

HIGHWAYS AND BYWAYS

HEALING THE LAND, HEALING OURSELVES, TOGETHER

SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM 2023

Healing and Growing Together

PROGRAM GUIDELINES



Applications close 5.00pm AEDT Wednesday 15 March 2023

In recent years, Australia has been challenged in more ways than could ever have been imagined. Enduring drought and natural disasters, such as bushfires and floods have ravaged parts of the country resulting in loss of life, property, significant impacts on species and the destruction of vast tracts of land and habitat.

The Covid19 pandemic has also affected our very way of living. Long periods of isolation and restrictions on movement, education and trade has affected all segments of the population, none more so than vulnerable communities, including people living in poverty, older persons, persons with disabilities, youth, and Indigenous peoples[1].

With the United Nations Decade of Ecosystem Restoration entering its third year, *Highways and Byways – Healing the Land, Healing Ourselves, Together* seeks to support communities, especially those experiencing social and ecological

disadvantage and inequality, as they attempt to HEAL AND GROW in the aftermath of the environmental challenges of the past few years. *Highways and Byways* also seeks to support communities as they attempt to reconnect and recover from the social impacts of the pandemic, especially those heightened by isolation and loneliness.

"We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature".

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**Highways
and Byways**

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TOGETHER.**

[1] United Nations: www.un.org/development/desa/dspd/everyone-included-covid-19.html
IMAGE: Courtesy Lake Pedder Restoration Inc, 2022 Small Grant recipient

2023 Small Grants Program

In 2023, Highways and Byways welcomes applications for funding for projects that support people and communities in addressing social and ecological disadvantage and inequality, particularly in rural, regional and remote Australia.

Grants of up to \$4,000 are available for:

a) Environmental/ecological initiatives that:

- Promote environmental rehabilitation and restoration to rectify the impacts of recent fire, flood or drought.
- Support healing the land in holistic ways.
- Encourage connection with the land.
- Foster community relationships through practical projects that improve the local environment.
- Support the intergenerational exchange of knowledge and skills for the sustainable management of land into the future.
- Increase opportunities for people to develop leadership or other practical skills.

Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to: projects using community partnerships to improve

land health and increase local land management knowledge, revegetation initiatives, grasslands restoration, cultural fire management, carbon capture, bolstering soil fertility, sustainability expos, and education and training sessions.

b) Initiatives that encourage community connections that:

- Reduce isolation and loneliness and promote connectivity in the wake of the Covid19 pandemic and/or recent fires/floods/drought.
- Foster Indigenous identity and cultural connections through sharing knowledge, skills or story.
- Encourage partnerships between individuals, groups and/or organisations.
- Build strong and resilient communities.
- Provide opportunities for program participants to develop leadership or other personal or community building skills.

Eligible projects may include, but are not limited to: workshops, events, or expos; programs for vulnerable communities; well-being programs, training programs.

Funding Eligibility and Conditions

Funding is available to community groups or organisations which can demonstrate that they are at minimum an Incorporated Association or similarly constituted entity. Funding is not available to individuals or trusts.

Applicants need to demonstrate that the project addresses the relief of social or environmental disadvantage or inequality through locally led action.

Projects are to be completed within 12 months unless otherwise negotiated. Generally, grants allocated are up to \$4,000.

Successful applicants will be required to submit a mid year report, final report and evidence of funding acquittal.

Successful applicants will be notified in writing in May 2023.

How to apply

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it to Highways and Byways by **5.00pm AEDT Wednesday 15 March 2023**.

Applications can be submitted as following:

Online

Click on the 'Apply Now' link via our website at www.hb.org.au/grants/

Email

Download an application form via our website, complete and email to: grants@hb.org.au.

Hard copy

Download an application form via our website, complete and mail to:

Highways and Byways,
90 Albion Road, Box Hill, Victoria, 3128.

Further information

For further information please contact Highways and Byways:

Phone: (03) 9087 8606.
Email: grants@hb.org.au

Or visit the Question and Answer section of our website: www.hb.org.au/grants/

