



Think Globally. Act Locally!

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 11 June 2021

**Re: Introductory article on HOPE's "Eco-Social Work in Australia" (ESWA)
Podcast series**



The climate emergency, destruction of natural places and wildlife, and other, serious sustainability challenges continue to unfold around us. We are, however, seeing a heartening and positive response from vanguard professions and organisations as they start to make their own, significant contribution to addressing these problems, whilst also adapting to their consequences.

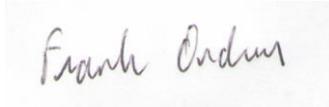
Social work practice in Australia offers an example of such a professional transition, as physical environmental concerns over climate disruption and environmental justice start to be incorporated into work with clients in an approach being termed 'eco-social work.' A new found physical environmental focus is also growing within the allied psychology and health care professions.

One of HOPE Australia's members, Andrew Nicholson, a retired social worker, has produced a podcast series for HOPE Australia entitled *Eco Social Work in Australia*. The launch of this new series follows hard on the heels of a previous podcast series kindly auspiced by HOPE: *After the Virus in S.E. Queensland* which has received over 300 downloads since launch in late 2020.

The *Eco Social Work in Australia* series contains interviews with a range of Australian social work practitioners who give their personal perspectives on topics such as: training institution approaches to supporting eco-social work practice, and social work student experience of eco-social work-oriented placement. There is also discussion of how ecological economics and circular economy ideas might inform future social work practice, and the concept of grief response as a social work framing, to help understand and work with climate change denial and resistance.

As with the *After the Virus* series, a key objective of this podcast project is to help grow a conversation on eco-social work practice amongst listeners. The hope is that the series can make a small contribution to increasing the adoption of eco-social work approaches amongst social work colleagues, in their workplaces, professional groupings, and in networking with other allied professionals.

The *Eco Social Work in Australia* series is available now on: [SPOTIFY](#) [PODBEAN](#) and [GOOGLE PODCASTS](#) .

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Ondrus". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured background.

Frank Ondrus, President – HOPE Inc., ph. 4639 2135

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