

## The Dandelion Project

### **Objective:**

To assist Australia and other countries in meeting their climate pledges through a universal and egalitarian research initiative utilising a novel citizen-driven and decentralised funding method.

### **Preamble:**

All nations on earth have agreed that climate policy is not only a topic which garners a lot of attention from the general public but it is also a matter which has been extremely complex to resolve. Issues of financing, political positioning, industrial delaying tactics, disinformation and diplomatic distrust has caused this universal issue to be impossible to enforce fairly across countries with drastically different GDP and economic systems. This has lead many nations to expect others to take on additional responsibilities to compensate for this fact, in turn raising objections and eventually resulting in further compromises or delays.

As such, I have designed a method to bypass the inflexibility of nations attempting to collaborate begrudgingly for mutual benefit. *The Dandelion Project* aims to receive funding from individuals rather than governments, through the form of micro-donations in order to fund research into climate change mitigation technologies and distribute them worldwide. This allows the individual to act rather than expecting their nation to do all the work which satisfies the average person's need for progress. These funds, and the research derived from them, will be extra-governmental, akin to entities such as the United Nations which will distribute the results to all participating countries.

*The Dandelion Project* will be designed completely independent to nations, companies and politics and most notably, and rather initially confusingly, even entities such as the United Nations which is often seen as the de-facto guiding hand of the world for various, significant issues. This is due to the non-compliance and 'tit-for-tat' actions of various counties spanning decades whom either flaunt the global norms or disagree with rulings in the international courts etc. If this project were tied to such an entity then it is compromised by association, thus I must expressly emphasise the importance its neutrality as is stated further in the document.

### **Foreword:**

The issue of climate change is the most complex global event of this century, as such, even with the tacit agreement of the world governments the matter still lacks a unified response. Events such as the Paris agreement (2016) and the COP (1995-2024) have failed to solidify universal support worldwide, or more accurately, an agreement of methodology to achieve our collective goals.

I offer a distinct, and by definition, a unique method of resolving fossil-fuel dependence without disrupting certain industries and the tax revenue that they bring to participating countries. This latter component is seemingly the antithesis of our objective but is essential to persuade oil producing nations to participate and prevent the trillion dollar oil industry from torpedoing our efforts out of fear of obsolescence. This privilege will only be short lived as the project will all but cause these industries to become nonviable through economic pressures and eventually cease the demand, forcing them to transition to modern, clean alternatives.

This is a complex issue, requiring complex solutions beyond of pledging money and providing carbon offsets. We **Must be willing to take decisive actions** in order to resolve this issue and avoid compromising. This means we must escalate our response to include methods that are yet unparalleled in scope as relying on existing options have failed to meet their projected outcomes.

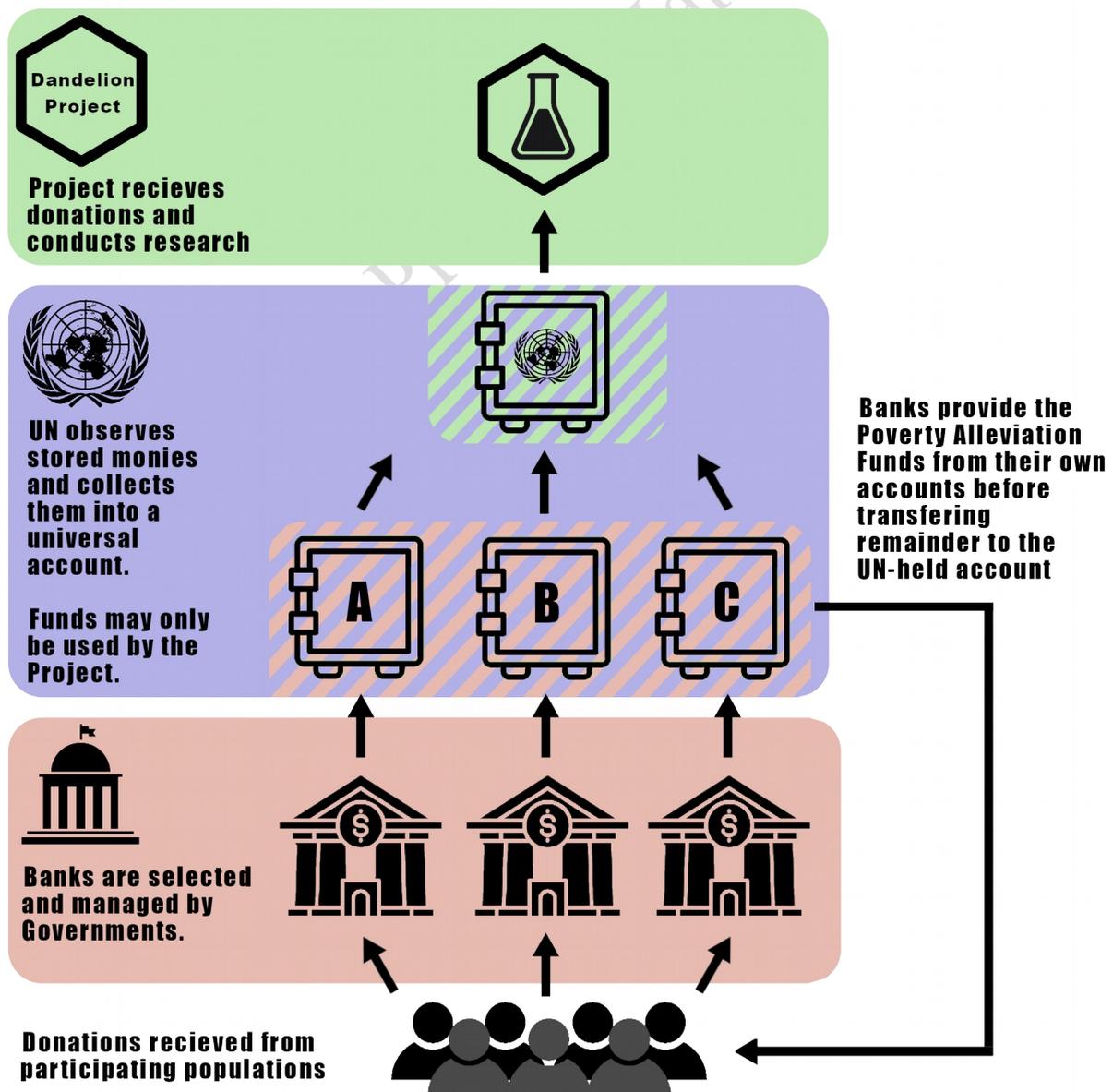
**Funding the research:**

The funds will be accrued from monthly donations provided by participating populations and be facilitated by banks elected by the participating countries. These funds will be observed by the United Nations as a safeguard and directed into *The Dandelion Project's* facilities to conduct research.

Upon the formation of *The Dandelion Project* all nations are offered the option to participate, incurring no cost to said countries, allowing their populations to direct the donations through a formal payment system. This system begins with the nation electing a number of stable, solvent banks that are registered in their nation (and that abide by a strict code of conduct) through which the payments are facilitated.

The donation will be affordable by the majority of the world, that of the equivalence of ten United States cents (10c) daily which is taken at the start of every natural month from their account. Said donations are held by the bank until the end of the month with which the banks gain the privilege to enrich themselves through the use of said funds for the duration. The account which holds the funds are visible to the United Nations as a safeguard against embezzlement.

The elected banks will then transfer the funds into an intermediate account, once again observed by the United Nations, to be used in the construction of the facilities and initial stages of development until *The Dandelion Project* is stable; At which point the funds will bypass into a self-contained account which is to be managed, and its expenditures declared routinely. This allows for separation from the UN and *The Dandelion Project* for the reasons stated in the preamble.



**Research and Distribution:**

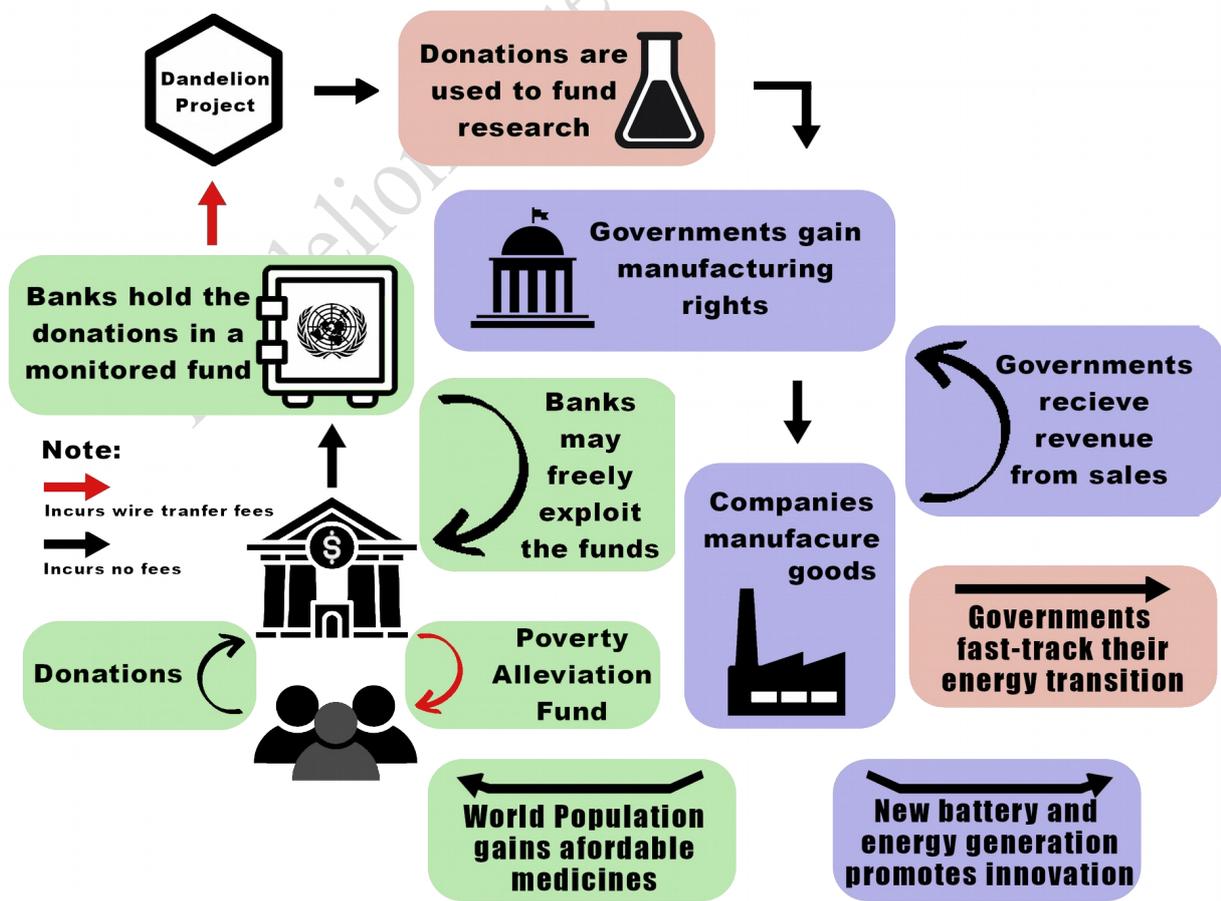
*The Dandelion Project* will conduct research in two fields. The first focusing on clean energy generation, refining battery technology and plastic / petrochemical alternatives for large scale industrial use. The second will be technologies to reduce the burden of the world’s ageing populations, which is remains an issue overshadowed by the pressing climate change, but an issue that affects half of the global population. These two issues are the greatest existential threats to the world’s life and economic stability.

The derived technologies will be considered “Universal Technologies” that participating countries are entitled to keep the manufacturing rights of. *The Dandelion Project*, in order to reduce its overheads and maintain its neutrality, will not produce nor profit from the resultant technologies, instead allowing (through a strict code of conduct) the recipient nations to bequeath such manufacturing rights to industries registered in their nation.

Companies enriched with the manufacturing rights will produce the derived products and must compete against their international peers, forcing the companies to be remain competitive by moderating the cost to the end consumer. Through the natural laws of economics, this enforced competition helps to prevent technology hoarding and monopolisation of these essential technologies and rapidly distribute the products.

The end result means that the participating governments, not through direct payments but merely consenting to the allow their populations to donate, will gain revenue through the auctioning of manufacturing licenses or other agreements with the endowed companies, which they themselves gain profit from the sale of the derived produce. This mass production ends up fast tracking the transition away from fossil fuels and petrol by-products without a single dollar spent by the world’s nations.

This results is a cleaner world, paid for by the average person, allowing their nation to enrich themselves and strengthening their domestic production, all while reducing environmental damage and reducing taxes spent on end-of-life healthcare. This can all be done all without the world governments fighting over global politics and power brokering.



**Viability studies:**

The main consideration of any project is the cost analysis and viability studies required to support it. This matter is broken down into the two components: Expected donations received and expenditure, both as fixed costs and upkeep.

In the case of the former the annual donations provided by an individual is the equivalency of \$36.50 USD in their local currency. The number of participating donors worldwide is projected to be set at 79 million people, approximately 1% of the world population. This number is chosen as a conservative estimate. In perspective, the United States of America has 104.3 million monthly donors present in their nation which exceeds the number of donors required. Based on this level of participation *The Dandelion Project* will receive \$2.88 billion USD annually from a 10c daily donation.

The latter component is cost. This is covered in extensive detail in a supplemental document that can be presented on request. Over the 5 years of constructing the extensive laboratory and supporting structures, the total cost of construction will be \$4.054 Billion USD, including a 20% safety net. At this cost the project can afford all associated costs within 1.4 years of donations without incurring debt. The minimum operating costs of *The Dandelion Project* is \$202.9 Million USD, or 7% of annual donations received.

Below is a visual depiction of the viability of raising the required donations. The pie charts simulate if any of the selected nations were to solely fund *The Dandelion Project* without the participation of any other nation. Realistically, populations of the wealthier nations will have a higher rate of participation and may voluntarily donate more than the 10 cents daily, achieving the donation goals quicker.

