ACTION ON POVERTY

Annual Report 2011/2012



Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific Limited





Code of Conduct

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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.

Cover Image: Small-holder farmers in the Kawere Nutrition Garden, Zimbabwe.©Lani Holmberg

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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 operated.

We believe that:

- \rightarrow Our actions should be based on recognition of the essential dignity of every person
- \rightarrow 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
- \rightarrow We should be truthful and honest in all of our dealings and always act in good conscience
- \rightarrow We should be accountable to the individual constituencies' partners in development, the people we strive to assist and our donors
- \rightarrow Working in a spirit of collaboration is the most effective way to achieve common objectives
- \rightarrow We should ensure professional competence, ethical practices and quality services in all our work
- ightarrow We should maximise the development impact of donor contributions



CHAIRPERSON'S Letter

The year 2009/10 was one of consolidation and making some changes to AFAP's structure and systems to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the work we undertake. The year 2010/11 has seen both the continuation and the fruits of that work This approach was necessary given the challenging environment that international development work now operates in, where needs vastly outstrip the resources available to meet them, and as a consequence funding is more competitive than ever, and donors quite rightly want to ensure that investment is made where the greatest impact is achieved. While the consequences of the Global Financial Crisis continue to be felt and many countries are reducing support for development, the Australian Government is increasing its commitment with a much clearer focus on poverty alleviation. AFAP has benefitted from this with our ANCP grant from AusAID increasing by about 30% from \$500,000 to \$850,000.

It is against this background that the AFAP Strategy 2012-2016 was developed during this last year. We have integrated the Community Partners Program into the rest of our work, and after consultation with our Community Partners developed it into a clear and structured program that sits within our strategic plan. This will enable us to support partners and deliver better outcomes for communities on the ground and to provide better support from AFAP. We will increase our engagement in the Pacific and Asia in key target programs such as climate change and social accountability in South East Asia and the Pacific. Africa will continue to be a key focus area for AFAP.

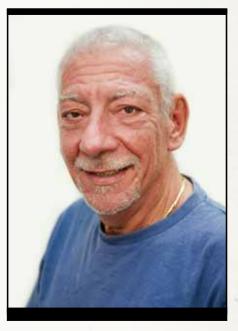
We are now in a good position to chart a strategic path for AFAP that recognises the future realities of international development. We see the importance of working collaboratively with similar like minded NGOs and have entered into discussions with one of our long standing partners with whom we have been working for over ten years. Whatever the final arrangements of this collaboration will be, we can already see some real benefits flowing to both partners from these discussions.

In the past eighteen months we have worked far more closely with our office in Vietnam. Under the capable stewardship of the Viet Nam Country Director Ta Van Tuan, our work in Vietnam has been revitalized and is poised to enter a new phase of growth.

The staff of AFAP continues to work extremely hard to implement the changes we have embarked on and at the same time to ensure the high quality of program delivery for which AFAP is well known, and on which our reputation stands. They work as a team better than ever before. I would like on behalf of the Board to thank each and every one of them. The Board and staff have had a closer working relationship during this period than would normally be required, and that has been an important factor in making the good progress we have achieved. It is appropriate therefore for me to also thank my Board colleagues for the huge amount of voluntary work they have generously offered as their contribution.

Despite all the challenges I am proud to advise that the revenue of AFAP has remained stable during the year 2010/2011. We are in an excellent position to confront the future and in the communities where we work, take action on poverty.

John Rock, Chair, AFAP Board of Directors



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

It has been busy and productive year at AFAP. The staff and Board have continued to work very closely together and AFAP is now a much stronger and focused organisation. The year has seen continued reflection on our partnerships, both here in Australia and overseas, to ensure they are the ones that work best for the people we serve. We have also been making serious investments in streamlining our in-house operations enabling us to provide quality and consistency across all of our work.

The small management team remains the backbone of AFAP, our most valuable asset and our most passionate supporters. This year we have been lucky enough to welcome a number of new staff members to the team, bringing additional energy and skills to AFAP.

Greater engagement with the Australian community is an AFAP priority and a key part of our strategic plan. A new position, Communication and Education Manager, has been filled by Rebekah Enoch, who brings a wealth of experience to AFAP having previously worked for three years on the Earth Hour Global team. Under her direction we have seen a new vibrancy in the way AFAP communicates with its support base and the community.

Connected to this role and a key achievement has been the launch of AFAP's new website. The site reflects the fresh, contemporary look of AFAP going forward. It is interesting and interactive, providing opportunities to get involved, learn, and moving AFAP into the twentyfirst century by linking social media spaces such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube as well as incorporating a blog space. These tools enable us to tell our story and communicate in a much more engaging and interactive way. Many thanks go to AEnoch who designed the new website and provides ongoing support in keeping our content fresh and relevant.



As part of launching our new spaces we are pairing AFAP with Action on Poverty as a tag line, this is the first step to an official name change as the existing name does not reflect the geographic range of our work. The name "Action on Poverty" will give AFAP flexibility regionally and help the public know what we do.

Christine Pollard and Manjita Gurung, who manage our finance and administration department, did a phenomenal job of operationalizing a new on-line donor database system. This streamlined our processing enormously, enabling AFAP to provide better service to donors and improving our ability to report to supporters and program partners.

Our support from the public remained stable this year, despite the challenging economic times. AFAP's ANCP grant from AusAID increased by over thirty percent, which means we have been able to work with more people in our mission to alleviate poverty. This year we allocated part of our ANCP grant towards reinvigorating our Pacific program and we hope to build on this further in the coming year.

The AFAP Africa program remains our largest, with activities now funded in ten countries. A key achievement was the development of our new multi-country integrated rural development program. Jacky Gendre and Sem Mabuwa, our newly appointed Africa Program officer, with support from our partners are implementing the "Shared Futures Program", working with approximately thirteen thousand people through funding from AusAID to deliver increased food security, water and sanitation and health initiatives to be delivered in Africa over the next five years.

This year the team has also redefined our Community Partnership Program so that it is more integrated with AFAP's current strategic plan. Cassandra Mok, Laura Bayndrian, Siobhan Clark and a number of volunteers have been all been instrumental in reviewing and revamping the existing program. AFAP launched its new "Action on Poverty Partner (APP)" program at a weekend long workshop in May 2012, held at the offices of Minter Ellision in Sydney.

I would also like to draw attention to the staff in our Vietnam office, which continues to work at the cutting edge of good development practice. Mr Ta Van Tuan, Country Director of AFAP Vietnam, along with his amazing staff, has continued the successful promotion of community-led responses to climate change in the Mekong delta. The AFAP Vietnam office was also awarded a funding grant under the AusAID ANCP Innovation Fund initiative to pilot a new social accountability framework in Hoa Binh in addition to continuing with their well-established public health programs.

Of course none of this would have been possible without the continued support of our Board who work tirelessly or of our members and supporters who make all of our work possible.

Christine Murphy, International Programs Director

LIVELIHOODS & FOOD SECURITY

Poverty, low levels of education, environmental degradation, social and gender inequality, poor health and natural disasters are among the root causes of lack of food, or food insecurity¹. Finding solutions to the broad and complex issues that affect food security is challenging. AFAP recognises that sustainable and equal access to food requires integrated long-term responses to household and community vulnerability on the part of governments, civil society, and international partners, by incorporating new technologies, local expertise, and involvement of those communities themselves.

AFAP works across a number of channels to address food insecurity such as increasing household production, increasing access to food and nutrition through conservation agriculture, irrigation schemes, community gardens and income generating activities targeted at improving vulnerable communities' income levels.

Although there has been considerable progress in the reduction of hunger and poverty globally, in Africa progress has so far been limited. At present, a third of the African population faces widespread hunger, chronic malnutrition and are exposed to the constant threat of acute food crisis on a regular basis. The most affected are rural households, whose livelihoods are heavily dependent on rain fed agriculture. The Mphuka Shared Futures project, implemented by our partner Concern Universal supported the construction of Namikango Irrigation Scheme which benefits one hundred and twenty households, ensuring that participating communities can increase their household food production and improve their nutrition throughout the year due to consistent access to water for crops. This project also provided two hundred and eighty five vulnerable households with livestock to additionally boost their income levels.

AFAP's work around food security covers not just access to food itself but inter-related issues such as the promotion of conservation agriculture (CA); an approach focused on resource saving practices like mulching and crop rotation for improved and sustained productivity and increased profits while preserving the environment². In Zimbabwe, AFAP together with Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) and in collaboration with the Institute of Agriculture Engineering are supporting communities in Mashonaland West District through training on conversation agriculture. Currently twenty five farmers are piloting this approach. AFAP also supported the establishment of nutrition gardens in Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe to improve the diet of the most vulnerable communities through the introduction of nutritional vegetables in their diet grown in gardens located close to their homes for easy care and access.

In Asia Pacific our work was mainly focused on sustainable livelihoods and income generation, or the way households obtain and maintain access to essential resources to ensure their immediate and long-term survival. In Cambodia, AFAP together with implementing partner Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development, provided forty microfinance loans to enable targeted vulnerable communities in Phnom Penh to improve their income levels and living standards through sustainable and profitable business activities. In Vietnam, working with poor and ethnic minorities to promote self-governance and sustainable agricultural practices our projects has increased adaptability and capacity for three hundred families. These programs have also reduced the dependence of one thousand two hundred poor farmers on external resources by developing models of eco friendly, low input production, strengthening collective capacity and market competition power.

1. Nutrition and Well-Being Report: Food Security.

2. Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations



Chantha is a forty-five year old woman living in the semi-urban area of Phnom Penh who sells rice and noodles. She works hard, traveling one km every day to purchase supplies from the market.

Last year, Chantha participated in AFAP and partner CVCD's Self Sustainability project. The project provides trainings and small loans for local community members. Since receiving her loan, Chantha has been able to expand her noodle selling business. These days she is very busy because on top of the existing stall at her house, she and her husband have also been able to purchase a cart and can sell her products outside the community to factory workers.

Previously, Chantha didn't have any excess funds and spent all the family's income on daily needs, there was no way to save. However, because of the training she received on business planning and how to save money as part of being granted her loan, she is now more aware of how to manage her finances. With better money management skills she has been able to pay for her daughter's schooling, expand her business and also put money away for emergencies.

"Being able to expand my business means that I can afford things that we couldn't previously. The loan has given me the opportunity to support my family financially and think about the future. After I pay back my loan in January 2013, I would like to take out another loan to be able to repair my house. This will improve our health and make it easier for my daughter to study. It makes me happy that I am able to take care of my family and make our lives better."



"It makes me happy that I am able to take care of my family and make our lives better."

CLIMATE CHANGE & The environment

It is now undisputed that increased incidences of drought and flooding are taking place. Poor and marginalised communities are the most vulnerable to these events. Throughout 2012 AFAP has had significant success improving community resilience to climate change. This has been achieved through continued capacity building and awareness raising at the local, regional and governmental levels. AFAP's approach is to work with the most vulnerable groups, local research institutions and national level service providers to increase planning and local capacity to mitigate against these events. We are involved with environmental conservation work, disaster risk reduction planning and income and livelihood generation, all with a view to increasing individual households resilience to economic and environmental shocks.

This year AFAP continued to address the impact of climate change in a number of innovative ways. In Samoa we are undertaking research in collaboration with partner OLSSI and the National University of Samoa, documenting mangrove biodiversity in order to facilitate greater understanding and preservation of these unique and lynchpin environments. Mangrove stands are valuable resources for local communities, who depend on the environment for survival. However, United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) research shows that one hundred metres of mangrove stands can dissipate 75% of tsunami waves (UNDP Pacific Island Mangroves: Changing Climate and Rising Seas; 2006). This natural barrier has the capacity to save ecosystems, food sources, infrastructure, and more importantly, lives. In Vietnam climate change awareness raising work has been directed at school children, with AFAP working in twenty-eight schools through Nga Nam district, in Soc Trang. One awareness raising activity has been particularly successful, the "Dance for Change" competition, which helps students understand the impact of climate change and identify potential solutions. The issues raised have gained attention from regional decision makers due to students and teachers promoting ideas on local television programs.

Over 90% of people rely on firewood for energy in Malawi¹. This places enormous pressure resources and has lead to significant deforestation and erosion. As part of the Shared Futures program, AFAP and partner Concern Universal Malawi held meetings on forestry management with local leaders and community members including Village Forestry Committees and Community Policing Forums to increase sensitivity to the need for responsible forest stewardship and development. Our work in Malawi also promotes the use of fuel efficient cooking stoves, which helps reduce the daily quantity of firewood required.

AFAP is also supports livelihood projects, which are designed to mitigate the negative impacts of climate change. In the Mekong region of Vietnam, events like flooding, strong winds, extreme heat and heavy rains are increasingly common. This year AFAP worked in twelve targeted communes, establishing income-generating models that aimed at successfully diversifying the livelihoods of poor and marginalised groups. Some households earned an extra \$300 USD after four months of farming fish in traditional rice fields. The initial economic gain is a good step forward for these households who now have some savings and are more resilient to economic shocks. Our climate change work in Vietnam has also involved training local authorities. This year in Soc Trang province, we have been working with over thirty officials, who are now capable of undertaking assessments on climate change, vulnerability and adaptation as a result of participation in training and workshops. These home grown experts will play a prominent role in shaping adaptation plans that build a community's resilience to the potential negative impacts of climate change. AFAP Vietnam is taking a proactive role in sharing practical knowledge and experiences in climate change adaption with the region. In June 2012 a delegation from Cambodia visited AFAP programs on an official study tour where knowledge on adaptive agricultural livelihood models, including the empowerment/up skilling of partners and farmers groups was shared.

AFAP also remains actively involved in facilitating climate change forums and advocacy efforts at the national level. As a core member of Vietnam's International Non- Government Organisations Climate Change Working Group, AFAP contributed to capacity building for local CBOs and Vietnamese non-governmental organisations, a strategy to form a group of local experts who will take over the leading roles and responsibilities of INGOs. AFAP also joined efforts with other leading agencies to advocate for policies and technical issues including better coordination between Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Development and Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and decentralisation of resources to local levels. Working at a local, regional and governmental level AFAP is able to build the knowledge, awareness and channels of communication that are the foundation for real long-term change.

^{1.} World Bank. World Development Indicators 2000.



In the Mekong River area of Vietnam climate change has created less predicable rainfall and more intense weather systems. For people who depend on predictable weather for their livelihood, finding a reliable source of income throughout the year has become a challenge.

CASE STUDY COUNTRY: Vietnam Through climate change adaptation projects AFAP is helping these communities become more resilient to changing weather patterns by supporting multiple income generation projects. Combining biogas construction, fish aquaculture and rice farming in one integrated livelihood model has been one of the successful avenues for diversifying income using existing resources. Program participant Bin Ngo shared "Waste from pigs was not properly treated and the smell was just terrible! I learned how to construct a biogas tunnel that uses the waste to produce gas for cooking and lighting. Sewage from the tunnel is led to the rice fields where I farm fish and plant rice. With this technique the fish grow to maturity very quickly and after just four months we harvested both the rice and fish. My family has now earned an extra of \$300 USD from the last four months from the savings on fuel expenditures and selling our fish. This livelihood can work in flood season as well".

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GOVERNANCE & INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

Our core approach to poverty alleviation and development is to strengthen and empower local civil society organisations and community groups so that they can better meet their own aspirations and reach their full potential. An engaged and active civil society plays an important role in achieving equitable and sustainable development. Promoting social accountability and good governance, underpinned with a strong focus on institutional strengthening, is central to all the work of AFAP.

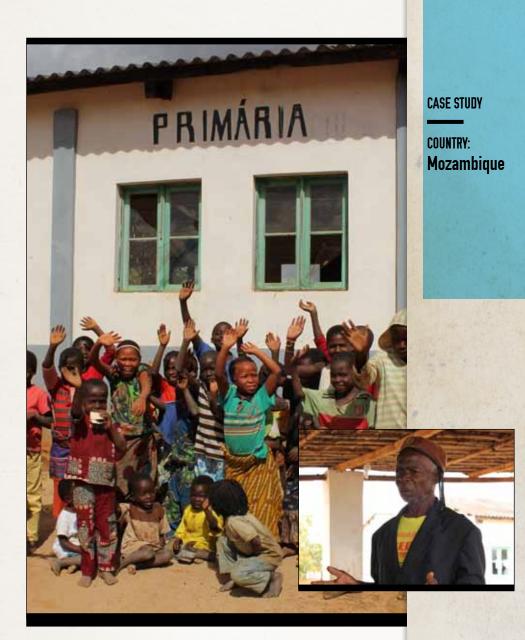
The overarching goal of AFAP's governance program is to strengthen civil society and enable local organizations to be better informed and develop their ability to participate in the political process. At the onset, AFAP's programs are developed in line with national-level policies. However, the government often has limited capacity to implement to their policies, particularly in rural and remote areas. By supporting grass roots knowledge of policy and creating channels for participation within the communities we work, in addition to promoting accountability at a local and national level with priority given to the increased role of women, AFAP is able to increase community capacity to influence and shape the policies that effect them.

Building on work in the Solomon Islands, AFAP continued with partner the Solomon Islands Development Trust (SIDT) on a project, which is also concerned with the promotion of peace, working with community leaders and existing development structures to enable them to articulate and bring their concerns up to the local and national level via the existing structures. In countries like the Solomon Islands there is no clear chain of communication between the largely informal village governance structure and the provincial and national government. While village structures are in place, capacity varies and men usually hold the most influential positions. Women and other vulnerable groups, like youth, are often absent from the decision making process. Even if the resources and skills are available, villagers rarely have the resources or skills to communicate their priorities and concerns in a way that authorities listen to. This creates

possibilities for tension that can easily escalate in countries that have a history of civil unrest. Towards this, AFAP supported the "Bridging the Gap" Program in three districts, working intensively with the existing community structure to develop the capacity to participate in the development process. In Africa, with funding from The Charitable Foundation. AFAP supported the International Crisis Group on research in the Congo to further the understanding of peace building and conflict resolution. AFAP also works in Mozambique along with Concern Universal to train the residents of remote villages on how to lobby their local government for changes identified by the villagers themselves. Through this work local communities become their own advocates for change on an ongoing basis.

While Vietnam has made remarkable progress in development, overall the equity of development remains a challenge, with





many people still living either just above or below the poverty line and increasing gaps between groups despite the increase in overall wealth at national levels. To understand and provide a means to address the growing inequity, AFAP and our partners are trialing social accountability methods so that citizens can hold the state accountable and participate in the economic growth. AFAP Vietnam has been implementing the "Ensuring accountability of local government for redistributive policies and national Socio-Economic Development Plan" with funding from AusAID's Innovations Fund. In Vietnam the voice of civil society remains guite weak. Traditionally, citizen or civil society-led efforts to hold government accountable include actions such as public demonstrations, protests, advocacy campaigns, investigative journalism, and public interest lawsuits. In recent years, the expanded use of participatory data collection and analysis tools combined with enhanced space and opportunity for citizen/civil society engagement with the state have led to a new generation of social accountability practices. These methodologies emphasize a solid evidence base, and direct dialogue and negotiation with government counterparts. The use of such methodologies in Vietnam has been limited, however the results of our work this year show that once initial concerns are overcome, activities that promote transparency- including more participatory public policymaking, participatory budgeting, public expenditure tracking, and citizen monitoring and evaluation of public services- hold increasing opportunities for those that are most often marginalised.

AFAP recognises that in order to attain equitable and sustainable development, vulnerable and excluded communities should be involved in the decisions, which impact their lives and that the backbone of strong political systems is civil society. Providing citizens with information and training helps them to engage and participate in planning, increases government accountability, shaping the future of their communities.

The Shared Futures Project in Mozambique run by AFAP and partner Concern Universal provides communities with training in governance and social accountability, giving them a political voice and appropriate channels to lobby their local government. The project also trained communities in Ngauma District of Niassa Province on existing district plans, budgets and laws, including guidance on how to channel their development requests to government.

This training supported the community members to successfully lobby the local government, asking them to address the lack of adequate classrooms and poor teaching conditions. Thanks to the request the government constructed a new classroom in April of 2012.

"...training supported the community members to successfully lobby the local government."

HEALTH

Good health is essential to sustainable development. Through our work AFAP aims to improve health outcomes for poor and vulnerable communities by delivering programs that improve access to clean water and sanitation, provide preventative health care and increase treatment/ education on HIV and AIDS. In Africa we support programs in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. In Asia and the Pacific we work in Bangladesh, Timor Leste and Vietnam.

Africa has a focus on maternal and child health and nutrition including equal access to health services for extremely vulnerable communities. Working in collaboration with the government and other Community Based Organisations (CBO) AFAP is helping to facilitate safer birthing practices by training traditional birth attendants and constructing maternal waiting rooms. Breast-feeding campaigns are conducted to encourage exclusive and longer breastfeeding for new and expectant mothers. Much needed immunisations are also being provided in remote areas through advocacy and joint collaborations with local governments and with the support of health brigades. Through this type of support, vaccinations of Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus were provided to nineteen thousand five hundred and thirty five children in Mozambique in the last year alone.

AFAP continues to advocate for the greater involvement of people living with HIV across all aspects of their local communities and to mainstream and integrate HIV components into all programs. Programs in Africa have been successful in involving People Living with HIV (PLHIV) by collaborating with local PLHIV networks through different business ventures such as home gardens and animal husbandryeliminating stigma and discrimination within the local communities for those living with HIV.

In Vietnam, we continue to work with partner agencies in the Avian and Pandemic Influenza Initiative (APII) funded by USAID to enhance the surveillance of these and similar emerging diseases at the local level and raise awareness among national policy makers. AFAP Vietnam is also training local authorities in veterinary training activities to increase the sustainability of the program. The project has successfully expanded operations to districts that were not part of the initial project using staff trained in the last fiscal year. The project has been rolled out to ten provinces.

In Timor Leste, our work has been focused on reducing the effects of malnutrition through rehabilitation of infants and children in particular, and educating caregivers in preventative strategies. HIAM Health, our partner in Timor Leste utilises a combination of approaches, such as training on improvement of diet and health for poor families. This includes such measures as horticultural education, technical support visits continuing with ongoing support through postrehabilitation and socialisation visits for community consultation (to determine level of motivation and commitment to establish and maintain a home-kitchen garden).

AFAP believes that in order to achieve positive health outcomes, various interventions need to be utilised. These include care for newborns and their mothers, feeding programs for infants and young children, programs on immunisations, prevention and management of diseases such as diarrhoea, malaria and HIV/AIDS, all of which are integral part of our work globally. However, AFAP also recognises that for health outcomes to be sustainable by poor and vulnerable people, there needs to be a concerted effort to work in partnership with the governments of the countries we work with. Therefore, strengthening governance structures and empowering the vulnerable communities themselves, underpins all of AFAP's health work, in order to achieve equitable and sustainable access to health services for all.

CASE STUDY

country: Timor Leste



Ismael is a three year old boy from Timor Leste who until recently suffered from malnutrition. Upon diagnosis Ismael was sent to AFAP partner HIAM Health's Malnutrition Rehabilitation and Education Centre to receive treatment. The centre not only rehabilitated Ismael but also provided his family, the Mendonca's, with the means to make nutritious meals a part of their everyday life.

Upon arrival at the rehabilitation centre Ismael weighed 10.4kg and had a midupper arm circumference of 12.8cm. Ismael was classified as suffering from mild to moderate malnutrition. During his 18 day stay at the rehabilitation centre Ismael received treatment for malnutrition and was discharged with both an increased weight and arm circumference. The rehabilitation centre also provided Ismael's parents with education and training on health practices such as how to have a balanced diet and how to grow a vegetable garden to supplement their diet.

However, AFAP and HIAM Health's commitment to the Mendonca family didn't end when Ismael left the clinic. The Mendonca family was aided in building a family kitchen garden close to their home. Along with Ismael's family, staff built a seedling hut, compost bins, plant beds and a cement water tank. The family now has access to a variety of nutritious vegetables grown close to their home including eggplant, cabbages, tomatoes and pakchoi. The assistance provided has improved not only the family's quality of life today, but also the prospects and health for their children into the future.

"...education and training on health practices such as how to have a balanced diet and how to grow a vegetable garden to supplement their diet."



WATER & Sanitation

The inability to access clean water is a problem faced by many of the poorest nations in the world. The use of unsafe water can lead to the contraction of waterborne diseases such as diarrhoea, cholera and typhoid. In the past year AFAP has supported WASH projects in Timor Leste, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique.

In Timor Leste, AFAP's partner Timor Aid has been working on the rehabilitation of nineteen boreholes in the districts of Cova Lima and Suai. The nineteen boreholes had stopped producing safe water for the villagers and required urgent repairs. However, the Government was unable to provide any service or maintenance and the communities themselves did not have the skills to maintain them. As part of the rehabilitation of the water points and in an effort to bring the facilities up to an acceptable standard nineteen pumps were repaired, twelve fences around the boreholes were mended in order to keep livestock out away from the water points and nine concrete platforms were also repaired to keep water points clean. Community management groups were also formed and trained to look after the water points in order to maintain the safe drinking water in the future. AFAP will continue to support this small WASH initiative in the next year with another eleven water point rehabilitations planned.

AFAP has also been working on the rehabilitation of boreholes in Zimbabwe with our partner the Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT). In the past year sixteen bush pumps were rehabilitated to 100% functionality. The rehabilitated pumps have enabled an additional two thousand two hundred and fifty seven children and two thousand five hundred and two adults to access a clean and portable water source. In Malawi AFAP's partner Concern Universal also worked on the rehabilitation of six water points. The water points also received new aprons and new spare parts before having their pumps reset.

AFAP also support projects that promote community ownership and management of safe water points. In Malawi, AFAP has been working with Concern Universal (CU) on training water point committees in community-based management. The water point committees are comprised of local community members and are responsible for the maintenance of village water points. In the past year eight committees, each containing ten members, were trained in community-based management. Since the training, the water point committees have established their own operation and maintenance funds for the future rehabilitation of their water points. In Mozambique, CU also provided training to local communities on safe sanitation and hygiene practices. The training sessions examined the current hygiene practices of the community and suggested ways in which unsafe practices could be improved. Safe water mechanisms such as 'TIP-TAP'

hygienic hand washing systems (easy to build using locally sourced materials) are promoted within the training sessions.

In Zimbabwe CTDT also worked with local community members to design a public latrine intended to serve the wider community including previously excluded groups such as people with disabilities and the elderly. The latrines have been approved by the Ministry of Health and are currently in the construction phase. CU has also been working on the construction of family latrines for vulnerable groups in Mozambique. To increase the sustainability of the latrines community members are provided with the skills to both construct and manage the latrines prior to receiving one. Through these comprehensive practices the immediate and long term needs of the communities are met.

Similarly AFAP has been working with communities in the Solomon Islands to identify their priorities through the work we are supporting under the Bridging the Gap program. A number of communities identified improved sanitation as a priority, so building latrines has been a part of the work undertaken by AFAP this year in the Solomons.

Gambara Water Point, Mutoko, Zimbabwe

CASE STUDY

country: Zimbabwe

Mutoko is located in the north of Zimbabwe close to the border with Mozambique. The terrain in this location is flat and rainfall is low. During the dry season the area is hot, dry and dusty. Safe, clean portable drinking water is in short supply in Mutoko. People rely on boreholes which are provided by the local government water departments. However the boreholes often breakdown and the water departments struggle to maintain them with the few resources (funding and staffing) that are available to them. When the borehole becomes non-functional people must walk long distances in order to fetch water from shallow wells or seasonal water courses. From these sources water can become very scarce as the dry season progresses and is often dirty and unsafe to drink.

"now people are very happy, they have plenty of safe clean water for drinking, bathing and washing their clothes, and their livestock are well watered." This was the type of water that the community living near the Gambara Water Point were drinking before AFAP partner organisation Community Technology Development Trust (CTDT) came to make an assessment of broken water points in the Mutoko area. Michael who is the chairman of the newly created Gambara Water Point Committee tells of how things were for his community after the borehole broke down. He explained that people had to walk three to five kms and back to fetch water from shallow wells in the area. This had quite an impact on the community especially the women. Michael explained that because of the long distances that women had to walk, they had little time left in the day to cook, do laundry and work in their fields. It was also more difficult for the men to find water for their livestock.

All this has now changed, with funds provided by AFAP through AusAid, CTDT has been able to repair the borehole and train a water committee comprising of seven men and women from the local community to make sure that there will be enough money and technical expertise that if the borehole breaks down again, it can be quickly repaired. Water committee members were elected by the community. According to Michael, members were elected because of their willingness to give time as volunteers and their commitment to serve on the committee. They have all received training from CTDT on management of the borehole and one person has been trained in pump maintenance. Community members pay a small sum of money to the committee so that spare parts can be bought when necessary and to maintain the fencing. Michael says that now people are very happy, they have plenty of safe clean water for drinking, bathing and washing their clothes, and their livestock are well watered. The women in the community no longer have to spend half the day fetching water so can spend time doing the chores necessary for maintaining their families and their fields. It has made a big difference to their lives.



EDUCATION

Lack of education is both a cause and a result of poverty in many countries. For the sixty-seven million children worldwide¹ who are not in primary school, it can result in reduced employability, poor health and increased vulnerability to activities such as human trafficking. AFAP supports a wide range of educational projects in Cambodia, Ethiopia, India, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zambia. These include primary and secondary level education, formal and non-formal classes and vocational training programs. Programs run by AFAP and our partners are carefully tailored to each community and targeted to issues which impact the wider community as well as the students.

The education programs AFAP supports aim not only to teach numeracy and literacy skills, but also to increase independence, employability, self-confidence and health for every student in ways that positively impact their community long after they leave our programs. There are many reasons why children might not attend school- often families cannot afford the fees or uniforms or the loss of labour from the family business or farm. Some are too far away for their children to safely travel to school. AFAP is working with local partners to improve children's access to schooling through the provision of support and learning materials such as books, computers, or even bicycles to encourage children to attend school. Additionally AFAP supports with medical and psychological assistance and life skills training for vulnerable girls, assistance to teachers and school management, and even basic infrastructure in some cases. Children with disabilities often face additional obstacles to attending school because of physical limitations and social stigma. AFAP supports their inclusion in education programs, as in Vietnam and Uganda, where tools and programs that can accommodate disabled students have been incorporated into education programs in order to encourage greater participation.

Girls are also often excluded from formal education, of one hundred seventy-one countries with available data, only fiftythree claim to have the same number of boys and girls in primary and secondary education². Many of these children play a key role in the day to day functioning of households, helping to raise younger siblings, cleaning and cooking, and sometimes earning money for the family. AFAP works to ameliorate this gender imbalance with partners Cambodian Women's Crisis Centre and Lotus Outreach in Cambodia and Room to Read in Laos, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Vietnam and Zambia through programs targeted specifically to girls. Non-formal education programs support children in their communities, allowing for catch up lessons and schooling that can accommodate these scheduling realities, allowing for greater flexibility and providing options where traditional schools and lessons fail.

Almost all of AFAP programs include education components in some form. This year we have provided educational support for families with vocational education programs- ranging from farming to internet usage and including conflict resolution, nutrition programs, legal advocacy for individuals and communities, training and strengthening of emergency relief. As a result of these programs, marginalised groups have access to the same education and choices as everyone else, reducing poverty and improving quality of life.

1. UNICEF Annual Report 2010 page 18 2. UNICEF Annual Report 2010 page 18



One project of AFAP's partner in Nepal, Sailung TriNetra, is to improve the educational opportunities for young children in several remote villages in the Ramchapp district of Eastern Nepal. Built over three years ago with help from the local communities that the four Early Childhood Development Centres and primary schools serve, AFAP has provided support for the foundational education for over 350 children. The facilities are open to all, and teach children about structured play, hygiene in addition to basic reading and writing.

Previously, children would have worked in the fields along with their family, due to AFAP and Sailung TriNetra's program local children are now able to enjoy the benefits of school. AFAP is also working to teach the community about the importance of education and the value in sending their children, especially girls, to school. Two secondary schools in the area have also been expanded through the building of a small library and additional classrooms. The classroom teachers and helpers for these schools come from the surrounding villages, so the schools also provide employment opportunities for local women.

Each school has a committee that is responsible for the day to day running of the schools. In addition, the local communities carry out the ongoing maintenance of the school buildings with financial support from AFAP. In this way, the villagers are able to take ownership of the work and the schools have become a vibrant part of the local community.

"the villagers are able to take ownership of the work and the schools have become a vibrant part of the local community."

CASE STUDY

COUNTRY:

Nepal



SOCIAL Inclusion

Poverty is the result of a complex and dynamic process, it is not a static, unchanging situation. A core pillar of taking Action on Poverty is that our actions should enable the people we work with to take action to help them-selves. In line with this core belief is the idea that our work should promote strategies that begin with people's aspirations and focus on supporting institutions that are inclusive of marginalised communities.

Inclusive development is about changing society to accommodate difference, and to combat discrimination, creating a community where all members of society can benefit from the resources available. Our mission is to assist the poorest and most vulnerable, often groups like women, ethnic minorities, disabled people, elderly or children and youth. We work with our partners to support institutions, organizations and groups to encourage the visibility and participation of these groups so that they are able to seize and create opportunities to move themselves up and out of poverty. To realize this change it often takes a perspective shift in the wider community.

DISABILITY

Disability is intrinsically linked to the issue of poverty. The UN states that 80% of the people living with a disability are in a developing country, where they are least equipped to cope with the needs of disabled people. Disabled people are often excluded from participating fully in society due to environmental, societal and political factors that deny access to appropriate health services and in some cases the services just don't exist.

This year AFAP supported a number of programs focused on disability. To highlight a few, in Mozambigue AFAP worked with the Association of Blind and Partially Sighted (ACAMO) to put pressure on government at the provincial level and ask them to uphold their responsibility to deliver inclusive services to the community. Working with ACAMO, AFAP is advocating for a re-evaluation of the curriculum at primary and secondary school levels, as a lack of teacher training in Braille, inadequate assistive equipment and no teacher incentives to guarantee support for blind students often leads to their exclusion in the classroom. AFAP and ACAMO are also advocating for the appointment of visually impaired teachers as role models in all provinces. Through and online workshop given by WaterAid, AFAP partner staff in Zimbabwe designed latrines that are disability friendly including hand rails and lower hand washing facilities for wheelchair users. In Vietnam, Blue Dragon Children's Foundation works with children and youth who have intellectual and/or physical disabilities and whose families are struggling financially, to assist them to reengage with education and training opportunities.

CASE STUDY

country: Bangladesh The first reaction of Siam's parents was utter shock and horror when they saw their sons deformed legs. 'All we kept wondering was why God gave us this curse', recalls Siam's father Shahidul Islam. 'My mother believed that the reason for the deformity was my wife's fault, as she did not sleep with her legs straight during pregnancy'. Instead the family hid their son's legs with a clothwrap as his deformity was cause for much tension amongst family members.

One day a family friend saw Siam's feet by chance and urged his parents to take him to a doctor. The local doctor knew about Walk for Life from their distributed newsletters, and was able to refer the baby to the Walk for Life clinic in Jessore.

Walk for Life clinic manager identified clubfoot in Siam and started treatment immediately. Now Siam can walk, run and play like any other child.

Siam's younger brother Rifat was also born with clubfeet. This time Shahidul Islam was not worried at all. Instead he took his younger son to the nearest Walk for Life clinic. After 5 castings Rifat's feet are well on their way to being corrected. His parents are more than happy with the treatment stating that 'Walk for Life have wiped away the curse from our life'.

Siam has shown a strong desire to become a footballer, with his corrected feet his dreams may well become true one day.



"His parents are more than happy with the treatment stating that 'Walk for Life have wiped away the curse from our life.""

Source for stats: United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006



The absence of a source of income during parts of the year is a major concern for most of the poor and marginalised groups in Vietnam. Without a non-agricultural livelihood, the poor, especially women, find it hard to cope with everyday life. Since late 2011, AFAP has been working with villagers, local authorities, and local businesses to set up sustainable livelihood projects that would provide income year-round, like broom making from native "Chit" grass.

Women from poor families were selected and trained to make brooms based on the order from export companies. After six months, the group manufactured more than ten thousand brooms, creating stable income for forty-eight women of the village. In this project more than forty women come to the cultural hall of the village to make brooms. The local enterprise at the village is managing the model, paying every member based on their output. "In the past, we only collected Chit from the forest and sold to traders in the town at cheap price. We are so happy that now we can make the brooms with higher and more stable income. If we work hard, a person could make 70,000 VND (US\$ 3-5) per day. We would only earn 20,000 VND per day if we work in the farm or collect wood from the forest. This work is convenient for us as the workplace is close to our houses. Working daily with the team in the cultural hall, we also learn more from each other and exchange our experiences in taking care of the families", Ms Bui Thi Thanh, a worker of the Chuc Son Broom Making Group, Toan Son Commune in Da Bac, Hoa Binh shares.

"We are so happy that now we can make the brooms with higher and more stable income."

GENDER

In many of the countries where we work women's participation in decision-making is limited. Therefore consideration to gender needs to be proactively supported if we are to address the underlying inequities that contribute to women living in poverty.

AFAP takes a mainstreaming approach to gender issues by challenging the status quo and helping women to create solutions to their own problems. As always, women have played an integral part of AFAP's programs this year, both as beneficiaries and as agents of change. Our gender-based work involved communicating directly with women to encourage them to take on leadership roles, promoting the reduction in gender based violence and creating opportunities for women to be able to access education and employment opportunities.

In Malawi activities undertaken as part of the integrated rural development initiative funded by AusAID, AFAP's Shared Futures Program aimed to raise awareness of gender-based violence in the community. Families attended a workshop called 16 Days of Activism on gender-based violence, coordinated by AFAP's partner, Concern Universal. Following this training, families were used as role models during domestic violence meetings to influence others in the community. As a result of one wife's testimony of positive change in her family, she went on to be elected into the community policing forum committee, gaining influence because of her leadership role. She attested that about twelve families have reconciled through her active role in speaking and acting against domestic violence and she is proud to be seen as a positive influence in her community.



In Timor Leste, AFAP supported the establishment of five women's groups in the Barique-Natarbora sub-district in conjunction with Bega Valley Advocates for Timor Leste (BVATL). This project rehabilitated a building in Abat Oan that will serve as a women's center and become an income generating operation for the women's groups. The building was fully furnished as flats to be used as accommodation and equipped with an external kitchen. The women's center was officially opened with a traditional Timorese ceremony and entitled 'Losmen Esperanca'. Losmen Esperanca is run solely by the women's groups and is used to fund activities identified as priorities by the women themselves such as bookkeeping and group conflict-resolution exercises. This year forty-two women from four participating sucos (villages) in Barique-Natarbora attended gender training run by another of AFAP's partners, the Alola Foundation, who is a local leading gender focused agency. This training focused on group management skills such as identifying group strengths and weaknesses and group decision-making.

FINANCIAL Statements

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30th June 2012

	2012 \$	2011 \$
REVENUE		
Donations and Gifts		
- Monetary	4,723,060	4,224,695
- Non-monetary	0	10,720
Bequests and Legacies	0	0
Grants		
- AusAID	2,591,512	1,766,622
- Other Australian	75,000	75,000
- Other Overseas	0	392,288
Investment Income	58,243	40,602
Other Income	363,213	73,089
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs	_	-
TOTAL REVENUE	7,811,028	6,583,016

	2012 \$	2011 \$
EXPENDITURE		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
International Programs		
-Funds to International Programs	5,579,973	4,966,063
- Program Support Costs	1,170,658	1,048,447
 Non Monetary Expenditure Medical Supplies 	0	0
Community Education	90,251	49,054
Fundraising Costs		
- Public	45,664	40,673
- Government, multilateral and private	e 7,852	6,712
Accountability and Administration	253,142	292,216
Non-Monetary Expenditure		
- Community education	0	1,015
- Fundraising Public	0	725
- International programs Monitoring and Evaluation	0	8,980
Total International Aid		
and Development Programs Expenditure	7,147,540	6,413,886
International Political or Religious		
Adherence Promotion Programs Exp	enditure 0	0
Domestic Programs Expenditure	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	7,147,540	6,413,886
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER DISBURSEMENTS	663,488	169,130

2012

2011

Note 1: Annual Financial Report

This financial report is derived from the company's annual statutory report for the year ended 30th June 2012 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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30th June 2012

	2012 \$	2011 \$		2012 \$	2011 \$
ASSETS			LIABILITIES		
Current Assets			Current Liabilities		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,359,850	2,595,517	Trade and other payables	16,604	25,292
Trade and other Receivables	40,645	142,596	Borrowings	-	-
Inventories	-	-	Current Tax Liabilities	86,861	90,968
Assets held for sale	-	-	Other Financial liabilities	-	-
Other Financial assets	4,174	-	Provisions	27,918	11,973
Total Current Assets	3,404,669	2,738,113	Other		
Non Current Assets			Total Current Liabilities	131,383	128,233
Trade and other Receivables	-	_	Non Current Liabilities		
Other Financial Assets	-	-	Borrowings	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	12,487	12,405	Other Financial Liabilities	-	-
Investment Property			Provisions	-	-
Intangibles	-	-	Other	-	-
Other non-current assets	-		Total Non-Current Liabilities	0	0
Total Non-current assets	12,487	12,405	TOTAL LIABILITIES	131,383	128,233
TOTAL ASSETS	3,417,156	2,750,518	NET ASSETS	3,285,773	2,622,285
			EQUITY		

Other Financial Liabilities	-	-
Provisions	-	-
Other	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	0	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	131,383	128,233
NET ASSETS	3,285,773	2,622,285
NET ASSETS	3,285,773	2,622,285
	3,285,773 3,870	2,622,285 3,870
EQUITY		

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 30th June 2012

	Accumulated Harold Webber Funds Memorial Fund		Other	Total	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
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	0	2,622,285	
Balance at 30th June 2011	2,618,415	3,870	0	2,622,285	
Net Surplus(deficiency) Transfers to and from reserves - to Harold Webber Memorial Fund	663,488 -	0 -	0 -	663,488 -	
Sub-total	3,281,903	3,870	0	3,285,773	
Balance at 30 June 2012	3,281,903	3,870	0	3,285,773	

TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES

For the year ended 30th June 2012

	Cash available at beginning of year	Cash raised during the year	Cash disbursed during the year	Cash available at end of financial year
	\$	\$	\$	\$
AusAID Africa AACES program	783,042	1,695,842	1,550,809	928,075
AusAID ANCP program	0	895,670	818,485	77,185
School and Library Building Program				
- South Africa	0	282,050	282,050	0
- Vietnam	0	174,075	174,075	0
- Laos	32,761	455,669	438,940	49,490
- Nepal	0	192,000	192,000	0
- India	13,500	579,805	593,305	0
- Sri Lanka	37,000	115,850	152,850	0
- General	156,864	96,810	181,637	72,037
Health and Education Programs - Nepal and Uganda	134,764	1,702,438	702,283	1,134,919
Total for Other Non-Designated Purposes	1,437,586	1,589,175	1,928,617	1,098,144
	2,595,517	7,779,384	7,015,051	3,359,850

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.

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

The directors of the company declare that:

1.

The financial statements and accompanying notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:

- (a) comply with Accounting Standards; the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Australian Council for International Development(ACFID) Code of Conduct.
- (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2012 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 Harkness

(Director)

Dated this 25th day of September 2012

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 2012, 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 2012. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 26th September 2012. 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 2012 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report, prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

1 Houst

Owen Houston Registered Company Auditor No 4548 Dated: 26th September 2012

The audit was conducted by Houston and Co P/L Chartered Accountant. Owen Houston is a Registered Company Auditor (No. 4548) and is a Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA).

For further details, the auditor may be contacted at Suite 4/113 Willoughby Rd, Crows Nest NSW 2065 or on 02-9906-2088.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICE HOLDERS

SYDNEY OFFICE

International Programs Director: Christine Murphy Finance Manager: Christine Pollard Africa Program Manager: Jacky Gendre Africa Program Officer: Sem Mabuwa Partnerships Program Manager: Cassandra Mok Communication & Education Manager: Rebekah Enoch Administration and Office Manager: Manjita Gurung Program Officer: Laura Bayndrian Program Assistant: Siobhan Clark

BOARD

St Vincent's Hospital

John Rock (Chairperson appointed 5/11/2001) B.Sc. Hons, Retired Sales and Marketing Consultant

A/Prof. Jock Harkness (Director appointed 27/11/1997) Company secretary appointed 18/4/11 MBBS DCP (Lon); FRCPA; FASM Microbiologist,

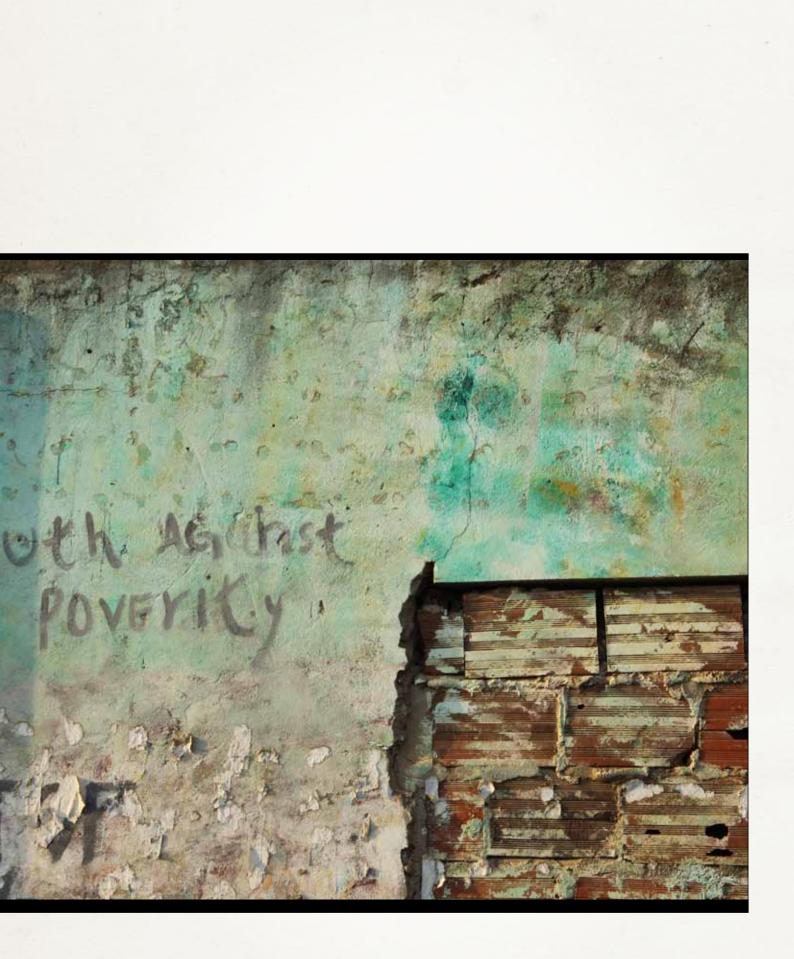
Dr Angeline Low (Director – appointed 26/10/2009) PhD, MMgmt., B. Econs. Hons, MAICD Research Fellow, University of Technology Sydney; Board Member, Child Fund Australia

David A Brett (Director- appointed 6/4/2011) BSc(For) (ANU), MAgr (Syd) Consultant International Development

VIETNAM OFFICE

Country Director: Ta Van Tuan Project Manager: Han Van Khoat Senior Program: Officer Duong Van Khai Program Officer: Luong Thi Ngoc Ha Senior Finance Officer: Do Ngoc Van Project Assistant: Tran Thi Hien Administrative Assistant: Quach Quang Hai Logistics Officer: Tran Thi Hoa





WHERE WE WORK

WHO WE WORK WITH

AFAP is committed to working in partnership in order to deliver effective development programs that take action on poverty. Our success is based on the ongoing support we receive from our donors, members and volunteers. AFAP has been working with our long-term partners in developing countries for over 40 years to deliver locally identified and practical solutions for lifting people out of poverty. We would like to acknowledge the many partners with whom we work, as our success is built on their dedication and commitment. We are grateful for their ongoing support and commitment, whether it is large or small. However special thanks must be given to the following donors during 2011-12.

Institutional Donors

- AusAID
- USAID

Foundations

- Jenour Foundation
- Harold Mitchell Foundation
- Andrew McNaughton Foundation
- The Trust Company Foundation
- The Australian Communities Foundation
- Portland House
- Bennelong Foundation
- L&R Uechtritz Foundation
- Glencoe Foundation
- Operation Cleft Australia Foundation
- ISIS Foundation
- Room to Read Australia Foundation

The Charitable Foundation

Pro Bono Support

- Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC)
- Allens Linklaters
- MinterEllison Lawyers

Ethiopia







Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific Limited

Sydney Office 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 Australia

Vietnam Office

Phone: (+844) 385 62421 Fax: (+844) 35143538 Email: admin@afapvn.org Visit: No. 30, Lane 12 Dang Thai Mai Street, Tay Ho District Hanoi, Vietnam

