TACSI
Strategy 2022 - 2027

Accelerating progress on tackling our greatest social challenges and building the future all people in Australia deserve
We acknowledge the traditional custodians and owners of the lands on which we work and live on across Australia. We pay our respects to Elders of the past, present and emerging. We are committed to collaboration that furthers self-determination and creates a better future for all.

We acknowledge the world is changing and that all of the challenges facing our society will be more deeply felt by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Embedding a cultural lens across all of our work is a priority of this strategy.

We’re progressing our RAP journey, starting with the release of our Reflect RAP in 2022. This is part of our broader reconciliation responsibility and commitment.
Introduction
Why this strategy now?

In 2020, the year we turned 10, we developed a strategy intended to take us into our next decade with a renewed ambition. We decided we wanted to take social innovation from the margins to the mainstream, and TACSI from emerging to influential.

The tumultuous intervening years have only reinforced the importance of this transition.

The Australian experience has included not only Covid-19 and consequent economic and psychological distress, but some of the most extreme climate-fuelled disasters in our history. These years have also reminded us of the value of human connection, care and community in how we live and respond to societal change.

Two years on, it’s understandable that we want to put these difficulties behind us and ‘return to normal’.

TACSI’s 2022-27 strategy pushes back on this impulse.

It aims to harvest what we’ve learned and use it to make positive change. It aspires to leverage everything that’s been hard and find the opportunities in this singular global moment to build the future all people in Australia deserve.
We’re going broad and deep

Twelve years of working and learning with people, communities, organisations and philanthropy – including some remarkable partnerships – has given us the insight to create a strategy that is bigger than us.

Our work now goes deep to focus on areas of major concern for people in Australia: mental health, climate emergencies and a housing system that doesn’t meet Australians needs. And our work is also broad: aiming to create the practices and conditions for social innovation in these areas and beyond.

This strategy is about realising our potential to make change in the world.

It pushes us forward to build a bigger team that can work in ever more innovative and human-centred ways, but it does so with the intention of making significant social progress over the next decade.

At its heart, this strategy brings TACSI’s mission of moving social innovation from the margins to the mainstream to maturity.

We’ve spent over a decade designing, testing and demonstrating what’s possible; now it’s time for us to use our expertise to transform new possibilities into the reality of a better future.
Our strategy
Our strategy at a glance

Our vision
A future where we collectively tackle social challenges in ways that are systemic, experimental and give real power to those experiencing marginalisation.

Our action areas
Partnering to innovate, demonstrate and influence in six action areas:

- **Future of Mental Health**: Building systems that heal not harm through authentic co-design and co-production.
- **Future of Home**: Creating a future where all Australians live and age well in a place they call home.
- **Regenerative Communities**: Supporting communities to create futures where people and Country thrive.
- **People Powered Responses**: Co-creating community services fit for the 21st century.
- **Social R&D Ecosystems**: Building R&D infrastructure that's fit for tackling our toughest challenges.
- **Social Innovation Workforce**: Developing leaders, practitioners and communities with the passion and capabilities for social innovation.

Within each action area, we're building a portfolio of projects, partnerships and long-term initiatives to bring about change.

In every area, we are seeking partners to accelerate our work.

Our principles
- We act in in allyship with First Nations Peoples, First Knowledges, and Country.
- We think and act systemically.
- We are rigorous in imagination and experimentation.
- We embrace diversity in decision making.
- We put a focus on learning.

Our organisation
- 45 people, predominantly social innovation practitioners.
- Based in Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne, working nationally.
- An independent social enterprise with DGR 1 status.
Our role and vision
Our vision

A future where we collectively tackle social challenges in ways that are systemic, experimental, and give real power to those experiencing marginalisation.

Our role

We bring people, communities and organisations together to tackle our toughest social challenges and build the futures all people in Australia deserve.
Our action areas
We're responding to the big challenges facing Australia

Our work is now deeply focused on responding to the challenges Australia cares most about. We aim to demonstrate what's possible in these areas, shift systems and shift outcomes.

Future of Mental Health

Future of Home

Regenerative Communities

People Powered Responses

Social Innovation Workforce

Social R&D Ecosystems

We're building the infrastructure and practices for transformation

We're going broad by creating the practices and conditions needed to take social innovation from the margins to the mainstream, both nationally and internationally.
How we’re responding to the big challenges facing Australia

**Future of Mental Health**

**Our ambition**
To move the Australian mental health system away from structural harm to structural healing, and from system crisis to whole of community responses and prevention.

**We are doing this by:**
- Building sector capability and conditions for co-production.
- Spotlighting alternative models outside of the system.
- Designing future systems of mental wellbeing.

**Find out more**

**Future of Home**

**Our ambition**
To create an Australian housing system that puts people – not buildings – at its core, and recognises the huge social and financial benefits that are possible through doing this.

**We are doing this by:**
- Promoting a new vision for a ‘future system of home’.
- Supporting policy makers to apply these insights, including in social housing, aged care and disability.
- Creating the spaces for innovators to connect and incubate the future.

**Find out more**

**Regenerative Communities**

**Our ambition**
To build a future ecosystem that enables communities to cope and adapt to rapidly changing conditions, and supports them to create futures when people and Country thrive.

**We are doing this by:**
- Developing strategic partnerships.
- Sharing insights.
- Working with rural communities to support their regeneration.

**Find out more**
How we’re building the infrastructure and practices for transformation

Our action areas

People Powered Responses

**Our ambition**
Create a world where people help people, where helpful help is available from your neighbour and community, and where you can get support that’s tailored to your needs and life context.

**We are doing this by:**
- Partnering to develop and scale people powered models and capability.
- Building the economic and evidence base for people powered responses.
- Developing a network of practitioners and advocates for People Powered responses.

Find out more

Social Innovation Workforce

**Our ambition**
Nurture leaders, practitioners, communities and the next generation with the passion and capabilities for social innovation.

**We are doing this by:**
- Providing capability building in social innovation to social purpose organisations.
- Codifying and sharing our social innovation practices through a global academy.
- Building alliances with organisations already developing leaders and practitioners of the future.

Find out more

Social R&D Ecosystems

**Our ambition**
Exploring the potential of combining the best of R&D systems with a participatory and deliberative process to create R&D infrastructure fit for tackling our toughest socio-economic-planetary challenges.

**We are doing this by:**
- Continuing to build the concept of social R&D through conversations and sharing.
- Developing new alliances and networks to further Social R&D in Australia.
- Supporting experiments with new R&D infrastructure in particular fields.

Find out more
Our principles
In each of these areas our work is guided by a combination of principles.

We aim to embrace the ways of working that we want to see become mainstream.

Illustrations: Pitjantjatjara and Yankunytjatjara artist Elizabeth Close
Partnering for change
Partnering for change

We can help build your social innovation capability through resources, courses, coaching and learning networks.

We can partner with you to identify your unique needs, and help build out your organisation’s innovation capabilities through our courses and coaching, resources and network.

Deep work takes time, and some of our most impactful work is through our long term partnerships and relationships.

No one organisation can make lasting change alone; it takes networks that catalise new thinking and connected approaches.

We love coordinating and facilitating networked approaches in everything we do.

We work from idea to implementation, delivering participatory design projects, strategy development and insights from our action areas.

All while building on a body of knowledge and evidence from 12 years’ doing social innovation.

Working together for change

As capability builders

As connectors and facilitators

As long-term strategic partners

As consultants
Opportunities for philanthropic partnership

- **Fund our core operations**, including investment in our unique team.
- **Support one of our six issue-focused action areas.**
- **Fund bold initiatives** that focus on creating the future Australia wants, on the issues people in Australia care about most.
- **Invest in our new Social Innovation Academy** so we can build and embed new ways of working.
Connect with us

We want to live in a world where people, community and governments can come together to creatively tackle our toughest challenges, and create the futures we want.

But we can’t do this alone.

By partnering with communities, organisations and philanthropy, we believe we can make a real impact and change how we live – now and in the future.

Let’s talk.

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