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# PARTNERING ACROSS NATIONS

ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

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Australian Churches of Christ  
Global Mission Partners





Cover Image: Men from Mberengwa district, Zimbabwe

Above: The Emmanuel Education Centre, Mumbai, India

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# WHAT A YEAR!

## YOUR IMPACT IS WORTH CELEBRATING

Every year, your impact is worth celebrating! Your generosity changes the lives of many people and makes a difference to those in need. Read on for a small selection of important highlights you've helped achieve.



Image: Celebrating a consistent water supply, Kufa Village, Zimbabwe. Showers of Blessing Trust's (OSBT) project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR



This year you've helped make possible:

International  
Church  
Partnerships in  
 **11**  
Countries

International  
Development  
Partnerships in  
 **6**  
Countries

 **8**  
Indigenous  
ministry  
projects  
in Australia

**300**   
people  
involved in  
embody  
campaigns

## PARTNERING ACROSS NATIONS

### ADDRESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The work of Global Mission Partners (GMP) is truly international. We partner with people across cultural, ethnic, linguistic and historic boundaries. Our hope is that as we do so, we are making real the depth of the Christian values of generosity, compassion, care and solidarity. Such values, drawn from the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, underpin our work. These values build our distinctive identity and serve also to highlight what work still needs to be done.

When Jesus tells a judgement parable about the sheep and the goats, the essential difference between the two is summed up in action that flows from the grace the sheep have experienced. This outflowing of life, or intrinsic motivation, is the energy behind the actions taken by the sheep. In their care the hungry were fed, the thirsty had something to drink, strangers were included, the naked were clothed, the sick were cared for, and prisoners visited. All this was done as a natural expression of life as a Jesus follower and without realising that it was Jesus they were showing care to.

As I reflect on the work of GMP – at all levels – this judgment story informs our work. We, by word and deed, proclaim and share the love of God in Jesus. This is not always easy or straightforward. There is always more that we want to do, and our partners are keen to do more. We operate in an environment of constraint – policies, regulations and resources all shape what we can and cannot do.

Over the past two financial years we have all experienced much disruption, and GMP and our partners were not exempt. The realities of not travelling for more than two years, and the lack of face-to-face partner contact, has taught us to use other forms of communication. All of us have grown in our ability to work with, and in support of, our partners and they with us.

As you read this report you will see the ways that our partners have been true to their calling and what has been achieved. Through all of this we want to say a big “thank you” for your generous and prayerful support of our partners and GMP.

At the end of November, I conclude in my role after 15 years. Much has changed in the environments in which we work. We have welcomed new partnerships in South

Sudan, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia. We are indebted to those who worked behind the scenes to make these partnerships possible. Indigenous Ministries Australia is an intrinsic part of GMP as is our youth and young adult program, embody.

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid is fully accredited, and this means that there are new opportunities available to respond to the situation of people living in poverty. GMP is also part of the Church Agencies Network and the ACT Alliance. On the other hand, we live with increased regulation and compliance. GMP's partners have worked through these changes in a positive way. We have embraced new technology, we communicate differently, and we have a specialist staff team.

At a personal level I am not able to express in words my appreciation for the support that I have received in the almost 15 years of my time with GMP. Thank you to our partners overseas and in Australia – we can do nothing without you and your faithful courage. Thank you to our supporters; you make what our partners seek to do possible. We, the staff and the GMP Board, are the ‘inbetweeners’. I have been privileged to work with a wonderful team of staff who have travelled the journey with me. A particular thanks goes to Val Zerna, who is retiring after 19 years with GMP. She has been a key part of the relationship GMP has with its supporters. The GMP Board and its office bearers have provided wisdom, support and guidance. A personal thank you to my wife, Meewon, who has supported me throughout my work and my frequent absences from home. It has been such a privilege to contribute to the life of GMP.

The future is positive for GMP, notwithstanding the challenges of Redress. GMP has strong partners and encouraging support, as well as assets, that give us confidence going into the future.



John Gilmore  
Executive Officer





# PARTNERING ACROSS NATIONS

## ADDRESS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

GMP has been on a journey over this past year of present and future development. In these activities our reason for existence has remained resolute throughout. We are still partnering internationally and nationally. Supporters are still vital to the organisation, as are our members. The staff have been working hard, despite the pandemic placing many obstacles in their road, such as working from home and not being able to travel. The Board has continued to make hard decisions in difficult times. As Chair, I am most grateful to God and for each one who has been involved and stood with us as we have endeavoured to fulfil our commission on your behalf in our world. All this was possible due to our strong belief and confidence in Jesus Christ and His guidance.

A change is coming as GMP's Executive Officer, John Gilmore, concludes his role in November. We are extremely grateful to John for his foresight, strength, compassion and guidance. We acknowledge that without him, GMP would not be where it is today. The process of finding a new Executive Officer is well underway as this Annual Report is being produced. Please continue to be in prayer for the right person to be chosen and, later, as they settle into this important role.

The Board has diligently and maturely continued through this past year in the role asked of it, while endeavouring to be more inclusive of gender, age, experience and culture.

One of the sad challenges faced by GMP is the impact of the cost of Redress on Indigenous Ministry Australia. Considerable work has been done by the Executive Officer with the National Redress Scheme and with representatives of the State Conferences. We should be grateful for this process, as we are redressing wrongs. In these activities we are acknowledging the pain that has been caused to children in care who have grown into adults who carry much trauma as a result.

As we move into 2023, we have much to be grateful for to God and we continue to pray for His wisdom, guidance and courage to continue in faithful service. I ask you to come with us on the continuing journey of partnering across nations to see lives transformed through Jesus Christ in the activities of Global Mission Partners.

May God's blessings rest upon you.

*Barrie Yesberg*

Barrie Yesberg  
Board Chair



# HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

GMP is 'Partner Driven.' Our partners plan and undertake projects. In this report you will read of their activities and our work to support them. Our partners are creative, courageous, and keen to do more activities.

We continued to be humbled by the generosity of our supporters. We have resourced partners in response to the impact of COVID-19, the Tongan Volcano eruption and the war in the Ukraine. Through the sub-entity, GMP Extend, we have also responded to bushfires and flooding.

The reality of COVID-19 stayed with us throughout this past year. We provided support to partners using several internet and social media platforms. Without exception, all our partners have managed very well in this time of great complexity. We, and they, have learned new skills, and we will not lose these learnings. Being able to see partners face-to-face in Zimbabwe and India (May 2022) for the first time in almost three years was a real highlight.

Around 15 years ago, GMP set a direction to become accredited with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). This was prioritised more than 10 years ago, and this year GMP was Fully Accredited by DFAT as an agency capable of delivering quality aid outcomes. This is a significant achievement. In practical terms, GMP's partners will be better resourced to undertake projects in their local settings. The resources available to COCOA through Australian Aid have increased from \$150,000 in this financial year to \$832,000 in 2022-23. Thank you to the staff and Board of GMP for this outcome.

Another highlight has been the consistent levels of generous giving to GMP appeals. We are always mindful of not asking too often, and so we try to manage this with care. Giving to our special appeals, in most cases, exceeded our giving target. Thank you so much for this.

One question we are not able to resolve concerns the distribution of promotional material and offering envelopes through local churches in this COVID-19 time. Many churches are not using offering plates and instead have a retiring offering and/or members give online. Most churches no longer have a printed weekly newsletter and so distribution of material is now more difficult. We are also aware that many people are uncomfortable about giving online. All of this poses a challenge for GMP.

During the year we received several bequests. When bequests are received the funds are invested and the person's name is recorded in our bequest register.

Bequests are a continuing resource to the mission and activities of GMP.

For many, many years, GMP has been the owner/trustee of a church property in Carlton, Victoria. It was originally used as an outreach centre for Chinese goldminers returning to Melbourne. The property is rundown and, with the cooperation of the church that uses the property, it was sold during the year. The funds will be received in December 2022. The proceeds will be invested; some in property, and will support the international mission of GMP.

GMP staff continue to operate in a hybrid office environment with a mix of working from home, face-to-face meetings (where possible) and time in the office. We have continued with a weekly online staff meeting and enjoy the hour or so spent catching up with everyone.

During the year we completed a review into the current staffing, finances and structure of GMP. We wanted to make sure we were ready for the future. Some significant decisions were made. In the past we have had locally-based State Partnership Coordinators. They have all been wonderful local expressions of GMP. However, the reality of the cost of these roles, and the challenge of maintaining our commitments to partners and running a low operating overhead has resulted in the difficult decision to conclude these roles. We greatly appreciate the contributions of Sam Curkpatrick, Vicki Marney, Colin Scott, Colin Battersby and Val Zerna. Colin Scott, Colin Battersby and Val Zerna continue in new roles as part of the GMP staff team. In the future, local church contact will be coordinated through the GMP office in Adelaide and staff based in the states will continue to visit churches. Please continue to invite us to come. Other changes have included reductions in administration staff due to increased efficiency being achieved via the software used for receipting and accounting.

The staffing structure of GMP has changed with the formation of three activity hubs, each with a leader. The Hubs are Program, Engagement and Support. The leaders of these Hubs, together with the Executive Officer and the Deputy Executive Officer, form the Staff Executive.

Elsewhere in this report you will see a summary of the impact of the Applications for Redress on the current and future work of Indigenous Ministries Australia. This matter has required much attention.



# NATIONAL REDRESS STATEMENT

The Australian Churches of Christ Indigenous Ministries (ACCIM) – previously known as the Federal Aborigines Mission Board – operated children's homes in Western Australia and one in Queensland. The Council of the Churches of Christ in Australia asked Global Mission Partners to administer the closure of ACCIM and begin something new.

ACCIM closed and was formally dissolved on 18 March 2014. In 2014 GMP received the assets of ACCIM and launched a new Indigenous ministry with and among Australia's first peoples. This is now Indigenous Ministries Australia.

In 2013 the Federal Government announced a Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The results of this investigation were devastating. One outcome was the establishment of a National Redress Scheme in 2017. Those who as children were abused in homes could seek redress from the bodies that operated the institutions in which the abuse occurred. The test used in decisions about the likelihood of abuse having happened is 'on the balance of probabilities' and the maximum Redress payment is \$150,000. The institutions that operated the homes are responsible for funding Redress.

The Government determined that there was a choice about whether institutions (including churches) could opt-in or not. Local churches, State Conference bodies and other ministry agencies within Churches of Christ all opted in.

It also decided that where an institution had closed and there is a current body that received the assets of the closed body, that latter body is deemed to be the continuing institution of the closed entity. GMP is deemed to be the continuing entity of the ACCIM homes in Western Australia.

GMP made a decision to be part of the Redress process. This was a decision made by the GMP company members. We did so with the hope of healing and justice being experienced for people who had been abused as children. GMP has been part of the National Redress Scheme for three years.

Since entering into the National Redress Scheme, the number of applications for Redress arising out of the children's homes of ACCIM is more than three times our original estimate.

Redress Invoices totalling \$6,375,928 have been received by GMP since June 2020. In October 2021 GMP contacted the National Redress Scheme and indicated that GMP was facing a greater Redress risk than could be afforded. GMP was subsequently removed from the scheme for the ACCIM Western Australia properties in December 2021. Without such a step being taken, the likely Redress exposure would have been more than \$12,000,000. As a result of this reality you will note in the GMP Accounts that IMA has a very significant liability in its balance sheet of \$2,660,202.

The Council of Churches of Christ in Australia understands that IMA cannot meet the cost of Redress and that the responsibility for the ACCIM Redress payments rests with the wider life of Churches of Christ.

To date State Conferences in WA, SA-NT, Vic-Tas and NSW have provided more than \$700,000 of financial assistance. A plan is in place to fund the remaining Redress obligation. The Queensland Conference is managing Redress matters in relation to the Eidsvold home in Queensland.

Please be assured:

The assets of GMP held for International Church Partnerships are NOT at risk.

The assets of GMP held for Churches of Christ Overseas Aid are NOT at risk.

Specific giving to IMA projects in recent years is NOT at risk.

The Redress exposure is to the assets generated by the closure of ACCIM. We have formal legal advice that confirms this understanding.

## It is important to appreciate the following:

1. GMP did not, at any time, operate or oversee the activities of the homes.
2. The level of Redress relates to the past operations of the ACCIM homes. Many children have been abused – by staff, fellow residents and others. Not all children were abused. Not all staff abused children.
3. This reality had been unknown until the Royal Commission and the launch of the National Redress Scheme.
4. GMP is not at fiduciary risk.
5. IMA is now unsustainable, with more debt than assets, and the future staffing of IMA is under review. It is likely that current staff roles will be dissolved at the end of the 2022/23 financial year. We continue to explore options for the continuance of IMA so that what has been gained is not lost.
6. The Council of Churches of Christ in Australia recognises that the level of Redress means that the resources we, and our Indigenous leaders, have assumed were available for the future are now fully depleted.

## Concluding Comment

GMP and the Council of Churches of Christ in Australia are not giving up having an ongoing ministry with and among Australia's First Peoples. So much has been gained in recent years and we believe Churches of Christ must continue this work. We have assured the Aboriginal leadership of Churches of Christ of our commitment.



John Gilmore  
Executive Officer



Barrie Yesberg  
Board Chair



# OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE WORLD



- International Church Partnerships (ICP) Projects
- Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) Projects
- Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) Projects
- embody Communities



## Australia

**Projects:** IMA, embody  
**Areas of work:** Indigenous Ministry and embody campaigns



## Bangladesh

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP); sanitation, education, livelihoods (COCOA)



## Fiji

**Projects:** ICP  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP)



## India

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church partnership and welfare programs (ICP); livelihoods, schooling, health care (COCOA)



## Indonesia

**Projects:** ICP  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP)



## Papua New Guinea

**Projects:** ICP  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP)



## Philippines

**Projects:** ICP  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP)



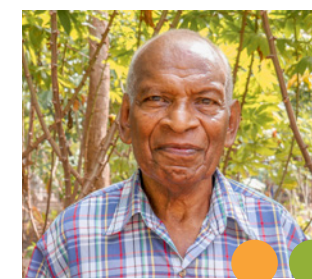
## South Sudan

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP); schooling, livelihoods (COCOA)



## Thailand

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church leadership and development (ICP); livelihoods (COCOA)



## Vanuatu

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP); community development, disaster risk reduction (COCOA)



## Vietnam

**Projects:** ICP  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development (ICP)



## Zimbabwe

**Projects:** ICP, COCOA  
**Areas of work:** Church and leadership development, supporting evangelists (ICP); vulnerable children, safe water (COCOA)



# CONNECTING CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

## INTERNATIONAL CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS

International Church Partnerships (ICP) focus on partnering with the global church by supporting our international church partners in their mission commitments.

We do this by connecting Australian people and churches to those across the nations so that we can support, encourage, and resource the work of the gospel in Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, South Sudan, Thailand, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.



## MEET STELLA

Originally from Papua New Guinea (PNG), Stella serves in the Lomowai Church of Christ just outside Sigatoka in Fiji and is married to Muneshwar. They have three children. She joined Youth With A Mission in PNG, then went to the South Pacific Missionary College in Fiji, graduating with a Diploma in Bible and Mission. Stella is energetic and joyful. "I'm involved in teaching Sunday school, youth ministry, women's fellowship, one-on-one evangelism and participating in fundraising for the church." Stella serves where she is needed and is ready to fill any gap in the ministry of her church.

Image: Stella, Muneshwar and two of their children





Centenary of Churches of Christ Celebrations,  
Daund Church of Christ, India

## EXPRESSING THE LOVE OF JESUS ACROSS NATIONS

When we partner across nations – with an emphasis on knowing the locals and being known by them – there is an important factor to consider: not all our partners experienced global events equally. ICP has focused on being a constant during these turbulent times. We have achieved that because of the constancy of your support.

For example, the COVID-19 waves washed upon our partners in different ways throughout 2021-22. Vietnam and Thailand suffered severe waves, even as the numbers of lives lost and active cases dropped in India, Bangladesh and Fiji. In South Sudan and Papua New Guinea, we may never get a clear picture of the pandemic's reach.

This means that the consistency of support from our generous ICP supporters is even more crucial in these uncertain times. As has been experienced here in Australia, the pandemic has taught us that we can take nothing for granted – and that has been our partners' experience. Despite that, your steadfast support of the Walk For Hope campaign, for example, raised \$36,198, which was well above its target.

Let me give you some examples of the impact of what you give:

**In Bangladesh**, we have continued to engage in training the next generation of leaders.

**In Fiji**, it has meant that our small churches there have been able to continue ministering above and beyond their scale and have taken new steps towards long-term sustainability.

**In South Sudan**, church buildings were improved so that worshippers can meet even during the rainy season and engage in training and evangelism.

**In the Philippines**, students were trained to spread the good news and to have another vocation to ensure their financial viability.

**In Zimbabwe**, pastors have been received motorbikes so that they can travel and minister to their scattered congregations.

**In Thailand and Indonesia**, our partners reached out to the marginalised in their communities during the worst of the pandemic and showed Christ-like compassion.

You, through your faithfulness and generosity, are a part of these ministries. Our partners regularly express their gratitude for your support. You may have felt somewhat contained or restricted over the past few pandemic years, but your generosity has rippled out. You may think you are 'just' supporting the ministry of house churches in Vietnam, for example, which of course you are, yet your support does so much more than that. It means that a local pastor can meet with people during a crisis, pray with them and show them Jesus' nature and love. It means connection and hope. That's what your support does – not only in Vietnam, but across our partners, from Zimbabwe to India to the Philippines to Indonesia to Vanuatu.

Let me add my thanks, and encourage you that your support lands across nations, across communities, across churches and across dinner tables, as people meet and gather to express the love of Jesus in a thousand different ways in a myriad of settings.

## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

### MEET PASTOR FREDDIE

In 2021, when the Londua Technical College was moving back to Ambae (post the volcanic eruptions), many qualified people did not want to apply for the vacant positions. Pastor Freddie Bani, who has a Diploma in Theology from the Joy Bible Institute in Port Vila, did apply – and he was appointed to the important role of chaplain.

Londua and its students have benefitted from this appointment. Besides his chaplaincy role, Pastor Freddie teaches Religious Education and Agriculture. During his free time, he gives counselling to the students. He has commenced some special assistance to the students, through generous free-will giving, that helps young people with a single parent or without parents.

Sundays and Fridays are the days scheduled for spiritual programs at Londua. On Sundays, during the school term, the school conducts communion services. The sharing of communion, and often the preaching, is conducted by Pastor Freddie. Other responsibilities are allocated to students and staff.



*"Pastor Freddie is excellent  
at working with the students"*

Pastor Freddie also actively participates in sports and other school-organised activities.

Principal Neyava Philip says, "Pastor Freddie is excellent at working with the students – both socially and spiritually. He is gifted in leading the students in singing, helping them to explore their spiritual gifts and he is very hard working."

The school, after seeing the importance of his contributions to the life of the students last year, has extended his contract.

### This year you helped ICP projects achieve:

Church  
Partnerships in  
**11**  
Countries

**52**  
Students  
attending Bible college  
in Indonesia

**13**  
graduates  
from Bible college  
in Indonesia

**396**  
people  
baptised  
in South Sudan

or further  
**281**  
people  
baptised  
in Indonesia

and  
**43**  
people  
baptised  
in Bangladesh



# ICP PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

## BANGLADESH

ICP supports 17 churches in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ (BHCOC) focus on evangelism, church planting, leadership training, women's ministry and youth ministry.

### Challenges

We would love to keep pace with the entrepreneurial spirit of the BHCOC! Despite COVID-19, the BHCOC identified improvements to church buildings and developing their facilities at Ruma. This required funding beyond our capacity. Pastor Lalrunnem's death in April 2022 was a blow to Vana Bawm, and the entire BHCOC community.

### Strengths

Building and repairing church facilities continue in a moderated manner, with the BHCOC contributing to costs and labour. The annual training of leaders continued in December 2021, with 73 leaders gathering at Ruma for encouragement. Evangelism and discipleship remain at the core of the work of the BHCOC. People in economic need were cared for by the churches.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with energetic and gospel-focused leaders in the BHCOC to reach out, train local leaders and raise up women and young people as leaders.

## FIJI

ICP supports three churches in Fiji, based in Lautoka (Suwnei), Lomowai (near Sigatoka) and Vuci Rd (Suva). ICP has a MOU with the Nakasi Church, who use the GMP-owned facility.

### Strengths

Our Fijian churches were able to survive COVID-19 through the support of Australian churches. While evangelism is their natural gift and focus, a move towards caring for the whole person has emerged over the past few years. Lomowai and Lautoka have settled into better facilities, and all the churches are contributing to some of their costs of maintaining ministry. The Nakasi Church had a settled year.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with committed, local leadership offering their church communities as places of hope in difficult times.

## INDIA

ICP primarily supports child welfare facilities in India, and churches in the poorest parts of the megacity of Mumbai.

### Challenges

The assessment of GMP's role in India has continued. This is an ongoing process.

### Strengths

There is renewed energy with our partners in the 'slum' churches in Mumbai, and this is offering hope for a stronger relationship in the coming years. The recent visit by GMP's EO, John Gilmore, saw clarity established with our partners. ICP looks forward to renewed progress and relationships in 2022/23. The ministry in Mumbai is also encouraging as the global shift in population moves to megacities.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with the future of mission in megacities as we focus on ministry in Mumbai.

## INDONESIA

ICP works closely with Asia Pacific International (API) in Bandung and the Christian Church Theological School of Indonesia (CCTSI) in Salatiga. These colleges train students to plant churches across Indonesia and focus on blessing their local communities.

### Challenges

A key staff member left API, which meant adjusting to new dynamics. CCTSI also faced a change in leadership, with Dr. Hery Susanto becoming the new Director. This has been well-handled against the backdrop of a rapidly shifting context due to COVID-19.

### Strengths

The professionalism, energy and commitment from our Indonesian partners continued in the past year. They ministered to the communities around them and persevered with training students to lead and plant churches across the diversity of cultures and contexts in Indonesia.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with two professional and expert partners in Indonesia, who are building the next generation of church planters.

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ (MECOC) are ICP's partners in PNG, with over 100 churches in the East Sepik region. ICP supports training centres in Gandepe and Yamen.

### Challenges

COVID-19 saw a halt to visits in PNG, where such visits are most needed and often produce clear ways forward through complex issues. The impending retirement of John Gilmore, who has tirelessly worked with our PNG partners, leaves a gap in our relationships and processes.

### Strengths

The desire to spread the good news is strong in PNG. We often hear of reports of many people being saved and baptised.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with MECOC, who oversee the evangelistic zeal of the local churches and the training of the next generation of pastors and leaders.

## PHILIPPINES

Our partnership is with the International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), who train students for ministry and other vocations that can help support them as they undertake pastoral work.

### Challenges

The facilities in Manila are becoming increasingly unsuited to the needs of ICCM. Finding both the time and the properties to look at during the numerous lockdowns was near impossible.

### Strengths

With the COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns that were implemented in Manila particularly, the staff, faculty and students at ICCM made swift and significant changes to their operations. Students still graduated. Negotiations with the landlord progressed and with ICCM's lease extended, this has allowed for a calmer process as they seek suitable facilities.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with a vibrant partner, committed to training pastors who can minister across the different contexts in the Philippines.

## SOUTH SUDAN

In South Sudan, ICP supports chaplaincy, training church leaders at Aweil Bible College and other institutions, and providing local churches with basic ministry necessities.

### Challenges

South Sudan has been spared the worst of COVID-19, but ongoing political instability, ethnic violence and poverty means that the churches work in a difficult context. Training church leaders is relatively expensive and usually happens outside of South Sudan. Basic church infrastructure is often lacking.

### Strengths

The resilience of our South Sudanese partners is astounding. They are committed to evangelism, discipleship and raising up new leaders. Despite the challenges outlined above, they persist.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with churches in South Sudan to train leaders, engage in evangelism and work together to improve church infrastructure so people can meet safely and engage in worship and training.

## THAILAND

ICP continues to partner with the Church of Christ Thailand (CCT) as they support the Plang churches west of Bangkok.

### Challenges

Our work in Thailand is small in scope. Personnel changes at the CCT has meant that reporting back takes a lower priority. We are working through this and there has been progress.

### Strengths

At its best, partnering with the efficient and likeminded CCT is a pleasure. They are professional in the way that they conduct training, and there is a real desire to reach out to the marginalised in Thai society.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with churches in Thailand to reach out to those who are almost invisible to the rest of Thai society.



# ICP PARTNERS AND PROJECTS CONT.

## VANUATU

In partnership with the Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV), ICP focuses on supporting local churches, chaplaincy and improving church facilities.

### Challenges

The CCCV has undergone changes in personnel since we were last able to travel, and not being able to meet the new people face-to-face has been less than ideal. There is currently no training institution for church leaders in the CCCV.

### Strengths

As one of the oldest partnerships ICP has, there are good structures in place and strong foundations on which our relationship is based. Local churches continue to minister to their communities.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with churches in Vanuatu who are deeply committed to their local communities.

## VIETNAM

In the small house churches scattered throughout Vietnam, ICP focuses on leadership training and support.

### Challenges

There were major disruptions to society with the successive waves of COVID-19 from June 2021; ill-health of key leaders was also an issue at times.

### Strengths

Being small can sometimes be a weakness, but at times a strength. The churches we partner with in Vietnam can operate 'under the radar', avoiding government notice and acting quickly to meet the needs of their communities.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with churches in Vietnam who, despite difficulty, have a deep desire to connect to God and connect others to Him.

## ZIMBABWE

In partnership with the Associated Churches of Christ in Zimbabwe (ACCZ), ICP supports churches and evangelists, who can minister up to as many as eight churches.

### Challenges

COVID-19 emphasised the challenges faced by Zimbabweans in terms of government corruption, food security and endemic poverty. The death of a key evangelist, Famalos Zhou, was a blow to the ACCZ in the difficult times that emerged with the pandemic.

### Strengths

In some churches, the gaps that emerged from COVID-19 allowed women and youth to take on leading roles in their faith communities. The passion and resilience of the Zimbabwean churches and their leaders is extraordinary.

### How You are Partnering Across Nations

You are partnering with churches in Zimbabwe who continue to spread the good news, no matter the setting or the circumstances.

## ICP ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

**One of the ways GMP supports mission is by making available practical, administrative and financial support for ministries that do not have an Australian presence, or the systems required for operational support.**

### Reaching Hands, India

Dr. Iris Paul founded the Reaching Hands Society in Orissa, building on the work of her late husband. Their son, Remo Paul, is the Director. The focus of Reaching Hands is on community health clinics, education, church planting and prison ministry. The door is opened for them to share the Christian message through their healthcare and education programs. The villages they work in are isolated and people there have few resources. They have also distributed COVID-19 emergency relief packages this year.

### Geon Homes and Asia Gospel Mission, South Korea

Geon Homes continues to focus on the care, support and education of children. This includes residential (for abandoned children) and non-residential programs (local children). The second ministry, Asia Gospel Mission, supports pastors and churches in rural settings with few resources. After many years of creative leadership by Dr. Yoon Kwon Chae, this ministry is now led by his son, John Chae.

### Newbigin School for Urban Leadership, Birmingham, UK

Newbigin School for Urban Leadership is based in Winson Green, Birmingham, UK. This multiracial, inner-city neighbourhood was the seedbed for the industrial revolution where some of the first urban industrialised neighbourhoods began over 200 years ago. The centre is led by Dr. Ash Barker, and seeks to cultivate an environment for urban change, raising up more resilient, compassionate and innovative urban leaders, able to shape our new urban world from the ground up.



# LIFE-CHANGING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## CHURCHES OF CHRIST OVERSEAS AID

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) is the international community development program of Global Mission Partners, working to overcome poverty through accompanying communities living in poverty toward realising their aspirations for wellbeing.

COCOA works in Asia, Africa and the Pacific, focusing on clean water, primary health care, quality schooling and productive livelihoods. We partner with local civil-society organisations that are part of the communities that they serve, letting their aspirations for wellbeing drive our projects.

Image: Working in a vegetable garden, Zimbabwe. Showers of Blessing Trust's (OSBT) project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



## MEET ZIBUSISO

Zibusiso, born in 2002, was sadly abandoned by his mother because he was a sickly baby and his mother had little hope that he would live. He was brought to Khayelihle Children's Village (KCV) in 2003. KCV is literally his 'home'. He views his house mother and the other children as his relatives. Indeed, it is normal for the children to call each other 'brother' or 'sister'. Zibu, as he is fondly called by his KCV family says, "KCV is home, and my life in Khayelihle has been wonderful." Zibu has a charming smile. He finished his O and A levels with merit. He is noticeably confident in himself. Zibu said, "I realised that I have great potential in me and so I motivate myself to achieve great things." He acknowledges that KCV has helped him become who he is today. "Now I can stand as an individual and say,



'I am happy with who I am. There is so much that I have learnt; so much that I have been taught in regard to my life.'" His hope is that such support is accorded to others who are vulnerable. "To discover the fact that it's not your vulnerability that's going to determine your future, it's from within that you exert the power that you have." Zibu's desire is to study intellectual law.





Giving supplies to community members at the ceremony for the installation of latrines in Ruma Upazilla, Bandarban Hill District, Bangladesh. Bangladesh CAF - Community Sustainability Program is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

## IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS ACROSS NATIONS

Reflecting on all the stories from the last year, the theme of improving livelihoods continues to be a strong focus, as it has for several years. Half of the projects also focused on community building – the ability of a project to catalyse people to work together and to try new possibilities. This is an encouraging trend because it speaks about empowerment within communities which has the potential to outlast the project.

Development really happens when projects stop being a set of activities and become a stimulus to local people that takes off with an energy of its own – like the tiny Mill Project in South Sudan.

The Mill Project was designed to help the community of Chelkou build a high school and be a source of employment for poorer members of the community. It did these things. Then six enterprising women used their income from the sawmill to buy goats, which they bred. With their increased capital, they grouped together to start their own local restaurant, “The Women’s Group Restaurant”. Potentially they now have a long-term income stream that the project never dreamed of.

The community and the COCOA staff chose this story as the story of the year because it showed how one small change can create much bigger changes when a community’s imagination and aspirations are engaged.

### Full Accreditation DFAT

Our five-yearly accreditation review with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) was conducted in the second half of 2021 and we were very pleased to move from base to full accreditation. We received affirmation about many parts of our system: child protection, risk management, the COCOA Reference Group and our relational way of working with partners. We were most pleased that our partner-led approach was affirmed. Simply stated, this is giving partners and the communities that they serve, the lead in shaping projects. It recognises that they have the deepest understanding of

the context and the deepest commitment to it. The move to full accreditation means an increase in funding and we have worked with partners to increase their programs.

### Partnering Together for Stronger Communities

Just a few weeks before the accreditation review, we conducted our training course for partners – Partnering Together for Stronger Communities – online for the first time. This represented a significant amount of work by the COCOA team to put together the 20 modules of the course, and a partnership with the Australian College of Ministries (ACOM) who provided the online platform and expertise.

### Increase in Staff

We have also increased our staffing, including taking on a new project officer, Eva Ntege-Dhizaala, who brings experience from the humanitarian sector in a wide variety of countries.

### The Pandemic

The pandemic has made us work extra hard to understand the situations our partners work in. We made a trip to Zimbabwe in May and are hoping that it signals the beginning of visiting partners again. There is no substitute for being on the ground to understand the nuances of their situation and for conveying the connection that we share.

### The COCOA Reference Group

The COCOA Reference Group (CRG) continues without any change to its membership but with continuing energy as a different partner joins us each meeting. This year we are asking partners to reflect on their values and their future. Many thanks to the CRG for their steady commitment and to the COCOA team (Colin, Suzanne, Jan and Eva) for their persistent enthusiasm and diligence.

## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

### MEET HILL TRIBE FARMERS

The farmers participating in the Hill Tribe Sustainable Income Project are from the Black Lahu tribal group in the northern part of Thailand.

The project provides seed funding to a farmer to purchase pigs and assist with feed and training. Experienced farmers from nearby communities volunteer their time to help these farmers in raising pigs and provide advice on what is a good price when it is time to sell the pigs. Potential buyers come to the village when they know there are pigs for sale.

One farmer said they have to raise the pigs far from the village so that the smell won’t create problems for other villagers. One group wanted to raise black pigs as black pigs are bigger, which makes them more expensive to raise. The black pig meat is considered tastier, so it is worth more. The second group wanted to raise white pigs as white pigs are smaller but are cheaper to raise and can be sold more quickly than



*“We villagers are grateful because even though you didn’t know us, you helped us”*

the black pigs. Each pig can bring 5,000 baht in profit if the farmer has bought and raised two or more pigs.

The farmer, who loves animals, wanted to have an occupation and increase his income. He said, “We want to thank GMP very, very much. We villagers are grateful because even though you didn’t know us, you helped us.”

### This year through COCOA projects:

197 gardeners  
planted and cared for  
4965 fruit trees

306 people  
took part in  
vocational or  
higher education

3874 people  
gained access to  
Safe Water

7 schools  
received  
educational supplies  
and training

116 households  
received animals  
to support sustainable livelihoods

1300 adults and children  
involved in  
peacebuilding activities



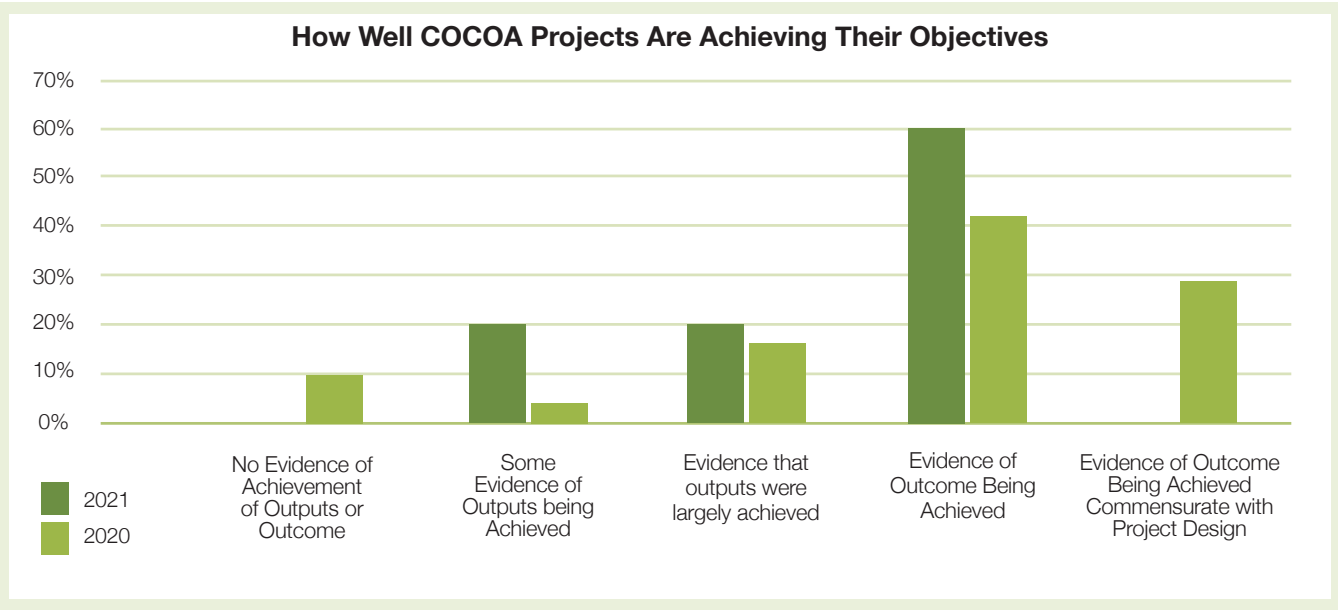
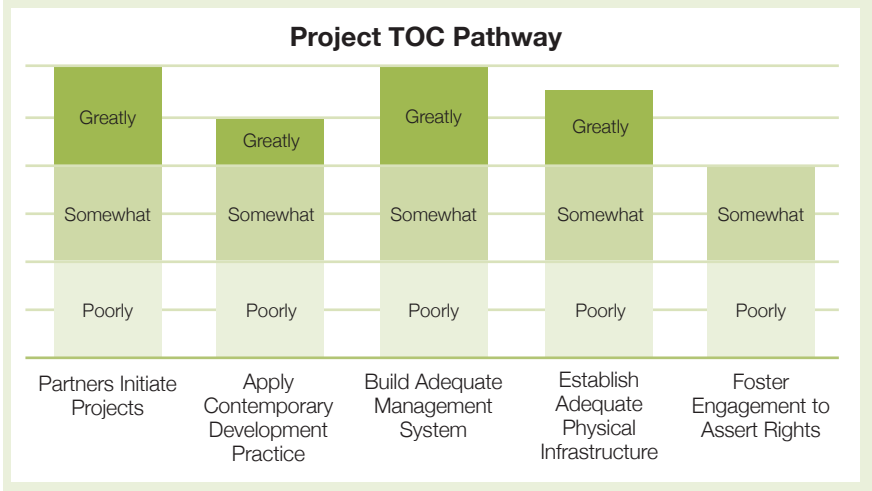
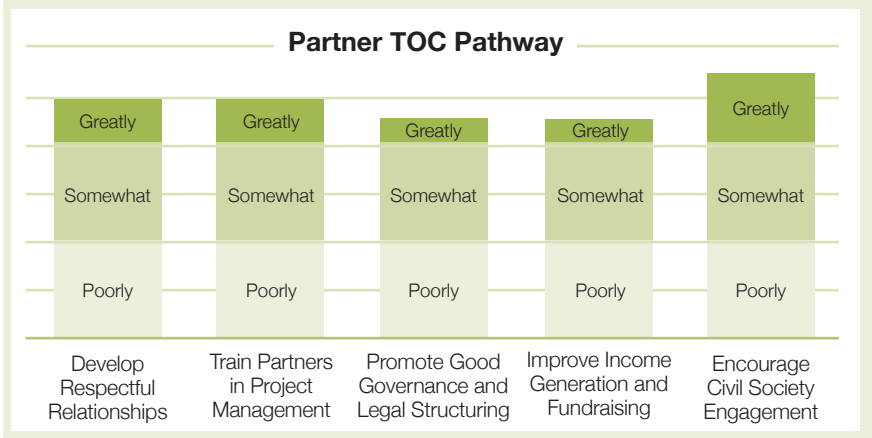
# COCOA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

We revised our effectiveness framework extensively this year, making the theory of change (TOC) the key framework for reviewing effectiveness. This was a good fit for a program like COCOA with such a diversity of projects and a focus on following the aspirations of partners. We also added a lot of narrative to tell the story of our program. Here is a summary of the ‘Collection’, our annual performance report for the COCOA program.

The COCOA program aims to move partners toward sustainability and there was strong feedback that this was happening in 2021. All the pathway milestones (which run left to right on the Partner TOC Pathway graph) are strong, and there is strong affirmation of the final milestone – to “Encourage civil society engagement.”

The COCOA program aims to move projects toward a more rights-based focus. There was a strong focus on livelihoods, which has been a feature of the COCOA program for the last few years. There is yet the further step of changing the systems which keep people poor. This is the goal of a rights focus. The current middle point of focusing on livelihoods reflects an achievement in moving from service provision over time.

The completion of project objectives (“Evidence of outcome being achieved commensurate with project design”) reflects the disruption of COVID-19, fewer projects and perhaps a different person scoring this item.



Evaluations affirmed the processes used to develop and manage projects. The feedback on partner learnings was encouraging, especially around participation and engaging stakeholders. Partners are developing their approaches and seeing the benefit of these. For example, “The most important activity applied in the community was people feeling responsible for the project and enjoying the real changes happening with them in their livelihood.” (Christian Mercy International, South Sudan)

The positive DFAT Accreditation review and conducting the Partnering Together for Stronger Communities course online for the first time, mark further milestones in becoming the “competent and innovative church agency” that is the reference point of the COCOA Strategic Map.

## BANGLADESH

### Community Advancement Forum (CAF)

This project works with Hill Tribe communities in the Bandarban Hills to improve their access to education, improve sanitation and provide income-generating activities.

This is the second year of implementation, and the project continues to make good progress. Notable achievements included installing 80 latrines in several villages. With the installations, project staff provided training in latrine maintenance and personal hygiene. The latrines and training will reduce the illness and safety issues of open defecation.

This year the project worked with two communities to install water storage to ensure access to clean water during the dry seasons. The lack of water during the dry season has become a major issue for many Hill Tribe communities.

Other activities include conducting workshops on child protection for 144 participants. This provides information on protecting children as well as how to report child abuse to the relevant authorities.

The project worked with a village to support the local school by establishing income-generating activities to fund the teacher.

CAF reports monthly to the local authorities on project implementation, and local authority representatives routinely visit project communities to check on activities. The continuing feedback is that local authorities and participants value the project.

This project received support from the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

## INDIA

### Hosanna Ministries

#### Vocational Education and Training 3

Hosanna Ministries offers courses in tailoring and computer skills in Lasina and Kochi villages in the Yavatmal District and Ambernath in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region, taking up the recommendation from the evaluation of the prior project to continue both courses in a wider variety of locations. Tailoring participants learned how to make blouses worn with saris, and dresses for special occasions. This provides the skills for participants to sew for their families and earn income by sewing for their neighbours. This year the project trained over 55 women in tailoring. Feedback from previous students is that they have been able to earn income using their skills. Some have been able to find jobs in the local textile factories and many others have set up a small home business sewing for friends and neighbours.

In computer classes, participants learnt basic Word, Excel and PowerPoint skills and, at the end of the course, they take a government examination. All the project students passed the exam this year and received a recognised certificate that can be used to find a job or continue with higher education. This year the project trained over 70 students and over 67 percent of them were females.

#### Prakash Tekadi Community Building Project

This project is working with the rag-picking slum community of Prakash Tekadi to increase the education and health of community members.

The project continues to focus on children and providing basic education since most children do not attend school. The project teachers use audio and video tools

**Australian Aid**

Bangladesh CAF - Community Sustainability Program is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



# COCOA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS CONT.

to teach children the alphabets, numbers and poems in Marathi, Hindi and English. At the end of each session, a healthy meal is provided which assists with their daily nutrition requirements. Children are also engaged in outdoor sports, simple exercise activities, crafts, and artwork.

The Community Building Project arranged a workshop on child safety and protection for children, including how to make a complaint.

Several women participated in the adult literacy classes the project organised. The women were extremely proud to learn how to sign their name and not have to use a stamp pad and fingerprint to sign documents. Women also learnt to read numbers which helped with the tailoring classes so that they could understand measurements and patterns.

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Christian Mercy International (CMI)

**The Education Project** works with 10 not-for-profit schools in the Aweil region to increase the quality of education accessed by the most vulnerable children. This year, four teachers completed their high school diploma. One hundred and fifty students with a disability, or who have neither parent, received three goats. Feedback from the previous year's distribution showed that the goats had bred to more than double their original numbers. Income from their sale had helped with school uniforms, shoes and other schooling needs. A total of six School Management Committees received training, which helps them to run an inclusive and effective school. School nutrition gardens began in two schools. Together these initiatives have given vulnerable children access to an increased quality of education, giving hope to their aspirations to be NGO workers, doctors, pilots, teachers and pastors.

**The Conservation Agriculture Pilot** trained two CMI staff and four local farmers in conservation agriculture. They brought their learning back home and trained 20 farmers in each of their four communities. Conservation farming can double yields, improving, rather than depleting, soil over time.

The Return the Rains Project is mitigating against climate change by planting trees. Approximately 5,000 seedlings were distributed across four payams amongst schools, churches, health facilities and marketplaces. Training helped participants care for the seedlings and there was less than one percent loss over the first three months. The trees will contribute shade and begin to move the rain back to its old pattern of coming earlier and falling more steadily.

### Laid Foundation of South Sudan (LAFOSS)

School Peace Clubs were supported in 22 schools, reaching 480 children with an understanding of peace, and skills in non-violent conflict resolution. Community Awareness Raising reached 500 adults with similar messages. This was conducted through small local workshops amongst the networks of the leaders who had attended the community peace-building conference the previous year, which reflects the impact of that conference. In the second half of the year, the workshop approach was abandoned because of COVID-19. Instead, staff went house to house engaging people in the material. A survey of participants at the peace-building conference indicated that participants are continuing to influence their networks for peace. Participants had mediated an average of 25 conflict situations each since the conference which, with more than 200 attendees at the conference, is over 5,000 mediations.

## THAILAND

### Social Development and Service Unit of the Church of Christ in Thailand

#### Hill Tribes Sustainable Income Project

This project is working with targeted communities in the highland area of Northern Thailand to generate income through livestock production. This project trains community members to raise healthy animals, provides assistance in terms of seed funding to purchase equipment, animals and technical advice. It also aids in selling the animals.

The targeted communities establish project committees to work with the selected households participating in the project.

This year the project worked with two Lahu communities to raise pigs. The major challenge was the restrictions these communities imposed on outsiders from entering due to concerns about COVID-19. The project used volunteers to assist with many activities and spent a lot of time on their mobiles to maintain close contact with the communities. Despite some pigs being lost due to disease, households have successfully raised the pigs. Some households have already sold their animals and earned a small profit.

## VANUATU

### Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu

#### Disaster Response and Preparedness Project

This project aims to increase communities' ability to prepare for, and respond to, natural disasters in Penama, Sanma and Malampa Provinces.

The Disaster Desk Officer has established networks with other disaster response and church agencies as well as the government departments to ensure that the work the project is implementing is consistent with Vanuatu Government requirements.

Unfortunately, project activities have been delayed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Disaster Desk Officer has been working with other agencies and providing COVID-19 relief supplies to several communities.

#### Vanuatu Partnership Community Project

This year we started a new phase of this project. The project's outcome is that communities have increased their care for people with disability, protection of children and respect for men and women.

The new project is working with targeted communities – Ambae, Guau (part of the Banks Islands), Malekula and Santo rural – providing training in child protection, gender equality and disability inclusion to encourage the community to care for vulnerable members. The project will assist communities in identifying needs and will fund a small community project.

The new phase included recommendations from the 2021 evaluation. In this phase there is a greater focus on training, awareness raising and improving training materials. More time has been provided in the project to consult with communities to ensure they understand the purpose of the project and the timelines.

Unfortunately, the project activities have been delayed due to the time taken to find a new Community Development Coordinator and COVID-19 restrictions.

## ZIMBABWE

### Khayelihle Children's Village (KCV)

Several years ago, KCV took the strategic decision to make reconnecting children to their families its priority. This decision has revolutionised KCV. The number of residents has decreased dramatically. In the last year, three children were reconnected with their extended families. Many of the remaining residents are now adults, and KCV has begun to gently move them into independent situations. The remaining residents are largely those for whom finding their family of origin is near impossible. KCV reviewed the options for these children and has begun promoting fostering amongst the Churches of Christ. Additionally, this year KCV brought together a second group of community workers and representatives to look at what could be done to prevent abandonment. A steering committee has been formed to take this issue forward. Life for the young people at KCV remains happy, healthy and fulfilling. "I really like everything!" says one resident.

### Organisation of Showers of Blessing Trust (OSBT)

OSBT have adapted to COVID-19 and its implications relatively well. OSBT completed the installation of eight boreholes during the 2021 calendar year. These are now mapped using GPS, which shows the installations covering a wide area. Water workshops were held for communities whose boreholes were installed during the first half of 2021. These now incorporate livelihood training rather than having that as a separate workshop. Environmental care was encouraged by planting fruit trees and in the repair of a road damaged by rain. Boreholes have enabled community access to water for drinking, bathing, washing, fruit-tree planting, raising chickens and reducing women's exposure to domestic violence. The installations helped reduce the distance to water to less than three kilometres, and travel time to less than an hour's walking for a round trip. The Board focused on the progress of the project in their meetings. Members are aware of the gender policy and a second woman was recruited to the group.

## Australian Aid

*Showers of Blessing Trust's (OSBT) project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).*



# EMPOWERING INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

## INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

GMP seeks to partner with, and among, Australian Indigenous people, focusing on Indigenous ministry and development. Our Indigenous ministries have been developed and planned by a council of Indigenous people to allow for in-depth direction-setting from key Indigenous leaders and communities around the country.

Image: James and Jaroah Schultz,  
IMA West Retreat 2021



### MEET MARY AND JOEL

Mary and Joel Slabb run Juraki, an Indigenous not-for-profit community organisation committed to creating, supporting and partnering in activities, programs and sporting events that give culturally sensitive opportunities to young Indigenous people. The name Juraki (or Churaki) comes from an incredible local Indigenous man who lived on country around the turn of last century in the area now known as Tweed Heads and Coolangatta, where he, following cultural ways to care for any visitors to his lands, rescued several non-Indigenous people from drowning in the waters of the Tweed River and the nearby surf. Juraki focuses on “Closing the gap from the Indigenous perspective,” as Joel says. Changing lives through saltwater culture and faith, Joel and Mary believe that our children and



youth are our future. Juraki aims to help develop and mentor young Indigenous leaders through various cultural and sporting activities. Juraki is based on the beautiful Bunjalung country in the top corner of NSW in the Tweed Heads area, and partners with IMA through Discovery Visits.





Camping on the Norseman Discovery Trip, WA

# ACROSS THE LAND, ACROSS MANY NATIONS

We count it a privilege to live and work in Australia as we learn about the numerous nations that have existed here for many millennia. Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) has partnerships on many of these nations, based on the learnings from the wisdom held by the custodians of the lands of these nations, including the Nyoongar, Kariyarra, Ngarla and Nygadju nations in WA; the Kaurna and Wirangu lands of SA; the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung lands in Victoria; and the Barkindji and Bunjalung lands of NSW.

The last 12 months of IMA's activities has again seen some significant challenges with the ongoing COVID-19 issues affecting so many of our partners and the many programs that we run in partnership together. The words of our partners below, however, encourage us deeply to respond to their open invitation to seek healing and wholeness together 'on country' in the many and varied nations that know these lands so well.

"God speaks to us through the land. The old people, they told us, 'Don't be frightened of the bush. The bush will look after you. Everything that you need is there. Provision for everything is there. There's food, there's shelter, there's everything. God is in all of it.'

"Sometimes the world is too fast, but I always take the time to listen to what God is speaking. These trees, and the wind, it's all speaking to us. In scripture it says that His voice is heard in the storm, His voice is heard in the ocean, His voice is heard in the wind. We need to take time to listen and to hear Him.

"Indigenous people, white people, all nations that are being called to this country, we all have a place around the fire. Listen to the old people of this country and you'll start to understand the place where you fit in this big family around the fire.

"Always listen, always be watching. Open your ears and open your eyes. That ears be open, that eyes be open; that's my prayer for Australia." – Kyle Slabb, Bunjalung, Fingal Head, NSW

"As a proud Nyoongar man from Western Australia, I find that being on country is a sense of identity and belonging not only to the land that my ancestors walked but that it's a spiritual connection because it's God's country. I always look forward to going back home, taking off my shoes and walking barefoot because it gives me healing. I was born a few hours east from Perth and I find that sense of coming home to country when I walk on the huge local bare granite rock known as Merredin Peak. I feel a connection to country and it's my favourite place I look forward to returning to when back on land. It holds a special place in my heart." – Brendon Garlett, Nyoongar, Dareton, NSW

"Tarndanyangga Kaurna Yerta, the place of the red kangaroo, is right in the middle of the city of Adelaide. It's been a meeting place for Kaurna people from well before the time of Adelaide's settlement, and if people are open to listening and learning, it can be a meeting place again for all cultures to humbly learn and share." – Uncle Frank Wanganeen, Kaurna Elder, Adelaide, SA

IMA, together with our Indigenous ministry partners, will continue to value the many supporters that join with us in working for an Australia that honours and respects the God-given culture, leadership and gifts of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander brothers and sisters and longs, as we do, to walk as reconciled nations within the one nation.

## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

This year you helped IMA achieve:

 **8** Indigenous ministry projects

Partners Across

**4** States in Australia 

**3**  On Country roadtrip experiences

Average of **125** Young People  accessing the Dareton Youth and Community Centre per week

## IMA PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

### New South Wales

#### Dareton

- Youth church has started up again, with Brendon Garlett leading.
- Ilker Deli, Dareton Youth and Community Centre Manager, is going well and growing the social enterprise in second-hand goods.
- The Dareton Youth and Community Centre is looking to strengthen its governance and long-term sustainability by incorporating within the next 12 months.

#### Fingal Head

- Juraki Discovery Partnerships for 2022-23.

### South Australia

- Tjilgamooda Church, Ceduna.
- Developing Adelaide City Walk discovery experiences with Kaurna Elder, Uncle Frank Wanganeen.
- Developing on country discovery experiences with Dusty Feet Mob's Robert Taylor, Kokatha and Yankunytjatjara leader.

### Victoria

#### Melbourne Indigenous Church Fellowship

- Farewell and celebration of 13 years of ministry by Tony and Francine Riches.
- Introduction of Melbourne Indigenous Christian Fellowship's new pastor, Jongil 'Kimberley' Kim.

### Western Australia

#### Bunbury

- New ceiling project completed with the support of church members and church partners.
- Noongar language classes continuing at the church.

#### Port Hedland

- Growing worship ministry.
- Baptisms.

#### Norseman/Esperance

- Norseman Discovery Trip with church partners.
- Several opportunities for the church to minister within the local community.

#### Ngaama Ministries, Perth

- Indigenous Art Exhibition at Mt Pleasant Church.
- Ni Cultural Training for several churches and Christian organisations.



# CONNECTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN MISSION

## EMBODY

embody exists to empower, encourage and support a national community of young people who are passionate about mission. We want to see God's Kingdom come, to be the best stewards of the resources we currently have, and to support those who are the most vulnerable and marginalised in our world.

Image: Mitchell Salmon, embody National Coordinator



## MEET EMMA

At just 14-years-old, Emma is our youngest ever interviewee on the Mission Unplugged podcast. She talked about her early involvement with Scripture Union Family Missions (SUFMs). "I think the aim of mission is to share the good news, but also just to live with others. To talk to them, not necessarily about the Bible all the time, but to just talk with them and grow friendships. It's about growing friendships, and including people, and having fun together."





The Safe Water September team from Elizabeth Church of Christ, South Australia

## YOUNG PEOPLE PARTNERING TO CHANGE NATIONS

The national embody community continues to grow, change and flourish as we partner with local communities and local young people to bring change here and in partnership across nations.

### embody Mission Cohort

Our second cohort completed their time as part of an embody Mission Community at the end of 2021. This group was smaller than our pilot group, but no less life-giving. Across our group members we included paid ministers and volunteer leaders who were working in established kids' and youth spaces, as well as exploring launching new initiatives. We were privileged to be a part of robust discussions about discipleship and mission with, and involving, young people and to be a part of much growth and development for these amazing leaders. Due to lack of numbers, we did not start a new cohort in 2022, but look forward to gathering a crew for 2023.

### Safe Water September

Safe Water September raised more than \$167,000 in 2021 to support safe water, sanitation and hygiene projects through GMP's local community partners in Zimbabwe, Vanuatu and Bangladesh. This was the second year that large parts of Australia were affected by COVID-19 during September, though many people were without some of the supports that helped Australians during 2020. Nevertheless, the Safe Water September community once again showed up in support and solidarity with our partners.

The Safe Water September community was also able to support GMP's emergency response to the crisis in Afghanistan by raising \$15,902, contributing towards water, sanitation and hygiene projects in refugee camps.

Safe Water September continues to be a valuable opportunity for young people and people of all ages to explore mission and development work together, dip their toes in the water, learn about partner countries and

what it takes to change the world through partnerships across nations. We have been incredibly encouraged by the support of local churches and schools.

### Mission Unplugged

Throughout the year we have continued to expand the ways we are connecting, supporting and resourcing young people and leaders of young people to pursue God's mission locally, nationally and globally. Our monthly Mission Unplugged interview podcast has continued, sharing more stories of young people engaged in mission, and how their faith has informed and motivated them. Guests in the last twelve months included Ben Chong of the Surrender Leadership Program, Laura Weatherall of Veta Youth, and teenager Emma Cox, who has been part of the McCrae Scripture Union Family Mission (SUFM) team. It is an honour to hear and share these stories.

### Reading Mission

We have also added a new podcast to our network, Reading Mission – a live book club podcast where the embody team reads through and discusses books on mission and development. People are invited to listen in and contribute to the discussion in the text channels of our Discord social media community. Our aim is to make books and resources more accessible to young people and leaders of young people to help continue conversations around God's mission and justice in the world. Our first series was on Ash Barker's Make Poverty Personal, and our second series has been on When Helping Hurts by Brian Fikkert and Steve Corbett.

It continues to be a great blessing to partner with local churches, leaders and young people to spur on mission and development locally, nationally and globally. Young people are committed to making their world a better place for everyone, and we aim to assist them however we can and connect them with life-changing partnerships here and across the nations.

## YOUR IMPACT THIS YEAR

### MEET NTANDO

Ntando is a major part of the Showers of Blessing team in Zimbabwe. He works with Boniface Mpofu to manage and implement borehole projects, water projects and provide education in rural and remote communities to transform lives through safe water.

"Faith is everything. My Christian walk has been everything for me. My Christian walk began when I was thirteen and became very active from there. I read my Bible – five chapters every day. I became a verse engine, memorising scripture," Ntando said.

"I came to be involved with Showers of Blessing because of my involvement with Khayelihle Children's Village. We have a network of rural churches we work hand in hand with. They go ahead of us, and they are able to give us feedback and help us find new places we can actually have an impact.

"Sometimes when we first come to a community and explain what we can do for them, people don't trust us, or don't believe we'll do the work, unless they've heard of the work we've done previously. But then that moment



"..That's so amazing to see them jumping and dancing and singing."

when the water does come out, and the women actually come there all ready; that's so amazing to see them jumping and dancing and singing."

It was a privilege to have Ntando on the embody Mission Unplugged podcast as our first international guest, and the first guest from a GMP partner organisation.

### This year embody's podcasts achieve

**1100** Downloads  
across both podcasts

**22** Stories of young people exploring mission

**16** chapters of mission and development literature unpacked

### And you helped Safe Water September achieve:

**300** people taking the challenge

**41** teams taking the challenge

And **1667** donors

### Raising more than:

**\$167,000**

### Giving approximately

**6,692** people access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation



# PEOPLE & PROGRAMS

People and programs are intimately linked in GMP. We don't have programs without people behind them, people sustaining them and people benefitting from them.

Image: Tubewell installed in Happy Hills Village, Bangladesh. Bangladesh CAF – Community Sustainability Program – is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).







Boniface Mpofu, Colin Scott, Eva Ntege-Dhizaala and Ntando Msimanga, Zimbabwe Partner Visit, 2022

## PARTNER VISITS

COVID-19 restrictions have posed unique challenges for Partner Visits. The loss of personal connection impacts our partners as much as it does those of us eager to visit them. It was quite an exciting moment when Colin Scott and Eva Ntege-Dhizaala from our COCOA team were able to meet our partners in Zimbabwe in May! A team at Devonport Church of Christ are also eagerly anticipating travelling again later this year.

Here are some of their reflections:

“Meeting the GMP partners whom I had only been reading about was very exciting,” Eva said. “Meeting Boniface and his family and seeing the effects of people’s changed lives as a result of improved water access was great.” Another highlight for Eva was talking to the children at KCV. “Watching how confident they were was so very energising,” Eva said. “This visit demonstrated the value of in-person connection, paving the way for quality future interaction. Experiencing the realities on the ground puts a different feel to everything.”

Boniface Mpofu, Director of Showers of Blessing Trust (OSBT), reflected on this visit, “Rural communities in Zimbabwe had become so accustomed to visits from our overseas friends that it was now common to hear them asking why they were no longer seeing visitors. This made us, and our OSBT Board, realise that it was not just us missing Partner Visits but the communities as well. So, the visit by Colin and Eva was heart-warming. It felt for us like a family reunion, and we were so pleased to see and host them.”

Mrs Vimbai Vuma, Director of Khayelihle Children’s Village (KCV) said, “We were very excited to see Colin as we last met in person in 2019. Meeting Eva for the first time was a wonderful experience for us. Their monitoring and evaluation helps us to improve our performance and to share some ideas on how we can all grow going forward. When people come to see our ministry, it shows the significance of KCV in their organisations, and it strengthens relationships. We feel very honored when international visitors come. We are confident that we can do even more at higher levels.”

Dominic Piscioneri reports, “In April 2019, a team from Devonport Church of Christ embarked on a trip to Fiji to visit our partner church in Lautoka. Pastor David and Christy Reddy were very thankful for the time invested. A small part of the journey was to work through what a 10-year celebration might look like for our partnership. Little did we know that the 2020 celebration would be put on hold due to a pandemic! Achieving a milestone and not being able to celebrate together was disappointing, but the joy of the partnership has not been dampened at all. August 2022 marks the step back into face-to-face partnership in Fiji. Although we have been staying connected, nothing beats a firm handshake, a hug and a smile when you share life and ministry together. Phone calls and messages are just not the same as being able to stand in each other’s presence. The plan to reconnect after two years will enable us to continue to grow the partnership, see the changes in the church that are inevitable with moving to a new location, and work toward what the next 10 years looks like! Being apart has been hard, especially because we are built for relationship.”

## PEOPLE IN MISSION

**GMP continues to support locals and the sending of people into mission settings, both as volunteers and as those who are supported financially.**



### BJ and Chipo Mpofu

BJ continues to mentor, resource and encourage Zimbabwean church leaders. This past year he has visited many new churches to encourage them to build chapels to service their communities. Most of these groups have many members that can mould and burn bricks. BJ is on the Board of the Zimbabwean Christian College and is a key coordinator for GMP Partner Visits to Zimbabwe when they are possible. COVID-19 has brought extra challenges for each of these activities as well as for families and churches over the past year.



### Brendon Garlett

Brendon is pioneering culturally relevant and relational outreach opportunities among the local Indigenous community as well as working closely with Mildura Church of Christ and Ilker Deli and the team at the Dareton Youth and Community Centre, NSW.



### Fiona Briers

Fiona led the Bright Solutions program in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, giving training, employment and dignity to marginalised women for more than 10 years, as well as encouraging local leaders. COVID-19 impacted Bright Solutions significantly with the loss of markets, leading to the company’s early closure on 30 June 2020. Fiona continued in Vietnam until June 2021 to oversee the legal dissolution of Bright Solutions Vietnam as a company. She has been on home leave and deputation until May 2022 and is now working with Interserve.

## ASSOCIATES IN MISSION



### Jamie and Claudia Boland

Jamie and Claudia met in Sudan in 2004 while serving with different Christian organisations. Two years later, as a married couple, they returned Australia to start a family and continue theological studies. In 2013 the Bolands returned to serve full-time in the newly independent nation of South Sudan. In early 2014 they were forced to relocate to Uganda due to the ongoing civil war. Jamie joined the faculty of Africa Renewal University where he serves as a senior lecturer in theology. During their time in Uganda, the Bolands have been able to train more South Sudanese pastors than in their time in Sudan, along with pastors from Uganda and the surrounding EastAfrican nations. They returned to Australia in July 2022.



### Chris and Jodie MacCartney

The MacCartneys lived and served in Bangkok’s largest slum community, Klong Toey, from January 2007 until the end of 2020. Second Chance Bangkok was birthed in 2009 with neighbours merging their passion for seeing transformation in the lives of the poor with their deep concern for the climate crisis facing our world. The project now offers employment and a community of belonging to many women and men from the local community. The MacCartney’s returned to Melbourne, Australia, at the end of 2020 in recognition of their family’s changing needs, while continuing remotely in their roles as directors. They continue to provide coaching, mentoring and strategic direction to the leadership team at Second Chance. They have concluded their link as Associates with GMP and are now supported through GMP Extend.



### Dr Ash and Anji Barker

Ash has intentionally lived on the front line of diverse urban poverty for over 30 years and seen the unique potential of urban people and places released around the world. Since 2014, the Barkers have been based in Winson Green, inner city Birmingham, UK. They founded Newbigin House, a live-in community that has also started two local congregations as well as many innovative organisations. Ash and Anji are United Reformed Church Ministers of the Lodge Road Community Church in Winson Green with Anji also leading Newbigin Community Trust. A strategic focus for Ash is founding and leading Seedbeds that grows diverse leaders and communities into fullness of life. Seedbeds now also runs the Newbigin Pioneering Hub to discover, nurture, empower and release a new generation of pioneers able to see local communities around the UK flourish in God’s love and Shalom.

\*Photo of Fiona Briers courtesy Ngoc Tran – Oi Vietnam





Ukraine border, image Courtesy of ACT Alliance

## EMERGENCY & WELFARE PROGRAMS

### Emergency Response for Crisis and Conflict Affected Afghan Communities in Afghanistan and Pakistan – ACT Alliance Appeal

Since August 2021, following the Taliban's takeover of power in Afghanistan, GMP is working through ACT (Action by Churches Together) Alliance members to provide support for Afghani refugees in Pakistan. The support is through cash assistance due to the prevailing security and economic situation. This is usually undertaken through electronic cash transfers. In general, women and children are given priority in the selection process since they are the most affected by any such crisis.

The project provided monthly cash assistance equivalent to US\$90 for the Afghan refugees for food assistance in Pakistan for six months. The US\$90 calculation has been derived based on a Sphere standard food package calculation that can ensure 2,100 calories per person per day for a family of seven members.

### Bangladesh Rohingya Camp Fire – CAF

A massive fire broke out at the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh on 22 March 2021. Over 15,000 pieces of infrastructure including houses, community centres, schools and camp management offices were wholly or partially affected, displacing around 45,000 Rohingya refugees.

CAF (Community Advancement Forum), and other local NGOs, were asked by the Bangladesh Government to provide emergency support to the Rohingya Refugee Camp. The emergency support was coordinated through the military.

Support was provided to approximately 400 homeless households with the following items:

- Food packages – rice, dal and oils.
- Home appliances – kitchen kits, blankets, solar lights and water containers.
- Hygiene kits – face masks, soap and bleaching powder.

### Volcanic Eruption and Tsunami, Tonga – Act for Peace

On Saturday evening, 15 January 2022, a large underwater volcano erupted off the coast of Tonga, causing a tsunami. The eruption was one of the biggest to hit Tonga in the last 30 years and the explosion could be heard as far as Fiji, over 800 kilometres away. Since then, volcanic ash has been falling over the islands.

GMP is working with Act for Peace to support those in Tonga impacted by the tsunami and volcanic ashfall.

### Emergency Response for Communities Affected by Ukraine Conflict – ACT Alliance

After a slow build-up, the Russian Federation launched a military offensive in Ukraine on 24 February 2022 resulting in a severe deterioration of the security situation. The intense military escalation has resulted in loss of life, injuries and mass movement of the civilian population throughout the country and to neighbouring countries, as well as severe destruction and damage to infrastructure and residential housing.

GMP is working through ACT Alliance members to provide emergency basic supplies (food, WASH, health), psychosocial support, shelter, cash and voucher assistance and logistical support.

### Bangladesh COVID Emergency Response – Update

In March 2021, our local partner, CAF, provided support to 600 vulnerable households in Bandarban, Ruma and Rongchary. These households were provided with masks, rice, soap, salt, oil, dal and a gunny bag.

CAF provided a report on the activity which included feedback from participants and the local authorities. Participants were grateful for the assistance since, with government restrictions, jobs had been lost and food was scarce. The local authorities had overseen the distribution. It was reported that CAF was highly appreciated for assistance given to the needy and vulnerable families. A letter of recommendation was provided by the local authorities.



COVID-19 Relief provided through the COVID-19 Ministry Appeal by Community Advancement Forum (CAF), Bangladesh



Ashwood Memorial Hospital, India

### Welfare Programs

For many years GMP has provided care and support to people in ways that are not easily described as a development project. We have been doing this as part of our work that is not tax deductible. This area of GMP's work is moving through a significant period of change.

The children's homes in Baramati and Shrigonda, India, have cared for children and ensured that they have access to schooling. There have been changes in the way that the government in Maharashtra regulates homes such as these.

During this past year the Shrigonda Girls Home's licence to operate was not renewed. There are various reasons for this happening, connected to both the home itself and changed government priorities. The resident girls continue to be supported through a process of transition to other schools, homes or a return to living with their family.

The Baramati Boys Home has continued to provide accommodation and support to a much-reduced number of boys. This change in number also reflects the new regulatory environment in which the homes operate, particularly the staff to children ratios. The boys continue to attend local Churches of Christ schools. Most of the boys return home in the school holidays.

The Gnyan Sampada School in Lasina, India, has ceased to operate due to the impact of COVID-19 and changed government controls and rules. This has been a very difficult decision for Kiron and Nalini Gaikwad. The children have been supported in returning to their village homes and being enrolled in local schools. This has included the provision of uniforms and school fees.

There are many changes in the regulation and operation of the two homes India. In consultation with the Churches of Christ in Western India support from GMP will end in June 2023.

This means that the India-based Child Sponsorship Program operated by GMP is ending. The Gnyan Sampada School program has closed, and its supporters have been notified. The programs linked to Shrigonda and Baramati will close on 30 June 2023. We have made these decisions with the involvement and full understanding of our partners in India. We are inviting current sponsors to support children in Zimbabwe and South Sudan as from the dates of closure.

The Ashwood Memorial Hospital continues to provide medical care to people regardless of their ability to pay. The Ashwood Hospital Board is now governed by a competency-based board and is planning a renovation of the hospital buildings. This project is now linked to GMP Extend.





From top left: Mitchell Salmon, Elise Andrews, Gavian Chan, Craig Brown, Colin Scott, Suzanne Hayes, Melissa Parkinson, Nick Wight, Lisa Szepessy, Val Zerna, Sheree Crouch, Jan Bayliss, Colin Battersby, Remy Sese, Rachel Conteh, Emily Wood, and Melinda van Vuuren

# MEET THE TEAM

\*Most GMP staff are part-time.

## STAFF MEMBERS\*

Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_ John Gilmore  
Deputy Executive Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Craig Brown

### Partnership Coordinators (all roles concluded April 2022)

Partnership Coordinator (NSW) \_\_\_\_\_ Colin Scott  
Partnership Coordinator (SA/NT) \_\_\_\_\_ Val Zerna  
Partnership Coordinator (VIC/TAS) \_\_\_\_\_ Samuel Curkpatrick  
(Concluded July 2021)  
Partnership Coordinator (WA) \_\_\_\_\_ Colin Battersby

### Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

COCOA Director \_\_\_\_\_ Colin Scott  
COCOA Partner Education Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Jan Bayliss  
COCOA Program Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Suzanne Hayes  
COCOA Program Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Eva Ntege-Dhizaala

### International Church Partnerships (ICP)

ICP Director & Program Hub Lead \_\_\_\_\_ Craig Brown

### Indigenous Ministries Australia

IMA Coordinator (East) \_\_\_\_\_ Nick Wight  
IMA Coordinators (West) \_\_\_\_\_ Remy Sese

### embody

embody National Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Mitch Salmon  
embody Network  
Developer (NSW) \_\_\_\_\_ Emily Wood

### Finance and Administration

Finance and Administration  
Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Lisa Szepessy  
Bookkeeper \_\_\_\_\_ Katrina Davidson  
Receipting and  
Assistant Bookkeeper \_\_\_\_\_ Susan Thomas  
(Concluded March 2022)  
Receipting Assistant \_\_\_\_\_ Belinda Burt  
COCOA and Partner Finance  
Administration & Support Hub Lead Melinda van Vuuren  
Administration Assistant &  
Supporter Care \_\_\_\_\_ Sheree Crouch

### Communications

Director of Communications  
and Design \_\_\_\_\_ Elise Andrews  
Media and Communications  
Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Rachel Conteh  
Digital Content Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Melissa Parkinson  
Graphic Designer \_\_\_\_\_ Eli Minuz  
(Concluded July 2021)  
Social Media \_\_\_\_\_ Kyra Foster  
(Concluded October 2021)  
Copy Writer \_\_\_\_\_ Zach Blackmore  
(Concluded December 2021)

Director of Community Education &  
Engagement Hub Lead \_\_\_\_\_ Colin Battersby  
Church Engagement Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Val Zerna

### Marketing

Director of Marketing and  
Fundraising \_\_\_\_\_ Gavian Chan  
Database Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Terence Ng

# BOARD MEMBERS

## Barrie Yesberg

Chair and Executive  
Member, WA

Ordained Minister of Churches  
of Christ, Chaplain to Returned  
Services League WA, Retired  
Australian Federal Police  
Chaplain and Royal Australian  
Navy Reserve Principal  
Chaplain. Indigenous missionary  
experience with the Federal  
Aborigines Mission Board.  
Involved in Warnbro Community  
Church in Western Australia.  
Married with four children, and  
nine grandchildren.

## John Gilmore

Executive Officer, VIC

Master of Theology. Executive  
Director of Mission and Ministry  
for Churches of Christ VIC/  
TAS for 10 years. President  
National Council of Churches  
in Australia (NCCA), Past Act  
for Peace Director and Chair  
of the Board, former Micah  
Australia Director. Ten years  
active involvement in Christian  
Conference Asia.

## Roger Bawden

(Concluded December 2021)  
Treasurer and Chair of the  
Finance Risk and Audit  
Committee, Member GMP  
Review Group, QLD

Diploma of Business, retired  
missionary, and businessman.  
Worked in senior management  
roles for 40 years including  
Vanuatu, national retail business,  
aged care, and state-wide  
retirement villages. Actively  
involved in the life of the Bribie  
Island Church of Christ through  
worship leading, music and  
other activities.

## Naomi Beames

(Elected December 2021)  
Treasurer, Chair, Finance Risk  
and Audit Committee, SA

Bachelor of Commerce  
(Accounting) CPA, over  
20 years' experience in  
accounting, tax and risk  
management including  
churches and not for profit  
organisations. Her latest paid  
role was heading up the Tax  
Team at BHP Billiton in SA. At  
the moment as well as being a  
mum, Naomi is a Tabor College  
Student and is due to complete  
a Masters of Divinity at the end  
of 2022. Naomi worships at  
Unley Park Baptist, however  
she regularly preaches at  
smaller churches in a variety of  
denominations.

## Gordon Buxton

Member COCOA Reference  
Group, Member Finance Risk  
and Audit Committee, NSW

Established Yooralla Youth  
Ministries and Yooralla  
Overseas Development Fund,  
which is a registered aid and  
development fund. More  
than 30 years' experience  
as a consultant in customer  
focused operations and human  
resources management.

## Claire Egan

Member of Board  
Executive, Member of  
COCOA Reference Group,  
Member of the Policy and  
Governance Group, VIC

Working for Churches of  
Christ Vic/Tas for the past  
14 years. Involved in various  
leadership positions in  
local churches including  
boards, committees, and  
youth ministry. Studied  
communications and worked  
in para-church organisations  
for most of her career.

## Symon Pratt

Member of Board Executive,  
VIC

Graduate Diploma of Divinity,  
Masters in Arts (Ministry  
Practice), Bachelor of Business  
(Marketing) and a Graduate  
Diploma in Business (Travel  
and Tourism). Executive Pastor  
at one2one Church of Christ,  
Ballarat, and previously at  
Bundaberg Church of Christ.  
Formerly Associate Pastor  
at CrossCulture working  
with children, youth and  
university students including  
ChildSafe Training, leadership  
development, and leading local  
and international mission trips.

## Mark Riessen

Member of the Policy and  
Governance Group, SA

Masters in Theology, currently  
studying for a Doctor of  
Ministry. Mission and Ministry  
Director with Churches of  
Christ in SA and NT. Director  
of the Tabor Churches of  
Christ Study Centre where he  
lectures in Effective Community  
Engagement, Leadership for  
Ministry and Churches of Christ  
Identity.

## Vandana Thavare

Member Finance Risk and  
Audit Committee, Member  
ICP Reference Group, WA

Degree in Physiotherapy.  
Graduate Diploma in Divinity.  
Associate Pastor (part time) at  
Lifestreams Christian Church  
Karawara. Visiting (Churches  
of Christ) Chaplain at Curtin  
University, Perth since 2021  
and Prison Fellowship WA  
Volunteer since 2021. Has  
worked in far north WA and in  
the NT with several Indigenous  
communities. Born in India to  
Bhimrao and Kanta Thavare,  
she moved with her family  
to Fiji where they served as  
missionaries with OMB (now  
GMP) from December 2001  
until 2006.

## Janet Woodlock

Deputy Board Chair, ICP  
Reference Group, VIC

BSc, Dip Ed, MDiv, Cert IV  
in Workplace and Business  
Coaching. Teacher and  
ordained Churches of Christ  
minister. Janet works as a  
coach and trainer with Arrow  
Leadership. She has worked  
for the National Council of  
Churches, Churches of Christ  
in Australia, and Churches  
of Christ in Vic/Tas. Janet is  
working as the chaplain at  
Kilvington Grammar School.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Finances are important - they put into action the compassion, care and desire to make a difference for those who support GMP.

The following financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID website at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au).

The full statutory financial statements are available on our website at [www.gmp.org.au/annualreport](http://www.gmp.org.au/annualreport)

Image: Women and children nearby as a borehole is installed, Zimbabwe. Showers of Blessing Trust's (OSBT) project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).





# Finance Comments

## General Comments

In church life, and within the community, the impact of COVID continued in 2021-2022. The Spring lockdowns in some states had an impact on local church life and on giving within the churches and to bodies such as GMP. This is a reality experienced by many organisations such as GMP.

While the level of income across GMP was lower than the previous year, part of the drop in comparative yearly income was due to the provision of Job Keeper in 2020-2021. In the 2020-2021 financial year we also received some very substantial donations for particular purposes, with the expectation that they would be utilised in the coming years.

We also have much to be very thankful for. Investment income was strong in 2021-2022 with ICP and COCOA showing growth. The decline in the IMA investment income reflects the decline in the assets of IMA.

Some changes to staffing levels have been necessary. Two areas have been the focus of this. We have reduced some staffing in the Adelaide office, and restructured the supporter and church care strategy and staffing. This was done after a review of the Partnership Coordinator positions in each state. The cost of staffing these roles

needs to be balanced by the level of state income. It was clear that these positions could not be sustained. A new, more centralised church engagement strategy is being implemented.

Overall, the giving to GMP campaigns remained at good levels with pleasing results in increased giving to Great Gifts, the End of Financial Year Appeal, Safe Water September, and the Easter Appeal (Walk for Hope). Income from the Christmas Appeal was considerably lower and we think this is due in part to the changes in local church offering arrangements and the number of similar appeals. We continue to invite giving to our appeals from within Churches of Christ to support and invest in our local partners in Australia and overseas.

There has continued to be a reduction in direct giving from local churches to GMP. We are exploring how we can sustain this giving. We are learning that there are no easy answers to this challenge.

We received several bequests and gifts. When we add the name of the person who gave the bequest into our register we are deeply grateful for their faithful generosity and service.

# Finances at a Glance

Global Mission Partners operates with three distinct funds. Each is managed and accounted for separately.

## International Church Partnerships (ICP)

The International Church Partnership fund supports church projects with a priority on evangelism, church and leadership development as well as investing in programs that care for adults and children. In 2021-2022 \$614,785 was made available for program implementation, support and community education.

## Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid is an approved fund under the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme, and satisfies the requirements for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Full Accreditation.

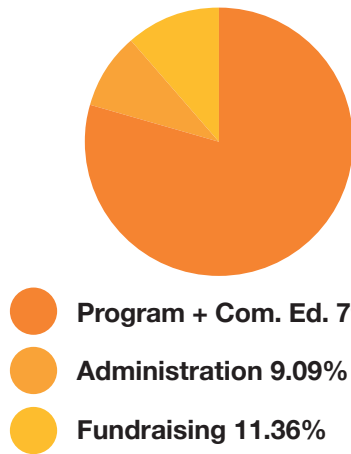
COCOA has policies and priorities that guide the use of funds in keeping with such requirements. In 2021-2022 \$831,288 was made available for program implementation and community education. This figure represents those funds fully acquitted as being spent on activities as at the end of June.

## Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA)

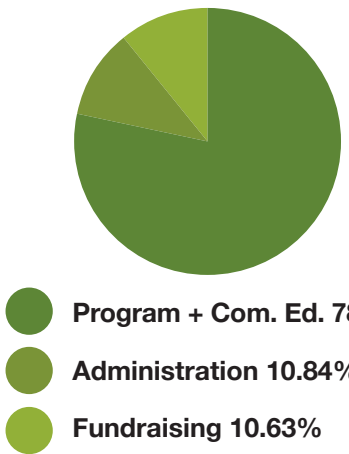
Indigenous Ministries Australia is supported through the Indigenous Partnership fund. In 2021-2022 \$462,778 was made available for specific projects, program implementation and community education. Specific giving in excess of \$9,424 in support of the Indigenous Pathways project was received and this, and similar specific giving, is quarantined from the Redress matters outlined on pages 10-11.

# Finances at a Glance cont.

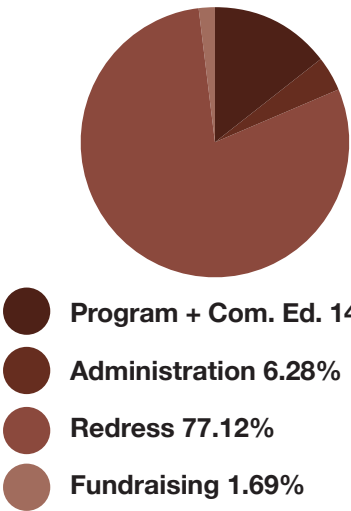
## International Church Partnerships (ICP)



## Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)



## Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA)



# Breakdown by Country

Funds sent to ICP Programs				Funds sent to COCOA Programs			
ICP Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$	COCOA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Bangladesh	23,565	Mother's Love	3,069	Bangladesh ANCP	81,135		
Fiji	50,516	Geon Homes and Korea Christian Gospel Mission	4,420	Fiji	-		
India	27,689	Reaching Hands	540	India	56,101		
Indonesia	30,300			Papua New Guinea	-		
Philippines	15,595			South Sudan	158,268		
Papua New Guinea	45,264			Thailand	5,513		
South Sudan	9,736			Vanuatu	43,884		
Thailand	5,000			Vietnam	-		
Vanuatu	17,421			Zimbabwe	144,916		
Vietnam	29,491			Zimbabwe ANCP	173,567		
Zimbabwe	48,777			Emergency	156,086		
People in Mission	165,331			Other	11,818		
Emergency	49,670						
Other	96,430						
Project Total	614,785	Project Total	8,029	Project Total	831,288	Project Total	-
ICP Total	622,814			COCOA Total	831,288		

Funds sent to IMA Programs			
IMA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Projects and Ministries	167,696		
Project Total	167,696	Project Total	-
IMA Total	167,696		
Grand Total	1,621,798		

Note: These figures are derived from the Audited Financial Statements available at [www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au)



Income Statement – Extract

	2022			2021		
	ICP	COCOA	IMA	ICP	COCOA	IMA
<b>Revenue</b>						
Donations and Gifts						
Monetary	596,525	990,897	164,312	1,243,170	1,267,865	214,020
Non-Monetary	–	–	–	–	–	–
Trusts, Legacies and Bequests	210,539	102,632	33,549	175,815	403,851	23,077
Grants						
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade	–	150,000	–	–	150,000	–
Investment Income	159,170	21,526	42,842	78,336	11,812	53,428
Other Income	20,956	180	21,248	212,292	256,747	377,585
<b>Subtotal International Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Revenue</b>	987,190	–	261,951	1,709,613	–	668,110
<b>Total Revenue</b>	987,190	1,265,235	261,951	1,709,613	2,090,275	668,110
<b>Expenditure</b>						
International Programs						
Funds to International Programs	622,814	831,288	–	529,585	629,657	–
Program Support Costs	64,680	150,507	–	61,974	135,795	–
Community Education	85,848	137,711	–	106,370	168,365	–
Fundraising Costs - Public	110,491	151,610	–	86,197	140,425	–
Accountability and Administration	88,333	154,493	–	321,206	229,581	–
<b>Subtotal International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>	–	1,425,609	–	–	1,303,823	–
<b>Subtotal International Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure</b>	972,166	–	–	1,105,332	–	–
Domestic Programs						
Funds to Domestic Indigenous Programs	–	–	167,696	–	–	114,464
Program Support Costs	–	–	245,719	–	–	292,057
Community Education	–	–	49,363	–	–	73,608
Fundraising Costs - Public	–	–	52,448	–	–	55,172
Accountability and Administration	–	–	2,588,980	–	–	2,757,937
<b>Subtotal Domestic Programs Expenditure</b>	–	–	3,104,206	–	–	3,293,238
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	972,166	1,425,609	3,104,206	1,105,332	1,303,823	3,293,238
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year</b>	15,024	(160,374)	(2,842,255)	604,281	786,452	(2,625,128)

Notes to the Income Statement:

- COCOA funds are used exclusively for International Aid and Development activity.
- ICP Funds are used in International Religious Adherence Promotion and Welfare Programs.
- IMA Funds are used in Domestic Indigenous Programs.
- No funds are used for International or Domestic Political Programs.
- There were no grants received from other Australian or Overseas agencies.
- There was no expenditure under the headings 'Fundraising Costs: Government, multilateral and private' or 'non-monetary' expenditure.

Notes to the Statement of Financial Position:

- GMP has a nil inventory, holds no assets for sale, has no non-current trade or other receivables, no investment property, no borrowings, tax or other financial liabilities, current or non-current.

Statement of Financial Position

	2022			2021		
	ICP	COCOA	IMA	ICP	COCOA	IMA
<b>Assets</b>						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	661,766	565,111	(617,588)	688,719	538,730	227,603
Trade and Other Receivables	64,692	31,203	7,951	45,575	10,059	9,021
Other Assets	1,743	4,165	45,187	3,098	6,867	18,077
Financial Assets	3,376,145	729,217	356,934	3,489,843	893,205	1,025,561
Property, Plant & Equipment	8,674	10,768	1,016,621	11,761	14,283	1,021,412
<b>Total Assets</b>	4,113,020	1,340,464	809,105	4,238,996	1,463,144	2,301,674
<b>Liabilities</b>						
Trade and Other Payables	132,035	173,590	3,380,024	124,594	101,607	1,911,756
Provisions	58,129	110,826	89,283	56,859	95,375	74,838
Contract Liabilities	176,400	–	–	–	–	–
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	366,564	284,416	3,469,307	181,453	196,982	1,986,594
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	3,746,456	1,056,048	(2,660,202)	4,057,543	1,266,162	315,080
<b>Equity</b>						
Specified Project Reserves and Trust Funds	3,733,790	1,268,103	1,443,329	3,477,765	1,158,551	2,816,191
Asset Revaluation Reserve	1,180,513	180,797	–	663,662	230,535	975,991
Accumulated Surplus	(1,167,847)	(392,852)	(4,103,531)	(83,884)	(122,924)	(3,477,102)
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	3,746,456	1,056,048	(2,660,202)	4,057,543	1,266,162	315,080

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Specified Reserves	Total
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>	(1,361,884)	1,015,256	6,520,943	6,174,315
Prior year adjustment	(136,862)	19,205	(19,205)	(136,862)
<b>Restated balance at 1 July 2020</b>	(1,498,746)	1,034,461	6,501,738	6,037,453
Loss for the year	(1,234,395)	–	–	(1,234,395)
Fair value gain on financial assets - comprehensive income	–	835,727	–	835,727
Net amounts transferred to / from reserves	(952,969)	–	952,969	–
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>	(3,686,110)	1,870,188	7,454,707	5,638,785
Loss for the year	(2,987,605)	–	–	(2,987,605)
Fair value gain on financial assets - comprehensive income	–	(508,878)	–	(508,878)
Net amounts transferred to / from reserves	1,009,485	–	(1,009,485)	–
<b>Balance at 30 June 2022</b>	(5,664,230)	1,361,310	6,445,222	2,142,302



## Statement by the Board

The Board declares that the financial extracts of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2022, as set out on the previous pages, has been derived from, and are consistent with, the full audited financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. The full financial report is available on request and is in accordance with relevant legislation, accounting standards, provides a true and fair view of our financial position and performance, and indicates that GMP can pay its debts as and when they become due. This Declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for, and on behalf of the Board by:

Barrie Yesberg  
Board Chair



John Gilmore  
Executive Officer



11 November 2022

## Independent Audit Report



Moore Australia Audit (SA/NT) Pty Ltd

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### REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES OF CHRIST GLOBAL MISSION PARTNERS LTD

#### Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022, the Income Statement - Extract, the Statement of Changes in Equity for the year then ended and the Statement by the Board, are derived from the audited financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2022.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial report and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

#### Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial report and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

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

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report dated 11 November 2022.

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

The Board Members are responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 to the financial report and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

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



MOORE AUSTRALIA AUDIT (SA/NT) PTY LTD



STEPHEN CAMILLERI  
Director  
Adelaide, South Australia  
Dated: 11 November 2022

Moore Australia Audit (SA/NT) Pty Ltd - ABN 34 144 550 461. Authorised Audit Company Registered Number 374246.  
An independent member of Moore Global Network Limited - members in principal cities throughout the world.  
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.



### Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.

Churches of Christ established the Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners (GMP) in 1891. Our strong history is evident in the quality and values of our partnerships, both internationally and in Australia.

#### Our Vision:

Every Church Partnering in  
Global Mission

#### Our Mission:

Linking People, Churches and  
Resources across Nations

#### Our Expectation:

Life-Changing Partnerships

#### GMP Values

- Gospel Centred
- Committed to Sharing
- Respecting People
- Meeting Human Need
- Working for Lasting Change
- In Partnership
- Seeking Independence and Maturity
- Demonstrating High Standards of Practice

#### Registered Office:

2 Danby Street  
Torrensville SA 5031

#### Postal Address:

PO Box 341  
Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

**Freecall:** 1800 467 222

**Phone:** 08 8352 3466

**Website:** [www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au)

**Email:** [info@gmp.org.au](mailto:info@gmp.org.au)

#### Australian Business Number:

30 455 408 814

GMP is a company limited by guarantee. The company members are the State Churches of Christ bodies and the Council of Churches of Christ in Australia, and each appoints up to two voting representatives. The members elect the directors. GMP is registered in each State according to local requirements for fundraising.

#### GMP fulfills its mission through three distinct programs:



International Church Partnerships (ICP) prioritises church planting and development, evangelism and outreach, and the training and development of leaders.



Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) is an approved aid and development program with a focus on empowering communities in poverty.



Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) focuses on Indigenous ministry and development.

All photos (unless otherwise credited) are taken by GMP staff, represent actual GMP projects or partnerships and are taken with permission.

Based on communications with our partners, all statistics presented were accurate at the time of printing.

The stories in the Annual Report have been shared with permission and some names may have been changed to protect their identity.

## Australian Aid

GMP is fully accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), responsible for managing the Australian Government's development program. GMP receives support through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



GMP is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory code of practice ([www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)).

The ACFID Code of Conduct describes standards of practice for its members, including a complaints procedure. Please direct any complaints regarding GMP to the Executive Officer on +61 8 8352 3466. Complaints regarding breaches of the Code can also be directed to ACFID ([www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)).

GMP is also a member of the Church Agencies Network, Micah Australia, and the ACT Alliance.





A photograph of three young Indian girls standing outdoors against a blue tarp and a weathered wall. The girl on the left wears a black vest over a patterned top. The girl in the middle wears a pink top. The girl on the right wears a gold and red outfit with an Indian flag pin. They are all smiling and holding a wooden sign that says 'THANK YOU' in colorful chalk. The image has a red border on the left and right sides.

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT!**

**We couldn't do it  
without you.**

Above: Children from Emmanuel Childcare Centre who benefited from food packets distributed by Hosanna Ministries, Mumbai, India  
Back Cover: Prakash Tekadi Slums, India





Australian Churches of Christ  
Global Mission Partners Ltd.

[www.gmp.org.au](http://www.gmp.org.au)



ACFID  
MEMBER