



# 2015

## ANNUAL REPORT



# Executive Officer's Report

## Building movements for social change

**O**ur biggest global challenges require us to re-think our solidarity – how do we build strong labour and social movements in the face of unparalleled corporate influence in global and national politics, the unraveling of public services and community ownership by neo-liberal governments and the imminent threat posed by climate change?

We are witnessing rising inequality and poverty wages across the globe despite economic growth in many countries, particularly across Asia. The enormous number of people escaping war and conflict and seeking asylum in Europe challenges our humanity here in Australia and demands that we support action for peace and just re-settlement. The industrial, social and political transformations needed to enable affordable, renewable energy in a race against time to save the planet, forces us to debate how we ensure new work is well paid and unionised and that transition from fossil fuels leaves no one behind.

As unionists we understand the lessons of history – that we can win social change when we build pressure from organised movements of people. Our history in Australia tells us that, in how we won the 35 hour week, rights for safe workplaces, Medicare, and quality public education system for all.

We want big-scale change for labour and social justice, and so Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA needs to play its role in building movements

internationally and here at home.

In Australia, we aim to build APHEDA – and become an organisation of 20,000 members by 2025. We aim to be an organisation of members who give generously for global justice and act politically in solidarity with organised movements in Australia and internationally.

Internationally, in working with movements for justice, freedom and equality, we must find new ways to work together across our borders, to coordinate. More than ever, we need to become unions without borders.

### Some highlights of the year

In 2015, there were many proud achievements of Union Aid Abroad and many new partnerships built. Here is a few highlights:

- Vietnam voted in favour of a global ban on chrysotile (white asbestos) for the first time at the Rotterdam global meeting on hazardous chemicals and pesticides.
- The first anti-asbestos advocacy group was established in Vietnam.
- 648 new members were recruited to Union Aid Abroad.
- We published of a book of our 30 years of history.
- In the face of cuts of \$12 billion in the Australian overseas aid budget, we retained our Australian aid funding.
- We won a major bid for a five year project on agriculture in Palestine.

- Seasonal workers coming to Australia from Timor will be better protected due to the work of Australian and Timorese unions and APHEDA working together.
- Over \$400,000 was raised for unions and communities in Nepal and Vanuatu to respond to the major crises in those countries in 2015.

Thanks to all Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA staff in Sydney, Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Dili, Honiara, Ramallah and Vientiane. To all activists, volunteers, the Committee of Management and the Finance and Risk committee, many thanks for your advice, guidance, volunteer labour and extraordinary fundraising efforts.

To former Executive Officers Helen McCue, Phillip Hazelton and Peter Jennings, thanks for your enduring commitment to Union Aid Abroad, and this year for the many volunteer hours spent in the production of our book of history and in archiving our work.

The struggle for labour and social justice for all, not just some, will drive us to work for bigger change beyond the individual, the family, the workplace, the village. To do that, we have to become an organisation which supports movement-building, both 'here' and 'there', and wherever possible, link our demands and campaigns across our borders.

**Kate Lee**  
Executive Officer

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Australian unions working globally in partnership for the achievement of dignity at work, social justice, economic equality and the realisation of human rights.

We work to achieve this through strong unions and social movements, sustainable development programs, global solidarity and support at times of crisis.



### 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

**Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA members and Australian unions gave generously when the earthquake hit Nepal on April 25 this year.**

Together, in Australia and with one of the global union federations, UNI-Global, we raised over \$300,000. These funds were used to help with the most immediate of needs: building emergency shelter, providing medical assistance and food supplies.

Photographer: Ganesh Bahadur K.C., General Secretary, UNI Nepal Liaison Council.

# Chairperson's Report



**“Private companies with no development mandate or track record can suddenly monetise their activities as ‘aid’, and in the process enhance their legitimacy and reach, and their profits.”**

## Corporate development — the new aid paradigm

**G**rowth is the new mantra of overseas development agencies around the globe.

The OECD and the Australian Government insist that only economic growth delivers development. As required by donors, the aid sector in Australia is once again committed to private sector-led ‘trickle-down’ growth. Yet the orthodoxy is in conflict with reality.

Since 1991 the UN’s Human Development Program has demonstrated that government policy determines human development, not economic growth. We know that to be meaningful, development always has to be a bottom-up process, centred on human solidarity.

Private investment is now given a special role in growth and development, of creating ‘shared value’ for all. Reflecting this, overseas aid programs are to be partnered with the private sector, facilitating private investment wherever possible. Donor governments, including Australia, now deliberately blur the distinction between aid — a grant to assist development — and commercial investment that is made on the expectation of profit. For OECD governments, aid and private investment is all ‘development finance’.

In this new nexus, large high-profit global corporations become the new beneficiaries of overseas aid. At Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, we recognise the importance of economic independence for development. Our solidarity campaigns often focus on questions

of livelihood and development in countries where formal employment accounts for a very small proportion of the overall workforce. Our projects regularly see us working with organisations of self-employed workers and small farmers.

We reject the idea that aid should become a form of corporate welfare, to subsidise the operations of large corporations.

Globally, major corporates are quickly responding to the new opportunities, some explicitly recasting themselves as ‘social enterprises’, and profiting from doing ‘good’. Pearson Education is one example, a giant corporate player in my sphere of global education. Pearson promotes private education as poverty reduction, making ‘equity investments in low-cost private education’, and Pearson is hand-in-glove with the UK aid program, with several co-funded ventures and advisory roles.

In Australia, with great fanfare, the Minister for Foreign Affairs this year announced a ‘new aid paradigm’ for private sector involvement in overseas aid. Australian banks are first off the blocks, with Westpac and ANZ striking agreements with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to offer mobile banking and credit to the poor in the Pacific, and to extend aid-assisted infrastructure financing.

The move to support Australian banks has clear impacts on local savings schemes and banks, as well as on indebtedness in the region, and related alienation of customary land and livelihood. Other partnerships are emerging with

luxury cruise liners, and with retail companies such as SunRice and Coca-Cola for aid delivery.

For private corporations, aid is becoming a new goldmine. While the poor must conform to ‘market’ pressures, corporations can access a new swathe of corporate welfare. Private companies with no development mandate or track record can suddenly monetise their activities as ‘aid’, and in the process enhance their legitimacy and reach, and their profits.

Even the OECD acknowledges the necessity to address the resulting ‘conflict of interest’; others, such as Global Justice Now, are highlighting the impact of these new attempts to profit from poverty.

For global solidarity movements, such as Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, our priority is to expose the new agenda, and reassert the centrality of grassroots mobilisation for human development, not corporate development.

**Angelo Gavrielatos**  
Chairperson

# Climate change and the affordable energy and fo

Climate change has triggered numerous episodes of social unrest since the well publicised world food price crisis of 2007-2008. At that time, the collapse of the world trade system of agricultural commodities, in particular wheat, caused basic food staples to become unavailable or prices to soar causing protests and riots in countries including Cameroon, Haiti, Senegal, Egypt, and Morocco.

Climate change has contributed to ongoing conflict in areas such as the Middle East, and political and economic instability in numerous poor and medium income countries. One of the responses from the labour movement, farmers, environmentalists, indigenous peoples and other social movements has been the struggle for food sovereignty, which focuses on the question of who controls food production and distribution in communities, regions and countries.

## Middle East

Droughts, exacerbated by climate change and mismanagement of natural resources, have affected North Africa and the Middle East over the past decade, with hotter drier periods affecting crops and food security. Drought and climate change have been causal factors in food price riots in several countries, which led into the Arab Spring in 2010 (the price of bread trebled in Egypt between 2010 and 2011). The economic impoverishment of Sunni peasants in Iraq and Syria, both by water shortages and neoliberal policies, led to internal migrations of population and desperate rebellions which were later commandeered by fundamentalist forces. Israel's overexploitation of regional water resources, in the context of climate change, poses terrible challenges to food and agriculture producers in Palestinian areas and in neighbouring nations.

**Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's food security projects in Gaza and in the West Bank have focused on environmental protection, organic low-input methods as well as efficient rainwater harvesting.**



*Greenhouse food production in the West Bank.*



***Home-based garment workers participate in May Day rallies to demand recognition and protection under the country's labour laws. Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA partner organisation Labour Education Foundation reports that home-based workers are exploited by contractors and have to work for up to 20 hours a day for decreasing piece rates.***

## Pakistan

**In Pakistan, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA cooperates with the Swedish Teachers' Union and the Union Solidarity Center of Finland, to assist the Labour Education Foundation's organising of women home-based workers and capacity building of garment, textile and carpet unions.**

Pakistan's energy production and distribution has been privatised to the country's elite and energy is primarily created through fossil fuel burning or hydroelectric power generation (roughly 2/3 fossil, 1/3 hydro). There is little investment in new energy production or in renewable energy. Climate change in Pakistan has seen destructive floods over very large sections of the country. Water shortages and inadequate water flows in the hydroelectric dams have led to serious and frequent power cuts and very high prices for electricity. Home workers cannot access or cannot afford electricity for lighting, or to power their sewing machines. Factory and office workers are laid off or are unpaid for days each week when their employers have no electricity. Vast sections of the workforce of Pakistan are taking big income cuts whilst paying impossibly high rates for a patchy electricity supply to their homes.

**If you would like to assist these or any of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's projects promoting women**

# battle for food sovereignty

## Cambodia

With already strong patterns of both very dry and very wet seasons, Cambodia is highly vulnerable to climate change with food production and food security a major concern. With protein from fish accounting for three quarters of the dietary intake of Cambodians, the country is dependent on the Mekong river system which gives Cambodia access to the fourth biggest inland fishery in the world. During the rainy season, the flow of the Mekong grows so much that it fills Cambodia's Tonle Sap lake with huge amounts of fish that the fishing industry relies on. Changing rain patterns in the whole of South East Asia, especially shorter more intense rain patterns has a major impact on the Mekong river in turn putting the livelihoods and basic dietary needs of millions at risk.

**Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has been working with farmers in Cambodia since the early 1990s to develop aquaculture as a way to improve nutrition, food security and farmers' control over production.**



**Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA supported 'Moving Kitchens' which distributed essential supplies to women farm workers and their families as the nation went through an unprecedented socio-economic and political crisis.**

## Southern Africa

**For 15 years in Zimbabwe, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has been assisting the labour and women's movement in facing the most serious of anti-democratic offensives from the Mugabe regime, including the government-engineered collapse of the rural economy during worsening climate change impacts on the bread-basket regions of Africa.**

Repression, corruption, and mismanagement combined with increasing droughts have ruined Zimbabwe's food security which has led millions of rural and urban workers to become refugees in other countries. During emergencies, Australian trade unions have helped food distribution for displaced women farm workers. In the longer term we have helped sustain democratic civil society movements, such as the trade unions, who can push for democracy, social justice, food sovereignty and environmental protection.

**In South Africa, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA works with women small farmers and farm worker organisations in the Western Cape who are fighting for land, decent wages, water, and government services.**

As climate change increasingly impacts on southern Africa, it is highlighting problems in the export-oriented commercial farming sector, and the failure of the democratic government to redistribute land to poor African farmers for producing their own food without depending on international markets. The farm workers and small farmers are leading the social movements and trade unions in fighting to respond to climate change with the demand for food sovereignty, and for democratic control over the determinants of food production and distribution.

## Asbestos campaign evaluation: *More of the same needed, in more countries*

**In 2014, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA evaluated its asbestos program in Vietnam and Laos. Led by an external consultant based in the region, its main objective was to help plan the future direction of the program in both countries. In addition, the evaluation documented the significant progress APHEDA-supported work had already made towards a ban.**

When the asbestos program started in 2010 in Vietnam the use of asbestos was widespread but with little or no information available on its dangers. The program's early aim was to raise awareness and understanding of the scientific evidence relating to the use of asbestos.

The 2014 evaluation found that after four years, APHEDA's program had successfully filled a gap which other international organisations lobbying for a ban on asbestos had not been able to reach.

By educating unions and government ministries on the dangers of asbestos, what was initially a very politically sensitive issue is now being discussed publicly, including on national television. Since late 2014, there is now space for local civil society organisations to publicly advocate for a ban. Another outcome of the program has been to foster networks to discuss the issues of asbestos hazards and the responses needed to reduce exposure.

Encouragingly, the main recommendation of the evaluation was to "continue to support activities ... that will result in: a strategic policy and national profile; awareness raising; capacity building; an institutional framework and a national plan of action".

This broad recommendation was followed by an extensive list of activities, most of which have already been acted on in the year since the evaluation was completed. Some of these activities include supporting community groups in raising awareness, supporting the Ministry of Health to progress its asbestos elimination strategy, supporting training for improving diagnosis of mesothelioma, and expanding the scope of the program to include other ASEAN countries, such as Cambodia and Indonesia.

# International Projects during



## PACIFIC

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

**Cyclone Pam Appeal, Vanuatu,** *Repair of worker housing & spice farm rehabilitation, Vanuatu Council of Trade Unions; Farmers Support Association, individual donors*

**Worker organising, Solomon Islands,** *Workers Union of Solomon Islands, Union Aid NZ, individual donors*

**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

**Development projects in 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*

## 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*

## PAKISTAN

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

## 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, French embassy, 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*

**Safe work and drug awareness,** *Cambodian Prostitutes Union, individual donors*

**Asbestos Disease Prevention Project,** *Cambodian Ministry of Labour and Vocational Education, Australian Embassy, CFMEU, Construction Division, individual donors*

## NEPAL

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

## CUBA

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

## LAO PDR

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

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

**Building capacity of the LFTU,** *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*

## VIETNAM

**Asbestos Disease Prevention Project,** *Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour, Nghe An Federation of Labor, Vietnam Ban Asbestos Network, Australian Government, MUA, United Voice, Canberra Activists Group, Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, individual donors*

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

**Strengthening Trade Unions at Enterprise and Industrial Zone Level,** *phase 2, Vietnam General Confederation of Labour, SASK (Finland), individual donors*

**Above: Solomon Islands:** Participants at Mwaraja Community Learning Centre undertook Honey Bee training to learn to build and maintain hives for sustainable honey production for sale at provincial markets.

## UNION SKILLSLINK PARTNERS



# 2014–2015 Financial Year

**Job creation and income generation for poor and ethnic minority women in Bac Kan and Hai Duong provinces,** *Bac Kan Women's Union, March 8<sup>th</sup> Centre, 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, NSWMA, 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, individual donors*

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

**Developing community resilience and adaptation to climate change in Ha Tinh Province,** *Ha Tinh Department of natural Resources and environment, individual donors*

## MIDDLE EAST

**Early childhood education; 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 and Partner Agency Staff Psychosocial Recovery in the Gaza Strip,** *MA'AN Development Centre (Occupied Palestinian Territories), Australian Government*

**Early Education,** *Tel Rumeida Kindergarten, Hebron, 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*

**Rehabilitation of oxygen therapy unit,** *El Wafa Rehabilitation Hospital, Gaza emergency appeal donors*

**Occupational health and workers' rights, construction and garment workers,** *Democracy and Workers' Rights Centre, Ramallah, individual donors.*

## THAI-BURMA BORDER

**Health care for Shan refugees,** *Shan State Development Foundation, Health care for Shan refugees, AEU, ANMF Vic, HACSU, NSWMA, QNU, individual donors*



**Women's Capacity Building project for Karen women leaders, dormitories in refugee camps, traditional birth attendants, nurseries for child refugees, expansion of organisational presence into Karen State through purchase of land,** *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 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*

**Building grassroots and civil society capabilities around advocacy for human rights and democracy,** *ALTSEAN-Burma, individual donors*

**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 Foundation, 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), NSWMA, individual donors*

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

## TIMOR-LESTE

**Union development and capacity building,** *Konfederasoun 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*

*Supported by Australian Government, IEU, individual donors*

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

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

**Above: Vietnam:** Participants at the historic Asian Ban Asbestos Network (A-BAN) conference in Vietnam this year. The A-BAN conference was attended by nearly 100 participants from around the region.



# Solidarity across borders: unionists for refugees

In September 2015 photographs of a young Syrian boy – Alan Kurdi – lying lifeless on the beach, after the boat that he was travelling in from Turkey to Greece, focused the world’s attention to the numbers of people who were moving across borders to safety, fleeing violence in Syria, Eritrea, Ethiopia, and numerous places around the world. This photo inspired acts of solidarity across the world, including from the Maritime Union of Australia QLD Branch, who offered to sponsor a Syrian family to travel to Australia and to pay their costs for a year.

This is not the only example of Australian unionists and unions showing solidarity with people moving across borders to safety. Here are some of the actions that have taken place in 2015:

## Education not detention: Teachers take industrial action in support of detained high school students

On 16 November 2015, teachers at Yeronga State High School - with the support of the Queensland Teachers Union (QTU) and the Yeronga SHS Parents & Citizens Association - took industrial action to protest the detention of one of their students, Mojgan Shamsalipoor. Staff held a one-hour stop work meeting, while students at the school staged a sit-in.

Mojgan Shamsalipoor was in her final year of studies at Yeronga State High School, when she was forcibly transferred from Brisbane to the Wickham Point detention centre in Darwin in 2015. She was one of 50 students at Yeronga High School that is currently seeking asylum.

Protests in support of people held in Australian detention centres are not limited to the QTU. The



**Teachers around the country protest our refugee policy on International Human Rights Day.**

NSW Teachers Federation recently voted unanimously to hold actions against detention on the 10th December 2015, to coincide with Human Rights Day.

## Campaigns Against the Outsourcing of Abuse

Transfield has provided welfare and garrison services on Nauru and Manus Island since 2013. Due to its involvement in providing detention services, the company has found itself the target of a number of campaigns focusing on investors and clients of the company. Unions have played an active part in these campaigns:

- Victorian Trades Hall Council, which sits on the board of the No Business in Abuse campaign, called a protest outside Transfield offices in September 2015. The protest was supported by the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union, Australian Manufacturing Workers’ Union, Australian Workers Union, Electrical Trades Union and Plumbing Trades Employees Union – all unions with significant memberships in Transfield worksites.

- The Newcastle branch of the National Tertiary Education Union passed a motion calling on their university to cease all business dealings with Transfield, after the university signed an \$88 million, 5-year contract with the company for infrastructure management and maintenance services on campus.
- Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation (ANMF) delegates passed a motion in favour of divestment from “organisations whose business interests directly or indirectly breach the human rights of those seeking asylum”.

## Doctors and Nurses against the Border Force Act and Against the Detention of Children

On the 1st July 2015, the Australian Border Force Act came into force. This introduced a new disclosure offence for nurses, midwives, and other health professionals and humanitarian workers, who publically reveal their experience at offshore and onshore detention centres. The penalty was up to two years’ jail.

Alongside the Australian Medical Association, the ANMF has actively protested this ‘gag’ law, arguing that it goes against their professional and ethical responsibilities to ensure duty of care for their

patients. In response to the legislation, ANMF Federal Secretary Lee Thomas said: “We’re horrified the government is using this new law to prevent the Australian public from knowing what really goes on inside detention centres by trying to silence nurses and other health professionals who work there.”

## Solidarity across borders

Global solidarity cannot exclude solidarity with people fleeing to safety. This solidarity cannot just focus on people when they arrive on our shores – it must also address the conditions that compel people to leave. As the Australian Council of Trade Unions policy on Asylum Seekers and Refugees states:

*The global challenge of refugees fleeing persecution will continue until human rights, including the ILO’s core labour standards, are recognised and enforced all over the world. Australia must become part of the solution and stop being part of the problem. Australian trade unions call for international action to achieve peace, democracy, sustainable development, freedom from repression and decent work for all to address the push factors which cause people to flee their home countries. The goal should be to minimise the need for people to flee their home country due to conflict.*

**Union Aid Abroad- APHEDA was founded in the Palestinian refugee camps of Lebanon and our first project was training nurses in these camps. Today we continue to support these refugees via the impressive work of the Palestinian Women’s Humanitarian Organisation. We also assist a broad program of work on the Thai Burma border for ethnic communities escaping civil war under a military government in Burma. The recent election of a civilian government in Burma gives hope for these communities for a new future.**

**“We’re horrified the government is using this new law to prevent the Australian public from knowing what really goes on inside detention centres by trying to silence nurses and other health professionals who work there.”**  
— Lee Thomas, ANMF Federal Secretary



# Organising and Fundraising 2015

## Members

Every month, over 3,100 members give donations of \$10 or more. This contribution is essential to provide an independent and stable financial base to plan our overseas projects for the long term.

Over the last 12 months, 648 people have become members of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA – and we will continue to grow throughout 2016.

## Support from Unions

Alongside the generous continued support of the ACTU, many unions expressed their commitment to international solidarity and global justice through contributions to Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA. A growing number of unions additionally sponsored specific overseas projects.

APHEDA representatives were invited to speak at a number of union conferences and events around Australia. Many union educators used the example of APHEDA's work to explore ideas of solidarity and internationalism with their course participants. Thanks also to the unions who promoted APHEDA's work in union journals and social media.

## Activist groups

Throughout 2015, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA activist groups in Perth, Canberra, Adelaide, Hobart, Melbourne, Brisbane and the NSW South Coast held a wide range of events to build APHEDA in their communities and raise money for overseas projects. Congratulations and thanks must go to our dedicated activists and members for their active support and generosity.

## Appeals and other fundraising events

In 2015, Australian union members and communities responded to several humanitarian disasters by donating generously to APHEDA emergency appeals. After the devastation wrought in Vanuatu by Cyclone Pam, more than \$100,000 was raised to support long-term reconstruction. Similarly, we received over \$200,000 dollars to support Nepal's reconstruction after the massive earthquake in April. We also linked up with UNI Global, a global union federation to raise over \$100,000 for Nepal, from UNI affiliates around the world.



**A packed house at the Sydney Gala Dinner listens to the keynote address from federal member for Fremantle, Melissa Parke MP.**

As ever, the Annual Raffle, Sydney Gala Dinner and festive season cards were very well supported by our members.

## The coming year

In 2016, Union-Aid-Abroad-APHEDA is looking to incorporate organising and campaigning more directly in our strategy. We have developed a new strategic plan and will launch the first of our campaigns early in the year. We will look to work more closely with our Australian union friends to link our international movement to local campaign priorities. We have set very ambitious membership growth goals and we look forward to reporting significant increases in our independent fundraising –

specifically through membership growth.

## Australian Government support

Grants from the Australian government's aid program totalled \$3,967,682

In 2014-15, we delivered Australian aid funded work for a food security project in the West Bank and Gaza, and an income-generating skills training project in the Solomon Islands. After the devastation created by the 2014 war on Gaza, we received additional Australian government funds to reconstruct our program work.

We thank the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for its ongoing support.

## 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 | United Voice.

**Our union affiliates:** Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation | Australasian Meat Industry Employees Union | Australian Licenced Aircraft Engineers Association | Australian Manufacturing Workers Union | Ambulance Employees Association of SA | Australian Salaried Medical Officers Federation | Australian Services Union | Australian Workers Union | Communications Electrical and Plumbing Union | Community & Public Sector Union | Construction Forestry and Mining Union | Finance Sector Union | Flight Attendants' Association | Health Services Union of Australia | Independent Education Union | Maritime Union of Australia | Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance | National Union of Workers | NSW Police Association | National Tertiary Education Union | Public Service Association of NSW | Professionals Australia | Rail, Tram & Bus Union | Textile, Clothing & Footwear Union | United Firefighters Union of Australia | Unions ACT | Unions NT | Unions Tasmania | Unions WA | United Voice | Unions NSW | SA Unions | Queensland Council of Unions | Victorian Trades Hall Council

**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.

**Our volunteers overseas:** Paul Inglis, Celeste Lustosa, Peter Stokes, Julie Stratford, Deb Nicholls, Di Butler, Gail Vest, Barbara Fitzgerald, Henry Zwartz, Jane Abbey, Kanchana Thornton, Albert Olmo, and Neil Poetschka.

**Our community education volunteers:** All who participated in our study tours, and the community activists and union trainers who assisted with education and projects.

**Our international union partners and donors:** ILO, SASK (Finland), UNI-APRO, Building and Woodworkers International, FES (Germany), ICTUR, LO-Sweden, Irish Aid, UnionAID NZ, UNI Global.

**Workers' Clubs:** Woden Tradies, Dixon Tradies, West Tradies, Sutherland Trade Union 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  
**Turner Freeman**  
Lawyers and  
Industry Fund Services.

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Lawyers Est. 1952

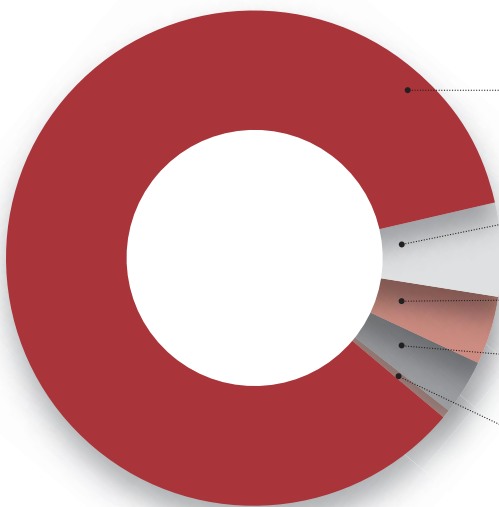
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**INDUSTRY  
FUND  
SERVICES**

# Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes for the Year Ended 30 June 2015

	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	222,975	493,279	5,249	200	(471,302)	(200)	—	250,201
Middle East	448,011	2,784,218	7,207	—	(3,184,515)	—	—	54,921
Thai–Burma Border	127,103	—	—	—	(126,712)	—	—	391
ANCP	90	1,568,282	8,069	469,497	(1,576,351)	(469,587)	—	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>671,076</b>	<b>4,845,779</b>	<b>20,525</b>	<b>469,697</b>	<b>(5,232,168)</b>	<b>(469,787)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>305,122</b>
<b>APHEDA Funded Projects</b>								
Other Projects	4,237,613	—	69,711	3,353,460	—	(3,894,926)	(144,664)	3,621,194
APHEDA General Account Accumulated funds Cash Adjusted	1,012,543	—	44,218	1,301,042	—	(1,331,773)	144,664	1,170,694
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,921,232</b>	<b>4,845,779</b>	<b>134,454</b>	<b>5,124,199</b>	<b>(5,232,168)</b>	<b>(5,696,486)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5,097,010</b>

## Income and expenditure

### APHEDA Expenditure 2014-15



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 2015, the Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Committee of Management was:

Angelo Gavrielatos President, Australian Education Union (Chairperson)  
 Ged Kearney President, ACTU (Vice-Chairperson)  
 Mark Lennon Secretary, Unions NSW (Hon. Treasurer)  
 Liz Hannan-Farrar Clinical Nurse Educator (ret.) (Hon. Secretary)  
 Andrew Dettmer National President, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union

Janet Giles Director of Campaigns, Australian Services Union SA and NT Branch  
 Lynne Ridge Marketing Officer, NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association  
 Sam Roberts General Branch Secretary, National Union of Workers  
 Marj O'Callaghan National Development Coordinator, United Voice

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 2015

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

REVENUE	2015 \$	2014 \$
Donations and gifts — monetary	2,629,939	2,925,289
Donations and gifts – non monetary Grants	459,663	476,043
AusAID	3,967,682	5,494,519
Other – Australian	—	—
Other – Overseas	635,672	394,528
Investment income — Interest received	134,454	110,643
Other Income	326,034	120,349
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>8,153,444</b>	<b>9,521,371</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Funds to International Programs	6,978,651	6,615,394
Program Support Costs	564,507	516,889
Community Education	25,648	42,332
Fundraising Costs		
Public	288,219	261,161
Government	18,242	16,729
Accountability & Administration in Australia	405,157	378,028
Non—monetary expenditure	459,663	476,043
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>8,740,087</b>	<b>8,306,576</b>
Excess of revenue over disbursements/(disbursements over revenue )	(586,643)	1,214,793
Other comprehensive income	—	—
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>(586,643)</b>	<b>1,214,793</b>
Funds available for future use at the beginning of the financial year	5,921,232	4,489,707
Funds available for future use at the end of the financial year	5,097,010	5,921,232

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 2015

ASSETS	2015	2014
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,097,010	5,921,232
Other Current Financial Assets	22,852	—
	5,119,862	5,921,232
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	8,393	3,205
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,128,255</b>	<b>5,924,437</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables — Current	573,170	788,886
Non—Current Liabilities		
Provisions	33,020	26,843
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>606,190</b>	<b>815,729</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>4,522,065</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated Funds	4,522,065	5,108,708
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>4,522,065</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>

At the end of the Financial Year, APHEDA Inc. had 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 2015

	2015	2014
Accumulated Funds		
<b>Balance at 30 June 2014</b>	<b>5,108,708</b>	<b>3,893,915</b>
Adjustment for changes in Equity	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	(586,643)	1,214,793
Amount transferred (to)/from reserves	0	0
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>4,522,065</b>	<b>5,108,708</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 2015 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 6th day of November, 2015

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of Australian People For Health, Education And Development Abroad.

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian People For Health, Education And Development Abroad (the "Entity"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the responsible entities' declaration.

### Responsibility for the financial report

The Responsible Entities of the Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, the Code of Conduct for the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). The Responsible Entities' responsibility also includes such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### 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. Those standards require us to 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 of the financial report that gives a true and fair view 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 Responsible Entities, 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 Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

### Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial report of Australian People For Health, Education And Development Abroad is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:
  - giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
  - complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013;
- the financial report agrees to the underlying records of Australian People For Health, Education And Development Abroad that have been maintained, in all material aspects, in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and its regulations, for the year ended 30 June 2015;
- monies received by Australian People For Health, Education And Development Abroad, as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year ended 30 June 2015, have been accounted for and applied, in all material aspects, in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and its regulations;
- the financial report, including the Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes, is in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct; and
- the financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009.

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD  
Chartered Accountants



James Winter  
Partner – Audit and Assurance  
Signed this 31st day of October 2015

# 20,000

# by 2025



## SUPPORT Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA to build our member base to 20,000 by 2025.

Members contributions help make us independent, sustainable, strong and effective.

### 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:**

- \$15    \$30    \$50    \$100   Other \$\_\_\_\_\_ (min.\$15)
- 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      Year of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Union member

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**