

## Biography – CEESP Specialist Group on Local Economies, Communities and Nature

### **Nicholas (Nick) Conner, Chair - [Specialist Group on Local Economies, Communities and Nature](#)**

Nick Conner (Australia) has over thirty years' experience in environmental economics, specializing in socio-economic impact assessment of terrestrial and marine protected areas, rural development, valuation of ecosystem services, and environmental economics capacity building, especially in Oceania.

Nick has worked in water resource planning, energy policy analysis and protected area management. Since 2000, he has been involved with the IUCN Secretariat, Commissions and not-for-profit groups on a range of projects including:

- Co-lead IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management: Ecosystem Services Thematic Group (2017-)
- Project Adviser, Regional Economic Impacts of Peru Protected Areas, Conservation Strategy Fund (2017-)
- Consultant, Cook Islands National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan Review: Valuation and Mainstreaming of Ecosystem Services (December 2016-June 2017)
- Instructor, Conservation Strategy Fund Economic Tools for Conservation courses in Pohnpei, Yap and Palau (Micronesia) (2012-15);
- Co-author, 'Economics of Coastal Zone Management in the Pacific' with IUCN and University of the South Pacific (February 2012);
- Lead, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas Economic Valuation Specialist Group (2006-2013);
- Economist, Lower Mekong Region Protected Areas Review Programme: protected areas and development in Vietnam, Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Sept 2001 - Dec 2002).

Nick is qualified in Environment Studies and Agricultural Economics, and is also the Principal Conservation Economist with the New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage in Sydney, Australia.