

KEY CAPABILITY STATEMENT



FIRST NATIONS



ESG360 SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR BUSINESS. THE PLANET. OUR COMMUNITIES.

Our Services



ESG360 is a for-purpose company with services that are tailored to meet the needs of First Nations organisations. As a respected and culturally capable partner we work to support and leverage existing capability to enable long-term partnerships that are based on mutual respect and understanding. We actively engage with communities to ensure that the solutions we co-design are self-determined and sustainable.



Within the business development space, we:

- Develop innovative business and project solutions that deliver economic, environmental, social and cultural outcomes.
- Develop and/or review strategies to build capability and functions.
- Advise and develop funding and financing opportunities and pathways that align with values and long-term goals.
- Develop and support the implementation of built environment, land and water initiatives and uses.



Within the stakeholder engagement space, we:

- Develop and nurture partnerships between stakeholders to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.
- Broker agreements and collaborations between organizations, communities, and governments.
- Design comprehensive engagement strategies and plans tailored to specific projects or community needs.
- Establish clear objectives, timelines, and communication channels for stakeholder engagement.



Within the Governance space, we:

- Provide strategic advice to support responsibilities, and accountabilities of boards, committees, and management.
- Review and advise on specific needs of corporations or entities, helping them to strengthen their governance practices and achieve their strategic objectives.
- Assist in developing bespoke corporate, program or project specific governance or operational arrangements.

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Engagement Principles



The strength of ESG360 is the understanding and ability to operate within a range of contexts including social, cultural and geographical. In our work ESG360 commit to:

01

Co-design

Co-designing projects and solutions – by working flexibly and in ways that are responsive to our clients and the needs of communities, at all stages. ESG360 also adopts a co-design approach to developing solutions, particularly where projects involve reforming or developing new community programs or policies.

02

Partnership

Working in partnership – with clients, individuals, communities and organisations. A partnership approach to planning and delivery demonstrates accountability and builds client and community capacity across evaluation, data collection, analysis, communication and utilisation of findings.

03

Innovation

Using diverse and innovative methods – which are economical, effective and fit-for-purpose. ESG360 draws on extensive skills and experience to deliver bespoke community solutions.

04

Knowledge

Taking a knowledge-informed approach – to understanding issues and identifying solutions that are evidence-based. We build on existing research, identify best practice where it exists, collect and present new data and insights where possible.

05

Strengths-based

Using a strength-based approach – by focusing on the opportunities, abilities and strengths of clients and communities so that the solutions identified are those that are most likely to succeed.

06

Social Change

Focusing on creating social change – by delivering innovative activities and initiatives that we believe will benefit communities.

07

Quality

Presenting quality information – by delivering reports and materials that present information clearly and will be readily understood by different audiences.

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Case Studies



Case Studies are a mix of projects conducted by ESG360 and work by our Key People in the capacity as employees of different organisations.*

→ Strategy and Planning

ESG360 worked alongside Ngaimpe Aboriginal Corporation who operate as The Glen Group, one of Australia's leading First Nations Drug and Alcohol treatment providers which includes The Glen for Men and The Glen for Women based on the Central Coast, NSW. **ESG360** were engaged to develop preferred options to secure funding and investment partnerships.

→ Governance and Advisory

EnergyConnect is the delivery agent for Micro-grid technology to communities in regional and remote parts of Northern Australia. **ESG360** was engaged on the Yarrabah Microgrid Project, the first and largest EnergyConnect project, to provide governance and strategic advisory services. The Yarrabah Microgrid Project will enable Yarrabah, the largest First Nations community in Australia, to achieve a self-reliant, sustainable, community-based energy solution that can be replicated at other fringe-of-grid and regional and remote communities.

→ Business Development

ESG360 works alongside Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation, a large Aboriginal community-controlled, not-for-profit organisation based in Wollongong, NSW to provide strategic advice in relation to business priorities, current service and program offerings and develop new opportunities to deliver best practice Aboriginal social service outcomes.



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Case Studies cont.



→ Workforce Development

Led the design and implementation of a multi-year First Nations “training-to-employment program” to establish and develop the workforce prior to the opening of the \$15M nationally recognised eco-tourism facility the *Mossman Gorge Cultural Centre* in Nth Qld. The workforce has been consistently >75% Indigenous since commencement.*

→ Project Management

Managed the complex transfer of the \$62M National Centre of Indigenous Excellence in Redfern, NSW; a two-year program which included a transfer to the largest member-based organisation in NSW, being the NSW Aboriginal Land Council.*

→ Solutions Brokerage

Created one of the largest Nature Refuges in Queensland at the time involving the State and Commonwealth Governments as part of a complex land tenure conversion to enable the acquisition on behalf of Traditional Owners (the Ewamian people) for the purposes of protecting the cultural and environmental value of the property.*

→ Land Restoration Fund Carbon Project

Negotiated the Mungalla Carbon Project a 16-year, \$3.74M collaboration to improve biodiversity levels, build greater connectivity between remnant native vegetation, improve water quality entering the local waterways and reaching the Great Barrier Reef from Mungalla Station, and develop the skills and employment of the Nywaigi people.*



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Key People



Our ESG360 team members have diverse networks and expertise, including in conservation and land management, carbon and natural capital, business, communications, environmental markets, public administration, housing, social services, reconciliation and employment.

To complement our ESG360 team, we have a panel of experienced First Nations specialists that we engage regularly across a broad spectrum of project work.



Mark Denning - Executive Director

As General Manager of a major Commonwealth agency, Mark played a pivotal role in acquiring land for First Nations organisations and making strategic investments to scale Indigenous enterprises sustainably. His expertise in brokering solutions and building partnerships is highly respected, and he is known for his ability to foster collaboration across communities, government, and the private sector. Mark's influence extends beyond his professional roles; he is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and sits on various business, environmental, and heritage advisory panels and serves as a Director on the Board of Reconciliation Queensland, further demonstrating his commitment to advancing reconciliation and social equity.



Aaron Soanes - Executive Director

Aaron Soanes is a distinguished forester and board director, known for his significant contributions to the forestry and environmental sectors in Australia. As the CEO of a prominent Australian public company, Aaron has demonstrated exceptional leadership and strategic vision, spearheading initiatives that have had a profound impact on sustainable forestry practices. One of Aaron's most notable achievements is the establishment of Australia's largest carbon sequestration plantation, a pioneering effort that underscores his commitment to combating climate change and promoting environmental sustainability. His expertise and innovative approach have not only advanced the field of forestry but have also set new benchmarks for carbon sequestration efforts worldwide.



Dave Lyons - Executive Director

Following his undergraduate studies, Dave launched a successful career as a pharmacy owner in regional Queensland, where he was instrumental in creating frameworks to enhance collaboration in primary healthcare and spearheaded the implementation of harm minimization services. Driven by a commitment to improving community health outcomes, he later pursued an MBA, which paved the way for leadership roles in the healthcare and retail industries. Dave is a dedicated problem solver with a strong passion for advancing primary healthcare, advocating for social housing, and addressing the homelessness crisis.

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