



OUR IMPACT 2017-2018

You're a changemaker

This year, your gifts have had an enormous impact in poor communities around the world. Thanks to you, thousands of people found new opportunities to escape the cycle of entrenched poverty.

The power of partnership

We work with a global network of partners to ensure that our development work is inclusive, sustainable and cost-effective. Our partners are both large and small – but all are united in their vision of a world without poverty. For example, this year, we partnered with the World Mosquito Program to establish an Asia hub in Ho Chi Minh City which will help protect the region from mosquito-borne diseases such as Zika, chikungunya and dengue. Meanwhile, we also continued to work with small NGOs, such as Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT), to ensure they can meet local development needs.

Working with our partners, this year we:

- Helped 1,539 farmers in the Pacific to grow nutritious vegetables for family consumption
- Reduced food insecurity by four months for 243 farmers in Timor Leste
- Helped 70 households in Zimbabwe to improve their income by growing potatoes
- Treated 2,300 children with clubfoot in Walk for Life clinics in Bangladesh
- Trained 800 Maasai in holistic rangeland management to

- develop sustainable farming practices in Tanzania
- Ran climate change workshops with 350 community representatives, including 220 women, in Cambodia
- Engaged 150 villagers in the Solomon Islands in consultations with their local and provincial governments
- Taught 4 development committees in Fiji how to apply for grants, which helped a local school win funding for a new computer lab and library
- Helped 78 Cambodian women start their own businesses weaving rugs, raising animals and growing vegetables
- Created more than 3,000 victory gardens in Malawi so villagers have a sustainable source of food and income
- Screened 700 students for rheumatic heart disease in Timor Leste
- Improved access to fresh water and nutritious food through kitchen gardens for 640 people on 2 islands in Kiribati
- Helped women from 20 of Phnom Penh's poorest villages to improve their income by up to 75% and save over \$20,000
- Treated over 1,600 marginalised adults and children for deafness or ear disease in Cambodia
- Selected 3 households as new homestays for our Community-based Tourism project in Vietnam, designed two new trekking routes, and established a musical performance group with 22 members from Dao and Muong ethnic minority groups.
- Renovated a remote primary school in Cambodia for 165 students
- Educated 468 Cambodian students in 4 community schools and conducted monthly training for teachers





Christine Murphy, International Programs Director, with Bernadette (left) from the village advocacy committee, outside the new health clinic

Partners in change in the Solomon Islands

This year, we're particularly proud of our work with the Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT), a small, indigenous NGO based in Honiara. We have worked with SIDT for six years on the Bridging the Gap (BTG) project, which empowers communities to advocate for their own development needs. BTG helps villagers create action plans, form advocacy groups and hold village forums so they can lobby their governments for essential services such as clean water, schools and health care.

In West Guadalcanal Province, three communities combined their advocacy efforts to lobby for a new health clinic. Using skills learned from BTG, they worked with the Provincial Health Authority to secure a new clinic with solar power, a delivery ward, two in-patient wards, an out-patient area, and housing for two nurses.

The village advocacy committee is very proud of this achievement, and says that their new clinic comes from both the practical skills and the increased self-determination they gained through the BTG project.

An independent evaluation found that AOP's relationship with SIDT was key to the success of the project. Our partnership model builds the capacity of local NGOs to ensure sustainable change from the grassroots level.

"The partnership between AOP and SIDT enables an indigenous NGO to develop and strengthen Solomon Island civil society in the face of the increasing influence of foreign donor objectives via international NGOs," said Dr John Donnelly, author of the evaluation.

"The Bridging the Gap program has been very successful in helping to empower communities to become more able to engage with the systems of the modern nation state . . . while maintaining their local identity and priorities."

About Action on Poverty

Action on Poverty is an international aid organisation that empowers local changemakers to break the cycle of entrenched poverty in their communities. Action on Poverty celebrates 50 years of life-changing work in 2018. Visit actiononpoverty.org for more info.



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