

ANNUAL REPORT





EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) report for 2022 paints a grim picture, with the pandemic, the climate crisis and conflict creating a terrible confluence of impacts. The progress to reduce poverty was set back by the pandemic, and in 2020 alone, 93 million people were pushed into poverty. Disturbingly, child marriage and child labour are on the rise.

nion Aid Abroad-APHEDA's international program continues focus on our strategic themes of: worker's rights, health and safety and trade union development; women's rights and feminist movement development; the rights of migrant worker and refugees and climate justice and Just Transition.

Our work in the area of climate justice has grown, working with unions in the Indo-Pacific region on projects involving transition from coal in communities dependent on coal mining, through to supporting unions organising in renewable energy industries and working with unions on climate justice education or gaining access to affordable solar energy. Unions need to focus urgently on these questions and it is helpful that some global unions made decisions in 2022 to prioritise climate change. For example, Building and Wood Worker's International at its global convention prioritised climate in its top three focus areas and the International Union of Food workers in the Asia-Pacific region elected climate as its number one priority. These decisions will help build urgent capacity with local level unions.

With the election of a new federal government in May 2022, the landscape for foreign affairs and international development changed overnight, demonstrating a positive role for Australia in our immediate region. We welcomed the Foreign Minister's immediate statements to recognise climate change with Pacific Island leaders, the announcements for a First Nations foreign policy and stronger engagement with South East Asia. Also welcome have been the announcements of increases to the international development budget, setting Australia on a track to start to increase our share, and an end to the decline we saw under the nine years of Coalition government where the aid program fell from 0.5% of GNI to under 0.2%.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has three immediate priority areas we would like to see the Labor federal government address: a new trade union building program within the aid budget, supporting unions in low-income countries in the Indo pacific region; a dedicated NGO program for Palestinian aid and an

increased emphasis on the banning of asbestos in South East Asia and in global negotiations to reform the Rotterdam Convention. We will continue our discussions on these matters in 2023.

The Union Aid Abroad staff team currently stand at 24 across six locations with two overseas volunteers, Deb Nicholls and Margie Sexton contributing to the Cambodia program in 2021-22. Some of our team have reached significant milestones, 21 years for our Country Manager in Timor Leste, Elisabeth Lino de Araujo, 18 years for our Vietnam Country Manager, Hang Hoang and 26 years for Ken Davis, our International Programs Manager. Congratulations to all our team for their work.

This year, several of our long term supporters and volunteers died and we want to acknowledge their contribution. Tom McDonald, union legend and elder well known across the Australian union movement who gave unwavering support to APHEDA, together with his partner Audrey McDonald. Di Singer and Colin Thumbaroo were anti apartheid activists and fundraisers for South Africa. Kate Maclear was a union educator who volunteered with APHEDA over many years in the Mekong region and Di Butler, a long term volunteer with APHEDA working with sex workers in Cambodia.

Thank you to our Board and Finance and Risk subcommittee members for their continued guidance and expertise. Nicole Calnan of the Australian Education Union and Jannette Armstrong of the United Workers Union joined the Board during the course of the year.

COVID-19 continued to impact the fundraising and education efforts of our activist groups in Perth, Adelaide, Canberra, Brisbane and Melbourne. However by the end of the financial year, many more unions and activist groups were initiating events once again and we expect 2023 will see a full return to these efforts.

Thank you to the Australian Council of Trade Unions, Australian unions and trades halls that provide APHEDA with financial and inkind support. We look forward to your continued support in 2023.

Kate Lee

ACFID CODE OF CONDUCT

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. This Code requires members to meet the high standards of governance, public accountability, and financial management.

DFAT ACCREDITATION

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is fully accredited with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is supported by the Australian Government.

CONTACT US

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has been a part of my life since I was a young delegate attending Clyde Cameron College in Wodonga in 1986. Jeanette McHugh and Cliff Dolan - both legends in the trade union movement, with Cliff former Australian Council of Trade Unions President - spoke about the role APHEDA was just beginning to take. I was, then as now, keen to be a part of it. APHEDA has survived and thrived in the changing environment of overseas aid and development.

t hasn't been without its challenges. As we saw off the worst of the pandemic, a new federal Government under PM Anthony Albanese was elected. The Australian aid community welcomed a more proactive view of international assistance and aid and one that values the role of civil society. The Morrison Government had a very restrictive view of Australia's place in the world; with an aid budget that declined from 0.5% of GNI to less than 0.2% from 2013-2021, and where aid was explicitly linked to the promotion of Australian business internationally and the purpose of aid for poverty alleviation was lost.

Our focus on our immediate region has benefited. We have revitalized and strengthened our connection with organisations in the Pacific. APHEDA will work with Pacific Island unions, the ACTU and the New Zealand union movement to assist in the reformed Pacific Islands Council of Trade Unions and its affiliate unions and their member unions. We have also benefited from the hands-on involvement of the Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Hon. Pat Conroy, who did us the honour of addressing our annual dinner.

The situation in Myanmar remains disastrous. Our programs are hamstrung by not being able to operate in-country; there remain challenges for all organisations trying to support the Myanmar people. Nevertheless, we continue to assist in that country as we are able.

As I reported to the 2021 AGM, the very brave comrades of the Hong Kong Council of Trade Unions decided to disband, as a safety measure for those who were facing jail and worse. There has been no improvement in the situation there. In the Philippines, the repression and "red-tagging" of trade unionists has been accentuated by the election of the Marcos Government. We hope that the forthcoming ILO delegation will provide some focus for the restoration of labour rights in that country.

With the meeting of the International Trade Union Confederation in Melbourne in November, APHEDA was able to make new connections with international unions and union aid organisations. The respect in which APHEDA is held internationally was on display, and many more international unions now know of APHEDA's exemplary role, both in our own region and the Middle East.

The asbestos campaign — Not Here, Not Anywhere — has continued. APHEDA has, along with the ACTU, been responsible for the creation of and support of a "country-led resolution" for the listing of chrysotile asbestos by the Rotterdam Convention. We are hopeful that this proposition for listing, supported by Australia, Switzerland and Mali, will be the game-changer we so desperately need. APHEDA has been key to this proposal; we shall see if the meeting in Geneva in May 2023 acts to finally list it. It is with some joy that we can announce the active support of the Australian Government for the resolution.

APHEDA continues to be in a sound financial position. Kate and her team run a tight ship, and the financial probity of the organisation is exceptional.

On behalf of the Board, I wish all our donors, members, and staff a safe and healthy 2023 and I look forward to continuing to work for global solidarity with all of you.

Andrew Dettmer

AT JUNE 2022, THE UNION AID ABROAD-APHEDA BOARD

Andrew Dettmer Chairperson
Michele O'Neil Vice-Chairperson
Mark Lennon Hon. Treasurer
Jannette Armstong Board member
Michelle Robertson Board member
Danae Bosler Board member
Michael Wright Board member
Lori-Anne Sharp Board member

Nicole Calnan Board member **Betty Hounslow** Appointed Expert **Kate Lee** is the Executive Officer

FINANCE AND RISK SUB-COMMITTEE

Mark Lennon Treasurer Kate Lee Executive Officer Lois Rahayu Chief Financial Officer The Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Board received no fees, salaries, allowances or compensation. 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 Board at office@apheda.org.au

WHO WE ARE

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 in times of crisis.

OUR VALUES

SOLIDARITY

Our approach is rooted in solidarity — solidarity that builds connections between people and across borders, as key to building organised movements for equality, development and justice. Our on-the-ground assistance aims to address the causes of injustice and inequality, not the symptoms.

EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

We challenge the dominant myths of development aid — that charity and depoliticised humanitarian assistance can somehow be adequate in addressing the root causes of poverty and injustice. Conservative or autocratic governments and corporations create a world in their own image, where the wealth and power of the global 'one percent', just 78 million people, grows hand-over-fist. We place the demands of the 99% in the centre of our work.

MOVEMENT-BUILDING

We help build democratic civil society, social justice movements, and representative organisations of workers, women, farmers, young people, people with disabilities, refugees, and others - so they can define and fight for their rights and against power structures that seek to oppress them. Organised movements of people make change possible, by exerting political pressure for just solutions.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We aim to be accountable to the local organisations we work with internationally and the people they serve, to our own members, to the Australian union movement and to government donors. We are fully accountable for the funds we receive. We seek the most effective and strategic way to deploy funding — by addressing causes not symptoms — and involve partner organisations in reviewing programs while working for continual improvement.

PARTNERSHIP

Working in partnership is the cornerstone of our approach. We aim for joint action with local partner organisations directed at meeting practical needs with movements on the ground — by supporting the building blocks that enable movements to emerge or become stronger, such as organisation, campaign capacity, education, research, and skills development.

Unionists joined with APHEDA outside the Ukrainian embassy in Sydney as part of an international day of action called by the ITUC.



POVERTY ALLEVIATION FOCUS FOR A NEW AUSTRALIAN AID POLICY

With a new government, the purpose of the Australian international aid program shifts from Australian national business interests to addressing poverty, inequality, injustice and the climate crisis. The government is increasing the aid budget which is very welcome. The aid policy, which is under review, should be based on human rights, and international conventions on civil and political, social, workers', women's indigenous, and the rights of children and people with disabilities. The new policy will refocus on feminist and First Nations frameworks for foreign policy.

The aid strategy must respond to a rapidly changing global and regional context, with a triple crisis, of climate, economy and geopolitics. This leads to increased armed conflict, inequalities, loss of decent work, threats to food, water and health, rising authoritarianism, intensified political repression, and greater refugee and labour migration flows.

The aid program must urgently address the climate crisis with sustainable socio-economic development and a strategy for Just Transition, reversing destruction of ecology and biodiversity, ensuring public or cooperative control of renewable energy production and distribution, ensuring water and food sovereignty, and mitigating climate-exacerbated disasters and health emergencies.

The focus will be on Pacific island nations and income-poor countries in South East Asia, but Australia is also an Indian Ocean nation, with interests in South and West Asia, and southern Africa. The aid program should represent the interests of Australian civil society and diaspora communities of which South Asia now dominates, according to the latest Census.

The new government will want to restore capacities to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and restore mechanisms of accountability, evaluation, transparency and broad consultations. Appropriately, the government is increasing support for multilateral and UN agencies. Much of the aid program has been contracted in a non-transparent way to a small number of high profit consultancy companies, so a value-for-money review is needed.

A key task is to centre the aid program on accountable Australian NGOs and civil society organisations, to work in genuine partnerships with democratic civil society organisations in low-income countries and communities facing injustice. Building the strengths of workplace and community organisations, and enabling movements for social and climate justice, is central to an effective international development program.

Most countries similar to Australia, make a specific allocation in their international aid program for partnerships to build workers organisations and trade unions and a new Australian aid policy should also do this.

The Australian aid program since the 1980s has made some great contributions, though Australian NGOs, to helping build the capacities of movements, unions and communities to win human rights and fight injustice and poverty in the Pacific, Asia and southern Africa. A key focus of the new aid program can be resourcing, on the basis of solidarity, the peopleto-people linkages between Australian civil society and democratic organisations and movements in focal countries, to build capacities in workers' rights, workers' health, women's rights, farmers and climate justice struggles.

Helping to build the trade unions and organisations of workers, farmers and women, plays a double role in development. Firstly, unions struggle against poverty and lift the living standards of the working majority in the population, through fights for wages, health, social protection, and price controls. Second, democratic space has been under attack by repressive regimes across the world, particularly in the last decade. In history and in the present, across the world, the driving force in struggles to win or defend democracy has been the workers' and the women's movements. The largest democratic organisations internationally, and indeed in most countries is the trade union movement.



Domestic workers in Timor Leste are collectively organising for better working conditions, including minimum wages and paid leave.

STRATEGIC THEME ONE DEFENDING WORKERS' RIGHTS AND SAFETY AT WORK

At the core of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's purpose is the fight for workers' rights and safe workplaces. By working with partner unions across our region, we are strengthening the collective power of workers in the Global South to defend good jobs, fair conditions, and safe workplaces.

GROWING A STRONG FARMERS MOVEMENT IN TIMOR LESTE

Food security is an ongoing challenge in Timor-Leste. About 80% of the population are subsistence farmers, but production is not keeping pace with population growth. Political instabilities, catastrophic flooding and COVID-19 have exacerbated these problems.

Since 2016, APHEDA has worked with three local organisations — Instituto Edukasaun Popular (IEP), Kdadalak Sulimutuk Institute (KSI) and Uniaun Agrikultor Ermera (UNAER) — to build and strengthen a sovereign agricultural movement. Mobilising thousands of farmers into hundreds of cooperative 'committee bases' across 9 municipalities, they receive materials and training in agroecology and integrated farming, climate change adaptation and business development to increase sustainable production. Workshops in unionism, popular economy, leadership and social change help them to collectively find answers to the challenges they face and advocate for their needs.

In January, farmers in Manufahi established Timor-Leste's fourth municipal-level farmers union - the first to be led by a woman.



A famers cooperative in Timor Leste.



A forum organised by Cambodian unions to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls.

WOMEN TO THE FRONT IN CAMBODIA

The Women Workers Rights project is mobilising for gender equality among workers in Cambodia.

In partnership with three Cambodian unions, as well as the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the project is helping unions improve gender and power relations within the union's own organisational structures and supporting them to strengthen representation of their women members.

During 2021-2022, the project supported organisational gender, power and needs assessments of women union members. This approach to tackling wide-ranging discrimination against Cambodian women in the world of work is already showing results.

Unions have increased staff awareness about gender and power and made significant amendments to organisational policies and procedures. These include establishing women's committees, setting quotas for women in leadership and allocating organisational funds to gender equality plans. As a result of the needs assessment, the unions have initiated a survey of barriers to women's access to social protection to be conducted by the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

STRATEGIC THEME TWO CLIMATE JUSTICE, ENERGY DEMOCRACY, AND A JUST TRANSITION

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is working with trade unions and labour organisations in Indonesia, India, the Philippines, Vietnam and Nepal for climate justice and just transition plans. The goals include more equitable climate strategy to ensure decent work and sustainable development.

WOMEN LEARNING SKILLS TO REPAIR SOLAR PUMPS

In India, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA in partnership with Mondiaal FNV, supported the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) to provide skills to establish, repair and maintain solar power plants which are used for pumping water for agriculture, pumping brine for salt production and lighting in houses. More than 800 women in Anand and Surendra Nagar districts in Gujarat state were assisted to develop the skills to repair and maintain the solar energy pumps which have replaced those with diesel.

SEWA members are impacted by the global climate and financial crisis leading to increased costs of firewood, electricity, diesel and kerosene. SEWA members are spending up to 40% of their time and up to 25% of their income accessing energy. SEWA found that clean energy use led to improved health of women by removing the carbon fumes from diesel pumps and kerosene for light. It also decreased the domestic burden for SEWA members by reducing the need to gather firewood.



SEWA trains women leaders to switch from polluting energy sources to solar energy.

CLIMATE CRISIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE DECENT WORK

The Philippines has been impacted by storms, cyclones, flood and drought. The trade union movement in the Philippines is demanding workers' voices be heard in climate change solutions.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is working with SENTRO (Sentro ng mga Nagkakaisa at Progresibong Manggawa) and CTUHR (Centre for Trade Union and Human Rights) to deepen the understanding of workers and union leaders on the impact of climate change on working people. Our partner organisations have developed worker's education modules on climate change impacts. The targeted sectors include garment textile, fisher folk, urban poor, transportation, agriculture and mining workers from Cebu, Isabela, and metro Manila.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA will continue to work with SENTRO and CTUHR to demonstrate how the climate crisis is an opportunity to secure decent work, trade union rights and social protection for workers in the Philippines.



In celebration of Earth Day, workers came together to call for decent work in the face of the climate crisis.

STRATEGIC THEME THREE DEFENDING THE RIGHTS OF MIGRANT WORKERS AND REFUGEES

Across the globe, an unprecedented number of people are seeking protection from war and oppression. Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is working with partner organisations to support migrant workers and refugees with the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to defend their rights.



Training was provided to strengthen the capacity of over 500 KWO leaders.

SUPPORTING KAREN WOMEN LEADERS

The Karen Women's Organisation (KWO) is a democratic organisation with over 70,000 members across Karen State, Myanmar and in refugee camps on the Thai-Myanmar Border.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is working with KWO to support their organisational capacity by building the skills and knowledge of KWO leaders, who are community managers and essential service providers in their communities. KWO believes that empowering women will reduce human rights abuses and encourage an end to discrimination against women, and that the whole community is better off when women play an equal role in decision-making.

Over the past year, training was provided to strengthen the capacity of over 500 KWO leaders, and awareness raising sessions were held for 2,713 community members. Training covered topics including the KWO constitution and policies, finance management, report writing, feminist organisations, women's rights, protection and leadership, gender-based violence, child rights and indigenous peoples' rights.



Palestinian women at a legal rights workshop.

PALESTINIAN REFUGEE WOMEN ORGANISE

The Women's Humanitarian Organization in Lebanon was built by Palestinian refugees, and has implemented projects with Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA since 1984. The situation in Lebanon has been catastrophic since late 2019, with shortages of work, currency, fuel, food, electricity, water, and medicines. To enable the women in the camps to gain employment, and provide early childhood education for disadvantaged children, WHO runs an early childhood education centre. WHO also provides education for children with disabilities and remedial classes for primary school children with learning difficulties. WHO campaigns for women's, children's, people with disabilities and refugee rights.

STRATEGIC THEME FOUR WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY ACROSS BORDERS

Critical to global justice is supporting women's movements and women leaders, advocates, and campaigners to achieve equality and respect in their workplaces and communities. Here's a snapshot of how Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is working to strengthen women's power.

ORGANISING FOR FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA work in partnership with the Trust For Community Outreach and Education (TCOE) in South Africa, which is a southern African hub for the food sovereignty movement and for the global small farmers' peasants movement. TCOE comes from organising done by Steve Biko during Apartheid, and identifies as a feminist and agro-ecology organisation, campaigning for equitable access to land, water, food, jobs and knowledge. TCOE works to organise and build capacities of the southern Africa Rural Women's Assembly, six local unions of small farmers and fisherfolk, the union of farm workers, and Inyanda, the National Land Movement.



TCOE organises rural women in Eastern Cape, South Africa.

CHANGING ATTITUDES ABOUT WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

In Vietnam, women are discouraged from holding public office because social stereotypes about women limit their options in life and because the election system favours male candidates.

The Gender in Political Decision-Making project is supported by Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA and Irish Aid and is wholly designed and implemented through a partnership of Provincial Women's Unions in three of Vietnam's northerncentral provinces.

A recent, independent evaluation of the project found that the project contributes to increased capacity, building knowledge, skills and confidence for women standing for election. The evaluation also concluded that the project helps to change community attitudes and stereotypes about women in leadership. It also improves the quality of representation of women by elected officials.

The project's success has seen it renewed for another phase. Newly elected officials will be supported and communities will be encouraged to nominate more women as candidates for the next election.



Women representatives talk at a workshop to help them develop their leadership skills.

15 COUNTRIES 49 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

CAMBODIA

- Association to Support Vulnerable Women (ASVW-CPU)
- Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training (MoLVT)
- Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation of Cambodia (BWTUC)
- Independent Democracy of Informal Economy Association (IDEA)
- . Ministry of Women's Affairs, Cambodia
- Cambodian Food and Service Workers' Federation (CFSWF)

INDONESIA

- Local Initiative Occupational Health and Safety Network (LION)
- Indonesian Trade Union Confederation (KSPI)
- Confederation of Indonesian Prosperity Trade Union (KSBSI)
- PLN Indonesia

INDIA

• Self Employed Women Association (SEWA)

LAOS

- Lao Federation of Trade Unions (LFTU)
- Department of Hygiene and Health Promotion, Ministry of Health (DHHP, MOH)
- LaoBAN

LEBANOI

 Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organisation (WHO)

MYANMAR

- Action Labour Rights (ALR)
- Myanmar Industry Crafts Services Trade Union Federation (MICS-TUSF) NEPAL

NEPAI

- Centre for Labour and Social Studies (CLASS)
- Joint Trade Union Coordination Centre (JTUCC)
- Patan Academy of Health Sciences (PAHS)

PALESTINE

- MA'AN Development Center
- The Palestinian Businesswomen's Association ASALA
- Institute for Community Partnership of Bethlehem University (ICP)

THE PHILIPPINES

- Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU)
- Centre for Trade Unions and Human Rights (CTUHR)
- Sentro ng Nagkakaisa at Progresibong Manggagawa (SENTRO)
- Positive Action Foundation Philippines Inc. (PAFPI)

SAMOA

• Samoa First Union (SFU)

OUTH AFRICA

- Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE)
- Workers World Media Productions (WWMP)

THAI-MYANMAR BORDER

- Karen Women's Organisation (KWO)
- Migrant Assistance Program (MAP) Foundation
- School for Shan State Nationalities Youth (SSSNY)
- Mae Tao Clinic (MTC)

TIMOR LESTE

- Working Women's Centre of Timor Leste (WWCTL)
- Agriculture Union Ermera (UNAER)
- Institute of Popular Education (IEP)
- Kdadalak Sulimutuk Institute (KSI)
- General Workers Union (SJTTL)

VIETNAM

- Bac Kan Women's Union
- Phu Yen Women's Union
- 8 March Centre Hai Duong
- Hai Duong Women's Union
- Nghe An Federation of Labour
 NGO Information Centre (NGOIC)
- Vietnam Institute for Resources Environment and Community Development (IRECO)
- Vietnam Occupational Health and Safety Association (VOSHA)
- Justice Environment and Health Network (JEH)
- Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL)

ZIMBABW

• Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU)

SOLIDARITY SPONSORED BY:









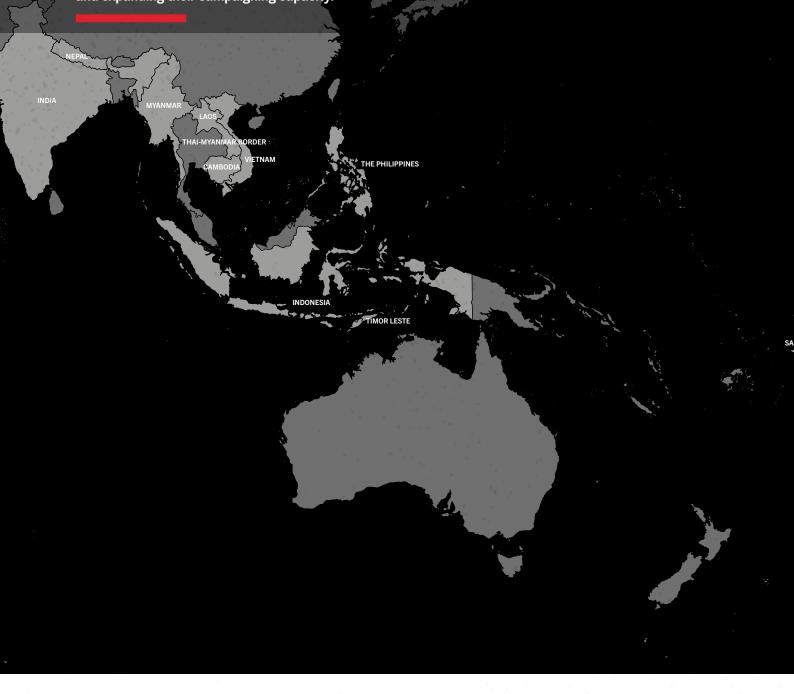
LEBANON





SOLIDARITY IN ACTION: WHERE WE WORK

This year, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA worked with over forty partner unions and community organisations in fifteen locations across South Asia, Southeast Asia, the Pacific, the Middle East, and Southern Africa. This practical solidarity strengthens the collective power of movements, communities, and workplaces to campaign for equality and justice through developing their organising skills, building their leadership skills, and expanding their campaigning capacity.













THE CAMPAIGN TO BAN ASBESTOS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

The campaign to ban asbestos across Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Indonesia has been underway since 2017. It seeks to raise awareness of exposure to asbestos, its health impacts and the risk to workers and consumers. It also seeks to influence policymakers who have the power to stop its trade and use. The project collaborates with regional and global ban campaigns. The goal is to contribute to banning asbestos in South-East Asia and reducing future asbestos-related diseases. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to impact the region, delaying some planned activities in the last 12 months.

CAMBODIA

There was a resumption of in-person awareness-raising sessions organised by the Building & Woodworkers Trade Union Confederation for construction workers in Phnom Penh, Siem Reap and Kampot. Online digital campaigning using social media channels focused on short messages about asbestos dangers in Cambodia. An employer survey of around 50 companies and over 100 engineers on knowledge and use of asbestos, along with asbestos samples prepared for testing by the Ministry of Commerce, collected valuable data.

LAOS

A journalist training was held in November 2021 that significantly improved the knowledge and awareness of the participants. This is because they were quite inexperienced and did not know about the hazards of asbestos. A new range of asbestos awareness posters and leaflets was also produced.



LION mobilised victims of asbestos disease in Java to commemorate International Workers Memorial Day.



Women campaigning against asbestos at a rally on May Day.

VIETNAM

It was a difficult year for the campaign in Vietnam. Bureaucratic delays in the approval processes for partner organisations meant some projects were unable to proceed. The APHEDA country office continued to explore alternative paths to undertake work at the provincial level, with likely success in adjusting the awareness-raising project funded under MISEREOR (the German Catholic Bishops' Organisation for Development Cooperation). The Ministry of Construction continued to push for the continued use of asbestos in Vietnam. This is likely to be adopted by the central government, despite earlier commitments to ban asbestos in 2023.

INDONESIA

The campaign continued to support both COVID-19 and asbestos activities. Our partner organisation Local Initiative for OSH Network — Indonesia (LION organised workers and residents in and around one of the big asbestos roof sheet factories. Workers in this company did not have adequate information about asbestos (raw chrysotile) nor were they aware of the diseases caused by asbestos. Roof sheet was sample tested and LION followed up by conducting health checks for workers and residents. LION also held several occupational safety and health training for workers, unions and the public, as well as paralegal training for unionists. LION mobilised victims and workers to commemorate International Workers Memorial Day at events in Central Java.

SE ASIA ASBESTOS DELEGATION IN AUSTRALIA — MAY 14-22

Eleven delegates from Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Indonesia attended the 2022 Asbestos Safety and Management Conference held in the Blue Mountains. They were warmly welcomed by the asbestos safety and eradication community in Australia. They joined 340 participants including asbestos researchers, unions, victim's groups, regulators and government agencies, local councils

and removal companies to share experiences, learn about managing Australia's terrible asbestos legacy, and to provide updates on the situation in Southeast Asia. The Cambodian delegation travelled to Melbourne and held an information session for members of parliament while delegates from Indonesia visited health clinics, victim's groups and research institutions in Perth, hosted by Unions WA.



ASEA delegate Sok Kin, president of the Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation of Cambodia, met with trained asbestos removalists working on a job in Melbourne. The removalists are fellow Cambodians, and shared their experiences working at a unionised worksite where safety is a priority. They explained how asbestos is identified and removed and measures are taken to ensure worker safety during the whole process, including a meeting with the hygienist from the onsite testing lab.

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION

The listing of chrysotile asbestos was rejected during the Rotterdam Convention COP10 (Conference of the Parties) in Geneva. The formal decision to defer the issue to the next COP (which is scheduled for the first half of May 2023) was taken.

The focus leading up to the COP11 in March 2023 has been securing members support for an amendment to the convention's text replacing consensus voting for three-quarter majority voting in line with most other international instruments. The proposed amendment will be sponsored by Switzerland, Australia and Mali (with other countries to join) and was sent to all member countries in October, 2022.



APHEDA nominated representatives Mr. Sriyono and Mr. Sudrajat speaking during the plenary at the Conference of the Parties in May 2021 with ACTU Assistant Secretary, Liam O'Brien.

Thank you to all our donors and contributors including Solidarity Centre, MISEREOR, IBAS (International Ban Asbestos Secretariat) Solidar Suisse and AMRC (Asia Monitor Resource Centre). Australian unions contributed to the asbestos campaign in 2020-21 financially and in-kind. We thank them — Maritime Union of Australia, United Workers Union, Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, NSW Nurses and Midwives Association, Australian Education Union, Communications, Electrical and Plumbing Union.

ADVOCATING FOR INTERNATONALISM WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA not only helps builds workers' power abroad, but it also builds solidarity at home. By bringing international speakers to Australia on advocacy tours, by organising study tours abroad, and by taking part in actions in solidarity with international struggles for justice, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA helps build bridges between people who share common challenges and common interests.



Sok Kin (front, left) Veasna Noun (front, right) with Danae Bosler, APHEDA Board member and Chief of Staff at Victoria Trades Hall Council and APHEDA staff.

ASBESTOS TOUR DELEGATION

As international travel resumed, so too did visits to Australia by APHEDA's partner organisations. In May, Sok Kin, President of the Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation in Cambodia and Veasna Noun, APHEDA Cambodian Country Manager visited Australia for the Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency conference in NSW.

The Cambodian delegation also visited Melbourne and met unionists at Victorian Trades Hall and visited a CFMEU worksite, the Royal Eye & Ears hospital which is undergoing a multimillion-dollar asbestos removal project.

They also spoke at an event for parliamentarians and APHEDA supporters at Victorian Parliament, hosted by Cambodian Australian, Meng Heang Tak MP. They also attended a reception at the Victorian branch of the CFMEU Construction & General.



Deborah Cheetham and Linda Barcan at Victorian Trades Hall.

VICTORIAN TRADES HALL CONCERT FUNDRAISER

It's not well-known that symphony orchestra musicians have amongst the highest rates of union membership of any profession in Australia.

Orchestra Victoria offered to hold a concert for fellow unionists at the Victorian Trades Hall's newly renovated

Solidarity Hall, first scheduled for February then eventually held in August, with proceeds donated to APHEDA. Yorta Yorta soprano Deborah Cheetham and mezzo sopranos Linda Barcan and Dimity Shepperd performed some of the world's best-loved arias.

APHEDA's Executive Officer Kate Lee gave an address on our movement's history of internationalism and \$3000 was raised on the door.



President of Unions ACT, Maddy Northam joined unionists in solidarity with Ukraine at the Ukrainian embassy in Canberra.

UKRAINE SOLIDARITY

The International Trade Union Federation (ITUC) called a global day of action with Ukraine on March 15. In Australia, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA joined with unionists to gather outside the Ukrainian consulate in Sydney and the Ukrainian embassy in Canberra. Head of Mission at the Ukrainian embassy in Canberra, Volodmyr Shalkivsky and Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Sydney, Jerry Duma warmly received those gathered. At the Sydney rally, Executive Officer of Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Kate Lee said:

"All of us in Australia across the union movement and all social movements must commit to work together in opposition to this war, in support of peace and against the nuclear arms race."



ALL OF US IN AUSTRALIA ACROSS THE UNION MOVEMENT AND ALL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS MUST COMMIT TO WORK TOGETHER IN OPPOSITION TO THIS WAR, IN SUPPORT OF PEACE AND AGAINST THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE."

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY WORKPLACE AND CONFERENCE VISITS

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's lead organiser Lachlan Batchelor coordinates APHEDA's work around Australia speaking with unions, delegate meetings and conferences about APHEDA's international work. With travel more possible, these requests are steadily increasing. In March, he participated in the Young Worker's conference in Brisbane, which was organised by the Queensland Young Workers Hub and brought together attendees from a number of unions. Later that month, Lachlan visited Adelaide where he met with Unions SA, as well as members of Adelaide's APHEDA Activist Groups to learn more about their history and find ways to support them to continue their legacy.



APHEDA organiser Lachlan Batchelor at the United Workers Union office in Adelaide.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

MYANMAR CAMPAIGN NETWORK

The Myanmar Campaign Network is an Australian national coalition formed following the 2021 coup in Myanmar, comprising human rights organisations, international aid NGOs, Myanmar diaspora organisations, trade unions and faith-based organisations.

Since the coup in 2021, Myanmar Campaign Network (MCN) has campaigned for the introduction of targeted sanctions against senior military leaders and military-owned entities, the recognition of the legitimate government, the National Unity Government (NUG), and the reinstatement of a civilian government in Myanmar.



Senator David Fawcett, Mr. Peter Khalil MP, and Senator Janet Rice joined human rights lawyer Chris Sidoti for the MCN Australian Election Forum: Foreign Policy on Myanmar

FEDERAL ELECTION FORUM

MCN held a public webinar event prior to the 2022 Federal Election, to explore the Foreign Affairs priorities of the three major parties regarding Myanmar.

The event was a deep-dive into Myanmar issues. The panelists commented on targeted sanctions issued by other democratic nations, the United States, the United Kingdom, and the European Union.

The panel discussed the importance of recognition and engagement with the legitimate government, the National Unity Government, and discussed the opportunities for Australia to support the 12-step road map to federal democracy proposed by the National Unity Government. There were important questions asked on cross-border humanitarian assistance, an increased humanitarian intake from Myanmar and the role of ASEAN, given the failure of the Five Point Consensus.

The webinar was moderated by international human rights lawyer and advocate Chris Sidoti. The forum included Senator the Honourable David Fawcett (Liberal/National Party), Mr. Peter Khalil MP (Australian Labor Party), and Senator Janet Rice (Australian Greens).

HOW DO THE MAJOR AUSTRALIAN PARTIES SCORE ON MYANMAR ISSUES?



Unclear, or did not respond to this question

Does not support, or has not implemented since the February 2021 coup

The MCN scorecard helped voters made an informed decision in the 2022 federal election.

esponses to survey and public re

myanmarcampaignnetwork.org

ork, Level 1, 365 Sussex St, Sydney

FEDERAL ELECTION SCORECARD

In the lead-up to the 2022 Australian federal election, the Myanmar Campaign Network (MCN) wrote to all MPs and Senators asking them where they stand on three key Myanmar issues. Replies were received from individual MPs and senators, and the three major political parties; Australia Labor Party, Liberal/National Party and Australian Greens.

MCN asked the parties' stance on:

- Supporting imposing sanctions on Myanmar's junta and their economic interests
- Supporting the Australian Government assisting and engaging with the NUG as the legitimate representatives of the people of Myanmar
- Supporting the 47th Australian Parliament passing a motion of support acknowledging the CRPH and NUG as the legitimate representatives of the people of Myanmar.

From these responses MCN developed an election scorecard to assist voters in making an informed choice when casting their vote in the Australian federal election. The scorecard was published on 17 May on the MCN website and social media. The scorecard was translated into five Myanmar languages - two different Chin languages, Karen language, Kachin language and Burmese.



Guests attending the Terri Daktyl dinner in Adelaide in May 2022.

UNION AID ABROAD-APHEDA ACTIVIST GROUPS

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has activist groups in VIC, QLD, SA, ACT and WA. This network of state activist groups enables members and supporters to meet and share resources locally as they support Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's overseas projects and campaigns.

Activists also play a very important role in fundraising, distributing information, initiating new activities and providing a local face for Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA in their unions and communities.

TERRI DAKTYL DINNER

In May, the South Australia APHEDA activists group once again held their annual Terri Daktyl memorial dinner which raises funds for APHEDA's Vietnam projects. This year's dinner was a sell-out, raising a record \$7000 and continuing Terri's legacy for the 13th year.

APHEDA Lead Organiser Lachlan Batchelor updated the crowd on current projects and strategic priorities while the audience bid on auction items that included local and international political memorabilia.

The longevity of this tradition is a testament to the activist group's dedication and organising skills. The money raised from the annual dinners in past years has helped build a number of community spaces that support people living wwith HIV in Vietnam. Today the funds raised for Vietnam will support work in women's representation in political decision-making.

UNIONS WA FUNDRAISING FOR LION

The Western Australian union movement, led by UnionsWA and the SIGTUR-affiliated unions, undertook an ambitious fundraising target for APHEDA partner Local Initiative for OSH Network (LION). WA is the only state-based trades and labour council that has its own international committee, which is an important reason for the local movement's ongoing commitment to internationalism.

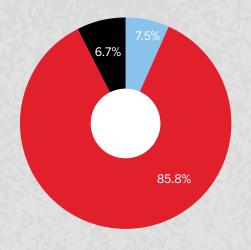
This year, a program of in-person and online events was held to educate local unionists on the initiative. This was complemented by a range of fundraising activities including a raffle, sales of specially designed union merchandise, a dedicated APHEDA membership stream and block grants from unions, raising \$13,500 in 2021-22.



A visit to the Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia by the Indonesian Ban-Asbestos Network delegation while in Perth

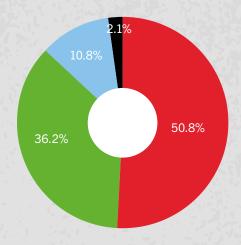
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

EXPENDITURE 2021-22



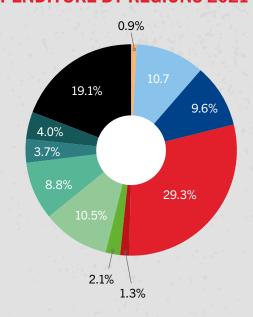
Programs (Includes Development Education)	85.8%	4,595,195
Fundraising	6.7%	359,288
Operating Expenses	7.5%	400,582
Total Expenditure		5,355,065

SOURCES OF INCOME 2021-22



Community Support	50.8%	2,789,219
Government Funds	36.2%	1,988,208
Other Grants	10.8%	592,483
Other Income	2.1%	115,981
Total Income		5,485,891

EXPENDITURE BY REGIONS 2021-22



	5 4	transfer (
Pacific	0.9%	31,921.00
Thai Burma Border and Myanmar	10.7%	400,383.00
Cambodia	9.6%	360,791.00
Middle East	29.3%	1,098,675.00
Phillipines	1.3%	50,000.00
Africa	2.1%	80,000.00
Vietnam	10.5%	394,155.00
Timor Leste	8.8%	330,715.00
Laos	3.7%	138,025.00
Other	4.0%	151,157.00
Asbestos	19.1%	715,122.00
		3,750,944.00

APHEDA LTD. FINANCIAL REPORT, JUNE 2022

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE

REVENUE	2022\$	2021 \$
Revenue from continuing operations	5,484,162	6,634,311
Interest and investment income	1,729	178,684
Total Revenue	5,485,891	6,812,995
DISBURSEMENTS		
Funds to International Programs	3,750,944	4,089,754
Program Support Costs	375,985	518,183
Community Education	172,226	232,448
Fundraising Costs		
Public	337,061	425,738
Government	22,227	21,180
Accountability & Administration in Australia	132,553	164,668
Non-monetary expenditure	296,040	116,710
Total Disbursements	5,355,065	5,568,681
Excess of revenue over disbursements/ (disbursements over revenue)	130,826	1,244,314
Other comprehensive income		A 17 1 1 1
Total comprehensive income for the year	130,826	1,244,314
Funds available for future use at the beginning of the financial year	1,808,413	1,702,787
Funds available for future use at the end of the financial year	1,469,862	1,808,413

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

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022			
ASSETS	2022\$	2021\$	
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,469,862	1,808,413	
Other Current Financial Assets	150,000	5,829	
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,619,862	1,814,242	
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment		8,665	
Financial Assets	3,364,422	3,632,452	
Right of use assets	231,115	267,133	
TOTAL ASSETS	5,215,399	5,722,492	
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables - Current	584,688	1,143,816	
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	7,906	54,223	
Lease liabilities	214,806	247,280	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	807,400	1,445,319	
NET ASSETS	4,407,999	4,277,173	
EQUITY			
Accumulated Funds	4,407,999	4,277,173	
TOTAL EQUITY	4,407,999	4,277,173	

At the end of the Financial Year, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA had no Assets held for Sale, no Inventories, no Investment Properties, and no Intangibles. Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, also had no Borrowings, no Current Tax Liabilities and no

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED

	2022 \$	2021 \$
	Accumulate	ed Funds
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2021	4,277,173	3,032,859
Adjustment for changes in Equity	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	130,826	1,244,314
Amount transferred (to)/from reserves		
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2022	4,407,999	4,277,173
	! !	

A full set of our audited accounts are available for inspection at our Sydney Office.

DECLARATION BY RESPONSIBLE ENTITIES

In the opinion of the Committee (Responsible Entities) of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited:

- The financial statements and notes of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited are in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:
- a. Giving a true and fair view of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- b. Complying with Australian Accounting Standards-Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013; and
- There are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due an payable.

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

Andrew Dettmer, Chairperson

Signed in Sydney this 25th day of November, 2022

Mark Lennon, Hon, Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE FOR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT ABROAD

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited (the "Registered Entity"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the Responsible Entities' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012,

1. giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;

 $2. complying with Australian \ Accounting \ Standards - Simplified \ Disclosures \ and \ the \ Australian \ Charities \ and \ Not-for-profits \ Commission \ Regulation \ 2013; \ and$

3. the 2022 financial report is in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Registered Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code

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

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Declaration in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021 (NSW). Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Responsible Entities for the financial report

The Responsible Entities of the Registered Entity are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards — Simplified Disclosures, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the ACFID Code of Conduct, and the Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2021 (NSW), and for such internal control as the Responsible Entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Responsible Entities are responsible for assessing the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Responsible Entities either intend to liquidate the Registered Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Registered Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or eror, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or eror and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Registered Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Responsible Entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Responsible Entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and Conclude on the appropriateness of the Responsible Entities' use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Registered Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Registered Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

GRANT THORNTON AUDIT PTY LTD Chartered Accountants

Signed this 25th day of November 2022

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

Do Global Justice. The Union Way.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SOLIDARITY

OUR UNION AFFILIATES

Australian Education Union
Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union
Australian Nursing and Midwifery
Federation

Communications Electrical and Plumbing Union

Community and Public Sector Union Community and Public Sector Union, State Public Services Federation

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union

Finance Sector Union

Health Services Union of Australia Health and Community Services Union Independent Education Union

Maritime Union of Australia

Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance National Tertiary Education Union

NSW Nurses and Midwives Association Professionals Australia

Rail, Tram, and Bus Union

United Firefighters Union of Australia United Workers Union

Queensland Council of Unions

South Australia Unions

Unions ACT

Unions Tasmania

Unions WA

Victorian Trades Hall Council

OUR INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Margi Sexton Deb Nicholls Jane Abbey

OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Mondiaal-FNV Solidar Suisse Solidarity Center (US) Irish Aid International Labour Organisation IBAS (International Ban Asbestos Secretariat)

ABAN (Asian Ban Asbestos Network)
AMRC (Asian Monitor Resource Centre)
International Trade Union Confederation
(ITUC)

Trade Union Solidarity Centre of Finland (SASK)

TARA Foundation MISEREOR

OUR AUSTRALIAN PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Asbestos Diseases Research Institute Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency Australian Council of Trade Unions Australian Government through the Australian Aid program