



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

our guiding principles

For 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 partner-

ship 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.



01

community ownership

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

02

sustainability

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

03

transparency

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

04

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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FRONT COVER: CLUB RAFIKI IN KIGALI, RWANDA, ADAPTED QUICKLY TO COVID-19, SHIFTING PROGRAMS ONLINE AT THE HEIGHT OF THE LOCKDOWN AND RESUMING FACE TO FACE PROGRAMS, LIKE THE ENGLISH CORNER WORKSHOP, WITH MASKS AND HAND-WASHING REQUIREMENTS.

IMAGE OPPOSITE: MEET MARIANA, THE LIBRARIAN AT THE HAKO WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE'S THRIVING RESOURCE CENTRE IN BOUGAINVILLE. THE HAKO LIBRARY WELCOMES LOCAL SCHOOL CHILDREN AND RUNS LITERACY PROGRAMS WHICH ARE IN HIGH DEMAND.

message from Lyla & Jemma



Lyla Rogan
Chair



Jemma Bailey
Executive Director

We are pleased to share indigo foundation's Annual Report. It is filled with the achievements, challenges and learnings we have embraced in this unprecedented time – both from the perspective of our community partners and our Australian community of supporters, volunteers and staff.

We celebrated indigo foundation's 20th year in 2020. Our founder Sally Stevenson and other early shapers can be proud of the relationships forged with more than 25 local partners over two decades, and the remarkable impact that has been possible in their communities with the generous support of friends of indigo in Australia.

2020 was not to be the year our partners and indigo foundation had anticipated. As Covid-19 took hold across the globe, we shifted gear to support our overseas partners respond to the restrictions and impacts of COVID 19 in their communities. We knew indigo foundation needed to provide flexibility and create the space our partners needed to reprioritise and change activities to keep their communities safe and provide support to community members who were most vulnerable. This was consistent with our strong belief in community-led development and our guiding principles. Our annual report reflects the resilience and courage our partners have demonstrated in the face of the pandemic and the commitment and loyalty of our supporters in Australia.

While the advent of Covid-19 delayed some partner activities, most notably large school infrastructure works in Afghanistan, in other communities we were able to ramp up support and accelerate the impact our partners were achieving. In particular, we were pleased to continue to build momentum in key partnerships that have gender justice at their heart. We signed our first three-year commitment agreement with the Hako Women's Collective in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, committing to fund staffing and operating costs for their expanded Safe House. And in Indonesia, PEKKA NTT's network of women-led garden cooperatives went from strength to strength, this year boosted by the purchase of key infrastructure to increase food production and reduce the burden of manual labour.

In Rwanda, we were able to expand our support for Club Rafiki to fund a new youth employment pathways program. And in South Sudan, 110 teachers graduated from the third

annual intensive teacher training – a program that has grown from training 10 teachers in a remote school in Wedweil in 2016 to one that is run in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and attracted over 100 teachers from across three provinces in South Sudan. After careful assessment and with some sadness we are also managing some planned and respectful transitions or exits from indigo foundation's long-standing partnerships in Uganda, Rote and Namibia.

indigo foundation ended the year in good financial shape despite the cancellation of our favourite fundraising dinners and the pressures faced by many people and organisations in Australia. We send heartfelt thanks to our foundation partners and our loyal and generous donors and supporters for making this result possible. Without your support our community partners would have been unable to continue to pursue their development priorities and adjust to protect and care for the more vulnerable members of their communities.

indigo foundation remains proudly volunteer based. We thank our volunteer Partnership Coordinators, our local Liaison Officers and other grassroots community representatives who keep our community partnerships strong and ensure the wheels of community development are turning in response to local needs and priorities.

And we thank our staff and Board members who constantly give over and above their responsibilities and have boldly risen to the opportunities and challenges that 2020 has presented for us all.

With a passionate and growing community of supporters, a highly skilled and committed team of staff and volunteers and incredible grassroots partners with the vision and tenacity to change lives, we look forward with optimism to another twenty years of partnering for community led development in marginalised communities.

Jemma and Lyla

WITH A PASSIONATE AND GROWING COMMUNITY OF
SUPPORTERS, A HIGHLY SKILLED AND COMMITTED TEAM OF
STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS AND INCREDIBLE GRASSROOTS
PARTNERS WITH THE VISION AND TENACITY TO CHANGE
LIVES, WE LOOK FORWARD WITH OPTIMISM

In 2019/20, we worked in **eight countries** around the world, partnering with **17 local grassroots organisations** to improve outcomes in education and health, empower women and girls and defend human rights.

SOUTH SUDAN

Partner – Wedwell Community Development Foundation

We're improving education outcomes by training teachers and investing in school infrastructure.

UGANDA

Partner – Kakule HIV/AIDS and Grieved Families Association, Gaalimagi HIV/AIDS and Orphans Association, Trinity Child Care Ministry, Iki-Iki Aids Initiative, Nasenyi Community Action

We're supporting the education and wellbeing of children and young people impacted by HIV – many orphaned and from child-headed households.

RWANDA

Partner – Club Refiki

We're funding sexual and reproductive health programs and supporting young people through an urban dance school, English language workshops and initiatives targeting girls and young women.

NAMIBIA

Partner – Otjiwarongo Development Program Fund

We're building the capacity of our local partner to support the wellbeing and health of young people in Orwetoveni.

AFGHANISTAN

Partners – Jirghai & Behsud Shura, Women's Empowerment Centre, Afghan Educated Women's Services Organisation

In rural Afghanistan, we're working to improve education infrastructure and the number of girls in local schools. And in Kabul we're supporting women to access university education and analysing the barriers to women finding employment.

INDIA

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

We're supporting 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.

BOUGAINVILLE

Partner – Hako Women's Collective

We're working with a women-led collective to support the staffing and operating costs for a resource centre, library and Safe House for women and children feeling family and sexual violence.

INDONESIA

Partners – Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Foundation, PEKKA NTT, Nefo Ko'u Farmers' Cooperative

We're supporting communities in their efforts to build resilience to climate change through a network of cooperative gardens. We also supporting bursaries for kids from kindergarten to university and helping women return to school to graduate.

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.

110

teachers from Aweil and Lol States in South Sudan graduated from a one-month intensive teacher training course

2,300

children and young people impacted by HIV in Uganda supported through access to school materials, including uniforms, pens and books

21

women facing violence found shelter and safety at the safe house of the Hako Women's Collective in Bougainville

2,300

school students across seven schools supported with new school buildings, new desks and chairs, clean water and toilets in Afghanistan

27

young women from female headed households in Indonesia supported to complete university studies in economics, nursing, engineering and public health

85%

success rate for young people finding a job after completing vocational training courses in tailoring, typing and handicraft work in India

74

women plus their dependents benefited from cooperative food gardens in Indonesia, improving nutrition, generating income and building women's leadership

223

secondary students supported with after-school tuition in India

4192

instances of young people accessing sexual and reproductive health testing and counselling through Club Rafiki in Rwanda

6149

hours contributed by volunteers in Australia

A SNAPSHOT OF IMPACT IN 2019/20





MAHALIR SAKTHI HAVE WORKED TO ESTABLISH COMMUNITY HAND-WASHING STATIONS IN THE SLUMS OF MADURAI TO COMBAT COVID-19

navigating the health and livelihood impacts of covid-19 with our partners

The Covid-19 pandemic raised health, livelihood and operational challenges for our partners and their communities. Governments imposed a range of restrictions on movement that impacted work, travel, social, cultural and religious practices. Many women with insecure incomes in unregulated industries lost their livelihoods overnight, schools closed and a lack of permanent housing and poor access to clean water made social distancing and sanitation difficult. Our partners reported greater demand for sexual and reproductive health services, and for programs supporting women facing violence.

We also know of individuals and families within our partner organisations and in the communities we work in that have been impacted first hand by Covid-19. In Afghanistan, for example, Covid-19 has penetrated the communities we work with in Ghazni Province, with infections and tragically deaths in rural villages and particularly those with family in Kabul.

Confronted with these challenges, our partners showed resilience and determination, adapting their activities in response to community needs, while continuing to keep their focus on long-term development goals. The preparedness and innovation of our partners demonstrates the power of local knowledge driving local responses. We have aimed to work flexibly with our partners over this time, recognising that they are best placed to understand the needs in their community and determine the best response (see 'lessons and challenges' for more detail on our approach). For some partners, this has meant shifting programs online and ramping up staffing in particular areas of need. For others, such as the Borjegai and Jirghai Shura, the challenges of moving people and materials between villages and to and from Kabul has meant that our partners had to delay major school building works.

innovative ways to run programs and adapt to social distancing

A number of our partners experimented with new forms of technology to adapt to the new environment. In Tamil Nadu in India, PEAB tutors contacted students in their tuition groups using WhatsApp. And in Rwanda, Club Rafiki shifted programs online and forged new ways to connect with young people in their homes. Dance classes went online and their sexual and reproductive health drop-in clinic converted to an online and phone service. This is essential work to keep young people safe and engaged.

promoting public health messages and distributing masks

Most of the communities we support are remote or highly marginalised and our partners, with their strong community networks and high level of trust, played an important role in sharing public health messages about sanitation and how to avoid infection. In the slums of Madurai in India, Mahalir Sakthi worked as a coalition to set up community hand-washing stations and adapted health lectures for women and children to focus on sanitation, hygiene and social distancing. In Bougainville and Rwanda, our partners promoted public health messages using posters and information sessions. In the case of Club Rafiki, they regularly used social media – including their Facebook and Instagram page – to share messages about the risks of infection, social distancing and hygiene.

Lisa*, a 20 year old woman, was a victim of sexual violence. She lives in Kigali with three other young women and, until the Covid-19 lockdown, was employed in a bar. She explains how the support from Club Rafiki during this time has been critical.

"Hygiene is still my priority, even during this hard time, because I'm a girl and girl means hygiene. That is why I decided to bought pads in the support provided by Club Rafiki, and I bought foods also."



food security at the height of the lockdown

Recently established cooperative food gardens in Indonesia proved to be an important part of ensuring resilience for our communities. While our partners at PEKKA NTT had to close their centre at the height of the lockdown, the gardens continued to produce food and provided a valuable source of sustenance and nutrition for women and their children at a time when they were unable to work and the markets were closed.

ensuring vulnerable women and children have access to soap, sanitary pads and food

Where humanitarian organisations were not reaching into the communities we work in, some of our partners were able to step up to ensure the most vulnerable people, especially women and children, had access to food, soap and sanitary pads. PEAB in India organised the purchase and distribution of dry rations to 140 families from a network of small villages surrounding Madhurantakam. And Mahalir Sakthi reached out to around 325 vulnerable families (largely women who are elderly, widowed, living with a disability or single mothers), providing supplies including rice, dhal, oil, groceries, soap, masks and small amounts of cash. In Rwanda, Club Rafiki employed young people to deliver essential food parcels and hygiene packs to young people in their networks who had lost their jobs, had unplanned pregnancies or were unwell.

ramping up support in response to increased domestic violence and sexual health concerns

We learned from our partners that widespread lockdowns leading to families being confined at home have resulted in an increase in domestic violence. In Bougainville, the Hako Women's Collective reported a spike in the number of women fleeing family and sexual violence through their safe house. To meet this demand, Hako found funding to build a new and expanded women's safe house which opened in November 2020.

In Rwanda, Club Rafiki reported that the lockdown period has increased risk for young women and girls, with an increase in the number of women seeking information and support on sexual and reproductive health issues. As Club Rafiki reopened, the team reported more than 60 young women requested pregnancy tests in the first two weeks. Seventeen of those girls were found to be pregnant and six were HIV positive. As the pandemic drags on it is clear that there is a need to continue to resource these vital services to protect women.

equity for women and girls

We work alongside our partners to progress the rights of women and girls, in all their diversity, and actively seek to partner with and build the capacity of women-led organisations. Empowering women has a powerful multiplier development effect for children, families and communities.

This year, as the impacts of Covid-19 started to hit, we have maintained a committed focus on women and girls across all of our community partnerships, supporting their engagement and development in leadership roles, improving their access to employment opportunities and local government roles, and supporting their advocacy and response to the effects of family violence

Bougainville – finding safety and justice

Our newest partner, the Hako Women's Collective has continued to develop and thrive this year despite a brief closure of services between March and June 2020 due to Covid-19. With a focus on women's integrated education and advocacy activities, Hako has promoted gender equity and the rights of women and girls to lead. indigo foundation's support provides core costs for staffing and operating the HWC Resource Centre and Library, as well as keeping the doors of their *Women's Safe House (Meri Seif Haus)* open.

Sadly, the period of Covid-19 restrictions led to an increase in family violence, particularly against women in the local Haku community. With determination, Hako managed to keep the Safe House open and referrals continued through a network of 30 Human Rights Defenders.

Hako made counselling available to women and their families, along with the perpetrators, to bring awareness of law and justice issues. In some cases, Hako connected women to

formal justice and legal systems, offered emergency accommodation and access to medical services. Hako sourced funding to construct a stand-alone safehouse to grow their capacity from an existing two bed safe house within the Resource Centre to their new stand-alone *Meri Seif Haus*, opened at the end of 2020. indigo foundation has made a three year commitment to support staffing and operating costs for the expanded safe house.

The Safe House is run by a dedicated group of 5 women who work two-week shifts to ensure the Safe House is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Their roles vary from coordination, counselling, advocacy and referral services. During this year, Hako's Safe House sheltered and supported 21 women and 8 children. The average age of women seeking assistance was 28 years.

Elizabeth from Hako's Safe House team describes the process for women seeking help: *This is the process we the counsellors take to address the problem:*

1. *The counsellors will listen attentively to the survivor's case story to the end.*
2. *Counsellor must respond with positive comments to give comfort to the client.*
3. *After steps 1 & 2 the counsellors must interview the perpetrator.*
4. *The perpetrator and victim will dialogue with the counsellors to set a date for reconciliation.*
5. *If the matter requires law and order enforcement to intervene then step 4 will still take place after the matter is been heard in court."*

The women of Hako are looking forward to working in the new Safe House which can shelter up to 10 people at one time and provides separate counselling spaces and a bathroom. The challenge is significant. They serve a large and dispersed community which is dependent on subsistence agriculture for household food and is still experiencing the effects of a brutal secessionist conflict during the 90s and early 2000s. In a community with high levels of family and sexual violence, the Safe House is a sanctuary for women and children seeking refuge and counselling.

Hako's program also provides opportunities for learning and the development of healthy, informed and peaceful families, providing a wrap-around service which ultimately focuses on positive family and community relationships.



MEMBERS OF THE HAKO WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE MEETING IN THE LUMAN HIPAKOKO

AN INTERVIEW WITH ANNA, WHO JOINED THE HAKO WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE IN 2007 AND IS NOW A PART OF THE SAFE HOUSE TEAM

1. Why is she drawn to this work?

Anna was once a victim of violence. She is happy she received counselling and training as they rebuilt her confidence and self-esteem to face life today as a single parent. She enjoys helping other women who are victims of violence by applying what she has gained from the awareness and advocacy training.

2. What does she enjoy most about the work?

"This is what I enjoy, dialogue with two parties, solve the conflict and find resolution and reconciliation because I really know my work and understand myself and the client."

3. What does she find most challenging?

Some of the challenges she faces when she is on duty include: when the client is very hesitant to speak of her problem for days and weeks; and finding clothing for women and children as victims of violence flee for safety and do not have time to pack a few clothes. She would like to see the Safe House expand its budget to more effectively connect women to the referral pathways that are in Buka, a bus ride away.

"E. lives in a big family; she has 7 sisters, two brothers and her parents. She is the eldest of all her siblings in the house. Her father is a common worker, he does not have regular job, and if one day he finds the job the other day he may not find it. Since her father has very low income, he cannot support her daughter's higher education. Furthermore he hardly provides the food for his children in the current satiation. According to B. , if she does not get the scholarship she would remain uneducated, she may get married and become a house wife with a dark future."

education, training and wellbeing for young people

A child's right to education is fundamental – and intrinsically linked to strong development outcomes. In 2019-20, our partners showed commitment and flexibility in adapting programs to ensure students and schools continued to receive support. This year our partners in Uganda, Indonesia, India, Rwanda, Afghanistan and Bougainville had dedicated teachers visiting their students' homes to keep up with lessons. They also led after-school tuition groups, kept libraries running and found creative ways to deliver classes and workshops. Despite some interruptions, bursaries continued to be issued by our community partners to support students with their formal studies from primary school to university.

Bougainville – nurturing a love of reading

In February 2020, primary and high school students from Haku Community, Bougainville participated in an essay competition designed to boost literacy levels. Students entering the competition wrote about themselves and what they hoped for their future and shared a brief summary of a book they read from the Hako Women's Collective's community library. The award ceremony was a tremendous success with prizes, dancing, singing and a lunch for everyone.

Part of indigo foundation's partnership with HWC is resourcing the community library which provides a welcoming space for children and adults to drop in, catch up on the local news, borrow a book and improve their literacy and numeracy skills. In Bougainville, community libraries such as these are places for elders to share history and culture with the next generation, ensuring the passing of tradition and nurturing emerging story tellers.



Meet Mariana, librarian at HAKO's Resource Centre: "I have worked in the library for five years. I joined HAKO because I really wanted to be a librarian, talking with the students, looking after the books, making some programs with the schools. I have always liked reading books ever since I was a small child. My daughter ... is also growing up in the library with the books and I'm happy about that. My favourite part of the work is with the students and helping them find books they will love or writing essays for their school-work. I have finished a library studies course, I really loved it and learnt so many new skills. I learnt how to be confident and manage the visitors to the library. I love welcoming everyone to the library. I am just waiting for my certificate."

Indonesia – bringing children together to celebrate their culture

Our partners recognise education is not only about sitting in a classroom and taking exams; children should also be given the opportunity to put into practice what they learn, to work with others, to appreciate and respect their culture and to have fun. In November 2019, our partner PEKKA ran their second Children's Festival on Lembata Island. Over a hundred children and their families came together to participate in diverse activities like learning yarn spinning and weaving, traditional dancing competitions, agricultural and art competitions. Care and concern for the environment was the central theme of the festival with waste recycling competitions, learning about protecting the environment and environmental restoration drawing crowds. Whilst Covid-19 put a hold on the planned festivals for 2020, we are hopeful these gatherings may be possible again in 2021.

Indonesia – reading in the open air

In addition to their bursary program, our partner Nefo Ko'u completed construction of an open-air children's reading room in late 2019. The structure was built by members of the cooperative using locally sourced materials and is built in a traditional style. Chairs and tables and an initial stock of educational reading materials were purchased and provide a welcoming space for students to do their homework, research a particular topic or just read for pleasure. Until the Covid-19 stay at home orders were put in place, approximately 20 children per day were using the reading room to access books, improve their reading and comprehension skills or do their homework. Nefo Ko'u's meetings and training sessions were also held in the space while the children were at school. The children's reading room is fast becoming the heart of this small community.

Indonesia – 95 bursaries from primary to university

The bursary program run by our three partners in Indonesia continued to keep girls and boys in primary and secondary school and supported young people embarking on their tertiary studies. The bursary program is led by communities who want to see better lives for their young people and, for the recipients, a way to ultimately give back to the health and well-being of their communities.

Our partner, Lua Lemba, selected and dispersed bursaries to 27 young people who completed their university studies in economics, nursing, engineering and supported 14 girls and boys to attend primary and high school. Nefo Ko'u planned to disburse bursaries to 14 girls and boys. And PEKKA provided bursaries to 40 young women, with a particular focus on girls and young women from female-headed households

PEKKA NTT'S FIRST CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL HELD IN JULY, INDONESIA





OUR PARTNERS IN BUDAKA, UGANDA WORKED ALONGSIDE TEACHERS TO DISTRIBUTE SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO STUDENTS WHILE CLASSROOM TEACHING WAS SUSPENDED DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

Uganda – bicycles, radios and 2,300 students benefiting from school supplies

In Budaka, Uganda, HIV and AIDS has had a significant impact on households, leaving many child-headed households and families facing the stigma of HIV. Our five local partners collaborate to reach out to children and young people – this year ensuring 2,300 students could access educational supplies, including pens, uniforms and books, to enable their attendance at school.

When the first cases of Covid-19 emerged in early 2020, the Ugandan government moved quickly to put lockdowns in place and enforce strict quarantine and social distancing. These lockdowns tested the resilience and creativity of our partners in Budaka, bringing an additional set of challenges for an already vulnerable communities. Schools were closed and students began studying at home. Classroom lessons were broadcast over television and radio and learning materials were distributed to village committees but there were not enough materials to go around. Wearing masks and riding bicycles, our dedicated community partners and a group of determined teachers ensured Budaka students received a set of school supplies and were able to continue their studies from home.

India – after-school tuition for 233 students

This year, our partners Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB continued to run programs for children from Dalit, Adivasi and other marginalised communities to improve their educational performance and enhance their employment opportunities. The participating children face discrimination in their communities and schools and many drop out in the early years of secondary school. The Year 10 examination is a major milestone for an Indian child. Without at least sitting this exam, future employment options are limited to unskilled labour which perpetuates a cycle of

poverty and marginalisation. To address this, our partners run a network of after-school tuition classes for children studying up to Year 10 to encourage continued education and prepare for the Year 10 exams. These classes provide free coaching, exam preparation and educational support for three hours per day, five evenings a week, including two classes specifically targeting year 10 students in the lead up to the year 10 National Exams.

PEAB currently manages 7 after-school tuition centres which work with 150 students. This year, 20 students in year 10 coaching and 31 students sat the Year 10 exam, 30 passed, one had to re-sit the maths exam. The current enrolment at Mahalir Sakthi's after-school tuition centres is 85 students. This year, 17 students passed the Year 10 exams and 22 students passed the Year 12 exams. The Covid-19 pandemic is largely out of control in India and Tamil Nadu, where Mahalir Sakthi and PEAB work, is considered a hot spot. India went into a nation-wide lockdown for 21 days from 24 March 2020 and then subsequent restrictions. The centres have now resumed tutoring but they are restricted to 3-4 students per session to limit the spread of Covid-19.



STUDENTS ENJOYING THIS YEAR'S PEAB SUMMER CAMP FOREST. THE THEME OF THIS DAY WAS LAND AND ENVIRONMENT.

Rwanda – over 50 students per week attend English corner workshops

One of the most effective ways of learning a new language is to practice it with friends. Club Rafiki recognised this informal way of learning was the key to getting more young people to learn English. So began the English Corner

Workshop in 2017 with the aim of helping young people to improve English language skills through practice, repetition in real-life conversations and creative writing. indigo foundation funded these as a pilot program that has now gone on to become one of Club Rafiki's most popular programs.

The workshops were regularly attended by young people. Club Rafiki reports that there were 2,488 instances of children participating throughout the year, with a large drop off. Club Rafiki reports that there were 2,488 instances of children participating throughout 2019/20 with a large drop off from March – June 2020 due to Covid-10. Prior to Covid-19, an average of more than 50 students attended per week (34% female). Putting those skills to practical use, participants produced three story books. One of them, 'Shining Dreams' contains seven beautifully illustrated stories about social life, education, technology, language, nature and holidays. Five students participated in The Queen Elizabeth Commonwealth Essay Competition with three winning awards, a terrific outcome for building the confidence of the award-winners and for inspiring the other students.

Club Rafiki's library was also a popular hub for young people throughout the year, many using it as a quiet place to do their homework or revise in preparation for exams. Younger children had access to books in Kinyarwanda to encourage a life-long appreciation of reading. Literacy and numeracy classes were well attended with young people and some adults expanding their opportunities to participate in everyday life and increase their ability to enter the workforce and improve health and social outcomes for themselves and their families.

"During this period of Covid-19, letting our children come to the club to attend the session like this is very appreciable, because children they need to be together with others and where we haven't worry for any abuse, as you know this period children can be violated anytime even sexual violence that is why are appreciating club rafiki and its partners for everything you do for our children."

- Mariam, whose children attend Club Rafiki

Rwanda – a new jobs desk to create employment pathways

In late 2019, indigo foundation resourced a new position of Youth Empowerment and Employment Officer at Club Rafiki. The position was filled by Winny Rangira, who began her association with Club Rafiki as an intern and quickly built a reputation as a skilled and committed team member with a background in computer literacy and labour market policies.

The appointment was timely as a report released by the National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda indicated unemployment increased from 13.1% in February 2020 to 22.1% in May 2020. The economic shock of the pandemic will be felt by everyone, but it will be especially harsh for youth.

In supporting young people, Winny collaborates with local youth employment agencies to provide information about job opportunities, employment services, national and international scholarship and internship opportunities. Young people also have opportunities to gain job-readiness skills - searching for jobs, scholarships and internships, correcting resumes and applications, career guidance – and receive training on business management.

During the 2019-2020 year, 428 young people participated in training on entrepreneurship and job creation, 2,127 young people received secretariat services, 70% made online applications, 2% completed online courses and 9% received interview preparation training. Six young people got permanent jobs and 5 young women found professional internships in public institutions. In the coming year, there are plans to increase the number of girls in the program, conduct communication skills training and organise more inspirational events at the Club, schools and in the community.

Empowerment of girls and women is integral to Winny's day to day work as Club Rafiki's Youth Empowerment and Employment Officer.

Kanamugire M. Michelle Aline is one of the young women that has drawn on Club Rafiki's Jobs Desk this year. She writes

"After graduated in undergraduate, I tried to get a job I didn't find it, I decided to continue in postgraduate, finally I got my masters in rural development, after getting this I continued to search a job but I didn't find even casual work. When I got information on the job desk here at Club Rafiki, I joined this team, and they helped me to revise my documents like CV, Cover letter and they give me information related institutions that needed employees, I applied with hope and confidence and finally I got a call from this organisation for written exam, after this exam I passed and I got a notification for interview. Currently, I'm not a jobless. I appreciate the great accompaniment of my fellows'



rebuilding education outcomes in conflict zones

Access to education is a right for every child, even more so when that child is growing up in the middle of conflict and protracted humanitarian crises. Education – teachers, infrastructure, school materials – may literally save lives, provide a safe space for children to learn and be protected from exploitation and abuse and provide a way out of crisis and poverty for young people.

Our community partners in South Sudan and Afghanistan seek to offer this solution, however it is not always easy having to contend with security threats, poverty, marginalisation and regular destructive weather events. indigo foundation manages these risks by partnering with Afghan and South Sudanese communities in Australia, who in turn work through local community groups and councils.

These partnerships are based on connections with the Afghan and South Sudanese refugee communities in Australia and are led by our Australia-based team members, Ali Reza Yunespour and Santino Yuot. Ali and Santino know from their own experience the catalytic potential education holds for a child caught in war. They both provide direct links to our community partners and enable indigo to reach into remote and challenging areas of South Sudan and Afghanistan where communities have very limited services from government and other agencies.

South Sudan – unlocking the potential of 110 teachers

The children of South Sudan face multiple challenges in their daily lives. Decades of civil war, political unrest, a weak economy and cyclical droughts and floods leading to food insecurity make South Sudan one of the most difficult places in the world to be a child. Add to that picture limited educational infrastructure and a shortage of qualified teachers and the barriers to a South Sudanese child gaining an education are significant. However, there are signs of change and reasons to be optimistic.

Since 2018, indigo foundation has worked with the South Sudanese Ministry of Education and our local

partners, the Wedweil Community Development Fund, to support an annual one-month, intensive in-service teacher training course, bringing together teachers from Aweil Centre, South and Lol States in South Sudan's north-west region.

In the third year of this training, from 12 January – 8 February, 110 teachers participated in the training course, conducted at the Aweil Teachers' Training Institute. Participants were teachers at public schools who were selected based on a Ministry of Education pre-course test and performance at a brief interview.

The 2020 course drew on the same trainers as the previous year: a science teacher, a head teacher from a local primary school in Aweil, and a primary teacher from a school some distance from Aweil. These dedicated trainers, along with indigo foundation's Partnership Advisor, Santino Yuot, provided expert advice and guidance to their colleagues. This peer-to-peer model of training and learning has proven effective at building confidence and unlocking educational potential in a supportive environment.

Ensuring there is strong participation by female teachers in the course continues to be a priority and a challenge. Of the 110 teacher graduates in 2020, 8 were women which was slightly down from 7 participants in 2019 but higher than 2018.. This year we supported transportation and accommodation costs for female teachers during the training. We are working with Santino and the community to understand what more we can do to support more female teachers to participate. At a national level, as South Sudan rebuilds its education system, much outreach and advocacy work is needed to attract more women teachers to the profession.

With great pride, the 2020 training group attended the graduation ceremony on the 8th February. The ceremony was officiated by state educational officials with each graduate receiving a certificate and looking forward to putting their training into practice.

Afghanistan – sanctuaries for learning

Conflict, political instability, poor infrastructure, a lack of qualified teachers and transportation contribute to millions of Afghanistan's children being kept out of schools, especially girls. Entrenched social norms also hinder girls' enrolment in schools and a lack of sanitary facilities and other support structures means parents are reluctant to send their daughters to the classroom. This year marked our 5th year of partnering with the Jirghai and Behsud Shura in Ghazni Province to improve the quality and outcomes for students attending a network of 21 public primary and high schools. This partnership builds on the strength and impact of our earlier partnership with the Borjegai community.

Reflecting local priorities, the focus of our current work with the Jirghai and Behsud Shura is improving school infrastructure – building schools, improving classrooms, ensuring there is clean water and separate male and female toilets. Due to the harsh winters in Ghazni Province, the majority of this building work occurs from May – November. The construction of buildings and provision of furniture for seven schools were successfully and safely completed by mid-November 2019 (these works were reported on in the 2018/19 annual report). The new and improved existing learning centres have benefitted around 2,200 students, including 800 girls, and are positive steps to enhance gender equity and education quality in our partner communities. For the first time in their lives, around 1,000 students have access to new safe school buildings and classrooms in three Behsud schools:

School and School. Around 1,200 students have desks and chairs for their classrooms and storage space for their school textbooks and learning materials.



TEACHERS CELEBRATE GRADUATION DAY AT THE AWEIL TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTE, SOUTH SUDAN

"...This training has given us a lot of improvement for our skills. We are able now to go back with great skills or achievement. Our minds are fresh again and we will be able to help the children and teach well in schools." – Drawn from a survey of teachers participating in the February 2020 in-service teacher training in Aweil, South Sudan

The advent of Covid-19 impacted the planned building works scheduled from May – November 2020 because our local partners were unable to transport building materials from Kabul and travel was restricted between villages. All schools in Afghanistan were closed in March 2020 as a precaution against the spread of Covid-19. While major school construction has been postponed, our community partners have identified new activities to support children and their families such as the construction of a water well that will serve around 250 students and school personnel and be used by the wider community during religious and cultural community gatherings. At the time of writing this, activities are cautiously beginning to re-open and we are hopeful that the planned school construction can commence in early 2021 once the worst of the (northern hemisphere) winter weather has passed.

Beyond improving education infrastructure, our Afghanistan partnership is creating

space for women's leadership in community decision-making. The community council was more inclusive this year, including two female teachers from indigo-funded schools. Whilst seemingly small, this was a significant step forward in gender equity and women's leadership in Jirghai and Behsud communities. This is the first time that women were included in the council.

Although rural communities, like the rest of Afghanistan, have a significant challenge ahead of them to achieve gender equity in community governance and school management, community council members showed strong respect for their female colleagues and worked with them very well. The two female members actively participated in deliberations and decision-making and their leadership roles have been extended for a two-year period, with the council committed to include more women in community decision-making.

"Amidst security, economic and pandemic challenges in Afghanistan, our support for rural education has maintained community harmony and resilience in these rural communities and helped young children and their families remain hopeful for a secure and peaceful future in Afghanistan" – Ali Reza Yunespour, Afghanistan Partnership Coordinator

YOUNG STUDENTS SPEAK TO MARK THE OPENING OF HIGH SCHOOL



Afghanistan – long-term impact seen in impressive Kankor exam results

The Kankor exams in Afghanistan are the equivalent of Australia's year 12 exams and took place in June and August 2020. Across the country, a reduced number of students sat the exams due to the pandemic. In Ghazni and Maidan Wardak Provinces, where indigo foundation has supported a network of 22 schools and teachers over the past 17 years, the smaller number of students sitting the exam reflected the national trend. However we are pleased to share, when compared to the nation-wide rates, that our partner high schools in Ghazni and Maidan Wardak Province had both a higher percentage of girls sitting the exams and a higher percentage of students accepted into state-funded higher education institutions.

For example, 229 students, including 72 girls, graduated from 14 high schools that indigo foundation has supported in the Borjegai and Jirghai communities of Ghazni Province and Behsud community of Maidan Wardak Province in the past 17 years. According to Afghanistan's higher education law, school graduates have the right to participate three times in the national admission exams (known as Kankor). In 2020, 140 students, including 52 girls (around 35%), from indigo-supported high schools participated in the Kankor exams. Around 85 percent of students from our partner high schools were offered courses in state-funded university and non-university higher education institutions. Of this, around 70 percent of the Kankor participants were accepted into public universities and a further 15 percent in diploma granting higher education institutions. The majority of the other 15 percent have been found eligible to enrol in private higher education institutions.

Shadab High School held a belated opening ceremony on September 2020 to celebrate their new school building, which was completed in November 2019. Shadab High School building is the fifth school building indigo foundation has worked on with the Behsud community in the past four years. Our Kabul-based Financial Trustee attended the opening, as did the Director of Behsud District's education department, who delivered a message on behalf of the Afghan government acknowledging the joint program by the Jirghai and Behsud Shura and indigo foundation.

A YOUNG STUDENT SPEAKS TO MARK THE OPENING OF SHADAB HIGH SCHOOL



safeguarding food and livelihoods as the climate changes

For several years, our community partners have been sounding the alarm on the effect climate change is having on their lives and livelihoods. Extreme droughts and floods and increasing resource scarcity can have a devastating impact on household food stocks and local market livelihoods. Our colleagues, Judy and Bridgette from the Hako Women's Collective in Bougainville, describe the challenge they face as members of the Environmental Education and Advocacy team:

"We joined the collective because we wanted to work with the women in our village and help them. Dealing with looking after many things like protecting our land, forest, sea, reef and growing vegetables for our community. We run training for the community members in agriculture practice. We cover many villages and work together as a joint team. People observe changes in the climate, lately when we grow food in our gardens it is too hot and sunny so the food dies. We see climate change in the changes in the dry and wet season. We talk with people about this and people are worried because they live on garden food, they don't work for money, but grow food for the families and might get some excess to sell at the market. Changes in climate will affect our crops."

This year we have supported our community partners in Indonesia and South Sudan to confront the challenge of climate change and build local resilience and food security for their families.

South Sudan – women gardeners leading the way

Food security remains the biggest challenge for our partners in Wedweil. The region experienced serious floods late in the 2019 growing season, which meant planting, usually in November/December, was delayed. The Covid-19 pandemic, and the associated restrictions (services like schools and markets closed, gatherings not permitted and closing of international borders) has had a crippling effect on livelihoods across South Sudan. Locally, the tripling of food prices after neighbouring border closures has added to the food shortages for families in Wedweil and surrounds.

In response to ongoing chronic and widespread food shortages, we have

provided support to a collective of women in Wedweil to come together and plant community gardens. This work is in its very early stages but has the potential to make a real difference to lives in Wedweil. This year, eight Wedweil women (plus one woman from the regional hub of Aweil) participated in a one-day workshop in basic organisation and leadership skills. At the end of the workshop, a new gardening committee was formed and a plot of land was allocated and cleared for planting. Despite the many challenges of 2020, the planning for the development of the gardens is underway and the women are proud of what they have accomplished for themselves and their families.

Indonesia – women-led cooperative gardens are a hub of fresh food and activity

In eastern Indonesia, we partner with our three local partners to support largely women-led food security initiatives. The new and expanded cooperative gardens established by PEKKA NTT, Lua Lemba and Nefo Ko'u in 2018 are now fully established and self-sustaining, each producing sufficient food for consumption and sale. The investment that has been made in the food gardens is proving to have a long-term, sustainable benefit and is already yielding results beyond food production, in terms of building women's leadership and economic independence.

For the women of PEKKA NTT, the network of three cooperative gardens spread across Adonara and Lembata Islands are a hub of activity. Despite the initial closure of activities due to Covid-19 restrictions, the women of PEKKA have shown determination to keep the gardens thriving and producing a range of fruit and vegetables. Close to 80 women tend three organic food gardens on Lembata and Adonara, providing a source of food for their families and a rare source of income through selling excess produce. The women of PEKKA NTT experiment with various fruit and

vegetables and the most productive crops in the past year have included corn, beans and cotton. The food gardens also provide a source of income for PEKKA NTT that is separate to funding from external sources, and ensures the local PEKKA collectives have food security even if they are short on funds.

Seeing the results that PEKKA NTT has achieved through the cooperative gardens, we have boosted our support so they can invest in purchasing farming equipment, with the aim of improving productivity and reducing the amount of time women spend on manual labour. PEKKA NTT now has a coffee and coconut milling machine which shreds and grinds, as well as a milling machine for corn – tasks that were previously done by hand.

Following an organic food growing workshop in 2018 where we brought together our three Indonesian partners, PEKKA NTT have focused on improving their facilities to make organic compost and fertiliser. PEKKA NTT is now bulk producing compost, which they use on their own gardens and sell at the local markets. PEKKA NTT has also established a reading area in the garden at their Adonara centre, where children have access to books about agriculture and gardening, and the chance to learn about sustainable farming.

For Nefo Ko'u in the highlands of West Timor, cooperative gardens were harvested late in 2019 and produced sufficient crops for consumption and surplus selling on the market, with the revenue shared between 25 families. The cooperative gardens produced tomatoes, green beans, chillies, bok choy, papaya and spring onions. As well as being able to provide for their families, the sale of the surplus harvest has meant families have additional funds which they report using to help support education and health care for their families. The organic farming practices being adopted in the Nefo Ko'u gardens are gentle on the environment, ensuring that the land remains fertile in future years.

In late 2020, the women at PEKKA NTT harvested cotton from the collective gardens producing a yield of 176 kilos. The cotton is processed at the PEKKA Centre and then sold at market with the profits providing an income for the women and their families, as well as a portion going back into funding the next planting. The income is used for daily household necessities such as food, clothes and healthcare and has assisted families in getting through the lean economic times brought on by Covid-19 restrictions.

PEKKA NTT'S CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL THIS YEAR HAD A THEME OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, ENCOURAGING CHILDREN INTO THE GARDENS TO LEARN GARDENING AND FOOD PREPARATION SKILLS



improving health outcomes for women and girls

Health and wellbeing are ingrained in all of the work our partners do, from food security programs that improve nutrition in communities to the work done by our partners in Uganda to train counsellors to improve the psycho-social wellbeing of children and young people impacted by HIV to public health massaging in the wake of Covid-19. Our community partners in India and Rwanda also have a specific focus on the right to health and improving health outcomes, particularly for women and girls. With the advent of Covid-19, these partners were able to draw on their skills, expertise and networks in public health to incorporate messaging on social distancing and sanitation into their work.

India – health clinics, health lectures and continued advocacy in the midst of a pandemic

In the Madurai slums in Tamil Nadu, poor sanitation and nutrition impact on women's and children's health. Our partner at Mahalir Sakthi has a long-running health program ensuring marginalised women and children have access to doctors, vaccinations, sexual and reproductive health services and information.

In the period before COVID-19 took hold, Mahalir Sakthi organised:

- three free GP health clinics, each of which brought in 6 – 10 medical experts. One of these clinics was specifically on family planning and attracted 86 women.
- four lectures targeting women and focused on health issues, including sanitation and hygiene, and sexual and reproductive health. The lectures were held at various locations in the Madurai slums and each one attracted over 200 women.
- four lectures for young people focused on issues including hygiene during menstruation and alcohol addiction, with each lecture reaching over 50 young people.

In responding to Covid-19, Mahalir Sakthi acted quickly in collaboration with a local coalition of organisations in Madurai. They brought together a network of volunteers to help set up community hand washing stations, share information on sanitation and social distancing and distribute face masks. Their Co-Director Guna Vincent has reported that the Indian Government is now more focused on issues of hygiene and sanitation, and authorities have been more responsive to dealing with problems raised through Mahalir Sakthi's advocacy. For example, the pandemic has given Mahalir Sakthi an opening to advocate with the municipality on behalf of local families for solutions to long-standing problems with wastewater.



A YOUNG WOMAN RECEIVES A PRIZE FOR ANSWERING A SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH QUESTION AT ONE OF CLUB RAFIKI'S OUTREACH EVENTS, KIGALI

In July, 2019, Club Rafiki, with indigo foundation support, joined the Ministry of Youth and Culture, community leaders, police and youth volunteers to organise a community youth mobilisation teaching about adolescent sexual and reproductive health, hiv prevention, teen pregnancy and drug-use prevention. The main goal of this outreach activity was to reach out to the local youth and promote HIV testing and counselling. The event also created space for a discussion on the consequences of peer pressure and the root cause of school dropouts, especially among teenagers.

"Since the established of Colunteering, Counselling and Testing (VCT) services at Club Rafiki, outreach activities become the best option to attend those remote area especially rural villages where masses of people attended but due to the distances and cost of transport they can't afford to travel regularly at the centre to receive these services, that is the reason why Club Rafiki decided to be taking this services at their doorsteps"
– Club Rafiki's 2019/20 Annual Report

Rwanda – over 7,000 young people access sexual health testing and counselling

Sexual violence, limited knowledge of safe sex and teen pregnancy have a devastating effect on girls in Kigali and the surrounding rural villages in which Club Rafiki works. In the past year Club Rafiki has reached thousands of young people in Kigali and surrounding villages to provide vital information, testing and counselling on sexual and reproductive health. Increasingly Club Rafiki is also working with young people on issues of drug and alcohol addiction.

This year, indigo foundation supported staffing costs for Club Rafiki's Family Friendly Centre, which offers free sexual health education, testing for pregnancy and HIV, referrals and counselling. The Family Friendly Centre is a safe space especially for girls who are unlikely to seek help from a doctor or hospital. This year we also continued to fund the Urban Dance School which is powerful tool to attract young people to Club Rafiki. Once in the classes, young people are given information about sexual and reproductive health, as well as the opportunity to train as peer-to-peer educators in sexual and reproductive health. Outreach events featuring Club Rafiki's dancers are an important platform for Club Rafiki's sexual and reproductive health program and this year attracted thousands of people who then had access to information and testing at the events.

After 44 days of lockdown Club Rafiki re-opened in early May and has been busier than ever. The statistics for the year reflect the important work being undertaken:

- 7,769 young people used the services of Club Rafiki's Family Friendly Centre
- 4,192 HIV tests were offered to young people through Voluntary Counselling and Testing (VCT) services
- 452 girls and young women accessed pregnancy testing
- 44,288 condoms were distributed to the youth at school and outside the community.

During the Covid-19 lockdowns in Kigali, Club Rafiki immediately began supporting vulnerable people, providing food and giving demonstrations on proper handwashing techniques as the government began installing public washstands. Club Rafiki made and distributed thousands of face masks to young people as a behaviour change initiative building on their experience in HIV prevention work. Club Rafiki was well-placed to participate in the response, deploying their volunteer peer education team who were already held in high regard by young people for their vibrant dance presentations incorporating sexual and reproductive health education.

meet our partners

We thank and honour our community partners for their leadership and engagement with their communities and the impact they achieve with small amounts of money. And we thank them for being part of the indigo foundation global community.

We recognise that each of our partner communities is unique – in the way they organise themselves, in the needs that confront their communities, in the priorities and solutions they seek to implement and in their capacity. This means our community partners are diverse and range from mature longstanding organisations with paid staff to emerging volunteer-based community organisations in their first few years of establishment and to collectives of decision-makers using traditional organising structures.

Each partnership has a volunteer Partnership Coordinator based in Australia who is the key point of contact for our local partners. In Afghanistan, Uganda, Namibia, India and Bougainville we also have a local Liaison Officer or support person who provides invaluable support to the partnership team.



ELIZABETH, JUDITH, JANE AND BRIDGETTE AT A MEETING OF THE HAKO WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE

Hako Women's Collective, Bougainville

The Hako Women's Collective is an umbrella organisation for all women in the Hako community in Buka. It began its work 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. indigo foundation is supporting Hako's work responding to the devastating impacts of family and sexual violence.

"I love the organisation, I can see it is gathering all women throughout HAKO and we see something that is in our heart. As all women come in and join in as one family we can see something is good" - Judith, Hako Women's Collective

Jirghai and Behsud Shura, Afghanistan

The Jirghai and Behsud Shura is a traditional grouping of religious and community leaders, school teachers and principals that operates across a network of primary and high schools in Jirghai and Behsud districts in Ghazni province. We have partnered with the Jirghai and Behsud Shura since 2015 and, previous to that, with a similar decision-making body in Borjegai district for over a decade from 2003.

Women's Empowerment Centre, Afghanistan

indigo foundation provided seed funding in 2011 to establish the Women's Empowerment Centre (WEC) at Gawharshad University in Kabul. The Women's Empowerment Centre runs programs, including a scholarship program, that enable financially and educationally disadvantaged Afghan women to access a quality education in law, political science or economics and to participate actively in academic and public life.

Mahalir Sakthi, India

Based in the slums of Madurai in Tamil Nadu, Mahalir Sakthi (‘women power’ in Tamil) is a women-led organisation that works to empower women, children and young people from Dalit, Adivasi and other marginalised groups. indigo foundation has supported Mahalir Sakthi’s education, health and vocational-training programs for children, young people and women over many 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.

Program for Education and Awareness building, India

The Program for Education and Awareness Building (PEAB) is a grassroots organisation in Maduranthakam, a small town about 90 km from Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Driven by the local Dalit community, PEAB supports highly marginalised children and youth through a network of eight Village Education Centres, which provide tutoring, exam coaching and support to students from primary levels to year 10.

PEKKA NTT, IndonesiaTranslating 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. We 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.

Mahalir Sakthi offers a safe space for women, like to access training and build their leadership skills. Mahalir Sakthi Director Guna Vincent shares the story of Santhanamari:

“Santhanamari was brought up by her mother, her father was away in Kerala working. She only finished 10th Standard then worked for two years rolling cigarettes by hand. She married at 19 and moved to Madurai. She lives close to Mahalir Sakthi so came to one of the meetings. After that Grace came to her home and asked her to be a tutor, she said she couldn’t do it because she only completed 10th Standard herself. But Grace had confidence in her, so she took up the challenge and spent eight years working as a tutor. She was able to get good results with many of her students and was so proud of their achievements. After that she spent some time at home with her own children, ... she went to an NGO meeting representing Mahalir Sakthi and based on her contributions in that meeting was offered a job at the Family Planning Association of India (FPAI) on a good wage. With encouragement from Guna and Grace, she completed her 12th Standard and then via correspondence complete a degree in social work. She then worked in the WASH sector for a couple of years before returning to FPA ... Santhanamari said that after joining Mahalir Sakthi she was able to achieve her potential. She’d had many issues at home, but gained support through the MS group of 14 women she met regularly with. In her first year at MS, she spoke with a microphone for the first time and she now speaks at women’s meetings in from of the Commissioner. Though MS she has gain a good income and respect and it has changed her life.”

Social Awareness Society for Youths, India

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.

Lua Lemba Education and Community Development Fund, Indonesia

Lua Lemba is our longest standing partner. They are a volunteer-based organisation, working to increase opportunities for women and young people on the remote, arid Rote island in eastern Indonesia. Our 20-year partnership has supported activities to improve education access and quality from early childhood to university, as well as health programs, a network of food gardens and an annual cultural festival.

Nefo Ko’u Farmers’ Cooperative, Indonesia

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.

Otjiwarongo Development Program Fund, Namibia

Otjiwarongo Development Program Fund (ODPF) is a volunteer-run, grassroots organisation based in the informal settlements of Orwetoveni, on the periphery of Otjiwarongo in Namibia’s central highlands. They formed in 2015 to partner with indigo foundation with the aim of addressing the increasing social vulnerability of young people. Through our partnership, ODPF has overseen a small activities program to seed-fund and support other local groups working on food security, empowerment of women, income generation and youth-focused sporting activities. It has also focused on building its organisational capacity and developing plans to build a community centre for young people.



Club Rafiki, Rwanda

Club Rafiki is a long-standing local organisation based 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, improving education outcomes and training and employment facilitation to contribute to a better future for the youth of Rwanda. In a district characterised by poverty and a lack of safe spaces, Club Rafiki is a vital, diverse and welcoming community hub.

DANCERS FROM CLUB RAFIKI IN RWANDA ATTRACT A LARGE CROWD AT AN OUTREACH EVENT IN NZOVE BEFORE SHARING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH MESSAGES

Wedweil Community Development Fund, South Sudan

The Wedweil Community Development Fund is a small and fledgling volunteer-run group, with a focus on improving education opportunities for chiladren 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.

Budaka coalition of community organisations, Uganda

indigo foundation partners with five community-based organisations in the Mount Elgon region, working to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to care for over 2000 children and young people impacted by HIV, many of whom are from child-headed households. The project supports educational supplies and psycho-social support for impacted children and young people through after school activities and counselling to help overcome the stigma associated with HIV, as well as vocational training and pilot income-generation activities. Our partners are: Gaalimagi HIV/AIDS Group, Iki Iki AIDS Community Initiative, Kakule HIV/AIDS and Grieved Families Association, NACOMAS and Trinity Child Care Ministry.

lessons and challenges

As part of our annual report each year, we reflect honestly on the challenges, mistakes and lessons we and our community partners have faced in the previous year. We recognise that community development is not a linear and predictable path. Change is complex, it takes time, and it is unique to each community we work in. We want to be transparent about the challenges and create space for questioning and reflecting with our partners and supporters so we can understand what is working, strengthen our approach and increase our impact. We know learning is a two-way process and also aim to reflect on organisational challenges and lessons in Australia.

» navigating Covid-19 with our partners

The advent of the Covid-19 pandemic meant new and urgent needs rose in the communities we work in, at the same time as government lockdowns forced our partners to close their doors and drastically adapt their operating models. We worked in solidarity with our partners so they could make decisions quickly and have the flexibility to confront safety concerns and the health and livelihood impacts of the pandemic. At the same time, we were acutely aware that neither indigo foundation, nor our community partners, were dedicated emergency relief organisations. It was important to remain aware of our strengths and encourage our community partners to consider joining coalitions that were specifically focused on emergency responses to the pandemic.

During this time, we were fortunate to be able to draw on the experience of our Development Coordinator, Christina Northey, who before joining indigo foundation worked for more than 15 years in humanitarian crises in countries including Afghanistan and Turkey. We worked with Partnership Coordinators, our community partners and the board to develop a series of principles, as follows, to guide and navigate consistent and transparent decision-making across our partnerships:

- We recognise that the pandemic is disrupting our partners' operations and priorities and we support our partners to determine the changes that they need to make at this time on the understanding that these decisions are based on sound knowledge of local context and community needs.
- We are open to working with partners who want to implement new activities in response to livelihood and health impacts of Covid-19. Activities must align with our guiding principles and, where possible, build community resilience, have a longer-term development lens and facilitate a resumption of programs when the context allows.
- We know that women and girls are being disproportionately impacted by Covid-19 and we will prioritise supporting partner initiatives that promote women's participation and leadership, improve safety and protection and ensure better health, social and

economic outcomes for women and girls.

- Whilst recognising our fundraising capacity may be challenged in the next 6–12 months, we will continue to meet our obligations. We will be flexible in the application of partner funding, whilst maintaining good stewardship of the resources entrusted to us by our supporters.
- We recognise that neither we, nor our partners, are emergency relief organisations and that where possible it is more appropriate to connect our partners with other organisations with that skill and capacity. As part of this we are committed to supporting our partners to undertake mapping of other organisations and programs providing emergency relief.

» adapting program management in the absence of in-country visits

Due to travel restrictions, our Australia-based team has not been able to visit our community partners since March 2020. Compared to many organisations, 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 model places a high value on the importance of building deep and honest relationships between partner organisations and our team, a lot of which is done during face-to-face visits. Without that opportunity, and with uncertainty about when travel will resume, our program team are having to reassess how to continue building strong relationships remotely, how to ensure we have strong measurement and evaluation processes in place and how to best continue to provide effective technical assistance and support with capacity building from a distance.

» joining ACFID and integrating new and strengthened policies

This year we have been managing planned phase outs from a few of our community partnerships. Sustainability is one of our four guiding principles, and we actively work with partners to think about exits from the early stages of our collaboration. However, the nature of our model – committed to long-term relationships and being flexible in supporting activities that change over time with community needs – can make the decision on when to exit less clear. In the case of the Women's Empowerment Centre in Afghanistan, the exit point has been clear from the beginning; our partnership was planned as a catalyst to support a new women-led organisation to establish and support it to a point that it was able to attract funding from larger donors. Whereas the process of deciding to make a phased exit from our Uganda partnerships after ten years has been more difficult. In this case, we worked with our partners and made the decision to exit with an 18 month phase out period, including support for core funding and training. The reflection from our Liaison Officer in Uganda, Joy Katooko, shares more about this process and her experience.

» ensuring exits are part of a respectful and planned transition

This year we have been managing planned phase outs from a few of our community partnerships. Sustainability is one of our four guiding principles, and we actively work with partners to think about exits from the early stages of our collaboration. However, the nature of our model – committed to long-term relationships and being flexible in supporting activities that change over time with community needs – can make the decision on when to exit less clear. In the case of the Women’s Empowerment Centre in Afghanistan, the exit point has been clear from the beginning; our partnership was planned as a catalyst to support a new women-led organisation to establish and support it to a point that it was able to attract funding from larger donors. Whereas the process of deciding to make a phased exit from our Uganda partnerships after ten years has been more difficult. In this case, we worked with our partners and made the decision to exit with an 18 month phase out period, including support for core funding and training.

Our Uganda-based Liaison Officer Joy Katooko has shared her reflections on the partnership below. Joy has been our Liaison Officer since the first days of the partnership in 2010. We thank her for her professionalism, integrity and hard work.

I would like to commend indigo foundation for its commitment to supporting the Budaka project in Uganda. Kudos to the management, staff and its volunteers who have made this happen although 2019/2020 has been one of the toughest years globally due to the prevalence of COVID-19 pandemic. This ten year journey has been very interesting and we have learnt a lot in the partnership.

indigo foundation has supported us in three key development areas: Education, Health and Human rights and each of these has been of great value to the Budaka project.

First, “Education is the key to success”. This project has enabled our orphans and vulnerable children attend school. This has been through provision of scholastics materials. There has been increased enrolment in schools and reduced cases of absenteeism due to lack of scholastic materials.

Over the years, our students have been graduating from one class to another while others have acquired skills for skilled employment for example. Kakule and Gaalimagi [two of the local partner organisations] have trained school dropouts and teenagers’ in tailoring and garment cutting and this is still on going.

Iki-Iki Aids initiatives train youths gain computer skills as a skill and source of income. Remember we are living in the world of technology where computer skills are necessary for almost everyone.

However, the above programs have been affected by the prevalence of COVID-19 which has affected us globally. Schools, vocational training centres, tertiary institutions and Universities were closed since March 2020 and this greatly affected students and mostly the girl child where we have many early pregnancy cases and school drop outs.

Second, the project has helped members gain counselling skills that has

minimised the spread of HIV/AIDS amongst community members. This has also seen those living with HIV/AIDS disclose their sero status which promotes positive living.

Third, [our community partners and their members] have learnt the value of equality, sustainability and human rights. For example parents and guardians know that children have the right to attend school, say no to violence, and resist child labour among others.

On the other hand, [the community partners] have gained accountability and report writing skills and have the urge to continue learning. This is evident with the planned proposal and report writing training which is still pending because we have to follow standard operating procedures to avoid the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

Furthermore, the project has helped the [community partners] learn the value of sustainability. Gaalimagi, Iki- Iki and NACOMAS have bought tents and some chairs for hire to ensure continuity of the project. Kakule CBO purchased more sewing machines for tailoring training and bicycles for counsellors. However, sustainability project was affected by inadequate funding and high foreign exchange rate which cut the budget.

This project has created unity among community members because members share their joy and happiness hence community ownership.



OUR LIAISON OFFICER JOY KATOOKO FACILITATING A COMMUNITY MEETING IN BUDAKA, UGANDA

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.

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.

Christine Edwards. Christine has extensive experience in the health, community and philanthropic sectors, including as CEO of two hospitals in Victoria and as Chief Executive Officer of The Myer Foundation and Sidney Myer Fund. Christine's directorship positions include the Centre for Eye Research Australia, Health Recruitment Plus and Epilepsy Foundation, and is a community member for the Public Health and Disaster Committee for the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine.

Gwyneth Graham. Gwyneth has extensive business and HR experience having worked in senior HR roles with corporations, including Ericsson, Telstra, GM Holden and Coles Myer. She holds post graduate qualifications in Organisational Change and Development and is passionate about leadership development, organisational culture and employee engagement.

Professor Shirley Randall AO. Shirley is internationally renowned for her work advancing the status and rights of women, with many years of service to international relations through education, gender and development, and public sector and institutional reform in Australia, the Pacific, Asia and Africa.

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.



MARILYN HAVINI AO (RIGHT) WITH PRESIDENT OF THE HAKO WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE, DORCAS GANO.

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.

FOUNDING CHAIR

Sally Stevenson AM. Sally was the initiator and founding Chair of indigo foundation, and served as Chair for over 15 years. Over the past 30 years, Sally has worked in community development, humanitarian relief and public health, in Australia and internationally, with organisations such as Medecins sans Frontieres and the World Health Organisation. She was awarded an Order of Australia for services to the community in Australia and overseas. Sally is currently the General Manager of the Illawarra Women's Health Centre.

OUR STAFF

Jemma Bailey, Executive Director
Christina Northey, 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
Murray Proctor
Anna Whelan

PARTNERSHIP COORDINATORS

Peggy Dano
Pat Duggan
Susan Engel
Jacqui Fidler
Emily Jackson
Deb Raphael
Alice Roughley
Ali Reza Yunespour
Santino Yuot
Lyndene Wan

IN-COUNTRY LIAISON AND SUPPORT OFFICERS

Joyce Katooko
Marilyn Havini
Semmalar Selvi
Monica Tjehiua
Jabaraj Selveraj

OPERATIONAL SUPPORT

Isabelle Raphael, graphic design
Vaidehi Shah, publications officer
Jodie Matire, 20 stories editor

special thanks to our volunteers

Our team of hard-working and highly skilled Partnership Coordinators, Advisors and In-country Liaison Officers for your professionalism and skills and for always keeping our guiding principles at the heart of our work.

Jude Finch, Pam Hartgerink, Leigh Cupitt, Shirley Randell and Fyfe Strachan for bringing their commitment, experience and thoughtful engagement to the Development Committee of the Board.

Jodie Matire, our incredibly hard-working and talented Editor who has given hour upon hour to edit and craft our publication celebrating our 20th anniversary. Thanks as well to Penelope Hanley and our writers, researchers and contributors to the publication.

Vaidehi Shah, our Publications Officer, for her formidable writing, editing and coordinating skills on indigo iNK and **Isabelle Raphael**, our generous and talented graphic design whiz.

Ann Porcino and **Susan Engel**, for your willingness to write such thoughtful pieces for our publications.

Colleen Fernandez, Laura Backhouse and **Gabrielle Quirk** for bringing their creative design and marketing skills to our 20th anniversary celebrations and flavours of indigo.

Bianca Crocker and **Gwyneth Graham** for organising a very crowded very fun Melbourne feast. Thanks as well to the team at the **Abyssinian Restaurant** and jazz band **Superfluous Velvet** and for making the night so special.

Our incredible fundraising teams in Sydney (**Ingrid Radford, Deborah Raphael, Fyfe Strachan, Supipi Jayawardena** and **Libby Lloyd**) and Canberra (**Di Van Meegan, Heather Chapman, Alice Roughley, Christina Richards, Barb O'Dwyer, Robin Brown** and **Lyla Rogan**) for painstakingly visioning and planning our 2020 Sydney and Canberra dinners, and then being so understanding when the events were cancelled less than a month out.

Our exceptional MCs, **Verity Firth, Virginia Haussegger** and **Alex Sloan**, all of whom were ready and rearing to go for our 2020 Sydney and Canberra dinners before Covid-19 hit.

Rob Mitchell and **David James** for planning the upcoming and inaugural indigo foundation e-quiz.

Ian Robinson who initiated and operates a recycling project in Canberra to raise funds for indigo.

St Basil's Village in Randwick for hosting our annual face-to-face February gathering.

The many people and organisations who donated prizes for our auctions and raffles – these thoughtful and generous contributions are a huge boost at our events.

And finally, to **Terresa Masima, Veronica Bakouris** and **Caitlin Craft**, our interns from the University of Wollongong, for your research and writing as well as your enthusiasm in taking on tasks big and small.

Partnership Coordinators, volunteers and Board members contributed more than 6,000 volunteer hours in 2019/20.

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.

many thanks to our organisational partners

indigo foundation receives essential and much-valued support from foundations and trusts, community organisations and the corporate sector across Australia. We are grateful for the support of the following:



Planet Wheeler Foundation



Rotary Club of Ryde, Rotary Club of Macquarie Park and the Rotary Satellite E-Club of Ryde



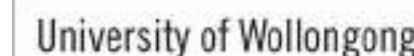
Insurance Australia Group Ltd



Bilberry Blue Stocking Fund



DLA Piper



University of Wollongong Cares



Macquarie Group Foundation



Ashurst



Navitas Education Trust



Qantas

Mary Alice Foundation

Perpetual Foundation
- Hardcastle Family Endowment

treasurer's report

RON SWITZER - TREASURER | Year ended 30 June 2020

KEY FINANCIAL DATA	
Income	\$358,000
Expenditure	\$343,000
Surplus	\$15,000
Net Assets	\$223,000
Estimated volunteer time (not recorded as income)	\$370,000
Total 'income' including volunteer time	\$728,000
Administration costs as a % of recorded income	31%
Administration costs as a % of recorded income plus volunteer time	15%

income – where we receive our funding

Income for the year, net of fundraising costs, was \$355,000 (2019 - \$420,000). Donations and grants received, and total fundraising activities totalled \$321,000 including donations from individuals and foundations for our current partnerships.

Both our income and expenditure, and therefore our administration costs, in 2020 was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Our key fundraising activities, the Sydney and Canberra gala dinners, scheduled to be held in March 2020, were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions resulting in net income from fundraising reducing from \$56,000 in 2019 to \$2,000 in 2020. A significant amount of funding received in 2019/20 appears in Deferred Revenue, rather than income, because project partners were also similarly impacted by COVID-19 and were forced to postpone some of their activities resulting in lower community development support expenditure and in turn in reduced revenue recognition.

In accordance with accounting standards, indigo foundation defers specified donations only recognising these as income when the funds are disbursed to the relevant project. Deferred Revenue increased to \$214,000 from \$128,000 in 2019. A significant component of this increase was for our Afghanistan partnerships of approximately \$80,000 because major school

infrastructure works had to be postponed. indigo foundation received Australian Government COVID -19 subsidies totalling \$37,000.

expenditure – where we utilise our resources

Operational support for projects, whilst strong, was curtailed as some of our project partners had to reduce or postpone activities during the height of the lockdown. Overall, \$172,000 (2019 - \$252,000) was allocated to development programs excluding the costs of the Development Coordinator. We are expecting that expenditure on direct community support will rise again to 2019/20 levels in the coming financial year. Direct community support by country is shown in the accompanying graph.

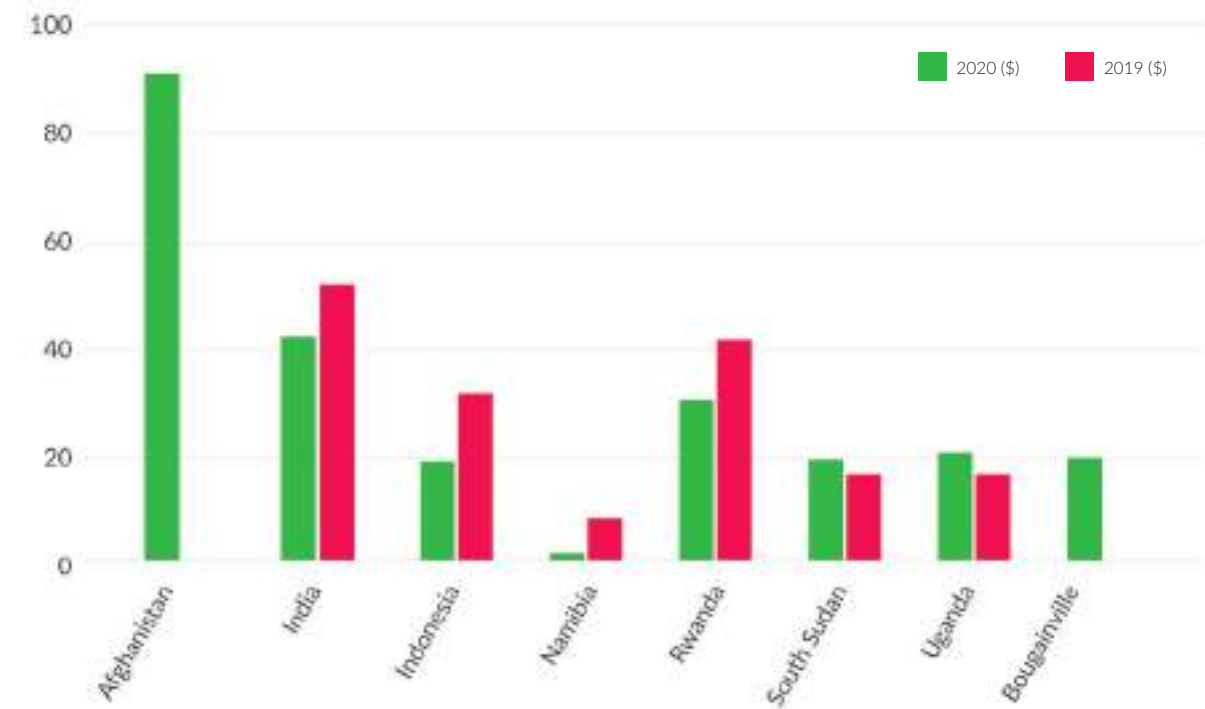
surplus

We made a net surplus for the year of \$15,000 (2019 - \$23,000). 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. support payments that are shown as expenses can be lumpy, and can impact the results from year to year.

general support expenditure

Country costs include technical support, relationship building and monitoring and

expenditure by country



evaluation visits by volunteer Partnership Coordinators to certain projects and excludes the Development Coordinator (53% FTE). The overall direct cost of our development program is over a quarter of a million dollars.

Administration costs continue to be tightly controlled. Administration costs have remained consistent during the year. As noted above, due to the extraordinary circumstances of the COVID-10 impact, revenue was significantly down in 2020 because a number of our community partners deferred activities, increasing the ratio to 30% (2019 - 24%) of total income. We have two-part time management and administration personnel: Executive Director (53% FTE) and a Finance and Administration Officer (13% 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 \$370,000. 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 \$170,000 (2019 - \$162,000).

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.

We have received donations for specific projects which are deferred until such time as those funds are expended in accordance with the relevant commitment agreement. The amount deferred in respect of these projects at 30 June 2020 is \$214,000. In accordance with our accounting policies, revenue for those projects will be recognised and matched against committed project costs progressively over the life of the project.

valuing our 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 in an attempt to show the significance of these contributions and to demonstrate a more realistic perspective on the scale of our operations. For detail, please refer to the background notes below.

Whilst we have estimated the hours contributed and determined the value using published salary information, we recognise that the actual contribution by volunteers is immeasurable as 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 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 2020 are on our website.

balance sheet

AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

ABN: 81 765 707 413

CURRENT ASSETS	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
trade and other receivables	9,000	3,709
inventory	4,228	3,552
other assets	1,602	2,051
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	463,370	362,796
TOTAL ASSETS	463,370	362,796

CURRENT LIABILITIES	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
trade and other payables	16,455	15,999
employee provisions	9,324	10,142
deferred revenue	214,438	128,716
other liabilities	-	278
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	240,217	155,135
NET ASSETS	223,153	207,661

MEMBER FUNDS	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
retained surplus	201,661	184,563
current year surplus/deficit	15,492	23,098
TOTAL MEMBER FUNDS	223,154	207,661

income and expenditure statement

AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

ABN: 81 765 707 413

INCOME	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
contributions (members)	173	-
donations and grants received	315,104	361,932
fundraising activities	4,915	94,909
interest	836	1,727
Covid-19 government subsidy	37,000	-
TOTAL INCOME	358,027	458,568

EXPENDITURE	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
community development support	171,877	252,231
human resources expenses	111,781	85,042
superannuation and annual leave provisions	17,819	17,484
organisational support	-	10,199
general administration	17,769	13,020
communication and marketing	3,096	5,647
audit	3,650	3,600
bank and merchant fees	4,330	1,250
insurance	4,300	4,079
postage, stationery and printing	4,726	3,749
fundraising costs	3,187	39,168
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	342,535	435,469
current year surplus/(deficit)	15,492	23,098
RETAINED SURPLUS AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR	207,661	184,563
RETAINED SURPLUS AT END OF THE YEAR	223,153	207,661

auditor's report

We have audited the financial report of Indigo Foundation Incorporated, being a special purpose financial report, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the income and expenditure statement, the statements 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* and *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, including:

(i) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

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

basis for opinion

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

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

emphasis of matter - basis of accounting

We draw attention:

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* and *Associations Incorporation Act*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.
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 2020.

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* and the needs of the members. The Committee's responsibility also includes such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The committee is responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we

are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

report on other legal and regulatory requirements

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

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

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

Dated in North Parramatta on the 12th day of October 2020.


Jane Perry FCA
Director

McCARTHY SALKELD CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



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.

INDIGO FOUNDATION STANDS IN SOLIDARITY WITH ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE FOR MAKARRATA – “THE COMING TOGETHER AFTER A STRUGGLE” – THROUGH TRUTH, JUSTICE, HEALING AND AGREEMENT MAKING, AND SUPPORTS THE AIMS AND ASPIRATIONS OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES FOR SUBSTANTIVE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM.

THIS YEAR INDIGO FOUNDATION SIGNED ON AS A SUPPORTER OF THE ULURU STATEMENT FROM THE HEART WHICH CALLS FOR CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS TO EMPOWER FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE AND ALLOW THEM TO TAKE A RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY. THIS INCLUDES SUPPORT FOR A FIRST NATIONS VOICE AND A FAIR AND TRUTHFUL RELATIONSHIP WITH PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA BASED ON JUSTICE AND SELF-DETERMINATION.

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 Inc 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. We pursue the highest degree of safety 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.

policies. We are committed to being a transparent organisation. 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.

feedback and complaints. We welcome feedback and complaints. We believe it is important to help improve the quality of our work, enhance trust and confidence in our processes, identify areas for improvement and learn from feedback. Our complaints policy and procedures are available on our website. To lodge a complaint or leave feedback with indigo foundation, please contact Executive Director Jemma Bailey at jemma.bailey@indigofoundation.org or Chair Lyla Rogan at lyla.rogan@indigofoundation.org. indigo foundation is a member of ACFID and adheres to the ACFID Code of Conduct. As such, complaints can also be made directly to ACFID at code@acfid.asn.au if it is believed that indigo foundation has breached any aspect of the ACFID Code of Conduct.

the first thing we offer is **respect**



support our work

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

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

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

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



DONATE ONLINE

Follow the links on our website
www.indigofoundation.org



DONATE VIA MAIL

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



CONTACT US

Email us for more information
info@indigofoundation.org



PO Box 362

Figtree NSW 2525

AUSTRALIA



info@indigofoundation.org



www.indigofoundation.org