



The Wyatt Trust and Climate Change

The Wyatt Trust (Wyatt) recognises that climate change is one of the most significant issues that impacts the immediate and long-term health of our society, economy and environment.

Wyatt's mission

Wyatt's focus is on issues that allow us to challenge inequality and eradicate poverty.

Climate change will affect low-income households and disadvantaged communities disproportionately. People on low incomes have far less ability to move or make other necessary adjustments to their living circumstances in response to crises such as bushfires and rising sea levels.

As a group, they are also more susceptible to health-related conditions brought on by high temperatures, smoke, and pollution, as a result of general poorer health, restricted access and response to medical services and pharmaceuticals, and inability to moderate temperatures in their homes.

On average, low-income earners spend a greater proportion of their total weekly household budget on energy and water than wealthier households. Property insurance against damage and loss is out of the financial reach of many low-income households, as are significant energy efficiency measures such as insulation, new hot water systems or rainwater tanks.

Energy consumption in low-income households is partly shaped by the market in second-hand appliances. Many second-hand appliances are inefficient, waste energy and increase bills.

Climate change and its mitigation is a pressing problem for all. Its adverse impacts will be shouldered unequally.

Wyatt's commitment to climate change action

Wyatt is committed to managing our organisation in a manner consistent with the Paris Agreement (and its subsequent iterations) towards net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

This includes how we provide our services, invest our funds, make decisions on grant-making, operate our offices, engage on matters of policy and contribute to industry initiatives.

Our goal, shared with many others, is the rapid achievement of 100% green energy, climate smart agriculture, biodiversity protection, a just transition in the labour market, disaster resilience in all communities, and protection of the most vulnerable people from increased costs. Wyatt will measure emissions, reduce these where possible, offset remaining emissions and publicly report on performance.

In summary Wyatt will contribute to fair, fast and inclusive climate action.

Our intention

This is Wyatt's initial statement of intent, prior to developing a detailed climate change strategy.

The strategy will be underpinned by articulated principles such as:

- A global net zero emissions economy is necessary by 2050 and Wyatt will play its part
- Climate related risk is borne unequally, and poorer communities and people must be protected from unfair impacts of climate change and mitigation policy



- Collective action, transparency and disclosure matter
- Australia has skilled environmental activists and grant makers that can and will inform our strategy and practice
- Our goal is to hold ourselves accountable to the strategy developed
- Our strategy will be practical and resulting actions will either impact Wyatt's positive contribution to net zero emissions or assist those on low-income to make decisions that improve their circumstances.

The strategy will include commitment to immediate, short- and medium-term actions.

Proposed strategy

The strategy will address actions in three key areas of Wyatt's work, namely, its grant-making, investment of financial corpus and its business operations. It will include targets specific to Wyatt and public reporting on progress.

Wyatt will continue to evolve its strategy and approach as knowledge, technology, science and policy develop.