

23 September 2009

Australian Ethical donates \$140,868 to the community

Australian Ethical Investment has donated \$140,868 to 25 social and conservation projects in its 2009 community grants.

The largest grant of \$45,000 made to CO-ID will build a combined primary and secondary school in one of the poorest areas of Bangladesh.

Funding was also given to 24 other social and conservation community organisations working throughout Australia and overseas.

After a difficult period in which many companies are cutting back on philanthropy, Australian Ethical continues to set the benchmark for corporate giving. Each year Australian Ethical donates ten per cent of its profits to conservation and charity organisations. Over the last decade Australian Ethical has donated nearly \$1 million back into the community.

"I'm pleased Australian Ethical's business success continues to assist worthy causes such as working to combat the damage caused by irresponsible corporations and providing education and training in the poorest regions of Bangladesh" said Anne O'Donnell, Chief executive officer.

The grant recipients are listed on the table below. Descriptions of all the projects will be on our website - www.australianethical.com.au/cg.

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For more information contact:
Anne O'Donnell – 02 6201 1943
Chief executive officer

Company background: Australian Ethical Investment Ltd is a fund manager that specialises exclusively in ethical funds management. 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.

Community grants recipients	
\$45,000	Co-operation in Development Organisation
\$40,000	An Australian Ethical initiated mini-documentary competition on the theme 'Corporate Responsibility and the Environment'
\$5000	ACT Eden Monaro Cancer Support Group Australian Marine Conservation Society
\$2800	ACT Frogwatch Alzheimer's Australia NSW Australian Red Cross Barefoot Economy Bush Heritage Australia Free the Bears Fund Pedal Power ACT Sydney Cochlear Implant Centre The Grey Man Wildcare Queanbeyan
\$1500	CARE Australia Condobolin and Districts Landcare East Timor Women Australia Hope Street - Urban Compassion International Women's Development Agency New Internationalist Publications NSW Wildlife Information Rescue & Education Service Sea Turtle Foundation Spinal Cord Injuries Australia The Cerebral Palsy Foundation WaterAid Australia