

Sir Robert Tony Watson, CMG, FRS

My career has evolved from a Ph.D. student at QMC, London University; a post-doctoral fellow at University of California, Berkeley and University of Maryland, USA; a research scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, USA; a Federal Government program manager/director at the US NASA; a scientific advisor in the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), White House, USA; a scientific advisor, manager and chief scientist at the World Bank; chief scientific advisor to the UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; Sir Louis Matheson Fellow, Monash Sustainability Institute (MSI), Monash University, Australia, to my present part-time position as a Professor of Environmental Sciences and strategic director for the Tyndall Center at the University of East Anglia, UK. In parallel to my formal positions I have chaired, co-chaired or directed a number of national and international scientific, technical and economic assessments, including WMO/UNEP stratospheric ozone depletion assessments, Global Biodiversity Assessment, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, UK National Ecosystem Assessment and its Follow-on, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Intergovernmental Assessment of Agricultural Scientific and Technology for Development, and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. I have also been awarded a number of honours, including (2012 - Knights Bachelor – UK, and 2003 - “Companion of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George” - UK); fellowships (2011 – Fellow of the Royal Society, UK), and awards, including 2014 – UN Champion of the World for Science and Innovation, 2010 - Asahi Glass Blue Planet Prize, 2008 – American Association for the Advancement of Science Award for International Scientific Cooperation, and I contributed to the 2007 - Nobel Peace Prize for the IPCC, which I chaired from 1997-2002.