

Children Embrace Climate Change Education



Green Cross Australia is a new non-governmental organisation supporting practical projects to promote a peaceful and sustainable future in the face of challenges resulting from climate change.

It is affiliated to Green Cross International founded by Mikhail Gorbachev in 1993 to provide an organisation that would apply a medical response model like that of Red Cross International to ecological disasters, while seeking solutions to environmental concerns across national boundaries.

need to be prepared and focus on a lifestyle change putting the emphasis on education, dialogue, mediation, conflict resolution and research. Each extreme weather event offers an opportunity to rebuild green, providing hope for the future.

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Fuji Film have become sponsors and have even utilized the diary concept for educating staff and families.

Bún sees the challenges of climate change as an opportunity to invest in a green future and through Green Cross plans to initiate pilot programs based on the Japanese model in Queensland schools next year.

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Climate change is a result of global warming and scientists predict greater frequency and intensity of extreme weather events as a result. Climatic impacts include more intense droughts and natural disasters which result in people being killed, displaced and left in conflict situations over valuable resources.

better to start than by educating and inspiring your children to make "green" choices. It's an investment that will help secure the future. Owners and managers of childcare centres are well placed to promote value and behaviour change at grass root level

In Japan, Green Cross has put almost half a million students through its "Green Lane" Environmental Diary program in the past nine years. By keeping a record of their ecological activities and discoveries, young people quickly broaden their horizons to include those having a global impact. The result – many of these youngsters have gone on to choose environmentally based careers.

A second project aimed at youth is the Extreme Weather Warriors campaign which will see six volunteers from emergency volunteer services supplied with camcorders, Blackberries and mobiles recording their stories "from the eye of the storm".

Developing a virtual profile will bring them greater recognition while building awareness of the effects of climate change on the front line. Green Cross aims to inspire young people to become emergency volunteers and will work in post disaster communities to rebuild using green practices and technologies.

Driven by the passion of its CEO Mara Bún the aim of Green Cross Australia is to anticipate and resolve conflicts over natural resources that put the environment at risk, while forging sustainable partnerships between business, government and the community.

Its priority is to prepare and build resilience in communities to withstand the impact of disasters like bush fires, floods and a rising sea level, and to reduce greenhouse emissions in the process. Scientists have predicted that a one-metre rise in sea level could displace as many as 145 million people in the Asia Pacific region. It is happening now and there is an urgent

The environmental awareness of the children carried through into the wider community results in a proactive approach to preserving the environment. In Japan partnerships have been brokered with cities and municipalities to adopt the program for all the elementary schools in their areas. Major businesses like Japan Airline and

For further information on how you can support Green Cross Australia visit www.greencrossaustralia.org.



