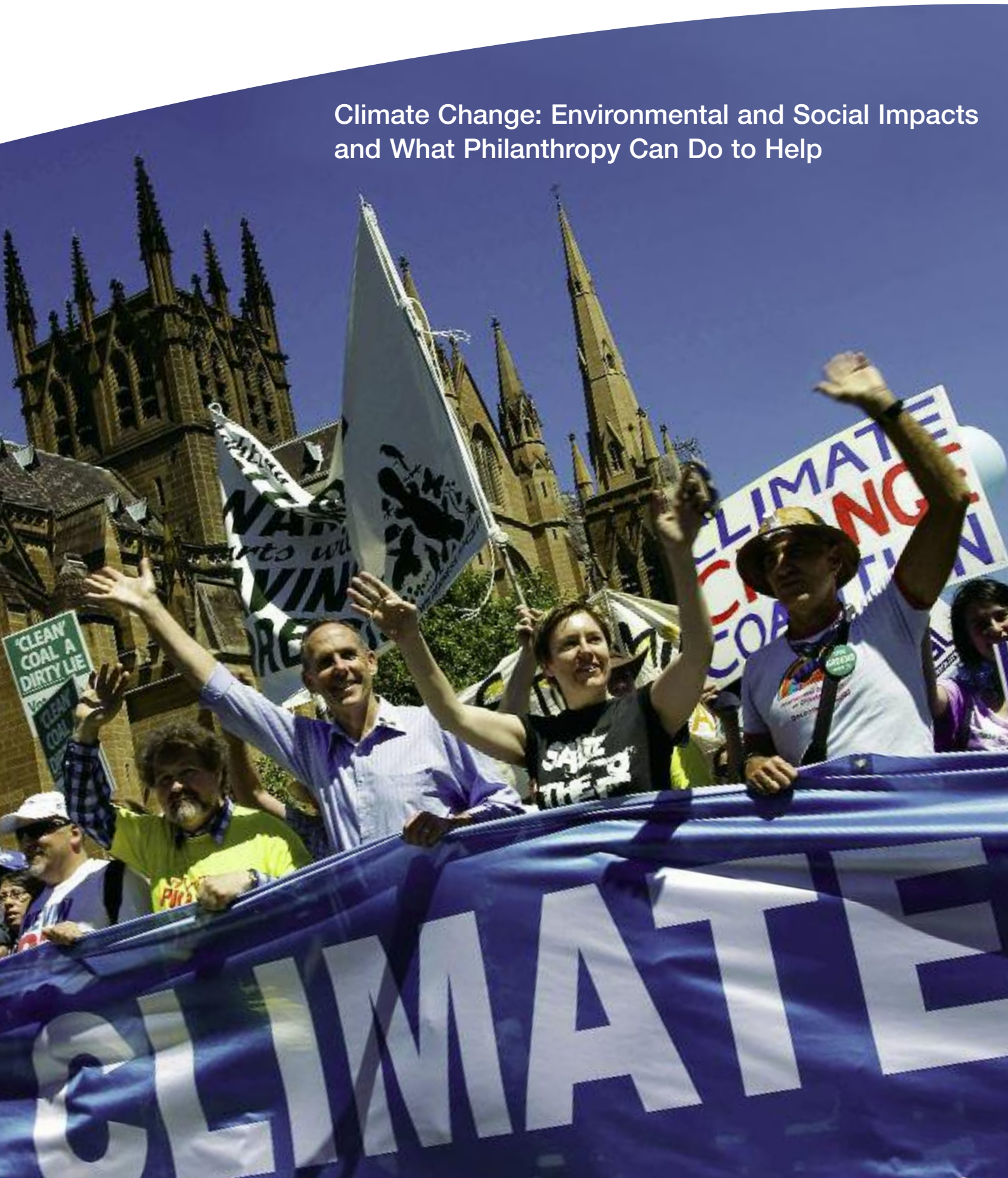
PHILANTHROPY
*Australia*

# Australian Philanthropy

Autumn 2008, Issue 68

## Climate Change: Environmental and Social Impacts and What Philanthropy Can Do to Help



Philanthropy Australia is the national peak body for philanthropy and is a not-for-profit membership organisation. Our Members are trusts and foundations, families and individuals who want to make a difference through their own philanthropy and to encourage others to become philanthropists.

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| Our vision: | A giving and caring nation. |
| Our mission: | To represent, grow and inspire an effective and robust philanthropic sector for the community. |
| Philanthropy: | The planned and structured giving of money, time, information, goods and services, voice and influence to improve the wellbeing of humanity and the community. |
| Philanthropic sector: | Trusts, foundations, organisations, families and individuals who engage in philanthropy. |

**Front cover: Our front cover photograph was taken during the 'Walk Against Warming' march on 11 November 2007 in Sydney, with St Mary's Cathedral in the background.**

***Photograph: David Jenkins, Nomad Photography: www.nomadphoto.com.au***

*Australian Philanthropy*, journal of Philanthropy Australia Inc.
Email: info@philanthropy.org.au
Website: www.philanthropy.org.au



ISSN: 1449-390X

Editor: Louise Arkles
Assistant Editor: Mary Borsellino

Design and production: MDM Design Associates
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Telephone: (03) 9429 1177 Email: mdm@mdmdesign.com.au



Registered by Australia Post as a Print Post Publication – 581/827/0058

Printed on environmentally friendly paper.

# Climate Change: Environmental and Social Impacts and What Philanthropy Can Do to Help

## Contents

# From the President

*Bruce Bonyhady, President*

Climate change poses huge challenges for the philanthropic sector. On the one hand, the prospect of significant climate change goes to the heart of the wellbeing, indeed survival, of humanity and therefore demands engagement. On the other hand, the potential scale and timing of climate change make it difficult for foundations to know where to start, especially if they do not have a history of involvement in environmental issues.

Views on the speed of climate change and the economic and social consequences are shifting quickly. While governments are deciding how best to respond, the Stern and Garnaut Reports, amongst others, are concerned that urgent, coordinated global action is being delayed irresponsibly. Leadership will be critical to a solution.

Many foundations are deciding how their strengths can best be harnessed to find a way forward. Given the potentially short time frames for action, the influence and voice of foundations may well be more important than their money in searching for viable solutions.

But given the global interest in climate change, how can foundations avoid duplication and wasted effort, when both time and resources are so limited? Should foundations directed towards poverty and disadvantage become directly involved in climate change research, because it seems likely that climate change will have a disproportionate affect on those who are poor? What are the opportunities for foundations to partner with other foundations with years of experience and networks?

In searching for answers to these and other questions it is important to recognise that it is individuals who make a difference. An example is my fellow Member of Council, Dr Noel Purcell, who recently received a global award from Ethical Corporation, based in the UK, for his leadership on corporate social responsibility. Noel has been a strong advocate of action on climate change.

As with any large multi-faceted problem, opinions differ on what the most appropriate actions should be at this time. This edition of *Australian Philanthropy* has done its best to give voice to several of the main figures working in Australia and internationally on different aspects of climate change. If it informs and stimulates your strategic thinking on this central issue for the 21st century, it will have accomplished its objective.

# From my Perspective

*Gina Anderson, CEO*

One of the unique characteristics of philanthropic foundations is their ability to fund over the long term. Without the constraints of short term goals and outcomes that so often drive government and business, philanthropists can provide consistent funding to address environmental and behavioural change issues that can take 10, 15 and often 20 years to show outcomes – issues such as climate change.

Over the past couple of years, globally we have undergone some major attitudinal changes to the issues of global warming and climate change. Most people now accept that the scientists are right. Indeed Professor Ross Garnaut, in the 'Garnaut Climate Change Review Interim Report' for the Federal Government, indicates that the scientific community through the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change may have been too conservative in their predictions.

For many, having moved from asking whether we should be addressing climate change issues to what should we do about them, we have come to the realization that the impacts of climate change will be much broader than 'the environment'. However, many Australian philanthropic foundations and individual donors have held back from funding climate changes issues, not from lack of concern but from lack of confidence in the science, the sheer complexity of the issues and the difficulties inherent in justifying and measuring the impact of their grants.

No matter how great the philanthropic resources available, they are minuscule compared with the magnitude of the issue of climate change. It seems to me that philanthropists will need to take a strategic approach through funding research and development, pilot programs, the dissemination of information, and convening and facilitating discussions on ideas and action steps, particularly including those with divergent views. Key to making a real difference, beyond grantmaking, is the ability of philanthropic individuals and foundations to leverage their particular skills and resources – networks, voice and influence – to achieve societal change. The stories in this issue bear witness to those leading the charge, and offer inspiration to those of us following in their wake.

# Engaging with the community: Al Gore's Climate Change Leadership Program

*Sam Meers is Executive Director of the Nelson Meers Foundation, a PPF which she co-founded with her father, Nelson Meers, in 2001. A former lawyer, Sam is also a Council Member and Vice President of Philanthropy Australia, a Board Member of the Documentary Australia Foundation and a Council Member of the Power Institute*

In September last year, I had the privilege of participating in Al Gore's Climate Change Leadership Program (conducted in partnership with the Australian Conservation Foundation) when he was in Australia shortly before winning the Nobel Peace Prize.

Through personal training by Al Gore, The Climate Project aims to promote dialogue about the climate crisis and its solutions, working on the premise that one of the most effective ways to achieve political change is to start with community values.

Participation in The Climate Project was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Along with 100 other individuals with diverse backgrounds from all over Australia, I spent three intensive and exhilarating days locked in a room with Al Gore, former CSIRO chief scientist Dr Graeme Pearman and a host of other eminent environmentalists, discussing climate change – heaven! However, the highlight of the program was the opportunity to engage with a wide range of passionate and inspiring fellow-trainees, who have reinvigorated my faith in human nature and in our capacity to achieve change.

Climate change is a complicated matrix. It encompasses a myriad of issues which are amongst the defining challenges of the 21st century – global warming; the degradation of natural resources such as water, aquatic ecosystems and land; the loss of biological diversity; and the corresponding negative impact upon our global productive capacity which will in turn entrench and exacerbate poverty and famine. We are embarking upon this century with a greater – and at times terrifying – understanding of the way in which human activities affect global systems in complex, interactive and accelerating ways.

Martin Luther King once said that there is an invisible book of life that faithfully records our vigilance or our neglect: "Over the bleached bones and jumbled residues of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words, 'Too late'."[1] The challenge which is upon us now is to act decisively, as individuals and as a global community, to commit to a new vision for the future which will permit us to reconcile our relationship with the planet and to create a world in which environmental and economic sustainability can co-exist.

We need courage and leadership at this critical juncture. The recent ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by the current Australian Government is an important (and long overdue) symbolic step, but we must ensure that we do not lapse into apathy, winning the battle but losing the war. Whilst we must continue to urge government to privilege a sustainable future in its policies, such a future cannot be achieved without a new community vision and integrated international action. Unfortunately, the complex scientific debate that has raged around global warming has alienated many groups within the community, leaving them with a sense of disbelief ("It's not really happening") or futility ("It's happening, but there's nothing we can do to stop it"), translating into inaction. The 'climate wars' have also engendered a sense of mistrust within the community, due largely to the perception that both sides of the debate are motivated by vested interests.

It is vital that we translate the desire to do something about climate change into positive and targeted action. The United Nations Development Programme echoed this sentiment in its most recent Human Development Report 2007-2008: "The world has less than a decade to change course. Actions taken – or not taken – in the years ahead will have a profound bearing on the future course of human development. The world lacks neither the financial resources nor the technological capabilities to act. What is missing is a sense of urgency, human solidarity and collective interest".

The philanthropic sector can play an important role in mobilising its resources to identify, encourage and accelerate innovative approaches to environmental problems which will contribute to the shift in perspective that is required in order to achieve long term change. With its freedom from political pressures and corresponding ability to respond to emerging social and community concerns ahead of government or business and thereby generate social change, philanthropy is perfectly placed to lead the climate change charge. The philanthropic sector must work with business and government to focus on projects which enable a critical, broad-ranging and unbiased discussion of the issues surrounding climate change, the potential solutions and – most importantly – what we can do to ensure that the most appropriate measures are implemented.

There seem to me to be three priority areas to which philanthropic funding would be well directed:

- raising community awareness of the practical ways in which potential solutions can be implemented in order to close the gap between intent and action[2];

- the development of renewable energies, sustainable technologies and land management techniques which can be implemented domestically and exported and adapted to developing countries; and
- promoting greater understanding of the 'development impact' of climate change – that is, the interconnectedness of environmental and human welfare problems, both domestically and globally, and the potential negative impact on poverty reduction, nutrition, health and education.

In order to raise greater awareness of the way in which environmental issues affect us all, both as individuals and as a community, and to encourage a focus on action, the Nelson Meers Foundation recently funded an exhibition at the State Library of New South Wales, entitled *Impact: A Changing Land*, which draws upon the Library's significant collection of historical material to demonstrate the impact – both positive and negative – which we have had on our Australian environment. The exhibition was opened by Professor Tim Flannery in November last year and concludes later this month.

One of the exhibition's highlights is its focus on the many heroes in Australia's history who have risen to environmental challenges. For example, the 13 Hunters Hill women – the legendary 'Battlers for Kelly's Bush' – who joined forces with Jack Mundey's Builders Labourers Federation to become our first urban environmentalists. This courageous group campaigned for over a decade to save the last remaining bushland on the Parramatta River in Hunters Hill in New South Wales from development, with the BLF implementing the world's first Green Ban. The Green Ban concept was subsequently used throughout the world – and, more locally, to prevent the Sydney Botanic Gardens being turned into a carpark for the Opera House, Centennial Park being turned into a sports arena, and the historic buildings in the Rocks being converted to office blocks. This is a great example of the power of the individual – and the fundamental need to translate passion into action in order to achieve change.

One of Al Gore's most important and persuasive messages is that environmental problems and human welfare problems are interconnected. He argues that whilst we face indisputable danger from global warming, we should not move from denial to despair. The climate crisis in fact offers us hope – the chance to participate in

*Al Gore at The Climate Project training session in Sydney, September 2007.*

"a generational mission; the exhilaration of a compelling moral purpose, a shared and unifying cause".[3] The lessons we will learn from rising to the challenge of climate change will give us the capacity, vision and courage to take on other global challenges – such as poverty and famine.

By embracing a culture of genuine globalisation, recognising that we share a common fate with humanity, we can equip ourselves to rise to this challenge. As Al Gore says, this is our moral moment.

Throughout the ages, there are countless examples of human beings drawing on tremendous courage in the face of great adversity to effect fundamental social change. Two hundred years ago, the opponents of slavery were derided because no economy could function without slave labour; one hundred years ago, the suffragettes were persecuted when they demanded the vote for women; only 40 years ago, Indigenous people were not regarded as Australian citizens; and as recently as 20 years ago, Berlin was divided by the Wall and South Africa lived under the specter of apartheid[4]. These reforms occurred because determined people worked for a better world.

The environment inspires individual action because it affects each and every one of us, both materially and spiritually. In 1990, the spacecraft Voyager 1 took a photograph which showed the Earth as a 'pale blue dot' against the vastness of space. Discussing the photograph, the late Carl Sagan, the American astronomer and environmental scientist, offered a beautiful description of our relationship with planet Earth, which is pinned on the wall of my office and inspires me daily. It bears transcription:

"On that pale blue dot is everyone you know, everyone you love, everyone you've ever heard of. Every human being who ever was, lived out their lives on it. The aggregate of all our joys and sufferings, thousands of confident religions, ideologies and economic doctrines… On a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam. …our planet is a lonely speck in the great enveloping cosmic dark. In our obscurity – in all this vastness – there is no hint that help will come from elsewhere to save us from ourselves. It is up to us to deal more kindly and compassionately with one another and to preserve and cherish this pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known."[5]

We are trustees of this planet for future generations. Our imagination, our ingenuity and our passion are our most important tools. As members of the philanthropic sector, we have a moral obligation to utilise our every resource to work together to choose a future for our children and bring about this cultural and generational change.

1. *Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence, speech* delivered by Martin Luther King, 4 April 1967.
2. I am grateful to Ian Buchanan for his comments in this regard.
3. Al Gore, *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006)
4. Professor Ian Lowe AO highlighted these historical milestones in the paper he delivered at the Spirituality and Sustainability Forum, 6 June, 2007.
5. Carl Sagan, *Pale Blue Dot: A Vision of the Human Future in Space* (1994).

# Water and agriculture in a changing climate: a double whammy

*Mary Crooks, Executive Director, Victorian Womens' Trust*

We are at a turning point in our agricultural history. Even without factoring in likely impacts of climate change on water and agriculture, we face a crisis in our current use and management of water for agriculture. On top of this we need to confront how we might deal with the impacts of predicted climate change.


For over 200 years, Australian farmers have provided all of us with high-quality, safe and cheap food, fibre and other farm products whilst all the time grappling with rainfall variability and periods of drought. Most of our available surface water is used on agricultural land and most of this water is used for irrigation. About two-thirds of Australia's production comes from irrigation within the Murray-Darling Basin – known as our 'food bowl'.

Our current dilemma is that while our agricultural sector can be justifiably proud of its contribution of exported and domestically consumed food, this it has come at an enormous environmental cost, with massive changes in catchment hydrology and many negative impacts upon the natural environment, including excessive clearing of trees, extensive tracts of salinised land and degraded river systems. At the same time, to meet the demands of an expanding population and our high expectations of a wide variety of consumer goods and services, there has been a huge increase in the use of irrigated land in the last forty years especially, to the stage where we now have a major problem with over-allocated water licences, i.e. there is not enough water to meet what has been allocated. More recently, farming communities, squeezed by prolonged drought, are now being expected to compete with others in the trade of water. Many farmers in south eastern Australia are walking off the land.

Put simply, we are already in an unsustainable position. The double whammy comes with climate change predictions. While parts of Australia will be wetter, the annual average rainfall across southern Australia is predicted to decline on average by about 15 per cent. An immediate consequence will be a reduction in the volumes of surface water running into rivers and streams – the lifeblood of our irrigation industries. This is not the end of the story. Higher ambient temperatures mean that more water will evaporate from the land surface and drier soils will absorb more of this water. Our major storages will fill more slowly and groundwater aquifers will recharge more slowly. These changes will have huge repercussions for the way we continue to farm in this ancient, largely dry and fragile land, the way we deal – or not – with existing problems of land degradation and in turn, the way we feed our growing urban populations.

A business-as-usual approach is out of the question. We need to turn our effort, skills and resources into developing some longer term and practical responses that address not only the current problems in water use and agriculture, but also position us to deal with the effects of climate change. At the very least, these need to include:

- a well-considered national intervention that addresses the combined tasks of sustainable water use, food security, and the wellbeing of the rural communities involved; and
- a national plan for re-structuring and securing Australia's irrigation industries, one which considers the position of irrigators and towns, rural communities, and manufacturing and supply industries that depend on irrigation. The plan would identify new farming opportunities and develop strategies to help people make dignified transitions from the land, if they so choose. It would address infrastructure problems and initiate and properly support programs to repair and restore rural lands.

These issues are among the many that are canvassed in detail throughout the recently released publication *Our Water Mark*, the culmination of the Watermark Australia project. This six year project, carried out by the Victorian Women's Trust, represents one of the most ambitious environmental undertakings in the philanthropic sector to date. The early design and development of the project was assisted by two grants from The Myer Foundation. The following five years of effort was made possible with the a high level of generous support from a small number of private donors.

*Our Water Mark* sketches in detail the big picture concerning the present trends in use and management of water in Australia. It identifies a national goal as well as a series of actions for people everywhere – on the land, in business, in the community and in households – that can help turn Australia into a nation of super efficient water users. Many of these actions demonstrate a potential for further philanthropic endeavour, particularly in finding ways that strengthen and support people's capacities for achieving much needed environmental change at the grass roots, community level.

*Our private donors have also enabled a print run of 38,000 copies of Our Water Mark for national distribution. It can be obtained from the Victorian Women's Trust at 1/388 Bourke Street Melbourne. Alternatively it can downloaded at www.watermarkaustralia.org.au*

# The risks to human wellbeing and health: a fundamental, but under-researched, issue

*Prof. Tony McMichael, NHMRC Australia Fellow, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, The Australian National University, Canberra*

Climate change looms as a more fundamental challenge than we imagined a brief decade ago. A clear measure of this is the adverse impact that it is already having on much of the living world. Climate change poses a growing threat to Earth's life-supporting systems: that is, its myriad biological processes and ecological systems. We may not notice on a day-to-day basis, but those systems underpin the health of humans and the stability of societies everywhere.

Recognition of this fundamental relationship underscores our need to understand the risks to social wellbeing, physical and mental health of communities, families and individuals. That will enable us to act to reduce the risks. Hence we must assess how these risks will change in future, which groups are most vulnerable, and what remedial measures will work best (while striving to reduce global emissions). These are big research tasks. They address complex processes, span multiple sectors and disciplines, require new collaborative linkages, and need enlightened research funding – especially since most mainstream research funding is still largely confined within formal discipline boundaries.

A colleague, in Nairobi, who coordinates global research on invasive species for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, wrote recently, saying:

"I am now working with others to model the likely movement of water hyacinth (a serious problem in Lake Victoria, eastern Africa) as global warming takes effect. It is already in Spain and is said to be likely to turn up in the Great Lakes of North America. We are also trying to model the spread of Mimosa pigra, the invasive shrub that has wrecked much of Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory. I am working on controlling this plant in Zambia and have seen it spreading in at least 10 countries around 'my' part of Africa. Climate change is doing this sort of thing with weeds and pests and diseases all over – and is having serious impacts on biodiversity, which, in turn, jeopardises livelihoods."

Such comments remind us that climatic impacts on biodiversity losses, species displacement and ecosystem functioning bear directly on crop yields, fish harvests, forest materials productivity, wetland capacities to cleanse freshwater, and natural constraints on infectious agents and their vector species. All those have consequences for human health.

Yet, rather naively, we have focused most of our initial concern on how climate change will affect economic growth, livelihoods in some sectors, iconic tourist venues and physical infrastructure. These are, of course, very important concerns. But they do not go to the heart of the matter: that is, the risks to humans per se: namely, the erosion of community functioning and morale (especially in much of rural Australia, and parts of indigenous Australia), fears and anxieties affecting the emotional development of our children, and the many immediate and longer term impacts on human wellbeing and health.

The World Health Organization estimates that global climate change is currently causing around 200,000 extra deaths each year, mostly in developing countries, from malnutrition, diarrhoeal disease, malaria, and floods. On current national greenhouse emissions accounting, Australians 'cause' around 2,500 of those deaths in poorer countries each year. Meanwhile, health impacts may not, yet, be so evident in richer countries such as Australia. But populations everywhere are at risk from this extraordinary, long term, process of climate change and in the many environmental systems that depend on it. Australia's population, particularly within urban (heat-retaining) environments, experience hotter temperatures and more extreme heatwaves than do populations in Europe and most of North America. Higher temperatures in future will mean more deaths and serious health events. Climate scientists are focusing increasingly on the increased variability in weather patterns that climate change will bring. In Australia, we can expect more injuries, deaths, post-traumatic stress disorders, and infectious disease outbreaks as a result of more frequent or intense extreme

events, including storms, cyclones, floods, and bushfires.

These impacts will not occur evenly. We need to understand which population segments, which regions, are most vulnerable. Then we can formulate appropriate adaptive strategies to lessen those risks to health. But for this to be done effectively we need research, in consultation with high-risk communities, and the subsequent translation of that research into effective community action and formal social policy.

Many infectious diseases are sensitive to climatic conditions. Salmonella and other food-poisoning increases in hot weather; dengue fever outbreaks are favoured by rain and surface water (for mosquito breeding); various other mosquito-transmitted viral infections (such as Ross River Virus) are sensitive to temperature, rainfall and tidal patterns; cryptosporidium contamination of drinking-water reservoirs is more likely with heavier rainfall and rural run-off.

Of particular current concern, much of rural Australia is likely to be affected by a global trend towards mid-latitude drying, an anticipated consequence of climate change. Rural communities, families and individuals are thus likely to bear the brunt of the early stages of climate change. In many areas, those communities are encountering increasing stresses from water shortages, warmer average temperatures, and more extreme bushfires. Livelihoods are shrinking in some locales, as are towns and community institutions. This is an 'ecological' problem: a way of life is being jeopardised by climatic changes. The many health risks include direct hazards of exacerbated extreme conditions (temperature, dust, smoke), threats to mental health, risks from freshwater shortage and impaired local fresh food production, and changes in health-related behaviours (see box).

Long term changes in climatic conditions will have impacts on many sectors of rural life: economic productivity, employment, social structures, community wellbeing and cohesion, and human health. These impacts cannot be effectively addressed in itemized isolation. A coordinated research program is needed across these inter-related sectors, in consultation with communities and stakeholders, to assess the consequences of climate change, estimate likely future impacts, and develop supportive and remedial strategies for families and communities.

### Climate change and rural Australia: risks to livelihoods, communities and health

Climate change casts an increasingly long shadow over the prospects for rural Australia. Undoubtedly, there is great resilience, inventiveness and Aussie know-how in our rural population. But climate change poses much greater, further-reaching risks than other previously encountered environmental problems. Adverse impacts will occur in many domains, including:

- agricultural productivity;
- environmental amenity and the diverse benefits of biodiversity;
- farm and rural-support livelihoods;
- community functioning and morale;
- mental stress, depression and risk of suicide;
- emotional and developmental effects on children;
- exposures to extremes of environmental conditions (heat, dust, floods, bushfires);
- access to fresh water (irrigation, livestock, domestic and personal hygiene, drinking);
- local food production and availability – and nutritional consequences;
- changes in patterns of some infectious diseases; and
- changes in health-related behaviours (alcohol consumption, self-medication, etc.).

Indigenous communities face particular health risks from climate change and its environment consequences. Many indigenous communities will face extremes of heat, freshwater shortage, diminished supplies of traditional plant and animal foods, fires and other weather disasters, and erosion of parts of their cultural base. Displacement of some communities from high-risk areas (e.g. coastal sea-level rise and cyclone zones) may cause tensions and conflicts, especially if the environmental resource base is already under stress.

Some key research priorities are:

1. Determining the relationship between changes in climatic conditions and various health risks not previously studied – e.g., the risks of water-borne infectious disease outbreaks, or mental depression in rural families.
2. Developing links with climate scientists and modelers, to explore how future climatic variability, and extreme weather events, will affect population health.
3. Studies, in consultation with communities and stakeholders, to identify and understand which groups and communities are at particular risk.
4. Studies of how children respond to the risks posed by climate change. The consequences for emotional development and behaviour need to be understood, to facilitate community education and family counseling. The fact that climate change is a problem that young people must deal with, although not of their making, may strain the social fabric and relations with older generations.
5. Develop a broad-based research program for understanding the risks to rural Australia, and how impacts on livelihoods, local environments and community functioning will affect physical and mental health.
6. Research on how emissions mitigation strategies, such as energy-related changes in the ways we design, live in, and move ourselves around our urban environment, can provide additional, immediate, gains to health.
7. Develop systematic approaches to identifying, evaluating and implementing adaptive strategies to lessen the health risks of climate change, especially in vulnerable groups.

In summary, there is an important but under-recognised research task in relation to climate change impacts on human wellbeing and health in Australia. Without such research, we will be hampered in our attempts to reduce those risks, via education, community action and social policies.

Finally, from such knowledge will come a new understanding that our preoccupations with maintaining jobs, economic productivity, environmental amenity and social stability, in the face of climate change, all converge ultimately on one thing: the need to sustain conditions that support human happiness, wellbeing, health and survival.

# The resilience of Indigenous Australians to climate change

*By Dr. Donna Green, Climate Change Research Centre, University of New South Wales. Dr. Donna Green leads a project that identifies climate impacts on remote Indigenous communities in northern Australia. Her research focuses on human-environment interactions, specifically on social and economic vulnerability, adaptation and climate risk*

From the stone country of the Kimberley, to the sandstone escarpments of Arnhem land, the rainforests of the Daintree and the sandy palm fringed islands of the Torres Strait, archaeological records show Aborigines and Islanders have effectively adapted to environmental change for thousands of years. Given Indigenous Australians' past ability to respond to environmental change, it is reasonable to assume that they would be among the best placed Australians to cope with environmental impacts caused by anthropogenic climate change. In fact the opposite is true, for two key reasons.

The first reason relates to the rate of environmental change. Projections of anthropogenic climate change indicate appreciable direct biophysical impacts occurring over decades. In contrast, prior environmental change occurred over millennia. The second factor relates to social and cultural resilience. Many of these communities are fighting a number of devastating social problems, the result of decades of profound government mismanagement and neglect.

In mid 2006, newspapers began to report on the plight of several low-lying Torres Strait Islands. Shortly after, the threat was officially acknowledged by the Australian government, which signed off on the *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's Fourth Assessment Report*. For the first time, this report acknowledged the likelihood that around half of the 4,000 people living on the Islands would have to relocate in the long term. Understandably, the Islanders see relocation as a last resort, and are already working on adaptation strategies to delay, and ideally avoid, having to leave their ancestral homelands.

How could action be taken to reduce this threat and promote resilience to climate impacts in these communities? I decided to see whether the traditional environmental knowledge passed down through oral history could guide region-specific and culturally appropriate

*Elder Aunty Sheila and Donna Green on Saibai Island, Torres Strait.*

climate adaptation strategies. After organising meetings with Traditional Owners from across northern Australian, a collective decision was made to begin this work in the Torres Strait.

Torres Strait Islanders are a traditional seafaring people, who pride themselves on their intimate understanding of the seasonal shifts in the ocean and weather. Islanders had noticed that in recent years the waves occurring in these king tides seemed higher and more powerful. Consequently, on several of the islands, coastal tracks were being washed away and long-established graveyards and houses inundated. In addition to the psychological distress caused by the flooding, their remoteness makes repairing this damage extremely expensive.

The Islanders understand that the problem extends further than the initial flooding. They are concerned about indirect impacts of climate change, seeing how, for example, inundations could jeopardise public health caused by contamination of fresh water supplies or from the flooding of their landfill rubbish tips. While a full suite of indirect impacts are harder to assess and quantify, they are crucial to consider in designing comprehensive adaptation strategies.

Many of these local adaptation strategies are being detailed on the new Sharing Knowledge website. The Sharing Knowledge project breaks new ground in Australia by being a source of both regional climate projections for northern Australia and local Indigenous observations of environment changes. Combining traditional knowledge with western science will assist in the creation of strategies for adapting to climate change that are culturally and geographically relevant, and therefore far more likely to be of practical use to the communities of northern Australia. As well as providing that information online, the project also strives to communicate locally relevant climate impact assessments to people who otherwise have limited access to accurate information through community outreach work.

Recent examples of this outreach work include talks with elders in the Torres Strait and workshops for schoolchildren in the Kimberley on the latest science on climate impacts for their regions, and how traditional knowledge could help in responding to those risks. Further workshops are planned across northern Australia. However, the remote locations of these communities and limited funding mean that this crucial undertaking of working directly with communities remains highly constrained.

My experience in working with Indigenous communities across northern Australia has demonstrated the importance of giving people reliable information on climate change, as well as paying them the respect of asking their views on how best to adapt to those likely changes. Once empowered with that information, Indigenous people have responded strongly and are keen to act.

*For further information please contact:*
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*donna.green@unsw.edu.au or see www.sharingknowledge.net.au*

# A feasibility study on funding climate change

*By Debra Main, The Myer Foundation*

## "He who has a strong enough why can bear almost any how." Nietzsche (1844-1900).

In 2006, when exploring potential priorities for funding, the Myer family identified climate change as one of the most significant issues to be addressed.

It was agreed that The Myer Foundation would investigate how best philanthropy can work in this very complex area, looking to provide a focal point for inclusive national leadership in climate change, and particularly its consequences for a sustainable future for Australia, without losing sight of a global perspective. In particular we sought practical strategies to achieve sustainable behavioural and structural changes.

In mid 2007, The Myer Foundation engaged consultants Booz Allen Hamilton to undertake a scoping and feasibility study to answer these questions. In the first of three phases of the study, Booz Allen Hamilton examined the particular strengths of The Myer Foundation and philanthropy.

Following conversations with a range of leaders from the philanthropic sector, it was confirmed that philanthropy has particular strengths which cannot always be claimed by business and government, and which can be used to great effect to motivate change. These strengths include credibility and influence, the ability to tackle contentious issues, neutrality, cross-sectoral connections and the ability to take risks.

The study found that no single action can achieve the necessary impact. Being such a big issue with innumerable stakeholders, climate change requires concerted and collaborative action. The proposed model describes a cycle of change which would enable a range of stakeholders to work together to reduce emissions.

As trusted leaders, philanthropic individuals and organisations can play the role of catalyst, driver and convenor.

Philanthropy can provide forums for interactive leadership without political bias or fiscal objectives. The sector can use its networks to create links between business, government and individuals. Philanthropic organisations and individuals can coordinate projects designed to support and accelerate community action. And, in order to address the effectiveness and provide learning, philanthropy can conduct research and disseminate learnings.

In the coming months, The Myer Foundation will share the specific findings of this exciting scoping and feasibility study, with a view to implementing the recommended model early this year. For more information, please contact Debra Main on (03) 9207 3042 or debra@myerfoundation.org.au

# Philanthropy and climate change – the AEGN response

*By Amanda Martin, AEGN*

The Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN) was set up in July 2007 by a number of organisations including the Mullum and Spinifex Trusts, the Purves Environmental Fund, The Myer Foundation and the Reichstein and Poola Foundations.

At our annual symposium in October 2007, participants asked the AEGN to help guide them through the maze of issues and options that relate to climate change. To help chart a course through this maze, we commissioned the Climate Institute to draft a 'Climate and Energy Funders Framework' (see page 10-11) for the Australian philanthropic sector. The Climate Institute have taken advice from leading climate change commentators to inform this framework.

While the AEGN has commissioned this Framework, we are certain that climate change is not just an environment issue. It is something that is or will impact on all our lives and an issue for every sector to be concerned about. Whether you fund in health, education, poverty, rural communities, the Indigenous sector, science or social justice, climate change is something you need to think about.

This Framework has been specifically designed to take advantage of what philanthropy does well. The vision for this Framework is 'to build Australian leadership in the global transition to a climate-friendly, low carbon future'. As a major first step toward achieving this mission, the near-term priority goal is the adoption of national greenhouse gas reduction policies in the next five years, which aim to achieve deep cuts in Australia greenhouse gas emissions of 20-30 per cent by 2020 and of at least 80 per cent by 2050.

*If you would like to participate in our on going Climate and Energy funders working group or if you'd like to discuss this Framework further, please contact me at amanda@aegn.org.au or on (03) 9663 7844.*

# A strategic investment framework for funding climate change

*John Connor is CEO of The Climate Institute, a non-partisan, independent research organisation funded primarily by the Poola Foundation (Tom Kantor Fund)*

"Australia's interest lies in the world adopting strong and effective position on climate change mitigation (because of) our exceptional sensitivity to climate change and our exceptional opportunity to do well in a world of effective global mitigation."[1]

Respected Australian National University economist Professor Garnaut's clarion call that Australia's national interest lies in leadership at home and abroad is tempered by his analysis that time is running out. A recent study for US philanthropic organisations came to what they described as 'a chilling conclusion': "if we don't act boldly in the next decade to prevent carbon lock-in, we could lose the fight against global warming."[2]

In fact, both the science and the politics place a premium on urgency in the next two to five years. 2007 saw a flurry of activity amongst US philanthropic organisations as they sought paths through the maze of needs and opportunities.[3] In Australia, philanthropy has been relatively slow to engage but there are encouraging signs of investments and research – there is, though, an urgent need for greater investment.

What is the challenge we are facing? There is an emerging scientific consensus that global warming of more than 2ºC above pre-industrial levels would constitute 'dangerous' climate change. Scientific assessments by CSIRO and others indicate that any higher warming risks extreme and probably irreversible impacts (Table 1).

Substantial reductions in greenhouse pollution levels are required to avoid this warming. Stabilising atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations at around 400 parts per million (ppm) gives the best chance, but requires significant leadership from developed countries. As developed countries have contributed 75 per cent of the current stock of greenhouse gases, such leadership is essential to engage developing countries. There is also no doubt that developing countries will need to rapidly move to limit their growth in emissions and then, in most instances, to substantially reduce them.

The Garnaut Review refers to an initial scenario for achieving just 450ppm which requires a global peak in rising emission levels around 2010. This may be a bit pessimistic but it appears certain to be necessary in the next 5-10 years. With a December 2009 deadline for a global agreement over this period, and Australia needing to determine its policies to get the best out of this agreement by the end of this year, the challenge is urgent.

So the next 12 months to two years will be critical to build the community and business support for setting the ambitious targets that are critical to Australia's national interest. The next five years will require substantial shifts in investment flows and infrastructure decisions, as well as continued public support, if we

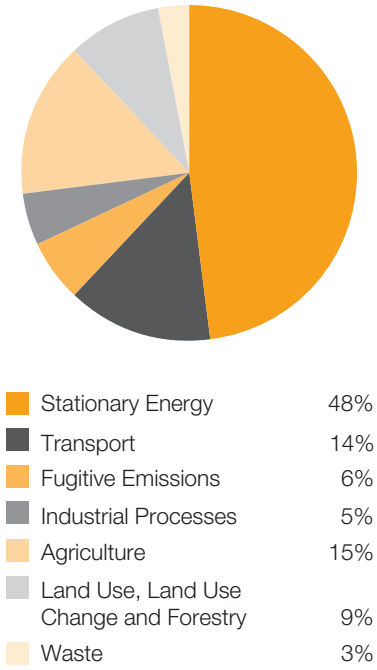
**Table 1: Climate risks from global warming** [1, 2, 3]

| Global warming | What is at risk? | |
|---|---|---|
| | Australia | Global |
| >2ºC | • Severe droughts constrain water supplies and farming over wide areas of Australia.<br>• More than 90 per cent of the Great Barrier Reef damaged by heat stress every year.<br>• 3,000-5,000 more heatwave deaths a year in major population centres.<br>• 80 per cent of Kakadu wetlands lost to sea level rise. | • Falling crop yields in many developing regions.<br>• Significant changes in water availability.<br>• Possible onset of collapse of Amazon rainforest.<br>• Coral reef ecosystems irreversibly damaged.<br>• Many species face extinction (up to 30 per cent of species have increased risk of extinction).<br>• Land-based ecosystems become net sources of greenhouse emissions.<br>• Irreversible melting of the Greenland ice sheet (up to seven metre rise in sea level). |
| >3ºC | • Severe droughts significantly limits water supplies and farming over a wide area of Australia.<br>• Flow in the Murray-Darling Basin falls 16-48 per cent.<br>• Most Australian (vertebrate) animals lose 90-100 per cent of core habitat.<br>• Functional extinction of coral reefs. | • Increasing risk of abrupt, large-scale shifts in the climate system, e.g. collapse of the Gulf stream and collapse West Antarctic ice sheet (up to five metre rise in sea level).<br>• Hundreds of millions of people exposed to increased water stress.<br>• Hundreds of millions of people exposed to coastal flooding annually. |

1. Preston, Jones (2006), op cit.
2. IPCC (2007b), *Climate Change 2007: Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability, Summary for Policymakers, Working Group II Contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, WMO/UNEP, Geneva.
3. Stern (2006), STERN REVIEW: *The Economics of Climate Change*. Cambridge University Press, UK.

are to achieve them.
For philanthropists this indicates a need for a twin track investment approach which boldly supports advocacy (research, public education, policy and solutions development, media and influencing public policy, regulation and legislation) as well as supports innovation in accelerating the transition to a low carbon economy.

### Graph 1: Emissions by sector




Source: *Department of Climate Change, 2008, Tracking to the Kyoto Target: Australia's Greenhouse Emissions Trends 1990 to 2008-12 and 2020.*

The Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN) have asked the Climate Institute to prepare a strategic investment framework to help achieve a vision of 'Australian leadership in the global transition to a climate-friendly, low carbon future'. At the time of writing we are finalising this framework but our research suggests five strategic pathways that together can build the political will for the necessary policies and investment:

1. **Engage mainstream Australians and other key constituencies** to build and demonstrate public support for action to opinion leaders and policy makers. Investment in community groups, informed by public opinion research, could support media outreach, cross-sectoral collaboration, face to face engagement and research on specific impacts and opportunities. Key constituencies for engagement will include farmers, unions, youth, faith communities and public health/social services. In the lead up to the next federal election, some regions will be more strategically significant than others.

   Well targeted communications need to reinforce both the urgency for action and that it is in Australia's interest to lead at home and abroad. Innovative communications should blend the potential impacts of climate change with the economic opportunities of taking action. To ensure that the debate doesn't sink to narrowest economic confines, it will be important to highlight the ethical dimensions of providing for future generations through stewardship and leadership.

2. **Accelerate the Clean Energy/Low Carbon National Economy** with backing for research and development for both the national policies, and the technologies, to drive and demonstrate the availability of low carbon solutions. With almost two thirds of Australia's pollution coming from stationery energy and transport, it will be critical to avoid locking in new sources of pollution, e.g. by ensuring all new baseload electricity generation comes from clean or renewable energy and a rapid sustainability makeover of our cities – greater investment in public transport, increased efficiency standards for cars and buildings. With almost a quarter of Australia's emissions from agriculture and land use, there are significant opportunities for low carbon and carbon positive initiatives, e.g. reduced clearing of native vegetation and long lived but verifiable carbon offsets.

   Well researched, cost effective solutions can help win the policy debate. The economic opportunities inherent in deploying low carbon technologies will create powerful new allies and offer compelling benefits, helping to build support.

3. **Promote Innovative State, Regional and Local Policies** to create policy precedents; demonstrate that policy works – at low or negative cost; provoke industry to support national policy, because they want greater uniformity; and educate the local public, media and policy makers about the solutions. A national emissions trading scheme was driven by some then all states proposing a state based scheme but there are countless other examples of innovation from local, regional and state policies driving the agenda after initial support from community and government agencies. This will be important to create demand and build the infrastructure for a low carbon economy as well as to adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change.

4. **Partner With and Pressure Business** to encourage from them far greater public and financial support for clean energy and low carbon investments. Positive engagement with institutional investors and progressive businesses will need to be balanced with pressure on those proposing or supporting new polluting or carbon intensive investments, e.g. a new traditional coal fired power plant. Through a variety of both partnerships and pressure campaign, NGOs are successfully urging companies to make reduction commitments, invest in clean technologies, and make constructive public statements. More is needed!

5. **Lead Internationally and Regionally** to facilitate Australia both to use its proven ability to punch above its weight in global negotiations and to show moral and economic leadership in our region. Some two thirds of the world's poor live in our region and millions will be hit hard and/or displaced by climate change. Economically our terms of trade are highly sensitive to economic performance in Asian developing countries that are vulnerable to climate change. Additionally, there are very significant sources of pollution in our neighbourhood, e.g. deforestation and surging construction of traditional coal fired power stations.

This indicates a need to support both 'in country' community groups and/or leaders in reductions and adaptation, as well as building Australian support for an unprecedented 'diplomatic offensive' abroad. Australia can play a key role in garnering support for regional and global action within the urgent timeframes needed.

Community groups have done much of the 'heavy lifting' to create an environment for change but most have done so with very few resources. With a few notable exceptions very few trusts, foundations and donors give to community groups or others working on climate change. The Climate Institute's final Framework for AEGN will highlight priority areas within each of these pathways. Hopefully this will help leverage additional and well targeted philanthropic support.

1. Garnaut Climate Change Review, *2008 Interim Report*.
2. California Environmental Associates, 2007, *Design to Win: Philanthropy's role in the fight against global warming*.
3. Ibid, Hewlett Foundation, 2007, *Taking Action on Climate Change* and Climate and Energy Funders Group, 2007, *Strategic Framework*.

# Protecting wildlife across the top end

*By philanthropist Martin Copley, Founder and Chair of the Australian Wildlife Conservancy*

## The pull of the north

Just how many nomads, young or old, visit outback northern Australia? A lot are attracted to the idea, but in my perception relatively few actually get around to going there. And yet to visit some of the remaining unspoiled parts of Cape York, the Top End or the Kimberley is to enter an unbelievably different and magical world. The landscapes, full of dramatic ranges and rivers, the stunning sub-tropical and savanna vegetation and the diversity of birds, reptiles and mammals, are simply breathtaking. If we did succumb to our dreams, buy a four wheel drive and head out, I think it is less likely that we would let the last remaining wilderness hot spots be degraded by feral animals, weeds, wildfires and overgrazing. For sadly that is what is now happening.

The solution, to my mind, is to reveal the natural secrets of these wonderful places to as wide a constituency as possible. If people could experience the thrill of seeing endemic animals in their natural habitat – a Spotted Cuscus nibbling leaves high in a tree at dawn, a four gram Long-tailed Planigale (our smallest marsupial) fighting and overcoming an insect its own size – then the hearts and minds, and ultimately the financial support, of the public would be available to help protect them. Such protection would also preserve the traditional cultural lands of indigenous Australians and provide opportunities for collaboration.

## Large ecosystem protection and climate change

Australia's native animal populations are under great threat from climate change. Already many species have severely restricted habitat due to fragmentation and modification of the landscape. As climate change occurs, these species will be unable to migrate to habitat where they can survive. Protecting large ecosystems therefore gives them the time and opportunity to disperse to adjacent habitat. Within large reserves, and the ecosystems they contain, many refugial areas are protected.

Climate change will also change fire patterns, and modify the spread of invasive species (for example by allowing some to penetrate higher altitudes or more southerly latitudes). Changed fire patterns, feral animals and weeds are already a major issue, but the effects of climate change mean we must redouble our efforts to control them. Ecosystem ownership leads to the better land management practices that are being employed by the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, of which I am the founder and Chair, and other environmental organisations.

## Field trips are powerful learning experiences for funders

My own experience, as a philanthropist/grantmaker, has been that nothing can replace site visits to experience issues first hand. The model devised by AWC at Mornington in the Kimberley is highly impressive for two key reasons:

1. Serious science is conducted – Mornington has the only genetics lab in WA north of Perth – and scientists can show visitors the research work they are engaged in, as well as animals in the wild. Currently at Mornington the science focus is on three main programmes: the impacts of cattle grazing, predator/prey relationships with the decline of dingo populations, and fire patterns. All three programmes are relevant to northern Australia as a whole and are being extended to AWC's other properties in the north.
2. Reasonable accommodation exists and guided and self-drive tours are possible in compellingly beautiful landscapes.

The Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN) organised a field trip to Kalpowar in Cape York in July 2006. The onsite presence of grantmakers at Kalpowar led to a collaborative grant being made for documenting traditional Indigenous knowledge. The Nature Conservancy, the Thomas Challenge and Pew Foundation also conduct field trips to groundtruth proposals before making grants. So it really does pay to go and see for yourself. It will give you the best opportunity to decide whether to pledge your support.

## Regional influence

Growing regional influence is a positive for grantmakers seeking to get the greatest leverage from their grant. There is no expectation that the whole of outback northern Australia can be secured by purchasing pastoral properties and protecting their wilderness qualities, but it is certainly possible that, with collaboration, considerable influence can be extended over large areas. For example AWC, by working with neighbours – pastoralists, Indigenous lessees and the State Government – now plays a critical role in delivering its model of fire management across some 3 million hectares of the central Kimberley which will help sustain eco-logical processes on a large scale. It is hoped that this collaboration will reduce the extent of late season hot fires that homogenise the vegetation and release considerably more greenhouse gases compared with cooler, less thorough fires. As confidence builds that private sector conservation land managers know what they are doing and that their advice is worth listening to, then further opportunities for collaboration will arise.

# A funder's perspective: Robert Purves

*Robert is a businessman and environmentalist. He is strongly active in the environmental sector and is currently a Board member of WWF International, Chairman of Environment Business Australia (EBA), Patron of the Lizard Island Trust and a member of The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists. He is the former Chairman of DCA Group*

The following is an extract from a conversation between Robert Purves, founder of the Purves Environmental Fund and *Australian Philanthropy's* editor Louise Arkles. Robert established the Fund in 2004 with an initial gift of $10 million. The conversation began with the question: What do you think about the current levels of philanthropic funding going to the environment?

If you look at the percentage of funding that presently goes to the environment it is only 3-4 per cent. Yet if you look at what people say they are concerned with, the environment often appears at number five of a long list of issues, so there's a real mismatch between what people purport to care about and what they actually give to.

It might be that people have a perception that the government funds environmental issues therefore they don't need to worry. Some funding organisations may not want to be involved with anything too political, and environmental organisations certainly can be political.

In fact, in my view, there are only two positions in this marketplace: in-your-face activism, for example Greenpeace; and a science and solutions-based, non party-political approach, for example WWF. There is nowhere in the middle. The two can work together, one being the agitator and the other offering the solutions. Indeed both are needed. Only when one makes enough noise will the public listen, and only then will politicians become engaged and start asking "What do the scientists say?" and then "What does Treasury say?"

This perspective is useful for philanthropic funders to take on board, to understand where the organisations they fund are on this continuum and identify what approach they are comfortable funding.

Business is the other key player, and is in fact the best mechanism we have to create change – if business leaders want something they'll push hard and are prepared to start with their own organisations. Visits from some high profile global leaders had a big impact on the business community, acting as a wakeup call. The flow-on effect can be seen as leaders in the Australian community have taken up the call, acting as champions for the cause; farmers, educators, as well as business people getting the discussion rolling and government policy moving.

The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists was a key player in this early stage, engaging business, community and political leaders in a dialogue to find and implement solutions to the challenge of environmental stewardship in Australia. My foundation, the Purves Environmental Fund, is the principal sponsor of this group of eminent Australian scientists. Wentworth initially didn't take a lot of money, and was very high risk, but has had a huge impact, giving the scientists a voice and empowering politicians to act.

This is a good example of the way I like to fund, at the sharper end of the spectrum. If you look at where much of philanthropic money is going for the environment, it's into acquiring land, which is a good thing, but limited in terms of its impact on the whole landscape i.e. outside reserves. I believe there is a role for philanthropy to take more risks in this area, and personally I'd recommend funding more education projects that address climate change. These can be risky in that they may come to nothing, or the outcomes may be hard to measure, but we're a long way from getting the mindset we need as a society. Education – in schools and in the general community – will go a long way to assisting us to digest the science and the economics of climate change.

One of the best things we have done at the Purves Environmental Fund is sponsor Tim Flannery to write *The Weather Makers: the History and Future Impact of Climate Change*, and then to adapt it into a web-based resource for use by schools. Consultations with education experts revealed that a study resource in booklet form, as well the web resource, would be most useful. So we funded the production and distribution of these to every secondary school in Australia, plus the extensive publicity, and schools were offered a discount on copies of the *Weather Makers* book for young adults. We're always looking for more initiatives like that.

We can no longer afford to silo issues, and climate sits on top of everything – there is nowhere to hide for climate change will impact everything we do.

Many people who are in this space are still pessimistic about the ability of the globe to act with enough haste to prevent the predicted impacts. From my perspective I say, look back 18 months to where we were as a country – we have moved so far in that time. Some advocate funding adapt to climate change, but I'm personally not at that stage. I personally don't want to just accept that its inevitable and look at adaptation – but would rather put my funds to work to prevent or reduce climate change as far as possible.

# Why climate change is a social equity issue

*Cath Smith, CEO Victorian Council of Social Service*

Low income and disadvantaged groups are particularly vulnerable to many of the impacts of climate change and long term drought. Philanthropic groups are making a significant impact on Australian society and I'm suggesting that no project is carbon neutral. The question is whether you are supporting carbon abatement, mitigation of the impacts, adaptation to the impacts – or not? Have you considered your climate impact in terms of who and what you support in the social sector? And having justified what you do, should you be finessing it – to better align with the climate change agenda?

### Higher temperatures and longer and more frequent heat waves

Heat waves already kill several thousand people with pre-existing health conditions each year. These numbers will increase, especially where lone householders cannot afford the cooling that they need to keep themselves well, and where social support is lacking.

### Economic and social impacts of drought

The long term temperature and rainfall projections for the food bowls of Victoria (and Australia) mean major rural adjustment strategies are required. The future of our major agricultural industries is at stake, but more importantly, the communities reliant on those industries – who do not control or benefit from most of the policy levers – will need to navigate major economic and social change. Rural depopulation is an ongoing phenomenon in Victoria – every 10 years the number of farmers declines by 10 per cent and agribusiness takes up the land and or water rights. This will intensify.

### Increased costs for essential goods and services

Placing a price on carbon will involve a greater value or levy being applied to products and services that embody more of it. This means that food, housing and transport will carry a greater price increase than various luxury goods and services – therefore impacting most heavily on those households who lack the budget for luxury goods or services.

Also, the relative price increases of food, fuel and insurance bills will affect low income people far more dramatically than where a household has capacity to pay a more significant share of the costs of change. This will impact on their ability to pay for other goods and services, and to participate actively in their community.

Between 2004 and 2012, utility bills (water, electricity, gas) for average Victorian households will rise by about $1,500 a year. Part of this is demand management pricing strategy, part is to cover the costs of major infrastructure that benefits the whole community, and part is to assist the productivity of energy retailers (e.g. installing electricity interval meters for every household, that will not save consumers a cent).

For a single-person household living on between $200-400 a week (such as sole parents who are not in paid work, people who are unemployed or disability pensioners), an average quarterly electricity bill will be more than their weekly income.

For a family living on $80,000 a year a $1,500 price increase is more-or-less affordable. For a household living on $25,000, it is not. Evidence shows that people will find the money for rent and bills; they will cut out food, social and recreational activities, educational costs and health services. There are already a million households, including hundreds of thousands of children, living in poverty. An increase is unacceptable in a civilised country such as Australia. However, we will need pro-active redistribution

measures through taxation and or other programs, to avert a major increase in poverty as a result of more realistic carbon pricing.

Fresh food prices, especially given the centralisation of food retail and distribution centres, means continuing high transport costs as well as other input costs, meaning food prices will continue to increase well above general CPI increases. With current petrol and diesel costs, fresh food is already at a premium in remote communities, including Aboriginal communities. Refrigerated transport will potentially become too much of a luxury for mainstream access. How will we 'close the gap' in Aboriginal health status if the only affordable food available in many rural and remote communities is white bread and fizzy drink?

In 2007 in rural Victoria, charity and welfare organisations were paying the water cartage costs of families reliant on tank water whose water had run out. A government water concession on town water supply cannot help when a $200 bill appears from a water cartage company. VCOSS heard of several cases where people with critical health issues required charitable assistance with their water cartage bills.

### Damage to housing and the built environment

Storms and floods damage homes. As the intensity of the event increases the property damage increases disproportionally. Insurers advise us that a 10 per cent increase in gust wind can lead to a 60 per cent increase in damage. Anyone in low quality housing or who is under-insured (or uninsured) will be hard hit.

The equity and social issues associated with climate change and drought are only recently being identified in research and policy development. VCOSS, as the peak non-government body for the Victorian social and community sector, scoped the social equity issues associated with climate change, in 2007[1], and also published a 'climate change' edition of our regular journal[2].

At federal and state level there is a greater focus on climate change adaptation. As a consequence of pressures on low income households, we believe there are a number of policy areas that require intervention.

The most significant of these are:

- energy and water pricing and household efficiency;
- heat waves and health inequalities;
- responses to increased food costs;
- domestic water security;
- social and economic support policies associated with drought; and
- housing standards and insurance.

### What are the solutions?

The climate change challenge affects us all. How can the vulnerable members of our society be protected from taking on an unfair burden?

'Whole of community' strategies need to take the vulnerable members of the community into account. Many alternative energy community projects now underway provide an empowering and effective avenue for households to meet the climate challenge. But if a householder is not well enough to join the effort, or wealthy enough to cover the costs, what role can they play and how can their contribution be included?

'Whole of government' strategies need to ensure that essential services remain affordable and accessible. Currently, through Home and Community Care (HACC) and other programs, it is possible to access an air conditioner for certain health conditions, and enjoy a regular visit by another human being to deliver meals on wheels. How can programs such as HACC be re-framed to meet the challenge?

The cost-benefit of regulated thermal efficiency standards of housing, especially for rental property, is increasing. If you cannot fully control the thermal efficiency of your home you lack control over the bills you encounter. Government needs to act on this, as with enhancing the regulation of appliance efficiency. I can buy a high energy $25 heater from my local superstore but can I afford to run it?

VCOSS advocates for change and charity. Significant systemic change is required to enable consumers and citizens to play their part. However the role of the philanthropic community is vital, as non-government organisations need to plan and deliver innovative projects as well as pay their rent.

Philanthropic organisations could encourage a 'Grow Your Own' campaign for local vegie gardens (assuming governments could be convinced to loosen water restrictions for such a purpose). They could support creative local community transport options, including buses, car pooling and carshare for people who cannot afford $3 a litre to drive to education, shops, healthy services or recreation. They could support innovative education retention projects for the children of farming families and others left behind by the economic adjustments ahead. They could partner with true 'whole of community' planning exercises to ensure a fully inclusive and more sustainable process.

Given the difficulties with different levels of government being able to resolve how best to support people in their homes, philanthropic organisations could help re-frame HACC and other community care programs, to build a more flexible program of support for the millions of Australians who will need home-based care.

Some questions for the philanthropic community to consider:

- Moving to a low carbon society – who are the winners and losers?
- What we are doing now – what impact are we making on adaptation to the climate challenge? Should we finesse our approach?
- What mix of community behaviour change combined with regulatory change is required to deliver a low carbon economy?
- How do we ensure that the costs and opportunities of change are fairly shared across our society?
- How do we partner effectively with organisations delivering change through a focus on community development, health, transport options, food security, housing or otherwise reducing reliance on carbon-based energy?

1. *Climate Change and Drought* scoping and policy paper, December 2007, VCOSS www.vcoss.org.au
2. *Just Policy: A Journal of Australian Social Policy*, 'The Climate Change and Social Policy Edition' December 2007, published by Victorian Council of Social Service. Copies available by calling VCOSS on (03) 9654 5050.

# Feature interview: Mark Wootton

*Mark Wootton is a Hamilton farmer in the Victorian Western District and father of four children. He runs, with his wife Eve Kantor, a mixed operation of beef, wool and various combinations of biodiversity and agro forestry plantings that act as a carbon sink. Mark is also a director of the Poola Foundation, which disburses funds to environmental projects, and funded the establishment of The Climate Institute, of which Mark is the chairperson*

### Where does the name Poola come from?

Poola is a phonetic spelling of 'pula'. My wife Eve Kantor and I taught in Botswana as Australian Volunteers Abroad in the early 1990s, and the pula is their currency. It means money, and it also means rain, very valuable in a desert country, and gift.

### How did you first became involved in philanthropy?

We set up the Poola Foundation in 1994. Eve had a sizeable endowment from her family, and we set up a foundation for the purpose of dispersing much of it, income and capital, partly to avoid our children inheriting a large amount of wealth. Also, it was clearly too much money for our personal needs. In the beginning we disbursed broadly, to anything from education through to rural communities, environmental and social justice issues.

We were very keen on 'strategic philanthropy'. We also realised that our knowledge was narrow and so approached prominent people involved in either social justice or environmental issues in Australia to ask, "If you had a large amount of money to give away, and you couldn't give it to your own area of expertise (i.e. own organisations), what would you give it to?" We had a raft of varied and thought-provoking responses, and to a certain degree they controlled our giving for probably the best part of what I consider our 'learning phase', probably three to four years.

It was an evolving process. We weren't particularly aware of the philanthropic community, other than from a distance. We've never defined ourselves as philanthropists at all – we work at our own full-time jobs, have four kids and run a farm. And that's how I still see myself. I hope my children see me that way too.

### Where did your philosophical perspective come from?

I was brought up as the son of a Uniting Church minister and my father was a missionary in South Korea when I was a child. It was a very poor country, not like Korea of today, and I was aware of a variety of needs. That's when I learnt about the importance of social justice. Eve is the daughter of a Czech refugee, and over the years her mother has volunteered a lot of her time to various social welfare groups. Eve comes from a long history of civic responsibility and philanthropy, through her grandmother, Dame Elisabeth Murdoch. So our value sets stem from family awareness of societal needs .

*Eva Kantor and Mark Wootton.*

### My understanding is that some philanthropic foundations and individual funders may have held back from supporting environmental issues because they're overwhelmed by the scale of the problem, or they're mistrusting the science as reported through the press. Do you think that is right?

Poola is one of the founding members of the Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network (AEGN), and I deal with people who do give funds to the environment, so perhaps I don't see the other side. My own observation is that the funding in the environmental sector has grown considerably in the last few years.

I suspect that you may be correct that there is some reluctance perhaps because of confusion about the best way to direct funds, hence the establishment of the AEGN – but if you step back and you see environmental giving in a broader context, bringing in biodiversity and land acquisition, there is a fair bit of philanthropic money going to these areas now.

Poola Foundation has a very strong ethical charter about the way our money is invested. Poola built one of the first green commercial buildings in Australia, and the farm, which is based on sustainable principles, is where my day-to-day life is focused. We have planted a million trees on our farms now. It seems really odd to me that, in theory, you could be funding the preservation of our environment and investing in logging of old growth forests at the same time. There's no point making money, then giving it away if the way you've made the money is causing part of the problem you are trying to solve!

As a geographer by training, the need for environmental funding was obvious to me. Poola's orientation towards funding advocacy as a way to have impact probably derives from my understanding of the political process.

Advocacy is really about education, informing those with the political power to change things on a large scale.

**Do you find that philanthropic foundations are reluctant to fund organisations that operate in this way?**

Yes, I do, although they shouldn't be. We fund a lot of advocacy work. The Climate Institute has done a lot of work that's of a clearly political nature, but non-partisan. I believe that funding this kind of educational activity is critical.

**Do you think it may be that you had a bit more courage because it's your money? You're not a trustee.**

You could be right. I sit on the boards of NGOs and find I am much more conservative there than with Poola. At the same time, the main funds Poola has dispersed recently have been on behalf of Eve's late brother Tom, who died tragically in 2001. We feel doubly responsible making decisions about his money, probably at a higher level than if we were trustees with less connection to the funders.

**Are you optimistic about Australia behaving responsibly in terms of climate change?**

Am I optimistic? (pause) Yes I am for the most part, but not always.

**You did hesitate there!**

Well, the enormity of what is happening with climate change, and the speed of that change, is quite daunting. The human species is one that's keen on self-preservation – we don't want to make ourselves extinct, but at times our behaviour doesn't seem to match that philosophy! Having said that, if you'd asked me this question three years ago, when we first started in this area, my answer would have been different because I was feeling very, very, very defeated.

There was no Al Gore film, no Stern report and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) findings weren't a news item. We have now ended up with bipartisan support for a carbon trading scheme, the signing of Kyoto and the first murmurings of understanding of the problem and how we're going to deal with it.

> "We've never defined ourselves as philanthropists at all – we work at our own full-time jobs, have four kids and run a farm. And that's how I still see myself. I hope my children see me that way too."

Of course, I wanted the science to be wrong. I was not personally convinced until probably the late 1990s. Even though we were really into environmental issues, we didn't fund climate change directly. We thought that the science wasn't conclusive enough, there seemed to be arguments on both sides, and until we had more certainty we were not going down that path.

**What changed your mind?**

Farming. We saw this dry period go on and on and on, and at some point I started reading more carefully the IPCC material and realised what was going on was beyond natural variation: it was a long term trend, and we were really vulnerable in Australia. Then I started listening to and working with Graeme Pearman – who was the ex-head of atmospheric science at CSIRO and who is now on the board at The Climate Institute – a very considered and conservative man whose writing on climate change is so compelling and convincing.

**What inspired you to create The Climate Institute?**

Once the penny dropped that climate change was a real threat, we decided that global warming wasn't just an environment issue. It is a health issue, it's a survival issue, it's a social justice issue and it's an economic issue. We had a few reservations funding environment groups: while some are outstanding we really didn't feel there were any capable of working across all aspects of climate change. So we said, "okay, then, we'll do it ourselves". The timing was very fortunate; climate change hadn't taken off as an issue in Australia yet, so we got together a group of knowledgeable and talented people in the field across a range of disciplines, resourced them well to undertake research and analysis (from a $10 million grant from the Poola Foundation – Tom Kantor Fund), and created a strategy to really move the debate.

We made an active decision that we weren't going to work as an NGO in a traditional way, but as a non-partisan, independent group that works with community, business and government to drive innovative and effective climate change solutions. The Climate Institute takes an active educational role. We've set up the Interfaith Common Call to Action, helped form the Agricultural Alliance, and done a study on superannuation investments and their carbon investment risk, amongst other things.

**What government intervention would you like to see?**

This deserves a long response. It has to be based on the government providing a policy setting those results in a substantial reduction in greenhouse pollution. The government needs to lead both within Australia and internationally. Developed countries including Australia have produced three quarters of the Greenhouse gases that are in the atmosphere. They have a responsibility to act and lead accordingly. It will be critical in the next two years to provide a policy framework that supports all sectors of society and to set the critical targets that are needed to avoid dangerous climate change.

The short response is to get people to check out our website. http://www.climateinstitute.org.au

# Seeking strategic projects – The Mullum Trust

*By Sue Mathews, Trustee, Mullum Trust*

Positive environmental change has been the main focus of the Mullum Trust since its inception. Because we are a small trust, we are always looking for ways to maximise the effect of our never-very-large grants. We try to be as strategic as possible in deciding who and what to fund, and wherever possible we try to link up with other donors.

A 'strategic' project for us is one which has a substantial impact on environmental management or policy. We look for the potential for large and significant outcomes, and try to deal with issues at an early stage, often before they have penetrated mainstream consciousness, which is when our relatively small donations (rarely over $15,000) can be particularly useful.

Climate change is such a big issue: we at Mullum share an urgent sense that there is nothing more important, and yet it is difficult to know how and where to intervene in a way that can actually help make a difference.

A number of years ago we felt that we were not receiving enough applications that were sufficiently compelling in terms of their ability to bring about change beyond a small area. There were too many proposals to plant trees, or save members of an endangered species in a specific location, or build an eco-education facility for local use. All of them worthy, but lacking the kind of impact we were seeking.

We decided to seek out projects for ourselves, and approached a couple of organisations and individuals we knew and respected for suggestions. We organised speakers on several issues, and invited other trusts we knew might be interested. The projects we fund tend to contribute to change in a variety of ways:

- by helping publicise the issues and educate the community;
- by trying to influence government policy;
- by strengthening the capacity of not-for-profit organisations whose work we support to achieve their objectives;
- by encouraging business to consider it's impact on the environment.

Here are some examples of projects we've been involved in, which illustrate our approach:

*Recently cleared poplar box bushland at Augathella, Western Queensland, in Spring 2000, before the passing of government restrictions on clearing which significantly reduced Australia's greenhouse emissions (photo: courtesy of B.J. Traill).*

## Policy – Queensland Land Clearing

In 1999 Mullum organised a meeting of several philanthropic trusts to hear a presentation on the effects of the intensive land clearing that was taking place in Queensland. It is estimated that this was contributing up to 25 per cent of Australia's greenhouse gas output, as well as destroying habitat for a range of plant and animal species. The Queensland government was considering legislation to limit clearing, but farmers were racing to clear as much as possible. Together with other trusts, Mullum provided funds to enable Queensland environmental organisations to campaign for the government to push ahead with the legislation. In terms of reducing Australia's emissions, this has been the most important piece of legislation yet enacted.

## Spreading the Word – An Inconvenient Truth

In 2006, we were very impressed with Al Gore's film on climate change, and felt it was vital that as many of our community's decision makers as possible saw it. We approached BHP to see if they might be interested in joining us in hosting a screening: invitations were sent by BHP's then CEO, Chip Goodyear, to the leaders of Melbourne's business and philanthropy worlds, and Mr Goodyear introduced the film to a full house at the Kino Theatre.

## The Climate Project Slideshow

Following on from our screening, we wanted to continue the effort to encourage business to engage with the issues of climate change. The Australian Conservation Foundation had partnered with Al Gore to train Australian presenters to deliver an Australian version of the Inconvenient Truth slideshow. A number of these presenters came from and were making their presentations within the business community: the Mullum Trust funded the production of a specially tailored version of the slideshow for a business audience.

## Capacity Building – CANA http://www.cana.net.au/

The Climate Action Network of Australia is an organisation that acts as an umbrella for the climate change work of most of Australia's environment NGOs. CANA provides support for the myriad small community groups as well as helping co-ordinate the work of the national NGOs, and plays a significant role in policy development and lobbying in relation to Australia's international stance on climate change. The Mullum Trust has made a multi-year commitment to support the work of CANA (and several other organisations) by contributing to core funding on an annual basis.

Today projects come to us in a range of ways, ranging from unsolicited submissions to projects we invite. We are aware that this limits potential projects to those arising from our existing networks, and are hopeful that the newly formed Australian Environmental Grantmakers Network may help broaden our reach.

If any other Members of Philanthropy Australia would like to talk with us about what Mullum does, we can be reached at:

*Sue Mathews: mathewssue@bigpond.com*

*Danny Mathews: dmathews@vicnet.net.au*

*Steve Mathews: stevemathews@bigpond.com*

# The tide has turned: the Great Barrier Reef Foundation

*Judith Stewart, Managing Director of the Great Barrier Reef Foundation*

For a foundation focused on raising awareness and funding for a climate change related cause, the period until late 2006 was very tough. The lack of strong government leadership and the equal media airtime given to credible climate change scientists and skeptics alike made it very difficult for us to break through the noise and establish climate change as a cause worthy of immediate attention.

However, September 2006 proved to be our tipping point. Business leaders began to accept the reality and potential impact of climate change and, importantly, the need to do something about it. Public awareness increased and while always in our favour, the weight of scientific evidence was now seen by the public to be firmly on our side. In short, the naysayers were silenced, or at least largely discredited.

For the Great Barrier Reef Foundation, the change in mood was palpable. Where previously there was little incentive for corporations or philanthropists to support a 'controversial' cause, we were now being asked to provide pathways for these same people to support tangible and practical solutions to address climate change on the Great Barrier Reef.

This shift came not a moment too soon. Coral reefs are extremely susceptible to even small changes in water temperature or chemistry. Scientists estimate the rate of climate change we will experience is 100 times faster than anything the Earth has experienced over any significant period in the last 750,000 years. This severely risks the ability of coral reefs to adapt. If nothing is done, we are likely to be left with a decimated Reef, covered with algae and unable to support the huge biodiversity of marine life that characterises it today.

The potential devastation of the world's reefs by climate change was not widely understood until 1998, when the first mass coral bleaching and mortality event was recorded. With only 10 years worth of concentrated scientific research to support them, the managers of the Great Barrier Reef are now faced with the enormous challenge of helping it survive the onslaught of climate change.

Unfortunately for us, while the naysayers may have been silenced, the doomsayers have not. Media responses to these predictions tend to give the impression that the Great Barrier Reef is doomed. It is not. However, Australia's response to global warming and its effect on the Reef must involve urgent action on two fronts – mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation involves reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, but our best chance is to help the Reef adapt to the impacts of an inevitably warmer world. We need to understand the magnitude of risk that climate change presents, and use this knowledge to better manage these risks.

Corporate Australia was first to recognise the need to fill the knowledge gaps. The Foundation's Future Reef partnership with Rio Tinto Alcan was established in late 2005 to support world first research into ocean acidification, an impact of climate change, on the Great Barrier Reef. In February 2007, the Foundation established the ZooX™ Fund with a mix of corporate and philanthropic patrons including the Commonwealth Bank, KPMG, The Myer Foundation, Mulpha Australia and Cato Counsel.

The ZooX™ Fund was established to directly support climate change research on the Great Barrier Reef and its first initiative is the development of a 'Risk, Resilience and Response atlas' to map the areas of risk and pockets of resilience across the enormous Reef ecosystem. This project will provide a vital management tool to those charged with shepherding the Reef through this critical period.

While the magnitude of threat to the Great Barrier Reef should not be underestimated, it is not yet hopeless. There is more than the immense environmental value of the Great Barrier Reef, a World Heritage Area, at stake. Conservative estimates place the economic value of the Reef at about $6 billion annually. Industries such as tourism and fishing could not be sustained by a Reef ravaged by climate change. Importantly, there is also the moral issue we must face if we, as a community, let this enormous, valuable and iconic asset disintegrate.

Australia is very well placed to help the Great Barrier Reef adapt to climate change, for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority is recognised as the world's best manager of coral reef environments and the Reef, relatively speaking, is in good shape. Thus the potential exists for philanthropy and corporate Australia to play a huge role supporting the vital research which is essential to the survival of the Great Barrier Reef.

*www.barrierreef.org*

# Environment at Toyota Motor Corporation Australia

*By James Holgate, Former Manager Environment, Toyota Australia and Katarina Persic, Public Affairs Manager, Toyota Australia*

In 2005 Toyota Australia won the Banksia Environmental Award for Business Responsibility and Leadership. This award was based on sound environmental inmprovements as well as the company-wide strategies in place to ensure ongoing engagement across the business and with business and community partners.

As climate change has taken a high profile in Australian society, stakeholder expectations are increasing and becoming more demanding. For example, some larger corporate fleet customers are now basing their purchasing decisions not just on product features and price but also on the environmental and other sustainability values of the company. They wish to establish partnerships with organisations that support their own sustainability strategies. Corporate reputation is a key benefit of any corporate social responsibility program, and Toyota's current number one ranking in the annual RQ index is a reflection of this.

Publicly, the most significant approach to sustainability is the Toyota Prius, a hybrid car that runs on both petrol and electricity. The Prius reduces fuel consumption and $CO_2$ emissions by up to 50 per cent compared with a similar sized conventional car. Worldwide demand for the Prius far outweighs supply, with a waiting list of over six months in the US and four months in Australia.

But Toyota's environmental strategies are not just about hybrid vehicles. Internally the company has also been getting serious about sustainability. The catalyst behind the company's approach to sustainability has come from its realisation that to remain viable, it must be in tune with its environment, and develop accordingly. Once the decision was made to adopt sustainability principles, the next step was changing behaviour to fall in line with the company's new goals.

Behaviour change is difficult, particularly in a company the size of Toyota Australia (over 4,000 employees nationwide). Change has come about by the notion of involving everyone in the company's plan to become sustainable; from the top levels of management to the person operating a press on the manufacturing floor.

Toyota Australia implemented eight TEMS (Toyota Environmental Management System) teams – groups of employees who are given time to sit down and discuss issues affecting the way a department is run and come up with ideas and solutions to fix the issue. The issues affecting each team usually have a local focus, and they not only develop improvement projects but also undertake activities to increase environmental awareness. As a result of TEMS, a number of sustainability projects have been developed at Toyota's manufacturing plants:

- The installation of 'air jetter' solvent mixing valves and paint cartridges in the car-painting department, which has contributed to an 18 per cent reduction in volatile organic compound emissions. These changes have resulted in almost zero wastage when changing colours between cars, and greatly reduced the emission of solvents into the environment.
- The recycling of gloves in the manufacturing areas. A waste audit suggested significant savings could be made by separating, washing and reusing the Kelvar gloves used in the press and weld shops, where possible.

  On implementation, this has netted the Company a cost saving of $400,000 per annum and, more importantly, has produced savings for the environment, with fewer gloves going to landfill each year.
- As a key strategy to reduce waste, Toyota has been working within the supply chain to reduce the amount of packaging material requiring disposal. All local suppliers are now required to use returnable packaging modules in place of the cardboard and other packaging materials that can be used only once before disposal. These modules are returned to suppliers after use and used again for subsequent parts deliveries.

Toyota's seven Guiding Principles form the basis of the fundamental management policy for all operations. The principles provide a point of reference for all of Toyota's global activities, including environmental management.

### Guiding principles at Toyota

1. Honour the language and spirit of the law of every nation and undertake open and fair corporate activities to be a good corporate citizen of the world.
2. Respect the culture and customs of every nation and contribute to economic and social development through corporate activities in the communities.
3. Dedicate ourselves to providing clean and safe products and to enhancing the quality of life everywhere through all our activities.
4. Create and develop advanced technologies and provide outstanding products and services that fulfil the needs of customers worldwide.
5. Foster a corporate culture that enhances individual creativity and teamwork value, while honouring mutual trust and respect between labour and management.
6. Pursue growth in harmony with the global community through innovative management.
7. Work with business partners in research and creation to achieve stable, long term growth and mutual benefits, while keeping ourselves open to new partnerships.

Toyota issued their Fourth Environmental Action Plan in 2005 to translate aspirations into action, and set global targets for the period to 2010-1011. This plan covers five main aspects of Toyota's environmental activities: Energy/$CO_2$, waste and water, substances of concern, air pollution, and environmental management.

More recently, Toyota Australia developed its five year plan for the same period to define its local response to these five issues. This plan was published in the '2006 Environment and Community Report' as a public commitment, and future reports will provide data to show progress against this plan.

# Serious climate action in Australia: What role business?

*Don Henry, Executive Director of the Australian Conservation Foundation*

In Australia we have entered a critical period in the quest to tackle climate change. Last year three landmark reports from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) left the world in no doubt about the science, the seriousness and the urgency.

Climate change was a defining issue in the November 2007 federal election where Australians gave Kevin Rudd's government a clear mandate to take decisive action. At the UN climate conference in Bali in December Australia joined the global effort by ratifying the Kyoto Protocol. Ratifying Kyoto – the first act of the new government – was important symbolically, but also practically. A study last year by consultants Cambiar showed Australian businesses were missing out on $3.8 billion in economic activity every year because of Australia's refusal to ratify.

## 2008 and beyond

So where do we go from here? And how can philanthropically minded businesses play a role in getting us there?

The IPCC report to the world's governments at Bali noted that to have a reasonable chance of avoiding global warming of more than 2°C (the widely-accepted threshold of 'dangerous climate change') developed countries, as a group, will need to reduce emissions by 25-40 per cent by 2020 and globally emissions will need to halve by 2050.

I think it is useful to look at where we, as a nation, will need to be in two or three years if we are to play our part in the world avoiding dangerous climate change and all the devastating impacts that will accompany it.

1. Australia will need to have played a leadership role in forging a post-2012 agreement that will see the countries of the world do what is necessary to avoid warming of 2°C. Having ratified the Kyoto Protocol we now have the potential to become a credible global leader in tackling this most global of problems.
2. Domestically we will need to have a strong target to cut emissions somewhere in the order of 25-40 per cent by 2020 to do our bit and to have credibility internationally.
3. We will need a functional, effective emissions trading scheme that will put a price on greenhouse pollution, drive a massive growth in renewable energy and dramatically cut our waste of energy (power and fuel).

## Leadership from business

Clearly, there are significant challenges ahead and the past few years have shown me there is a crucial role for business to play in meeting these. Governments tend not to lead without being nudged. They need support, they need prodding and they need political space. How can we ensure leadership and strong community support for the major changes we need to make as a nation if we are to solve this problem?

Back in 2004 six prominent Australian businesses – BP, Insurance Australia Group, Origin Energy, Swiss Re, Visy and Westpac – together with the Australian Conservation Foundation, started meeting to discuss ways to increase awareness about the business risks of climate change and the opportunities that can flow from working co-operatively on solutions. This initiative was catalysed by a grant from the Pratt Foundation and became known as the Australian Business Roundtable on Climate Change.

The Roundtable commissioned scientific work from CSIRO and economic modelling from Allen Consulting. This research formed the basis of the Roundtable's seminal April 2006 report 'The Business Case for Early Action', which concluded that a 60 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 could go hand-in-hand with a prosperous future. Importantly it found that early action to address climate change would cost much less than delaying.

The report's nine practical suggestions are organised under the following key recommendations: Design a 'long, loud and legal' framework to establish a price signal; Encourage innovation and investment in emerging and breakthrough technologies; and Build national resilience to the impacts of climate change. See the Roundtable's website listed below for the full list of recommendations.

That report played a key role in delivering bi-partisan support for emissions trading in this country. It focussed broader business attention on the need for action and helped raise public awareness of the economic, social and environmental benefits of acting.

## Supporting initiatives that will really make a difference

Businesses can play a significant part by supporting:

- good advocacy to state and federal governments urging strong action on climate change, leading to solid thinking and innovative policies;
- unusual alliances, to demonstrate the whole-of-community support for strong action on climate change;
- programs that will build the resilience of our environment by protecting natural areas of high conservation value, especially in northern Australia;
- programs that make it easy for individuals and businesses to do the right thing; and
- effective engagement with business and civil society internationally, especially in China, the US and Indonesia.

Professor Ross Garnaut expressed it well when he said Australia has an "exceptional sensitivity to climate change" and an "exceptional opportunity to do well in a world of effective global mitigation". Business and philanthropists have been central in achieving the big steps forward of the past two years and I believe they have a crucial leadership role in helping Australia take the next step towards a safe and sustainable future.

*www.acfonline.org.au*
*www.businessroundtable.com.au*

# Uday Khemka on international philanthropic efforts to address climate change

*This is an abridged version of an inspiring interview of Uday Khemka by Caroline Hartnell, Editor of Alliance Magazine which originally appeared in Alliance, Vol 12, No.3, September 2007. It is published here with the author's and subject's permission*

Uday Khemka is Managing Trustee of his family's charitable trusts, the Nabha Foundation and the Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation, based in India. The latter's mission is to build innovative cross-sectoral collaborations and development infrastructure within India and internationally through strategic philanthropy. Their approach is one that is long term, strategic and leveraged, and since 2003 has focused on the urgent challenge of stemming the impacts of climate change.

As far as Uday Khemka knows, his is the only private foundation trying strategically to move India on the issue of climate change. It is working on three levels. The first is the policy level, where it is supporting the first ever integrated energy strategy for the country. Second, "you need a groundswell of popular support if you are going to influence politicians. We've partnered with the Bollywood awards, which reach millions of people." The third area is business and technology. "In my view," he says "it is only business that can solve this problem, but it must be given the right incentives."

"There is a serious danger that monsoon patterns will change. What happens if the Punjab starts to look like the desert country of Rajasthan? Well, the answer's very simple: a billion people starve. So what am I doing talking about microfinance? So we had no option but to dedicate an enormous amount of our resources to climate change."

### Development

"Hundreds of millions of people still live beneath the poverty line – whatever we do mustn't constrain their economic development. Why should one person have the right to pollute the atmosphere more and someone else has to suffer for it and can't develop?"

"The metaphor for me is rather like a boat… one person's dug a huge hole on one side of the boat, water gushing in – and three little people on the other side, drilling little holes, saying we want a hole as big as your hole, while the whole thing is going down! Whatever money we invest in education or health care, the impact of climate change is going to be devastating and will take many more people back into poverty. We need to address climate change in order to allow us to develop."

"India has a huge power deficit. It's in our economic self-interest to make industry and homes more energy-efficient. It's possible to increase our standard of living, improve our growth rate, and yet lower the carbon footprint. These co-benefits are really important."

### Philanthropy and climate change

"We were shocked to find that we could not identify a global network of funders around climate change, and we said, 'well, we'd better build one.' Why? Because people feel isolated, they don't have a strategic framework, they don't know how to access networks."

Working closely with the Rockefeller Brother Fund, the Global Philanthropists Circle and UBS the Khemka Foundation convened an 'action summit' which lauched the Climate Change Philanthropy Action Network (CCPAN) (see box at right).

"This is an integrated, focused network of funders, individual philanthropists and institutional foundations, whose mission is serious action on climate change. Collaboration is 'an absolute imperative' and certain key principles govern:

- don't tell people what to do top-down, it doesn't make any sense, every foundation has its own priorities;
- leaders will naturally emerge and we will need to make sure we provide a lot of institutional resources to support them; and
- we have to make sure the network is well connected so that we can turn to the top climate change experts for insights.

### Framework for philanthropists

"Where do you intervene? The US, Europe, Japan, India and China are particularly important. Also Indonesia, Brazil, Mexico. Basically the G8 plus five. That's helpful because it means you don't necessarily have to get every single country on the planet on board."

#### Who do you want to influence?

"This is absolutely critical. Sometimes you'll find business out ahead of the political sphere, sometimes you'll find the popular groundswell of support needs to be created to make the local politics work out."

#### What do you want to do?

"If you are a foundation in Indonesia, what are the key spaces? What can you do to leverage? The 'Design to Win' program has taken the wedges and deepened them to a point where there's an intellectual architecture for philanthropists to make it happen at scale."

#### How do you do it?

"You can fund research, you can do pilots and demo projects, you can disseminate or scale up those pilots, you can be involved in lobbying, financing, venture philanthropy, or indeed commercial investment. A tremendous menu. But the key thing is that the intervention must move the needle.

"It's early days but we're determined that this will be all about action – as opposed to just talking. First of all it will allow philanthropists to convene regularly in different parts of the world. Sometimes it will be just a question of adopting best practices, adopting new models, inspiring each other. Or it could be about co-investing in each other's projects. Or incubating new initiatives together – as with the 'Design to Win' program (see page 24). The idea is to get critical mass among institutions with very similar agendas who don't feel alone any more and suddenly have expanded resources to tackle the bigger challenges. So the key now is to take this initial awareness to a huge critical mass."

"Climate change does not sit only in the environmental box. If you can't work on climate change directly, I believe any honest assessment of your current work will reveal that it has a massive impact on whatever you're doing. So just having a study done will naturally start you towards this field. Imagine someone in your family suddenly gets really ill, they get cancer for example. You don't quite believe it, you don't want to believe it. But as you start to think what you can do, you start to really understand the subject. And the third stage is when you start to fight as hard as you possibly can to get that person back into good health."

"What we've learnt in the last two years is that there are tremendous opportunities for business here – and of course for philanthropists. People used to see this as a zero sum game. Companies saw addressing climate change simply as a cost; they now see there are many opportunities to make money and lower carbon emissions at the same time. I believe in the ability of human beings when faced by huge challenges to coalesce in a tremendous way. I think Al Gore is right: it needs the same effort as if a meteorite was about to hit the planet, the same effort as the Marshall Plan, the same pulling together of every part of society, every piece of energy. This is the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced apart from nuclear holocaust. I don't want to be complacent and glib, but I'm confident that if we wake up and get this critical mass, we will get there."

*To read the full version of this interview go to Alliance magazine: http://www.alliancemagazine.org/free/html/sep07i.html*

*To read more about the Nand & Jeet Khemka Foundation go to their website. http://www.khemkafoundation.org/index.php*

## International phanthropy networks

### Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network

www.cegn.org/main.html

The Canadian Environmental Grantmakers' Network (CEGN) is a membership group of private, community, public and corporate foundations, and government and corporate funding programs that give grants in support of the Canadian environment.

CEGN works to develop an effective network of environmental grantmakers in Canada by facilitating information-sharing, collaboration, training and professional development, research, and communications. Our major activities include holding members' meetings, disseminating information to members on environmental and grantmaking issues, managing a website and members' discussion group, and undertaking research on environmental grantmaking in Canada.

CEGN's members together provide over $50 million in environmental grants in Canada.

### Climate Change Philanthropy Action Network (CCPAN)

http://www.climatephilanthropists.org/

The CCPAN initiative was launched at the Iceland Climate Change Action Summit in October 2006. CCPAN seeks to advance the field of climate change philanthropy by bringing together donors in a structured platform to promote strategic philanthropic initiatives, coordination and collaboration at a global level. We aim to catalyze the scale needed to solve the climate crisis by promoting opportunities for concrete action by all constituencies to address global warming. Recognising the serious implications of climate change both to this generation and the next, we will support, disseminate and generate ideas and initiatives that have highly leveragable, substantial and sustainable impacts at the multinational, national and local levels.

### Environmental Funders Network (UK)

www.greenfunders.org

The Environmental Funders Network (EFN) is an informal network of trusts, foundations and individuals making grants on environmental and conservation issues based in the United Kingdom. Its main purpose is to allow for peer group contact between environmental grantmakers, and to provide a forum in which issues of common concern can be discussed. Over 70 funding organisations have been participants to date.

The EFN carries out research into patterns of environmental grantmaking in the UK, through the 'Where the Green Grants Went' reports, downloadable from their website.

### Environmental Grantmakers Association (USA)

www.ega.org

The Environmental Grantmakers Association (EGA) was formed in 1987 with 12 member foundations from across the United States. Today, its members represent over 220 foundations from North America and around the world. The mission of the EGA is to help member organisations become more effective environmental grantmakers through information sharing, collaboration and networking.

The EGA has published 'Green Beyond Grants: A Toolkit for Greening Foundation Operations', offering ways for foundations to contribute to environmental sustainability beyond grantmaking, with simple advice and specific steps to 'go green' through organisational practices.

### The Energy Foundation (US)

http://www.ef.org/home.cfm

The Energy Foundation is a partnership of major donors interested in solving the world's energy problems, with the mission to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy.

The Energy Foundation's primary role is as a grantmaker, providing resources to the institutions that most effectively leverage change, and their geographic focus is on the United States and China. They also take direct initiatives, commission papers and convene meetings.

Organisations involved include the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, which has a $100 million Climate Change Initiative; The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, which works to promote a new, visionary, and bipartisan approach to United States energy policy; and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, which invests in identifying and mitigating the threat from global climate change on species in the most diverse ecosystems of the planet.

# Climate change resources list

One of the first hurdles against effective climate change response funding is that, now that the world has begun to take the crisis seriously, there is an overwhelming amount of quality research available with even the most perfunctory of searches. Below are a selection of key resources, organised by sector, which can serve as a starting point for further research.

## Philanthropy sector responses to climate change

### Green Philanthropy – Funding Charitable Solutions to Environment Problems: A Guide for Donors and Funders

Published by New Philanthropy Captial (UK), October 2007.

Free download, but you need to register to gain access.

http://www.philanthropycapital.org/research/research_reports/environment/environment2.aspx

This report seeks to provide practical information for donors and funders about what, who and how to fund in the environmental movement. This includes analyses of the potential impact of different approaches, and guidance on how to support not-for-profit organisations working in the field most effectively. The report looks at environment problems from six angles: climate change; natural resources; global poverty and the environment; ecosystems and biodiversity; energy pollution and waste; and sustainable development. It then address the work of not-for-profit organisations in addressing these problems.

### Design to Win: Philanthropy's Role in the Fight Against Global Warming

Published August 2007; free download from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation's website: http://www.hewlett.org/Programs/Environment/Energy/Publications/Design+to+Win.htm

Researched by a team from California Environmental Associates, and supported by an international advisory committee, this report explores how philanthropic investment can turn the tide against global warming, and makes recommendations to assist foundations to prioritise strategic interventions.

Four overarching priorities are presented:

1. Need to prevent a massive 'lock-in' of escalating emissions from existing infrastructure and industries. First rule of holes – when you're in one, stop digging!
2. Concentrate efforts geographically. Global action is critical, but focus is needed – US, EU, China and India. To address deforestation look to the Amazon, Congo and Indonesia.
3. Policy reform is essential. Putting a price on carbon will spark innovation and the clean technology markets, but sector-specific policies are also needed.
4. Interventions must target the five sectors which dominate emissions: power, industry, buildings, transportation and forestry.

The report was jointly commissioned by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Energy Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, and the Oak Foundation.

### The Watermark Australia Project

An initiative of the Victorian Women's Trust, 2007.

Available as a free download from the web, or in hard copy format for the cost of postage and handling only.

http://watermarkaustralia.org.au/

*Our Water Mark* has been compiled to provide people in the Australian community with a credible and accessible source of information about a key natural resource which is in crisis – water. *Our Water Mark* creates the 'big picture', establishes a national goal for all of us to strive toward, identifies a set of guiding principles and outlines, in detail, the various ways we can all live within our 'water means' – in this the driest inhabited continent on earth. There is a wealth of detail about the current state of our water resources, presenting an informed and knowledge-rich framework for thinking about, and acting upon, water issues.

### Rockefeller Foundation – Climate Change Resiliance

http://www.rockfound.org/initiatives/climate/climate_change.shtml

The Rockefeller Foundation Climate Change Initiative seeks to counteract the ways in which the poor and vulnerable of the world will be hit hardest by climate changes. The Climate Change Initiative catalyses attention in building resilience globally by creating response models; funding, promoting and disseminating these models; and increasing pressure on funders, practitioners and policy makers to support increased funding and action.

The Rockefeller Foundation has a $70 million (US dollars) commitment to this five year initiative.

### Healthy Planet, Places and People

Research Australia, 2007

Available to download from: http://www.thankyouday.org/content/documents/web_EnviroReportRA.pdf

To better understand the impact of climate change on health, Research Australia turned to some of Australia's leading scientists in order to obtain evidence and advice regarding the health implications of global warming in Australia. The resulting report, entitled 'Healthy Planet, Places and People', provides a snapshot of the risks climate change poses to health in Australia, details the efforts currently underway that seek to provide a better understanding of these pertinent issues, and identifies what still needs to be done to understand how to deal with the consequences for health.

## Australian climate change NGOs

### The Climate Institute

http://climateinstitute.org.au/

The Climate Institute's main focus is to raise public awareness, action, and debate about climate change and global warming, specifically as the issue relates to Australia. Non-partisan but not apolitical, the independent group encourages and drives climate change solutions for business, government, and community. Its 'Solutions' page offers frank, constructive information on specific aspects of the climate change crisis, and outlines the methods which the Climate Institute and other organisations are using to counteract the threat.

### Climate Action Network Australia's Social Impacts page

http://www.cana.net.au/socialimpacts/

CANA aims to bring Australia into the age of climate awareness, with goals including the reduction of our disproportionate contribution to the problem, the protection of carbon-storing native woodlands, and the protection of nearby island nations. The Social Impacts page of CANA's site, explores to great depth the myriad consequences of climate change outside of the directly environmental: impacts on Indigenous communities; farming and rural communities; housing; tourism; insurance; health; and employment. There is also much information on global impacts, including delivering 'climate sensitive aid' and the increase in refugees.

### Climate Change and Development Roundtable

http://www.ccdr.org.au/

The Roundtable's 12 members include World Vision, Climate Action Network Australia, Oxfam Australia, and Greenpeace. The Roundtable was formed to facilitate information exchange, and as a result its publications page is a comprehensive collection of reports and briefings on climate change in the Asia Pacific region, and the role Australia can play in assisting vulnerable neighbouring countries.

Particularly helpful reading is the 'Australia Responds' report, which includes suggestions for strategic aid and Australian-based actions which will benefit the region.

http://www.ccdr.org.au/Australia_Responds.pdf

### Action for Climate Change

http://www.actionforclimatechange.org.au/

Action for Climate Change is a resource most likely to be useful to those with corporate considerations to take into account when drafting their plans to tackle climate change, as it offers the opportunity for businesses to work with them in developing community programs to support carbon offsets. As part of their emissions reductions program, Action for Climate Change provides a library of resources on the website to encourage education amongst both individuals and businesses. Action for Climate Change is in the process of creating a carbon forest and is working to develop emission calculators to make offsetting simpler for contributors.

## Corporate Reports

### The Business Case for Early Action

The Australian Business Roundtable on Climate Change, April 2006

http://www.businessroundtable.com.au/html/documents.html

The Australian Business Roundtable on Climate Change commissioned scientific work from CSIRO and economic modelling from Allen Consulting, which formed the basis of this seminal report. The Business Case for Early Action concluded that a 60 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 could go hand-in-hand with a prosperous future, and found early action to address climate change would cost much less than delaying. Recommendations are, in summary: design a 'long, loud and legal' framework to establish a price signal; encourage innovation and investment in emerging and breakthrough technologies; build national resilience to the impacts of climate change.

## Government reports

### Garnaut Climate Change Review: Interim Report

February 2008

Available as a free download from the website

http://www.garnautreview.org.au

This review, commissioned by the Australian Labor Party in April 2007, will examine the costs of inaction and impact of climate change on the Australian economy and jobs. The final report will be released in September 2008. In the Interim Report, Garnaut argues that "world is moving towards high risks of dangerous climate change more rapidly than has generally been understood. This makes mitigation more urgent and more costly… The largest source of increased urgency is the unexpectedly high growth of the world economy and continuing reliance on high-emissions fossil fuels as sources of energy." The report asserts that Australia can contribute to the development of clear international understandings on the four components of a successful framework for global mitigation: setting the right global objectives for reduction of the risk; converting this into a goal for stabilisation of greenhouse gases; calculating the amount of additional emissions that can be emitted; and developing principles for allocating a limited global emissions budget among countries.

### Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change

Available online for download in full, by chapter or executive summary only.

http://www.hmtreasury.gov.uk/independent_reviews/stern_review_economics_climate_change/stern_review_report.cfm

The first half of the Review focuses on the impacts and risks arising from uncontrolled climate change, and on the costs and opportunities associated with action to tackle it. The second half examines the national (UK) and international policy challenges of moving to a low-carbon global economy. Stern concludes that climate change is the greatest market failure the world has seen and three elements of policy are required for an effective response.

1. Carbon pricing, through taxation, emissions trading or regulation, so that people are faced with the full social costs of their actions.
2. Technology policy, to drive the development and deployment at scale of a range of low-carbon and high-efficiency products.
3. Action to remove barriers to energy efficiency, and to inform, educate and persuade individuals about what they can do to respond to climate change.

### The Stern Review: an assessment of its methodology

Rick Baker, Andrew Barker, Alan Johnston and Michael Kohlhaas

Productivity Commission, January 2008

Available to download from the Productivity Commission's website: http://www.pc.gov.au/research/staffworkingpaper/sternreview

This Australian technical paper contains a detailed examination of key elements of the Stern Review's analytical approach. Originally prepared as an internal research memorandum following release of the Stern Review's report in the UK, this paper is being made more widely available given its ongoing relevance in light of Australia's Garnaut Review.

# Obituaries

## George Alexander

Philanthropy Australia Members will be saddened to hear of the passing of George Alexander AM, founder of The George Alexander Foundation, at the age of 97. Born in London in 1910, George Alexander came to Australia in 1926 under the Big Brother Movement to make a better life for himself. He began his working life on soldier settlement farms in western Victoria and discovered a natural aptitude for mechanics, qualifying as a motor mechanic. During World War II he worked as a production engineer in munitions factories, and later studied industrial management and executive training at RMIT, as well as teaching engineering subjects. He set up a factory to manufacture his invention, a system of brass hose fittings, and his business flourished. In 1972, following the sale of his business, George established The George Alexander Foundation. Since that initial $30,000 gift, annual giving by the Foundation has risen to around $750,000. In line with George's great interests, the Foundation in recent years has focused on assisting young people to fulfill their educational goals and on addressing environmental problems and promoting conservation.

## Sandra Bardas OA

SANDRA Bardas, champion of Aboriginal education, avid supporter of the arts, philanthropist and humanist died in December 2007 at age 66. The daughter of Loti and Victor Smorgon, Sandra and her husband were valued members of Philanthropy Australia. Sandra and David gave generously to large and small causes alike, including a vast range of Jewish projects. Sandra was a great believer in grassroots action, and had an open ear and open mind for all who approached her about their ideas. In 1969, Sandra began her lifelong work with the Aboriginal community and opened Gladrags – an opportunity shop that generated funds for scholarships for Indigenous children. She also helped to create the Greenhills Foundation, the Worawa Aboriginal College (Victoria's first fully independent Indigenous secondary school) and the Hyllus Maris Aboriginal Community School. Sandra served on many boards, including the Melbourne Royal Children's Hospital, the Playbox Theatre Company, the Malthouse Theatre and other advisory boards concerning youth and education and the arts. As her daughter Robyn wrote, "Sandra leaves with us her demonstration of courage, strength, tenacity and positivism. She had boundless energy and loved to get involved. Her approach to life was to be true to yourself and to add your colour to the world – and this she did in the most magnificent way."

## H.S.W. (Bill) Fordyce AE

We are also mourning the loss of H.S.W. (Bill) Fordyce AE, who passed away at the age of 93. Well known as RAAF Flight Lieutenant Fordyce, Bill was the only Australian who survived the 'Great Escape' from Stalag Luft III in March 1944. After the war Bill went on to dedicate much time and energy to the not-for-profit sector in Melbourne, serving on the Committee of the Association of Australian Philanthropic Trusts, (predecessor of Philanthropy Australia) from 1977 to 1987, and was Secretary from 1980-1986. At that time Bill was Executive Officer of the Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund, as well as being on the Committee of the Citizens' Advice Bureau and advisor to the Sir William Angliss Charitable Fund. Bill's outstanding contribution and dedication to philanthropy will be fondly remembered.

## Dr Clem Jones AO

Dr Clem Jones sadly passed away on Saturday 15 December 2007. Clem was Lord Mayor of Brisbane from 1961-1975 and was instrumental in developing and modernising much of Brisbane's sewerage, roads and water infrastructure. He was also Chairman of the reconstruction committee established to rebuild Darwin after the Cyclone Tracy disaster of 1974. Clem was awarded an AO in 1976, and received the Philanthropist of the Year award from the Fundraising Institute of Australia in 2006. Clems' philanthropy was on many levels; he was a long-time supporter and benefactor of numerous sporting and charitable organisations including the Leukaemia Foundation, the annual Crackerjack Festival, the Clem Jones Sports Centre and Foodbank Queensland. Clem was honoured with a state funeral in Brisbane.

## Sid Spindler

It is with regret that we note the passing of our member Sid Spindler on 1 March 2008. Sid was the founder (together with his family) and chair of the Towards a Just Society Fund (a sub-fund of the Melbourne Community Foundation). Born in Poland, Sid was a passionate believer in social justice and his life and work reflected his commitment to the most disadvantaged and disenfranchised. He helped to found the Australian Democrats, and worked as a senior advisor to the party's leaders as well as representing the party in the Senate for six years. He campaigned in support of Indigenous Australians, refugees, prisoners, same-sex couples and the environment, and regarded his best political work as being his contribution to the Mabo legislation on behalf of the Democrats. Through the Towards a Just Society Fund, Sid provided support for Indigenous education, always in close consultation with the community. In his work Sid was humble, considerate and thoughtful; he will be much missed.

# Members of Philanthropy Australia

## New Members

Philanthropy Australia would like to warmly welcome the following new members:

### Full Members

The Balnaves Foundation
Bruce and Rae Bonyhady
Eve Mahlab
South West Community Foundation
Christopher Thorn
David Ward

### Associate Members

Brisbane City Council
Country Education Foundation
Daystar Foundation
Effective Philanthropy
Grosvenor Financial Services
M. Hayward
Legal Services Board
Research Australia Philanthropy
Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney
Senses Foundation

### Philanthropy Australia would like to acknowledge the support of:

Freehills

## Council Members

### President

Mr Bruce Bonyhady (The William Buckland Foundation)

### Vice President, Victoria

Ms Dur-e Dara OAM (Victorian Women's Trust)

### Vice President, New South Wales

Ms Sam Meers (Nelson Meers Foundation)

### Treasurer

Mr David Ward (ANZ Executors & Trustees)

### Council Members

Mr Chris Arnold (Melbourne Community Foundation)

Mr Terry Macdonald (Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund)

Dr Noel Purcell (Westpac Foundation)

Mr Christopher Thorn (Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation)

Mr Tim Fairfax AM (Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation and Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal)

### CEO

Ms Gina Anderson

## Leading Members

AMP foundation

ANZ

Colonial Foundation Trust

Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation

THE IAN POTTER FOUNDATION

THE MYER FOUNDATION

The WILLIAM BUCKLAND FOUNDATION WBF

## Life Members

Ben Bodna AM
Patricia Feilman AM
Dame Elisabeth Murdoch AC DBE
Jill Reichstein OAM
The Stegley Foundation
Meriel Wilmot

## Patrons

Sir Gustav Nossal AC CBE
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ANZ Trustees Philanthropy Partners
ANZ Staff Foundation
Australia Business Arts Foundation
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Australia Post
The Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust
Australian Respiratory Council
AXA Australia
BB Hutchings Bequest
BHP Billiton Community Trust
The Ballarat Foundation
Bennelong Foundation
Besen Family Foundation
Bill & Jean Henson Trust
The Body Shop
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Border Trust
Bruce & Joy Reid Foundation
Buderim Foundation
CAF Australia
The CASS Foundation
The Caledonia Foundation
Calvert-Jones Foundation
Capital Region Community Foundation
Cardinia Foundation
The Charles Bateman Charitable Trust
The Christensen Fund
Clayton Utz
Coles Group
Collier Charitable Fund
Colonial Foundation
Commonwealth Bank Foundation
Community Enterprise Foundation
Community Foundation for Bendigo & Central Victoria
Community Foundation for Tumut Region
The Cubit Family Foundation
The Dafydd Lewis Trust
W. Daniels
The Danks Trust
Davis Langdon
The Deloitte Foundation
Diana Elizabeth Browne Trust
Donkey Wheel Ltd
DOXA Youth Foundation
Education Foundation
Equity Trustees
ERM Foundation Australia
The Ern Hartley Foundation
Ethel Herman Charitable Trust
T. Fairfax
The Feilman Foundation
The Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust
The Fogarty Foundation
Foster's Group
Foundation Boroondara
Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal
The Foundation for Young Australians
Fouress Foundation
M. & M. Freake
Freehills
The GM & EJ Jones Foundation
Gandel Charitable Trust
Geelong Community Foundation
Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation
George Alexander Foundation
Goldman Sachs JBWere Foundation
Gonski Foundation
GrainCorp Foundation
The Greatorex Foundation
The Grosvenor Settlement
The Gualtiero Vaccari Foundation
H V McKay Charitable Trust
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Harold Mitchell Foundation
HBOS Australia Foundation
Helen Macpherson Smith Trust
Hewlett Packard Australia Pty Ltd
The Horizon Foundation
The Hugh Williamson Foundation
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Hunter Hall International
The Ian Potter Foundation
Inner North Community Foundation
The Invergowrie Foundation
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John T. Reid Charitable Trusts
John William Fleming Trust
KPMG
The Keir Foundation
King Family Foundation
Kingston Sedgefield (Australia) Charitable Trust
The Kirk Foundation
LEW Carty Charitable Fund
Law & Justice Foundation of NSW
Lawrence George & Jean Elsie Brown Charitable Trust Fund
Ledger Charitable Trust
Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
Lotterywest
The Mackay Foundation
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Mary MacKillop Foundation
The Mary Potter Trust Foundation
masoniCare
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mecu
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Mercy Foundation
Michael Craft Memorial Fund
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The Miller Foundation
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a sub fund of the Melbourne Community Foundation
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Mumbulla Foundation
The Myer Foundation
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National Australia Bank
National Foundation for Australian Women
Nelson Meers Foundation
Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation
Newsboys Foundation
The Norman Wettenhall Foundation
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Paul Edward Dehnert Trust
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Ruffin Falkiner Foundation
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Tomorrow: Today Foundation
The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation
The Towards a Just Society Fund
a sub fund of the Melbourne Community Foundation
Toyota Australia
Trust Foundation
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UBS Wealth Management
Victoria Law Foundation
Victorian Medical Benevolent Association
Victorian Women's Trust
Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation
The Vizard Foundation
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W & A Johnson Family Foundation
The Walter Mangold Trust Fund
Western Australian Community Foundation
Westpac Foundation
The William Buckland Foundation
Wingecarribee Community Foundation
The Wyatt Benevolent Institution
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The Yulgilbar Foundation

### Associate Members

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Vision Australia
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Warakirri Asset Management
Wesley Mission, Sydney
Wise Community Investment
World Vision Australia
Zoological Parks Board of NSW

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