climate risk and resilience), **University of Washington – Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences, UW Bothell and Center for Environmental Politics, UW Seattle**

- **Honorary Research Associate, African Climate and Development Initiative, and DST-NRF Centre of Excellence at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology**, both at the **University of Cape Town**, Cape Town, South Africa
- **Associate Science, Policy and Comms Strategist, Conservation Biology Institute**, Corvallis, OR, USA

URLs: www.phoebebarnard.com | <https://www.stableplanetalliance.org> | <https://www.stableplanetalliance.org/restoration> (temp site) | <https://www.uwb.edu/ias/faculty-and-staff/phoebe-barnard> | <https://envirpol.org/faculty-2/> | <https://pbarnard9.wixsite.com/global> and <https://consbio.org/products/projects/early-warning-systems-for-biodiversity-and-ecosystem-health> (biodiversity early warning systems globally) | <https://pbarnard9.wixsite.com/website-3> (biodiversity early warning systems in North American Cascadia Region) | www.fitzpatrick.uct.ac.za/fitz/staff/research/barnard | | https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Phoebe_Barnard | <https://uwbothell.academia.edu/wwwphoebebarnardcom>

Education

PhD in Environmental Sciences (biodiversity/ ecology) -- Uppsala University, Sweden, 1994

MSc in Environmental Sciences with distinction (animal ecology) -- University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa, 1990

BSc with Honours in Biology -- Acadia University, Canada, 1983

Significant professional appointments

- 2021-present: **Stable Planet Alliance (SP)**: Chief Executive Officer and co-founder. A new global coalition of lively, respected organizations and experts around the world working to reduce human planetary impact from the top down (shifting public policies, from the SDGs on down) and bottom up (shifting public perceptions and narratives) on ecological overshoot, especially both population and consumption.
- 2018-2021: **Conservation Biology Institute (CBI)**: Chief Science & Policy Officer / Associate Strategist (2021-) A new position to improve the strategy, impact, consensus-building ability and policy reach of this highly regarded, internationally active geospatial environmental institute, which facilitates collaborative, consensus-building spatial solutions and scenarios.
- 2018: **Center for Large Landscape Conservation (CLLC)**: Senior Consultant
A half-time position (4 months) to support the work of the IUCN Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group, where I initiated a new Marine Connectivity Working Group and further a global policy analysis of multilateral infrastructure investments.
- 2017-present: **University of Washington (UW)**: Affiliate Professor of Environmental Futures and Conservation Biology. Collaborate with teams across the globe on biodiversity and natural hazard early warning systems under climate change. Collaborators include International Institute of Applied Systems Analysis and University of Rwanda). Unsalaries post.
- 2017-2018: **Pacific Biodiversity Institute (PBI)**: Executive Director
Assumed helm as the ED of this small and non-viable conservation research organization and took the decision to restructure its international programs and staff into three larger, better resourced institutes (including CBI and CLLC above) for better conservation impact.
- 2005-2016: **South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)**: Principal (2005-14) & Lead Scientist (2014-16), Climate Change Adaptation, and Biodiversity Futures (2015-16), Kirstenbosch Research Centre. As Lead Scientist, led national and institutional strategic planning for biodiversity futures and climate vulnerability science – especially global change futures, climate vulnerability of endemic species, and roles of research, citizen science and partnerships in conservation.
- 2005-present: **University of Cape Town (UCT): African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) and Centre of Excellence at the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology:**
Research Associate, from 2007-2012 developing and coordinating climate change and conservation module of UCT's top-ranked MSc Course in Conservation Biology. Lectured yearly on climate vulnerability and adaptation, national/ global public policy, conservation leadership, negotiation skills, conflict resolution. Led international research team on climate vulnerability of endemic species in urbanizing and fragmented landscapes in a global biodiversity hotspot. Unsalaries post.
- 2003-2005 **South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Global Invasive Species Program Secretariat:**
Scientific & technological coordinator, GISP Secretariat. Led and initiated projects in Costa Rica,

Vietnam, Chile and the Pacific Ocean on invasive species and aligned the Secretariat's work with other international initiatives, e.g. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

- 1994-2003 **Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Directorate of Environmental Affairs:**
Founding Coordinator, Namibian National Biodiversity Program (director-level post) - designed and led for 10 years Namibia's first national biodiversity program: strategic national planning, coordination, policy formulation/analysis; chaired National Biodiversity Task Force; negotiated on behalf of Namibia at Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), SADC, related fora. CBD national focal point, 1997-2002.
- 2001 **Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Directorate of Environmental Affairs:**
Founding National Coordinator, Namibian National Climate Change Program. Designed and led this national program, a Namibian Committee on Climate Change and a public forum, voluntarily for 10 months, in addition to the National Biodiversity Program, until a paid coordinator could be hired.

Institutional reviews and advisory bodies

- 2020 – present: **American Society of Adaptation Professionals**, leadership mentor, active in climate adaptation member groups on climate migration and managed retreat, public policy, rural resilience, and justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI).
- 2019 – present: **Coalition WILD**, international leadership mentor for young conservation professionals
- 2019 – present: **500 Women Scientists**, active member of a group now numbering > 19,000 women diversifying and raising leadership voices for women in STEM.
- 2017 - 2020 **United Nations Development Program, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) portal**, 'featured expert.'
- 2017-present **American Association for the Advancement of Science, SciLine science communication network**, 'featured expert.' Routinely asked to comment on news by journalists worldwide.
- 2015-19 **University of Zürich, Switzerland**, University Research Priority Program "Global Change and Biodiversity" Scientific Review Panel with NASA administrator Dr Ghassem Asrar.
- 2013-16 **United Nations Environment Program – World Conservation Monitoring Centre's African Leadership Group**, 'expert advisors' to African countries on national action plans.
- Nov 2012 **United Nations Environment Program horizon-scanning 2012 Foresight Report, Invited Reviewer**, *"21 Issues for the 21st Century: Results of the UNEP Foresight Process on Emerging Environmental Issues."*
- July 2012 **National Geographic Expert Review Panel of Cheetah Conservation Fund** (appointed member; chair: Prof Tom Lovejoy). Reviewed this international wildlife organization's impact.
- March 2007 **University of Cape Town, Conservation Biology Master of Science Course Review Team**
- Jan 2002-03 **Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem Program Steering Committee** (alternate)
- Jan 2000-05 **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Global Board, Executive Committee (2003-05), and selection panels**
- Jan 2001-03 **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment - Global Scenarios & Sub-Global Working Groups**
- Jan 2001-03 **Namibian Committee on Climate Change, national chair** (government); **Contact Group on Climate Change** (interim chair, public forum)
- Oct 1994-03 **Namibian National Biodiversity Task Force, national chair** (govt) plus 4 of 18 working groups

Notable awards and distinctions

- 2020 **University of Washington, Seattle, affiliated as full professor of environmental futures and conservation biology** at the Center for Environmental Politics
- 2019 **Forbes Distinguished Professional Achievement Award**
- 2017 **University of Washington, Bothell, affiliated as full professor of environmental futures and conservation biology** at the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- 2015 **Homeward Bound Antarctic Women's Leadership Expedition 2016** (one of initial 76 international women leaders in global change science selected for this top-class training, where I was both mentor and mentee)
- 2002 **Distinguished Achievement Award (Society for Conservation Biology)** -- *"For her extraordinary contribution to conservation in Namibia, especially putting science into practice"*
- 1993-94 **Fulbright Fellowship - Doctoral Grant (Fulbright Commission, USA/Sweden)**
For PhD studies in evolutionary biology at Uppsala University

Postdocs and graduate students (details on request)

3 postdocs, 9 PhD students, 3 MSc thesis students, 3 BSc Honours students graduated or in process.

Publications (full list and PDFs on request)

Over 125 peer-reviewed scientific, policy and popular publications, including books, reports, chapters and papers.
Scientific rating:

- National Science Foundation reviewer, USA
- National Research Foundation, rated scientist (C-1), South Africa
- H-index = 33 (22 since 2016)
- i_{10} index = 71 (44 since 2016)
- Research Gate RG index = 38.34 (top 4% of academics)

I am an unusually transdisciplinary scientist, working on climate, ecosystem and natural solutions with economists, social scientists, ethicists, demographers, policymakers, community leaders and media strategists.

I'm comfortable with high-level engagements, and have been fortunate to meet and sometimes work with heads of state, kings and queens, and other global leaders, particularly in northern Europe and southern Africa.

Among other roles, I have just been invited to join a select global group of six wise women leaders (including Christiana Figueres), the [Busara Circle](#), mentoring young women leaders in STEM worldwide as part of the Homeward Bound initiative - <https://homewardboundprojects.com.au/about/people/>. I'm a board member of Scientists Warning Europe <https://www.scientistswarningeurope.org.uk/about> and member of the Alliance of Leading Environmental Researchers and Thinkers, ALERT <http://alert-conservation.org/key-people-new>.

For more details, a comprehensive CV/publications list is online: <https://www.phoebebarnard.com/cv-publications>.

Professional interests – systems analysis and change, global change science and policy, climate vulnerability and adaptation, episodic events, good governance, organizational efficiency and effectiveness, preparedness for triple-whammy climate or policy curve-balls, globalization, economic reform, travel and trade and their impacts, vulnerability to climate and land use change; environmental futures, sustainability tipping points, effective communications and media, especially film, to bring these about; difficult civil dialogues to bring about economic and social transitions; human behaviour and resistance to change; circular/ regenerative economy; political tipping points; restoration ecology; holistic nutrition, how to balance food, water and energy security with ecosystem health and biodiversity values. At a gentler level, ornithology, evolution in natural ecological communities, and landscape connectivity and climate adaptation.