

Media Release For Immediate Release

GLOBAL GOALS AUSTRALIA CEO NAMED AMONG ACT YOUNG AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR FINALISTS FOR 2017



Global Goals Australia CEO, Caterina Sullivan, has been named among 4 finalists in the ACT for the Young Australian of the Year Award for 2017.

Ms Sullivan was nominated for her efforts in working with federal, state and territory governments as well as local government around Australia to work toward achieving the United Nations' 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development for 2030 agreed to at the UN General Assembly in New York last year by 193 nations including Australia.

According to Ms Sullivan, the Federal Government and the other two major parties, Labor and the Greens, were slow to accept that the 169 targets set for the goals were as applicable to Australia as they were perceived to be to less developed countries. "There seems to be a belief, particularly in federal circles, our achievement of the goals is primarily related to foreign aid; however, Australia has much to do in all

areas of the goals including ending poverty, improving education, furthering gender equality and addressing climate change," Ms Sullivan said.

The 17 Global Goals also call on all nations to deliver on industry, innovation and infrastructure, address ocean pollution, land degradation, good jobs and economic growth and food production. "If all three levels of government in Australia are looking for a plan for our country's future, it is laid out in these goals," Ms Sullivan claims.

Determined to support the United Nations' Global Goals for Sustainable Development, Caterina Sullivan established the Global Goals Australia Campaign in March, 2016 to ensure all Australians understand and work towards sustainability. Drawing on the skills learnt during three months in New York with Global Citizen last year, Caterina has created Global Goals Australia. As CEO, Caterina is spearheading a campaign to raise awareness of the 17 goals signed off by 193 nations and to educate Australians on how they can work together to work towards a sustainable solution to poverty, fight inequality and injustice and fix climate change by 2030. In the lead-up to the 2016 Federal election, Caterina secured written commitments from the three major parties towards achieving the goals. She has also gathered the support of individuals, corporates and NGOs around the country. With passion and purpose, Caterina is determined to help Australians appreciate why achieving these ambitious goals "isn't just about faraway countries" and why we should all work together to give everyone the best chance at life.

She has just returned from a week in London working with Mr Bean creator Richard Curtis' Project Everyone, an NGO working closely with the UN to publicise the Global Goals internationally, followed by three weeks in New York for the UN General Assembly.

The ACT Young Australian of the Year will be announced at a ceremony in Canberra on Monday 31 October. The person selected will represent ACT in the Young Australian of the Year to be announced in Canberra on the eve of Australia Day in January next year.

Joining her as finalists for the ACT Young Australian of the Year for 2017 are humanitarian Alpha Cheng, Cystic Fibrosis champion Heidi Prowse and mental health advocate Rachael Stevens.

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