Global LENS
AUSTRALIA

LEADERSHIP · ENVIRONMENT · NETWORKING · SUSTAINABILITY

26 JULY – 28 JULY 2027

HOSTED BY

TANGALOOMA
ISLAND RESORT











WELCOME TO GLOBAL LENS AUSTRALIA

EXPLORING OUR ENVIRONMENT. CONNECTING CULTURE. INSPIRING CHANGE.







WHAT IS GLOBAL LENS?

Global LENS Australia (formerly Global Link Australia) is an international student forum where young leaders from around the world come together to explore critical environmental, cultural, and social challenges. Centred on its core pillars of Leadership, Environment, Networking, and Sustainability (LENS), the forum provides a platform for students to share ideas, build cross-cultural connections, and take meaningful steps toward a more sustainable world through competition-style research presentations, interactive experiences, and cultural exchange.

PURPOSE & IMPACT

Global LENS Australia inspires students to explore the environmental challenges shaping our world and become part of the solution. Guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the forum encourages research, collaboration and youth-led ideas to connect local action with global change.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING
Dive into real-world sustainability challenges with practical, problem-solving activities.

HONE VALUABLE SKILLS
Develop leadership, teamwork, critical-thinking and presentation skills. Students work together to tackle significant issues, through discussing and exchanging opinions.

GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP
Enhance understanding of environmental stewardship and global sustainability and meet new friends who gather from around the world.

THE COMPETITION

Teams from participating schools will compete by presenting innovative solutions to a real-world sustainability challenge. This encourages students to research and analyse environmental issues and develop and pitch actionable solutions, showcasing their findings to a panel of judges.

BE PART OF THIS IMPACTFUL EXPERIENCE & EMPOWER YOUR STUDENTS TO LEAD IN SUSTAINABILITY!

Sign up for Global LENS Australia, and inspire your students to become the change-makers of tomorrow. Read on to find out more.

WHY TANGALOOMA?

ONE MISSION: CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE

WHY TANGALOOMA ISLAND RESORT

Tangalooma, on Moreton Island, is the ultimate setting for Global LENS Australia - a place where environmental science isn't just in a presentation, it's right outside your window!

THE LIVING CLASSROOM

Set within Moreton Bay Marine Park, Tangalooma gives students the opportunity to witness the ecosystem firsthand - a living marine laboratory surrounded by protected national parkland.

30+ YEARS OF CONSERVATION

Home to Australia's longest-running world renowned wild dolphin feeding program, Tangalooma's guided educational programs give students a front-row seat to marine animal protection, wildlife conservation, and ocean sustainability in action.

ON-SITE RESEARCH & CULTURE

The Eco Centre and EcoMarines Foundation lead active conservation work, alongside an ongoing Reconciliation Action Plan with the Quandamooka People, Traditional Owners of Moreton Island (Mulgumpin).





AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

THE BRIEF

Students are required to present an environmental issue related to their school, local community, country or the global community. Presentations may explore the social and cultural dimensions of the issue and must relate to one or more of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): 7 – Affordable & Clean Energy, 11 – Sustainable Cities & Communities, 13 – Climate Action, 14 – Life Below Water, and/or 15 – Life on Land.

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **Define the environmental issue and why it is significant.**
2. **Support your presentation with facts, expert insights, or cultural knowledge.**
3. **Identify key challenges, opportunities, and realistic solutions.**
4. **Detail actions already completed or planned for the future.**
5. **Show how you involve local peers, experts, or community members.**
6. **Use visual slides, engaging storytelling, and shared team speaking.**

Q&A SESSION

At the completion of your presentation, to extend your thinking or to clarify any information, the judges will ask you questions. Some example questions are below:

- **Can you please explain...?**
- **Can you give me an example of...?**
- **How can you promote this issue?**
- **How can you encourage a change in behaviour of...?**
- **How can this response be scaled up?**

POWERPOINT USAGE

In the presentation it is important to demonstrate your depth of knowledge of the issue. Your PowerPoint presentation should summarise your information (less is more). You should use the PowerPoint to 'speak to' not 'speak from', please try to avoid reading from the PowerPoint.







*FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, A FULL PRESENTATION GUIDE IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Note: To help your team feel fully prepared, we will host an Online Orientation Session on Friday, 18 June 2027.

MEET THE JUDGES FROM 2026



DIANNE AYLWARD

Di is the proud principal of Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre (EEC) and a committed and passionate educator continually striving for innovative ways to engage students, teachers and the broader community. She was the recipient of the Queensland College of Teachers award for Excellent Leadership in Teaching and Learning. Under her leadership, Moreton Bay EEC, along with treasured partners, received the Department of Education Showcase Award for the Leadership Team of the Year and Excellence in Industry Partnerships, Peter Doherty STEM Award and the Healthy Land and Water Sustainable Education Award.

ECOMARINES BOARD MEMBER

CLIMATE ACTION



MICHAEL ZEUSCHNER

Michael has been a principal in Queensland State Schools for 39 years, and only recently retired as Principal of Bulimba State School, a position he had held since 1995. In 2010 Michael won the 'Keep QLD Beautiful' award for significant contribution to Environmental Education, and he was also recognised by the Minister for Education as "Principal Champion - the Year of Environmental Education'. In 2013, Bulimba won the Premier's Sustainability Award and in 2015 was a finalist in the UN Australia World Environment Awards. Michael has been a driving force in the provision of exciting learning for every child, everywhere, every day.

ECOMARINES BOARD MEMBER

DR. KUMI KATO

Dr. Kumi Kato is a professor at the Faculty of Tourism/ Graduate School of Tourism, Wakayama University/ Creating Happiness Incubation, Musashino University, Japan. She is also a Co-President, ISA, RC50 (International Tourism), PATA board member, and EarthCheck Research Institute researcher. She serves on a number of executive committees at national and regional governments promoting sustainable tourism and destination management. Currently chairing a committee to promote conservation and use of "good environments", a national project at the Ministry of the Environment.



AFFORDABLE CLEAN ENERGY

GROUP CAPTAIN ROSS JONES

Group Captain Ross Jones is a retired Royal Australian Air Force official bringing 33 years of experience to the Global LENS judging panel. His experience included senior logistics and training / education roles such as Deputy Chief of Staff at Air Force Headquarters and Commandant of the RAAF College. Sustainability was woven through much of his logistics career, from resourcing large scale operations to managing supply chains with long term efficiency in mind. As project manager for the Air Force Centenary in 2021, he led commercial sponsorships and delivered a youth engagement plan connecting school students across Australia with the Air Force, giving him valuable insight for assessing student sustainability projects.



EXAMPLE TOPICS FROM 2026

JUNIOR STUDENTS

1ST PLACE

"Laundry Monsters: Catching the Invisible Troublemakers"

WAGOR INTERNATIONAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, TAIWAN

2ND PLACE

"From Containers to Conservation: The Bush Gully Project"

KURWONGBAH STATE SCHOOL, AUSTRALIA

3RD PLACE

"Only Rain Down the Drain"

CHINESE YOUTH TEAM, MAINLAND CHINA

SENIOR STUDENTS

1ST PLACE

"Social Behavior's Impact on Plastic Waste: Reducing Behavioral Friction in the Public's Reusable Cup Decisions"

KANG CHIAO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL LINKOU CAMPUS, TAIWAN

2ND PLACE

"Making School Refill Stations Work: A Study of Trust and Information Needs among Middle Schools in Beijing"

STORY HOUSE BEIJING STEAM EDUCATION CENTER, MAINLAND CHINA

3RD PLACE

"Pitch in for Nature, Pitch Tents for the Future"

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - GROUP E, TAIWAN











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KEY DATES & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Registration Forms Due: **Friday, 28 May 2027**

Presentation Summary Form Due: **Friday, 11 June 2027**

Online Orientation Session: **Friday, 18 June 2027 (time TBC)**

Final PowerPoint Presentation Due: **Friday, 16 July 2027**
(Strict deadline — no extensions permitted)

QUESTIONS & SUPPORT

For any enquiries or assistance, please contact:

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WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU AT GLOBAL LENS AUSTRALIA 2027!





