

INTERVIEW WITH AEGN

The Barlow Impact Group looks to granting, investing, advocating, and sharing knowledge and processes to maximise impact.

‘While we started as a traditional philanthropist, we now call ourselves an impact group; seeking to identify the biggest issues that affect our society and find solutions through granting, investing, or advocating.’

Fergus McKenna, Impact Manager, Barlow Impact Group

*‘We began investing for impact five years ago and in that short time have almost reached our goal of being 100 per cent invested for impact and change. We grant by backing one innovator and change maker per year. Our million-dollar grant program **B.I.G Change** seeks out a problem and an innovative solution. We are driven by reducing inequality (**SDG10**) in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. This might be through environmental solutions, education programs, advocacy campaigns or employment opportunities. We don’t prescribe the problem or the solution, we look to the people doing the work to provide us with guidance and then we support them.’*

*‘We fund environmental issues through our investments as well as potentially through our million-dollar grants program. But we also have our dedicated B.I.G. Future granting fund which is headed and run solely by the younger generation of The Barlow Impact Group. **B.I.G. Future** awards up to \$100,000 per year to an innovator who is addressing solutions to the climate crisis. We are most interested in systemic solutions that will have a long-term and exponential impact. For example, this past year we funded Carbon8, an organisation helping Australian farmers transition to regenerative agriculture.’*

We became aware of the AEGN through attending NEXUS and thought it provided the perfect opportunity for us to gain an understanding of the climate philanthropy ecosystem.

‘As we have become more public over the last year, we wanted to know what other funders were doing, what areas they thought philanthropic dollars could have the most impact in combatting the climate crisis, and we also wanted to reach a broader audience so that we could find the innovators in this space, and they could find us.’

To find out more visit the [Barlow Impact Group](#) website, or get in touch with me: