

Tech for nature

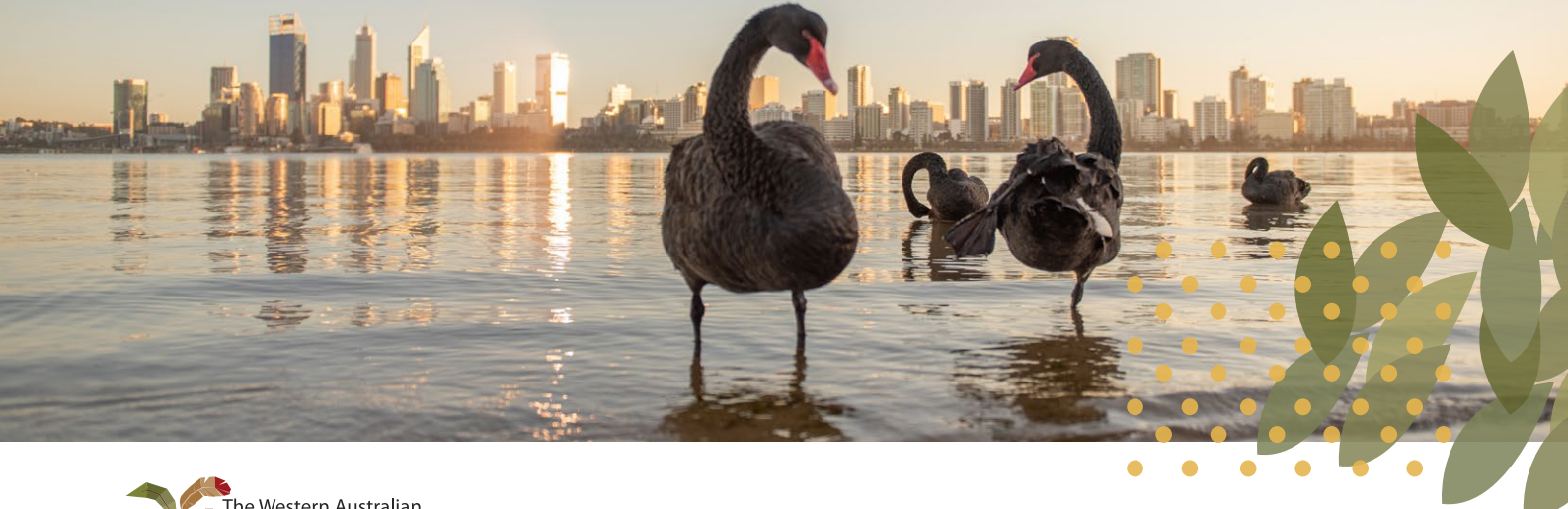
AI and emerging technologies in biodiversity conservation

- **Thursday 25th July 2024**
12.00pm – 1.30pm

ONLINE EVENT

Register here

Join us as we speak with an expert international panel working at the intersection of artificial intelligence and biodiversity conservation. We explore global examples of how technology is unlocking solutions to help optimise conservation efforts, from planning and monitoring, to species and habitat protection, to predicting extinction risk.



Speakers

PANEL

BISTRA DILKINA

Associate Professor, Computer Science and Co-Director, Center on AI in Society, University of Southern California, USA

Bistra's research focuses on advancing the state of the art in combinatorial optimisation techniques for solving real-world large-scale problems, particularly ones that arise in sustainability areas such as biodiversity conservation planning and urban planning. Her work is at the intersection of

discrete optimisation and machine learning. One key area of research is designing machine-learning-driven combinatorial optimisation algorithms, by leveraging the plethora of data generated by solving distributions of real-world optimisation problems.



DANIELE SILVESTRO

Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Fribourg, Fribourg, Switzerland and Director, Captain Technologies Ltd.

Daniele is a computational biologist with expertise in evolutionary and conservation biology. He leads a research team at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland that develops computational methods and software to study evolutionary processes across different organisms including plants, vertebrates,

and invertebrate groups. They also cover new methods and software to predict extinction risk in modern species, to model the dynamics of the ongoing biodiversity crisis, and to optimise conservation efforts using artificial intelligence.



Speakers (cont.)

FACILITATOR



PROFESSOR OWEN NEVIN

Chief Executive Officer, The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute

Owen is an experienced conservation biologist and research leader and is the Chief Executive Officer of The Western Australian Biodiversity Science Institute (WABSI). Owen's research work has focused on advancing the conservation of threatened species and their habitats through developing better management and understanding of behaviour and ecosystem function, and human impacts including ecotourism and resource. Owen is a member of the Biosecurity Council of Western Australia. Previous

positions include Head of the National School of Forestry (UK), Dean of Graduate Research and Associate Vice-Chancellor at CQUniversity Australia.

Owen has served on the Society for Conservation Biology's European Board and on the Global Board of Governors. He was elected as a Fellow of the Zoological Society of London and appointed as Anniversary Visiting Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Cumbria.

