

NELA Strategic Plan 2023/24

OUR VISION: We are the national peak body for advancing Australian environmental law and policy.

Our Mission

We provide national leadership and a strong voice on environmental law and policy matters, and bring together lawyers, academics, experts, industry and the wider community to consider and progress these matters. We facilitate advancements in environmental law and policy, including through lodging submissions to government; provide education through events and publications; and advocate for positive environmental outcomes.

Our 2023/24 Objectives

To achieve these objectives, we will ...

1 Awareness & Action	2 First Nations Engagement	3 Equity & Diversity	4 Membership	5 Governance & Resilience	6 ESG Impact
<p>Use NELA's role as a peak body to increase interest, understanding and positive reform in matters of environmental law and policy</p>	<p>Increase NELA's engagement with and inclusion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and perspectives, in order to foster opportunities for collaboration and amplify their voice and ideas, which will be incorporated into NELA's mission to advance Australia's environmental law and policy</p>	<p>Promote increased equity and diversity within the environmental law and policy field</p>	<p>Build on momentum within NELA's member community and improve recruitment, involvement and retention of members</p>	<p>Maintain and improve NELA's corporate, financial and sustainability governance and organisational resilience</p>	<p>Assess, report and monitor NELA's organisational ESG impact</p>
<p>Actively seek to influence law and policy reform at national and State/Territory levels to improve environmental outcomes, through drafting high-quality submissions and engaging with key government bodies.</p> <p>Enhance our engagement with the community, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) building and maintaining partnerships for projects and initiatives with like-minded individuals, governments and organisations, both domestically and overseas;(b) strengthening our relationships with current financial partners and bring onboard new partners, through engaging with potential law firm and university sponsors; and(c) regularly communicating on NELA's website and social media platforms to strengthen NELA's presence as a trusted voice on environmental law issues <p>Deliver trusted, cutting edge and expert commentary on environmental law and policy developments through events and education, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) growing NELA's monthly seminar program;(b) hosting a National Conference, and a WA State Conference, each year;(c) holding social and networking events for NELA members; and(d) publishing and disseminating environmental law and policy updates	<p>Actively seek out and partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and community groups to provide perspectives on NELA's activities and Australia's environmental policy and law reform agenda.</p> <p>Establish at least one key activity per year which amplifies the ideas and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and can inform NELA's mission and work.</p>	<p>Develop and support mentoring opportunities.</p> <p>Actively seek to enhance the diversity of speakers, panellists and moderators at NELA events, including diversity across disciplines and in culture, language and ability.</p>	<p>Enhance benefits for NELA members, and identify members' expertise and specific interest areas in environmental law and policy through sign-up forms and surveys.</p> <p>Launch Climate Change and Biodiversity Working Groups. These groups enable NELA members to collaborate with like-minded individuals within the NELA community to assist NELA to develop policies, strategies, and initiatives that directly address the impact of significant environmental concerns. The groups enable members to engage in meaningful work that can positively impact the environment by identifying and addressing gaps in current environmental policies, regulations, and laws.</p> <p>Build NELA's membership base through active engagement, and advocating for positive environmental outcomes.</p>	<p>Seek continual improvement in Board governance arrangements, consistent with the AICD Principles of Good Governance for Not-For-Profits (NFPs).</p> <p>Upskill key Board officers with training, mentoring and other resources to maximise their effectiveness in the role.</p> <p>Ensure NELA has the necessary policies and registrations to support its position as a national peak body for environmental organisations.</p> <p>Review policies for mitigating cyber, technology and data risks and implement risk mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Undertake and publish NELA's ESG impact assessment (July – September 2023).</p> <p>Design and implement NELA's three-year ESG Implementation Plan, based on the outcomes of the ESG assessment.</p> <p>Use NELA's sustainability impact assessment and monitoring to create educational opportunities for NELA's members and stakeholders.</p>