



## Humans4Habitat - Project Outline

### Definition:

#### 1. What is the issue?

The broad issue is the loss of forests and habitat generally, and more specifically following the devastating fires of 2019. Arising from this is the knowledge that events such as the 2019 fires are likely to recur. The impacts of poor policy making, mismanagement of water resources, logging of old growth forests, increasing temperatures and more have impacted almost all states and territories across Australia. A regenerative response to the destruction of habitat, the drying out of the land, and the trauma visited upon human, plant and animal communities is needed.

#### 2. What do we want to address and why?

- **Loss of forest habitat** - because trees are critically important to the water cycle, providing habitat for myriad creatures, protecting soil microbes from extremes of heat and cold, filtering pollution etc. The restoration of our forests can both sequester carbon and restore: the water cycle, biodiversity, soil health and more.
- **Community resilience in the face of climate disaster** - these fires have shown us what we are facing as a nation in terms of climate change. This is a sobering reality and one that needs a community led response. We can support and encourage communities to come together, take regenerative action and become more personally and collectively resilient.
- **Women's voices and leadership for Nature** - women's voices (traditionally ignored or pushed into the background) are needed at this time to bring more balance to the world. Encouraging and supporting women to lead regenerative action together is really important.

#### 3. Where is the target area (geographically)?

Nationwide, with a focus on the areas where the collaborating networks have members

### What could be possible?

- A collaboration between a number of women's organisations (and youth organisations) Australia wide. Resources provided to assist women to take leadership on regenerative tree planting - supporting them to come together in circle to both process difficult feelings around the fires, and to take action for restoration. This action would look like: making contact with local indigenous communities, existing Landcare groups, local Councils etc - with the goal of restoring local forests that have been damaged and potentially planting additional trees.
- The planting of a large number of trees around Australia



- Fostering women's leadership around the environment at a local level, with a particular focus on the needs of trees - with the hope that some of these women may eventually stand for local council and implement regenerative local policy that benefits forests, human communities, wildlife, waterways etc.

### **Who could be involved?**

TreeSisters Australia, The School of Shamanic Womancraft and Red Tent Australia - leading. Inviting other women's organisations to also participate.

### **What is the ultimate impact?**

Restoration of damaged forests and ecosystems, more humans feeling connected to the landscapes and ecosystems around them, and more resilient local communities.

### **What are the ultimate outcomes?**

- Communities that understand how important trees and forests are to human health and survival.
- Women leading locally on issues that impact trees and forests.
- Connected, sustainable, resilient communities.

### **What is the ultimate goal?**

To bring women together around Australia so that they can take the lead on undertaking regenerative community action in the face of climate disaster.

### **What is the experience we want to create?**

Connected, collaborative, warm, inclusive, encouraging, supportive, regenerative community action that is positive and has lasting impacts for humans, wildlife, forests and country.

### **What is the project?**

To coordinate the distribution of resources, encouragement and support to women across Australia so that they can bring their local community together to take regenerative action in the form of tree planting (including ongoing support of the trees until they are viable without help) or Assisted Natural Regeneration (bush regen).