

# Climates annual report

Calendar year 2020



Photo credit - top: An island in Kiribati – photograph by Raimon Kataotao, bottom: screenshot of virtual meeting Climates volunteers with 350 Pacific to sign our Memorandum of Understanding

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## Our Vision

An empowered Australia-Pacific region working together towards a sustainable future in the face of climate change.

## About Climates

We support climate advocacy, climate resilience and community development organisations in the Pacific with training, technical support and professional services to allow them to increase their reach and effectiveness.

Climates is a non-profit organisation that is building a network of volunteers, supporters, communities and businesses across Australia and Pacific Island countries in response to climate change.

### Our people

2020 was a year of challenges for many people with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) impacting our volunteers and our partners. One small sliver lining is we all got much better at using videoconferencing software and working remotely, which better enabled us to support of Pacific partners from Australia and to work as a team with volunteers across Australia.

A big thanks to all the volunteers who helped out on our projects this year, including:

- Achille
- Alex F.
- Blanche
- Denise
- Elle
- Isaemali
- Mia
- Patrick
- Ruby
- Sebastian
- Stephanie

### Our Pacific partners

We were privileged to work with a number of partners in the Pacific in 2020, including:



*350 Pacific*



*Vanuatu Climate Action Network*



*Pacific Island Climate Action Network*



*Green Wave Vanuatu*

## Structure and management

Climates is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Our governance structure consists of our four directors, see table below.

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Oli Moraes	Director	
Alex Hucombe	Director	
Emma Jacobs	Director	
Gemma Cook	Director	1 January to 30 June 2020

## Our Objectives and Activities

### Objectives

Climates has two key objectives as part of our theory of change (see table below):

- Seek and create opportunities to amplify voices (stories and campaigns) of communities and leaders on the frontlines of climate change, and
- Support communities to access information training and resources to respond to, current and forecasted climate impacts in their area.

Climates sphere of influence				Outside our influence	
Objectives	Activities	Assumptions	Climates Outcomes	Impacts	Vision
Seek and create opportunities to <b>amplify voices</b> (stories and	Pacific Voices Blog  Social media	Climates is considered an ally of frontline communities, and is	Climates has a growing audience of people and institutions that are engaging with frontline	People across the region feel empowered to take individual and collective action on	An empowered Australia-Pacific region working together towards

campaigns) of communities and leaders on the frontlines of climate change	channels  Pacific Climate Warriors micro grant	trusted to share stories and campaigns	stories  People in the Climates' community feel empowered to act on climate change, including through donating to or volunteering for Climates and our community partners	climate change, following the leadership of frontline communities	a sustainable future in the face of climate change
<b>Support communities</b> to access information training and resources to respond to, current and forecasted climate impacts in their area	Grant facilitation  Tropical Cyclone Harold Crowdfunder  Cyclone Yasa Relief Appeal  Organisational capacity building	Communities, institutions and individuals want to work with and through Climates  People, communities and institutions in the Pacific and Australia are aware of the support that Climates can offer	Communities have increased capacity (resources, time) to take advantage of opportunities that enable adaptation action and sustainable development  Communities are supported to identify options for adaptation/transition in the context of self-determined, sustainable development	Diverse partnerships are enabling communities to drive initiatives that build local resilience to climate impacts across the Australia-Pacific region  Frontline communities are more resilient to the impacts of climate change	

## Activities this year

### **Pacific Climate Warriors micro grant**

In June 2020, Climates provided funding to 350 Pacific to support participants of their climate leadership fellowship Pacific Pawa UP 2020. Pacific Pawa UP 2020 was a three month online fellowship run by 350 Pacific to provide leadership training for young Pacific Islanders engaged in climate change initiatives. Climates also supported the 350 team with livestreaming the fellowship graduation and their evaluation report.

### **Pacific voices blog**

In 2020, we launched a new Blog series to elevate Pacific voices on climate change. The series launched in July with a piece by [Arti Chetty from the Pacific Climate Warriors](#) in Melbourne who advocated for a just and sustainable recovery from COVID-19. This piece was followed up by a second piece in October [by young I-Kiribati artist Uriam Amoon](#), telling his story and sharing his amazing artwork depicting the challenges that Kiribati faces in terms of water insecurity and climate change and how those issues intersect with patriarchal impacts of I-Kiribati youth.

We would like to thank the blog teammates; Isaemali (based in Samoa), Denise, Blanche, Oli and Ruby worked closely over several months to get the blog platform up and running. The first two blogs from Arti and Uriam are now up on the website ([here](#)) and we are working to connect with more people in the Pacific to provide a platform for them to tell their stories and

perspectives on climate justice. If you want to contribute to the series contact: [blog@climates.org.au](mailto:blog@climates.org.au)

### **Tropical Cyclone Harold Crowdfunder**

Earlier in the year Climates ran a crowdfunder to raise money for those impacted by Tropical Cyclone Harold in Vanuatu. We raised over \$3,000 to help rebuild the Women's Centre on Pentecost Island, Vanuatu, that was flattened by the cyclone in April 2020. We partnered up with the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) and environmental services organisation Green Wave Vanuatu to help raise money to support this affected community. We were recently updated by the Director of Green Wave, Georges Cumbo, who provided us with a project report. Georges informed us that the Women's Centre rebuilding has been completed and the community is doing well. Your donations and support were critical for this recovery effort, so a huge thank you again to everyone who donated.

### **Grant facilitation**

Climates volunteer and Vanuatu lead Mia worked closely with VCAN in the second half of the year to support 6 VCAN member organisations across 6 provinces to engage and connect with each other and wider climate action activities. Data and service is limited in the Pacific so Mia is working with VCAN to figure out how to get everyone more connected. Options include installing a mobile phone with data to hotspot other devices within the organisation, or partner with another organisation to install a 'hub' style wifi box.

Sebastian (Seb) is collaborating with VCAN's partners Erata Development Committee (EDC), on Tongariki island in Sefa Province. EDC has recently established an evacuation centre that has been used to assist and manage the safeguard of the community in Erata village. To improve capacity and capability of the evacuation centre's function, the committee is seeking to expand and improve the centre. Current options to achieve this goal have been to partner with organisations to secure grants that would provide locals of the Erata Development Committee funds to apply traditional construction methods. These methods involve using localised materials integrated with the skills and knowledge of communities expertise to achieve built forms that are robust and sustainable.

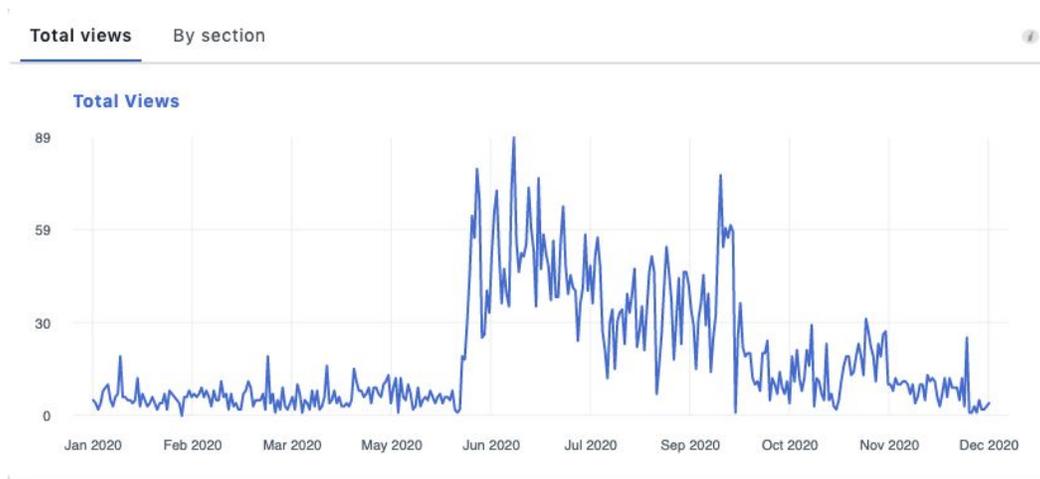
In December 2020, Mia and Seb provided two short recommendation documents to VCAN that highlight the research and engagement work they have undertaken on their respective projects. The documents provide VCAN with opportunities to move forward and potentially secure funding. Climates is waiting to hear back from VCAN which options they will pursue in 2021.

In the final few months of 2020, volunteers Achille and Alex F. started conducting research on the effectiveness of small-scale climate finance for the Pacific. Achille produced a research brief

titled [‘Efficacy of unrestricted community-based small-scale finance \(micro-grants\) in the Pacific’](#) that provides critical groundwork for Climates micro-grants program launch in 2021.

## Website and social media

Elle has continued the daily posting of climate change news, features, videos, podcasts and reports, with a regional focus, to Climates’ Facebook page. Oli and Ruby added in several posts on Climates’ work (new blog posts, fundraisers, partnership updates). The latter, original Climates’ posts generally performed best, however several were boosted, making data incomparable. Below are some insights on our audience and post performance.



At the start of this period we had 95,982 **followers**, today we have: 92,013 - a decrease 4.1% in 12 months. Given that most of our account’s growth occurred around the IRL and live-streamed panel series in 2017/18 and that we did not run or stream any events in 2020, it’s not surprising that there has been some degree of unfollowing. Eternal influences like Cambridge Analytica fiasco and #stopthateforprofit movements have had widespread influence on people getting off the platform, as has the evolution of its algorithm, which increasingly limits organic reach in favour of boosted (paid to be shared with a larger percentage of your followers/non-followers) content. Nevertheless, Climates should be aiming for growth and channeling new resources into creating more organic content/updates and sharing these in engaging ways – such as posts on blog stories, IRL meetings, work with partners etc.

To give insight into the algorithm's limiting: the **average reach** (the number of people who had any content from Climates’ page or about Climates’ page enter their screen) in July was 418 people per day, this figure fluctuated until peaking in September at 730 before declining in December to 148.

More encouragingly, in the last 28 days both new follower rates and reach have improved.

Top performing **posts** unsurprisingly included original boosted content, however those un-boosted that focused on end-of-year recap subject matter, shares of partners news (350 Pacific), and US election/climate performed best. The takeaway: keep it timely, be directed by current affairs, but also continue to seek out local Pacific perspectives.

### Top Performing Non-Boosted Posts

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 14 October 2020 · [?] · [?]

In this new covid-19 world, environmental and climate crisis defenders are developing new ways to cope and operate under the pandemic constraints...  
<https://www.scoop.co.nz/.../how-pacific-environmental-defende...>



Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

272 People reached    6 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 28 September 2020 · [?]

Pacific Island leaders on Friday touted their own environmental action plans and called for more aggressive climate action from other nations, including rapid shifts toward clean energy.



NEWS.UN.ORG  
Pacific small islands and 'Big Ocean' nations at UN Assembly make the case for climate action, shift to clean...

Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

776 People reached    44 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

Climates, Emma Jacobs, Anna Sawanga and 10 others    5 shares

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 2 September 2020 · [?]

#WCW



STUFF.CO.NZ  
World champions: Five women working to save us from climate change disaster

Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

420 People reached    21 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 31 August 2020 · [?]

You may have heard the news: Australia's carbon dioxide emissions have dropped to their lowest levels in more than two decades.



ABC.NET.AU  
Emissions have fallen, but don't pop the champagne corks just yet

Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

428 People reached    12 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 29 July 2020 · [?]

A 23-year-old law student filed a class-action suit accusing Australia of failing to disclose financial risks from climate change. Experts say it is the first of its kind.



NYTIMES.COM  
Australian Student Sues Government Over Financial Risks of Climate Change

Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

1,444 People reached    129 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

Sarah Pant, Danielle Chilverini and 7 others    13 shares

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [?] · 5 July 2020 · [?]

The truth is – despite the protestations of energy and emissions reduction Angus Taylor – that the dial has barely moved on Australia's emissions over the last 20 years, or even the last 30 years, and it now faces a huge challenge to meet its modest targets for the Paris agreement



RENEWECONOMY.COM.AU  
Australia claims Kyoto success, but three decades as a climate wrecker is all it can boast

Get more likes, comments and shares  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

411 People reached    12 Engagements    [Boost Post](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Oli Moraes [P] · 14 September 2020 · [G]

Join us this Friday 18 September at midday on Climate Action Network Australia's Brown Bag Lunch webinar series to hear about a new initiative we've been developing to support our partners in the Pacific. Building on our previous work, we're aiming to provide small scale funding to Pacific based NGOs/CSOs and communities to support climate resilience and adaptation, capacity building and resourcing, and climate advocacy and leadership.

When: Fri 18 September  
Time: 12-1pm AEST... See more



CANA Brown Bag Lunch Zoom webinar Friday 18 September at 12 noon AEST

**climates**

✔ **Get more likes, comments and shares**  
When you boost this post, you'll show it to more people.

**825** People reached    **24** Engagements    **Boost Post**

**Climates**  
Published by Oli Moraes [P] · 22 December 2020 · [G]

As we come to the end of one of the most challenging years, our mates in Fiji have just been impacted by another significant disaster exacerbated by climate change. Cyclone Yasa has impacted communities across Fiji, and they need our support. Our Fijian partners based in Suva have reached out to Climates to spread this emergency relief fund. Can you help by donating? If you're in a position to support with a donation, funds will help to provide critical emergency supplies to ... See more



**PLEASE DONATE TO THE TROPICAL CYCLONE YASA EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

**BANK: BRED BANK FIJI LIMITED**  
**ACCOUNT NAME: PACIFIC YOUTH NETWORK**  
**ACCOUNT NUMBER: 20326455018**  
**BANK ADDRESS/BRANCH:**  
Suva Branch, 1001, 1001, 1001 Street.

**BIB BANK # 19010**  
**SWIFT CODE: BREDFIJ1**  
**NARRATION: TO YASA RELIEF**

**PLEASE DONATE TO THE TROPICAL CYCLONE YASA EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

**350** Pacific  
21 December 2020    **Like Page**

As we look forward to the holidays and the festivities that this season brings, our families in Fiji are giving thanks for their lives as they begin to rebuild ... See more

**287** People reached    **7** Engagements    **Boost Unavailable**

**Climates, Emma Jacobs and Oli Moraes**    1 Comment

**Climates**  
Published by Elle Rose [P] · 6 August 2020 · [G]

Congrats to the Pacific Pawa Up Fellowship Class of 2020!  
This training initiative by our mates @350Pacific is designed to coach Pacific climate activists by equipping them with essential skills needed to make a positive impact in a rapidly changing landscape.  
You can watch the wonderful graduation ceremony below.



**PACIFIC PAWA UP FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2020**

**350** Pacific  
3 August 2020    **Like Page**

A BIG congratulations to the first ever Pacific Pawa Up Fellowship Class of 2020 graduates. It has been a great journey working, learning and connecting with th... See more

**362** People reached    **9** Engagements    **Boost Unavailable**

## Boosted Posts

**Climates**  
Published by Oli Moraes [P] · 24 July 2020 · [G]

We have some exciting news! We are launching a new series to elevate Pacific voices and stories, and raise awareness of climate change issues and action in the region. This project aims to showcase and leverage the wisdom of Pacific peoples' climate leadership, while also bringing attention to the importance of climate justice, and broader issues, for the region.

Our first piece to launch the series is by Melbourne based Pacific Climate Warrior Arti Chetty titled Rarangaa taai aika ana roko – weave the days to come. Arti draws on her heritage to argue for the need for a just green recovery from Covid-19.  
<https://climates.org.au/.../06/24/rarangaa-taai-aika-ana-roko/>

We are interested in publishing a wide range of perspectives through diverse mediums including storytelling, narrative and lived experience. We recognise the diversity of cultural identities, languages and peoples across the Pacific and Australia and we prioritise the participation of all willing voices even where barriers such as language exist. If this sounds like you, please get in touch at [blog@climates.org.au](mailto:blog@climates.org.au) or submit a pitch or full article on our website <https://climates.org.au/blog-2/>.



**Rarangaa taai aika ana roko**

CLIMATES.ORG.AU  
**Rarangaa taai aika ana roko – weave the days to come** [Learn More](#)

**26,013** People reached **612** Engagements [Boost again](#)

Boosted on 25 Jul 2020 By Oli Moraes Completed Boosted on 25 Jul 2020 By Oli Moraes

People reached	<b>17.7K</b>	Link clicks	<b>183</b>
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[View results](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Oli Moraes [P] · 23 September 2020 · [G]

We just recieved a report back from our project partners Green Wave Vanuatu and Alliance Français in Vanuatu who coordinated the rebuilding efforts on Pentecost following Cyclone Harold in April.

Climates with the support of over 50 individual donors raised over \$3,000 for rebuilding the women's centre in the islands community most impacted. Thanks to everyone for supporting this important work in building climate resilience at the community level after this major climate-disaster.

Thanks to Vanuatu Climate Action Network for connecting us with the project partners and everyone from the Climates team and community who made this possible.



Alliance française de Port-Vila  
21 September 2020 [Like Page](#)

#SolidaritéFranceVanuatu #CycloneHarold  
Nous vous prions de trouver ci-dessous un rapport concernant la reconstruction de la Maison des Femmes à Goun.  
Pour info...  
[See more](#)  
[See Translation](#)

**374** People reached **16** Engagements [Boost Unavailable](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Ruby Marshall [P] · 19 October 2020 · [G]

There's a new article on the Climates' blog! Uriam is an artist from Kiribati and he has shared his story and art with us in this amazing blog post. His artwork expresses his experience as a young person in Kiribati and how vulnerable their islands are to the impacts of climate change. Uriam talks about the value of art as a response to climate change, and how he was empowered to become an activist through art. There is an English version and a Gilbertese version of his story included. Head to our website to read his story and see his incredible artwork.  
<https://climates.org.au/2020/10/19/uriams-story/>



CLIMATES.ORG.AU  
**Uriam's Story**  
Mauri! My name is Uriam Amoone and this is my story to you all. ...

**13,382** People reached **689** Engagements [Boost again](#)

Boosted on 19 Oct 2020 By Oli Moraes Completed

People reached	<b>12.2K</b>	Link clicks	<b>202</b>
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[View results](#)

**Climates**  
Published by Oli Moraes [P] · 24 August 2020 · [G]

Climates and 350 Pacific have been mates for many years, collaborating on a range of projects, work and action on the climate crisis across Australia and the Pacific Islands. On Friday, our leadership teams formalised this "Climateship" by signing an MOU. This partnership has been in the making since 2016 and was enabled by the friendship built between our co-founder Jarrod and Fenton from 350. We hope this now means that our two organisations can continue working together into the future, beyond our current working relationships and teams so that our shared visions of a just, resilient and sustainable region in the face of climate change can be collectively realised. Vinaka vakalevu Fenton, Joe, George and Wilfred and the Climates crew!!!



**3,834** People reached **788** Engagements [Boost again](#)

Boosted on 24 Aug 2020 By Oli Moraes Completed

People reached	<b>2.6K</b>	Post engagement	<b>636</b>
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[View results](#)

Ruby has been managing our new website, updating blog pieces, and creating content for social media. Ruby has also developed a quarterly [Climates Newsletter](#) that she launched in October 2020. The Newsletter is designed to keep our supporters engaged and celebrate our volunteers.

### Organisational capacity building

Denise is currently working closely with Stephanie from VCAN and Oxfam Vanuatu to develop organisational capacity for the VCAN network. Denise is developing a draft Child Protection Policy with Stephanie that VCAN can use to implement such a policy across its network and with each of its member organisations. This is critical work for VCAN so that their members can be recognised by government agencies, funding bodies and donors while providing opportunities to educate civil society across Vanuatu about child safety and protection.

Ruby has been working with George, Willy and Stephanie from VCAN to support them in setting up their new website that will be a hub for VCAN network members for engagement, learning and advocacy.

### External conduct standards reporting

The table below is provided to summarise our overseas activities for the purpose of our external conduct standards reporting, including:

- the types of activities it conducted outside Australia on a country-by-country basis
- details of how its activities outside Australia enabled it to pursue and achieve its purpose on a country-by-country basis
- details of all expenditure relating to its activities outside Australia on a country-by-country basis

Where we worked	Activities	Achieving our charitable purpose	Expenditure
Fiji	Pacific Climate Warriors grant	To support communities across the Australia-Pacific region to build resilience to climate change	\$500
Vanuatu	Cyclone Harold Crowdfunder	To act as an access point and intermediary between communities who request Climates' support to build their resilience to climate change and individuals and public, private or not-for-profit organisations who have the capability and capacity to assist with those needs	\$3,010
	Grant facilitation	To engage in activities to support and	NA

	bolster resources management and drive economic and community development in Pacific communities impacted by climate change, including the securing of donations, grants subscriptions and subsidies	(volunteer work only)
Organisational capacity building		NA (volunteer work only)

A list of the overseas partners we worked with can be found under the Our Pacific Partners section of this report.

All of the grant funds we provide overseas are provided under a grant agreement, which specifies what the grant is for, when the activities will take place and what the reporting requirements are. Climates aims to minimise paperwork and reporting for our partners, while ensuring funds are used for the intended charitable purpose.

In 2020, no Climates volunteers traveled outside Australia and there were no claims of inappropriate behaviour by Climates volunteers outside Australia.

#### Planned activities for the upcoming year

We will be continuing and expanding the Pacific Voices blog in 2021 along with our grant facilitation work with our partners.

Climates teammate and micro grants programme lead Patrick has been working closely with Oli over the last 6 months to develop a micro grants service. Patty and Oli have been engaging stakeholders, conducting research, meeting with philanthropic contacts and speaking with Pacific partners. In September, Patty and Oli presented to the Climate Action Network Australia (CANA) at their daily webinar series and since have been working on developing the programme's structure, governance and strategy which has been aided by Climates teammate Stephanie and Achille. Climates will be launching the programme in 2021 with the hope of inviting Pacific grant applications in the first half of the year.

## Programme Implementation Steps

Stage 1 →	Stage 2 →	Stage 3 →	Stage 4
Develop proposal	a) Pitch proposal to internal Climates stakeholders; b) Pitch to external stakeholders	Engage Pacific based partners on the proposal and finalise programme structure	Pitch to donors and philanthropists to raise grant funding pool
← Stage 8	← Stage 7	← Stage 6	← Stage 5
Collect project summaries and testimonials from recipients and partners, and report back to donors	Maintain communications with partners and grant recipients and ensure project milestones are met if possible	Award funding with advice from Pacific advisory committee. Co-create unrestrictive milestones for each recipient	Invite partners and prospective recipients to apply for funding



Climates is establishing NGO support services which will be a menu of services we are able to offer to our Pacific partners on a regular basis, such as English language editing and proof-reading; and research and literature reviews. Climates teammates will be on a support services list and will offer short turnaround times on serviced work.

## Financial report

In the 2019/20 financial year, Climates had expenses of \$6,360 and income of \$7,089, leading to a change in our available funds of \$129 over the year. However, \$3,010 of this income was funds raised for the Cyclone Harold Crowdfunder, and was transferred to VCAN in July 2020 (the following financial year).

Climates savings declined by \$2,884 in 2019/20. This was partially due to the impact of COVID-19, which restricted our ability to run fundraising events in 2020. This reduction in our savings will not impact Climates long term viability. We will continue to monitor the impacts of COVID-19, particularly if our ability to run fundraising events continues to be impacted into 2021.

Our objectives for next year are to increase our fundraising, to:

1. Ensure our fundraising activities cover our operating costs, which are estimated to be \$3,000 for the 2020/21 financial year.
2. Raise at least \$10,000 to support our microgrants program.

## Financial statements

### Assets

	1 July 2019	30 June 2020
Cash Savings	\$8,760	\$5,876
Funds held for Partners	-	\$3,010

### Expenses and income

<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>-\$</b>	<b>6,360.06</b>
Accounting Fees	-\$	350.00
Advertising & Promotion	-\$	67.64
Bank Charges	-\$	35.47
Computer Expenses	-\$	314.17
Donations Paid	-\$	620.00
Entertainment Costs	-\$	86.75
Fundraising Expenses	-\$	1,000.00
Insurance - General	-\$	1,988.11
Membership Fees Paid	-\$	665.50
Postage, Freight and Courier	-\$	302.07
Sundry Expenses	-\$	111.35
Telephone & Fax Charges & Internet	-\$	699.00
Volunteer Costs	-\$	120.00

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 7,089.41</b>
Donations (Public collections)	\$ 47.60
Interest - Unrestricted	\$ 20.29
Non-tax deductible gifts	\$ 3,610.00
Other/Sundry Income	\$ 111.52
Sponsorship and licensing fees	\$ 3,300.00

## **How you can help**

### **Become a volunteer**

If you would like to get involved with Climates and volunteer to support our Pacific partners, please email [directors@climates.org.au](mailto:directors@climates.org.au)

### **Make a donation**

You can donate to Climates [via our DonorBox account](#) or email [directors@climates.org.au](mailto:directors@climates.org.au) to discuss other options.