



**BARLOW**  
IMPACTGROUP



+61 3 9690 2926  
info@barlowimpactgroup.com.au  
PO Box 1290, St Kilda South  
Victoria, Australia 3182  
**barlowimpactgroup.com.au**

## CEO REMARKS

**As philanthropists we must always be asking ourselves how we can do better.**

Since our inception in 2014, like many philanthropists, our focus was mostly on granting. We knew women were the most effective change agents so we supported economic empowerment and education programs for women and girls in the Asia Pacific region via large multi-year grants through trusted organisations.

But ultimately, it wasn't enough. We knew we could do more. We asked ourselves hard questions and looked at all our available resources critically. We identified many opportunities to do better;

- 1 By redirecting our corpus to only investments with a positive impact.
- 2 By granting to support advocacy work, capacity building and via concessional loans.
- 3 By opening up our office space and attached accommodation to share with our partners.
- 4 By changing how we identify the issues that need our support, no longer a top down approach but by asking the recipients of our funding what their needs are.
- 5 Acknowledging that we are the mere facilitators of change, the real change makers are those that do the work.

So we are no longer a traditional foundation. We are now an impact group.

Whether through our grants program or our investments, we seek to partner with real visionaries to address inequality and disadvantage in our region.

So in 2021 we are proud to launch our new vision. An annual \$1 million award through our B.I.G. Change program. Our younger generation's grants program focuses solely on the climate crisis - B.I.G. Future. Continuing our work of using all our capital for social change via B.I.G. Investments, and launching our B.I.G. ideas program which is about transparency, sharing, openness and collaboration.

As our new logo symbolizes we are only one small drop, but one drop can be the cause of a giant ripple of change.

Our founder, Bev Barlow said, it is self-improvement that leads to self-empowerment. She also said "Just get on with it."  
So we are.

So, let's do it better. And let's do it B.I.G.

**Deborah Barlow CEO**

## OUR HISTORY

The Barlow Impact Group has grown out of the Barlow Foundation which was seed funded by Beverley Barlow with \$20 million in 2014.

### The beginning

Bev Barlow began her working life as a teacher in Papua New Guinea. After Bev met Doug in Canada, they moved to Melbourne and ran the family grocery store in Richmond. From humble beginnings the family grew the business and today own over 700 stores and coffee shops and are one of the largest family-owned companies in Australia.

### The foundation is born

Between 2014-2019 the Barlow Foundation delivered \$4.3 million in grants to charitable organisations that fostered self-reliance and self-empowerment in women and children from disadvantaged backgrounds. During this period the Barlow Foundation granted to more than 30 not for profit organisations and invested quadruple that in social change making impact investments.



## GRANTING FOR CHANGE

Historically, The Barlow Foundation's granting program was guided by the research in the book *Half The Sky*, the authors clearly build the case that it is women who are the most effective change agents. We therefore focused on female education programs (60%), the economic empowerment of women (31%), law and justice (2%) and other discretionary giving (7%) through large multi-year partnerships.

Beverley and Douglas Barlow have lived their lives with kindness, integrity, hard work and generosity. We are proud to continue and grow this tradition through the work of the Barlow Impact Group.

## OUR PURPOSE

### VISION

Equal Opportunity For All

### MISSION

To use all granting and investment capital to fund change makers who seek to advance equality, primarily in the Asia-Pacific region

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

UNDHR Article 1 - All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights

SDG10 - Reducing inequality is one of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals set in 2015 for a sustainable future in 2030.

This is at the core of all that we do.

### VALUES

RELATIONSHIP BUILDING - we build respectful, engaging, collaborative and innovative relationships and partnerships.

MAXIMUM IMPACT - we support innovative thinkers with systemic solutions to the worlds biggest problems.

HONESTY - our bond is our handshake. We are transparent and straight forward in all we do. Sharing knowledge makes us all better.

JOY - we love the work we are privileged to get to do and want to share that feeling through every step of the process.

## THE SUB BRANDS



**B.I.G.CHANGE**




**B.I.G.FUTURE**



**B.I.G.INVESTMENTS**



**B.I.G.IDEAS**



An annual \$1 million grant  
awarded to an innovative  
changemaker who is working  
to reduce inequalities



It is up to people to change the world.  
B.I.G. builds the capacity of individual change  
makers and leaders to unlock the solutions to  
systemic inequalities and global challenges.

B.I.G. is revolutionising Australian philanthropy  
by leveraging all our available capital to support  
those who share its vision to create equal  
opportunity for all.

We acknowledge that it is those that are doing the  
work that can best identify the problems and know  
the solutions. We want to listen to the needs of  
those at the front line and facilitate their work and  
their needs with our funding.

The Barlow Impact Groups' grants program has  
been designed to accelerate positive change in  
the world. We award an annual grant of \$1 million  
to back big-hearted change makers with solutions  
to fix entire systems and reduce inequalities in  
Australia, South East Asia or the Pacific.

*"I alone cannot change the world,  
but I can cast a stone across the waters  
to create many ripples"* MOTHER TERESA



*Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centres of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance* ROBERT KENNEDY

Annual grants of up  
to \$100,000 awarded  
to innovators tackling  
climate change




**B.I.G.FUTURE**

B.I.G. Future is the annual granting program led by the younger generation of the Barlow family, dedicated to finding solutions to the climate crisis.

Facing the biggest challenge of our generation, we believe the solutions to combat climate change already exist, and we want to support the global movement toward a sustainable future.

Getting from 51 billion tonnes of greenhouse gases every year to net-zero is no small task, but together, it's possible.

*"Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects"* DALAI LAMA



At Barlow Impact Group we invest in people, projects, initiatives and new technologies that put people and planet first, to create a better world



**B.I.G. INVESTMENTS**

In 2016, B.I.G. made the decision to commit to 100% impact/ Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) exposure in order to leverage the overall power of the capital base. This enables us to have the greatest possible impact.

Between 2014 and 2019, the Barlow Impact Group grew ESG and impact investments from 2% to 93%.

Our commitment is that 100% of our corpus will be invested for social impact through impact investments, ESG investments and concessional loans.

Through our investment portfolio we have supported life changing initiatives, including social justice reform, building hospitals and green buildings, alternative energy sources, education apps and services and access to low-cost medicines and financial services.

*“We need to start to talk about money in ways that dethrone it and make it subject to human ethics and standards of love and decency.”*



Our B.I.G. Ideas hub shares data, intelligence, networks, office and event space to allow ideas to grow and change the world



#### A HUB FOR IDEAS

At Barlow Impact Group we believe that sharing ideas, information and skills allows for shared vision and multiplies impact.

We do this by being transparent about our investments, our granting process and sharing who and what inspires us. We also share our office.

The Irish Linen House in South Melbourne is a unique space where skills, passion and knowledge meet, and people are more inspired to achieve social outcomes. Here there are also opportunities for our partners and other like-minded business to access a range of spaces, including:

- Office space
- Meeting rooms
- Function spaces
- Studio
- 2 bedroom short-stay apartment



*"There's nothing more powerful in the whole world than an idea whose time has come"* VICTOR HUGO

OUR IMPACT SO FAR

6.4 MILLION  
AWARDED IN GRANTS

22 MILLION  
INVESTED  
FOR **IMPACT**

55 CHANGE  
MAKERS  
SUPPORTED