



CLIMATE
ACTION
NETWORK
AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2014/2015



The Climate Action Network Australia Inc. links organisations across the country and we recognise the indigenous first nations on whose land we work and pay respect to their elders - past, present, and future - and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people play in the climate movement.

Our Australian Registered Body Number is: 098 658 907.



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OVERVIEW

As the alarm bells sound of the planetary emergency, the membership of the Climate Action Network of Australia renewed our commitment to shift the politics, economics, and culture on global warming in order to confront this crisis. Whilst the signals from nature have never been louder, and the suffering driven by the impacts of global warming never greater, our purpose remains to support the Australian community to turn this dire situation around.

In 2014/15 we committed to this purpose by looking at our collaboration and our network and investing to ensure we were up to the challenge in front of us. As was clearly identified throughout our extended review there are three basic things that the Network needs to do: help organisations work better together; find ‘common agendas’ around which we can work and track progress; and shift from an advocacy model to a broader and deeper community organising model.

Our members, and our representative Steering Committee, began the process to realise these three basic things this year. In addition we adopted an over-arching strategic framework to guide both the Network and many of our members as we grapple with the crisis. This framework includes seven key interventions:

- Resource a whole of movement perspective;
- Align strategies;
- Deliver a powerful and resonant story;
- Revitalise our grassroots constituencies;
- Build political power;
- Accelerate the energy revolution; and
- Expose the undue influence of deniers and polluters.

This framework will guide the new Network Support Team in their efforts, but as a Network, the work and leadership to deliver real outcomes will come from our members. We look forward to supporting and linking all of these efforts over the years to come as we get onto a path to build the Australia and world we want and need.

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Whilst engaging in this re-structure we also began to put into practice some of our principles of working together under a model of distributed leadership as is outlined in the 'Key Activities' section.

THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This year of transition would not have been possible without the tireless effort of the Steering Committee, particularly Chris Reidy and Duncan Jinks as President and Treasurer. Sam La Rocca's leadership and vision in catalysing the Movement Strategy process and managing the new Network Support Team has also been pivotal. Two staff members have been especially important in driving this transition - Laura Kelly as outgoing Director and Lucy Manne as incoming 'Core Organiser' (now Network Organiser). Many members have made substantial financial and other commitments, such as office hosting and administrative support to the Network this year including the Australian Conservation Foundation, GetUp!, Greenpeace Australia Pacific, The Sunrise Project, The Wilderness Society, and WWF.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

At the time of CANA's last Annual Report, I wrote about the crossroads that the Network found itself at. Last year, we made a collective decision to reinvent our Network as a force to be reckoned with. Our vision was of a Network that could win the power needed to drive action towards a safe climate in Australia.

Over the last year, people across the Network have shown great leadership by doing the hard work needed to move towards this vision. Organisations have invested funds to resource the Network, individuals have volunteered their time to deal with the administrative challenges of establishing a viable network organisation, and new members have joined CANA's Steering Committee to provide guidance and strategic direction. Special thanks are due to Laura Kelly, CANA's Director through much of this period, who put in a huge effort to make a new CANA possible. She then selflessly stood aside to make way for a fresh team.

CANA now has a team of four passionate people in place to support the Network. Alex Rafalowicz was appointed as the Movement Strategist in May and I am sure everyone who has crossed paths with Alex has been impressed by the energy and wisdom he brings to the role. Lucy Manne has been equally dedicated as Network Organiser and provided crucial administrative support during the transition to the new team. Sheryl Thompson has taken on the tough job of getting our books in order with great patience. Finally, Claire O'Halloran is the newest recruit to the CANA team as our Campaigns Facilitator, bringing excellent experience to the job of helping Network members work together.

With this excellent team in place, it is now time to complete the transition to CANA's new structure and get on with the task we are all most interested in - making a difference on climate change. The final task is to elect a new Steering Committee to provide strategic direction and leadership for CANA as we move ahead. This Committee will be elected at the upcoming Annual General Meeting and will have a larger and more diverse membership than the current Committee.

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I want to thank everyone who has contributed to CANA over the past year including the Committee members elected at last AGM who stepped aside to allow a 'transitional' committee to help embed the new structure. Members of that transitional committee have dedicated a lot of time and effort to getting this latest iteration of CANA going and I am particularly thankful to Duncan Jinks who went above and beyond in his duties as Treasurer, especially whilst we were without an Administrator. I would like to acknowledge the important role that Lucy Manne played in coming on board as our first 'new' staff member and providing the leadership the Network needed to overcome various hurdles at the end of this financial year as we began our transformation. It's an asset to the Network that Lucy has agreed to continue to work with us. I also want to offer thanks to The Wilderness Society for their assistance in preparing our financials, and to GetUp for hosting Lucy in their offices.

After a lot of hard work, we are now in an excellent position to build power and momentum on climate action in Australia. As we move into an election year, leaders will need to continue to step up throughout the Network to keep the momentum going. The CANA team looks forward to working with you all to make progress towards a safe climate.

Chris Riedy
President, Climate Action Network Australia
30th September 2015

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The CANA steering committee (SC) is primarily responsible for the governance of CANA, not its operations. It is responsible for approving the organisation's mission and strategic direction, its budget and its major financial affairs, its policies on governance, management, and program implementation. It does not set specific policy direction on climate change.

The SC is responsible for providing support and direction to the Movement Strategist (formerly 'Director') and, where appropriate, other CANA staff. The Movement Strategist is responsible for the operational management of the organisation.

The Movement Strategist may delegate tasks to other staff, but remains accountable to the SC for his/her performance.

At the time of our AGM the SC includes the following members:

- Dr Chris Riedy, Institute of Sustainable Futures (President)
- Duncan Jinks, Climate Action Newcastle (Treasurer)
- Lindsay Soutar, Solar Citizens (Secretary)
- Sam La Rocca, GetUp
- Victoria McKenzie-McHarg, Australian Conservation Foundation
- Lyndon Schneiders, The Wilderness Society

Carolyn Ingvarson, of Lighter Footprints, has contributed in ex-officio capacity in assisting with process functions (e.g. minute taking and circulating of agendas).

The transitional SC, elected at the previous AGM but that vacated their positions in order to allow for a new committee to drive the restructure and reinvigoration of CANA included:

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- Carolyn Ingvarson, Lighter Footprints
- Kellie Caught, WWF
- Phil Bradley, ParraCAN
- Ian McGregor, Climate Action Sydney Eastern Suburbs

Public Fund Committee Members were:

- Chris Riedy, Institute for Sustainable Futures, President
- Duncan Jinks, Climate Action Newcastle, Treasurer
- Ian McGregor, Climate Action Sydney Eastern Suburbs

CANA Staff:

- Laura Kelly - Director (finished March 2015)
- Lucy Manne - Core Organiser (started May 2015)
- Alex Rafalowicz - Movement Strategist (started June 2015)



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KEY ACTIVITIES

BUILDING TRUST, RELATIONSHIPS, AND COLLABORATION

As the Network restructured and reinvigorated itself we engaged in a process of consultation and relationship building among members and non-members of the Network. We held workshops and forums across the country, conducted surveys, and convened four 'leadership retreats' as a part of the Climate Movement Strategy project. This work has provided the relationships, trust, and commitment for us to advance as a Network. The outcome of this process has included our agreed strategic framework, a new structure and mandate for our staff and governance as well as engaging many more organisations in our collective work.

COORDINATING A DELEGATION AT LIMA COP20

With the leadership of WWF, CANA again accredited a delegation of members to the UN's Climate Conference - COP20 in Lima. The delegation ensured that a strong Australian civil society voice was present at the talks, including representatives from grassroots and local groups. Delegates were also able to participate in the Peoples' Summit and the March for Climate Justice.

SUPPORTING A COLLABORATION TO "PROTECT THE RET"

One of the biggest political issues of the year was the Abbott Government's attack on renewable energy, including its proposals to lower the Renewable Energy Target (RET). Several members, including Solar Citizens, WWF, and GetUp collaborated on a campaign to keep this important renewable energy policy strong. Unfortunately, the campaign was not successful and the LNP and the ALP worked together to reduce the 2020 target.

SUPPORTING A COLLABORATION TO CAMPAIGN AROUND THE ALP NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Recognising the need to catalyse a ‘race to the top’ on climate and energy issues CANA supported a collaboration of groups to work on influencing the ALP National Conference. Including members such as The Wilderness Society, GetUp, AYCC, and Oxfam the working group mapped out opportunities to influence the debate - inside and outside the Convention Centre. Working together the group managed to push the ALP to adopt a 50% renewable energy target in 2030 and held a rally of 2000 people outside the conference calling for even greater action.

PREPARING FOR A NEW STRUCTURE AND ROLE FOR THE NETWORK

Throughout the first half of 2015, the Network invested time and energy in setting up new governance structures, a new steering committee, and in recruiting a new “Network Support Team” that could deliver on the new vision for the Climate Action Network. We look forward to 2015/16 being a year of action, collaboration, and growth.

TREASURER'S REPORT

2014/15 was a year of rejuvenation and hope for Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) and its member groups following significant and sustained efforts to reimagine the ways in which we can work together to tackle the immense challenges of climate change.

In 2014/15 CANA again witnessed a 100% turnover in staff which has presented both challenges and opportunities for both the organisation and the Committee. Following a comprehensive review of CANA and its leadership role within the broader climate movement, hiring of wonderful new staff to continue to deliver on CANA's vision, the organisation is now in a solid financial and organisational position to offer the support that our members desire to be as effective as they can be in the important work that they do.

I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution that the outgoing Director, Laura Kelly made to CANA as an organisation, the climate movement more broadly, and in particular her work under challenging circumstances to support the Committee through the strategic planning process and ultimately the restructure of the organisation. I know that it was at times quite a challenge, but I wish to pay tribute to Laura's work, it is very much appreciated.

CANA returned to a surplus of \$109,631 in 2014/15, compared with a deficit of (\$4,633) in 2013/14. The 2014/15 result largely reflects the enormous support and commitment shown by many organisations revitalising CANA.

This is reflected by the fact that **total income increased by 114% to \$296,415** in 2014/15 compared with \$138,051 in 2013/14. This increase is due largely to a significant number of membership contributions from organisations that have invested in CANA and its future. In contrast membership fees were down 32% to \$49,463 from \$72,226 in 13/14, due to both a number of fee-waivers whilst the Network restructured, and the reclassification of some membership fees as membership contributions. It is important to acknowledge the continued financial support of CANA member groups through the restructure in 2014/15.

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The Network's **total expenses increased by 30% to \$186,763.55** from \$142,684 in 2013/14. A \$60,000 increase in project expenses offset almost across the board reductions across other expenditure items, including salaries and personnel costs which declined **6% to \$99,993.97**.

CANA finished 2014/15 with a **significantly improved balance sheet of \$160,172**, a 217% increase in our position from June 2014.

CANA is once again in a sound financial position, ready to continue to deliver on an ambitious vision in FY15/16 and beyond.

Duncan Jinks

Treasurer, Climate Action Network Australia

30th September 2015

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MEMBERSHIP

CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Energy Transformation	350.org Australia
Faith	ARRCC (Australian Religious Response to CC)
Protecting Nature	Australian Conservation Foundation
Energy Transformation	Australian Youth Climate Coalition
Local Action	Bathurst Community Climate Action Network
Global Justice	CARE Australia
Faith	Catholic Earthcare Australia
Local Action	Climate Action Hobart
Local Action	Climate Action Monaro
Local Action	Climate Action Moreland (CAM)
Local Action	Climate Action Newcastle
Local Action	Climate Action Now! Wingecarribee
Local Action	Climate Action Sydney Eastern Suburbs (CASES)
Local Action	Climate Action Tomaree (CAT)
Health and Wellbeing	Climate and Health Alliance
Local Action	Climate Change Australia
Local Action	Climate Change Balmain-Rozelle
Global Justice	Climate Justice Program
Local Action	Climate Rescue of Wagga
Protecting Nature	Conservation Council of South Australia
Protecting Nature	Conservation Council of Western Australia
Energy Transformation	CORENA
Protecting Nature	Diversicon Foundation
Health and Wellbeing	Doctors for the Environment Australia
Global Justice	Edmund Rice Centre

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CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Protecting Nature	Environment Centre of the Northern Territory
Protecting Nature	Environment Tasmania
Protecting Nature	Environment Victoria
Economic Justice	Get Up
Global Justice	Global Voices
Cultural Change	Green Music Australia
Global Justice	Greenpeace Australia Pacific
Research and Ideas	Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF)
Protecting Nature	L.I.V.E (Locals Into Victoria's Environment)
Local Action	Lake Macquarie Climate Action
Local Action	Lighter Footprints
Local Action	Mackay Conservation Group
Energy Transformation	Moreland Energy Foundation
Local Action	Mount Alexander Sustainability Group (MASG)
Protecting Nature	Nature Conservation Council of NSW
Protecting Nature	North Coast Environment Council
Global Justice	Oxfam Australia
Local Action	Parramatta Climate Action Network (Parra CAN)
Protecting Nature	Queensland Conservation
Energy Transformation	Quit Coal
Economic Justice	SEARCH Foundation
Faith	Sisters of the Good Samaritan
Energy Transformation	Solar Citizens
Local Action	Sustainable Living Armidale
Cultural Change	Sustainable Population Australia (SPA)
Global Justice	TEAR Australia



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CONSTITUENCY	ORGANISATION
Research and Ideas	The Climate Institute (Associate Member)
Energy Transformation	The Sunrise Project
Cultural Change	The Verb
Protecting Nature	The Wilderness Society
Economic Justice	United Voice
Faith	Uniting Church, Justice & International Mission
Global Justice	World Vision Australia
Protecting Nature	World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)



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Signed 30th of September 2015 by committee members:

Chris Riedy, President and Duncan Jinks, Treasurer.

Chris Riedy
President

Duncan Jinks
Treasurer



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