

NENA ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

NEW ECONOMY NETWORK
AUSTRALIA



ACKNOWLEDGING FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

THE NEW ECONOMY NETWORK AUSTRALIA
ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE FIRST
NATIONS PEOPLES OF THE CONTINENT NOW KNOWN AS
AUSTRALIA WAS NEVER CEDED BY TREATY NOR IN ANY
OTHER WAY.

NENA ACKNOWLEDGES AND RESPECTS FIRST NATIONS
PEOPLES' LAWS AND ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE
CUSTODIANSHIP OF AUSTRALIA OVER TENS OF
THOUSANDS OF YEARS THROUGH LAND AND SEA
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT CONTINUE TODAY.

COORDINATING HUB MANAGER'S REPORT



In 2020-2021, NENA has enjoyed another amazing 12 months of member-led events and network building. While the challenges of COVID have meant that many of our members could no longer meet in person to strengthen their local networks, we've worked hard to hold even more online events and activities, so that people can still showcase their work, explore new ideas and learn from each other.

Our membership has grown to almost 400 paid members (individual and organisational members) and our newsletters and social media outreach now connect with more than 5,000 people. We've also been strategically growing NENA's connection to other networks, and after being a founding member of the international Wellbeing Economy Alliance since 2017, this year we're proud to have launched the WeALL Australia Hub, which will collaborate with a range of new groups in Australia, who are advocating for Wellbeing Budgets and new indicators of economic success, in different parts of Australia.

We've also seen our NENA Coordinating Hub grow, with our first paid part-time officer. Due to the growth in membership income, we've been able to pay a former volunteer (Rhiannon Hardwick) to work with us consistently 1 day each week since mid-2021. Having a dedicated administrative and events support officer has been invaluable, and has ensured we can provide support to all the people who reach out to NENA and co-host events and activities under the NENA umbrella.

From 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, in addition to supporting the Newcastle Hub's hosting of the 2020 Annual Conference, we're proud to have assisted with the organising and hosting of 27 webinars - that's more than 2 events every month. This has enabled us to showcase our members' work, and provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and sharing, across topics as diverse as developing new indicators for the wellbeing economy, redefining quality of life, exploring post-extractivism, and finding solutions to Australia's housing affordability crisis.

I'm always inspired by the knowledge, passion and expertise that our members have for their fields of work, and the commitment they bring to building the new economy. I'm looking forward to another great year for NENA in 2021-2022.

DR MICHELLE MALONEY

CO-FOUNDER & DIRECTOR OF NENA AND
MANAGER, NENA COORDINATING HUB



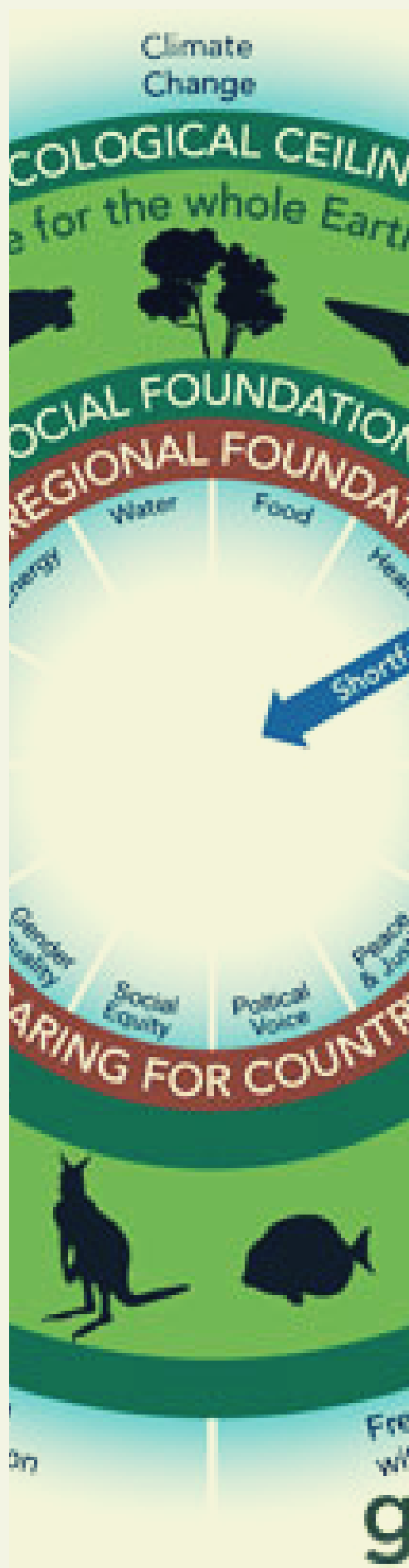
NENA MISSION & FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

The New Economy Network Australia (NENA) is a network of individuals and organisations working to create an ecologically healthy and socially just society by transforming Australia's economic system.

NENA works by providing a platform for knowledge sharing, peer to peer support, cross-pollination of ideas and collaboration.

- **Ecological Sustainability:** That economic activity respects and operates within ecological limits, bioregional health and planetary boundaries, and also supports the regeneration of natural systems and recognises and upholds the inherent rights of nature to exist, thrive and evolve.
- **Social Justice:** That everyone can participate and benefit from economic activity in inclusive and equitable ways and that this requires working in solidarity to address the historical and ongoing marginalisation of certain groups by racism, imperialism, classism, patriarchy and other systems of oppression.
- **Democracy:** That economic decision-making is participatory, inclusive and transparent and emphasises collective stewardship and management of economic resources, activities and outcomes.
- **Place-based/ Emphasising Locality:** That building strong, local/place-based economies is important for Australia's communities; rooting wealth and power in place through localised economic activity.
- **First Nations Peoples in Australia:** That working in solidarity with First Nations Peoples' is vital to creating a new economy in Australia. NENA acknowledges that the sovereignty of the First Nations Peoples of the continent now known as Australia was never ceded by treaty nor in any other way. NENA acknowledges and respects First Nations Peoples' laws and ecologically sustainable custodianship of Australia over tens of thousands of years through land and sea management practices that continue today. NENA also acknowledges and respects the ancient, Earth-centred, steady state economic system that was created and managed by First Nations Peoples across the continent for millennia. Australian society is in debt to First Nations Peoples for many aspects of the modern economy.

NENA KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2020-21



In the 2020-2021 financial year NENA has continued to grow its membership and engage with communities through a regular webinar series, a new podcast and online conferences.

Some key achievements for 2020-2021 include;

- Hosting a successful online Annual Conference during COVID-19: the 5th Annual Conference delivered online from Newcastle in November 2020
- Planning the 6th Annual NENA conference in Brisbane, in conjunction with Wellbeing Economy Week, in November 2021
- Supporting and contributing to set up of WEAll Australia, the Australian hub of the global Wellbeing Economy Alliance (WEAll)
- Consolidating the Board of Directors and governance processes
- Launching a NENA podcast series 'Align in the Sound'
- Consulting with members and hubs to develop a draft National Civil Society Strategy
- Growing NENA's paid membership base to over 400 members
- Continuing to build and develop NENA's Sectoral and Geographic Hubs. Promoting hubs and membership through webinar series
- Supporting the creation and hosting of Regen Brisbane/Meeanjin
- Creating and teaching NENA's second annual new economy education course (online), called 'Building a Wellbeing Economy: Foundations for Learning and Practice', with 33 participants, in partnership with the Yunus Centre, Griffith University
- Building strategic partnerships nationally and internationally
- Hosting fortnightly online webinars by our network (our Hubs) for our network. These online events were particularly important to keep people connected during COVID-19.

NENA VOLUNTEER TEAM 2020-21

NENA has been fortunate to have an amazing and growing team of volunteers to support its work again this year. A huge thanks to all of the following people:

Nena Board of Directors

Michelle Maloney, Bronwen Morgan, Andrew Ward, Monique Potts, Simon Kerr, Duncan Wallace, Garry Claridge (Secretary)

NENA Co-ordinating Hub

Michelle Maloney, Rhiannon Hardwick

Participatory Budget Group (PBG)

Bronwen Morgan, Andrew Ward

Strategic Development Group (SDG)

Michelle Maloney, Steve Liaros, Monique Potts

NENA Regional Hub Coordinators

- Adelaide Hub – Sue Gilby, Bernard Thompson, Keri Chiveralls, James Ward
- Brisbane Hub – Michelle Maloney, Mark Taylor, Marcus Foth, James Lee
- Canberra Hub – Kevin Cox, Scotty Foster, Jane Goodall
- East Gippsland Regional Hub (Victoria) – Caroline Crunden
- Melbourne Hub – Mark Bremner, Imogen Wells
- Newcastle, Hunter and Central NSW Hub (New South Wales) – Meaghan Burkett, Ann Apps, Sidsel Grimstad
- Northern Territory Hub – Kamal Sangha, Louise Harrison
- North Queensland Regional Hub (Queensland) – Tim Lynam, Sarah Funkhouser
- Perth Hub – Al Connolly, Adam Jorlen, Kate Biondo
- Sydney Hub – Monique Potts, Bronwen Morgan

NENA Sectoral Hub Coordinators

- Arts & Culture – Catherine van Wilgenburg
- Cities & Urban Communities – Steve Liaros and Emily Sims
- Commons – Jose Ramos and Rhiannon Hardwick
- Cooperatives – Antony McMullen and Anthony Taylor
- Democracy and Governance – Meaghan Burkett
- Ecological Economics – Haydn Washington and Michelle Maloney
- Education – Phil Jones, Michelle Maloney and Sidsel Grimstad
- Energy – April Crawford-Smith
- Faith Groups – Jonathan Crawford
- First Nations Economics – Ross Williams and Anne Poelina
- Food – Joel Orchard and Nick Rose
- Health – Clare Mullen and Rashmi Patel
- Housing – Elena Pereya
- Inner Dimensions & Healthy Cultures – Michael Berney
- Just Transitions – Kimberley Croft and Meaghan Burkett
- Law Reform and Legal Services – Lyb Makin and Michelle Maloney
- Localisation – Tracey Cooper, Michelle Maloney and Helena Norberg-Hodge
- Money & Local Currencies – Kevin Cox and Simon Cole
- Post-extractivism – Natalie Lowrey and Michelle Maloney
- Research Hub – Hamed Hosseini, Bronwen Morgan and Michelle Maloney
- Rural & Regional Economies – Kamal Sangha and Adam Connell
- Youth – Rhiannon Hardwick



NENA ACTIVITIES & EVENTS IN 2020-2021

5th ANNUAL NENA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2020

NENA's 2020 annual conference was held from 20-22nd November 2020. The theme of the conference was ***New Economy–Work in Progress***. The online event shared the amazing work being done by individuals and organisations across Australia to build a new economy, focused on ecological health & social and economic justice. The conference was hosted by the hard working Newcastle NENA hub.

In the midst of COVID lockdowns the conference brought people together virtually from around Australia, to discuss topics as diverse as food, energy, housing, health, sustainability, local economies, commons, local currencies, cooperatives, social enterprises, universal basic income, creating systems change, degrowth and the steady state economy, participatory democracy, Modern Monetary Theory, alternatives to GDP and much more.



NENA ACTIVITIES & EVENTS IN 2020-2021



NENA Housing Week, 7-11 June 2021

NENA's Housing week in partnership with Co-Housing Australia was held online as a platform for practitioners and researchers to come together to discuss the social justice and environmental sustainability issues of housing and human settlements in Australia. This week-long event culminated in an online round table discussion discussing the availability, affordability, design and sustainability of Australia's housing and human settlements. The key findings of the event contributed to shaping the housing aspect of the NENA's Civil Society Strategy for a Wellbeing Economy.

New Economy Journal

The NENA New Economy Journal has continued to provide a platform for dialogue and publication of key issues related to building a new economy in Australia. In particular the recent issues have focused on what it might mean to 'build back better'.

The Journal highlights, documents and disseminates information about what is happening in the New Economy movement in Australia and around the world. It encourages discourse and debate, facilitates connections, and produces a historical record in the process.

<https://www.neweconomy.org.au/new-economy-journal/>

NENA ACTIVITIES & EVENTS IN 2020-2021



NENA Webinars

The NENA Coordinating Hub ran regular webinars this year, to help members of the NENA network come together 'virtually' for peer-to-peer sharing and to stay up to date with NENA activities and events. These webinars have been hugely successful in 2020-2021 and helped to build engagement and strengthen networks particularly in the sectoral hubs this year.

In the 2020-2021 webinars topics included the following;

- Arts & Culture in the New Economy (August 2020)
- Communicating about the New Economy (August 2020)
- Localisation - how Australia can build strong local economies: lessons from around the world. (August 2020)
- A Commons Response to the Pandemic (September 2020)
- New Economy Builders #7 - Galactic Cooperative (September 2020)
- Australia's First Large-Scale Solar Garden (October 2020)
- Citizens Assemblies in the New Economy (October 2020)
- Protecting and Nurturing our Affected Commons (October 2020)
- What is the State of the Arts in the New Economy? (November 2020)
- NENA Youth Hub: Purpose Lab (July 2021)



NENA ACTIVITIES & EVENTS IN 2020-2021

NENA Directory

The NENA Directory was created in late 2018 and enables people and organisations in the NENA network to list their organisation, business, project or initiative so that others can find out about their services and work. It's free to add listings to the Directory, and NENA will be building the Directory over the months and years to come, to ensure it will be a useful space for NENA members and supporters to find out about the amazing array of positive initiatives that exist around Australia.

<https://www.neweconomy.org.au/directory/>

Sectoral and Geographic Hubs

During the 2020-2021 financial year, many NENA Geographic Hubs were unable to meet in person due to COVID, so there was an increased focus on the sectoral hubs and their online events. NENA has been participating in the emerging 'Regen Melbourne', 'Regen Sydney' and 'Regen Brisbane' events, and will continue to support those groups while our geographic hubs recover and regroup after extensive COVID restrictions.

Partnerships

In addition to building a network and community of members and supporters of the new economy, NENA aims to develop strategic partnerships with academic and other institutions, to catalyse and support collaborative projects that help build the new economy. NENA continued to work with colleagues at the University of Newcastle, with whom NENA has a partnership MOU. NENA also continued collaborating with the Yunus Centre at Griffith University, on the Wellbeing Economy Course.

International Networks

NENA is a founding member of the Wellbeing Economy Alliance (WE-ALL) and a member of RIPESS. NENA representatives participate in several WE-ALL working groups, including Member meetings, the Narratives working group and other initiatives. NENA aims to build its capacity to participate in WeALL activities now that it's hosting WeALL Australia.





Photo: Monique Potts

NENA ACTIVITIES & EVENTS IN 2020-2021

NENA Civil Society Strategy

In 2019-2020 NENA's Strategic Direction Group worked to host online discussions to start framing how our members can co-create a vision and action plan for contributing to the transformation of Australia's economic system. In the 2020-2021 financial year, the very first document bringing NENA members' strategic ideas together was developed and a range of materials will be launched in early 2022, promoting the first strategies.

Incorporation

NENA was incorporated as a non-distributing cooperative, in Victoria under the National Cooperatives Law, in January 2019.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors for 2020-2021 continued the good governance of the network, and explored a number of new approaches for enabling and supporting the distributed governance network of NENA - including setting up new structures to support 'Anchor Hubs' to develop sectoral hub activities, to be launched in early 2022

NENA FINANCIAL REPORT 2020-2021

INCOME

STRIPE (MEMBERSHIP)	7732.07
NENA SHORT COURSE	5567.50
EVENTBRITE (EVENTS)	1795.00
INTEREST	2.45
TOTAL	15097.02

EXPENSES

INSURANCE	-2242.13
PAYMENTS TO SPEAKERS (WEBINARS, COURSE)	-5297.91
ADMIN SUPPORT	-300.00
TOTAL	-7840.04

NET PROFIT	7256.98
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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30/6/2021

CASH AT BANK	\$14,525.59
UNDISTRIBUTED SURPLUS	\$14,525.59
NET	\$0.00

HOW TO CONNECT WITH NENA



Photo: Monique Potts

Become a member

Visit the membership page on our website. Membership is open to individuals and organisations.

<https://www.neweconomy.org.au/membership/>

Volunteer your time

Everyone's welcome to volunteer their skills and time to NENA. You can volunteer at any time. Just visit our Professional and Student Volunteer webpage on our website for the information.

Make a donation

As an unfunded organisation, NENA relies on memberships, donations and income from events, to run our programs. You can make a one-off donation or become a monthly donor. Visit our website for all the details.

Leave a bequest

If you would like to add NENA as a beneficiary to your will, please contact us anytime and we can assist with suitable wording for your documents.

Contact us

Email: nena@neweconomy.org.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/neweconomyaustralia>

Visit our website: www.neweconomy.org.au