



Action on Poverty

Australian Foundation for the
Peoples of Asia and the Pacific Limited

Annual Report 2010/2011



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The images in this report were selected to show the range of programs run by AFAP or our partners and do not necessarily represent the specific people/programs mentioned in the text or case studies.

Vision Statement:

A just world through community partnerships.

Mission Statement:

To be a leading agent for poverty alleviation through effective and appropriate community-based development.

Operating Philosophy:

To achieve its goals, AFAP has adopted a set of values which guide the way the organisation is managed and is to operate.

We believe that:

Our actions should be based on recognition of the essential dignity of every person

Our activities should evolve in response to the needs and interests of the peoples and communities of the nations in which we work

Our actions should enhance the wellbeing of the communities and environments in which we work and help these communities to help themselves

We should provide a challenging, supportive and safe work environment in which people can improve their skills and knowledge

We should be truthful and honest in all of our dealings and always act in good conscience

We should be accountable to the individual constituencies' partners in development, the people we strive to assist and our donors

Working in a spirit of collaboration is the most effective way to achieve common objectives

We should ensure professional competence, ethical practices and quality services in all our work

We should maximise the development impact of donor contributions

Chairperson's Letter



There are defining moments in the history of most organisations. Such events are often opportunities for redirection and renewal. During this last year AFAP has undergone such a change, in part brought about by the challenges of world financial crises and the tightening of funding that started to bite harder during this past financial year.

AFAP has focused its priorities and built a tighter and more efficient organisation. We invested in software technology to better handle our finances and administration. We reluctantly closed our MSS (Medical Supplies Service) operation as it was starting to run at a loss. We restructured our staff to better reflect the needs and realities of operating a medium-sized NGO in the current environment.

The Board and the staff have worked very closely together to chart a new way forward. There have been several joint planning exercises which led to clear geographic and sectoral streamlining. We have renewed AFAP's commitment to making poverty alleviation the focus of our work. Our target geographic areas will be: Southern and Eastern Africa, The Pacific (including Timor Leste), South East Asia and South Asia, focusing on four key sectors: Women and Children, Health including Water and Sanitation, Environment and Livelihoods, and Governance and Institutional Strengthening. Our Community Partner Program will become more integrated into the mainstream of AFAP programs, which will enhance the work of both in-country beneficiaries and AFAP partners who implement projects. As our programs grow, the governance and working relationship with the AFAP office in Vietnam continues to be strengthened.

Despite difficulties facing the NGO sector, with far greater needs than resources available, AFAP is in a better position to face the future than it has been for many years. While it has been a difficult year we have had numerous successes. Our Africa team was awarded new funding from AusAID which will enable AFAP to continue developing our Africa Program with partners in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe. The new "Shared Futures Program" will run for the next five years in these regions. Our Vietnam office also successfully bid for AusAID Innovation funding to undertake work that is promoting governance and accountability in Vietnam. Both offer exciting new opportunities for us. The Board gratefully acknowledges the hard work of the Africa team and of Mr. Tuan, our Vietnam Country Director, whose commitment and dedication led to these new initiatives. Behind the scenes the Board and staff have all been working hard to revitalize the Community Partnership Program, which will continue to be the springboard for AFAP to achieve growth into new areas and engage with the Australian community on development issues.

Arriving at this point has meant a huge amount of work and dedication by our staff, temporarily requiring a more intensive involvement of the Board than is traditional. The result of this process is a far more focused, cohesive, and efficient organisation, delivering appropriate and effective programs to address the most pressing needs identified by the communities we work with, and allowing AFAP to more fully embrace its mandate to take Action on Poverty.

John Rock, Chair, AFAP Board of Directors

Climate Change and Environment

2010 tied for the hottest year on record and was filled with extreme weather events. A decade ago global warming was largely considered a problem for the future, but that future has come sooner than predicted. At both the Copenhagen and Cancun Climate Change Summits world leaders could not agree on a legally binding commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

There remains a gap between wealthy countries and the developing world on what the framework for carbon emissions reductions should look like. Real substantive policy change has yet to happen, but real detrimental effects to the environment due to climate change have clearly already begun.

Many of the problems associated with climate change will be felt first in vulnerable communities across countries in the Asia-Pacific region. AFAP has a long history of working on environment and disaster preparedness programs in the Pacific. Our ongoing South East Asia regional program has made climate change a priority, by building resilience for the poor and marginalised to help them adapt to the effects climate change. A large number of people in Vietnam live along the 3,260 km coastal line. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Vietnam will be one of the five countries worst affected in East Asia from rising sea levels, potentially causing huge floods and destroying millions of hectares of productive land. AFAP's work in Vietnam increasingly looks at resilience through the lens of climate change and disaster preparedness – an approach we are also taking forward with our climate change initiatives throughout the Pacific.

Phuoc Thuan commune located in Binh Dinh Province suffers from annual drought

and flood damage. After completing an assessment last year to identify the most vulnerable groups and issues, AFAP and local partner, Binh Dinh - Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DoNRE), have undertaken an Activities and Adaptation Plan with people from Phuoc Thuan commune. Together with other surveys, the assessment of AFAP was used in two subsequent Phuoc Thuan government projects. AFAP also effectively improved knowledge and awareness in communities and with authorities on what direct impacts climate change will have on them by hosting a number of workshops and training sessions.

Working in cooperation with the Dragon Institute of Can Tho University in the Mekong, AFAP conducted a technical assessment of the possible impacts of climate change on the socio-economic conditions, livelihoods and adaptation capacity of communities in the Soc Trang province. The assessment revealed that an increase in frequency and duration of floods as well as salt intrusion are the key issues. During the participatory assessment and training in Nga Nam district, experiences on adaptation and sustainable agriculture with a low input livelihood model were discussed and shared by local people. In June 2011 fifteen Climate Change Community Groups (CCCG) consisting of poor farmers and women were set up to carry out Adaptation Plans in two communes. Local people

shared production experience, enhanced community coordination for implementing different initiatives, and proposed piloted models for improving production and sustainability of local livelihoods. Together with the District Project Management Unit (PMU), AFAP is also supporting the implementation of the plans, with the aim of increasing the resilience and capacity of local communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change. AFAP Vietnam continues to work directly with community groups to ensure their income generation is diversified, environmentally friendly, and is assisting with the regeneration of mangrove plantations to prevent flooding. We also work with local communities to advocate for improved emergency responses, including the construction of early warning/prediction systems from government departments. On a national level, AFAP has been contributing and actively involved in facilitating forums in Vietnam as a core member to the INGO's Climate Change Working Group. A significant result was the creation of an advocacy strategy on climate change in Vietnam. Findings from the two AFAP participatory assessments in Binh Dinh and Soc Trang provinces on the impact of climate change for local farmers were presented during the workshops at both a regional and national level.

AFAP's other environmental work reaches into Africa and Samoa. Working with the Community Technology Development



Mrs Lien, a member of the Farmers Union from Vinh Tien Village in Vinh Bien Commune, is one of the CCCG leaders. These groups have been established to implement adaptation activities in Nga Nam District.

By joining this initiative and being involved in the project Mrs Lien has gotten a greater understanding of climate change and how the impacts will affect her village. She is now able to develop activities with her group to adapt to these changes before they become life threatening. During a training workshop Mrs Lien shared her ideas with the group about how planting a particular variety of plants can assist in maintaining an income during the flood season. This idea

Trust (CTDT) our Forest garden program in Zimbabwe emphasises the promotion of environmental concepts in four schools, targeting communities to encourage tree propagation and planting as a source of firewood and fruits. Environmental awareness, training on forestry management, and the cultivation of threatened species are taught to local students and communities as well. So far 5,000 trees have been planted and many students have asked to plant them on their family's land. The rates of deforestation and soil erosion will be reduced in this region as a result. Similarly, in Malawi AFAP supported a livelihood development project in partnership with Concern Universal in Mkhumba, an area that shares a border with the Mulanje Mountain Nature reserve. This project promotes the sustainable co-management of the mountain's natural resources to encourage the communities to live in harmony with the mountain, thus conserving its biodiversity. The promotion of low emission clay stoves, and sustainable income generating activities are key features of this project. In Samoa, AFAP supported an Environmental Impact Assessment to investigate whether pollution from the hydroelectric generation plant was having a negative effect on local mangroves, fisheries, coastal and marine areas as this ecosystem is the main source of food and livelihood for the people around Ta'elefaga village and Fagaloa Bay. The Environmental Impact Assessment and associated community workshops have helped the affected local communities to better understand how to manage their resources in a sustainable way while meeting and addressing their societal needs.



was supported by her CCCG and AFAP has arranged to fund and support this, along with several other adaptation activities in the village, such as raising the floor of poor households, training in fish farming and the implementation of bio gas models for households with livestock (pigs). "We have not only understood the possible impact of the sea level rise and causes of frequent flood problems in our villages, we also learned how to develop different ways and projects to cope with that. These practical experiences will enable us to participate actively in other consultation processes with the local authorities. We now know how to assess an effective project and will contribute in the overall socio-economic development plan of the district", Mrs Lien said at the workshop.

Disability

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities defines people with disabilities as “those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which...may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others”. The UN suggests that 80% of people living with a disability live in a developing country.

This year the World Health Organisation published the first-ever report on disability. The report shows that people living with a disability make up 15% of the world's population and that this number will continue to increase.

Disability is intrinsically linked to the issue of poverty. Disabled people are often excluded from participating fully in their society. This can be due to environmental, societal and political factors that deny access to appropriate health services, education and entry into the workforce. AFAP is working with our partners in a number of regions to address the issue of disability and its link to other development issues such as poverty, gender and health. AFAP recognises that people living with a disability have the right to access and actively participate across all areas of any development project to improve the quality of their lives.

AFAP has continued productive work for the disabled in Bangladesh with community partners Operation Cleft Australia- treating cleft lip/palate and Walk for Life- treating clubfoot. Both these community partners successfully treat disorders that, if left untreated, are extremely debilitating and marginalising for the individuals and their families. Operation Cleft Australia provides free reconstructive surgery, follow- up, and education on oral hygiene which successfully improves overall health and appearance. The Walk for Life program treats children born with clubfoot through the Ponseti method, which does not require surgical intervention. Over 5,000 children a year in Bangladesh are born with this condition. Without treatment they have difficulty walking, are unable to participate in education or enter the workforce, making them dependent on their families. Both these partner programs help the affected children and their families to participate socially and contribute economically in their community. Operation Cleft Australia and Walk for Life also work to build the

capacity of local health service providers to treat these conditions. There is a significant training component built into each program for doctors and other medical support staff, such as speech therapists and physiotherapists, in order to increase the number of local health service providers able to treat these conditions and give people more access to treatment.

Our work with disability not only encompasses working with people suffering from physical disabilities, but also includes mental health issues. In developing countries mental health issues can be equally debilitating and severely limit people's ability to reach their full potential. However mental health issues are often ignored or largely neglected given the competing demands on overburdened and resource-poor health systems. AFAP continues to support a number of mental health initiatives. This includes the work of the Psychosocial Recovery and Development in Timor Leste (PRADET), which has been providing psychosocial service since 2000. PRADET's services are provided by local counsellors, who have a background in nursing and psychology and many years of experience working with mental illness and trauma from violence. Similarly, our work in Africa includes psychosocial-support elements, such as counselling for children who have been affected by HIV and AIDS.

Another long-time AFAP partner, Concern Universal, is working with the Association of Blind and Partially-Sighted of Mozambique (ACAMO). They represent a group of people that includes women, girls, and boys living with vision impairment in Niassa province. These people suffer from social exclusion, abuse, and discrimination because of negative attitudes and beliefs about disability in Mozambique, and their vulnerability puts them at a high risk of contracting HIV.

Concern Universal has been engaged in capacity-building with ACAMO to improve access to services, and enhance ACAMO's

ability to self-advocate and manage projects. Training from Concern Universal has resulted in greater interaction between ACAMO and the government, working toward a greater inclusion of vision-impaired people in governmental development programs and increased participation in decision-making forums.



In Tongi, Bangladesh, when Yasmin's third child Hamin was born at BRAC Delivery Centre, Rokeya, the birth attendant who helped deliver the baby, noticed that both of Hamin's feet were turned inwards. "Back then I neither knew the name of the deformity or anything about its treatment," Rokeya recalls.

Yasmin, whose husband left her when she was six months pregnant, investigated treatment at a renowned hospital but was unable to afford the exorbitant operation with her meagre earnings working as household support.

Frustrated, Yasmin had few options as a single mother struggling to feed three children and earning less than \$11 a week. One day, Rokeya saw a Walk for Life poster and suggested Yasmin go to a Clinic at the National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) for free treatment. "At first, I did not believe that the treatment was free! But I still came to NITOR hoping for a miracle," says Yasmin. Practitioners at the Walk for Life Clinic examined the baby and started treating her right away.

"Now, I am so glad that Hamin will be able to walk normally like my other children," says Yasmin with a smile. "I don't know how to thank Walk for Life for providing free treatment to clubfeet children."

Now Hamin can walk normally for the rest of her life.



Education

Education is integral to improving an individual's ability to find employment or increase their wages in the future. However, the benefits of education extend beyond providing improved employment opportunities and have positive impacts on health, violence prevention and participation in decision making at family, community and societal levels. For AFAP, education of children and young adults is an important part of poverty alleviation and key to strengthening communities, in addition to providing the foundation for positive long-term change.

AFAP supports education projects in Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Ethiopia, India, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, Vietnam, Uganda and Zambia. AFAP and our partners undertake a wide range of education activities that target the particular challenges in local communities through different styles of education, including primary and secondary level education, formal and non-formal education, vocational education training and capacity building.

Many children in these various locations are unable to attend school due to the cost of education. Even when the state provides free education, some families cannot afford the additional costs associated with education such as school supplies, books, uniforms and transportation. A number of our partners actively support the development of

child friendly schools. Together we invest in teacher training and infrastructure development, provide play equipment, desks and even whole libraries so that children are encouraged to attend. Our education program also supports childhood literacy by increasing the access to local language books.

In many cases children take on responsibilities for the survival and care



of their families, limiting the time that they can dedicate to learning. Girls, in particular, miss the opportunity to go to school because they have to help their family with chores like cooking, cleaning and taking care of family members. AFAP continues to support a number of partners who provide direct fee relief for poor children, and girls in particular, as well as provide scholarships for girls in Vietnam, Cambodia and Timor Leste using donations made by the Australian public.

Non-formal education programs offer opportunities for children to learn who are unable to attend formal schools. The classes are often based in the immediate community making them easier to get to and allowing greater flexibility. Non-formal classes teach children basic skills (literacy and numeracy) and also are tailored to the needs of the community or the children such as lessons in health or life skills. AFAP currently supports non-formal education programs run through Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development (Cambodia), Baoji Xinxing Street Kids (China) and Blue Dragon (Vietnam).

However, our education work is not limited to working with children. Almost all the programs that we undertake have an education component targeted to teaching adults in various forms. These activities often have a vocational or health focus. For example, agriculture and veterinary training are provided as part of our livelihoods work in South East Asia and Africa. Health education is provided to existing health workers in Bangladesh, Uganda and Timor Leste. Small business development skills are taught as part of our AusAID funded ANCP work in Malawi. We believe that educating women is a key factor in lifting communities out of poverty, and enabling whole communities to become more informed and in control of their own development. Therefore, education for women around health initiatives underpins many of our programs across a range of regions, supporting and enriching all work being done.



Pann is in 3rd grade at non-formal community school run by AFAP's partner Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development. This year he came first in his class. His favourite subject is Mathematics and when he grows up he would like to be a maths teacher.

Pann and his 3 siblings began living with their grandparents after the death of their parents six years ago. Pann's grandfather earns \$2.50 a day as a motorcycle taxi driver and his grandmother sells cakes and fruits outside a garment factory. Without non-formal education programs like these, they would not be able to afford to send the four children to school.

May Mony, Pann's grandfather, shares how non-formal education has impacted on their lives:

"I am happy to see that my grandchildren have better opportunities to gain knowledge and education than we did. They are able to read and write in Khmer, do mathematics and have a good understanding of health. Non formal education allows my grandchildren to go to school near our home. After school, they use what they have learnt in mathematics to help their grandmother sell cakes.

Since my grandchildren started attending the non-formal school in our community, they have a higher value on education. I hope that my grandchildren will grow up to be good people and will be able to find a good job in the future to help themselves and their family. Moreover, I would like them to help other children and to help develop my community".

Top photo: Oka Tmay Children's Education Centre. AFAP Community Partner: Opportunity Cambodia
Second photo: Beginners English Class (Girls Access to Education Program) AFAP Community Partner: Lotus Outreach Australia

Livelihoods and Food Security

The majority of the world's poorest people are farmers who grow the food they need to survive. However, a household's ability to live without hunger is dependent on many issues beyond their control. At any given time, access to land, political stability, access to sufficient labour, favourable climatic conditions and access to quality farming tools and materials are all required. Solutions ultimately need to be linked to market-based approaches. This gives the poor access to cash which can be used to purchase food when required. A number of regions where AFAP is working have battled both droughts and floods this year with terrible repercussions for the poorest.

According to the United Nations World Food Program, hunger and malnutrition pose a bigger threat to health globally than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined, with one in six people not getting enough food to maintain good health. It is children who are most at risk from the effects of chronic hunger. They often do not develop to their full potential because of a lack of essential nutrients, and are also more susceptible to infectious diseases due to lower immunity levels.

The issues that contribute to food insecurity are complex. Finding solutions provides a challenge, especially when environmental factors play a part. At AFAP we recognise any solution requires long-term commitment and an integrated

response. The food security work AFAP supports covers a wide and inter-related series of initiatives which are often linked to the market economy. One example is the promotion of non-agricultural based income generating activities, such as the solar drying of agricultural produce. Solar drying improves household storage and enables producers to sell surpluses. This enables food production to go further and provides a source of income for the farmers.

In Africa, AFAP supports a number of food security and income generating initiatives using donations from the Australian public and funding from the AusAID ANCP funding mechanism. This food security work encompasses three

main components: increasing household production, increasing access to food, including non-farm income generation, and supporting research. Increasing production can be linked to accessing quality seeds, improving water access and the installation of drip irrigation systems, or through the promotion of revolving small livestock schemes. For example, in Kenya our program continues to work with the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute promoting drought-tolerant crops which are better suited to dry conditions. This work also includes promoting livestock, such as goats, giving vulnerable children greater access to protein through regular access to milk and meat. Another food security and livelihood project that AFAP supports is the Mkhumba Boundary Community



Our “Forest Gardens in Schools” program in Zimbabwe involves the promotion of positive environmental land management practices in four schools in Chegutu District and is based on conservation agriculture methodologies. Costs are reduced and crop production increases significantly using this type of farming.

The program combined environmental education and practical learning opportunities for students, which resulted in access to a greater variety of nutritious food being available at the schools in the short term. One success of the program has been that the children take the learning home with them. In the long-term, soil fertility will be enhanced reducing the need for expensive fertilisers. Another benefit is that a sustainable supply of firewood is generated from these gardens, which will help reduce degradation on surrounding land in the future.

Born in a family of four, Nyasha had not been involved in planting trees before the inception of the project entitled “Promoting Forest Gardens in Local Schools” in October 2010. Nyasha confessed he thought “more boring teachers had arrived” at the school. Instead

Livelihood Project in Malawi, implemented by our partner Concern Universal. This project managed to reduce the 'hungry season' in targeted communities from six months to three. Through a combination of conservation agriculture and small business promotion using diverse income generating activities such as bee keeping, the production of low emission clay stoves, paper recycling, and mushroom growing, income was generated for every rural community group involved.

Our food security work also promotes collaboration with government and research institutions in other regions of the world. In Timor Leste, we continue to support one of our Community Partnership Programs working with the Natabora Agricultural College. AFAP also supports the HIAM Health Program in Timor Leste, a nutrition outreach program working with women whose children have been hospitalised due to malnutrition. This nutrition program teaches mothers about the value of good nutrition and helps them develop strategies to access enough nourishing food. AFAP also supports the establishment of kitchen gardens once the women return home to their villages so they can grow nutritious food right in their own community, making lasting changes in their own and their children's lives.



he found that the teachers were agriculture extension staff from CTD – AFAP's Zimbabwean partner, who went about teaching in a different way. Upon receiving lectures on seed collection from the forests and roadsides and priming the seeds for germination, Nyasha developed more interest and eventually became the lead pupil managing plants in the school nursery and advising when an irrigation cycle is required.

Within the African social context, it is rare for elders to listen or get instructions from a child of Nyasha's age. However, Nyasha has managed to convince his parents about his new skills. He has been allocated a plot in their household garden where he is managing a nursery of tree seedlings, and he has now planted trees around their homestead. The survival rate of trees he planted is very high so far and he is looking at a future of owning productive fruit and timber trees. Nyasha is now convinced that if all pupils unite to plant trees, they could revegetate their deforested grazing area in village and surroundings. Nyasha has become a strong advocate for the environment in his community.

Governance and Institutional Strengthening

An engaged and active civil society plays an important role in achieving equitable and sustainable development. Much of the work that AFAP has done over the years involves contributing to building robust local community-based organisations that have evolved and become well regarded NGOs in their regions.

The overarching goal of AFAP's governance program is to strengthen civil society and enable local organisations to better understand, fulfill and develop their roles and functions. All of AFAP's current programs are developed in line with national-level policies. However, often government's capacity to implement their own policies is limited and there is little to no accountability to the communities they serve. The situation is exacerbated because poor communities are not well placed to engage with government in an organised way. As women and children are disproportionately represented in the ranks of the voiceless and most vulnerable, they are often the key

program beneficiaries. The integration of institutional strengthening and governance work in our programs is vital and multi-faceted because it underpins sustainable development and poverty reduction in the long term.

Our governance work is concerned with peace building and conflict resolution, working with partners such as national governments in Vietnam or multilateral institutions such as the International Crisis Group in Africa. We also work within our own networks to build governance capacity through the provision of financial, Board and other technical training that promotes greater transparency and accountability at the institutional level.

AFAP's governance work is built on the following pillars:

- **Promoting good governance at the organisational, village and national level** - This work primarily involves research. This year we commissioned research into issues such as how NGOs and civil society engage with decentralisation processes in several African countries undertaken as part of AFAP's AusAID-funded Australian Partnerships with African Communities (APAC) Program. In the Eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo, AFAP continued to support research by the International Crisis Group using funding provided to us from The Charitable Foundation.



- **Advocacy** - Promoting the rights of marginalised groups to access services is a feature of our work in all regions. Promoting governance through civic education forums, such as community meetings and multi-media channels, radio and traditional media campaigns, have been undertaken in our Solomon Islands, Vietnam and Zambia Programs. Increasing representation of local people in National level forums is also linked to this work.
- **Building capacity for well governed, managed and resourced NGOs** - Encouraging the evolution of community interest groups into Community Based Organisations and effective, accountable development-focused NGOs. This year AFAP continued to work with partners both in Australia and developing countries to deliver effective development assistance on the ground. Our Community Partnership Program worked directly with over 20 partners in order to build project management and implementation capacity.



Building on previous work with our FSP partner, the Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT) using ANCP funds, AFAP has continued to support governance work in the Solomon Islands through the Bridging the Gap program.

In the Solomon Islands there is no clear chain of communication between the largely informal village governance structures and the provincial and national governments. While villages have traditional governance structures in place, capacity varies and men usually hold the most influential positions. Women, and those most vulnerable within the community, are often absent from the decision-making process. Even if the decision-making process is inclusive within the village, villagers rarely have the resources and skills to communicate their priorities and concerns in a way that will be listened to by authorities, creating tension.

This year AFAP continued to support work aimed at strengthening the linkages between village level groups and provincial government in the Aisiko Villages in Malaita Province.

Something as simple as talking about how to run a meeting effectively has helped one community make some positive changes towards being more inclusive and transparent in their processes.

After participating in the Bridging the Gap "How to run a meeting" training, the Village Chairperson admitted that learning about new facilitating skills was a real eye opener. The training helped the Committee realise that participating youths were capable of being involved. In the past he reported that the more senior people were defensive or made excuses about youth participation because youth were not perceived to have the necessary skills or wisdom. This perception is now changing and even a standard format for note-taking has been developed so other groups can be involved.

This year Bridging the Gap worked with a number of villagers to develop their skills in writing Village Action Plans (VAP). The VAP is used to communicate a community's development priorities to government and helps form the basis of the community's own project proposals. If a village is not able to do this well, or parts of the community are not involved, it can result in a lost opportunity or create tension among members.

Community members learned how to present their VAP in a way that was likely to be understood by the government. There was a lot of attention and interest paid to this training. Participants saw the relevance of community involvement; they understood and valued their own resources with clear demonstrations of how they could go about working together to achieve better outcomes.

As one of the training facilitators, Mr. Manedika, said, "It is evident - villages do have their difficulties, however these can be solved if everyone works together to solve them".



Health

Health is central to human happiness and well-being, laying the foundation for skilled, productive populations and ensuring that those living in low-income countries can expand their range of choices, improve their productivity, increase savings, live longer and participate more fully in society.

Health programs are fundamental to the success of all development projects, since outcomes across other initiatives cannot be realised if investments in health are not consistent and effective. At AFAP, we focus our health activities around four key goals: eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health and starting public health initiatives to help combat disease like Dengue Fever, Avian Influenza and HIV/AIDS and malaria. Over the past year, AFAP has supported health projects in Timor Leste; Vietnam, India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe, where we are developing high-quality, cost-effective, community-based health systems which result in better health outcomes at the community and individual level.

Positive health outcomes are the central goal of our integrated rural development programs. Access to safe water and food in sufficient quantities remain a significant health challenge for many of the people with whom AFAP works. Therefore, improved access to safe water, sanitation and enhanced food security are key components of our programs (see Water and Sanitation and Food Security sections for more details). We also work directly with women and children supporting maternal and child health initiatives. AFAP helps

train traditional midwives to promote safe birthing practices as well as distributing information about sexual and reproductive health to the women with which we work. These programs encourage breastfeeding, teach women about nutrition, promote immunisation programs, and in Kenya, distribute bed nets where malaria is still a huge killer. We also support a number of partners who deal directly with the treatment of malnourished children. The Bairo Pite Clinic and HIAM Health programs in Timor Leste both provide direct food support and supplementary feeding of malnourished infants. A number of our community partners in South East Asia also provide food support for vulnerable communities. For example, the Blue Dragon program in Vietnam provides daily meals to children who are at risk, over 200 children were helped by the lunch feeding program this year.

In Africa, our health work continues to mainstream and integrate HIV and AIDS components into all programs; in Ethiopia and Zambia, HIV and AIDS initiatives are the primary focus. AFAP continues raising awareness of HIV and AIDS issues but with a focus on the impact of the illness by developing initiatives such as Home Based Care (HBC) networks and advocating for the greater availability of treatment for people affected. Our program in Zambia has

been so successful over a number of years that it is transitioning back into a more traditional rural development program. We are working with People Living With HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) groups to integrate them back into the productive work force since their access to treatment, nutrition and safe water has meant that they are no longer ill all the time.

A key strategy of our HIV work is also linked to our child and maternal health program. The promotion of strategies known collectively as the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT) is a specific focus of the community training programs. This year AFAP supported a program in Ethiopia using ANCP funds from AusAid that recorded no cases of the HIV positive women involved in the program having babies born with the HIV virus.

Our work in Vietnam retains a public health focus. No other region of the world has been affected more by Avian Influenza than the countries of Southeast Asia, which account for more than 80% of animal H5N1 influenza outbreaks and 85% of human infections. Within the region, Vietnam has been one of the countries worst affected by the current highly pathogenic avian influenza A (H5N1) panzootic. Overall, 32 provinces and municipalities have reported human infections, with a concentration around the Red River Delta



Yeshiwork Assefa is a 39-year old woman from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia who had enjoyed a reasonable standard of living with her husband and three children. When her husband fell ill and eventually was unable to continue working at all, Yeshiwork became his caretaker as well the family breadwinner.

She could no longer afford to send her three young children to school, and at times food was in short supply. Yeshiwork was very vulnerable to exploitation, including by her extended family members whom she had to approach to help support her economically. Yeshiwork started working in people's houses as a maid but she was unable to work all the time because she was increasingly needed to care for her sick husband and was

provinces in the north and the Mekong Delta Region in the south, matching the distribution of poultry outbreaks.

Since late 2009, AFAP has joined other agencies in the Avian and Pandemic Influenza Initiative (APII) funded by USAID to enhance the surveillance of API and emerging zoonotic diseases at the local level and among national policy makers and stakeholders. Activities have included strengthening surveillance and control, building animal and human health workers' and communities' capacity to identify, prevent and control API, supporting biosecurity activities, improving preparedness planning to better respond to emergency outbreaks, and developing and implementing behaviour change through communication strategies and other measures. These strategies are focused on high-risk provinces in Hung Yen, Ha Nam, Quang Tri, Can Tho and Kien Giang. This project leverages village, commune, district, and provincial experiences/outcomes to provide evidence for planners and policy makers. By sharing lessons learned and advocating for wider adoption of new approaches, the project supports Vietnamese local and national authorities in replicating and scaling up promising models.

Our role during the last year was focused on completing and transferring the training package for wider adoption throughout Vietnam and on establishing well-functioning networks of capable public and private animal health workers in and beyond project areas. Staff and consultants of AFAP have developed and delivered training/capacity building for animal health workers (AHW) and agricultural extension workers (AEW) at the commune village and village commune levels.

sometimes unwell herself. Her husband died in 2009, and when Yeshiwork started to display similar symptoms, she feared the worst. Then Yeshiwork was identified by AFAP-partner the Home Based Care team. The HBC volunteer provided counselling and encouraged Yeshiwork to go to a hospital and be tested for HIV. Yeshiwork tested HIV positive, but through the support and referral services she received from the HBC program, she got access to treatment, found a support network that helps her manage her situation, and learned how important it is to eat nutritious food when taking her ARV medication. Today, Yeshiwork's health remains stable and she says she is in a good situation because she is feeling healthy and has permanent employment as a cleaner.



Water and Sanitation



More than one in six people don't have access to adequate supplies of safe water. According to the World Health Organisation and UNICEF, diarrhoea is the leading cause of illness and death globally. Today 2.5 billion people, including almost one billion children, live without even basic sanitation and every 20 seconds a child dies as a result of poor sanitation. That equals 1.5 million preventable deaths each year.



Access to clean, safe drinking water is a major issue faced mostly by people living in the poorest nations around the world. Many people in countries such as Kenya and Timor Leste must walk long distances to find a source of clean water for drinking, cooking and bathing and it is most often women and young children who are required to walk to the water source and carry it back to their homes.

A lack of clean water means that people often drink from polluted wells, springs or rivers, increasing their likelihood of catching water borne diseases like diarrhoea. Diarrhoea kills approximately 2.2 million people every year and many of these deaths are children under 5 years old. Having limited or no access to clean water and functional latrines also makes it difficult to practice good hygiene like hand washing, again increasing the risk of disease in poor communities and adding to the disease burden faced by the poor, especially women and children. AFAP is committed to improving the lives of the poor in every location we work. The provision of clean, safe water sources that are easily accessible to the poor remains a central feature of this commitment.

In Kenya AFAP supports a program to improve access to safe water for vulnerable Maasai communities on the border of Kenya and Tanzania. The Maasai in Southern Kenya face many issues that contribute to poor health. One of the most serious is the lack of access to safe drinking water, adequate washing facilities, and clean toilets. The water and sanitation project implemented by AFAP's partner Concern Universal Kenya has provided a supply of safe water to 80 vulnerable Maasai households, a primary school with 730 pupils, a secondary school with 200 students, a health centre, a Meto trading centre, and 600 households along the border plus 16,000 livestock through the protection of two nearby springs. Bathrooms and VIP latrines were built in the local primary school and health clinic. The project also provided training in good hygiene for men, women and children in the local community. Having access to clean latrines and training in correct hygiene in addition to safe drinking water is also fundamental to maintaining health. Working with our partners AFAP helped build latrines and hand-washing facilities not only in Kenya, but Timor Leste and Vietnam among others, along with basic hygiene training to help prevent the spread of disease through bad hygiene.

Our AFAP activities in water and sanitation this year also included the facilitation of clean water supplies to local communities in Zambia by the Chikuni Home Based Care Program



Live, Life Health Water Project – Timor Leste KIDS ARK PRIMARY SCHOOL, HERA WATER PROJECT

Kids Ark Primary School did not have a clean water drinking source. This proved to be an enormous expense to both purchase and travel to Dili to re-supply the school. Due to past trauma's, the local families did not encourage their children to drink any water that had been treated with chemical tablets for fear of poisoning.

Timor-Leste has enormous difficulties treating and preventing diarrhoea in young children. This causes illness and death in vulnerable children, who are already malnourished. Having access to clean drinking water will have enormous benefits to this community as a whole in addition to the obvious health benefits. This also means children will have less absenteeism from school due to illness. With the support of AFAP and Timor AID, a new water system was installed. This required a water stand, a water storage tank and fencing to keep the pump area clean and protected. It also included the installation of a special filter that can screen out e-coli virus from the water. The school guard and maintenance manager Snr Joao received a lot of support and training on how to clean, maintain and monitor the water quality. After several water test samples, the final test came back clear! Now buying water is a thing of the past for the school and the local community has access to safe water after school hours, with the consultation of Snr Joao. In addition the water source has enabled the school to grow a vegetable garden, providing green, nutrient rich foods for the children and the community.

(CHBC). The CHBC program assisted 11 communities with hand pump operated boreholes. Water committees were mobilised and trained from existing groups of PLWHA. In this program, the water committees are called Positive and Living Squads (PALS). PLWHA are made up of some of the most vulnerable people in the communities of Zambia. Forming the PALS water committees from such groups enables them to ensure regular access to safe, clean water and gain a small income from the management of the water pumps.

AFAP also supported water and sanitation projects in Timor Leste this year. National water management by the government of Timor Leste is at the early stage of implementation and therefore water resources are still managed poorly at the local and national level. As in the past, Timor Leste has enormous difficulties in treating and preventing diarrhoea in young children, caused by drinking dirty water. Community access to good water and sanitation facilities remain reliant on the capacity of communities to manage their water resources. AFAP's partner Timor AID has worked alongside communities in the Cova Lima district to assist them in improving local water sources and managing access to these. Timor Aid has also provided training in water management and sanitation. 13 non-functioning water sources were repaired and water management committees have been trained in order to ensure that water sources continue to function into the future. In total, 838 people living in two villages have benefitted from greater access to clean, safe water as a result of this project.

Financial Statements

Statement of Comprehensive Income

For The Year Ended 30 June 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$
REVENUE		
Donations & gifts		
- monetary	4,224,695	5,442,980
- non monetary	10,720	426,687
Legacies & bequests	-	-
Grants		
- Ausaid	1,766,622	2,125,584
- Other Australian	75,000	273,340
- Other overseas	392,288	464,433
Investment income	40,602	30,462
Other Income	73,089	162,444
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	6,583,016	8,925,930

	2011 \$	2010 \$
EXPENDITURE		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
International Programs		
- funds to overseas projects	4,966,063	6,886,842
- other project costs	1,048,447	1,029,754
- non monetary expenditure medical supplies	-	426,687
Community education	49,054	-
Fund raising costs		
- public	40,673	24,221
- government & multilateral and private	6,712	3,667
Accountability and Administration	292,217	114,510
Non - Monetary Expenditure		
- Community education	1,015	-
- Fundraising Public	725	-
- International programs Monitoring and Evaluation	8,980	-
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	6,413,886	8,485,681
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure	-	-
Domestic Programs Expenditure	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6,413,886	8,485,681
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER DISBURSEMENTS	169,130	440,249

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2011

	2011 \$	2010 \$		2011 \$	2010 \$
ASSETS			LIABILITIES		
CURRENT ASSETS			CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,595,517	2,377,788	Trade and other payables	25,292	82,571
Trade and other receivables	142,596	167,152	Current tax liabilities	90,968	6,098
Inventories	-	-	Borrowings	-	-
Assets held for sale	-	-	Other financial liabilities	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-	Short-term provisions	11,973	14,794
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,738,113	2,544,940	Other	-	-
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	128,233	103,463
Trade and other receivables	-	-	NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Other financial assets	-	-	Borrowings	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	12,405	11,678	Other financial liabilities	-	-
Investment property	-	-	Long-term provisions	-	-
Intangibles	-	-	Other	-	-
Other non-current assets	-	-	TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	-	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	12,405	11,678	TOTAL LIABILITIES	128,233	103,463
TOTAL ASSETS	2,750,518	2,556,618	NET ASSETS	2,622,285	2,453,155
			EQUITY		
			Reserves	3,870	3,870
			Accumulated funds	2,618,415	2,449,285
			TOTAL EQUITY	2,622,285	2,453,155

Note 1: ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

This financial report is derived from the company's annual statutory report for the year ended 30th June 2011 which is available upon request.

Note 2: REPORTING STANDARDS

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 Implementation Guidance available at www.acfid.asn.au

Financial Statements

THE AUSTRALIAN FOUNDATION FOR THE PEOPLES OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC LIMITED ABN: 42 002 568 005

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 6 to 17, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
 - (a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2011 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



John Rock (Director - Chairman)



Jock Harness (Director)

Dated this 24th day of October 2011

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the Year ended 30 June 2011

	Accumulated Funds \$	Harold Webber Memorial Fund \$	Other \$	Total \$
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2009	2,009,036	3,870	-	2,012,906
Net surplus/(deficiency)	440,249	-	-	440,249
Transfers to and from reserves	-	-	-	-
- to Harold Webber Memorial Fund	-	-	-	-
SUB-TOTAL	2,449,285	3,870	-	2,453,155
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2010	2,449,285	3,870	-	2,453,155
Net surplus/(deficiency)	169,130	-	-	169,130
Transfers to and from reserves	-	-	-	-
- to Harold Webber Memorial Fund	-	-	-	-
SUB-TOTAL	2,618,415	3,870	-	2,622,285
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2011	2,618,415	3,870	-	2,622,285



HOUSTON & CO Pty Limited
Chartered Accountant

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Crows Nest NSW 2065
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T: 002 9906 2088 • F: 002 9906 2089
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Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements of The Australian Foundation For The Peoples Of Asia And The Pacific Limited "AFAP"

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprises the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2011, the summary statement of comprehensive income, summary statement of changes in equity and table of cash movements for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial report of AFAP for the year ended 30 June 2011. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 25th October 2011. That financial report, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

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

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

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 AFAP for the year ended 30 June 2011 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report, prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Owen Houston Registered Company Auditor No 4548
Member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA)
Dated: 25th October 2011

For further details, the auditor can be contacted at Suite4/113 Willoughby Rd, Crows Nest 2065. or on 02-99062088.

Table of Cash Movements For Designated Purposes

for the Year ended 30 June 2011

	Cash available at beginning of year	Cash Raised during year	Cash disbursed during year	Cash available at end of year
Africa APAC Program	111,842	100,892	212,734	0
Africa AACES Program	0	808,507	25,465	783,042
School and Library Building Program				
-South Africa	300,000	179,500	479,500	0
-Vietnam	0	55,500	55,500	0
-Laos	187,988	345,013	500,240	32,761
-Cambodia	0	8,759	8,759	0
-Nepal	0	241,000	241,000	0
-India	2,937	509,000	498,437	13,500
-Sri Lanka	0	276,000	239,000	37,000
-General	0	156,864	0	156,864
Health and Education Programs - Nepal and Uganda	77,658	910,976	853,870	134,764
Total for Other Non - Designated Purposes	1,697,353	3,184,955	3,444,722	1,437,586
TOTAL	2,377,778	6,776,966	6,559,237	2,595,517

The opening balances include additional disclosure which was not shown in last year's financial statements.

The Table of Cash Movements is only required to disclose cash raised for a designated purpose if it exceeds 10% of total international aid and development revenue.

Board of Directors and Office Holders

Staff Australia

Sydney Office

International Programs Director: Christine Murphy

Finance Manager: Christine Pollard

Africa Program Manager: Jacky Gendre

Partnerships Program Manager: Cassandra Mok

Education and Communications Manager: Rebekah Enoch

Administration and Office Manager: Manjita Gurung

Program and Administration Assistant: Laura Bayndrian

Board

John Rock

(Chairperson appointed 5/11/2001)

B Sc Hons, Retired Sales and Marketing Consultant

A/Prof Dr Bernie Hudson

(Treasurer- resigned 8/11/10)

DTPH; FACTM; FAFPHM; FRACP; FRCPA Treasurer; Microbiologist, Royal North Shore Hospital; A/Prof; School of Public Health; Tropical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland

A/Prof Dr Jock Harkness

(Director appointed 27/11/1997) Company secretary appointed 18/4/11

MBBS DCP (Lon); FRCPA; FASM Microbiologist, St Vincent's Hospital

Margaret Conley

(Director – resigned 31/08/2010)

BA Hons, Grad Cert Mgmt, Grad Cert World Regions, FAICD, AFAIM, FSAE

Paul van Reyk

(Director – resigned 6/4/11)

B Soc Stud Human Services Consultant

Dr Angeline Low

(Director – appointed 26/10/2009)

PhD, MMgmt, B Econ Hons, MAICD; Research Affiliate University of Technology Sydney; Board Member, ChildFund Australia

David A Brett

(Director- appointed 6/4/2011)

BSc(For) (ANU), MAgr (Syd)
Consultant International Development

Volunteers

Siobhan Clark

Margaux Gaillet

Melinda Giles

Grace Lee

Julia Lingham

Luke Millar

Maureen Mulquinary

Jemima Riley

Liz Rose

Brooklyn Sulaeman

AFAP Vietnam Staff

Country Director: Ta Van Tuan

Senior Project Manager: Han Van Khoat

Project Coordinator: Le Minh Ha

Senior Program Officer: Duong Van Khai

Senior Accountant: Do Ngoc Van

Administrative Officer: Dang Thi Lan Huong

Climate Change Officer: Carly Weate

Logistical Support Staff: Quach Quang Hai, Tran Thi Hoa

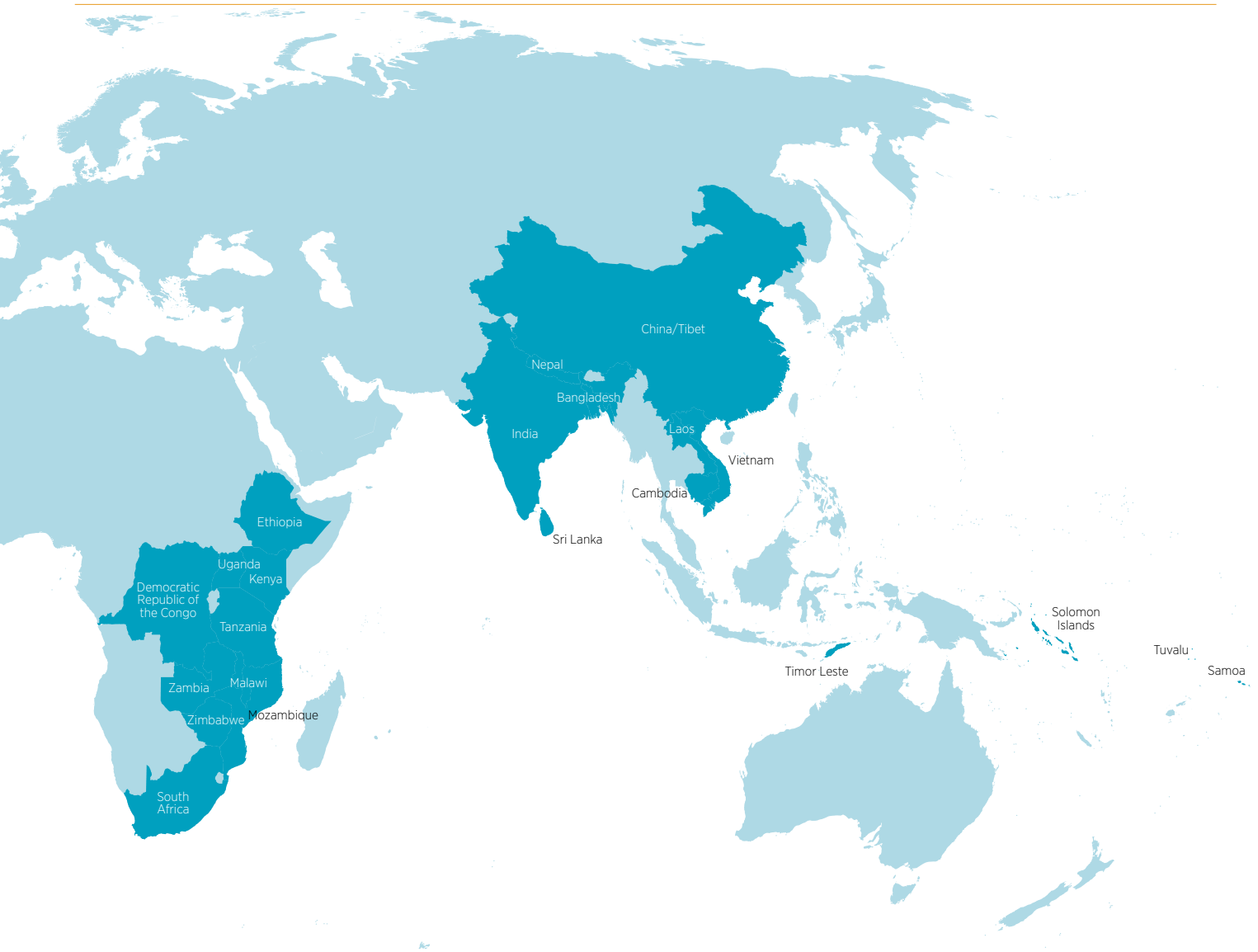


Who We Work With

AFAP is dependent on its many partners to help us take action on delivering effective development programs. Our success is based on the contributions and long-term partnerships that have evolved over many years. By working together we have been able to take real Action on poverty.

- AusAID
- USAID
- Gates Foundation
- Portland House
- The Charitable Foundation
- Planet Wheeler
- Jenour Foundation
- Renshaw Foundation
- The Glencoe Foundation
- Operation Cleft Australia Foundation
- The Trust Company Foundation
- Room to Read Australia Foundation
- Concern Universal
- Chikuni Home Based Care
- Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT)
- Hope for Children
- ISIS Foundation
- Walk for Life
- AFAP Vietnam
- Blue Dragon Foundation
- Lotus Outreach
- Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre
- Alola Foundation
- Bairo Pite Clinic
- Hiam Health
- The Foundation for the South Pacific (FSPI)
- Timor Aid
- Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT)
- O Le Siosiomaga Society (OLSSI)
- Tuvalu Association of NGO's (TANGO)

Where We Work





Phone: 02 9906 3792 Fax: 02 9436 4637 Email: info@afap.org

Write: PO Box 12, Crows Nest NSW 1585

Visit: 536 Pacific Highway, St Leonards NSW 2065

