



Anglican  
Overseas  
Aid

# ANNUAL REPORT 24/25





Mercy with her son, Uganda.

# We are

Christian  
communities  
working together  
to alleviate the  
pressures of  
poverty, moving  
towards greater  
gender equality  
and climate  
resilience.



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Sepen with her grandchild, Kenya.





# Our vision

## Transforming Communities

We work with communities—particularly in the Asia-Pacific and Africa—to alleviate the pressures of poverty, moving towards greater gender equality and climate resilience.

## Connecting Anglicans globally

Australian Anglicans are relationally connected with global partners for greater impact.

## Working in partnership

We prioritise long-term partnerships with global partners who are leading change in their local communities.

Theologically informed and solutions orientated, we work with our partners to see them grow in capacity, delivering best practice development.

## Championing future generations

We see new generations of Australian Anglicans who, motivated by their faith, are responsible and involved global neighbours.

# Our values

## Commitment to the poor

Deuteronomy 15:4

The Bible compels us to remember people who are living in poverty, to be generous and address the underlying causes.

## Restoration of all creation

Colossians 1:20

The Bible compels us to be good stewards of creation and partner with God's work of renewal.

## Integrity and accountability

Luke 12:48

We are called to be wise and act with integrity with the abundance we have been given.

## Dignity of all people

Genesis 1:27

Our work pursues the dignity, equality and inclusion of people experiencing poverty and marginalisation, with particular focus on women.

## Church as light in the world

Matthew 5:14

God works through the Church as light in the world to bring good news, justice and love.



# President's report



## Good news to the poor

*'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'*

**Luke 4:18**

When Jesus enters the synagogue in Nazareth and chooses to read the above passage from the scroll of Isaiah, it is in a context of Roman occupation. The vast empire stretching from the Atlantic to the Red Sea, was ruled with power and violence. Those without citizenships, titles, and financial means, were denied their basic human rights. Slavery, discrimination, famine, executions and subjugation of conquered people, were all constituent elements of society.

Today, as we let our eyes scan the horizon of the global arena, there are still many similarities with the ruling powers of Jesus' time. Oppression is there, hunger is there, discrimination, injustice, and pain are there. Large foreign aid organisations are closing their programs and partnerships, and there are tangible shifts in culture where 'caring for your neighbour' no longer seems a given.

Yet, there is also hope. It is in times like these that the Church, as the body of Christ, can not only repeat the words of Isaiah but also boldly continue the work Jesus called us to do. Here, it is my great joy to witness the achievements of Anglican Overseas Aid and the crucial

work carried out by partners in Africa, Asia-Pacific, and the Middle East.

I commend the courage of medical staff in Gaza risking their lives to care for those who suffer. I applaud the difference an emergency appeal can make for people in need, as our supporters generously donated \$63,000 to help families who lost everything in the Myanmar earthquake. I am heartened by the smiles on the faces of Ukrainian children who now - after years of having been forced to learn from home - can again attend school.

This Annual Report will highlight some of these crucial efforts and share glimpses of stories where local communities - supported by AOA - have taken charge to create sustainable change. As we move into a new year, we carry with us both awareness of current challenges, but also immense gratefulness for what God has done in us, through us, and with us. None of which could have been accomplished without the consistent and generous backing from our Australian supporters; both in prayer and through financial generosity.

As Anglican Overseas Aid looks to welcome its next President, Archbishop-elect Ric Thorpe, I am confident of the future of AOA and its God given calling to bring good news to the poor, set captives free, and proclaim the Lord's favour.

**Bishop Genieve Blackwell  
President**

# Board Chair's report



## Delivering on our missions

It is often said that days go slow and years go fast. As we have now completed the second year of our strategic plan, these words ring remarkably true. This Annual Report provides a great summary of our progress on the plan, but in my role as chair of the AOA board, I would like to take the opportunity to especially highlight a few positive outcomes.

Signpost three in our strategic plan, states that AOA will become a go-to Anglican agency on poverty and climate justice. Considering this ambitious calling, it is with great joy we are anticipating the release of CEO Jo Knight's book 'Called to Care – A Christian response to the climate challenge of our generation.' Over the year gone past, our CEO's passionate advocacy has made an impact far beyond the scope of AOA. The book – which will also be a 2026 Lent feature – has the potential to grow the church's engagement with the great justice issue of our time and extend AOA's influence across the Australian, as well as the global, Church.

Our team has developed a campaign related to Called to Care which we hope will be well received by both new, old, and future supporters. In addition to profiling AOA in the people and planet conversation, it also aims to encourage people to give, pray, and act.

As we continue the work in this area, we are also progressing the other components of our strategic plan: connecting Australian Anglicans and global partners, effectively engaging new generations, effectively collaborating with our partners and being

well resourced, accountable and sustainable.

I am pleased to report that the board's commitment to devote more resources to our international partners is progressing well. I would particularly like to mention our increasing Recognised Development Expenditure (RDE) which featured a 15% increase in 2023 and a 32% increase in 2024, which we are sustaining in 2025. As our financial reports show, God's provision, and the generosity of our supporters has meant that AOA is blessed with a strong financial position and ample reserves. You will continue to see AOA reduce reserves over the coming years, as we – prudently and sustainably – commit this financial support for overseas partners.

Lastly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the Most Reverend Archbishop Philip Freier for his many faithful years of serving as President of AOA. May God bless you, as you continue to share your knowledge on different arenas, whether big or small, private or public. As this report is being written, that the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne is awaiting the arrival of Archbishop-elect Ric Thorpe, who will be the next President of AOA.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome him to an exciting role in an extraordinary organisation and we look forward to working together over the years ahead. We also express our sincere thanks to Bishop Genieve Blackwell, for her gracious support as AOA President during her time as Administrator of the Melbourne Diocese. Thank you for working alongside us for this season.

**Tom Craven**  
**Board Chair**

# CEO's report



## Faithfully running our race

It is with both gratitude and humility that I reflect on the year that has passed. In a time when the international landscape is experiencing major shifts, such as the dismantling of USAID and the United Kingdom reducing its aid budget to 0.3% (the lowest level since 1999), I am reminded of the great responsibility entrusted to us and the importance of our efforts. This report offers a valuable opportunity to highlight some of our recent achievements and developments.

One of our newer partners, the Ethiopian Anglican Church Social and Development Organisation (EACSDO), has achieved remarkable results as the recipient of a small strategic grant. In the northern Tigray region, they support their community with ambitious efforts to clear trenches, maintain ponds, and conserve water and soil. They report encouraging outcomes such as reduced soil erosion, the appearance of new water streams, and increased forest density, leading to the return of wild animals. This aligns well with our strategic plan and its focus on climate justice, as we envision a future where communities like our partners in Ethiopia address poverty pressures and move towards greater climate resilience.

Al-Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza continues to provide essential medical care to a population enduring prolonged violent conflict and hunger. Here, we work closely with the Anglican Alliance and the Diocese of Jerusalem to ensure responsiveness to needs and changing compliance and circumstances. While meeting with Australian government representatives, I also had the opportunity to engage in high-level advocacy, which was appreciated by the Al-Ahli team.

Our vision includes our partners growing in their capacity and delivering localised best practice development. In May 2025, we received a positive independent evaluation of our Mt Kenya West Imarisha Maisha program. It identified significant improvements in areas such as increased awareness of gender equity and equality. The evaluator noted restored peace and safety in many households previously vulnerable to recurrent violence.

Additionally, the project has empowered women, enabling them to compete with men on merit in community and government roles, as well as other leadership positions. Magdalene is one such woman. Trained through the project, she became Moropusi's first female assistant chief and now serves on a national security team dedicated to protecting children's human rights and combating gender-based violence.

From my perspective, I am pleased to share that I have joined the board of Micah, Australia, our advocacy coalition. Now more than ever, collaboration with like-minded agencies is vital to speak with one voice for maximum impact for our global neighbours. I have also had the honour of chairing the Church Agencies Network and was re-elected to serve on the ACT Alliance Membership and Nominations Committee at its General Assembly in Indonesia.

I consider it a profound privilege to continue leading this organisation, working alongside our brave partners and generous supporters. Together, we are Anglican communities, united in working towards God's renewed creation, free of poverty.

**JO KNIGHT**  
CEO

# Head of Programs' report



## Walking alongside our partners

The past year has encompassed a busy season for AOA International Programs and we have seen big changes in size and diversity of our team. Our team is still immensely committed to the work we do in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific. In all these regions we are progressing with securing our programs' quality and effectiveness, particularly when it comes to design and evaluation. Furthermore, we continue to advance the AOA vision regarding climate justice, environmental sustainability, safeguarding, disaster response and gender equality/equity.

We support long-term community development programs seeking to reduce poverty, strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities. These programs focus on health, education, gender and disaster risk-reduction. This year AOA has also facilitated emergency responses, in for instance Myanmar, where communities were facing various challenges in the aftermath of the devastating March earthquake. In Sri Lanka, an extensive baseline study was able to provide local partners with a greater understanding of disaster risk.

Significantly, AOA has increased its focus on climate action through a range of activities, including building awareness. We supported the development of local disaster response plans in Kenya and encouraged the cultivation of climate resistant food crops in

Mozambique. Across several countries in southern Africa, we equipped youth to lead tree planting initiatives and in the Solomon Islands, our partners have built lifesaving evacuation centres.

One important aspect of our partner related work is the emphasis on assessments. Assessments are needed to understand the causes and effects of adverse climate conditions, but will also support our partners in developing their own contextually relevant climate solutions.

AOA continues to be devastated by the conflict and loss of life in Gaza. Here, we work with our long term partner, the Al-Ahli Hospital. In collaboration with other Anglican agencies, the hospital continues to function amid the most exceptional circumstances and AOA continues to be humbled by the commitment of the hospital staff.

In conclusion, AOA is immensely proud of our partners for the incredible work they have carried out this year. We take a strengths-based approach to all our overseas programs which involves building on the knowledge, abilities, and assets our partners and their respective communities already possess. AOA does this by supporting partners in designing impactful programs, walking alongside them during project implementation, as well as actively learning from them.

**Louise Currie**  
**Head of International Programs**

# Our global partners



## AFRICA

**Mozambique:** The Anglican Diocese of Nampula, Mozambique  
Funding: \$232,500\*. Rapid Response Fund: \$20,000

**Kenya:** Anglican Church of Kenya, Mt Kenya West Diocese\*  
Funding: \$273,236

**Ethiopia:** Afar Pastoralist Development Association  
Funding: \$81,200

Ethiopian Anglican Church Social and Development Organisation, (EACSDO)  
Funding: \$55,000

**Uganda:** Wise Choices For Life, Uganda  
Funding: \$90,600

**South Sudan:** South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency  
Rapid Response Fund: \$20,000

**Anglican Church of Southern Africa Environmental Network:**  
Green Anglicans  
Funding: \$30,000

## MIDDLE EAST

**East Jerusalem:** The Spafford Children's Center  
Funding: \$20,000

**Palestine/Gaza:** Al-Ahli Arab Hospital  
Funding: \$180,000

## ASIA

**Cambodia:** Ponleu Ney Kdey Sangkhum (PNKS)\*  
Funding: \$220,655

**India:** Cathedral Relief Service  
Funding: \$30,000

**Sri Lanka:** Lanka Evangelical Alliance Development Service (LEADS)  
Funding: \$50,766. Rapid Response Fund: \$20,000.

## THE PACIFIC

### Solomon Islands

Adventist Relief and Development Agency, Solomon Islands  
Disaster Resilience for People with Disabilities (Centre de Crise et de Soutien/CDCS) Grant: \$86,033\*\*\*

Anglican Church of Melanesia, Adventist Relief and Development Agency, Solomon Island Christian Association, CAN DO Disaster READY 2.0: \$161,093\*\*

**Vanuatu:** The Anglican Church of Melanesia - Vanuatu  
Funding: \$20,000

\*These programs receive funding from the Australian Government, through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

\*\* Disaster READY is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP).

\*\*\*This program was implemented in partnership with CAN DO.



# A year of doing good



**169,532** people reached through our partners



Assisted **5** countries with Emergency Response. (Gaza, South Sudan, Mozambique, Myanmar, Sri Lanka)



**4** in-person monitoring visits conducted and **1** evaluations



**107,357** women and girls reached through our programs

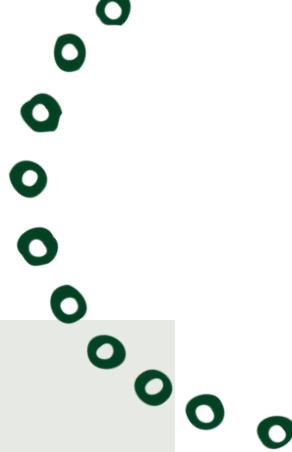


**14** development programs and **6** humanitarian programs implemented



**50%** of our programs' primary or secondary focus was on building climate resilience

# What we do



## Climate resilience

We champion climate justice through our programs, supporting communities as they build sustainable development pathways in response to climate shocks and a changing environment.

## Community Development

Community Development is at the heart of our partners' work. We believe that those living in their community are the best equipped to activate meaningful and lasting change.

## Disaster Response

Our history has enabled us to build strong connections and act immediately in times of need. We support our partners globally to respond to disasters through immediate relief and disaster preparedness.

## Health and Education

Our partners are working as lights in their communities, providing transformative knowledge about health, safety, and equality through community-based initiatives.

## Livelihoods

Our partners work with contextual awareness and flexibility to create livelihood security. They use group training, resource provision, income diversification, and emergency aid.

## Women's Equality

Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by poverty, discrimination, inequality and abuse. We continue to pursue equality for those who are affected by poverty.



Sepen, Kenya

# Climate resilience

Communities affected by climate change are highlighting its impact and working towards change.

# Ethiopia

Ethiopia, one of Africa's most populous nations, boasts a strong and diverse cultural heritage. Sadly, political instability, economic inflation and food insecurity has wreaked havoc on the population. In addition, climate change is causing inconsistent rain patterns and drought, which worsens soil erosion and creates water scarcity.

The Ethiopian Anglican Church Social and Development Organisation (EACSDO) is partnering with AOA, helping local communities rebuild and restore agricultural lands.

The results are life-changing and targeted areas show improved soil fertility, reduced soil erosion and increased soil moisture/infiltration.

## Program Highlights

- New water streams have appeared
- Forest density have increased
- Animals are arriving
- Soil erosion have significantly decreased
- Animal food such as grass has increased
- Participants involved in the project have had the financial means to further invest in their families needs



Building trenches to preserve water and prevent soil erosion.



Photo of the project watershed, captured in the first week of October 2025

## 'Now the hills are green'

'Before the project, our land was dry and lifeless,' says Alemnesh, a local farmer. 'Now the hills are green, our bees produce more honey, and our cattle have grass and water. Now we can sell honey and milk, and our children see hope in the land again.'

Alemnesh's story is one of aspiration and celebration, showing the profound impact a straight-forward project like the 'Building Climate-Change Resilient Communities' can have on a region and its population.

Over 80% of the once-barren hillside now shows rich vegetation cover. Indigenous trees, shrubs, and flowering plants have flourished, creating a microclimate conducive to biodiversity, including pollinators like bees and birds.

Together, the community has also established bylaws which prohibits cutting trees and uncontrolled grazing in protected areas. The successful outcome has even led neighbouring communities to start adopting the same model.

# Southern Africa

The Anglican Church of Southern Africa takes in South Africa, Eswatini, Lesotho, and Namibia. It's a region at risk of food insecurity, as it is hit by erratic weather such as drought and flood.

It is against this backdrop that AOA's partner Green Anglicans is mobilising churches to act on climate change. They work to strengthen climate resilient parishes and communities through local actions and advocacy.

As the Anglican Church of Southern Africa's Environmental Network, it is also leading the way in developing eco-theology resources to share in its region and beyond.

## Program Highlights

- An extensive training conference was held with Diocesan Coordinators. For the first time they were joined by key mission representatives from the Methodist Church.
- Two Green Anglican leaders have received an invitation to be convenors of the Climate Action team under the South African Council of Churches.



Mandisa, South Africa

## Inspiring others to care for the environment

In her South African home, Mandisa sees climate change hitting hard, particularly disadvantaging the most vulnerable. It motivates her to speak up against the injustice caused by environmental degradation.

Mandisa is fighting for justice – and to inspire others to do the same. She works through some conventional channels, and some that are less conventional. She organises litter clean-ups, she was behind a motion that barred the Anglican Church of Southern Africa from using single-use plastics. She also creates momentum through her social media influence.

It all takes place within Africa's Green Anglicans movement. Mandisa is living out the Christian calling to steward God's precious creation. The words of Psalm 24 drive her, 'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it'.

# Solomon Islands

One of the poorest countries in the Pacific, Solomon Islands is surrounded by waters and boasts thousands of species of plant, animal and marine life.

Here, AOA partners with the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM) as they advocate for climate justice. They focus on preparing for frequent disasters such as cyclones, heavy rain and flooding.

Two neighbouring communities in the Langalanga Lagoon of the Solomon Islands decided to work together to tackle food security issues during disasters.

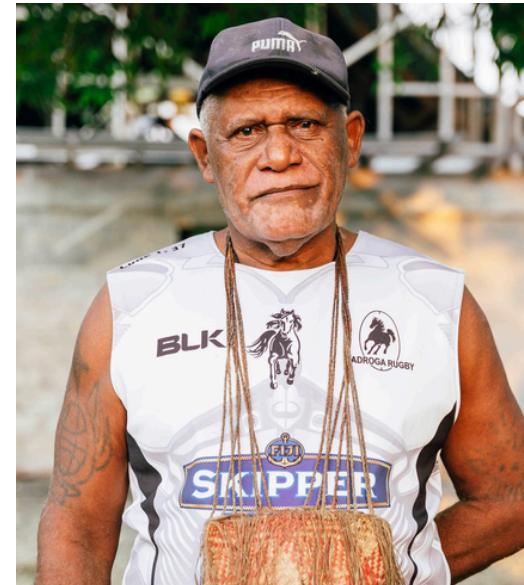
Even though they speak different languages, their shared challenges have inspired them to collaborate and coordinate. This partnership began after attending a Disaster READY training. The workshop made both communities realise they could achieve much more by working together.

## Program Highlights

- In six different communities, committees have been trained in Community Based Disaster Risk Management.
- For the first time, two communities - speaking different languages - are working together to strengthen their disaster preparedness and tackle food insecurity.



Nathaniel.



James.

## Stronger together

One of the Langalanga communities, whose land often floods with saltwater, struggles to grow crops like cassava. The other has fertile land but lacked the knowledge to process the root vegetable into flour which can be stored for long periods and used in times of need.

‘We talked together after the workshop,’ says James, a local leader from one of the communities, explaining how their mutual challenge was turned into an opportunity: ‘They will grow the cassava, and we will share our skills to turn it into flour. This way, we help each other and meet our needs.’

Nathaniel, a chairperson of his community, says that the collaboration is a first of its kind: “This has never happened before - different communities, speaking different languages, working together like this. But now we see how good it is to share what we know.”

AHP

Disaster READY

Australian Aid



Susan, Uganda

# Women's equality

Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by poverty, discrimination, inequality and abuse. Compelled by God's mandate of the dignity of all people, we continue to pursue equality and justice.

# Kenya

In June of 2025, the Imarisha Maisha Phase II program came to an end. Since 2021, the Anglican Church of Kenya Diocese of Mount Kenya West, has worked in partnership with AOA to promote gender equality, inclusion of vulnerable groups, and child protection. A partnership that will continue with new programs.

An independent evaluation of the Imarisha Maisha, showed remarkable results, stating that the program accomplished over 72% of its intended objectives. Local churches are now better equipped at promoting gender equality, equity and child protection. Increased awareness on these topics has restored peace and safety in households earlier prone to recurrent violence.

Women are being involved in decision making and are taking up leadership positions in their community. Vulnerable children have the opportunity to receive education, and boys are protecting their younger sisters in danger of rights violations.

## Program Highlights

- 66% of respondents think their churches effectively promote gender equality, equity, and child protection. (An increase of 51%)
- 63% of respondents are aware of gender equality, equity, and basic rights. (An increase of 46%)



Teresa, Kenya

## From brewing illicit alcohol to farm work

Not that long ago, Teresa - a young single mother of three - was brewing illicit alcohol to pay for food and school fees for her children. Drunk men used to visit her home, make noise and distress her children.

After joining a local support group, Teresa was trained in table-banking and felt supported to look for other work opportunities, such as washing people's goats and cleaning up pens.

Teresa now has bigger dreams and wants her group to open up a bank account so they can save some of their money, to later rent land and farm together.



'Imarisha Maisha II' receives funding from the Australian Government, through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

# Uganda

Anglican Overseas Aid established their partnership and merger with Wise Choices For Life, (WCFL) in 2022. WCFL empowers Ugandan communities by promoting reproductive health education and family planning.

WCFL works in schools, universities and villages, as well as prisons, youth remand homes, and through informal gatherings. Through their training, they promote reformation and rehabilitation, and help people understand women's and children's rights.

This ensures WCFL reaches a large cohort of young people to teach protection from and prevention of early teenage pregnancy, obstetric fistula, HIV and maternal deaths.

## Program Highlights

- 2,743 teenagers, aged 12-17 have received training in communication and life skills, including age-appropriate sexuality education and resisting peer pressure.
- 3,456 individuals were provided with counselling on family planning and contraceptive use.



Mary, Uganda

## 'Who am I and why am I here?'

When Mary first came in contact with Wise Choices For Life, she found herself living a destructive lifestyle, negatively impacting both herself and her children. She was unemployed, drinking too much alcohol and had even stopped taking care of her personal hygiene, letting weeks pass between showers.

WCFL facilitated a Women's group in slum where Mary lives. There she was faced with the non-judgmental question 'Who am I and why am I here?' When Mary heard it, the picture of her nine children came to her. Sadly, due to her circumstances, they were no longer living with her.

Her answer to the question - who Mary was - was a mother. She decided to stop drinking and instead took up casual work. Now Mary is bringing her children back, one by one, and although she feels like she still has a long way to go, she is in a much better place, thanks to WCFL.



Mozambique

# Livelihoods

**Creating livelihood security through group training resource provision, income diversification and emergency aid.**

# India

For many women and girls in Kolkata, poverty and cultural expectations limit their access to education and job opportunities.

Recognising these challenges, AOA's partner the Cathedral Relief Service, works to break these barriers by equipping women with practical skills, empowering them to build sustainable livelihoods.

Through programs in textiles, sewing, and beauty therapy, women are gaining valuable business knowledge, financial guidance, and hands-on skills that help them start their own micro-businesses.

## Program Highlights

- 227 women/girls completed the one-year sewing course
- 72 women/girls and 3 transgender people completed the one-year beautician course
- 3 awareness sessions were conducted on Gender Equality
- Male members participated in the Gender Equality awareness sessions



Jayasree, India

## Jayasree's journey to self-reliance

Only a few years ago, Jayasree's family was struggling financially. Her father's income was barely sustaining the family. Determined to help, Jayasree went to look for employment.

When she heard about the training Cathedral Relief Services provide, she enrolled in the tailoring training, completed it and received a government certificate as proof of her skills.

Not long after, Jayasree began earning an income. Proving herself a dedicated employee, she proceeded to take on a role in an education program, eventually working as a teacher.

Jayasree has grown not just professionally, but also personally, and now supports her family while continuing her journey of empowerment and self-reliance.

# Cambodia

In Cambodia, AOA partners with PNKS (Ponleu Ney Kdey Sangkhum/Light of Hope) to strengthen the resilience of the Kuy people. These are one of the oldest ethnic groups in the country, yet also one of the most marginalised. In their region, logging and overuse have caused environmental damage with consequences for both nature and people.

PNKS' program works through community groups, focusing on agriculture, improved livelihoods, health and education. Farmers are now adopting climate-smart techniques, including drip irrigation, mulch use, crop rotation, larva farming, and plastic-based fish and frog farming. These methods have reduced chemical use and labour time while improving yields and income.

## Program Highlights

- 31 Community Initiative Development Groups (CIDGs) established across 30 villages, with over 600 members.
- 25 pump wells in 10 villages have been installed which have improved access to water for household use, farming, and raising livestock.

PNKS receives funding from the Australian Government, through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



Sopheap, Cambodia

## Changing the pattern

Sopheap is 58 years old and a few years ago, she used to grow vegetables mainly for household consumption, but 'with dedication'. In 2024 this all changed, when Sopheap came in contact with AOAs partner PNKS and their training for farmers. The encounter was the start of a transformative journey for both Sopheap and her extended community.

Putting her new knowledge to use, Sopheap yields began to increase, and soon farming had become her main source of income. She decided to also breed chicken and grow cashew nuts, taking on the role of employer, hiring others to work with her crops. At community events organised by PNKS, she now passes on her knowledge to help her neighbours succeed as well.

'When I was young,' Sopheap says, 'I did not have the chance to study. Now I am able to pay for clothes and pay for school expenses for my five grandchildren attending primary school. It makes me extremely happy to be able to provide an opportunity for them that I never had.'



Jeneffer, Uganda

# Health & education

Our partners are working as lights in their communities, providing transformative knowledge about health, safety and equality through community-based initiatives.

# Mozambique

In Mozambique AOA partners with the Diocese of Nampula to implement a program called Towards Abundant Life for All II. Its ambitious goal is to reach 90 communities with health education, promotion of gender equality, and human rights.

In a country where people still believe in 'traditional treatment' and malaria is a major cause of death in children under five, there is no underestimating the program's importance.

## Program Highlights

- In September/October of 2024, 270 community leaders (religious and traditional) received training on health education and gender equality.
- At local fairs, markets, and schools, program representatives carried out campaigns on nutrition, malaria, polio vaccines, hygiene and gender.
- Across all project activities, there were 85,000 participants.

'Towards Abundant Life for All receives funding from the Australian Government, through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



Helena, Mozambique

## The power of knowledge and a mother's love

Helena is 32 years old and the mother of four children. In her community, old health care myths are still prevalent. One of these myths state that the first breast milk make children sick. Wanting the best for her children, Helena threw hers away.

When it was time for her older children to begin with porridge, she mixed flour with sugar and juice. Sadly, her children became malnourished and sick. Helena ended up spending a lot of the family's money taking the children to hospital.

This all changed however, the day Helena at a community fair watched a demonstration of how to make enriched porridge, and asked to join the group.

Helena has since received teaching on various health topics, such as nutrition. Her children are no longer sick, and she is now developing door-to-door campaigns for her community, wanting to share the knowledge that transformed both her, and her children's lives.



# Uganda

Wise Choices For Life Uganda (WCFL) seeks to improve access to reproductive health education and promote healthy family planning.

It has a particular focus on schools where it works with students and educators to reduce teen pregnancies and enable young people to stay in school longer.

The project also works in churches, prisons and with men's and women's groups to promote reproductive education for all, prioritising partnerships with community leaders who can share knowledge through a 'train the trainer' program.

## Program Highlights

- 3974 people were trained in Reproductive Health and Life Skills
- 14 schools have prioritized WCFL trainings and adapted them on the general school timetable,
- Across all WCFL activities, there were 16,726 participants.



Eva, Uganda

## Well-informed decisions save lives

At only 30 years old, Eva had already experienced tragic loss. Two of her children died, then her husband left after expressing disappointment with her for not being able to give birth to sons.

Now a single mother of three girls, Eva explains how the experience made her feel guilty, believing she was to blame for the failure of her marriage. As a consequence, she had even decided to abort the child she was carrying.

After coming in contact with WCFL however, Eva's outlook changed dramatically. Through their training, Eva learnt that it is the man's sperm that decides the sex of a child. 'I thank Wise Choices for Life for training and counselling me. I was able to make an informed decision to save both the life of my baby and myself.'



Al-Ahli Arab Hospital, Gaza

# Emergencies

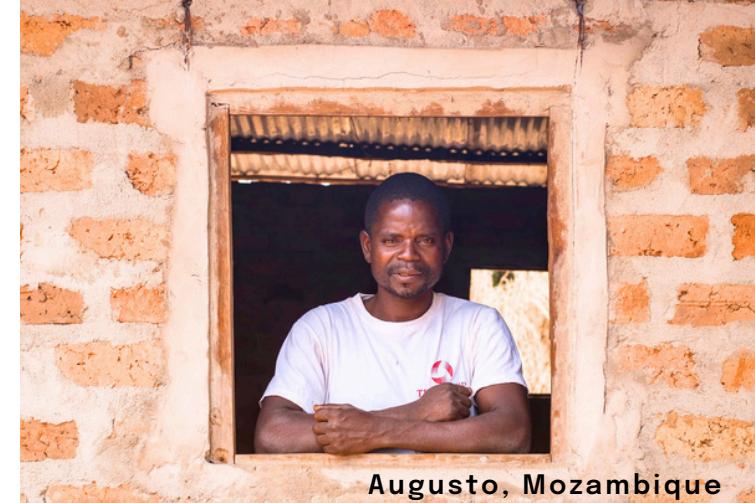
# Emergencies report

This year has seen the biggest upheaval in global humanitarian funding in recent memory, with the sudden cessation of USAID funding. Having provided almost half of the global humanitarian funding, USAID's abrupt disbandment has led to impacts on the United Nations, government agencies as well as local non government organisations and communities.

Millions of people are directly impacted, including AOA's partners and the communities they work with. The longer-term consequences are yet to be seen, but AOA has already provided emergency funding to partners covering the loss of funding from USAID. Other partners are further stretched to provide services to communities where local governments – through USAID funding – previously delivered. After the US government's announcement, other countries followed suit and reduced their international aid budgets in favour of defence spending.

Meanwhile, AOA has provided continuing close support to our partners in Gaza (see page 29), and has engaged with our national and international networks. This has ensured that funds from Australian donors and supporters are channeled to capable local partners, something our participation in the Emergency Action Alliance Myanmar Appeal also highlights.

AOA supported our Mozambique and Sri Lankan partners to effectively respond to cyclones in their respective regions. AOA also continues to work with our partner in South Sudan as they tackle increasingly devastating flood events. Here, seasonal flooding is being exacerbated by climate change, leading to higher flood levels and longer flood durations. This changing climate has also resulted in significant internal displacement of South Sudanese people in addition to displacement caused by conflict in neighbouring countries.



Augusto, Mozambique



Mario, Mozambique

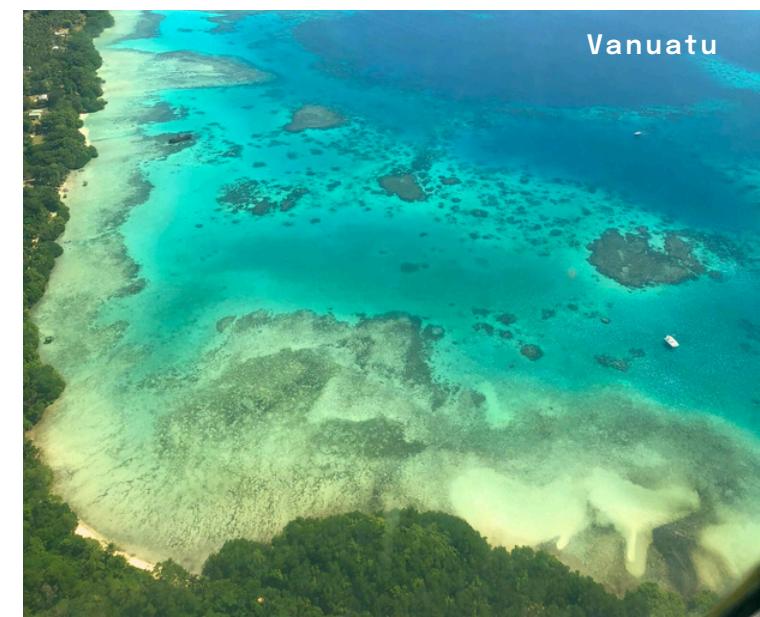
# CAN DO report

AOA continues to be an active member of the Church Agency Network for Disaster Operations, CAN DO. The CAN DO consortium is one of the six members of the Australian Humanitarian Partnership, the mechanism that the Australian Government uses to deliver humanitarian funding to NGO's.

Through CAN DO, AOA can access funding to deliver disaster preparedness and response activities with our partners, such as the Disaster READY project in the Solomon Islands. As well as the Solomon Islands, this year CAN DO members have been funded through the Partnership for activities in Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Fiji, Papa New Guinea, Tonga, Syria, and Myanmar.

As well as undertaking disaster response activities, CAN DO is also supporting partners in disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction. We do this by assisting communities to identify and mitigate risks, so that any impact is reduced.

CAN DO has been an active, evolving consortium for close to a decade. In May's strategic planning meeting, the focus was on looking ahead, and how members can leverage the collaborative way of working to access a broader network of support and resourcing for greatest future impact.



# Al-Ahli Arab Hospital

During the two year long war, our partner in Gaza - the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital - has under horrendous circumstances carried out a heroic task.

Operating at more than 300% capacity, the staff have, at risk for their own lives, served the population of the region. Before the outbreak of the war Al-Ahli had 50 hospital beds. At the time of writing, they cared for approximately 400 patients daily.

Over 40,000 people are in need of trauma rehabilitation - suffering from burns, amputations, spinal injuries and lack of reconstructive surgeries. An estimated 1,000 surgeries are performed at the hospital every month, including orthopaedic, plastic, vascular, and general surgeries. As this report is being written, Al-Ahli provides the only Intensive Care Unit in the region. Three beds serve the entire population in northern Gaza. (See picture bottom right.)

Prior to the war, 1,600 patients received a cancer diagnosis at the hospital each year. Since October of 2023, both screenings and treatments have been deferred in order to prioritise trauma patients. This includes screening of breast cancer. Many patients who delayed treatment due to insecurity and displacement are returning for care. These include general surgery, gynecology, pediatrics, ENT cases as well as patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart diseases.

Staff continue to work in buildings and with equipment that are damaged from bombings and fires, and are in urgent need of repairs. There is also lack of medicines and fuel, crucial for the operations of the hospital.

AOA is working with the Anglican Alliance and the Diocese in Jerusalem to support the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital and our 2025 Christmas Appeal raised funds for staff salaries.





Josephine, Kenya

# Program learnings



Charity and Martha, Kenya

## Gender Transformative Practice

Women and girls are disproportionately impacted by poverty, discrimination, inequality and abuse. AOA's efforts are advancing gender-transformative approaches that challenge social norms, and redress gender inequalities and structural barriers. Investing in gender equality not only acknowledges that women have fundamental human rights but also improves the economic development and health of their families.

This year we continued to progress our gender strategy and roadmap to ensure all our work with partners is aligned with this goal.

We provided technical support to our partners, helping them identify and expand their gender-transformative practices in flexible, responsive, and partner-led ways.

(Anglican Church of Kenya Mt Kenya West Diocese, Diocese of Nampula Mozambique, Wise Choices for Life Uganda, CRS India)

We continued to test new methods of collaboration, partnering with Australian Lutheran World Service and their international partners, Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT), bringing together more than 50 peers from across Asia-Pacific to hear about best practice for engaging men in community development work, targeting harmful masculinities and collaborating for greater gender equality.

We also brought our Africa-based partners together in a series of peer-to-peer Gender & Climate 'clinics' where we shared successes and challenges and learnt new skills and strategies with the support of a gender expert.

# Evaluation

The independent evaluation of the Imarisha Maisha program of the Anglican Church of Kenya Mt Kenya West Diocese demonstrated delivery of positive changes across 13 sites in Nyeri and Laikipia counties in gender equality and climate-resilient livelihoods.

The evaluation identified that 74.52% of participants agree that communities are now promoting gender equality and children rights effectively, (baseline 25%). 62.73% of participants are aware of gender equality, equity, and basic rights, (baseline 17%). Vulnerable groups' incomes increased by 37.77% and 75.61% were linked to economic opportunities, (baseline 36.58%).

However, rights violations such gender-based violence, early marriage, under-age pregnancy and harmful initiation practices

remain concerns. And while an improvement on the baseline of 3.22%, only 10.72% of participants were reached with information on environmental conservation, risk management and were involved in climate-resilience.

To address these gaps, the project will implement strategies to see that diverse groups of women and vulnerable marginalised groups are participating in decision making, are protected, and are advocating for their rights. The same cohorts should also be economically empowered with sustainable and climate resilient livelihoods.

**Rui, Marieta, Ana, Olinda and Julieta, Mozambique**



# Partnership Visits

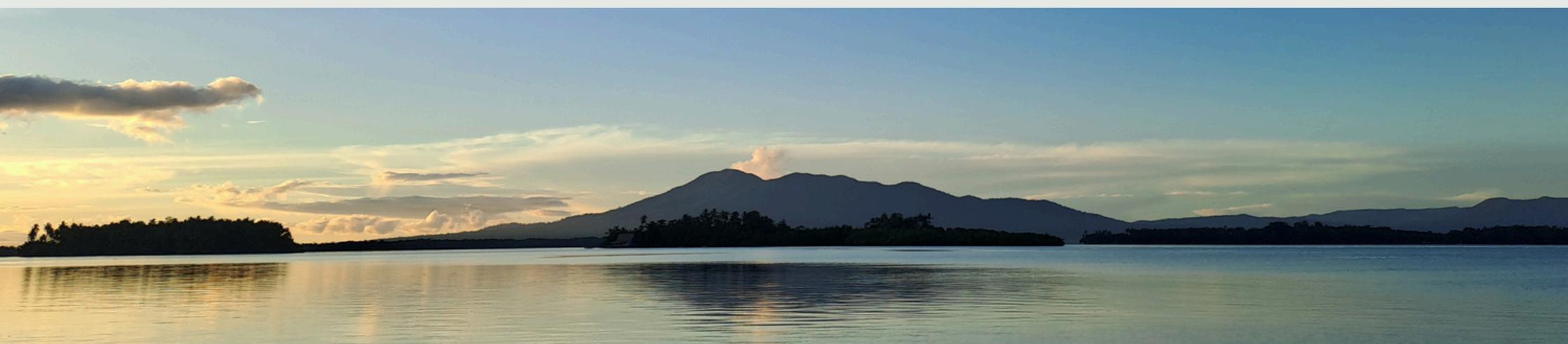
This year, we visited our partners in the Solomon Islands, India, Kenya, and Uganda. This provided opportunities to strengthen partnerships, support partners to progress their capacity building objectives and collaboratively monitor the progress of community development initiatives.

It also provided us with the opportunity to put our new **Effectiveness Framework** and **Theory of Change** into practice, both of which place a stronger emphasis on AOA's enabling role in locally led approaches.

A highlight of our visit to India was the ability to introduce our partner CRS India to the Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT). Both based in Kolkata, we took CRS to visit the work of LWSIT. This built on the online peer learning forum about engaging men in community development work that had happened prior to the visit.

Another highlight was the opportunity to participate in and contribute to the evaluation of the Imarisha Maisha program in Kenya. This involved visiting with and listening to a diverse range of vulnerable people and groups.

This culminated in a rich time of sharing and learning where a broad range of stakeholders from across the program - including children, clergy, vulnerable women, people with disability, chiefs, cultural leaders, partner staff, board members and government officials - came together to discuss, question, and validate the findings of the evaluation.



## Designs

We supported our partners the Diocese of Nampula in Mozambique and Wise Choices for Life Uganda to develop new multi-year designs for their community development initiatives.

In 90 communities in Nampula Province, northern Mozambique, the new program will aim to see women, men, and children, particularly the most marginalised, with improved quality of life, equal relationships, able to apply healthy practices.

Recognising the severe impact of a changing climate on the most vulnerable, the program will also aim to ensure that safe and

inclusive communities are more resilient, have climate change adaptive livelihoods and improved food security.

In Uganda, the program aim is to contribute to national efforts that improve access to sexual reproductive health and life skills among 35,000 community members.

This includes increased knowledge and application of reproductive health information and life skills amongst diverse groups of women and men, as well as improved utilisation of reproductive health services resulting in healthier, thriving, and manageable families.

**Rose, Kenya**



# Strength in partnership

## Our Partners and Coalitions

As an agency of the Anglican Church, we make the most of the Church's connections and the vital guiding role that the Church and faith-based agencies can play in transforming people and society.



Anglicans worldwide have long been concerned with environmental issues. From extreme weather to food shortages, all of us are affected. Guided by the fifth Mark of the Mission, members of the Anglican Communion Environment Network strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth.



The Anglican Alliance brings together those in the Anglican family of churches and agencies to work for a world free of poverty, inequality and injustice, to raise the voices of the vulnerable, to reconcile those in conflict, and to safeguard the earth.



ACT Alliance is a coalition of more than 145 churches and affiliated organisations working around the world on long-term development and emergency response. AOA often responds to disasters and emergencies through ACT Alliance, allowing us to respond quickly and effectively, knowing that the activities are being carried out to the highest global standards.



Emergency Action Alliance (EAA) is a group of 15 leading aid organisations in Australia that use their reach and resources to save lives. When disaster strikes overseas, EAA helps Australians respond with speed and impact, getting lifesaving aid to the affected communities.



The Church Agencies Network is a group of 12 Australian church-based international development agencies that seek to support each other in improving their effectiveness. The Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) is a collaboration of eight of the 11 agencies working to strengthen communities facing humanitarian crises.



Micah empowers Australian Christians to advocate for the most urgent global justice issues facing our world today - extreme poverty, rising conflict and climate change. As a member of the coalition of Christian international development agencies supporting Micah, AOA engages and equips our supporters to think and act justly.

# Governance

## President and Board



**The Most Revd  
Dr Philip Freier**  
BAppSc, DipEd, BD, MEdSt, PhD,  
FAICD  
Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne  
President until February 2025



**The Right Revd  
Bishop Genieve Blackwell**  
Administrator of the Diocese of  
Melbourne  
BA BTh Dip A MATheol MPhil  
Ex officio President  
from February 2025



**Mr Tom Craven**  
BCom (Ec), LLB (Ec,  
Law)  
Board Chair  
GAN and FRAC member



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



**Mr Grant Dawson**  
BCom, MBA, GAICD  
FRAC Chair



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



**Mr Andrew Newmarch**  
MIDEA  
DevCom Chair



**Ms Carolyn Sandiford**  
BA (Hons)  
Communications  
Advisor



**Mr Andrew Smith**  
MBBS (Hons), FRACS  
FRAC member



**The Ven Revd Dr Tim Johnson**  
PhD (Psych), MDiv, GradDipDiv,  
BSc (Hons)  
GAN Chair



**Ms Holly Crocket**  
BA (Hons), MA  
(International Crisis  
Management)



**Ms Nicole Butera**  
B.Acc, CA  
Company Secretary

# 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.

## Development Committee (DevCom)

The Development Committee is responsible for ensuring AOA's development programs are of the highest quality and are consistent with the agency's strategic direction. Members of the committee also provide technical resources and support to AOA 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 controls, and reviewing the quality and effectiveness of our work.

- Committee members:
- Andrew Newmarch (Chair)
- Dr. Robin Ray
- Roscel Diego
- Rob Kelly
- Dr. Janice Smith
- Seak-King Huang

## 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 AOA 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:

- Grant Dawson (Chair)
- Dr Andrew Smith
- Tom Craven
- Mark Richardson

## 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 AOA 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:

- The Ven Dr Tim Johnson (Chair)
- Tom Craven
- Seak-King Huang
- Bishop Paul Barker



#### 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.

AOA is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity. The Code has an independent complaints-handling process.

To find out more about the Code or lodge a complaint against AOA's compliance with the Code, please email [complaints@anglicanoverseasaid.org.au](mailto:complaints@anglicanoverseasaid.org.au)



#### ACNC Member

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



#### 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 FIA's Principles and Standards of Fundraising Practice.



Australian Government  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### 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.

# Accountability

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

## 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](mailto:complaints@anglicanoverseasaid.org.au) or call us for free from anywhere in Australia on 1800 249 880.

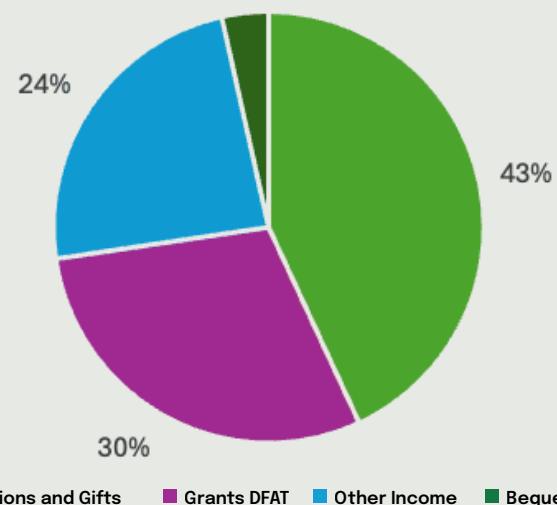
Calls from outside Australia can be made to +61 3 9495 6100.

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

During the financial year of 2024-25 AOA received no complaints.

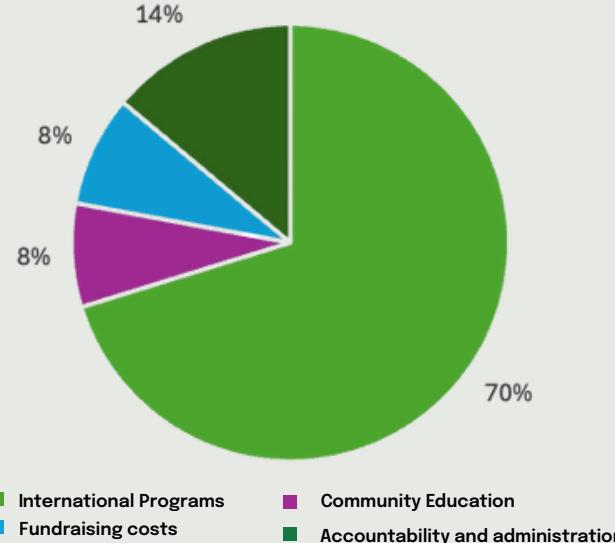
## Revenue (income) sources

2025



## Expenditure (cost) sources

2025



# Finance and Accountability

We recorded a deficit of \$0.4m for Financial Year 2024-2025. This is a direct result of our strategy to distribute reserves and funds to our international work.

We thank those who continue to support us, allowing our organisation to persevere through this unpredictable climate. AOA stays focused on cost efficiency and ensuring maximum impact for our international partners.

Revenue for the year was recorded at \$2.8m, a decrease from 2023-2024, which reflected the exceptionally generous bequest received during that previous period.

We experienced a 4% growth in donor contributions and gratefully received \$0.1m through bequests. These gifts are instrumental in helping our international partners achieve enduring, meaningful impact. Bequest funding provides AOA with the stability to maintain existing project commitments and pursue additional initiatives.

We spent just over \$3m during the year, consistent with the prior year. International programs received direct funding of \$1.5m (48% of total expenditure). The complete international program investment, which includes \$1.6m distributed to partners alongside necessary program support expenses, represented 70% of our overall spending. This substantial commitment supports rigorous oversight and accountability mechanisms, positioning us to generate transformative and sustainable community outcomes.

AOA maintains rigorous cost discipline to maximize resources flowing to partners, while making strategic investments to position the organisation for sustained future impact.

The pie charts at left represent our income and expenditure as a proportion of the totals. Each category is adapted from the summary financial statements within the Annual Financial Report and is based on the definitions described in the ACFID Code of Conduct.

We welcomed Saward Dawson as our new auditors during 2024-2025 and thank them for their professional service and expert guidance. The Finance and Risk Committee maintained its active oversight role throughout the year, and we extend our sincere thanks to all members for their continued commitment and contribution.

Our full statutory financial statements are available on our website.

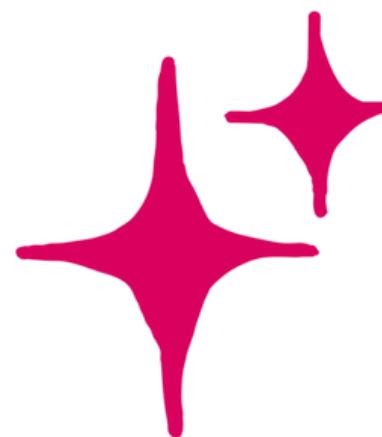
# Statement of Income and Expenditure and Other Comprehensive Income

The following financial statements 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 website at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au).

Revenue	FY2025 \$	FY2024 \$ Restated
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	1,193,112	1,144,860
Bequests and Legacies	97,164	2,098,061
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	819,289	731,484
Other Australian	346,815	269,887
Investment Income		
	276,492	187,919
Other Income		
	36,806	15,887
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>2,769,678</b>	<b>4,448,098</b>

Comprehensive Income	2025 \$	2024 \$ Restated
Excess (Shortfall) of revenue over Expenditure	(367,430)	1,359,880
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(367,430)</b>	<b>1,359,880</b>

Expenditure	FY2025 \$	FY2024 \$ Restated
<b>International Development and Humanitarian Programs Expenditure</b>		
International Programs		
Funds to international programs	1,515,208	1,646,693
Program support costs	687,957	570,260
Community education		
	240,521	252,671
Fundraising costs		
Public	237,533	239,034
Government, multilateral and private	19,925	27,720
Accountability and administration		
	435,964	351,840
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>3,137,108</b>	<b>3,088,218</b>



# Statement of Financial Position

Assets	2025 \$	2024 \$ Restated
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	821.374	1,397.261
Trade and other receivables	11.696	52.665
Prepayments	10.412	20.936
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>843.482</b>	<b>1,470.862</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Other financial assets	3,526.478	3,281.393
Property plant and equipment	9.684	13.278
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>3,536.162</b>	<b>3,294.671</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>4,379.644</b>	<b>4,765.533</b>

Liabilities	2025 \$	2024 \$ Restated
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	65.652	58.556
Unearned income	333.557	322.285
Employee provisions	77.774	114.601
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>476.983</b>	<b>495.442</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>476.983</b>	<b>495.442</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>3,902.661</b>	<b>4,270.091</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	1,555.928	1,121.284
Retained earnings	2,346.733	3,148.807
	<b>3,902.661</b>	<b>4,270.091</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>3,902.661</b>	<b>4,270.091</b>

Statement of Changes in Equity	2025	Retained Earnings	Project Reserves	Restricted Reserves	Total
Balance at 1 July 2024	3,148,807	396,346	724,938	4,270,091	
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	(367,430)	-	-	(367,430)	
Transfers from retained earnings to reserve	(434,644)	434,644	-	-	
<b>Balance at 30 June 2025</b>	<b>2,346,733</b>	<b>830,990</b>	<b>724,938</b>	<b>3,902,661</b>	

Statement of Changes in Equity	2024	Retained Earnings	Project Reserves	Restricted Reserves	Total
Balance at 1 July 2023	1,704,359	-	724,938	2,429,297	
Restatement to opening balances	-	480,914	-	480,914	
<b>Balance at 1 July 2023 restated</b>	<b>1,704,359</b>	<b>480,914</b>	<b>724,938</b>	<b>2,910,211</b>	
Surplus (Deficit) for the year - restated	1,359,880	-	-	1,359,880	
Transfers from retained earnings to reserve - restated	84,568	(84,568)	-	-	
<b>Balance at 30 June 2024 - restated</b>	<b>3,148,807</b>	<b>396,346</b>	<b>724,938</b>	<b>4,270,091</b>	

## Members of the Nakurari Savings Group. Ana, Julieta, Olinda, Mozambique.



**Anglicord**  
ABN 39 116 072 050

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

#### Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, statement of income and expenditure and other comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of Anglicord for the year ended 30 June 2025.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report.

#### Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

#### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 22 October 2025.

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

The Board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the summary financial statements.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

*Saward Dawson*

Saward Dawson

*Jeffrey Tulk*

Jeffrey Tulk  
Partner

Blackburn Vic  
Dated: 13 November 2025

20 Albert St, Blackburn VIC 3130  
PO Box 1212, Blackburn North VIC 3130  
[contact@sawarddawson.com.au](mailto:contact@sawarddawson.com.au)  
[sawarddawson.com.au](http://sawarddawson.com.au)  
T +61 3 9894 2500 ABN 64 014 253 347



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Anglican Overseas Aid  
PO Box 1339  
North Fitzroy VIC 3068  
(Freecall) 1800 249 880  
ABN 39 116 072 050  
[anglicanoverseasaid.org.au](http://anglicanoverseasaid.org.au)



Emila teaches other women in  
her community in Mozambique  
how to make high nutrition  
porridge