



# OzGREEN

## Annual Report 2011

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Oz GREEN is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Code defines the standards of governance, organisational integrity, finances, communication with the public, management practices and human resources.

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# Convenors Report

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2011 has been a pivotal year for the organisation, in which we created and proved the benefits of a scalable model which involved us doing more “train the trainer”, than the delivery work ourselves. As a good example, this year we rolled out “Youth Leading the World” (YLW) to 27 locations, 90% of which were run independently of Ozgreen staff.

The economic climate continued to be challenging during the year, which resulted in decreased revenues from the previous year, and a constant challenge to cover our core costs. Our tight funding also limited the number of locations we were able to serve with YLW, and were unable to engage with needy locations such as Kiribati, due to technology limitations which needed investment we didn't have.

Looking forward, and on the back of our most successful YLW initiative ever, we are excited about our 2 new campaigns for 2012, “Green Power Now”, which is already happening now, and “One Planet Week”, which is due to kick off in February next year.

And as usual a very big thank you to all our staff, customers, partners and supporters, without whose generous support there would be no organisation.

Thanks

Julian Harris

## OzGreen Finds It's Stride and Youth Leading the World Takes Off

Sue Lennox (OzGREEN Co-Founder/CEO)

Report to OzGREEN Annual General Meeting, 19 December 2011

As I write this report, we have just run Youth Leading the World (YLTW) and launched two exciting new initiatives – Greenpower NOW Campaign <http://www.change.org/petitions/i-pledge-to-sign-up-to-greenpower-now> and One Planet Week [www.oneplanetweek.net.au](http://www.oneplanetweek.net.au)

Over the past 4 years we have been experimenting with ways to take our life changing youth education and empowerment programs and make them more available and accessible – challenging ourselves to find ways of “going to scale” so that our reach and impact is multiplied.

Youth Leading the World began as an experiment in 2009 in 7 Australian locations – facilitated by 26 people we trained to run the program in their own local area. In 2010 we grew to 18 locations (50 facilitators trained) and in 2011 we grew to 26 locations running simultaneously (90 facilitators trained). Over the past three years we have developed the mechanisms and proof points to demonstrate that we can train and support others to use our sustainability in action process as effectively as we have been. The implications of this are exciting. We are now focused on “going viral”. The network of passionate, talented facilitators who have effectively delivered yltw in their own local area, have shown us what is possible. The model works hand in hand with our focus on strengthening regional hubs.



There are exciting change stories emerging. For example Bell Toms has got her family to reduce their eco-footprint by 75% in 12 months (from 4 planets to 1 planet). She is now showing other people how to do this, stepping up to help facilitate Coffs Coast yltw, with plans to make a video to help other young people to bring about change. Jaden Harris set up SYCAN (Sydney Youth Climate Action Network) after yltw in 2009. SYCAN has grown to 650 members with 5 chapters – all youth run and organised. Enjoy reading about OzGreen activities in 2010-11, including:

Great Eastern Ranges Initiative: facilitation of the Upper Hunter region and membership of the GER Lead Partnership ([www.greasternranges.org.au](http://www.greasternranges.org.au));  
PlanetSavers: in Alice Springs, Coffs Coast, Sydney Northern Beaches, Merrylands and Wollondilly hubs;  
Leading with the HEART: Sydney, Alice Springs, Bellingen, Swan Hill hubs;  
MYRiver: Hunter, Prospect Creek, Wollondilly  
YOUth LEADing Australia / the World: Facilitator Training and Digital Media Training in Sydney; Participants from 18 regions in 2010 and 26 in 2011.

### Sustainability Partnerships

Bellingen Sustainable Business Alliance

Corporate Climate Change Ambassadors – a group of senior executive business leaders who are deeply concerned about climate change and actively working to change their organisations and peers

### OzGREEN Advisory Groups

To help facilitate the growth and evolution of OzGREEN, three new advisory groups have been established: Sustainability Advisory Group – Glenn Albrecht (Monash University); Simon Clough (Councillor Lismore); Liz Jeremy (CEO Bellingen Shire Council); Steve Doyle (CEO Bellingen Solar); Gary Fry (CEO Alice Springs Desert Park); Donella Bryce (former OzGREEN Board member); Lisa Siegel (Transition Bellingen). This group met in early September in Bellingen to define 3 priority areas for action: resilience building;

# CEO's Report

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national energy policy; promoting tools for effective collaboration.

Business Development Advisory Group – Members include Rowan Russell and David Storr from Mallesons; Monica Baronne (CEO City of Sydney); Alana Atlas (pro chancellor ANU; former chair Westpac Foundation); Tom Grosskopf (Director NSW Government Office Environment and Heritage); Stuart Scowcroft (Former Head ABC Radio Science Unit); Sharyn Wilson (OzGREEN Board).

Youth Advisory Group - Members to date include Jaden Harris, Vanessa Moskal, Erin Raggatt, Chris Rowlands, Rhys Carmichael; Monique Williams; Michelle Walker. Planning workshop in January 2012.

Thanks to our partners, supporters, staff, volunteers, Board and mentors.

Sankat Mochan Foundation (Varanasi, India) – OzGREEN's first partners (since 1992), our relationship is one of family working together to care for River Ganga.

Green Timor L'Este (Oecusse) - with special thanks to Judy Charnaud and Luis Armando.

Project Seres – sustainability in action in Central America with special thanks to Corrina Grace.

Great Eastern Ranges Initiative – partners Greening Australia, Nature Conservation Trust, NSW Office for Environment and Heritage and National Parks Association.

Great Eastern Ranges Initiative Hunter Valley - supported by NSW Environmental Trust and Atlas of Living Australia.

InterfaceFLOR – partners in NSW Southern Highlands hub (2010-2013).

Northern Territory Government – Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport support through Environment Grants 2006-2012.

Skretting – partners in Tasmania 2011-2013.

TASSAL – partners in Tasmania 2010-11.

Stockland – partners in Sydney Northern Beaches and Newcastle (2010); Merrylands and Yendorra (2011).

NSW Government – Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water and Department of Industry and Investment support for the GER Hunter Prospectus.

Swan Hill Rural City Council – partners in the Murray-Mallee.

Bellingen Shire Council – support for Youth Leading Australia in 2010.

Optus Community Foundation – support for programs with indigenous youth.

ANZ Staff Foundation – support for Youth Leading Australia in 2010.

Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (North Coast Branch) – support for Youth Leading Australia 2010.

Murray-Darling Basin Authority - support for Youth Leading Australia 2010.

Social Ventures Australia 2002-2010 - OzGREEN graduated to the SVA Alumni Dec 2010.

Vodafone Australia Foundation: support Youth Lead and Youth Leading Australia 2003-2010.

Mallesons Stephen Jaques – who have supported OzGREEN since 2004, providing pro-bono legal advice and the best AGM venue in Sydney! Special thanks to David Storr and Rowan Russell.

Coca-Cola Australia Foundation – who have supported our work with marginalised youth 2008-2010

Xstrata Coal – supporting MYRiveR Hunter 2009-2010. and a workshop for Community Partners.

Australian Charities Fund – for facilitating ongoing support through corporate staff giving programs (including Sydney Opera House, Caltex and Foxtel).

Charities Aid Foundation – staff giving.

The Penn Foundation – for ongoing support of OzGREEN's East Timor program since 2007.

John Skipper Kelly Trust – support for youth leadership programs.

Water in the Landscape – Western Sydney in partnership with WSROC and NSW Environmental Trust.

OzGREEN staff and volunteers have made an outstanding contribution this year. Thank you for everything. OzGREEN Board and Fund for the Rivers Board have helped to hold the rudder and steady the course as we negotiate the exciting waters of seeking to change the course of history. Thank you for your wisdom, patience and thoughtful advice.

OzGREEN Donor Network formed this year and is helping us to expand our work to increase our impact. Thank you for your wonderful ideas, generosity and networks.

From July 2010 OzGREEN has moved head office functions to the Bellingen office. The Sydney office in Brookvale closed in August 2011.

# About OzGREEN

## Accelerating the Transition to Sustainability

OzGREEN educates, engages and empowers people to tackle critical environmental sustainability challenges (such as climate change and water) and become agents for positive social change. OzGREEN's transformative learning and leadership programs foster informed participation, harness people's special contributions and build pathways for ongoing engagement.

Formed in 1992, it now operates nationally across Australia and internationally in India, East Timor, Papua New Guinea and Pakistan.

The Sustainability in Action Process forms the core of all OzGREEN programs. It has been honed through 30 years of action research by OzGREEN Co-Founders, Sue and Colin Lennox. The process was piloted at Freshwater High School 1989-93 (resulting in school designation as a Centre of Excellence in Environmental Education, UN Media Peace Prize and National Youth Environment Award).

As a result they were invited to travel to India to help the Clean Ganges campaign. This journey was to change their lives. Seeing the beauty of River Ganga first hand and measuring the actual pollution levels, they realised the global water crisis was the critical issue for the Earth and decided to set up OzGREEN. The following year they left their work as teachers, sold their home and began work as two volunteers working out of a borrowed garage.

Today OzGREEN is a best practice provider of sustainability learning and leadership programs (Winner Eureka Prize for Sustainability Education 2007; AAEE Best Practice Case Study 2006; Matrix on Board Evaluation Report 2007). Sue and Colin are recognised as leading Social Entrepreneurs (winners Social Ventures Australia Big Boost 2002) and Sustainability Educators (Environmental Educators of the Year 1998; Top 100 Most Influential People in Sydney List Dec 07; Elders at AAEE Conference Darwin 2008; Canberra 2010).

Since inception, OzGREEN has worked with more than 500 schools, 500 businesses and many thousands of individuals. In FY08 alone, OzGREEN trained 1,100 sustainability leaders through its Youth LEAD, Leading with the Heart, MYRiveR and Living Communities programs, and involved a further 1,600 participants in sustainability education programs and 14,400 students and 12,000 households in sustainability events and actions in Australia (and an additional 20,000 internationally in East Timor, India and Papua New Guinea).

OzGREEN's leadership programs have resulted in an average 35% reduction in ecological footprint (measured pre and post programme), demonstrating the success of OzGREEN's success in harnessing personal capacity for change.



# About OzGREEN

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## OzGREEN Objectives

Strengthen the capacity of people to tackle the environmental challenges of our time.

Build and support a network of sustainability leaders who are actively working for change in their community, business or school.

Innovate and scale educational processes that facilitate rapid transition to environmental sustainability.

## Core Values

**Sustainability:** Learning to live within the limits of one planet, based on the principles of environmental sustainability:

- Equity for current generations (intra-generational equity);
- Equity for future generations (inter-generational equity); and
- Biodiversity conservation.

**Enterprising approach:** Educating and enabling people, organisations and communities to develop innovative sustainability solutions themselves.

**Facing the sustainability challenge courageously:** Keeping informed about environmental and sustainability issues as a basis for action. Being authentic and 'walking the talk'.

**Transformative change:** Connecting with our own hearts, each other and the earth to create life-changing outcomes.

## Purpose

Building sustainable, resilient communities and organisations that can tackle the ecological and social challenges of our times.

## Vision

A world in which people are in touch with and connected to themselves, other people, and the Earth so they know in their hearts that their actions are sustainable and they choose to make them so.

# OzGREEN Programs

OzGreen programs form an integrated whole, each program building on the outcomes of the others. All programs are “shovel ready”, with a proven track record of effective change being delivered in urban, rural and remote communities. We have successfully layered these program in long term collaboration with a number of regions - it is these locations that are achieving outstanding outcomes and embedded community driven change.

PlanetSavers is an in-school program focused on engaging the whole school community in sustainable living - it is a great both as a follow up and lead in to Youth Leading the World.

Living Communities is focused on the wider community and trains volunteer Eco-team Leaders to deliver a sustainable living and community building program in their own local community (neighbourhood, workplace, club etc).

Leading 4 Change is a sustainability leadership intensive for community and school leaders (youth and adult) and is focused on building personal change-leadership capacity, with a focus on inclusive process, innovation, community development and participatory change. Participants in this program are potential facilitators of Youth Leading the World.

Youth Leading the World is the annual youth sustainability congress, conducted in multiple locations simultaneously, that brings it all together, celebrating achievements, reporting on progress, sharing great ideas and creating new ones. A national facilitator training program brings together change makers from across Australia and globally.

The Sustainability in Action Process forms the underpinning of all OzGREEN programs. It is an integrated transformative learning and leadership process that fast tracks transition to environmental sustainability. OzGREEN lifelong learning and leadership programs progressively build engagement with the sustainability challenge.

OzGREEN programs are transferable, scalable and facilitate long term engagement - critical for building community connectivity and resilience in challenging environments.

OzGreen programs create an integrated package for community capacity building and engagement. Each program builds on the



## Youth Leading the World

YOUth LEADing the World (YLTW) seeks to accelerate the shift to fair futures by building a movement of inspired leaders. Building on learning from over 150 OzGREEN Sustainability Leadership Congresses conducted nationally and globally over the past 20 years, YLTW is based on a participatory learning and action process that enables young people to learn about sustainability challenges, inspires them to develop a sustainability vision and empowers them to take action to achieve their visions.

YLTW begins with an annual 3 day youth environmental leadership congress conducted simultaneously



# OzGREEN Programs

in multiple locations, connected by digital media. Innovative workshop techniques combined with social networking and web2.0 technologies focus attention on 3 ways to make a difference:

INFORM: learning to live within the limits of one planet;  
INNOVATE: inspiring, innovating and creating social change;  
INVOLVE: connecting change makers locally and globally.

OzGREEN piloted YOUTH LEADING Australia (YLA) in 7 locations in 2009. In 2010 it grew into Youth Leading the World (YLTW), running in 17 locations simultaneously (13 Australian, 4 international) in partnership with over 100 organisations. In 2011 it grew to 26 locations (12 Australian and 14 international) and 90 facilitators were trained. See promo clip <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abciniHUJDY> and Swan Hill Congress highlights <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVku90M0Dpo>

Participants say the most significant outcomes are:  
Increased understanding of climate change and other sustainability challenges (3/10 before to 8/10 after);  
Increased personal confidence and leadership capacity (4/10 before to 9/10 after);  
Increased connectivity with other change makers locally and globally (2/10 to 9/10) and;  
Reduction of household eco-footprint.

Through YLTW Facilitator Training, people learn how to organise and facilitate YLTW in their own local area. Training includes measuring eco-footprint, participatory process, strategic questioning and deep listening skills, visioning, VIBRANT goals and action planning. The age range for facilitators in 2010 was 14-67 years (school students, Uni and TAFE students, professionals, teachers, mothers, fathers). International and interstate facilitators participate via Skype and Blackboard Collaborate. To date 160 facilitators have been trained.

## PlanetSavers - schools eco-footprint program

OzGREEN involves the whole school community in learning to live with one planet. The program involves a series of workshops and follow up support:

Eco-Ambassador Leadership Training - 2 day program bringing together up for the students, teachers and parents who will lead PlanetSavers in their school.

School Eco-Footprint Workshop - Eco-Ambassadors support OzGREEN to facilitate a ½ day sustainability in action workshop in their school.

Parents and Teachers Workshop – 3 hour interactive workshop including tools for talking about challenging issues like climate change and supporting young people to act.

Follow-Up – OzGREEN supports Ambassadors as action plans are implemented and to measure the impact and outcomes of the project including reductions in eco-footprint.

Celebrate - Participating schools come together at the end of the year to share learning and successes at the YOUTH LEADING the World Congress in their local area.

Outcomes of the program include:

Increased understanding of local and global sustainability challenges;  
Capacity to measure eco-footprint and set eco-targets;  
Capacity to develop a sustainability vision and action plan;  
Skills to support young people (and others) to live sustainably.



*Students from the Newcastle Planetsavers*

# OzGREEN Programs

## MYRiveR

MYRiveR is a youth engagement and environmental education program targeting rivers that are most severely impacted by climate change and population growth (eg Murray-Darling Basin and Great Eastern Ranges). Participants conduct an eco-snapshot to check the health of their river, develop their own vision and action plans to care for their river.

MYRiveR has been conducted in Murray-Darling basin since 2002; Hunter River basin, Cooks River basin (Sydney), Onkaparinga River (Adelaide), Yarra River (Melbourne) and Derwent River (Hobart). OzGREEN has involved over 4,000 young people from 50 regional communities and 100 schools in MYRiveR to date.

### Aims:

1. Enable young people to participate in real world science, tackle critical ecological challenges and build healthier, more resilient communities.

2. Build and mobilise catchment wide networks of young people actively working in their own community and beyond to care for the environment.

3. Foster the development of youth leadership and informed and active youth participation in the democratic process and civil society.

### Key Activities:

Environmental Snapshot (Field Work): One-day field work per school to conduct an eco-snapshot of river health;

2-day Youth River Congress: Participants analyse data, identify ecological threats and values, develop a vision and action plans;

Community Environment Forum: 2-hour forum to report back to the community;

Follow-up mentoring and in-school support from OzGREEN;

Celebrate - Participating schools come together at the end of the year to share learning and successes at the YOUth LEADing the World Congress in their local area.



*Water testing with students from the Southern Highlands in MYRiveR.*

## Sustainability Leadership Programs

Leading for Change; Youth LEAD, Leading with the HEART and Teaching for Change

Transformative, participatory learning and leadership intensives and residential retreats that give people the tools and skills to unleash their passion, address critical sustainability challenges and lead change. Workshops feature skills training in ecological footprint assessment; strategic questioning, deep listening and critical thinking; participatory leadership; strengthening rational, emotional and spiritual intelligence; creative thinking, values and visioning; VIBRANT goal setting and action planning for personal sustainability and community change.

# OzGREEN Programs

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## Living Communities

Living Communities trains and supports community volunteers (Eco-team Leaders) to facilitate the program with their own community Eco-team (drawn from their neighbourhood, church, club, family or friends). Structured into 9 two-hour modules, the program can be flexibly delivered to match the needs of participants. Modules cover Sustainability and Eco-Footprint; Climate Change; Water; Energy and Transport; Biodiversity and Toxics; Food Security; Consumption and Waste; Sustainable Economies; Wellbeing. Each module involves hands-on learning; measurement of personal ecological impact; innovation of practical strategies to reduce ecological footprint; setting short and long term Eco-Goals; and reporting back on progress as your Sustainability Action Plan is implemented.

Measurable Outcomes are imbedded in the project design. Reduced ecological impact is tracked in terms of reduction of waste to landfill, energy and water as well as reductions in ecological footprint and increased personal capacity and well-being.

To date OzGREEN has trained over 250 Eco-team leaders and involved over 2,000 participants in corporate and community sectors.



*Participants from Living Communities surveying their local areas eco footprint.*

# youth Leading the World

Imagine thousands of young people coming together in over 25 locations at the same time, connected by social media, to focus their attention on what is happening in our world and planning together how they can create fairer futures. See YLTW promo clip <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=abciniHUJDY>

YOUTH LEADING the World (YLTW) is a bold initiative from OzGREEN that seeks to accelerate the shift to fair futures by building a movement of inspired leaders. YLTW begins with an annual 3 day youth environmental leadership congress conducted simultaneously in multiple locations, connected by digital media. Innovative workshop techniques combined with social networking and web2.0 technologies focus attention on 3 ways to make a difference:

INFORM: learning to live within the limits of one planet;  
INNOVATE: inspiring, innovating and creating social change;  
INVOLVE: connecting change makers locally and globally.

OzGREEN piloted YOUTH LEADING Australia (YLA) in 7 locations in 2009 with 500 participants. In 2010 it grew into Youth Leading the World (YLTW) in collaboration with over 100 local and regional organisations, involving 1400 participants from 18 regions (13 in Australia and 5 international) and attracting over 60,000 post views on facebook. See Swan Hill congress highlights <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVku90M0Dpo>

## Facilitator and Digital Media Training

We have trained 160 people to facilitate YLTW in their own region (90 in 2011). Training includes measuring eco-footprint; facilitating participatory process; strategic questioning and deep listening skills; visioning; VIBRANT goals and action planning. The age range for facilitators in 2010 was 14-67 years (school students, Uni and TAFE students, professionals, teachers, mothers, fathers). Some international and interstate facilitators participated via Skype and Blackboard Collaborate.

The YLTW Congress follows OzGreen's sustainability in action process:

Day 1: Local Actions, Global Challenges - featuring presentations on up to date science about sustainability challenges such as population; resource use; water, energy and food security and climate change; measurement of eco footprint and visioning sustainable communities;

Day 2: Be the Change - Creating change brainstorming; sharing of ideas between locations; sharing



*Digital Media Training - Learning about capturing video and audio and interview skills.*

# youth Leading the World

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inspiring change stories; and action planning to achieve vision through personal and community projects;

Day 3: Youth-led Community Forums – for government and local businesses, parents, teachers, principals and the public - designed and run by youth.

Participants say the most significant outcomes are:

- Increased understanding of about climate change and other sustainability challenges (3/10 before to 8/10 after);
- Increased personal confidence and leadership capacity (4/10 before to 9/10 after);
- Increased connectivity with other change makers locally and globally (2/10 to 9/10) and;
- Reduction of eco-footprint - average 50%.

SYCAN Sydney Youth Climate Action Network was established by a group of 14 year olds from different schools on the northern beaches following YLA in 2009. This team has organised and attended many local community events, running information stalls about climate change, inviting people to measure their eco-footprint and find out what they can do to reduce it. In 12 months SYCAN has grown from the original 8 members to 650 active members with 4 additional SYCAN groups starting up in Sydney and another in Brisbane.

One of the YLTW facilitators, Bell Toms (aged 15 years), has successfully reduced her family's eco-footprint by 75% and inspired other participants with her story, teaching them that lots of small changes can make a huge difference.

In 2011 YLTW has continued to grow with 90 facilitators trained and the program running simultaneously in Australia: Sydney Northern Beaches, Sydney West, Southern Highlands, Coffs Harbour, Byron Bay, Swan Hill, Albury-Wodonga, Melbourne, Hobart, Alice Springs, Darwin, Brisbane, Perth.

International: India (Varanasi and Punjab); Guatemala (2 sites); ElSalvador; Colombia; Bangladesh, Nepal; Kyrgyz Republic; Cameroon; Pakistan and Philippines.

## Feedback

We have conducted formal and informal debriefs with staff and local coordinators in each location. We also asked youth participants for feedback at the conclusion of each congress.

For example:

Sydney Congress - Very Enjoyable 92% (37.5% rate as amazing); Very Interesting 96% (42% rate as extremely interesting); Very Relevant 87% (60% rate as extremely relevant); Overall excellence 88%

Swan Hill Congress - Very Enjoyable 93% (79% rate as amazing); Very Interesting 91% (44% rate as extremely interesting); Very Relevant 95% (51% rate as extremely relevant); Overall excellence 86%

Coffs Coast Congress - Very Enjoyable 95% (26% rate as amazing); Very Interesting 80% (25% rate as compelling); Very Relevant 93% (53% rate as critical); Overall excellence 91%

# youth Leading the World

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## Participant Comments

I have become aware of what we can do and more confident to bring about change.

The most significant part of YOUTH LEADING Australia for me is believing that I have the capacity to make change through leadership.

I now know just how many people are out there creating and inspiring change and that people really do care about these issues.

I have a lot more self-confidence to voice my concerns and how we can create change in the community.

## Teacher and Community Feedback

"As a teacher I had the most wonderful experience at the Southern Highlands YLTW. The last 3 days have inspired me and I cannot wait to share the ideas with my class - I know they will be excited too. We only had a small number of schools (3 to be exact), but boy did we achieve BIG things. All of the students put in a great deal of effort. Keep up the great work!" - Katrina Greig, Southern Highlands congress

"There is much more going on here than just the process, these students working together and sharing ideas is huge, I have never seen anything like it in all my years of teaching". - Teacher from Centralian Middle School (Alice Springs Congress)

"I was fortunate enough to be at the college yesterday and was able to watch the presentation. I was enthralled and so impressed with what the students envisaged, as well as the ethos of the OzGREEN organisation." - Judith Price, (Coffs Harbour Community Forum)

Well done to all facilitators - the Alice Springs Community Forum rocked ..... Young men from Ltyentye Aperte Aboriginal Community 100kms east of Alice told a story and danced as feral camels and horses around a polluted waterhole then built a fence and the water cleared!!! Very cool. Other young ones have started their own sustainability youth group and have applied for a \$10K grant. Jodie Clarkson (Alice Springs)



*The Coffs Coast YOUTH LEADING the World Community Congress.*

# Great Eastern Ranges

In a continent of extraordinary natural diversity, the Great Eastern Ranges provide a unique opportunity to protect and maintain much of what remains of eastern Australia's rich natural and cultural heritage. From grazed foothills and farmed valleys of the coast to the remote wilderness areas of the Great Divide and Eastern Escarpment, the Great Eastern Ranges (GER) Initiative will create a network of areas managed for nature from central Victoria to far north Queensland.

The GER Initiative has established a foundation for widespread and lasting change in how society approaches the enormity of the challenges posed by climate change, the ongoing threat of habitat loss, pest and invasive species, as well as the need to think and act at much bigger scales than ever before. It provides an adaptive response to conserve and enhance Australia's most diverse environments which still contain the majority of our threatened plants and animals and provides clean water to more than 90% of our population.

Since commencing activities in July 2007, the GER Initiative has been highly effective in laying the foundations for the largest conservation program in Australia. The partnership between respected conservation organisations Greening Australia, Nature Conservation Trust, National Parks Association NSW, OzGREEN and NSW Office of Environment and Heritage provides high level direction, overall coordination and on-ground project delivery. The combination of non government conservation organisations working in partnership with government brings a unifying vision and a wealth and diversity of experience and expertise. As the initiative grows new organisations are joining the partnership. OzGREEN is facilitating the GER Hunter Valley partnership.

## Key outcomes

Formation of regional partnership networks in five priority landscapes involving over 100 regional, national and international partner organisations;

Developing and successfully completing of over 60 partnership projects with regional partners, covering diverse themes from habitat management and Aboriginal engagement, to web- and tourism-based media promotions;

Protecting over 8,000 hectares of habitat corridors in the most important areas;

Gathering a wealth of scientific information and analysis to guide action and demonstrate the importance of the GER Initiative through a world-leading review of connectivity conservation principles.

Achieving cross-sector acceptance and a high level of positive media visibility at local, national and international levels ;



*The Great Eastern Ranges Lead Partners*

# Great Eastern Ranges

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Developing plans for further expansion in NSW, ACT, Victoria and Queensland

Attracting major sponsors and funding to support a wide range of partner activities including web and mobile information tool (Atlas of Living Australia), on-ground works and community events in the Southern Highlands Link, K2C and Slopes to Summit areas (Australian Government), and long term vegetation management activities through Property Vegetation Plans in the Hunter Valley (Xstrata).

In November 2011, the NSW Government agreed to provide a further 4 years of support for the GER Initiative to facilitate growth and effective transition to independence.

The vision of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative is:

“To conserve and manage a 3,600km ‘continental lifeline’ of habitats, landscapes and people, that will support the continued survival of native plants and animals along the great eastern ranges from the Grampians in Victoria to far north Queensland and maintain the natural processes on which they depend”



# Great Eastern Ranges - Hunter Valley

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One of the key outcomes of the three year incubation of GER Hunter 2009-2011 is the enthusiasm, commitment and commonality of purpose of the various organisations involved. As we continue to grow and evolve it becomes more and more evident that our collaborative approach is working, and that through these networks and partnerships we are facilitating and delivering significant on-the-ground conservation successes.

It has been a busy year for the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative in the Hunter Valley with a number of community engagement events, development of a Hunter Prospectus, promotion, marketing and media and the annual partners forum.

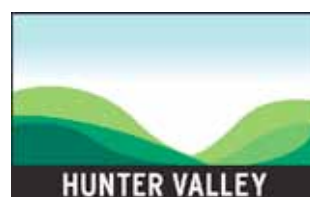
A big thank you to the 2010/11 steering committee who have done a great job directing and supporting the project. Steering Committee members were:

Andrew McIntyre - NSW DECCW (Now EPA)  
Dave Brown - NSW National Parks and Wildlife  
Gabriel Anderson - OzGREEN  
Gary Howling - NSW DECCW GER Team  
Joe Thompson - Hunter Central Rivers CMA  
Julie McNaughton - BHP Billiton Mt Arthur  
Kathy Rawson - Dept of Premier and Cabinet  
Meredith Laing - Hunter Councils Inc.  
Michael Somerville - Hunter Councils Environment Division  
Peter Horn - Hunter Coal Environment Group  
Rick Matts - Livestock Health and Pest Authority LHPA  
Sue Lennox - OzGREEN  
Susan Rowe - Industry and Investment NSW (Now Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services)  
Suzie Worth - Wanaruah Local Aboriginal Lands Council  
Trish MacDonald - Macquarie Generation  
Wayne Bedgood - Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association

Activities this year included regular steering committee meetings, specialised working group meetings, presentations, community engagement and public events. For example the GER Hunter facilitator presented to the Hunter Central Rivers CMA and the Hunter Environment Institute and spoke at an Environmental Defenders Office workshop on Private Conservation in NSW. The project was also promoted at community events and through the GER Touring Exhibit.

The Great Eastern Ranges Touring Exhibit was in the Hunter from November 2010 to January 2011. It was launched by the Mayor of the Upper Hunter Council Cr Lee Watts and hosted by the Upper Hunter Council.

Over a 12-month period the equivalent of 328 people were directly involved in the project through meetings and volunteering, contributing a total of 696 hours in kind to the project.



# Great Eastern Ranges - Hunter Valley

## Hunter Prospectus

A prospectus and promotional document called 'The Great Eastern Ranges Initiative - Naturally Connected' has been developed by the Hunter Valley partnership. It was launched at the Hunter Partners forum in June 2011. The prospectus tells the story of the Great Eastern Ranges from three levels – the continental view from above the clouds, the landscape view from the top of the ranges and the local view on the ground. It outlines the project, its background and approach and includes an invitation to individuals, landholders, organisations and potential funders to work with us.



*The cover of the Hunter Prospectus*

## Annual Partners Forum

The Hunter valley partners forum on 23 June 2011 was the key stakeholder event for the year. This year it attracted 29 participants including representatives from nine organisations not previously involved with the GER. The forum provided an opportunity to take stock and plan for the next year. Presentations were given by Land for Wildlife, Hunter Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority, Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association, OzGREEN, Office for Environment and Heritage and the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative. Out of this forum a new Steering Committee was formed which welcomes new members including; Craig Flemming (Muswellbrook Shire Council), Leonie Winner (Conservation Volunteers), Nigel Charnock (Xstrata Coal) and Tim Roberts (Tom Farrell Institute for the Environment).

## Great Eastern Ranges in the news

Media and communications continue to spread the word about the GER with a number of articles published this year. Updates were provided in the newsletters of the Hunter Landcare Network and the Hunter Thoroughbred Breeders Association and two GER Hunter Newsletters were distributed. The Scone Advocate ran three features on the GER Touring Exhibit and the Newcastle Herald ran a feature on the GER and the partners forum.

In January Ian Pulsford, the previous manager of the Great Eastern Ranges Initiative was interviewed by Tim Flannery and John Doyle as part of their latest series 'Two and the Great Divide'. They were very interested in the vision and scope of the project and impressed with what we are achieving by coming together. They and the TV crew spent three hours interviewing Ian on Rossgole lookout in the Hunter Valley. Keep an eye out for the three part series on ABC television in February 2012.

# Great Eastern Ranges - Hunter Valley

Other highlights included industry funding for on ground works and a new collaboration with the Atlas of Living Australia.

The Hunter Central Rivers CMA has secured \$500 000 per year for three years from Xstrata for on ground works in the Wybong Catchment, which forms part of the Upper Hunter Link. This will be spent on environmental improvement works such as remnant and riparian fencing, tree planting, off stream watering and improved grazing management. It will include permanent protection of habitat through in perpetuity Property Vegetation Plans.

A new collaborative project between the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), GER and OzGREEN has piloted a community bird monitoring project in the upper Hunter using birds as indicators of habitat health and connectivity. The aim of this project is to establish a community based long-term monitoring network to assess changes in connectivity achieved by the GER. See the Hunter Bird Monitoring Project article for more information.



*Tim Flannery, Ian Pulsford, John Doyle and Associate Producer Elissa McKeand look over the upper Hunter during filming.*

## Looking Ahead

Key goals to be achieved by the end of 2014 include:

- Hunter GER has successfully transitioned from start up support from the NSW Government to an Initiative that is independently resourced, well coordinated and effectively contributing to the wider Great Eastern Ranges Initiative.
- Hunter GER has brought together diverse partners to tackle threats to the landscape / environment and worked together to achieve shared goals in collaboration with local landowners.
- Hunter GER is achieving big goals with connectivity conservation and community engagement. These outcomes are informed by current research science, so strategic investments maximise biodiversity conservation benefits on the ground. The Hunter region is recognised as a valued and active contributor to the wider GERI.

The Great Eastern Ranges initiative is supported by the NSW Environmental Trust and the Atlas of Living Australia.

# Great Eastern Ranges - Atlas of Living Australia

## Atlas of Living Australia - Hunter Valley Bird Monitoring Project

Shannon Baunach-Greenfields, Birds Project Coordinator OzGREEN

<http://hunter.ala.org.au>

OzGREEN through our Great Eastern Ranges (GER) Hunter Valley partnership are working with the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA - a web-based encyclopedia of integrated biodiversity information – see [www.ala.org.au](http://www.ala.org.au)), to develop tools for community engagement in citizen science and to improve the ALA's software, tools and services to meet the needs of regional NRM groups and the broader community.

We have done this through the Hunter Valley Bird Monitoring project, a citizen science pilot that has trialed ways to increase the quality, reliability and frequency of monitoring and reporting on using birds as indicators of ecosystem health.



*Bird monitoring as part of the Atlas of Living Australia*

As the GER conservation corridors are established, it is important to monitor the effectiveness of revegetation works and changes in connectivity. This project involves establishing monitoring points across the Hunter Valley, and with the assistance of our local community and stakeholders, monitoring bird populations across the area. The initial baseline surveys provide information about the current health of ecosystems and in the longer term will provide information about the success of protecting and enhancing habitat and habitat corridors.

The Hunter Valley Bird Pilot project saw us trial and evaluate the use of different survey methodologies and develop a toolkit for use on future projects across the GER. Stakeholders we engaged with during the project include: local landholders; Scone High School and Muswellbrook High School; Landcare; Livestock Health and Pest Authority; CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation); Hunter Valley Bird Observers Club; National Parks & Wildlife Service; and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage.

A total of seventy-two species were recorded during the winter and spring monitoring programs. These included a number of threatened and declining woodland species. These results were added to the ALA database and helped generate baseline data for a longer-term project. In addition we have informed the ALA Citizen Science capabilities which has resulted in a GER Hunter web presence with the purpose to increase the quality, reliability and frequency of reporting on birds as an indicator of ecosystem health.

"I have learnt all about biodiversity and why it's important to have patches of bush connected to other patches of bush, across the landscape" Brock Lloyd, Scone High School student

OzGREEN wishes to thank all those involved in this project. We especially wish to thank Andrew McIntyre from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage for contributing his time and expertise both in the areas of birds and survey design during the pilot and Wayne Bedggood for hosting the Community Field Day at Cressfield.

# Regional Hub Updates

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At the core of OzGreen's strategy to accelerate the shift to sustainability, is our relationships with the people and communities in which we are working. Our goal is to work together to tackle the challenges of these times, strengthen local capacity to manage and implement OzGreen programs and connect the change makers in each of these hubs, so that together we can share learning and support. It has been an exciting journey, with the potential of this approach really starting to deliver substantial results.

## Alice Springs - Central Australia

Youth Leading Australia was run in Alice Springs in 2010 and 2012. PlanetSavers was implemented in one school (after late withdrawal of 2 schools), involving 30 students. In addition a teacher-parent workshop involved 12 participants. YOUTH LEADING Australia took place at Alice Springs Desert Park 23-25 November, involving 70 participants, with a balance of town kids and youth from remote Indigenous communities. Three local people participated in the facilitator training and digital media training in Sydney 15-18 November. The program was supported by Alice Springs Desert Park, Arid Lands Environment Council, Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (2010) and Northern Territory Government Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS) in 2010-11.

The reported impact of these programs on Alice Springs youth is substantially stronger than in other locations, with many participants reporting an increase in their self confidence, understanding about sustainability, capacity to understand others and feeling part of a community from 1/10 before the program to 9/10 after the program.

Well done to all facilitators - the Alice Springs Community Forum rocked. Young men from Ltyentye Aperte Aboriginal Community 100kms east of Alice told a story and danced as feral camels and horses around a polluted waterhole then built a fence and the water cleared!!! very cool other young ones have started their own sustainability youth group and have applied for a \$10K grant - well done Lib & Kim. Jodie Clarkson (Alice Springs Desert Park)

"There is much more going on here than just the process. These students working together and sharing ideas is huge. I have never seen anything like it in all my years of teaching."

"Observing working with youth in this important process has been an amazing experience. Great presenting, information, outcomes, pace." Teacher from Centralian Middle School

## Cape York

OzGREEN has been conducting youth leadership and development work with communities in Cape York since 2009 when we were invited by the Cape York Institute to conduct a leadership program for 20 emerging youth Indigenous leaders from 10 communities. Following on from this Sue Lennox held community meetings in the Aurukun Community in April 2010. Working with Bruce Martin from Aurukun, Sue met with elders and members of the southern Wik clan to talk about their concerns and hopes, and to look at what they would like to see happen and how they can achieve their vision.

In October 2010, 50 members of the Aurukun community travelled to the Stoney Crossing outstation on the banks of the Archer River to hold a meeting to explore further plans to consider moving back to country. Stoney Crossing was one of the outstations where people lived prior to the move to towns.

Colin Lennox represented OzGREEN at this meeting which was attended by a number of organisations who may be able to offer support to assist communities who wish to move back to their traditional lands. There was a broad range of ages among the community members and for many of the children it was the first time they had been on country, having grown up in Aurukun. Among the workshops and discussions

# Regional Hub updates

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there was time allocated for people to just take in the experience of being in country with swimming, fishing, sitting around the campfire and a night of dancing. This meeting was a first step for people to explore both the positives and downsides to moving back to country and to hear from organisations ways in which support could be provided.

Sue and Colin journeyed once more to Cape York at the time of the Laura Festival in June 2011. The Laura Aboriginal Dance Festival is a biennial gathering in Cape York Peninsula, highlighting the many diverse Communities, language, song, dance and stories. The Festival is about passing on culture across the generations, along with showcasing the strength, pride and uniqueness of Aboriginal people.

During the festival OzGREEN ran a Community Conversation tent which was an open space for people to come and discuss issues of concern. About 45 people participated and with many expressing their concerns for indigenous youth there was plenty of interest in Youth Leading the World. People from Aurukun, Kowanyama, Hopevale and Yarrabah were keen, but were not able to organise for this year. We will be talking to them about possibilities for participation in 2012.

## Coffs Coast

PlanetSavers was implemented in 6 schools with 296 participants. MYRiveR Bellingen involved only 1 school due to the late withdrawal of 2 schools. YOUth LEADing Australia took place at Coffs Harbour Showground 23-25 November 2010. Six young people participated in the facilitator training and digital media training in Sydney 15-18 November. The 2010 program was supported by Coca-Cola Australia Foundation, Bellingen Shire Council, North Coast Department of Climate Change and Water and Coffs Harbour City Council. The 2011 program was supported by Youth Directions Inc.

With the transfer of the OzGreen office to Bellingen, the Coffs Coast is a priority location for OzGreen.

"I was fortunate enough to be at the college yesterday and was able to watch the presentation. I was enthralled and so impressed with what the students envisaged, as well as the ethos of the OzGreen organisation." - Judith Price, (Coffs Harbour Community Forum)

## Hunter Valley

In addition to the GER Hunter Project, OzGreen has a range of programs in the Hunter-Newcastle Hub including MYRiveR Hunter, PlanetSavers and Youth Leading Australia. Youth Leading Australia and PlanetSavers were supported by Stockland. MyriveR Hunter was supported by Xstrata Coal.

MYRiveR Hunter involved 50 students and teachers from 7 schools in the Upper Hunter valley: King Street Public School, Muswellbrook High School, Singleton High School, Scone High School, St Josephs Aberdeen, Merriwa Central and Aberdeen Public School. Each school completed one day of field work and a total of 21 sites were assessed. A 2 day youth congress and youth led community forum enabled youth to develop their own action



*Hunter Students water testing during MYRiveR Hunter*

# Regional Hub Updates

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plans and report back to the community.

Key outcomes include:

- Detailed environmental snapshot of the health of the Upper Hunter water catchment across 21 sites on the Wollombi Brook, Dart Brook, Middle Brook, Kingdon Ponds, Muscle Creek, Merriwa River, Halls Creek, and the Pages, Isis and Hunter Rivers;
- Development of school action plans to enhance the health of the Hunter Catchment and raise community awareness about its plight;
- Commitment to reduce their individual, school and community ecological footprints.
- Development of Youth voice and vision for the future of the Hunter Valley.
- Raised awareness amongst the community about the passion, concern, leadership potential and volunteering capacity of young people in creating a more sustainable future.

PlanetSavers involved 330 students and 38 teachers from Callahan College (Wallsend Campus), Wallsend Public School, Lambton Public School and Lambton High School. Schools were very strongly engaged and committed to the Ambassador Training and were supported by OzGREEN staff, 2 teachers, Newcastle City Council and volunteers. The 45 students that attended the Ambassador training program were inspired to make changes in their own lives and to make their schools more 'green'.

Youth Leading Australia involved 48 people from Lambton High, Merewether High, St Josephs Lochinvar, Belmont High, St Mary's Gateshead, Charlton Christian College, Wallsend Public, Lake Macquarie Council and Hunter Catchment Management Authority.

Thank you I've just learnt so much and it was just amazing.

Keep motivating our generation for action so we can push hard for change.

Since then .....

Wallsend Public School has been powering ahead with their actions. A Green Team was formed out of the program - the 'Wallsend Primary School Green Team' and this is keeping things moving at the school. It has 12 members including students, teachers, parents and the School Principal. The school has constructed a vegetable garden and installed rainwater tanks and gone above and beyond this to rewrite their SEMP (School Environmental Management Plan) so that it now builds the environment and sustainability into all school activities. They also have class environment monitors to reduce, reuse and recycle in the classrooms.

The Principal Andrew Brown commented:

"The training last year has certainly helped us plan and develop our ideas and we are looking forward to the weeks and months ahead!"

Callaghan College (Wallsend Campus) has started a 'Lets go green' campaign. They now do their class roles online instead of paper, have daily notices online and have an 'opt in' email newsletter to reduce paper going home.

Lambton Primary School Environmental Leaders group are working on a range of initiatives including composting, recycling and looking after the 6 frog ponds and the vegetable garden. The school has also undertaken an Energy Audit.

"The OzGREEN program was a great opportunity for the students. Thank you" Jenny Wood, Deputy



# Regional Hub updates

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Principal.

Lambton High School have participated in the DECCW Climate Clever Energy Savers program and ongoing water testing of the local creek. Their Green Day on 24 June raised \$1500 for green projects at the school. Students have established a shade house and are planning to build raised vegetable gardens. They have linked with Trees in Newcastle to give students skills in native seed collection and propagation

## Hobart

Whilst OzGreen has conducted Youth LEAD programs in Tasmania since 2006, in 2011 we were delighted to establish new partnerships with Tassal and Skretting to support ongoing work 2011-13. The focus of this program will be on Youth Leading the World and PlanetSavers. The inaugural Hobart YLTW was run in November. An amazing team of 10 young people participated in a special facilitator training run by Gabe Anderson.

The Hobart (Tassie) community forum was awesome!!!! Our students did a fabulous job of sharing their experiences and inspired everyone in the room! Thank you to the fabulous Tassie team of facilitators, the amazing students, and their parents and teachers who are supporting them on their journey. Thanks to everyone who attended the forum for your interest, support and wonderful questions. WOW!!!! (Leah Page, Hobart Facilitator)

## River Murray

OzGreen has focused attention on the health of the Murray since 2002. Programs in 2010-11 included PlanetSavers in Swan Hill (involving 148 participants), Murray-Mallee Youth LEAD (involving 28 participants) and YOUth LEADing Australia to in Albury and Swan Hill (involving 160 participants). The program was supported by Coca-Cola Australia Foundation and local partner organisations including Charles Sturt University, Wodonga Council and Swan Hill Rural City Council.

Swan Hill is becoming a wonderful case study in demonstrating the potential and long term benefits of working in partnership with local organisations and communities in the journey to sustainability. This approach of layered programs, ongoing engagement and local capacity building is the essence of OzGreen's strategy.

### Swan Hill Story

We first met Erin in the Albury Youth LEAD program in 2008. She was studying natural resource management at Charles Sturt University (CSU), and in her words "had given up any hope of bringing about change". After Youth LEAD she was inspired to get involved in changing her own community, getting the student environment group at CSU moving and became active in the local OzGREEN network. In 2009 she was offered an internship at Swan Hill Council and gained council support to accompany 8 youth from the area to the Youth LEAD program in Albury in 2009. This group then set about influencing their local community together, making presentations and representations to council, local business and service clubs. They set up student environment clubs in their schools, attracting other young people to join them. Swan Hill's EASY (Environmentally Aware Sustainability Youth), polar bear and green week were born!

In 2010 Erin became a full time member of staff with Swan Hill Rural City Council. Because of the interest and support, OzGREEN decided to focus attention on the region as one of our 7 key "sustainability hubs". Through sustained engagement we have been able to layer our programs to create a pathway for ongoing participation and support – involving over 500 young people in sustainability programs.



# Regional Hub Updates

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A team of 6 young people were accompanied by Erin and joined 50 youth and adults (age 14-67 years), from around Australia to participate in digital media and facilitator training in Sydney in the lead up to the YLA congress in November 2010. (see <http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=33031&id=150389551673580&ref=mf> )

One of our proudest moments was watching this team of 15-19 year olds take on the responsibility of facilitating YOUth LEADing Australia in Swan Hill (see highlights clip <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVku90M0Dpo>).

This team of young people are recognised as valued and key contributors to their local community and the wider network of over 1400 youth involved nationally and internationally in YOUth LEADing the World. On the ground this group of young people have succeeded in influencing their schools and have taken the lead in establishing student run veggie gardens and campaigned for 100% solar schools.

## Swan Hill Comments

The North Western Region has traditionally been resistive to acknowledging that climate change is a reality. Youth Leading Australia 2010 occurred at an opportune time when Council had recently adopted the Youth Strategy and the Sustainable Living Strategy. Involvement with OzGREEN's programs provided the opportunity to achieve significant wins for both these strategic documents.

The outcomes of partnering with OzGREEN have included the development of the EASY (Environmentally Aware Sustainable Youth) group of ambassadors who together have raised the environmental awareness by conducting earth hour events, supported school groups to embrace sustainability in schools, started green teams in their schools and delivered the facilitator skills OzGREEN's training has provided at local events.

"Kids intuitively know how to engage people their age, its these skills which Council support to ensure active and effective youth participation in decision making is achieved"

The sharing of these skills are invaluable for youth in remote rural North West Victoria and EASY's vision is now gaining momentum throughout the region. EASY has also since provided a direct conduit for youth consultation and engagement that historically has not been achieved. Participants of the program have since become active youth council members, incorporating sustainable thinking into youth activities.

The future leaders of Swan Hill are now preparing to be change makers. And Council now is aware of youth concerns and the need to ensure sustainability and resilience is embedded in the future direction of Councils strategic plans. Its been a remarkable journey!

Sue Mahon  
Environment Manager  
Swan Hill Rural City Council

## Sydney Northern Beaches

OzGreen activities on the Northern Beaches received a boost in 2010 through the support of Stockland. Youth sustainability initiatives were developed through PlanetSavers and Youth Leading Australia. PlanetSAVERS engaged 300 people and inspired them to personally reduce their ecological footprint. There is a strengthened sense of community across and within the Northern Beaches Schools involved. Ninety young people from 43 organisations participated in Youth Leading Australia. Participants were very fortunate to have a special talk from local Indigenous Elder Uncle Max. On the final day, a team of lawyers from Mallesons assisted the participants to prepare for the Community Forum.

# Regional Hub updates

Participant Feedback - Very Enjoyable 92% (37.5% rate as amazing); Very Interesting 96% (42% rate as extremely interesting) Very Relevant 87% (60% rate as extremely relevant) Overall excellence 88%

In 2011 a significant highlight has been the facilitation of YLTW by a team of local youth. Thanks to the support of SYCAN (Sydney Youth Climate Action Network), SHOROC, Manly, Mosman, Warringah and Pittwater Councils, a successful partnership is in the making and augers well for 2012.

I think the workshops should be compulsory for everyone. Student, Sydney

Thanks again for such an amazing program. I think it has been phenomenal, and has really pulled the school together and united different groups with a common interest. I'm so glad that we finally have some direction, and we owe it all to you + the OzGreen team! Anyway, can't wait to get into some of the project ideas! Our E.Committee is going to have its hands full for a while (and that's a good thing!). Jack Lo Russo, Manly Selective Student

## Western Sydney

OzGreen is delighted to have been able to involve youth from Western Sydney in a range of programs during 2010-11 including PlanetSavers in Merrylands, MYRiver Prospect (supported by Stockland) and Water in the Landscape – Youth Leading Australia (in partnership with WSROC, with support from the NSW Environmental Trust).

PlanetSavers in Merrylands involved Merrylands High School, Hilltop Road Public School, Darcy Road Public School, Strathfield Girls High School and Granville Boys High School. Forty students were trained as Ambassadors to take the lead in their own school; 370 young people were directly involved in PlanetSavers workshops in their schools and 51 parents and teachers participated in workshops to help them support youth centred learning and action for sustainability.

From the Parramatta Advertiser, 6 July 2011.  
A MAGIC apple and 60 students at Wentworthville's Darcy Road Primary School devised an action plan for a sustainable future last Wednesday. The apple was used by OzGreen facilitators Kathryn McCabe and Wendy Hopkins to moderate the students' discussion around what practical things they could do to shape a greener future. It's part of an initiative called "planet savers", which is being supported by Stockland Merrylands. Funding from the property development company has allowed OzGreen to visit five local schools to speak with students about "living fairly".

"Our message is about a fair share," Ms McCabe said. "A fair share for the current generation, a fair share for the next generation and a fair share for all species." The program also includes workshops for parents and teachers and their ideas, along with the students' suggestions, form part of a final action plan.



*Sue Lennox teaching students about water quality monitoring.*

# Regional Hub updates

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Year 5's Aiden Hall, who tends the school's vegie patch with his friends, said: "Earth gives us the ability to live – it's important to protect it."

## Students Top Ideas

- Install solar panels
- Plant trees and grow more fruit and vegies for the canteen
- Put posters on rubbish bins to help students sort out their waste
- Last person out of classroom to make sure the lights are off
- More encouragement to ride bikes to school

Work began on MYRiveR Prospect and Water in the Landscape (WITL) – Youth Leading Australia during the reporting period, however the major project implementation occurred in September-December 2011, so will only have a brief mention here.

MYRiveR Prospect Creek - 24 students and 4 teachers participated from Granville Boy's High School, Saint Patrick's College, Merrylands High School and Cerdon College. The students were generally shocked with the health of the creek. The team from Central America also participated in field work as part of their month long training program.

Most significant impacts from participating in this program?

Realising how important these rivers are.

Empowering students to be able to make changes in their community.

Meeting new people (Central Americans were amazing!) and knowing that dreams aren't enough! We need action..." Madhu

WITL is a cultural program set up by Western Sydney Regional Organising Councils (WSROC) to engage the Western Sydney community on water topics in the Western Sydney Landscape. They have done this through various avenues such as performances, photography competition, video making competitions and community nights. Youth Leading Australia was aimed at high schools from the WSROC council areas of Auburn, Bankstown, Blacktown, Blue Mountains, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Liverpool, Parramatta and Penrith. Schools from the Parramatta and Penrith Council regions responded with most enthusiasm. Students had picked topics related to their interests and local areas, from water pollution to biodiversity loss. Each school then embarked on a 2 month online research tasks which students had to find information on their topic from past present and the most likely future, reporting on the outcomes of their research at the Youth Leading Australia Congress (YLA) in November.

Didn't know that YLA could be such an amazing experience running it in Western Sydney. But you know what?? IT WAS SUPERKALAFREAKINGAWESOME!!!! Kids had such great ideas for change and action plans which some of the Local MP's and Councils want to hear about, which I will be delivering a report to in the coming weeks. Having such a diverse range of cultures in the WS Congress was interesting to see different methods of thinking, and different ideas for action, but everything came together. I've also got myself some lil minions who are keen on volunteering with OzGREEN and future projects in Western Sydney. We've got lots of work to do now, and having more people coming on board the Western Sydney Crew is just perfect.

Suthagar Karunanithi, OzGreen Western Sydney Coordinator

Judy Charnaud, OzGreen East Timor Project Coordinator

The end of another rewarding, frustrating, busy, exhausting year in Oecusse, East Timor!

Successes this year:

## 1. Bio-sand Filtration Units

In the latter half of this year I did some volunteer work with an organisation called Kopernik. I heard of Kopernik last year when I re-met Ewa, the co-founder, who worked with the UN in Oecusse way back in 2002. The aim of Kopernik is to connect innovative technologies with communities in the developing world, Ewa saw GREEN TL's bio-sand filtration units in a village in Oecusse and was impressed by the simple yet successful technology and the fact that the villagers were very pleased with them. Kopernik decided to add the bio sand filtration units to their list of technologies and has raised enough money for us to install another twenty. GREEN TL is in the process of putting these together.

## 2. Youth in Action GREEN Games

Now you may wonder how it is that OzGREEN is involved in an annual sporting event. It all started about 6 years ago, when the people involved in our village program in Oecusse expressed a growing concern about young people. They had high hopes after independence that were not being met. There was also a growing concern about the potential for violence between people in had been on different sides of the movement for independence once the UN left. So the Suku chiefs got together and decided to organise a big youth forum. Around 200 young people were involved and they decided that they would like to start running an annual sporting event to bring people together and build peace.



*Building a Bio-sand filtration unit.*

It is a great way for OzGREEN and GREEN TL to support youth leadership development in Oecusse and provides a community driven platform for understanding the importance of looking after the environment. The initiative has grown from year to year and now involves thousands of people throughout Oecusse. The highlight of course is that so much of the games are driven by the young people of Oecusse themselves. Have a look at <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php>

"We thank OzGREEN and GREEN TL for organising these games. Even though we have representatives of various sporting clubs in Oecusse and the government has a Youth and Sport program, they do not organise games for us like this. If it was not for OzGREEN / GREEN TL and their donors we would not have such a competition." Football Federation representative.

The slogan on the t-shirts this year was "Ai Laran ; Natureza Servi Ita" (Forests; Nature Working for you). This turned out to be quite ironical considering the destruction by a government contractor of many beautiful old fig trees throughout Oecusse.

There are many positive spin offs from the Games, not only the competition itself, but additional outcomes such as the number of poor families who use the games as an opportunity of making some money by selling home made delicacies such as spicy pancakes, fried bananas, sweets and ices; the build up of school and community spirit and the experience the young volunteers gain when they help organise the

games.

Congratulations to GREEN TL for the success of the games and a hearty thank you to those who support the games with funding: the Penn Foundation, Manly Council, Epping Rotary Club, Manly Friends of Oecusse, Phil Parkes of PDL Toll in Dili and private donors.

3. East Timor Community Assistance Scheme (ETCAS, AusAid program in East Timor). GREEN TL was successful in being granted funds from ETCAS for Youth in Action – Our Environment. The program involves training groups of students from secondary schools to become leaders in implementing environmental programs within their schools and community. Each student, with help from GREEN TL, will run a workshop in their school and enrol other students into the Youth Network. A team of these students will observe and assist GREEN TL implementing a VEAP in a village of their choosing and assist with organising World Environment Day celebrations for 2012.

4. Water Testing in Health Clinics. Thanks to Manly Council, GREEN TL has begun testing water supplies in clinics throughout Oecusse to see if potable water is available. There are four district clinics which seem to be staffed daily, and sixteen sub-district clinics which are staffed occasionally or not at all! We have found broken pipes, leaking tanks, uncovered wells or no water at all. Only one clinic, which has a hand pump from a deep bore, has relatively clean water. It is GREEN TL's intention to provide a bio sand filtration unit to these clinics to purify water for drinking.

It is sad to say that progress in East Timor, since 2001 has not been as good as it could or should be. Progress is certainly being made but not at the speed nor in the direction required for sustainability nor at the rate required to account for the enormous amounts of aid money being thrown at the country. The UN and WHO still recognise East Timor as the country least likely to attain the Millenium Development Goals but the East Timorese Government says they are getting there with great steps forward in education, maternity and infant health, sanitation, water and food security.

Thankfully small local NGOs, and there are several very successful ones in Oecusse such as GREEN TL, continue with their work independently of government and are making inroads in villages in terms of water quality, health and poverty reduction

The Car?  
The car is once again causing problems and costing money. Where is the car which will last more than two years on these awful tracks which pass as roads, low grade fuel, constant dirt, dust or wet and infrequent maintenance due to lack of spare parts. I think Tony, from SVSC Car repairs in Dili was right when he suggested a horse and cart!



*Judy Chatnaud and Green TL Director Luis Armand receiving funding from ETCAS.*

# Friends of the Ganges

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Colin Lennox, OzGREEN Co-Founder

River Ganga (Ganges) is one of the greatest rivers of the world. For hundreds of millions of Indians, Ganga is the foundation of spiritual and physical life. The city of Varanasi has an ancient living heritage dating back over 3,000 years of continuous settlement. In Varanasi there are 30 sewer outlets which discharge sewage directly into Ganga along the ghats and cause heavy pollution of the river at Varanasi. The Swatcha Ganga Abhiyan (Clean Ganges Campaign) is an initiative of the Sankat Mochan Foundation (SMF / the Foundation). The Foundation is a not for profit, non secular organisation with a vision to see not one drop of sewage flowing into River Ganga at Varanasi.

OzGREEN has been supporting the work of the Foundation since a visit by Sue and Colin Lennox in 1992. Over the years this has involved assisting with water quality monitoring, establishing the Swatcha Ganga Environmental Education Centre, assisting with strategic planning, awareness raising and fundraising.

In July 2008 hopes were high that after more than 25 years of campaigning results were finally to be seen on the ground. The Indian Government had written to the Foundation asking them to prepare detailed plans for a trial of an appropriate sewage treatment system and that the Government would like to proceed with the development of an interceptor sewer along the bathing ghats in Varanasi. These are both initiatives developed by the Foundation after requests from the City Government. The SMF have submitted detailed project designs to the Government of India.

It would be exciting to report that works on these projects had commenced. Sadly, 18 months later, this is not the case. Detailed plans for the sewage treatment plant have been developed and submitted to the Government, money has been allocated, but so far there has been no action. Each time it seems as if the works are about to be given the go ahead another in the beaurocracy requests yet more information. This has been very frustrating for the Foundation (and all of us) as the information requested is invariably already contained in reports already submitted.

In light of these delaying tactics the Foundation is now about to begin a campaign to bring pressure to bear to reach a resolution.

There are 3 main outcomes that need to be achieved in the short term from the campaign:

1. Release of funds and construction of the Ramana sewage treatment system.
2. Begin construction of the sewage interceptor to divert sewage to the north of the city where it can be treated.
3. Develop an wholistic plan for all of the Varanasi region, to avoid confusion and duplication.

OzGREEN wishes to express its deep appreciation and gratitude to all supporters who have donated to this campaign. At this time our support for the Foundation is made possible only by the goodwill of private donors.

# Friends of the Ganges

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## Great is Ganga - 4 months volunteering in Varanasi

Michelle Walker

While engaged in a year of overseas travel I was offered the opportunity to spend 4 months volunteering on behalf of OzGREEN for the Sankat Mochan Foundation (SMF) in Varanasi, India.

SMF has only one vision; 'not a drop of sewage water flowing in Ganga'. Founded by Dr Veer Bhadra Mishra, former Professor of Hydraulic Engineering and Mahant (High Priest) of the Sankat Mochan Temple, SMF have worked tirelessly for years to raise awareness of the pollution of River Ganga and promote appropriate sewage treatment.

During my first month at SMF I prepared for the 2010 YOUTH LEADING the World Congress that SMF would host. More than 50 students came from 5 different schools. Co-facilitated by Kabir from the Indian Youth Climate Network, the Congress was a whirlwind of brainstorming, talking eco-footprint and singing traditional songs, culminating in a lively Community Forum during which the student participants presented to important community leaders and government staff.

Soon after the Congress my partner, Damon Pyke, joined in the volunteering and we became involved in the every day work carried out by SMF in their watchdog and advocacy role to restore the River Ganga. We accompanied staff on their morning boat trip to collect water samples and assisted to develop water quality reports. We coached 7 students through One Planet Week and were impressed at their courage in reducing resource use, including avoiding heating in an especially cold week! We were privileged to experience all night traditional music concerts and enjoyed learning some Hindi and listening to the philosophies of our SMF colleagues.

Our experiences in Varanasi working with SMF will stay with us forever; through the staff we came to understand what determination, persistence and faith really mean. Despite the pressure placed on her, the River Ganga remains an amazing source of inspiration, rejuvenation and beauty and it was also our privilege to live on her banks.

Damon and I would both like to thank the SMF staff for their support, patience and humour; Dr Veer Bhadra Mishra (Mahantji), Rajesh Kumar Mishra, Ashok Pandey and Gopal Pandey, and board members Dr S.K. Mishra, Dr D.K. Sundd and Prof. S.N. Upadhyay. We would also like to thank Sue and Col Lennox for presenting the opportunity to volunteer in this capacity and supporting our endeavours, as well as Catherine Porter and Steve Hamner from Friends of Ganges (USA) for their support.

# Central America

OzGreen is working in Central America in partnership with Project Seres in Guatemala and El Salvador and Opepa in Colombia. Both organisations have been involved in the delivery of Youth Leading the World in 2010 and 2011.

The Climate Change Resilience Leadership is a facilitator training program for change-makers and youth leaders from the Latin American and Caribbean region. The Program objectives are to build the regional capacity for development and delivery of strategic programs and initiatives targeting climate change adaptation and mitigation, particularly amongst vulnerable and marginalised groups.

The Program is managed and delivered by OzGREEN and includes collaboration with other leading-edge research institutes and organisations working in sustainable development. The post-Fellowship support and programs are delivered by OzGREEN's regional partners, working to identify skills and knowledge deficits, develop and implement programs that address these concerns and cultivate the growth of capable leaders that will foster sustainable community development.

In 2011 we were granted an Australian Leadership Award Fellowship from AusAID to bring a team of 6 Central American emerging leaders to Australian for a month long training program. This program was a huge success and another application has been submitted for 2012.

Seres – [www.projectseres.org](http://www.projectseres.org)

Seres mission is to build resilience to climate change within Central America through education and sustainable development. The organisation includes members from across Central America that are working within their communities to achieve sustainable change and climate change adaptation. Seres strategy is to work at the community-level, using participatory techniques and facilitating an interactive change process that empowers these groups to create their own long-term sustainable change. The work that Seres does and the programs that they provide include construction of infrastructure such as composting toilets and rainwater catchment tanks; teaching building methods such as earth-bag/super-adobe, ferro-cement and bamboo; appropriate technology such as water filters and biodigestors; and alternative agricultural practices such as permaculture. Climate change education and awareness underlies each of these programs, working to create resilient communities that are educated, empowered and aware.

OpEPA– [www.opepa.org](http://www.opepa.org)

OpEPA has been working for the past thirteen years in reconnecting children and youth to the Earth so that they can act in an environmentally sustainable way. We have achieved this by developing outdoor education programs for schools in Bogotá, taking children and young people to natural places to learn about the environment directly from the environment itself. Also, community building projects have been developed, in which local groups of children and young people have become leaders in their own communities, by ways of identifying environmental problems that affect their quality of life, proposing and implementing solutions and becoming agents of change. We have also produced educational material for teachers and students on topics such as water use and conservation, biodiversity, natural resources and carbon cycle, among others. Through the Ecoclubs model we have reached communities in many different parts of the country and strengthened them through their children and youth. Ecoclubs are groups of children and youth that have a sense of community and get together to act for the benefit of that community.





# Fran Peavey Memorial

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Memorial to Fran Peavey (1941-2010)  
Sue Lennox

Fran Peavey has been a significant influencer on our lives. One could say that OzGreen exists because of her. It was Fran's pioneering work in developing the tool of strategic questioning that led us to begin this journey.

Fran was a social change activist, author and comedian from Idaho. One of her most noteworthy actions was "I'm an American willing to LISTEN", where she travelled to world with a hand made sign, and sat in public places and invite local people to talk about their concerns, dreams and change ideas. It was this campaign that took her to India and to the River Ganges, where she met Dr Veer Bhadra Mishra – Mahant of the Sankat Mochan Temple and lecturer in hydrological engineering at Benaras Hindu University. As Fran listened to Mahantji speak about the terrible pollution going into his Beloved Ganga-Ma, she suggested he might like to start a campaign to clean it up. Mahantji asked her to help. Swatcha Ganga Abhiyan (Clean Ganges Campaign) was born.

So Fran found herself agreeing to support a project to clean a river (something she new nothing about), in a country she know nothing about. She decided she needed to develop a tool for enabling her to work in culturally appropriate ways that would facilitate the emergence of strategy from the local people and situation.

This tool of strategic questioning asks questions we don't know the answers to in order to find strategy to address our deepest concerns. The process of structured questions (focus-vision-change-action) is underpinned by trust, respect and listening with your whole being. It is the basis of all OzGreen programs.

It was strategic questioning that helped spark the ideas of the kids at Freshwater High School in 1989, after the big pollution event on Curl Curl Lagoon. It was Fran who invited Col and Sue to go to India to see what they could do to help the Clean Ganges Campaign. It was during a strategic questioning session that Sue and Col decided to quit their jobs, sell their home and move their young family in with Col's Mum, starting up OzGreen as two volunteers working out of a borrowed garage. The rest is history.

In February 2011, we traveled to Varanasi for another year of planning strategy for the Swatcha Ganga Campaign and to return Fran's ashes to Mother Ganga.  
(See Frances Peavey Memorial Page on facebook).

## John Skipper Kelly Memorial Scholarship

It was with great sadness that we learnt about the tragic death of John Kelly in December 2010. John had been a significant supporter for OzGreen for many years. He was especially passionate about our youth leadership programs, especially in the Murray-Darling.

As I sat with the shock after John's tragic accident, it struck me to consider how we could keep his legacy alive? John had made a significant contribution to our youth leadership work and was himself planning to undertake facilitator training. So it made sense to establish a JSK Scholarship to subsidise youth who would like to participate in our leadership programs, but need a helping hand to get there, in the form of a subsidy for travel and/or workshop fees.

In 2011 \$10,000 has been received from the JSK Fund. These funds assisted young people to participate in Youth LEAD programs in Swan Hill and Bellingen. It also supported facilitator training for Youth Leading the World in Perth, Brisbane, Melbourne, Swan Hill, Albury, Bellingen, Byron Bay and Coffs Coast. The results from YLTW speak for themselves!

See <http://jskfund.com.au/>

# **Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated**

ABN 82 828 395 461

**Financial Statements**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

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30 June 2011

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# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Committees' Report

30 June 2011

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2011.

### 1. General information

#### Committee members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Julian Harris	Convener
Louise Johnston	Treasurer
Sue Lennox	
Nick Bearlin-Allardice	
Grahame Collier	
Sharyn Wilson	
Tim Hunt	

#### Principal activities

The principal activities of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated during the financial year were the developing and maintaining of programs to harness the creativity and intelligence of people to build pathways to a sustainable future. The Association's programs are based on a 3 part methodology that enables informed participation, harnesses unique contributions and provides ongoing support through long term engagement.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's principal activities during the financial year.

#### Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

### 2. Operating results and review of operations for the year

#### Operating result

The operating (loss)/surplus of the Association for the financial year amounted to \$ (52,780)(2010: \$ 164,539). The Association is exempt from income tax.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee:

Convener: .....

Treasurer: .....

Julian Harris

Louise Johnston

Dated this ..... day of .....December.... 2011

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Revenue and other income	2	734,009	999,573
Employee benefits expense		(424,455)	(425,981)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(8,700)	(8,585)
Project costs		(73,263)	(100,119)
Consultancy fees		(69,860)	(95,842)
Travel and accommodation		(55,122)	(42,760)
Workshops and meeting costs		(33,812)	(39,989)
Accounting fees		(29,512)	(36,816)
Rental expenses		(25,599)	(21,789)
Telephone		(17,081)	(19,890)
Insurance general		(6,422)	(5,520)
Printing and supplies		(12,644)	(10,353)
Other expenses		(29,879)	(27,390)
Finance costs		(440)	-
<b>(Loss)/Surplus before income tax</b>		<b>(52,780)</b>	<b>164,539</b>
Income tax expense	1(i)	-	-
<b>(Loss)/Surplus from continuing operations</b>		<b>(52,780)</b>	<b>164,539</b>
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>(52,780)</b>	<b>164,539</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2011

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	238,036	357,996
Trade and other receivables	6	50,985	27,183
Other assets	8	9,225	23,257
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>298,246</u>	<u>408,436</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	16,259	16,238
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>16,259</u>	<u>16,238</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>314,505</u>	<u>424,674</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	81,727	59,426
Employee benefits	11	30,556	27,195
Other liabilities	10	58,997	142,980
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>171,280</u>	<u>229,601</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Employee benefits	11	7,059	6,127
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>7,059</u>	<u>6,127</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>178,339</u>	<u>235,728</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>136,166</u>	<u>188,946</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		<u>136,166</u>	<u>188,946</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>136,166</u>	<u>188,946</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

2011

	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2010	188,946	188,946
Operating loss for year	(52,780)	(52,780)
Balance at 30 June 2011	136,166	136,166

2010

	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2009	24,407	24,407
Operating surplus	164,539	164,539
Balance at 30 June 2010	188,946	188,946

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

	2011	2010
Note	\$	\$
<b>CASH FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Receipts from customers	623,581	846,437
Payments to suppliers and employees	(737,023)	(852,241)
Interest received	2,643	3,822
Interest paid	(440)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	15 <u>(111,239)</u>	<u>(1,982)</u>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<u>(8,721)</u>	<u>(3,687)</u>
Net cash used by investing activities	<u>(8,721)</u>	<u>(3,687)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	(119,960)	(5,669)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>357,996</u>	<u>363,665</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	5 <u><u>238,036</u></u>	<u><u>357,996</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

The financial statements cover Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated as an individual entity. Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated is an association incorporated in New South Wales under the *Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009* and *Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010*.

### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations and the *Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009* and *Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010*.

Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

#### (b) Comparative figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the Association has retrospectively applied an accounting policy, made a retrospective restatement or reclassifies items in its financial statements, an additional statement of financial position as at the beginning of the earliest comparative period will be disclosed.

#### (c) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

##### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the asset.

##### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, is depreciated on a reducing balance basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

The assets' residual values, depreciation methods and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies continued

### (d) Financial instruments Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is the equivalent to the date that the Association commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs, except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

#### Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at either fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, or cost. *Fair value* represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in arm's length transaction. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

*Amortised cost* is calculated as:

- (a) the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition;
- (b) less principal repayments;
- (c) plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of the difference, if any, between the amount initially recognised and the maturity amount calculated using the *effective interest method*; and
- (d) less any reduction for impairment.

The *effective interest method* is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense in profit or loss.

The classification of financial instruments depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and at the end of each reporting period for held-to-maturity assets.

#### (i) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets are classified at 'fair value through profit or loss' when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term profit taking, derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a group of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying value being included in profit or loss.

The Association did not hold any Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss in the current or comparative financial year.

#### (ii) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies continued

### (d) Financial instruments continued

Loans and receivables are included in current assets, except for those which are not expected to mature within 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

#### *(iii) Held-to-maturity investments*

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the Association's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Held-to-maturity investments are included in non-current assets, except for those which are expected to be realised within 12 months after the end of the reporting period, which will be classified as current assets.

If during the period the Association sold or reclassified more than an insignificant amount of the held-to-maturity investments before maturity, the entire held-to-maturity investments category would be tainted and reclassified as available-for-sale.

The Association did not hold any held-to-maturity investments in the current or comparative financial year.

#### *(iv) Available-for-sale financial assets*

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivative financial assets that are either not suitable to be classified into other categories of financial assets due to their nature, or they are designated as such by management. They comprise investments in the equity of other entities where there is neither a fixed maturity nor fixed or determinable payments.

Available-for-sale financial assets are included in non-current assets, except for those which are expected to be realised within 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

The Association did not hold any Available-for-sale financial assets in the current or comparative financial year.

#### *(v) Financial liabilities*

Non-derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Fees payable on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Association has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

### **Fair value**

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

### **Impairment**

Objective evidence that a financial asset is impaired includes default by a debtor, evidence that the debtor is likely to enter bankruptcy or adverse economic conditions in the stock exchange. At the end of each reporting period, the Association assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired through the occurrence of a loss event. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a significant or prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to indicate that an impairment has arisen.

Where a subsequent event causes the amount of the impairment loss to decrease (e.g. payment received), the reduction in the allowance account (provision for impairment of receivables) is taken through profit and loss.

However, any reversal in the value of an impaired available for sale asset is taken through other comprehensive income

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies continued

### (d) Financial instruments continued

#### Impairment continued

rather than profit and loss.

Impairment losses are recognised through an allowance account for loans and receivables in the statement of comprehensive income.

### (e) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

### (f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less which are convertible to a known amount of cash and subject to an insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

### (g) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash flows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

### (h) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Association during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

### (i) Income tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies continued

### (j) Leases

Leases of fixed assets where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership that are transferred to the Association are classified as finance leases.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

### (k) Revenue and other income

The Association recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and specific criteria have been met for each of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's activities as discussed below.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Revenue from the rendering of services is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers  
All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

### (l) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

### (m) Grants

Grants are recognised at fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as income over the periods necessary to match the grant to the costs they are compensating. Grants relating to assets are credited to deferred income at fair value and are credited to income over the expected useful life of the asset on a straight-line basis.

### (n) Critical accounting estimates and judgments

#### Key estimates - impairment

The Association assesses impairment at the end of each reporting year by evaluating conditions specific to the Association that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

#### Key judgments - provision for impairment of receivables

The value of the provision for impairment of receivables is estimated by considering the ageing of receivables, communication with the debtors and prior history.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies continued

### (o) New accounting standards for application in future periods

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The Association has decided against early adoption of these Standards. The following table summarises those relevant future requirements, and their impact on the Association:

Standard name	Effective date for entity	Requirements	Impact
AASB 9 Financial Instruments and amending standards AASB 2009-11 / AASB 2010-7	30 June 2014	- Changes to the classification and measurement requirements for financial assets and financial liabilities. - New rules relating to derecognition of financial instruments.	The impact of AASB 9 has not yet been determined.
AASB 2010-8 Amendment to Australian Accounting Standards – Deferred tax: Recovery of underlying assets	30 June 2013	Adds a presumption to AASB 112 that the recovery of the carrying amount of an investment property at fair value will be through sale.	No impact expected.
AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement  AASB 2011-8 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 13 [AASB 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 2009-11, 2010-7, 101, 102, 108, 110, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 128, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139, 140, 141, 1004, 1023 & 1038 and Interpretations 2, 4, 12, 13, 14, 17, 19, 131 & 132]	30 June 2014	AASB 13 provides a precise definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Accounting Standards but does not change when fair value is required or permitted.  There are a number of additional disclosure requirements.	Fair value estimates currently made by the entity will be revised and potential changes to reported values may be required.  The entity has not yet determined the magnitude of any changes which may be needed.  Some additional disclosures will be needed.
AASB 2011-9 - Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Presentation of Items of Other Comprehensive Income.	30 June 2013	Entities will be required to group items presented in other comprehensive income on the basis of whether they are potentially reclassifiable to profit or loss subsequently (reclassification adjustments).	The items shown in other comprehensive income will be separated into two categories.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 2 Revenue and Other Income

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
Operating activities			
- Grants received		524,952	608,345
- Donations received		164,377	340,153
- Professional services fees		12,926	40,125
- Sponsorship and licensing fees		29,111	7,128
- Interest income		2,643	3,822
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>734,009</b>	<b>999,573</b>

## 3 Auditors' Remuneration

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Remuneration of the auditor of the Association, for:		
- auditing or reviewing the financial statements	10,000	10,140

## 4 Interests of Key Management Personnel

The totals of remuneration paid to the key management personnel of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated during the year are as follows:

	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Committee members</b>		
Short-term employee benefits	79,897	118,838
Post-employment benefits	7,190	10,695
	<b>87,087</b>	<b>129,533</b>
<b>Other</b>		
Short-term employee benefits	36,606	47,464
Post-employment benefits	3,294	3,982
	<b>39,900</b>	<b>51,446</b>
	<b>126,987</b>	<b>180,979</b>

## 5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Cash at bank and in hand	238,036	357,996

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 5 Cash and Cash Equivalents continued

### Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>238,036</u>	<u>357,996</u>

## 6 Trade and Other Receivables

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	50,985	25,745
Provision for impairment	-	-
	<u>50,985</u>	<u>25,745</u>
GST (receivable)	-	1,438
<b>Total current trade and other receivables</b>	<u><b>50,985</b></u>	<u><b>27,183</b></u>

### Credit risk

The Association has no significant concentration of credit risk with respect to any single counterparty or group of counterparties.

The following table details the Association's trade and other receivables exposure to credit risk (prior to collateral and other credit enhancements) with ageing analysis and impairment provided for thereon. Amounts are considered as 'past due' when the debt has not been settled, within the terms and conditions agreed between the Association and the customer or counter party to the transaction. Receivables that are past due are assessed for impairment by ascertaining solvency of the debtors and are provided for where there is objective evidence indicating that the debt may not be fully repaid to the Association.



# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 6 Trade and Other Receivables continued

The balances of receivables that remain within initial trade terms (as detailed in the table) are considered to be of high credit quality.

	Gross amount \$	Past due and impaired \$	Past due but not impaired (days overdue)				Within initial trade terms \$
			< 30 \$	31-60 \$	61-90 \$	> 90 \$	
<b>2011</b>							
Trade and term receivables	50,985	-	-	395	17,000	200	33,390
Total	50,985	-	-	395	17,000	200	33,390
<b>2010</b>							
Trade and term receivables	25,745	-	-	595	1,650	1,250	22,250
Other receivables	1,438	-	-	-	-	-	1,438
Total	27,183	-	-	595	1,650	1,250	23,688

The Association does not hold any financial assets with terms that have been renegotiated, but which would otherwise be past due or impaired.

The other classes of receivables do not contain impaired assets.

## 7 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2011 \$	2010 \$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and equipment		
At cost	31,806	39,270
Accumulated depreciation	(22,448)	(31,496)
Total plant and equipment	9,358	7,774
Motor vehicles		
At cost	12,500	12,500
Accumulated depreciation	(5,599)	(4,036)
Total motor vehicles	6,901	8,464
<b>Total plant and equipment</b>	<b>16,259</b>	<b>16,238</b>

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 7 Property, Plant and Equipment continued

### (a) Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Plant and Equipment \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 30 June 2011</b>			
Balance at the beginning of year	7,774	8,464	16,238
Additions	8,721	-	8,721
Depreciation expense	(7,137)	(1,563)	(8,700)
Balance at 30 June 2011	<u>9,358</u>	<u>6,901</u>	<u>16,259</u>
<b>Balance at 30 June 2010</b>			
Balance at the beginning of year	11,109	10,026	21,135
Additions	3,687	-	3,687
Depreciation expense	(7,022)	(1,562)	(8,584)
Balance at 30 June 2010	<u>7,774</u>	<u>8,464</u>	<u>16,238</u>

## 8 Other Assets

	2011 \$	2010 \$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	4,100	18,132
Deposits	5,125	5,125
	<u>9,225</u>	<u>23,257</u>

## 9 Trade and Other Payables

	2011 \$	2010 \$
CURRENT		
Unsecured liabilities		
Trade payables	15,292	-
GST payable	6,576	-
Employee benefits	22,421	20,709
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	36,364	38,717
Other payables	1,074	-
	<u>81,727</u>	<u>59,426</u>

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 9 Trade and Other Payables continued

### (a) Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as trade and other payables

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Trade and other payables:		
- total current	81,727	59,426
Less:		
annual leave entitlements	22,421	20,709
Financial liabilities as trade and other payables	<u>59,306</u>	<u>38,717</u>

13

## 10 Other Liabilities

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Deferred income	58,997	142,980

## 11 Employee Benefits

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Long service leave	30,556	27,195
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	7,059	6,127

## 12 Capital and Leasing Commitments

### (a) Operating lease commitments

Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Payable - minimum lease payments:		
- no later than 1 year	6,094	14,677
- between 1 year and 5 years	-	2,454
	<u>6,094</u>	<u>17,131</u>

Operating leases have been taken out for lease of premises in Brookvale and Bellingen. Lease payments are increased on an annual basis to reflect market rentals.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 13 Financial Risk Management

The main risks Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated is exposed to through its financial instruments are credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk consisting of interest rate risk.

The Association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, accounts receivable and payable.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Financial Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	238,036	357,996
Trade and other receivables	6	50,985	27,183
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>289,021</b>	<b>385,179</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	9(a)	59,306	38,717
<b>Total financial liabilities</b>		<b>59,306</b>	<b>38,717</b>

### Financial risk management policies

The Committee of Management has overall responsibility for the establishment of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's financial risk management framework. This includes the development of policies covering specific areas such interest rate risk and credit risk.

Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's activities.

The day-to-day risk management is carried out by Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's finance function under policies and objectives which have been approved by the Committee of Management. The Chief Executive Officer has been delegated the authority for designing and implementing processes which follow the objectives and policies. This includes monitoring the levels of exposure to interest rate and foreign exchange rate risk and assessment of market forecasts for interest rate and foreign exchange movements.

The Committee of Management receives monthly reports which provide details of the effectiveness of the processes and policies in place.

Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated does not actively engage in the trading of financial assets for speculative purposes nor does it write options.

Mitigation strategies for specific risks faced are described below:

#### (a) Credit risk

Exposure to credit risk relating to financial assets arises from the potential non-performance by counterparties of contract obligations that could lead to a financial loss to Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated and arises principally from Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's receivables.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 13 Financial Risk Management continued

### (a) Credit risk continued

#### *Credit risk exposures*

The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets at the end of the reporting period, excluding the value of any collateral or other security held, is equivalent to the carrying value and classification of those financial assets (net of any provisions) as presented in the statement of financial position.

The Association has no significant concentration of credit risk with any single counterparty or group of counterparties. Details with respect to credit risk of Trade and Other Receivables are provided in Note 6.

Trade and other receivables that are neither past due or impaired are considered to be of high credit quality. Aggregates of such amounts are as detailed at Note 6.

### (b) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from the possibility that Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated might encounter difficulty in settling its debts or otherwise meeting its obligations related to financial liabilities. The Association manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financial activities which are monitored on a monthly basis;
- monitoring deferred grants;
- obtaining funding from a variety of sources;
- maintaining a reputable credit profile;
- managing credit risk related to financial assets;
- only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions; and
- comparing the maturity profile of financial liabilities with the realisation profile of financial assets.

Typically, Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated ensures that it has sufficient cash on demand to meet expected operational expenses for a period of 60 days.

The tables below reflect an undiscounted contractual maturity analysis for financial liabilities.

Financial guarantee liabilities are treated as payable on demand since Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated has no control over the timing of any potential settlement of the liabilities.

The timing of cash flows presented in the table to settle financial liabilities reflects the earliest contractual settlement dates and does not reflect management's expectations that banking facilities will be rolled forward. The amounts disclosed in the table are the undiscounted contracted cash flows and therefore the balances in the table may not equal the balances in the statement of financial position due to the effect of discounting.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 13 Financial Risk Management continued

*Financial liability maturity analysis*

	Within 1 Year		Total	
	2011	2010	2011	2010
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Financial liabilities due for payment</b>				
Trade and other payables (excluding estimated annual leave)	<b>59,306</b>	38,717	<b>59,306</b>	38,717

The timing of expected outflows is not expected to be materially different from contracted cash flows.

*Financial assets pledged as collateral*

No financial assets have been pledged as security for any financial liability.

### (c) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices.

#### *i. Interest rate risk*

Exposure to interest rate risk arises on financial assets recognised at the end of the reporting period, whereby a future change in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair value of fixed rate financial instruments. The Association is also exposed to earnings volatility on floating rate instruments.

*Sensitivity analysis*

The following table illustrates sensitivities to Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated's exposures to changes in the interest rates. The table indicates the impact on how profit and equity values reported at the end of the reporting year would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible. These sensitivities assume that the movement in a particular variable is independent of other variables.

	Profit	Equity
	\$	\$
<b>Year ended 30 June 2011</b>		
Increase/decrease in interest rate of 2% +/-	<b>4,961</b>	<b>4,961</b>
	Profit	Equity
	\$	\$
<b>Year ended 30 June 2010</b>		
Increase/decrease in interest rate of 2% +/-	7,160	7,160
<b>Net fair values</b>		

The fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities approximate the book value as at 30 June 2011.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 14 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2011 (30 June 2010:None).

## 15 Cash Flow Information

### (a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cash flows from operating activities

Reconciliation of net income to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2011	2010
	\$	\$
Profit for the year	(52,780)	164,539
Cash flows excluded from profit attributable to operating activities		
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- depreciation	8,700	8,584
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(23,802)	13,076
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	14,032	(16,124)
- increase/(decrease) in income in advance	(83,983)	(150,692)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	22,301	(16,059)
- increase/(decrease) in provisions	4,293	(5,306)
Cash flow from operations	<u>(111,239)</u>	<u>(1,982)</u>

## 16 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 15 December 2011.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 17 Financial Information to be furnished under ACFID Code of Conduct

### (a) Revenue and expenses on International Aid and Development Activities

	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donated Funds	70,576	64,897
Grants	-	44,438
Total International Aid Revenue	<u>70,576</u>	<u>109,335</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Overseas projects	(74,173)	(96,198)
Administration	(10,085)	(11,979)
Total International Aid Expenses	<u>(84,258)</u>	<u>(108,177)</u>
<b>Excess (deficit) of revenue over expenses</b>	<u>(13,682)</u>	<u>1,158</u>

No single appeal or other form of fundraising for a designated purpose generated 10% or more of total income for the year under review.

## 18 Financial Information to be Furnished under Charitable Fundraising Act

	2011 \$	2010 \$
Fundraising Costs (A)	44,533	88,068
Gross fundraising income (B)	164,377	312,810
Fundraising surplus (C)	119,694	224,742
Cost of services provided (D)	563,507	650,480
Total expenditure (E)	788,609	831,034
Total Income (F)	737,037	999,573
	2011 %	2010 %
Fundraising Costs/Fundraising income (A/B)	27	28
Fundraising surplus/Gross fundraising income (C/B)	73	72
Cost of services provided/Total expenditure (D/E)	72	78
Cost of services provided/Total Income (D/F)	77	65

## 19 Association Details

The registered office of the association is:

Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated  
Unit 6b, 15 Orchard Road



# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## 19 Association Details continued

BROOKVALE NSW 2100

The principal places of business are:

Shops3&4 82 Hyde St

Bellingen NSW 2454

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Committees' Declaration

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 22:

1. Present fairly the financial position of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated as at 30 June 2011 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:



Convener .....

Julian Harris



Treasurer .....

Louise Johnston

Dated this ..... day of .....December. 2011

# **Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated**

ABN 82 828 395 461

## **Independent Audit Report to the members of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated Report on the Financial Report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2011, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the committees' declaration.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

### **Basis for Qualified Opinion**

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practicable for Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated to maintain an effective system of internal controls over donations, and other fundraising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to those activities was limited to amounts recorded.

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

## Independent Audit Report to the members of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated Qualified Opinion

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated as at 30 June 2011, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) 2009 and Associations Incorporation Regulation (NSW) 2010.

### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We also report that:

- a) the financial statements show a true and fair view of the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year;
- b) the accounting and associated records have been properly kept during the year in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the regulations;
- c) money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the regulations; and
- d) at the date of the report, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Rupaninga Dharmasiri  
Partner  
LBW & Partners  
Chartered Accountants  
Level 3, 845 Pacific Highway  
CHATSWOOD NSW 2067

Dated this ..... day of ....December.... 2011

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## Disclaimer

The additional financial data presented on pages 26 - 27 is in accordance with the books and records of the Association which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the Association for the year ended 30 June 2011. It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial data and we give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.

Rupaninga Dharmasiri

Partner

LBW & Partners

Chartered Accountants

Level 3, 845 Pacific Highway

CHATSWOOD NSW 2067

Dated this ..... day of .....December.... 2011

# Oz Green - Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (Australia) Incorporated

ABN 82 828 395 461

For the Year Ended 30 June 2011

## Profit and Loss Account

	2011 \$	2010 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Grants, donations and sponsorship	718,440	955,626
Professional services fees	12,926	40,125
Interest income	2,643	3,822
<b>Total income</b>	<b>734,009</b>	<b>999,573</b>
<b>Less: Expenses</b>		
Accounting fees	29,512	36,816
Advertising	1,631	2,568
Auditors remuneration	10,000	10,140
Bank charges	2,739	2,643
Consultancy fees	69,860	95,842
Depreciation	8,700	8,585
Entertainment	-	170
Finance costs - external	440	-
Insurance general	6,422	5,520
IT Expenses	2,503	684
Long service leave	4,292	(5,305)
Motor vehicle expenses	147	-
Other employee costs	278	502
Postage	2,219	4,299
Printing and supplies	12,644	10,353
Project costs	73,263	100,119
Rental expenses	25,599	21,789
Repairs and maintenance	49	1,971
Salaries	376,516	378,718
Sick leave	1,711	5,789
Staff training	50	7,665
Subscriptions	3,841	226
Sundry expenses	6,750	4,689
Superannuation contributions	33,096	33,746
Telephone	17,081	19,890
Travel and accommodation	55,122	42,760
Workers compensation insurance	8,512	4,866
Workshops and meeting costs	33,812	39,989
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(786,789)</b>	<b>(835,034)</b>
<b>(Loss)/Surplus before income tax</b>	<b>(52,780)</b>	<b>164,539</b>

# OzGREEN Board

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## Chairman - Julian Harris

Over the past 16 years Julian built and exited 2 leading edge technology services companies in the UK. Both had significant revenues, a well established blue-chip client base, and staff counted in the hundreds, and both were sold to large listed acquirers. Julian is passionate about the way technology can be used to change our lives for the better, and how technology can help us solve some of the environmental challenges facing our planet today. Julian was born in South Wales and now lives with his family in New South Wales, a journey he is enjoying immensely.

## Nick Bearlin

### Allardice

Nick Bearlin-Allardice has been involved with OzGREEN since 2003 when he completed the Youth LEAD program in Bendigo. Since then, he has been a mentor to program participants, become a trained program facilitator, and been involved in national initiatives such as national conferences and thinks tanks. Currently Nick is also the Victorian Director of the Oaktree foundation; a youth run international aid and development agency. At 21 years old he manages a team of over 120 young people who have fundraised hundreds of thousands of dollars and through Oaktree's programs directly empowered tens of thousands of young people to take action and be leaders of change across the state.



## Sue Lennox

(BSc, Dip Ed)

Co-Founder of Oz GREEN and CEO, To Sue, OzGREEN is not a job – it is her strategic response to her deep concern for the environment and her vision to build a more sustainable, peaceful and equitable world. Sue, along with her husband Colin, has been the driving force behind OzGREEN since it's inception. She has 30 years experience in environmental education program innovation, development, management and implementation in urban, regional, remote and Indigenous communities in Australia, India, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and Pakistan.



## Treasurer - Louise Johnston

OzGREEN is an organisation I had been involved in through the youth programs, I am passionate about their objectives and methodology and wanted to contribute in a way that utilised my key skills so it would be more meaningful for myself and the organisation than unskilled volunteering.



## Sharyn Wilson



## Tim Hunt

I am a part of Ozgreen because I believe. I believe that the support from our programmes truly helps to unleash the passion of young people and communities to change the way that they live. I believe so strongly in the work of Ozgreen, and am constantly amazed and inspired by the personal and community change that the work of our organization supports.



## Grahame Collier

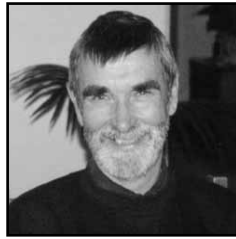
# Fund for the Rivers Board

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## Chairman

### Alistair Millar

Alistair is owner and Managing Director of Southern Cross Packaged Goods Pty Ltd. He launched "Green Choice", Australia's first range of supermarket distributed environmentally responsible household cleaning products. Alistair joined OzGREEN because of our "practical approach and impressive ability to solve water pollution problems".



## Treasurer

### Colin Lennox

(BSc, Dip Ed)  
Co-Founder of Oz GREEN, Convenor of the Oz GREEN Management Committee, Member of the Board of the Oz GREEN Fund for the Rivers Public Gift Fund and Executive Director. Colin has a particular interest in the way the environment (particularly water) impacts on development in the majority world. His work with Oz GREEN has convinced him that there is a desperate need to work towards an equitable distribution of resources amongst all peoples of the world.



## Secretary

### Stewart Smith

(BSc. Hons, M. Env. Law)

Member of the Board of Directors of the Oz GREEN Fund for the Rivers Public Gift Fund. Stewart is an Environmental Research Officer with the NSW Parliament. "When visiting India and Nepal in 1989, I was really touched by the spirituality of the Ganges River. It crystallised for me the need for environmental education to play an important part in people's lives. I support OzGREEN because it is an incredible force in environmental education."



### Geoffrey Smith

(MSc)

Board Member OzGREEN Fund for the Rivers. Geoffrey is a Founding member of OzGREEN. Former State Waterwatch Coordinator, he is currently Natural Systems Program Leader with Blue Mountains City Council. Geoffrey's vision is for people to experience the sacred nature of all waterways as living systems essential to all life. Geoffrey has been active in promoting sustainable alternatives to address the Millenium Development Goals for Freshwater and sanitation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in J'burg and the World Water Forum in Kyoto.





# Oz GREEN Staff & Awards

Banksia Award Education Category Finalist 2008

Eureka Prize

National Museum of Australia Department of Environment and Climate Change Alan Strom Award for Environmental Sustainability Education, 2007.

Vodafone Australia Foundation World of Difference Awarded to Ben Taylor to work with OzGREEN in 2004

Social Ventures Australia BIGBOOST! Winners 2003 for Youth LEAD

Stormwater Industry Association Finalist in Award of Excellence for Environmental Education for Upper Parramatta River Catchment Education Kit 2003

Rivercare 2000 Award of Excellence 2000 for kids, companies and creeks Stormwater Action Projects

Environmental Educators of the Year - 1998 Association for Environmental Education (NSW)

NSW Government RiverCare 2000 Awards Finalist in Diamond Award 1997, 1998, 2000 Oz GREEN co-founder Sue Lennox, for outstanding contributions to achieving health in NSW rivers.

RiverCare 2000 Gold Award 1995 kids, companies and creeks Project

RiverCare 2000 Silver Award 1998 Dee Why WetlandCARE

RiverCare 2000 Accreditation

- "kids, companies and creeks" (1995),
- Our Place (1997),
- Dee Why WetlandCARE (1997),
- Stormwater Action Project (1998).

Banksia Environmental Awards Sue & Col Lennox winners of the Water Category 1996

Banksia Environmental Awards Finalists in the Education & Training Category 1996

Metro Pride Award - Keep Australia Beautiful Council: Highly commended for the kids, companies and creeks Project 1996

United Nations Association Media Peace Awards Special Citation for Swacha Ganga (Clean the Ganges) video, 1994.

United Nations Association Media Peace Awards Winner of major award "Fresh Water" video, 1991.

Keep Australia Beautiful Council - Landcom Sustainable Communities Award "Living Waters -Living Communities" 2001



Sue Lennox  
Colin Lennox  
Judy Charnaud  
Gabriel Anderson  
Rowan Lennox  
Kathryn McCabe  
Denise Aitken  
Shannon Baunach-Greenfields  
Benjamin Maron  
(BEd Primary, Grad Dip Outdoor and Environmental Education, Teacher L1 Yoga Australia)  
Suthagar Karunanithi

Chief Executive Officer, Co-founder (B Sc Dip Ed)  
Executive Director, Co-founder (B Sc Dip Ed)  
East Timor Program Manager (B Sc Dip Ed FGAA)  
Programs Coordinator Hunter (B App Sc Hon)  
Finance & IT Manager (B Sc)  
Program Coordinator (B Sc H. Dip App Physics MA Soc Eco)  
Office Manager  
Program Co-Ordinator - ALA (B ES - Conservation Ecology)  
Program Co-Ordinator - MYRiver Yennora and Wollondilly  
(BEd Primary, Grad Dip Outdoor and Environmental Education, Teacher L1 Yoga Australia)  
Program Co-Ordinator - Western Sydney

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