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For immediate release

Australian Ethical donates \$200 891 to the community

Australian Ethical Investment has donated \$200 891 to 25 social and conservation projects.

In 2008, two major grants were made – to the University of NSW Medical Students Aid Project (Congo project) and a grant to fund the initial production of a three part documentary series on social corporate responsibility.

Funding was also given to 23 other social and conservation community organisations working throughout Australia and overseas.

“I’m pleased Australian Ethical’s business success can assist worthy causes such as highlighting the damage caused by irresponsible corporations and providing people in the Congo with self-sustaining medical resources” said Anne O’Donnell, Managing Director.

Australian Ethical donates 10% of its profit to community groups each year.

A full listing of grant recipients is available on www.austethical.com.au/cg.

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<p>For more information contact: Anne O’Donnell – 02 6201 1943 Managing Director</p>

Company background: Australian Ethical Investment Ltd is a fund manager that specialises exclusively in ethical funds management. Five managed trusts and corresponding superannuation strategies are offered: the Australian Ethical Balanced Trust, the Australian Ethical Equities Trust, the Australian Ethical Large Companies Share Trust, the Australian Ethical World Trust, and the Australian Ethical Income Trust. The Australian Ethical Charter is the foundation of the investment process. It aims to avoid harmful investments and actively seeks investments that benefit society and the environment. The company’s constitution requires that 10% of profit is donated to charitable and conservation initiatives.

Major project grants

\$60 000

'Sustainability & Co' a three part documentary series on corporate sustainability and governance will be produced by Bluegreen Films.

\$50 000

University of NSW Medical Students' Aid Project (MSAP) will stock a community store with school and household essentials, purchase a motorised canoe, fuel and one year's salary for a canoe pilot to transport the products to remote riverside markets. While at the same time help medical workers access isolated river communities. Profits from the sale of goods will be used to purchase and distribute nets to combat malaria, the leading cause of infant mortality in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

\$7900 grants

Barefoot Economy
Engineers Without Borders

\$5000 grants

Australian Marine Conservation Society
WaterAid Australia
ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group
New Internationalist Publications
Edmund Rice Centre for Justice and Community Education
Pedal Power ACT

\$3000 grants

Fair Trade Association of Australia and New Zealand
Animals Asia Foundation (Australia)
Child Wise
Rainforest Rescue
Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children
Sustainable Maleny
The Qld. Society for Crippled Children
Asian Women at Work
Bush Heritage Australia
Clean Ocean Foundation
Romero Centre
Trees For Life
Broken Hill & District Hearing Resource Centre
Kuusa Services Centre
The Australian Conservation Foundation