



ACT FOR PEACE

**ANNUAL  
IMPACT  
REPORT**

PARTNERING  
FOR JUSTICE

**2019**

**ACT FOR PEACE**  
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER  
THROUGH THE **actalliance**

The international aid agency of the National Council  
of Churches in Australia

ABN 86 619 970 188



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## OUR VISION

Act for Peace envisages a peaceful world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life.

Founded on a tradition of solidarity and service, we partner with local organisations to achieve justice for communities threatened by conflict and disaster.

We believe in the inherent dignity and worth of all people, regardless of their race, religion, colour, gender, sexual orientation or national origin.

Thank you for joining us as we work in partnership with local people and communities around the world and empower them to take control of their lives.

Act for Peace is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches. Act for Peace is a member of the ACT Alliance, a coalition of churches and faith-based organisations working together in more than 120 countries.

Act for Peace is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. We are committed to providing high-quality humanitarian, development and advocacy programmes while working in an open and accountable way. Act for Peace takes its duty of care seriously and aims at all times to provide the safest possible environment for vulnerable people, especially children. We welcome feedback, both on this report and in relation to our operations and conduct. Please direct any feedback or complaint to the Director responsible for human resources, via [complaints@ncca.org.au](mailto:complaints@ncca.org.au) or +61 2 8259 0800. Please see our complaints policy on the Act for Peace website for more information. For supporter enquiries please call 1800 025 101.

Anashe collects water from a communal bore hole to take back to the farm where she lives in Zimbabwe's Zaka district. Since joining the Conservation Farming program, Anashe's mother Jessina has been able to grow enough food to feed her family of six, despite the ongoing drought.



# FROM THE CEO

*"In the face of widespread humanitarian crises and increasing fear and division, we worked in partnership with organisations around the world toward a shared vision of justice."*

**Janet Cousens, Chief Executive Officer**



In June 2019 the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reported the highest number of displaced people ever recorded. The figure is double that of 20 years ago. As a faith-based aid agency working to increase safety, justice and dignity for communities threatened by conflict and disaster this report comes as a significant reminder of our call to action.

Our role is to work together with others to be part of the solution. For Act for Peace this means promoting the voice of those threatened by disaster, displacement and conflict, recognising that these communities must be afforded the dignity of agency in securing change that affects them the most. It means taking the role of a well skilled servant. It means working with local partners as well as influencing the policies and politics that are the cause of injustice. And it means rigorously reviewing our own approaches and ways of working to ensure that we remain positive actors in influencing change.

This year I had the privilege of visiting our partner in Gaza and Jordan, the Near Eastern Council of Churches' Department of Services to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR). DSPR's work is an excellent though heart wrenching example of what it means to love thy neighbour no matter the cost.

In Jordan, DSPR are supporting Syrian refugees for the ninth year in a row. DSPR provides emergency food parcels, safe spaces for women to meet to reduce social isolation, education workshops for children, and small business training so people can work towards supporting themselves and their families. Whilst some of the Syrian community are talking about going home the reality is that many will remain displaced in Jordan as refugees with limited access to services for a very long time.

In Gaza I visited DSPR's primary health and vocation training centres. Around 2 million people live in Gaza, a thin strip of land bordered by Israel, Egypt and the Mediterranean Sea. 52% of the population, and two out of three youth, are unemployed. Everything that comes into Gaza – people, food, household goods, building materials – is regulated by military forces. In the words of one of DSPR's Palestinian staff members, "we live in a prison with everything we do controlled by others".

Our partnership increases safety for Palestinians through the provision of essential primary health services and increases dignity by offering vocational training that is proven to increase the likelihood of participants securing an income to provide for their families. This partnership is only possible because of the commitment of our supporters, enhanced in Gaza through a grant from the Australian Government's NGO Cooperation Program. For this, DSPR and Act for Peace thank you.

In India and Sri Lanka we've continued to support, through partnership, service provision, training and dialogue with government to ensure appropriate policies for refugee return. On the Thai-Burma border our partner continues for the fourth decade to provide services to refugees in camps whilst engaging with national and regional actors on durable solutions for Burmese refugees. In Indonesia our partners responded immediately to the devastation of the Sulawesi earthquake, mobilised by years of training and experience.

There are difficult times behind and ahead of us. Conflicts continue and the dangers brought about by climate change are increasing. These challenges that we face can divide or unite us. We remain strong. Our work is successful due to the unwavering commitment of a global network of passionate individuals, churches and organisations working together which makes me confident that our common humanity will win.

Thank you for being part of the solution; for joining with us to provide day by day needs and to address systemic injustice for those who, through no fault of their own, are threatened by conflict and disaster.

*Janet Cousens*

Janet Cousens  
Chief Executive Officer

Farah proudly shows off her batch of halloumi. A refugee from Syria, Farah fled to Jordan with next to nothing. With your help, Farah received training and support from our local partner. After four years of determination and resourcefulness, she started her own cheese-making business and is no longer reliant on food rations.



Karen McGrath/Act for Peace



## FROM THE CHAIR

*"We are proud to engage with dedicated people in Australia committed to doing what they can to bring about lasting change for some of the world's most vulnerable people."*

**John Gilmore, Chairman**



In this past year, many of Act for Peace's partners experienced severe threats to their safety, and the safety of the communities they serve.

In Gaza, a fresh wave of violence and bombings in May brought suffering to an already traumatised though resilient population. On Easter Sunday, worshippers in churches across Sri Lanka were attacked in a series of bloody suicide explosions, the worst violence the country has seen since the end of its civil war a decade ago. In Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, our partner Church World Service responded when a 7.4 magnitude earthquake took the lives of over 2800 people, and destroyed homes and livelihoods.

These events highlight specific challenges our partners respond to on a regular basis as together we focus on supporting those threatened by conflict and disaster.

We collaborate with our partners to ensure that they have access to the skills and resources they need to prepare for, respond to and recover from crisis. Act for Peace takes every care to ensure that our staff are prepared and trained for this work, and that they have access to appropriate support services. Whilst this work is difficult, it is essential.

Taking our work seriously means Act for Peace also has a duty to hold ourselves to the highest of standards. In February this year we farewelled two Directors and five new Directors joined our Board bringing additional skills and fresh thinking. We appreciate the work and commitment of the Board.

As a member of ACFID and the international ACT Alliance, and as an Agency accredited by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade we ensure we adhere to codes of conduct ensuring good governance and excellence in practice. Over the past two years we have particularly focused on reviewing the mechanisms we have in place to protect staff, partners and the communities we serve from sexual exploitation, abuse or misconduct.

It is encouraging that in a world where division is prominent, more than 1,300 churches from 15 denominations across Australia continue to unite to confront injustice through our Christmas Bowl Appeal. Throughout the year, tens of thousands more people gave generously to support vulnerable communities. We are proud to engage with dedicated people in Australia committed to doing what they can to bring about lasting change for some of the world's most vulnerable people.

Act for Peace continues to receive funds to support our work from the Australian Government's NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP), the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australian Humanitarian Partnership, the Department of Home Affairs and a number of other governments. Act for Peace also collaborates with other church and international aid agencies to improve outcomes for the communities we serve. We are grateful for the opportunities we have to work together for safety, dignity and justice.

Like many other Australian charities, Act for Peace is addressing a national decline in charitable giving and increasing operational costs. We remain vigilant in how we plan to use our financial resources and this year we explored new and innovative funding approaches which we recognise are essential to sustain our work, including piloting partnership model fundraising programs with charities in the UK and USA.

There is no doubt that we live in a time of unprecedented change, and we are facing some of the most complex and pressing humanitarian issues of our time. In 2019/20, as we celebrate 70 years of the Christmas Bowl, Act for Peace will be reviewing our Strategic Plan to ensure that we remain ready to respond to the most urgent needs in the months, years and decades to come.

We look forward to our ongoing engagement with you and we are grateful for the opportunities we have to work together for safety, dignity and justice.

*John Gilmore*

The Reverend John Gilmore  
Chair of the Act for Peace Board



A farmer smiles on his land in Tongoa, Vanuatu. Vanuatu is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change and disaster risks. Through our local partner, you helped to build the climate resilience of communities in the region.



Nyevero and her husband Johnny work their land in Zimbabwe's drought-stricken Masvingo region. Since joining the Conservation Farming program, Nyevero now yields a good harvest and helps to teach others in her community the simple but innovative techniques that changed her life.

Joel Pratley/Act for Peace

## HOW WE ACHIEVE CHANGE ON THE GROUND

### HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE +

Our partners are on the ground before, during, and after emergencies, working to reach the most vulnerable with what they need to survive – whether it's food, shelter, medical care or other essential items. We also work with communities to build their resilience, so they can be better prepared to survive and recover from crises and disasters.

### LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

Lasting change needs to come from the ground up. We start by listening to what communities need and work with them to find practical, sustainable ways to help people thrive – whether that is supporting girls' education, providing small business training to refugees or equipping farmers with the knowledge and skills they need to grow crops in fast changing climate conditions.

### ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS

We are committed to tackling the root causes of injustice, not just the symptoms. We influence decision-makers and power holders to live up to their responsibilities to protect and serve the world's most vulnerable people. We amplify the voices of people who aren't currently being listened to, so they can engage with those in power and exercise their own rights. Without change in national, regional and global policies and systems, grassroots change is less sustainable.

### WORKING WITH PARTNERS

Local people are best placed to identify the problems faced by their communities and create solutions that work. We partner with local organisations who understand the context and who can work effectively with their local communities. Our approach to partnership is to honour and support their work in protecting and rebuilding their communities, build a genuine two-way relationship and work with them to strengthen the quality and impact of their programs.



# PARTNERING FOR JUSTICE AROUND THE WORLD

## GAZA:

Healthcare for vulnerable women and children and vocational training for young people.

## WEST BANK:

Non-violent protective presence to vulnerable communities living under occupation. Livelihood support for women.

## JORDAN:

Providing urgently needed support for Syrian refugees including food rations, healthcare, education, livelihoods and counselling.

## ETHIOPIA:

Emergency healthcare for critically ill or injured refugees, as well as counselling and vocational training.

## KENYA:

Helping vulnerable urban refugees in Nairobi with food, case work, and other support.

## ZIMBABWE:

Supporting farmers to be more resilient to climate change through conservation farming, responding to natural disasters like Cyclone Idai, and supporting peace building initiatives through national dialogues.

## AFGHANISTAN:

Giving girls a brighter future through improved access to quality education.

## PAKISTAN:

Preventative and curative healthcare for rural families, especially mothers and children. Improving access to quality education.

## INDIA:

Healthcare, livelihoods and empowerment programs for Sri Lankan refugees.

## SRI LANKA:

Livelihoods and support services to help newly returned refugees reintegrate.

## INDONESIA:

Disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities to help communities stay safe during disasters, including the Sulawesi earthquake and tsunami in 2018.

This year, you helped to fund 30 programs in 16 countries. By supporting emergency response, sustainable development and advocacy programs around the world, your generosity brought increased safety, justice and dignity to the lives of more than 230,000 people. Thank you.

## BANGLADESH:

Providing life-saving assistance including shelter, medical care and water for Rohingya families who fled violence.

## MYANMAR:

Capacity building and training for communities to help prevent human rights abuses.

## THAILAND:

Support for encamped Karenni refugees including those refugees looking to return home.

## PHILIPPINES:

Disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Action and advocacy to support vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, including indigenous people, to access their human rights. Emergency relief for communities affected by Cyclone Haima.

## VANUATU:

Support for vulnerable communities to prepare, respond and recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

## TONGA:

Building people's resilience to disasters and climate change through disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Ongoing recovery work for communities affected by Cyclone Gita.

## AUSTRALIA:

Advocacy and campaigning for refugee rights.



# RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES: FROM RELIEF TO RECOVERY

Today, more than 70 million men, women and children have been forced from their home as a result of conflict, persecution and natural disaster. They are the world's most vulnerable people and in need of urgent humanitarian assistance and protection.

When a crisis happens, the speed of a response can be a matter of life and death. We work quickly with our local partners to bring life-saving emergency aid to people who desperately need it.

With your help, and based on careful assesment, our partners delivered food, shelter, medical care, clean water and hygiene to where it's needed most and continue to work with people to rebuild and recover in the months and years following a crisis.

We also cooperate with other agencies including the Church Agency Network and ACT Alliance to maximise our efforts in the affected areas.



You responded to  
**5 EMERGENCIES**



You supported more than  
**107,580** refugees



Through us, you are part of the ACT Alliance, a coalition of organisations working together in over 120 countries to respond rapidly when an emergency occurs.

A young Rohingya girl is seen by a doctor at a health centre in Jamtoli camp in Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh. The camp is home to over 50,000 Rohingya refugees who fled brutal violence in Myanmar. You helped to provide people in urgent need with life-saving assistance including access to clean water, shelter and medical care.





# DELIVERING BUCKETS OF DIGNITY TO WOMEN AND GIRLS IN BANGLADESH

*“Without these items, we have to use old clothes during the days of menstruation. We have to wash them secretly and cannot dry them in the open.”*

Women and girls in refugee camps often lack access to basic hygiene – including sanitary pads, clean underwear and decent washing facilities. Buckets of Dignity helped Rohingya women and girls maintain their dignity, at a time when many other things felt lost.

When brutal violence erupted in Myanmar in August 2017, more than 745,000 Rohingya people were forced from their homes and across the border.

In an emergency situation like this, where resources are stretched to meet the sheer scale of need, feminine hygiene is often overlooked. Women and girls lack access to even basic hygiene resources – like clean water, soap and feminine hygiene products.

Without access to sanitary pads, women and girls are often forced to resort to using unsafe

materials, such as strips of old cloth, to manage their periods. This can result in infection, shame, embarrassment and isolation.

This is the situation facing thousands of Rohingya women and girls who are living as refugees in Bangladesh.

With your support, our partner in Bangladesh, Christian Aid, provided dignity kits. The kits contain simple but essential items including underwear, reusable sanitary cloths and soap, distributed in a bucket which acts as a basin, so women don't have to use the shared washrooms and can clean their sanitary cloths hygienically and in private.

Without these kits, women and girls face enormous challenges in managing their periods safely and with dignity.

You helped to ensure that for women and girls who've suffered unimaginable horrors and continue to face hardships each day, one of their most basic needs is met.

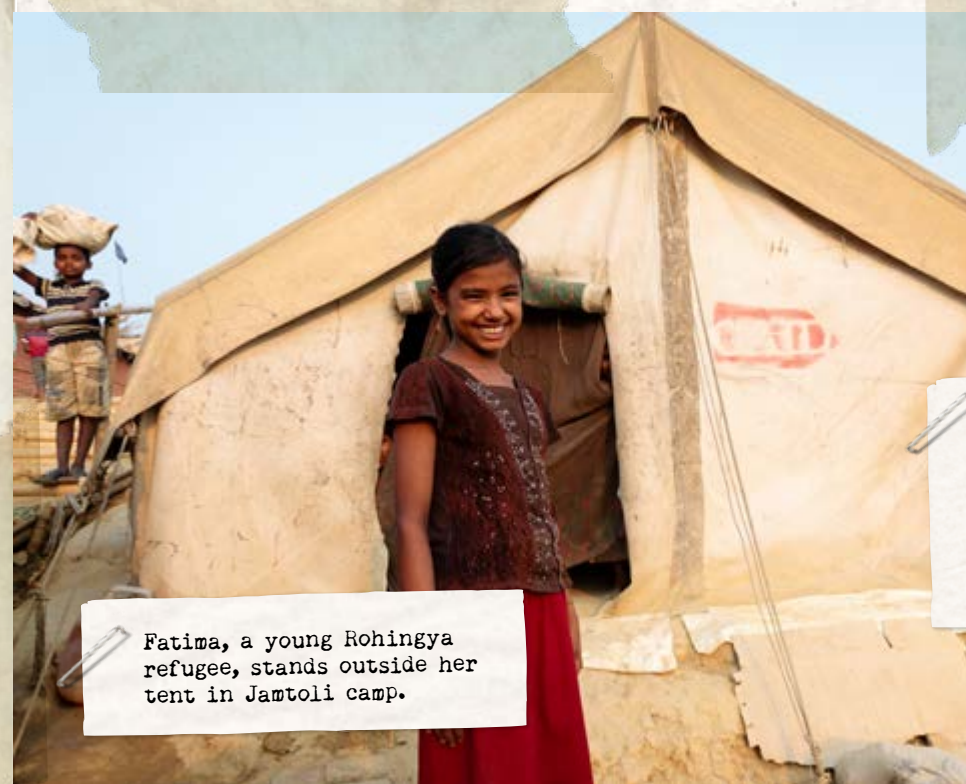
## WHAT'S IN A BUCKET OF DIGNITY?



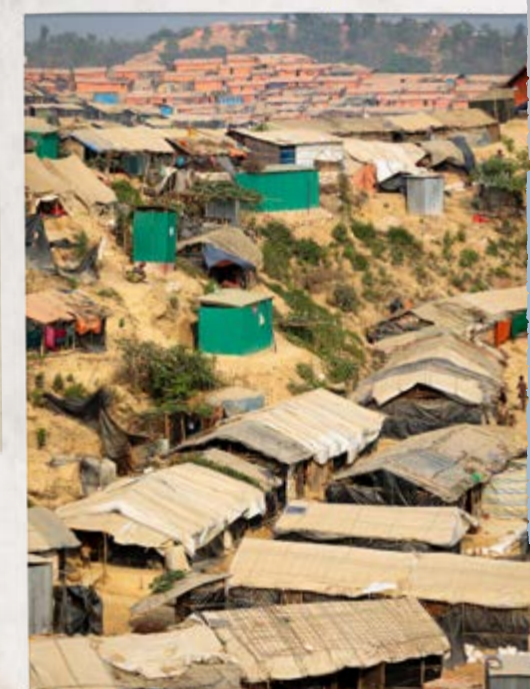
Ayesha, a Rohingya refugee from Myanmar, sits with her daughter in their tent in Jamtoli camp after receiving a dignity kit containing reusable sanitary cloths, underwear and soap.



As well as Dignity Kits, your support is helping to provide urgent medical care, shelter and blankets to Rohingya families in Bangladesh whose lives have been turned upside down by violence.



Fatima, a young Rohingya refugee, stands outside her tent in Jamtoli camp.



Latrines (the green structures) dot the crowded hillside of Jamtoli refugee camp. The sprawling camp, with makeshift bamboo and tarpaulin tents and shared latrines, offers little privacy and few facilities for women and girls during their period.



# BEING DISASTER-READY SAVES LIVES



Each year, natural disasters affect close to 160 million people. Earthquakes, floods, volcanic eruptions, drought and tropical storms - these disasters take lives and destroy livelihoods in vulnerable communities around the world.

While we can't control when and where disaster will strike next, we do know that helping communities to plan and prepare long before a disaster happens saves lives and ensures people can get back on their feet faster.

From working with communities to set-up disaster evacuation plans, providing first aid training and helping people to diversify their livelihoods – we supported communities to survive disasters, and reduce their vulnerability to a changing climate.

Mele holds a first aid bag. First aid is a key component of disaster preparedness training, provided by local partner in Tonga to communities living in disaster-prone areas.



## WOMEN ON THE FRONTLINE

Women and girls face greater vulnerability and exposure to disasters. They are also often the first responders in crises and the decision-makers at home. Through disaster preparedness programs, we harness women's leadership, experience and knowledge, creating positive outcomes for women and more effective emergency response and recovery processes for communities.

## TONGA

Tonga is the second most natural-disaster-prone country in the world. As the climate changes, families across the Pacific will experience more frequent and destructive disasters. Through a community-led disaster preparedness program, you are helping to ensure people know what to do in an emergency – which means less lives lost and a faster recovery.

### ASENA'S STORY

*"Life is important. We know that in the future, stronger hurricanes and cyclones will hit our country. So we never give up training our people in disaster preparedness. Thank you, people of Australia, for your help."*

When Tropical Cyclone Gita slammed into the island last year 'Asena and her family had to flee for safety. They emerged from the evacuation centre to find flattened churches, ruined crops and collapsed power lines.

As a trainer in disaster risk reduction and preparedness with our local partner, the Tonga National Council of Churches, 'Asena was able to help her family and community to survive the worst storm ever recorded.

Following the devastating cyclone 'Asena is more dedicated than ever to this important work. She travels to communities across Tonga, teaching people how to evacuate safely and

prepare food and water so they can survive during a calamity. She also trains them in first-aid.

*"In my own home, I share all my training with my family so they are well prepared. My children know that at first sign, they must help their grandmas and grandpas, and also an elderly neighbour, to evacuate. I can see the difference the training makes."*



In March 2018, Tropical Cyclone Gita brought devastating winds and flooding to Tonga, destroying thousands of homes and livelihoods. You responded quickly in the aftermath of the cyclone to deliver emergency water and shelter. One year on, your support enabled our partner to continue their post-cyclone recovery efforts and help people to rebuild lives and livelihoods.



Act for Peace's local partner, Church World Service, distributes water tubs and hygiene kits in Sidera evacuation camp, Central Sulawesi. An estimated 152,000 people needed immediate water, sanitation and hygiene support due to the earthquake and tsunami.



Church World Service

## SULAWESI EARTHQUAKE

# SULAWESI RECOVERING

After a deadly earthquake and tsunami struck Sulawesi, you responded quickly to deliver life-saving supplies. In months that followed, your gifts continued to bring clean water and shelter to thousands in need.

Over 2,000 people were killed when a 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province in September 2018.

As a tsunami devastated everything in its path and landslides took away entire sections of the provincial capital, Palu, people scrambled from their homes. But they found that even the earth beneath their feet offered no stability. A phenomenon known as soil liquefaction dissolved the very foundations of buildings, highways, and airfields, preventing aid workers from accessing the most affected areas.

Hundreds of thousands were in need of emergency assistance. Thankfully, our local partner in

Sulawesi, Church World Service, was among the first organisations on the scene. They immediately put into action an emergency response plan to provide urgently needed drinking water and hygiene kits to those affected.

With your help, they continued working to bring tents, sleeping mats, blankets, solar lamps and mosquito nets to families whose homes have been destroyed or damaged.

Four months after the devastating disaster, access to clean drinking water remained a critical issue. Our partner used a fleet of ten trucks to bring fresh water to around 20,000 people every day



Church World Service

Rafia stands out the front of her shelter in the Sidera evacuation camp, Central Sulawesi. Rafia is one of tens of thousands of people who lost their homes across Central Sulawesi following the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami in September 2018.

and distributed thousands of jerry cans and hundreds of sanitary packs to affected families. 64 emergency latrines were built in the evacuation camps, with another 36 currently under construction.

Rafia is one survivor who received this support. She says that when the earthquake struck, she and her family fled to an evacuation camp, but without a tent, they were forced to sleep in a graveyard.

With your support, Rafia was given a tarpaulin tent and received clean water every day for cooking and drinking.

Your generous and quick response to our emergency appeal meant our partner was on the ground to deliver life-saving assistance to survivors like Rafia in their darkest hours. In the aftermath of disaster, your support continued to help the people of Sulawesi as they rebuilt their homes, communities, and livelihoods. Thank you.



Church World Service

Rafia accesses water supplied by our local partner, Church World Service Asia, in one of its ten trucks delivering clean water to 20,000 people every day.



Church World Service

Church World Service distributes tarpaulins in Karawana village, Central Sulawesi. Our partner has distributed thousands of tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, and solar lamps across Central Sulawesi since the earthquake struck.





# SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE, LONG-LASTING CHANGE

We believe development should be transformational, sustainable and focused on empowering people and communities to take control of their future through their own efforts.

Through long-term development projects - including girls' education, healthcare, farming and livelihoods training - you're supporting individuals to access the resources, knowledge, services and tools they need to live lives of dignity and self-sufficiency.





# SUPPORTING FARMERS ON THE FRONTLINE OF CLIMATE CHANGE



For years, farmers in Zimbabwe have been using conventional farming practices which require the use of an ox, plough and chemical fertilisers. With the crippling drought and changing patterns of rainfall, this old, backbreaking method is becoming far less effective. Conservation Farming is an innovative method which conserves the resources, causes minimal disturbance of the soil, uses natural fertilisers and most importantly, ensures farmers produce enough food to feed their families and thrive.

## PRISCILLA'S STORY

Priscilla is a mother and a farmer living in the drought-stricken region of Masvingo in Zimbabwe. Before joining the Conservation Farming program Priscilla wasn't able to grow enough to feed her family using conventional farming practices.

*"We could spend the whole day without any food. Then we would have one meal in the evening, when we would share the very little we had. We would each get a spoonful of porridge. It was difficult to send my children to school."*

*When you do conventional farming you wake up very early and plough a very big piece of land using cattle to pull the plough. You do a lot of cultivation and at the end you worry again having to look for food for your family."*

Five years later, Priscilla and her family are thriving, and Priscilla shares her farming knowledge among friends and neighbours.

*"I teach many people in my community what I have learnt through conservation farming. I do it so that people get the assistance that I got so that everyone benefits," says Priscilla smiling.*

This innovative method of farming increases crop yields for farmers, reduces their dependency on food-aid and gives them a better chance in the face of climate-related disasters like Cyclone Idai which are expected to increase in both frequency and intensity in the years to come.

*"I am very proud because now I can look after my family," says Priscilla. "My message to the people in Australia is that I really thank them for their support. May they continue to support us, so that we get more knowledge through the training workshops."*



*Priscilla and her daughter Hope feed their chickens. After learning Conservation Farming techniques, Priscilla was able to feed her family and sell her surplus produce to buy livestock. As well as chickens, Priscilla rears turkeys and goats which provide an invaluable source of food and income.*

*Priscilla stands with her harvest which she grew using new techniques she learned through the Conservation Farming program.*



## WHEN DISASTER STRIKES, SOLIDARITY SHINES

When Cyclone Idai struck, it took the lives of 560 people in Zimbabwe alone. Thousands were left homeless, with food and fields swept away. Your immediate and generous response to the devastation helped to get life-saving food into the hands of families whose crops and homes were wiped out by the storm.

At the time Cyclone Idai hit, Dr Rev Mtata from the Zimbabwe Council of Churches, our local partner, passed on this message:

*"The gifts sent from Australia will go a very long way in helping people find new places they can call home; children will be able to go back to schools; destroyed clinics will be repaired; and people who've been traumatized will find counselling. For the victims of disaster, the knowledge that they are not alone, but have people far away who are driven by compassion and want to help, is indeed love that crosses borders."*

You've helped farmers to free their families from hunger through Conservation Farming since 2010. As well as livelihoods training, this ongoing program works with community members to achieve women's empowerment, climate change mitigation and efforts to support inclusion and equality for the most vulnerable people. It is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program.



# BRINGING HOPE TO YOUNG LIVES

GAZA

Due to Gaza's ongoing blockade and continuing conflict, jobs and opportunities for training are scarce. 60% of young people are unable to find work<sup>1</sup>, often leading them to feel lost and purposeless. Vocational Training courses in carpentry, metal welding, aluminium and electrical works transformed lives in the Gaza Strip, giving young men the step-up they need become productive and caring members of society.

## FARAJ'S STORY

Faraj, a young man in his early 20s, from a family of 13 living in Gaza City, dreamed of having a job where he could use his hands and skills to build and repair things. With the unemployment situation in Gaza at a record high and poverty increasing, Faraj was unable to find work.

Through a Vocational Training program that you supported, along with support from the the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program, Faraj studied Welding and Metal Works. He was a very active and diligent student. After graduating, Faraj used his new skills and knowledge to plan and start his own small business as a blacksmith.

This was a huge opportunity that transformed his life. As Faraj said, "Finally, the restrictions were broken and now I am free."

Faraj's successful small business now employs two full-time and two part-time workers and he dreams of expanding his workshop to employ more. His state of mind has improved and he can support his family as the main income-earner.

"Really, I am very glad to work in such a career and I hope in the future to build my life through work and to assist my brothers and family with basic needs and to live with my beloved persons in independence and dignity," said Faraj.

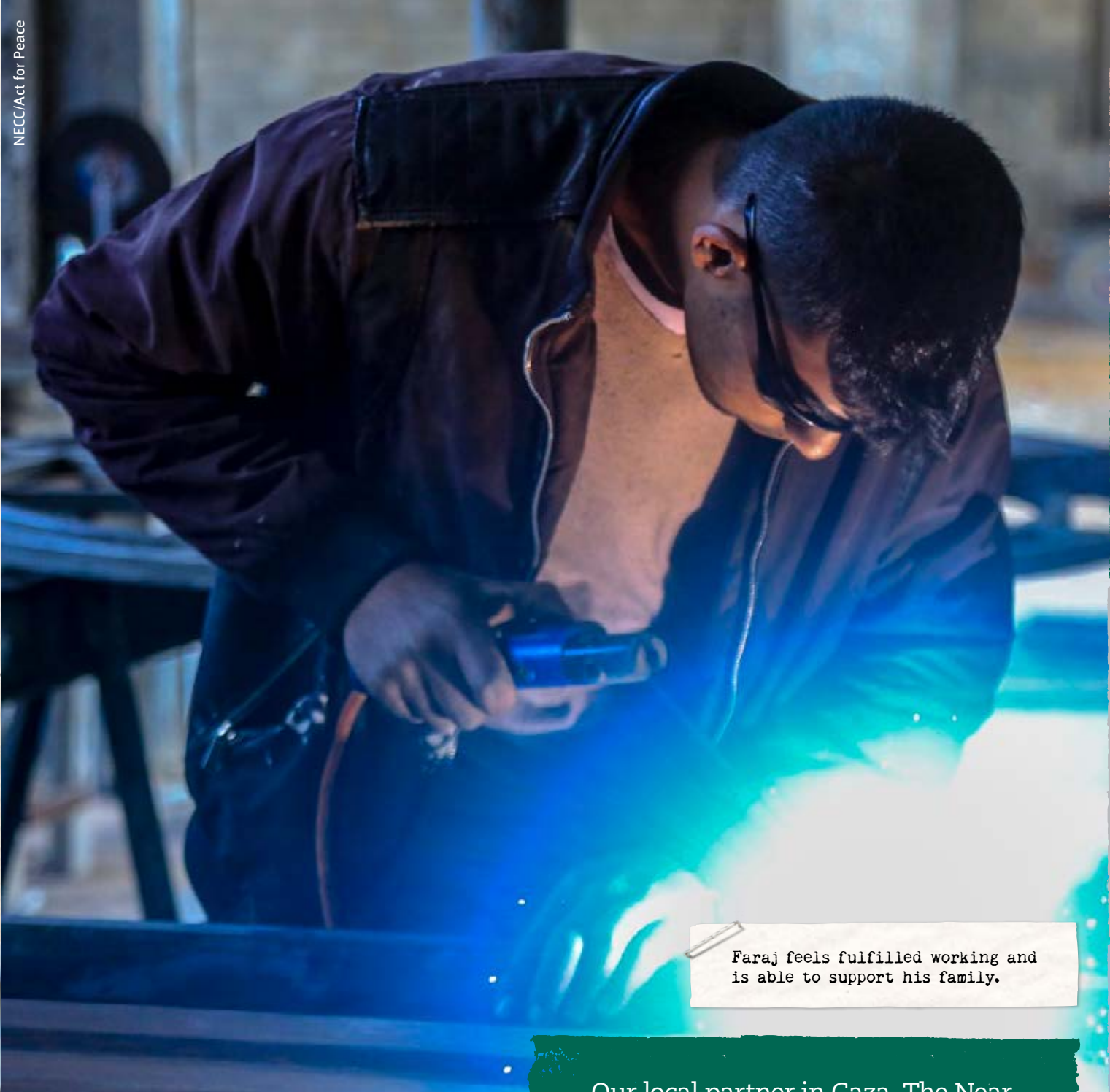
1. World Bank, Palestine's Economic Outlook, 2018

Faraj's training helped him to start his own workshop.

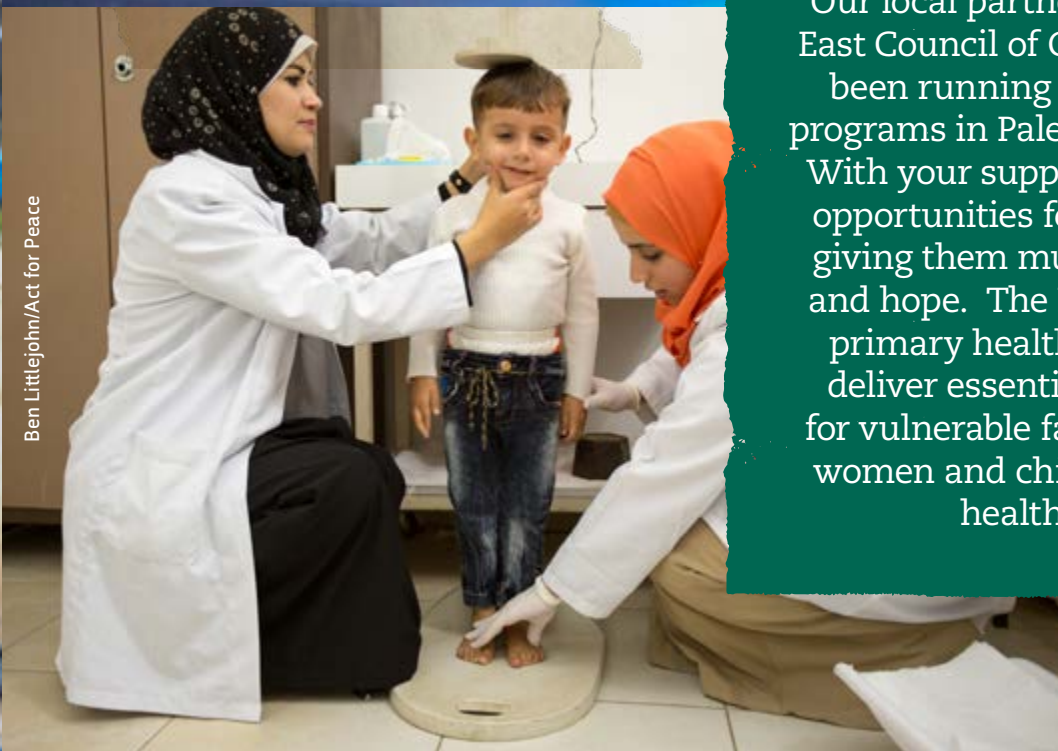
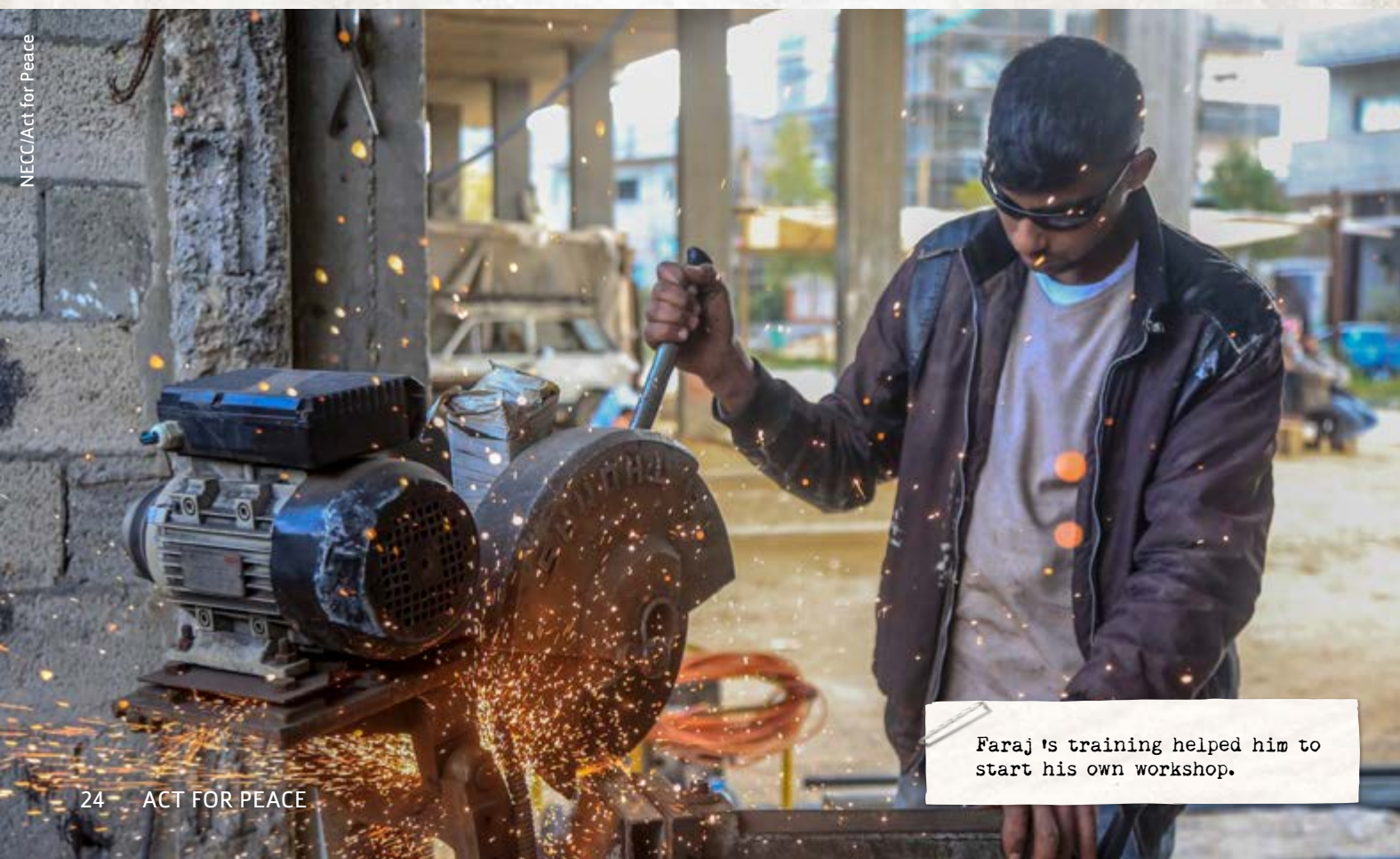
Faraj feels fulfilled working and is able to support his family.

Our local partner in Gaza, The Near East Council of Churches (NECC), has been running vocational training programs in Palestine since the 1950s. With your support they are creating opportunities for young people and giving them much-needed purpose and hope. The NECC also run three primary healthcare clinics which deliver essential medical services for vulnerable families, in particular women and children, to keep them healthy and safe.

Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace



NECC/Act for Peace







# SPEAKING UP, SPEAKING OUT: USING OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE TO CHAMPION CHANGE

We want to see a peaceful world in which everybody enjoys the right to a life of safety, justice and dignity. Advocacy - the work we do to influence those who have the power to change the policies and practices that perpetuate injustice and inequality - is a vital tool for achieving this vision.

Together, we influenced governments and decision makers to protect and uphold the rights of the world's most vulnerable people - especially refugees. In doing so we worked to amplify and strengthen the voice of local people, so that under-represented voices can be heard.

Through awareness-raising and education campaigns, we are helping to create the conditions for reform by shifting public attitudes on global issues, and providing young people with the opportunity to take action.



Joel Pratley/Act for Peace

Students in drought-stricken Masvingo, Zimbabwe come together to demand action on climate change just days before deadly Cyclone Idai swept across the region.



# CLAIMING THE RIGHT TO JUSTICE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Poor and indigenous people in the Philippines have been the victims of human rights violations, intimidation and violence and land grabs. The violations of people's rights intensified in 2017 with the declaration of the Philippine president to extend Martial law and has claimed lives of the Moro and indigenous peoples, peasant leaders, human rights and peace advocates and church people.

You supported our local partner, the National Council of Churches in the Philippines, to advocate for the rights of vulnerable and disadvantaged communities and supported grassroots actions aimed toward creating a safer, more peaceful society. This is included supporting community mobilisation groups, empowering people to understand and realise their rights and linking vulnerable people to legal support and sanctuary when they have been targeted by the government on false claims.

By empowering vulnerable communities with the knowledge and skills they need to advocate for change and strengthening the capacity of local organisations to engage in social issues, you helped to bring about justice for people facing oppression.



Kavitha, a Sri Lankan refugee, holds her newborn who was delivered safely thanks to medical care provided by Act for Peace's partner in India the Organisation for Eelam Refugee's Rehabilitation (OfERR). OfERR have supported Sri Lankan refugees who fled to Tamil Nadu since 1984 including helping people make informed decisions about whether or not to return home.



## COLLABORATING FOR REGIONAL REFUGEE PROTECTION

Through the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN), we are part of a growing network of more than 400 organisations working in collaboration across 29 countries, committed to advancing the rights of refugees in the Asia Pacific region.

The Asia Pacific is home to one of the largest populations of refugees in the world and is the site of some of the world's most acute and protracted refugee situations. Despite the generosity of host countries and donors, growing isolationism, lack of resources and xenophobia are undermining protection for refugees.

International cooperation is essential if we want to find a solution for the increasing numbers of refugees seeking protection.

Within this challenging political landscape, a new international agreement called the Global Compact for Refugees provides a new framework to enhance refugee self-reliance, reduce the pressures on host countries, expand access to resettling countries and support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

With APRRN, Act for Peace has supported the engagement of civil society in influencing the Global Compact for Refugees, alongside governments, international organisations and other stakeholders.



# TAKING IT GLOBAL: AUSTRALIANS INSPIRED WORLDWIDE ACTION FOR REFUGEES

The Ration Challenge started six years ago when 100 dedicated people in Australia got behind an idea to eat the same rations as a refugee for a week to raise money and awareness. More and more people have been inspired to take part, and today the Ration Challenge has become a global community for action on refugees.

Since it started, thousands of people in Australia have come together each year during Refugee Week in June to live on rations and raise vital funds and awareness to support refugees and other communities affected by conflict and disaster.

Inspired by the success of the challenge in Australia, likeminded organisations partnered with Act for Peace to bring the challenge to the UK and USA in 2019. It was incredibly motivating to see 42,000 people around the world sign up to take the challenge.

In a society that feels increasingly divided, Ration Challengers from all corners of the globe sent a message of solidarity to refugees that we stand with them, united.

## SHOWING REFUGEES THAT WE CARE



**41,689**  
people signed  
up worldwide



**\$4.8 MILLION**  
raised by those  
taking part



enough to feed  
**17,518 REFUGEES**  
for an entire year

Adrian, a Ration Challenge participant from Sydney, sits with his week's worth of rations. Adrian says about taking the challenge, "I don't need to know refugees personally. And they don't need to know me. But they need to know that there are many of us who care."

Malak and her children fled terrible violence in Syria and have been living as refugees in Jordan since 2013. Life in Jordan is hard for Malak and her family but knowing that there are people in Australia who care about her situation gives her great hope.

"Our financial situation is difficult and we have a great shortage of supplies for the house. We thank everyone who is participating in the challenge and helping us in any way that they can," she says.

Malak, a mother of three, sits with her ration pack containing a month's worth of food for her family.



Adrian, a Ration Challenge participant from Sydney, sits with his week's worth of rations. Adrian says about taking the challenge, "I don't need to know refugees personally. And they don't need to know me. But they need to know that there are many of us who care."



## RATION CHALLENGE WORLDWIDE

Since 2014, more than 81,000 people have signed up to take the challenge raising more than \$13 million. Thank you!



Sahib and Omar, best friends, smile outside their apartment block in Talbiah refugee camp on the outskirts of Amman, Jordan. They are two Syrian children being supported with food rations and education thanks to funds raised through the challenge.

## ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION OF GLOBAL CITIZENS

For the second year in a row, thousands of passionate students and teachers across the country took up the schools version of the Ration Challenge (a three or five day version of the challenge supported with educational resources and lesson plans).

Students said that, while it was tough, taking the challenge empowered them to raise their voice on an issue they care about and make a real difference to people's lives.

"The Ration Challenge is a wake-up call – it's one small thing you can do that can help widen your perspective and create meaningful conversations with your parents, friends, grandparents and the wider community," said Jemima, Head Girl at Oxley College.

As well as developing empathy for others, the challenge helps to engage students to learn and talk about global issues.

Teacher Chris Goodman from Oakhill College said, "The Ration Challenge is a wonderful way for children to learn about the wider world. It pushes kids out of their comfort zone and also brings together a real sense of community as students share their Challenge with those around them."



Jean and Ella from Fort St High in Sydney stand with a ration pack. Jean says, "I'll never fully experience all that refugees go through, but this small act helped me understand just one part of the struggle."



# SPEAKING UP FOR A JUST PEACE IN THE WEST BANK



Under Israel's occupation, Palestinian people face daily harassment, demolition orders on their homes and restrictions on moving around. Since 2002, Ecumenical Accompaniers have been providing protective presence to local communities in the West Bank, documenting human rights violations, and gathering eyewitness stories – stories that they bring back to share.



"Visible in our vests, we walk alongside Faraj, a Palestinian shepherd. His grazing fields, crucial to his livelihood, are less than a kilometre from the Israeli settlement of Susya. Despite the ongoing and unjust harassment he experiences, this shepherd is determined to remain on his land."

# BRINGING IT HOME: ADVOCATING FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

Aletia spent three months helping to keep communities safe in the West Bank. Now she uses her firsthand experience to open people's hearts and minds to what Palestinians are going through and advocate for a just peace.

"During my three months as an Ecumenical Accompanier (EA) providing a protective presence, I walked alongside shepherds, activists and school children, all of whom were seeking to have their basic rights observed.

Now that I'm home, an important part of what it means to be a returned EA is advocacy; speaking up about what I saw in order to help people in Australia understand, on a human level, what it's like living under occupation.

Under the current system, Palestinians experience a number of everyday injustices. Their basic rights

to decent work, education, healthcare and access to land are all limited.

Shortly after returning, I visited my Federal Member of Parliament, Anthony Albanese, to talk to him about what I witnessed. Anthony invited me to speak at a Labor party event where Bob Carr was introducing and promoting a proposal to recognise Palestine.

I thought the best way to humanise the experience for people who were interested in workers' rights was to talk about the daily challenges Palestinian workers face due to the numerous checkpoints, which restrict people's movement and access to work. It was really encouraging to hear that Bob Carr's influence, and perhaps my human interest story, led to the Australian Labor Party's commitment to recognise Palestine."



Palestinian workers line-up for the brutal 'morning commute' in Bethlehem, where they will queue for hours at a checkpoint monitored by Israeli soldiers. Limited employment opportunities in the West Bank mean thousands of Palestinians pass through this checkpoint each morning during the early hours to get to work in Israel.

# ECUMENICAL ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAM IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

Every day, persecution and human rights abuses destroy people's lives and fuel conflict in the Holy Land. By taking part in the Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), dedicated volunteers spend three months being a protective presence for families living under occupation.

Their life-changing work includes monitoring checkpoints, accompanying children to and from school, reporting any violence or harassment and supporting acts of nonviolent resistance alongside Palestinians and Israelis.





Barry from the InterChurch Council of Mount Eliza got out into their local community to raise much needed funds for people in need around the world as part of the Christmas Bowl appeal.

## OUR SUPPORTERS

# WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

Last year, tens of thousands of people across Australia got involved in Act for Peace's campaigns, appeals and events. You took action online, raised your voice against injustice and gave generously to support vulnerable communities around the world.

It's your help that makes it possible for our partners on the ground to carry out their life-saving and empowering work.

Whichever way you chose to contribute – thank you for working together with other passionate people to ensure a safe, just and dignified life for all.



65,730

supporters, churches and schools



\$7.47 MILLION

raised for communities around the world



86,834

generous gifts

# SHARING THE SPIRIT OF GENEROSITY

Reverend Ken Devereux explains the meaning behind his parents' decision to remember someone in need with a gift in their Will to Act for Peace.

David and Joy Devereux were married for more than 60 years and had five sons. Throughout their marriage, David and Joy chose to 'live simply' so they could share some of their good fortune with others in their community and around the world.

It was this desire to help those in need that led David and Joy to support Act for Peace during their lifetime, and then to continue that support by leaving a gift in their Will.

Their son Ken, a Uniting Church minister in Western Australia, who now serves as



Reverend Ken Devereux in the Wesley Uniting Church vestry, Perth, holding a Christmas bowl carved by his late father David Frank Devereux

a chaplain at the Royal Perth Hospital, explains: "My mother was the daughter of a missionary in India and was brought up there. She taught me and my brothers a lot about other cultures."

"As a family of God and the church we were always taught to be open to others. It was that warmth that helped us to be inclusive and accepting."

"Our parents' spirit of generosity and sharing affected and impacted us all significantly."

Ken's father David was a carpenter and roofer. He built their family home in Bayswater, Western Australia, and eventually became an occupational therapy carpenter in hospitals.

"Dad was a very caring man and would often do handyman jobs for widows and other people in the church for free," Ken adds. "He and mum believed strongly in tithing too, not just acquiring for their own benefit. Theirs was a considered process to write Act for Peace into their Wills some time before it was needed."

"Supporting Act for Peace's work had been part of mum and dad's life and they wanted to continue that sense of giving. We were not at all surprised by their bequests and respected that decision," Ken concludes.

"It was a proud moment to acknowledge and share their spirit of generosity which shone through evidently to those who knew them. It was a real privilege to send on those gifts and legacies."



David and Joy Devereux, married for more than 60 years, shared in a "spirit of generosity".



# COMMITTED TO TRANSPARENCY AND LEARNING

We strive to work effectively and transparently, achieve measurable results and hold ourselves to the highest standards of accountability to our supporters, partners and the communities that we serve.

We regularly monitor and evaluate all our programs allowing us to measure progress. These processes ensure we are continually learning from what we do, applying practice to our work and making the biggest impact in the lives of vulnerable people.

Sharon Edington, Act for Peace Protection Programs Manager talks to Zeleke Muleta, EOC-DICAC, during a field monitoring trip to Kule refugee camp in Ethiopia.

In addition to our ongoing monitoring of all programs, this year we undertook extensive evaluations of four programs:

- Zimbabwe Council of Churches Conservation Farming
- Community World Service Asia Maternal and Newborn Health projects
- Tonga National Council of Churches Community Disaster Risk Management program
- Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission Sexual and Gender Based Violence and Livelihoods

# LIVELIHOODS FOR URBAN REFUGEES LIVING IN ETHIOPIA



With more than 900,000 refugees and asylum seekers, Ethiopia is home to the second largest refugee population in Africa. More than 20,000 refugees currently live in Addis Ababa, where they face many challenges, including risks to their physical safety, a lack of opportunities to earn an income, and limited access to healthcare and counselling services.

Since 2015, Act for Peace has worked with our local partner, the Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-church Aid Commission (DICAC) to support refugees living in Addis Ababa to improve their psychosocial wellbeing, and provide them with training to build their confidence and self-worth, and help them to support themselves.

Refugees in Addis Ababa attend a tailoring and dress making training course with Act for Peace's local partner. Vocational training provides people with an opportunity to learn new skills and strengthen their financial independence.



# MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH IN PAKISTAN

In rural Pakistan, access to essential healthcare services remains a challenge, especially for people in rural communities where poverty is widespread. Women and children in particular suffer from the lack of access to healthcare. Women die from preventable complications during pregnancy and delivery and newborns are also at a high risk of death.

The Maternal and Neonatal and Child Health project, run by Act for Peace's local partner Community World Service Asia (CWSA) in Pakistan, aims to address this injustice by providing essential healthcare to families living in three rural communities. CWSA operates three health clinics in areas where there is no other access to health services of any kind, providing vulnerable people with life-saving child and maternal care, free medical camps and health promotion and awareness raising sessions.

An external evaluation of the program showed the program has been effective in saving lives of women and children and successfully combatting the high rates of maternal and infant deaths. To ensure the ongoing sustainability of the program, one recommendation which the program has adopted is to strengthen coordination and collaboration with government stakeholders and private healthcare providers. This will help to ensure that people's health needs are met as part of an integrated approach that takes into consideration the range of socio-economic issues negatively impacting poor rural communities.

*"The project held medical camps in far flung villages which proved very helpful in accessing health care services. People got benefit from these camps through the check-ups and free treatment. These camps have benefited many families." (a patient from the Umerkot district)*

A mother with her newborn baby visits a health clinic run by our local partner in Pakistan.



## PARTNERING FOR IMPACT

In order to create real and lasting change for vulnerable communities around the world, we continued to nurture and sustain long-term partnerships and sought out effective, fair and complementary ways of working together, with an emphasis on greater sharing of power, learning and knowledge.

We are proud to have worked alongside local partners in 17 countries; supporting their vision and assisting them to strengthen capacity, and design and implement programs most likely to lead to sustainable, inclusive change.



The majority of our partners are members of the ACT Alliance, the largest worldwide coalition church-based agencies working to create sustainable, positive change.



Act for Peace coordinates the Pacific Australia New Zealand Forum of the Alliance, seven agencies working jointly to increase the resilience of Pacific nations to natural disasters and the impacts of climate change.



We are a member of the Australian Church Agency Network, a group of eleven church-based overseas aid and development agencies focused on delivering more effective outcomes for the people we serve through collaboration.



We collaborated with faith and non-faith based aid agencies, including working together with 18 Australian aid agencies to design a mechanism to improve our ability to deliver immediate, life-saving assistance to people affected by disasters around the world.

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS

- All Africa Conference of Churches
- ACT Alliance
- Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network
- Community World Service Asia
- Christian World Service Indonesia
- Ethiopian Orthodox Church - Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission
- Further Arts/Pasifika
- Myanmar Council of Churches
- Near East Council of Churches - Department of Services for Palestinian Refugees
- Middle East Council of Churches - Department of Services for Palestinian Refugees – International Christian Committee
- National Council of Churches in the Philippines
- Organisation for Eelam Refugee Rehabilitation India/ Ceylon
- The Border Consortium
- The Charitable Foundation / Refuge Point (Auspice Fund)
- Tongan National Council of Churches
- Vanuatu Christian Council
- World Council of Churches
- Zimbabwe Council of Churches



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR LOCAL PARTNER

# WELCOMING REFUGEES



Fares is the Executive Director of Act for Peace's local partner in Jordan, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees. We talked to Fares about how your gifts have saved lives and empowered Syrian refugees to support themselves through DSPR's life-changing work.

"The Syrian families we work with fled Syria because of the civil war that started in 2011. With the bombings and shootings, danger was all around. People were forced to leave their homes and their lives behind to seek safety. The journey across the border is very dangerous. Most people either walk, or hide in trucks or cars and move only during the night.

Jordan was one of the first countries to take in Syrian refugees fleeing the fighting. Since the beginning of the crisis, hundreds of thousands of people have fled to Jordan to find refuge. There are around 1.4 million Syrians living in Jordan, including over 755,000 registered refugees. They live mainly in urban areas.

It is so important to welcome refugees as they have no other place to go and we are always striving to meet the needs of the people we are serving. This includes providing people with practical support, as well as meeting their emotional needs. The most important thing is that people know we are standing beside them during their darkest hour.

Eight years into the crisis, food is still the biggest need. When people don't have enough money to buy food, we are there to support them with emergency food parcels. In winter, we help people with blankets and wood stoves, as well as providing school supplies for children. Many people are dealing with the trauma of what they've gone through and we

offer psychosocial sessions so people can begin to heal. Mother support groups provide women with a place to talk and share experiences and education workshops for children offer spaces for them to learn and play together.

DSPR has been working with Palestinian refugees since 1949, so we understand the suffering that people go through when they have been forced from their country. By standing with Syrian refugees, we hope to reduce some of their suffering.

In the beginning, we faced a lot of difficulties trying to reach people who had just arrived from Syria after experiencing the unimaginable horrors of war. People were very closed and many were experiencing feelings of depression and isolation. So we formed teams made up of hundreds of volunteers from the community. They reached out to Syrian families to let them know they weren't alone and tell them that we were there to help in many ways.

We care much for the dignity of the people and work to empower refugees to support themselves. We emphasise this through hiring refugee field workers and volunteers. They support their own community and benefit through feeling a sense of ownership.

Now we have a very good relationship with the people we serve and every day I see the difference that happens in people's lives thanks to this ongoing support. Our continued commitment to the people in the community means we have earned their trust and because of this people feel safe and secure.

Through Act for Peace and the support of the Australian people, we have managed to reach around 30,000 Syrian people in urgent need. We couldn't have done this without help from the good people of Australia, thank you."



The Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) was established in 1949 in Jordan to respond to the needs of over 2.5 million Palestinians who fled or were expelled from their homes during the Palestine war. When war erupted in Syria in 2011, DSPR were on the ground to provide urgent assistance to thousands of Syrian refugees who arrived in Jordan in search of safety.

Through your gifts you have partnered with DSPR to deliver life-changing support to the Syrian refugee community for eight years.

Fares (left) with a volunteer during a food ration distribution on the outskirts of Amman, Jordan. Most of DSPR's work on the ground is done by caring volunteers, who are often refugees themselves.



## STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2019

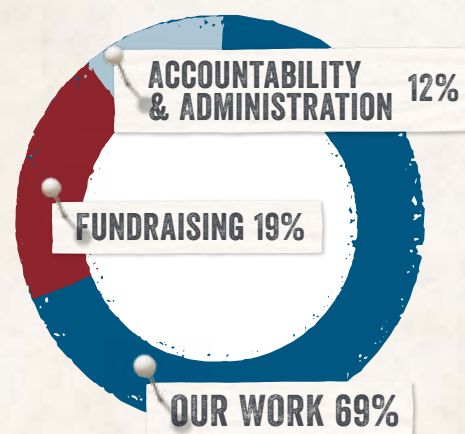
REVENUE	Note	12 months to 30 Jun 2019 \$	12 months to 30 Jun 2018 \$
Donations and gifts			
Monetary		7,467,747	7,463,760
Non-monetary		106,894	29,769
Bequests and Legacies		77,880	190,762
Grants			
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade		2,094,722	2,162,554
Other Australian		1,137,396	1,035,155
Other Overseas		398,789	666,577
Investment Income		232,354	182,033
Commercial Activities Income		0	0
Other Income		892,177	409,023
Gain on Sale of Melbourne Property		1,198,184	0
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs		0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>13,606,143</b>	<b>12,139,633</b>

## EXPENDITURE

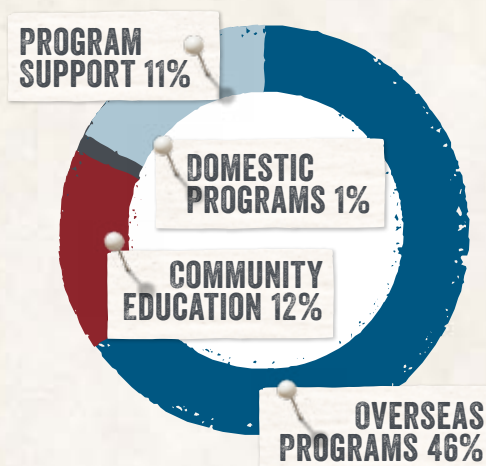
### International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure

International programs			
Funds to International Programs	10	5,585,729	6,010,045
Program Support Costs		1,370,599	1,525,339
		6,956,328	7,535,384
Community Education		1,452,665	1,421,455
Fundraising Costs			
Public		2,310,827	2,345,073
Government, Multilateral And Private		57,405	66,913
		2,368,233	2,411,986
Accountability and Administration		1,461,547	1,090,901
Non-Monetary Expenditure		106,894	29,769
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>		<b>12,345,667</b>	<b>12,489,495</b>
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure		0	0
Domestic Projects Expenditure		129,644	173,584
Commercial Activities Expenditure		0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>12,475,311</b>	<b>12,663,079</b>
<b>EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>1,130,832</b>	<b>(523,446)</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)</b>		<b>1,130,832</b>	<b>(523,446)</b>

## TOTAL EXPENDITURE



## EXPENDITURE ON PROGRAMS



During the financial year, Act for Peace had no transactions in the Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs category.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the Notes to and forming parts of the accounts.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JUNE 30 2019

## ASSETS

		30 June 2019	30 Jun 2018
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash And Cash Equivalents	2	844,983	88,089
Trade And Other Receivables	3	913,647	353,591
Inventories		0	0
Assets Held For Sale		0	0
Other Financial Assets	4	660,090	7,119,816
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,418,720</b>	<b>7,561,496</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Trade And Other Receivables		0	0
Other Financial Assets	4	6,108,100	0
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	3,518,141	3,276,300
Investment Property		0	0
Intangibles		0	0
Other Non-Current Assets		0	0
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>9,626,241</b>	<b>3,276,300</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>12,044,961</b>	<b>10,837,796</b>

## LIABILITIES

<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade And Other Payables	6	1,525,744	1,505,722
Current Tax Liabilities		0	0
Managed Funds		0	59,875
Provisions	7	407,269	368,625
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,933,013</b>	<b>1,934,222</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings		0	0
Other Financial Liabilities		0	0
Provisions	8	122,806	105,139
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>122,806</b>	<b>105,139</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,055,819</b>	<b>2,039,361</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>9,989,142</b>	<b>8,798,435</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	8	7,508,209	6,964,012
Retained Earnings	9	2,480,933	1,834,423
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>9,989,142</b>	<b>8,798,435</b>

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2019

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Others	Total
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>3,475,228</b>	<b>5,324,852</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,800,080</b>
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0		0	-
Items of other comprehensive income	0		0	-
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	(523,446)		0	(523,446)
Managed Funds	61,853		0	61,853
Property Valuation	0	459,948	0	459,948
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	1,449	(1,449)	0	0
Transfer of Bequests from RE to Reserves	(1,180,661)	1,180,661	0	0
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<b>1,834,423</b>	<b>6,964,012</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,798,435</b>
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0		0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0		0	0
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	1,130,832		0	1,130,832
Managed Funds	59,875		0	59,875
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	(544,197)	544,197	0	0
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>2,480,933</b>	<b>7,508,209</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,989,142</b>



# NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

## AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

### 1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Financial Reporting Framework

This financial report is a special purpose financial report which has been prepared for use by the Council's Executive and member churches. The Executive has determined that the Act for Peace Ltd is not a reporting entity and hence this report has been prepared in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards relevant to not-for-profit entities.

The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and the Act for Peace Constitution. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis (except as provided for in the statement below on income) in accordance with historical cost convention. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

#### Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report:

#### a. Recognition of Income

The timing of the recognition of donations, grants, fundraising, legacies and bequests depends on when control of these monies is obtained, usually receipt of the monies.

#### b. Investment Income

Investment interest is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income when received.

#### c. Donations and Fundraising

In common with many charitable organisations, it is not practicable for the Act for Peace Ltd to establish accounting controls over all sources of donations and fundraising income prior to it being recorded in the accounting records.

#### d. Value of Volunteers

The value of services provided by volunteers is not included in revenue or expenses because of the practical difficulties involved. In relation to volunteers used directly for the support of international projects, this amounted to \$106,894 in 2019 (2018 \$29,769).

#### e. Accounts Payable

Accruals and other creditors are recognised when the company becomes obligated to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services. Accruals have also been made in the accounts in the case of unspent budgeted project funds.

#### f. Acquisition of Assets

Assets acquired are recorded at the cost of acquisition, being the purchase consideration determined as at the date of acquisition plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

#### g. Employee Benefits

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

#### h. Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amounts of goods and services tax (GST). The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of the statement of financial position.

#### i. Recoverable Amount of Non-current Assets

Non-current assets are written down to recoverable amount where the carrying value of any non-current asset exceeds the recoverable amount.

#### j. Revaluation of Non-current Assets

Equity in property is measured on the fair value basis. Fair value basis is determined on the basis of an independent valuation prepared by external valuation experts based on capitalisation of net income.

#### k. Managed Funds

Funds channelled through Act for Peace Ltd on behalf of other Australian individuals or entities are classified as Managed Funds. These funds are earmarked for specific purposes.

#### l. Financial Year

The Financial Year for the Act for Peace Ltd starts 1st July and ends 30th June.

#### m. Comparative Amounts

Some comparative information has been re-classified to ensure comparability with the current reporting period.

	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
<b>2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash on hand	4,892	4,939
Cash in bank	265,091	8,150
Term Deposits	575,000	75,000
	<b>844,983</b>	<b>88,089</b>

### 3. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Advances	12,688	13,263
GST Paid	45,302	86,750
Prepayments	22,856	53,169
Trade receivables	832,801	200,409
	<b>913,647</b>	<b>353,591</b>

### 4. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

Investments with NCCA Ltd - Project Funds	660,090	3,592,112
Investments with NCCA Ltd - Refugee Reserves	0	2,789,271
Investments with NCCA Ltd - Property Reserves	0	738,433
	<b>660,090</b>	<b>7,119,816</b>
Investments with Australian Ethical Investment Ltd	6,108,100	0
	<b>6,108,100</b>	<b>0</b>

### 5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Level 7 Kent St (Sydney)	1,405,396	1,405,396
Level 4 Causeway House (Melbourne)	0	1,350,000
Level 6 West Tower(Melbourne)	1,310,399	0
Bldg Improv, Computer & Office Furnitures	802,346	520,904
	<b>3,518,141</b>	<b>3,276,300</b>

	30 June 2019	30 June 2018
<b>6. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES</b>		
Trade Creditors	545,358	206,919
Accruals on Project Funds	247,673	115,630
Income in Advance	685,994	1,120,036
Payroll Liabilities	46,537	63,137
GST Collected	182	0
	<b>1,525,744</b>	<b>1,505,722</b>

### 7. EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Provision for Annual Leave	407,269	368,625
	<b>407,269</b>	<b>368,625</b>

Provision for Long Service Leave	122,806	105,139
	<b>122,806</b>	<b>105,139</b>

### 8. RESERVES

Refugee Reserves	1,868,294	2,289,523
Property Reserves	1,835,396	738,432
Bequests	1,088,724	1,180,661
Level 7 Kent St (Sydney)	1,405,396	1,405,396
Level 4 Causeway House (Melbourne)	0	1,350,000
Level 6 West Tower(Melbourne)	1,310,399	0
	<b>7,508,209</b>	<b>6,964,012</b>

### 9. RETAINED EARNINGS

Retained Earnings	2,480,933	1,834,423
	<b>2,480,933</b>	<b>1,834,423</b>

### 10. PROGRAMS

Africa	603,169	437,613
Asia	2,731,956	2,834,377
Pacific	806,456	860,969
Middle East	414,391	443,617
Managed Funds - Overseas	198,283	260,430
Emergencies	831,474	1,173,039
	<b>5,585,729</b>	<b>6,010,045</b>

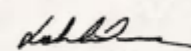
## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

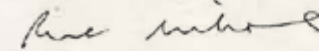
In accordance with a resolution of the Directors, the Directors of Act for Peace Ltd declare that:

- The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 2 to 7 are in accordance with the Act for Peace Ltd constitution, ACFID Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act); and
  - Comply with relevant Australian Accounting standards to the extent in note 1; and
  - Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;
- In the Commission's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that Act for Peace will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors and is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

For and on behalf of the Board

  
JOHN GILMORE (Chair, Board of Directors)


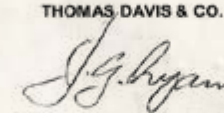
  
Paul Nicholls (Treasurer, Chair, Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee)

Dated this 24 day of September, 2019.

## AUDITOR'S DECLARATION

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Act For Peace Limited under section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2019 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the ACNC Act in relation to the audit; and,
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

  
THOMAS DAVIS & CO.  
  
J.G. RYAN PARTNER  
Chartered Accountants  
Sydney  
24 September, 2019



# AUDITOR'S REPORT 2019



## OPINION

We have audited the financial report of Act for Peace Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Act for Peace Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June, 2019 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and 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 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 AND RESTRICTION ON DISTRIBUTION AND USE

We draw attention to Note 1(3) to the financial report which describes the revenue recognition policy of Act for Peace Limited including the limitations that exist in relation to recording of cash receipts from Donations and Fundraising. Revenue from this source represents a significant proportion of revenue of Act for Peace Limited. Our opinion is unmodified in respect of this matter.

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the company's financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Directors of the company are 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 Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a 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 Directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## 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 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 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 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 company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' 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 company'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 entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors 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.

  
THOMAS DAVIS & CO.  
  
J.G. RYAN PARTNER  
Chartered Accountants

SYDNEY,  
24 September, 2019

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# ACT FOR PEACE BOARD 2019

Directors of the Act for Peace Board are appointed by the Member, the National Council of Churches in Australia. At the end of the 2018-2019 year, Act for Peace's Directors were as follows:

- The Reverend John Gilmore, Chair, BTheol, MTheol, DipMin
- Elizabeth Stone, Policy Committee Chair, BA, MIntS, AGIA
- Paul Nichols, Treasurer and Chair of our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, BA, BSW, MBA
- Ginie Udy, Policy Committee and our Deputy Chair, BEd, MA (Hons), MBA, GAICD
- Alison Preston, Policy Committee, BA Journalism
- Jamieson Davies, leads our Board's professional development initiative, BA, MA
- Leigh Cleave, Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, BMus, Grad Dip Teaching, MBA, CFRE, FFIA
- Marcus Sandmann, Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, B Bus, MAICD

## MEMBER CHURCHES

Act for Peace is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Member churches include:

- Anglican Church of Australia
- Antiochian Orthodox Church
- Armenian Apostolic Church
- Assyrian Church of the East
- Chinese Methodist Church in Australia
- Churches of Christ in Australia
- Congregational Federation of Australia
- Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Sydney & affiliated Regions
- Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Melbourne & affiliated Regions
- Greek Orthodox Church
- Indian Orthodox Church
- Lutheran Church of Australia
- Mar Thoma Church
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- Roman Catholic Church
- Romanian Orthodox Church
- The Salvation Army
- Syrian Orthodox Church
- Uniting Church in Australia

## INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Thank you to our institutional donors:

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
- wAustralian Humanitarian Partnership Program (via Church Agency Network Disaster Operation) (Australia)
- Department of Home Affairs (Australia)
- Tear Fund (New Zealand)
- Uniting World (Australia)
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency (Australia)
- Anglican Board of Mission (Australia)
- Global Mission Partners (Australia)
- High Commission of Canada in New Zealand (Canada)
- Glenburnie Programme (Australia)
- Australian Lutheran World Services (Australia)
- Quakers Services Australia (Australia)
- Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (United States)



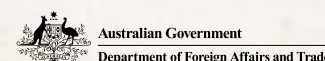
Act for Peace, Locked Bag Q199,  
QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING, NSW 1230  
FREECALL 1800 025 101  
EMAIL: [info@actforpeace.org.au](mailto:info@actforpeace.org.au)  
WEB: [www.actforpeace.org.au](http://www.actforpeace.org.au)  
ABN 86 619 970 188

actalliance



Act for Peace is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The code is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. It aims to improve international development outcomes and increase stakeholder trust by improving the transparency and accountability of signatory organisations. Act for Peace is committed to full adherence to this Code. The ACFID Code of Conduct offers a mechanism to address concerns relating to signatories' conduct. Complaints against a signatory agency may be initiated by any member of the public and lodged with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee.

More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from Act for Peace and from ACFID at: Website: [www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints](http://www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints) Email: [acfid@acfid.asn.au](mailto:acfid@acfid.asn.au) Ph: +61 2 6285 1816



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Produced by Act for Peace, Locked Bag Q199, QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING, NSW 1230

**FREECALL** 1800 025 101 **EMAIL** [info@actforpeace.org.au](mailto:info@actforpeace.org.au) **WEB** [actforpeace.org.au](http://actforpeace.org.au)

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THROUGH THE **actalliance**