

Australian Ethical announces recipients of its largest ever community grants program

MEDIA RELEASE

\$360,000 awarded to 20 organisations creating better outcomes for communities across Australia and overseas

Australian Ethical (ASX: AEF) is proud to announce the recipients of its largest ever Community Grants program.

This year, Australian Ethical is donating \$360,000 to 20 grassroots organisations that are making a difference to the planet, people or animals in Australia and overseas.

Selected from over 380 applications, each of the 20 winning organisations will receive a grant of up to \$20,000 to help create better outcomes in communities around the world.

Nick Chadwick, Australian Ethical Foundation Officer, said: “We recognise that strong, vibrant communities are often sustained by the efforts of locally-led organisations who work tirelessly to make a difference.

“Not only did the shortlisted 32 organisations receive a flood of community support during the selection process, but they also received more than 18,000 votes from Australian Ethical members and the public which goes to show just how valued they are.

“We are thrilled that the 20 grant winners represent such a wide range of organisations under our three core pillars of people, planet and animals to meaningfully extend the impact of Australian Ethical to communities around the world.”

Pete Ceglinksis is CEO and co-founder of the Seabin Foundation, a charity that is reducing plastic pollution in the ocean and is one of this year’s grant recipients. He said: “This grant will help a lot! We do not have external funding, nor have we taken on seed capital, so this grant means we can install two more bins on the east coast of Australia and run more education programs to help people understand how to reduce waste.”

Australian Ethical’s grants program is a defining feature of the company’s role as one of Australia’s leading purpose-driven organisations. Funding for the grants comes from The Australian Ethical Foundation, which receives 10% of Australian Ethical’s yearly profits¹ to allocate to charitable, benevolent and conservation causes in line with the Australian Ethical Constitution.

¹ Every year Australian Ethical distributes up to 10% of its yearly profits (after tax and before bonuses) to charitable organisations and social impact initiatives through the Australian Ethical Foundation. When Australian Ethical first began in 1986, this commitment was embedded in its constitution.

To date, more than \$3.8 million has been donated with the Community Grants program supplemented by strategic multi-year grants and impact investments. Australian Ethical employees also devote hundreds of hours to volunteer with non-profit organisations to drive change at the local community level.

Australian Ethical has been helping people invest for a better future for over 33 years. As a certified B Corp, it is an investment manager with a difference: one that doesn't compromise returns for ethics or ethics for returns but achieves both to benefit people, planet and animals.

Steve Gibbs, Australian Ethical Acting CEO, said: "Australian Ethical occupies a special place in the financial services landscape because we are driven by a bigger purpose than just making a profit and our success proves that business can and should make a positive impact in the world.

"Thanks to our continuing growth, we have more money available for grants this year than ever before and it is an honour to be able to support these 20 organisations who are as passionate about making the world a better place as we are.

"On behalf of Australian Ethical, congratulations and good luck to all this year's grant winners. We wish you every success."

2019 Community Grant winners

People	Planet	Animals
Refugees Welcome Australia	Seabin Foundation	Action for Dolphins
Abundant Water	Environs Kimberley	Friends of the Koala
Love Mercy Foundation	Renewable Energy Development Trust	Wildlife Asia
The Community Grocer	Positive Change for Marine Life	ACT Wildlife
Hobart Women's Shelter	Food Ladder	F.A.W.N.A NSW
Free to Shine	Pocket City Farms	Greyhound Rescue
	Green Heroes	Little Oak Sanctuary

For case studies or to speak with some of the grant recipients, please contact:

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About Australian Ethical

Australian Ethical is Australia's leading ethical super and investment manager. Since 1986, Australian Ethical has provided investors with wealth management products that align with their values and provide competitive returns. Investments are guided by the Australian Ethical Charter which both shapes its ethical approach, and underpins the Company's culture and vision.

Australian Ethical has \$3.42 billion in funds under management across superannuation and managed funds.

Visit: www.australianethical.com.au