

Sir Robert Watson

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; to my present part-time positions as a Professor of Environmental Sciences and strategic director for the Tyndall Center at the University of East Anglia, UK, and Sir Louis Matheson Fellow, Monash Sustainability Institute (MSI), Monash University, Australia. 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, Global Biodiversity Assessment, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, UK National Ecosystem Assessment and its Follow-on, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and the Intergovernmental Assessment of Agricultural Scientific and Technology for Development. I am currently a Vice-chair of the Intergovernmental Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. I have also been awarded a number of honours (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.