



Impact Fund Guidelines 2021 - 2023

Overview

This document is designed to guide community organisations and other groups or individuals who wish to access funding from the Hepburn Wind Impact Fund. Having reviewed the Community Fund model in 2019, the co-operative has moved to a co-design and legacy approach, where instead of offering smaller grants to various projects, we are now focused on larger, more strategically aligned projects. Should your group or organisation wish to participate in the Impact Fund your project must align with broader goals and one or more of our action areas (stated below). Other funding streams still exist, such as our Events Sponsorship and Neighbourhood Benefit Scheme. Hepburn Wind has an available pool of \$30,000 per annum and staff are available to help work up proposals.

Our broader goals

The broader goals of the Hepburn Wind Impact Fund are to contribute to achieving zero-net emissions in the Hepburn Shire by 2030 and to enable our community and ecosystem to be thriving, resilient and able to regenerate to climate change impacts. These goals align with the Shire-wide partnership program Hepburn Z-NET.

Principles

The following principles will guide decision making about the funding disbursement:

- **Partnership model:** Utilise partnerships with aligned organisations, community groups and local government.
- **Social justice:** Ensure that the Fund reduces inequality and enhances the lives of vulnerable community members
- **Enhancing impact & leverage:** The Fund should seek to build on existing work and funding to strengthen outcomes.
- **Legacy approach:** Work towards long term goals that will create benefits for our community and future generations.
- **Collaborate with not-for-profits:** Work with relevant NFPs to boost outcomes and effectiveness.
- **Mutually beneficial:** Projects may also have an income-generating or self-serving effect for the co-operative

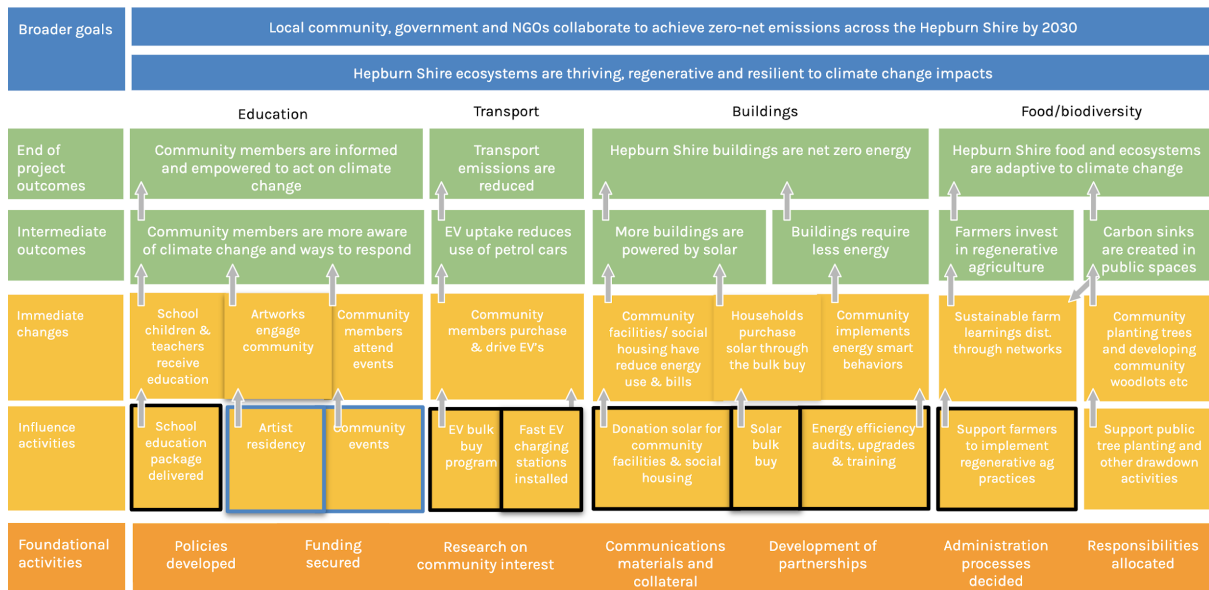
Priority areas and key outcomes

The Impact Fund is structured around four priority areas including Education, Transport, Buildings, Food and Biodiversity. These areas were informed by Hepburn Wind members who completed a survey in 2019 regarding the community fund and their priorities.

The following program logic (see below) outlines the priority areas and objectives of the fund. Many program streams are already active, and some are being delivered by our existing partnerships, but there is the opportunity to expand on them under this new structure.

Please note: Box's under 'Influence activities' with a black border are currently being delivered by Hepburn Wind or partners and those with blue borders are intermittently delivered.

Hepburn Impact Fund Program Logic



How to start the process

If you would like to propose a project concept to us please follow these steps:

- **Read the guidelines:** review the principles, priority areas and program logic.
- **Review the list of planned or ongoing projects on the [Hepburn Z-NET website](#):** is your idea already a project? If so how will your project seek to add value to this work?
- **Provide an overview:** If you have an idea that is not captured above please provide a brief overview:
 - a. A title for the project
 - b. The priority area the project aligns with (be specific)
 - c. Project budget estimate (total for the project, what you can contribute or other funding sources)
 - d. The groups who would be involved
 - e. A short synopsis of what you plan to do
 - f. Your capability/experience to deliver
- **Email your project:** Once you have completed please email to info@hepburnwind.com.au

What happens next?

Should the project be assessed to be of a sufficient quality and a good match for the goals of the Fund you will then be asked to submit a 2-3 page proposal to Hepburn Wind with the following topics covered:

- Project overview
- Who will do the work
- Alignment with Hepburn Wind Impact Fund program logic
- Alignment with Z-NET goals
- Branding and recognition opportunities
- Opportunity for future scaling/replicating across the Shire.

Once the Community and Communications Committee approve the proposal you will be invited to submit the formal grant application via the Community Enterprise Foundation who hosts our Z-NET Climate Resilience Fund account. You will be required to fill out a form online to finalise the application, and Hepburn Wind will review the draft application first as this is not a competitive grant structure, it is a by-invitation application.