











SUPPORTING THE GREATEST NEEDS AND CHALLENGES OF OUR PARTNERS

ADDRESS FROM THE CHEIF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This past financial year has been hard for many people in our world. It has been marked by increasing global conflicts, economic challenges and environmental devastation.

Top of my thoughts is the ongoing fighting in Sudan (causing refugees to flood neighbouring countries, like South Sudan), violence in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh and the heartbreaking devastation in Gaza, Israel and also Lebanon. Additionally, nations have been facing extraordinary inflation, like Bangladesh at 9.7%, South Sudan at 22% and Zimbabwe, which saw a 55% increase in everyday costs (some call this "hyperinflation").

Changes to the environment are layered onto these difficulties. The recent floods in Papua New Guinea (PNG), heatwaves in Thailand, typhoons battering Bangladesh, and severe drought in Zimbabwe are some of the situations that our partners and their communities continue to face. These compounding events are making hard places unbearable – where is the hope?

As Christians, we believe in a "living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:3). Jesus' resurrection serves as a reminder that in hard places and the most difficult circumstances, even in death, God brings new life. And he does that through us – through our prayers, words of encouragement, our time, and financial support. All of us who consider ourselves part of the community known as Global Mission Partners are all helping bring new life.

Our partners overseas (COCOA and ICP) and here in Australia (IMA) are bringing new life in hard places.

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) has enjoyed the benefits of being fully accredited with DFAT and becoming a member of the Church Agency Network

(CAN), which has allowed many of our partners to receive increased support for their community development projects, including livelihood training in India, disaster recovery in Vanuatu, refugee assistance in South Sudan and innovating to install solar-powered boreholes in Zimbabwe.

Our emergency appeals for the conflicts in South Sudan and Gaza have been well supported, and we are grateful to all who have shared our concerns and joined us in praying for the people in these regions.

International Church Partnerships (ICP) partners in PNG and South Sudan have reported large numbers of baptisms and new churches being planted in countries like Indonesia and Zimbabwe. On a visit to Zimbabwe, I experienced one church plant that had only commenced in October 2023 but has already seen 74 baptisms - signs of more people finding new life in hard places. We renewed many partnership agreements and introduced quarterly report with partners so we can keep Australian churches and supporters better informed. These reports have enabled us to better inform you about partners' programs and progress.

Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) was largely focused on walking with our partners and Indigenous leaders as they navigated the Voice Referendum, both in the lead-up and the result. IMA sponsored the Raising our Tribal Voice conference hosted by the University of Divinity in February and hosted a number of emerging Indigenous Christian leaders for this event. Dareton Youth and Community Centre continues to provide a loving environment for the young Indigenous people in the Sunraysia area, and this year we welcomed Clinton Waters as the new Board Chair who has brought welcome energy to the work there.

Global Mission Partners continues to administer the National Redress Scheme on behalf of the Council of Churches of Christ in Australia. To date, we have received over 300 applications for redress, which is a painful task but an important part of our commitment to, and work toward, restorative justice in our nation.

A new initiative here in Australia has been facilitating a national Churches of Christ Disaster Community of Practice which has met three times this past year to learn from one another. Together, a group of experienced emergency responders in our movement can see the potential for cross-State collaboration in times of crisis, particularly in the preparation and recovery phases.

The road ahead is full of hope. Our leadership team and Board have been refreshing our vision and values (which you can find in this report on page 45) and have developed a new 2030 Strategic Plan. We look forward to creating new opportunities for our supporters to hear, learn and take part in the impressive work of our partners. I look forward to doing this together!



Chief Executive Officer





ADDRESS FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

It continues to be my privilege and honour to serve as a part of the Global Mission Partners team. As I have only recently stepped into this position of Board Chair, I would like to thank both Barrie Yesberg and Roger Bowden who have retired for their many years of service on the Global Mission Partners' Board. We thank them for their contributions as they pursue ongoing adventures.

With over 130 years of history, our team continues to faithfully serve Australian and international partners' ministries and community development programs across 12 countries today. Our Annual Report reflects the commitment and ongoing faithfulness of our partners, staff, volunteers, Board members and supporters in the holistic transformation of people and communities through the love of God.

As we all continue to emerge from the impact of COVID-19 and live in a post-pandemic environment, the world has confronted extreme weather events and human disasters, the escalation of armed and civil conflict, as well as the persecution of ethnic and religious people groups within and across countries worldwide.

Should this trend continue, we can expect to see more people living in extreme poverty and experiencing higher levels of displacement. For the first time in recorded history, over 108 million people are displaced, 648 million people are living in extreme poverty, and 828 million people are facing food insecurity and hunger. In such times as these, the importance of our mission to serve our partners as they reach out to individuals and communities is increasingly critical.

Our challenges as God's people include:

1. The challenge of renewal in a new season

After much prayer, with the engagement of all our stakeholders, and under the leadership of our CEO, John Lamerton, our staff and Board have reviewed and renewed our Vision, Mission, Objectives and Outcomes, as expressed in the longer-term 2030 Strategic Plan.

Our Vision is to see every Christian active in God's mission, offering hope, love and restoration throughout the world.

Our Mission is to inspire and resource locally-led, high-impact community development and Christian partnerships. We focus on the "integral mission" (word and deed). We partner with, equip and release local leaders.

Inspired by 1 Corinthians 9:12-23, we keep our bearings in Christ while reaching a wide range of people and leading them to Him.

2. Being one team with many parts, where everyone is important

1 Corinthians 12:25-31 gives an example of the body of Christ, the way God designed us to work together. If one part hurts, we all hurt. If one part excels, we cheer them on in joy. Everyone has a part to play.

It is important to sincerely thank and acknowledge the ongoing commitment and faithfulness of every person, community, local church, State Conference and other organisations that contribute to and support Global Mission Partners.

Our partners across 12 countries, who reach out and into their local communities, districts and countries.

Our professional and experienced staff and volunteers work tirelessly as one team during the year, serving our partners and contributing significantly to their ministries and community development programs.

Our supporters – including individuals, local churches and State Conferences. All of them are relationally and financially connected and engaged with one or more of our partners.

The members of our Global Mission Partners Reference and Advisory groups give much of their time and experience to our staff and partners, advising on the development of partners' ministries and community-based development programs.

Our Board members continue to commit to the governance of Global Mission Partners and to our deep unity as a team despite the many challenges of recent years.

3. Doing all things (whether in words or deeds) in love

The Annual Report shares a few of the many ongoing stories of God's people who are part of the Global Mission Partners' family, and I commend the report to you. We thank you for your prayers and ongoing relational connection with Global Mission Partners and the people and partners that we have the privilege of serving.

1 Corinthians 13:13 (MSG) says, "Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love".





South Sudan • • OUR PARTNERS **Zimbabwe** AROUND THE WORLD Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) Projects International Church

- Partnerships (ICP) Projects
 - Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) 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: COCOA Areas of work: Livelihoods, schooling, health care (COCOA)

India •



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)



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



Zimbabwe

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



IMPACT OVERVIEW

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.

Did you know?

GMP supports eight evangelists and twenty eight rural pastors with motorcycles in Zimbabwe. Since the beginning of the Evangelism program, seventy seven churches have been planted and they have celebrated over 3000 baptisms.

Impact highlights this year:

1,253 people baptised in PNG

9 students graduated from Bible College in South Sudan

1,780 people baptised in South Sudan

At least 29 people accepted Jesus for the first time in Fiji

Over 700 people received prayer ministry in South Sudan

195 people baptised in Zimbabwe.

NANDA'S HEART FOR THE LOST

Nanda is a graduate of CCTSI from Jepara, Indonesia. Her mother is a Christian and her fisherman father is a Muslim. "Each week," she said, "sometimes I went to church, sometimes to mosque. I didn't know anything about church and ministry." As part of her search to find a deeper faith, a friend "recommended me to join at CCTSI to be a better person."

While there, she grew in her faith and her heart inclined towards ministry. "I began to have a heart for children who couldn't get an education because they don't have financial support. Also, my heart was touched by elderly people who are afraid to live in old age and prepare for their death."

Nanda described her time at CCTSI as being "more available for others, not worrying about myself because God put something in my heart: love for others. Christ has redeemed me so I might have a different life." She has also gained a life motto while studying – 'Being a home for the lost.'



"Christ has redeemed me so I might have a different life."

This motto became real to her as she ministered during her one-year-practicum in Bali, where she worked with prisoners, those with mental illnesses and young people desperately looking for someone to trust.

She is grateful for the support of Australian individuals and supporters. "I am thankful for the support that Australians have given to me. I praise God that I'm not alone in this ministry through this partnership."



HOPE IN THE CHALLENGES

We've often heard that there is a cost of living crisis in Australia. For many Australians, life is presenting significant daily challenges for which there are seemingly no straightforward answers.

Life is challenging, and at those times we need our support networks around us: family, friends, church and professionals. Life is always better when we know that we aren't alone.

For GMP's partners through International Church Partnerships (ICP), you are part of their support network as your generosity supports our partners as they endure challenges and seek to both have hope and give hope in the difficult places they minister in.

This year has also been a difficult year for our ICP partners – these cost of living pressures are global and our partners' capacity to handle these varies from country to country. Added to those inflationary pressures have been other issues, such as drought (Zimbabwe), refugees fleeing civil disturbance (South Sudan), extreme weather events (PNG), infrastructure challenges (Fiji), national transport chaos (Vanuatu) and local insurrections that have disrupted daily life (Bangladesh).

None of these were foreseeable, and so added to those stress points was the element of surprise.

So, where does hope exist?

Due to the support – financial, prayerful and in person – from individuals and churches throughout Australia, our partners across the world deliver the hope of the gospel to their communities as they, in turn, receive hope from you.

In Zimbabwe, motorbike evangelists travel from the various church communities under their care to preach, comfort those in mourning, baptise and provide counsel and support. You were beacons of hope to see this work done.

In the Philippines, your support meant that the International Christian College of Manila kept its doors open to train a new generation of bi-vocational pastors who can minister to people caught in the cycles of poverty and inequality.

In Vietnam, you provided hope as the churches evangelise as well as work to be recognised by the state – offering tangible hope in a society governed by a regime that primarily focuses on the material over the spiritual.

The students studying at CCTSI and API in Salatiga and Bandung in Indonesia learn to work bi-vocationally as missionaries in primarily Muslim settings. They embody grace, hope and faithfulness as they bless the communities they serve across the diverse communities of Indonesia.

We support a small work in Thailand, the Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center, which reaches out to people who are searching for connection and the hope that comes through knowing Jesus.

Your constant support is deeply appreciated – it reminds our partners that they do not operate in a vacuum, and that they are supported through prayer and funding. What that also means is that they can preach, train, teach and comfort others from a place of hope. Because of you, they know that they don't do all of this on their own.

Craig Brown, Director of Partnerships

ICP PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

Bangladesh

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

Challenges

This has been a difficult year for the BHCOC. An ongoing insurrection has resulted in armed conflict between separatist groups, the police and the army. This has resulted in travel restrictions, curfews, arrests and deaths in the areas where the BHCOC ministers. This is a stressful time and violence flares up unexpectedly – a minor consequence was that the most recent insurrection stopped a long-awaited trip by GMP staff.

Strengths

With gatherings including church services interrupted, what has shone through is the resilience of the BHCOC churches. Prior to this, leadership training, evangelism, church planting, the improvement of church buildings and office construction at Ruma were actively pursued.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

You are offering real hope to people who are in an extraordinarily difficult situation.

Fiii

ICP supports three churches in Fiji, based near Lautoka (Sawnei), Lomowai (near Sigatoka) and Vuci Rd (Suva). GMP also has a MOU with the Nakasi Church, who meet in the GMP-owned church building.

Challenges

While Vuci Rd and Lomowai have settled places to meet for services, the situation for the Lautoka church is less than ideal. They meet in a large home, but the property has structural issues and is difficult to access for elderly members. Their landlord is considering selling which is unsettling and makes it hard to plan for their long-term future. Properties in Lautoka are expensive to purchase.

Strengths

In a context where there are many churches, our partners continue to focus on evangelism. There has been a move to more independent thinking, with both Vuci Rd and Lomowai taking on some financial costs. Lomowai, under Pastor Sunny, has adapted to his new leadership and explored ways of creating sustainability.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

Life in Fiji is far from idyllic, and healthy churches can offer comfort to those experiencing ongoing and cyclical poverty and hardship. The church leaders feel encouraged by GMP supporters.

India

At this time, ICP cannot transfer funds for evangelism and church ministry in India due to changed government regulations.

Indonesia

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

Challenges

There are continuing challenges around accreditation and compliance for both colleges, as well as the constant need for maintaining their facilities. While acceptance of different faiths is more common in Java, students can face more intolerant settings in their placements elsewhere in Indonesia.

Strenaths

API and CCTSI are independent, have a clear focus on what they are trying to achieve, and communicate well with Global Mission Partners. Their training models are missional and focused on placing graduates in settings where they bless their communities through both their vocational work and spreading the gospel. Many of their graduates are women.

ICP PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

Your support ensures that graduates can be placed where the need to hear the gospel is most needed.

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 ministry training centres in Gandep and Yamen.

Challenges

One of the most complex challenges in supporting MECOC is developing diverse income streams. Most conference systems rely on affiliation fees, but many of the MECOC churches operate on small to non-existent budgets.

Strengths

Evangelism is first and foremost in the minds of MECOC and their churches. They consistently record high numbers of conversions and baptisms.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

By partnering with MECOC, which oversees the evangelistic zeal of the local churches and the training of the pastors and leaders, you are ensuring that hope is spread in the often impoverished and sometimes volatile PNG setting.

The Philippines

Our partnership is with the International Christian College of Manila (ICCM), who train students in ministry and other vocations. We continue to support leadership training, evangelism and discipleship through the Asian Community Christian Centre (ACCC).

Challenges

Having found a new location for their campus, ICCM is now focused on that project, which, of course, will be expensive, requiring funds, energy and time. The current ICCM model makes it difficult to adequately pay staff.

Strengths

The ministry of ACCC is enthusiastic about the gospel and the whole person. The ICCM faculty are sacrificial and believe deeply in their students and the way that they train them.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

You are partnering with vibrant partners, who minister across the different contexts in the Philippines. They believe in a gospel of hope.

South Sudan

In South Sudan, ICP supports chaplaincy, training church leaders at Aweil Bible College and other institutions. ICP also provides local churches with basic ministry necessities, including Bibles and improvements to church buildings.

Challenges

South Sudan was a difficult place to live and minister in prior to the influx of Sudanese refugees, which has put further pressure on already stretched services and infrastructure. This has also made visits by GMP staff to South Sudan near impossible.

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 Giving Hope in Difficult Places

Training South Sudanese leaders for the future is hope being played out in the flesh. Despite the difficulties associated with South Sudan, investing in future leadership is a sure way to spread hope.

Thailand

ICP continues to partner with the Church of Christ Thailand (CCT) as they run the Samut Songkhram Evangelism Center.

Challenges

ICP's work in Thailand is small in scope. We experience what seems like constant personnel changes at the CCT. This means that reporting back to ICP can feel like two steps forward and one step back. We are working through this and are seeking more consistency in communications.

Strengths

The CCT are relatively well resourced. There is a real desire to reach out to Thai society, including the marginalised.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

You are partnering with the CCT to reach out in an environment that is largely untouched by the gospel.

Vanuatu

In partnership with the Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV), ICP focuses on supporting local churches and the chaplain at Londua.

Challenge

A significant challenge this year was not so much tropical cyclones (although Tropical Cyclone Lola did impact some areas of Vanuatu) but rather challenges caused by humans. The liquidation of Air Vanuatu meant that inter-island travel and trade were severely impacted and became more expensive, and that churches visiting from Australia had to cancel their trips.

Strengths

The churches in Vanuatu are resilient and open to new ideas while keeping a focus on evangelism. The COCOA-run Promoting Dignity Inclusion and Protection (PDIP) program equipped church leaders in Port Vila and Santo (and beyond) with ways to value women, children and those living with disabilities.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

Too often, people assume that places like Vanuatu are like what is seen on television tourist programs. While a beautiful country, Vanuatu is the nation most prone to natural disasters (volcanoes, cyclones, and earthquakes), and the churches there draw hope to face times of disaster from knowing that they are supported by Australian donors.

Vietnam

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

Challenges

In some parts of Vietnam, the churches need to meet discreetly. Churches of Christ are not recognised in Ho Chi Minh City, for example, and need to establish their credentials with the government first – that also means finding an affordable place to rent for the Churches of Christ 'headquarters.' This is yet to happen.

Strengths

As mentioned, the churches in Vietnam are working toward national registration with the Vietnamese Government which would free them up considerably to focus on evangelism, training and meeting together. Their leaders are also determined and able to withstand external pressure.

How You are Giving Hope in Difficult Places

Your partnership gives hope to leaders who often find themselves battling materialistic attitudes, nominalism and bureaucratic hurdles.

Zimbabwe

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

Challenges

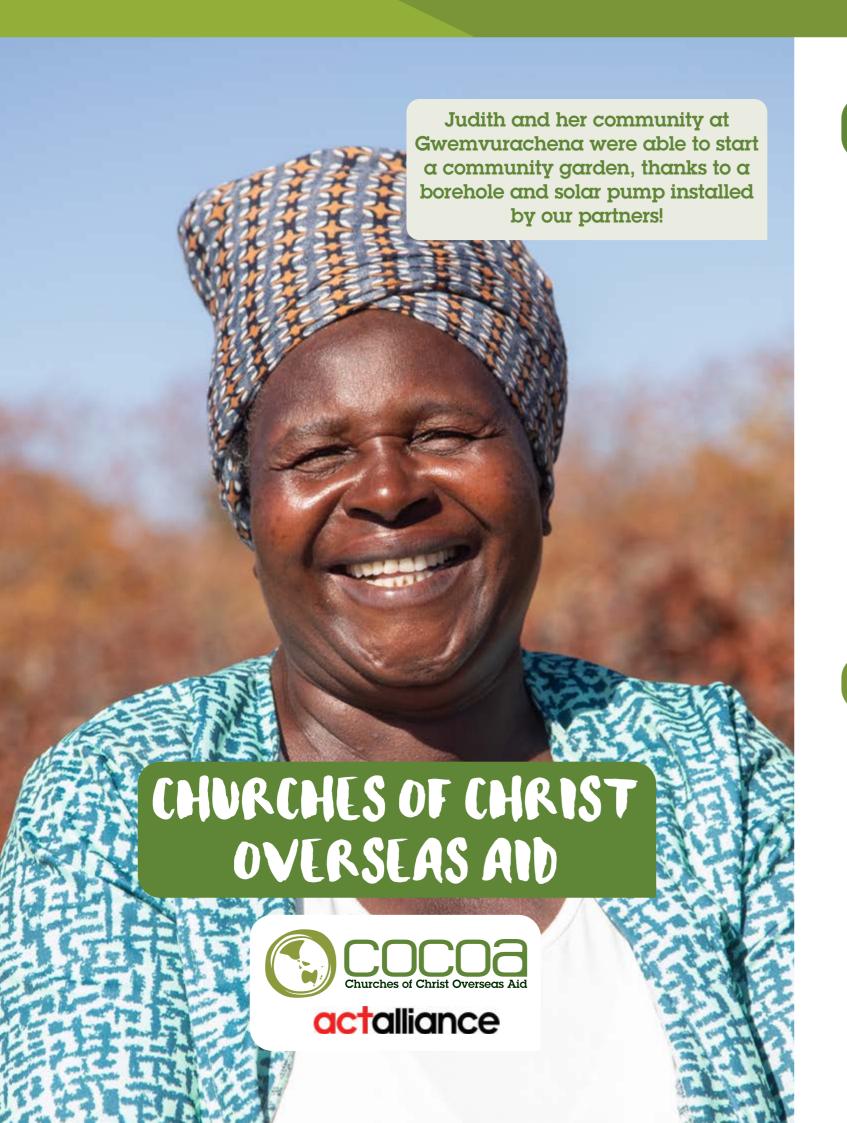
Long-term leaders are considering moving on, and training the next generation to replace them is a long process. External factors in Zimbabwe—from drought to cyclical poverty to an unfriendly central government—make for obstacles that well-resourced churches would struggle with.

Strengths

The obstacles described above somehow have forged a determination in the churches to continue to preach God's word and be a light to others who lack hope.

New Life

For example, every motorbike that carries an evangelist from one church to another symbolises hope to the person riding it and to the community receiving the evangelist's ministry.



IMPACT OVERVIEW

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) is the international community development program of Global Mission Partners.

COCOA works to overcome poverty through accompanying communities living in poverty toward realising their aspirations for well-being. COCOA works in Asia, Africa and the Pacific, focusing on Clean Water, Primary Health Care, Quality Schooling, Productive Livelihoods and Peaceful Relations. We partner with local civil-society organisations that are part of the communities that they serve, letting their aspirations for well-being drive our projects.

Impact highlights this year:

735 people voiced their needs to help shape new projects

626 children gained access to education

3500 people recieved access to clean water

125 people learned about sanitation and gained access to a toilet

170 households received livestock to enhance their livelihoods

478 people received basic medical care and health education

479 people increased their ability to earn an income

HEALING FOR ANU

When Anu* arrived at Khayelhile Childrens Village (KCV), Zimbabwe, at twelve years old, she bore scars that no child should have. From early childhood, Anu was neglected. Her mother struggled to care for her due to mental health problems.

Anu was diagnosed with HIV from birth, but never received the medication needed. She was regularly left in the homes of strangers and malnourished from a lack of protein in her diet. All this led to significant delays in physical and mental development.

At twelve, Anu should have been excited about secondary school, but she could barely speak and wasn't correctly toilet trained. She had not reached her developmental milestones, was withdrawn, and lacked confidence.

Thanks to the nurturing environment provided by her housemothers, KCV 'siblings' and the administrative team, Anu has since thrived.

Her health has significantly improved. She is receiving the necessary medical care for HIV and nutritious meals each day. Anu is now enrolled in a special needs school and attends speech therapy sessions.

She gets along nicely with the other kids and even calls out their names. She is now described as "happy, like a ray of sunshine."





INCLUSION FOR THOSE ON THE EDGE

In the difficult places where our partners operate, we long for hope which extends to the people who are most on the edge. So it is with rejoicing that we heard our collection of stories of change ring strongly with inclusion.

One participant in Fiji reflected on learning about including people with disability in their community and church:

"I practiced what I learned and I can see changes in people's life. They feel free to share with us. Two Down syndrome children are also singing in the choir to glorify the Lord. This workshop has brought change in my ministry".

Women with disabilities living in Bangladesh, rejoiced that vocational training had doubled their livelihoods.

At Warelel Primary School in South Sudan, the children look forward to the shade and fruit that their newly planted trees will eventually bring. We trust that the climate restoration that the trees will usher in means a brighter future for those children.

Elderly women in Zimbabwe rejoice in newfound energy to grow vegetables, as their walk to fetch water is now much shorter and gives them clean and safe water. This is a vast improvement on the long, lonely, dangerous trek to dirty water that they used to take.

CAN DO (CAN Disaster Operations) and Act for Peace

We have long been members of the Church Agency Network (CAN) and this year joined their humanitarian response consortium: CAN DO (CAN Disaster Operations). This had an immediate impact on our response to the three cyclones in Vanuatu.

Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin arrived just before our membership was complete so we accessed CAN DO funding through Act for Peace. By the time Tropical Cyclone Lola arrived shortly afterwards, our membership was complete and we accessed funding directly.

We were in the deep end from the start, but appreciated the supportive environment of the church agencies. We were glad to receive positive feedback about our reporting and performance.

The Collection

Each year we put together all of the indicators of effectiveness across our projects in a document we call 'The Collection', a Churches of Christ version of an annual performance report. The theme of the 2023 collection seems to be "almost there."

There is just one recommendation from the previous year yet to be done, one more learning to be implemented and one more evaluation. We are almost there. The statistic for evaluations represents significant catch up. Other measures are sitting at 100%. The strategic map for 2020-2025 is complete and COCOA is contributing to the new GMP-wide strategic plan going forward. All of the partner progress reports were completed and there was a capacity building plan in place for every partner.

We had 25 active projects: 10 starting and eight completing, three emergency responses implemented by partners and a further six through international alliances, as well as 17 development projects and a research project.

'Know the Locals' Research Project

The research project is Know the Locals, an opportunity to reflect with our partners on their aspirations – for their organisation as well as for their work. It is another step toward knowing our partners and putting them in the driving seat of the work that we do together.

This project takes senior staff and board members through a series of activities to investigate: their organisation's structure, its approach to key stakeholders, strategic direction, leadership challenges, understanding of well-being and communication preferences. These

experiences help organisations to understand themselves better and Global Mission Partners to increase our understanding and to better serve them.

We began with South Sudan partners, CMI and LAFOSS, who we met in Kenya because of security concerns in South Sudan. The aim of the project is reflected in one participant's comment, "GMP keeps developing partners like this so now local partners have got their roles and responsibilities as a local." Those who attended will re-run the workshop back home with their boards. Zimbabwe partners KCV and OSBT followed.

Training and Learning

As we reflected together on what we have learned, we saw that the evaluation for Partnering Together for Stronger Communities, our tri-annual partners conference, showed good evidence that it had built the capacity of partners, built the connection amongst the COCOA team and that partners has been inspired by their peers. This was the key staff learning.

Another group of learnings focused on maximising the usefulness of team meetings through hearing how others are working with partners, building teamwork amongst ourselves and sharing things that each has learned, both formally and informally.

Ways of building more effective relationships with partners was the third group of learnings. This included taking an interest in their personal lives, making more space during visits and building steadily on the relationship, the Christmas Celebration and the WhatsApp group.

The value of some new initiatives were affirmed: quarterly reporting, which helps partners keep track, and the partner context analysis, which taught us more about church structures and government regulations in particular.

COCOA Reference Group

Many thanks to those who serve on our COCOA Reference Group, giving expert input to our projects. This year, Claire Egan took on the Chairperson role and Chris Morey stepped out of the group. Many thanks to Chris for his wise input.

COCOA Staff

We said farewell to Jan Bayliss who had energetically served in the COCOA team for 10 years, training partners and keeping track of their compliance and ours, and our project cycle. The last project she was involved with, Made in God's Image (now Promoting Dignity, Inclusion and Protection) bears the marks of her passionate work. Many thanks to the whole COCOA team for their passionate engagement with partners.

Partners

Many thanks most of all to our incredible partners who foster change in their communities under some of the most difficult circumstances. The work of two of our partners, and their own lives, were under threat from civil unrest this year and we continue to remember them in our prayers.

Colin Scott, International Partnership Manager (COCOA)

Eva Ntege-Dhizaala, International Partnership Specialist (COCOA)

Suzanne Hayes, International Partnership Specialist (COCOA)

COCOA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

Africa

South Sudan

Christian Mercy International

Education

This project improves the quality of schooling in Northern Bahr El Ghazal State through income generation and teacher training. 90 carers of disabled, orphaned, or otherwise vulnerable grade one students received three goats. Reports from previous years show that this initiative can cover schooling costs right through to the end of high school. We supported four teachers to complete their high school education. This enables them to access the government's teacher training program.

The evaluation concluded that these two initiatives were effective and replicable, and encouraged the construction of toilets, kitchens and store rooms in schools, which will enable schools to assess a food for education program.

Return the Rains

This project works to mitigate climate change by planting fruit trees on the grounds of public institutions. This year the only activity was following up on plantings after 18 months. Reports recommended focusing solely on schools and health institutions. These two institutions had people and security guards present more often, and seedlings were less likely to be destroyed by animals compared with churches, market places and government offices, which were originally also targeted.

Conservation Agriculture Pilot

This project set out to ascertain the suitability of small-scale conservation farming techniques in Aweil. The response was overwhelmingly positive, so it continued on, training 20 farmers in each of four communities.

Laid Foundation of South Sudan

Peace Building Project

The many long years of war in South Sudan have left many communities at odds with their neighbours and made national unity difficult. Through this project, community leaders underwent training and assisted LAFOSS in running local workshops on peacebuilding and conflict resolution. The project worked with communities in and around two camps for internally displaced people and engaged more than 1,200 people in workshops of up to 20 people. Interviewees reported how they were now motivated and able to reconcile conflicts within their families and communities and build relationships with those from other tribes. One woman, for example, said that as a result of the training, violence has been reduced in her community and relationships that were broken apart during the conflict of 2013 have been restored. She is now a mediator within her women's group after coming to the training with no no interest in communicating with members of other tribes.

Zimbabwe

Khayelihle Children's Village (KCV)

Family 2 Project

Khayelihle Children's Village reconnects vulnerable children with supportive families. An evaluation in late 2023 commented that residential, reconnected and graduated children experienced impactful changes due to the project.

These changes included improved school performance. Birth certificates were also secured for eight children. There was progress in identifying family connections; two young adults had successful family connections. New interest in fostering children meant that one child is in the process of being connected to a family.

Chickens and vegetables produced on the farm provided extra cash. The housemothers' counselling workshop on interacting with children from traumatic backgrounds was appropriate and useful. KCV also continued to organise a workshop for community workers on strategies to prevent child abandonment.

Organisation of Showers of Blessing Trust (OSBT)

Water Project

Zimbabwe has been hit by a drought this year, so improved access to clean water is extremely welcome. OBST worked with communities to drill 11 handpumped wells and one solar-powered one. An evaluation in late 2023 highlighted that the primary impact of the provision of clean water was reduced disease. Participants also reported shorter distances to water points, saying: "We now have water very close to our houses. We used to drink from an unsafe river which had mining pollutants. It was dark, and it tasted funny."

Over 100 households now have more time to attend to personal plots in the community vegetable gardens resulting in an enhanced diet. Household income from the sale of extra vegetables, as well as alternative livelihood options such as poultry and turkey keeping, contributed to self-sufficient households.

Communities were mobilised to attend workshops with the help of community leaders. Over fifty people attended workshops that educated the community on water conservation and promoted growing fruit trees near boreholes. Trees were supplied to a secondary school, and 70 trees are thriving.

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

Christian Care

Building Sustainable Livelihoods and Climate Resilience to Mitigate Displacement.

This project is managed in partnership with Act for Peace. It aims to build resilience to the threat of climate-induced displacement through groundwater, agricultural, livelihoods and protection initiatives. This year, a community dam and 25 Farmer Field Schools strengthened communities against the impact of drought. A total of 1334 community members participated in training in climate-related hazards and natural disasters. Some 209 community members had

improved access to sufficient food, with 58 women now ready to assume leadership roles. Also, 209 women and men living in poverty increased their incomes.

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

Asia

Bangladesh

Community Advancement Forum (CAF)

Community Sustainability Project 2

This project works with hill tribe communities in the Bandarban Hills improving their access to education, income, sanitation and clean water.

The external evaluation confirmed that the project made good progress towards those outcomes and that local authorities and communities value the activities. Notable achievements included installing over 80 latrines across several villages. With the installations, project staff trained over 65 community members in latrine maintenance and personal hygiene. The disease and safety risks of open defecation are now greatly reduced.

Women engaged in vocational training in midwifery (12), beauty therapy (20) and various handicrafts (20). These new skills will generate additional income for them and their families. Unfortunately, the project continues to face restrictions due to military activity.

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



Showers of Blessing Trust's (OSBT) project, Bangladesh CAF - Community Sustainability Program and Act for Peace - Christian Care's Conservation Farming Project are supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

COCOA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS CONT.

India

Hosanna Ministries

Vocational Education and Training 4

Hosanna Ministries offers vocational training to vulnerable women and men in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region and the rural Yavatmal district. This training includes tailoring, computer, beautician and driving courses and enables people to increase their income.

Tailoring participants learned how to make blouses worn with sarees and dresses for special occasions. The project trained over 215 women in tailoring, and 72% said they were earning an income.

In computer classes, participants undertake a government course to learn basic MSWord, Excel and PowerPoint. The project trained over 215 students, 60% of whom are female. Of the survey respondents, 81% were able to progress to higher education.

Participants in the beautician courses learn to apply makeup, specialising in wedding makeup, hairstyles and henna application. Over 75 women were trained, with a total of 83% of survey respondents reporting that they were earning an income.

Driving lessons enable the students to gain a licence. This year the project trained six males to drive taxis or rickshaws, and all of them reported that they got a job.

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

Prakash Tekadi Community Building Project

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

The project continues to focus on providing basic education to the children to support their learning at local schools. Teachers use audio and video tools to teach the 40 children who regularly attend. These lessons include the alphabet, numbers and poems in Marathi, Hindi and English. The sessions are run in the morning

to allow school-aged children to attend school later in the day. We are pleased to see that most of the schoolaged children now attend the local school.

Women's literacy classes were run for 20 women. They all are now able to read and write and also sign their names, increasing their confidence. A number of workshops for community members covered topics such as personal health and hygiene. A positive result was that 80% of households reported an improvement in their personal health practices.

Thailand

Social Development and Service Unit of the Church of Christ in Thailand (SDSU)

Hill Tribes Sustainable Income Projectt

This project is working with isolated, subsistence communities in the highland area of northern Thailand. This year the project worked with four Lahu communities to raise pigs, and continued work from previous years with six other communities.

Community members receive seed funding to purchase animals, and technical training and advice in raising and selling pigs. The project training is open to all community members, not just project participants, and includes gender inclusiveness and child protection.

This year, 80% of participating households have been able to sell their animals and earn a small profit.

The Pacific

Promoting Dignity, Inclusion and Protection

This project runs workshops with key church leaders on the issues of gender equality, disability inclusion and child protection. Having both female and male facilitators and inviting equal numbers of women and men has been effective in encouraging learning, even before the first session begins.

After a pilot program was held in Fiji the previous year, the project was rolled out in Vanuatu in three series, each in different locations.

Each series began with an initial workshop reflecting on the issues based on a shared sacred text and ending with an action plan for the following nine months. The second workshop brought the same participants together to share their experiences of putting their learning into action.

Participants experienced many lightbulb moments, saying "I realised again we are so special"; "In the middle of the workshop I came to realise a lot of things", and "The first session on the first day opened my mind. When it comes to the middle of the workshop, I see a bigger picture."

The insights drove participants to actions such as speaking about gender, disability and child protection in church, training other leaders as they had been trained, commencing visitation to people with disability, including people with disability in church activities and "changing our culture."

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

Vanuatu

Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV)

Design Five Year Strategy

This project developed a strategy for supporting and including vulnerable people in community and CCCV life and improving readiness for disasters within the CCCV National Office and CCCV communities. Islandwide surveys were completed, and the results are being compiled. The first feedback to communities has been done in Port Vila and Luganville.

Issues identified included domestic violence, alcohol and drug abuse and WASH needs. Disaster risk-reduction preparedness and management, child safeguarding and emergency management policies have also been updated. The survey has shaped the next CCCV project.



Hosanna Ministries' Vocational Training Project and Promoting Dignity, Inclusion and Protection are supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



IMPACT OVERVIEW

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.

Did you know?

Indigenous Ministries Australia hosts churches, schools and other groups for cultural learning tours? 12 tours ran this year and connected both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians to Aboriginal Elders to listen and learn about culture.

Impact highlights this year:

6 Indigenous leaders attended Raising our Tribal Voice for Justice Conference

9 local churches participated in cultural learning tours

Hosted 2 school groups for on country cultural learning

6 young leaders supported in their ministry development

MEET LARRY JAPALJARRI JOHNSON

"Young Indigenous people know that the program offers a place of healing – they hold each other accountable to the commitment they make to heal, to find themselves culturally and to spending time with the creator".



Larry is a Goren Goreng man (from the Bundaberg and surrounding coastal area of Queensland) and a leader with our IMA associate partners, dhiiyaan. Larry is the cultural song man for the community, as well as the chief barista, both incredibly important roles as he leads ceremony times as well as making the best lattes in Dalby! Larry, his wife Karen and their five children are long-term members within the dhiiyaan faith community as well as being integral in the running of the True Fella program that dhiiyaan runs for Indigenous young people who have come into contact with the juvenile justice system. Larry says that the impact of True Fella is immeasurable: "Young Indigenous people know that the program offers a place of healing - they hold each other accountable to the commitment they make to heal, to find themselves culturally and to spending time



HOPE IS RENEWED EVERY DAY

Indigenous wisdom constantly points to the cyclical nature of creation; a time for growth and a time for decline, seasons of abundance and seasons of drought. Even time itself is understood to be in a constant cycle, just as night follows day. Despite large headwinds of change and challenge, Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) has embraced the need to adapt and innovate and found great encouragement in these images of the cycles of change.

Challenges for IMA Programs

The last 12 months have seen some unprecedented challenges for IMA programs and partners, many of which come from larger forces outside of our ability to control or influence.

The broader economic downturn, vital participation in the National Redress Scheme, sociological changes to the patterns and participation of donor support and, of course, the constitutional referendum in late 2023 have all contributed to these challenges.

Adding to this is an ever-increasingly difficult regulatory and compliance environment, ageing local Indigenous leadership and diminishing training opportunities.

Thank You to Remy and Theresa Sese

It's sometimes tempting to see only the negative when we appear to be consumed by events surrounding us. I'm reminded to give deep gratitude to God for our other IMA team members, IMA Coordinator (West) Remy Sese and his wife, Theresa.

They have faithfully and prayerfully served our IMA partners over the last nine years. With Remy's role concluding in June, I can reflect on the legacy of relationships, experiences and support given. Our prayers and relationship will continue as Remy and Theresa continue in ministry back in Queensland. Again, we also want to express mixed feelings of sadness, fond remembrance and lasting thankfulness for the ministry of the Esperance Church in WA, which closed its doors last year.

IMA Programs Bearing Fruit

Despite the demanding and, at times, overwhelming context for our work, the incredible and generous support IMA has received has allowed us to support the programs that are bearing fruit in this season of change and testing.

The IMA Pathways program has proven itself to be well-targeted to the needs and desires of Indigenous ministry leaders. By design it has been able to be responsive to social and cultural needs for Indigenous ministry trainees by providing timely support for materials, mentoring and required travel.

This year, IMA also sponsored and provided additional support for some of our partners' emerging Leaders and Elders to attend the Raising our Tribal Voices conference in Victoria.

Along with Songlines Tours, IMA Discovery Visits provide incredible cultural immersion experiences for our non-Indigenous supporters and benefit our ministry partners through an empowered social enterprise model. This innovation is an important way forward for our partners to address so many of their vital needs and aspirations, such as long-term sustainability, true equality of partnership, Indigenous-designed and led programming, cultural safety and relational integrity. Our partners also tell us that it is a holistic and integral way for them to share their faith.

With Growth Comes Hope

These are some of the new signs of growth that, much like the green shoots that appear after a bushfire, offer us and our partners deep hope. God continues to remind us through his very creation that birth and death, finishings and beginnings, are all part of his great design. Even amid this, his overwhelming, never-ceasing love and life continue to flow toward us, just like the dawning of each new day.

Nick Wight, IMA National Manager

IMA PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

Western Australia

Bunbury

- Peter and Francis Jetta, newly appointed to the Associate Pastor position this year, are helping provide new leadership direction alongside Senior Leaders Pastor Greg and Margaret Little.
- Noongar language classes continue at the church.

Port Hedland

- Experienced growth in worship ministry with new musicians joining the team.
- Celebrating an average of one to two baptisms each month.

Moorditj Keila (Perth)

• Keys4life driving program continues to grow.

New South Wales

Dareton, NSW

- The Dareton Youth and Community Centre has a new management committee that will help form its inaugural Board.
- Continued visits from supporter churches and help with the school holiday program.

Queensland

Dalby, QLD

 Continuing highly impactful immersion trips with the dhiiyaan community in Dalby.

South Australia

- Ongoing South Australia immersion trip with Dusty Feet Mob and Kaurna Elder, Uncle Frank Wanganeen.
- Developing on Country discovery experiences with Dusty Feet Mob's Robert Taylor–Kokotha and Yankunytjatjara Leaders.

Victoria

- A total of six IMA ministry partners were supported to attend the 'Raising our Tribal Voices' Indigenous theology conference with the University of Divinity.
- Melbourne Indigenous Church Fellowship has new board members and is affiliated with the Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania.
- Celebration of Lonny Bendessi's time in ministry in Melbourne and his return to the Berean Church as Associate Pastor.

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IMPACT OVERVIEW

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.

Did you know?

Safe Water September celebrated its 10th annual challenge in the 23/24 financial year! Over the ten years, hundreds of young people have been involved raising over \$1.3 million for safe water, sanitation and hygiene projects.

Impact highlights this year:

295 Safe Water September challenge takers

1306 people donated to Safe Water September

Over \$143,000 raised for **Safe Water Projects**

7 SWS challenge takers visited water projects in Zimbabwe

CALEB AND RACHEL VISIT ZIMBABWE

Caleb (16) is a student leader at his high school, and a regular challenge taker in the Safe Water September challenge. This year, he joined our partner visit team alongside his mum, Rachel. The team travelled to Zimbabwe to spend time with the Showers of Blessing team, and visit the communities where Showers of Blessing has been actively implementing water

Ten days in rural Zimbabwe took Caleb and Rachel out of their comfort zone, but both found themselves thriving as part of our partner visit team.

Rachel reflected to us, "As I met people in Zimbabwe, played ball with the kids and ate with the women, I was also surprised by how much we had in common. Like me, the parents want to provide for their family and give the best for their children. Like me, they have children that have dreams of becoming engineers, lawyers or policy makers. When it comes down to it, what we need and want are not so different."



"Like me, the parents want to provide for their family and give the best for their children. When it comes down to it, what we need and want are not so different."





ENGAGING WITH THE NEEDS

Across Australia, young people are looking for ways to make their world and their communities a better place—looking for ways to be and share the Good News of Jesus. Embody is proud to support local church ministries and school clubs that develop passionate, engaged young disciples.

Safe Water September Challenge (SWS)

One of our major programs is the Safe Water September challenge. In 2023, we marked the tenth time Embody has invited young people (and people of all ages!) from across Australia to give up their non-water drinks for the month of September and raise funds for life-changing safe water projects through Global Mission Partners' partners in Zimbabwe, Vanuatu and Bangladesh.

Safe Water September 2023 may not have met our expected fundraising goal, but it still involved 295 challenge takers and 1306 donors raising \$143,584.13 for safe water projects. Your support has had a life-changing impact globally for our partners, and a life-changing impact for young people across Australia who have seen what kind of a change we can make when we work together.

Partner Visit to Zimbabwe

Out of our 2023 challenge, we had the privilege and the pleasure of taking a small group of young challenge takers to visit our Relief and Development partners in Zimbabwe during May 2024. They got to meet the Showers of Blessing (OSBT) team and saw firsthand the results of their fundraising.

Violet (8), Sienna, and Caleb (both 16), each accompanied by a parent, travelled with me to Zimbabwe. We spent 10 days in Zimbabwe, staying at Kahleylie Children's Village and travelling with Boniface and Ntando (OSBT) to the rural and remote communities,

where they have been installing boreholes, fostering locally-led leadership committees, and helping to encourage a creative mindset and Kingdom imagination in the rural communities.

One of the highlights of the trip was visiting Gwemvurachena Village, which was featured in one of our video stories in the lead-up to Safe Water in September 2023. Their only source of water was the local river, which was contaminated by remnants from a working mine. OSBT installed a borehole for them in their village.

When we arrived, the village community enthusiastically showed us what they had achieved since installing the solar bore and water tanks.

They have created a green oasis in an incredibly dry region, growing crops for home and market. They have installed permanent troughs for watering animals. They also plan to build a laundry, seeing as people already come from many kilometres away to do their laundry in Gwemvurachena's clean water.

It's my hope that this visit will become a regular occurrence, with more Safe Water September challenge takers invited to travel and see the impact as supporters of this amazing challenge.

Staff Changes

In other news, we were saddened to farewell Emily Wood from Embody as part of a broader Global Mission Partners team restructure. I want to thank Emily for her contributions to the work and culture of Embody during her time with us, and I know she's going to continue being an amazing advocate for young people, mission and the world-changing impact churches, youth, young adults and families can have together.

Community of Young People

We want every young person to have opportunities to make a difference in the world and bring hope to hard places in their school, their community, their country and all the nations. Thank you for your prayers and support of Embody as we work with local churches to create these pathways into the Global Mission Partners family.

Mitch Salmon, National NextGen Lead (Embody)



PARTNER VISITS

What an encouragement it has been to travel to visit our partners again. Quite a few churches have been looking to reconnect in person with our partners. In the last year, small teams have visited Vanuatu, India, the Philippines and Zimbabwe.

Here are a few of the highlights:

Toowoomba North visit Ambae, Vanuatu

Nigel and Karen Potticary, from Toowoomba North Church of Christ, twice led teams to visit Vanuatu. One of the participants reflected on the servant hearts of the people there. "As it was my first time going to Vanuatu, I was a stranger to them. Yet I was treated like family and my needs and comforts were placed in higher importance than their own." Marcus, one of the youngest participants, was impacted spiritually when the team helped with youth groups and a kids club, led devotions, prayed, sang and danced in skits.

Discovery Church visit Hosanna Ministries, India

When Pastor Matt Destry planned to visit Mumbai, India, he organised a visit to Hosanna Ministries with his daughter, Lucy. "We were not there to do anything," Matt said, "but to rather observe the work being done." The visit deepened Matt and Lucy's understanding of the complex issues of poverty. They listened to stories of transformation. Learning from Hosanna Ministries was "both a blessing and a privilege," Matt said. They carried this experience home to Discovery Church, where they are implementing support and community-building programs through Discovery Community Care.

"To be there in person, to physically draw water out from this well, was an experience I will never forget."

Meeting our Partner, ICCM, in the Philippines

Carly and her daughter visited the International Christian College of Manila (ICCM). This was Carly's first time meeting these international church partners as the National Church Relationships Manager for Global Mission Partners. The welcoming atmosphere and servanthood of the staff impressed them the most, especially when Jericho, (known as Jecoy) a graduate of ICCM, gave Carly and her daughter a tour of the facilities. He is now a professor there. Carly said ICCM is like "an intentional and supportive family home, role modelling the teaching, the compassion, and the love of Christ."



Safe Water September Takes a Team to **Zimbabwe**

Mitch Salmon, National NextGen Lead (Embody), took a team of Safe Water September Challenge takers in May to visit our partners, Showers of Blessing, in Zimbabwe. You can read more about it in the Embody section of the Annual Report. One of the highlights for Mitch was visiting Gwemvurachena village, where Showers of Blessings installed a solar-powered pump in early 2023. This gravity feed had now helped the village to build and maintain a community garden.

Mitch reflects, "To be there in person, to physically draw water out from this well, was an experience I will never forget." People from this village no longer have to worry about their children getting sick; they have a place for their animals to drink and enough water to grow vegetables. Mitch thanks you for your support of Safe Water September. "It really does help to bring transformation and change in these communities," he said.







EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Global Mission Partners is a member of the ACT Alliance, a network of church-based humanitarian agencies worldwide. Where GMP does not have an established partner who can respond to a crisis, we work through ACT Alliance members who are well-positioned to do so.

Middle East Crisis - Anglican Overseas Aid

On October 7 2023, Palestinian armed groups crossed into Israeli territory, simultaneously launching a barrage of rockets. There was a significant loss of life. Israel declared war in response and began airstrikes on the densely populated Gaza Strip, resulting in the loss of thousands of Palestinian lives, over 50% of them women and children. GMP supported the work of the al-Ahli hospital in Gaza, at one time it's only functioning hospital, through the hospital's ongoing partner Anglican Overseas Aid.

South Sudan – Sudan Returnees and Refugees – Christian Mercy International (CMI)

In May 2023, conflict in Sudan forced many to flee to South Sudan. CMI is located near the border with Sudan and was ideally placed to respond. The government again requested CMI to step in, and they distributed food, tarpaulins, mosquito nets and blankets to 150 returnees and refugees.

South Sudan – Returnee Women First Harvest – Christian Mercy International

The conflict in Sudan continued into 2024, as did the flow of returnees and refugees into South Sudan. Again, in cooperation with the government, CMI responded with food, tarpaulins, mosquito nets and blankets, this time for 80 women returnees who had been allocated land. The relief enabled them to plant their first harvest and so create an ongoing source of food.

Vanuatu – Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin – Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu (CCCV) via GMP and via CAN DO

Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin made landfall over Vanuatu on March 1 and 3 2023, respectively. At the onset of the emergency, GMP provided emergency funds that were critical for the first phase of the response and a survey was conducted of the impacted villages. Fresh food, seedlings and cash payments to widows were distributed. This assistance provided a smooth transition to a wider response when funds from CAN DO became available.

CCCV transported large quantities of food relief items, planting materials and a water tank to communities in Ambae and Maewo via cargo ship. Unfortunately, the ship sank, and most of the items were lost. By God's grace the water tank floated all the way back to Santo Island! It was recovered and the shipping company refunded the cost of the lost cargo.

CCCV distributed shelter materials, fresh food, planting materials, and water filters to 2796 beneficiaries in Pentecost, Ambae and Maewo. The fresh food helped families that had lost their farm produce, and the planting materials helped establish medium-term food security. The (recovered) water tank was installed in North Ambae, lowering the incidence of water-borne disease by 30%.

Vanuatu – Tropical Cyclone Lola – Conference of Churches of Christ in Vanuatu

Tropical Cyclone Lola (Category 5) passed through Vanuatu October 22-26 2023, causing widespread damage to houses, livelihoods, agriculture and communication networks. CCCV's response reached 627 households with food relief and planting materials (baby potatoes and manioc rice) in Central Pentecost and South Maewo, East and South Ambae.

Bangladesh – Bandarban Hills Flood – Community Advancement Forum (CAF)

In August 2023, the Bandarban district in Bangladesh experienced devastating floods and landslides, triggered by heavy monsoon rains. The deluge caused significant damage to critical infrastructure, houses and crops, with Bandarban one of the hardest-hit areas. In collaboration with local authorities, CAF provided emergency food to 245 vulnerable families.

Tonga – Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai Volcanic Eruption and Tsunami – Act for Peace

On Saturday evening, 15 January 2022, an underwater volcano erupted off the coast of Tonga, causing a tsunami. The explosion could be heard as far away as Fiji, over 800 kilometres away. GMP worked with Act for Peace to support those in Tonga impacted by the tsunami and volcanic ashfall.

Global Mission Partners provided essential first aid kits, which were distributed to five island communities in January 2024. The Fonoifua community responded: "We are happy to receive these first aid kits since we are far away from the health centre. We're appreciating these donations, which would be a huge help for these remaining families in Fonoifua and also to those who went out fishing."

actalliance



MEET THE TEAM

*Most GMP staff are part-time.

Colin Rattershy

STAFF MEMBERS*

Executive Team

Chief Executive Officer	John Lamerton
Director of Partnerships	Craig Brown
Chief Finance Officer	Cathy Chang
Director of Engagement	Colin Battersby

Programs

Director of Partnerships	_Craig Brown
International Partnership Manager	-
(COCOA)	Colin Scott
International Partnership Specialist	
(COCOA)	_Eva Ntege-Dhizaa
International Partnership Specialist	
(COCOA)	_Suzanne Hayes
Partner Education Officer	
(COCOA)	_Jan Bayliss
(concluded October 2023)	
IMA National Manager	_Nick Wight
IMA Coordinator, West	_Remy Sese
(concluded June 2024)	

Operations

Chief Finance Officer	Cathy Chang
Financial Accountant	Lisa Szepessy
Finance & Account Specialist	Patrick Yip
Bookkeeper	Katrina Davidson
(concluded Septemeber 2023)	
Receipting Assistant	Belinda Burtt
(concluded February 2024)	
Partner Finance Coordinator	
& HR Support	Melinda van Vuuren

Engagement

Director of Engagement

Director of Engagement	_Colin Ballersby
Director of Marketing	
and Fundraising	Gavian Chan
(concluded November 2023)	
Communications &	
Fundraising Manager	_Elise Moss
Media & Communications	
Specialist	_Rachel Conteh
Digital Content Manager	_Melissa Parkinson
(concluded October 2023)	
Supporter Care &	
Events Coordinator	Sheree Crouch
National Church	
Relationship Manager	Carly Cassidy
System & Data Coordinator	_Terence Ng
(concluded February 2024)	-
National NextGen Lead (embody)	_Mitch Salmon
embody Network Developer	_Emily Wood
(concluded October 2023)	,
,	
Karen Trafford	_Redress Administrator

BOARD MEMBERS

Barrie Yesberg

(Concluded May 2024) Board 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 Lamerton

Chief Executive Officer (NSW).

MA in Missional Leadership. Served for 16 years with international aid and Christian mission organisations including World Vision, Habitat for Humanity, Alpha Australia and Worldshare Australia. Served with Churches of Christ UK, and now an endorsed minister with Churches of Christ NSW/ACT. Married to Tara and with their two daughters, they worship at Coast Community Church on the NSW Central Coast.

Vandana Thavare

Member Finance Risk and Audit Committee, Member IMA Advisory Group (WA).

BSc (Physiotherapy). Grad. Dip. Divinity. Formerly Chaplain (Churches of Christ) at Curtin University and Prison Fellowship WA Volunteer since 2021. Has worked in far north WA and in the NT with several Indigenous communities. Born in India, she moved with her family to Fiji where they served as missionaries with OMB (now GMP) from December 2001 until 2006.

Claire Egan

Member of Board Executive, Member of COCOA Reference Group.

Has served with 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.

Gordon Buxton

Company Secretary, Commenced Board Chair (May 2024), Member COCOA Reference Group, Member Finance Risk and Audit Committee, Member GMP Extend, Member GMP Assist (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 senior executive and consultant in customer focused operations and human resources management.

Symon Pratt

Member of Board Executive, Chair Finance Risk and Audit Committee (VIC).

Grad.Dip. of Divinity, MA (Ministry Practice), B. Business (Marketing) and a Grad. Dip. 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.

Janet Woodlock

Deputy Board Chair, ICP Advisory Group, IMA Advisory Group, Member GMP Extend (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 serves as the Chaplain at Kilvington Grammar School.

Dr Mark Riessen

Chair ICP Advisory Group, Member GMP Assist (SA).

MTh. and DMin. Mission and Ministry Director with Churches of Christ in SA and NT. Doctor of Ministry Program Manager with Australian College of Ministries. Part of the research team with Sydney College of Divinity. Worships at Aldgate Church of Christ where he is also on the Board.

PEOPLE IN MISSION



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 Global Mission Partners' visits to Zimbabwe when they are possible. BJ has begun the process of selecting leaders to succeed him when the time comes for his retirement.



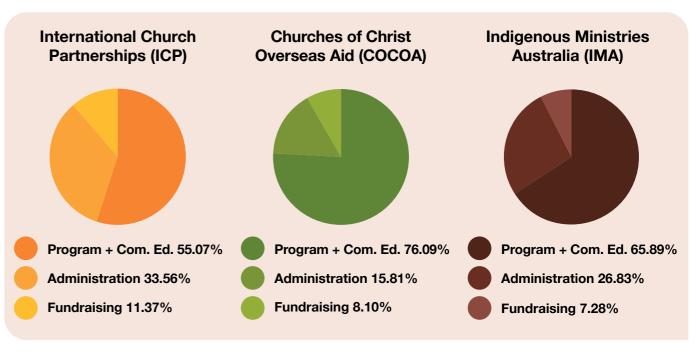
Dr Ash and Anji Barker

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, 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 also now 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.



FINANCES AT A GLANCE

Global Mission Partners' parent entity operates three funds. An Overseas Aid Fund (COCOA), International Church Partnerships Fund (ICP) and an Indigenous Partnerships Fund (IMA) in line with our Constitution. 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 planting and leadership development. In 2023-24, \$1.2m was raised and \$948k was allocated to program implementation, support and community education as well as fundraising and administration in support of our ICP partnerships. The \$258k surplus will help us assist ICP partners in future years.

Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA)

Indigenous Ministries Australia is supported through GMP's Indigenous Partnership Fund. In 2023-24, \$932k was raised for Indigenous programs. This included State Conference contributions to the National Redress Scheme, allowing GMP to reduce the liability by \$664,895. \$571k supported specific IMA projects, program implementation and community education as well as fundraising and administration.

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 Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Full Accreditation with ANCP. COCOA has policies and priorities that guide the use of funds in keeping with such requirements. In 2023-24, \$2.35m was raised in this fund and \$2.9m was used for program implementation, support, community education, fundraising and administration, leaving a \$542k deficit. This is in part due to increased emergency expenditure, project delays and currency fluctuations and this figure represents those funds fully acquitted as being spent on activities as at the end of June.

Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.

Income Statement - Segment Financial Performance - Parent Entity Only

(Extracted from Note 25b Audited Consolidated Financial Statements)

	2024			2023		
	ICP	COCOA	IMA	ICP	COCOA	IMA
Revenue						
Donations						
Monetary	319,393	879,520	179,731	520,972	999,769	197,402
Non-Monetary	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bequests and Legacies	600,192	379,495	30,065	643,513	77,469	-
Grants						
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade	-	905,977	-	-	959,161	-
Other Grants	-	130,932	-			
Investment Income	280,574	63,380	55,058	264,097	20,718	19,195
Other Revenue	7,430	(547)	667,474	146,520	-	678,980
Total Segment Revenue	1,207,589	2,358,757	932,328	1,575,102	2,057,117	895,577
Expenditure						
International Programs						
Funds to International Programs	323,649	1,556,049	-	453,095	1,566,399	-
Program Support Costs	84,313	406,530	-	59,385	219,463	-
Community Education	114,476	244,992	-	80,839	174,010	-
Fundraising Costs	107,950	235,320	-	98,742	204,427	-
Accountability and Administration	318,393	458,759	-	199,430	338,421	-
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	-	2,901,650	-	-	2,502,720	-
Total International Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure	948,781	-	-	891,491	-	-
Domestic Programs						
Funds to Domestic Indigenous Programs	-	-	86,066	-	-	109,495
Program Support Costs	-	-	246,599	-	-	150,426
Community Education	-	-	43,758	-	-	33,233
Fundraising Costs	-	-	41,620	-	-	36,681
Accountability and Administration	-	-	153,328	-	-	763,014
Total Domestic Programs Expenditure	-	-	571,371	-	-	1,092,849
Total Expenditure	948,781	2,901,650	571,371	891,491	2,502,720	1,092,849
Surplus / (Deficit) for the Year	258,808	(542,893)	360,957	683,611	(445,603)	(197,272)

Notes to the Income Statement:

- The Group has identified its operating segments based on the internal reports that are reviewed and used by the Board of Directors in assessing performance and determining the allocation of resources. The identified segments are International Church Partnerships (ICP), Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA), Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA). These segments relate to the parent entity only.
- 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 was no expenditure under the headings 'Fundraising Costs: Government, multilateral and private' or 'non-monetary' expenditure.

Breakdown by Country

Funds sent to ICP Programs Funds sent to COCOA Programs

ICP Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$	COCOA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Bangladesh	25,442	India	270	Bangladesh ANCP	201,301		
Fiji	59,544	South Korea	4,736	India	34,971		
India	-			India ANCP	222,810		
Indonesia	11,500			South Sudan	149,146		
Philippines	36,137			Thailand	12,459		
Papua New Guinea	39,704			Vanuatu	150,399		
South Sudan	9,491			Vanuatu ANCP	55,246		
Thailand	5,000			Zimbabwe	210,306		
Vanuatu	4,075			Zimbabwe ANCP	464,778		
Vietnam	31,496			Emergency	54,633		
Zimbabwe	41,484						
People in Mission	54,770						
Emergency	-						
Project Total	318,643	Project Total	5,006	Project Total	1,556,049	Project Total	-
ICP Total			323,649	COCOA Total			1,556,049

Funds sent to IMA Programs

IMA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Australia	86,066		
Project Total	86,066	Project Total	-
IMA Total			86,066

Grand Total 1,965,764

Notes to the Breakdown by Country:

- These figures are derived from the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements available at www.gmp.org.au
- Global Mission Partners provides Associate Partners support for ministries that lack the systems required for operational functionality. These are legacy ministries that Global Mission Partners does not promote financial support for. Our Associate Partner in South Korea is Geon Homes and Korea Christian Gospel Mission, and in India, Reaching Hands. More information is available at www.gmp.org.au/what-we-do/associate-partners

Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

	2024	2023 (restated)	
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	777,088	996,774	
Trade and Other Receivables	426,476	103,270	
Other Financial Assets	150,000	-	
Non-current Assets Held for Sale	720,000	720,000	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,073,564	1,820,044	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and Other Receivables	1=	321,109	
Other Financial Assets	3,396,219	3,719,579	
Property, Plant and Equipment	1,254,016	1,259,091	
Intangible Assets	32,313	3,855	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	4,682,548	5,303,634	
TOTAL ASSETS	6,756,112	7,123,678	
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	943,476	882,392	
Employee Benefits	204,324	217,926	
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	1,147,800	1,100,318	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	1,921,105	2,586,000	
Employee Benefits	13,336	5,653	
Borrowings	82,543	82,544	
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,016,984	2,674,197	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,164,784	3,774,515	
NET ASSETS	3,591,328	3,349,163	
EQUITY			
Reserves	7,615,101	7,036,926	
Retained Earnings	(4,023,773)	(3,687,763)	
TOTAL EQUITY	3,591,328	3,349,163	

Consolidated Finance Comments

Global Mission Partners audited financial reports encompass the full group of entities, including Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd, Global Mission Partners Extend Limited (GMP Extend) and Global Mission Partners Assist Limited (GMP Assist) and reports on all program areas, including COCOA, ICP and IMA.

Although donation income has declined it is pleasing to report that Global Mission Partners has achieved a small surplus outcome for the financial year of \$242k, the first in seven (7) years. This is thanks to the generosity and belief of our long-standing supporters who kindly left gifts to Global Mission Partners in their wills.

Total revenue this year increased by 8% which meant we were able to meet our partner responsibilities, in fact, we were able to contribute an additional 5% in funding to our international programs in FY24. This positive end of year result comes at a time when charities in Australia have seen a 7% decline in support.

Total expenses were reduced by 3%. This was achieved by adopting new financial management processes and some necessary restructuring across our team.

Global Mission Partners' Net Asset position has improved (up 7%) and our Reserves have grown 8% to \$7.6m. Global Misson Partners continues to administer the National Redress Scheme on behalf of the Conference of Churches of Christ Australia (CCCA) which is Global Mission Partners' largest liability, however, over this period this has been reduced by 20% to \$2.5m thanks to the ongoing commitments of State Conferences.

The Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) grants from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has helped our partners scale-up their programs and we can see the benefits flowing to communities and individuals whose lives are benefiting most.

Fundraising campaigns continue to be an important part of Global Mission Partners' fundraising strategy and although some appeals had mixed results, our end of financial year appeal produced a very positive result of \$182k, up 58% from 2023.

To all our supporters who contributed to the programs of our life-changing partners this past year, we express our heartfelt gratitude.

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

	Accumulated Funds	Restricted Funds	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Total
Balance at 1 July 2022	(4,679,633)	6,445,263	1,034,461	2,800,091
Effect of retrospective restatement	1,866,961	-	(1,034,461)	832,500
Balance at 1 July 2022 (restated)	(2,812,672)	6,445,263	-	3,632,591
Deficit for the year	(283,428)	-	-	(283,428)
Transfers to / (from) reserves	(591,663)	591,663	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2023 (restated)	(3,687,763)	7,036,926	-	3,349,163
Surplus for the year	242,165	-	-	242,165
Transfers to / (from) reserves	(578,175)	578,175	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2024	(4,023,773)	7,615,101	-	3,591,328

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 2024, 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 Global Mission Partners 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:

Gordon Buxton **Board Chair**



John Lamerton, **Executive Officer**



Independent Audit Report



Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd ABN 30 455 408 814

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, Note 25(b) of the financial statements are derived from the audited financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd for the

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

Summary Financial Statements

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

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 1 November 2024

Board's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Blackburn Vic Dated: 8 November 2024

20 Albert St, Blackburn VIC 3130 T+61 3 9894 2500 F+61 3 9894 1622 contact@sawarddawson.com.au sawarddawson.com.au









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 Christian active in God's mission, offering hope, love and restoration throughout the world.

Our Mission:

Global Mission Partners exists to inspire and resource locally-led. high-impact, community development and Christian partnerships.

Our Values:

- Jesus-Centred
- Locally-Led
- Courageous
- Collaborative Trustworthy

Registered Office:

105E Gouger Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Postal Address:

PO Box 341 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

Freecall: 1800 467 222 **Phone:** 08 7523 3580

Website: www.gmp.org.au Email: info@gmp.org.au

Australian Business Number:

30 455 408 814

Global Mission Partners fulfills

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

Global Mission Partners 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. Global Mission Partners is registered in each State according to local requirements for fundraising.

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 are used with permission, and unless noted represent actual Global Mission Partners projects or partnerships. All images are taken and used with the subjects consent.

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



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



Global Mission Partners 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).

The ACFID Code of Conduct describes standards of practice for its members, including a complaints procedure. Please direct any complaints regarding GMP to the Chief Executive Officer on +61 8 7523 3580. Complaints regarding breaches of the Code can also be directed to ACFID (www.acfid.asn.au).

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





