



Householders' Options to Protect the Environment Inc.

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HOPE E-news Bulletin 2023 #10 --- October 2023

The following items have been gathered from various e: newsletters received by HOPE in recent times; and/or prepared specifically by HOPE members and supporters. If you have any news to contribute, please forward to office@hopeaustralia.org.au . Deadline for articles is 15th day of the month.

Editorial

Welcome readers, to the October edition of our newsletter! As the vibrant hues of spring paint our landscapes, it's the perfect time to embrace nature and sustainability.

This month, we acknowledge Australian Wildlife Week (1-7th) where we reflect on the incredible diversity of our native wildlife. From our cuddly koalas to our colourful parrots, our natural heritage is something to cherish and protect. It's a reminder of our responsibility to preserve these habitats and coexist harmoniously with our Wildlife. Let's commit to conservation efforts, supporting wildlife sanctuaries, and raising awareness about the importance of protecting our unique fauna.

This month is also National Ride-2-Work Day (18th) and we encourage our readers to ditch cars and embrace pedal power. Cycling not only reduces our carbon footprint but also promotes a healthier lifestyle and cleaner air. Whether it's a short commute or a longer journey, every pedal stroke makes a positive impact. So, dust off your helmets, oil your chains, and ride towards a greener future together.

*Kind regards,
Daniela Dal'Castel, Newsletter Editor – HOPE Inc.*

2023 Environmental Observances

October

- 1-7 [Australian Wildlife Week](#)
- 3 [World Habitat Day](#)
- 13 [International Day for Disaster Reduction](#)
- 14 [World Migratory Bird Day](#) (and 13 May)
- 16 [World Food Day](#)
- 17 [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)
- 17-23 [Aussie Backyard Bird Count \(tbc\)](#)
- 18 [National Ride-2-Work Day](#)
- 24 [United Nations Day](#)

November

- 5 [World Tsunami Awareness Day](#)
- 13-19 [Pollinator Week](#)
- 6-12 [National Recycling Week](#)
- 10 [World Science Day for Peace and Development](#)
- 11 **HOPE AGM, followed by 1st Ordinary Meeting of 2023-2024 Management Committee**
- 21 [World Fisheries Day](#)

December

- 5 [World Soil Day](#)
- 5 [International Volunteer Day](#)
- 5-10 [Coastcare Week \(TBC\)](#)
- 11 [International Mountain Day](#)

Helpful Hints a plenty!

--- <https://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/resources/helpful-hints/>

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Re: Comment on Enews Bulletin 2023 #08a --- Special Edition on Sustainable Building

I feel the need to make some comments –

- *Standards Australia – Seems like this is a copy & paste from their web site. I am surprised that it is included – e.g. Residential Slabs & footings, Domestic Metal Roofing, Prefabricated Buildings, Fire Safety in Tall Buildings is clutching at straws if this is the best they can come up with re ‘promoting environmentally-friendly building practices’. Standards Australia does have a role to play in adapting their standards as the ‘nation embraces a greener and more sustainable future’ but are hardly an organization that is at the forefront of promoting housing sustainability in my opinion.*
- *HIA & QMBA. - These two organizations would be on my list of worst laggards when it comes to transitioning to more energy efficient housing. They are renowned for resisting change and are largely responsible for the fact that most houses built in Qld. since 6-star housing was introduced in 2009 either perform below this standard or perhaps perform to the standard by accident. They continue to lobby the Qld government to try to stall the introduction of the 7-star standard due in October 2023 (see this letter & this one and another). They also lobby the government with outrageous claims of the additional cost of 7-star housing mostly because the industry has continued building houses rated as low as 3 stars and the jump from this standard to 7 stars is considerable. Had their members been building genuine 6-star houses since 2009 the step up to 7 stars would be minor. Educating builders about energy efficiency has been a low priority for the organisations which is part of the reason why they are so concerned about the move to 7 stars. I suspect that the information contained in the report is a copy and paste from their web sites and a classic example of green washing.*
- *It is very disappointing to see the above three Australian organizations listed when others that are at the forefront of education and advocacy in relation to sustainable housing like Renew and BDAA (Building Designers Association of Australia) do not rate a mention. I will add a few links below to organizations and resources that would be worthy of listing & possibly replacing HIA, QMBA and Standards Australia in my opinion.*

Websites of interest:

- <https://renew.org.au/>
- <https://renew.org.au/what-we-do/advocacy/>
- <https://bdaa.com.au/sustainability/>
- <https://www.abcb.gov.au/resource/standard/livable-housing-design>
- <https://www.yourhome.gov.au/>
- <https://www.asbec.asn.au/>
- <https://new.gbca.org.au/green-star/green-star-strategy/future-homes/>
- <https://www.passivhausassociation.com.au/>

Regards,
Ross Campbell, Architect



To find out about volunteering opportunities in your area, please visit:

Volunteering Australia - <http://www.volunteeringaustralia.org/>

Volunteering Queensland - <https://www.volunteeringqld.org.au/>

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment - <http://www.hopeaustralia.org.au/membership/volunteer-form/>

Feature Article

Principles of Environmental Management for Ecologically Sustainable Development

By Saski Siddique – HOPE Researcher (QLD)



In the quest for a sustainable future, one concept stands at the forefront - Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). ESD involves striking a delicate balance between economic growth, environmental preservation, social well-being, and equity considerations in all decision-making processes. It aims to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To achieve this noble objective, the application of Principles of Environmental Management becomes essential.

The Precautionary Principle: Safeguarding the Future

The Precautionary Principle, a cornerstone of environmental decision-making, comes into play when scientific knowledge on a certain matter is insufficient, and the potential for harm exists. In such cases, policymakers justify discretionary actions to protect the public from possible risks until sound scientific evidence proves otherwise. This principle is crucial in situations where uncertainty looms, ensuring that potential harm is minimized while further research clarifies the risks involved.

Research consistency emphasise the pivotal role of environmental scientists in addressing society's environmental issues and influencing policy (Kriebel et al., 2001; Rresnik, 2021). The precautionary principle provides a new guideline in environmental decision making with four central components: taking preventive action amidst uncertainty, shifting the burden of proof to activity proponents, exploring a wide array of alternatives to potentially harmful actions, and fostering public participation in decision making.



Protestors demonstrate in Germany against genetically modified animal feed. (Photo: iStock)

Integration of Principles in International Agreements

The endorsement of the Precautionary Principle in 1982 through the World Charter for Nature marked a significant step in advocating responsible environmental conduct on an international level. Its implementation commenced in 1987 via the Montreal Protocol, heralding a series of legally binding international treaties such as the Rio Declaration and Kyoto Protocol. These agreements solidified the commitment to sustainable practices, shaping policies to protect our shared environment for generations to come.

Recent research highlights the potential benefits of integrating circular economy initiatives into Environmental Management Systems (EMS). Danish organisations currently focus on optimizing production processes in EMS, but have not fully integrated circular economy practices (Kristensen et al., 2020). Expanding EMS to encompass circular principles could lead to improved environmental conditions, social well-being, and economic resilience. Integrating circular economy initiatives into EMS offers a systematic and dynamic strategy for sustainable development (Favara et al., 2019).

The Advantages of Environmental Principles

The application of Principles of Environmental Management offers numerous advantages in our ongoing pursuit of a sustainable world:

Environmental Protection: These principles serve as powerful guardians of our environment, promoting responsible practices across all sectors of society.

Informed Policies: Environmental principles provide a foundation for critiquing government actions and guiding local authorities' decision-making processes. They help interpret policies, ensuring they align with sustainable goals.

Meeting Community Needs: By providing valuable information and setting environmental goals, these principles bridge the gap between community needs and sustainable development objectives.



Platform for Sustainability: Principles of environmental management create a solid platform for sustainable development, fostering a harmonious coexistence between human activities and nature.

Guidelines for Decision-Makers: They equip decision-makers with essential guidelines to enact laws and regulations that safeguard the environment, ensuring environmentally sustainable choices.

Balancing Economic Growth and Preservation: By adhering to environmental principles, we can achieve sustained economic growth while safeguarding the environment for future generations.

Reducing Environmental Accidents: Application of these principles fosters a significant reduction in environmental accidents, leading to improved company reputation and a safer ecosystem.

As the world grapples with environmental challenges, the principles of environmental management serve as beacons of hope. By integrating the Precautionary Principle and other environmentally conscious guidelines into decision-making processes, we pave the way for ecologically sustainable development. The collective effort of citizens, companies, organisations, and governments in adhering to these principles will shape a better future for our planet, preserving its natural beauty and resources for generations to come. Let us embrace these principles as catalysts for positive change and strive towards a harmonious balance between human progress and environmental preservation. Through ongoing research and evidence-based practices, we can continue to refine our environmental management approaches and secure a sustainable legacy for generations to come.

References:

Favara, P., Raymond, D., Ambrusch, M., Libera, A., Wolf, G., Simon, J. A., Maco, B., Collins, E. R., Harclerode, M. A., McNally, A. D., Ridsdale, R., Smith, M., & Howard, L. (2019). Ten years later: The progress and future of integrating sustainable principles, practices, and metrics into remediation projects. *Remediation* (New York, N.Y.), 29(4), 5–30. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rem.21612>

Kriebel, David, et al. "The precautionary principle in environmental science. (Commentaries)." *Environmental Health Perspectives*, vol. 109, no. 9, Sept. 2001, pp. 871+. *Gale Academic OneFile*, link.gale.com/apps/doc/A80486949/AONE?u=qut&sid=bookmark-AONE&xid=31bdd324.

Kristensen, H. S., Mosgaard, M. A., & Remmen, A. (2021). Integrating circular principles in environmental management systems. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 286, 125485–. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2020.125485>
Resnik, D. B. (2021). *Precautionary Reasoning in Environmental and Public Health Policy* (1st ed.). The International Library of Bioethics. Springer Cham. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-70791-0>

Health and wellbeing - from denial to action

By Roland Sapsford, CEO, Climate and Health Association



"Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." World Health Organisation.

"I always say that I sort of represent the unborn but they don't talk to me very often," said Sophie Howe, the former future Commissioner for Wellbeing in Wales in Australia at the invitation of the Centre for Policy Development (CPD), to deliver the inaugural John Menadue Lecture.

"It's impossible for us to know exactly what future generations are going to need," Ms Howe said at the Wheeler Centre in Melbourne on Tuesday night, but that doesn't mean countries like Australia shouldn't try.

Wales has had a go. In 2016 Wales appointed Sophie Howe to the position of Commissioner for Well Being and the Future, when the government voted to make a law ensuring well-being was not just a buzzword but instead enshrined in Welsh legislation, helping shape the way its Government works.

The United Nations Assistant Secretary General, Nikhil Seth, said "what Wales is doing today, the world will do tomorrow."

Under Wales' pioneering law, the public sector should make joined-up, long-term decisions, helping people in Wales live better lives and leave a more liveable planet behind. So far, it's enabled shifts to a greener transport strategy, a progressive school curriculum and a new definition of prosperity.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act is unique to Wales, attracting interest from all over the world as it offers a huge opportunity to make a long-lasting, positive change to current and future generations. Sophie Howe was Wales' first Future Generations commissioner. Derek Walker, the second, has been in the role since March 2023.

It's the first piece of legislation in history to place regenerative and sustainable practice at the heart of government, connecting social, environmental, economic and cultural well-being and aiming to solve complex issues through better decision-making.

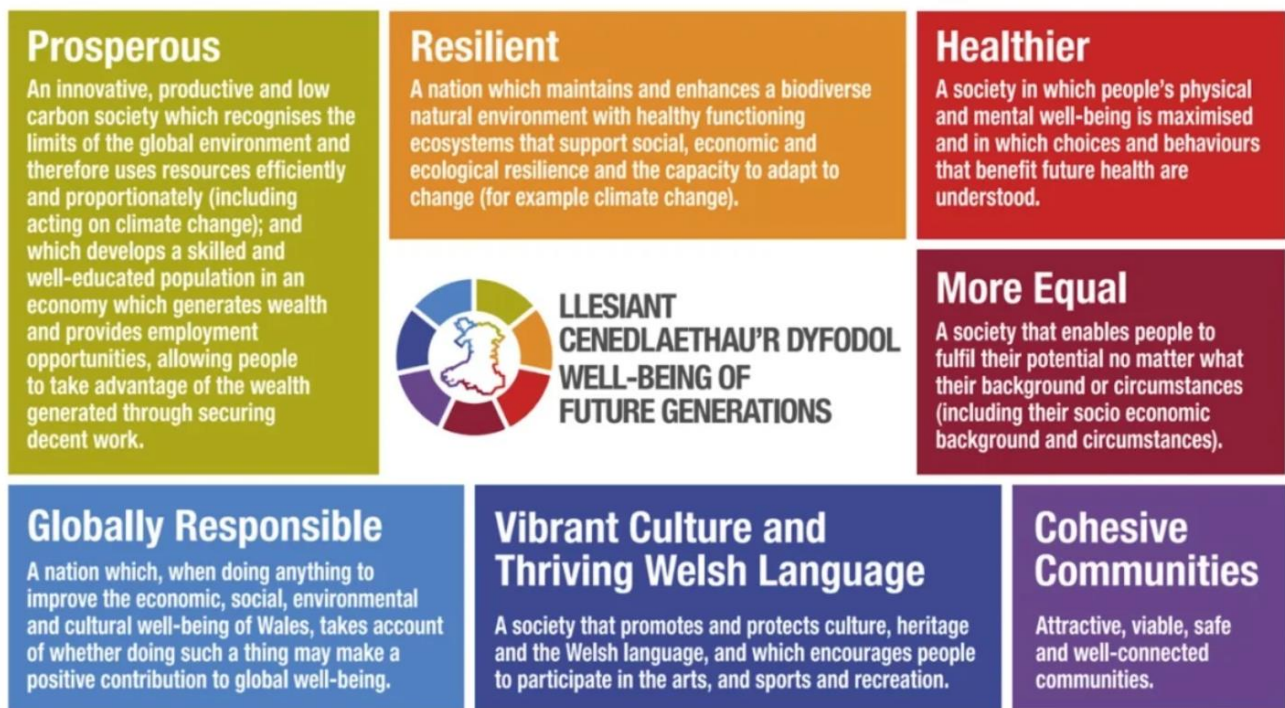
When it was passed into law, the Government noted they were formally placing sustainable development at the heart of the public service and legislating for a set of goals - linked to seven goals for living within Wales' environmental limits in the areas of health, prosperity, environmental resilience, communities, language and heritage, equality and Wales' role in the world - the 'what' of the Act. The 'how to get there' is its five ways of working - long-term, prevention, integration, collaboration and involvement.

This approach is making a real difference. When a proposal was floated for a 21km part of a motorway to be constructed at the cost of A\$2.7billion, Ms Howe intervened, and asked the government department to explain to her how they had applied the Future Generations Act.



THE ACT'S INTENDED EFFECT





"The funding allocated equated to the entire Welsh government's borrowing capacity and the route went through a nature reserve but it was argued that as a necessary part of the infrastructure for the economy, this was ok," she said.

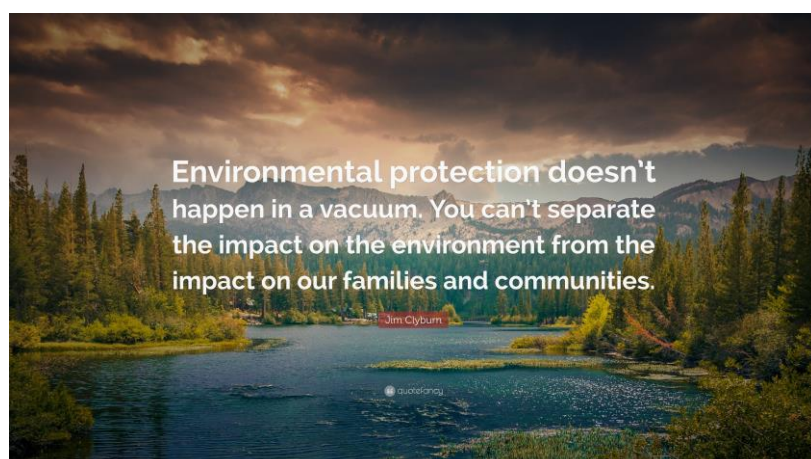
As Commissioner, she asked them to address whether it was in line with the goal of a prosperous Wales. Under the new Act this means experiencing prosperity in the context of climate change. She also how it met the goal of resilience if it would permanently damage biodiversity in the area?

Ms Howe asked if it was in line with the goal of a healthier Wales when the traffic would be adding to rising levels of air pollution and how it would benefit the whole of the population when 25 percent of people in Wales didn't even own a car, so it would only benefit those who were already better off.

The former Commissioner says, against all expectations, the first Minister reversed the decision, cancelled the road and set up a commission to look at alternative options which then aligned with the Future Generations Act.

How's that for pro-active government? She said the government is now planning to spend half the money improving the public transport system and active travel routes in the area. Making it easier for people to walk, cycle and use transport offers a better solution for the environment, community and health, now and for future generations.

A sense it's all too hard can become paralysing - "the new denialism" some have called it. Examples like Sophie Howe make it clear hopeful, effective action is possible. It's Australia's time to step up.



National News

Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia (CORENA)



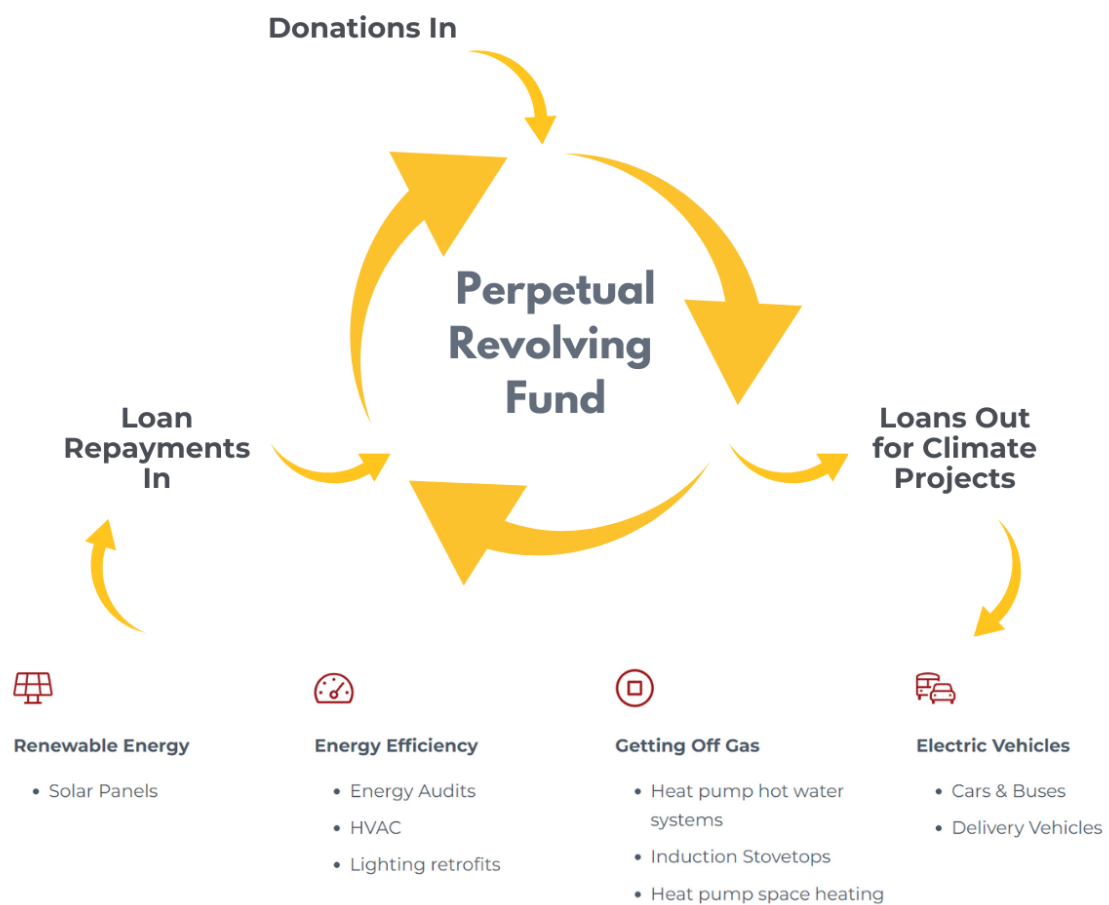
Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia (CORENA) is a registered charity which provides interest-free loans to community, non-profit and social enterprise organisations to fund carbon emission reduction projects.

To date, CORENA has provided over \$1.17 million to finance 50 separate climate action projects. These projects have avoided 4,484 MWh of grid electricity which equates to 808.7 average households having switched to using 100% renewable energy instead of grid electricity.

This \$1.17 million in climate impact has been funded entirely from donations by everyday Australians who support CORENA's unique revolving climate fund - we are immensely grateful to all our wonderful donors. CORENA's revolving fund model uses pooled community donations, plus ongoing loan repayments from previously funded climate projects, to continually finance new climate projects.





To date, the revolving fund has allowed a total of \$614,628 in donations to be transformed into \$1,176,598 in total loans - and each \$100 donated to CORENA's first project in 2013, has now gone on to achieve a total of \$451 in renewable energy impact.

How Our Revolving Fund Works



CORENA offers interest-free loans to community, non-profit and social-enterprise organisations to fund the following project types:

- Solar installations.
- Energy efficiency upgrades (including LED lighting, building insulation etc).
- Replacing gas appliances (including water/space heating, cooking) with energy efficient electric alternatives.
- Purchasing electric vehicles
- Any combination of the above - or talk to us about any other project type that will reduce emissions.

 Renewable Energy	 Energy Efficiency	 Getting Off Gas	 Electric Vehicles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solar panels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy audits • Heating and cooling • Lighting retrofits • Energy monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heat pump hot water systems • Induction stovetops • Heat pump space heating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cars & buses • Delivery vehicles

Solar installations have been the most requested project type for CORENA to fund, and to date our donor-funded loans have financed a total of 1,075 kW of solar installations (with commitments given to fund a further 100.73 kW).

CORENA's Chair, Briony O'Shea, explains the importance of CORENA's work *"CORENA began as a way to empower everyday individuals to take climate action by funding practical climate action, such as solar installations which immediately reduce emissions. It is an incredible achievement that our organisation, which was run entirely by volunteers until 2022, has implemented over one million dollars in climate action projects. It's also a tremendous example of the power of individuals to take positive action, as we continue on behalf of our donors to support the community sector to reduce emissions and tackle the climate emergency."*

CORENA was founded on 22 April (Earth Day) 2013, and was run entirely by volunteers for nearly nine years. As the scale of CORENA's operations increased over the years, so too did the workload for the volunteer team. In 2022 CORENA was able to employ staff focused on engaging more community groups and creating resources to educate local community members on reducing their energy consumption and organisational footprint.

Total loans*	\$1,176,598
Total project donations	\$619,048
kW solar funded	1,055
MWh of grid electricity avoided to date**	4,575
Houses equivalent electricity use***	318
Project carbon emission reductions (tonnes)**	3,078

Sarah McCabe, CORENA's Head of Operations, has called for community organisations to apply for a CORENA loan *"Thanks to donations from the community, in 2023 and beyond we will support even more projects with community organisations. We encourage any interested community organisations, non-profit, or social enterprise to apply for funding to reduce emissions and long-term energy bills."*

Loan repayments from projects are calculated so that they are never more than the organisation's original energy bills - meaning the community organisation is never out of pocket. In addition to immediate emissions reductions,




once the loan has been repaid, the loan recipient will reap the long-term benefits from reduced energy bills, allowing them to spend these savings on their organisation's core functions.

CORENA will provide technical advice and assistance and monthly online Q&A sessions assist community organisations who want to learn more about CORENA loans - full details are here <https://corenafund.org.au/apply-for-a-project-loan/>

Anyone can stay informed about CORENA's work by going to our website <https://corenafund.org.au/> and signing up to receive our free e-newsletters. Tax-deductible donations to support CORENA's work can be made via the website.

CORENA has recently committed to fund two new climate projects - a 75 kW solar system plus a 51 kWh battery for Adelaide's Capri Theatre and a 25.73 kW solar system for a NSW Barnardos Children's Family Centre. CORENA already has the majority of the funds to finance both of these projects and fundraising is underway to raise the remaining amount. For details of these upcoming projects and the opportunity to assist with a tax-deductible donation, click here <https://corenafund.org.au/current-projects-seeking-donations/>



Impact Calculator

We knew our revolving fund would mean that donated money would be used again and again, but even we were surprised when we analysed what happens in detail.

Go to the [Impact Calculator](#) to see how your donation has grown.

Impact Calculator

How CORENA has evolved over their ten years of operation:

- The expanding revolving climate fund has increased the amount of funds available for new climate projects.
- The size and cost of projects funded has increased from a modest 7 kW solar system to multiple large 100 kW solar systems, energy efficiency projects, and electric vehicles.
- Some community organisations have returned for a second CORENA loan for further emissions reducing projects.
- The range of project types that CORENA will finance has been expanded from solar and energy efficiency, to also include getting off gas and buying EVs.
- In addition to solar and energy efficiency projects, some community organisations are in discussion with CORENA about their plans to replace fossil gas appliances with electric alternatives and to buy electric vehicles.

Examples of some of CORENA's funded projects:

Project 1: [Tulgeen Disability Services, NSW \(installed 2013\)](#)

- 7 kW solar installation
- \$12,000 interest-free loan
- Electricity savings of 10,068 kWh per year (saving \$3,636/year in 2013)
- Loan was repaid using energy cost savings over 3 years
- See <https://corenafund.org.au/1-tulgeen/>

Project 7: [Warradale Community Childcare, South Australia](#) (installed 2016)

- 6.59 kW solar installation, hot water timer, and replacing inefficient lighting with energy efficient LEDs.
- \$14,986 interest-free loan
- Electricity savings of 12,260 kWh per year (saving \$3,044/year in 2016)
- Loan was repaid using energy cost savings in 5 years
- See <https://corenafund.org.au/7-warradale/>

Project 39: [Tarremah Steiner School, Tasmania \(installed 2020\)](#)

- 100 kW solar installation.
- \$70,000 interest-free loan
- Electricity savings of 124,000 kWh per year (saving \$16,124/year in 2020)
- Loan to be repaid using energy cost savings over approximately 4 years
- See <https://corenafund.org.au/39-tarremah/>

Project 48: [Lockington Community Care, Victoria \(installed 2022\)](#)

- 92.8 kW solar installation (14 x 6.63 kW installations).
- \$55,000 interest-free part loan
- Electricity savings of approx.. 133,070 kWh (saving \$6,202/year in 2022)
- See <https://corenafund.org.au/48-lockington-community-care-committee/>

CORENA News and Blogs



5 Ways To Fundraise For Climate Action & Renewable Energy Projects

Fossil fuels are responsible for greenhouse gas emissions that are driving climate change. Therefore, taking climate action both on an ...



Australia's Renewable Energy Revolution

There has never been a better time to transition to renewable energy and technologies like electric vehicles in Australia. Over the past two years, ...

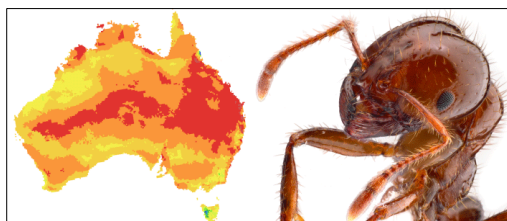


CORENA launches \$5,000 innovation award

The Citizens Own Renewable Energy Network Australia (CORENA) is pleased to call for nominations for the inaugural CORENA Innovation Award. The award ...

Ant-icipate a crisis – Fire Ants – Eradication or Devastation

By Saski Siddique – HOPE Researcher (QLD)



Australia stands at a critical crossroads, faced with the imminent threat of fire ants invading our nation. As state and federal governments prepare to decide on funding for fire ant eradication, the consequences of inaction could be catastrophic. The choice is clear - either eradicate these invasive ants or risk a future plagued by the overwhelming consequences of their unchecked proliferation.

The High Cost of Ignoring Fire Ants

A future with fire ants would come at an exorbitant cost for Australians, estimated at over \$1.2 billion annually. This financial burden arises from the extensive damage caused by fire ants, which include thousands of medical appointments due to their painful stings. Moreover, native wildlife faces the risk of extinction as fire ants invade their habitats, leading to the closure of cherished parks, beaches, gardens, and sporting fields. The implications of inaction would extend to key events like the Brisbane Olympics in 2032, which could be overshadowed by the fire ant Olympics. The agricultural industry, a backbone of Australia's economy, might suffer a devastating blow, with a potential productivity loss of up to 40%. Households would bear the brunt of treatment costs, as well as damage to electricity and water infrastructure, compounding the burden on everyday life.

Learning from the US Experience

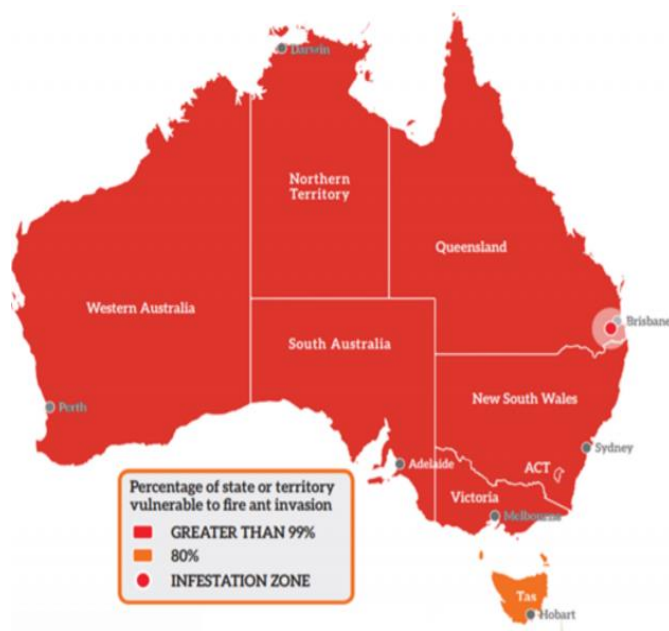
The United States serves as a cautionary tale, where failure to eradicate fire ants has led to immense financial strain and tragic losses. The annual cost of fire ants in the US amounts to a staggering \$7 billion, and these invasive insects have claimed over 85 lives. Some farmers and homeowners have been driven to abandon their land due to the relentless onslaught of fire ants.

Australia's Vulnerability

The relentless march of fire ants across Australia is concerning, given their ability to be transported through freight, making any region susceptible to infestations. As long as fire ants are present somewhere on the mainland, every part of Australia faces the risk of their invasion.

Eradication: The Only Viable Option

The urgency of eradicating fire ants cannot be overstated. To safeguard our future and that of future generations, we must urge our governments to commit to the eradication of these invasive pests. We cannot afford to ignore the problem until it becomes insurmountable.



Take Action: Sign the Petition

Join the collective voice of concerned Australians by signing the petition for fire ant eradication. Our governments need to be made aware of the overwhelming public support for immediate and decisive action. Let them know that we refuse to allow our beloved country to be overrun by these destructive invaders.

<https://invasives.org.au/how-to-help/take-action/save-australia-from-fire-ants/>

The consequences of inaction lead to staggering economic losses, environmental devastation, and threats to human health and well-being. The time to act is now. Let us unite to save Australia from the fire ant menace by urging our governments to fund the eradication program and secure a safer and flourishing future for our country. Together, we can make a difference and preserve Australia's natural beauty and biodiversity for generations to come.

Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand (FTAANZ) - www.fta.org.au

Our mission is to alleviate poverty through fair trade practices.

Fair Trade empowers disadvantaged artisans, workers, and farmers, especially in developing countries, to create their own sustainable livelihoods through employment, regular income, improved working conditions and more direct access to markets. These businesses also operate in an environmentally sustainable way and take affirmative climate action.



Who are we?

The Fair Trade Association (FTAANZ) is a not-for-profit membership organisation made up of businesses and individuals who support the Fair Trade movement.

FTAANZ is the authentic voice of Fair Trade and a guardian of the 10 Principles of Fair Trade in the region. As a regional member of the World Fair Trade Organisation (WFTO) we are part of the global movement.

We run an endorsement programme for members to become Fair Traders of Australia. It provides independent assurance that they follow the 10 Principles of Fair Trade in their business practice from maker to consumer. Products such as tea, coffee, chocolate, and cotton are Fairtrade certified through Fairtrade Australia and New Zealand.

The Association also encourages advocacy, through networking and leveraging the power of organisations in communities such as councils, universities, workplaces, faith groups and schools, to promote and participate in Fair Trade. As such it encourages these organisations to join the association as part of the Fair Trade Communities programme - committing to using fair trade products, holding promotional events, and engaging their members in advocacy and support for Fair Trade.

What are our goals?

- To be the active, clear and authentic voice of the Fair Trade movement in region.
- To create and support thriving national communities and membership programmes that connect consumers and producers, provide assurance and build consumer trust in Fair Trade.
- To build the movement through an active national base of energised active supporters, consumers and activists, committed to and championing the movement, advocating for social change and the purchase of Fair Trade.
- To be known in business and not-for-profit communities as an authentic and trusted expert and authority on Fair Trade in the region.



How do we do this?

We support our members in their efforts to continuously improve their businesses' adherence to the 10 Principles of Fair Trade. We provide resources, training, networking and a collective voice to our members. We deliver market access for members' products through campaigning, education, policy, advocacy, endorsement and monitoring.

We support our communities with resources, ideas, networking and information.

FTAANZ runs events such as informative webinars, panel discussions, Fair Trade fashion shows, member meet ups and producer tours to galvanise the efforts of members and communities, but primarily to support the producers of Fair Trade products.

FTAANZ has a lively social media presence on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn, where it educates, engages in current discussions, promotes the Fair Traders Of Australia endorsed businesses and promotes events, such as the upcoming 2023 Fair Trade Changemaker Tour, which spread the word about Fair Trade.

We actively seek out partnerships with like-minded organisations such as those in the anti-slavery, social enterprise, and Fairtrade mark certification programme space. Our goals align in many ways

and we are stronger together as we seek to alleviate poverty by putting fair prices, wages, and market access at the core of international trade practices.

What have we achieved?

Many businesses and organisations have enjoyed the association's ability to provide training, education, and resources for their use in promoting Fair Trade.

Clear business advantages have been achieved by becoming an endorsed Fair Trader of Australia with an endorsement logo that creates consumer confidence.

Our online and printed resources, as well as in-person and online events and growing social media presence, have led to a greater understanding of the Fair Trade movement and grown our supporter base

Through our events and promotional activities, we have created new markets for our business members and Fair Traders of Australia to sell their beautiful, unique artisanal products and to therefore benefit the lives of their producer partners.

How can I get involved?

Support our crowdfunding campaign for the Fair Trade Changemaker Tour to reinvigorate the Fair Trade Movement in Australia. We are calling for your support to co-fund an exciting series of events that will bring people together to grow the life-changing impact of Fair Trade.

There are many other ways you can get involved.

If you run a business or not-for-profit, no matter how small, which champions Fair Trade then you can become a business member. Businesses which are working to achieve a high level of adherence to the 10 Principles of Fair Trade can apply for Fair Traders of Australia endorsement.

If your workplace, faith group, school or local council would like to show a commitment to fair trade you could explore our community's programme.

Or, simply become a Fair-Trade Friend to gain access to all our news and events and to become a part of our community.



Four ways you can join the Fair Trade Movement:



Become a Friend

Friends of Fair Trade are people who understand the importance of Fair Trade and how it affects not just our lives but the lives of workers in developing countries. Individuals are encouraged to become Friends of Fair Trade and be kept up-to-date with information and events.



Become a Member

Joining the Fair Trade Association gives you an opportunity to join a group of like-minded enterprises to support Fair Trade and participate in our programs. Membership of The Fair Trade Association is open to businesses wishing to promote and support our Mission.



Become an Endorsed Business

Fair Traders of Australia (FToA) are businesses endorsed by The Fair Trade Association as having Fair Trade at the core of all that they do. If you are interested in having an independent third party review to endorse your business practices, please contact us to explore the application process.



Become a Fair Trade Community

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International News

Project Drawdown - www.drawdown.org

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Project Drawdown is a non-profit organization, funded by individual and institutional donations, which formulate the most comprehensive plan to reverse global warming. By listing climate change solutions in terms of its potential, the goal of the project is to identify and analyse the most effective ways to reduce or drawdown carbon from the atmosphere. The project attracts scientists, researchers, and policymakers around the world to provide a comprehensive and actionable plan to address climate change (1).

Project Drawdown was founded by Paul Hawken, an environmentalist and author who has written extensively on sustainability and climate change. He recognized a comprehensive plan with a wide range of solutions, to develop this plan, Project Drawdown assembled a team of over 200 researchers, scientists, and policy experts to identify, research, and model the 100 most effective solutions to fight against climate change (2). Project Drawdown identifies three categories of solutions for achieving global drawdown:

1. Reducing carbon emissions
2. Supporting carbon sinks
3. Addressing inequality

The team evaluate solutions from its potential impact, cost, and feasibility and outlines a range of solutions that can be implemented in different sectors of the economy (3).

The solutions identified by Project Drawdown variety from range of technologies and policy that are already proven and available (4). Solutions can be implemented at different scales, from individual households to large-scale industrial operations. This makes it possible for individuals, companies, and governments to take action immediately, without waiting for new technologies to be developed or for policy changes to be implemented (5).

Project Drawdown also includes social and economic solutions, such as education and family planning, which can help to reduce population growth and limit the demand for resources. Project Drawdown collaboration and partnership gathers experts from different fields to work together on a common goal, which helped to brace momentum and support for climate action, and has led to the development of new partnerships and initiatives (6).

Apart from research and analysis, Project Drawdown also provides a range of resources and tools to help individuals and organizations take action to reduce their carbon footprint (7). These resources include online database of solutions, series of educational materials and videos, links to a few local groups and organizations working to promote climate action (8).

Project Drawdown is an impressive and practical approach that provides a roadmap for addressing climate change. By identifying and promoting a wide range of solutions and policies on a global scale, it is possible to achieve Drawdown and begin to reverse the effects of global warming. Its collaborative approach and its commitment to rigorous research and analysis make it an important resource for individuals, companies, and governments to address reducing emissions and mitigating the impacts of climate change.

References:

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