





# Australian Committee for IUCN Valuing and Conserving Nature

As Australians we are the custodians of biologically rich and ancient lands. The lands, waters and seas are the habitats of species found nowhere else on earth. We know that the nation's biodiversity is fundamental to our physical, social, cultural and economic wellbeing. We also know that our land and our seas suffer under the challenges of biodiversity loss and climate change.

ACIUCN through its unique membership of government agencies, non-government organisations and Indigenous peoples' organisations seeks to address these challenges by providing a unique platform as a neutral, evidence-based voice to share knowledge and stimulate cooperative effort across all sectors. ACIUCN contributes expertise to policy debates and initiatives both within Australia and internationally through key IUCN forums.

ACIUCN recognises and respects Australia's First Nations peoples as the traditional owners and custodians of this country. ACIUCN seeks opportunities to embed First Nations peoples' perspectives into conservation policy and practice.

### **ACIUCN Strategic Plan 2021–2025**

The 2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan guides the activities of the Australian Committee of IUCN (ACIUCN) over the next five years and sits alongside the global IUCN's strategic document Nature 2030 IUCN Programme.

Created in 1948, IUCN has evolved into the world's largest and most diverse environmental network. IUCN is a membership union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

IUCN harnesses the experience, resources and reach of its more than 1,400 Member organisations and the input of some 18,000 experts. IUCN is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it. Our experts are organised into six Commissions dedicated to species survival, environmental law, protected areas, social and economic policy, ecosystem management, and education and communication.

ACIUCN members and associates are a diverse group of over 35 organisations and individuals including government, non-government organisations and Indigenous Peoples' organisations, working towards a shared vision for nature conservation in Australia.

The ACIUCN was founded in 1979 and provides the convening space to bring together IUCN Members, Commissions, Regional Councillors and the Secretariat under the IUCN One Programme approach to further the vision and mission of IUCN in Australia. ACIUCN facilitates events and produces best practice publications to facilitate conservation in Australia and the region.

The Australian Committee for IUCN is one of many national committees that make up the IUCN Global Group for National and Regional Committees that are established to support cooperation among IUCN members and with other parts of the Union including Oceania Regional Office, global Secretariat and IUCN Commissions.

THE ACIUCN forms part of the IUCN Oceania Region, that stretches over 100 million km2 of land and sea and comprises the 24 countries and territories of Polynesia, Micronesia, Melanesia, Australia and New Zealand. IUCN's Oceania Regional Office is based in Fiji and serves as the focal point for administering and serving member organisations in the Oceania region.







#### **IUCN** vision

A just world that values and conserves nature.

#### **ACIUCN** mission

To bring together Australian members of IUCN in collaborative and inclusive partnerships to further IUCN's mission:

To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

#### **ACIUCN** values

The following core values form the ethical foundation of ACIUCN and guide all our activities and decisions:

- Respectful engagement
- Recognition of, and respect for, traditional knowledge of First Nations peoples
- Finding common ground across diverse perspectives in conservation
- Integrity
- Evidence-based practice and policies





## **Strategic Goals**

- Facilitate improved environmental outcomes in Australia by bringing together ACIUCN members and diverse partners in an inclusive platform to build capacity, share knowledge and stimulate cooperation across sectors.
- 2. Strengthen and build the membership and profile of ACIUCN and IUCN networks across Australia.
- 3. Ensure ACIUCN's organisational long-term sustainability.
- 4. Implementation and review.

## Strategic Directions Plan 2021 – 2025

The following strategic directions plan will provide a 'road map' to guide the work of the organisation over the next five years:

STRATEGIC GOALS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	PRIORITY STRATEGIES
1. Facilitate better environmental outcomes in Australia by bringing together ACIUCN members and diverse partners in an inclusive platform to build capacity, share knowledge and stimulate cooperation across sectors.	1.1 Provide a neutral space to find common ground and collaborative approaches to pressing and emerging environmental challenges.	<ul> <li>1.1.1 Bring together members and diverse stakeholders using a range of platforms (workshops, symposiums, webinars) to share knowledge, practice and experience to: <ul> <li>improve delivery on international, national and regional policies and strategies including threatened species strategies, Australia's Strategy for Nature, the Australian Heritage Strategy.</li> <li>embed First Nations' perspectives into conservation policy and practice.</li> </ul> </li> <li>1.1.2 Produce publications and other outputs on topical and emerging issues.</li> </ul>
	1.2 Advance the work of IUCN and the adoption of IUCN resolutions, programmes, principles, standards, guidelines and priorities.	<ul> <li>1.2.1 Support delivery and promotion of IUCN Nature 2030 Programme.</li> <li>1.2.2 Promote relevant IUCN Standards and their adoption and implementation.</li> <li>1.2.3 Promote IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) outcomes and other IUCN initiatives.</li> </ul>
	1.3 Harness expertise across IUCN members and partners on projects and initiatives that contribute to the development and action of national and global conservation priorities.	1.3.1 Collaborate with ACIUCN members and associates, IUCN Commissions and external partners on World Heritage matters, youth, Indigenous, health and finance for the delivery of forums, webinars, events and initiatives.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	PRIORITY STRATEGIES
2.1 Retain, nurture and grow the ACIUCN membership and its relevance to members.	2.1.1 Retain and grow the ACIUCN membership, ensuring engagement, diverse communication, and activating knowledge exchange and collaborations for ACIUCN and Commission members.
	2.1.2 Build greater representation of Indigenous Peoples' Organisations (IPO) in the ACIUCN membership
	<b>2.1.3</b> Increase engagement and collaboration with organisations from outside the conservation sector, including the private sector.
	2.1.4 Review target audience, current membership categories and methods of communication to better support ACIUCN mission.
2.2 Facilitate active collaboration between members of ACIUCN, IUCN Commissions, the IUCN Council, Oceania Regional Office, other National Committees and the IUCN Secretariat.	2.2.1 Support open communication channels between ACIUCN members, IUCN Commissions and their members, and the IUCN Secretariat
	2.2.2 Seek and support opportunities to facilitate active collaboration between ACIUCN, IUCN Commissions and IUCN Oceania Regional Office and IUCN Secretariat.
	2.2.3 Build a closer relationship with New Zealand national committee and other national committees through the Global National/Regional Committees Working Group and other joint activities.
	<ul> <li>2.1 Retain, nurture and grow the ACIUCN membership and its relevance to members.</li> <li>2.2 Facilitate active collaboration between members of ACIUCN, IUCN Commissions, the IUCN Council, Oceania Regional Office, other National Committees and the IUCN</li> </ul>

STRATEGIC GOALS	STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	PRIORITY STRATEGIES
3. Ensure ACIUCN's organisational long-term sustainability.	3.1 Ensure financial viability.	<b>3.1.1</b> Secure and grow primary income from ACIUCN membership fees and government support.
		<b>3.1.2</b> Diversify income streams to include philanthropic and in-kind support from external partners and membership.
	<b>3.2</b> Ensure the highest standards of corporate governance.	<b>3.2.1</b> Ensure a high level of corporate governance including clearly recorded and independently audited report on an annual basis.
		<b>3.2.2</b> Maintain a strong and diverse Board with broad expertise.
		3.2.3 Ensure a high standard of corporate governance that meets all relevant regulatory, legal, ethical, and financial management standards, in accordance with the ACIUCN Constitution and IUCN Statutes and Regulations.
	<b>3.3</b> Build the long-term human resource capacity of, and pro-bono support for, the organisation.	<b>3.3.1</b> Activate the membership's expertise and participation as observers in Board meetings and projects.
		<b>3.3.2</b> Actively seek opportunities for capacity building and professional development for staff and Board.
4. Implementation and review	<b>4.1</b> The strategic directions are implemented efficiently within available resources	<b>4.1.1</b> The board will set priorities and key actions to deliver these strategic objectives through the Director's annual work plan
		<b>4.1.2</b> The Board will review this document annually to ensure its currency and relevance





