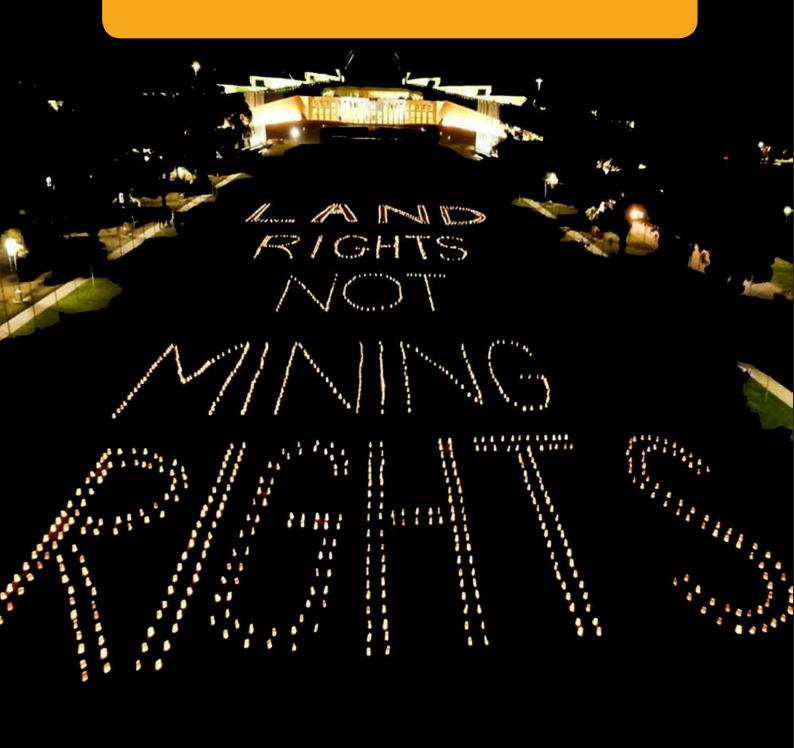


# The Sunrise Project 2018 Annual Report

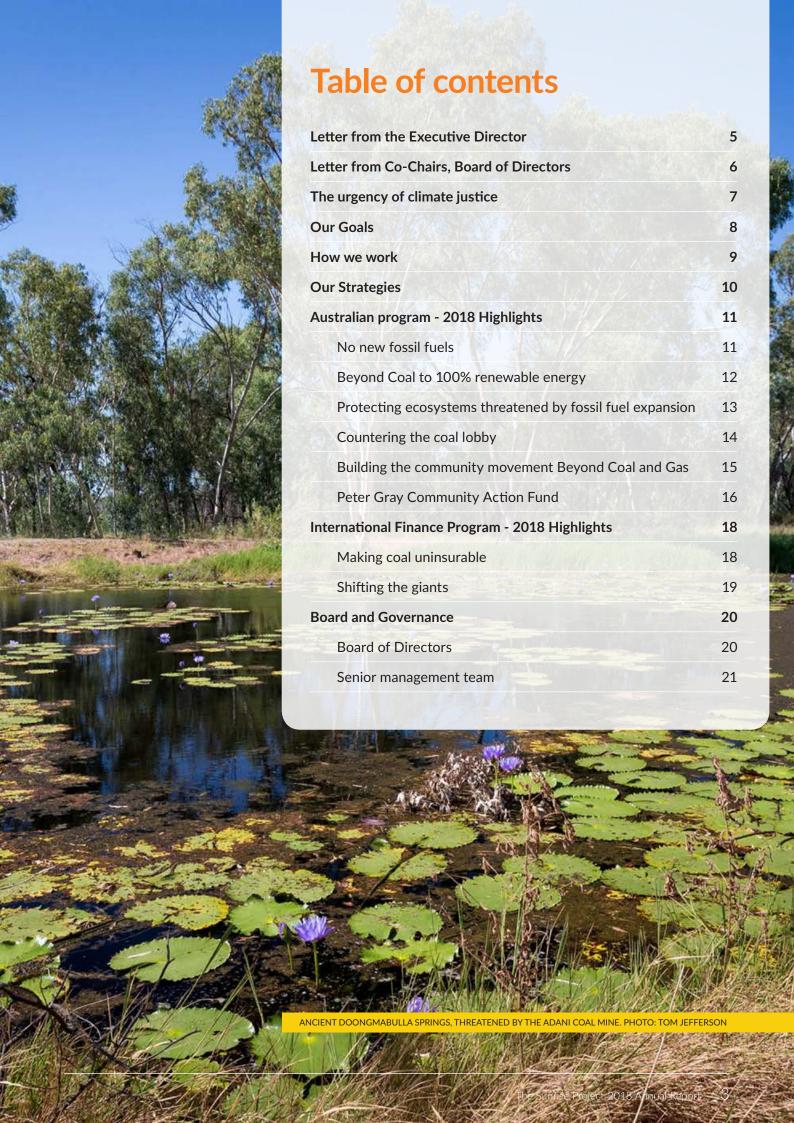
The Sunrise Project Australia Limited ABN 65 159 324 697



We acknowledge and pay respect to the Traditional Owners of this country we call Australia, and to First Nations people around the world who continue to be on the front lines of the struggle for environmental justice.



LAND RIGHTS NOT MINING RIGHTS PROTEST AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE IN 2018 AS NATIVE TITLE CHANGES ARE DEBATED. PHOTO: SEED YOUTH INDIGENOUS CLIMATE NETWORK.





# Letter from the Executive Director

Yet another year of increasingly dire warnings from the scientific community about the urgency of acting to address climate change. Temperature records smashed again and again while the gap between what is required to solve the climate crisis and business as usual continues to widen.



2018 In Australia, as in many parts of the world, politicians continue to lag far behind business and the community in terms of support for climate action. This failure of political leadership and responsibility on such a crucial issue is in turn undermining public confidence in politics.

While climate change has many dimensions, the fight over the Adani mine has become the symbol of climate action and of everything that is wrong with climate policy in Australia. It has galvanised community concern over climate change in an extraordinary way and has been a living laboratory for grassroots activism. Inspired by Swedish teenager Greta Thunberg, Australian school students raised their voices in a big way in 2018 and injected fresh urgency into the public debate. Their call for action has a moral clarity that is so desperately needed in the fight to protect the earth's systems upon which all of our lives depend. Globally, the transition to clean energy is driving forward in fits and starts. Politicians continue to lag behind the business community and the finance sector in particular, where more than 113 major financial institutions have now made some kind of coal divestment or coal exclusion commitment. The Sunrise Project is proud to have played a small but critical role in helping this happen and has rapidly expanded our work in this area during 2018. Having commenced our international finance

Having commenced our international finance program in April 2017, we and our partners in the Unfriend Coal and Insure Our Future networks have successfully secured coal exclusion policies from many of the world's largest insurance companies. We're excited to be expanding this work from Europe into Asia and the US. Our work

on asset managers is also starting to bear fruit with the successful launch of the 'BlackRock's big problem' campaign in late 2018.

This work on coal finance has transformed The Sunrise Project from being a purely Australian focussed NGO to being a global campaigning outfit with staff on three continents and a grants program spanning nine countries across four program areas. Our international team has grown from one staff member in mid 2017 to seven at the end of 2018, bringing a formidable depth of campaigning experience and networks to enable us to continue to grow our impact.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank The Sunrise Project team for their brilliant and tireless work over the past year. We are fortunate to have assembled a wonderful team of highly experienced campaigners who bring a rare combination of passion and judgement to the art of change making. Thanks also to the Board who continue to provide steadfast governance for the organisation and give generously of their time. As always, I'd like to thank our network of donors both in Australia and globally for their unwavering confidence in us and for being such staunch partners on our mission to help solve the climate crisis. Without their confidence and support, none of our work would be possible.

Yours sincerely,

John Hepburn
Executive Director

# Letter from Co-Chairs, Board of Directors

The Sunrise Project continued to forge new pathways in 2018 in our efforts to help slow and reverse the climate crisis. While we continue to see the evidence of a world increasingly damaged by climate chaos, we also see new shoots of optimism rising from the ground up.



2018 The student strikes that took place in Australia and globally offer new signs of hope and leadership from our children – we, the adults, owe it to them to do everything possible to stop the continued burning of fossil fuels.

In 2018, The Sunrise Project's international program attained new heights and achieved significant impact in moving the insurance industry away from underwriting coal investments. This is starting to have the desired impact of making coal uninsurable, although the next challenge will be to move the Asian giants, who continue to insure the expansion of the coal industry in Asia. Meanwhile, the Stop Adani campaign in Australia demonstrated the power of grassroots movements, keeping the issue of the reckless expansion of the Australian coal export industry front and centre in the public mind, and forcing politicians from both sides of the aisle to make a choice about whether they stand for the future or the past.

Over the past year we have seen The Sunrise Project grow and mature as an organisation. The Board has been working with the leadership team to ensure that the organisation is set up for future growth in order to continue to have an outsized impact in solving the climate crisis. This is no easy feat, given we are now an organisation with staff across three continents and with high ambitions for change.

Luckily, we also have an incredibly talented staff team. In 2018, our Executive Director John Hepburn took a much-needed three-month sabbatical to refresh and recharge. Deputy Director Sam La Rocca ably stepped in to steer the ship while John was on leave. The Board is very grateful

for both John and Sam's dedication, smarts and leadership during this time and throughout the year.

2019 will bring new challenges in Australia and globally as the world continues to hurtle towards climate chaos. While no one organisation can solve the many problems confronting our planet, we're proud of the contribution that The Sunrise Project and our model of collective impact is making towards solving the climate crisis.

The Board owes a big thank you to the continued dedication of our amazing staff who work long hours and bring their best selves every day to the challenges faced by social movements across the planet. Also a very big thank you to the donors that make all of this possible and continue to put their trust in The Sunrise Project. And finally we would like to pay tribute to the millions of people in Australia and around the world who are fighting every day for a better world for us all.

In solidarity and with gratitude,

Aviva Imhof and Mark Wakeham

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Co-Chairs, Board of Directors

# The urgency of climate justice

hile the transition to clean energy is accelerating around the world, we also need to maintain a realistic view of the scale and urgency of the climate challenge we face. 2018 once again smashed temperature records. Climate change is not just an issue for future generations, it is happening now. From the bleaching of the Great Barrier Reef, to the melting of the Arctic ice sheet, sustained drought to extreme flooding, climate change is impacting our world today.

For many, climate change is a life and death issue. The World Health Organisation estimates that between 2030 and 2050 climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress. On top of this, supercharged storms, rising seas and natural disasters are disrupting livelihoods and forcing people from their homes.

Climate change is fundamentally an issue of justice. The world's most vulnerable people will be the hardest hit and the least prepared to withstand the fundamental changes that are already transforming farming patterns and the ecosystems upon which our economies depend.

For all the talk of limiting global heating to 2 degrees, and staying within 'carbon budgets', the ongoing failure to cut greenhouse pollution means we're currently on course to create a world of 4, 5 or 6 degrees of warming – with profoundly damaging consequences for life on earth. Australia's greenhouse gas pollution alone has risen each year over the past four years.

It is no exaggeration to say that we face a climate emergency. We have entered the age of consequences and we are rapidly running out of time for real action.



# **Our Goals**

t The Sunrise Project, we share a vision for the 21st century where our economies are powered by the sun, wind and waves, and where healthy democracies are guided by principles of social justice and an ethic of stewardship for the

Driven by the imperative of climate justice, our mission is to scale social movements to drive the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy as fast as possible.

To pursue our mission we are grounded in our charitable purpose to:

- Protect, preserve and enhance the natural environment
- Support and empower individuals, communities, governments and industry to make changes required to prevent dangerous climate change
- Facilitate public education about, and promote the transition to a clean energy economy
- Educate, empower and support communities to protect natural assets and promote the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources in their local areas.

To achieve our charitable purpose our program is focused on having the biggest possible impact in reducing global greenhouse pollution while

ensuring a just transition and helping to ensure the resilience of ecosystems and communities impacted by climate change.

We aim to:

#### **Transition Australia beyond fossil fuels**

- 1. Stop new fossil fuel projects
- Drive the transition to 100% renewable energy
- Protect Australian ecosystems threatened by the impacts of fossil fuels
- 4. Diminish the influence of the fossil fuel lobby over democracy and climate policy
- 5. Build the power of civil society to advocate for stronger action on climate change

# Hasten the shift of global finance away from fossil fuels

- 1. Make coal uninsurable
- 2. Shift capital out of coal and into clean energy





# How we work

he Sunrise Project uses the power of social movements and networks to achieve far greater change than could be achieved by individual organisations acting alone.

We secure resources from donors who share our mission and we then re-grant funds to other civil society organisations and community groups in line with our objectives and charitable purpose. Our small team of skilled organisers and analysts support these organisations to work effectively together for greater impact.



We take a system-wide view of the issues we work on, and encourage and support collaboration between the various different stakeholders – including frontline communities and small community groups, large NGOs, academics, religious groups, investors, analysts, farmers, scientists, health workers, politicians, philanthropists, lawyers, economists and environmental campaigners, each of whom are focussed on their own part of the puzzle.

Our approach recognises that many of society's most difficult problems are so complex that they cannot be addressed by any single organisation acting alone. As is widely acknowledged, the climate crisis is a 'wicked' problem that requires a society-wide response from governments, business and the community alike. Our experience is that governments and the business community tend to follow the community, rather than lead, and that organised social movements have a long history of changing the world for the better by pushing governments and businesses to act.



# **Our Strategies**

o solve climate change we need to catalyse major shifts in complex non-linear systems. Social change is itself a non-linear process and effective social movements need to use a wide variety of different strategies to achieve change. At The Sunrise Project we have clear ideas about the importance of building people power to overcome the influence of vested interests, but we're also pragmatic about the ability of a wide range of different reform strategies to achieve change.

As Martin Luther King Jr so eloquently put it, 'power is the ability to achieve purpose'. We're focused on winning outcomes in the short term while building the power of the social movements, of which we are a part, to win bigger outcomes over time.

Some of the key strategies we use in our programs include:

#### **Building community capacity**

Through our grants program we help to build the capacity of a wide range of different organisations to achieve change. Sometimes this involves providing core funding support. Other times we support training programs or events that bring people together and strengthen networks. Part of our approach is to support action learning where people learn by doing. Organisations build their capacity by running effective campaigns and movements build people power by organising and then mobilising more and more people over time.

#### **Policy advocacy**

The profound influence of the fossil fuel lobby over government policy means that Australia has relatively weak environmental protection and pollution control laws compared to many countries. We support a wide range of research and policy advocacy efforts to improve regulations in relation to energy policy and environmental protection more broadly.

#### **Community education**

While education alone is not enough to achieve change, we recognise that community education plays an important role in social movements. We support community groups to educate themselves and their communities in relation to climate change, environmental protection, the impacts of fossil fuel extraction and the transition to a low carbon economy.

# Exposing corruption and undue political influence

Fossil fuel companies have far too much influence over governments the world over and, as the world's largest exporter of coal and gas, Australia is an extreme example of this. Through our programs, we seek to shine a spotlight on the undue influence of the fossil fuel lobby over our political process and over climate and environmental policy.

#### **Ensuring compliance**

While existing laws are often inadequate to protect the environment, even these weak laws are often not complied with. Repeated licence breaches suggest that companies regard those conditions as relatively unimportant. Penalties for licence breaches are little more than a slap on the wrist. A lack of resourcing within government for compliance, reduces the likelihood of offenders being caught breaking the law. Ensuring compliance requires technical, legal and organising capacity to assist communities to hold industry to account for environmental damage.

#### Shifting the money

The finance sector is a key pillar of support for the fossil fuel economy but it also has a vital role to play in driving the transition to clean energy. We're working to encourage banks, insurers, asset owners and managers to shift from coal to clean energy and see this as a key strategy to hasten the transition beyond fossil fuels.

# Australian program - 2018 Highlights



### No new fossil fuels

t isn't possible to meet the goal of the Paris
Agreement and limit global warming to 1.5
degrees and continue expanding the coal and gas
industries at the same time. Put simply, we need
to keep fossil fuels in the ground. The first step in
managing the transition to clean energy is to stop
making the problem worse. That means no new
coal, gas or oil projects.

The greenhouse pollution from Australia's coal and gas exports dwarf our domestic emissions and are globally significant. There are more than 40 proposed coal mines or mine expansions around Australia with a combined capacity of 500 million tonnes of coal per annum which, if burned, would produce 1.2 billion tonnes of greenhouse pollution per annum. Foremost among these is the massive proposed Adani Carmichael coal mine which, if built, would open up the vast thermal coal reserves of the Galilee Basin.

#### **Highlights**

The Sunrise Project has been proud to be among the founding members of the Stop Adani Alliance,

bringing together a large number of NGOs with a combined membership of more than two million Australians to stop the Adani Carmichael coal mine, rail and port project; secure a ban on new coal mines and expansions in Australia and end public subsidies for fossil fuel projects.

The Stop Adani campaign has become a lightning rod for community concern over inaction on climate change and the Stop Adani movement has rapidly grown to become one of the largest social movements in recent Australian history. The Adani project has come to symbolise everything that is wrong with the climate debate in Australia and globally. We can't possibly be serious about climate change if we're opening up massive new thermal coal reserves.

During 2018, The Sunrise Project team played an important role in supporting the campaign to keep Galilee Basin coal in the ground, while also assisting community groups around Australia in their efforts to protect groundwater, communities and the global climate from the impacts of fossil fuel expansion.

### Beyond Coal to 100% renewable energy

urning coal is the biggest cause of climate change globally. The IPCC special report from 2018 confirmed that if we are to have any chance of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees we need to reduce coal use globally by two-thirds by 2030. That means that developed countries like Australia need to completely phase out coal power by 2030 at the latest.

Last year, Australia's coal-fired power stations burned more than 100 million tonnes of coal to produce more than 70% of our grid-connected electricity and created more than 150 million tonnes of greenhouse pollution. Australia is the world's tenth largest emitter of CO2 from coal. The costs of health damage associated with the Australian coal power station fleet are estimated at \$2.6 billion per year.

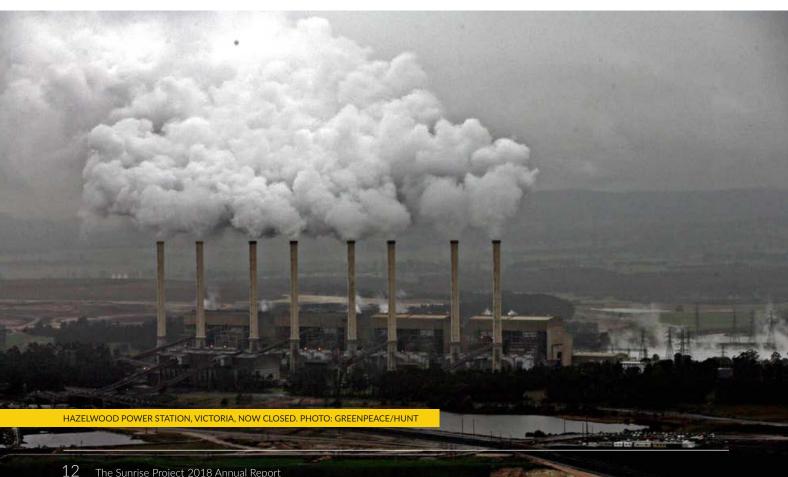
Renewable energy creates more jobs, is safer, cleaner and is becoming cheaper by the month. Australia has some of the best solar and wind resources in the world and Australian households are voting with their wallets and adopting rooftop solar at breakneck speed. Australia spent almost \$10 billion in renewable energy projects last year, making it the world's fifth-biggest investor, and the nation has the second-highest use of solargenerated electricity per person.

The transition to clean energy is well underway, but rather than embracing this transition to clean energy, the Federal Government is doing everything it can to slow this down. It is a losing strategy as Australia's coal fleet becomes older, more polluting, less reliable and more expensive to run. Change is coming...

#### **Highlights**

In 2018 we laid the foundations for a campaign to transition Australia to 100% renewable energy by 2030. Working with energy analysts, campaign groups, grassroots community organisations and philanthropists from all over Australia we have developed a plan that we're confident can see Australia's fleet of 20 coal power stations retired by 2030 in ways that support workers and communities through this inevitable transition.

We continue to support a wide range of groups to advocate for improved renewable energy policy and energy market reform while also supporting detailed analysis of the often unseen health and environmental impacts of coal power. In 2018 we were proud to support campaigns that won and then defended a legislated renewable energy target in the state of Victoria that has already delivered an extra 1 GW of renewable energy.





### Protecting ecosystems threatened by fossil fuel expansion

he Great Barrier Reef is one of the most remarkable ecosystems on earth. But this iconic natural treasure is a canary in the coal mine in terms of climate change impacts. The most recent IPCC report warns more than 99% of coral reefs will die if global warming reaches two degrees, including our precious Reef, upon which almost 70,000 Australian jobs depend.

While there are many local stresses that impact on the Reef, climate change is the biggest single threat to this unique ecosystem and its future survival depends on rapid cuts to greenhouse pollution which means keeping coal in the ground.

In addition to the impacts of global warming on ecosystems and biodiversity, coal mining and gas extraction also has serious direct environmental impacts around Australia. Coal mining continues to threaten Sydney's pristine drinking water catchment while underground coal gasification is putting groundwater seriously at risk in South Australia. Clean air, clean water and prime agricultural land are among our most valuable natural assets and are critical to building resilience in a warming world. In many parts of Australia, the reckless expansion of the coal and gas industries is putting these precious resources at risk.

The influence of the mining industry at a state level means that regulations to protect the environment from the impacts of mining are weak and poorly enforced.

#### **Highlights**

We continue to support impacted farming communities to stand up to the mining industry and to push for stronger legal protections for groundwater and farmland. Through our small grants program we have supported many communities to engage scientific and technical experts to scrutinise the environmental impacts of coal and gas projects on groundwater as well as on important ecosystems. This scrutiny is an important part of how our environmental regulations are supposed to work, but communities often don't have the resources to engage fully.

We also continue to support community groups working to raise awareness of the threats of global warming to the Great Barrier Reef and build political support for the protection of this global icon.



### Countering the coal lobby

he debate over climate change and energy policy in Australia has been highly divisive and deeply irrational. As a result, important investments in modernising the electricity grid have not been made, leading to rising energy costs for Australian households and businesses. A large part of the dysfunction over climate and energy policy has been as a result of the concerted campaign by the coal lobby to undermine climate action and block renewable energy. A small minority of businesses and interest groups have effectively managed to influence the policies of industry associations to act against the wider public interest. The most extreme example has been the Minerals Council of Australia which has actively lobbied against climate action and against the policy positions of many of their members.

Highlights

The Sunrise Project has supported a range of NGOs to shine a spotlight on the malign influence

of the coal lobby in Australia and globally, and to highlight contradictions between the policies of major mining companies and the lobbying activities of the industry associations they fund. As a result of this work, BHP and Rio Tinto both came under increasing shareholder pressure to distance themselves from the anti-climate lobbying of the Minerals Council. While the malign influence of the coal lobby continues, scrutiny from NGOs and investors is only continuing to grow and is an important part of restoring balance and bringing transparency and accountability to the critical debates over climate and energy policy in Australia.

### Building the community movement Beyond Coal and Gas

hroughout 2018, public concern over global warming continued to increase while an ever growing number of people all over Australia and around the world got involved in driving action. While technology and economics are now on the side of the transition to clean energy, it is increasingly clear that people power is the only real countervailing force to the power of the fossil fuel lobby which continues to block action to cut greenhouse pollution.

#### **Highlights**

The Sunrise Project has continued to provide support to a wide range of organisations to build the strength and resilience of the movement Beyond Coal and Gas, from training programs for grassroots community leaders through to conferences and events.

In May 2018, we convened the fourth bi-annual Beyond Coal and Gas national gathering, bringing together more than 340 community leaders from almost 100 different organisations from all around Australia.

Over three intense days, involving more than 75 workshops, we shared hard-won lessons from campaigns and forged strong networks to collaborate in the work to come. The program was led by First Nations campaigners, people of colour and women, and grassroots participants outnumbered NGO staff. As well as sharing experiences from across the country, we also heard from campaigners leading the push Beyond Coal in the US, the fight against Adani's coal plans in India, and the Pacific Climate Warriors' struggle for climate justice.

Facing up to the challenge of solving the climate crisis is long, difficult and often exhausting work. Even more so for the many communities on the front line of opposition to coal and gas expansion. Gatherings like Beyond Coal and Gas are an invaluable chance for our movements to come together, to celebrate our progress, connect with one another and find much needed inspiration for the challenges ahead.



### Peter Gray Community Action Fund

he Peter Gray Community Action Fund was established in January 2013 to provide small grants to community groups in line with The Sunrise Project's vision and mission. Applications for grants of up to \$5,000 are open to non-profit community groups all over Australia through an online application form.

The fund is named after Peter Gray, an inspiring young activist from Newcastle in the Hunter Valley, who sadly passed away in 2011 following a battle with cancer. He is renowned for the landmark legal case Gray vs (NSW) Minister for Planning [2006] in which he successfully argued that the NSW Government needed to consider the greenhouse impacts of burning the coal from the proposed Anvil Hill mine in the Hunter Valley. Peter was a passionate grassroots campaigner for action on climate change and the protection of forests and was an inspiration to many. His memory embodies the spirit and passion of communities all over Australia who are standing up to protect the places they love.

#### **Highlights**

During 2018 The Sunrise Project provided a wide range of grants for grassroots projects around Australia that covered areas including:

- supporting communities protecting groundwater from the impact of underground coal gasification;
- planning for the economic transition beyond coal in coal dependent regions;
- community education about the impacts of gas fracking on farmland and water resources;
- raising awareness about the impacts of climate change on the Great Barrier Reef; and
- supporting training for grassroots community leaders.





# International Finance program - 2018 Highlights



### Making coal uninsurable

n 1973, Munich Re became the first insurance company to publicly call for urgent action to reduce greenhouse pollution. Since then, insurance companies have been vocal about the need for climate action to avert dangerous global warming. However, these same insurance companies have continued to provide insurance cover to enable coal, oil and gas projects to be built, while investing their large pools of capital in the same fossil fuel companies that are lobbying against climate action and driving the climate crisis. In early 2017 we began working with a range of partner NGOs to initiate the 'Unfriend Coal' campaign to build pressure on the global insurance industry to align their actions on climate change with their rhetoric.

#### **Highlights**

Through a combination of active engagement with the industry, detailed research and public campaigning, the Unfriend Coal network built significant momentum in 2018. Our annual insurance industry scorecard once again held companies to account and ranked them from best to worst. By the end of the year, most major European insurers and re-insurers adopted coal exclusion policies covering both their underwriting and investment activities. In the latter half of 2018 we helped to catalyse the *Insure our Future* network that has taken the campaign to the US where the industry continues to lag behind their European counterparts. We're optimistic of making significant progress on the US campaign in 2019.

### Shifting the giants

he past 20 years has seen the most extraordinary concentration of wealth and financial power in human history. The largest six asset managers in the world (BlackRock, Vanguard, UBS, State Street, Fidelity, Allianz) have over US\$24 trillion of assets under management, more than the 300 largest pension funds and 30 largest sovereign wealth funds combined. These asset managers have enormous influence in the finance sector but they take very little, if any, responsibility for the impact of their investments in the real world. A glance through the share registry of most of the biggest polluters on the planet almost always shows these global asset managers as among the largest shareholders.

Increasingly, these funds are held in 'passive index funds' that mirror the market. Within the next

three or four years it is estimated that over half of all institutional capital globally will be invested in passive index funds - effectively removing feedback loops and setting the global economy on autopilot towards a climate catastrophe.

#### **Highlights**

In 2018 the Sunrise Project helped to catalyse a global network that is focused on solving this problem of giant asset managers and unaccountable passive index funds. The launch of the 'BlackRock's Big Problem' campaign aims to get Blackrock, the world's largest asset manager, to factor climate change into their investment portfolios, starting by excluding coal.



## **Board and Governance**

#### **Board of Directors**



#### John Hepburn, Founder and Executive Director

John founded The Sunrise Project in 2012 out of a passion to scale social movements to solve the climate crisis and drive the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy. After beginning his working life as an engineer making components for the coal and gas industry, John took an abrupt turn and immersed himself in environmental activism at a grassroots level. John then moved on to found a series of successful non-profit recycling businesses, leading to him being awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study grassroots sustainability initiatives globally. His passion for systemic change led him back to campaigning and he spent 10 years leading successful campaigns with Greenpeace in Australia and internationally. John holds degrees in Manufacturing Systems Engineering and Business Management from the Queensland University of Technology and in 2016 became an inaugural awardee of the Climate Breakthrough Project.



#### Aviva Imhof, Non-Executive Director and Co-Chair

Aviva is Deputy Director of the International Energy Program at the European Climate Foundation. The International Energy Program is developing strategies for securing clean energy around the world and Europe's role in achieving this. Aviva has a particular focus on East and Southeast Asia, and joined the program in May 2015. Prior to this, Aviva worked as Pacific Coal Network Coordinator with The Sunrise Project in Australia. She supported a diverse network of NGOs and community groups around the world working to stop the construction of new coal plants and mines and enable a just transition to sustainable, renewable energy systems. Prior to joining The Sunrise Project, Aviva worked with International Rivers in Berkeley, California, first as Southeast Asia Program Director and then as Campaigns Director, managing the organisation's Latin America, Southeast Asia, Africa and regranting programs.



#### Mark Wakeham, Non-Executive Director and Co-Chair

Mark has held leadership positions in the Australian environment movement over the past 20 years, including as CEO and Campaigns Director of Environment Victoria, Director of the Environment Centre of the Northern Territory, and Renewable Energy campaigner at Greenpeace Australia Pacific. He's been involved in successful campaigns to stop the Jabiluka uranium mine in Kakadu, introduce national and state renewable energy targets and retire our oldest coal-fired power stations. He has degrees in Economics, Adult Education and Australian History, and was the winner of the Jill Reichstein Award for Social Change in 2016. He's a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and is currently working as a strategy, governance and advocacy consultant for Not-for-profit organisations.



#### Miranda Nagy, Non-Executive Director

Miranda is a Principal Lawyer at Maurice Blackburn Lawyers. Her legal practice in the field of class actions is centred on corporate governance, market integrity and consumer protection. She has a long standing interest in environmental protection and has advised and conducted litigation on behalf of environmental organisations on many occasions.



#### Erna de Vries, Non-Executive Director

Erna is a retired petroleum geologist and financial analyst with a keen interest in sustainability and corporate ethics. She studied Earth Sciences and worked as a geologist with international oil and gas companies including Shell, BHP and Ampolex. After working in the UK and Brunei, her career brought her to Australia. Erna obtained her MBA in Sydney and went on to work as a senior executive in corporate and institutional banking with Bankers Trust and then Westpac as Head of Resources Research and Commonwealth Bank as a senior risk manager. She has been involved in the financing decisions of many major mining and energy projects. For the past 15 years Erna has been an active volunteer in various local community campaigns.



#### Julie Dawn Lyford OAM, Non-Executive Director

Julie is an experienced advocate for rural and regional communities. As a former registered nurse, local councillor and mayor, Julie is committed to the core values that build progressive and resilient societies. Her priorities are sustainable, liveable communities with fair, transparent and trustworthy political processes. Past experiences include extensive board and decision-making positions with Hunter Councils, Regional Development Australia (Hunter), Mid Coast Water, Upper Hunter Arts, tourism and economic development committees. As a young mother concerned about climate change, Julie co-founded the Gloucester Environment Group in 1990 and went on to chair Groundswell Gloucester, a volunteer team protecting the Gloucester and Manning Valley from coal and coal seam gas extraction. She was awarded an OAM in 2015 for services to the environment and community and is an alumni of Women's Environmental Leadership Australia (2017).

### Senior management team

#### Sam La Rocca, Deputy Director

Sam has more than 25 years' experience in building people powered movements for a socially just and ecologically sane world. While completing his honours thesis on activist mobilisation, Sam co-founded activist education outfit The Change Agency to build strategic capacity in community campaigning in Australia and the Pacific. He's worked as a senior federal political advisor in the balance of power and designed and delivered game changing field campaigns. More recently, Sam facilitated a process within the Climate Action Network to reset strategy across the movement, and lead Environmental Justice, election and organising strategy at GetUp!. Sam now manages Sunrise's Australian program and leads the #StopAdani campaign. Sam has a first class honours degree in Science focusing on Australian Environmental Studies, social policy and development.

#### Peter Bosshard, Finance Program Director

Peter has worked at the intersection of environmental justice and finance for more than 20 years, including in senior leadership roles with International Rivers and the Berne Declaration. Starting in 2006, he pioneered engagement of western NGOs with Chinese state-owned financiers of major projects, helping to prevent Chinese investment in destructive dam projects. He has strong international network experience and helped initiate the World Commission on Dams, the Public Eye on Davos, and several NGO networks including ECA-Watch and Banktrack. Peter is a Swiss national and lives with his family in Berkeley, California.

#### Lyn Snailham, Operations Director and Company Secretary

Lyn manages The Sunrise Project's operations. She began her career in IT, studying computer science before becoming a consultant and then progressing to project manager in the finance sector in London. In 1990 her career brought her to Australia where she continued in project management before joining Westpac as a Program Director. She has led large teams to deliver complex programs across the retail, institutional, operations and technology divisions of the bank, specialising in recent years in operational risk and cyber-security. During her time at Westpac, Lyn took two multi-year breaks to apply her leadership skills in small but rapidly-growing organisations in the not-for-profit sector as chief operations officer and joint CEO.

# **Funding**

The Sunrise Project is proud to be working with a growing number of philanthropists in Australia and around the world on a shared mission to accelerate the transition to clean energy. As our program has expanded from Australia to encompass programs in Europe, Asia and the US, so too has the number and geographic spread of our donors.

Our operating model means that we don't really 'fundraise' in the traditional sense of the term and as of the end of 2018 have employed no fundraising or donor engagement staff. Rather, we work closely with philanthropists and foundations that share our mission and see ourselves as partners and co-collaborators.

## **Financial Statements**

The Sunrise Project Australia Limited ABN: 65 159 324 697

# Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2017	2018
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Grants and donations	8,608,887	9,693,440
Other income	14,963	152,736
TOTAL REVENUE	8,623,850	9,846,176
EXPENSES		
Grant funding and donation expenses	(4,080,313)	(5,370,905)
Program expenses	(1,697,490)	(2,012,965)
Operations and administration expenses	(617,868)	(902,282)
Other expenses	(38,277)	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	(6,433,948)	(8,286,152)
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,189,902	1,560,024
Other comprehensive income	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	2,189,902	1,560,024

Note: The financial statements have been extracted from the audited financial statements.

# Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018

	2017	2018
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,739,614	4,575,877
Trade and other receivables	184,789	296,894
Other current assets	439,665	63,822
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	3,364,068	4,936,593
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Plant and equipment	14,327	22,740
Other assets	17,000	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	31,327	22,740
TOTAL ASSETS	3,395,395	4,959,333
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	72,711	71,252
Other liabilities		
Short-term provisions	77,866	78,227
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	150,577	149,479
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	5,729	10,742
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	5,729	10,742
TOTAL LIABILITIES	156,306	160,221
NET ASSETS	3,239,089	4,799,112
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	3,239,089	4,799,112
TOTAL EQUITY	3,239,089	4,799,112



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The Sunrise Project Australia Limited ABN: 65 159 324 697