

Media Release



Susan Close MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science

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South Australian climate tech startups to pitch their innovations at COP27

The founders of two South Australian climate tech companies will join Deputy Premier Susan Close in Egypt this week for the UN climate conference - COP27.

Val.Ai and Project Green Group will use this opportunity to pitch their innovations to a global audience of potential investors, collaborators and customers.

They join about 40,000 delegates at COP27 which runs from 6-18 November.

The conference is an ideal opportunity for the local businesses to pitch their respective technologies to an international audience.

The Australian government has announced it will seek to host COP31 and South Australia will actively support that bid.

Our world-leading intermittent renewable energy profile makes South Australia a great location as a potential host city.

Val.Ai and Project Green Group are attending COP27 as part of the South Australian Government's participation in the CivTech Alliance's *Global Scale-Up Program*.

The CivTech Alliance is an international network of government representatives, coordinated by the Government of Scotland. Its Global Scale-Up program is designed to support climate startups to increase their visibility, access global markets, and to accelerate growth.

Last year, Rohan Hamden, co-founder and CEO of Adelaide-based startup XDI:Cross Dependency Initiative (XDI), travelled to the UK for COP26 and met with some of the world's largest financial firms.

Mr Hamden and XDI has since fast-tracked business growth and expect to employ 100 staff by the end of 2022.

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Quotes attributable to Susan Close

I am thrilled that local companies Val.Ai and Project Green Group will be joining me on this delegation, demonstrating our state's capability in the climate tech sector.

With our existing strengths in the transition to renewable energy sources, we have so many lessons to share, as well as so much to learn from others - the potential is truly enormous.

What an opportunity to reach new markets! I wish both parties the very best for their upcoming pitches, meetings and networking sessions.

Quotes attributable to Val.Ai founder Allys Todd

Val.Ai is a South Australian climate tech company with the vision to decarbonise the economy and leave no household behind.

Thanks to the Global CivTech Alliance, including the Government of South Australia, it is my pleasure to introduce global leaders at the COP27 event to our company's vision and current projects.

Having had a career in carbon conservation, political advocacy and climate impact, this is an event that has been on my personal bucket list.

Our team are excited about connecting with our existing networks, most have been virtual for many years, and we will be meeting with corporate and government connections from across US, UK, Brazil, EU, APAC for the first time in real life!

Quotes attributable to Project Green Group co-founders Craig and Deb Hosking

We're excited about the opportunity to meet like-minded people looking to impact climate change—and to listen, learn and understand the latest research.

This is a chance for us to understand the market for our product globally.

We'll be meeting with other tech companies, governments, NGOs, potential strategic partners and global customers.