



# Australian Community Futures Planning

How to suggest Targets and Strategies for inclusion in *Australia Together*.

What's in this fact sheet?

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Read the latest draft of *Australia Together*

<https://www.austcfp.com.au/australia-together>

Further questions may be forwarded to ACFP at [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au)  
Become involved in building a plan for a better Australia at the ACFP: [www.austcfp.com.au](http://www.austcfp.com.au)

## What is *Australia Together*?

*Australia Together* is a long term integrated plan designed to help Australians chart their own course to a future of wellbeing and security. It is being built *by* Australians *for* Australians.

In *Australia Together* Australians are able to set their Vision for their preferred future and design Targets and Strategies to make it a reality. **Find out more about *Australia Together* [here](#).**

**Read the latest draft of *Australia Together* [here](#).**

## Who coordinates the production of *Australia Together*?

Australian Community Futures Planning (ACFP) coordinates the production and revision of *Australia Together* by engagement with Australians. ACFP is an independent, non-profit centre of excellence in [National Integrated Planning & Reporting \(National IP&R\)](#). We assist Australians in the process of building *Australia Together* by providing:

- data and factual information about the state of Australia – the [Australia Together National Wellbeing Index](#);
- a structure and process for long term, integrated planning; and
- a place for engagement by the Australian community with their plan for their future.

ACFP has no affiliation with any political party inside or outside Australia. It receives no political party funding and no funding from any source other than in-kind commitments from volunteers.

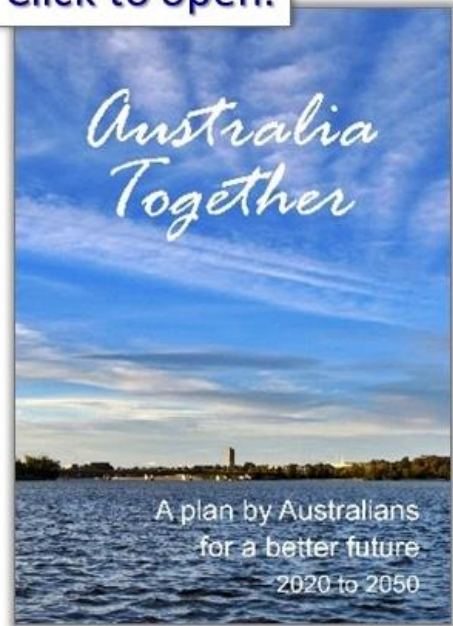
## Who can propose Targets and Strategies in *Australia Together*?

Any Australian can propose a Target or Strategy for inclusion in *Australia Together*:

1. ACFP proposes and includes Targets and Strategies in drafts of *Australia Together*, based on research about the challenges Australia will need to overcome over the longer term (10 to 30 years) if future generations are to be able to live a sustainable life of acceptable wellbeing and security. ACFP may from time to time generate an entirely new Strategy in the plan but in the main ACFP trawls the ideas of Australians made available in open-source materials and centralises them in the plan so that they form an integrated whole.
2. Any member of the Australian community can also suggest Targets and Strategies for inclusion in the plan.

Anyone proposing inclusion of a Target or Strategy in *Australia Together* is in effect participating in the process of **National Integrated Planning & Reporting**. This is a fully democratic process enabling Australians to rise above politics and build a better future for the nation. Find out more about becoming involved in building, monitoring and revising *Australia Together* using National IP&R [here](#).

Click to open.



## What is the process for suggesting a Target or Strategy in *Australia Together*?

There is a simple two-step process for suggesting Targets and Strategies:

1. If a Target or Strategy is to be included in *Australia Together* it must first be clear that it will help Australians make the Vision of the plan a reality.

Before suggesting a Target or Strategy for inclusion in the plan, simply read the Vision for *Australia Together* and ask yourself if the Strategy will help the nation move towards the Vision or away from it.

The [Vision for Australia Together](#) is a draft, one-page statement about the preferences of Australians for their future based on their responses in surveys, forums, research and other types of community engagement during the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The Vision is updated from time to time whenever research about Australian values, attitudes, and aspirations indicates that there has been a change in those preferences.

The latest draft of the Vision for *Australia Together* can be read [here](#).

2. If a Target or Strategy is to be included in *Australia Together* it must also be clear that it will help Australians reach the ultimate destination described in the Vision by 2050 or sooner *via safe routes rather than unsafe routes*.

To assist with this, the Vision for *Australia Together* also includes a list of 57 signposts of the safe routes towards the Vision. These are called Directions of travel or Direction statements. These Directions are:

- **socially inclusive, equitable and intelligent,**
- **environmentally sustainable,**
- **economically fair and resilient,** and
- **democratically open and ethical.**

Before suggesting a Target or Strategy for inclusion in the plan, simply ask yourself if it will help the nation move towards the Vision **via one or more of the safe paths**. To do this, look at the 57 signposts and identify which ones it might follow. A single Target or Strategy can often follow more than one Direction. That is a good thing.

**Caution: If a Target or Strategy runs counter to any of the safe Directions or if it disables an existing Strategy which accords with safe Directions, it is unlikely to be permissible in *Australia Together*.**



## When can Targets and Strategies be suggested and assessed for inclusion in *Australia Together*?

As at early 2024, ACFP had already incorporated over 300 Targets and Strategies in *Australia Together*. These had been selected after detailed research and examination of issues affecting Australia's future. *Australia Together* cites all sources for this research.

Additional Targets and Strategies will be added and existing ones can be revised, replaced or deleted at any time within an orderly assessment framework. Targets and Strategies can be selected for inclusion in the *Australia Together* National Wellbeing Index if:

- they are of national strategic significance; and
- it can be demonstrated that they will contribute to achievement of the Vision (whatever it may be) via the safe routes described in the Directions (whatever they may be).

Any Australian can suggest a Target or Strategy at any time but the above described process must be followed. Targets and Strategies which fit with the Vision and Directions of *Australia Together* and are of national strategic significance are always welcome.

**For an easy way to suggest a Target or Strategy, simply send your answers to the questions in [Attachment 1](#) to ACFP by emailing [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au).**

## Are there any rules for inclusion of Targets and Strategies in *Australia Together*?

There is really only one central rule in this selection system and this rule is designed to:

- protect the people's integrated planning system from a loss of its independence through political interference (this is, after all, a People's plan, not a politician's plan); and
- prevent exclusion of diverse communities from participating in development of Targets and Strategies that are necessary to ensure they can find a place of equality and safety in Australia in the future.

**The rule is that everyone must be able to find a safe place in Australia's future and, to that end, no target or strategy can be included in the plan unless it can be demonstrated that it follows at least one of the 57 Directions of the plan and does not disable other Strategies which do follow the Directions.**

**In this arrangement, the Vision and Directions act as an independent, apolitical, non-partisan selection system for strategic initiatives that will reliably and efficiently drive the nation towards the Vision of we the people. It functions as an efficient quarrel solver about the best strategies.**

If, because of an expressed change of preference by the Australian people, the Vision or Directions change over time, this may admit different Targets and Strategies into the plan. But the Integrated Planning system itself will then work just as well to help Australians isolate the most reliable and efficient Targets and Strategies for the new Vision and Directions. Find out how to become involved in using this framework at <https://www.austcfp.com.au/become-involved>

**Important:** *Australia Together* is a national plan, not a plan for a state or local area. Targets and Strategies must be of national strategic significance.



## Attachment 1 - Do you want to suggest a Target or Strategy for inclusion in *Australia Together*? Answer these questions in writing.

Email your answers to [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au)

**Note that Targets and Strategies cannot be suggested anonymously. Please provide your name and full contact details plus any associated organisational affiliation or membership.**

1. In your own words, state the Target or Strategy you are seeking to include in *Australia Together*.
2. Please describe how your suggested Target or Strategy is of national strategic significance. (Be mindful that *Australia Together* is a national plan, not a plan for a state or local area.)
3. Have you read the Vision for *Australia Together*? Read the Vision [here](#) or at <https://www.austcfp.com.au/vision-and-directions-of-australia-together>. How does your suggested Target or Strategy fit with the Vision for *Australia Together*? (Please describe which of the 17 elements of the Vision your suggestion fits with.)
4. Are there aspects of your suggested Target or Strategy that run counter to any element of the Vision for *Australia Together*? If so, be aware that the suggestion is unlikely to be permissible.
5. Have you read the 57 Directions for *Australia Together*? Read the Directions [here](#) or at <https://www.austcfp.com.au/vision-and-directions-of-australia-together>. How does your suggested Target or Strategy fit with the Directions for *Australia Together*? (Please describe which of the 57 Directions your suggestion fits with, noting that it must fit with at least one.)
6. Are there aspects of your suggested Target or Strategy that run counter to any of the 57 Directions for *Australia Together*? If so, be aware that the suggestion is unlikely to be permissible.
7. Have you considered whether the Target or Strategy you are suggesting is already included in part or in whole in *Australia Together*? If it is already included, how does your suggestion enhance or strengthen the plan?
8. Have you considered whether the Target or Strategy you are suggesting might disable other Targets or Strategies in *Australia Together*? If it does, please provide reasons as to why you think it should still be included in the plan?

Should you wish to consult with someone from ACFP prior to suggesting a Target or Strategy, email us at [info@austcfp.com.au](mailto:info@austcfp.com.au).

**Australians can also make suggestions at any time about the Vision for *Australia Together*.**

Surveys for this purpose are always open [here](#).

Click [here](#) to comment on the Vision and Directions for *Australia Together*

<https://www.austcfp.com.au/survey-forms>