

Strategic Plan 2018-2021



This plan details the identity, vision, mission, core principles, strategic priorities and goals of the Australian Association for Environmental Education NSW Chapter (AAEE NSW) for 2018-2021.

OUR IDENTITY

AAEE NSW is:

- the NSW professional association representing those with a passion for education for sustainability (EfS)¹, both in paid and voluntary capacities, from all sectors and industries;
- part of a national organisation that represents environmental and sustainability educators across Australia. Our activities complement and extend what is being done nationally;
- responsible for providing the best possible services to members in New South Wales; and
- a not-for-profit, incorporated, member-based, non-government organisation that is guided by our vision, mission, core principles and strategic priorities.

Since 1976, AAEE NSW has worked with government, non-government organisations and communities in the interests of quality education and sustainable change. The AAEE NSW approach to promoting education for sustainability is proactive, positive, collaborative and inclusive.

OUR VISION

Through education and engagement, see the growth of communities and organisations that prioritise a quadruple bottom line² approach and value, protect and conserve our environment for current and future generations.

¹ The term 'education for sustainability' is used as an all-inclusive term including sustainable development practices and approaches, environmental education and nature education.

² The term 'quadruple bottom line' is used to refer to the complex, interconnected issues associated with sustainability which include environmental, social, economic and civic leadership or governance factors.

OUR MISSION

We enable and support environmental and sustainability educators to contribute to the growth of communities and organisations that prioritise a quadruple bottom line approach. We do this by promoting and advocating for education, innovation, training, research, capacity building, sound government policy, networking, and partnerships across NSW and by learning from the traditional custodians of the land on which we work.

OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

Our core principles underpin our vision, mission and the work we do to achieve our goals.

We:

- Value and give recognition to all who contribute to the work of education for sustainability;
- Recognise the urgency of the ecological issues facing our planet including climate change, energy security, resource use and recovery, and the health of our critical systems including biodiversity, habitat, air, water and earth;
- Share and promote values that underpin education for sustainability and foster a spirit of active citizenship and lifelong learning in caring for the environment;
- Respect and reflect local Aboriginal culture and heritage and including cultural and place-based learning;
- Advocate for public policy that enables the growth of communities and organisations who prioritise a quadruple bottom line approach;
- Provide for the needs of our specific target audience/s in program design and delivery;
- Acknowledge and expand the evidence base underpinning sustainability education and engagement, through research, reflection, critical thinking, monitoring and evaluation and continuous improvement;
- Prioritise collaboration and partnerships at all levels; and
- Invest into the next generation of sustainability and environmental educators.

OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND GOALS

Priority 1. Enabling and Supporting High Quality Education for Sustainability

Goal 1.1 - Deliver and support high-quality and effective programs for educators

We will execute and support best practice programs that build capacity and enable environmental and sustainability educators across NSW to deliver high quality outcomes for NSW communities and the environment.

Goal 1.2 – Support and prioritise networks and partnerships that promote best practice education for sustainability programs

We will partner with, and facilitate networks between, individuals and organisations to develop and deliver quality education for sustainability programs that lead to communities and organisations that prioritise a quadruple bottom line approach.

Priority 2. Leadership and Advocacy

Goal 2.1 - Provide leadership for members and others across NSW who deliver education for sustainability

We will represent the views and interests of our members across all sectors and industries, and operate in a collaborative manner to strengthen the education for sustainability movement.

Goal 2.2 - Advocate strongly for effective public policy on education for sustainability

We will lend our voice, research and expertise to advocate for effective public policy that prioritises education for sustainability and leads to the growth of communities and organisations that prioritise a quadruple bottom line approach.

Priority 3. Continual Improvement of Member Services

Goal 3.1 Give recognition to the contributions of environmental and sustainability educators

We will celebrate the contributions of environmental and sustainability educators and acknowledge the critical role they play in the growth of communities and organisations who prioritise a quadruple bottom line approach.

Goal 3.2 Foster diverse and growing membership

We will strive to ensure our membership is relevant, diverse, active and growing while investing in the next generation of educators.

Goal 3.3 Administer the organisation with ethical and careful stewardship

We will adhere to good governance and decision-making processes, and seek diverse organisational funding, to ensure the affairs of AAEE NSW are conducted with a commitment to ethical, strategic, transparent, participatory and evidence-based decision making.

REPORTING

AAEE NSW will report the actions the organisation has taken towards achieving our goals every six-months for the duration of this plan.

These bi-annual reports will be promoted through social media, to members through our e-Newsletter and will be available on our website at

www.aaeensw.org.au