





ActionAid has been working with local and community-based organisations since 1972. Our core focus is working alongside the poor and marginalised to create long-term positive change across 45 countries.

### Vision

A world without poverty and injustice in which every person enjoys the right to a life with dignity.

### Mission

To work with poor and excluded people to eradicate poverty and injustice.

### Values

**Mutual respect** requiring us to recognise each person's innate worth and the value of diversity.

**Equity and justice** requiring us to work to ensure equal opportunity for every person, irrespective of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, HIV status, colour, class, ethnicity, disability, location and religion.

**Honesty and transparency** requiring us to be accountable at all levels to ensure the effectiveness of our actions and openness in our communications with others.

**Solidarity with the poor** powerless and excluded will be the only bias in our commitment to the fight against poverty.

**Courage of conviction** requiring us to be creative and radical, bold and innovative in pursuit of making the greatest possible impact on the root causes of poverty, without fear of failure.

**Independence** from any religious or political affiliation.

**Humility** in our presentation and behaviour, recognising that we are part of a broader alliance, all fighting against poverty.

Fulera Issaku, Ayishetu Bujri and Safia Issaku in Kolinvai village, Northern Ghana, where ActionAid supports the Go Home project. So far the project has managed to reintegrate over 250 women who were accused of witchcraft. Photo: Jane Hahn/ActionAid.

# Executive Director and President's Message

**Welcome to our Annual Report for 2014! This snapshot of our year shows how we have amplified the voices of women living in poverty to achieve great things, as we support the ongoing struggle for gender equality.**

ActionAid believes that an end to poverty and injustice can be achieved through purposeful individual and collective action, led by those people living in poverty, and supported by our solidarity and campaigns, to address the structural causes of poverty.

We are humbled by the achievements that people living in poverty have made with your support. The commitment and solidarity of ActionAid supporters is essential to achieving our mission and we are extremely grateful for your continued generosity and support for our campaign initiatives. Our supporters are working to take the voice of marginalised people to those in power to achieve lasting change, and we thank you for your solidarity.

In 2014, we reached thousands of people, ranging from women farmers struggling to grow enough food to survive in Kenya and Uganda, to women building livelihoods in rural Afghanistan, to women struggling with violence and human rights abuses during the conflict in Gaza, to women working with their communities to overcome the Ebola epidemic in West Africa.

Last year marked the halfway point of our strategy "Changing the Rules 2012–2017". In a collaborative process, our Board and Staff reviewed our progress in our current strategy. We have sharpened our focus on women's rights and particularly our work on violence against women during conflicts and disasters. This focus was strengthened when the ActionAid International Federation delegated the portfolio of women's rights in emergencies to ActionAid Australia. We are committed to leading the Federation in supporting women, who are inevitably the first respondents to emergencies, to build women's agency during emergencies and to end the scourge of violence against women during conflicts and disasters.

We thank our dedicated staff and volunteers, applaud their diverse achievements, and look forward to an exciting year in 2015. We greatly appreciated the hard work and major contribution of Maree Blake to our Board of Directors. We welcome Carole Brownlee and Jeremy Hobbs to the Board. Carole brings a sound understanding of modern business practices to ActionAid and Jeremy comes to us fresh from his most recent appointment as the Chief Executive of Oxfam International.

We know you will be excited by the stories of change in this report. We hope they will inspire you and show how people's actions can change the rules and end poverty in our life-times.

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# Where we work

In 2014 the ActionAid Federation spanned 45 countries across the globe with its international headquarters in Johannesburg, South Africa.



**AFGHANISTAN**

- Strengthening resilience and food security among vulnerable households
- Working to improve rural Afghani women's access to justice and capacity to prevent and respond to violence against women

**CAMBODIA**

- Improving the sustainable livelihoods of farmers

**NEPAL**

- Assessing women's resilience and leadership in disasters

**PHILIPPINES**

- Typhoon emergency response**
- Supporting over 163,000 community members through immediate relief in response to typhoon Haiyan
  - Establishing women's empowerment and disaster recovery programs
  - Providing psychosocial support for women and children

**PAKISTAN**

- Assessing women's resilience and leadership in disasters

**CAMBODIA**

**THE PHILIPPINES**

**AUSTRALIA**

- Fundraising over \$3.5 million from the Australian public to support vital projects
- Campaigning with a base of 15,000 supporters to hold organisations accountable to fight poverty
- Keeping Australians informed on women's rights issues

**AUSTRALIA**

# Mission Objective 1:

To enable the poor and excluded, especially women, to claim their rights by securing access to, and control over, the productive resources and decision-making processes essential to improving their livelihoods.

Mein, a farmer from Kampong Cham province, Cambodia, who was provided with rice seeds by ActionAid. Photo: Savann Oeurn/ActionAid.

## Sustainable farming in Cambodia

Our three-year project in Cambodia, “Growing food rights: sustainable livelihoods for farmers in Oddar Meanchey”, was completed in 2014. Our evaluation found that through the training and support that was provided in the economic and social component of this project, women and men progressed from food insecurity to income generation. More than 1,800 community members were supported to diversify their crops and increase their productivity, allowing them to grow more than enough food to eat and so sell some for income.

## Value of women workers

2014 saw the release of ActionAid’s ‘Value Chain Study’, which provides insight into how ‘Value Chain Analysis’ can affect the empowerment of women. Value Chain Analysis is a business development tool adapted to investigate the ways in which poverty can be reduced by examining the chain of production of a commodity, from its origin to its final delivery and all the steps in between. The study examines the progress of women who participated in ActionAid-led projects in three countries that have supported them

to claim their rights through economic participation. The study shows how women’s involvement has enabled them to identify and break down barriers that obstruct their participation in the value chain, thus allowing them to take control of their incomes and strengthen engagement in the value chain.

## Strengthening women’s resilience in Afghanistan

In 2014, ActionAid Australia, in partnership with ActionAid Afghanistan, launched REALISE – Resilient Agriculture and Livelihoods Initiative for Socio-economic Empowerment. The project, funded by the Australian Government, is a five-year commitment and ActionAid is working to strengthen the resilience of vulnerable households in 31 communities across six districts in Afghanistan. Drawing on ActionAid’s 12 years of programming experience in the country, the REALISE project focuses on improving the communities’ food and nutritional security, increasing their economic assets, and strengthening people’s engagement with decision-making at all levels. This program works directly with over 5,000 people and is a critical step in improving the livelihoods of women and their families in a challenging context.



# 2014 Projects:

## Afghanistan:

REALISE (*Resilient Agriculture and Livelihoods Initiative for Socio-economic Empowerment*) – A new project to strengthen resilience and food security among vulnerable households.

## Cambodia:

ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) – Improving the sustainable livelihoods of farmers.

## Value Chain Study:

Based on programs in Cambodia, Palestine, and Uganda, the study was released in 2014 and highlights the importance of supporting women's involvement in value chains.

## Palestine:

ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) – Working with women of Hebron to improve their access to productive resources and economic rights.

AMENCA (*Australian Middle East NGO Co-operation Agreement*) – Empowering communities to improve their livelihoods and strengthen their resilience.

## Uganda and Kenya

AACES (*Australia Africa Community Engagement Scheme*) – Working with smallholder farmers in Uganda and Kenya to improve their food security by empowering them to claim their rights and entitlements.

## Uganda:

ANCP Extractives – Promoting transparent, constructive, and well-informed public policy and dialogue about the effects of the extractive industries on communities.

ANCP WORIA (*Women's Rights in Agriculture Project*) – Working with smallholder farmers to improve their production and productivity of vegetable crops and to encourage their greater social and economic empowerment.

# Mission Objective 2:

To protect women's rights by preventing and responding to gender-based violence against women during disasters and conflicts.

Monique Barihuta, Women's Rights Coordinator from ActionAid Burundi speaking at the Justice For Women: Voices from the Frontline conference in June 2014. ActionAid Australia participated in an interactive policy forum about women's access to justice as a strategy to end sexual violence in conflict. This forum was held alongside the End Sexual Violence In Conflict Global Summit which took place in London. Photo: ActionAid.

## Reflecting on women's rights

The use of REFLECT principles is critical to ActionAid's theory of change. It is an excellent tool for introducing marginalised people to their rights. REFLECT is a participatory learning process, in which the participants create a space that allows them to share the issues relevant to their lives in comfort and safety. Through group analysis, they gain a better understanding of the power dynamics in their lives and how to best promote change. The evaluation of two separate REFLECT projects in 2014 provided valuable insight into how this tool enables women to claim their rights. The knowledge gained with REFLECT circles in both Afghanistan and Palestine exemplifies the particular benefits of this approach as a model for women's empowerment in conservative environments.

Within the Palestinian context, our evaluation revealed that 190 participants reported a greater capacity to access their social and economic rights. This contributed directly to their participation in decision-making processes and they noted improvements in their relationships both within the home and within the community.

The evaluation of REFLECT in Afghanistan revealed how this program enabled women to develop their skills, share their experiences, and set their own agendas and goals as a collective. The REFLECT circles deliberately focused on vulnerable women aged 14–50 years, to improve their literacy and knowledge of how to improve their situations as well as strengthen self-confidence, participation in decision-making, and social status.

## Ending sexual violence in conflict

In June 2014, ActionAid Australia's Michelle Higelin, Carol Angir, and Holly Miller, together with ActionAid colleagues from six country programs in Afghanistan, Burundi, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Somaliland, all conflict-affected countries, participated in a dialogue with policy makers at a side event at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London. Co-hosted by Angelina Jolie and the UK Government, and attended by the Australian Ambassador for Women and Girls, Natasha Stott Despoja, this was the first global summit to address ending the sexual violence that occurs during conflicts, and generated worldwide media coverage.

The summit launched the International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict and called for the end to sexual violence to be placed on the international security agenda.

## Responding to emergencies

On November 8th 2013, Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines, with vulnerable communities hit hardest. After the immediate response by ActionAid International, ActionAid Australia, funded by ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) and the Australian public, undertook



to support the most vulnerable women affected by the typhoon, to reduce the risk of violence against women in emergencies, and to ensure that future disaster responses are people-centred. This work is founded on the key lessons learnt over the seven-month response, and is meeting the ongoing challenge of women's exclusion from leadership and decision-making on issues concerning their rights, and in reducing the risk of disasters and increasing communities' preparedness for them.

## Access to justice

2014 marked the second year of the Transitional Justice Research Project, in partnership with the University of Sydney. With the initial research completed in Kenya, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, emerging themes were shared at the 58th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women held in New York and at the Global Summit to End Sexual Violence in Conflict in London. The participation of ActionAid ensured a dialogue between the women affected by violence and the activists working on the frontline with global decision-makers working on access to justice through the United Nations, governments, and the International Criminal Court.

## 2014 Projects:

### Afghanistan:

ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) - Working to improve rural Afghani women's access to justice and capacity to prevent and respond to violence against women.

### Kenya:

ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) - Working with communities and local institutions to address issues of violence against women in conflict and disasters.

### Nepal & Pakistan:

ANCP (*Australia NGO Co-operation Programme*) - Working with country programs to identify women's role in recovering from and responding to disasters.

### DRC, Uganda and Kenya:

Transitional Justice - Working in partnership with the University of Sydney and local partners, this project investigated transitional justice in the three countries for addressing violence against women in conflicts and women's access to justice.

# Putting women's rights at the heart of our work

A cooperative women's group in southern India has instigated and led the building of five large ponds to surround the local village in order to supply water for the families, cattle and agriculture. Photo: Richard Carter/ActionAid.

## The power of women farmers

The 'Food for Thought, Rights for Action' project of ActionAid operates in eight marginalised districts in Kenya and Uganda. There has been severe underinvestment in agriculture in these areas and a lack of recognition of the value of smallholder farming. As in many parts of the world, women smallholder farmers and their needs have often been ignored by policy- and decision-makers, who fail to understand that their needs differ from those of their male counterparts, and who do not recognise the existence of widespread gender discrimination. However, women farmers have an enormous capacity and the power to transform their own situations, and those of their families and the community around them, making a significant contribution to eliminating poverty.

This project has assisted farmers like Bena Ileauk and her family, who had been accustomed to eating one meal a day if they were lucky. Although they owned several acres of land, Bena and her family had suffered the effects of climate change, which had affected staple foods such as peanuts and hardy crops such as millet and sorghum. Bena was selected by her community to receive improved seeds for peanuts, green peas, sorghum, and sweet potato, a goat, and an ox. Today, her life is completely transformed, demonstrating how a little input, combined with the energy, skill, and motivation of women farmers can change lives.

"I had never harvested this much from such a little garden. These seeds are so much better than the old type. I noticed they can pull through even when the rains disappear for a while and they are also ready to harvest faster. For example, the peanuts were ready to harvest in three months, while before I would have to wait for 6–8 months," she said. "People respect me as a farmer now. Their attitude towards me has also changed. I am no longer the hungry beggar," says Bena.

In this project, ActionAid works with farmers, particularly women farmers, to design, test, and document alternative farming strategies, including introducing drought-tolerant varieties of plants. Through a range of activities, these farmers have acquired new skills with which to take collective action to change policies and programs. This, in turn, will enable them to eliminate poverty and hunger.

Following the success of the AACES (Africa Australia Community Engagement Scheme) program, ActionAid has begun the process of establishing similar projects in Afghanistan and Pakistan, using the AACES model to guide our work, while working closely with local partners to ensure that each program appropriately addresses the contextual needs.



## Women's leadership in emergencies

2014 saw the launch of the South Asian Women's Resilience Index (WRI), a tool that assesses a country's capacity to reduce the risk of disasters and to improve its recovery from them, and the extent to which the needs of women are integrated into national resilience-building efforts. The WRI was developed in partnership between ActionAid, the Economist Intelligence Unit and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). It focused on the experiences of women in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka with Japan as a benchmark. Each nation was scored for economic, infrastructure institutional, and social factors, and assigned a score and rank. The index is the first of its kind and will be used to ensure that governments better support women's resilience and agency in the context of disasters.

ActionAid knows that when disasters and conflicts arise, women are disproportionately affected. We also understand that because of the socially assigned roles of women, they can be the most effective risk managers for communities during these times.

When Cyclone Mahasen hit the southern coast of Bangladesh in May 2013, ActionAid and local partners pioneered a women-led emergency response in Kolapara, a badly affected area. The damage assessment and procurement committees were made up entirely of women, and led the budgeting process, the selection of vendors, and the distribution of goods, and monitored the reconstruction efforts.

Despite some initial resistance, men have gradually gained greater respect for the women in Kolapara, and there have been increased discussions on how funds should be dispersed.

The women of Kolapara have gone on to be trained in water and sanitation management, sustainable agriculture, building flood-resistant shelters, vegetable gardening, and rehabilitation. "They are building the resilience of the local communities and developing their skills and confidence to lead the response to local disasters", says Mr Abdul Alim, Manager for Humanitarian Response, Disaster Risk Reduction, and Climate Justice at ActionAid Bangladesh. "Recently, an embankment broke and salinated water flooded the community. The women identified the needs and petitioned ActionAid for funding."

To better ensure the protection and agency of women in the context of disasters, women must be empowered to build resilience at the community level.

# Power in people

## Tackling inequality

Australia took centre stage on the world's political platform when it hosted the G20 Summit for the first time in November 2014. ActionAid seized the opportunity to speak out for those who were not invited to the discussion table.

Throughout the world, developing countries are most heavily affected by corporate tax avoidance, and yet they were not even invited to the Summit. Therefore, ActionAid and our campaigners took to the streets of Brisbane not once, not twice, but three times, to call for a tax system that is fair to low-income countries.

We marched with like-minded activists from around the world. Over 3,000 ActionAid campaigners signed a global petition calling for companies to pay their fair share of tax—and we saw an all-time maximum support for our campaign across our social media channels.

## The Gaza crisis

In July, ActionAid responded to the horrific crisis that left over 1,500 dead and thousands injured in Gaza. As always, women were the most severely affected. ActionAid was one of 12 Australian international women's rights and development agencies to write to Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, calling for the Australian Government to urgently push for a permanent ceasefire in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel, and unhindered access to humanitarian assistance for all civilians in Gaza.

Our committed and engaged campaigners raised their voices on the issue, and as a result, we sent more than 3,000 signed letters from our campaigners to Julie Bishop, asking that she step up Australian efforts to protect the rights of women and children in Gaza, and that she ensure that women are part of the peace process.

The Australian public continued to show their solidarity with the people of Gaza by donating over \$29,000 to our emergency .

## The power of women's laughter

In May, we once again joined with the Sydney Comedy Festival to produce the second Frocking Hilarious Comedy Gala at the Enmore Theatre. We built on the success of the 2013 show to deliver a night of entertainment and laughter while raising awareness of ActionAid's work to empower women worldwide.

We were thrilled to headline some of Australia's funniest women, including Judith Lucy, Denise Scott, Fiona O'Loughlin, Claire Hooper, George McEncroe, and Gretel Killeen, together with musical divas Lady Sings It Better and an emerging talent, Anne Edmonds. In the months leading to the Gala, our whole team and amazing volunteers worked tirelessly to organize the gala. We plastered posters and handed out flyers all over Sydney. We reached out to other women's groups, local businesses, and the media to promote our event. With such wide support, we made Frocking Hilarious bigger and better in 2014, with tickets selling out weeks in advance!

In early 2014, our team on the ground in the Philippines saw incredible, inspirational women taking the lead in helping their communities recover after Typhoon Haiyan. Throughout it all, they still had enough strength to laugh together. So we celebrated their strength by putting this show together.

# Fair Go Joe

With rumours that the Australian Government was about to slash the foreign aid budget yet again—we had to act. More than 20% of budget cutbacks had already come from the aid program, which constitutes only 1.3% of the federal budget. Further cuts to aid would hurt the world's poorest people, so we asked our supporters to participate in a crowd funding campaign—our first ever campaign of this kind. We know that Australians are proud of the work we do with communities in poor countries to reduce poverty and to create a fairer world, and we knew that if we asked our supporters to present Joe Hockey with a clear message “Fair Go Joe, Don’t Cut Aid”, we could mobilise, and we did.

In just four days, our campaigners collectively chipped in \$3,500 for a mobile billboard calling on the Treasurer to stop cutting the aid budget. We parked the billboard outside Joe Hockey’s electorate office, before taking it around Sydney, stopping at well-known landmarks to convey the message—that Australians don’t want our contribution to international aid reduced any further.

Despite the public outcry, the cuts to international aid were significant. A further \$3.7 billion will be slashed over the next four years. The total aid budget has been savaged, with \$11 billion stripped in just over one year. Australia will drop from the 13th most-generous nation in the world to the 20th of the 28 wealthiest countries in the world, and Australia’s contribution to aid will now be the lowest since records began.



ActionAid campaigners hitting the streets at the G20 in Brisbane. Photo: Rachael Phillips/ActionAid.

# Our supporters

Our work would not be possible without the continued loyalty of our supporters and their valuable gifts in will, our ambassadors, corporate and pro bono partners. Thank you for being part of the ActionAid community and empowering women and girls to tackle the injustices and poverty they face.



### **Institutional Donors**

Australian AID

### **Significant Individual and Community Supporters**

Alan and Hilary Wallace

Camille J Domaille

Greg Shalit and Miriam Faine

Peter O'Keefe

Rees Family Foundation

Vietnamese Community in Australia-  
NSW Chapter

Vietnamese Community in Australia-  
WA Chapter Inc.

### **Philanthropic Foundation**

#### **Supporters**

Australian Executor Trustees

Dick And Pip Smith Foundation

Planet Wheeler Foundation

The Beryl Grace Schairer Trust

The English Family Foundation

The Profield Foundation

The Sky Foundation

#### **Pro Bono Supporters**

DLA Piper

Minter Ellison

Sparke Helmore

Williamson Legal

#### **Our Ambassadors**

Claire Hooper

Judith Lucy

Murray Cook

Tracey Spicer



Children's entertainer, Murray Cook saw first-hand the difference educating girls can make when he visited a school in Cambodia. These programs educate children in the most isolated regions of Cambodia while promoting all children's rights in schools to foster a happy learning environment. Photo: Charles Fox/ ActionAid

# Our board

ActionAid Australia's Board is responsible for the governance of the organisation, setting our strategic direction, monitoring our performance against it, managing risk, and ensuring we are accountable to our supporters and the poor and excluded people with whom we work.

## **The Hon John Dowd AO QC (Syd)**

Chancellor, Southern Cross University;  
Deputy President, NSW Mental Health Tribunal;  
President, International Commission of Jurists Australia;  
Former NSW Attorney General and Supreme Court judge;  
Leader of the House, Consul-General for the Cook Islands to Australia, and Australian government delegate to Palestine to monitor the Palestinian Legislative Council Elections  
Director from 28 April 2008  
Appointed President 1 July 2009

## **Margaret Alston LLB (Melbourne) Dip ED (Melbourne)**

Consultant Member St Vincent's Health Regional Advisory Council Melbourne;  
Former Program Quality Advisor, Save the Children Australia;  
Former Business Development Consultant, RMIT International Projects;  
Former Program Director, Australian Volunteers International  
Director from 16 June 2011  
Appointed Vice-President 16 May 2012

## **Jeremy Hobbs BA, B.SocWk**

International Consultant to NGOs;  
INGO Accountability Charter Board Chair;  
Former Executive Director, Oxfam International;  
Founding Board member, Oxfam International;  
Former Executive Director, Oxfam Australia (Community Aid Abroad)  
Director from August 2014

## **Susan Brennan BA/LLB (Hons)**

Barrister at Law;  
Vice President, World YWCA and  
Former President, World YWCA  
Director from 24 February 2011

## **Sonia Zavesky**

Director, Zavesky Consulting;  
Former Head of Communications, Greenpeace;  
Former Chief of Staff and Executive Producer, ABC News Radio Sydney;  
Former news and current affairs journalist, ABC  
Director from 4 November 2009

## **James Goth B.Ec (Syd) LLB (Syd) MBA (Insead)**

Chief Strategy Officer, Woolworths Limited;  
Former Partner, Boston Consulting Group  
Director from 30 January 2014

## **Nicci Dent MFIA, HND BTEC in Art and Design Diploma**

Former National Fundraising Director, The Heart Foundation;  
Formerly Director of Fundraising MSF;  
Various Fundraising roles with Amnesty International and the Wilderness Society  
Director from 11 September 2013

## **Carole Brownlee B.Comm**

Chief Operating Officer and former senior Finance Executive, Roadshow Films Group;  
Financial Controller, Austereo Limited;  
Fellow of the Australian Institute of Certified Practising Accountants  
Director from November 2014

## Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statement Report to the Members of ActionAid Australia

The accompanying Summary Financial Statement Report prepared by ActionAid Australia, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, is derived from the audited general purpose financial report of ActionAid Australia for the year ended 31 December 2014. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 22 May 2015.

The Summary Financial Statement Report does not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards for a general purpose financial report. Reading the Summary Financial Statement Report, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of ActionAid Australia.

### *Directors' Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statement Report*

The Directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Statement Report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, *the Corporations Act 2001* and the ACFID Code of Conduct and for compliance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*.

### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Summary Financial Statement Report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the Summary Financial Statement Report derived from the audited financial report of ActionAid Australia for the year ended 31 December 2014 is consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ACFID Code of Conduct. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit, this auditor's report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the financial report.



DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU



Gaile Pearce  
Partner  
Chartered Accountant

# Our finances

During 2014, ActionAid Australia's operating revenue increased by 10% to \$8.3 million. The increase in operating revenue was mainly in overseas grants, bequest income and investment income (as a result of the capital investment arising from the sale of the building in 2013).

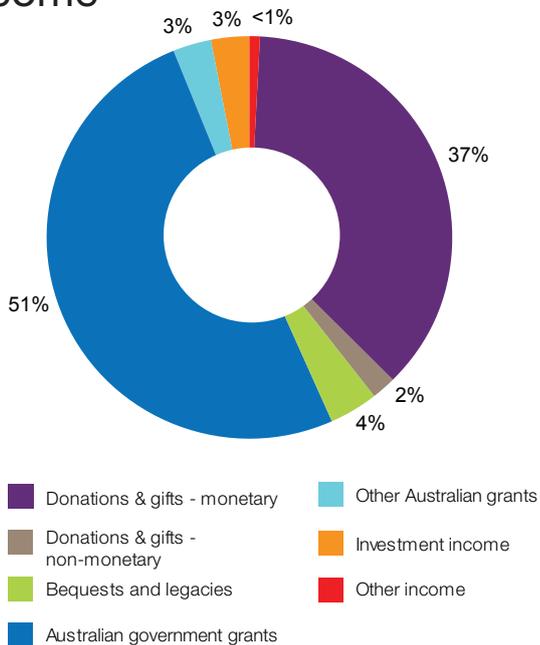
Public funds raised totalled \$3.5 million and comprised 43% of operating revenue for the year, compared to 46% in the previous year. Public funds included donations and gifts received from the Australian public as well as non-monetary income such as volunteer or pro bono services. In 2014 ActionAid Australia also received funds from donors who left gifts in their wills, totalling \$350,683.

Grant income contributed to 54% of operating revenue at \$4.5 million. Of this, \$4.3 million came from DFAT and \$0.2 million from other Australian sources. Interest income received was \$0.2m (shown in investment income) and other income was \$36,064 (due mainly to additional fund raising activities, such as comedy gala ticket sales).

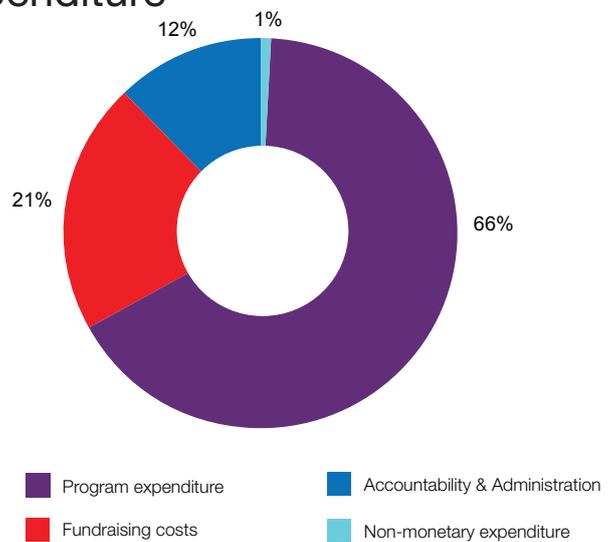
Our total program expenditure was 66% of expenditure for 2014, a decrease from 68% in 2013. Of this, overseas projects received \$4.5 million (51%), \$0.8m (9%) funded project management costs in Australia and \$0.5m (5%) funded campaigns and community education in Australia. Program expenditure includes ActionAid Australia's programs overseas as well as the costs of public campaigning in Australia.

Fundraising accounted for 21% of total expenditure, a 4% increase from 2013. After a reduction in investment in ActionAid's face-to-face fundraising program in 2013, the program was revitalised in 2014 with new suppliers and a resultant increase in investment. Accountability and administration costs remained static from 2013 and are 12% of total expenditure.

## Income



## Expenditure



The full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2014 is available on request or on the ActionAid Australia website at [www.actionaid.org/australia](http://www.actionaid.org/australia).

The Summary Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. ActionAid Australia is committed to full adherence to this Code.

For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au).

In order to lodge a complaint against ActionAid Australia please email [complaints.au@actionaid.org](mailto:complaints.au@actionaid.org). Where a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct is considered to have occurred please see the ACFID website <http://www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints> for contact details.



ACFID  
MEMBER

# Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended 31 December 2014 \$	Year ended 31 December 2013 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Donations and gifts		
- Monetary	3,079,643	3,106,056
- Non-monetary	132,542	192,832
Bequests and legacies	350,683	133,545
Grants		
- DFAT <sup>1</sup>	4,260,385	3,681,622
- Other Australian	216,225	183,244
- Other overseas	-	95,881
Investment income	214,246	53,652
Other income	36,064	77,924
Total operating revenue	8,289,787	7,524,756
<b>Other Gains</b>		
Capital profit on sale of property	-	3,018,577
Total other gains	-	3,018,577
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>8,289,787</b>	<b>10,543,333</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>		
International programs		
- Funds to international programs	4,533,184	3,981,644
- Program support costs	811,201	716,744
Community education	475,043	442,498
Fundraising costs		
- Public	1,814,691	1,264,878
- Government, multilateral & private	-	24,089
Accountability and administration	1,060,429	894,968
Non-monetary expenditure	132,542	192,832
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>	<b>8,827,091</b>	<b>7,517,653</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>8,827,091</b>	<b>7,517,653</b>
- Operating excess/(shortfall) over expenditure	(537,304)	7,103
- Capital excess/(shortfall) over expenditure	-	3,018,577
<b>Total Excess /(shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure</b>	<b>(537,304)</b>	<b>3,025,680</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income /(Loss)</b>	<b>(537,304)</b>	<b>3,025,680</b>

DFAT<sup>1</sup> Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

During the year ended 31 December 2014, ActionAid Australia had no transactions in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Revenue or Expenditure.

## Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Retained earnings \$	Restricted funds reserves \$	Unrestricted funds reserves \$	Total undistributed funds \$
<b>Opening balance at 1 January 2013</b>	1,361,844	804,519	50,000	2,216,363
Surplus/(deficit)	3,025,680	-	-	3,025,680
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	3,025,680	-	-	3,025,680
Transfers to/(from) restricted reserves				
- Capital Reserve	(3,018,577)	3,018,577	-	-
- Other Restricted Reserves	(117,925)	117,925	-	-
Total amounts transferred to/(from) reserves	(3,136,502)	3,136,502	-	-
<b>Closing balance at 31 December 2013</b>	1,251,022	3,941,021	50,000	5,242,043

ActionAid Australia's retained earnings decreased by \$0.2m and its restricted funds reserve decreased by \$0.3m over the year and we ended 2014 with a total reserve of \$4.7m. ActionAid Australia does not utilise all funds immediately so that it can ensure that the funds are best used for long-term, sustainable outcomes.

	Retained earnings \$	Restricted funds reserves \$	Unrestricted funds reserves \$	Total undistributed funds \$
<b>Opening balance at 1 January 2014</b>	1,251,022	3,941,021	50,000	5,242,043
Surplus/(deficit)	(537,304)	-	-	(537,304)
<b>Total comprehensive Loss</b>	(537,304)	-	-	(537,304)
Other amounts transferred to/(from) reserves	272,479	(272,479)	-	-
<b>Total Closing balance at 31 December 2014</b>	986,198	3,668,542	50,000	4,704,740
Restricted funds reserve comprised of:				
- Capital Reserve	-	3,018,577	-	3,018,577
- Other Restricted Reserves	-	649,965	-	649,965

During the year ended 31 December 2014, ActionAid Australia had no transactions in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: adjustments or changes in equity due to adoptions of new accounting standards, items of other comprehensive income.

# Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2014

	31 December 2014 \$	31 December 2013 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	7,886,719	8,986,075
Trade and other receivables	89,199	212,180
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>7,975,918</b>	<b>9,198,255</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	133,276	52,485
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>133,276</b>	<b>52,485</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>8,109,194</b>	<b>9,250,740</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	332,708	694,238
Provisions - employee benefits	159,219	130,466
<i>Other</i>		
- Deferred revenue	2,878,700	3,158,440
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>3,370,627</b>	<b>3,983,144</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Provisions - employee benefits	33,827	25,553
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>33,827</b>	<b>25,553</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,404,454</b>	<b>4,008,697</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>4,704,740</b>	<b>5,242,043</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Restricted funds capital reserves	3,018,577	3,018,577
Restricted funds other reserves	649,965	922,444
Unrestricted funds reserves	50,000	50,000
Retained earnings	986,198	1,251,022
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>4,704,740</b>	<b>5,242,043</b>

Of ActionAid Australia's total assets of \$8.1m, \$7.9m was held as cash, of which \$6m is held in short-term term deposits at banks. The organisation's largest liability, at \$2.9m, is deferred revenue. Deferred revenue is grant funds received in advance that are yet to be used for overseas projects and the management support costs of those projects.

At 31 December 2014, ActionAid Australia had no balances in the following categories specified in the ACFID Code of Conduct: inventories, assets held for sale, other financial assets, non-current trade and other receivables, investment property, intangibles, other non-current asset, current tax liabilities, other financial liabilities, borrowings or other non-current liabilities.

# Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Year ended 31 December 2014 \$	Year ended 31 December 2013 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash receipts from appeals, donations & fundraising activities	3,430,326	3,239,601
Cash receipts from DFAT <sup>1</sup> grants	4,466,062	5,144,811
Cash receipts from other grants	136,812	75,211
Proceeds from other activities	(4,852)	72,395
Interest received	214,246	53,652
Cash payments to suppliers and employees	(3,391,512)	(2,010,052)
Cash payments for project expenditure	(5,819,429)	(5,140,886)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(968,347)</b>	<b>1,434,732</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	-	3,528,531
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(131,009)	(17,752)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(131,009)</b>	<b>3,510,779</b>
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-
Repayments from borrowings	-	(402,415)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(1,099,356)</b>	<b>4,543,096</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year</b>	<b>8,986,075</b>	<b>4,442,979</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>	<b>7,886,719</b>	<b>8,986,075</b>

The cash position of ActionAid Australia during 2014 decreased by \$1 million; this is mainly due to increased disbursements of funds to projects during the year.

DFAT<sup>1</sup> Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

## Table of cash movements for designated purposes

Project/purpose	Cash available at 1 January 2014 \$	Cash raised during the period \$	Cash disbursed during the period \$	Cash available at 31 December 2014 \$
Australia Africa Community Engagement Scheme (AACES)	911,598	1,296,851	1,377,458	830,991
Afghanistan Resilient Agriculture and Livelihoods Initiative for Socio-Economic Empowerment (REALISE)	-	966,339	310,517	655,822
Total for other non-designated purposes	8,074,477	5,979,406	7,653,977	6,399,906
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,986,075</b>	<b>8,242,596</b>	<b>9,341,952</b>	<b>7,886,719</b>

## ActionAid Australia Director's Declaration

In the opinion of the directors of ActionAid Australia:

- (a) the financial statements and notes set out on pages 7 to 30 are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 including;
- (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2014, and of its performance, for the financial year ended on that date; and
  - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Regulations 2013; and
  - (iii) complying with the ACFID Code of Conduct for non-governmental development organisations; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Dated at Sydney this 22nd day of May 2015

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



The Hon. John Dowd AO QC  
President



Sonia Zavesky  
Director



Front cover: ActionAid volunteer facilitator, Hawa Jalloh conducts an Ebola awareness session in the village of Mbundorbo, Sierra Leone. Photo: Tommy Trenchard/ActionAid.

Back Cover: Elma Tumambo receives shelter repair kits after typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines in November 2013. She and community volunteers have loaded them onto a local tricycle for transportation back to her home. Photo: ActionAid.

**act!onaid**

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