

Media release

9 March 2026

Bank Australia renews partnership with Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network Supporting First Nations leadership on the frontlines of climate change

Bank Australia has today announced it has renewed its long-term partnership with Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network (Seed), committing \$75,000 in untied funding per year for two years, with an option for a third. This funding will help Seed deliver its strategy and advance its core pillars. It is provided through Bank Australia's impact fund, which supports projects that create positive outcomes for people and planet.

Seed is Australia's first Indigenous youth climate network, building a strong and connected movement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people for climate justice. Founded in 2014 as part of the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, Seed became an independent grassroots organisation in 2021.

Bank Australia has partnered with Seed since 2022, supporting training and development for young First Nations leaders and advocacy campaigns. This renewed commitment includes untied funding, meaning Seed can self-determine where resources are needed most. This flexibility enables long-term impact and adaptability to changing circumstances.

Seed National Director Angel Owen said: "This partnership has been transformative for Seed. Having Bank Australia's trust and knowing they believe in our leadership and vision, has meant we can focus on what matters most: empowering young First Nations people to lead climate justice. We see it as a shared commitment to building something bigger than either of us could achieve alone.

That's why working with Bank Australia is so special - their genuine and ethical commitment to people, planet and climate action truly sets them apart. We're proud to celebrate this alignment and excited to continue building on a partnership that's leading the way to a fairer, more sustainable future."

One of the initiatives included under the renewed funding period is the National Leadership Team program, which is taking place from 17–20 April in Meanjin (Brisbane). This intensive 3 day gathering will bring together 30 Seed volunteer leaders - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people - from across the country to deepen leadership skills, strengthen relationships, and help shape and expand Seed's strategic work for the year ahead. Participants will then play key roles in supporting newly structured volunteer teams across the network throughout the year.

Bank Australia Head of Impact Management, Jane Kern said: "As a customer-owned bank, we know that our customers care about climate action and First Nations Recognition and Respect. Our continued partnership with Seed reflects our commitment to using our voice to stand with and support the self-determination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people leading climate solutions and striving for a safer, healthier and more just future for all."

Find out more about Seed's campaigns: www.seedmob.org.au/our-impact

About Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network

Seed is Australia's first Indigenous youth-led climate network, dedicated to empowering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people to protect Country, culture, and communities from the causes and impacts of climate change.

Seed's leadership and staff are majority First Nations and under 35 years old. This ensures that our work is grounded in lived experience, cultural knowledge and leadership by young people.

Our vision is for a strong and connected network of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people who are empowered and leading the fight for climate justice.

About Bank Australia

Bank Australia Bank Australia Ltd believes banking can be a force for good and together we can have a positive impact on our customers, communities and the planet. Following its merger with Qudos Mutual Ltd on 1 July 2025, Bank Australia Ltd continues to operate the Bank Australia and Qudos Bank retail brands. We are 100% customer-owned and aim to build on our position as Australia's leading purpose-driven bank. We support almost 320,000 customers and we're custodians of more than \$20 billion in assets.

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