

## **About Anglican Overseas Aid**

Anglican Overseas Aid is a humanitarian relief and development agency of the Anglican Church of Australia. When the late David Penman was appointed Archbishop of Melbourne in 1984, he realised Anglicans needed a way to respond to requests for support from Anglican churches and organisations around the world, particularly those impacted by disasters and emergencies.

As a result, the Archbishop of Melbourne's International Relief and Development Fund was established by the Melbourne Diocesan Synod in 1988.

More than 30 years later, the Fund, now called Anglican Overseas Aid, is an agency supporting projects in nine countries across Africa, South and South East Asia, the Middle East and the Pacific, along with disaster and emergency responses throughout the world.

Our work focuses on four key areas:

- Disasters and Climate Adaptation,
- Self-Reliance.
- Health and Wellbeing, and
- Safe Relationships.

Although we understand our work as an integral part of the mission of the Church, we do not engage in evangelism or proselytising and do not use funds – whether public donations or from the Australian Government – for such activities.

We support our partners in their work to assist marginalised communities. We use a strength-based approach, helping communities to take charge of their own development and lift themselves out of poverty. Our programs are available to all without discrimination of any kind.

The work we do is strongly informed by our Christian faith and is enacted through best practice development frameworks. We are fully accredited with the Australian Government and are a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

#### **OUR VISION**

Anglican Overseas Aid's vision is for a peaceful, just and sustainable world for all. We work in partnership with Anglican and like-minded organisations in developing countries to overcome poverty and injustice and respond to disasters and emergencies.

#### **OUR PURPOSE**

Anglican Overseas Aid works to:

- Create and strengthen partnerships in developing countries to overcome poverty, injustice and disaster.
- Support our partners to respond and adapt to environmental challenges.
- Inspire Australians to be compassionate, involved and responsible global citizens.

Cover image: A guidance teacher and her students in Kenya. Bottom right: A group of people living with a disability in South Africa.

All photos in this report are credited to AOA unless otherwise stated.

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2020 has been a truly unique year for all Australians. Together we have experienced the worst global pandemic in a century, with devastating personal and economic losses being felt across the community. But while things have been difficult in Australia, they have been so much worse in developing countries.

Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA) exists to serve the poor based on the very clear mandate of Jesus Christ. The places where AOA works are often overcrowded and are affected by poor sanitation and inadequate public health facilities. The populations in these communities can be especially vulnerable to COVID-19 because of malnutrition, disability or the presence of other viruses and health conditions such as HIV. I am especially thankful to AOA for its ongoing commitment to working with its partner communities right throughout this terrible pandemic.

This has involved adapting its existing grassroots health programs to help prevent COVID-19, and providing additional community care and support where needed. It is extremely gratifying

to know that this vital work has been carried out largely by local Anglican churches. The underlying rationale for AOA has always been to use global Anglican connections in ways that are developmental and life-giving. AOA's COVID-19 response provides a very clear example of this approach at its best.

One of the impacts of AOA's longerterm partnerships is to build up the capacities of local Anglican churches and organisations so that they are better equipped to deal with the challenges facing their communities. The approach AOA takes is always to encourage local communities to identify and build on their own strengths. There is clear evidence that this way of partnering has led to long-term and sustainable change. This strengthsbased approach is a feature of all the development programs highlighted in this report, including AOA's work in South Africa, where it has enabled a 30 year relationship to reach a very natural and positive conclusion.

Another feature of AOA's work is its commitment to practical ecumenism,

especially in our own region through the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO). This consortium of church-based agencies is going from strength to strength and has demonstrated its ability to manage large-scale high-impact programs. AOA has had a particular role to play as the in-country lead agency in the Solomon Islands. The 2020 year for AOA is finishing on a strongly positive note, as it begins to roll-out an important COVID-19 prevention program in the Solomon Islands over the next 18

A year of struggle

Archbishop Philip Freier

Finally, I would like to thank the Board, staff and CEO of AOA for their untiring commitment to serving God's world and the church. I warmly commend this Annual Report to you.

#### The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier

Archbishop of Melbourne and President of Anglican Overseas Aid



## Adapting in a turbulent year

Bob Mitchell and Glenn Scott

The vision of AOA is to seek a just, peaceful and sustainable world free of poverty. One way we can be confident that our work is advancing this vision is through a process of rigorous evaluation and monitoring. This year, triennial reviews were undertaken of our programs in Mozambique and South Africa, as well as smaller ongoing reviews. These have confirmed a very significant and positive community impact

While achieving planned outcomes is always satisfying, at the same time our programs need to be adaptable. In the closing months of the financial year we worked with all our partners in responding to the global COVID-19 crisis. AOA is used to dealing with emergences of different kinds, but we have never had a situation where all our partners have been affected in some way by the same global event. Fortunately, we were able to use existing program structures



to undertake important COVID-19 prevention work, and to provide additional community supports and assistance.

COVID-19 has also significantly affected our internal operations. The entire staff of AOA moved to a 'working-from-home' regime. This proceeded very smoothly, thanks to the commitment, professionalism and goodwill of the AOA staff team. Modern technology has facilitated daily contact among work colleagues, and regular engagement with our partners and incountry consultants. Our work with local Australian churches has also changed, with many being forced to suspend their operations during lockdown periods. This has meant livestreaming, prerecording messages, and placing a far greater emphasis on social media.

During the year we have continued to work as an organisation, and with all our partners, on ways to prevent

sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. A new Safeguarding Code of Conduct and Personal Code of Conduct were introduced as important measures to ensure ethical and safe work practices. We also completed a comprehensive review of all AOA policies to ensure that they are not only current but more closely aligned to best practice and community standards.

AOA prides itself on being able to contribute strongly to the sector as a whole. During the year, our team played active roles in a number of external bodies, including the global Board of the ACT Alliance, various climate change and gender justice practice groups, the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee, the Church Agencies Network, and the Anglican Alliance. We are also a founding member of the Emergency Action Alliance, a group of 17 agencies wanting to create a single public-facing vehicle to support major emergency responses.

Our own governance was enhanced by the adoption of a new, modern Constitution at our AGM. We also established a Fundraising and Communications Committee as a standing committee of the Board to better oversight our strategy and planning in these areas. On the financial front, we were able to finish the year with a solid surplus - a remarkable achievement given the uncertainties affecting the external environment. We are very thankful to our loyal and generous supporters, and to the volunteers and intercessors who unfailingly support us in what we do.

Despite the extraordinary challenges, 2020 was a great year for AOA, and we look forward with renewed confidence to the year ahead.

Left: This is a photo of women celebrating 'Rosy October' for Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Gaza. Ghada (on the right) heads up the Women's Council for Disabilities, one of the community-based organisations that work closely with the Ahli Arab Hospital to prevent, treat and destignatise the disease.

Our work with the Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza is supported by the Australian Government and donations from the Australian public through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). We are proud to partner with the Australian Government in delivering this program. Credit: Ahli Arab Hospital

## **Prioritising community needs**

Sue Riley, Kylie Wingjan and Nils von Kalm

The 2019/20 financial year has been dominated by the impacts of COVID-19. Given the global nature of the pandemic, all of our projects have been significantly affected by the virus.

We have continued to respond together with our Anglican partners in perhaps the most challenging year in living memory. Even amidst this protracted emergency, we kept our focus on helping communities to work towards their vision for greater selfreliance, better health and well-being, safer relationships and increased resilience. Through our substantial church and partnership networks, we were able to positively impact or provide relief to some 167,241 people. Long-term investment in building robust community structures stood our partners in good stead to 'pivot' their programs to COVID-19 preparedness and response work from March onwards. For the largely remote communities that we work with, the secondary impacts of the pandemic, such as economic collapse and increased social harms, have been particularly pronounced. While

ensuring communities had a sound understanding of prevention strategies, we prioritised care and protection of the most vulnerable. With the utmost credit to our remarkable partners and supporters, we were able to reach some 83,359 people through our COVID-19 interventions.

In Australia, the benefits of technology have allowed us to continue to maintain our partnerships with various churches during the restrictions brought on by COVID-19. We have been able to preach via Zoom or conduct pre-recorded sermons for churches throughout Australia. This has been a great benefit for our continuing relationships with Anglicans all across the country.

Prior to churches being forced to close, we continued to visit churches in person, mainly throughout Melbourne, but also in NSW. In addition, we spoke to a number of other groups, including secondary school students. These opportunities allowed us to spread the news of our work and garner additional support.

Despite the enormous economic impacts of COVID-19 forcing us to review our financial targets, we were very pleased to report a surplus for the year. This was in large part due to the extraordinary generosity of our supporters in our End of Financial Year Appeal, support from the Federal Government for our ANCP projects, as well as stimulus measures from the Victorian State Government.

Detailed information about our financial performance for the year is found on pages 24-27 of this Annual Report.

In what has been an extraordinarily difficult year for millions of people the world over, we are incredibly grateful for God's provision in the lives of people living in poverty. We remain privileged to work together with you, our supporters, to bring a more abundant life to all.

Below: A woman attends a community meeting in Mozambique educating on COVID-19. Despite her disability, she is included in all of the activities and says that the Equipas de Vida teams treat her like family. Credit: Missionary Diocese of Nampula



## **Our work overseas: COVID-19**

AOA responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by adapting many of our programs to ensure that the communities we work with have the support they need.

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March, we have been working with our partners to address the needs of their communities and adapting our programs where appropriate. A key focus has been preventing the spread of coronavirus through promoting good hygiene practices and distributing accurate health information. Our local Anglican Church partners have a grassroots connection with their communities, which means that they are in the best position to reach many people with this vital information.

In addition to awareness initiatives, we also responded to the secondary economic impacts of the lockdowns through distribution of essential supplies and income generating activities for the most vulnerable. This helped families maintain livelihoods. We also improved safety for women and children through support and connecting them to life-saving services.

Here is how we worked with each of our partners to respond to COVID-19:



### Kenya

Our partner, the Anglican Church of Kenya, Mount Kenya West Diocese (ACK), worked in multiple ways to prevent COVID-19 from spreading, improving the lives of those most impacted by lockdowns, and supporting households with essential supplies.

Voluntary community leaders called Nyumba Kumis (Swahili for 'Ten Houses') and Community Health Volunteers were trained by ACK to help their communities overcome issues like family breakdown, gender violence and child abuse.

ACK educated the community on hygiene, prevention measures and COVID-19 through training local volunteer community leaders. These leaders created awareness of how to prevent the spread of COVID-19, while also identifying vulnerable households who were in need of emergency care and food supplies.

The community leaders were also trained to assist families in identifying opportunities to generate income from home, and to deal sensitively with cases of women at risk of violence.



Above: Nyumba Kumis in Laikipia county, Kenya, are educating communities about the prevention of COVID-19. Left: Health educators in Mozambique teach communities about preventing COVID-19 through good hygiene. Credit: Missionary Diocese of Nampula

### Mozambique

Our partner in Mozambique, the Missionary Diocese of Nampula, continued their long-term work towards the goal of improving health knowledge in communities through the Equipas de Vida (or 'Life Teams') initiative.

The Life Teams are Anglican church-based community volunteers who are trained to improve the quality of life through health and hygiene messaging. They were trained to deliver the life-saving health and hygiene COVID-19 prevention messaging door-to-door within 98 vulnerable communities.

The Life Teams are so highly respected that the Missionary Diocese of Nampula and their Life Teams initiative are now a recognised part of the Government of Mozambique's official COVID-19 prevention response plan.

### Vanuatu

While complicated by the impacts of Tropical Cyclone Harold, our partner, the Anglican Church of Melanesia, Vanuatu (ACOMV), worked to ensure communities received correct and government-approved COVID-19 safety and prevention messaging.

ACOMV also ensured that people had knowledge of how to reduce the risk of COVID-19 by engaging medical personnel to demonstrate good health practices, and developing education materials to distribute. The team promoted community awareness with door-to-door communication of key messages. Importantly, this included engaging clergy to help build trust in these messages within communities.

To work closely with the community on the issue of gender-based violence awareness and protection during a time of increased stress and isolation, ACOMV also conducted Gender and Protection Assessments with 372 households as well as with 1,000 individuals (men, women and children).

### **Solomon Islands**

Our partner in the Solomon Islands, the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM), worked to ensure that people had access to vital health and hygiene information and knowledge of social distancing.

Key educators in the provinces of Malaita, Isabel and Guadalcanal were trained with this governmentapproved health information, which was translated to Solomon's Pijin as they were previously only available in English. These educators, along with local government health officials, trained 60 community savings group leaders, who were then equipped to pass on messages and materials to their group members.

These messages also included information about services and protection, disability and gender-based violence, ensuring that the most vulnerable in the communities had additional support where needed.

With many ongoing impacts on women and children because of the lockdown measures, such as school closures and loss of income, ACOM worked closely with the government health and women's departments, as well as counselling services and family support centres.

These programs are supported by the Australian Government and donations from the Australian public through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). We are proud to partner with the Australian Government in delivering these programs.

## **Learning and effectiveness**

At the beginning of the year, we sharpened our 'Theory of Change' to provide a clearer vision of success based around our four strategic priority areas of Self-Reliance, Health and Wellbeing, Disaster and Climate Adaptation, and Safe Relationships. We worked with our primary partners to support the development of their policies in the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, linking these within the broader 'Safe Church' movement.

Before, and then amidst the emerging global emergency of the COVID-19 pandemic, we continued to work closely with our Anglican Church and like-minded partners in nine countries across the Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Middle East. Prior to the Australian Government's world-wide travel ban

in mid-March, our visits to the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kenya provided us quality opportunities to support the development of our partners and enhance the impact and effectiveness of our work.

The rapid onset of COVID-19 necessitated an escalation in remote forms of engagement with our partners, including significantly modifying our data gathering methods for evaluations in Mozambique and South Africa. Our partners in these two countries must be highly commended for their tenacity in proceeding with these evaluations under the most difficult of circumstances.

### South Africa: evaluation of Sinakho Safe Communities Network project

The evaluation of Sinakho Safe Communities Network was undertaken at the end of a three-year project cycle funded through the Australian Government's Australian NGO Cooperation Program. The data gathering process was significantly delayed due to the catastrophic impact of COVID-19 in South Africa. The report, which is available on the AOA website, outlines the way our program has empowered communities to respond to some profound social challenges. The impact of this work has been to better protect

vulnerable people and promote justice and safety for all. The conclusion of this project also marks the end of AOA's 30-year partnership with the Diocese of Grahamstown's Department of Social Responsibility.

### **Mozambique: evaluation of Towards Abundant Life project**

The evaluation of Towards Abundant Life was undertaken at the end of a three-year project cycle funded through the Australian Government's Australian NGO Co-operation Program. The evaluation found that the project has been appropriate and relevant and is having a positive impact in improving knowledge about communicable and preventable diseases, the benefits of family planning and birth spacing, as well as improving child development through improved nutrition.

During the field data collection period in late March, the reality of the global COVID-19 pandemic reached Mozambique. The Government there introduced significant restrictions on movement and the data collection was placed at risk. However, as a testament to the high regard in which our partner, the Diocese of Nampula, is held by the Government, it agreed to allow the community visits to continue so the evaluation team could raise awareness of COVID-19 amongst the Equipas de Vida (community volunteer 'Life Teams'), enabling them to bring early and critical prevention measures to these vulnerable communities.

The evaluation report made several recommendations, including a scale-up

of formation, training and development of health committees. The report also recommended that closer ties with government agricultural extension workers be formed to improve the production rates of sweet potato, and that the expansion of savings groups should be a priority as the established groups are bringing considerable benefits. Anglican Overseas Aid and the Missionary Diocese of Nampula are now using the evaluation to shape and guide the program into its next few years.

## **Emergencies and humanitarian relief**

Anglican Overseas Aid was born in the late 1980s out of then Archbishop David Penman's vision to respond to human tragedy. However, this is the first time in our 30-year history that all our partner countries, as well as our own country, have been impacted by the same catastrophe at the same time. And yet while the global COVID-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented challenge, this does not stop other emergencies from continuing to occur, whether these be human or climate-induced.

Once again, AOA was able to draw on a broad range of partnerships and networks, including the ACT Alliance and CAN DO, to respond together where and when most needed

To read more about our work as a member of CAN DO, in particular our activities in Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands responding to Tropical Cyclone Harold, see page 12.

#### **OUR RESPONSES INCLUDED:**

- Ambae volcano support in Vanuatu
  was funded by a Rapid Response
  grant from the ACT Alliance and
  focussed on long-term recovery
  and building resilience. This
  ongoing work was implemented
  directly with our local partner, the
  Anglican Church of Melanesia;
- AOA was able to support the work of the Middle East Council

- of Churches in assisting internally displaced persons and refugees through the ACT Alliance network;
- Worsening drought exacerbated the food crisis in East Africa, and AOA supported the life-saving work of the South Sudanese Relief and Development Agency (SSUDRA), again through the ACT Alliance:
- AOA supported the work of local organisation LEADS as they responded to the devastating Easter Sunday attacks in Sri Lanka.

Below: Children attend an art therapy session in Vanuatu. Here they are able to draw to express their feelings and feel comfortable enough to talk about the trauma of experiencing Tropical Cyclone Harold. Credit: Anglican Church of Melanesia, Vanuatu.

Read more about the Tropical Cyclone Harold response in Vanuatu on page 12.





## **Looking back on three decades in South Africa**

On 30 June 2020, our partnership in South Africa with the Department of Social Responsibility (DSR), Diocese of Grahamstown, came to a close. The program has shown significant change, with many successes over the years, and the Diocese is capably sustaining the benefits of this long-term work.

There are always mixed feelings when a partnership comes to an end. While it is sad to say goodbye to communities we have been working with for many years, the end of a program is also acknowledgment that communities have been empowered to lead and drive their own change, which is the ultimate goal of our work. Community development is about the long-term, and we are very pleased to have been able to play a role in the strengths-based development of communities in the Diocese of Grahamstown.

Anglican Overseas Aid first began work with the Diocese of Grahamstown in 1990. The partnership came about from a request for assistance in advocacy made by the then Bishop, David Russell. From 1999, AOA worked with the DSR in the Eastern Cape Province, entering into a Partnership Agreement in June of that year, with a grant of \$25,000 to support the program.

By 2004 the focus of our programming partnership was the prevention of HIV and AIDS through awareness raising, community education, community-based care to vulnerable groups, nutrition and reliable access to food.

Our partnership with the DSR evolved over time from mitigating the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic to the more broadly focussed Women's Empowerment Program.

This project supported vulnerable women by increasing their ability to feed their families through permaculture skills and building community intolerance towards violence against women and children.

A major part of the project was the development of the Safe Persons Network, in which key women and men were trained in gender issues, women-centred responses to violence and abuse, HIV and AIDS issues, the Sexual Offences Act, citizen forums and counselling. They focused on vulnerable groups within their community: rape victims, the elderly, youth and children, teaching them about the laws that should protect them. They also trained police, health, and justice staff about their duties under these laws.

The Women's Empowerment Program evolved into the recently completed Sinakho Safe Community Network. In this project, dynamic women leaders and male role-models were equipped to become a grass-roots Safe Persons Network, with training in human and legal rights, women-centred responses to violence and abuse, and counselling.

This network strengthened community efforts to protect women and children from violence and advocated for action on crime by their local police and justice system. The result was that vulnerable people know where to seek help and had greater confidence to report sexual assault.

The project also built community resilience through permaculture skills and community gardens; improving food security, promoting nutrition and building self-value amongst vulnerable

women, young people and school children.

South Africa continues to face many challenges. HIV/AIDS rates remain high, unemployment is at least 30 percent and sexual and gender-based violence is prevalent across the country. Amidst these challenges, thanks to the long-term partnership between AOA and the DSR, communities in the Diocese of Grahamstown are now able to build on their firmly established safety networks. In this way communities are able to advocate for justice on their own behalf as they pursue lives with a greater sense of dignity and self-worth.

AOA would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the Department of Social Responsibility over the course of the partnership, and we thank both AOA supporters and the Australian Government for the long-term assistance that has made these achievements possible.

This program was supported by the Australian Government and donations from the Australian public through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). We have been proud to partner with the Australian Government in delivering this program.

## **Collaborating in action**

We had another busy year as a member of CAN DO, both externally through humanitarian responses, and internally within CAN DO's working groups.

AOA has been at the forefront of initiatives to ensure the prevention of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PSEAH) with partners across the globe. During the year, AOA staff participated in Localisation and Safeguarding groups within the CAN DO network, assisting other organisations in the roll-out of prevention measures. Over time the consortium has developed a culture where technical specialists from member organisations openly share their expertise. This builds up and strengthens the work of the whole network, better protecting the communities they serve.

2020 has also been the busiest year for AOA's humanitarian responses within CAN DO, with AOA involved in four concurrent programs since March 2020. This is in addition to our ongoing Disaster

Ready initiative aimed at preparing communities for disasters.

AOA is CAN DO's lead implementing agency for its work in the Solomon Islands, and in this role we have led the implementation of CAN DO's Solomon Islands Tropical Cyclone Harold response and two COVID-19 initiatives. These activities have been the first disaster responses that our in-country CAN DO partners have had to respond to since CAN DO was formed. The three years of preparation and collaboration undertaken since Disaster Ready started in 2017 have borne fruit, with volunteer teams from all partners working together to undertake damage assessments, response planning and distribution following TC Harold's damage across Guadalcanal Province.

This collaboration is continuing with COVID-19, with teams undertaking joint training on using the government approved messaging and materials, which have been distributed across community networks in three provinces.

Despite a very small number of COVID-19 cases in the Solomon Islands and no cases in Vanuatu at the time of writing, the secondary impacts on communities are significant. These include economic losses due to restrictions on movement and loss of tourism. AOA's COVID-19 response work will address these impacts and will help prepare communities for any outbreak until at least the end of 2021.

## Tropical Cyclone Harold, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands

When Tropical Cyclone Harold tracked its way through the Pacific in April, it passed within 135 kilometres of Solomon Islands as a Category 2 storm, before heading towards Vanuatu. It then made landfall in Vanuatu on the island of Espiritu Santo on 6 April as a much stronger Category 5 cyclone.

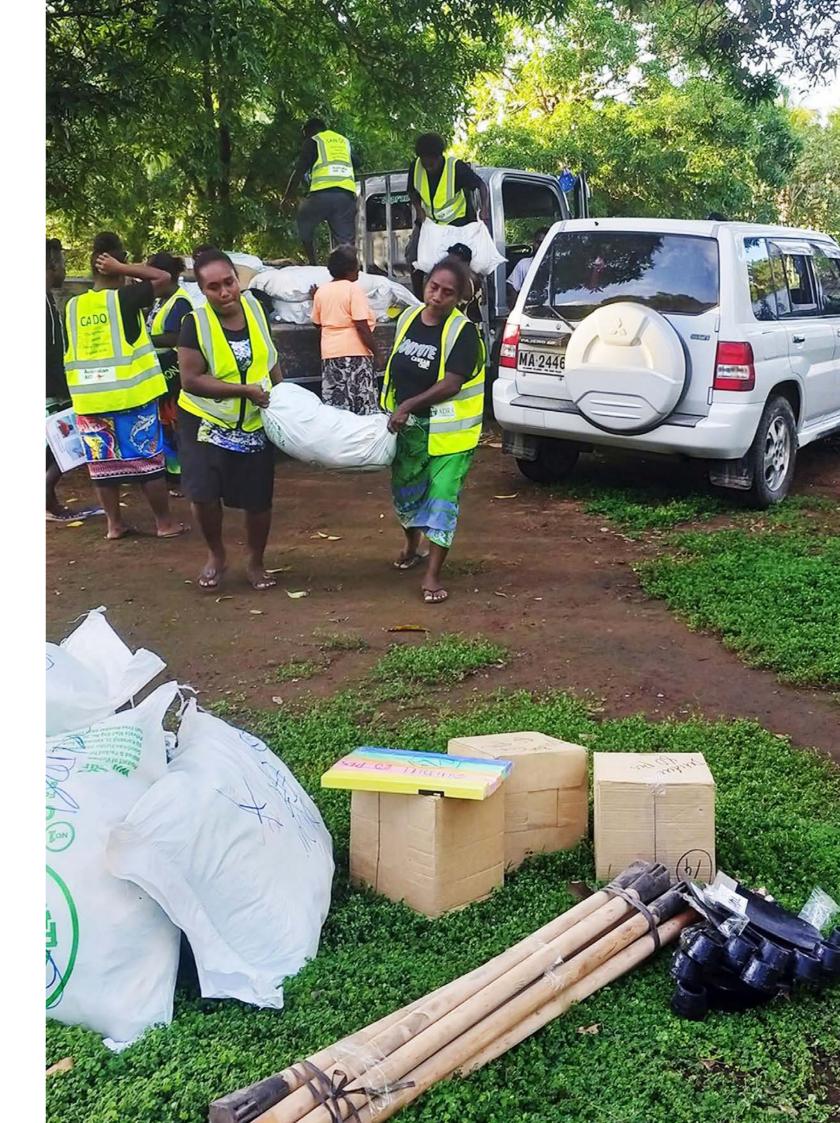
The Solomon Islands experienced widespread flooding along with destructive winds. As a result, much of their food supply was lost, particularly in the Guadalcanal region. AOA led the CAN DO response, with partners undertaking an assessment, and then providing much needed food, farming tools and seeds, as well as hygiene

packs. At the same time, information about COVID-19 prevention was distributed.

On the harder hit island of Espiritu Santo, Vanuatu, there were concerns for how the most vulnerable were coping. People with disabilities as well as at-risk women and children were reached door-to-door with psychosocial support, including pastoral care, service referrals for protection and follow-up therapy activities. We built on already-established and experienced volunteer networks in our Vanuatu program, increasing the response to handle the double impact of TC Harold and COVID-19 on vulnerable women and children.

This response work was funded in part by donations from our supporters and partners (including Anglican Missions New Zealand) as well as by the Government of Australia, and was implemented through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership.

Right: CAN DO volunteers unload supplies for the most impacted communities. These volunteers were essential to undertaking the needs assessment, packing the kits and delivering them. Credit: CAN DO.





## **AFRICA**

### Ethiopia \$10,000

**Climate Resilience** 

Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA)

### Kenya

\$269.970

Imarisha Maisha

Anglican Church of Kenya

### Mozambique

\$204.754

**Towards Abundant Life** 

Missionary Diocese of Nampula

### South Africa

\$132.032

**Sinakho Safe Communities** Network

Department of Social Responsibility, Anglican Diocese of Grahamstown

### **MIDDLE EAST**

East Jerusalem

\$20.000

Speech Therapy and Education for Children

Spafford Children's Center

#### Gaza

\$142,237

Women's Health and Wellbeing

Al Ahli Arab Hospital (run by Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem)

### **ASIA**

## India

\$10,000

**Women's Empowerment Project** Cathedral Relief Service (Kolkata)

#### Myanmar \$19,000

**Silver Smith Vocational Training** Akhaya

### **PACIFIC**

#### Solomon Islands \$95.053

**Safe Strong Communities** Anglican Church of Melanesia

#### Solomon Islands \$112.749

**Disaster Ready** 

Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations

## Vanuatu

\$35.914

Safe, Resilient Communities Anglican Church of Melanesia

## Vanuatu

\$14.040

**Positive Parenting Program** Anglican Church of Melanesia

# **EMERGENCY** and **RELIEF**

East Africa \$20.000+

**South Sudan Food Crisis** 

## Gaza

\$4,415

**COVID-19 Response** 

## Mozambique

\$5,000

Wind Surge

### Solomon Islands

\$23,800

**COVID-19 Response** 

### Solomon Islands

\$25.000

**Tropical Cyclone Harold** Response

## Sri Lanka

\$10,220

**Easter Sunday Terror Attacks** 

### Syria \$17.000+

Conflict humanitarian relief

### Vanuatu

\$35.750

**Ambae Volcano Response** 

#### Vanuatu \$16,688

**Tropical Cyclone Harold** Response

+ Appeal commenced in 2016/17; funding continuing over a number of years

## **Our impact in numbers**

Every year we make sure that our work is effective and impactful. Although the real difference your support makes can't be measured in numbers alone, they do show the reach of our program activities.

The programs that have the Australian Aid identifier logo to their right are supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) or the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP).

## **Africa**

#### **ETHIOPIA**

**CLIMATE RESILIENCE - Creating water sustainability** 



**9,000 women, men, girls and boys** provided with access to a sustainable water source



**1 water storage reservoir** rehabilitated in the Afar region of Ethiopia

#### **KENYA**

**IMARISHA MAISHA -** Gender-based violence and child protection



**812 people** increased their household income through a range of income generating activities



**120 faith leaders** communicated COVID-19 prevention information to **10,000 people** online

**Nustralian** 

#### **MOZAMBIQUE**

TOWARDS ABUNDANT LIFE - Community-led health and wellbeing



**3,263 community health volunteers** were trained in COVID-19 awareness and prevention



**5,200 vulnerable people** were provided with soap and masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19

Australia Aid

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

SINAKHO SAFE COMMUNITY NETWORK - Women's empowerment



**280 educators** were upskilled in child protection, responding to trauma and creating 'safe schools'



**8 women's organisations** were strengthened to better respond to gender-based violence

Australian

## **Asia**

#### INDIA

**WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT - Supporting women's livelihoods** 



**278 women and girls** were trained in skills for sustainable income generation



**141 parents** learned about the importance of education, and committed to keeping girls in school

#### MYANMAR

**VOCATIONAL TRAINING - Supporting women's livelihoods** 



**13 vulnerable, at-risk women** were trained as silver smiths to achieve sustainable livelihoods



**13 women** were trained in COVID-19 prevention and awareness of exploitation and abuse



# This year a total of 167,241 lives have been changed with your help.

## **Pacific**

#### **SOLOMON ISLANDS**

**DISASTER READY - Supporting disaster resilience** 



**118 Churches** were mapped as evacuation centres using the Safe n Redi app



**6 Church denominations** were trained with the Theology of Disaster Resilience

Australian Aid

#### SOLOMON ISLANDS

SAFE STRONG COMMUNITIES - Improving family peace and livelihoods



**82 men, women and youth** learned about gender issues and women's equal rights



**1,500 people** participated in training to help them build sustainable livelihoods

Australian Aid

#### VANUATU

SAFE, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES - Supporting community safety



**380 men and women** received training on gender issues and women's equal rights



**580 people** participated in events related to COVID-19 public health measures and prevention

Australiar Aid

## **Middle East**

#### **EAST JERUSALEM**

SPAFFORD CHILDREN'S CENTER - Supporting children's development



**100 children** received play and/or speech therapy for trauma-delayed development



**70 mothers** understand child wellbeing, equipped with techniques to support their children

#### GA7A

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING - Breast cancer early detection and awareness



**5,885 women** were trained in breast self-examination and the importance of early detection



**692 men** were educated on breast cancer to help destigmatise the illness

Aid

## **Our ecumenical commitment**

As an agency of the Anglican Church of Australia, we make the most of the Church's global connections and the vital guiding role that the Church can play in the transformation of people and society.

We work with Anglican and like-minded agencies to create and strengthen partnerships in developing countries to overcome poverty, injustice and disaster. While we work mainly with Anglican organisations, all our work is carried out on a non-discriminatory basis for the benefit of all.

This year, we supported 10 partners across Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, to implement 12 community development projects in nine countries\*, ranging across broad areas of health, self-reliance, women's empowerment and responding to COVID-19.

We know that the people in the best position to make a difference are those who live and work in a community or are closely connected to them. This is why we work with partners who are part of their own communities – they are trusted, share the same everyday challenges of the people they work for, and are in a position to reach the most neglected and vulnerable.

Central to our approach is to work with in-country partners who encourage and facilitate positive change and development outcomes. We build long-term partnerships based on operational independence, mutual learning, a focus on strengths, capacity building, and a joint commitment to working towards the sustainability of development outcomes. Mutual partnership principles are articulated in agreements signed with all partners.

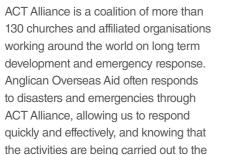
For us, partnership is also about leveraging the links, resources and skills of each partner organisation to enhance program effectiveness and development impact. We recognise the strategic position of our partners within the life of a community, and the vital role they can play in the transformation of people and society.

Finally, we are strongly committed to encouraging communities to have agency over the decisions that affect them. This secures greater program ownership and promotes dignity.

\*For the purposes of counting program countries, we follow the UN definition of Gaza and East Jerusalem as Occupied Palestinian Territories, and not legally part of the state of Israel.

## **Coalitions we work with**

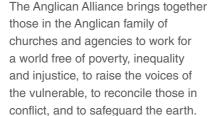




www.actalliance.org

highest global standards.





www.anglicanalliance.org





The Church Agencies Network is a group of eleven Australian churchbased international development agencies who seek to support each other in improving their effectiveness.

The Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) is a collaboration of eight of the eleven Agencies working to strengthen communities facing humanitarian crises.

www.churchagenciesnetwork.org.au

## The highlights

An overarching strategic goal of Anglican Overseas Aid is to leverage our Anglican identity in building a just, peaceful and sustainable world through effective development. Over the last year, we have done a great deal of work to adapt and strengthen our internal processes and to reach out to the Anglican community in Australia.

### Adapting to COVID-19

In March it was decided that our staff would all work from home until further notice. This transition proceeded well, with staff meeting regularly via Zoom and work continuing as planned.

There were a lot of important decisions to make in relation to our programming, our finances, and the health of our team. Staff mental health was also taken into account and all were reminded about our Employee Assistance Program and pastoral care.

### Partnering at Conferences

As we have done each year in recent times, we were proud to have a presence at both *The Justice Conference* and the CMS *Summer Under The Son* (SUTS) Conference. *The Justice Conference* was held at the Melbourne Exhibition Centre for the first time. This allowed us to be more visible than in previous years and facilitated some great discussions.

We were thankful to also attend the Summer Under The Son Conference in January before COVID-19 restrictions were implemented. We again were fortunate to have some engaging conversations with Anglicans from various parts of the country.

## Church gathering restrictions

The first half of the year saw us maintaining our church visits. This included an interstate church visit to build support for our work in the Pacific. We also established some important new relationships with churches in Melbourne.

The second half of the year saw our in-person church visits decrease due to restrictions brought on by COVID-19. However, we still planned a number of online or pre-recorded sermons to churches.

## Honouring two special servants

We were very proud to see life membership of AOA conferred on Emeritus Archdeacon Alan Nichols AM and Denise Nichols OAM. Both Alan and Denise have been involved with AOA from our beginning in 1988. Denise has been a Deputy Chair of the AOA Board and Alan was the first Director. They are both passionate about the strong connection between AOA and churches. The conferral of their life membership was celebrated at an event at Bishopscourt, hosted by Archbishop and President of AOA, The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier.

### Internship program

We have been very pleased to welcome a number of interns to AOA in recent years. This year we had Ratha Ra working for us on various activities for our International Programs team. Ratha completed his Masters in International Community Development in June 2020 and is now working in his home country of Cambodia with a local NGO. We appreciated his contribution tremendously.

Some of Ratha's work involved producing training packages on fraud and corruption and on disability inclusive development. He also facilitated a Disability Inclusive Development awareness session for 11 members of AOA's partner, the

Anglican Church of Melanesia, in the Solomon Islands, and collated and analysed baseline data for an Australian Aid funded project focused on gender-based violence in Vanuatu.

### **Updating of policies**

During the year we reviewed organisational, departmental and project level policies, practices and culture related to child protection, safeguarding and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA). This work has been achieved via collaboration and consultation with national coalitions and networks to align with national and global best practice.

We have strengthened our systematic approach to safeguarding across the organisation through the development of a suite of policies and tools, so that we can assess our own, as well as our partners' practices. This includes the creation of an AOA PSEAH Policy, a Safeguarding Code of Conduct, and a revision of our Safeguarding framework.

## **Our Board and Executive Team**



Mr Glenn Scott BCom, FCPA Board Chair



The Right Revd Dr Paul Barker BA, ThL, BTh (Hons), Dip Min, PhD Deputy Board Chair



The Revd Canon Dr Ray Cleary AM BEc, DipEd Monash, BSW Melb, BTheol, MMin, DMinStuds MCD FRAC member



Mr Anthony Hickson
BSc, FRACI C Chem, CPA, CFTP
(Snr), Grad Dip Chn Studies
FRAC Chair



**Ms Seak-King Huang** BA, LLB (Hons), GAICD *GAN member* 



Ms Claire Miller
BA, LLB, AGIA, MAICD
GAN Chair, Company
Secretary



**Dr Christopher Morgan**MBBS, DTCH, FRACP *DevCom Chair* 



Mr Andrew Newmarch
MIDEA
DevCom member
(Appointed December 2019)



The Revd Yvonne Poon

BA, MDiv

FunCom member



Assoc. Prof. Robin Ray RN, B Ed, MHSc, PhD DevCom member



Ms Carolyn Sandiford

BA (Hons)

FunCom Chair

Lisa Brookman retired in November 2019 at end of term. Note: for descriptions of the committees and a full list of members, see page 22



President

The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier
BAppSc, DipEd, BD, MEdSt, PhD,
FAICD

Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne



**CEO** 

The Revd Dr Bob Mitchell AM LLB, MPhil, GradDipTheol, MThSt, GradCertMin, PhD, FAICD

Bob has a passion for aid and development as a ministry of the church. His PhD focused on the way Christian theology can influence international development work and practice. Before joining Anglican Overseas Aid he was a senior executive at World Vision Australia.

Bob is a legal practitioner by background, and was a partner at PwC for nearly 15 years. He has served on several community and not-for-profit boards: BlueCare, World Relief, the PwC Foundation, Timor Children's Foundation, Global Health and Development Network, and Western Health. He is currently a board director of Eastern Health, Mission Australia, and the ACT Alliance. He is also a member of the international advisory board of the Christian Journal for Global Health, is a Council Member of the University of Divinity, and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



**Finance Manager** 

#### Sue Riley

Sue is a Chartered Accountant with over 30 years' experience in the not-for-profit sector in senior finance roles.

Sue has worked across the health sector in both government and private organisations, and has a wealth of finance, human resources and corporate governance knowledge.



## International Programs Manager

#### Kylie Wingjan

Kylie has more than a decade's experience in development practice and program management, working with partner agencies in Africa, the Pacific, South and South East Asia. She has a passion for building community capacity and resiliency around child rights and protection.

With corporate experience in the area of people, culture and learning, she has a commitment to relational and transformational community development.



# **Church and Community Engagement Coordinator**

#### Nils von Kalm

Nils has worked in international development since 2000, with a focus on communications about theology and development.

He is passionate about reaching out to churches with the message of God's love, justice and dignity for the poor. He is also the author of the book 'Bending Towards Justice', published in 2019.

## **Committees**

The Anglican Overseas Aid Board has established standing committees to improve board effectiveness and efficiency where activities require more concentrated effort and specialist skills.

### **Governance and Nominations** Committee (GAN)

The Governance and Nominations Committee is responsible for working with and supporting the CEO to ensure that the governance of Anglican Overseas Aid meets the highest standards. This includes recommending appointments to the board of directors and committees, the appointment and performance of the CEO, education and development of board members, and assisting the CEO in appointing candidates for senior management positions.

#### Committee members:

- Claire Miller (Chair)
- Lisa Brookman
- Seak-King Huang
- Glenn Scott

#### Fundraising and Communications Committee (FunCom)

The Fundraising and Communications Committee is responsible for guiding Anglican Overseas Aid's marketing initiatives to ensure that they are effective and sit within the agency's strategic direction. This includes consultation on fundraising strategy; the development, implementation and monitoring of communication plans; and the oversight of other marketing activities. The committee members' duties include shaping campaign, brand and events strategy.

#### Committee members:

- Carolyn Sandiford (Chair)
- Revd Yvonne Poon
- Glenn Scott

#### Finance. Risk and Audit Committee (FRAC)

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee is responsible for statutory compliance, accounting, risk management and finance. Members of the committee also offer an expert resource for supporting Anglican Overseas Aid staff when dealing with such matters. Their work includes oversight of all financial reporting, preparing the annual budget, and governance of our risk and compliance systems.

#### Committee members:

- Anthony Hickson (Chair)
- Revd Canon Dr Ray Cleary AM
- Ros Clowes\*
- Grant Dawson\*

#### **Development Committee** (DevCom)

responsible for ensuring Anglican Overseas Aid's development programs are of the highest quality and are consistent with the agency's strategic direction. Members of the committee and support to Anglican Overseas Aid staff in relation to programs. Their roles include shaping and reporting on the geographic and sectoral focus of programs, recommending new programs, partners and program effectiveness of our work.

#### Committee members:

- Dr Chris Morgan (Chair)
- Dr Alison Morgan\*
- Andrew Newmarch

The Development Committee is also provide expert technical resources controls, and reviewing the quality and

- Assoc Prof. Nathan Grills\*
- Assoc. Prof. Robin Ray
- Robyn Boosey\*

#### Notes about structure

- The President is a member of Anglican Overseas Aid, and takes an active interest in its work
- The Archbishop-in-Council approves the directors of Anglican Overseas Aid. The persons approved as directors are subsequently confirmed by the membership of the company at the
- The CEO reports to the board, and executive staff report to the CEO
- The committees can be made up of board members, staff and external experts

All committee members are board directors unless indicated with an \*

## **Accountability**

As a professional international development organisation, Anglican Overseas Aid is held accountable for its use of funds and the way it works.

#### **New Constitution**

At the 2019 Annual General Meeting, the members of AOA unanimously voted to adopt a new Constitution. The old document was overdue for an update, and rather than amend it section by section, a new document was approved.

The new Constitution references the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission as regulator and reflects multiple

changes in the Corporations Law. AOA proudly works as an entity embedded within the Anglican Church of Australia, and The Archbishop of Melbourne continues to serve as our President. The board members of AOA are endorsed by Archbishop-in-Council and contribute a wide range of relevant governance skills.



#### **ACFID Member**

The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) is the peak body for Australian not-for-profit aid and development organisations. It was founded in 1965 and has more than 100 member agencies.

Anglican Overseas Aid is an ACFID member and signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which defines mimimum standards of governance, management and accountability for non-government development organisations. The Code has an independent complaints handling process.

To find out more about the Code or lodge a complaint against Anglican Overseas Aid's compliance with the Code, please email code@acfid.asn.au

www.acfid.asn.au



#### **DFAT Accredited**

We are fully accredited by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), meeting all the standards required. DFAT is responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid program. As an accredited agency, we receive Government funds for a number of our programs.

www.dfat.gov.au/development/ australias-development-program



### **ACNC** Registered

We are registered as a charity and Public Benevolent Institution with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

www.acnc.gov.au



#### **FIA Member**

We are an organisational member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA), the national peak body representing professional fundraising in Australia. We adhere to and comply with the FIA's Principles and Standards of Fundraising Practice.

www.fia.org.au

### **Feedback and Complaints**

We welcome feedback of all kinds, and have a formal complaints process.

To provide feedback, read our complaints policy, or to lodge a complaint, please email complaints@anglicanoverseasaid org.au or call us for free from anywhere in Australia on 1800 249 880. Calls from outside Australia can be made to

+61 3 9495 6100

Feedback and complaints may also be emailed directly to the Chair of the Board: chair@anglicanoverseasaid.org.au

During 2019-20 we received no complaints.

## **Faithfulness in uncertain times**

The 2019/20 financial year for AOA has been a strange time of adjustment with the COVID-19 pandemic taking hold in the last four months of the financial year. Despite this, AOA recorded a surplus of \$62,178 for the year.

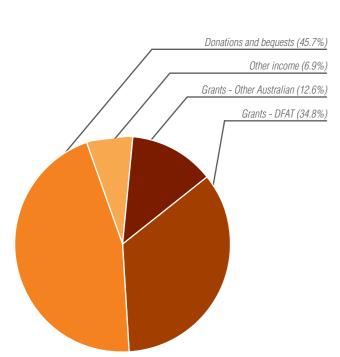
We are extremely grateful that our donors continue to support our organisation despite these uncertain times. AOA works hard to manage our costs and deliver as much as possible to our partners.

Revenue was recorded at \$2.1m for the year, which was an increase of 13% over the prior year (\$1.9m). Donations and bequests represented 35% of our total revenue for the year. DFAT funds decreased by 9% from 2019 and accounted for 43% of our total revenue. Our partnership with CAN DO enabled us to receive a further \$267k of funds in 2020 (2019 \$107k) to continue the disaster risk work in the Pacific region. Other income this year includes additional funding provided by Federal and State Governments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to support ongoing operations of the business (4%). We continue to look for ways to improve our revenue sources to achieve our goal of financial sustainability.

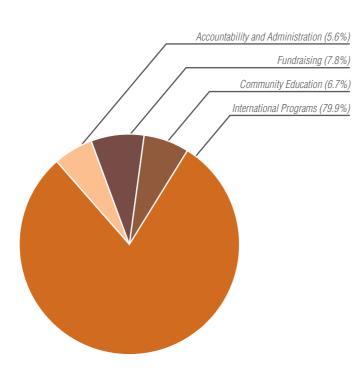
Total expenditure for the year was just over \$1.9m, down 5% on the previous year (2019 \$2.1m). Costs directed to our international programs represented 80% of total expenditure and was slightly above the 2019 year (78%). AOA strives to keep its costs for fundraising, community education and accountability as low as possible to maximise the funds to go to our work in-country.

The below pie charts represent our income and expenditure as a proportion of the totals. Each category is adapted from the summary financial statements within this report and is based on the definitions approved in the ACFID Code of

#### Revenue (income) sources in 2019/20



#### Expenditure (costs) in 2019/20



## **Income Statement**

REVENUE	2020 \$	2019 \$
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	909,692	907, 571
Bequests and legacies	54,510	-
Grants		
DFAT	734,069	797,405
Other Australian	267,050	107,402
Investment income	37,499	35,792
Other income	18, 170	16,158
Other Federal and State Government - COVID-19 support	90,197	-
TOTAL REVENUE	2,111,187	1,864,328

#### **EXPENDITURE**

#### International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure

International Programs

Funds to international programs	971,844	969,292
Program support costs	557,946	619,328
Community education	127,610	146,005
Fundraising costs		
Public	138,914	147,905
Government, multilateral and private	10,440	9,840
Accountability and administration	106,721	158,195
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,913,475	2,050,565

#### COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenses from continuing operations	197,712	(186,237)	
Project funds raised for future disbursement	(97,136)	72,235	
Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenditure	100,576	(114,002)	
Other comprehensive income/(loss)			
Changes in the fair value of investments	(37,067)	19,406	
Loss on disposal of assets	(1,331)	-	
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	62,178	(94,596)	

Notes about finances:

During the financial year, there were no transactions that required adjustment or changes in equity due to, for example, adoptions of new accounting standards nor items of other comprehensive income.

The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at www.acfid.asn.au.

A full set of statutory accounts is available upon request to Anglican Overseas Aid.

## **Balance Sheet**

ASSETS	2020 \$	2019\$
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,155,890	971,466
Trade and other receivables	37,190	21,399
Financial Assets	482,137	519,205
Total Current Assets	1,675,217	
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	6,160	10,791
Total Non-Current Assets	6,160	10,791
TOTAL ASSETS	1,681,377	1,522,861

#### LIABILITIES

#### **Current Liabilities**

Trade and other payables	39,985	40,397
Current tax liabilities	717	(1,603)
Other financial liabilities	386,472	289,336
Provisions for employee entitlements	39,800	42,506
Total Current Liabilities	466,974	370,636
TOTAL LIABILITIES	466,974	370,636

NET ASSETS	1,214,403	1, 152,225

#### **EQUITY**

Retained earnings	669,060	606,882
Reserves - Restricted	545,343	545,343
TOTAL EQUITY	1,214,403	1, 152,225

CHANGES IN EQUITY	Retained Earnings	Unrestricted Reserves	Restricted Reserves	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	606,882	-	545,343	1,152,225
Excess of revenue over expenses	100,576	-	-	99,245
Other comprehensive income for the year	(38,398)	-	-	(37,067)
Balance at 30 June 2020	669,060	-	545,343	1,214,403



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#### Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Members of Anglicord

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise, the income statement, statement of financial position and statement of changes in equity, are derived from the audited financial report of Anglicord for the year ended 30 June 2020.

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 7th October 2020.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Anglicord.

#### Director's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the concise financial report in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation of the concise financial report, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Anglicord for the year ended 30 June 2020 complies with the requirements of the Australian Council

The Field Group - Audit Chirnside Park

The Field Group Audit

7th October 2020

Gavin Fraser Partner

The Field Group is an association of the following separate and distinct businesses:
• The Field Group - Accounting • The Field Group - Audit • The Field Group - Financial Planning

• The Field Group - Insurance For Business • The Field Group - Consulting

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