**Calling all conservation success stories and optimistic earth researchers**: Get your good news story out and apply for a slot for a 3-minute talk at our upcoming 3MT success story session during the Earth Optimism public event being held at Taronga on April 22nd. We ask all speakers to focus on positive stories of change that will engage an audience of target age 12+. Talks are 3 minutes in length and can be accompanied with a maximum of one visual aid (typically a single PowerPoint slide or photo). For more about the event, session format and how to get involved see the below details.

*About the event:*

Earth Optimism is part of a growing, [global movement](https://earthoptimism.si.edu/global-partner-events/) that celebrates a change in focus from problem to solution, from a sense of loss to one of hope, in the dialogue about conservation and sustainability. We are changing the conversation about environmental conservation, from doom and gloom, to inspiration and action! The event is an all-day event hosted by SCB Oceania and Taronga Zoo on **April 22nd.**

*About the session:*

We ask speakers to focus on an idea or implemented solution that has been successful and that can change the dialogue of conservation and sustainability into a positive one that is filled with hope. Keep in mind this event is all about imparting messages of success and ideas of how small changes can have big impacts. This session will have 8-9 speakers and we aim to represent a diversity of backgrounds (e.g. types of organizations, solutions, personal backgrounds, demographics). Each speaker will have 3 minutes to speak and is asked to follow the 3MT thesis format. We will select final speakers on the basis of ensuring we have a diverse and engaging panel for the audience.

*About the format:*

The idea for the Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition came about at a time when the state of Queensland was suffering severe drought. To conserve water, residents were encouraged to time their showers, and many people had a three minute egg timer fixed to the wall in their bathroom. The then Dean of the UQ Graduate School, Emeritus Professor Alan Lawson, put two and two together and the idea for the 3MT competition was born. So how does it work?

* You speak for a maximum of three minutes about your research, project or solution
* You address an intelligent but non-specialist audience on your idea – for example if it is research address the new knowledge you are hoping to find and the benefits and significance of that knowledge; if it is a solution or successful project address how you came up with the solution, what the outcome was, and why it worked or how others can do the same.
* It is not an exercise in trivialising or 'dumbing-down' your idea or research. The oration should engage the audience without reducing the solution to entertainment value alone.

**How to get involved:**

To be considered for inclusion in the session send Your name, short bio and a summary of your success story along with a short (~30 second) teaser video clip to [earthoptimism@scboceania.org](mailto:earthoptimism@scboceania.org) by March 14th. All successful applicants will be notified by March 24th so that they can prepare their full talk for the April 22nd event.