

YOUTH CLIMATE RETREAT 2020



AUGUST 2020

A Summary Report prepared by YLab for the
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project would not have been possible without the support, openness and enthusiasm of all the young people we partnered with throughout the design and development stages. We would like to formally thank all the young people who participated in the co-design workshop. Your contributions have significantly influenced the shape and direction of the strategy and you have demonstrated the strength, diversity and community of the Loddon Mallee region.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



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**WE PUT YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF COMPLEX
PROBLEMS TO DESIGN THE FUTURE**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of the outcomes of the ADAPT Loddon Mallee's Youth Climate Retreat held on the 18th and 19th of January 2020. The Youth Climate Retreat was aimed at bringing together young people interested in climate change aged 15–24 years old within the Loddon Mallee (LM) region to design and develop ideas on how the region can adapt to climate change. Our analysis is based primarily on data, observations and insights obtained through the workshop that was facilitated by YLab.



The report demonstrates that young people in the LM region face a diverse range of issues, challenges and ideas for engaging other young people in conversations around climate change. Four core themes were identified in the workshop. These include:

Individual Capacity Increasing the confidence, knowledge and ability of young people to take action around adapting to climate change.

Engagement Opportunities Providing more meaningful opportunities for young people to engage with government, community organisations and other young people.

Narratives About Young People Young people want to feel heard, supported and taken seriously by government.

Purpose of Government Young people want to feel and see the government acting in their best interest and being proactive in their community.

We found that young people in the LM region have a strong desire for social change and a commitment to improving the region. Here are the key recommendations that came out of the retreat:

RECOMMENDATION 1:

CREATE A COMMUNITY-LED MOVEMENT

A community-led movement is a grassroots method of change that aims to put the local community at the centre. This will enable best practice, learning and knowledge to be distributed, shared and retained within the local community, organisations and young people.

RECOMMENDATION 2:

CREATE A MENTORING OR SUPPORT NETWORK

The formation of a mentoring and support network would reduce the barriers associated with young people engaging in conversations around adapting to climate change

RECOMMENDATION 3:

SUPPORT YOUTH-FOCUSSED EVENTS ON ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

DELWP can support and coordinate events designed specifically for engaging local young people to learn about changes they can make in their lives to adapt to climate change.

RECOMMENDATION 4:

CREATE A CLIMATE EDUCATION PROGRAM

Create an education program that is designed to engage young people. This program will be made accessible through leveraging the internet and digital channels

RECOMMENDATION 5:

CREATE MORE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

There was a consensus from workshop participants that there is a greater need for more leadership opportunities to be made available for young people in the LM region. This could include formal positions on boards or committee as well as scholarships to undertake leadership development courses.



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INTRODUCTION

The Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) ADAPT Loddon Mallee program (ALM) sought to design and deliver a full-day co-design workshop to engage young people aged 15–24 years old in the LM region on how to adapt to climate change, as well as build capacity and engagement.

YLab was engaged by DELWP to put young people at the centre of co-designing and co-developing the strategy. Through the workshop, we aim to increase:

- **Willingness, participation and diversity** in regional climate change adaptation initiatives of local young people
- **Awareness and ownership** of young people related to climate change impacts on local values and assets
- **Knowledge and skills** to develop realistic regional climate change adaptation strategies and actions of local young people
- **Confidence** of young people to lead, engage and communicate on climate change adaptation issues

BACKGROUND

Starting a conversation with young people to better prepare, plan and adapt is essential to guaranteeing the prosperity of the region.

The LM region is the largest of Victoria's regions, occupying more than a quarter (26%) of Victoria. The region encompasses 10 local government areas including Buloke, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Greater Bendigo, Gannawarra, Loddon, Macedon Ranges, Mildura, Mount Alexander and Swan Hill. According to recent research, the LM region has already become warmer and drier – a climate trend likely to continue into the future. Local residents, businesses and communities are changing the way they do things in response. Thus, climate change has the potential to significantly impact upon important sectors in the region such as primary production, health and human services, transport, water and natural environment.

CONTEXT

- ALM has had limited engagement with young people.
- Young people currently do not have the skills, networks or support to create, lead and instigate change within their local communities to adapt to climate change.
- ALM don't currently have a strategy that specifically aims to engage young people 15–24 years old. There is strong recognition to have more diverse methods of engaging with young people.



WHO WE HEARD FROM

24 young people ranging from 15–24 years of age across the LM region.



5

Participants identified as part of the LGBTQIA+ community.

2

Participants reported living with a disability



20 OF THE 24

Participants identified as female, with 4 identifying as male.

3

Participants reported speaking another language at home



LODDON MALLEE REGION

Participants were from across the LM region in Victoria.

The most common ages were 15 (5), 17 (4) and 20 (4).



THE YOUNG PEOPLE

Diversity was a key factor in the recruitment process. Specific recruitment strategies were implemented towards indigenous young people, CALD young people, gender diversity and geographic diversity.

DELWP collaborated with a range of organisations, local government, youth groups and schools in order to recruit participants. The recruitment process included social media advertising, online application and finally confirmation of successful application by DELWP.

The young people who attended the retreat were involved in climate change activism and were passionate and driven about their future.

- Over 50% of the young people attending had taken some personal action or were really involved in climate change mitigation, climate change advocacy or climate change adaptation and resilience.
- Over 75% of participants felt confident to identify local climate change challenges and create possible solutions to be resilient to them.
- Over 70% of participants reported finding information about climate change via scientific research or internet research.



WHAT WE DID

METHODOLOGY SUMMARY

WHY IS CO-DESIGN IMPORTANT?

At YLab, we use co-design because we understand that no one person, actor or institution holds the key to improving or re-shaping any system. Co-design is a radically inclusive way of solving challenges with relevant lived people experience of the issue.

In practice, it involves throwing away assumptions about the challenge, and empowers the people experiencing the challenge by putting value on their lived experience and expertise.

PROCESS

YLab's approach to this particular co-design was as follows:



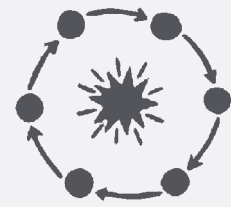
24

DELWP recruited 24 participants aged 15–24.



WORK-SHOP

YLab ran a workshop where participants and DELWP staff prototyped solutions



FIND-INGS

YLab synthesised findings and provided recommendations

The co-design workshop focused on analysing the problem, ideating and building solutions.

WHAT QUESTIONS DID WE ASK YOUNG PEOPLE

The design challenge question being explored during the retreat was:

How might we engage local young people (15–24 years old) in a conversation around how to adapt to climate change, as well as build capacity and action?

To answer this, participants were lead to focus and explore 5 main questions (in groups) that would paint some of the issues, before diving into ideating.

1. What are some challenges and opportunities in changing the way we do things for the future?
2. How might you be or already are affected by extreme weather conditions?
3. How can we engage other young people in the region in conversations about adapting to climate change?
4. How can the government or community support young people to adapt to change?
5. How can regional communities and individuals become more resilient to climate change?

WHAT ACTIVITIES DID WE DO?

Workshop participants designed a series of ideas through turning identified challenges in the previous section into a design-thinking question ('How Might We' questions)

During the co-design workshop, participants designed and developed their own fictional user persona of a young person operating within the current system. They then came up with How Might We questions and ideated from their chosen persona's perspective.

'How Might We' questions enable participants to reframe the key insights into opportunities for design that is biased towards action. It encourages lateral and divergent thinking that can help participants brainstorm innovative, novel and creative solutions to complex challenges.

The recommendations are shown on pages 15–19.



PERSONAS AND HOW MIGHT WE'S (SUMMARY)

During the co-design workshop, participants designed and developed their own fictional user persona of a young person operating within the current system



Name: Alex
Gender: Other
Age: Not stated
Lives: Bendigo
Cultural background: Irish/Italian
Works: Barista
Study: Online TAFE Nursing
HMW question: How might we get Alex's workplace to engage with them to implement more environmentally friendly practices so that the wider community will be informed?



Name: M
Gender: Female
Age: Not stated
Lives: Mildura
Study: TAFE
Cultural background: Not stated
Works: Bakery
HMW question: How might we encourage the council to adopt a youth group, so that youth are given more voice in community decisions? (2 ideas were created from this persona)



Name: Chelsea
Gender: Non-binary
Age: 20
Lives: Wycheproof
Study: Nursing
Works: Bakery, farmwork, singer
Cultural background: Italian
HMW question: How might we get Chelsea's family to adopt sustainable farming practices so that it's a relatable issue with attainable results?



Name: Gary
Gender: Not stated
Age: 13
Lives: Kyneton
Study: Year 7
Cultural background: Irish heritage
Family: Single parent household
HMW question: How might we engage 13 year olds, through targeting their interests, so that they take more care of our environment?

WHAT WE HEARD

KEY INSIGHTS

Participants identified 4 emerging themes that currently present barriers to engaging young people in issues around climate change.

Participants were challenged to think divergently and convergently in order to identify key actors, power dynamics and areas for possible intervention. As part of this process, participants identified several themes ranging from individual expectations, engagement opportunities, narratives of young people and purpose of government.

CHALLENGE

What are some of the challenges to engaging young people in conversations around adapting to climate change?

EMERGING THEMES	IMPLICATIONS
1 Individual capacity Increasing the confidence, knowledge and ability of young people to take action around adapting to climate change.	Embedding more educational resources tailored towards young people in primary and high school Providing more hands-on learning opportunities Collaborating with local scientists and government departments Creating scholarships for young people to study and promote adapting to climate change
2 Engagement opportunities Providing more meaningful opportunities for young people to engage with government, community organisations and other young people.	Incorporating youth voice Creating more innovative methods of engagement Leveraging social media, local school networks and existing community groups Promoting intergenerational collaboration
3 Narratives about young people Young people want to feel heard, supported and taken seriously by government.	Taking a more active role in countering the dominant narratives about young people and climate change Providing spaces and forums for young people to meaningfully contribute Fostering emerging leadership in young people
4 Purpose of Government Young people want to feel and see the government acting in their best interest and being proactive in their community.	Partnering with local stakeholders Providing funding and educational resources Conducting proactive discussions



THEME 1

INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY

Overall, young people expressed needing more confidence, knowledge and certainty in order to engage in conversations around how to adapt to climate change in the region.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

“One challenge is knowing where to start.”

“We need more education on climate change and ways to solve it.”

“We need to be able to understand the system.”

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Increasing a young person’s capacity for action can include:

- **Embedding** more educational resources tailored towards young people in primary and high school.
- **Providing** more hands-on learning opportunities about the impacts of climate change.
- **Collaborating** with local scientists and government departments.
- **Creating** scholarships for young people to study and promote adapting to climate change.

◀ THEME 2

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Young people expressed that there should be more meaningful opportunities to engage with government, community and other young people on the issue of climate change.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

“Government should provide opportunities for us to present our concerns”

“Give young people a voice and opportunity to have people in power hear them.”

“Give young people knowledge about political aspects and how to act”

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

To meaningfully engage local young people and:

- **Incorporate** youth voice into the governance of local projects and programs.
- **Create** more innovative methods of engagement tailored towards young people.
- **Leverage** social media, local school networks and existing community groups.
- **Promote** intergenerational collaboration.

THEME 3

NARRATIVES ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people felt that their actions and opinions were not being heard or taken seriously by government. Many believed there was a negative narrative of young people when engaging around activities around climate change.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

“Young people seem to often be supported in subtle ways that often aren’t visible.”

“Trust that young people have a voice and support them with help.”

“We need active publicisation from government that they care about youths opinions ”

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

To improve the relationship between government and young people, government needs to:

- **Take** a more active role in countering the dominant narratives about young people and climate change.
- **Provide** spaces and forums for young people to meaningfully contribute to issues related to adapting to climate change.
- **Foster** emerging leadership in young people through mentoring and empowering them to take action.

THEME 4

PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT

Young people expressed uncertainty around the purpose, role and responsibility that government plays in adapting to climate change in their local community.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

“Show transparency and willingness to take on new concepts in small communities.”

“We need more funding, more respect, more input and more responsibility from government.”

“Government needs to have a presence.”

SO WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

To build trust with young people, government needs to:

- **Partner** with local stakeholders (e.g farmers and Indigenous groups) to create greater connection and responses to their needs.
- **Provide** funding and educational resources to implement new innovative farming practices.
- **Conduct** proactive discussions around the inevitable changes that will occur because of climate change and devise a plan for a transition to a new economy.



WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT

PROPOSED IDEAS

Workshop participants chose one idea they liked most from their ideating and developed it into a prototype.

The proposed ideas on the following pages are not intended to be finished products that can be readily implemented.

Many still require testing and experimentation through community consultations in order to:

- **Validate** assumptions
- **Test** value propositions
- **Iterate** proposed ideas
- **Measure** appetite from government
- **Scale** for impact

This process may require several months of work and young people will need the resources and support to complete it.

CHALLENGES



What are some of the challenges to engaging young people in conversations around adapting to climate change?

PROPOSED IDEAS	RELATED THEMES			
	INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY	ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES	NARRATIVES ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE	PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT
1 Create a community-led movement	✓	✓	✓	
2 Create a mentoring or support network	✓	✓		✓
3 Host a youth-orientated event	✓	✓	✓	✓
4 Create a climate education program	✓	✓	✓	✓
5 Create leadership opportunities for young people	✓	✓	✓	✓

RECOMMENDATION 1

CREATE A COMMUNITY-LED MOVEMENT

WHAT IS IT?

A community-led movement is a grassroots method of change that aims to put the local community at the centre. This will enable best practice, learning and knowledge to be distributed, shared and retained within the local community, organisations and young people.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- **Broad application** principles can be applied across multiple domains such as medicine, sport and farming
- **Education and advocacy** educates the community while enabling greater levels of grass-roots and bottom-up advocacy to change and influence local policy
- **Civic responsibility** creates greater levels of accountability, transparency and feedback
- **Sharing** provides a platform for government, community and young people to share knowledge and communicate regularly and equally
- **Value-add** enables value created through local projects being retained in the local community rather than being extracted

WHAT THEME DOES THIS RECOMMENDATION RELATE TO?

- ✓ Individual Capacity
- ✓ Engagement Opportunities
- ✓ Narratives About Young People

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

- **Identify** key community values, organisations and institutions
- **Understand** the context and most pressing local challenges
- **Collaborate** with relevant stakeholders while putting those with lived experience at the centre
- **Design** and develop creative solutions that can be tested and iterated with community members



RECOMMENDATION 2

CREATE A MENTORING OR SUPPORT NETWORK

WHAT IS IT?

The formation of a mentoring and support network would reduce the barriers associated with young people engaging in conversations around adapting to climate change.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- **Engagement** creates open and ongoing community conversations
- **Education** provide resources on how local communities can implement practices to adapt to climate change
- **Accessibility** online engagement can reduce geographic barriers to engaging in government processes, events and networking opportunities

WHAT THEME DOES THIS RECOMMENDATION RELATE TO?

- ✓ Individual Capacity
- ✓ Engagement Opportunities
- ✓ Purpose of Government

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

- **Collaborate** with existing community groups, government and local networks
- **Offer incentives** for joining the network, implementing new practices and sharing new knowledge with other members
- **Host** a mentoring program with professionals and innovators for eligible event attendees



RECOMMENDATION 3

SUPPORT YOUTH-FOCUSSED EVENTS ON ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

WHAT IS IT?

DELWP can support and coordinate events designed specifically for engaging local young people to learn about changes they can make in their lives to adapt to climate change.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- **Community engagement** provides a meaningful opportunity for high school aged students to engage with local community groups, government and other young people around conversations on adapting to climate change in the region.
- **Intervention** early education about changes to lifestyle, work and leisure that may occur can enable better adaptation practices for young people before they are adults

WHAT THEME DOES THIS RECOMMENDATION RELATE TO?

- ✓ Individual Capacity
- ✓ Engagement Opportunities
- ✓ Narratives About Young People
- ✓ Purpose of Government

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

- **Collaboration** involve local council, schools and community members to share and celebrate the work being done around the region
- **Experiential** provide hands-on and practical activities with the environment to make it fun, educational and relevant for young people
- **Multipurpose** combine the exhibition with a focus on future jobs, careers and skills young people may need in the future to work in this field



RECOMMENDATION 4

CREATE A CLIMATE EDUCATION PROGRAM

WHAT IS IT?

Create an education program that is designed to engage young people. This program will be made accessible through leveraging the internet and digital channels

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- **Community** provides an opportunity for young people who live long distances to engage, support and collaborate with each other
- **Access to Information** this online network can help young people find information about what government is doing to help communities adapt to climate change as well as share their views and ideas.
- **Accessibility** the online network can be accessed by any young person across the LM region

WHAT THEME DOES THIS RECOMMENDATION RELATE TO?

- ✓ Individual Capacity
- ✓ Engagement Opportunities
- ✓ Narratives About Young People
- ✓ Purpose of Government

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

- **Administrator** appoint a dedicated government staff member to update channel and provide information to young people.
- **Advertise** digital channel and purpose to schools, existing youth advocacy groups and youth services programs at councils (e.g Freeza) so interested young people can join.
- **Utilise** existing platforms such as Slack, closed Facebook groups to host the online digital channel

RECOMMENDATION 5

CREATE MORE LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT IS IT?

There was a consensus from workshop participants that there is a greater need for more leadership opportunities to be made available for young people in the LM region. This could include formal positions on boards or committee as well as scholarships to undertake leadership development courses.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

- **Power** distributing formal institutional power over to local young people
- **Governance** provide an avenue for young people's voices to be embedded in local projects, programs and policy decisions.
- **Advocacy** advise government on how to work and partner with local young people
- **Leadership** develop the next generation of leaders that will be making key policy decisions in the near future

WHAT THEME DOES THIS RECOMMENDATION RELATE TO?

- ✓ Individual Capacity
- ✓ Engagement Opportunities
- ✓ Narratives About Young People
- ✓ Purpose of Government

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

- **Recruitment** specific 'youth' positions could be made available during the formation of any government board, advisory or committee position.
- **Scholarships** additional resources could be provided to reduce the barriers for young people accessing leadership positions. Scholarships to increase the capacity, confidence and pipeline of future young leaders.



PROJECT OUTCOMES

The co-design process undertaken at the Youth Climate Retreat aligns with the broader ADAPT Loddon Mallee Program.

YOUTH CLIMATE RETREAT AIMED TO INCREASE:

- **Willingness, participation and diversity** in regional climate change adaptation initiatives of local young people
- **Awareness and ownership** of young people related to climate change impacts on local values and assets
- **Knowledge and skills** to develop realistic regional climate change adaptation strategies and actions of local young people
- **Confidence** of young people to lead, engage and communicate on climate change adaptation issues

POST-WORKSHOP SURVEY SUMMARY

On a scale from 1-10 I would rate my...



8.5/10

Participant experience

7.4/10

Increase in understanding of adaptation to climate change

8.2/10

Understanding of systems mapping

7.3/10

Understanding of prototyping

8.1/10

Increase in confidence to identify challenges and create solutions

OUTCOME #1

Willingness, participation and diversity in regional climate change adaptation initiatives of local young people.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

"Understanding the process I need to take in order to make change happen"

"Learning of the web of actors that affect people and my life and learning how to take advantage of them to live a more purposeful eco-friendly life"

"Working with local kids to make a change in the community and having something to go on with"

8.5/10 Participant experience

OUTCOME #2

Awareness and ownership of young people related to climate change impacts on local values and assets.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

"I enjoyed the most brainstorming and what we can do in our own community"

"Working through issues and how to move forward"

"Working together as regions to work on achievable goals"

"Great job, loved that it was run by young people. It left me feeling empowered"

7.4/10 Increase in understanding of adaptation to climate change

OUTCOME #3

Knowledge and skills to develop realistic regional climate change adaptation strategies and actions of local young people

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

"Systems mapping, life changer."

"I found systems mapping to be very beneficial for future actions. It helped me to grip the issues instead of feeling overwhelmed + to be brave and make a choice to change"

"The mapping and creation of personas was entertaining and quite informative"

8.2/10 Understanding of systems mapping

7.3/10 Understanding of prototyping

OUTCOME #4

Confidence of young people to lead, engage and communicate on climate change adaptation issues.

WHAT DID YOUNG PEOPLE SAY?

"Talking to others about their ideas and developing new ways to approach situations"

"I improved my social skills. I would have never put myself out there normally"

"I enjoyed brainstorming ideas on how to get 13 year olds interested in climate change"

8.1/10 Increase in confidence to identify challenges and create solutions



PROJECT SUMMARY

ADAPT Loddon Mallee has a unique opportunity to pioneer a new model for meaningfully engaging local young people in the LM region in conversations around how to adapt to climate change.

The purpose of this document is to function as a summary report that provides useful context, processes and proposed ideas for ADAPT Loddon Mallee.

However, this report is limited by scope and budget with further work to be undertaken. This includes:

- **Providing support and funding** for young people to turn these ideas into working prototypes.
- **Engaging** more young people to lead the design and development of future events.
- **Designing** a series of experiments and tests to validate assumptions underpinning the ideas.



APPENDICES

SYSTEMS MAP

Allows participants to understand the scope and complexity of an issue. It enables participants to identify key actors, institutions and power dynamics of any system, which enables them to address the root cause of the issue and not just the symptoms.

* Please note that the names listed above are fictional personas and don't refer to any particular young person.

This data is summarised in the table on the next page and explained in the following section.



KEY INSIGHTS (RAW)

What are some challenges and opportunities in changing the way we do things for the future?

INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY

Knowing where to start, Language and intersectional barriers, Making sure everyone is informed

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Lack of youth voice in governance, Different engagement ideas

PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT

Acknowledging the inevitability of the situation, Future jobs, Peaceful discussions



How can we engage other young people in the region in conversations about adapting to climate change?

INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY

Building confidence, Primary and secondary education workshops, Show the possible degradation

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Social media, School students society, Wear conversation starter badges/shirts

NARRATIVES ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE

Giving young people a sense of power, Encourage new leaders and mentors, Inviting open discussion in young age groups

How can the government or community support young people to adapt to change?

INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY

Schools to teach and inform students about climate change, Incentives i.e. scholarships to promote adaptation, Collaborate with scientists to bring facts and knowledge

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Have a representative who voices young people's concerns, Young people going to government/ community organisations, Integrate people of all ages, get them on the same page

NARRATIVES ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE

Looking at how the government influences media, Government acceptance for people to see the problem, Spaces to accommodate groups/forums

PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT

Funding for youth to educate others, Funding to implement new farming practices, Recognising and involving Aboriginal culture

How can regional communities and individuals become more resilient to climate change?

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Schools to teach and inform students about climate change

PURPOSE OF GOVERNMENT

Renewable energy for locals, Greater connection for local farmers, Better responses to support local farmers



IDEATION

ALEX (RAW)

How might we get Alex's workplace to engage with them to implement more environmentally friendly practices so that the wider community will be informed?

Keep cup art, Cup library, Food wastage to people in need, Coffee Festivals, Education programs through social events, Video night to show non-recyclable cups damage to environment, Incentives to recycle, Use locally sourced goods and food, Youth advocacy opportunities, Reward card system, No take away containers, Mugs rather than disposable cups

CHELSEA (RAW)

How might we get Chelsea's family to adopt sustainable farming practices so that it's a relatable issue with attainable results?

Create a climate conscious farmers group, Offer free courses, Make new resources accessible, Highlight the benefits, Fines for non-sustainable farming practices, Documentaries promoting sustainable practices, Share success stories, Encourage markets, Grants for innovative products, Community fundraising events, Compost, Policies encouraging farmers to be more sustainable

GARY (RAW)

How might we engage 13 year olds, through targeting their interests, so that they take more care of our environment?

Incentives, Social events used to inform kids, Identify existing clubs or groups, Bush school program, Use mentors/role models to advocate, School based programs, Instagram and Tik Tok videos, Make a climate change video game, Teach climate change as a subject at school, Lead by examples in schools/home, Hands on work experience, Competitions for best design of skate parks

M (RAW)

How might we encourage the council to adopt a youth group, so that youth are given more voice in community decisions?

Write letters to council, Start the group with existing council groups, Approach support groups, Create posters, Advertise to young people who are interested in joining, Reach out to young people on social media, Collaborate with youth services staff in council, Attend local council meetings open to the public.



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ABOUT YLAB

In 2016, the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) launched a social enterprise called YLab, which is a consulting, learning and digital storytelling enterprise that brings the fresh thinking of diverse young people to complex social challenges.

YLab exists to provide a platform for the unlike-minded to come together and bring design and systems thinking approaches to solve complex social problems.

We flip power dynamics by putting young people in the driver's seat of this work. To do this we have recruited, trained, and employed over 90 YLab Associates, who bring multidisciplinary skills, future-focused ideas and different lived experiences, across Australia to train and engage other young people - so far they have trained 900 learners and engaged 1,600 other young people in decision making across Australia.

YLab Associates are sourced through FYA's diverse network of young people made up of over 250 Young Social Pioneers, alumni of the National Indigenous Youth Leadership Academy and IMPACT program, local government partners, and a digital community of over 150,000 young Australians.

OUR MODEL

We employ young people with diverse lived experience. We give them a leg up with learning and development. We connect them with clients to solve complex problems. We do it all using systems thinking and co-design

YLAB ASSOCIATES



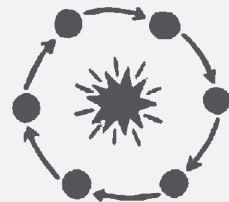
18

Working across
18 different industries



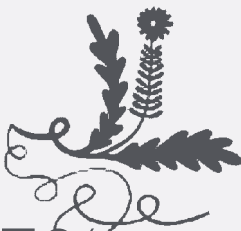
10%

Are Aboriginal
or Torres Strait Islander



10%

Identify as living
with a disability



25%

Identify as part of the
LGBTQIA+ community



50%

Identify as female



60%

From culturally and linguistically
diverse backgrounds

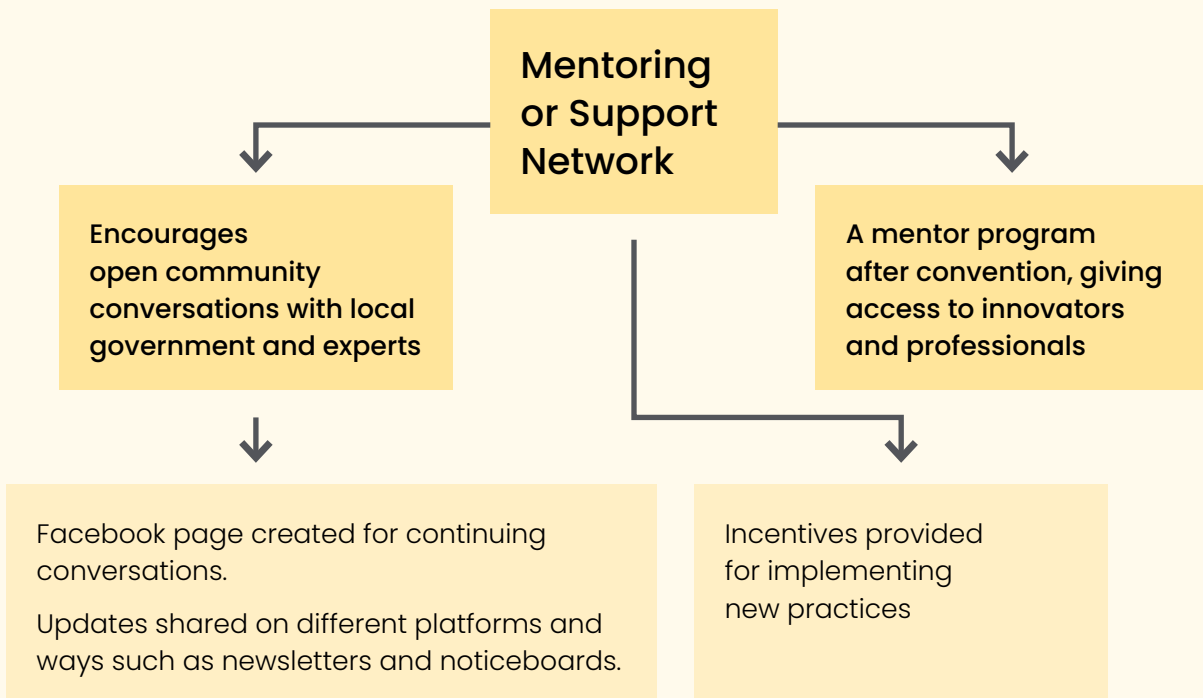
PROJECT IDEAS

IDEA 1 – COMMUNITY-LED MOVEMENT INITIATIVE

Encourage the community to be more sustainable by using reuseable coffee cups



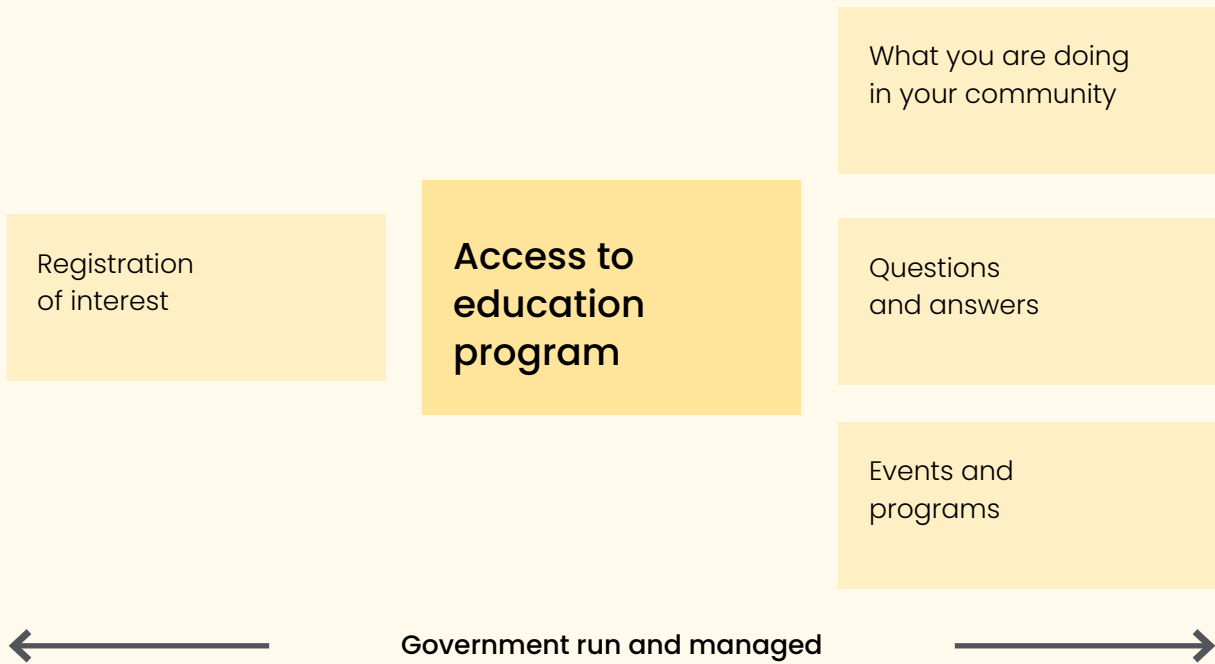
IDEA 2 – CREATE A MENTORING OR SUPPORT NETWORK



IDEA 3 – SUPPORT YOUTH-FOCUSSED EVENTS



IDEA 4 – CREATE A CLIMATE EDUCATION PROGRAM



IDEA 5 – COMMUNITY-LED MOVEMENT INITIATIVE

Leadership Opportunities for Young People

Recruitment

Specific focus on recruiting young people to new and existing leadership positions

Scholarships

Resources to increase the capacity of local young people to become future young leaders in their community .



