

2017

ANNUAL REPORT



Guiding Principles

indigo foundation has four guiding principles: community ownership, sustainability, transparency and equity. We commit ourselves to follow these four principles in our work. In turn, we ask that all the communities we work with align with these principles.

1

community ownership

Lasting systemic change is best effected by resourcing and empowering communities to transform themselves. We support community initiated and led development as we believe that communities and the people within them have the knowledge and wisdom to determine the best solutions for their development. We are guided by our community partners and supporters in decisions about our strategic direction, policy making and approach to development.

2

sustainability

Good investments in community development create change that is sustainable: change that has a long lasting and positive impact. Strategies and actions must be socially, environmentally, culturally, economically and politically sustainable, and result in development outcomes that are equitable and life changing. Development patterns that perpetuate today's inequities are neither sustainable nor worth sustaining. Change must always be made with a view to supporting the capabilities, opportunities and potential of future generations: intergenerational social justice is a foundation to achieving a sustainable impact.

3

transparency

Transparency builds confidence and trust in relationships and facilitates participation and accountability in organisations and programs. Transparency in decision making, planning, implementation, financial management, and reporting is vital in ensuring fair and equitable outcomes. Our systems need to be transparent for our partner communities our members, supporters and we support and encourage partner communities to develop their own processes for transparency and accountability.

4

equity

A commitment to equity is at the centre of organisational management and program development. Equitable organisations focus on social justice, human rights, universal access, fair treatment, inclusiveness, dignity for all, and challenging embedded power relations. An equitable approach addresses issues of vulnerability and discrimination due to gender, class, disability, ethnicity, religion, chronic poverty and geography. We have a focus on achieving equity for women and girls.

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a message from the board

indigo foundation Board

Sally Stevenson AM, Chairperson

Ron Switzer, Treasurer

Susan Engel

Cressida Hall

Gwyneth Graham

Christine Edwards

Lyla Rogan

Bianca Crocker

Shirley Randell AO

We are very pleased to present this annual report for 2016/17, covering another dynamic year of convincing results, strong community support and strategic thinking.

Founded on the principle of community-led development, our experience continues to show that transformative change happens when communities are given the respect and support to generate and implement their own development solutions. Positive change starts by treating each community as unique – with its own cultural, economic, social and political circumstances. If the community is genuinely listened to and if support is delivered respectfully using the principles of community ownership, sustainability, transparency and equity as a guide – then success is the logical outcome.

Central to the implementation of these principles are people and, importantly, the relationships that we seek to form with communities based on mutuality and reciprocity. This means we aim to listen and facilitate rather than direct or impose. And, whilst indigo foundation can bring a diversity of resources, including experience, information, education and funding to a partner community, in return we learn, improve and are enriched through the process of contributing and engaging with diverse, resourceful and inspiring communities.

We focus very much on building respectful relationships - and this is what allows us to manage the tensions, complexities and ambiguities of the development process. Building relationships and believing in the intangible but fundamentally human qualities of trust, respect, grace, commitment and integrity has enabled marginalised communities to develop confidence, implement their ideas, and deliver results far beyond what was initially thought possible.

Mindful always that respect and relationships form the core of our approach, we developed a new five-year strategy this year. The result was an ambitious agenda to increase our impact in and across communities while remaining a proudly nimble and creative organisation. We aim to retain what has been distinctive and effective about our community development approach, build on our learnings and experience and provide a clear strategic focus for decision making. And importantly, we made very clear what the outcomes we are working for are – and our success will be measured by our progress towards these. Specifically:

- Marginalised communities will lead their own development with confidence and resilience
- Improvements in individual and community wellbeing will reflect each community's needs and priorities

- Broader social change will result from community action and advocacy.

Keeping both the process and the goal at the forefront of our work, we believe will strengthen and expand our successes.

As part of this strategic process we established two working groups to improve and refine our thinking in the critical domains of development impact and organisational sustainability. We have started to implement positive, robust changes as a result and are excited about what this will mean for us as an organisation – and the improved support we will be able to provide our partner communities. This is an exciting time of change for indigo foundation: building on our strengths, and stretching our minds and actions into a future where our world is experiencing rapid and at times fundamental change.

Financially, this year continued to build on the success of the last two, allowing us to raise our reserves to just over \$160,000, a prudent six months of operational expenses. As our marketing and fundraising strategy continues to be implemented we look forward to predictable and sustainable income streams. Our thanks to all those who worked so hard fundraising (by no means an easy task) and to all our supporters who donated so generously.

Next year represents a significant change in the Board with long term members Sally and Cressida

stepping down. We acknowledge and celebrate their contributions over a collective total of nearly 25 years. We all agree that change and evolution is vital to the health of an organisation and that to grow and mature an organisation cannot be reliant on individuals. Therefore, this transition to a new Chair and new Board members is very much a mutually agreed decision and process: planned, necessary and positive.

One of the elements of indigo foundation that we as a Board truly prize is the respectful team that we are. We often comment how special it is to work with like-minded people for a common – and important – goal, where personal politics or ego do not have a place. We are a small organisation with limited resources but grand and honorable aspirations – and we have been able to work toward these with such a lovely spirit of collaboration that we have achieved so much more than what we might have imagined (even as we are thinking of how much more there is to do!).

For us, it can't be more true that our whole is (so much more) than the sum of our parts. This, and the fundamental power of respectful relationships, grassroots community potential and our ability, with our partners and our supporters, to always look forward with enthusiasm and optimism means our future is sustainable and 2017/18 will be another 'indigo year': full and rewarding.

As always, we thank our extraordinary staff, our development team which contributes countless volunteer hours and all the volunteers who have held, managed or contributed to organising our fundraisers or provided a diverse range of assistance. We do indeed have a fantastic team!

This team allows us all to support community organisations that change lives. So to our partners, the amazing individuals with whom we work, and to you our volunteers and supporters, we say thank you and we look forward to 2017/18!

a message from the general manager

One of the things I love about indigo foundation is that our tagline – the first thing we offer is respect – is a living, breathing part of what we do. It is not just a marketing tool or a clever phrase referred to only occasionally. It is at the heart of our community partnerships with local grassroots organisations and it is the yardstick with which we measure our relationships with staff, volunteers and supporters.

2016/17 has again showed that honest and robust partnerships grounded in respect, and investing in local grassroots organisations changes lives and builds resilient communities. And that, with this approach, small amounts of money can go a very long way.

We were very pleased this year to build momentum in our new partnerships with the Afghan Educated Women's Services Organisation in Kabul and with the Nefo Ko'u Farmers' Co-operative in West Timor, Indonesia – both fledgling organisations received small amounts of funding and support to help get off the ground. In South Sudan, we finished our first round of teacher training for 25 teachers across 11 schools in the Wedweil region, as well as building the first toilets at Wedweil School. Student

numbers continue to grow, and for the first time, a full-day meeting of girls and young women was held at the school to discuss strategies to increase enrolment and participation of girls.

In Jirghai, Afghanistan, we completed our largest program of works yet. 350 students at Shebar High School and 300 students at Qaraqul School are now sitting in proper school buildings rather than tents. Another 1000 students are benefiting from new desks, chairs and libraries. Importantly, this year one of the schools impacted was in the neighbouring province of Maidan Wardak, highlighting the growing reach of our support for education in Afghanistan.

Through this year's strategic planning process, we are now more explicit about importance of putting women and girls front and centre in our development program. We laid the groundwork for a new partnership with PEKKA, an Indonesian women's rights organisation that empowers female heads-of-household. We extended our partnership with Club Rafiki in Rwanda to include support for their sexual health clinic. And in Afghanistan, our partners at the Women's Empowerment Centre, as well as supporting a growing scholarship program to get young Afghan women into University, held two

large events driving the public conversation on women in work and women in the peace process. We also had the incredible privilege of hosting in Australia Dr Simar Samar, the Independent Chair of the Human Rights Commission and former Afghan Minister for Women.

Over the last few years, indigo foundation has enjoyed a growth phase thanks to the generosity of our supporters and the hard work of many volunteers. This year we looked to consolidate that growth and focus on our sustainability as an organisation. We agreed on an ambitious and exciting five-year strategy and have started to put key elements in place. We continue to put transparency and accountability at the forefront of our operations and improved our communications with a new biannual magazine and electronic newsletter. We also restructured our Australia-based paid roles, transitioning the General Manager and Development Coordinator from consultants to employees. My sincerest thanks go to Development Coordinator Libby House and Finance Administrator Alice Martin – we benefit enormously from your skills and commitment.

indigo foundation remains proudly volunteer based. This year, we undertook work to quantify the contribution that volunteers make across our organisation. Using

the Department of Foreign Affairs salary grid and a conservative measure of hours spent, we estimate that volunteers contributed approximately \$335,000 during the year. I extend my heartfelt thanks to our highly-skilled and passionate team of Partnership Coordinators, in-country Liaison Officers, volunteers, and Board members for another remarkable year of work.

Finally, I want to acknowledge and thank our community supporters. indigo foundation is independent of government funding and contributions of money, time and ideas are vital for us and our community partners to continue making an impact. You really are the lifeblood from which our programs can flourish.

With a passionate and growing community of supporters, a fantastic team of staff and volunteers and incredible grassroots partners with the vision and tenacity to change lives, I am confident 2017/18 will be another rewarding year for indigo foundation and our partner communities.

With warmest thanks



Jemma Bailey

Strategy 2017 - 2022

who we are

For over 16 years, indigo foundation has supported grassroots organisations in some of the most marginalised communities in the world to define and implement their development goals.

We work with, and directly support, local community organisations to create and sustain systematic improvements in health, education and general well-being that benefit individuals within the community and the community as a whole.

Founded on the principle of community-led development, our experience has shown that transformative change happens when communities are given the respect and support to generate and implement their own development solutions. We believe building deep and respectful relationships with our community partners and supporters is the key to creating and sustaining positive change.

our strategic goals

1. Expand the impact of our work in communities, while retaining our commitment to being a principles driven, relationships based development organisation.
2. Develop and improve our support for, and management of, community partnerships through a growing and documented impact evidence base.
3. Build on our strong foundations to further develop indigo foundation as a sustainable, effective and visible development organisation in Australia and the region.

the community outcomes we work for

Our success is measured by the progress communities achieve in their context, specifically:

- Marginalised communities leading their own development with confidence and resilience
- Improvements in individual and community wellbeing reflecting each community's needs and priorities
- Broader social change resulting from community action and advocacy

our focus areas

In order to grow our influence and impact, indigo foundation assesses potential community partnerships through the lens of four strategic focus areas:

- Empowering women and girls
- Linking with refugee communities
- Building program clusters, particularly in the Asia Pacific
- Supporting advocacy for systemic change

Jirghai School Project

JIRGHAI, GHAZNI PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN

Partnership Coordinator: Ali Reza Yunespour

Program established: 2013



A ceremony to celebrate new desks and text books at Shuturmurda High School



Building the new classrooms at Qaraqul School

Our partnership with the Jirghai community has grown stronger this year, maintaining trust and friendship and providing assistance to five new schools.

The Jirghai School Project is our community partnership with 21 schools in Jirghai community of Nawur District of Ghazni Province, Afghanistan. Driven by the community's desire for educating their young generation and having witnessed our education partnership with the neighbouring Borjegai community, this program aims to improve education infrastructure and teaching quality and to improve student enrolment and outcomes, particularly for girls, in primary and secondary schools.

Since June 2016, this partnership has supported around 1800 students (30-35% of whom are girls) across five Jirghai schools and Qaraqul High School in nearby Behsud District of Maidan Wardak Province, Afghanistan.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In such a challenging and highly volatile political context, our partnership with the Jirghai community has grown stronger this year, maintaining trust and friendship and opening assistance to five new schools. In 2016/17 we achieved the following:

- Completed a new safe school building for Shebar High School. In April 2017, around 350 students moved from their previous location - an outside space with old tents and damaged shops - to a new eight-classroom building. This is after almost 40 years of Shebar High School being intermittently closed and struggling with poor infrastructure. After investing in a new building in 2016, in 2017 we worked with the Jirghai community to construct furniture, including desks and chairs, for this school and equipped its
- library with 350 books, including school textbooks, children's stories, novels, natural sciences and maths, history and geography and preparation books for the nation-wide university admission exam.
- Cemented the floor of 24 classrooms and provided furniture for three other Jirghai schools: Fatimeya School in Garmab village, Shuturmurda High School, and Band Sang School. Together, these schools have around 1,100 students, of which 30-35% are girls. We have purchased and safely delivered another 2,780 school textbooks and other supplementary books to four schools in Jirghai.
- Constructed a six classroom building and a corridor for Qaraqul High School in Maidan Wardak

Province. The new building was successfully completed in September 2017 and around 300 students (120 girls) will move from old classrooms and tents to the new building in late March 2018 (the beginning of the new academic year in Afghanistan). These works at Qaraqul High School are significant because it is the first time we have expanded our education programs beyond the Borjegai and Jirghai communities in Ghazni province.

Based on our previous experience in Borjegai, we expect that the new infrastructure will improve student enrolment, enhance education quality, encourage families to send their girls to schools and encourage female teachers to work in schools. The first step of a quality education is access to safe and proper physical infrastructure. We expect the new

learning materials for students in these Jirghai schools will encourage independent learning and enhance education quality. We also hope that they help more students, particularly girls, to stay in the community and prepare for the annual Kankor exam - thus reducing the extra cost of traveling to urban city centres and paying for the private Kankor preparation courses.

We are pleased to report that results are already being seen in Jirghai. The students of Imam Hussein High School, which we worked with the Jirghai community to support in 2015/16, have this year received strong results in the national 'Kankor' exam (the equivalent of the HSC exam in Australia).

This year's program has brought Jirghai schools together and strengthened community harmony. The four schools assisted with furniture projects in 2017 worked together and hence reduced the

Hope, Resilience and Struggle

THE AFGHAN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

By Partnership Coordinator Ali Reza Yunespour, who returned to Afghanistan to teach at the American University of Afghanistan in Kabul.



ACHIEVEMENTS

cost of transportation of materials and travel and monitoring for our Financial Trustee and his team. In a conflict-ridden country and deeply divided society and community, working together, raising funds and showing the willingness and capacity to educate the young generation are difficult undertakings. Our partner schools and communities in Jirghai have done this with high levels of pride, engagement and professionalism. As a result, we have achieved much in the past year and, more importantly, have done so without any safety incidents in what is a challenging and dangerous environment.

THE FUTURE

Despite ongoing security and economic problems in Afghanistan, we remain committed to our partnership and shared goals. We will continue to work with the Jirghai Community, as part of a five year plan, to improve educational infrastructure and quality and improve educational participation and outcomes in rural Afghanistan, with a particular eye to improving girls' access and achievements.

Currently, we are working to assist four more schools in 2017/18, ensuring that students have the opportunity to study in proper classrooms protected from weather extremes, and have access to quality furniture, basic libraries and trained female teachers.

The proposed programs are joint initiatives between four schools in Jirghai and Behsud that are administered by Jirghai School Shura (council). As we have seen in the Borjegai school program and our works in Jirghai, the joint education programs help schools to reduce the cost of each program and to learn more about each other activities and priorities.

For most of 2016/17, I was teaching at American University of Afghanistan in Kabul. The nation-wide education story was a mix of hope, resilience and struggle. Despite significant security challenges from the Taliban and other armed opposition groups, rising poverty, social turmoil and political instability, the National Unity Government of Afghanistan (NUG) managed to secure the support of the donor countries and largely controlled the provincial centres.

As a result, public and private schools and growing higher education institutions mostly remained open, especially in the major city centres and more secure areas of the country. Overall, around 6 million students attended primary and secondary schools and enrolment in higher education institutions reached around 250,000 students - a significant achievement for the country. It was the main reason I returned to Afghanistan in 2016 - to make a small contribution in higher education after almost a decade of peaceful life and enormous education opportunities in Australia.

However, schools and higher education institutions were also affected by the ongoing attacks, chronic corruption and weak governance. Sadly, the Taliban attacked the American University of Afghanistan on the evening of

24 August 2016, during the rush hour for the classes. This attack took the lives of 14 innocent students, lecturers and security guards and injured over 40 people. I was teaching a 'state-building' class at the time of the attack, from which we lost my dear student Zubair, a brilliant and highly committed student.

The four decades of conflict and daily loss of innocent lives have regrettably left little worth for human lives in Afghanistan. They are also sad and constant reminders of the historical failures in state-building and widespread culture of poverty in this country.

Despite that, our students and everyone at the American University of Afghanistan stood stronger in the face of ongoing threats and reopened the institution in March 2017 - a sign of fragility, uncertainty and struggle facing students, teachers and parents on daily basis. And, more importantly, a sign of the resilience they show and the high hopes they have for education.

Elsewhere in the country, the prolonged wars and conflict led to the closure of around 400 - 600 schools, mainly in the southern, eastern and recently northern provinces of the country. During my time in Kabul, I saw the true impacts of the ongoing wars in the outskirts of Kabul city, in the temporary shelters, and perhaps permanent homes, for the

internally displaced population and returned refugees from the neighbouring countries.

It was disheartening for me to see young girls and boys, families and elder men and women who lost their loved ones and were forced to take refuge in the temporary shelters. Amongst them were those who went hungry at night, young children who had no access to school, many lacked proper shelters and access to safe drinking water and sanitation. Everyone of those whom I spoke to was deeply worried about the present and future of their country.

Women's Empowerment Centre Gawarshad Institute of Higher Education (GIHE)

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Partnership Coordinator: Deborah Raphael

Program established: 2011



Scholarship recipients from WEC, Kabul

Scholarship recipients hard at work

WEC and the Peace Centre at GIHE held a National Dialogue on women's participation in the peace process with about 200 participants from diverse backgrounds, including civil society, youth, media, academia, women's rights activists, mullahs and parliamentarians.

The Gawarshad Institute of Higher Education (GIHE) is a non-profit coeducational tertiary institution founded in 2010 by Dr Sima Samar, the current chair of Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission. With indigo foundation support, the Women's Empowerment Centre (WEC) was established as part of GIHE's mandate to create greater space and educational opportunities for Afghan women.

WEC plays a significant role in supporting women's participation in the academic life of GIHE, as well as activities that build the skills and capacity to women to enter the workforce after graduating. Classes are mixed and the importance of human rights is threaded throughout the curriculum.

Since 2011, indigo foundation has provided support to develop WEC's capacity to enable financially and educationally disadvantaged Afghan women to access quality higher education in law, political science and economics at GIHE. Support includes a tuition scholarship program and capacity building activities.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Now moving into its seventh year of operation under the committed leadership of Director Nasima Rahmani, GIHE and WEC have continued to deliver a high standard of education and services to students notwithstanding the sustained war and insecurity in Kabul. Particular achievements in 2016/17 include:

- The 6th GIHE graduation ceremony was held for 377 students, 37% of whom were female.
- WEC and the Peace Centre at GIHE held a National Dialogue on women's participation in the peace process with about 200 participants from diverse backgrounds, including civil society, youth, media, academia, women's rights activists, mullahs and parliamentarians.
- The total number of students

at GIHE has increased to approximately 2800 of which 37% are female. Students come from most of the 34 provinces across Afghanistan and are a mix of all religions and ethnicities.

- The WEC scholarship program continues to flourish with increasing support from local businesses as well as international donors.
- The Gender Studies program at GIHE is developing as a sustainable model for women and gender studies in higher education across Afghanistan and is now offered as a diploma course.
- Nasima Rahmani's doctorate on women's rights and divorce in Afghanistan is nearing completion with support from the Max Plank Foundation Hamida Barmaki PhD Scholarship Program awarded to talented and committed law

lecturers in Afghanistan.

- indigo foundation and UTS Sydney co-hosted a thought-provoking panel discussion on the way forward in Afghanistan for women and peace in September 2016. Chaired by ABC's Virginia Haussegger AM, panelists were Nasima Rahmani, Professor Amin Saikal AM Director of ANU Centre for Arab and Islamic Studies and Michelle Hannon from Gilbert and Tobin.
- Alongside this forum, Nasima was interviewed on ABC Radio National about changing opportunities for women in Afghanistan. She also spoke movingly about her advocacy work on women's rights at our annual Sydney dinner in March 2017.
- Dr Sima Samar visited Australia at invitation of indigo foundation and UTS

in May 2017 and undertook a busy schedule of meetings, public events and media in Sydney, Wollongong and Canberra.

- Anousha Ejlasi, a WEC scholar who had received indigo foundation support, is now the senior gender adviser at UN-Habitat Kabul.
- Zahra Joye another scholarship holder is building a reputation as a journalist in Kabul.
- WEC facilitated a "rising" at GIHE in which the status of women in Afghanistan and the needs and demands of women workers were discussed. About 150 students, civil society activists and academic staff participated.
- WEC organised training about combating sexual harassment for GIHE students.



WEC women studying



Scholarship recipients



Graduates from the WEC scholarship program



Jirghai - Shebar High School students in their new building with new desks

CHALLENGES & LESSONS

Insecurity continues to be a part of daily life in Kabul, as does the political struggle to improve the rights of women and girls. Afghanistan remains one of the most difficult countries in the world for women and one of the key barriers to women accessing their rights is the ongoing brutal conflict and uncertainty about the future.

There is a continuing challenge for GIHE to meet the high demand for tuition scholarships from the many women who seek a quality education but cannot access a place at the highly competitive government universities due to financial and educational disadvantage.

A more recent challenge is the need to build the capacity of female students to be able to transition from GIHE to productive employment, overcoming barriers limiting women's participation in the workplace.

THE FUTURE

The prospects for long term sustainability of GIHE and WEC are very positive. The increasing student enrolment is providing a stronger financial base and GIHE is committed to developing new programs including a masters in law and political science.

The scholarship program continues to receive support from a number of donors apart from indigo foundation including Culture of Resistance Foundation and Canadian University Women.

We look forward to our continued association with staff and students at GIHE in the years to come as they work for a better future for Afghanistan.

Afghan Educated Women's Services Organization (AEWSO)

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Partnership Coordinator: Deborah Raphael

Program established: 2016



AEWSO co-founder Nasima Rahmani

Educated women who have an income are more likely to have their voices heard and drive decisions both within the family and public sphere.

Young educated women in Afghanistan face many barriers to gaining employment – daily safety and security issues, harassment, discrimination, limited mobility because of rigid gender norms around work and public space and small social networks. Many give up, and the picture is worse for women from rural areas. Securing a job, is vital for women's empowerment. Educated women who have an income are more likely to have their voices heard and drive decisions both within the family and public sphere.

The Afghan Educated Women's Services Organisation (AEWSO) is a newly established non-government organisation based in Kabul and registered with the Afghanistan Ministry of Economics. It aims to equip educated women with skills and experiences to ensure their economic security and defend their rights in both the public and private sphere. It is an affiliate of Graduate Women International and a key focus of its work is breaking down the barriers that stop women, even once tertiary educated, from finding work in Afghanistan

One of its founders is Nasima Rahmani, a strong advocate for gender equality and education for women since 2004. AEWSO's establishment builds on Nasima's successful work as inaugural director of the Women's Empowerment Centre at Gawharshad Institute for Higher Education in Kabul which indigo foundation has supported since its inception in 2011.

AEWSO sought support from indigo foundation for their first program - a research project to identify challenges and opportunities for Afghan graduate women in seeking employment. This research is being conducted in collaboration with Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre at the University of Technology in Sydney, which is also providing some financial support.

This research will form the basis of AEWSO's ongoing program to effectively advocate for greater employment opportunities for young educated Afghan women.

ACHIEVEMENTS & CHALLENGES IN 2016/17

AEWSO became registered with the Afghan Ministry of Economics in 2016 - no small feat for a new non-government organisation in Afghanistan.

Progress on the research program has been slow but steady during the year and interviews with graduates and workplaces are ongoing. There are a number of challenges for research associated with gender roles in Afghanistan. Interviews with females have to be conducted by females and it is difficult to find experienced female researchers, and even harder to find ones willing to travel outside of Kabul to regional areas.

Our partner has shied away from large scale data collection because it recognises that management and logistics would be impossible for a newly functioning organisation without permanent staff. As a result, the approach adopted has been

to spend time with individual interviewees - a long process and often difficult because of the lack of privacy enjoyed by women.

Another challenge for researchers in Afghanistan is translation which presents issues on a number of levels. The research questionnaires and framework have been developed in English and are then translated into Dari and Pashtu. The data is then translated back into English for analysis, which requires skilled translators and a time delay. Nonetheless, AEWSO are making good progress.

THE FUTURE

The research project is on track to finish and deliver a report during 2017/18.

We are then hoping to continue to support AEWSO as it uses its evidence base to start engaging in advocacy initiatives to seek to overcome barriers facing women graduates and create greater employment opportunities for educated women.

Community Coalition for Vulnerable Families and Children

BUDAKA, UGANDA

Partnership Coordinator: Ellen Percy Kraly and Marnie Marin

Liaison Officer: Joyce Katooko

Program established: 2009



Women sewing at Munaka-Kaama Community Development Initiatives



Members and beneficiaries of Iki-Iki Aids Initiative singing group



Children from the Gaalimagi HIV/AIDS and Orphans Association

The children we support with scholastic materials are improving academically and their independence is growing.

Our Budaka program in Eastern Uganda is comprised of six local partners: Kakule HIV/AIDS and Grieved Families Association, Gaalimagi HIV/AIDS and Orphans Association, Trinity Child Care Ministry, Iki-Iki Aids Initiative, Munaku-Kaama Community Development Initiatives and Nasenyi Community Action. They have been supporting vulnerable children and families within their communities for more than seven years.

Our experienced Liaison Officer, Katooko Joyce, supports and mentors our local partners to become transparent, sustainable, equitable, community owned and led local organisations, in line with our guiding principles.

Virtually a generation of people have passed away from HIV/AIDS in the Budaka region and many orphaned children have been left in its wake. Although the Ugandan government offers free universal education, many children do not attend school. The double stigma associated with being orphaned and not being able to afford school materials creates

resonating barriers to education for these children. The families our partners work with are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity.

Our community partners are committed to raising awareness in their communities, homes and schools about HIV/AIDS and to supporting families impacted by HIV. They provide school supplies and vocational training opportunities for children and young people, as well as food security initiatives. They train community members as counsellors to promote testing for HIV and the use of condoms. And work done with drama and music groups helps to build confidence among participants and overcome stigmatisation of people impacted by HIV.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016/17, our community partnership saw increased school participation and improved educational outcomes, as well as food security and income generation projects which are beginning to ease some of the burden within communities.

Achievements include:

- By 2017, the Budaka partnership was supporting approximately 2500 orphans and vulnerable children with scholastic materials. In August this year one of our partners reported that “the children we support with scholastic materials are improving academically and their independence is growing”.
- Trinity Childcare Ministries developed a sewing and weaving project that has given widows valuable vocational skills.

- Iki Iki AIDS Community Group and Galimaagi AIDS and Grieving Orphans ran drama outreach and singing groups, as well as public outreach events, which have promoted awareness of HIV prevention and management in the community.
- Munaku-Kaama Community Development Initiative ran a young women’s group to encourage participation and leadership among their youth.

CHALLENGES & LESSONS

The challenges facing vulnerable children in the communities remain considerable. There is a need to keep children at school longer and to improve their nutrition and health. Many vulnerable children still go to school without breakfast and lunch and can not afford school uniforms, which are vital for reducing the stigma associated with poverty. The scholastic materials provided as part of this program are very important and our partners are increasingly interested in improving access to vocational skills training for young people beyond school.

Many students leave school after the age of 12 years and do so without the skills and knowledge to generate an income. Vocational training for youth raises the chances that a young person will be employed, playing a critical role in breaking the poverty cycle.



Our partners deep in strategic planning in Budaka



School children supported by our partners, Trinity Ministries Childcare

THE FUTURE

The numbers of orphans and vulnerable children in need of support remains high and our partners aspire to be able to meet this increasing demand for schooling and training.

Many children in the Budaka community fail to transition from primary to secondary school and dropping out of school is a persistent problem. Our community partners in Uganda strive to improve school participation, retention rates and educational outcomes from primary school through the secondary school levels.

A goal of our community partners is to develop a larger focus on vocational training to help build the skills young people need to gain employment. Our partners have a shared vision to establish a 'Vocational Centre' that is accessible both geographically and financially. We look forward to working with our partners to

map the feasibility and plan for this Centre.

indigo foundation will continue to support our in-country Liaison Officer build the capacity of our local partners and facilitate the exchange of learning so these developing local organisations can achieve their goals for vulnerable children and young people



Our Budaka brainstorming hopes for the coming year

Wedweil Community Development Foundation

WEDWEIL, BAHR EL GHAZAL, SOUTH SUDAN

Project Advisor: Santino Yuot

Partnership Coordinator: Sue Cunningham and Jean-Louise Olivier

Program established: 2013

“Thank you Wedweil Community Development Foundation for your good work. I am a widow and I don’t have work but now education is near me”

Wedweil-based war widow, whose children attend Wedweil School



Community leaders meeting in Wedweil

A classroom in action at Wedweil School

A conference of girls and young women at Wedweil School

This community partnership began through our connection in Sydney to Santino Yuot, a former South Sudanese refugee. Santino had maintained contact with his home village of Wedweil in South Sudan and he shared a vision with the Wedweil community to support a teacher training and school renovation project.

In Wedweil and surrounding villages, it is estimated that only 10% of children attend primary school. There is only one school, built prior to 1965 and damaged during the civil war. Prior to our partnership in 2013, Wedweil school was being used without windows or floors and with a makeshift roof. There were few books, pens and other learning materials, no toilets and no sources of safe drinking water. Teachers from the local community were poorly trained and badly paid and their motivation to deliver quality education was seriously undermined. Despite these challenges, the community had

a strong desire to educate their children – it is in this context that our partnership with the Wedweil Community Development Foundation (WCDF) was born.

The WCDF set their ongoing priorities based on consultation and participatory decision-making with the community. Their priorities are: to improve the training and capacity of teachers; to rebuild and improve school buildings to host increasing numbers of students, and; to improve school and community infrastructure, including a new well and food garden.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Much has been achieved since the partnership was initiated. In 2014, we supported the community to renovate and re-roof four classrooms. For the first time, students could attend school in any weather.

In 2016, we supported the community to build Wedweil School’s first toilets (two male and two female toilets). Children no longer have to take time out of class to walk into the bush to go to the toilet. Separate toilets are also a significant factor in increasing the enrolment of girls. We expect that families will feel more comfortable sending their girls to school and that girls will be able to manage their period much more easily at school.

And we supported the WCDF to conduct the first teacher training course in Wedweil, run in two intensive blocks in 2016 and 2017. This course was attended by 15 teachers from Wedweil

School and ten head teachers from surrounding schools. Two teacher-trainers were brought in from Juba and the course covered class management, teacher-student relationships and language training in English and Dinka.

Santino and the WCDF have worked to build strong and productive relationships with the South Sudanese Government. While Santino was in South Sudan in December 2016, he met with three General Directors of Education and the Director of Gender Equity in Northern Bahr el Ghazal. These meetings resulted in increased awareness and understanding of the program, moral support for the teacher training and a specific commitment from the government to provide the food for attendees during future teacher training – a significant contribution in a region on the brink of famine.

School attendance has grown to over 500, 30-35% of whom are girls. Across the country, South Sudan has low enrolment of girls in school and we continue to monitor and act on this in Wedweil. Santino convened a full-day ‘girls conference’ during his most recent visit to discuss obstacles to girls attending school and strategies to increase enrolment and participation.

In 2015, Wedweil School officially became a secondary school to accommodate children and young people staying in school and people returning to school after dropping out due to ongoing armed conflict or poverty. Santino provides an example of one girl who left school early to be married, but since the initiation of this program, has returned to school.



THE FUTURE

We look forward to working with WCDF in 2017/18 to continue to improve the quality of education and learning at Wedweil School. Following the success of our first teacher training program, we hope to implement an expanded teacher training program for teachers and schools across the region.

We will also work with the community to improve school infrastructure, including ensuring the school has on-site access to clean water for students and teachers, restoring school buildings to accommodate increasing student numbers and establishing a food garden so students can have a basic breakfast when they arrive at school.



Otjiwarongo Development Program Fund

OTJIWARONGO, NAMIBIA

Partnership Coordinator: Deborah Raphael

Liaison Officer: Monica Tjehiua

Program established: 2013

"In 2013, OtjiVeg was a start up co-operative. Four years later produce is sold daily at market and supplied to local hotels and guest-houses."



The partnership aims to improve the health and well-being of the communities in the marginalised township of Orwetoveni on the periphery of Otjiwarongo in the northern central highlands of Namibia. The focus is on physical and social health, education and empowerment of residents, particularly female headed households, through small income generating activities, youth activities and food security.

In a country with high income inequality, 50% of the population under 24 and one of the highest youth unemployment rates in southern Africa, there is an urgent need for youth focused activities to address social vulnerability and provide economic security. Lack of social, educational and recreational facilities prompted our engagement with the community through a partnership between Rotary Club Macquarie Park and indigo foundation.

Otjiwarongo Development Programme Fund (ODPF) was established as a fledgling community organisation to partner with us. Their aim is to support local community initiatives and, in the medium-term, to establish a community youth centre.

Partnering with a newly functioning committee that was not yet registered as an NGO, we agreed the best way forward was to support a modest program of activities over the first two years as we built the relationship and fostered trust with the Orwetoveni community. These activities have focussed on the physical and social health of young people, food security and empowerment of women through small income generating activities. These priorities were established during extensive community consultations in July 2014. The activities have been ongoing since 2015 when Monica Tjehiua was appointed indigo foundation's Liaison Officer.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The project is still developing but there are already some great achievements, in particular the creation of OtjiVeg - a community run market garden whose success has increased interest in market gardening across Otjiwarongo.

OtjiVeg continues to thrive under the patient stewardship of Hendrik Morosi. In 2013, it was a start up co-operative. Four years later produce is sold daily at market and supplied to local hotels and guesthouses. Profits are put back into a poultry side business. The seven regular volunteers share in the profits and fresh produce in return for daily commitment to the garden. There are some great stories around OtjiVeg:

- Viola has been a volunteer at OtjiVeg for 3 years and comes daily with her toddler usually walking the 3km from her home. She gets eggs and

vegetables and a small income and has gained experience in cultivation and poultry raising. She would like to start a fruit and vegetable business.

- Nineteen groups have applied for plots under the new Otjiwarongo Municipal Council small-scale agricultural projects program including an OtjiVeg extension and TW Tulongeni Project and Ashwell Graphics Academy, all of which received support through the indigo foundation partnership.

The Orwetoveni Youth Sport and Cultural Program has continued with male and female soccer teams, a netball team and regular dance classes. We have also supported a talented group of young people from Ashwell Graphics Academy Group - the arrival of a new computer and the donation of a sophisticated

camera and lens have opened up new possibilities for them in music and video production.



Hard at work preparing beds at the OtjiVeg gardens



Soccer team supported by the Owetoveni Youth Sport and Cultural Program

CHALLENGES & LESSONS

There were plenty of challenges during 2016/17, however our monitoring visits have worked to reinvigorate relationships and provide a mechanism to deal with challenges. The size and lack of gender balance of the committee has been a limitation. Meetings were being held sporadically and it was often hard to get a quorum.

Like many fledgling organisations, ODPF was finding that financial and activity reporting requirements had stretched its capacity. Lack of progress on NGO registration was also a concern.

indigo foundation assisted ODPF deal with these challenges and helped the members understand the implications of inadequate governance for its longer-term development. A new enlarged committee with gender parity was elected at an AGM in April 2017 and papers were lodged for registration in June 2017. This is promising progress.

THE FUTURE

We are looking forward to building our partnership during 2017/18. The land is still available and, most critically, there is strong support for the organisation both from Otjiwarongo Municipal Council and Hon Neumbo, the regional councillor.

NGO registration was completed in September 2017 and ODPF can now formally apply for the lease of the council land and focus on preparing a vision for the centre and a clear strategic plan for implementation. Meanwhile, we will continue to fund a program of activities supporting local organisations, such as OtjiVeg.

Club Rafiki

KIGALI, RWANDA

Partnership Coordinators: Mandy Wheen and David Wheen

Liaison Officer: Rosine Uwamariya

Program established: 2012

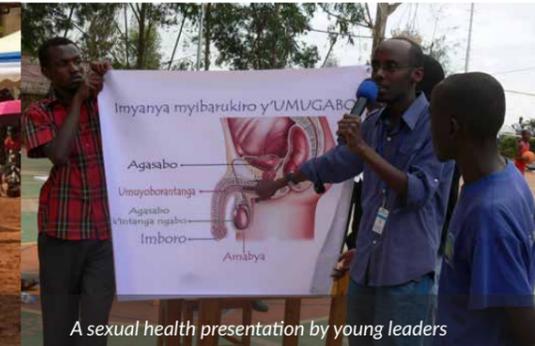
Young people participating in Club Rafiki's dance, English and other programs are proud of their achievements, are learning valuable life skills and having fun.



Club Rafiki's new English language workshops



Club Rafiki dancers at an opening of a maternal and child centre



A sexual health presentation by young leaders

Club Rafiki is a community based organisation in Kigali, Rwanda. Its programs include an urban dance school, a library to help students do their homework and access the internet, a kindergarten and basketball and volleyball courts.

The Club offers family planning education and HIV and pregnancy testing along with English language classes, entrepreneurship programs, hairdressing and literacy classes.

This year the Club was honoured to have Paul Kagame, the President of Rwanda, visit to open newly renovated basketball facilities. In opening the facilities he said basketball and the Club: "provide a spark that is required to light the bigger flame [of opportunity] that we want to see" for young people.

indigo foundation's funding, management and technical support, commenced in 2012 and in 2017 we signed a further agreement for support until 2022. We fund the operation of the dance school (hip hop, rap, reggae,

funk) and enable Club Rafiki to extend its reach into the local community and beyond. This has developed young people's dance skills, their health and general life skills along with fostering a sense of belonging. Engagement with Club Rafiki helps to build young people's identities, as individuals and as members of a respected team (the dance team and team Club Rafiki).

Dance classes are now attended by some 200 girls and boys each week in Kigali and in two rural villages. Its reach is far greater than this through public dance performances and sexual health education programs that target and attract hundreds of young people. These programs, using dancers to connect with their peers, have continued to raise awareness of HIV and its prevention and how unwanted teenage pregnancies can be avoided. The sexual health education programs reinforce national priorities and have gained the support of local authorities and other community partners.

ACHIEVEMENTS & CHALLENGES

The continuation and expansion of the voluntary sexual health education and testing programs is noteworthy. indigo foundation increased its financial support for both sexual health counselling and free testing for HIV, pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases to fill the gap left by the Global Fund reducing its funding to Rwanda in 2016. The resulting reduction in financial support was of great concern. It meant Club Rafiki needed to charge young women for pregnancy tests, resulting in a sharp decline in the numbers tested and removing the opportunity for valuable counselling and education.

An important feature of the sexual health education programs is the positive relationship between the Club and the parents of young participants. The culture of modern dance is not something most parents are familiar with, but they trust the Club to provide programs of

benefit to their children. Many parents have reported how much they appreciate the sexual health education given as this is something they are not able or comfortable to do.

Learning English is a national priority and this year, with our support, the Club commenced English language workshops to build on English already learnt at school and develop speaking and writing skills. We are funding the workshops and also helping the Club build its library of English story books for young readers.

Club Rafiki and indigo foundation have developed what it calls "a special relationship". indigo foundation funding is a catalyst for Club Rafiki enabling it to expand its programs and enhance its visibility in the wider community. This increased visibility has resulted in greater recognition by government and the Club being more widely consulted on

community needs and priorities. It has also led to the Club developing other partnerships of benefit to their local community. For example, Imbutu, a large local NGO, has supported the Club's sexual health education outreach and DOT Canada now works with the Club to offer internet access and provide entrepreneurship training programs.

The significant growth in activities since 2012 has placed strains on the Club's management. It has responded by investing in its planning and accountability processes. Building management capacity in organisations is often overlooked by funders but we see it as essential to our community partner's future.

Young people participating in Club Rafiki's dance, English and other programs are proud of their achievements, are learning valuable life skills and having fun.

THE FUTURE

Club Rafiki continues to be ambitious and have rich ideas about improving opportunities for its community. A priority for the future is to further empower women and girls. Although girls constitute half of participants in activities funded by indigo foundation, this is not the case in all of the programs. The conservative culture in Rwanda means it has to continually work to attract and girls to its programs.

The Club plans to start a series of activities targeting girls. For example, engaging a female basketball coach and a female trainer to assist girls with their use of IT and social media. We look forward to working with Club Rafiki on these activities.

Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation

ROTE ISLAND, INDONESIA

Partnership Coordinator: Caitlin Winter

Liaison Officer: Hibri Jamaludin

Program established: 2000



The pig bank is in high demand

Watering the Buneon co-operative garden

Sorting tourist beans at Tuaneo co-operative garden

“We knew of the importance of nutrition and getting a variety of vegetables in our diet, but our village was limited to accessing vegetables once a week at the Tuesday markets. Since we began the Sedeen gardens, we are able to eat vegetables every day”

Mama Mari, a kindergarten teacher and leader of the Sedeen garden

Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation (Lua Lemba) from Rote Island in Eastern Indonesia is indigo foundation’s longest-standing community partner.

Lua Lemba works with villages and sub-villages in four districts on the arid and remote island of Rote. The committee of Lua Lemba consists of key local figures who use both formal and informal processes to consult with and identify the needs of their community. Lua Lemba’s first initiative was to establish a senior high school in West Rote Island. Graduates from this school have gone on to university and returned to Rote as administrators, teachers, primary health workers and small business owners. While education remains at the core of Lua Lemba’s focus, a successful food security program and an annual cultural festival are also important features.

Some of Lua Lemba’s other achievements over the years include: delivering a successful enfranchisement program registering women and children with the Indonesian government; funding

scholarships for high school and university level students; instigating a pig bank and cooperative gardens for food security and income generation; and initiating the Cultural Festival in Delha, which started in 2010. These activities continue as a part of Lua Lemba’s core program.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Achievements for the community partnership include:

- With the support of an Australian Ethical community grant, Lua Lemba helped to establish five new women-run co-operative gardens in the past two years. Despite a challenging dry season and food shortages across the region, the co-operative gardens are thriving as a community hub and producing a steady supply of fruit and vegetables for the co-operative members and their families. Families have reported that their intake of vegetables has increased and the co-operatives have been able to sell some of the produce to generate income. One of the co-operative gardens invested all profits into a collective fund to purchase more garden infrastructure. Another co-operative garden was able to

leverage its success to apply for and succeed in a local government grant to purchase a cultivator. Lua Lemba also organised a successful agricultural training session for the co-operative gardens.

- The bursary program for students from primary and secondary school and university rolled out successfully. Bursaries were awarded to 40 students from university and 20 students from primary and secondary school. There is a growing demand for bursaries due to both the success of the students and the needs of the community. Parents, teachers and students report that the impact of these bursaries has been wide-ranging - from improved student results to giving parents the means to buy textbooks and school shoes for their children.

- 13 Kindergarten teachers received an honorarium this year from seven different kindergartens. The Kindergarten teachers observed a change in the community’s acknowledgement of the importance of early childhood education, a recent focus of Lua Lemba. Many more families are now enrolling their children in kindergarten.
- The Cultural Festival in July 2016 was a great success, with sponsorship from local businesses and growing crowd numbers.



Rotinese music and dancing at the 2016 Delha cultural festival in Rote



The Lua Lemba team

Listening attentively at one of Lua Lemba's partner preschools

“The bursary assists me greatly to purchase books for my studies and pay for school fees, which my parents are unable to support due to their limited income”

Louisa, 21 year old teaching student

CHALLENGES

Lua Lemba is a small volunteer-based organisation and the composition of Lua Lemba’s Executive Committee shifts overtime. Several new members have joined in the past few years and this year we identified the importance of working with Lua Lemba’s committee to ensure ongoing engagement with indigo foundation’s approach and guiding principles. Lua Lemba works across quite a large area in Rote and we are also working with Lua Lemba to encourage wider community representation at Lua Lemba’s meetings.

This year we farewelled our Liaison Officer Hibri Jamuladin. Hibri moved to a different part of Indonesia and straddling the Liaison Officer role when not in Rote proved unsustainable. Hibri remains close to Lua Lemba and will continue to support their work from afar.

THE FUTURE

We are currently working with Lua Lemba on our next three year partnership agreement. We were very pleased to have secured funding from the tna foundation to support our cluster of Indonesian partners in 2017/18. In Rote, this funding will support a program that includes bursaries for children from primary school to university, training and stipends for early childhood educators and support for a network of cooperative gardens.



Women's tug of war competition at the 2016 Delha cultural festival

Nefo Ko'u Farmers' Co-operative

APREN, WEST TIMOR, INDONESIA

Partnership Coordinator: Libby House

Program established: 2016

"In 2016 these small gardens produced almost 6 tonnes of tomatoes and 1.25 tonnes of beans plus fruit, leaf vegetables and taro."

Apren is situated in the remote mountains of South Central Timor, Indonesia. People in Apren live a largely subsistence lifestyle and derive some income from selling produce at the nearest market town several kilometres away. There is a small primary school in Apren but higher education is more difficult to access and impossible for most families because of distance and lack of means. There is little evidence of the modern world in Apren.

This new partnership has been driven by Andi Abineno, a teacher and former executive member of Lua Lemba (our partner in Rote, Indonesia). Having seen our long-term partnership with Lua Lemba in Rote, Andi returned to his native Apren and worked with a group of men and women to establish the Nefo Ko'u Farmers Co-operative. Nefo Ko'u began cultivating gardens on communal land around their village in 2014. Soon, 12 of the 40 family groups from Apren were involved,

cultivating the gardens by hand and borrowing a rotivator when possible.

In 2016 these small gardens produced almost 6 tonnes of tomatoes and 1.25 tonnes of beans plus fruit, leaf vegetables and taro. The surplus sold brought the village an income of just over \$1500, a considerable amount in Apren and a wonderful achievement given the absence of gardening tools and water infrastructure.



Signing our first commitment agreement with Nefo Ko'u



Standing amongst the towering beans in Nefo Ko'u co-operative

"In 2016 these small gardens produced almost 6 tonnes of tomatoes and 1.25 tonnes of beans plus fruit, leaf vegetables and taro"

ACHIEVEMENTS

This is indigo foundation's first year of partnership with Nefo Ko'u and, as with most new partnerships, our initial focus is for a small program that allows us to test and build the relationship.

Our first commitment agreement involved funding a rotivator for the group. We also embarked on discussions about what Nefo Ko'u and the community prioritises in the longer-term: training in organic food production, the expansion of food production both for sale and consumption at home and provision of scholarships to Apren children. The end goal of these activities is improvements in community health (through nutrition and exercise), access to education and learning for adults and overall quality of life and wellbeing for people in Apren.

CHALLENGES

Nefo Ko'u faces challenges on many fronts. The mountainous terrain and unmade roads mean it is often cut off from the outside world during the wet season. There is no electricity and access to information, training and support is severely limited for adults as well as children. As a result, many people in Apren are not registered with local government so have no access to the Indonesian government's social protection programs.

In May this year a one day visit to Apren by the instigator of the Rotinese food security strategy was inspiring for Nefo Ko'u and underscored the value of peer support and shared experience in new initiatives. A practical workshop was organised by Nefo Ko'u, which covered maintenance of the rotivator and a session on cultivating new varieties of vegetables. The workshop was well received.

Nefo Ko'u is fortunate to have the long experience of Lua Lemba at hand through Pak Andi Abineno and will move forward step by step as their capacity increases.

THE FUTURE

Nefo Ko'u have identified training in organic vegetable growing as a priority. This is in response to demand in the closest market town for foraged forest and organic produce to supply hotels in Kupang. Nefo Ko'u will take part in organic, closed system gardening training with our two other partners in Eastern Indonesia in 2018. They will also attend Lua Lemba's Delha Cultural Festival at the same time, sharing traditional music and dancing and exchanging information on handcrafts production.

Nefo Ko'u's longer term plan includes a program of registration for remote and marginalised families which will enable access to free pre and post natal care and voting and inheritance rights for women, however this is an ambitious project and will involve considerable strengthening of Nefo Ko'u as an NGO. Their visit to Rote in 2018 will provide

Nefo Ko'u with the opportunity to discuss these issues and how the related challenges have been responded to by both PEKKA Lodan Doe and Lua Lemba, both of whom have delivered successful programs in social protection and enfranchisement.

Mahalir Sakthi

MADURAI, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Partnership Coordinator: John Bolger

Program established: 2012



Health checks at Mahalir Sakthi's quarterly clinic



An engaged Mahalir Sakthi audience listens to poetry



Women in a tailoring class

"Almost all the children who attend the tuition centres have passed the year 10 national exam on their first attempt."

Mahalir Sakthi was established in 2005 and registered as an NGO in India in 2007. Its goal is to empower children and women from the most disadvantaged communities (Dalit and Adivasi communities) in the slums of Madurai to escape from the cycle of poverty, discrimination and violence.

Mahalir Sakthi's programs are wide-ranging and include:

- supporting school children to stay in school at least until the watershed year 10 national exams in India;
- providing skills training for unemployed youth and women as a means to generate income and escape from work that is often degrading and dangerous;
- protecting the rights of domestic workers, who are notoriously at risk of exploitation, through a Domestic Worker's Union;
- improving health outcomes of slum communities through health lectures and clinics that bring in doctors, nurses and medicines; and
- advocating and liaising with the government on behalf of slum

dwellers to secure their rights and entitlements.

'Dalit' is the name given to a group of people who are born completely outside India's caste system (formerly referred to as "Untouchables"). Tradition assigns Dalits to performing all the dirty laborious work in society, including gutter cleaning, manual scavenging, toilet cleaning, garbage collection and so on. There are 200 million Dalits in India and their children have a high dropout rate from schools. They are often lacking motivation and discriminated against by members of the wider community. This frequently results in the children becoming labourers and inheriting the same demeaning tasks that their parents performed, perpetuating the poverty cycle.

Since 2012, indigo foundation has financially supported Mahalir Sakthi in running a number of their programs, in particular their tuition centres for students; the Domestic Workers' Union; typing and tailoring classes for women; and, more recently, a series of free health lectures and clinics.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016/17:

- Mahalir Sakthi ran 11 tuition centres in different locations with 76 students actively participating. The tuition classes run every day from 5.30 to 7.30 pm in different areas around the slums. The children are from a range of disadvantaged backgrounds including Dalit, Adivasi, Christian and Muslim children. The classes have a good gender balance with roughly half boys and girls. Through career visits, the tuition centres also aim to expand the children's visions of what they can do when they grow up. Almost all the children who attend the tuition centres have been passing the year 10 national exam on their first attempt, which is a fantastic achievement.
- 60 women gained tailoring skills, giving them access to an

income not based on manual labour, which improves not only their future prospects but that of their families too. Approximately half of the women trained have secured employment in manufacturing businesses, while the rest are making garments at home for family and neighbours.

- Some 50 young people undertook typing classes and gained keyboard skills, enhancing their employment prospects. The classes have expanded this year following the donation of an additional three typewriters from Loyola Technical Institute, a local long term collaborator and supporter of Mahalir Sakthi's activities. Around 70% of participants in these classes are women.
- 40 women have secured employment via Mahalir Sakthi in domestic work and

home nursing. Women's membership of the Domestic Workers Union enables them to get an appropriate rate of pay for their work and to have employment conditions monitored by Mahalir Sakthi.

Mahalir Sakthi also run an annual celebration day each January. This features Dalit cultural activities, dancing, singing and drama. It is a popular event with around 130 children actively involved along with parents and other community members. Such cultural events are vital to the well-being of communities and the celebration of Dalit identity and culture has become an important part of the way the community resists and rejects the negative stereotypes they have been subject to and creates pride in their own culture.



Participants in the general knowledge quiz

CHALLENGES

The organisational strength of Mahalir Sakthi was tested this year when co-founding sisters Guna and Grace were both hospitalised, at one point simultaneously. The two women have been a driving force for the group but Mahalir Sakthi team members demonstrated their usual flexibility by redistributing activities to cover for the enforced absences. Mahalir Sakthi is a Tamil phrase meaning “Women’s Power”, which the team amply demonstrates.

THE FUTURE

indigo foundation will continue to support Mahalir Sakthi’s proven programs that empower women and children in the slums of Madurai. There is increasing demand from children and families for places in the tuition centres so we are working with Mahalir Sakthi to try to increase the number of student places available.



Cutting patterns during tailoring class

Program for Education and Awareness Building

MADHURANTAKUM, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

Partnership Coordinator: John Bolger

Liaison Officer: Semmalar Selvi

Program established: 2006



Activities at the annual PEAB summer camp for Dalit children



A coaching session on year 10 exam technique



Students hard at work in a VEC class

Year 10 students in the PEAB programs achieved a 93% success rate in the 2017 National Exam.

The Program for Education and Awareness Building (PEAB) has, since 2006, supported rural Dalit children to improve their educational performance with the aim of enhancing their employment opportunities. Dalit children are discriminated against in school and often drop out before Year 10 - making it almost impossible to escape the poverty that continues to mark Dalit communities in India.

PEAB operates eight Village Education Centres (VECs) in six locations around Madhurantakum, a rural town 80 km from Chennai. These VECs provide after school tuition and assistance with home assignments for students five days per week up to Year 9. This encourages continued education and improved educational outcomes for the students. Total attendance at the VECs is now over 200 children. Indigo Foundation has been the sole source of funding since 2007.

The VEC tutors are all from the communities they serve and have reached Year 10 education or more themselves. Some are attending tertiary studies at the same time as tutoring others; they are all strong role models for community and students alike.

PEAB also operates coaching centres for 25 Year 10 students in English, Tamil, Mathematics, Science and Social Science. The Indian National Exam, sat at the end of Year 10, is a nationwide benchmark for students (the equivalent of Australian HSC/VEC exams) and a determining factor in employment prospects. Without at least an attempt at this exam, only manual labour work options are available.

Each of the Year 10 tutors are employed at government schools during the day and they provide this coaching enthusiastically for a minimal stipend. They are all very motivated to help the children access the benefits of progressing their education as far as possible.

PEAB also holds an annual Summer Camp for all students. This camp is a chance to bring all the children together for learning activities and to practice and celebrate Dalit culture, crafts and music.

ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016/17

- Attendance at VECs has increased from 140 to over 200 students. This is in part due to the opening of a new location to increase capacity in response to community needs. But it also reflects the students (and their parents) increasing desire to remain at school and gain an education.
- Year 10 students in the PEAB programs achieved a 93% success rate in the 2017 National Exam, with one student achieving 3rd place in his whole school. This is an excellent achievement for any students but exceptional for one from a Dalit community.
- With their Fourth Summer Camp held in May 2017, PEAB continues building community and team connections, including cultural activities such as traditional crafts, dancing and music. This

year, the camp also engaged students in diverse activities including drawing, science experiments and life skills such as first aid training.

- For the third year running PEAB held a successful event to celebrate International Women's Day. This event was started in 2015 by two VEC tutors. It has become a fixture in local community life and is a particularly important event for local women and PEAB's female students.



Listening closely in a VEC class

CHALLENGES

PEAB's team lost a key staff person in 2016 responsible for site coordination and initially struggled to fill this gap. The team was able to reorganise several existing roles in response and communications for site coordination have now improved.

THE FUTURE

PEAB's team will continue looking for opportunities to increase the number of children studying in VECs and in particular look to promote a curiosity to learn amongst all the children rather than rote learning and identifying and nurturing individual talents as is often the focus in Indian schools. As part of this they will continue to make the Summer Camp an annual event to develop the children's life skills, encourage creativity and increase their knowledge.

Training sessions on successful exam techniques for Year 10 students will be continued. The training has been very effective in reducing the stress associated with this important milestone, not only for the students but also for parents who frequently have no experience of education themselves. The team is also considering methods to encourage young people who have dropped out of school to re-engage with their education.



Cutting patterns during tailoring class

Aminata Maternal Foundation

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

Affiliated Partner

PEKKA

(Empowerment to Women Headed Households)

JAKARTA AND LODAN DOE, INDONESIA

New Partner



This year we launched a relationship with the Aminata Maternal Foundation (AMF), a new Australian-based organisation that supports child and maternal health in Sierra Leone. AMF was founded by CEO Aminata Conteh-Biger, a former refugee from Sierra Leone. We immediately saw the parallels with our programs in Afghanistan and South Sudan, which developed from similar connections to refugee communities. -

Our agreement is to auspice donations for AMF under indigo foundation's deductible gift recipient status. In accordance with the agreement, we were confident that AMF's constitution and activities were consistent with indigo foundation's mission and have monitored this over the past year. We have also enjoyed a productive relationship with AMF sharing lessons about establishing a small NGO and our approach to development. AMF's guiding principles are modelled off indigo foundation's four guiding principles.

In June 2017, the ATO granted AMF deductible gift recipient status. We have been excited to support AMF establish as a viable NGO in Australia and we are delighted that our approach to community-led development is being replicated by other small NGOs in Australia."

PEKKA is an Indonesian women's empowerment organisation that supports women heads of household (including rural widows, abandoned and divorced women). PEKKA has led campaigns and programs aimed at education, health, access to justice, livelihood and women's leadership in the community. PEKKA has a national secretariat based in Jakarta and over 1,350 PEKKA groups at village level.

In 2015, indigo foundation, PEKKA and the World Congress on Family Law and Children's Rights formed a three way relationship to support a new community development and education program for marginalised children from female-headed households. In this partnership, World Congress undertook the primary fundraising role in Australia. In 2015/16, PEKKA established the framework to roll out the scholarship program and in 2016/17, we transferred the funds raised by World Congress and a scholarship program for young people from female-headed households started to roll out.

In the coming year, with the support of the **tna foundation**, we are excited to launch a new three-year partnership with one of the PEKKA collectives in Adonara, Eastern Indonesia. This partnership will support PEKKA Loden Doe to run community-based education and food security programs to support female heads-of-household in Adonora and surrounding islands.

special thanks

TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

To our **Patron Libby Lloyd AM** – thank you for your passion, your incredible enthusiasm, your ideas and your determination. We benefit enormously from your commitment and hard work.



Mielle Roberts from our Melbourne volunteer team with board member Bianca Crocker



Santino Yuot and our MC Genevieve Morris made our Melbourne dinner a great success



The sea to summit riders near Kiama

indigo foundation is a proudly volunteer-based organisation. Our volunteer Partnership Coordinators and Advisors are at the heart of our work. We extend our heartfelt thanks to **Sue Cunningham, Ellen Kraly, Marnie Marin, Jean-Louise Olivier, Deborah Raphael, John Bolger, David Wheen, Mandy Wheen, Caitlin Winter, Ali Reza Yunespour and Santino Yuot** for their enormous efforts this year.

Many thanks to:

- In-country Liaison Officers **Joyce Katooko, Semmalar Selvi, Hibri Jamaludin, Monica Tjehiua and Rosine Uwamariya** for the integrity, professionalism and insight you bring to indigo foundation.
- **Jemma Pope** for your professionalism and creative skills in designing our 2016 annual report.
- **Supipi Jayawardena, Louise Coutts, Ingrid Radford**

and **Lucyna MacDermott** for leading the way on the Fundraising & Marketing Committee.

- **Nasima Rahmani** for being an inspiring speaker at our International Women's Day dinner in Sydney as well as a wonderful partner as the Director of the Women's Empowerment Centre.
- **Ann Porcino** for her time and guidance in crafting our 2017 - 2022 strategy.
- **Robin Brown, Jill McSpedden, Allan Asher, Ben Loudon, David Clarke, Ian Robinson, Rick Arthur, Rod James, Gillian Riches, Viv Ellis, Karin Laird** and the support crew **Lois Asher and David Wheen** for your incredible effort in the Sea to Summit ride, from organising accommodation, rallying friends and networks and riding all the way from Sydney to Mount Kosciuszko to raise funds for indigo foundation.

- **Miranda Nagy** and the team at Maurice Blackburn and **Jonathon Hunyor** and his team at the Public Interest Advocacy Centre for joining with us to host a wonderful lunchtime event with Dr Sima Samar.
- **Isabelle Raphael** for your amazing leaflets, thank you cards and design advice – not to mention your patience and speedy work.
- **Supipi Jayawardena** for preparing a delicious Sri Lankan feast for indigo foundation supporters
- Our wonderful and much-appreciated team of Canberra supporters and volunteers and specifically to **Annabel and Hugh Griffin** for hosting our end of year thank you event in Canberra.
- **Mielle Roberts** for your hard work and determination in helping to pull off our second annual Melbourne dinner.

- **Louise Coutts** and the team at IAG for dedicating half a day to folding and posting our end of year appeal – the most efficient mail out we've ever done!
- **Deborah and Ken Raphael** and **Alice and David Martin** for so generously opening your home for an intimate evening with Dr Sima Samar.
- **Ingrid Radford** for your attention to detail and professionalism in managing the 2017 travel raffle.
- **Theresa Mullan, Petru Teodorescu, Judy and John Mullan** and **Theresa Huxtable** for organising a lovely winter afternoon soiree in Wollongong.
- The unstoppable team of **Ros Strong, Libby Lloyd, Virginia Houssegger** and **Deborah Raphael** and UTS students **Alison Pooley, Cathy Kim** and **Isabel Munro** for your work in organising a fantastic and

thoughtful panel on women in Afghanistan.

- **Burgmann College** for hosting our annual face-to-face February gathering – the inaugural gathering in Canberra. And to **Alice Roughley** for opening your home for a very fun dinner.
- **Verity Firth** and **Genevieve Morris** for volunteering your time, humour and professionalism to MC our dinners in Sydney and Melbourne.
- And finally to **Pat Duggan**, a force of nature, for not only being on our Development Advisory Committee, but also for drafting the regular 'Pat's picks' section for our e-news and for providing wonderful moral support and mentoring.

many thanks

TO OUR ORGANISATIONAL PARTNERS

Our organisational partners are essential to our ongoing success. Many thanks to the following



Planet Wheeler Foundation

The Planet Wheeler Foundation has been a much valued partner in our education program in Jirghai since 2015.



tna packaging and processes solutions

We are excited to welcome tna as a new partner in 2017, partnering with us to fund our education, food security and women's empowerment programs in Indonesia.



Australian Ethical

We were a grateful recipient of a \$10,000 community grant, in conjunction with our partner, the Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation to establish five new women-run cooperative food gardens in Rote.



IAG

IAG Australia continues to provide generous support, both through matching employee donations and including indigo foundation in their volunteer program. In June, IAG staff volunteered their time to assist with our annual mail-out.



University of Wollongong

Since 2008 we have enjoyed a partnership with the University of Wollongong through the UoW Cares program. We are a grateful recipient of the workplace giving program and also benefit from a fantastic stream of University of Wollongong volunteers.



Ashurst

We are grateful to receive pro bono legal advice from the talented and ever-helpful legal team at Ashurst.

Rotary Clubs

We have been fortunate to build strong partnerships with a number of Rotary Clubs. This year we were excited to welcome new support from the Rotary Club of Ryde for our education program in South Sudan. We are also proud to partner with the Rotary Club of Singleton to support our program in Uganda, the Satellite E-Club of Ryde to support our program in India and the Rotary Club of Macquarie Park to support the fantastic work of our partners at the Otjiwarongo Program Development Fund.



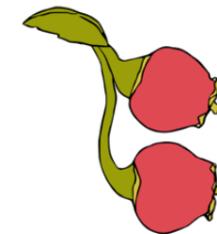
Western Plains Pork

Western Plains Pork continue to generously contribute to the pig bank and food security programs of our Indonesian partner, the Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation in Rote



Bilberry Blue Stocking Fund

We are grateful for the ongoing support of the Bilberry Blue Stocking Fund and their commitment to women's empowerment projects in the Asia-Pacific. As well as a regular donation, the Bilberry Blue Stocking Fund organise an annual long-distance bike ride, this year from Sydney to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko) to raise funds for our program with Club Rafiki in Rwanda.



Macquarie Group Foundation

We are fortunate to be a part of the Macquarie Group Foundation workplace giving program, which generously matches employee donations.



treasurer's report

INDIGO FOUNDATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Year ended 30 June 2017

Ron Switzer - Treasurer

KEY FINANCIAL DATA

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Income | \$386,000 |
| Expenditure | \$362,000 |
| Surplus | \$24,000 |
| Net Assets | \$162,000 |
| Estimated volunteer time (not recorded as income) | \$335,000 |
| Total 'income' including volunteer time | \$721,000 |
| Administration costs as a % of recorded income | 22% |
| Administration costs as a % of recorded income plus volunteer time | 12% |

“Overall, indigo foundation had a pleasing financial year and is in a good financial position.”

INCOME

Income for the year, net of fundraising costs, was \$363,000 (2016- \$397,000). Donations received totalled \$321,000 including significant donations for our current projects. The emphasis on fundraising continued and a number of successful events were held in Canberra, Sydney and Melbourne. It was particularly pleasing to receive such strong support towards the end of the financial year.

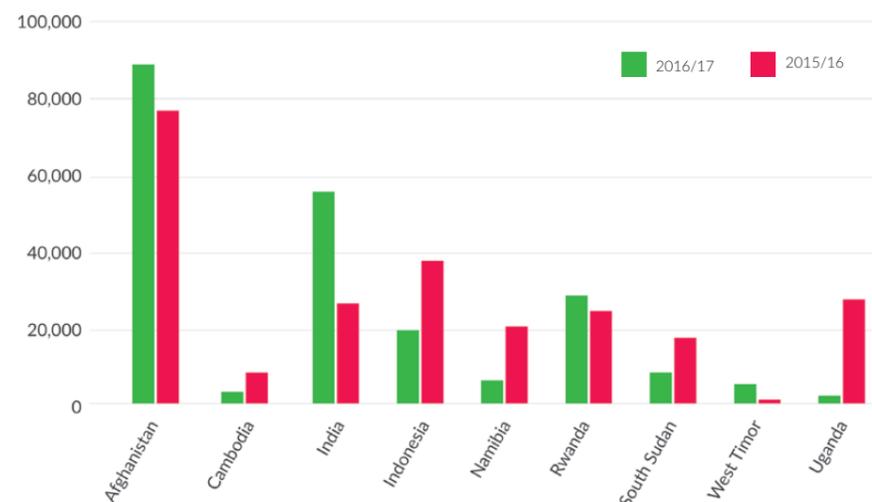
EXPENDITURE

Operational support for projects remained strong. Overall, \$214,000 (2016 - \$237,000) was allocated to development programs excluding the costs of the Development Coordinator. Direct general expenditure by country is shown in the adjacent graph.

SURPLUS

We made a net surplus for the year of \$24,000 (2016 - \$69,000). Whilst we aim to make a modest prudential surplus, the timing of project support payments that are shown as expenses can be lumpy, and can impact the results from year to year.

EXPENDITURE BY COUNTRY



GENERAL SUPPORT EXPENDITURE

Country costs include relationship building and monitoring and evaluation visits by the Partnership Coordinators to certain projects and excludes the Development Coordinator (av. 2016/17 46% FTE). The overall direct cost of our development program is just over a quarter of a million dollars.

Administration costs continue to be tightly controlled and are currently 22% of total income. Administration costs increased slightly this year because we transitioned our former support contractors to staff positions, as ethically and legally required. This introduced significant additional employment related costs. We have two part-time management and administration personnel: General Manager (av. 2017 46% FTE) and Finance and Administration Officer (av. 2017 13% FTE).

This year, although not recorded as income, we have calculated an estimated value for volunteer contributions. This figure is a conservative \$335,000. Incorporating the value of volunteer contributions total administration costs as a percentage of total revenue is approximately 12%

We have entered into Commitment Agreements to support each of our community partners. Whilst these current agreements do not give rise to a liability for accounting purposes as they can be cancelled at any time, we are fully committed to supporting these projects as intended. The budgeted support payments over the period of these agreements are approximately \$180,000 (2016 - \$90,000).

We have a general policy of holding sufficient funds to support all existing projects for

the next six months. The Board has continued to strategically fund our projects in accordance with their individual plans. Continuing support from our valued donors is, as always, required for the longer term.

We have received donations for specific projects which are deferred until such time as those funds are expended in accordance with the relative commitment agreement. The amount deferred in respect of these projects at 30 June 2017 is \$132,000. In accordance with our accounting policies, revenue for those projects will be recognised and matched against committed project costs progressively over the life of the project.

The full audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 are on our website.

VALUING VOLUNTEERS

As a relatively small charity, we depend significantly on the generosity of contributions of time and expertise of our volunteers.

We acknowledge and express our appreciation for the enormous contribution of volunteers to the progress and success of indigo foundation.

We have estimated the 'value' of this contribution in an attempt to show the significance of these contributions and to demonstrate a more realistic perspective on the scale of our operations. For detail, please refer to the background notes below.

Whilst we have estimated the hours contributed and determined the value using published salary information, we recognise that the actual contribution by volunteers is immeasurable as freely given, often over and above expectations and in difficult circumstances. Their contribution is 'invaluable'.

Background notes on volunteer value

- *Estimated volunteer hours include time contributed by Board Members, Partnership Coordinators and Advisors, members of our Development Sub Committee and Marketing and Fundraising Committee and organising committees for various indigo foundation events.*
- *Volunteer 'value' is based on the salary guidelines issued by the Australian Government – Department of Foreign Affairs "Recognised Development Expenditure".*
- *There are no recognised standards for this measurement, these estimates are considered realistic and conservatively determined.*
- *This unaudited information is provided for information only and is not reflected in the audited financial statements.*

balance sheet

AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

ABN: 81 765 707 413

| CURRENT ASSETS | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| cash and cash equivalent | 319,057 | 302,810 |
| trade and other receivables | 320 | |
| inventory | 1,719 | 393 |
| other assets | 455 | 2,634 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | 321,551 | 305,837 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 321,511 | 305,837 |

| CURRENT LIABILITIES | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| trade and other payables | 5,944 | 220 |
| employee provisions | 2,863 | |
| deferred revenue | 131,531 | 167,763 |
| other liabilities | 19,569 | |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | 159,907 | 167,983 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | 159,907 | 167,983 |
| NET ASSETS | 161,644 | 137,854 |

| MEMBERS FUND | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| retained surplus | 137,853 | 69,382 |
| current year surplus/deficit | 23,791 | 68,472 |
| TOTAL MEMBER FUNDS | 161,644 | 137,854 |

income and expenditure statement

YEAR ENDED JUNE 2017

ABN: 81 765 707 413

| INCOME | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| administration fees | 22,581 | 22,905 |
| contributions (members) | 55 | 36 |
| donations received | 320,922 | 290,680 |
| fundraising activities | 40,652 | 118,031 |
| interest | 1,661 | 2,194 |
| foreign exchange gain | | 103 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 385,870 | 433,949 |

| EXPENDITURE | 2017 (\$) | 2016 (\$) |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| community development support | 252,797 | 264,884 |
| human resources expenses - management and administration | 25,469 | |
| superannuation and annual leave provisions | 8,277 | |
| organisational support | 24,240 | 37,890 |
| administration | | |
| general administration | 12,799 | 9,454 |
| advertising and promotion | 154 | 2117 |
| audit | 3,500 | 3,500 |
| bank and merchant fees | 1,556 | 1,998 |
| communications and promotion | 118 | 473 |
| insurance | 3,349 | 2,926 |
| postage, stationery and printing | 5,946 | 5,469 |
| registration | 304 | |
| fundraising costs | 23,322 | 36,517 |
| indigo foundation award | 250 | 250 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 362,080 | 365,478 |
| current year surplus/(deficit) | 23,791 | 68,471 |
| RETAINED SURPLUS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR | 137,853 | 69,382 |
| RETAINED SURPLUS AT END OF THE YEAR | 161,644 | 137,853 |

auditor's report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO
THE MEMBERS OF INDIGO FOUNDATION
INCORPORATED

"In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of indigo foundation Incorporated is in accordance with *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and Associations Incorporation Act 2009.*"

AUDITOR'S OPINION

We have audited the financial report of indigo foundation Incorporated, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the income and expenditure statement and statement of cashflows for the year then ended and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of indigo foundation Incorporated is in accordance with *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

(ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

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.

EMPHASIS OF MATTER - BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the basis of fulfilling the association's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act and Associations Incorporation Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and

is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association'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 committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The committee is responsible for overseeing the association'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 association's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's 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 association'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 association 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 the committee 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.

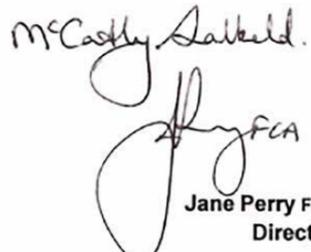
REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* the Indigo Foundation Incorporated must meet the following requirements:

- The accounts and associated records must be properly kept in accordance with the Act and the regulations;
- Money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year must be properly accounted for and applied in accordance with this Act and the regulations; and
- The incorporated association must remain solvent.

In our opinion the committee of the Indigo Foundation Incorporated has satisfied their obligations as required under the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2008*.

Dated in North Parramatta on the 23rd day of October 2017.


Jane Perry FCA
Director

McCARTHY SALKELD CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

support our work

We only exist as a result of the generosity of a huge range of supporters.

Whether it is by making a small donation every month, volunteering your time or expertise, or by helping us raise funds and awareness about our projects, it is all critical to our objective of improving the lives of those in marginalised communities and building the power of small grassroots organisations.

No matter how big or small your contribution might be, every little bit counts.

On behalf of everyone we work with, thank you for your ongoing support.



DONATE ONLINE

Follow the links on our website
www.indigofoundation.org



DONATE VIA MAIL

Post your contribution to
PO Box 362, Figtree, NSW 2325
Australia



CONTACT US

Email us for more information
info@indigofoundation.org



PO Box 362

Figtree NSW 2525

AUSTRALIA



info@indigofoundation.org



www.indigofoundation.org
