



EXECUTIVE BRIEF

HARNESSING FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

As part of the United Nations International Youth Day on 12 August 2016, the Young Australians' Plan for the Planet Program was launched at Questacon in Canberra. This Executive Brief provides a background on the key focus area for your school students as they move into the Discovery Phase of the program.

Why focus on Key Opportunities when looking at sustainable development in your school's approach to the Young Australians' Plan for the Planet?

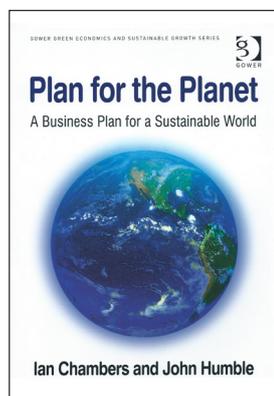
In 2016 the United Nations launched the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) as the framework to "end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all." The Young Australians Plan for the Planet provides an approach that enables promotion and delivery of these SDG's throughout Australia utilising an innovative national extra curriculum schools program. *The focus of your school in the Discovery Phase of the project, will be to look at the major opportunities*



presented by each of the Sustainable Development Goals and in achieving a sustainable planet by 2050. The reason for focusing on addressing the key opportunities is that challenges such as climate change, pandemics and global conflict also provide significant opportunities to business, government and the community to achieving a long term sustainable future. For this reason, we want to make sure we have a good handle on what these opportunities are across all of the Key Focus Areas, and what solutions we need to put in place to leverage these moving forward.

What does looking at the Sustainable Development Goals key opportunities involve? We want you to look at each of the key opportunities to achieving global sustainability against each of the Sustainable Development Goals, and also when thinking about achieving sustainable development out to 2050.

Who will be involved? To assist you with this, you have an expert team at your regional university, your United Nations Youth team and from the Foundation for Young Australians. You also have your support



teachers who can assist you with this. **Who are the key program supporters?** As well as the subject matter experts, other organisations who are supporting the Young Australians' Plan for the Planet program include Questacon, Future Earth Australia, the Foundation for Young Australians, Inspiring Australia, the Australian National University (ANU), the University of New South Wales (UNSW) and University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

Young Australians' Plan for the Planet: Role of the 20 schools. Each selected school will be responsible for student and teacher selection as an extra-curriculum activity operating at each school from 28 November 2016 to 31 July 2017. The program will operate over 5 Key Phases: Phase 1: Dec '16, Calibration and Orientation, Phase 2: Jan-Feb '17: Discovery, Phase 3: Mar-Apr '17: Build: Phase 4: May-Jun '17: Combine: and Phase 5: Jul-Aug '17: Present (PM Presentation).

How will the schools program operate? The schools program will commence on 28 November 2016, following the program launch event on 12 August 2016. The schools will be selected to cover all 20 EcoZones across Australia. The 12 students will comprise 1 student allocated to each of the 12 "Plan for the Planet" Key Focus Areas and will include Team Leader and Business Plan Manager roles. Preference will be given to teachers with a science, economics and geography background, however, this is not exclusive, and teachers will be encouraged to apply for the program based on their enthusiasm and passion for addressing the issues of local and global sustainability. Each school will need to provide a dedicated Plan for the Planet room with computer and communications facilities. Each school will be supported by both a regional university and consultancy practice acting as key sources of expertise.

How will the program move beyond the pilot? The program and website have been developed to be replicated and scalable beyond Australia, facilitating potential adoption by other countries. The potential outcome over a 3-year period is a global Plan for the Planet to achieve the successful delivery of the SDG's to 2030 and global sustainable development to 2050 and beyond.

