

MORE THAN \$2 MILLION IN PHILANTHROPIC FUNDING COMMITTED AND 60 POWERFUL NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS FORGED AT THE INAUGURAL GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA DOCUMENTARY FORUM

More than \$2 million in philanthropic funding has been committed and more than 60 powerful new strategic partnerships forged to fund production, build audiences and ensure the lasting impact of the seven outstanding documentary films presented at the inaugural **GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA**, held earlier this week in Sydney.

The leading international forum for documentary filmmaking, GOOD PITCH brings together filmmakers with foundations, not-for-profits, campaigners, philanthropists, policymakers, broadcasters and key players in the film industry, around leading social and environmental issues, to forge coalitions and campaigns that are good for all these partners, good for the films and good for society.

GOOD PITCH in Australia was hosted by Ian Darling's Shark Island Institute and Documentary Foundation Australia. The event was established by the BRITDOC Foundation and the Sundance Institute in 2008.

Chair of GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA, and moderator of the full-day event, Ian Darling said: "The outcomes from Australia's very first GOOD PITCH are extremely pleasing. This is hugely exciting news for documentary filmmaking as well as for those many individuals and organisations working towards positive social change in Australia and internationally.

"GOOD PITCH creates new funding pathways for documentary films, new opportunities for connecting with audiences and new tactics to inspire positive social impact. It's a whole new way of thinking about the power of film and it's thrilling to see the idea embraced so enthusiastically by Australian filmmakers and changemakers."

Mr Darling said that the seven Australian films presented this week represent a national conversation: refugees, the environment, indigenous youth, obesity and health, domestic violence, gay marriage and international human rights.

Executive Director of GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA, Malinda Wink, said: "On the day, carefully curated tables of potential partners for the films, drawn from organisations and individuals whose interests and concerns coalesce with the subject matter of the film, came together to share networks, funding, political influence and a myriad of other ideas to make these good films go further. As well, the audience of 300 invited guests were invited to speak from the floor to bring further ideas and funding. It's been a hugely successful model internationally and the outcomes from the very first Australian GOOD PITCH² have exceeded our wildest expectations. This is an idea whose time has come!"

Over 150 grants were made by different philanthropic foundations and individual



donors on the day. Some of the many partners committing support to the films this week include NAB, The Fledgling Fund, Australian Women Donor's Network, GetUp, YMCA, The Funding Network, The Caledonia Foundation, White Ribbon, The Westpac Group, The George Institute for Global Health, Diabetes Australia, Inside Film, Dumbo Feather, Lock The Gate, Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care, AIME, the Sydney Film Festival, Jubilee Australia, Chicken & Egg Pictures, Chicago Media Project, Impact Partners, Philanthropy Australia, Pro Bono Australia, Documentary Australia Foundation, and the Shark Island Institute.

Films presented at previous GOOD PITCH events across the world have spanned a range of issues and have been supported to influence legislative change, raise awareness about social causes, educate our children, enhance the resources of those working in the social sector and inspire social movements. They've also been embraced by audiences and critics, winning Academy Awards and prizes at the world's most prestigious film festivals.

Guests this week at GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA included Dan Cogan, the US-based Executive Director and Co-Founder of Impact Partners, a fund and advisory service for investors and philanthropists who seek to promote social change through film; Emily Verellen from the Fledgling Fund, a private US-based foundation driven by the passionate belief that film can inspire a better world; Beadie Finzi, a founding director of BRITDOC, a non profit film foundation based in London and the founder of GOOD PITCH; and Kristin Feeley, Director of Labs and Artist Support Programs for the Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program (DFP).

GOOD PITCH² AUSTRALIA is brought to Australia by the Shark Island Institute and Documentary Australia Foundation, with the support of Community Partners Philanthropy Australia and Pro Bono Australia.

Learn more about **Good Pitch² Australia** here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNa1HaZdu7A>
or
www.goodpitch.org

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