



Dr Elspeth MacRae
General Manager Manufacturing and Bioproducts, Scion

Elspeth MacRae leads Scion's wood and fibre processing activities including biorefinery, biodiscovery and bioplastic, clean technology and biotech/omics activities (>100 staff). She leads Portfolio 5 (Materials Manufacturing and Applications) for the NZ National Science Challenge in Science and Technology for Industry, and oversees the 3-D printing project. She belongs to the International Advisory Group for the Global Bioeconomy Forum. She is Deputy Chair of the Biopolymer Network Ltd Board, and a member of the Bioprocessing Alliance and the New Zealand Packaging Council governance groups. She is a member of the EPA's BRMAC (advisory) group 2011-2016, and recently moderated the Advanced Manufacturing session in the Auckland Tripartite Economic Summit with Guangzhou and Los Angeles.



She is New Zealand's representative on the EPSO committee 2008-2016, co-leads the forest working group and belongs to the agricultural technologies committee. She was deputy for IUFRO Bioenergy 2010-2014. She was a member of the Advisory Board of EcoChem (2013, 2014); the Strategic Advisory Group for the high value manufacturing portfolio (2012, 2013) and Biological Industries portfolio (2011) for the NZ science ministry (MBIE). She sat on Marsden Funding Panels 2006-2009 and 2012, and the Biological Industries and the Smart Ideas Phase 2 panels 2015, and is a lead assessor for MBIE grants in 2016. She carried out Futurewatch activities for the New Zealand government and has been a member of governmental delegations to the EU and Brazil. She led New Zealand's biobased industrial products theme area under EU Horizon2020 (KBBE) twinning activities, and delivered an Industrial Biotechnology futures project for the OECD (Bioeconomy to 2030) and reviewed the EU Biorefinery roadmap to 2030. She has represented Scion in biotechnology policy issues for 10 years, and is focussed on commercialising specific Scion technologies. In a previous role, she led kiwifruit science and industrial biotechnology at HortResearch (now Plant and Food in NZ). She is often invited to speak at International and local fora; scientific, industrial and policy driven focussed on bioeconomy, forest based manufacturing and food and plants, and has published in a wide range of subject areas mostly plant or biochemistry based (>100 manuscripts), and co-supervised 2 masters and 12 PhD students as well as mentoring over 20 postdoctoral fellows or early career researchers.