Land & Soil Erosion

Background

Healthy soils are essential to natural ecosystems, agriculture, vegetation, and the long-term health of Australia's landscapes. Soil erosion and degradation can result in the loss of valuable topsoil, reduce land productivity, and place additional pressure on surrounding environments.

Poor land management, extreme weather, and declining soil health can all worsen erosion. Protecting our soil means looking after the land, preventing erosion where possible, and helping damaged soils recover.

HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s Position

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia) believes that protecting soil and preventing land degradation are important components of responsible and sustainable environmental stewardship.

We support the care of our soils through sustainable and regenerative land management. This means protecting topsoil, reducing erosion, and helping keep our landscapes healthy over the long term.

HOPE Inc. (Australia) recognises that effective soil and land management requires collaboration between governments, research institutions, regional partners, Landcare and conservation groups, landholders, community organisations, and the wider community.

Why This Position Matters

Soil is a valuable natural resource that can take considerable time to recover once it has been degraded or lost. Poor land management and erosion can reduce soil health and contribute to the long-term degradation of natural and productive landscapes.

Extreme weather events can further increase erosion risks, making preventative land management and locally appropriate practices increasingly important. Research, education, regional knowledge, and community participation can help identify practical approaches suited to different landscapes and conditions.

HOPE Inc. (Australia) believes that protecting soil requires long-term stewardship, greater awareness of soil degradation, and cooperation between communities, researchers, land managers, and governments.

Key Advocacy Priorities

HOPE Inc. (Australia) advocates for:

- soil conservation and responsible land management practices that protect topsoil and reduce erosion risks;
- sustainable and regenerative land management approaches that support long-term soil health;
- locally relevant land management practices that respond to different landscapes and environmental conditions;
- greater public awareness and education about soil degradation, soil health, and erosion prevention;
- collaboration between research institutions, regional partners, Landcare and conservation groups, landholders, governments, and communities; and
- support for government and community initiatives that prevent erosion and promote responsible management of land and soil resources.

HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s Commitment

HOPE Inc. (Australia) is committed to raising awareness of soil health, land degradation, erosion prevention, and responsible land management through education, advocacy, collaboration, and community engagement.

We will continue to work with regional partners, research institutions, Landcare and conservation groups, promote locally relevant and regenerative land management practices, and support initiatives that protect topsoil and contribute to healthier and more resilient landscapes.

Closing Statement

This Position Statement reflects HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s commitment to advocating for responsible and sustainable stewardship of the environment. It supports the objectives of the **HOPE Strategic Plan 2024–2029** and provides the foundation for HOPE Inc. (Australia)'s advocacy, partnerships, and community engagement on Land & Soil Erosion.

Householders' Options to Protect the Environment (HOPE) Inc. (Australia)

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