Paul Gilding

Author, Corporate Advisor and Entrepreneur

Paul is one of the world's most experienced and respected authorities on the implications of sustainability and climate change for business strategy and the economy.

His career has seen him serve in the Australian military, be global head of Greenpeace, teach and research at the University of Cambridge, be a top advisor to global corporations, write a seminal book on economics and sustainability and be a successful entrepreneur.



With over 40 years' experience, Paul provides deep insights into the challenges and opportunities that environmental and social trends present for society, companies and investors.

Amongst various current positions, he is a Fellow at the University of Cambridge's Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL). In this role he researches and lectures on "Radical Innovation – Accelerating Clean Disruption" exploring the inevitable market disruption as we transform the global economy at sufficient speed and scale to address system wide risks, including keeping warming below 1.5 degrees. Another current focus is defining what it means to see climate change as The Climate Emergency, with a new paper "Climate Emergency Defined" and an associated website ClimateEmergency.com

As a corporate advisor he has worked with the Boards and Executives of many leading global companies including Unilever, BHP Billiton, Royal DSM, Ford and DuPont. Through this work he has developed close working relationships with a large number of Chairs, CEOs and Executives, helping them to deepen their understanding of sustainability issues, particularly the relationship to business value and strategy.

As an author and advocate he has written a range of seminal journal papers and articles, including "The Mother of All Conflicts" on climate change and security and "The One Degree Plan War Plan" (with J Randers) on mobilising the global economy and society to successfully address climate change. His blog, The Cockatoo Chronicles, explores the business implications of a rapid, sustainability driven transformation of the economy. His book "The Great Disruption" has been widely acclaimed and his views featured in major media outlets around the world, including in the New York Times where Pulitzer Prize winning writer Tom Friedman concluded, "Ignore Gilding at your peril".

Over his 40+ years as an activist and social entrepreneur he has been CEO of a range of innovative NGOs and social enterprises including Greenpeace International, Ecos Corporation and Easy Being Green. In recent years he co-founded Disruptive Consulting and the Changing Markets Foundation. He lives in Tasmania, Australia on a family run mixed farm which is part of an integrated agriculture and food tourism venture, the Port Cygnet Cannery.