

IndigiGrow

Living Seedbank Partnership Proposal



Invest in restoring critically endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS)

Living Seedbanks:



Are areas of land converted to natural habitat using Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS) plant species and replicating the ESBS ecosystem



A distributed network of locations across local council areas along Sydney's coast where ESBS naturally occurs



Can range from 10 m² to 500 m²



Can be situated on land owned or managed by councils, corporates, government, and individuals



Act as ESBS seed production hubs and habitat for ESBS dependent wildlife



ESBS North Head



ESBS La Perouse

Overview



Located between North Head and The Royal National Park, Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS) is Sydney's oldest coastal plant community yet only 3% of it remains in small fragmented remnant patches



ESBS is now listed as critically endangered by NSW and Federal Governments



Leading innovators, Indigigrow have developed the expertise to produce ESBS plants despite the fact they are a difficult species to propagate



IndigiGrow has developed a 3 stage process for the ongoing sustainability of ESBS:

- Growing, Restoring, and Managing a series of connected ESBS plant communities
- Living Seedbanks
- Leveraging indigenous knowledge and creating a local workforce



Through this process Indigigrow will generate a continuous ESBS seed supply to;

- restore ecosystem function and
- create new habitat areas for wildlife



The Problem



The remaining remnant ESBS patches cannot supply enough seed for restoration or regeneration



Traditional seedbanks were designed for holding seed stocks for disaster recovery and research, but not for restoration work



Commercial horticulture prioritises easy-to-grow native species, hybrids and non native plants which limits the diversity of local endemic ESBS plants available for restoration and regeneration



Loss of cultural burning knowledge and practices has reduced regeneration and ecosystem health



Without intervention, ESBS will continue to decline, and restoration will become increasingly more difficult



Banksia integrifolia seed

The IndigiGrow Solution: Living Seedbanks



Living Seedbanks are actively managed ecological production systems designed to:

- Produce higher volumes of ESBS seed and cuttings
- Be populated with difficult to propagate ESBS species
- Restore degraded urban and peri-urban landscapes
- Function as long-term biodiversity infrastructure
- Embed Indigenous cultural land management practices
- Serve as scalable local restoration hubs for Sydney, NSW, and beyond



Each Living Seedbank functions as :

- A seed and cutting production facility,
- A restoration ecosystem
- A habitat for wildlife



All Living Seedbank locations will be established and managed by IndigiGrow



Banksia integrifolia flowers

IndigiGrow Living Seedbank Model



Growing ESBS
plant species for
Living Seedbanks



ESBS restoration
through building
Living Seedbank
networks



Ongoing
Management of
Living Seedbank
network

SUPPORTED BY



Experience,
Research,
& Innovation



Aboriginal
Workforce
Development



Partnerships
& Community



Cultural
Knowledge



Impact
Evaluation



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Cultural Burn

Cultural Burning Integration

Cultural burning is a core operational principle across all Living Seedbanks in order to support natural regeneration



Guiding Principle

Cultural burning will be implemented across all sites where it is safe, appropriate, and ecologically beneficial



Objectives

- Stimulate germination of fire-responsive ESBS species
- Increase flowering and seed production
- Reduce weeds and fuel loads
- Restore cultural and ecological fire regimes



Application

- Cool, low-intensity mosaic burns
- Seasonal, culturally informed timing
- Integrated with planting and harvesting cycles
- Alternative methods used only when burning is not feasible



Cultural burning training

Cultural Burning training program

IndigiGrow will establish a structured internal training program to build cultural burning capability



Training components:

- Cultural knowledge transfer (Country, seasons, fire traditions)
- Practical fire training (cool burn techniques, fire behaviour)
- Safety and compliance (risk management, regulations, emergency response)
- Urban cultural burning application
- On-Country mentorship and supervised burns



Outcomes:

- A trained Indigenous-led cultural fire workforce
- Internal capacity to deliver burns across all Living Seedbanks
- Reduced reliance on external contractors
- Scalable national training model

Partner Investment Outcomes



Environmental

- Restoration of ESBS ecosystems
- Increased native seed supply
- Reintroduction of cultural fire regimes



Social

- Skilled training and employment pathways for Aboriginal people



Cultural

- Revitalisation of cultural burning practices
- Indigenous-led land stewardship at scale



Economic

- Sustainable restoration economy through ongoing establishment and maintenance of Living Seedbanks



Systemic

- Scalable urban cultural burning framework
- Nationally transferable Living Seedbank model



Epacris Longiflora



Flannel Flowers

Partnership

Annual Subscription \$10,000

Partner Benefits include:

-  Optional ½ day cultural volunteering experience at IndigiGrow La Perouse (up to 10 people)
-  Your Logo and URL on IndigiGrow partnership webpage
-  1 LinkedIn post celebrating your partnership
-  1 Instagram post celebrating your partnership
-  1 Facebook post celebrating your partnership
-  Right to display Living Seedbank partner logo



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ESBS regrowth post burn North Head



Living Seedbank partnership enquiries
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