2022 ANNUAL REPORT
our guiding principles

For over 20 years, indigo foundation has supported grassroots organisations, in some of the most marginalised communities in the world, to pursue their development goals and to promote and defend their human rights. We know from the evidence that community-led development works to transform lives and build more resilient communities and is the foundation for sustainable change.

We support local community partners to empower women and girls, improve education and health outcomes and secure better livelihoods for families. Our approach to partnership is built on respect, mutual learning and accepting that progress and setbacks are a normal part of community development.

We are a nimble and creative organisation. We have a lean and diverse team with a virtual office and a volunteer base – we work with our partners to make every dollar count. We thank our committed volunteers and supporters in Australia who value our distinctive approach to community partnerships and development.

- **community ownership**
  Transformational change is achieved by resourcing and empowering communities to lead and manage their own development.

- **sustainability**
  Good investments in community development create changes that are socially, environmentally, culturally and economically sustainable and produce opportunities for future generations.

- **transparency**
  Transparency in planning, decision-making and operations builds confidence and trust in relationships and facilitates participation and accountability in organisations and programs.

- **equity**
  A commitment to equity means a strong focus on human dignity, social and economic justice, human rights, gender equity, inclusiveness and challenging embedded power relations.

the first thing we offer is respect
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*In the spirit of reconciliation and justice, indigo Foundation acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and future Traditional Custodians across this nation and their connections to land, sea and community. We value and honour the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and acknowledge the historical truth that colonisation has led to the ongoing exclusion of our First Nations people from modern Australia.*
It is with pleasure we share indigo foundation’s 2021/22 Annual Report. Inside we profile our community partners, share information on their achievements and impact, reflect on the lessons and challenges we faced together and pay tribute to the people that believe in indigo and make these achievements possible.

Indigo has had a strong year – in further development of our community partnerships, in impact, in finances and in continuing to attract and retain our committed and talented team of volunteers, supporters and staff.

In a year that saw lockdowns and restrictions lifted around the world, despite the persistence of Covid-19, our community partners quickly resumed their development activities while continuing to focus on the health and safety of community members and program participants. Building on what we had learned together over the preceding two years of the pandemic, indigo and our partners can be proud of what has been achieved.

Afghanistan faced one of its darkest chapters yet with the fall of the Government to the Taliban in August 2021 and the ensuing erosion of the rights and freedoms of women and girls, a winding back of the gains in education, a large-scale humanitarian crisis impacting the whole of the population, a major exit of people fearing for their safety and the collapse of the government and international systems that offered basic protections and services. In this devastating context, our team in Australia worked in solidarity with our partners and their communities. We witnessed both courage and strength as Afghan women stood up against the new regime. We took risks, we adapted our support and continued operating at a time when aid funding and other NGO operations had stalled.

The Afghanistan experience tested our development model, our fortitude and appetite for risk and our willingness to be flexible in how funds were used. Together our partners and our team in Australia made a difference in the lives of families and teachers on the ground and strived to retain our focus on education and empowerment of women and girls – largely under the radar.

More broadly, the economic impacts of the pandemic flowed through to communities and are known to have disproportionately affected women and girls. This created food insecurity, mental health concerns and other social problems for people and communities who were already challenged. School closures and lack of access to other places of learning and modes of education put children and young people at risk of falling behind in communities that had been working to improve education access and outcomes for years.

In summarising this kaleidoscope of challenges, described in more detail through our annual report, we do not mean to reflect despair or a sense of hopelessness. Rather we lift up and celebrate
the determination, resilience, capabilities and sheer tenacity of our local partners working for change in their communities.

We see Club Rafiki in Rwanda going from strength to strength in its support and empowerment of young people and its focus on girls and young women. In Tamil Nadu, India PEAB intensified their efforts to prevent children in their communities going backward in education.

We established two new community partnerships – with JDN in Timor-Leste and Nanikaai Village Association in Kirabati. Both local organisations are women-led and have gender equity and women’s rights at the centre of their purpose and activities. Together with our continuing partnerships with Hako in Bougainville, PEKKA in Indonesia and Mahalir Sakthi in India, we show what is possible when women work to change deeply ingrained gender-based discrimination and inequity, including sexual harassment, family and sexual violence and exclusion from decision making structures in their communities and societies.

Consistent with our Strategy 2017-2022, other program highlights were:

- Continuing our strategic focus on refugee and diaspora communities – we sought to build on the strengths of our partnership approach in South Sudan and Afghanistan in past years by deepening connections and work with refugee communities.
- A major achievement was our partnership with Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia and piloting two indigo local refugee support groups.
- A strengthening of our experience in responding to crises – here we continue to reflect on the humanitarian-development nexus and how we adjust our support when partners are faced with pressing humanitarian needs - without them or us losing sight of their aspirations for community development and systems change.
- A focus on partnerships in the Asia Pacific – as reflected in our newer partnerships in Bougainville, Timor-Leste and Kiribati.

indigo ended the year with a healthy surplus and our biggest year yet in funds raised. We are extremely grateful to our supporters and funders for making this result possible. In the section indigo in the community, we capture the events that were held and give thanks to the organisers and contributors to those events.

We continue to grow our supporter base and we are proud of and humbled by the loyalty, knowledge and engagement of our supporters. We continue to have strong partnerships with a number of foundations who are drawn to indigo because of our model of community led development and the impact our local partners achieve.

We offer thanks and pay tribute to the local liaison officers and community leaders in our partner communities and our volunteer Partnership Coordinators in Australia. Together they work to build respectful relationships that nurture learning and support development in our partner communities. They are the heart of our development program.

And we thank our valued and talented staff and board for their part in indigo’s success and the many volunteers who lend their time and expertise to this small, virtual organisation making our BIG impact possible.

As we look to 2023 and beyond and enter a new chapter of indigo’s journey we invite our many volunteers, partners and supporters to continue with us as we aim to expand our impact and influence for a better world.

Jemma and Lyla
Covid-19 forced a suspension of programs and we are considering future work.

**Club Rafiki**

We fund a sexual and reproductive health clinic and support young people through an urban dance school, English language workshops and other initiatives targeting girls and young women.

**Wedweil Community Development Foundation**

Covid-19 forced a suspension of programs and we are considering future work.

**Jirghai & Behsud Shura, Women’s Empowerment Centre**

We supported children and women from Dalit and other marginalised communities to escape the cycle of discrimination, poverty and violence through programs targeting education, vocational training, workplace rights and healthcare.

**Mahalir Sakthi, Program for Education and Awareness Building, Social Awareness for Society and Youth**

We supported children and women from Dalit and other marginalised communities to escape the cycle of discrimination, poverty and violence through programs targeting education, vocational training, workplace rights and healthcare.
In 2021/22 we partnered with grassroots community organisations around the world to improve outcomes in education and health, empower women and girls, improve livelihoods and defend human rights. We commit to work with communities over the long-term and believe that transformational change happens when communities have control over decision-making and implementation.

**TIMOR LESTE**

**Juventude ba Dezenvolvimentu Năsional**
We connected with a new partner and committed to support work to confront sexual harassment and make public spaces and public transport safe and inclusive for young women.

**INDONESIA**

**Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation, PEKKA NTT, Nefo Ko’u Farmers’ Cooperative**
We supported communities in their efforts to build resilience to climate change through a network of cooperative gardens. We also supported bursaries for kids from kindergarten to university and healthcare.

**BOUGAINVILLE**

**Nanikaai Village Council**
Our new partner is committed to support women and girls to build leadership skills and challenge gender norms through more equal participation in sport. Work will start in 2023.

**KIRIBATI**

**Hako Women’s Collective**
We worked with a women-led collective to support the staffing and operating costs for a thriving resource centre, library and Safe House for women and children fleeing family and sexual violence.

**AUSTRALIA**

We’re building a community of passionate and active people who volunteer, support and donate in solidarity with our community partners around the world.
meet our community partners

Indigo foundation works with a wide range of grassroots groups, community leaders and locally-based organisations. Some are well established, others are forming. Building the capacities of our partners, irrespective of their organisational stage, is one of the investments we make towards their development efforts being sustainable over time.

We recognise that each of our partner communities is unique – in the way they organise themselves, in the needs and cultural context of their communities and in the priorities and solutions they action with their communities. Despite both indigo foundation and our partners being relatively small organisations, this approach makes for considerable complexity in how we tailor our support to local partners.

Each community partnership has a volunteer Partnership Coordinator based in Australia who is the key point of contact for our partners. In some partnerships, we also have a local Liaison Officer who provides invaluable support to the partnership team.

Our continuing partnerships

Program for Education and Awareness Building (PEAB), India (2006 - current)

PEAB is a grassroots education project driven by local Dalit activists and tutors. Located just outside Maduranthakam, a small town about 90 km from Chennai, PEAB supports highly marginalised children, youth and their families through a network of eight Village Education Centres, which provide tutoring, exam coaching and other activities to students from primary levels to year 10.

Social Awareness Society for Youths (2012 - current)

The Social Awareness Society for Youths was founded by a group of Dalit activists in 1983. It is a human rights organisation focused on Dalit Rights and empowerment and runs programs focused on access to justice, child rights, social inclusion and women’s leadership. We partner with Social Awareness Society for Youths to auspice and support our partnerships with Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB.
Club Rafiki, Rwanda (2012 - current)

Club Rafiki is a growing community-based organisation located in the predominantly Muslim district of Nyamirambo in Kigali. Club Rafiki works to promote all aspects of youth inclusion and development. Their focus includes sexual and reproductive health, education and training, leadership development and employment facilitation. Dance has been a major vehicle for engagement, outreach and education. In a district characterised by poverty and a lack of safe spaces, Club Rafiki is a vital, diverse and welcoming community hub.

Mahalir Sakthi, India (2012 - current)

Based in the slums of Madurai in Tamil Nadu, Mahalir Sakthi (‘women power’ in Tamil) is a women-led organisation and centre that works to empower women, children and young people from Dalit, Adivasi and other marginalised groups. Mahalhir Sakthi is governed by a council and led by sisters Guna and Grace. indigo foundation has supported Mahalir Sakthi’s education, health, vocational-training and youth leadership programs for 10 years. We have also resourced Mahalir Sakthi to develop a Domestic Workers Union to support women to advocate for better pay, conditions and rights at work.

Wedweil Community Development Fund, South Sudan (2013 - current)

The Wedweil Community Development Fund is a small and fledgling volunteer-run group, with a focus on improving education opportunities for children in the extremely poor, food-insecure and remote communities of Aweil and Lol States. Their work has included improving infrastructure at the Wedweil school and training teachers. We have also started working with a collective of women in Wedweil to support the establishment of a cooperative garden. Our partner was forced to suspend activities this year due to the pandemic and we are currently reviewing potential support for activities in the coming year.

It was a very big weekend for our local partner Club Rafiki in Rwanda. The Rwandan President Paul Kagame visited Club Rafiki for the opening of the Club’s refurbished basketball court. Club Rafiki’s work with young people in Kigali is growing in impact and this visit is evidence of their growing recognition and influence within Rwanda. Congratulations to Tony, Stephanie and the team!
**Jirghai and Behsud Shura, Afghanistan (2015 - current)**

The Jirghai and Behsud Shura is a traditional grouping of religious and community leaders, school teachers and principals that support a network of primary and high schools in Jirghai and Behsud districts in Ghazni province. This partnership grew out of our initial schools’ partnership with a similar decision-making body in Borjegai district for over a decade from 2003.

**PEKKA NTT, Indonesia (2017 - current)**

Translating from Bahasa Indonesia as ‘Empowerment for Women-Headed Households’, Pemberdayaan Perempuan Kepala Keluarga (PEKKA) is a women-led and run organisation that supports and empowers women heads of household in over 20 provinces. They partner with PEKKA NTT, a thriving network of local women’s collectives with a base of over 2,600 women spread across the islands of Adonara, Lembata and East Flores in Eastern Indonesia. Women from PEKKA implement programs and undertake advocacy work aimed at empowering women heads of household, including rural widows, divorced women, those whose husbands have left and women caring for relatives. Nationally PEKKA advocates on the issues impacting women headed households.

**Nefo Ko’u Farmers’ Cooperative, Indonesia (2016 - current)**

The Nefo Ko’u Farmers’ Cooperative is an emerging collective of 24 families based in Apren Village in the high mountains of Amarasi in West Timor. We have partnered with Nefo Ko’u to support education bursaries, food gardens and development of an open-air reading room to improve literacy and education outcomes for children and young people in Apren.

**Hako Women’s Collective, Bougainville (2019 - current)**

The Hako Women’s Collective represents and supports women and families in the Haku district in Buka. Hako began its work in June 2006 when 650 women and 130 girls came together seeking collective solutions to the problems they faced. From this gathering, a committed and dynamic volunteer-run organisation has developed which aims to improve education, health and food security outcomes and promote the rights of women and children. Hako has a key focus on supporting women and children impacted by family and sexual violence.

**Nanikaai Village Association in Kiribati (partnership started in 2021)**

Indigo’s partnership with the Nanikaai Village Association Committee in Kiribati, a local village association on Tarawa Island, was launched in the second half of 2021. There were delays this reporting period. In FY23 they will implement the Everybody Wins initiative which involves equal access to sport and recreation facilities for women and girls. The partnership will develop the medium of sport for women as a means to increase participation, confidence and leadership skills, and challenge harmful gender stereotypes in the community.

**Juventude Ba Dezenvolvimentu Nasional (JDN) (partnership started in 2021)**

Established in 2014, JDN, Young People for National Development in Dili, Timor Leste is a youth-led and community-based organisation. They engage young people in discussion and action around the issues affecting their lives. One of their key priorities is standing up to sexual harassment and discrimination against women and girls at home and in public spaces. This partnership aligns with indigo foundation’s focus on women and girls and gender justice.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Impact Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>333</td>
<td>Families in Afghanistan received humanitarian cash support to meet basic needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600+</td>
<td>People in Dili attended youth festival raising awareness and advocating for action to stop sexual harassment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Students from years 4-12 had access to vital education support through a network of 20 after school tuition centres in Tamil Nadu, India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Families assisted with police and legal cases in India.</td>
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<tr>
<td>74</td>
<td>Women and their families benefited from PEKKA’s cooperative food gardens in Indonesia, generating income, building women’s leadership and providing essential food during crises.</td>
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<tr>
<td>43,500</td>
<td>Young people had access to HIV testing through Club Rafiki’s sexual health clinic in Rwanda.</td>
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<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>Cases of violence were supported by Hako in Bougainville including 27 mediations and assisting 51 clients to attend full counsel hearings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,100</td>
<td>Hours were contributed by passionate and skilled volunteers in Australia.</td>
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introduction

During the reporting period we have seen a deepening of inequality between and within nations, an increase in climate emergencies and conflicts adding to the pressures facing already struggling communities and a reversal of hard fought gains in women’s rights, especially in Afghanistan.

As the pandemic continued into its third year and nations began to lift the shutdowns and restrictions associated with the global pandemic, COVID continued to present significant health and economic risks for poorer, less developed nations and the highly marginalized communities indigo supports.

In response, our partner communities continued to adapt and respond, demonstrating incredible resilience and capabilities in the face of crises. And indigo foundation continued to apply the principles developed in 2021 to ensure our community partners had flexibility to reprioritise and adapt their activities to meet the pandemic, humanitarian crises and other challenges. In some cases, indigo was the only funder of community development activities meaning our support was even more critical.

Women and girls are suffering the negative socioeconomic impacts of the pandemic and multiple crisis. Considerable challenges facing girls pre-pandemic have worsened. With schools closed, or pivoted to remote learning, girls’ education gains made over the last 20 years are at risk; and their vulnerability to harmful practices like child marriages has increased. Gender disparities in unpaid care work continue to grow, excluding women from economic opportunities and negatively impacting their mental health. Violence against women and girls has risen drastically, driven by economic stressors, deep-rooted social norms about females’ subordinate roles and status, food insecurity, and displacement.

In 2021 conflict, humanitarian crisis and climate related disasters triggered 38 million internal displacements across 141 countries. indigo communities have been reporting the devastating impacts of climate change for many years. Entire populations are already suffering the impacts, but vulnerable people living in some of the most fragile and conflict-affected countries are disproportionately affected.

At indigo we are strongly committed to women’s rights. We work alongside our partners to progress the rights of women and girls, in all their diversity. We continue to actively seek to partner with and build the capacity of women led organisations and work together with all our community partners to ensure women and girls are central agents of change in development activities. We know empowering women has a powerful multiplier development effect for children, families and communities.

indigo foundation follows the priorities determined by communities we support, each with their unique circumstances, needs, strengths and challenges. Our commitment to community led development and upholding human rights means the pace of development and the impact achieved by our partners is different in each case. At the same time their priorities reflect what is generally well understood - that investments in education, empowerment of women and girls,
health, livelihoods, youth leadership and protecting human rights will show up in the outcomes they are achieving in their communities.

In this year of reporting, indigo foundation’s Partnership Coordinators were still unable to travel to our partner communities to foster relationships, provide support and gather a firsthand picture of the impact our local partners were having. This has impacted the quality and depth of information we have on our partner’s achievements and impact in some cases, particularly for Indonesia and Kiribati.

We at indigo continue to be inspired and motivated by our partners’ capabilities and achievements in leading through multiple crises and bringing about change in their communities. In this impact report we proudly highlight the many achievements of our local partners despite the challenges and obstacles they face locally and nationally.

Afghanistan

This annual report covers the most disconcerting historical period for our partner communities and schools in Afghanistan since the start of the Afghanistan Schools Program in 2003. The US-led international security forces withdrew from Afghanistan and the Taliban forcibly took Kabul on 15 August 2021.

As a result, there were significant political and security challenges for our community partners in Afghanistan including, the fall of the Government of Afghanistan, the return of the Taliban to power, and rapidly escalating humanitarian needs in the country. The initial closure of schools and Taliban’s ban on girls’ education in secondary levels disrupted schooling especially for girls and women. Despite these challenges, the Shura maintained their schools and supported some female teachers in their communities last year. Some Mullahs and school principals spoke with the Taliban local governors and advocated for the reopening of schools for girls in secondary levels.

Improved school infrastructure

Completed a six-classroom building with a yard for Primary School in Bamyan Province: the construction of this building started in June 2021, but some of the works such as the rooftop and installation of windows, classroom doors and the yard gate were postponed after the (re)emergence of the Taliban to power in mid-August. In December 2021, Shura members and the school community completed the rooftop because they were worried that expected snow in winter could damage walls and building structure.

Humanitarian assistance

Provided cash support of AUD40,000 for 333 families in Kabul and Ghazni City: the Shura’s initial plan was to support only 250 families with this fund. However, the high exchange rates helped them to support additional families from our partner communities in Kabul and Ghazni city.

One-off cash support for 250 teachers: $40,000 one-off cash support of 10,000 AFN for 250 teachers in Jirghai, Behsud and Borjegai schools. We delivered on this commitment from February to June 2022.
Advocacy in Australia

Since the fall of Kabul to the Taliban, we worked to raise our profile in Australia by engaging with ACFID and working with other Australian and international development agencies. We have been advocating for Australia’s ongoing commitments to Afghanistan particularly through humanitarian aid including for health and education and resettling of Afghan refugees and asylum seekers in Australia.

These efforts have had direct benefits for students, teachers and families in the communities we support in Afghanistan.

The improved education infrastructure in six schools helped hundreds of students to find hope and continue with their education. Whilst the Taliban banned girls from secondary schools, girls and boys in primary levels and boys in secondary levels had access to desks and chairs for the first time since the start of the academic year in March 2022. indigo’s support helped our partner communities to remain resilient and maintain the important role of schools.

The benefits of our humanitarian assistance for 333 families were widely acknowledged in our partner communities, especially for women and children. During the last winter and early in 2022, we also provided direct cash support for 250 teachers who did not have any salary from around July 2021 until March 2022. In July, their salary was delayed by the former Government of Afghanistan. In previous years, the Ministry of Education provided limited salary during the winter for school teachers. However, the Taliban interim administration could not do this, and UN agencies needed time to work out a new mechanism to pay for teachers. indigo’s decision to provide cash support to teachers in Borjegai, Jirghai and Behsud schools was entirely consistent with close to 20 years of education support in these districts.

“My family and I had no other support prior to and during the last winter. I had lost several months of my salary. I had no hope of supporting my children and my family. Indigo’s financial support for myself and my colleagues in the school helped us to feed our family last winter. We are so grateful for this support. The financial support aside, we felt that we are not forgotten and that there are others still in the world who care for us and who understand our challenges. At times of desperation like ours, any help which shows that someone is with you means a world to you. This is how I felt when I received the support. I am just grateful for it.” - School teacher, Maidan Wardak Province.

“The return of Taliban killed the dreams of women like me. I thought everything was lost and there was no hope of returning to schools again. In the midst of such a huge loss and sense of hopelessness, indigo provided the support for all teachers including female teachers last winter. It made

“I can speak about the benefits that indigo’s support had for our school in our community. Our school did not have furniture and main gate, and every year, schools materials were not safe. Our students used to miss their classes specially when the weather was cold in the first and last weeks of every academic year. However, for the first time this year, our girls and boys attended a full academic year despite uncertainties about education in our country. As school principal, I felt safe about the health of my students this year. Our students were so happy while using the new desks and chairs. The entire community felt they had a supporter during this difficult and unpredictable time for our people and our girls and boys.” - School Principal, Ghazni province.
me cry and gave me hope. When the schools were reopened after March 2022, I was so sad to not see the secondary girls in our schools. But I was glad that our schools hired me again with the help of indigo foundation this year. I cannot think of what life could have been for me if I didn’t teach this year in this primary school. I am so thankful to indigo for being with us.” - Female teacher, Ghazni Province.

It is because of the deep trust and relationship built with partner communities that indigo foundation was able to continue supporting our partner communities in local districts in Afghanistan. These achievements have been recognized by other international NGOs and government agencies in Australia. They have also directly enabled us to raise additional funds for our Afghanistan program from private donors and philanthropic foundations.

indigo’s Working Group on Afghanistan played a critical role to assess, mitigate, and manage risks to our programs and our partner communities especially from August 2021 until June 2022. We remain committed to supporting our partner communities realise their aspirations for education, security, protection of human rights and empowerment of women and girls into the future.

Bougainville

The Hako Women’s Collective continued their much-needed services, advocacy and activism this year. Hako began its work in June 2006 when 650 women and 130 girls came together to seek collective solutions to the problems they face. One of the major issues facing women and girls in Bougainville is family and sexual violence, exacerbated at times by post war trauma, community conflicts and social issues including drug and alcohol abuse.

indigo entered into a three-year Commitment Agreement with Hako in 2021 after an initial year of building the relationship with local women leaders. indigo provides core costs for staffing and operating a resource centre and library, as well as keeping the doors of their
women’s safe house open 24/7. Hako’s safe house provides a sanctuary for women and children escaping family and sexual violence - offering emergency shelter, counselling and referral to law and justice and health services.

Our partnership with Hako also supports opportunities for learning and the development of healthy, informed and peaceful families, with a focus on building positive family and community relationships.

There was civil unrest from May to October 2021 in Lontis, one of the wards within Haku District which affected 300 people. Many families were displaced from their homes and many are still living outside of the ward with relatives because they feel it is unsafe to go home. Hako responded quickly, providing temporary accommodation and food for 11 women and 39 children, as well as counselling and legal support for affected families.

Hako is relatively peaceful now but the court system is slow. Some of the perpetrators of the violence are still roaming freely meaning families cannot return to Lontis. Some families continue to attend counselling at the Safe House as day clients.

indigo’s support of Hako in 2021-22 provided greater certainty of funding and enabled the women running the service and offering support to receive some payment. In an otherwise subsistence economy volunteers had a means to support their families and work to expand and improve services. Key achievements include:

- Improving the Safe House infrastructure for their clients. This includes providing a water tank, and laundry tubs, fencing and a toilet and shower for clients.
- The library ran several competitions to encourage reading and literacy in the community. All children who entered received a book and certificate and prizes were awarded to winners in each grade.
- Regular trainings were offered at the Resource Centre, including male advocacy training and peace building training. In addition, the Centre is rented out to member organisations and this provides Hako with additional income to improve support to women and children at the Safe House.
- Law and Justice remains a critical focus of advocacy and support of women. The Safe House has helped about 300 cases which included 27 mediations and assisting 51 clients to attend full counsel hearings.
- In late 2021 Hako began a cocoa project to help 70 local families make additional income. The project was delayed because of COVID and the difficulty of getting seedlings and equipment. They have now planted their first seedlings and built an office, shed and fermentry. Each of the 70 families received 100 cocoa seedlings in December 2021.
- Hako’s Women Human Rights Defenders celebrated International Human Rights Day by conducting two workshops to raise awareness on Human Rights. Over 60 participants participated including Hako Members, Human Rights Defenders and Male Advocates.

“I’m very thankful to indigo for the continuous funding. indigo you have rescued Hako Collective because we were volunteers all through the 17 years. And the collective is still operating and you have rescued us and this really helps the women to have strength to continue to take up their roles in the organisation.”
- Dorcas Gano, Treasurer, Hako Women’s Collective.

“The Safe House has helped me in so many ways. They have encouraged me to take some heavy out [to overcome some of my problems].” - Therese, a 37 year old client.
India

Globally the pandemic caused massive disruption to education, threatening to reverse decades of gains in education outcomes and bringing more challenges for extremely marginalised communities. According to the United Nations, India had the longest school closures of any country except Uganda as a result of COVID-19. This represented a major threat to education for the children and young people accessing education tuition and support provided by indigo’s community partners in Tamil Nadu - Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB. And our community partners have observed first hand the disproportionate impact the pandemic has had on girls and young women.

During 2021, indigo’s partners in India, Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB wasted no time in resuming their core activities, including coaching and tutoring of Dalit and Muslim children, helping to make up the lost learning during India’s long COVID lockdowns. This support, which improves school retention and underpins successful completion of Year 10 exams, is vital to raising the aspirations of children and young people and enabling them to complete school, access further education and find dignified work with adequate pay and conditions.

In Madurai Mahalir Sakthi resumed its year 10 coaching centres and more general education classes at the main centre. They restarted computer classes for the children despite the fact that they only have a couple of computers for students to use. For women, they resumed tailoring and typing classes and held a whole series of meetings jointly with the Family Planning Association of India not just on health issues but on gender and empowerment.

Mahalir Sakthi also increased their work and engagement with the Social Awareness Society for Youth (SASY) and National Dalit Christian Watch to continue to advocate for the rights of Dalits and other minorities. Mahalir Sakthi reports they were especially proud of the following achievements.

- 72 students demonstrated improved learning outcomes through participation in English coaching classes and General Knowledge learning, and through membership of the Mahalir Sakthi Library.
- 39 women and youth were successful in getting jobs based on their interest and qualifications.
- 24 families were assisted in their police and legal cases
- 47 women/families gained access to Government schemes and benefits which improved their situation.

PEAB’s village education centres resumed their work for the academic year, providing after school tuition to students from primary to secondary levels. Students are predominantly from Dalit families (previously referred to as “untouchables”). PEAB found a larger building to rent for their Year 10 coaching classes, and this has allowed them to extend coaching to Years 11 and 12, something they have been wanting to do for a long time. Creating spaces for children to study and to finish their school assignments is a very important support in villages. Classes for the younger children are still held at different village locations across Maduranthakam to ensure they do not have far to walk and are safe. For the 10th Standard children, the PEAB coordinators have been particularly pleased with the progress in their English language skills.

PEAB have continued their focus on girls and young women through International Women’s Day activities, self defence classes and sessions on adolescent health and hygiene.
PEAB also promote local culture, dance and other skills for all the children through small celebrations like one held in April each year that celebrates revolutionary Dalit leader Dr. B. R. Ambedkar on the date of his birth. In May they also conducted a street theatre workshop for the children, which focused on the children’s experiences of lockdown allowing them to voice their concerns and hopes in a state level public hearing held in Chennai.

In responding to the needs of children, young people and their families PEAB’s achievements are significant.

- More than 200 students were supported with tutoring and coaching.
- Tutors have been well supported in their roles, with twice monthly visits to some of the Village Education Centres from one of the Chennai-based support team. They help to ensure classes are running well, assist tutors with activities and check on student progress.
- Extra training was conducted for tutors, including a special English language training program that was run over a number of months resulting in positive progress in reading and writing in both English and Tamil.
- Self-defense training for girls aged 16 was conducted in Karungazhuli village, with participants travelling from five villages to take part.
- International Day of the Girl Child (11 October) was celebrated at all of the Village Education Centres with topics such as safety, sex education and child marriage discussed.
- 44 girls took part in International Women’s Day celebrations that included a session on adolescent health and hygiene, gender stereotyping and challenges faced by women. A number of the participants said they had not understood before how their lives were being structured by oppression.
- 128 children participated in the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Birthday Celebration – which included opportunities for giving speeches, dancing, singing, poetry recitation and drama.
- Other activities included a special event for Standard 10 students nearing their exams and training for some students in Street Theatre resulting in a performance for the Children’s Public Hearing on children’s experiences in the pandemic run by SASY.

Importantly, PEAB continued its engagement in the India wide movement for Dalit human rights and their advocacy work for human rights and gender equality.

Seeing the longer-term impact

On 18 July 2021 there was a virtual gathering of PEAB alumni from 2010 - 2021 involving 40 participants. Most of the former students had completed undergraduate degrees and held jobs in reputed firms. Some were currently doing their undergraduate degrees in nearby towns, while others had moved further away. PEAB created a WhatsApp group to keep in touch with alumni and share job opportunities.
Our community partners in Eastern Indonesia faced serious challenges in the aftermath of the Seroja Cyclone in April 2021. Subsequent flooding caused massive disruption for PEKKA women and their families.

Our partner PEKKA Nusa Tenggara Timur (NTT) operates in over 20 provinces spread across the islands of Adonara, Lembata and East Flores. They represent, support and advocate for women headed households and their children and their activities have had an impact for thousands of people across the region. indigo has supported PEKKA NTT to develop and grow their network of women run cooperative gardens, principally in Lembata and Adonara.

In Lembata there was ongoing volcanic eruption activity from Mount Ile Lewotolok that sadly added further loss to PEKKA families. Through flooding and subsequent disruptions many of the local cooperative’s development achievements in Lembata were completely wiped out, but fortunately there was not as much disruption in Adonara.

The water system in the PEKKA Keri Baki centre on Lembata is still inoperative, after it was destroyed by the flash flood. The devastating effects of flooding also caused numerous PEKKA families to live in temporary shelters and their mental health has been affected. The PEKKA women continue to be traumatised from the impact of flooding. They are afraid of working at the Keru Baki centre because the local government has not built a dam/wall in the area to control the stream of water when the rain is heavy.

PEKKA women have continued to adapt their activities and are operating out of displaced persons temporary shelters. In Lembata, from 2021 to July 2022, there was a temporary reading room for displaced adults and children and a temporary ‘Nature School’.
for 31 displaced children. In these rooms volunteers from PEKKA Youth taught children songs, dance, weaving, harvesting maize, cooking, English and maths.

Despite the devastating impacts from natural disasters PEKKA were able to make progress in some important areas.

- **PEKKA women continue to produce organic food and other plants in their home gardens.** The produce from the gardens is used as both a source of food for their families and some is shared with their neighbours or sold/bartered at a local market (PEKKA Mart).
- **The organic gardens and the market are promoted as a model for other local PEKKA collectives by PEKKA National.**
- **94 girls or young women received bursaries to help them continue their education.** Some boys also received bursaries through their participation in the Children’s Cultural Festival.
- **PEKKA groups have contributed to infrastructure and repair works in their local communities, including flood mitigation.**
- **Students continued to access to a reading/homework room in Lembata and were supported to purchase books and participate in organic farming training.**
- **137 Girls and boys participated in a successful Children’s Cultural Festival, an annual event which aims to preserve and promote local culture.** This event has strong community engagement. Parents, schools and community leaders organised the running of the festival which includes a range of social, cultural and environmental activities.

Importantly, PEKKA’s members are determined to rebuild the cooperative organic gardens as the benefits for the women and their children go far beyond food production. They are a hub for social support and leadership development and they provide a path for women to achieve greater economic independence. This in turn benefits their children whose life prospects improve through better health, improved access to education and learning skills in organic farming and small business.

*Ina Ole (above) is a lively, friendly and thoughtful woman in her 40s, a single mother of two children in their 20s, living in Adonara. She is one of PEKKA Lodan Doe board secretaries, a coordinator-trainer of her local cultural group, a weaver and a co-coordinator of the Children’s Cultural Festival. Her daughter received a bursary to support finishing her high school and is now a university student in the capital city, about an hour by plane from Adonara. Her son is in senior high school. Ina Ole is very grateful for being included in PEKKA activities and supported by Indigo. She did not have the opportunity to finish her secondary education, but through with the support of PEKKA she finished bridging courses equivalent to high school and completed many other trainings, including through the Women’s Empowerment School. Ina Ole is somewhat amazed at her own achievements, for example she now reads and understands the significance of local government budget and how the budget affects the lives of locals.*
Rwanda

Club Rafiki in Rwanda continues to improve the health and wellbeing of young people caught in a cycle of extreme poverty who have a lack of safe spaces and activities after school and high rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases. Their approach is to promote youth inclusion and youth leadership.

Indigo Foundation’s partnership with Club Rafiki began in 2012 with a Hip Hop dance school for young people. That program has grown and now offers over 200 young people free weekly hip hop classes which build physical health, confidence and self-esteem. The partnership has now grown to include expanded dance classes and sexual and reproductive health education in the Kigali community and in rural villages, a sexual and reproductive health clinic which provides counselling, education and laboratory testing, a peer-to-peer training program for sexual and reproductive health education, including HIV prevention, a program for women and girls to build their skills and confidence and leadership capacity, and English Language Workshops.

From July 2021 - June 2022 participation in Club Rafiki’s programs continued to grow.

- 43,500 young people were assisted through Club Rafiki’s HIV and pregnancy counselling and testing services.
- 666,700 young people accessed the Club’s economic, empowerment and employment promotion activities, which support youth in their job search journey through career guidance.

As well as working in Kigali, Rwanda, our partners at Club Rafiki are continuing to grow their programs in surrounding rural villages. Last week, young people from Club Rafiki joined the community in Kanyinya sector for the monthly community working bee. On the day, young people from Club Rafiki also spoke about Club Rafiki’s work - their focus on health, education and well being for young people, as well as their sexual health clinic.
secretariat services, training for online applications, interview tips and CV development.

The impact from this participation for young people is significant and multifaceted. It spans general health and wellbeing, sexual and reproductive health, confidence and self-esteem, leadership skills, literacy and reading, employment readiness and much more. Club Rafiki’s achievements were significant in this period as demonstrated through the snapshot below.

**Youth health and well-being**

At Club Rafiki a pregnancy and HIV testing and counselling service is provided alongside Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) education. The education program adopts a range of creative devices to impart key messages about health, safety, well-being, and gender equality. The messages, often through peers, are integrated into dance, film, music, photography, English and sport.

There has been a substantial improvement in Club Rafiki’s capacity to identify opportunities and access funds for youth programs and to build new partnerships in all these creative fields. Young program participants benefit hugely not only from the education and acquired knowledge, but they are also learning a range of physical and social skills that contribute to their mental health.

**A growing focus on girls and young women**

Club Rafiki’s work with promoting and advancing girls and young women was a significant achievement this year. The participation of girls in Club Rafiki’s programs has increased by more than 10% to over 40% and girls now dominate the English program.

The story following story illustrates the strong impact of Club Rafiki’s programs and approach to promoting youth talent.

**Shakira, aged 13, joined the Urban Dance School at the age of 8 and became a passionate and disciplined dancer. In 2019 she passed the first round in an international dance competition called ‘East Africa’s got Talent’, in Nairobi. She continued to work very hard even in school and received excellent grades. After completing primary school, Shakira was offered a place at a boarding school. There she has started her own dance classes at school and her dance class has many participants. They see Shakira as a role model, not only as a dancer but also as an educated and educated young woman.**

Girls in the community are recruiting their friends to come to Club Rafiki as the programs and opportunities for girls expand. Its promotion of gender equality through its programs and its many new partnerships is resulting in increased numbers of girls attending and participating in activities at the centre. The sewing, tailoring and knitting program equips girls and young women with skills to set up their own small businesses.

The Club is also celebrating the English Corner Workshop (ECW) students who are inspired to continue at school, such as:

**12-year-old, Irankunda Jessy who had a 100% grade at end of primary school. With excellent marks and an award, Jessy received an offer to pursue her study at a very reputable senior school. According to Jessy, the secret behind her success is her participation in ECW, where she developed and improved her written, reading and spoken English.**

A new all girl basketball team has been established at the Club. The team now has a professional coach who is interested in
building girls’ athletic skills and self-esteem. They meet regularly to discuss different issues impacting their lives. They have learnt about the negative impacts of unplanned and unwanted pregnancy, and sex without consent, and how these can affect their future.

Increasingly, Club Rafiki is using media, both national and international to promote gender equality and an end to domestic violence. Young women’s voices and experiences are an important part of their advocacy in this space.

“As a girl who grow-up in a family of three brothers and one sister, my whole life was resolved around boyish activities, and playing basketball gave me an opportunity to expand my skills and test my abilities. Here at Club Rafiki, we train and play with boys, that is a sign that we girls we are able, being in different activities help me to build my self-esteem” - Said Laurete, 16 years girls from Nyarugenge

Youth health and well-being

Club Rafiki’s expanding activities and new partnerships demonstrate that its reputation is growing and their work continues to attract high profile visitors and new connections. The Hon. Mohamed Orman Bangura, Minister of Youth Affairs of Republic of Sierra Leone visited the Club in March 2022, during his official visit in Rwanda. In May, Kigali City Mayor visited with city visitors to see the different activities at the Club. Shirley Randell, an ex-indigo Board member, visited in June and gave a presentation to youth about gender equality and empowerment, using her own extraordinary life as an example.

With enormous pride, youth from the Urban Dance School (UDS) were invited to perform at the CHOGM conference in Kigali in June.
Timor-Leste

Timor-Leste has some of the highest rates of violence against women in the world. In their lifetime, most women in Timor-Leste experience some form of violence by an intimate partner. Even though gender-based violence is a huge problem in Timor-Leste, the country has made considerable progress in the last few years. According to the United Nations, among all countries in the world, Timor has gone from the 117th position in 2020 to the 63rd in 2021 in terms of gender equality. It is also one of five countries that most improved gender equality during this period — considering occurrence of violence, labour participation, economic empowerment and political participation.

UNICEF predicted young people – 0-18 years would represent 42-4 per cent of Timor-Leste’s total population in 2022. Other international data shows high rates of youth unemployment which places significant pressures on the young people and their families.

Juventude ba Dezenvolvimentu Nasional (JDN) – Young people for National Development, established in 2014, partnered with indigo in 2021 focusing on standing up to sexual harassment and discrimination against women and girls at home and in public places. JDN is tackling the root causes of this violence and working to change harmful social norms and empower women and girls. This year JDN built the skills and capacity of young women and men to respond to issues of sexual harassment and gender inequality that they see and experience in their own lives. While JDN gave more attention to developing young women activists who are responding daily to the issues that affect them, they also recognise the importance of encouraging young men to act and have established a network of young male gender equality influencers. 189 Sexual Harassment Activists have been trained since JDN began the Activist project with support from indigo foundation.

While this community partnership is still developing the achievements in the first year were remarkable.

- JDN ran a well attended and inspiring youth festival at the Palace of the President in Dili. JDN says the event, Ativismo22, “showcased young people taking action to build an inclusive society”. The idea of the festival came out of one of JDNs’ Activist training workshops, where young women and men are trained to become Sexual Harassment Activists. Ativismo22 was attended by almost 600 people including Sexual Harassment Activists, Gender Equality Influencers, young women and men living with disabilities, and representatives from government and other prominent NGOs. The State Youth Department approached JDN to co-chair the planning of their national Youth Event.

- A number of workshops were held to raise awareness about sexual harassment and human rights; build skills in graphic and multimedia design for activism purposes; Train the Trainer by Influencers and Activists with young people with disabilities, who then become Activists.

- Elga (then JDN President) and Analia (then JDN Project Coordinator) delivered a workshop with 30 other women on sexual harassment and gender equality in Hatubuilico, outside of Dili. This event was organised by Alola Foundation and Blue Mountains East Timor Sisters (BMETS), who have partnered with indigo to support JDN.
JDN kindly prepared a video for indigo to screen at the Canberra Gala Dinner. The following are excerpts.

“We are very grateful to the support from indigo foundation. We have been educating young women to stand up when they see harassment happening around them. Many young women have joined us to become Sexual Harassment Activists. One time I went to a hotel to do a survey, a guy approached me asked me “what are you doing here?” He then asked me again “where is your boyfriend” I replied “am I supposed to come with my boyfriend?” He kept asking me about my boyfriend, and I felt uncomfortable. I asked him to stop and called out his behaviour, telling him that what he was doing was sexual harassment”

“There is a campaign we are working on which is a Code of Conduct for Microlet (minibus) drivers, so we can make travel safer. JDN has prepared a draft Code of Conduct, and we are working with the Department of Transport and Communication, and the Secretary of State of Equality and Inclusion, alongside drivers, to implement the Code. We have also organised a workshop for the drivers, and the government department agreed that many more need to be done. The Code of Conduct will mean that drivers have the right and the responsibility to respond to issues of sexual harassment that happen on their minibus.”

indigo is excited about JDN’s work and the direct and indirect benefits young women and men are gaining through participation in peer learning, community education, advocacy and activism. In their words:

“We can stand up together and to raise (the issue of sexual harassment) in our society and community. Everyone should be able to take action in their community to end gender-based violence in our country, Timor Leste”

Kiribati

The partnership between indigo and Nanikaai Village Association commencing in late December 2021. The Everybody Wins project was faced with challenges from the onset, with significant delays early on due to COVID-19 and the Government of Kirabati putting in place a country wide lockdown in the first quarter of 2022.

indigo looks forward to reporting on the achievements of our community partnership in Kirabati in the coming year. It is hoped through the medium of sport, and through training of coaches and engagement of participants, Nanikaai Village Association will begin to achieve the anticipated impacts in their community, including increased participation in sport and other activities, confidence building and leadership development. The end goal is that this enables harmful gender stereotypes and related inequities to be challenged and changed over time.

Kiribati National Olympic Committee at the launch of the “EVERYBODY WINS” project with Nanikaai Mother Community.
Each year we include in our annual report an honest reflection on some of the challenges we and our community partners have grappled with. As a learning organisation, we are committed to questioning and reflecting with our partners and supporters so we can better understand what is working, strengthen our approach to partnership and community development and increase our impact.

Continuing to support our partners during the Afghanistan crisis

A big learning during the Afghanistan crisis was the importance of trust and established relationships and the way we had worked with local partners in Afghanistan for 20 years. Indigo doesn’t have offices in Afghanistan, instead it relies on long term relationships between communities and members of the Afghan diaspora in Australia.

As we reflected in June 2022 there were four key factors that allowed us to continue some education work, provide humanitarian support and very importantly continue our solidarity with the Afghan people during the unfolding human rights and humanitarian crisis.

- Deep knowledge of the context over many years
- Trusted relationships with people on the ground
- Ability to work under the radar in the face of security risks for people we work with
- Having the respect of other Australian based humanitarian and development and key government representatives.

Because of these strengths we were one of first international NGOs to send funds to...
Afghanistan after the collapse of the Government and resume and adjust support of our local partners.

What helped us during this period was the incredible expertise we had to draw on in Australia. Firstly, we acknowledge the tireless work of Ali Reza Yunespour, our voluntary Partnership Coordinator over 10 years and before him Salman Jan who helped us build the relationships in Ghazni Province to establish the schools partnership back in 2003. Both Ali and Salman started their education in mosques in the communities indigo now supports and came to Australia as refugees. They have held the relationships, built and shared the knowledge of their communities and Afghanistan and been the biggest factor in building trust and being able to operate without drawing attention to indigo being an international organisation.

We also acknowledge the deep experience among our board and staff of working in humanitarian crisis in different countries, including Afghanistan. We are grateful for the incredible loyalty of long term supporters of our education program in Afghanistan and institutional donors that allowed us to scale up our work during a dark time of desperate need.

Adapting program management during COVID 19 travel restrictions

Due to COVID 19 our Australia based team has not been able to visit our community partners for more than two years now. Our model of working through local organisations with partners driving priorities and implementing programs has put us in a strong position to manage the pandemic and travel restrictions. However our face to face visits are important to build and strengthen relationships between our partner organisations, our team and our supporters. Our development team continued to provide assistance from a distance and adapt our processes for gathering data and stories of impact. Visits are planned for late 2022 and 2023.

A positive thing that happened during this enforced shutdown was we began to have more direct contact with other partners beyond the Partnership Coordinators. We instigated online indigo conversations profiling our partners and their work, our partners made videos that we were able to share with our volunteers and supporters, and we plan to continue these additional ways of communicating our impact and journey.

PEKKA NTT is a thriving collective of women heads of household on the islands of Adonara and Lembata in Eastern Indonesia. Over the past three years we have supported the women of PEKKA to establish three new women-run food gardens, which support a network of 70 women heads of household. This year, in the face of challenges from the pandemic and Cyclone Seroja, the gardens have continued to thrive, expanding into larger scale cotton growing alongside with the existing range of vegetables.
Our supporters and volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation in Australia. We are very grateful for their passion and enthusiasm and the creative ways they continue to engage, build connections and raise funds for our community partners. After the challenges of 2020, they continued to engage with our online forums and took every opportunity to meet face to face where possible. Both individual donors and the foundations we partner with demonstrated their generosity and strong belief in our community partners and development approach. Thank you!

indigo conversations
We introduced *indigo conversations* as a way to continue to build connections with our supporters and keep them informed about our community partners and the impact their donations are making. We share updates on our partnerships and the context in which we are working, and open a space for questions and discussion to dig deeper.

We held three *indigo conversations* via zoom this year. The first two were focused on Afghanistan in the light of the Taliban take over on August 15, 2021. In *Spotlight on Afghanistan*, held shortly after the collapse of the Afghanistan Government, our Partnership Coordinator, Ali Reza Yunespour and Board Member Tamana Mirzada spoke about the difficult and fluid context our partners would be operating in and what this might mean for indigo’s relationships and partner activities on the ground. At the second indigo conversation on October 13 Ali and Tamana shared an update on the status of our partnerships in Afghanistan, the safety concerns for people we have worked with and the looming humanitarian crisis. Both sessions were well attended and sparked thought provoking discussion.

The third *indigo conversation* saw the launch of our 20th anniversary Book “The Power of Community-led Development”. Held on the eve of Human Rights Day, 41 indigo people joined Alex Sloan AM and a panel of indigo friends, old and new, reflecting on indigo’s journey. The book brings together our proud history, reflections and stories from our indigo team in Australia and the incredible work of our community partners overseas. It tells the story of the evolution of indigo foundation as an innovative and impactful community development organisation and lessons we and our partners have learned along the way. And it profiles the many people in Australia and overseas who have been part of this incredible journey.

Black Friday Clothes Swap - November 2021
In Canberra Alice Roughley and Christina Richards hosted a very successful ‘swap don’t shop’ clothes swap at her house to raise funds for indigo. Through this initiative indigo joined Eco-Age and Global Fashion Exchange’s global campaign to #TakebackBlackFriday. Centring on the anniversary of the 2013 Rana Plaza factory collapse, which killed 1138 people and injured many, the campaign focuses on human rights and amplifies unheard voices across the fashion supply chain. Approximately 40 people participated, swapped garments and accessories and raised over $1200 for indigo. Huge thanks to Alice and Christina and to everyone involved.

eQuiz - August 2021 and April 2022
This year, we held two eQuizes, one in August 2021 and the second in April 2022. Our sincere thanks to Rob Mitchell and to David James for their hard work in making these a success. The prize
for the inaugural eQuiz was a brand new Oppo phone won by Sally Stevenson. The prize for the 2022 eQuiz, a $250 gift voucher at Gould's Books - kindly donated by Mrs Patricia Evans, was won by Amanda Jennings.

**Flavours of indigo October 2021**

*Image: The sun shone and Canberra friends gathered for a wee Flavours of indigo end of year gathering at Lyla and Steve's. A great soirée with great food, tunes of Mood indigo, great company and updates on our community partners’ amazing work.*

During October we held our annual Flavours of indigo, an opportunity to come together - in person or online - to share food and stories while raising funds for indigo foundation’s work with local partners to improve outcomes in education and health and defend the rights of women and girls. We would like to thank Fyfe Strachan and Libby Lloyd for organising and everyone who participated.

**Rise to Heights, March - April 2022**

The ‘indigo indefatigables’ took to their bicycles up hills for the sixth year raising funds for a fairer world. In March they rode the Sea to Summit from Pambula to Mt Kosciuszko, and then conquered the Woden Rotary 5 (+ 1) Peaks Challenge in Canberra. Over the years, this amazing team has raised well over $60,000 for indigo’s community partners and they are gearing up to do it again in 2023. Huge thanks to Robin Brown and the tireless team for their efforts.

**Annual Gathering - May 2022**

After not being able to meet face to face for a couple of years, it was really inspiring to get together with the indigo team of Partnership Coordinators, board members, advisors, staff and volunteers. Once again we were hosted by Libby Lloyd at St Basil’s in Randwick. The weekend started with simultaneous board and PC’s meetings and continued through to Sunday afternoon with the full team. Facilitated by Nuran, Jemma and Lyla, it was a great opportunity to reflect on the resilience and achievements of our local partners through the pandemic and recent challenges; continue to develop and celebrate our shared purpose and identity; share experiences, learning and ideas and begin work on the indigo Strategy for 2023 – 2027.

**Indigo trek for change June 2022**

*Image: Our intrepid trekkers on the Larapinta Trail*

18 intrepid travellers signed up to spend five days walking the Larapinta Trek and raised over $44,000 for indigo along the way. Huge thanks to Bianca Crocker and her Team Bunji, Dimity Taylor and the Goulburn Gals Gallivanting for Good, Anna Wilcox and the Tassie Trekkers and those brave solo trekkers, Alison Martin and Louise Blue, Robert Barrese, Rebecca Thompson for undertaking such an awesome task! Our sincere thanks to those generous people who signed up initially and raised funds before the trip had to be postponed and allowed the money to be used to support indigo’s community partners.
Canberra Dinner May 2022
Over 100 people enjoyed a fantastic night on 27 May at the Hellenic Club in Canberra. The focus was on Afghanistan and the warmth and generosity in the room was palpable. Huge thanks to those who made it a success - our wonderful MC Diane van Meegen; Ali Reza Yunespour, Partnership Coordinator and guest speaker; Heather Chapman, volunteer, Lyla Rogan, Chairperson and host; and our very own Mood Indigo (Anna, Joe, Ben and Robin) for their soulful tunes.

Sydney Jazz Dinner June 2022
Thanks to everyone who attended our sold out jazz Dinner in Sydney on 4 June. The Women’s College at Sydney University was a beautiful venue and we are very grateful to them for hosting us. Thanks to jazz outfit The Minellies for their fantastic tunes and for getting the dance floor going, to Mary Waterford who stepped in as our wonderful MC and brought her smarts and passion to the job, to the generous people who donated auction and raffle prizes and to everyone who came and made it such a special night.

Burgmann College - indigo foundation 2021 Equality Prize
The inaugural Burgmann College - indigo foundation Equality Prize was awarded in November. by an esteemed selection panel comprising Chair, Justice Richard Refshauge, Burgmann alumna Ms Meredith Burgmann and indigo’s Partnership Coordinator Ali Reza Yunespour. Ms Louisa Yasukawa was awarded the Equality Prize. The calibre of applicants was so inspiring that the panel recommended the creation of a new award category and the awarding of an additional prize; the Emerging Leader Equality Prize which was awarded to Ms Rosie Proctor. Thanks to Robin Brown and Jill McSpedden for sponsoring the Equality Prize. Both awards were presented at the Burgmann College dinner by our Chair, Lyla Rogan.

Indigo relies on our wonderful volunteers who make all of our events such special occasions and we extend our deepest gratitude to them. We thank our very generous supporters, both individuals, families, groups such as BMETs and CRSA, organisations such as Mary Mackillop School, companies who support us through sponsorship Morgan Disney, Canberra Hellenic Club, Sydney Women’s College, companies who support us through payroll giving such as University of Wollongong, IAG, trusts and foundations. Thank you.

Image: Our intrepid trekkers on the Larapinta Trail and enjoying a welcome rest around the fire.
meet our team

OUR BOARD

Lyla Rogan, Chair. Lyla has extensive experience in governance, strategy, accountability and impact measurement in the public and non-profit sectors. She has previously been Deputy Director of ACOSS and a university lecturer, and now consults in humanitarian and development sectors both in Australia and overseas.

Ron Switzer, Treasurer. Ron is a Chartered Accountant, CPA and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has extensive professional experience, including as a former partner in KPMG, CFO of multinational companies and General Manager – CPA Australia (NSW).

Robin Brown, Secretary. Robin is an expert in consumer rights and advocacy. He founded the Foundation for Effective Markets and Governance and worked with Consumers International on the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection. He has previously worked with AusAID and served on the Code Committee of ACFID and has been President of the ACT Council of Social Service.

Megan Chisholm. Megan has over 20 years’ experience working in over 25 countries in the humanitarian and development sector and is passionate about gender equality. Most recently she was CARE International’s Country Director in Vanuatu and Director Pacific Regional Team. She has led humanitarian response operations in the Middle East, Asia, Pacific and Latin America. She is currently the Regional Operations Manager for Far South Coast NSW with the Australian Red Cross.

Bianca Crocker. Bianca is an experienced fundraiser. She manages her own social purpose business and works with small and emerging charities to build sustainable funding models. She is a tutor for the Fundraising Institute of Australia’s education courses. In 2014, she was shortlisted for a Telstra Business Women’s Award: Young Business Woman of the Year.

Leigh Cupitt. Leigh has more than 30 years’ experience working in indigenous health and in PNG, building capacity of organisations and staff. She has led high-impact initiatives in Aboriginal health, including developing the first joint Area Health Service – Aboriginal Medical Service Plan in NSW and as a Director in the Federal Office for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health.

Alison Martin. Alison has extensive experience in policy, advocacy, media and campaigning, including as Oxfam’s Policy and Campaigns Manager in Jerusalem and South Sudan. She was also a Communications Advisor with the European Climate Foundation, and an Advisor to Australian Members of Parliament. Alison is also a published writer of fiction and non-fiction.

Tamana Mirzada. Tamana is an Afghan Australian youth advocate passionate about creating spaces that support newly arrived communities. Tamana has worked with the Afghan Women Educational Centre in Kabul and in Australia with the Lebanese Muslim Association, and the Refugee Council of Australia. In 2019, she was awarded the Refugee Council of Australia and STARTTS Humanitarian Youth Award.

Fyfe Strachan. Fyfe has more than ten years’ experience in policy, advocacy and program design with Australian state and federal governments and for NGOs in Australia and overseas, including Oxfam and ActionAid. She has worked in Ghana and Vietnam, and facilitated training workshops in over 10 countries on advocacy program design, implementation and evaluation. Fyfe is currently the Research Director at Jubilee Australia.
Our team of Board members, staff, program coordinators, and volunteers at our Annual gathering in May 2022. The day marked the first in person get together and started us on our journey to create our strategy for 2023 -2027.

PATRON
Libby Lloyd AM. Libby has a strong presence in the international and development community and was awarded an Order of Australia for her contribution to international relations and refugees. Libby has held senior positions in the Departments of Immigration and Community Services, with the UNHCR and large NGOs. Libby has been a President of UNIFEM Australia, Co-instigator and Board member of the White Ribbon Campaign/ Foundation and Chair of the National Council to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children. She is the Chair of Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia.

OUR STAFF
Jemma Bailey, Executive Director
Nuran Higgins, Development Coordinator
Jackie Evans, Fundraising Manager
Alice Martin, Financial Administrator

ADVISORS AND BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Susan Engel
Jude Finch
Pam Hartergink
Zoe Mander-Jones
Rob Mitchell

PARTNERSHIP COORDINATORS
Peggy Dano
Pat Duggan (to September 2020)
Susan Engel
Jacqui Fidler
Deb Raphael
Alice Roughley
Ali Reza Yunespour
Santino Yuot
Lyndene Wan

IN-COUNTRY LIAISON AND SUPPORT OFFICERS
Joyce Katooko
Marilyn Havini
Semmalar Selvi
Monica Tjehiu

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT
Isabelle Raphael, graphic design
Vaidehi Shah, Publications Officer
Jodie Matire, Managing Editor, 20th anniversary book
In Australia, indigo foundation is proud to be substantially volunteer-based. For the past 21 years volunteers have been at the heart and our organisation. We thank our team of passionate, highly-skilled and diverse volunteers for lending their expertise, integrity and initiative.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to following:

Our Partnership Coordinators and In-Country Liaison Officers. Without your hard work, expertise and dedication, we would not be able to support our community partners in the way we do. Your professionalism and skills keep our guiding principles at the heart of our work. Thank you.

The members of the Development Committee of the Board – Leigh Cupitt (Convenor), Jude Finch, Pam Hartgerink, and Fyfe Strachan – who are to be commended for their unstinting commitment to our guiding principles and thoughtful advice.

Lyla Rogan and Megan Chisholm for writing insightful think pieces for our publications.

The highly skilled and creative individuals who so generously offer their graphic design, writing and marketing talents, either pro bono or at much-reduced rates – Laura Backhouse, Colleen, Fernandez, Nicole Hamilton, Natalie Lowrey, Gabrielle Quirk and Isabelle Raphael.

Our dynamic and determined Canberra fundraising team, including Heather Chapman, Di van Meegen, Christina Richards, Alice Roughley, Robin Brown and Lyla Rogan for their determination and creativity, including organising a special dinner in May. Our thanks go out to the Canberra Hellenic Club and to the members of Mood Indigo for their performance.

The truly wonderful Sydney fundraising Committee of Libby Lloyd, Fyfe Strachan, Ron Switzer, Deborah Raphael, Alison Martin, Tamana Mirzada, Leigh Cupitt for organising a wonderful Jazz dinner in June, to the incomparable Minellies for providing hot jazz and to the Sydney Womens College for hosting this amazing night.

The ‘indigo indefatigables’, for getting on their bicycles and support vehicles and taking on cycling challenges to raise funds for indigo for the sixth year running. This year the team included Philip, John, Bob, Malcolm, Robin, Jill, John, Matt, Ed and Ian W. The 5 (+ 1) Peaks Challenge team included Ben, Michael, Jarrah, Jonathon, Karin, Ian R and Robin.

Fyfe Strachan for continuing the good work with Flavours of Indigo – refreshing the collateral and reaching out to friends and loved ones.

Ian Robinson who coordinates a recycling project in Canberra to raise funds for indigo.

The tech-minded trivia buffs Rob Mitchell and David James for organising the indigo foundation e-quiz.

And finally, we also thank our voluntary board who go way beyond their governance responsibilities to ensure indigo achieves its goals.

Partnership Coordinators, volunteers and Board members contributed more than 7,000 volunteer hours in 2021/22.
To our Patron Libby Lloyd AM – thank you for your incredible commitment and passion for indigo foundation and our partner communities. You bring ideas, smarts, creativity, eternal optimism and commitment to tasks big and small. You help build and nurture our community in Australia. Your contribution is invaluable.

indigo foundation is very proud to share our Patron of 15 years, Libby Lloyd, was awarded an Order of Australia medal in the 2022 Australia Day Honours. Libby has made an extraordinary contribution throughout her career, especially in relation to refugees and asylum seekers, justice for women and the ongoing struggle to eliminate violence against women and children.

As indigo’s Patron Libby is a champion for our community partnerships overseas and our volunteers and supporters in Australia and for our model of community-led development. She works tirelessly and with an infectious drive and passion that draws others to support and get involved with indigo.

Wearer of many hats, Libby is also the Chair and one of the primary drivers of Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia, which leads civil society efforts to establish community sponsorship of refugees in Australia. Over an illustrious career and an influential life, her achievements and contribution to Australian society and international affairs has been remarkable.

We are incredibly grateful for Libby’s leadership, energy, ideas and eternal optimism. Congratulations and thank you Libby for all you do - for refugees and asylum seekers, for women, for marginalised communities in Australia and overseas and of course for indigo foundation.

Image above: Libby at a recent indigo planning meeting, with Supipi Jayawardena and Ali Reza Yunespour.
We are grateful for the essential and much-valued support that we receive from foundations and trusts, the corporate sector and community organisations. This support ranges from funding to pro bono legal advice, access to networks to graphic design. We extend special thanks to the:

Planet Wheeler Foundation
Rotary Club of Ryde, Rotary Club of Macquarie Park and the Rotary Satellite E-Club of Ryde
Australian Communities Foundation and the Clare Murphy Fund
University of Wollongong
University of Wollongong Cares
Bilberry Blue Stocking Fund
The Funding Network
DLA Piper
Navitas Education Trust
Macquarie Group Foundation
Ashurst
Burgmann College, affiliated with the Australian National University
St Mary MacKillop College Canberra
Mary Alice Foundation
Perpetual Foundation - Hardcastle Family Endowment
income – where we receive our funding

Income for the year, net of fundraising costs, was $502,000 (2021 - $382,000). Donations and grants received totalled $483,000 (2021- $348,000) including donations from individuals and foundations for our current partnerships. We are pleased and grateful for the ongoing support of our donors and supporters during these challenging two years. No Australian Government Covid-19 subsidies were received during the year (2021 - $42,000).

As we emerged from the Covid-19 global pandemic some of our key fundraising activities were resumed resulting in income from fundraising increasing to $41,000 (2021 - $5,000).

Major activities in 2022 was the Larapinta Trail walk with donations totalling $45,000 and the ‘Raise to Heights’ bicycle ride contributing $15,000 to fundraising income.

In accordance with Australian accounting standards, indigo foundation defers specified donations only recognising these as income when the funds are disbursed to the relevant project. Deferred Revenue reduced to $124,000 from $159,000 during the financial year, largely due to project spending in Afghanistan.

expenditure – where we utilise our resources

Direct support for projects increased over the prior year notably in Afghanistan. Overall, $267,000 (2021 - $188,000) was allocated directly to development programs. This excludes the costs of the Development Coordinator and Executive Director relating directly to projects. The increased funding for Afghanistan was financed by the special Afghan Appeal made in response to the withdrawal of Western Forces in August 2021. The Appeal raised $51,000. Direct community support by country is shown in the accompanying graph.

surplus

Indigo foundation made a net surplus for the year of $26,000 (2021 - $6,000). Whilst we aim to make a modest prudential surplus, the timing of project support payments that are shown as expenses can be unpredictable and can impact the results from year to year.

general support expenditure

International aid and development costs include technical support and relationship building and monitoring and evaluation visits by volunteer Partnership Coordinators to certain projects.
This excludes the costs of the Development Coordinator (53% FTE) and Executive Director (35%) relating directly to projects.

Management and administration costs continue to be tightly controlled and have remained relatively consistent during the year. This year we invested in a new part-time fundraising role to strengthen our sustainability. The ratio of management and administration costs to total income was 27% of total income. We have three-part time management and administration personnel: Executive Director (53% FTE), Finance and Administration Officer (13% FTE) and Fundraising Specialist 32% FTE).

Indigo Foundation is a volunteer-based organisation and although not recorded as income, we have calculated an estimated value for volunteer contributions. This figure is a conservative $401,000. Incorporating the value of volunteer contributions, total administration costs, as a percentage of total revenue, is approximately 15%.

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 $119,000 (2021 - $134,000).

We have a policy of holding sufficient funds to support all existing partnerships for the next six months and we are confident that we have sufficiently strong reserves to satisfy this. 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 and much appreciated for the longer term.

Valuing volunteers

As a relatively small organisation, we depend significantly on generous 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 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 it is 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 & expenses contributed by Board Members, Partnership Coordinators and Advisors, members of our Development Committee of the Board, pro bono support and volunteers supporting our communications, events and fundraising.
- 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.

The audited financial statements in full for the year ended 30 June 2021 are on our website.

### balance sheet

**AS AT 30 JUNE 2022**

ABN: 81 765 707 413

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT ASSETS</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
<th>2021 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>418,807</td>
<td>410,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trade and other receivables</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inventory</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>2,444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other assets</td>
<td>2,289</td>
<td>1,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>421,728</td>
<td>415,082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>421,728</td>
<td>415,082</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT LIABILITIES</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
<th>2021 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>trade and other payables</td>
<td>18,434</td>
<td>14,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>employee provisions</td>
<td>24,210</td>
<td>12,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deferred revenue</td>
<td>124,326</td>
<td>158,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>166,970</td>
<td>186,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>254,758</td>
<td>229,075</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEMBER FUNDS</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>retained surplus</td>
<td>229,075</td>
<td>223,154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>current year surplus/deficit</td>
<td>25,683</td>
<td>5,921</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBER FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>254,758</td>
<td>229,075</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## income and expenditure statement

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021  
ABN: 81 765 707 413

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INCOME</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
<th>2021 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>donations and grants received</td>
<td>483,436</td>
<td>347,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fundraising activities</td>
<td>41,050</td>
<td>5,338</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covid-19 government subsidy</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>41,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
<td><strong>524,706</strong></td>
<td><strong>395,015</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENDITURE</th>
<th>2022 ($)</th>
<th>2021 ($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International aid and development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct community development support</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development Coordination, accountability and admin costs</td>
<td>41,147</td>
<td>62,555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Coordination and expenses</td>
<td>22,998</td>
<td>39,892</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising &amp; Marketing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage, stationery and printing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>6,360</td>
<td>347,944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</strong></td>
<td><strong>499,023</strong></td>
<td><strong>389,904</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>current year surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td>25,683</td>
<td>5,921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
opinion
We have audited the financial report of Indigo Foundation Incorporated, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2022, the income and expenditure statement, the statement of changes in equity and the cashflow statement 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 (ACNC Act), the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW), and the ACFID Code of Conduct, including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2022 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, and the ACFID Code of Conduct.

basis for opinion
We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

emphasis of matter
We draw attention to the following:

1. 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, the Associations Incorporation Act and the ACFID Code of Conduct. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

2. The impact of COVID-19 pandemic on economic activity globally, combined with the uncertainties it has created locally has created operational challenges for the association. At the date of signing this financial report, the directors have considered the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the association’s financial position and have determined that no material adjustments are required to be disclosed in the financial report for the year ended 30th June 2022.

Our opinion is not modified in respect of the above matters.

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, the ACFID Code of Conduct 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 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 Indigo Foundation Incorporated has satisfied their obligations as required under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and Charitable Fundraising Regulation 2008.

Dated this 4th day of November 2022

McCARTHY SALKELD CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
**governance.** Indigo Foundation Inc ABN 81 765 707 413 is an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW). Our registered address is PO Box 362, Figtree NSW 2525. We are a registered charity under the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission and we comply with the ACNC’s Governance Standards.

**charitable status.** Indigo Foundation is endorsed by the Australian Taxation Office as a charitable organisation (DGR1). As a tax deductible gift recipient, donations over $2 to the Indigo Foundation Relief Fund for overseas projects are tax deductible for Australian taxation purposes.

**safeguarding against sexual exploitation and abuse.** Indigo Foundation pursues the highest degree of care and protection in our operations in Australia and overseas. Our policies on Working with Children and Young People and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse are on our website. All staff and volunteers sign a Code of Conduct for Working with Children and Young People and all representatives visiting community partners must have a current Working with Children Clearance. While images from our partnerships have been used throughout this report, these images do not necessarily represent the individual profiled. In this annual report, we use pseudonyms for children’s names and, for adults, names have been changed where requested to protect identities.

**feedback and complaints.** We welcome feedback and complaints. Our complaints policy and procedures are available on our website. To lodge a complaint or leave feedback with Indigo Foundation, please contact General Manager Jemma Bailey at jemma.bailey@indigofoundation.org or Chair Lyla Rogan at lyla.rogan@indigofoundation.org.

**policies.** We are committed to being a transparent organisation and copies of key policies are available on our website, including our Privacy Policy, Anti-Fraud and Corruption Policy, Control of Funds and Counter-Terrorism Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy.

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*Image opposite:* Through a challenging two years of Covid-restrictions, Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB’s tuition groups and dedicated tutors have filled an incredibly important gap - supporting students and their families to stay in learning across extended school closures.
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.