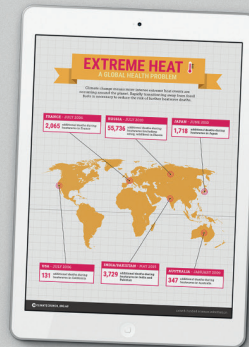




CLIMATE COUNCIL

Annual Report 2015-16



Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

The Climate Council is an independent, crowd-funded organisation providing quality information on climate change to the Australian public.

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Thank You for Your Support

The support of our donors and community is what drives the engine room of the Climate Council. The support we've received has powered climate communications in Australia.

With the ongoing political uncertainty that our nation faces, it remains more important than ever to ensure that a strong, independent voice on climate change is present, ready to call out misinformation and to promote the narrative that a transition away from fossil fuels is necessary, possible and beneficial.

As the Council enters our third year of operation we continue to hone our talents, and improve our approach, creating a more sophisticated strategy to initiate change. We've already had a huge impact, and continue to turn up the dial and create change in the climate space.

We're excited to embrace the many new opportunities that lie ahead, continuing to shape the climate narrative and make an impact, both in Australia and on the world stage.

Image 1: The Climate Council has had a huge impact in its first three years.





A Message from

Climate Council Chair Gerry Hueston

Gerry Hueston
Climate Council Chair

A lot has happened in the past financial year - Australia has another new Prime Minister, businesses like Uber and Airbnb have boomed, the UK voted to leave the European Union, and we've seen increasing economic uncertainty, among many other global events.

Significantly on the climate front, in December 2015, an international climate deal was struck. We've also seen important signals that a transition away from fossil fuels is underway - the costs of solar technologies have continued to drop, whilst investment is soaring and jobs in renewables are increasing, and solar power generation in the UK eclipsed coal power for the first time ever.

Whilst these are important developments, over the past year we've also seen the impacts of climate change hit close to home. Rapidly warming oceans, driven by climate change from the burning of fossil fuels and an El Nino event, has led to global coral bleaching, with Australia's Great Barrier Reef significantly impacted. We also saw Tasmania's World Heritage area burnt by bushfires in summer.

The Climate Council has responded nimbly to these events by producing world class reports and digital content, as always, ensuring that Australians have access to a fully independent source of climate change information.

The work of the Council remains critical - not only in educating the public on climate change, but also moving the public discourse on climate change forward. As you'll see in this report, our work has become increasingly strategic and more targeted, which has allowed our work to increase its reach dramatically.

I am delighted to continue my work with such a fast paced, agile and formidable organisation, which continually punches above its weight. I'd like to thank my fellow Directors, Chief Councillor Tim Flannery and CEO Amanda McKenzie, the Climate Councillors, staff, volunteers and members for their dedication and commitment.

On behalf of the Board, I am proud to present the Climate Council's 2015-2016 Annual Report.



Image 2: Climate Council Chief Councillor Tim Flannery and Climate Council CEO Amanda McKenzie.

A Message from the CEO & Chief Councillor

Almost three years ago we launched the Climate Council as an independent, not-for-profit organisation. We were powered by the community from the start - receiving overwhelming support from the public, in what turned out to be Australia's largest ever crowd-funding campaign.

So much has happened since then, and with the ongoing support of our incredible community we've been able to achieve a huge amount in nearly 3 years. We've moved the public discourse forward from a debate about whether or not climate change is real, to discrediting climate denial in the media and focusing on local, tangible impacts and solutions. We've educated the public on the links between climate change and extreme weather. We've elevated renewable energy to be a top-tier political issue in Australia. Our work has also contributed to turning up the dial of public opinion - with recent polling revealing that support for climate action is at its highest level since 2008 (Galaxy Polling, 2016).

And to achieve these outcomes, we've written 60 publications, we've reached hundreds of millions of people through the media and we've worked alongside scientists, firefighters, health professionals, teachers, local governments and planners to make sure that climate change is front and centre.

The Climate Council has also hosted two strategic summits. The Australian Climate Security Summit was the first of its kind landmark summit, which brought together leading authorities from the armed forces, academia, policy think tanks and other government bodies to form a working group on climate change and security. More recently, the Council hosted the Heat, Health and Climate Change Summit at Melbourne Children's Hospital, which brought together experts from across the health sector.

The Climate Council sent a delegation to the 2015 Paris Climate Summit, and has been working tirelessly in the aftermath of the conference to ensure that climate change remains a top-tier political issue and to ensure that the community is educated on real and tangible solutions such as renewable energy.

Earlier this year we undertook a major reactive project in response to the unprecedented coral bleaching taking place on the Great Barrier Reef. Our work included a series of reports, original video content, a newspaper advertisement and statement from top Australian scientists, as well as framing the media response to the Government's intervention in the UNESCO Tourism and Climate Change report.

We've also ensured that our work supports other organisations and makes a range of community voices stronger. Our report on CSIRO job cuts helped other groups coordinate their messages and speak out on this issue. We're also constantly working with other groups in the community such as farmers, renewable energy workers and others to ensure that they have the facts, and are confident, so their voices can be amplified in the media.

Our team has a broad range of impactful work planned over the coming months, and will be re-prioritising now that the federal election has been decided. Whilst we are continually reflecting on the significant impact our work has had so far, we are always looking for new ways to raise the bar even higher, to work in more efficient and effective ways, and diversify our strategy so that we continue to be the number one organisation working on this issue in Australia.

This report provides an update on the Climate Council's work from the past financial year. We look forward to working with you over the coming years to increase our impact and ensure our work enables us to move the public narrative to enable sufficient action on climate change in Australia and throughout the world.

Thanks for being a part of the Climate Council.



Tim Flannery
Chief Councillor



Amanda McKenzie
CEO

Impact Summary

We know that our strategy is working as we've been able to get more than 20,000 items on Climate Change into the media. If this was measured in ad coverage it would be worth \$54 million.

In the past financial year the Climate Council reached 85 million people via our media work. For the first and second quarter of 2016 the Climate Council was the number one

organisation communicating on climate nationally with more media mentions than the next four organisations combined. Our spokespeople have also been consistently ranked in the top 5 list of climate change communicators in the media. Our messages are also reaching more people than ever through our digital platforms. This means that many, many people have heard from us many many times, which is exactly how public opinion is transformed.

Climate Council: heatwaves are getting hotter and more frequent

Professor Tim Flannery launches independent Climate Council, saying 'an informed public is crucial

Climate Council nets \$1m in donations

Climate Council warns of massive cost of coastal flooding and rising sea levels

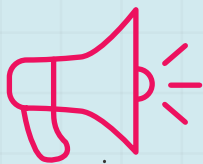
Climate Council Report Says Australian Bushfires, Heatwaves On The Rise

Australian Defence under-prepared for climate change security threat

Australia cut from UN report on climate threat to avoid damaging reef tourism

Climate Council report finds clean energy investment grew by 43 per cent over six years

IMPACT SNAPSHOT



OVER
\$50M

IN MEDIA COVERAGE



CONSISTENTLY THE

#1

ORGANISATION

COMMUNICATING ON
CLIMATE CHANGE
NATIONALLY



OVER

20,000

MEDIA ITEMS



CUMULATIVELY
REACHED MORE THAN

270M

READERS, VIEWERS

& LISTENERS



3 CONSISTENTLY HAVING
OF THE TOP 5

SPOKESPEOPLE

COMMUNICATING ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

Research Publications

In just under three years the Climate Council has released 60 publications. This financial year we have released 25 reports, fact sheets and briefing papers. Our research publications have focused on the narrative areas of extreme weather, renewable energy, international action and the carbon budget. We've also written a number of key reports targeted at specific audiences including reports on health and climate security.

Our reports, communications guides and briefing papers have provided Australian's with a source of independent and accessible climate information. The Council's reports translate complex science, economics and energy policy to create an engaging story for global audiences.

Our reports have underpinned the Climate Council's media success, receiving significant traction in the media and in social media. Reports are used as authoritative information for years after their publication, for example: briefings for politicians, emergency services and health services; schools and universities using our materials as part of their curriculum; and media using our reports as background for subsequent stories. Additionally, our communications guides cut through the science, and outline key messages to ensure that a range of organisations can communicate in the media in an accurate and effective way.

Our reports are an important resource to educate Australians, provide facts to power the campaigns run by environmental organisations, and are frequently referenced by politicians in parliament. And importantly, they provide the language for us to move the debate forward. They allow us to disseminate our messaging to decision makers, and voices in the media – which allows us to open up the dialogue and shift the language of climate change. Our reports have continuously proven a powerful vehicle for us to change the discourse of climate change in Australia.



The Climate Council's reports focus on the four theme areas – climate change, extreme weather, renewable energy and international action.

Media Coverage

We know that our media strategy is working, as we've been able to get more than 20,000 items on Climate Change into the media, which is worth over \$50 million in ad coverage. This financial year we reached 85 million people via the media.

For the first quarter of 2016 the Climate Council was the number one organisation communicating on climate nationally with more media mentions than the next four organisations combined. Our messages are reaching more people than ever. So far our messages have reached a cumulative audience of 270 million people. That means that many, many people have heard from us many, many times, which is exactly how public opinion is transformed.

Significantly, we've generated a lot of high profile media coverage. Our spokespeople are regularly featured on the Today Show, Sunrise, The Project, The 7.30 report and Sky News. It is a notable achievement to have our content featured on these popular platforms. We've also generated a significant amount of international media interest. We've secured stories in the Washington Post, Al Jazeera and front page of the New York Times. We regularly get our stories in the international media in China and India, and our recent work on the Great Barrier Reef was quoted in more than 100 international publications.

Our media work really stands out as an remarkable achievement of the Council. We generate media coverage similar to that of large government departments, and organisations that have media team of 20+ people. We currently have one person managing the Climate Council's media, which makes this result even more remarkable and speaks to our careful strategic approach and excellent spokespeople.



Image 3: Climate Councillor Professor Lesley Hughes on Channel Nines Today Show, speaking about the impacts of climate change on the Great Barrier Reef.



Image 4: Amanda McKenzie on ABC 24 speaking about extreme weather.



Image 5: Climate Councillor Professor Will Steffen on Channel Ten's The Project, speaking about UNESCO censorship.

Social Media and Online Content

The Climate Council's social media channels have continued to grow steadily, and provide a platform for us to reach millions of Australians each month with important information on climate change. We now have a direct online audience of almost 250,000 people, who like, follow and share our content on social media.

Through Facebook alone, our content has reached 110 million people. Our content is shared far and wide, and our engagement levels are significantly higher than other climate change organisations. We've grown our platforms too, and are now reaching more people on Instagram and Google Plus.

We have grown our Facebook community to 193,000 people. We now reach 6.7M per month on social media. Earlier this year we had our highest-performing Facebook post in Climate Council history: a video of Leonardo Di Caprio's Oscars acceptance speech calling for climate action. Our CSIRO video we produced also performed extremely well on Facebook, reaching 800k and engaging 20k - up there in our top 10 Facebook posts of all time.

On Twitter, we've achieved 3.5 million cumulative impressions so far in 2016, with over 62k engagements (retweets, favourites, replies and clicks). We have 26.8k followers, which is a 55% increase in the last 12 months. Breaking news, political news, visual content and live event coverage continues to perform well on Twitter, with our hashtag #HeatHealth trending in Australia during the Heat & Health summit in Melbourne.

The Climate Council has now produced 22 pieces of original video content. We recently produced a video on the solar transition underway in Broken Hill, which has been viewed by more than 1 million people. This year, we've also produced a video on cuts at CSIRO, the impacts of climate change on the Great Barrier Reef, Renewable Energy and Jobs and an End of Financial Year video, summarising our impacts in the media.

The Climate Council has continued to produce world leading infographics, which make our report content easy to digest. These infographics have been shared by countless supporters, and we are constantly far contacted by community organisations, politicians, industry associations, and planning organisations asking us to provide them with copies of our infographics to use in their work.



193,000

Facebook
Community



26.8K

Twitter
Followers



6.7M

People reached
per month on
social media.



Examples of the Climate Council's positive focused social media content.

Climate Council Project Review

The Australian Climate Security Project

The Climate Council's Australian Climate Security Project, has formed a core part of the Council's strategic work over the past year.

Our team executed a series of reports, events and media work on security and climate change in Australia, reaching new audiences and deepening the engagement of Defence personnel, security experts and emergency management. The project commenced with a Climate Security Report written by Professor Will Steffen and former Chief of the Defence force Admiral Chris Barrie. The report was the foundation for The Climate Security Summit hosted by the Climate Council in October 2015. The summit was attended by Rear Admiral David Titley, USN (Ret.), who led the US Navy's Task Force on Climate Change whilst serving in the Pentagon, and Rear Admiral Neil Morisetti, RN (Ret.), who acted as the UK Government's Climate and Energy Security Envoy. This project also included Parliamentary Briefings and a half-day roundtable to follow-up on the ideas established at the initial summit.

This series of events was resoundingly successful, as evidenced by the inclusion of much stronger language regarding climate change in the February Defence White Paper, unprecedented public acknowledgment of climate change by Australia's Chief of Army and increased collaboration and knowledge sharing on climate security

evidenced through the establishment of an Australian Climate Security Group and a follow up expert roundtable held in April. These actions demonstrate that the Climate Council has helped empower key sectors of the community, namely, Defence, to become champions for the cause.

Image 6: Former Chief of the Defence Force, Chris Barrie, Climate Councillor Professor Will Steffen, Climate Council CEO Amanda McKenzie, Rear Admiral Dave Tittley USN (Ret.) and Rear Admiral Neil Morisetti RN (Ret.).



Climate Change in the 2016 Defence White Paper

In February 2016 the work of the Climate Council's climate security project came to fruition.

Climate change was mentioned throughout the 2016 Defence White Paper as a security threat and it was identified as a major challenge in Prime Minister Turnbull's White Paper speech. This is the first Defence White Paper from a conservative government to ever mention climate change. It is also the first Defence White Paper to acknowledge climate change as an immediate threat that is happening now, rather than casting it as a future problem. Finally, it was the first time climate change was noted as one of 6 key drivers that will shape Australia's security environment.

Image 7: Minister for Defence, Marise Payne releasing the 2016 Defence White Paper.



The Australian Summit on Extreme Heat and Health

We set out with an ambitious plan to bring together experts from across the health sector, academia and the community to work on the incredibly important issue of climate change, heat and health – and this year we executed Australia's Climate Change Heat and Health summit.

The Project catalysed discussion within the public and professional spheres and facilitated active, much needed, dialogue amongst leading experts and decision makers. At a time when the political landscape in Australia was failing to provide leadership or support for seriously addressing climate change, the Heat and Health Project - through our landmark report, National Summit, and continued engagement has highlighted the fundamental consequences of inaction for human health. Our intervention in the heat and health field has been invaluable in publicising this important issue and building momentum towards change.

The Summit reached agreement on a Co-Chair Statement, that participants will share it with their organisations and affiliated groups, knowing that it reflected the interests, priorities and concerns of major bodies across the field. This Statement provides a framework for health organisations advocacy platforms on heat and health.



Image 8: Dr Stephen Parnis, Dr Elizabeth Hanna, Professor Fiona Stanley and Professor Lesley Hughes read through the Heat & Health report.

We also shouldn't underestimate the immense value in developing connections between participants. These beneficial relationships will persevere beyond the Heat

and Health Project through an ongoing network which was established online following the Summit.

The Great Barrier Reef Coral Bleaching Event

The Great Barrier Reef is the biggest single living structure on Earth and one of the world's natural wonders. It is currently being impacted by rising sea temperatures which have resulted in a catastrophic coral bleaching event.

In February 2016, sea surface temperatures climbed to an astounding 33 degrees Celcius in the waters off far North Queensland, resulting in coral bleaching across the Great Barrier Reef. In response to this, the Climate Council published a rapid response '*Climate Change and Coral Bleaching Alert*'. This alert was distributed to our community, the media

and other environmental organisations, and gained traction in the national media.

The Climate Council has been working with a number of Marine Scientists to track the full extent of bleaching, which is still occurring. The Climate Council has also published a Communications Guide, which has been shared with politicians, the environment movement and journalists to ensure that the facts are available on the links between coral bleaching and climate change. The Climate Council also published a comprehensive expert report on Climate Change and Coral Bleaching in early May 2016.

Image 9: The Climate Council's reports: Australia's Coral Reefs under threat from climate change, Climate Council Alert: Climate change and coral bleaching and Communications Guide: Great Barrier Reef Bleaching Event.



by funding the advertising costs of the statement. Queensland State Environment Minister Steven Miles was quick to react to increased pressure immediately calling for an emergency meeting between Federal Environment Minister Greg Hunt and the State Premiers.

Image 10: The Climate Council's full page letter, signed by 56 scientists in Queensland's Courier Mail newspaper.

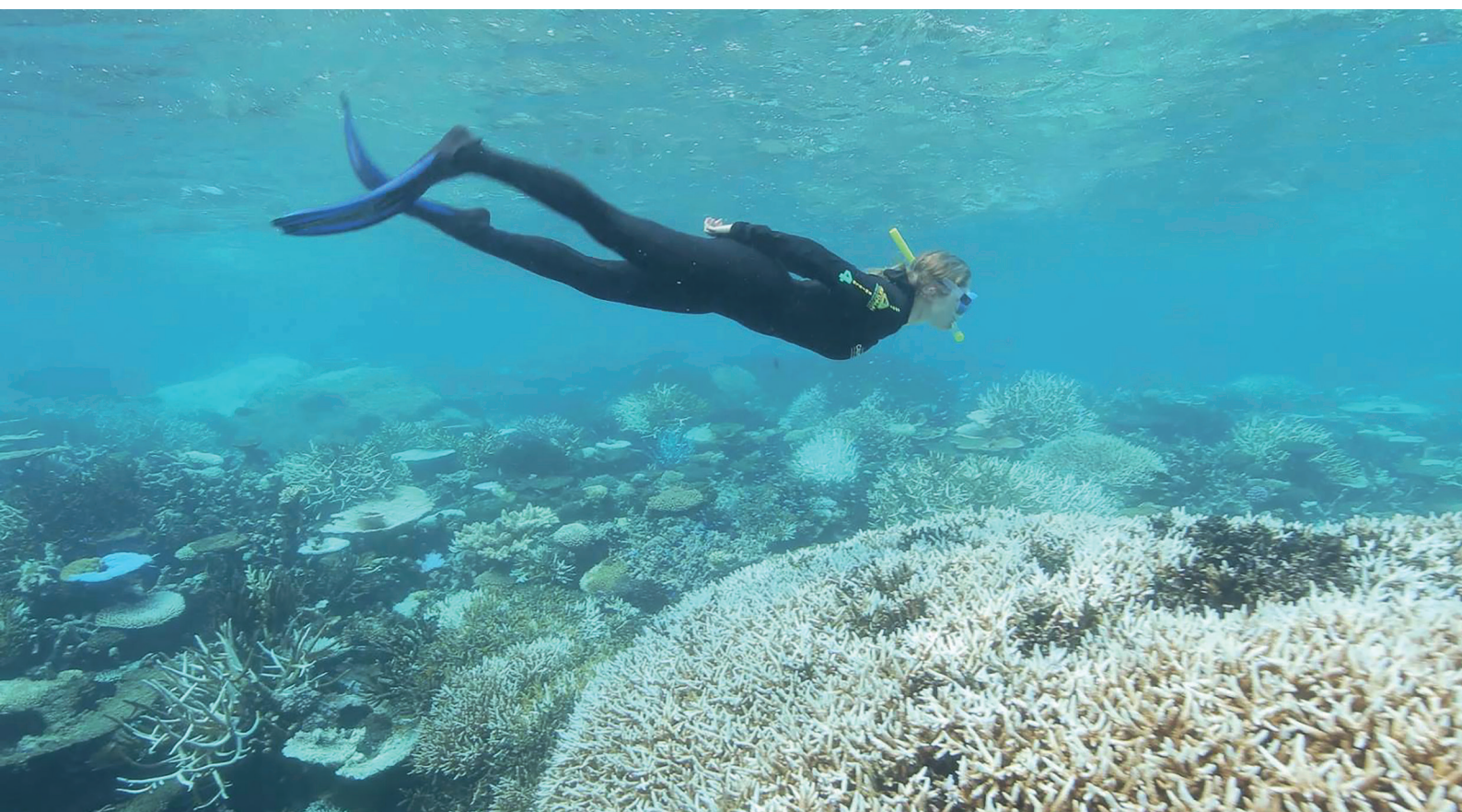


In May 2016, UNESCO released a report titled 'World Heritage and Tourism in a Changing Climate'. Professor Will Steffen had been authored a box on the Great Barrier Reef for this report. However, it was revealed that this section had been cut, upon the request of the Australian Government. UNESCO report authors told the Guardian they were pressured by government officials to remove any mention of Australia including smaller sections on Kakadu and the Tasmanian heritage-listed forests. Australia was the only inhabited country not included in the report. The Climate Council sent out a rapid response press-release, which resulted in sustained national and international media attention on the issue. Tim Flannery, Will Steffen and Amanda McKenzie all participated in TV and radio interviews, with over 300 media pieces bringing awareness to the censorship of this report.

Tim Flannery and Amanda McKenzie travelled to the Reef in May to see the coral bleaching firsthand. Tim and Amanda went diving on the Reef just off Port Douglas, and were confronted by the extensive bleaching. With help from an expert under water videographer the Council was able to secure video footage of the bleaching, and create a video to show its supporters and media firsthand the extent of the bleaching. The video has reached over 800,000 people on Facebook and has been shared more than 10,000 times.

The Climate Council's work has helped to significantly elevate the Reef as a top election issue. The Reef consistently ranked as a top four issue, behind health, education and the economy. Polling throughout the election showed that the Reef was ranking as a top three issue in a number of marginal electorates.

Image 11: Climate Council CEO Amanda McKenzie investigating coral bleaching on the Great Barrier Reef just off Port Douglas.



CSIRO Funding Cuts

In February the Council undertook reactive work in response to planned cuts to funding that would reduce CSIRO's Climate Change division. These cuts would severely diminish Australia's capacity to plan for and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

The Climate Council released a report titled *Flying Blind: Navigating Climate Change Without the CSIRO*, and undertook an integrated digital and media campaign.

Image 12: CSIRO's Canberra Headquarters.



The report was well received by our colleagues in a range of scientific organisations, and put significant pressure on the Australian Government to reconsider these cuts, given that they contradict the promises made at the recent COP21 Climate Conference in Paris.

In response to widespread community outrage to the cuts, the government announced this April that it would open a Climate Science Centre. The research hub will be housed at the CSIRO's existing Hobart facility and will be guided by a national climate science advisory committee. However, this resolution is simply not adequate - the CSIRO will still have less climate science capacity than before the cuts were announced.

Image 13: A still shot from the Climate Council's video campaign on cuts to the CSIRO's climate change capacity.



COP21 Paris Climate Conference

Engagement

In December 2015, Chief Councillor Tim Flannery, Climate Councillor Professor Lesley Hughes and Climate Council CEO Amanda McKenzie, travelled to Paris for the COP21 Climate Conference. Throughout December the Australian team coordinated media work for the Paris conference, with Will Steffen undertaking the bulk of media work in Australia, and Amanda McKenzie doing

a plethora of media work daily in Paris. Tim, Amanda and Lesley also attended a range of important events in Paris, and met with significant international contacts, such as the Head of the Global Solar Council. The Council's supporter base was informed with regular email updates, and two videos; an explainer prior to the Paris conference and a wrap up video, which detailed the outcomes and agreement.

Image 14: John Smirnow, Global Solar Council Secretary General; Amanda McKenzie, CEO Climate Council; Bruce Douglas, Chairman of the Global Solar Council and CEO of Solar Power Europe; Steve Blume, Chair of the Australian Solar Council in Paris.



Paris Media Coverage

The Climate Council reached 11.2 million people with coverage worth \$3.1m. We were on television 37 times, radio more than 70 times and in the newspapers 40 times. It is clear that the Climate Council's role was critical in setting the tone for how the Paris conference was understood at home. This does not include the large numbers of international mentions, which we cannot track through our current monitoring service.

Paris Report

The Climate Council also released its report titled 'A Whole New World, Tracking the Renewable Energy Boom from Copenhagen to Paris' as part of our Paris strategy. This report detailed just how much momentum there is and how much growth had occurred in the renewables sector since the previous COP20 conference in Copenhagen, and set the agenda for the discourse to be focused on momentum.

Image 15: Our 'Whole New World Report', released during the COP21 Paris Conference.



Renewable Energy and Jobs

This year the Council undertook an important series of work on the projected growth of renewable energy jobs in Australia.

The project saw us partner with world-leading consulting firm EY to undertake brand new modeling to analyse job projections with a transition to 50% renewables. The report was launched at a stakeholder briefing, and was well received by both decision makers and the media. The project also included the production of a video on the modeling, which allowed this complex research to be translated and easily understood by Australian audiences.

Image 16: Our reports focus on jobs and the economy ensured it reached new audiences.



Battery Storage

In late 2015, the Climate Council released a report called *Powerful Potential: battery storage for renewable energy and electric cars*, which found that battery storage costs for households will continue to fall dramatically. The report gained significant traction in the media, and even secured some longer pieces on the ABC. The report promoted the findings that 1.4 million Australian households already power their homes with solar - household batteries will mean that households can store the power they create, giving them the flexibility to

use it later on. The report also finds that the rapidly falling cost of batteries is expected to make electric cars cost-competitive with conventional cars within the next twenty years, leading to much greater uptake.

Elevating the story of large-scale renewables

This year our digital team travelled to Broken Hill - to produce three videos to tell the story of large-scale renewables in Australia. Broken Hill is an incredible story of a mining town moving to renewables. Incredibly, the three videos produced in this series have reached more than 5 million people.

Image 17: Our large-scale renewables video content.



Climate Council Community

The Climate Council is People Powered!

The Climate Council only exists because of our powerful, engaged and diverse community. Because of this we are a community focused organisation, driven by the support we receive.

We have hundreds of thousands of community members who have supported us in a multitude of ways, whether its:

- › Sharing our content far and wide
- › Coming along to our events and speeches
- › Forwarding our emails to friends and colleagues
- › Sharing our infographics
- › Chipping in with a community donation
- › Volunteering for us

Our supporters are engaged, active and willing to take action. Our community keeps up to date with our work through email updates, our report content, on social media, and in person at events.



Fundraising Adventure Trips

Kimberley Trip

In August last year, 16 of the Climate Council's most committed supporters set out on a once-in-a-lifetime expedition with Chief Councillor Professor Tim Flannery to the remote Kimberley region of Western Australia, to raise funds for the Climate Council.

The trip included visits to El Questro Station, Manning Gorge and the Australian Wildlife Conservancy Mornington Station property. The group trekked over rocky terrain and through stunning landscapes to reach some of Australia's most breathtaking gorges and waterholes.

The Climate Council's Kimberley Challengers put in an absolutely incredible fundraising effort - raising over \$110,000 for the Climate Council!

Image 19: Our Kimberley Trekkers at Mornington Station in WA.



Lord Howe Island Trip

In March 2016, eleven of our most dedicated supporters travelled with Professor Lesley Hughes to the World Heritage-listed Lord Howe Island on a fundraising trip for the Climate Council. From the white sand beaches of North Bay to the challenging Mount Gower summit hike, our fundraising team traversed this incredible natural wonderland, experiencing its exquisite flora and fauna. Under the guidance of the Climate Council's Professor Lesley Hughes and renowned naturalist Ian Hutton OAM, our trekkers learnt firsthand about the incredible history and importance of Lord Howe Island's unique ecosystem, and how climate change threatens its existence. Our Lord Howe Island Challengers put in an absolutely incredible fundraising effort – raising over \$43,000 for the Climate Council!

Peer to Peer Fundraising

A number of our amazing community members have also taken on challenges for the Council to raise funds and awareness of our work. Alida Gyory, pictured below, raised funds for the Council by riding her bike from Canberra to Perth. Alida is currently undertaking a challenge riding across Europe to raise funds for the Council.

Image 20 (left): Our Lord Howe Island Adventure participants atop Mount Eliza. **Image 21 (right):** Climate Council supporter Alida Gyory.



Community Giving and Philanthropy

The Climate Council continues to rely on the community to fund our operations with over 75% coming from our community. The remainder of our funding comes from philanthropy and grants from foundations. The Climate Council does not receive any federal or state government funding.

We are very grateful to all of our donors and in particular to our Community Givers who have made a significant investment in our organisation. We have many generous regular givers who donated in the last financial year.

We were also pleased to announce that the Climate Council was added to the list of public funds on the Register of Environmental organisations on 17 August 2015 and now has approved deductible gift recipient status. This means that donations of \$2 or more made to our gift fund are tax deductible.

We continue to invest in robust financial and donor management systems overseen by our Finance Committee and Community Management teams. Our financial management is supported by a strategic plan and we maintain strong financial and compliance controls as well as prudent budgetary and cash management review processes on a monthly basis.

The financial information in this annual report has been extracted from the Annual Financial Report which has been audited by Thomas Davis & Co, Chartered Accountants. The auditor provided an unqualified audit report. Our accounts are general purpose financial statements that are prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the ACNC Act 2012.

We comply with the ACNC requirements in relation to disclosure of our company and financial information on an annual basis. The audited accounts and company information are available to the public on the ACNC website.

Finances

Income from Donors

In the 2015/16 financial year we received a total of \$2,976,095 in community and major donations from more than 10,000 supporters and saw the Climate Council's number of core regular (weekly and monthly) donors grow significantly, with the average regular donation being approximately \$30 per month.

Supporter Fundraising

Dedicated Climate Council supporters have continued to put in incredible efforts this year to raise funds for the Council.

We hosted our first fundraising Trip in August 2015 to the Kimberley with Professor Tim Flannery and a second fundraising trip to Lord Howe Island in March 2016 with Professor Lesley Hughes. The trips raised in excess of \$150,000 for the Climate Council.

The Climate Council runs these trips as an opportunity to:

1. Demonstrate the impact of climate change first-hand on a localised environment.
2. Raise needed funds for the Climate Council.
3. Build knowledge of a core group of supporters on climate change. We have received feedback from previous participants that this has been a powerful moment in their personal journey, reinvigorating their own commitment to the climate cause. These supporters are then better equipped to be advocates within their own community.

NB: All our travel, including all air travel for fundraising trips, is carbon offset via a third party.

Pro-Bono Goods & Services

We continue to aim to reduce our costs as much as possible by accepting pro-bono and discounted goods and services.

This year we have received pro-bono (or discounted cost) goods and services for legal, graphic design, training, conference attendance, consulting fees, administration resources (including reduced cost office space), creative resources and catering services. We also continue to use not-for-profit charity discounts for IT services and hardware.

We are so thankful to the organisations that have provided this vital support as it has significantly amplified our efforts.

Volunteers

In the 2015/16 financial year we estimate that volunteers contributed over \$200,000 worth of their time.

Expenditure

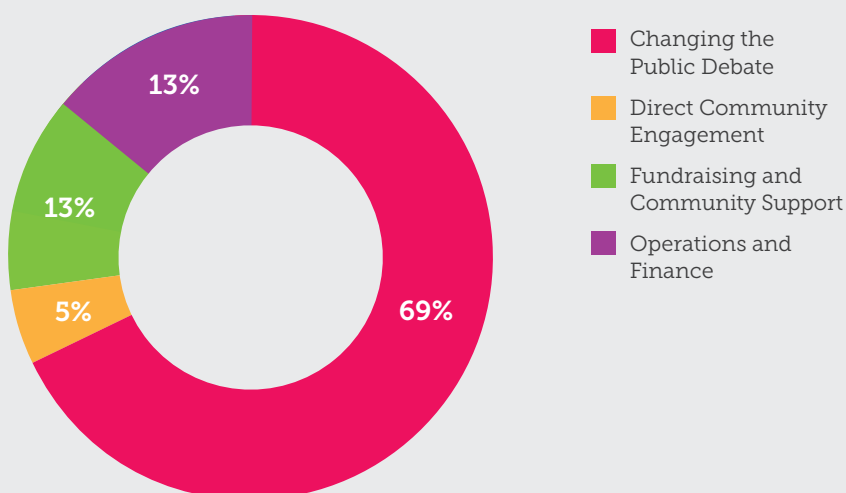
Climate Council expenditure in 2015/16 financial year was \$2,396,896.

1. Changing the public debate (69%) – includes expenses associated with:
 - › Our communications work including research, writing and delivery of world leading export reports.
 - › Generating extensive national and international media on climate change
 - › Training media spokespeople including firefighters, farmers and renewables experts.
 - › Distribution of our information via online, digital and social media platforms.
2. Direct Community Engagement (5%) - expenses associated with communicating with a broad range of engaged audiences including the delivery of speeches to over 10,000 people by our CEO and the Councillors.

3. Fundraising and community support (13%) - expenses associated with fundraising campaigns and community management systems and support.
4. Operations and Finance (13%) - expenses related to running the Climate Council legally, compliantly and efficiently. This includes operational management, accounting, audit, compliance, insurance, legal, premises, office supplies, IT and administrative costs.

The operating surplus generated in the financial year and cash reserves will be utilised in future periods to further implement the Climate Council's core strategies to increase our impact.

A certain portion of cash reserves is maintained to cover operating expenditure on a day to day basis, allowing the Climate Council to continue to operate if there were any delay in anticipated donations.



Our Team

Councillors

The Councillors are experts in their fields, including renowned climate scientists, researchers and policy and business leaders. Our work is overseen by an independent Board and the Councillors are assisted by a small, talented team of staff and volunteers:



Professor Tim Flannery
Chief Councillor

Tim is one of Australia's leading writers on climate change. An internationally acclaimed scientist, explorer and conservationist, Professor Flannery was named Australian of the Year in 2007.



Amanda McKenzie
CEO

As well as being the CEO of the Climate Council, Amanda is Chair of the Centre for Australian Progress and is on the Board of Plan International Australia. In 2014, Amanda was recognised as one of Westpac's 100 Women of Influence. Previously, Amanda founded the Australian Youth Climate Coalition.



Gerry Hueston
Chair and Councillor

Gerry is a prominent businessman who recently retired as President of BP Australasia, after a career with BP spanning 34 years in a variety of management and senior executive roles in New Zealand, Australia, Europe and the United Kingdom.



Professor Will Steffen
Councillor

Will is a world-renowned climate science expert and researcher at the Australian National University, Canberra. His research interests span a broad range within the fields of climate change and Earth System science.



Professor Lesley Hughes
Councillor

Lesley is an ecologist in the Department of Biological Sciences at Macquarie University and an expert on the impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems. She was a lead author for the UN's IPCC Fourth and Fifth Assessment Reports.



Professor Veena Sahajwalla
Councillor

Veena is Associate Dean (Strategic Industry Relations), Faculty of Science, and Director, Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology, at the University of New South Wales.



Professor Andrew Stock
Councillor

Andrew is a Non Executive Director of several companies in the energy sector, ranging from traditional energy suppliers to emerging energy technology companies. He is also Director of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation.

Board Members

Gerry Hueston - Chair of Board (please see page 35).



Robert Purves AM

Robert is a businessman and an environmentalist. He is currently the President of WWF-Australia and is a former board member of WWF International. Robert is also a founding member of The Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, a Director of Earth Hour Global, a Patron of the Lizard Island Research Station, and a Governor of Australian Youth Climate Coalition. In 2008 Robert was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to conservation and the environment, and awarded an Honorary Fellow from the University of Sydney.



Samantha Mostyn

Samantha is Chair of Citibank Australia and Carriageworks and Deputy Chair of the Diversity Council of Australia. She is also a Non-executive Director of Covermore Group Limited, Mirvac, Virgin Australia Holdings Limited, Transurban Group, Australian Council of the Arts and ClimateWorks Australia. Samantha is also currently a member of Business and Sustainable Development Commission and a member of the advisory board of the Crawford School of Government and Economics, ANU.

Samantha has previously held executive roles at IAG, Optis and Cable & Wireless plc. Samantha was also formerly an AFL Commissioner, a member of the National Mental Health Commission and served on the Human Rights Commission Review of the Treatment of Women in the ADF.



Martijn Wilder AM

Martijn is head of Baker & McKenzie's Global Environmental Markets legal practice. Martijn holds the following roles: Chair of the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA), Director, Clean Energy Finance Corporation; Chair, NSW Climate Change Council; Governing Board Member, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership; Member, Strategic Council of the Climate Institute; Member of the Wentworth Group; Adjunct Professor Australian National University; Affiliate, Cambridge Centre for Climate Change Mitigation Research Department of Land Economy, University of Cambridge. Martijn is currently Chair of the Victorian Government's Climate Change Act 2010 Independent Review Committee.



Matthew Honey

Mathew is currently a Partner at Ernst & Young. He provides a range of assurance services to a variety of clients in the resources, utilities and manufacturing sectors. He is an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, a Registered Company Auditor and Registered Greenhouse and Energy Auditor.

Matt has over 17 years of experience providing financial reporting, governance, risk management, transactional and climate change related advice to his diverse client base both in Australian and internationally.

The Climate Council

Climate Council Staff

Katrina Porteus
Chief Operating Officer

Jessica Craven
Head of Communications

Dr Martin Rice
Head of Research

Alix Pearce
Strategic Projects Manager

Cassie Bremner
Community Engagement Manager

Kirsten Tidswell
Digital Content Manager

Petra Stock
Energy Systems Researcher

Jacqui Fenwick
Researcher

Rebekah Thielemans
Operations and Executive Assistant

Volunteers and Contractors

We would also like to thank the following staff, contractors and volunteers who worked for the Climate Council during the year:

- › Nathalie Swainston
- › Sarah Thompson
- › Richard Hanson
- › Claire Snyder
- › Alex Lachs
- › Anika Molesworth
- › Lily Spencer
- › Solaye Snider
- › Lily Barnett
- › Zak Baillie
- › Sarah Beitel
- › Sally Macdonald
- › Jacqueline King
- › Meg Grayson
- › Jordan Taylor
- › Ashlee Chartlon
- › Louise Castro
- › Jayitri Smiles
- › Alana West
- › Claire Darling
- › Emilie Hegarty
- › Thea Shelley

Appreciation

The incredible work that the Climate Council has undertaken would not have been possible without the support that we have received from our incredible community. We are deeply grateful for the ongoing support and dedication to the Climate Council.

The Council's work only gets such wide distribution because our Facebook friends, our supporters and other organisations share that information. Those daily shares are changing the conversation.

Without your support, the Climate Council simply wouldn't exist. Together we have made a significant and important impact in Australia. Thank you sincerely for chipping in what you can.

Founding Friends & Community Givers

Our special thanks goes to our incredible community of supporters who chip in with regular or one-off donations. Together we have built the Climate Council from scratch into a highly impactful organisation. Thank you for making all of this possible!

Philanthropy

A small, but important, group of philanthropists have contributed to amplifying the contributions of the Climate Council community. Thank you.

Supporters

We would like to thank Baker & McKenzie for providing pro-bono legal advice to the Climate Council. Your support is invaluable.

We would like to thank Matt Bell and the team at Ernst and Young for their collaboration on our Renewable Energy Jobs Report.

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We would sincerely like to thank and acknowledge Simeon Glasson for his tremendous and continuing support of the Climate Council.

We'd also like to acknowledge our members and governors who use their expertise, influence and networks to promote and support the Climate Council's work.

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- › Marian Woodward
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- › Dr. Elizabeth Hanna (Australian Climate and Health Alliance)
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- › Major Michael Thomas (Ret.)
- › Professor Alan Dupont
- › Captain Leo Goff, USN (Ret.)
- › Rear Admiral Neil Morisetti RN (Ret.)
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- › Dr Linda Beaumont (Macquarie University)
- › Prof. David Karoly (University of Melbourne)
- › Prof. Barbara Norman (University of Canberra)


Thank you for supporting the Climate Council.

The Climate Council is an independent, crowd-funded organisation providing quality information on climate change to the Australian public.

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