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Department of the Environment and Heritage

## Media Release

### **Renewed funding for Education for Sustainability research**

November 27, 2006

Australia's first national institute devoted to the research of Education for Sustainability, the Australian Research Institute in Education for Sustainability (ARIES) based at Macquarie University, has received a further \$1.7 million funding for the next two years.

ARIES was established in 2003 at Macquarie University after award of a major research contract from the Australian Government to undertake research into methods of motivating and engaging organisations, governments, communities, and individuals into making changes for a more sustainable world. Currently, ARIES has 13 projects underway and a further five proposed for next year. ARIES collaborative projects with business and industry, further and higher education, school and teacher education, natural resources management and government agencies have already begun to have an impact on the policy and practice across Australia.

"The Institute's policy of actively engaging stakeholders in the process has resulted in a greater commitment to implementing sustainable change by participants," says ARIES Director Associate Professor Daniella Tilbury, a world-renowned expert on sustainability. "ARIES will continue to develop partnerships from across the sectors and states to ensure that our research is relevant and can have impact."

Through the new funding, ARIES has been tasked with developing national indicators for monitoring progress in Education for Sustainability during the UN Decade in Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).

This additional funding is provided by the Australian Government Department of the Environment and Heritage through the Natural Heritage Trust and is an extension of the \$2.5 million that ARIES has received over the past three years.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Jim Piper, said that ARIES provides an outstanding example of high quality research which has high impact on the Australian community. We are delighted that through our partnership with the Department of the Environment and Heritage we are helping to address one of Australia's and the world's most important problems.

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