

Union Aid Abroad APHEDA  
The overseas humanitarian aid agency of the ACTU



A Palestinian family sits in their destroyed home in the At-Tuffah district of Gaza city.

# 2014

## ANNUAL REPORT



# Executive Officer's Report

**This year, Australian unionists and communities responded to two major crises in countries where we have a long history of solidarity – the Philippines and the occupied Palestinian territories.**

## Supporting our partner organisations during crisis

Typhoon Haiyan, one of the strongest storms on record, wreaked havoc across the Philippines on 8 November 2013. Our members responded by donating over AU\$100,000 to assist emergency medical missions to Leyte, one of the worst affected regions.

In response to the war in Gaza, APHEDA members and supporters raised close to AU\$200,000 to assist families displaced by the 2014 war and to help reconstruct damaged agricultural livelihoods programs, including replacing greenhouses, livestock and supplies. The psychological toll of war is enormous and funds raised also supported play activities and psycho-social support to the children of Gaza.

## Consolidating and extending trade union development

Australian unions and unionists have long maintained links with Timorese unions and APHEDA continues to play a key role in coordinating Australian union support. This year we renewed our efforts to help Timor unions become financially sustainable by prioritising funding for organising and campaigning. In 2015 we will concentrate our support with the strongest unions in an attempt to consolidate their growth so that they can assist other unions over time.

This year we raised funds to help train and mentor young union organisers in the Pacific to develop the

next generation of union leaders. Together with the Australian and New Zealand union movements, we plan to hold residential training followed by mentoring by experienced organisers in the Asia-Pacific region.

Generous support from APHEDA members in 2013 for the emerging trade union movement in Burma enabled two labour rights NGOs to carry out a training program informing workers of their rights under Burma's new Labour Code.

## Our financial and human resources

3,000 individual members now donate regularly to APHEDA's international program. Your support ensures our program will remain independent and financial.

Australian unions supporting projects via our Skillslink program deserve special mention, as does the ACTU's vital core financial support. We continue to have a good partnership with the DAK Foundation which funds much work on the Thai-Burma border. The Australian government aid program also supports our work in Palestine, and the Solomon Islands, as well as in many other countries via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program.

We were fortunate to be one of four Sydney-based organisations which received a donation of \$500,000 from Sylvia Hale, former member of the NSW Legislative Council. Sylvia's generosity will assist us to build a more financially independent and visible organisation as well

as ensure our international program is more secure in key countries where we work.

Special thanks to APHEDA's founding Executive Officer, Helen McCue, who this year agreed to champion our work at union conferences and APHEDA fundraisers around the country. Helen received standing ovations wherever she spoke, and has proved to be our most effective recruiter of individual members yet!

Our organisation is represented on a daily basis by so many with skill and commitment - thanks to the APHEDA staff in Timor, the Solomons, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Australia, as well as the many volunteers and activists, both in Australia and internationally. This year, we saw the departure of long-term staff member Phillip Hazleton as our Mekong Regional Manager. Phillip's work to bring to light the dangers of asbestos use in Vietnam and Laos warrants special mention.

Many thanks also to the Committee of Management members for invaluable support and assistance.

The ongoing challenge for us all is how we better tackle global inequality. Inequality rises in direct proportion to declining government regulation and taxation. Re-focusing our efforts toward wage regulation and fairer taxation are two areas of future advocacy.

**Kate Lee**  
Executive Officer

## OUR MISSION

As the ACTU's humanitarian aid agency, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA expresses the Australian union movement's commitment to social justice and international solidarity through support to overseas education, training and development projects, working in partnership with those whose rights to development are restricted or denied.

## OUR VISION

Unions and communities working internationally to eradicate poverty and achieve human rights.



## ACFID CODE OF CONDUCT

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is an accredited signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Code requires members to meet high standards of governance, public accountability and financial management. For more information, contact Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA or visit [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

## FRONT COVER

### A Palestinian family sits in their destroyed home in the At-Tuffah district of Gaza city.

During the seven-week Israeli military offensive, over 2,200 people were killed - 2,131 Palestinians including 501 children; 66 Israeli soldiers; 5 Israeli civilians and a Thai migrant worker. The UN reports that a further 11,231 Palestinians were injured including 3,436 children and 3,540 women.

Photographer: Anne Paq ([activestills.org](http://activestills.org))

# Chairperson's Report



**“Please tell the world we are not terrorists – we are human”. These were words spoken to me and the APHEDA Executive Officer by a community worker on our recent trip to the Gaza strip following Israel’s assault in the territory.**

## Humanitarian crisis in Gaza

The scale of the destruction after the recent July-August war in Gaza is immense and unimaginable. Soon after entering Gaza, and after lengthy checkpoints and interrogation by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) at Erez crossing, we were soon met with buildings partially or wholly destroyed and piles of rubble still evident, three months after the end of the war. The magnitude of the whole-scale demolition intensified in certain areas we visited, particularly within the 3km zone closest to the Israeli border.

In Khuza’a village, where APHEDA’s six-year Australian government-funded aid program helps poor farmers with household farming of vegetables, greenhouses, water systems, and animal husbandry, many buildings were destroyed. Animals were killed and farmers fled for their lives, leaving behind untended animals and crops, many of which were lost during the 50 days in which farmers were forced from their homes. One family we visited has been forced to live in the greenhouse provided by the APHEDA program, next to their destroyed home. For these poor farming families, a crop of tomatoes brings both food for the family and neighbours as well as a small income. It was reported to us that during

the 50-day assault on Gaza, these small household savings allowed people to survive, but now they are back at square one, having used all savings, crops and the few animals they had. It is estimated that 50% of agricultural land and 30% of agricultural livestock has been destroyed with the losses valued at USD\$350m.

In the town of Al-Shujaa’iya, the compound of the El Wafa Hospital – the major rehabilitation hospital in Gaza – has been completely destroyed and only enormous piles of concrete rubble remain. After initial air bombing of the hospital, local people reported that the IDF entered the compound to lay bombs to complete the total demolition of the hospital. The El Wafa board estimates the immediate cost of rebuilding at USD\$13m, and will re-build the hospital, not in Al-Shujaa’iya, but in Gaza City to minimise future chances of an attack. 19 out of Gaza’s 32 hospitals have been destroyed.

The 50-day assault took the lives of over 2,000 Gazans, including more than 500 children. 89 whole families were completely wiped out.

In 2014, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA joined ten Australian aid agencies in calling for the blockade on Gaza to be

lifted so that the extreme poverty of Gazans can be addressed through economic growth, and so that Gaza can begin to re-build.

### Private sector as the motor of poverty reduction?

The Australian government’s new policy, ‘Australian aid: promoting prosperity, reducing poverty, enhancing stability’, announced a ‘new development paradigm’ which argues that the private sector – and foreign direct investment (FDI) – is the mainstay of poverty reduction. Government-funded overseas aid is argued to be a small player in a field dominated by other forms of development finance, notably FDI.

Globally in 2013, government-funded aid (known as Overseas Development Assistance or ODA) reached US\$135b, while FDI to developing countries stood at US\$759b. FDI is six times larger than ODA, but FDI goes mainly to industrialising countries, and is highly volatile. It is actually predicted to fall in 2014.

In contrast, ODA often goes to the least developed countries, is relatively stable, and rising, US\$122m in 2008 to US\$135m in 2013. Australia’s contribution is down 4.5% in 2013 to about AU\$5b, but

elsewhere there are large increases, for example, UK +27%, Japan +36%.

Still, Australia’s ODA is more important relative to its FDI. Australian FDI to developing countries stood at about US\$14b in 2013 (OECD 2014). Even after recent budget cuts, Australian ODA accounts for at least a quarter of all Australian finance flows to developing countries.

But more fundamental, ODA and FDI are very different things. FDI is money invested for profit; ODA is money granted on the expectation of social and environmental impact. While FDI creates debt, aid is a development grant that often flows to the most marginalised people. Reflecting this, aid remains critically important for the poorest countries, which often cannot access FDI.

Tying aid to private finance, as is now proposed by the Government, will undermine this vital role played by aid. The Australian government – through its ODA – is able to genuinely contribute to the development goals of the poorest countries. Aid can alleviate poverty and address global injustice. This important role for aid needs to be valued, not downplayed or negated.

**Angelo Gavrielatos**  
Chairperson

# Opportunities for all — Women

## Safety and rights at work for all women in Cambodia

“The issues faced by women workers in Cambodia’s entertainment industry are rooted in traditional divisions of labour and views that devalue the kinds of work traditionally done by women. The Cambodian Service and Food Workers Federation encourages women workers to be active agents for change in their workplaces”, says Sar Mora, Secretary of the union.

Until this year, the women workers that dominate the entertainment industry in Cambodia were not covered by the general labour laws, nor did they have any rights to health and safety at work. However in 2014, the introduction of a government decree now specifies that the existing Labour Law shall apply to workers of this industry and makes specific mention of maximum hours, deductions on wages and requires mandatory occupational health and safety training and much more. A Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA study of the industry in 2012 was instrumental in paving the way.

The entertainment industry employs approximately 35,000

workers in Cambodia, mainly young women in jobs such as beer promotion workers, hostesses in beer gardens, massage workers, karaoke workers, wait staff in nightclubs, and casino workers.

Entertainment workers often face difficult working conditions and social discrimination from their families and society, with a stigma similar to sex workers. They often lack self-esteem and feel that they are looked down on by society.

Difficult working conditions include low wages, long working hours, no overtime pay, sexual harassment and violence, consumption of high levels of alcohol, and it is virtually impossible to take maternity leave. There is also physical and age discrimination in the industry.

Many entertainment workers are not aware of their rights, and rarely step up to defend them.

In 2015, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA will be supporting the union to ensure that women entertainment workers get to exercise these new rights at work.

## Education of Palestinian refugee women crucial to stop poverty trap



**Children learning in the Early Education Centre run by the PWHO in the Bourj Al-Barajneh refugee camp in Lebanon. The centre enables mothers to pursue work or study.**

But PWHO doesn’t just work with women; it also educates men living in the camp on women’s equality. Through stories and seminars run by older members of the community, they address conservative voices against gender equality. They emphasise that Palestinians have always valued women attending university, working with men and having children go to school together.

One of the recent challenges to this work has been the huge influx of Syrian refugees into the camp. The

lack of financial support and job opportunities has seen a rise in child marriages, with girls as young as nine leaving school to be married. As Olfat Mahmoud, director of PWHO, said recently on an Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA speaking tour to Australia, “Dropping out of school early significantly increases the likelihood of becoming trapped in a cycle of poverty and abuse.”

Helping women have greater control and autonomy over their lives is at the core of everything the **Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organisation (PWHO)** does. From running an early education centre to supporting women to work and pursue study, to discussion groups on topics like the impact of the media and responding to violence in the home. PWHO financially sponsors women to study at university, employ and train women who live in the camp, and run events to connect women in the camp to support each other. All programs are designed to link back to helping women increase the influence they have over issues affecting their lives and community.

Through the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA women’s empowerment project, PWHO aims to make families aware of these risks and encourage families to find alternatives for financial support to keep girls in school.

# en's equality in development



With support from Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, the CFSWF has won new laws giving its members, like these beer promotion workers, the same rights as other Cambodian workers.

## Evaluation of rural support program highlights need to scale-up

In Timor Leste, APHEDA assists the work of three organisations with the support of the Australian government aid program – the **Grupo Feto Foinsae Timor-Lorosae (GFFTL)**, **Knaa Buk Hatene (KBH)** and **Institusaun Edukasaun Popolar (IEP)**.

These three organisations were all founded by activists from the Timorese student movement, that in 1999 played a key role in ending the brutal Indonesian occupation. All three organisations are committed to the political project of transforming independent Timor Leste into a just, prosperous society for everyone. GFFTL runs a network of women's literacy groups in rural and remote areas, KBH facilitates the establishment of agricultural cooperatives and the IEP supports small manufacturing cooperatives.

Evaluators created a research team with leaders from the three organisations, and together formed research questions and a methodology framework. Over two weeks, the research team travelled around Timor Leste interviewing participants, observing the work of the projects and gathering information about impact, limitations and unexpected outcomes.

Some comments made to the evaluators by workers of the organisations and program participants include:

"IEP is not about just delivering training or money, but *formasau* [training given to a group of people over an extended period of time]. They have taught the group about cooperatives and how to do things ourselves, and we now have lots of tools and equipment".

"We don't really want training in other things, but want cross visits to learn from others, learn practically, comparative studies".

"We need to build on our own specialist knowledge so that we can facilitate communities to transform".

Key recommendations to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA include:

- help to connect the small-scale community development work of the organisations to broader social movements;
- elevate women and gender equality to a more central role in the work of the organisations;
- resource participatory research skills training amongst the leadership of the three organisations so that they can deepen and democratise their planning and practice.

For more information about this evaluation, contact Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA: [office@apheda.org.au](mailto:office@apheda.org.au)



## Challenging gender stereotypes among young refugees from Burma

Charm Tong, who founded the SSSNY, was named as one of Asia's Heroes by *TIME Magazine* in 2005 in recognition of her advocacy against the Burmese military regime's human rights abuses.

Years of brutal conflict perpetuated by the Burmese military dictatorship have taken its toll on the society and population of Shan State, in Burma's north. Young people, and women in particular, have suffered through violence and been denied access to education. Since 2001, the **School for Shan State Nationalities Youth (SSSNY)** has been on a mission to train and inspire new generations of young men and women.

The school was established by Charm Tong, a women's rights leader and civil rights educator who has received numerous international awards for her advocacy against the Burmese military regime's human rights abuses – including the use of systematic sexual violence against ethnic women. The students call her "a candle in the dark." For her part, Charm says, "The regime does not want the world to

know what's happening to the people, but our women's voices will be heard."

SSSNY's unique seven-month residential program takes a transformative approach to challenging stereotypes. Each year, thirty young Shan of different backgrounds are identified through an extensive selection process conducted inside Shan State with the support of villages and their elders. Gender equality is a guiding principle of the school, and is reflected in the equal representation and treatment of students. The curriculum is designed to engage students as participatory learners, and uses teaching methods to encourage critical and creative thinking skills, where the rights of women are not only practiced, but emphasized and often discussed in the classroom.

Over 300 graduates are now

working inside Burma and along the Thai-Burma border as teachers, medics, human rights activists, HIV/AIDS trainers, in media and women's and youth organisations.

"Before I arrived at the school, in our community, women could hardly take any leadership roles, but here, I learned to work with my women friends who have abilities to lead. Women are voted to be leaders and represent our students. I really changed my attitude," said a young male student, age 23.

A female student added, "As girls, there are so many restrictions against us because of the traditional beliefs, but when I attend this program, I learned about human rights, [and that] women's rights are human rights. I gained confidence, strength and knowledge after attending the training."

# International Projects during



## PACIFIC

**Sharing Knowledge, Improving Livelihoods, Learning Skills Project (SKILLS), Solomon Islands,** *Community Learning Action Network, Australian Government*

**Media and Communications, Fiji,** *Fiji Trades Union Congress, individual donors*

**Community Health Project, PNG,** *Paigatasa Village Day Clinic, People of Australasia for Innovation and Growth Abroad (PAIGA) Australia*

## AFRICA

**Workers' rights advocacy, Zimbabwe** *Congress of Trade Unions, individual donors*

**Food sovereignty & organic farming,** *Trust for Community Outreach and Education, Breede River Valley, South Africa, individual donors.*

**Mass education through community & trade union media,** *Workers World Radio Productions (Cape Town, South Africa), AEU, 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, *Missionvale Care Centre (Missionvale squatter camp, Nelson Mandela Bay, South Africa), Missionvale Australia donors*

**Support for children, youth & students in Western Cape, South Africa** Nutrition and education support, *Stellenbosch Community Development Programme, Kyamundi, Jabulani Australia donors*

Programs for students from disadvantaged communities, *University of Cape Town, University of Cape Town Australian Trust* Community shelter and education for homeless girls, *Ons Plek, Cape Town, EduCompass Australia donors, MUA*  
**Support for Western Sahara refugees,** *Australia Western Sahara Association, unions, individual donors*

## CUBA

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

## PAKISTAN

**Labour rights for women home-based garment workers,** *Labour Education Foundation (with SASK Finland), individual donors*

## AFGHANISTAN

**Vocational Training Centre for Women,** *Organisation for Promoting Afghan Women's Capabilities, Support Association for the Women of Afghanistan donors*

## NEPAL

**Medical education,** *Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Kathmandu, Nepal Health Scholarships Australia donors*

## PHILIPPINES

**HIV education and support,** *Positive Action Foundation of the Philippines, Pasasalamat Fund, Australian Government, individual donors*  
**Child workers on Manila's garbage dumps,** *Institute for Occupational Health and Safety*

*Development (IOHSAD), Unions NSW, individual donors*

**Typhoon Haiyan Appeal,** *Community Medicine Development Foundation, individual donors*

**Development program for organisers, OHS training,** *Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), AMWU*

## CAMBODIA

**Promoting sustainable livelihoods through: Vocational Education,** *Cambodian Women for Peace and Development, Kampong Cham Province; Cambodian Women's Development Association, Phnom Penh; Women's Development Centres in Battambang, Kampot, Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces, Australian Government, AEU, individual donors*  
**Farming Skills,** *Cambodian Women for Peace and Development, Kampong Cham Province; Women's Development Centres in Battambang, Kampot, Oddar Meanchey and Preah Vihear provinces, Australian Government, individual donors*

**Developing Community Ecotourism,** *Kampot Fishery Administration, Australian Government, AEU, individual donors*

**Union Strengthening and Empowerment of Beer Promotion Workers,** *Cambodian Food and Service Workers Federation, individual donors*

**Health Education and Support,** *Cambodian Prostitutes Union, individual donors*

**Asbestos Disease Prevention Project,** *Cambodian Ministry of Labour and Health, CFMEU C&G*

## LAO PDR

**Skills training for women,** *Lao Women's Union, Australian Government, individual donors*

**OH&S training,** *Lao Federation of Trade Unions, BWI, UNI-APRO, AEU, MUA, CFMEU FFPD, Future Skills, individual donors*

**Induction for primary school teachers (Teacher2Teacher),** *Pakse and Saravan Teacher Training Colleges, AEU, IEU, individual donors*

**Asbestos Disease Prevention Project,** *Lao Federation of Trade Unions, Lao Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Australian Government, BWI, individual donors*

## VIETNAM

**Asbestos Disease Prevention Project,** *Da Nang University, Hai Duong Federation of Labor, Health Environment Management Agency, Ministry of Labour, National Institute of Labour Protection, Nghe An Federation of Labor, Australian Government, BWI, MUA, United Voice, Canberra Activists Group, Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, University of Sydney, individual donors*

**HIV education and peer support groups,** *Hai Duong and Bac Kan Provincial Women's Unions, individual donors*

**Above: Burma:** Training for women workers, leaders and trade union members in Mon State, Burma. Thanks to generous support from APHEDA members in 2013, two labour rights NGOs are carrying out workers' rights training programs.

## UNION SKILLSLINK PARTNERS



# 2013–2014 Financial Year



**Empowering Union Participation in Better Work Vietnam**, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, ILO

**Job creation and income generation for poor and ethnic minority women in Bac Kan province**, Bac Kan Women's Union, Australian Government, individual donors

**Domestic violence awareness and prevention**, Bac Kan Women's Union, Australian Government, individual donors

**Decent Work and Community Empowerment for People with Disabilities**, Vietnam Federation of Disability, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, March 8 Employment Centre, Irish Aid, NSWNMA, individual donors

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

**Capacity building on gender equality**, Hai Duong People's Council, Australian Government, individual donors

**Strengthening Trade Unions at Enterprise and Industrial Zone level**, Federations of Labour in Hai Phong, Hai Duong and Ho Chi Minh, SASK (Finland), individual donors

**Strengthening the education capacity of Vietnamese Trade Unions (National curriculum development)**, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, individual donors

## MIDDLE EAST

**Early childhood education; Aged & disabled health care; Vocational training**, Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organisation (Burj al-Barajneh & Shatila Refugee Camps, Lebanon), Australian Government, APHEDA Palestinian Camps Support Campaign, Women-to-Women Program, individual donors

**Rural livelihoods & food security through capacity development**, MA'AN Development Centre (Occupied Palestinian Territories), Australian Government

**Childhood Recovery in the Gaza Strip**, MA'AN Development Centre (Occupied Palestinian Territories), Australian Government

**Early Education in Hebron**, Tel Rumeida Kindergarten, Leichardt Friends of Hebron

**Purchase of a Patient Transport Vehicle and School Transport Vehicle in the Gaza Strip**, Gaza Red Crescent Society and Middle East Children's Alliance, Gaza emergency appeal donors

## THAI-BURMA BORDER

**Health care for Shan refugees**, Shan Health Committee, AEU, ANMF Vic, HACSU, NSWNMA, QNU, individual donors

**Women's Capacity Building project for Karen women leaders, dormitories in refugee camps, traditional birth attendants and nurseries for child refugees**, Karen Women's Organisation, DAK Foundation, Australian Government, individual donors

**School for migrant workers' children**, Burma Labour Solidarity Organisation, individual donors

**Medical care and capacity building**, Burma Children's Medical Fund, Australian Government, individual donors

**Drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs in refugee camps**, DARE Network, DAK Foundation, Australian Government, individual donors

**School support and mobile teacher training**, Karen Teachers Working Group & Karen State Education Group, DAK Foundation, individual donors

**Eastern Burma Community Schools Program**, Karen Teachers Working Group, DAK Foundation

**Access to Accredited Education**, Migrant Education, DAK Foundation

**Health Services Project and expansion of facilities**, Mae Tao Clinic, Australian Government, DAK Foundation, individual donors

**Social Justice Education Program**, School for Shan State Nationalities Youth, Australian Government, individual donors

**MAP Community Radio in Mae Sot and Chiang Mai**, Migrant Assistance Program, Australian Government, individual donors

**Media Reporting Team**, Karen News, individual donors

**School Food Sustainability**, Suwannimit, DAK Foundation

## BURMA

**Workers' rights training and union building**, Action Labor Rights, Labour Rights Defenders and Promoters, individual donors

## INDONESIA

**Union education & development**, Trade Union Care Centre Aceh, Co-funded with UNI-APRO, SASK (Finland), FES (Germany), NSWNMA, individual donors

**Workers' legal rights**, Trade Union Rights Centre Jakarta, AEU, ICTUR

## TIMOR-LESTE

**Union development and capacity building**, Konfederasaun Sindicatu Timor-Leste (KSTL), AMWU, CPSU, MUA, United Voice

**Skills training for income generation** Working with Grupo Feto Foin Sa'e Timor Lorosae (GFFTL), Institute for Popular Education (IEP), Knua Buka Hatene (KBH)

**Womens Literacy Campaign**, GFFTL Horticulture, animal husbandry and small scale manufacturing Cooperative development, GFFTL, IEP, KBH

**Computer skills**, English language and expressional arts, KBH

**Bamboo furniture making**, IEP

**Welding cooperative**, IEP

**Fuel-efficient stove manufacturing and environmental restoration**, IEP

Supported by Australian Government, IEU, individual donors

**Community media development**, Community Radio Association Timor Leste, Fairfax Media Staff

**Occupational Health & Safety Training for workers**, KSTL, NT Government, NT Unions

**Working Women's Organising Project**, Working Women's Centre of Timor Leste, Australian Government, various Australian Working Women's Centres, Australia East Timor Friendship Association, individual donors

**Above: Philippines:** A resident of Typhoon Haiyan affected town of Hernani receives an emergency ration pack from an APHEDA-supported volunteer healthworkers. APHEDA supporters donated over AU\$100,000 to assist emergency medical missions.





**Left:** Villagers in Nà Ròong, Vietnam, put on plays to raise awareness on domestic violence. Theatre can be a very good tool to communicate a difficult messages to wide audiences who may not otherwise feel comfortable discussing this issue. **Right:** Women’s sharing clubs in Vietnam provide a safe place for women to share information about situations of domestic violence, as well as receive information on domestic violence prevention.

## Oppression of women and girls: the root cause of domestic violence

**“Violence against women and girls does not emerge from nowhere. It is simply the most extreme example of the political, financial, social and economic oppression of women and girls worldwide.”**

— United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, on the 25th November 2014.

Violence against women includes all acts of violence that cause physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm. It includes: domestic violence, sexual violence, forced marriage, forced abortion and sterilisation, female infanticide, and female genital mutilation. According to the World Health Organisation, the most common form of violence against women is performed by an intimate, male partner.

- 35% of women have experienced physical or sexual intimate partner violence worldwide, with rates above 70% of women in some countries.
- 50% of all women killed globally were killed by family members or intimate partners.

Violence against women is a function of gender inequality. As an international development agency of trade unions, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is engaged in

projects that directly address the prevention of violence against women, as well as in broader projects that indirectly address violence against women by improving gender equality.

### Rural Vietnam builds awareness and support amongst women and men

Bac Kan is a mountainous province in Northern Vietnam. Ethnic minorities account for eighty per cent of its population and 74 of its 122 communes are categorised as ‘poor’.

Our partner agency, the Bac Kan Women’s Union (BKWU) implemented a survey to better understand violence against women within the province and found a significant proportion of women had experienced domestic violence.

In response, BKWU in partnership with Union Aid Abroad, has developed a response aiming to reduce domestic violence in the province, especially among remote ethnic

minority communities by raising community awareness, knowledge and skills related to women’s rights and increasing the capacity of local authorities to respond to domestic violence.

The pilot project started in 2013, initially focusing on two villages. In each village, a support group for victims of domestic violence, and a “safe house” were established. A wide campaign also raised awareness of village inhabitants, and gave specific training to staff of the main local institution.

### Extreme violence ‘normal’ in many parts of the Pacific

The Pacific Region has one of the highest rates of violence against women in the world. The 2009 Solomon Islands Family and Safety Study found that:

- 64% of women aged 15-49 reported being physical and/or sexually abused.
- 36.9% of girls under the age of 15 have experienced sexual abuse.

In PNG, over two thirds of women report having experienced intimate partner violence. This violence can be severe, with health centres regularly reporting broken

arms, facial bruises and lacerations caused by knives, iron bars and timber.

During her 2012 visit, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women stated that violence against PNG women is endemic: “Domestic violence is socially perceived as a normal aspect of a woman’s life and a family matter that should not be discussed publicly.”

### Australian unions back White Ribbon campaign

In Australia, 1 woman per week is killed by a current or former partner. 5–10% of Australian women experience at least one incident of physical and/or sexual violence each week.

Since 2003, Australian men have participated in the global male-led movement White Ribbon Day, which aims to end violence against women. The campaign recognises the role that men have to play in ending violence against women, and asks men to publically swear: “never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women”.

White Ribbon Day includes many Australian unions, who are committed to advocating against gender-based violence amongst their memberships.



# Organising and Fundraising 2014

## Global Justice Partners

Our monthly giving 'Global Justice Partner' program continued to grow in 2014. Over 2600 people around Australia give donations of \$10 or more each month. Together with 520 people donating via a payroll deduction system, these provide an essential, independent and stable financial base to plan our overseas projects for the long term.

## Support from Unions

The ACTU and many unions continued to contribute generously to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA in 2014, showing a commitment to international solidarity and global justice. Some unions also sponsored specific overseas projects.

Many unions assisted us to establish APHEDA contacts within their organisation to recruit new APHEDA members and educate union members.



Activists and supporters in Brisbane enjoyed meeting APHEDA founder Helen McCue at the Queensland Council of Unions.

Many thanks to the ACTU Organising Centre and union educators who profiled APHEDA's work in its training programs. Thanks also to the unions who promoted APHEDA's work in union journals and social media.

## Activist groups

Film screenings, dinners, trivia nights, raffles, a photography competition, a scenic train trip, an art auction and even a carnival shooting gallery - these were just some of the activities organised by our

dedicated and committed activists and members in 2014. Thanks and congratulations to the activist groups in Hobart, Canberra, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, the NSW South Coast, Adelaide and Sydney - for raising money for APHEDA projects as well as raising awareness of a range of international development issues.

## Other fundraising events

We also thank you for your support of our other

fundraising activities, including the Annual Raffle, the Sydney Dinner, our festive season cards and also our specific appeals, this year for the Philippines typhoon and Pacific union organising. All of these make a valuable contribution to our work in Australia and internationally.

## Australian Government support

Grants from the Australian government's aid program totalled \$5,316,269.

In 2013-14, we had DFAT contracts for a food security project in the West Bank and Gaza, and an income-generating skills training project in the Solomon Islands. We also received funds via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program which assisted projects in Timor Leste, Cambodia, Vietnam, Lebanon, the Philippines and the Thai Burma border.

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

### Our union sponsors:

Australian Council of Trade Unions | Australian Education Union | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | ANMF - Victorian Branch | Community and Public Sector Union - PSU Group | Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union | Health and Community Services Union | Independent Education Union | Maritime Union of Australia | NSW Nurses and Midwives Association | Queensland Nurses Union | Unions NSW | NT Unions | United Voice | Tas Bull International Aid Committee.

### Our union members:

Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation | APESMA - Professionals Australia | Australasian Meat Industry Employees Union | Australian Institute of Marine & Power Engineers | Australian Licenced Aircraft Engineers Association | Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation | Australian Services Union | Australian Workers Union | Communications Electrical and Plumbing Union | Finance Sector Union | Flight

Attendants' Association | Health Services Union of Australia | Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance | National Union of Workers | NSW Police Association | National Tertiary Education Union | Rail, Tram & Bus Union | Textile, Clothing & Footwear Union | Transport Workers Union | United Firefighters Union of Australia | United Services Union | Unions ACT | Unions NSW | Unions NT | Queensland Council of Unions | Unions Tasmania | Unions WA | SA Unions | Victorian Trades Hall Council | United Voice.

**Our individual donors:** All members of our Global Justice Partner Program, all members of our Paylink Programs, all individual members, all who donated to our overseas projects, everyone who bought raffle tickets, festive season cards or came to one of our events, our enthusiastic activist community and the many generous people who supported our various appeals throughout the year. Special thanks to Anita Chan, Jonathan Unger and Cathy Bloch. Thankyou to Sylvia Hale for her generous donation.

### Our volunteers overseas:

Barbara Fitzgerald, Di Gluckstern, Aung Myint, Deb Nicholls, Gail Vest, Jane Abbey, Kanchana Thornton, Penny Gilmour, Neil Poetschka, Pam Rogers, Richard Wong, Henry Zwart, Albert Olmo, Peter Stokes, Prof. Nico Van Zandwijk and Julie Stratford.

### Our Community Education volunteers:

All who participated in our study tours, and the community activists and union trainers who assisted with education and campaigns.

### Our company sponsors:

Australian Super, ME Bank, ACTU Member Connect, Cbus, FIRST Super, Media Super, and everyone who donated items for fundraising. Thanks to Future Skills for assisting with OHS projects.

### Our international donors:

ILO, SASK (Finland), UNI-APRO, Building and Woodworkers International, ICTUR, LO-Sweden, Irish Aid.

### Workers' Clubs:

Dickson Workers Club, Woden Workers Club, Revesby Workers Club, Sutherland Trade Union Club, Mt Druitt Building Workers Club.

### Our alliances:

Pasasalamat Fund, DAK Foundation, Keir Foundation, Becher Foundation, Cuban Children's Hospital Fund, The Boomerang Project, Palestinian Camps Support Campaign, Women to Women, Australian Western Sahara Association, Missionvale, Jabulani, Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters, University of Capetown Australian Trust, Philippines Australia Union Links, Friends of Hebron.

**Our activist groups in each state and our many valued volunteers in the Sydney office.**

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA gratefully acknowledges the support of ME Bank and Australian Super.

**"We thank ME Bank and Australian Super for their ongoing support. It is a clear reflection of their commitment to the values of international solidarity and support."**

Kate Lee,  
Executive Officer

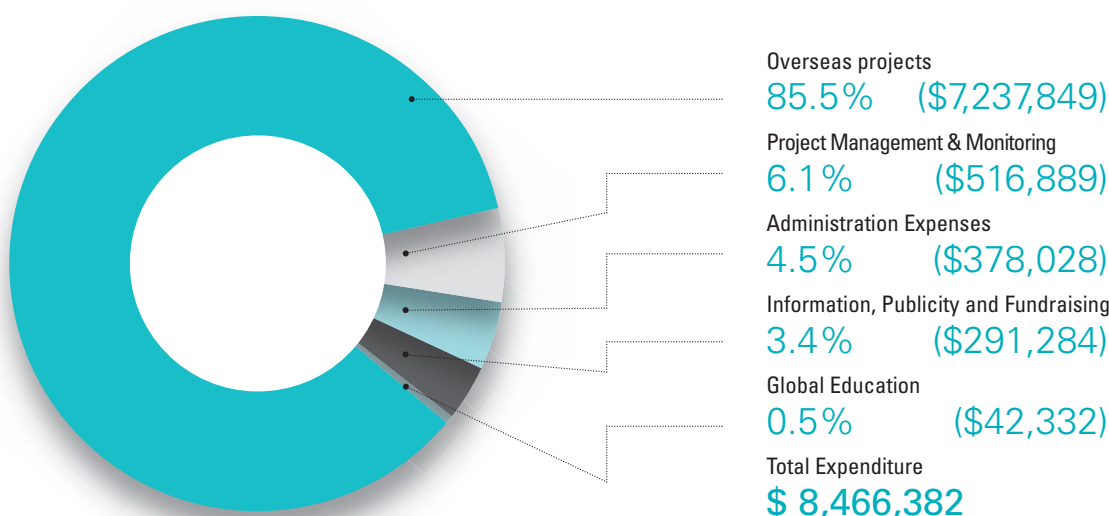


# Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes for the Year Ended 30 June 2014

	Cash raised during the financial year				Cash disbursed during the financial year			
	Cash available at start of year	AusAID Income	Interest	APHEDA Income	AusAID disbursed during year	APHEDA disbursed during year	Transfer to/from other project account	Cash available at end of year
<b>AusAID Funded Projects</b>								
Solomon Islands	172,286	363,796	3,724	—	(317,222)	—	—	222,584
Middle East	34,271	3,384,193	25,247	—	(2,995,703)	—	—	448,011
Thai–Burma Border	127,103	—	—	—	(126,712)	—	—	391
Timor Leste	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
ANCP	23,548	1,568,280	10,917	366,560	(1,602,655)	(366,560)	—	90
<b>Total</b>	<b>357,208</b>	<b>5,316,269</b>	<b>39,888</b>	<b>366,560</b>	<b>(5,042,292)</b>	<b>(366,560)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>671,076</b>
<b>APHEDA Funded Projects</b>								
Other Projects	2,944,616	—	42,521	3,007,449	—	(1,627,513)	(129,460)	4,237,613
APHEDA General Account Accumulated funds Cash Adjusted	1,187,883	—	28,234	880,292	—	(1,213,326)	129,460	1,012,543
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,489,707</b>	<b>5,316,269</b>	<b>110,643</b>	<b>4,254,301</b>	<b>(5,042,292)</b>	<b>(3,207,399)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5,921,232</b>

## Income and expenditure

### APHEDA Expenditure 2013-14



The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

### At 30 June 2014, the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Committee of Management was:

Angelo Gavrielatos	President, Australian Education Union (Chairperson)	Janet Giles	Director of Campaigns, Australian Services Union SA and NT Branch
Ged Kearney	President, ACTU (Vice-Chairperson)	Lynne Ridge	Marketing Officer, NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association
Mark Lennon	Secretary, Unions NSW (Hon. Treasurer)	Sam Roberts	General Branch Secretary, National Union of Workers
Liz Hannan-Farrar	Clinical Nurse Educator (ret.) (Hon. Secretary)	Marj O'Callaghan	National Development Coordinator, United Voice
Andrew Dettmer	National President, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union		

The Committee of Management received no fees, salaries, allowances or compensation for serving on the Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA board. If any member of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, donor or member of the general public has any questions or complaints about the organisation, please contact the Executive Officer, Kate Lee on +61 2 9264 9343 or the Chair of the Management Committee at [office@apheda.org.au](mailto:office@apheda.org.au)

# APHEDA Inc. Summary of Financial Report, 30 June 2014

## INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

REVENUE	2014 \$	2013 \$
Donations and gifts - monetary	\$3,316,425	2,984,592
Donations and gifts – non monetary Grants	476,043	362,888
AusAID	5,316,269	2,672,277
Other – Australian	—	—
Other – Overseas	394,528	362,233
Legacies and bequests	—	49,500
Investment income - Interest received	110,643	132,499
Other Income	67,267	141,651
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>9,681,175</b>	<b>6,705,640</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Funds to International Programs	6,761,806	5,959,871
Program Support Costs	516,889	405,999
Community Education	42,332	68,573
Fundraising Costs:		
Public	274,555	299,986
Government	16,729	28,148
Accountability & Administration in Australia	378,028	296,204
Non-monetary expenditure	476,043	362,888
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>8,466,382</b>	<b>7,421,669</b>
Excess of revenue over disbursements/ (disbursements over revenue )	1,214,793	(716,029)
Other comprehensive income	—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>1,214,793</b>	<b>(716,029)</b>

## CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Funds available for future use at the beginning of the financial year	4,489,707	5,495,354
Funds available for future use at the end of the financial year	5,921,232	4,489,707

During the Financial Year, APHEDA Inc. had no transactions in investments, international political or religious adherence promotion programs, nor any domestic programs.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2014

ASSETS	2014 \$	2013 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,921,232	4,489,707
Other Current Financial Assets	—	—
	5,921,232	4,489,707
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, Plant & Equipment	3,205	5,173
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,924,437</b>	<b>4,494,880</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade and Other Payables - Current	788,886	528,965
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Provisions	26,843	72,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>815,729</b>	<b>600,965</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>	<b>3,893,915</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated Funds	5,108,708	3,893,915
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>	<b>3,893,915</b>

At the end of the Financial Year, APHEDA Inc. had no Trade and Other Receivables, no Assets held for Sale, no Inventories, no Investment Properties, and no Intangibles. APHEDA Inc. also had no Borrowings, no Current Tax Liabilities and no other Financial Liabilities

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014	2013
Accumulated Funds		
<b>Balance at 30 June 2013</b>	<b>3,893,915</b>	<b>4,609,944</b>
Adjustment for changes in Equity	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	1,214,793	(716,029)
Amount transferred (to)/from reserves	0	0
<b>Balance at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>	<b>3,893,915</b>

## DECLARATION BY RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

In the opinion of the Responsible Entities of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated:

1) The financial statements and notes of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated are in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Associations Incorporations Act 2009 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- Giving a true and fair view of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated financial position as at 30 June 2014 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- Complying with Australian Accounting Standards-Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013; and

2) 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 become due and payable.

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



Angelo Gavrielatos, Chairperson



Mark Lennon, Treasurer

Signed in Sydney this 31st day of October, 2014

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE FOR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT ABROAD INCORPORATED.

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2014, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration.

### Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The directors of the Association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the NSW Associations Incorporations Act 1984 and the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

### Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated:

(a) is in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the NSW Associations Incorporations Act 1984 including giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2014 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;

(b) is in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, including:

- the financial report of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated shows a true and fair view of the financial results of fundraising appeals for the year ended 30 June 2014;
- the financial report has been properly drawn up and associated records of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Incorporated have been properly kept during the year in accordance with the Act;
- money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year ended 30 June 2014 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Act; and
- as at the date of this report, 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.

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD  
Chartered Accountants



James Winter  
Partner – Audit and Assurance  
Signed this 31st day of October 2014

A full set of our audited accounts are available for inspection at our Sydney office at Level 3, 377 Sussex Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

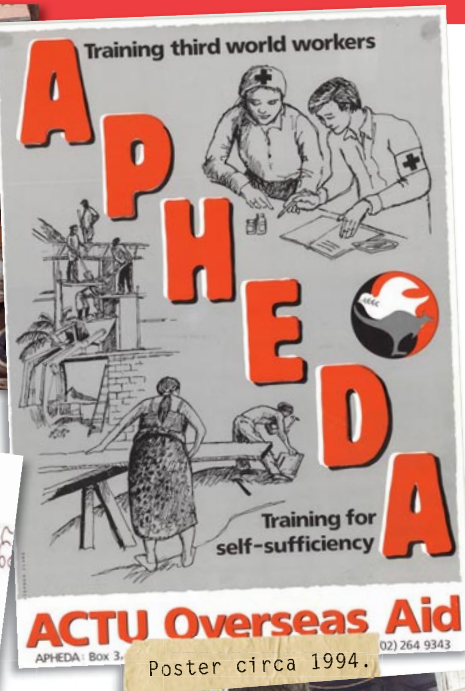
# Celebrate 30 years of global solidarity



Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's co-founders Cliff Dolan and Helen McCue.



OH&S in the Philippines.



Poster circa 1994.



Anti-apartheid campaigning.



Supporting workers' rights.



Traditional medicine and health training with the Vietnam Women's Union.



APHEDA-supported nurses in the Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.



Skills training in Timor-Leste.

## Sign up or increase your existing pledge today!

I want to sign up or increase my contribution to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA

**I PLEDGE THE FOLLOWING EACH MONTH:**

- \$10    \$25    \$50    \$100   Other \$\_\_\_\_\_ (min.\$10)
- YES, I would like free membership of Union Aid Abroad (for the life of my donation) and agree to be bound by the rules of the Association.

Title Ms Mr Mrs Miss Dr (please circle) Other \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (m) \_\_\_\_\_ (w / h) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Your Union  Union Staff    Union member   Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

PAYMENT:    a) Credit Card    MasterCard    Visa

Card no | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Expiry Date | m | m | / | y | y | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Card holder name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

OR    b) Direct Debit

Fin. Inst. Branch \_\_\_\_\_

Name on account \_\_\_\_\_

BSB no | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Acc No | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this Direct Debit request you acknowledge having read and endorsed the terms and conditions governing the debit arrangements between you and APHEDA Inc. as set out at <http://www.apheda.org.au/site/privacy.html>.

**Donations to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA are tax deductible.**  
 Contact us: FREECALL 1800 888 674 | Fax 02 9261 1118 | office@apheda.org.au  
 Please complete this form and post/fax to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA,  
 Level 3, 377-383 Sussex St, Sydney NSW 2000