



*a fairer world*

The Tasmanian Centre for Global Learning

# Tasmanian Centre for Global Learning

*educating for a fairer world*

[www.afairerworld.org](http://www.afairerworld.org)

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# WHO WE ARE

## Supporting Tasmanian schools:

- ◆ Connecting the community and education sectors.
- ◆ Combining expertise in social inclusion, community-building and education.
- ◆ Applying 26 years experience to integrate active, informed citizenship programs in schools.
- ◆ Enhancing teacher quality through professional learning, innovative programs, resources, mentoring and networking.
- ◆ Improving education outcomes through real-life learning, with a focus on inspiring and motivating learners.
- ◆ Sourcing philanthropic grants to assist Tasmanian schools in implementation of the award-winning ruMAD? (Are You Making A Difference?) Program.

**connect:**  
bring ideas and  
events together,  
create networks,  
build  
relationships

## Contributing to social justice locally & globally:

- ◆ A hub for positive social change, supporting grass-roots community groups to build inclusive communities.
- ◆ Empowering Tasmanian youth to create positive community change.
- ◆ Bringing an international development perspective to local community-building.
- ◆ Providing accessible education and resources on social justice and community-building – local and global.

**hub:**  
centre of activity  
or interest, focal  
point, heart,  
nerve centre

# STRATEGIC DIRECTION

**Our Vision** is a Tasmania where everyone works together for a just, peaceful and sustainable world future.

**Our Mission** is to empower schools and the Tasmanian community to take action for social justice, peace and a sustainable world future. To achieve this we provide ways for people to learn, connect and act together: innovative education programs; training; resources; and access to support networks and mentoring.

## Our Aims:

- ◆ To be Tasmania's leading independent centre for the promotion of education for social justice and human rights.
- ◆ To promote practical learning experiences for Tasmanians that demonstrate ways of contributing to positive change both locally and globally.
- ◆ To actively facilitate the involvement of Tasmanian organisations in raising awareness of social justice and human rights issues.

## We value:

- ◆ A fairer distribution of global resources.
- ◆ A healthy environment.
- ◆ Human rights for all people.

...we provide  
ways for people  
to learn, connect  
and act  
together...

## We believe that:

- ◆ We are all one people living together on this planet.
- ◆ The way we think and act has global impacts.
- ◆ We all share a responsibility to improve our world.
- ◆ Awareness of social issues – local and global - is the key to making a difference.
- ◆ We can make a difference if we embrace all people and work together.

# THE CENTRE 1985 - 2010

## 1985 - 1996

The Centre was set up in 1985 in response to community demand for education in international development in Tasmania. It grew from a combined initiative of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign (now Oxfam Australia), local interest groups and AIDAB (now AusAID, the Australian Government agency responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program). Operational funding in the early years came from the Commonwealth Government and non-government organisations.

Initially, as the Tasmanian Development Education Centre, we employed only one part-time staff member, together with periodic casual staff on a range of projects and tasks.

### Major projects between 1985 and 1996 included:

- ◇ *Bites of the Apple*, a drama resource on global issues for primary school
- ◇ *Community/teacher workshops* by Toh Swee Hin, a noted peace/global educator
- ◇ *Workshops with teachers of tourism* (a collaboration with the Department of Education)
- ◇ *Workshops with teachers* in collaboration with the Environment Centre
- ◇ Organisation of a *National Peace Conference* in Hobart
- ◇ *Dealing with Differences*, booklets for adults and children dealing with conflict as learners of English
- ◇ *Beyond Borders Youth Tours* for the Overseas Service Bureau (now Australian Volunteers International)
- ◇ Organising visits in Tasmania for young people from Tongan and Aboriginal communities
- ◇ *Train the Trainer*, a drama in action series of 5 workshops
- ◇ *Teaching technology with a global perspective*, workshops and material development
- ◇ *Global World of Work*, a resource for teachers of grades 5 - 8

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## 1996 - 2003

From 1996, AusAID funded TASDEC for the delivery of professional development in global education to Tasmanian teachers and student teachers. This contract allowed for the employment of two more part-time staff.

### **Project grants from 1996 to 2003 included:**

- ◇ Racism Awareness Panels (Hobart City Council)
- ◇ World Music Concert for schools (Centenary of Federation)
- ◇ The Global Context resource for schools (Year for Older Persons/Ageing)
- ◇ Workshops with women's groups at Centacare (Adult Education Community)
- ◇ Active Citizenship Skills Courses (Tasmanian Government)
- ◇ Collaboration on the Glimpses Kits for India and PNG (Australian Volunteers International)

...the Centre will need to further specialise its activities and expand its capacity in the areas of school-community partnerships and youth change-making...

TASDEC delivered AusAID-funded global education programs until May 2003, when a review resulted in alternate service delivery. This change removed the major element of TASDEC's funding base and forced the Centre to release its paid staff. A basic service was maintained on a voluntary basis, testimony to a strong determination and vision to forge new pathways to continue as Tasmania's premier global education resource.

## 2003 - 2010

In August 2004, substantial constitutional change and a new name – the Tasmanian Centre for Global Learning (TCGL) – were adopted. The Strategic Plan 2004 - 2008 announced the Centre's new aims and objectives.

The programs and services that have been built up since 2004 are detailed in the following section. At their core is delivery of the national ruMAD? (Are You Making A Difference?) Program in Tasmanian schools. Funding has come from donations, membership subscriptions, a small number of on-going partnerships and a wide variety of government and philanthropic grant sources: 61 grants from 37 different organisations, notably the Tasmanian Community Fund and the Sidney Myer Fund.

Much of this funding has been attracted by ruMAD? (Are You Making A Difference?), which has become the Centre’s flagship program. ruMAD? is an innovative national education framework that engages students in learning – and improves outcomes - by igniting and harnessing the students’ passions and concerns. MAD activities are strengths-based, student-led, embedded in the school curriculum and support community capacity building. Since running the first pilots in Tasmania in 2005, over 12,500 Tasmanian students have participated in some aspect of the ruMAD? Program. In 2009, our ruMAD? partnership with Gagebrook Primary won a national Schools First Impact Award. These \$50,000 awards highlight school-community partnerships that are improving learning outcomes for young Australians.

...more recently the Centre has been in demand as a “hub” to support youth initiatives for social action...

Whilst international development remains a core focus, the Centre’s work has shifted further towards the youth sector and has broadened to include support for progress in local equity issues such as animal rights and youth health. This shift has been the result of a need to consolidate limited resources and to specialise given the difficult funding climate.

The Centre’s on-going involvement in human rights, poverty and peace campaigns has focused on awareness-raising and facilitating the involvement of schools, rather than direct action.

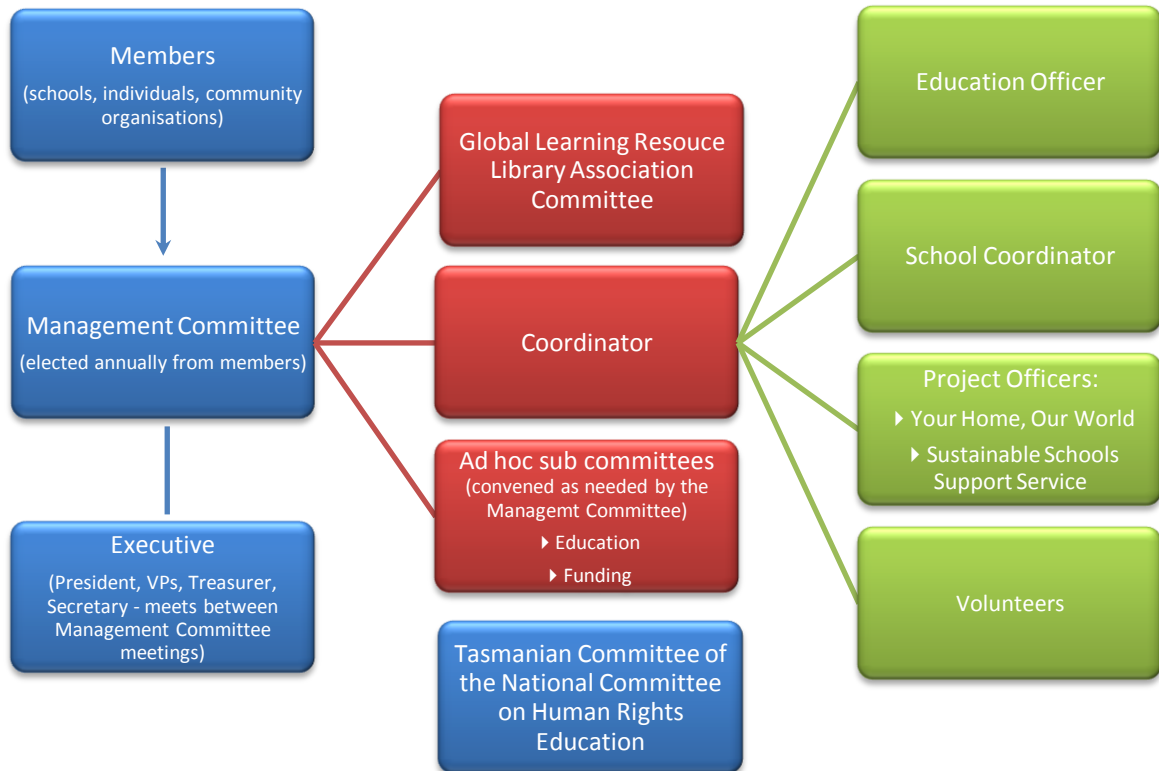
More recently, the Centre has been in demand as a “hub” to support youth social change initiatives. This is the result of the contraction of other, similar organisations and our ability to provide office and meeting space, resources and mentoring.

The Centre has shown strong resilience, having survived for 26 years as a result of: quality work; strong staff, volunteer, member and community support; increasing skill in developing mutually valuable partnerships, and low overheads (office premises are supplied by the State Government).

Since 2003, the Centre has been severely constrained by the lack of on-going or recurrent funding. Many possibilities for sustainability have been explored and it seems likely that to survive in the future the Centre will need to further specialise its activities and expand its capacity in the areas of school-community partnerships and youth change-making.

# THE CENTRE NOW

## Structure



## Programs & Services

### ◆ Education programs that engage schools in positive social change

- ◇ **ruMAD?** (Are You Making A Difference?), our flagship education program, is an award-winning national framework that engages students in learning through social action projects. Its flexible design allows it to be embedded across any primary or secondary school curriculum.
- ◇ **Youth Action Conferences.** Ten conferences, accessible to all Tasmanian students (grades 3 to 12), have been run since 2005. These inspiring events provide an opportunity for students to: link with young change-makers and experienced campaigners; learn new skills; receive recognition for their MAD activities; and return to their schools to inspire others to create positive change.
- ◇ Our **Sustainable Schools Support Service** (funded by the Tasmanian Climate Change Office) assists schools in applying for and implementing grants under the National Solar Schools Program and incorporating these innovations in the curriculum.
- ◇ **Your Home: Our World** (funded by AusAID) provides a unique opportunity for students around Tasmania to connect with young people from developing countries and contribute to the achievement of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.
- ◇ **Living in Between: Diversity Education through Storytelling** (funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund) is a partnership with Hobart Campus Students Against Racism and The Alcorso Foundation. The project will deliver a program of personal interaction between young humanitarian entrants from Hobart Campus and southern Tasmanian school students.
- ◇ The **Citizen of Humanity Project** (sponsored by the National Committee on Human Rights Education) promotes a deeper understanding of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights through a series of lessons for middle school students.
- ◇ The **Human Rights School Award** launched in 2008, complements the Tasmanian Human Rights Week awards for humanitarian activities. The Award recognises school-based activities to promote human rights with a \$500 cash prize.
- ◇ The **National Committee of Human Rights Education (NCHRE) Tasmanian Committee.** Whilst this Committee is part of a separately incorporated organisation (NCHRE), TCGL executive members form the basis of the committee which aims to promote human rights education in Tasmania.

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## ◆ Supporting positive social change

- ◇ **Networks:** The Centre is able to link schools and community organisations with a wide range of community groups and campaigns - locally, nationally and globally – as well as arranging speakers and volunteers.
- ◇ **Returned overseas volunteer network:** In partnership with Australian Volunteers International we support returned overseas volunteers in Tasmania.
- ◇ **Training & mentoring:** Our qualified, experienced staff aim to inspire teachers, young change-makers, and emerging groups with training, ideas, resources and links to like-minded people and organisations.
- ◇ **Anti-Poverty Week.** As a long standing member of the organising group for this annual event in Tasmania our role is to involve schools in community activities and learning opportunities.
- ◇ **Global Poverty Project (GPP) and the Make Poverty History campaign (MPH).** We are the Tasmanian partner for the international GPP and for many years have supported coordination in Tasmania of the international MPH campaign.
- ◇ At **International House in Battery Point** we are able to provide office space, internet access and support for community groups and campaigners.

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## ◆ Information and resources on social and global issues

- ◇ The **Global Learning Resource Library** provides a comprehensive collection of resources, predominantly for teachers, on social justice and global issues.
- ◇ **Websites:** *A Fairer World* ([www.afairerworld.org](http://www.afairerworld.org)) was launched in 2006, in conjunction with Australian Volunteers International and TAFE Tasmania. It provides information and resources on the Centre's current programs, Tasmanian events (social justice, education and youth), global issues and taking action. *A Fairer World Youth* ([youth.afairerworld.org](http://youth.afairerworld.org)), launched in 2008, provides information on social issues specifically for young Tasmanians.
- ◇ **Awareness-raising events & campaigns:** Through our networks, we ensure that schools are involved in events and campaigns such as Human Rights Week, Refugee Week, Make Poverty History, Anti-Poverty Week, Close the Gap, Fair Trade Fortnight and climate change action. We are also able to promote the work of organisations with similar values such as Oxfam Australia, Australian, Red Cross, Oaktree Foundation, RESULTS Australia, Amnesty International and Australian Volunteers International.

# Strengths



# Key Relationships

