2009 Annual Report

25 years of linking Australian workers with the world
Executive Officer’s Report

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA celebrates 25 years of international solidarity.

As Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA celebrates 25 years of international solidarity on behalf of the Australian trade union movement, it is worth recalling our humble beginnings, when a young Australian nurse trainer, Dr Helen McCue, persuaded the President of the ACTU, Cliff Dolan, to establish a trade union based aid agency. Helen was training nurses for the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. She was impressed by the work of the Norwegian union movement’s overseas aid arm there, and thought it appropriate that Australian unions had a similar aid organisation. Cliff Dolan concurred, and APHEDA was born.

Unions stand for international solidarity

For 25 years, our many projects in South East Asia, the Pacific, southern Africa and the Middle East have been a living sign of the Australian trade union movement’s belief in international solidarity, and their continuing commitment to assisting other workers in greater need. Their generous support is a tribute to their belief in justice and a fair go for all.

Decent Work essential to overcome poverty

The ILO, the global union movement and the ACTU all advocate Decent Work as essential to overcoming poverty. Work that provides dignity to the worker and a living wage for their family is essential if the more than 800 million workers who earn less than $2 a day and labour in sweatshop conditions are to ever have a decent life. Independent, democratic and strong unions are crucial in ensuring that these workers have a living wage, and therefore are able to feed, clothe and educate their children themselves, without relying on sponsorship from abroad.

A skilled workforce essential for decent work

But Decent Work also requires a skilled workforce. Our projects assist vocational and livelihood skills by training workers in literacy, sewing and tailoring, agricultural production, and sustainable agriculture, carpentry, mechanical skills, media, trade union training, HIV education, OH&S training for workers, especially for women workers, for disabled youth and for trafficked women.

Thanks to donors and partners

None of this training is possible, of course, without two very special groups of people – our donors and our partners. Without the generous and growing support of our donors, the trade unions and every individual union member, no training would be possible. Also, without the commitment, dedication and competence of our project partners overseas who actually deliver the training, no training could take place. We continue to be inspired by our donors and partners, who believe that a better world is possible, and are prepared to work and make sacrifices to ensure it happens.

I would also like to thank the staff, both in Australia and overseas, the many volunteers for their great work, and the Committee of Management for their strong support during the past year. We look forward to the next 25 years with confidence.

Peter Jennings, Executive Officer.
Chairperson’s Report

For the past 25 years, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has put a practical face on the trade union movement’s belief in justice and a decent standard of living for all.

Over the past quarter century in South Africa, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA was the lead Australian aid agency in fighting apartheid, assisting the ANC with capacity building, assisting those in exile to return during the transition to democracy, bringing Nelson Mandela to Australia in October 1990, and in recent years, assisting the fight against HIV/AIDS, especially through the trade union movement.

In Cambodia, we have focused on technical/vocational education, agriculture, forestry and fishery, women’s health, HIV and nutrition, and union strengthening for women in the informal economy, and have trained over 80,000 people, mainly women, since 1985.

In Timor Leste, since 1998, over 5,700 people have been trained in literacy, sewing and tailoring and handicraft production for women, and carpentry, mechanics and agriculture for men, with media and librarian training also provided. Most importantly, we have helped establish and strengthen the trade union movement in Timor Leste, ensuring that men and women will have a fair wage and a safe workplace.

In Vietnam, health, vocational training and the strengthening of workers’ rights at a workplace level have been a feature of our work, as well as assisting trafficked women and livelihood skills for young disabled victims of Agent Orange.

Throughout 25 years, on behalf of Australian unions, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has worked in many other countries such as PNG, the Solomon Islands and New Caledonia in the Pacific, the Philippines, Laos, Indonesia and the Thai-Burma border in South East Asia, and with Palestinians living in refugee camps in Lebanon or under military occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

But it is not just projects to train workers or strengthen unions that has enabled Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA to make a difference. With a human rights based approach to development, APHEDA has also campaigned for democracy, rights and justice in many countries, and continues to do so today in Burma, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

Australian unions have much to be proud of with their international solidarity arm over the past 25 years, and Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s work continues to be crucially important. It is a living sign of the Australian union movement’s solidarity with workers in need, and our Australian unions’ strong belief in justice and human rights for all workers – here and abroad.

I would like to thank the many unions which support the work of Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA. Your support has grown over the years, and we are confident it will continue to grow in the future.

I would also like to thank and congratulate our donors and supporters for your amazing generosity, our staff both in Australia and overseas, and especially the volunteers working overseas and in our Sydney office. My thanks also to all my fellow Committee of Management members.

Sandra Moait, Chairperson.
As countries develop economically and governments spend more on public health, water and sanitation, health indicators and standards of health generally improve. Moreover, if governments spend more on health, the economy improves because healthy children learn faster and a healthy workforce is more productive.

While we in industrialised nations worry about health issues such as obesity, pollution, addictions and road trauma, the 80% of the world’s population who live in developing countries are concerned with levels of nutrition and immunisation as well as having access to clean water, sanitation, health workers, contraception, etc.

However, there are many other indicators which are not so obvious but which have a significant impact on health in developing countries: the extent of smoking in that society, the use of asbestos in building and construction, access to condoms where HIV is prevalent, access to insecticide-treated mosquito nets where malaria is prevalent, access to personal protection safety equipment in the workplace and the use of dangerous (and often banned) pesticides, herbicides and insecticides in agricultural plantations.

### Gender and health

There is also a gender dimension to health, in that women’s health is sometimes low on the

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Public Health Funding (% of GDP)</th>
<th>Health expenditure per capita ($US)</th>
<th>Physicians (per 100,000 people)</th>
<th>Under 5 mortality (per 1,000 live births)</th>
<th>Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000 live births)</th>
<th>1 yr olds fully immunised against measles</th>
<th>Population undernourished (% of total pop.)</th>
<th>Population having access to clean water</th>
<th>Life expectancy at birth (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>6.5%</td>
<td>3123</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>80.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>70.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>73.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>68.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>660</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>61.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>56.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNG</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>56.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timor-Leste</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>58.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>3.5%</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>40.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>98%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>77.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: UNDP Human Development Report 2007-08
Priorities of governments of developing countries. Approximately half a million women die in childbirth each year, almost all in poor nations, and about 80% of these deaths are easily preventable. The accompanying table dramatically shows the disparity between the numbers of women who die in childbirth for every 100,000 live births. In Australia, 4 women die; in our neighbour and former colony, PNG, 470 women die; while in Zimbabwe, a staggering 880 women will die for every 100,000 births. Like education, health often has a gender bias, and the girl child and women come second when paucy health budgets are being allocated.

**Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA and health**

When Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA was established in 1984, our first projects were health programs for refugees in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon. Dr Helen McCue, a nurse-trainer, was working at the time for the World Health Organisation, training Palestinian nurses for the 14 refugee camps in that country. She was working beside nurses from Norwegian People's Aid, the overseas aid arm of the Norwegian trade union movement, and she was highly impressed with the work they did. As a strong union member herself, she felt that the Australian union movement should have a similar organisation. Cliff Dolan, the then-President of the ACTU, agreed, and APHEDA was formed.

Other early health projects included working with the Hoa Binh Province Department of Health in Vietnam, where we assisted the upgrading of skills for nurses working in rural health clinics. Many of these nurses had been trained 20 or 30 years beforehand, but because of the war, they had no opportunity to upgrade their skills through further training. We also assisted a nurse training school in the southern Cambodian province of Kampot where, due to the genocide of the Pol Pot-led Khmer Rouge, many nurses had been killed in the years 1975 to 1979.

Throughout the intervening 25 years, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has assisted a variety of health-oriented projects in the Pacific, Vietnam, Thai-Burma border, Timor-Leste, Aceh province of Indonesia and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Today, our health projects include:

- **Assistance to refugees from Burma at both the Mae Tao Health Clinic in the Mae Sot region and the Shan Health Clinic in the refugee camp at Mae Fah Luang district near Chiang Rai in far northern Thailand.**

- **Assistance to the health clinics in Jenin in the northern West Bank, run by the Patient's Friends Society, as well as assistance to the El Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital in the Gaza Strip.**

- **Many of our livelihood skills training projects in countries such as Cambodia also include life skills training in issues such as reproductive health, nutrition and HIV education.**

**Health and Decent Work**

Today, much of Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s health work also takes place in the context of the Decent Work agenda of the ILO, UNDP and global union movement.

HIV is a major health issue throughout much of southern Africa and within some countries of South East Asia and the Pacific. Workplace union structures are a particularly effective way of educating people about HIV and encouraging the two cultural changes of protection and empowering women, which are necessary to combat HIV. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists HIV education in the workplace through peer education with local trade unions in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines and PNG.

Occupational Health and Safety in the workplace is also a crucial health issue. The ILO estimates that each year, over 2.2 million workers die from direct industrial accidents or through workplace-induced illnesses and diseases. This is twice the number killed each year in wars. Occupational health and safety training is a focus of our work in Vietnam, Laos and the Philippines.

One particular project which links both HIV education and OH&S training is with the women working in the beer promotion industry in Cambodia, where low wages, job insecurity and rampant sexual harassment is the norm. Assisting women with knowledge about sexually transmitted infections (STIs), the skills to overcome sexual harassment and the ability to collectively negotiate better and safer workplaces, is crucial for these workers.

Asbestos is also a growing problem throughout much of the developing world. While asbestos products are generally banned in the industrialised world, they are now cynically being dumped in the developing world, creating a health time bomb for future generations. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA is assisting with projects in the Mekong region on education concerning the health impacts of asbestos and safe handling techniques, as well as campaigning for a global ban.

Agent Orange has also had deleterious health impacts on many people in Vietnam. Sprayed as a defoliant during the Vietnam war of the 1960s, it is now resulting in early deaths and physical and intellectual disabilities down to the third generation. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists livelihood skills training for disabled young people in two provinces in Vietnam to assist them to get a job, earn some income and assimilate into society and lead a productive social life.

Health is essential for development of the world’s poorest. So too is decent work, which provides working men and women with sufficient income to provide adequate food, health care and education for their families.
International projects during 2008–09 financial year

AFRICA

Emergency support, food security, & workplace HIV education, 
Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions & Zimbabwe Association of 
Women’s Clubs, unions and individual donors

Community & trade union media, Workers World Radio 
Productions (Cape Town, South Africa), AEU, MUA, SASK (Finland), 
individual donors

Developing community care for HIV-affected orphans, Rehoboth 
Foster Care Village (Port Shepstone, South Africa), Boomerang 
Project donors

Integrated community development: Nutrition, health care & HIV 
support, pre-school, income generation and skills training, Mission 
Vale Care Centre (Missionvale township, South Africa), Missionvale 
Australia donors

Community support for vulnerable children & youth in Western 
Cape 
Nutrition and education support, EduCompass, EduCompass 
Australia

Nutrition and education support, Stellenbosch Community 
Development Programme, Kyamundi, Jabulani Australia

Youth leadership training, Educafrica (Cape Town), individual 
donors

Sport and community youth programs, Great Commission United, 
AMP staff

Support for Western Sahara refugees, Australia Western Sahara 
Association, unions, individual donors

CAMBODIA

Improving Rural Livelihoods 
Cambodian Women for Peace and Development (O’Reang Ov 
District, Kampong Cham Province), AEU, AusAID, individual donors

Women in Development Centres (Battambang, Kampot, Oddar 
Meancheay, and Preah Vihear provinces), AEU, AusAID, individual 
donors

Union Training Program for Beer Promotion Workers, OH&S and 
Organiser training with two Cambodian unions (CFSWF and IDEA) 
& ILO Workers Education Project, Qld Nurses Union, individual 
donors

HIV/AIDS Education and Support, Cambodian Prostitutes Union 
HIV Positive Support Group (CWDA – CPU), individual donors

Experimentation on High Nutrition, Low Cost Fish Foods, 
Fisheries Administration (Kampot Province), Cambodian 
Agricultural Research Fund/ACIAR

CUBA

Medical equipment, William Soler Children’s Hospital, Cuban 
Children’s Fund, individual donors

INDONESIA

Workers’ rights training, Labour Working Group Training Centre 
(Bandung), AEU, AMWU, CFMEU, LHMU, MUA, NUW, individual 
donors

Workers’ legal rights, Trade Union Rights Centre (Jakarta), ICTUR, 
AEU

Aceh:

Skills training for income generation, PCC, Children on the Edge, 
Papan, An-Nisa and KSSSI, Progetto Sviluppo (Italy), TUC (UK), CALL 
(Canada), AusAID, individual donors

Union education and development, trade unions in Aceh, TUC 
(UK), individual donors

Health services for people affected by the tsunami and con-

struction, Health Workers’ Union (SPKA), NSW Nurses Association, 
individual donors

LAO PDR

Skills training for women, Lao Women’s Union, Becker Foundation, 
AusAID, individual donors

OH&S training, Lao Federation of Trade Unions, BWI, AEU, MUA, 
individual donors

Mobilising the Hotel Sector in Lao PDR: HIV/AIDS Workplace 
Capacity Building, Policies and Partnership, Lao Federation of 
Trade Unions, Lao Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ministry of 
Labour and Social Welfare, International Labour Organisation & indi-

vidual donors

MIDDLE EAST

Community Empowerment Project, Women’s Humanitarian 
Organisation (Burj Al-Barajneh Refugee Camp, Lebanon), CFMEU, 
LH MU, AusAID

Children’s Mobile Activity Centre, Women’s Humanitarian 
Organisation (Burj Al-Barajneh Refugee Camp, Lebanon), Refugees 
International Japan (RIJ)

Legal Literacy Program for Women, Women’s Humanitarian 
Organisation (Burj Al-Barajneh Refugee Camp, Lebanon), individual 
donors

Health Care for Aged and Disabled, Women’s Humanitarian 
Organisation (Burj Al-Barajneh Refugee Camp, Lebanon), individual 
donors (APHEDA Palestinian Camps Support Campaign)

Women’s Vocational Training, Women’s Humanitarian Organisation 
(Burj Al-Barajneh Refugee Camp, Lebanon), individual donors 
(Women to Women Program)

Capacity Strengthening for Primary Health Care Workers, 
Patient’s Friends Society (West Bank, Occupied Palestinian 
Territories), AusAID, individual donors

Food Security through Hen Distribution, MA’AN Development 
Centre (Gaza Strip, Occupied Palestinian Territories), individual 
donors

Fostering Medical Rehabilitation Services and Out-Clinics, 
El Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital, (Gaza Strip, Occupied Palestinian 
Territories), Gaza Relief Fund Committee, Rockdale Council, various 
donors

PACIFIC

Sustainable agricultural training, Melanesian Farmers First 
Network and Kastom Gaden Association (PNG Bougainville, Solomon 
Islands, Vanuatu), individual donors

Rural livelihoods study, Urban settlements (Solomon Islands), indi-

vidual donors

Tools for vocational training, 9 rural & community training centres 
in Solomon Islands & 1 in Bougainville, individual donors

Financial literacy and small business management, Urban settle-

ments (Solomon Islands), AusAID

Youth & Women’s Vocational, Environmental & Literacy Training, 
Solomon Islands Association of Rural Training Centres, AusAID, IWDA 
and Live & Learn

Vocational Training, Community Learning for Action Network 
(Solomon Islands), AusAID

HIV education with trade unions, PNG Trade Union Congress, MUA, 
individual donors

PHILIPPINES

HIV/AIDS training and care, Positive Action Foundation of the 
Philippines, Pasasalamat Fund, AusAID, individual donors

Child workers on Manila’s garbage dumps, IOHSAD, Unions NSW, 
individual donors
THAI-BURMA BORDER

Health care for Shan refugees, Burma Relief Centre & Shan Health Committee, ANF Vic, NSW Nurses Assn, HSUA Vic
No.2, AusAID

Skills training for Karen women refugees, Karen Women’s Organisation, AEU, individual donors

Education assistance for migrant workers’ children, Burma Labour Solidarity Organisation (BLSO), individual donors

Mae Tao Clinic for critically ill children, Burma Children’s Medical Relief Fund (BCMF), individual donors

Ethnic Media Training, Burma Relief Centre (BRC) and BNI, AusAID

Emergency House for Burmese Migrant Workers, Migrant Assistance Program (MAP), individual donors

Cyclone Naris relief, Norwegian People’s Aid (NPA) & Emergency Assistance Team (EAT), individual donors

VIETNAM

Work skills training for Agent Orange disabled youth, Hai Duong Women’s Union, NSW Nurses Assn, individual donors

Occupational health and safety (OH&S), National Institute for Labour Protection, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, APHE-DA and individual donors

HIV education and peer support groups, Hai Duong and Bac Kan provincial Women’s Unions, Olof Palme Centre (Sweden), SA Unions, AusAID, individual donors

Micro-credit, Bac Kan Farmers’ Union, AusAID, individual donors

Corporate Social Responsibility, Vietnam & Finland trade unions, governments and Chambers of Commerce, individual donors, SASK (union) & Government & Responsible Importers Network of Finland

Countering Trafficking of Women and Children, Hai Duong Women’s Union, AMWU, AusAID, individual donors


Health Promotion among Workers in Small and Medium Enterprises, Nghe An Federation of Labour, Olof Palme Centre (Sweden)

Vocational Education for Poor Women and Disabled Youth, Bac Kan Women’s Union, AusAID, individual donors

Collective Bargaining Training for Building Workers, Vietnam National Union of Building Workers, CFMEU

OH&S Training Project, Vietnam National Union for Industry and Trade, AMWU, individual donors

Female Candidate Training, Bac Kan Women’s Union & March 8 Employment Centre (Hai Duong), Olof Palme Centre (Sweden)

THAILAND

Trade Union development and capacity building

Strengthening the Konfederasan Sindicatu Timor-Leste (KSTL), CPSU, CEPU, MUA, USU, individual donors

Support for Nurses affected by civil unrest, Timor-Leste Nurses’ Association, ANF, individual donors

University Library

Capacity development for the Universidade Nacional Timor-Leste Library, Friends of UNTL, individual donors

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Skills training for income generation through Knua Buka Hatenae (KBH) Training Centre in Dili and four Community Learning Centres in regional areas, LAIFET, GFFTL, AMWU, AWU, IEU, LHMIU, MUA, AusAID, individual donors

Carpentry training, LAIFET (13 carpentry co-operatives in rural districts)

Mechanical training for motorbike repairs, LAIFET

Literacy training and income generation activities for rural women, GFFTL

Small business management training, KBH, LAIFET, GFFTL

Adult education methodology training, KBH, LAIFET, GFFTL

Sustainable agricultural training, KBH, LAIFET

Expressional arts/community theatre training, KBH

Computer/IT training for community organisations, KBH, LAIFET, GFFTL

Community Media

Radio Rakambia, Radio Lorico Lian, individual donors, Keir Foundation

Tempo Semanal, individual donors from Fairfax staff

UNION AID ABROAD APHEDA ANNUAL REPORT 2009 PAGE 7
1. The late former ACTU President, Cliff Dolan, and his wife, Peg (centre left), with Dr Helen McCue (right) and Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s Administration Officer for 20 years, Dorothy Ingram (left). Cliff and Helen founded APHEDA in 1984.

2. Tas Bull was Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s second Chairperson, replacing Cliff Dolan in September 1995, until his passing in May 2003.

3. Nelson Mandela. Among Australian aid agencies, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA led the fight for freedom and democracy in South Africa against the apartheid regime.

4. NSW Governor Marie Bashir presents an award to Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA Chair Sandra Moait.

5. APHEDA staff members in 1999, (l-R) Lisa Arnold, Dorothy Ingram, former Executive Officer Phillip Hazelton and Marj O’Callaghan with visiting dignitaries (including Mrs Huong, centre) from the Vietnam Women’s Union.

6. Barbara Fitzgerald has been the APHEDA Coordinator in Cambodia since 1993. Di Butler, a nurse, has visited Cambodia as a technical adviser on HIV training for APHEDA many times since 1995.

Upon his release from prison in 1990, Nelson Mandela paid tribute to APHEDA’s work: “APHEDA has a long history of support for the anti-apartheid struggle. On behalf of the African National Congress, we would like to express our deep appreciation for your efforts. APHEDA’s development assistance programs have made a very significant contribution. Assistance is not only material, or helping realise the ultimate goal of freedom in South Africa – assistance is about people, about people in Australia caring enough about our people to contribute financially, to contribute their time, their skills and emotions. This is what sustains us. This is what is irreplaceable in human endeavor. This is the true meaning of solidarity. We thank you and the people of Australia, and will be eternally grateful for your magnificent contribution.”
1. Elisabeth de Araujo is the Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA Coordinator in Timor-Leste. Elisabeth began with APHEDA in 2001 after working as a journalist, human rights investigator and development officer in Timor-Leste. As country coordinator, she runs the local office in Dili plus a range of development projects.

2. Following the tsunami in December 2004, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assisted in the Indonesian province of Aceh with reconstruction and livelihood skills training, focusing on women who were widowed by the tsunami. Over 3,800 people were trained in 17 different skills areas. APHEDA also continues to assist the development of trade unions in Aceh.

3. As one of the many contributions towards democracy in South Africa during the apartheid era, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA trained key personnel from a number of Departments of the African National Congress while they were banned and living in exile in neighbouring frontline states. The ANC’s Treasury Department, Women’s Department and Information & Publicity Departments were trained, including Saul Pelle (Information Dept) and Virginia Modise (Education Department) who both studied in Australia in 1989-90.

4. The Labour Working Group Training Centre in Bandung, Indonesia, provides trade union training for organisers, delegates and trainers for over 30 key democratic unions in Indonesia. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA first began assistance to the LWG-TC in 1999.

5. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists several projects with some of the estimated 160,000 refugees from Burma living in camps on the Thai-Burma border. One project assists the health clinic in the Ban Thoed refugee camp near Chiang Rai in northern Thailand.
1. Between 1987 and 1999, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assisted the Kanak people of New Caledonia with community health worker training, HIV education and media training for their own Kanak radio station, Radio Djido. At that time, the Kanak people were struggling for autonomy from France. In 1989, Laura Uregai became the 3rd Kanak journalist from Radio Djido to train in radio journalism with the ABC Staff Union.

2. In the Democratic Republic of Lao, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has assisted livelihood skills training for disadvantaged women since 2001, and OH&S training with the Lao Federation of Trade Unions since 2004. After skills training, many women receive micro-credit loans to establish their own small business.

3. In the West Bank and Gaza, working through our partner the MA’AN Development Centre since 2005, we have assisted disadvantaged families, often headed by women, with domestic food production for home consumption, such as vegetables, chickens, rabbits and fruit trees.

4. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s first project in 1984 was with Palestinian women in the Bourj el Barajneh refugee camp in Beirut, Lebanon. Today, through our partner, the Women’s Humanitarian Organisation, we assist skills training for women, health care for the elderly, and literacy for pre-school children who must be able to read and write before they are permitted to begin primary school.

5. In the Philippines, since 1986, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has assisted a variety of projects including OH&S training through the Institute for Occupational Health and Safety development (IOHSAD) and today, HIV education for over 20,000 Filipino workers heading overseas each year.
1. In Papua New Guinea, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists HIV education and training with the PNG Trades Union Congress. Unions, through the structure of workplace delegates, provide an ideal avenue for peer education for workers on issues such as HIV.

2. In the Solomon Islands, agricultural training is one of the many livelihood skills that Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists, working through 45 Community Learning Centres, most of which are in rural areas.

3. In Timor-Leste, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists literacy and vocational skills training such as sewing, tailoring, and handicraft production for women, as well as carpentry, agriculture and mechanical repair training for men. We also help strengthen the trade union movement, assist community media and the National University library as well as an expressional arts group for unemployed youth.

4. In Vietnam, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA’s first projects in 1986 were retraining and skills updating for provincial nurses, and over the years, we have also assisted women’s livelihood skills training and health education in rural areas through the Vietnam Women’s Union. Today our major focus is on workers’ rights by strengthening factory-based unions with negotiating skills, OH&S and HIV education, working with the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour.

5. In Zimbabwe, a country destroyed by the despotic ruler Robert Mugabe, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA assists HIV education with the Zimbabwe Council of Trade Unions as well as food distribution through the Association of Women’s Clubs.
Asbestos has taken an unforgivable toll on Australian life. Unsafe practices by companies in the pursuit of profit have left thousands of Australians with asbestos-related diseases which will ultimately claim their lives. Whilst Australia has been proportionally one of the most affected countries, hundreds of thousands of workers around the world have suffered similar fates. After the tireless efforts of the union movement, Australia joined more than 40 other countries in declaring a comprehensive ban on asbestos in 2003.

But imagine a world where countries, knowing that asbestos kills workers and their families, were exporting and using asbestos at an ever-increasing rate. Combine this with appalling occupational health and safety systems for workers and it is clear that this would constitute a public health time-bomb. Sadly, this is a reality for the majority of the world’s workers. In 2007, 2.3 million tonnes of asbestos were mined and sold, primarily by countries like Zimbabwe, Russia, China and Canada. These countries perpetuate the myth that chrysotile (white) asbestos is somehow safe to use – but experience tells us that the primary handlers of asbestos are almost never given the personal protective equipment they need. Canada’s role is particularly shameful as asbestos is recognised as hazardous for Canadian workers, but not for the millions in developing countries exposed to its substantial exports.

An estimated 125 million workers are occupationally exposed to asbestos each year – and around 100,000 of them will die each year because of it. It is not unreasonable to suggest that this represents the very tip of the iceberg of this epidemic, with most countries unable to undertake differential diagnosis.

Whilst the pro-asbestos lobby argues that asbestos is essential for low-cost housing and economic growth, countries as diverse as South Africa, Egypt, New Caledonia and Honduras have proved that worker health is the most important asset they have by instituting comprehensive bans. But Asia continues to lag behind. This is particularly concerning as asbestos use is increasingly becoming an Asian story; Asia uses half the world’s asbestos at an ever-increasing rate, primarily in China, India, Thailand, Vietnam and Indonesia. As yet, no developing country in Asia has a comprehensive ban on all forms of asbestos.

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA then worked with the Environmental Protection Unit of the United Nations Transitional Authority of East Timor and the Timorese Department of Health to conduct an audit of asbestos use in Timor-Leste, and to develop the Guidelines for Asbestos Abatement in East Timor, which was eventually adopted as a national standard. Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA also worked with the Labour Advocacy Institute of East Timor to provide training to workers in handling asbestos in destroyed buildings with Australian technical support of the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU).

Throughout 2009-2010, Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA will renew its commitment to protecting workers from the scourge of asbestos disease, utilising the hard-won technical expertise of the Australian union movement.

For further information, please visit www.apheda.org.au
Key Fundraising Initiatives

Strong, consistent support of our work by trade unions and many individual union members highlights the level of commitment shown to international justice, decent work and equity.

Monthly Giving Program
Individual union members, delegates and officials can become Global Justice Partners and make regular monthly, tax deductible donations to assist our training programs overseas. Already almost 2000 Australian unionists are Global Justice Partners providing Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA with a dependable, reliable income, enabling us to plan our development projects with confidence. If you would like to become a Global Justice Partner contact office@apheda.org.au.

Union Support
Union support is at the core of our fundraising. Trade union support continued to grow in 2008-09, with the ACTU and many unions demonstrating their commitment to international solidarity and justice by giving generously for our work.

Activists in each state
Dedicated and committed groups of activists/supporters in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, ACT, Tasmania and around Wollongong, each year raise funds for projects and campaign on a variety of human rights and development issues. Their commitment is inspiring and their activities are always greatly appreciated. To be involved, contact our office.

Fundraising Events
Our annual raffle, Festive Season cards, Gifts that Change Lives, end of financial year and festive season appeals and annual dinners in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra and the south coast of NSW, all add to our income. This year we also raised funds through an auction at the ACTU Congress dinner. Your support for these activities is greatly valued.

Lucia Matibenga from the Zimbabwe Council of Trade Unions with the CPSU delegation at ACTU Congress, 2009.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Our union sponsors: Australian Council of Trade Unions, Australian Education Union, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, Australian Nursing Federation, Australian Nursing Federation – Victorian Branch, Australian Workers Union, Communications Electrical and Plumbing Union, Community and Public Sector Union – PSJU Group, Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union, Independent Education Union, Liquor, Hospitality and Miscellaneous Workers Union, Maritime Union of Australia, National Tertiary Education Union, National Union of Workers, NSW Nurses Association, Queensland Nurses Union, United Services Union, Unions NSW and the Tas Bull Memorial International Aid Committee.


Our individual donors: All members of our Global Justice Partners Program, all members of our Payfunk and Payfun Plus Programs, all individual members, all who donated to our overseas projects, everyone who bought raffle tickets, Festive Season cards or came to our events, our vibrant and inspiring activist community and the many generous people who supported our various appeals throughout the year.

Donors to appeals: Gaza Relief Fund Committee, NSW Retired Teachers Association, Rockdale Council, Justice for Palestine, Australian Arab Business Network, CJPP, Association of Blenkinsop – Binhaih Region. Our volunteers overseas: Barbara Fitzgerald, Alex McLean, Sue Butler, Rick Butler, Karen Myers, Di Gluckstern, Deb Nicholls, Cathy Bloch, Adam Kaminski, Katie Camarena, Sarah Gardner. Our volunteers on Community Education: All who participated in our study tours, and our many community activists and union trainers who assisted with education and campaigns.

Our company sponsors: Members Equity Bank, ACTU Member Connect, AustralianSuper, Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Allen & Overy, Arthur Robinson. Our international donors: IL0, UNISON (UK), TUC (UK), Oxfam Palme Centre (Sweden), SASAK (Finland), Progetto Sviluppo (Italy), Building and Woodworkers International, Canadian Association of Labour Lawyers, Refugees International, APWU, Workers’ Clubs: Dickson Workers Club, Woden Workers Club, Reevesby Workers Club, Sutherland Trade Union Club, Mt Druitt Workers’ Club. Our alliances: Pasasalamat Fund, Keir Foundation, Becher Foundation, Cuban Children’s Fund, Indigo Foundation, The Boomerang Project, The Hunger Project, Friends of UNL Library, Australia Burma Friendship Association, Palestinian Camps Support Campaign, Women to Women, Australian Western Sahara Association, Gogo Foundation, EduCompass Australia, Missionsvale Australia, Jabulani Australia, Educo Africa. Our support groups in each State: Natasha Joyce (Vic), Beth Mokhe (Qld), Jan Schultz (SA), Pat Branson (WA), Cate Davy (Tas), David Perkins (ACT) our many valued volunteers in the Sydney office.
Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes for the Year Ended 30 June 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUSAID FUNDED PROJECTS</th>
<th>Cash raised during the financial year</th>
<th>Cash disbursed during the financial year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash available at start of year</td>
<td>AusAID Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOLOMON IS</td>
<td>44,609</td>
<td>189,759</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANCP</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>643,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIDDLE EAST</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,456,591</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>44,609</td>
<td>2,289,908</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APHEDA FUNDED PROJECTS</th>
<th>Cash raised during the financial year</th>
<th>Cash disbursed during the financial year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash available at start of year</td>
<td>AusAID Income</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APHEDA GENERAL ACCOUNT ACCUMULATED FUNDS (CASH ADJUSTED)</td>
<td>1,028,784</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,520,671</td>
<td>2,289,908</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Income and expenditure

 AphEDA Income — 2000-01 to 2008-09

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income Raised</th>
<th>Interest</th>
<th>APHEDA Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-01</td>
<td>$2,289,908</td>
<td>$3,283,161</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Income for 2008-09

- Government Project Grants: $2,289,908
- Union and General: $3,283,161
- Total Income: $5,573,069

APHEDA Expenditure 2008-09

- Overseas Projects: $3,965,201 (79.4%)
- Project Management & Monitoring: $332,639 (6.7%)
- Office Administration: $253,153 (5.1%)
- Information, Publicity & Fundraising: $354,680 (7.1%)
- Global Education: $86,640 (1.7%)

Total Expenditure: $4,992,313

At June 2009, Union Aid Abroad’s Management Committee is:

- Sandra Moait: Former President, Unions NSW (Chairperson)
- Sharan Burrow: President, ACTU (Vice-Chairperson)
- Paul Bastian: Secretary, AMWU NSW Branch (Hon. Treasurer)
- Cathy Bloch: Educator, ACTU Organising Centre (ret.) (Hon. Secretary)
- Tim Kennedy: Assistant Secretary, National Union of Workers
- Angelo Gabrielatos: President, Australian Education Union
- Natasha Joyce: Lead Organiser, CS&E, CPSU
- Liz Harman-Farrar: Clinical Nurse Educator – St Vincent’s Hospital
- Lynne Ridge: Marketing Officer, NSW Nurses Association

The Management Committee received no fees, salaries, allowances or compensation for serving on the Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA board.

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REVENUE</td>
<td>$3,792,919</td>
<td>$3,212,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts – general – monetary</td>
<td>2,314,463</td>
<td>2,246,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts – non-monetary</td>
<td>202,362</td>
<td>235,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Assistance (AusAID)</td>
<td>2,289,908</td>
<td>708,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other – Overseas</td>
<td>199,837</td>
<td>426,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other – Australian</td>
<td>28,694</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacies and bequests</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income/Interest received</td>
<td>160,197</td>
<td>182,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>327,608</td>
<td>298,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>$5,573,069</td>
<td>$5,173,164</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DISBURSEMENTS

| Funds available for future use at the end of the financial year | $3,792,919 | $3,212,163 |

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated Funds</td>
<td>$3,792,919</td>
<td>$3,212,163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Equity</td>
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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

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<td>$3,212,163</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

In the opinion of the Directors, the financial report, a full copy of which is available from the APHEDA Inc. Sydney office:

a) Presents fairly the financial position of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated as at 30 June 2009 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the NSW Associations Incorporations Act, 1984.

b) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors and is signed on behalf of the Directors by:

Sandra Moait, Chairperson  Paul Bastian, Hon. Treasurer
Signed this 5th day of November, 2009

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF APHEDA INC.

Scope: We have audited the summarised financial report of APHEDA Inc. for the financial year ended 30 June 2009 comprising the summarised Income Statement, summarised Balance Sheet, summarised Statement of Changes in Equity and Directors’ Declaration. The directors are responsible for the summarised financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of this summarised financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the summarised financial report is free of material misstatement. We have also performed an independent audit of the full financial report of APHEDA Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2009. Our audit report on the full financial report was signed on 5th November 2009, and was not subject to any qualification.

Our procedures in respect of the audit of the summarised financial report included testing that the information in the summarised financial report is consistent with the full financial report, and examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures which were not directly derived from the full financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the summarised financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards.

Independence: In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Audit Opinion: In our opinion, the information reported in the summarised financial report is consistent with the full financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed our unqualified audit opinion in our report to members dated 5th November 2009. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the full financial report.

A full set of our audited accounts are available for inspection at our Sydney office at Level 3, 377 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000.
In Aceh, thousands of livelihoods were affected by the tsunami. These women are just two of the hundreds who have since completed APHEDA’s organic agriculture training. They have a laugh as they collect manure from local fields, having learnt to turn it into highly effective organic fertiliser. They use the fertiliser on their own gardens, and also create an income for themselves by selling the excess to other farmers in their district.

YOU can make a difference by making a regular contribution and supporting projects that deliver REAL skills to workers and communities in developing countries.

Ring 1800 888 674 or email office@apheda.org.au