



2024

ANNUAL REPORT





CO-EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT

Union Aid Abroad celebrates 40 years of solidarity in 2024!

Union Aid Abroad celebrates 40 years of solidarity in 2024! What began as a visionary project of Australian nurse Helen McCue and ACTU President Cliff Dolan, APHEDA has grown into an organisation which has delivered millions of dollars of support internationally to local community organisations and unions, has engaged and educated thousands of Australian unionists and contributed to countless struggles for self-determination, freedom and democracy. It is a proud history shared with leaders and members of the Australian union movement.

As we reflect on this milestone, we recognise the critical challenges facing the world today. Wars in Gaza and Ukraine have amplified regional and global conflict. Our Palestinian sisters and brothers in Palestine and Lebanon are enduring the most intense hardships in 70 years with no end in sight. We are proud of the huge outpouring of support across Australia in response to our Gaza appeal launched in October 2023, with \$1 million AUD raised. Meanwhile, in Europe, we are witnessing the impacts in response to the threat of an extension of Russian power. Not least is a sharp decline in development spending by governments across Europe, as funds are being redirected to respond to refugees from Ukraine or to greater national military spending. People in the global South are the losers, with significant cuts to overseas aid by many European countries.

The international union movement has elevated its campaigns defending democracy as the impact of growing authoritarianism continues to be felt worldwide. We must continue the struggle for jobs and decent work, for low-income countries to be debt-free so they can invest in vital public services, for the defence of human rights and for an end to hatred and discrimination.

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA's strategy is in the process of renewal, soon to be finalised. We will advance three priority thematic areas of worker's rights, just transition/climate justice and peace, stability and democracy. Underpinning all our work will be elevating women's rights and leadership and building internationalism in Australia.

Our work on just transitions and climate justice continues to expand. In partnership with nine trade unions across Indonesia, Nepal, India and the Philippines, we are building capacity to organise workers, safeguard their rights, and amplify their voices in national climate strategy planning. This year, 2,787 climate leaders and activists, including 968 women, were trained to address climate-related challenges and advocate for workers' needs in mitigation, adaptation, and loss-and-damage frameworks.

We are looking forward to advancing a new program of work with the global union movement and the ACTU through a new Australian aid-funded trade union capacity-building program, supporting unions in Cambodia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Myanmar, Samoa, PNG, Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands and Timor Leste.

Thank you to the Union Aid Abroad staff team across six locations: Sydney, Melbourne, Phnom Penh, Hanoi, Dili and Vientiane. Congratulations to all our team on their work. Our Vietnam office is 30 years old this year, a fantastic achievement, thanks to the efforts of our founding country manager, Ms Hoang Thi Le Hang.

This year, we farewellled Andrew Dettmer our chairperson and long serving board member. Andrew, as AMWU president, continued the union's long tradition of supporting APHEDA and promoting internationalism. This year, we welcomed Jo Schofield to the board. Our board, including our finance and risk subcommittee members, continue to give expert guidance and support, and we thank them for their generosity and commitment.

Thank you to the Australian Council of Trade Unions, Australian unions and trades halls that provide Union Aid Abroad with financial and in-kind support. We also thank all the individual unionists, international solidarity partners and volunteers who contribute financially and with commitment. We look forward to continuing to work with you all in 2025.

Kate Lee & Sharan KC

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.

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

As newly appointed APHEDA chair and Federal Assistant Secretary of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF), I am pleased to present the Union Aid Abroad- APHEDA 2023/2024 Annual Report, highlighting the significant activities and accomplishments of the past year.

This year marks our 40th anniversary as we proudly celebrate four decades of building internationalism and global solidarity. Reflecting on the decades, we can take immense pride in the extraordinary growth of the organisation that now delivers programs that reach across 13 countries and extend to 42 partner organisations.

As we commemorate our 40th year, I wish to acknowledge Dr Helen McCue, an Australian nurse and unionist who founded APHEDA in 1984. Without Helen's vision, compassion and tenacity, we would not be the successful organisation that we are today. Dr Helen McCue was recently awarded the 2023-2024 Jerusalem Peace Prize for her unceasing work promoting justice and peace in the Middle East.

There is no denying that it has been a devastating year with the escalation of global conflicts, significant loss of innocent lives and basic humanitarian responses denied. As we bear witness to unimaginable levels of destruction, the rise of right-wing populism and shifts towards nationalism and anti-immigration policies, the work of APHEDA has never been more crucial.

We know there is always hope in solidarity, and we have seen extraordinary examples of this as unions, members, activists, and community members have given generously to the APHEDA-organised Gaza Appeal, including through countless fundraising activities organised throughout the year. Money raised has gone directly to APHEDA's partner, the MA'AN Development Centre in Palestine. These funds have greatly assisted MA'AN in providing basic support of water, clothing, hygiene items and psychosocial first aid for internally displaced people. The Gaza Appeal aims to alleviate the severe humanitarian crisis caused by the escalating conflict in the region.

In the lead-up to the next Federal election, APHEDA is participating in the Safer World for All (SWFA) campaign, which calls on the Commonwealth government to commit 1% of federal budget spending on overseas aid. Currently, Australia's spending on overseas aid accounts for approximately 0.68% of the federal budget.

There is a global trend of reducing aid allocations, and Australia must lift its ranking amongst the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) donor countries.

On behalf of the APHEDA board, I would like to sincerely thank members, donors, volunteers, activists, partner organisations and all the dedicated national and international staff at APHEDA for their commitment, compassion, hard work and support in what has been a very challenging year. They remain strong and focused on empowering the lives of others and striving for global justice and peaceful democratic societies.

None of this would have been possible without the exceptional leadership of joint Executive Officers Kate Lee and Sharan KC, who have skillfully led the organisation and strengthened partnerships in what has been a challenging, dire and sombre environment.

I want to acknowledge the previous chair, Andrew Dettmer, who announced his retirement in August 2024. On behalf of fellow board members, we sincerely thank Andrew for his commitment to APHEDA as a board member for eleven years and Chair for four years. A formidable leader with great intellect, Andrew navigated APHEDA through many challenges, including the Covid global pandemic. As Andrew embarks on his retirement, we extend our best wishes to Andrew for the future. Go well, Comrade.

And lastly, Happy 40th Birthday APHEDA! As we reflect on the past, there is much to celebrate. While the path ahead will undoubtedly present challenges, APHEDA remains unwavering in its commitment to amplifying the call for global solidarity and building a safer and fairer world.

Lori-Anne Sharp

AT JUNE 2024, THE UNION AID ABROAD-APHEDA COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Andrew Dettmer Chairperson
Michele O'Neil Vice-Chairperson
Mark Lennon Treasurer
Danae Bosler Secretary
Dr Linda Kelly Appointed Expert
Michelle Robertson Board Member
Lori-Anne Sharp Board Member
Michael Wright Board Member

Jo Schofield Board Member
Nicole Calnan Board Member

FINANCE AND RISK SUB-COMMITTEE

Mark Lennon, Hon. Treasurer and Chair of sub-committee
Madeleine Johnston, External Expert Representative
Kate Lee, Co-Executive Officer
Lois Rahayu, Chief Finance Officer

The Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA Committee of Management 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 Co-Executive Officer, Kate Lee on +61 2 9264 9343 or the Chair of the Committee of Management at office@apheda.org.au

COVER: MA'AN Development Center emergency response in Gaza.

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 70 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 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.

Union Aid Abroad–APHEDA staff and board members.



PEACE IS UNION BUSINESS

Wollongong is a union town with a long and proud history of union and community struggle. Central to that history and our movement's mission is internationalism, a deeply embedded belief that the working class cannot be divided by the oceans, imperial borders, or by the races of the people that inhabit the planet.

It is no accident, therefore, that the Illawarra and South Coast of NSW should embrace the struggle for the human rights of the Palestinian people and for the peace and security of all people in that region. The principal vehicle that the South Coast Labour Council (SCLC) uses to disperse funds raised for humanitarian aid is, of course, Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA.

In earlier campaigns following the bombardment of occupied territories, the SCLC initiated a community appeal to raise funds and goods for the children of Gaza under the title Gifts for Gaza and K2K (Kids to Kids). In other campaigns, the SCLC sponsored delegates who joined study tours to the region.

The events of and following October 7, 2023, however, have raised to a new level the urgency for solidarity action and fundraising for humanitarian aid, campaigning for a ceasefire and an end to the illegal occupation. There is simply no parallel in our lifetime for the brutality and crimes against humanity we have all witnessed and threats of a broader

catastrophe involving global conflict. In the Illawarra, the union movement responded on the ground and in the air with a wave of solidarity as the voice of south coast workers calling for an immediate ceasefire and demanding that combatants “Stop Killing the Kids”.

The SCLC has raised the flag for humanity in union and community rallies, conferences, media articles and social media campaigns. A significant project was also undertaken to address the question of international law and the exposure of Australian workers in defence industries that was launched at an SCLC General Meeting in Wollongong, addressed by authoritative voices such as Ms Rawan Arraf from the Australian Centre for International Justice and the Special UN Commissioner Mr Chris Sidoti.

Finally, the SCLC has established close ties with similarly minded community organisations and participated in joint activities such as the monthly Women's Solidarity breakfast that is organised by the Women's Committee of the SCLC and the Illawarra Women's Health Centre. Most recently, the SCLC and our affiliate, the MUA, jointly organised the commemorative Dalfram Day event remembering the 15th of November 1938, when 180 Port Kembla wharfies refused to load pig iron bound for Imperial Japan. A full-page newspaper advertisement was published on the same day with the headline,

“We stood up for humanity in 1938 and We are still doing it in 2024 - No Steel for Israeli Tanks.”

Arthur Rorris
Secretary, South Coast Labour Council

Women's Solidarity breakfast organised by the Women's Committee of the SCLC and the Illawarra Women's Health Centre.



PILLAR 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.

PHILIPPINES

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS SET OUT TO IMPROVE GENDER EQUALITY AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

The National Union of Building and Construction Workers (NUBCW), in partnership with Building Workers International (BWI), is driving a powerful initiative to grow union membership and strengthen its impact in the construction sector, with a focus on women and climate action. This project aims to recruit 300 new members, with at least 30% women, while building capacity through Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) training. It includes specialist training for 50 new Safety Officer Practitioners and Gender Sensitivity Workshops to address women's needs in the workplace. Key goals include integrating workplace policies that support women into Collective Bargaining Agreements and Memoranda of Agreement. Additionally, a study on climate change's effects, such as heat stress on workers, will strengthen the union's ability to advocate for climate justice and a just transition with employers and the government.



NUBCW members commemorating International Women's Day, 2024.

TIMOR LESTE

CAMPAIGNING FOR FAIR WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Over the past 12 months, Timor-Leste's unions have designed and implemented new organising strategies to build and strengthen their movement. The planning is already yielding positive results, with our long-term partner, the General Workers' Union of Timor-Leste (SJT-TL), increasing their membership to around 7,855 private sector workers. Being the largest union, they lead national campaigns around labour-rights awareness, collective bargaining and the fight for a fair national minimum wage, which, despite rising inflation, has remained at USD\$115 per month since 2012. After years of negotiations, the tripartite National Labour Council finally agreed to union demands in April 2024 to raise the base rate to USD\$150 per month. However, the government ultimately rejected this proposal. In response, the unions have intensified their campaign, organising public demonstrations, including a May Day march to parliament, where thousands rallied for higher wages, stronger protections for domestic workers, and the ratification of ILO Convention C190 to address violence and harassment in the workplace.



SJT-TL President Almerio Vilanova speaking at a fair wage rally in Dili, Timor-Leste.

PILLAR 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 a more equitable climate strategy to ensure decent work and sustainable development.

PHILIPPINES

UNITING WORKERS FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE AND LABOUR RIGHTS

The Center for Trade Union and Human Rights (CTUHR) is a leading labour rights organisation in the Philippines, working closely with unions, church groups, and women workers' associations. Committed to defending workers' rights, they document violations of freedom of association and champion labour and climate justice. In partnership with Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, CTUHR is building its capacity to drive climate justice initiatives, inspiring workers and organisations to take action against the climate crisis. Together, they are advocating for pro-worker policies that address the impacts of climate change and disasters, ensuring workers are protected and empowered in the face of these challenges. By uniting workers and advancing policy reform, this project aims to amplify the voices of those most affected by climate change while creating a fairer and more sustainable future.



CTUHR partner organisation, the Cebu-based nongovernment labour rights organisation, Visayas Human Development Agency, Inc. (VIHDA), undertook on-the-ground sharing and surveys with the community surrounding the coal-fired power plant of Therma Visayas, Inc. (TVI) in Barangay Bato, Toledo City.

INDONESIA

BUILDING UNION POWER FOR A JUST TRANSITION

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA is supporting trade unions to champion energy democracy and climate justice. Working with national union centres KSBSI, KSPI, and PSI's energy union affiliate SP-PLN, this project is particularly urgent as the G8 commits €20 billion to Indonesia's Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP)—yet unions currently lack a formal voice in this process.

This initiative equips unions with the tools and knowledge to address climate change within their agendas. Activities include researching and negotiating climate clauses in Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs), advocating for worker-focused climate policies, and campaigning to protect public energy assets from privatisation. By ensuring workers are at the forefront of Indonesia's energy transition, this project is laying the groundwork for a fair, inclusive, and sustainable future.



Volunteer Dr Colin Long, Just Transitions Organiser at Victorian Trades Hall Council, held a climate justice and just transitions workshop with the PSI affiliated energy union, SP PLN.

PILLAR 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.

THAI-MYANMAR BORDER

SUPPORTING WORKERS WHO SERVE MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

The Mae Tao Clinic (MTC) provides critical healthcare services for Myanmar refugees, migrants and people affected by conflict. Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA supports MTC's Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) project which aims to improve safety for over 450 migrant workers of the clinic, and by extension to improve the safety and effectiveness of patient services. An OH&S Committee has been formed at the clinic with representatives from each of MTC's departments. The OH&S Committee oversees the implementation of the policies and procedures that have been developed under the project including training of staff. They also undertake workplace hazard assessments, respond to reported OH&S incidents and organise specific actions to address potential health and safety risks. Through their work, MTC has better workplace safety due to improved traffic management, screening and vaccination for staff against communicable diseases, reduction of fire hazards, introduction of food safety policies and small but significant investments in materials to prevent trips, falls or lifting injuries.



Fire safety training at the Mae Tao Clinic.



PWHO staff delivers early childhood education at the refugee camp in Lebanon.

LEBANON

LEARNING FOR FREEDOM: EDUCATION AS A TOOL FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Union Aid Abroad – APHEDA has worked in partnership with the Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organization (PWHO) since its founding in 1993. Refugee women founded PWHO in the camps in Lebanon to address the needs of their community. The activities include early childhood education and care with hours that cater to working women to enable their economic participation, educational support for children at risk of dropping of school, educational activities for people with disabilities, psychosocial support and referrals for women and children facing difficulties. This year the project also provided community education to nearly 300 people on women's and children's rights, with an emphasis on preventing gender-based violence and providing strategies for coping with pressures due to the economic crisis in Lebanon.

PILLAR FOUR STRONGER RIGHTS FOR WOMEN WORKERS THROUGH SOLIDARITY

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.

PALESTINE

WOMEN’S COOPERATIVES ARE STANDING STRONG FOR ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE

Our Palestinian partner organisation MA’AN Development Centre (MA’AN) in the West Bank is supporting two women’s cooperatives, and one deaf association cooperative to strengthen and grow their organisations. The political context in the West Bank has worsened since October 7, 2023, with increased Israeli military presence, closed or restricted access to Palestinian towns and increased violence for settlers. The political context has led to economic instability and widespread job losses, so supporting local income-generating cooperatives is imperative. The project deliberately works with women and people with disability as marginalised groups to build resilience and foster social inclusion. The cooperatives were supported with capacity building on strategic planning, administrative and financial systems, communications and decision making. They also received vocational training related to their areas of operation (agriculture or food production) and psychosocial support. 77% of the participants from the women’s agricultural cooperative reported that they had adopted new and effective practices based on what they had learned.



Women from the farming cooperative at Deir al Sudan village, Palestine.



BWTUC members commemorating International Women’s Day.

CAMBODIA

UNIONS UNITED FOR WOMEN WORKERS RIGHTS

Over the past five years, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA has worked with Cambodian unions Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation of Cambodia (BWTUC), The Cambodian Food and Service Workers Federation (CFSWF) and The Independent Democracy of Informal Economy Association (IDEA), to promote gender equality for women working precarious jobs in the construction, food service, and informal economies. The unions have developed gender equity action plans with commitments to increasing women’s leadership roles and providing dedicated funding for training union officials to the challenges women face in the workplace. Women’s committees have been established, and gender policy and training initiatives are helping reshape the organisational culture to better support women’s rights and participation in union activities. In collaboration with the Cambodian Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MoWA), the project has created a vital platform for driving change at the national policy level, calling on Cambodia to ratify ILO Convention 190 to eliminate workplace violence and harassment, improve access to social security for informal workers, enhance safety regulations for construction sites, and expand community childcare services.

13 COUNTRIES 42 PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

CAMBODIA

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

INDONESIA

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

INDIA

- Self Employed Women Association (SEWA)

LAOS

- Lao Federation of Trade Unions (LFTU)
- Ministry of Health Laos
- Lao OSH Association
- University of Health Sciences Laos

LEBANON

- Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organisation (PWHO)

NEPAL

- Centre for Labour and Social Studies (CLASS)
- Joint Trade Union Coordination Center (JTUCC)

PALESTINE

- MA'AN Development Center

THE PHILIPPINES

- Centre for Trade Unions and Human Rights (CTUHR)
- Sentro Ng Mga Nagkakaisa At Progresibong Manggagawa (SENTRO)
- National Union of Building and Construction Workers (NUBCW)
- Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU)

SAMOA

- Samoa First Union (SFU)

SOUTH 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
- Mae Tao Clinic (MTC)
- School for Shan State Nationalities Youth (SSSNY)
- Alternative ASEAN Network on Burma (ALTSEAN-Burma)

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
- Vietnam Central Women's Union

SOLIDARITY SPONSORED BY:





SOLIDARITY IN ACTION: WHERE WE WORK

This year, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA worked with over forty partner unions and community organisations in thirteen 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 SOUTHEAST 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.

REGIONAL CAMPAIGN

This year has seen significant victories and growing momentum across the region in the campaign against asbestos, supported closely by the Asbestos & Silica Safety and Eradication Agency (ASSEA), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australian embassies in the region, and collaboration with the Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute (ADDRI). Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA has worked alongside incredible partners—including trade unions, NGOs, doctors, media, concerned government agencies, and Ministries—to confront the asbestos industry. Together, they have raised awareness among workers and governments about the dangers of exposure to chrysotile (white) asbestos, advocated for safer alternative products, and built capacity to diagnose asbestos-related diseases and regulate asbestos bans.

This year, the Asian Development Bank adopted a new Safeguards Policy banning asbestos-containing materials in future investments. The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) agreement among 14 countries included commitments to transitioning to safer products. Additionally, ASEAN leaders were urged to act on strong resolutions from the ASEAN Trade Union Council and the ASEAN People's Forum, calling for regional asbestos bans. A landmark achievement came from our partner organisation, LION Indonesia and consumer groups, who won a Supreme Court case in Indonesia. The ruling mandates health warning labels on all asbestos-containing materials sold in the country.

CAMBODIA

Work has continued with the Cambodian Government following its 2023 announcement to ban asbestos by 2025. Efforts have focused on the Ministry responsible for construction, including a high-level meeting with the Minister and Deputy Prime Minister, who committed to lead the issue within the government. The Building and Woodworkers Trade Unions of Cambodia (BWTUC) continues to lead the CAMBAN advocacy network, raising awareness of asbestos risks among construction workers. Progress has been supported by close cooperation with the ASSEA and the Australian Embassy. CAMBAN and government representatives have also contributed significantly to regional forums.

LAOS

The Lao Federation of Trade Unions (LFTU), in collaboration with the APHEDA Laos team, continued efforts to update the National Asbestos Profile. Laos remains a significant asbestos importer, with eight asbestos roof sheet manufacturers and poor working conditions identified, though overall consumption has dropped in the past decade. As host of the ASEAN Trade Union Council meeting in Vientiane, LFTU added the asbestos ban to the regional trade union agenda.

Work also progressed on updating the National Action Plan with the Ministry of Health. In May, APHEDA, ADDRI, ASSEA, and the Lao Ministry of Health conducted a three-day training for local radiologists, pathologists, and oncologists on diagnosing asbestos-related diseases (ARD). Seven Australian specialists delivered the training, building critical diagnostic capacity in Laos.

VIETNAM

The campaign focus has been on reducing demand and providing awareness and training for ethnic minority communities on asbestos hazards from asbestos-containing materials. The focus has been on Bac Kan Province in Vietnam's north in collaboration with the Bac Kan Women's Union. This 3-year project was completed this year. In May the ADDRI medical team also facilitated a 3-day training for 45 oncologists, radiologists and pathologists in Vietnam.

INDONESIA

The campaign through our partner, Local Initiatives for OSH Network (LION), had a major win this year, with the Supreme Court of Indonesia agreeing with the petition from the INABAN network and members and ordering health warning labelling on all asbestos-containing materials. This is a huge advance for workers' and consumers' health in Indonesia as, for the first time, consumers will know what products contain asbestos when purchasing. This year, also the focus has been on social media and training a team of construction workers in safe removal practices for asbestos waste materials. A further win occurred in May when the Jakarta Health Department announced an intention to ban asbestos use in future buildings in the city. As Jakarta has a population of over 11 million people who traditionally have been big users of asbestos roof sheets, this is a major announcement for the transition to safer materials for the country.

SOLIDARITY WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Support for the campaign remained strong from Australia this year, with trade union grants, individual donations, and cooperation from the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), ASSEA, and ADDRI. Unions WA adopted the Indonesia Asbestos. Not Here. Not Anywhere campaign as its target project, providing both fundraising and technical support. This included online training and certified safe removal training in Perth for LION Indonesia Board Chair Mr. Darisman. Similar training was conducted at the CFMEU Training Centre in Melbourne for The Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation of Cambodia (BWTUC) President Mr. Sok Kin



1

ACTU HEALTHY WORK CONFERENCE 2024

With support from the ACTU and ASSEA, representatives from LION Indonesia and the General Secretary of the Indonesian Trade Union Confederation (KSPI) joined the conference to share experiences and build solidarity with Australian unionists. A highlight was their presentation on the attacks they face in Jakarta Court, where asbestos manufacturers are suing them for massive damages following LION's Supreme Court win on labelling and consumer protection. This ongoing case exposes the industry's tactics, including misinformation about the Rotterdam Convention and denial of chrysotile asbestos's toxicity. We remain inspired by our Indonesian partners and others across the region fighting to protect workers' and consumers' lives.



2

ASSEA CONFERENCE MELBOURNE

In March, with strong support from ASSEA, a delegation of 12 representatives from Cambodia, Laos, and Indonesia attended the ASSEA 2024 Asbestos Conference in Melbourne. The group included government representatives from Cambodia and Laos, along with APHEDA staff and partners from all three countries.

The conference provided an excellent opportunity to learn about Australia's latest technologies and approaches to managing remaining asbestos hazards while sharing updates from the region and advancing the campaign for asbestos bans.

We continue to support Aim 3 of the ASSEA Strategic Plan 2024–2030, promoting Australia's leadership in advocating for a global asbestos ban. A highlight for the delegates was a welcome reception with Minister Tanya Plibersek, who reaffirmed the government's commitment to seeking global bans on this deadly product.



3

1. The Building and Wood Workers Trade Union Federation of Cambodia (BWTUC) hosted an asbestos awareness workshop for leaders, activists, and members of the brick kiln craft union in Kandal Province, Cambodia.

2. LION Indonesia members outside the Indonesian Supreme Court, awaiting the decision on their petition to label asbestos-containing materials as hazardous.

3. Solidarity and shared learning between Indonesian guests and Australian unionists were on display at the ACTU Healthy Work Conference 2024. From left to right: Ramidi, General Secretary of the Indonesian Trade Union Confederation (KSPI); Liam O'Brien, ACTU Assistant Secretary; and Leo Yoga Pranata, Director for Public Policy and Advocacy at LION Indonesia.

4. A 12-member delegation from Cambodia, Laos, and Indonesia, including government representatives and APHEDA staff, attended the ASSEA 2024 Asbestos Conference in Melbourne.

5. The APHEDA delegation at the 2024 Asbestos Conference met with Australian activists, union representatives, and Minister Tanya Plibersek.



4



5

ADVOCATING FOR INTERNATIONALISM WITHIN AUSTRALIA

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA not only helps build workers' power abroad, but it also builds solidarity at home. Through the steady growth of a strong membership and activist base, Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA builds bridges that unite people in the pursuit of global justice. 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, we live up to the Australian union movement values.

40 YEARS BUILDING UNION POWER...

This year marks a special occasion—our 40th anniversary.

To celebrate, we chose the theme 'Building Union Power and Global Justice', reflecting the Australian trade union movement's journey to forge deep solidarity with workers across the region and the world.

With celebratory dinners in four states, APHEDA supporters came together to reflect on our collective achievements and envision the future. Living our values, we launched a 40th-anniversary membership drive, featuring a stunning design by union artist Judy Kuo, symbolising our theme.

Activists stepped up, signing up community members—the backbone of our success. At the same time, we shared the global side of union solidarity, showcasing our work at key union events, including the Teachers Federation's Educators for Peace meeting, the ANMF Vic Branch Delegates Conference, the ETU NSW Conference, and the SA Unions Organising Conference, just to name a few.

The standout moment was the ACTU Congress in Adelaide, where over 100 delegates answered the call to build union power across borders by joining or upgrading their membership. It was a real reminder of the strength we draw from unionists rolling up their sleeves and getting involved.

This year, new memberships more than doubled, with net growth 14 times higher than last year. This has led to an income boost of \$40,000 to international projects from membership donations.



Union delegates joined Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, and former members upgraded their membership at the ACTU Congress 2024, Adelaide.

... AND GLOBAL JUSTICE

The past year has been significant in so many ways. The devastation in Gaza and the attack on its people have rightly been at the forefront of the thoughts and actions of Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA members and activists. Here in Australia, much of our focus has been on campaigning for peace and raising funds for vital humanitarian relief.

The response to our appeal for Gaza, supporting the MA'AN Development Center's relief efforts, was nothing short of inspiring.

Just to name a few examples: a tattoo artist donated their time and skill, a young adult fiction author organised an online auction, MUA youth members in WA held a benefit concert in Fremantle, and the Middle Eastern community in western Sydney held event after event, including a gala dinner hosted by Nazeem Hussain.

The response was exactly what the crisis demanded—unparalleled. In such a tough year, the extraordinary efforts of everyday Australians in the name of global justice have been a shining light.

Our solidarity work continued steadily, including supporting the Australia Western Sahara Association with a speaking tour by journalist and human rights defender Mohamed Mayara, who raised awareness of the Saharawi people's resistance to Moroccan occupation.

For 40 years, the Australian union movement has championed global justice, and we're proud to see it ready to scale those efforts even further in the years ahead.

YEAR 2023-2024

New Members 510

Growth 314

Annual income increase \$40,000



Members, activists and supporters organised fundraisers across Australia to support the Emergency Appeal for Gaza.

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.

MYANMAR PEOPLE'S SUMMIT

On 4 March 2024, Myanmar Campaign Network, the National Unity Government Representative to Australia Office, CRPH/ NUG Support Group Australia, the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU), and SEARCH Foundation, hosted the Myanmar People's Summit.

The Summit, in parallel to the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit, united civil society, Myanmar diaspora, and government representatives gathered to express ongoing commitment to civilian and democratic governance in Myanmar. The event launched the Myanmar People's Summit Statement endorsed by over 339 organisations, pledging global support for democratic reform and human rights in Myanmar.

Speakers highlighted international solidarity and decisive action against the junta, including stronger sanctions and recognition of the National Unity Government (NUG). His Excellency Xanana Gusmão, Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, urged respect for democratic principles, while Dr Tun Aung Shwe underscored the junta's weakening power and growing pro-democracy alliances. Former Thai Foreign Minister Khun Kasit Priomya emphasised global pressure on the junta. Civil society representatives, Alison Tate of the International Trade Union Confederation and Debbie Stothard of ALTSEAN on Burma argued for inter-governmental support to the coordinated, widespread resistance to military rule.



United civil society, Myanmar diaspora, and government representatives gathered for the Myanmar People's Summit in Melbourne, 2024.

ROUNDTABLE WITH NUG UNION MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DAW ZIN MAR AUNG

In June 2024, Myanmar Campaign Network and Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA hosted a roundtable with H.E. Daw Zin Mar Aung, Union Minister of Foreign Affairs for the National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG), discussing Myanmar's political crisis and humanitarian challenges. Daw Zin Mar Aung highlighted the NUG's alliances with ethnic forces,

progress in federal state-building, and innovative governance in liberated regions. She appealed for increased cross-border humanitarian aid, alternative communication infrastructure, and international support for local governance. Former Australian Foreign Minister Professor Gareth Evans commended the NUG's resilience and youth leadership while stressing the need for targeted sanctions and humanitarian aid routed through the NUG. Both speakers emphasised the need for Australia to pressure ASEAN nations on Myanmar's aviation fuel supply and democratic engagement. Calls for increased Australian humanitarian aid and regional leadership were reiterated, alongside the urgency of sustaining global attention on Myanmar's path to democracy.



MCN and Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA hosted a roundtable with H.E. Daw Zin Mar Aung, Union Minister of Foreign Affairs for the National Unity Government of Myanmar (NUG).

ROUNDTABLE WITH THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN MYANMAR

The Myanmar Campaign Network met with Tom Andrews, UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, during his October 2024 visit to Australia. Discussions centred on Australia's potential leadership in regional diplomacy and the need for stronger, unified international pressure, including coordinated sanctions on the junta. Australia's role in tackling transnational crime linked to Myanmar—scam centres, drug trafficking, and human trafficking—was also examined. The worsening humanitarian crisis was highlighted, with urgent aid needed for displaced and ethnic minority communities in areas devastated by airstrikes and conflict. Trade unions, recognised as key resistance forces in Myanmar, shared plans for global lobbying on ILO Article 33 measures, which could pave the way for international sanctions. The meeting underscored the urgency of Australia's engagement in both humanitarian and diplomatic efforts to address Myanmar's escalating crisis.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE: IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

In October 2023, as a humanitarian crisis of historic proportions unfolded, we received an urgent plea for assistance from our 35-year partner organisation, the MA'AN Development Center.

Following devastating attacks by the Israeli military, MA'AN's Gaza offices were destroyed. Tragically, six staff members lost their lives during the invasion, and many others are grieving the loss of family members. Despite these immense challenges, their critical work, supported in part by your contributions, continues amid great personal risk.

ON-THE-GROUND RESPONSE

Thanks to your generous support, we raised \$1 million through our Gaza Emergency Appeal over the past 12 months. These funds were directly allocated to MA'AN Development Center's humanitarian relief efforts. Since October 2023, MA'AN has supported nearly 1.1 million people, working in collaboration with UN agencies and local NGOs in Gaza.

Your contributions helped deliver:

- Fresh, locally grown vegetables
- Hot, prepared meals
- Packets of freshly baked bread
- Winter emergency kits
- Cash assistance and vouchers
- Mental health and psychosocial support
- Dignity and hygiene kits
- Non-food items for internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Emergency water supplies

EXPANDING SOLIDARITY TO PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN LEBANON

A year after launching our Gaza Emergency Appeal, the conflict has escalated beyond Gaza, spreading to the West Bank and Lebanon. The need for solidarity is more pressing than ever.

In October 2024, we launched a second appeal to support humanitarian relief efforts led by one of our longest-standing partners, the Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organisation (PWHO). With the continued backing of activists, members, and the broader Australian community, we remain steadfast in standing with the Palestinian people during these challenging times.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to global justice.

Since October 2023, the MA'AN Development Center has delivered hot meals, bread, food packages and emergency aid across Gaza.

“

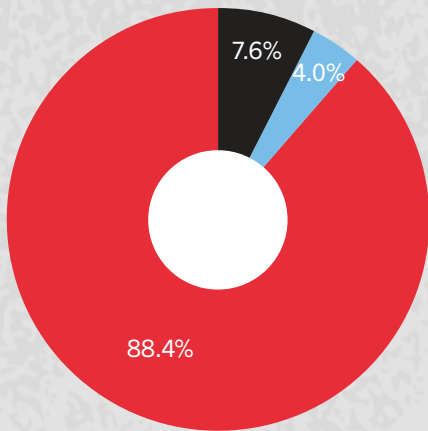
“SINCE THE START OF THE WAR, UNION AID ABROAD—APHEDA AND MA'AN HAVE WORKED TIRELESSLY TO REACH DISPLACED PEOPLE AND PROVIDE ESSENTIAL AID WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED. WE EXTEND OUR HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO OUR PARTNER, APHEDA, AND THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR UNWAVERING SUPPORT IN HELPING MA'AN DELIVER EMERGENCY AID TO DISPLACED PEOPLE IN GAZA. YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN INVALUABLE IN PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT TO THOSE IN DIRE NEED.”

Sami Khader, Executive Director of MA'AN Development Center



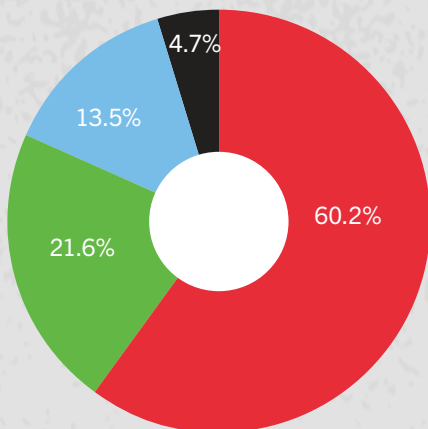
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

EXPENDITURE 2023-24



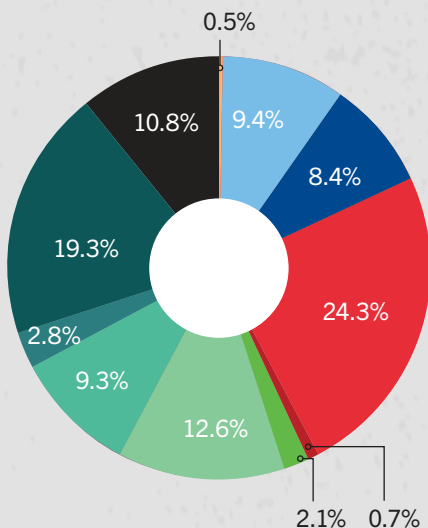
Programs (Includes Development Education)	88.4%	9,994,258
Fundraising	4.0%	456,447
Operating Expenses	7.6%	856,849
Total Expenditure		11,307,554

SOURCES OF INCOME 2023-24



Community Support	60.2%	4,051,547
Government Funds	21.6%	1,456,429
Other Grants	13.5%	906,756
Other Income	4.7%	318,062
Total Income		6,732,794

EXPENDITURE BY REGIONS 2023-24



Pacific	0.5%	20,760.07
Thai Burma Border and Myanmar	9.4%	429,077.16
Cambodia	8.4%	385,179.35
Middle East	24.3%	1,114,483.52
Philippines	0.7%	30,000.00
Africa	2.1%	95,348.19
Vietnam	12.6%	577,295.55
Timor Leste	9.3%	423,631.77
Laos	2.8%	126,500.18
Other	19.3%	883,135.56
Asbestos	10.8%	492,381.52
Total Expenditure		4,577,792.87

AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE FOR HEALTH, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT ABROAD LIMITED FINANCIAL REPORT, JUNE 2024

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

REVENUE	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue from continuing operations	6,479,791	4,340,162
Interest Income	66,522	13,609
Investment income	93,240	109,923
TOTAL REVENUE	6,639,553	4,463,694

DISBURSEMENTS

Funds to overseas projects	4,592,568	3,304,017
Other project costs	667,250	580,353
Community Education	124,386	172,226
Fundraising Costs		
Public	141,872	112,939
Government	24,385	22,227
Community education	141,032	124,386
Administration expenses	189,599	84,997
Non-monetary expenses	315,415	273,132
Funds to overseas projects	4,592,568	3,304,017
Other project costs	667,250	580,353
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	6,072,121	4,502,051
Excess of revenue over disbursements/(disbursements over revenue)	567,432	(38,357)
Other comprehensive income		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	567,432	(38,357)
Funds available for future use at the beginning of the financial year	1,508,061	1,469,862
Funds available for future use at the end of the financial year	3,973,680	1,508,061

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

ASSETS

Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,973,680	1,508,061
Other Current Financial Assets	234,431	17,396
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	-	-
Financial Assets	1,567,585	3,474,345
Right of use assets	159,079	195,097
TOTAL ASSETS	5,934,775	5,194,899

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables – Current	821,088	637,281
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions	31,204	7,105
Lease liabilities	145,409	180,871
TOTAL LIABILITIES	997,701	825,257
NET ASSETS	4,937,074	4,369,642

EQUITY

Accumulated Funds	4,937,074	4,369,642
TOTAL EQUITY	4,937,074	4,369,642

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 other Financial Liabilities.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
	Accumulated Funds	
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2023	4,369,642	4,407,999
Adjustment for changes in Equity	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	567,432	4,369,642
Amount transferred (to)/from reserves		
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2024	4,937,074	4,369,642


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:
 - Giving a true and fair view of Australian People for Health, Education and Development Abroad Limited financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - 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 and payable.

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


Lori-Anne Sharp, Chairperson
Director
Signed in Sydney this 15th day of November, 2024


Mark Lennon, Hon. Treasurer
Director
Signed in Sydney this 15th day of November, 2024

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 2024, 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, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Registered Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013; and
- the 2024 financial report is in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct.

Basis for opinion

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 thereon.

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 material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, 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 error 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, 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



JAMES WINTER
Partner – Audit and Assurance

Signed this 15th day of November 2024

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.



Union Aid Abroad—APHEDA celebration of its 40th anniversary of global solidarity in Sydney, 2024.

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 NSW
Unions Tasmania
Unions WA
Victorian Trades Hall Council

OUR INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

Justine Ross
A/Prof Steven Kao
Dr Anthony Linton
A/Prof Kenneth Lee
Dr Tristan Rutland
Prof Catherine Jones
Prof Tim Driscoll
Mr Jonathan Walsh
Peter Stokes
Kathleen Galvin
Deb Nicholls
Dr Colin Long

OUR INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Solidar Suisse
Solidarity Center (US)
Irish Aid
International Labour Organisation
IBAS (International Ban Asbestos Secretariat)
ABAN (Asian Ban Asbestos Network)
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 Dust Diseases Research Institute Asbestos Safety & Eradication Agency
Australian Council of Trade Unions
Australian Embassies of Cambodia, Indonesia, Timor Leste, Vietnam and Laos
Australian Government through the Australian Aid program