



Australian Landcare International (ALI) is an incorporated, not-for-profit organisation whose aim is to assist other countries to manage their natural resources using a Landcare approach.



May 2019

Notes from the President

Money makes the world go 'round – so they say. It has certainly been a big focus for us these last months. You giveth and we taketh it away for a good project! We have run a few campaigns recently – Bikes for Landcare, Christmas giving, the Massive Murray Paddle and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your willing support.

We are also very pleased with our new membership arrangements.

Making it 'free to all' allows our friends from across the globe to show their support through formal membership without the burden of fees and international transactions. Plus, we do have a membership target that we must meet as part of our obligations to The ALI Fund – our registered Deductible Gift Recipient fund that supports the projects overseas.

Of course, many of you have sent through welcome donations and of course we need to continue to ask – there is always another wave of applications!

Thanks again!

Andrea Mason

Deputy's President's Report

What new opportunities will emerge post-election?

I'm writing on Friday 17 May. Will the election bring greater political awareness of the cause of international Landcare? Will it give us vital leverage, and help us play a greater part in climate change action. When you read this, some answers may be emerging.

A paper is circulating on ALI's role in training overseas communities and co-ordinators, which would of necessity require professional support. Is this a timely concept to put before politicians and bureaucrats? Besides proposing joint programs overseas and online, it includes ideas on using members'

experience to ramp up our awareness-raising in Canberra. As I see it, essentially we must secure paid staff – I know of no other major element of Australian Landcare that is entirely voluntary.

ALI has applied for a grant from the Australia-Japan Foundation to take a Master TreeGrower team to Honshu to run agroforestry and urban forestry workshops.

Currently we are looking at helping a group of Vietnamese specialists from the Mekong Delta visit Landcare projects in the southern Philippines. Running this exercise will further demonstrate our skills and connections in the training arena. Any support we can give to the upcoming Uganda Landcare conference will also stand ALI in good stead: 26-28 November 2019 at Kabale in the country's south-west.

Knowing how vigorously our Pakistani Landcare colleagues ply their trade, Victoria Mack and I hope to approach the consul here to see if we can develop links with his community in Melbourne – and solid support.

Andrea Mason, Hank Tyler (US member of ALI, resident part of the year in Melbourne), Graeme Kent (Aussie Action Abroad, Ballarat) and I have been involved with plans for a Landcare network in Nepal. Accordingly we are mentoring a Nepalese student doing his Master of Social work at Federation University.

The ALI Fund has had some generous donations recently and paid out grants to

Uganda (two networks - \$500 each) and Zambia (an eco-tourism project - \$200). I have lately invited groups from Liberia and St Kitts and Nevis to apply for funds. Our efforts to cover a South Sudan student on a Gippsland Master TreeGrower course, sadly, ground to a halt. However we are trying to link that student with our only contact in South Sudan, a Melbourne forestry graduate.

Finally, we are greatly indebted to outstanding regenerative farmers, Anne and Bob Davie of Bimbadeen, Phillip Island. After meeting Dr Prossy Isubikalu late last year, they offered Uganda Landcare soil carbon credits to offset its activities. For now this cannot be done, but it has generated a lot of interest and discussion. We have always known that soil carbon could be a huge weapon against climate change.

Personally, I am very keen to see Australian carbon credits to the fore, rather than cheap and sometimes obscure overseas ones. (I note that the UK will concentrate on its own credits.) However maybe there are overseas Landcare projects associated with ALI and associates producing credits that might deserve favourable treatment.

Rob Youl

International Conference of Landcare Studies 2017

Papers from the International Conference of Landcare Studies_Nov 2017_Japan have been published. They are available for download at

Overseas Landcare Program Grants Summary January 2019

- Summary
14 of 15 applications from 9 countries were complete and funded (14 at \$500, 1 at \$200)
One was funded at \$200
- DRC (Congo) – (1) socio-economics through training and seeds & tools after floods in Uvira and (2) supportive forestry in the East including training – GIERI & Landcare Network
- Timor Leste “Conserving the Degraded Land and Introducing Agroforestry on the upland Area” - Institut Matadalan integradu IMI
- Nigeria “Community based conservation of Asanting Ibiono Sacred Forests in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria” - Nigeria Landcare
- Kenya “Landcare for Climate Change mitigation” - Kyanda Landcare
- Pakistan (1) “Program for small holders through vegetables cultivation in Five villages” - IRDC and (2) Pilot project “to promote fruits among Landcare Farmers for Balance and Nuturious food and diet” - Doctorwala Agriculture Extension Program and (3) “Establishment of Landcare Pakistan Program Farmers Fruit Plants and Vegetables Nursery at Khushpur Farm “ - Landcare Pakistan
- Uganda (1) “WAN Junior Landcare Project”= Wakiso Agroforestry Network and (2) “INSPIRE”, a school program – Kabale Agroforestry Network and (3) “Enhancing and scaling out long - term sustainability of landcare as a movement and practice through collective approaches” - Kapchoorwa District Landcare Chapter and (4) “Fruit trees for schools” - Masaka District Landcare Chapter
- Zambia “Strengthening biodiversity conservation through environmental education in schools and communities in Chemebe bird sanctuary” - Conservation and Tourism Management of Zambia
- Zimbabwe “Living Fences and green walls for Bangira demonstration plot” - Zimconserve

#bikes4landcare

In December 2016, a team of three Australian Landcare International trainers – Andrea Mason, Jason Alexandra and Keith Bradby - visited the region to assist in delivering a Landcare training program.

In mid December 2018, the District Farmers Association of Solwezi travelled to Lusaka to pickup their delivery of

bikes– even more than we had planned. Buffalo bikes were able to offer a fantastic price so donations helped us raise enough for 20 BIKES for the lead farmers in Solwezi.

We hope you enjoy this video showing their arrival and take some pleasure in their excited smiles as they unload their precious cargo. On behalf of the farmers from Solwezi and Australian Landcare International, we thank those who donated once again for their generosity. #landcare #solwezi World Bicycle Relief Bikes4Landcare_Zambia.

See video at https://www.facebook.com/478153312319206_1506325806168613

News from Aussie Action Abroad

Feel like volunteering in Nepal with views like this? Here's your chance! We have upcoming projects in the Annapurna region of the Himalayas and we're looking for volunteers. Here is progress on the Health Post in Siurung, we'll be sending a team to Siurung in December to complete this build which will provide much needed medical services to this beautiful, remote village.

Upcoming trips:

Community Action: June -July 2019

Construction: Dec 2019 – Jan 2020

For more information visit:

www.aussieactionabroad.com

Or email us at

graemekent@aussieactionabroad.com

News from the Thomson Reuters Foundation

(<http://news.trust.org/item/20190325104754-9e3ha>)

Agroforestry - the practice of planting trees in fields - can protect both crops and soil from harsh weather, as well as providing timber to sell

By Kagond Njagi

KIBWEZI, Kenya, March 25 (Thomson Reuters Foundation) - Worried that a drought could wipe out his crops back in 2000, farmer Jonathan Kituku Mung'ala remembered meeting agricultural customers, in his previous job with Kenya's power company, who were making good money growing a hardy, native tree.

Called mukau by locals, the *Melia volkensii* tree is known for thriving in drylands, and provides thick shade that protects crops from the sun.

Farmers can also earn over 3 million Kenyan shillings (\$29,806) per hectare by selling its timber, according to the Nairobi-based Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI).

As climate change worsens and farmers struggle to make a reliable income from food crops alone, some in arid Kenya are turning to agroforestry - the practice of growing trees in their fields.

They have discovered that mixing *Melia volkensii* in with their crops is one of the simplest, most effective ways of protecting their farms and livelihoods.

[Read more on the website.](#)

New address

ALI has changed postal address to:

PO Box 1374

Traralgon VIC 3844 Australia

thanks to the West Gippsland Catchment
Management Authority

Donors/ Supporters July 2018 - April 2019

Thank you to the following wonderful
people and organisations who have
donated to the ALI Fund since July 2018:

Amy Carpenter, Andrea Mason, Andrew
Campbell, April Seymore, Belinda
Brennan, Crawford Fund, Daryl
Ebenezer, F Smit, F Williams, Francis
Smit, J & JJ Grubb, Ken Keith, Michael
Bond, Marnie Ellis, Mellett, Mirinda
Thorpe, Neil Blake, NZ Landcare,
PPWCMA, Proussard, RMIT, Rob Youl,
Rodney Keenan, Roy Murray-Prior, Vic
Mack, Yvonne Everett, Lecki Ord, Scott
Elliott.

Doctorwala Agricultural Extension Project (DAEP)

A report (Pakistan) from Bashir Masih
Khokhar, Community Organizer, Director
DAEP

Due to the bad condition of clean
environment and shortage of clean water
people unable to eat fresh fruits - price
of fruits in market is very high and
people are unable to buy fruits.

DAPE encouraged people to plant fruit
trees in five villages. People have shown



great interest and participation in this
project. Plants are growing well because
people are determined to get fresh fruit
from their own plant trees.

Five types of fruit plants (Guava,
Pomegranate, Lemon, Jambuline,
Grapefruits) were planted. A one day
workshop was conducted to raise
awareness about the importance of fresh
fruits, how fruits are important for health
and how it helps to save land and keep
our environment clean. Evaluation was
done in five villages by staff. The
response was very positive. People are
generating resources for planting trees
by themselves.

Global Landcare Our greatest export - What it offers right now to Australian Landcare

Download the slides from this ALI
session at the National Landcare
Conference 2018, Brisbane at
https://alci.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Global-Landcare_Brisbane_2018-1.pdf (7 mb)

This file includes all the presentations.

Integrated Rural Development Council (IRDC) (Pakistan)



IRDC initiated a small project under the title of “Food Security Program for smallholders through Vegetable Cultivation in Five villages.” with the financial assistance of OLF/ALI, Australia.

Mr. Mubarik Yaqoob provided the technical guidance to implement this project.

The projects intends to acquire the following objectives:

- To strengthen food security and reduce malnutrition of poor farm families
- To enhance family income generation and family savings
- To produce organic and balanced food
- To improve the health situation and help reduce in family medical expenses
- Vegetable prices will come down

The project has been implemented with 102 small farm families. The farmers grow summer vegetables with seeds purchased with the help of Mr. Mubarik Yakub.

IRDC says about half of the rural target population could be ranked as malnourished.

The families are consuming fresh vegetables which are both cheap and safe.

Family incomes have been enhanced by sale of surplus vegetables and some families give vegetables to their neighbours or exchange them for variety.

The beneficiaries are very happy, and thankful to ALI. IRDC appreciates the role of Mr. Mubarik Yaqoob and all hope that the Landcare will catch roots in Pakistan to give a safe and sustainable future to the people of this nation.



2019 NATIONAL LANDCARE CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

26 – 28, November 2019



Uganda Landcare Network



REGISTER NOW!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-national-landcare-conference-and-awards-tickets-60868361909>

THEME:

**Towards Resilient Landscapes and Livelihoods
through Landcare Approach.**

**VENUE: Bunyonyi Safaris Resort,
Kabale**



www.bunyonyisafarisresort.com