



UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2019 - JUNE 2020

.....



YEAR AT A GLANCE

409,026
TOTAL BENEFICIARIES

13
COUNTRIES
where we worked

36,103
people benefited from
LEADERSHIP and
INSTITUTIONAL
STRENGTHENING programs

317,271
people benefited from our
POVERTY ALLEVIATION and
SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT programs

AT LEAST
2,069 children are experiencing
IMPROVED EDUCATION

20 PAID STAFF **34** PROJECTS

3,979 DONORS

6,329 FOLLOWERS

457
people benefited from
CLIMATE CHANGE
PROJECTS

4,000 people received access to
IMPROVED HEALTH services

588 people with
INCREASED INCOMES

55,020
people benefited from
GENDER EQUALITY
PROGRAMS

51%
of BENEFICIARIES are
WOMEN OR GIRLS

58
teachers trained to
IMPROVE LEARNING
OUTCOMES

160,275
people benefited from
COVID-19 RESPONSE activities

17,779
people received access to
HOUSEHOLD
HANDWASHING
facilities

13,303
people trained in
CHILD-PROTECTION

"HOPE BEGINS IN THE DARK, THE STUBBORN HOPE THAT IF YOU JUST SHOW UP AND TRY TO DO THE RIGHT THING, THE DAWN WILL COME. YOU WAIT AND WATCH AND WORK: YOU DON'T GIVE UP."

ANNE LAMOTT

A copy of this Annual Report can be downloaded from our website: www.unitingworld.org.au

All photographs taken by UnitingWorld staff, volunteers and overseas partners in Africa, Asia and the Pacific unless otherwise specified. All photos and stories used with permission. The names of some individuals have been changed to protect their privacy.

Graphic Design: Cocoon Creative.

Cover image: Our project in Sri Lanka is empowering people with disabilities to thrive. Pictured Hashini putting her new skills to use.

Image this page: Aerial view of Kiritimati, a coral atoll in the northern Line Islands, Kiribati.

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This has without doubt been one of the strangest years for UnitingWorld. It has been a year of significant challenges. COVID-19 has impacted many aspects of our work, from disrupting the way we have operated with our partners overseas to dealing with the financial challenges of an economy in recession. It has required both staff and Board to adapt and to look at different ways of operating. Thankfully the staff of UnitingWorld has risen superbly to the challenges and have continued the excellent work of the agency in partnership with churches in the Pacific, Asia and Africa. Similarly, the Board has continued to make significant changes in the way that the organisation functions.

UnitingWorld has been accepted as a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) with its own ABN. This long-sought status will enhance UnitingWorld's efficiency and competitiveness while allowing us to remain unincorporated, as an Agency of the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) National Assembly with the same governance and control arrangements as before.

The process of Board renewal has continued with the appointment of three new Board members this year and this process will continue into 2021. The new Board members, Ms Ashleigh Johnson, Ms Renee O'Shanassy and Ms Lin Hatfield Dodds bring a wealth of experience to the task. Our Board members are located from Singapore in the north to Tasmania in the south. Currently, the Board is 50% female and 50% male and has a wide age distribution. We continue to have a very strong focus on being a skill-based Board. We have also benefited from the skills and contribution of those who serve on Board committees without being Board members; including an international member from the Pacific who sits on the International Program Committee.

While the mandate of UnitingWorld is very broad, over 80% of our funding goes to our near neighbours across Indonesia and the Pacific Islands. Our long-standing links with the Pacific and Melanesian churches have given us a significant advantage as Australian aid policy has prioritised the Pacific. UnitingWorld was the partner requested by the Pacific Conference

of Churches in their engagement with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Office of the Pacific. The long term links between the Uniting Church in Australia and Papua New Guinea were on display in the award in 2020 of the Companion of the Order of the Star of Melanesia to the Rev Neville Threlfall for "distinguished services to PNG and Melanesia".

UnitingWorld continues to play a leadership role in the sector in Australia. Our National Director, Dr Sureka Goringe, currently Chairs the Church Agencies Network (CAN) and Ms Ellen Shipley serves on the Committee for Development Cooperation.

One thing is certain and that is the future will be uncertain. However, if we are bold and flexible and continue to base our work on the mutually beneficial relationships with other churches, UnitingWorld will continue to make a difference in transforming lives and being transformed ourselves.



Andrew Glenn BSc (Hons), D Phil, FAICD
Board Chair, UnitingWorld



Andrew and Sureka in the UnitingWorld Office

July 2019 feels like a world away.

Our programs and partnerships strong, we kicked off the year with the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA) President's Conference in Fiji on the theme 'For All Creation' where our Fijian partners helped open eyes and hearts with stories of courage and resilience in the face of gender inequality and climate change.

Twelve months later, we ended the year in the grip of a global pandemic, sharing dread and uncertainty, but working harder and closer than ever with our partners. It truly has been an incredible year.

Last year 409,026 men, women and children benefited directly from our programs. People have escaped poverty through small business, health care and education. Women and girls have embraced opportunities for leadership and influence. Communities have prepared for disasters driven by a changing climate and our partners have grown stronger in safeguarding children, handling complaints and demonstrating accountability to their people. I'm incredibly grateful for the hard work, dedication and skills that have made it possible in the most difficult of circumstances.

In our commitment to partner-led development and pass-the-mic advocacy we facilitated a new relationship between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC); arranged for leaders from India and Fiji to have mainstage platforms at the 2019 Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Conference, and pioneered a cross-regional initiative, inviting the General Secretary of the PCC to our South East Asia regional conference on theology and climate change. We were thrilled to witness the gathering strength of the 'Re-weaving the Ecological Mat' movement, led by several of our Pacific colleagues.

We also paid tribute to some much-loved leaders. We grieve with our partners for Sir Samson Lova and Mr Bianga Buia from PNG, Prime Minister Akilisi Pohiva of Tonga and Rev Kalahati Kilei of Tuvalu. All will be sadly missed, and their legacies will live long into the future.

Then COVID-19 happened. Never before has every single one of our partners been impacted by a crisis at the same time, alongside our own staff, church and supporters.

In just weeks we re-oriented our projects to respond to the pandemic. Our partners mobilised

to deliver clean water and hygiene kits, information on preventing contagion, food supplies for those going hungry, and safety for women and children in highly stressed communities. They sewed masks and fought misinformation. We reworked plans and budgets, negotiated grants, lobbied the government and found every penny we could to help them. Just in that last quarter, we reached 160,275 people with COVID-19 response initiatives.

When bushfires devastated Australia, we were inundated by messages of concern. Some of our smallest partners raised funds for the UCA. When we shared with our partners our funding constraints in responding to COVID-19, all we received back were messages of solidarity and friendship, reassuring us that our partnership was worth more than money. I cried.

The bushfires, pandemic, and economic uncertainty made fundraising hard. Without Sunday services, we could not visit and share stories. But when you heard how our partners were rising to the challenges of the pandemic, you responded with prayers, encouragement and generous donations, enabling us to maintain a basic level of support across our partners. For our faithful supporters, ambassadors and volunteers (including our Board), I am deeply grateful.

My gratitude to my team at UnitingWorld cannot be overstated. In the midst of fear and uncertainty, working from home, unable to travel, they maintained momentum, won new grants, raised donor funds, and delivered desperately needed programs. All while caring for each other, relocating the Sydney office and providing significant leadership to the development sector. It is a privilege to work with them.

The challenges of FY19-20 have highlighted the heart of UnitingWorld: the love and trust of our partners and supporters and the dedication of our team.

We remain committed to keeping this flame of partnership alive during these troubled days. Please continue on this journey with us, as we learn how to be God's people in this changed world. We need each other more than ever.



Sureka Goringe MA (Camb), PhD
National Director, UnitingWorld

WHO WE ARE

We work for a world where lives are whole and hopeful.

Because every person matters. Because every person is beloved by God and invited to enjoy the rich blessings of abundant life.

UnitingWorld is an agency of the National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia.

We exist to further the collaborative efforts of the global church.

We partner on behalf of the Uniting Church in Australia to respond to **poverty, injustice and violence in Asia, Africa and the Pacific.**

OUR VISION

Our Vision is honouring God through **global relationships** which bring **justice and hope.**

OUR CHARITABLE PURPOSE

To relieve the poverty, distress, sickness, disadvantage due to disability, destitution, suffering, misfortune or disempowerment of individuals and communities in need, with a focus on those living overseas.

OUR MISSION

in response to God's purpose for the world and its people, is to **connect** the people of the Uniting Church in Australia in missional collaboration with churches overseas, **strengthening the church** in order to address the causes and consequences of **poverty, injustice and violence.**

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS GUIDE OUR EFFORTS

We will **nurture church relationships** in the Pacific, Asia and Africa on behalf of the Uniting Church in Australia to **build creative space for engagement, mutual learning and advocacy** in line with our Mission.

We will **implement programs** that have a strong theological and contextual focus which **bring life and transformation** to both partner communities and the Uniting Church in Australia.

We will **engage and inspire** the Uniting Church and community to partner with us as active and committed supporters of our work through **learning, praying, advocating and donating** to our programs and mission.

We will be a responsible and effective organisation, characterised by effective **leadership, learning and continuous improvement.**

Image: Our partners, the United Church of Papua New Guinea (UCPNG), are faith-filled and active members of their communities.





Relationships are the lifeblood of how we work.

Across the Pacific, Asia and Africa, we are privileged to partner with indigenous churches which are deeply rooted in their local communities. They are in the best position to assess the changing needs of their communities.

They are knowledgeable, resilient and committed people of God.

Responding to God's call for justice, they serve their local communities, **addressing injustice in lasting and meaningful ways.**

We work alongside our partners and the communities they serve, to enhance their capacity, to address challenges and implement locally-led solutions.

We bring to these partnerships the expertise of our UnitingWorld development staff who

work according to **the highest professional standards** recognised in the sector in Australia.

Together with our partners, we listen to the voices of those who are marginalised and vulnerable and include them in the creation, delivery and evaluation of our programs.

For the first eight months of this financial year work continued as normal. From March our partners faced urgent new challenges presented by the global pandemic. They have shown great flexibility and resourcefulness in switching to meet the most desperate needs.

UnitingWorld exists for times like this, we live to show love to people who are suffering, and we are determined to work to end COVID-19 for all.



Trust, respect and mutuality is at the heart of our relationships.

Our partnerships with overseas churches are built on the strong foundations of a shared Christian faith, and a long history of journeying together.

Our program collaborations are made possible by the deep connections between the Uniting Church and our partners, enriched by church leaders and community members connecting across nations and cultures.

Growing and strengthening this trust and learning, so that we are changed by the rich wisdom of our partners and their courageous actions, is a vital enabler of UnitingWorld's programming work.

Our relationship with partner churches is strong even in places where we're currently unable to fund projects. We join together in regional workshops and cultivating leadership opportunities to learn and grow.

Image: Our partner in Ambon, the Protestant Church in Maluku, is helping to build peace and beat poverty. Mary (Left) and Attika (right) in a communal garden working to grow a new future.

Our Programming Approach is enriched by the diversity of our combined resources.

Our partners have a first-hand understanding of their context, local wisdom and experience, and the trust of their community.

This has been vital in a year of disaster for much of the world.

Through regional connections nurtured by UnitingWorld, our partners share experience and expertise with other partners in neighbouring countries, and together with funding and professional support from UnitingWorld staff, they are able to create lasting and meaningful change.

All of our projects address one or more of the following themes:

- Poverty Alleviation
- Leadership
- Gender Equality
- Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction
- Disaster Response.

Since March, all our partners have had to pivot their programs to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Planned programming was replaced by providing food and hygiene supplies, distributing health and infection control information, strengthening the safeguarding of women and children in distressed communities and fighting to prevent the slide back into poverty.

Our Relief and Development Program comprises all our development and humanitarian aid projects, supporting our partners to address structural barriers that stifle human flourishing.

These projects enable communities to live healthy and well-resourced lives; improving access to and experiences of education, healthcare, economic security, gender equality, climate justice, food security, peace and other human rights. Our Relief and Development Program is eligible for tax deductible donations, and some projects in this portfolio are supported by Australian Aid from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, as well as from Australian individuals, organisations and churches.

Our Church Connections Program strengthens the global church's collaboration and capacity for leadership and community development. The Church Connections projects support partners to spearhead peace and justice initiatives and address immediate needs in their communities.

Our Church Connections Program is made possible by the generous support of Australian individuals and churches. All UnitingWorld projects are implemented by our church partners, and our programs include all people.

Image: Mawi (Left) and Ruth (Right) are recipients of training on health and sanitation from our partners in Papua New Guinea.



WHERE WE WORK

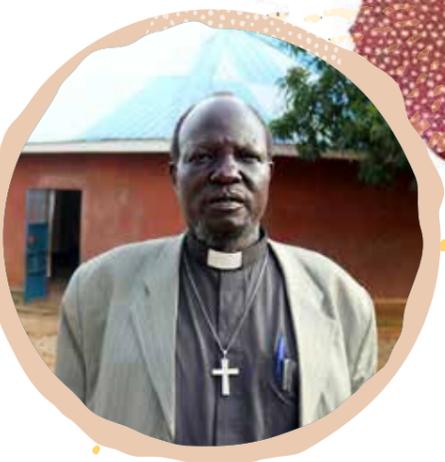
Hashini's disability prevented her from attending school but it doesn't stop her from working and advocating for a more inclusive society.
Read more on page 18.



Jaya's health, academic achievement and social skills have all improved since she came to live in a hostel run by the Church of North India.
Read more on page 30.



What people believe about why disasters happen makes a huge difference to how they prepare and respond.
Read more on page 26.



In South Sudan, ministers who are trained in mediation and peacemaking are vital for a young nation suffering from ongoing conflict.
Read more on page 32.

In PNG training peace mediators means more constructive conflict resolution strategies.
Read more on page 20.



34 PROJECTS / 13 NATIONS / 20 PARTNERS

PROJECTS AND PARTNERS

AFRICA

South Sudan

Peacebuilding and Trauma Healing Presbyterian Church of South Sudan

Zimbabwe

Leadership Training Methodist Church in Zimbabwe

Livelihoods and Clean Water[^] Methodist Development and Relief Agency

ASIA

China

Leadership and Theology
China Christian Council

India

Education for Remote Area Children
Church of North India, Diocese of Eastern Himalayas

Education for Vulnerable Girls
Church of North India, Diocese of Amritsar

Empowerment of Excluded Castes in Punjab[^]
Church of North India, Diocese of Amritsar

Leadership Training in Eastern Himalayas
Church of North India, Diocese of Eastern Himalayas

Empowerment of Excluded Castes in West Bengal[^]
Church of North India, Diocese of Durgapur

Sri Lanka

Empowering People with Disabilities[^]
Methodist Church in Sri Lanka

Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
Methodist Church in Sri Lanka

Indonesia

Livelihoods and Microfinance in West Timor[^]
Christian Evangelical Church in Timor

Livelihoods and Peacebuilding in Maluku
Protestant Church of Maluku

Poverty Alleviation in Bali[^]
Protestant Christian Church in Bali

Women's Livelihoods in West Papua
Evangelical Christian Church in Tanah Papua

Timor Leste

Community Health and Nutrition
Protestant Church in Timor-Leste

Leadership and Child Protection
Protestant Church in Timor-Leste

THE PACIFIC

Regional

Disaster Readiness & Climate Change[^]
Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations partners
(Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu)

Gender Equality Theology[^]
Methodist Church in Fiji
Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu
Kiribati Uniting Church
United Church in the Solomon Islands
Solomon Islands Christian Association

Safe n Redi[^]
Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations partners
in Fiji

Women in Ministry
Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu
Methodist Church In Fiji
United Church in Papua New Guinea

Fiji

Informal Settlement Education and Livelihoods
Methodist Church in Fiji

Papua New Guinea

Church Partnerships for Community Service[^]
United Church in Papua New Guinea

Highlands Earthquake Response[^]
United Church in Papua New Guinea and Church
Agencies Network Disaster Operations partners

Safe Water for Remote Communities[^]
United Church in Papua New Guinea

Tuvalu

Gender Equality and Child Protection
Tuvalu Christian Church

Vanuatu

Church Partnership Program Vanuatu
Vanuatu Christian Council

■ RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS
■ CHURCH CONNECTIONS PROJECTS
[^]Supported by the Australian Government

Image: Water and sanitation projects are helping children stay healthy, which means more time for school and play in remote areas of Papua New Guinea.



Poverty Alleviation removes barriers to human thriving.

Our Poverty Alleviation work breaks the poverty cycle by improving access to quality education, financial services, business opportunities, health care and clean water. It seeks to educate people, so that they can speak up for their rights, and be directly involved in local leadership.

Hashini was born in Sri Lanka with one foot turned entirely inward and a weak leg. When she became too old to crawl everywhere her main means of transportation was riding on her father's shoulders. Her parents were warm and loving and provided her with every opportunity within their power.

She attended preschool but the stairs and uneven ground at the primary school were insurmountable challenges and she studied at home. This brought social isolation as she lost the friends she had and could not make new ones.

Hashini had the goal to sit her Ordinary Level Exams but her father died suddenly from a heart attack, cutting short her education. She had obtained a wheelchair by this point but stairs, public transport, uneven roads and narrow doorways made it impractical.

Hashini's competence at speaking English (thanks to her father) meant she was able to get a job with an international NGO and this expanded her world. She joined a Disabled Person's Organisation and did a tailoring course through the Empowering People with Disabilities project, which she later went on to teach. They also educated her on the rights of people with disabilities.

When attending a meeting one day, she observed the only entrance had stairs, so she filed a petition to the Human Rights Commission to ensure access for all people and allow people with disabilities to participate in local politics.

Today, as well as training people in tailoring Hashini teaches English to children of all abilities. She is optimistic and feels empowered to advocate for a better future for people with disabilities.

Supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Project: Empowering People with Disabilities in Sri Lanka • **Country:** Sri Lanka
Partner: Methodist Church Sri Lanka • **Project established:** 2014-15 • **Number of participants this year:** 1185

FIGURES FOR CHANGE

317,040 people benefited from **Relief and Development Poverty Alleviation** and **Social Empowerment** projects

10,353 people had improved access to **safe drinking water** at home

At least **1,988** children had **access to education** (formal or informal)

6,961 people had improved access to **food**

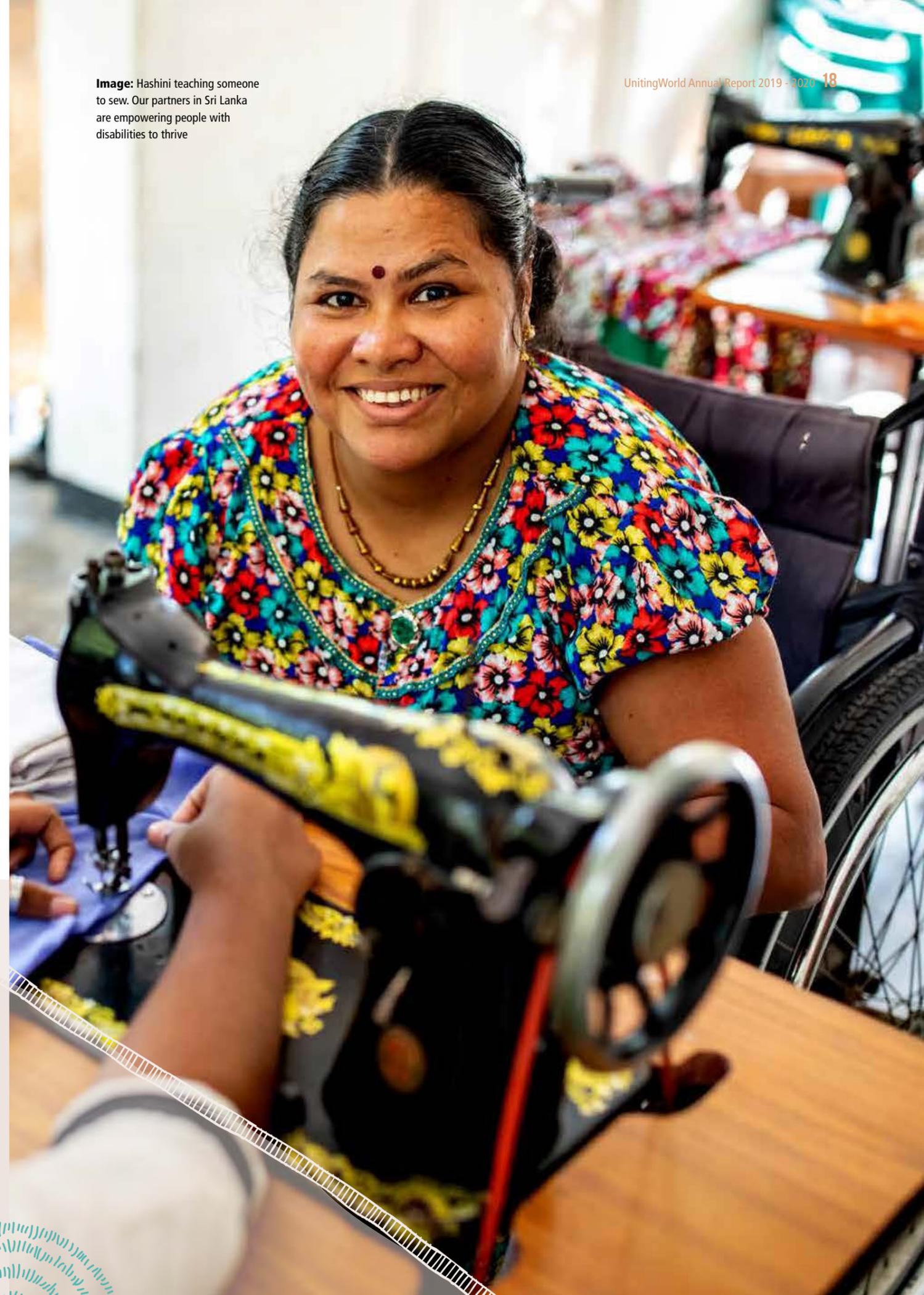
558 people have benefited from **increased incomes**

1,084 people adopted **improved agricultural practices**

3,769 people received improved **access to health services**

56 teachers were trained in **improving learning outcomes**

Image: Hashini teaching someone to sew. Our partners in Sri Lanka are empowering people with disabilities to thrive



An investment in Leadership is an investment in the future of communities.

Efforts to combat poverty, inequality and injustice are made possible by the involvement of skilled leaders and effective institutions. We support our partner organisations to build leadership capacity and strengthen governance and financial management practices.

Our partner churches are grassroots institutions, and we support them to develop systems that help them safeguard their communities, improve accountability and equip them to support meaningful and lasting change in the wider community.

Sialis is a pastor in PNG, in a community familiar with earthquakes and environmental disasters. And when people are fearful and distressed, violence tends to erupt.

He attended a two-week training course on Peace Building, Trauma Counseling and Conflict Resolution along with other church and community leaders.

In Sialis' community it is common for differences of opinion to lead to violence. The course has helped him "see ways that people can deal with conflict without becoming violent".

As a result of this course the church in the New Britain region of PNG has 18 peace mediators that can help community members resolve conflict.

One young participant said, "Now I know that violence is different from conflict. Conflict is normal but violence is not normal. Violence is a learnt behaviour and violent people choose to use violence during times of conflict. But we can respond to conflict in a non-violent way!"

An elderly participant said, "What struck me today was structural violence... We seem to concentrate a lot in resolving secondary violence but not the root causes which is structural violence. No wonder our problems continue to exist!"

The facilitator of the training course was impressed with the wisdom, commitment and willingness to learn shown by the participants.

Supported by the Australian Government through the PNG Church Partnerships Program.

Project: Church Partnerships for Community Service • **Country:** PNG • **Partner:** United Church in PNG
Project established: 2004 • **Number of participants this year:** 22,123

FIGURES FOR CHANGE



22,134 people benefited from **Relief and Development Leadership and Institutional Strengthening projects** this year



12,903 people attended workshops on **preventing and responding to child abuse and exploitation**



862 people trained in **disability awareness and inclusion**



51 people trained in **peacebuilding and reconciliation**

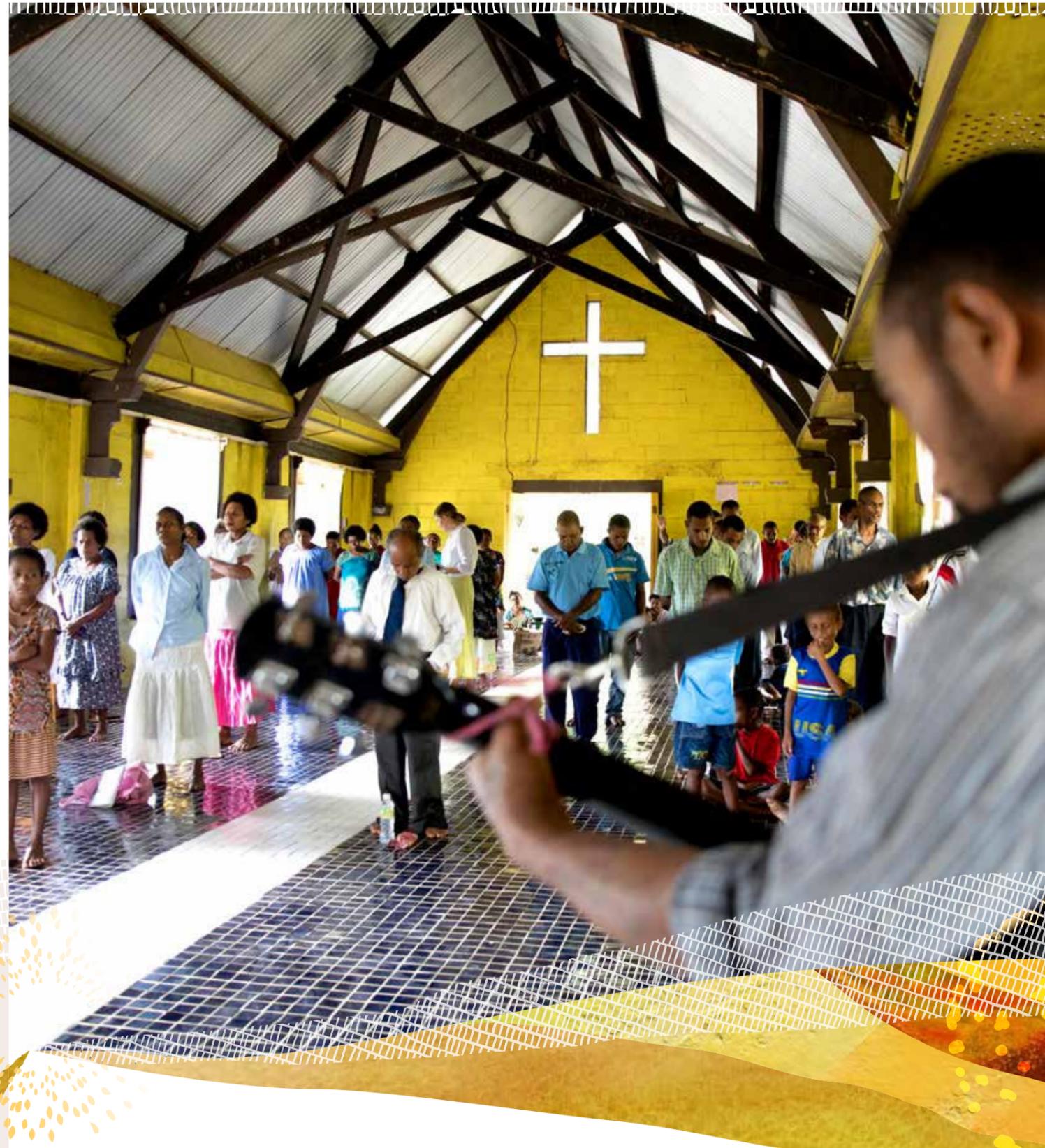


Image: In places where resources are scarce, faith plays a critical role in bringing communities together and nurturing hope. Milne Bay, Papua New Guinea.

Advancing Gender Equality makes a world of difference in the Pacific.

Church is the heart of Pacific society, with 95% of people identifying as Christian. But it's a place where women and girls don't have the same access to education, work or leadership as men, and up to 68% of women and girls experience violence.

Our Pacific church partners know that they are in a unique position to be agents of change, using Biblical teaching to challenge culture and transform behaviour.

We're cultivating a network across six countries, of women, church leaders, theologians and educators engaging in theological dialogue, challenging worldviews and re-imagining communities where women are valued and empowered as equals, and are safe from violence.

Vanuatu's sad run of disasters have made women more vulnerable than ever.

COVID-19 has severely depleted the tourism-dependent economy. A State of Emergency was declared and soon afterwards Tropical Cyclone Harold made landfall, whilst ashfall from Mount Yasur was also affecting some areas.

Intimate partner violence increased along with scarcity of basic provisions, stress related to loss of income, and destruction of social networks. Emotional abuse rates rose to up to 80% in areas affected by the cyclone. Physical and sexual violence was recorded at rates of up to 75%.

Vanuatu's population is 83% Christian and many

are looking to the Church to make sense of the run of disasters.

The Presbyterian Women's Mission Union decided to have the Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu (PCV)'s successful "Violence is a Sin" TV advertisement edited to address the current crises. This was aired by the National Broadcaster 25 times from May to July.

Pastor Dorothy Jimmy (PCV's GET minister) also shared messages on "dignity and protection in the home" on National TV.

Supported by the Australian Government through the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Program (Pacific Women)

Project: Gender Equality Theology • **Country:** Vanuatu • **Partner:** Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu (also Methodist Church in Fiji, Kiribati Uniting Church, United Church in Solomon Islands) and Solomon Islands Christian Association (SICA)
Project established: July 2018 • **Number of participants this year:** 54,977

Image: In the Solomon Islands, women are being equipped for teaching and preaching that addresses the issue of gender equality through a biblical lens.

FIGURES FOR CHANGE



75 women were supported to assume **leadership roles**



55,020 people benefitted from **gender equality projects**



5,636 people participated in sessions on **gender issues and gender equality**

The **Gender Equality Theological Curriculum** was completed, approved and is being taught in **4 Theological colleges**.



“I WISH TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO THE UNITING WORLD FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS UNDERSTANDING OUR CONTEXT, AND ALWAYS WILLING TO WALK WITH US THROUGH THE DIFFICULT TIMES.”

Member of partner church staff from the Pacific.



Image: In remote areas of Timor-Leste, people grow their own food and rely on the advice of health clinics to better understand nutrition to help their children thrive.

Theology of Disaster Resilience is crucial to living with Climate Change

Across the Pacific we are hearing an urgent and heartfelt message from our partners: they are already fighting for the survival of their people.

This year we continued to work with the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) to help **prepare communities to withstand the worst of environmental disasters and climate change; and to plan for smart and effective recovery.**

Across the Pacific region, with our partners and with the wider Christian community, we preach and run workshops using theological resources on Disaster Resilience. We support leaders and communities to examine their beliefs and attitudes which affect the way many people think about, prepare for, and respond to disasters, so they can act with hope.

UnitingWorld's leading of theological support for disaster resilience and preparedness is just one part of the much bigger Disaster Ready Project where Australian and Pacific Churches and Church agencies work ecumenically together to multiply the reach and impact. Other aspects of the project include mapping of evacuation centres, community action response plans and psychosocial support.

Joy Jino had been involved in Tsunami recovery efforts, but the Theology of Disaster Resilience has equipped her to help people make sense of disasters.

She had been a part of recovery efforts after the 2007 tsunami in her role as the National Coordinator of the Women's Fellowship. She saw many people blaming each other, believing the disaster was punishment from God, and while she could help them debrief, she did not have theological resources to help them make sense of their situation.

She recently attended leaders training on the Theology of Resilience which aims to shift thinking about disasters from a punishment framework to one of preparedness and resilience. There were leaders from Fiji, PNG and Vanuatu.

She learnt a lot about supporting people all along their journey to healing and she feels this message of resilience should be taught in theological colleges and preached in churches.

Supported by the Australian Government through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership via CAN DO.

Project: Disaster Readiness and Climate Change • **Partner:** CAN DO, UCPNG, UCSI, PCV
Project established: July 2017 • **Number of participants this year:** 457

FIGURES FOR CHANGE



457 people benefited from **Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction** programs.



20 Churches across the Pacific have developed **Action Plans**.



22 National Churches across **4 countries** reached



4 national training of trainer workshops held across **4 countries**



Theological framework document and **6 Bible studies** distributed across Churches in **4 countries**.



Image: Participants of the first 'training of trainers' workshop for the Theology of Disaster Resilience in a Changing Climate resources. Participants from Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea joined the training in Vanuatu.

The COVID-19 pandemic dominated our Disaster Response this year.

The global COVID-19 pandemic disproportionately affects the poor. Isolating is a luxury few of them can afford. Many across Africa and Asia are faced with the choice between staying at home and starving, or going to work and risking contracting COVID-19. Many communities lack clean water to wash their hands, not to mention information on infection control.

The virus itself required a public health response but at the same time the shut-down required emergency economic relief. Our partners have reached out to the vulnerable in their communities with both. Efforts have centred around distributing food and hygiene packs in countries that lack a social safety net for people unable to work, printing government health messages, educating people in infection control, and public information campaigns to prevent domestic violence. In the Pacific our partners have also been promoting the vital theological message that COVID-19 is not a punishment from God, that faithful action is staying at home and following Government Health directions; and that violence against women and children, even in these stressful times, is never ok.

FIGURES FOR CHANGE



More than **93,564** people were targeted with **COVID-19 prevention** messages.



3,325 people received **WASH supplies** and **3,555** received **food packs**.



56,138 people participated in interactive events related to **COVID-19 prevention**



34 public buildings have new **hand washing facilities**.



43,256 items of **PPE** were distributed.

Image: In Bali our partners MBM are training women to make and sell masks to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and earn an income.

In Bali, like much of the world, the COVID-19 shut-down has made it difficult for people to earn a living.

UnitingWorld Partner MBM has been helping people to continue to earn an income. They have helped six villages to market their produce without having to travel to market to sell it.

They provided sewing training for 12 women to make fabric masks and then purchased 3,110 masks for distribution, providing both work for the women and much needed hygiene supplies.

MBM has distributed 1,000 fruit and vegetable plants to improve food security.

They provided technical assistance to village leaders

so they can assign their village budget to support the people most in need.

MBM has provided food and accommodation to health care workers so they can isolate from family and community while working.

To raise awareness of good hygiene practises among children they ran a video competition and cartoon drawing competition with the themes of proper hand washing, mask-wearing and distancing. The winning designs will be published and used as educational material for health messages.

Supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Project: Poverty Alleviation in Bali • **Country:** Indonesia • **Partner:** MBM • **Project established:** July 2011
Number of participants this year: 158,703



CHURCH CONNECTIONS

Education can be a game changer in Poverty Alleviation.

It can also be one of the most complex needs to secure. While many countries strive to deliver free education, there are various reasons why children still can't access good schooling. Remote locations, the need to work, fragile family situations, unsafe travel options, cultural prejudice and the financial burden of school supplies, are some of the reasons why kids miss out on school.

Our partner churches in Fiji and India are listening to their communities and intervening directly to bridge the gap for those most likely to miss out on education.

Jaya is a 13-year-old girl from a small village in Punjab.

When she was four her father died and her mother left her with her grandmother, who has raised her since. Jaya attended the local government school but the standard of education was poor and there was no-one at home to help her with homework.

The village wasn't a healthy environment and Jaya often fell ill. She was very lonely and somewhat neglected. When she joined the hostel run by the Church of North India in 2017 she was in poor

health, struggling academically and becoming angry easily.

The contact with other students has improved her social skills; she has learnt to be respectful and loving and her grades have also improved. Monthly medical checks, good nutrition and education in personal hygiene mean she is in better health.

Jaya enjoys outdoor games, dance and art, and dreams of being a policewoman when she grows up.

Project: Education for Vulnerable Girls (India) • **Country:** India • **Partner:** Church of North India – Diocese of Amritsar
Project established: 2015-16 • **Number of participants this year:** 34

FIGURES FOR CHANGE

 **34** girls safely living in a hostel in India and going to school

22 children living in an informal settlement in Fiji received school supplies

 **1,231** people had improved access to food

 Our Church Connections projects helped **14,200** people this year.

 At least **81** children had access to education (formal or informal)

 **231** people benefited from Church Connections Poverty Alleviation and Social Empowerment projects

 **2** teachers were trained in improving learning outcomes

 **231** people received improved health services

Image: Jaya from Punjab is looking forward to a future full of possibility thanks to our partner the Church of North India.



Good Leadership calls out the best in people.

We all know that it is people that make the difference. People with skills and courage who can build teams and organise action; people who are scrupulous and compassionate. **These people are the leaders who transform communities for the better.**

Across all our church partners there is an urgent desire for leadership development that connects a faith-based, Biblical understanding to the needs of the wider community, speaking into issues of **justice, trauma, conflict, safeguarding and inclusion.**

Each project is designed to address specific, local needs. We support **peace makers and trauma healers** in South Sudan; we help women in the Pacific train for leadership roles; we train advocates for community rights in India; we train church leaders in anti-trafficking and disability inclusion initiatives in Zimbabwe, and in child protection and safeguarding in Timor Leste. We partner with the church in China to develop a theological framework for social service. We lend our expertise in **financial management and good governance** so that all our partners can build and keep trust within their local communities.

In all this we're inspired by the faith of our brothers and sisters as they continue God's work in the world.

Rev. Michael Kat from South Sudan is the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan in North West Jonglei Presbytery.

He found himself in a peace workshop surrounded by pastors and elders from different tribes. In a context where bitter hostility between tribes is frequently manifested in violence, gathering together like this was a unique opportunity.

Michael felt that this display of Christian unity to the communities outside the church was a valuable witness, and that he also learnt important skills on how to mediate among communities in conflict.

Another participant at the workshop realised pastors are already doing informal mediation in their communities but without adequate skills. He felt that the workshop equipped him with a sound knowledge of mediation, to help conflicted communities.

With UnitingWorld support, the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan presented three peacebuilding workshops for communities of South Sudanese people in the last year. One was to train 30 trainers; pastors, teachers and community leaders, on topics such as trauma healing, conflict resolution and mediation, as well as communication & listening skills.

Our partners in South Sudan work in extraordinary circumstances visiting people in refugee camps and providing pastoral support to those who are displaced and affected by conflict and now, COVID-19. They have asked for our support for their leadership in peacebuilding and trauma healing over many years as they believe that South Sudan will once again know peace. They are committed to equipping their people with the skills to lead their communities through conflict.

Project: Peacebuilding and Trauma Healing • **Country:** South Sudan • **Partner:** Presbyterian Church of South Sudan
Project established: July 2016 • **Number of participants this year:** 191

FIGURES FOR CHANGE



88 student ministers enrolled in theological colleges across Asia, Africa and the Pacific



13,969 people benefited from **Church Connections Leadership and Institutional Strengthening projects** this year



50 people trained in **disability awareness** and inclusion

6 women were supported to assume **leadership roles**



86 Sunday School teachers were trained in **Child Protection** in Timor Leste



400 people attended workshops on **preventing and responding to child abuse and exploitation**



50 people participated in sessions on **gender issues and gender equality**



191 people trained in **peace-building and reconciliation** in South Sudanese communities

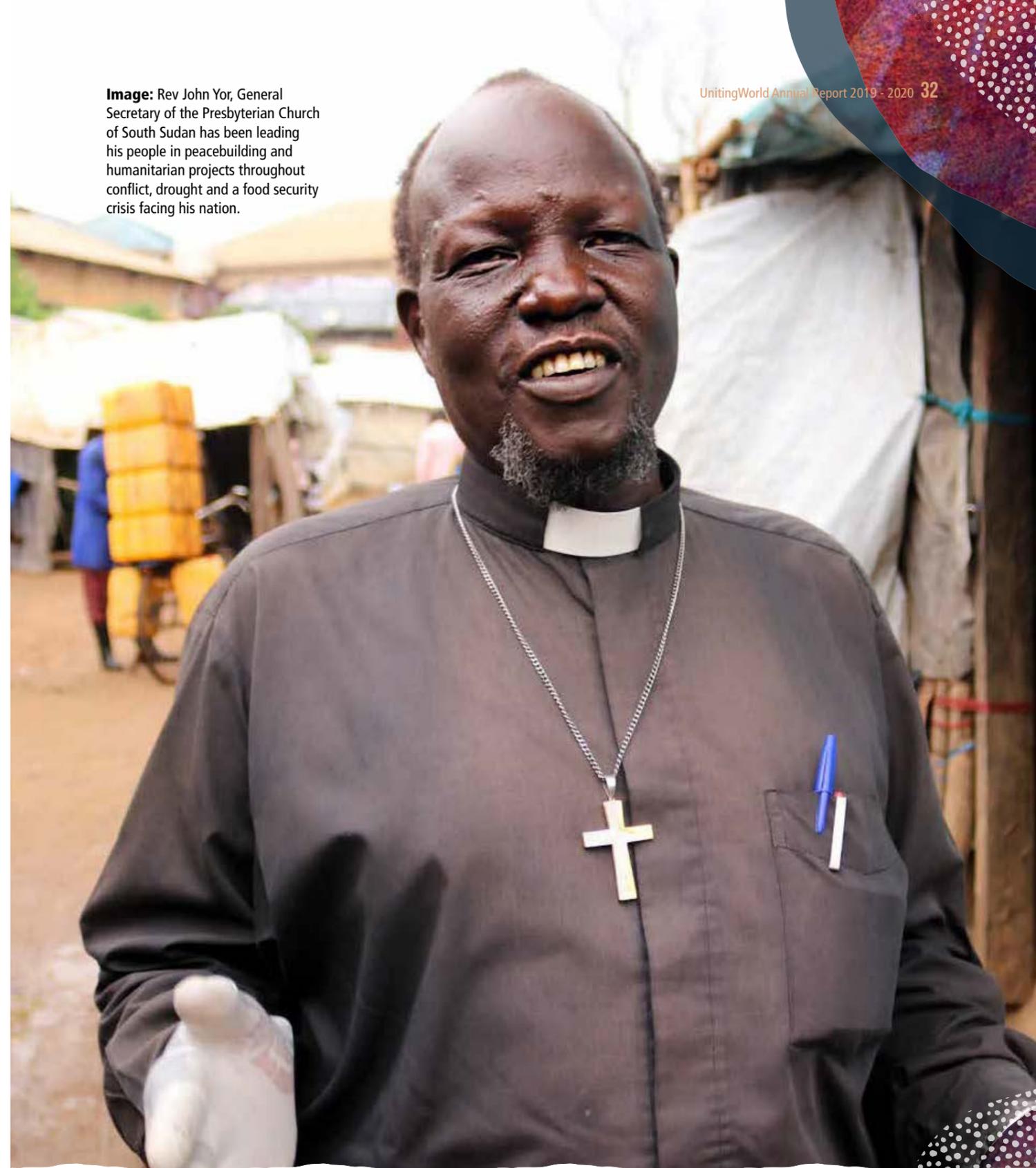


Image: Rev John Yor, General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan has been leading his people in peacebuilding and humanitarian projects throughout conflict, drought and a food security crisis facing his nation.

LEARNING AND GROWING

UnitingWorld is committed to continuous learning and improvement. Regular monitoring and reporting help us learn and grow from our programs. What we learn is redirected back into our programs and partnerships for continual improvement and it's value grows as we share with regional partners and the Australian development community.

Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Abuse – a challenge for us all

Sometimes, the issues are larger than our partners and our own development community. In 2018 the development world was rocked by news of sexual misconduct in the sector, affecting the most vulnerable and carried out by humanitarian and development staff who were meant to be helping local communities. UnitingWorld joined with other members of the Australian Council for International Development in assessing Australian NGOs' practices, determining how to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse, and committing to improved standards. We also worked with the Australian Government as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade responded with new policy and safeguarding standards.

Changing systems

During 2019-20, UnitingWorld updated our agreements with partners to highlight our joint commitment to preventing sexual exploitation and abuse. We reviewed and updated our policies and procedures. UnitingWorld's Code of Conduct is based on a new Professional Conduct Policy, a Protection and Safeguarding Policy and a Complaints Policy that specify how we will act

to protect our staff, our partners and the local communities. We improved our risk assessments to better manage the risks to those we serve. We are continuing to work with our partners to help them develop the policies and complaints mechanisms they need to protect their staff and communities.

Changing hearts and minds

We drew from our previous learning that theology was powerful in helping people embrace change.

We knew that change driven by drawing on deep-seated spiritual values would be more sustained than just a compliance-based approach.

We highlighted the aspects of Gender Equality Theology that had messages for safeguarding against sexual exploitation and abuse. We funded the writing and distribution of Bible studies on the Theology of Child Protection and Care (written by Siera Bird from the United Church in the Solomon Islands and finalised in November 2019).

We can be proud of our achievements so far. Sadly, the news still reports that vulnerable people are being abused. So we will continue our efforts, working with our partners to spread the safeguarding message.

Two examples of what we did with what we learnt:



In 2019-20 we **supported our Bali partners MBM** to develop their own **Safeguarding and Protection policy**, including a complaints and feedback procedure that people in communities can use to report incidents or let MBM know if something isn't right.

MBM is working with their umbrella church GKP to **train new leaders** and **implement this policy across the church**.



In response to our two-yearly partner feedback survey, **88%** of our partner respondents said **UnitingWorld helps them improve their safeguarding policies and procedures** and **85%** said our **communication is based on shared values** (theological foundations) **87%** said **safeguarding is a priority for their church or organisation**.

These findings give us confidence that our approach resonates with our partners. We know they value the protection of vulnerable people and we are working together to ensure these positive changes will mean safeguarding practices can be sustained into the future.

Other things we did to learn and grow:



Evaluated **4** of our projects to review their effectiveness and identify ways to improve in the future.



Conducted our **2-yearly Partner Feedback Process** with our partners and integrated the findings into our business plan.



Conducted a **gender analysis** of our Bali program and used the data to **adapt program activities**.

Conducted an agency-wide **gender audit** of UnitingWorld itself and our programs and started a revision of our **diversity and inclusion policy** based on the results.



Image: Siera Bird's Bible studies on child protection were published by UnitingWorld in November 2019. The resource has since been downloaded by more than 50 organisations, researchers and advocates.

We value integrity, excellence and collaboration

Our efforts to learn and grow are strengthened by the standards set by industry bodies, and the partnership of peer organisations who join with us in our work to address poverty and injustice.



Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC)

Our biggest strategic win last year was being accepted as a Public Benevolent Institution by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, and gaining registration under our own ABN. This milestone marks a streamlining of UnitingWorld's administration, enabling us to raise tax-deductible donations for all our work, improving our eligibility for grants, making us more competitive in recruitment and not least of all, increasing our transparency with our donors.

Historically we operated under the UCA National Assembly's ABN. Our status was granted in March 2020, and we expect to transition to the new ABN 47 817 183 926 as of 1 October 2020.

We remain an unincorporated entity and an Agency of the Uniting Church. However we are publicly registered as a charity in our own right. Our annual report to the ACNC will be available on their website, and we will comply with the ACNC's External Conduct Standards for agencies sending funds overseas.



UnitingWorld is a member of the **Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)** and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. We review our compliance each year against the Code of Conduct. The Code sets high standards for how we are governed and managed, how we communicate with the public and how our funds are used. UnitingWorld is also committed to the ACFID Fundraising Charter.

The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared to meet the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please see the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at

www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct.



We are fully accredited with the Australian Government as part of the **Australian Aid Program**. Each year we gratefully receive funding from the Australian Government, which is described within this report.

www.dfat.gov.au



The **Church Agencies Network (CAN)** is a group of eleven Australian Christian aid agencies with denominational roots, who are a community of practice collaborating for greater impact.

The **Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO)** is a consortium that operates through its global network of partners to enhance community resilience to disaster and conflict. CAN DO is a member of the Australian Humanitarian Program, eligible for Australian Government emergency funding. As a member of CAN DO, UnitingWorld supports churches seeking to collaborate and coordinate efforts to prepare for and respond to disasters.

UnitingWorld National Director, Sureka Goringe, is the current Chair of the CAN CEOs group.

www.churchagenciesnetwork.org.au



We are a member of the **ACT Alliance**, a global coalition of relief and development agencies working in over 140 countries. ACT Alliance is affiliated with the World Council of Churches. Membership expands our capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies in a well-coordinated and effective way. It also increases our ability to raise and direct donations from our supporters to emergencies across the world.

www.actalliance.org

We are committed to handling complaints and incidents promptly and fairly. Our full complaints policy appears on our website. We will accept reports in any format from anyone, including reports provided anonymously. To provide feedback, lodge a complaint, or discuss ways to lodge a report, please email complaints@unitingworld.org.au or phone +614 51 466 949.

We are also committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct. Should you wish to lodge a complaint against UnitingWorld for breach of the Code, please email ACFID at code@acfid.asn.au or phone (02) 6285 1816.

This year our partnership with the Australian Government was more vital than ever in helping us work alongside our partners.

We partner every year with the Australian Government through Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) funding. In FY19-20, UnitingWorld accessed \$1.212 million which we matched with \$272,000 of our own donor funding. These funds supported seven projects, directly impacting 300,607 beneficiaries. Because of COVID-19, our partnership also expanded. We worked closely with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to "pivot" our seven projects to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We received DFAT funding through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership enabling us, as members of the Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) consortium, to facilitate an understanding of disaster resilience and preparedness from the theological perspective and promote adherence to Government Health directives as a faithful response.

We continued our work with other Australian church-based NGOs and their counterparts through the DFAT-funded Church Partnerships for

Community Service project in PNG. This project increases access to health and education services, reduces gender-based violence through Gender Theology, and improves local governance.

DFAT's Pacific Women program continued to partner with us to promote gender equality, using our innovative theological work, through the Gender Equality Theology program.

UnitingWorld is also pleased to provide an NGO representative to the Committee for Development Cooperation - the joint DFAT/NGO advisory and consultative body made up of members from the Australian NGO community and the department.

We have also worked closely with DFAT's new Office of the Pacific to advocate for and support a direct engagement of that office with the Pacific Conference of Churches.

We, and our partners, are grateful to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for their support of our programs.

OUR FINANCES

Overview

We closed financial year 2020 with a small surplus. This follows careful tightening of expenditure in response to our revenue being impacted by global events.

The summer of bushfires in Australia, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic impacted our Christmas and Lent donations very significantly. Grant income dropped as some significant projects concluded (eg PNG earthquake response). Our investment income also decreased from the previous year due to the share market decline in March, which did not wholly recover by the end of June.

We are deeply appreciative of the Australian government's Job Keeper payments and higher than normal bequest income which have contributed significantly to balancing our costs.

The income shortfall was matched by tightening our operating expenditure.

Most of the savings were made in our core work of program delivery. As some projects came to their conclusion, we paced new initiatives to slow down expenditure, and made significant savings on travel in the last quarter due to the lockdown. However, we maintained enough funding to keep our partner project staff employed, allowing them to support the COVID-19 response.

We maintained our investment in fundraising, as engagement with our donors is vital to future income. The small increase in our administration expenses were related to two one-off projects: our office relocation and the application for registration by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Both projects are expected to deliver cost-savings and increased income in future years.

In understanding the UnitingWorld balance sheet, some explanations might be useful.

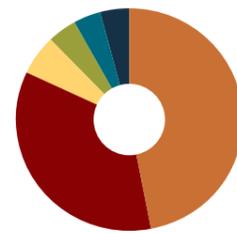
UnitingWorld is the trustee for some funds left by historic bequests. The terms of trust for these funds are specific, and do not include programs managed by UnitingWorld. UnitingWorld merely performs the administrative duty of disbursing the investment income as set out by the founders of the trust. UnitingWorld also receives gifts given as endowments, where only the income generated by investing the gift can be used for UnitingWorld programs. Both of these funds are included in the 'Restricted Reserves' category of equity.

UnitingWorld also holds some property assets gifted to support its work. Income generated from these properties is directed to UnitingWorld's work. These are included in the 'Retained Earnings' category of equity.

UnitingWorld raises public donations in the year ahead of making funding commitments to partners, to reduce risks and provide certainty for our programs. Thus, at the end of each financial year, we hold in hand most of the public donor funds that we will allocate to our projects for the next financial year. These are included in the Retained Earnings and Restricted Reserves categories of equity.

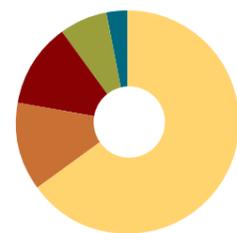
*The full audited financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 is available on request from info@unitingworld.org.au

Our funds come from



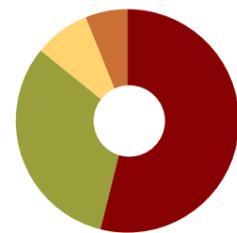
- 47% DFAT Grants
- 35% Donations
- 6% Bequests & Legacies
- 4% UCA Grants
- 4% Investment Income
- 4% Other Income

Our funds went to



- 65% Relief & Development Programs
- 13% Fundraising Costs
- 12% Accountability & Administration
- 7% Church Connections Programs
- 3% Community Education

Our Program expenditure by region



- 54% Pacific
- 32% Asia
- 6% Africa
- 8% Cross Region

All ratios based on audited financial statements as presented on Pages 38-40

Statement of Profit and Loss YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020

Revenue	30 JUNE 2020 (AUD)	30 JUNE 2019 (AUD)
Donations and Gifts		
Monetary (Deductible Gift Recipients)	1,864,399	1,941,657
Monetary (Non-Deductible Gift Recipients)	379,291	645,751
Total Donations and Gifts	2,243,690	2,587,408
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	2,986,221	3,382,745
Synod Contributions	221,520	221,512
Other	7,963	233,961
Bequests & Legacies	381,528	144,601
Investment Income	259,982	559,676
Other Income	269,476	43,460
Total Revenue	6,370,380	7,173,363
Expenditure		
Programs Expenditure*		
International Programs	3,245,378	3,727,567
Program Support	1,178,276	1,304,981
Community Education	174,228	162,472
Total Program Expenditure	4,597,882	5,195,020
Public Fundraising Costs	824,583	868,837
Accountability & Administration	730,045	699,987
Total Expenditure	6,152,510	6,763,844
Operating Surplus	217,870	409,519
Finance Costs	2,227	-
Net Surplus	215,643	409,519
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss)	215,643	409,519

*Relief and Development and Church Connections Programs are shown consolidated.

“HOPE IS THE THING WITH FEATHERS THAT PERCHES IN THE SOUL AND SINGS THE TUNE WITHOUT THE WORDS — AND NEVER STOPS AT ALL.” ”

Emily Dickinson

Statement of Financial Position AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

Assets	30 JUNE 2020 (AUD)	30 JUNE 2019 (AUD)
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,916,302	2,501,586
Term Deposits	2,438,609	2,449,982
Trade and Other Receivables	247,143	1,212,978
Other Assets	20,035	44,829
Total Current Assets	5,622,089	6,209,375
Non-Current Assets		
Financial Assets	7,486,461	7,426,381
Property, Plant and Equipment	2,244,679	2,087,554
Lease-Right-of-Use Assets	958,083	-
Total Non-Current Assets	10,689,223	9,513,935
Total Assets	16,311,312	15,723,310
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	603,565	986,325
Contract Liabilities	972,538	1,201,075
Provisions	146,508	137,749
Lease Liabilities	81,171	-
Total Current Liabilities	1,803,782	2,325,149
Non-Current Liabilities		
Provisions	40,647	25,865
Lease Liabilities	878,944	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	919,591	25,865
Total Liabilities	2,723,373	2,351,014
Net Assets	13,587,939	13,372,296
Equity		
Retained earnings	5,613,303	5,689,725
Unrestricted Reserves	501,496	522,605
Restricted Reserve*	7,473,140	7,159,966
Total equity	13,587,939	13,372,296

*Restricted reserves include \$1.74 million in bequeathed trust funds and \$1.99 million in endowment funds.

“TRUE FRIENDSHIP IS A PLANT OF SLOW GROWTH,
AND MUST UNDERGO AND WITHSTAND THE
SHOCKS OF ADVERSITY, BEFORE IT IS ENTITLED
TO THE APPELLATION.”

George Washington

Statement of Profit and Loss and other comprehensive income

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020

SHOWING DEVELOPMENT AND NON-DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION AS REQUIRED BY ACFID

Revenue	30 JUNE 2020 (AUD)	30 JUNE 2019 (AUD)
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	1,921,754	1,941,657
Bequests & Legacies	206,027	11,303
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	2,986,221	3,382,745
Other	7,963	213,961
Investment Income	72,109	133,498
Other Income	269,326	43,460
International Non Aid and Development Revenue	906,980	1,446,739
Total Revenue	6,370,380	7,173,363
Expenditure		
Programs Expenditure		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure [#]		
International Programs Expenditure	2,972,635	3,449,062
Program Support Costs	1,001,695	1,095,231
Community Education	80,427	83,953
International Non Aid and Development Programs Expenditure ^{##}	543,125	566,774
Total International Program Expenditure	4,597,882	5,195,020
Fundraising Accountability and Administration		
International Aid & Development [#]		
Public Fundraising Costs [*]	668,339	621,082
Accountability & Administration ^{**}	668,597	596,026
International Non Aid and Development Fundraising and Accountability and Administration Cost ^{##}	217,692	351,716
Total Fundraising, Accountability and Administration	1,554,628	1,568,824
Total Expenditure	6,152,510	6,763,844
Surplus / (Deficit)	217,870	409,519
Finance Costs	2,227	-
Total Comprehensive Income / (Loss)	215,643	409,517

* Fundraising cost allocation to Relief and Development are based on percentage of funds raised.

** Accountability and administration indirect cost allocations to Relief and Development are based on percentage of direct program expenditures.

"Aid and Development" refers to the Relief and Development Programs

"Non Aid and Development" refers to the Church Connections Programs

Declaration by the UnitingWorld Board For the Year Ending 30 June 2020

DECLARATION BY THE UNITINGWORLD BOARD for the year ended 30 June 2020

In accordance with a resolution of the UnitingWorld Board we state that, as set out on pages 3, 4 and note 17:

- (a) in the Board's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the program will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (b) in the Board's opinion, the attached financial statement thereto is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

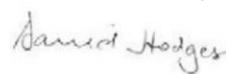
Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

On behalf of the Board



Andrew Glenn
Chairperson

Sydney
24 September 2020



David Hodges
Board Member

Sydney
24 September 2020

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board Members of UnitingWorld

Report on the Summary Financial Report

Opinion

We report on the **Summary Financial Report** of *UnitingWorld (the Agency)* as at and for the year ended 30 June 2020. The Summary Financial Report is derived from the audited financial report of the Agency.

In our opinion, the accompanying Summary Financial Report of *UnitingWorld* are consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report, and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct.

The **Summary Financial Report** comprises:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020
- Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended.

Scope of the Summary Financial Report

The Summary Financial Report does not contain all the disclosures required by *Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosures Requirements* applied in the preparation of the Audited Financial Report. Reading the Summary Financial Report and this Auditor's Report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Report and our auditor's report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the Audited Financial Report in our auditor's report dated 24 September 2020.

Emphasis of matter – basis of preparation and restriction on use and distribution

The Summary Financial Report has been prepared to assist the Board Members of UnitingWorld for the purpose of meeting the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct. As a result, the Summary Financial Report and this Auditor's Report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

This Auditor's Report is intended solely for the *Board* of UnitingWorld and should not be used by or distributed to parties other than the Board of UnitingWorld. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this Auditor's Report, or on the Summary Financial Report to which it relates, to any person other than the Board of UnitingWorld or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

Responsibility of Management for the Summary Financial Report

Management are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Report in accordance with the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct, including their derivation from the Audited Financial Report of the Agency as at and for the year ended 30 June 2020.

Auditor's responsibility for the Summary Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the Summary Financial Report are consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with *Australian Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.



KPMG

Tower Three,
International Towers Sydney,
300 Barangaroo Avenue,
Sydney, Australia



Stephen Isaac

Partner
Sydney
24 September 2020

BOARD

We strive for sound and transparent governance.

These are the people who worked diligently throughout the 2019-20 financial year to provide outstanding oversight and direction to the organisation. Through their guiding efforts, we continue to grow and flourish driving greater change for our partners in communities all across the world.

Our governance rests with the UnitingWorld Board. Board members are appointed by the UCA Assembly Standing Committee. We welcomed three new board members this year. Our Board is ultimately accountable to the National Assembly – a triennial gathering of representative UCA members from across Australia.

ANDREW GLENN (CHAIR) *Lives on the land of the Merrimeneer people.*

Bsc (Hons), D Phil, FAICD

Andrew has held a number of senior administrative roles in Universities, including Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) and Vice President (Research) at Murdoch University and the University of Tasmania. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has also taken a leadership role in the councils of the Uniting Church, including as chairperson of the Presbytery of Tasmania.



PAUL SWADLING (DEPUTY CHAIR) *Lives on Guringgai country.*

MA, LTH, FAICD

Former General Secretary of the NSW/ACT Synod and former Connexional Secretary of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, Paul served as a Minister in congregations from rural, to inner suburban, spent six years on the staff of the Australian Council of Churches and three years on the staff of the NSW/ACT Board of Mission. Paul also chaired the Synod Budget Committee and the Board of UnitingCare NSW/ACT.



MARGARET WATT (CHAIR, INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE)

Lives on Ngambri/Ngunnawal country. BA (Hons.), DipEd

Margaret has been Chief of Staff to three politicians over 17 years including the Hon. Bob McMullan when he was Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance from 2007 – 2010. Margaret currently serves on several boards and is Chair of the Congregation at Canberra City Uniting Church, where she has been an active member for many years.



DAVID HODGES (CHAIR, FINANCE, AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE)

Lives on Darramurra-gal country. BA, BLegS, LLM, GDipEd, GAICD, JP.

Following a public service career of 15 years David worked as a lawyer in private practice, in the commercial, corporate and government enterprise sectors. David later served as a consultant and director in the agribusiness sector, taking an interest in governance, strategy setting and policy development. David has been an active member of various UCA congregations for more than 35 years. He recently retired from the Board of Margaret Jurd College.



COLLEEN GEYER (EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBER)

Lives on the land of the Gadigal people. BTh, GCELead, DipTeach, Cert IV WTA

Colleen Geyer has held roles including Director of Mission at UnitingCare Queensland, Associate Director at UnitingCare Australia, and National Consultant for the Assembly Gospel and Gender Unit. Working for the Uniting Church and its agencies since 1995, she has held positions at state and national level. As Assembly General Secretary, Colleen has sought to improve national cooperation and resource-sharing across the Uniting Church.



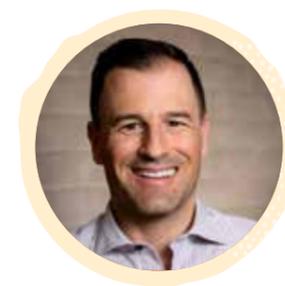
JAMES BATLEY BA (Hons), PSM

Since 2015 James has worked as Distinguished Policy Fellow in the Department of Pacific Affairs in the ANU's College of Asia and the Pacific. Formerly, he worked in Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and in AusAID for 30 years. He had postings in Vanuatu, PNG and Indonesia and served as Australia's High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, Ambassador to Timor-Leste, Special Coordinator of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI) and as High Commissioner to Fiji, also accredited to Tuvalu and Nauru. In Canberra he worked in senior positions including Deputy Director-General of AusAID and Deputy Secretary of DFAT.

JOHN MANNING *Lives on Kaurna country*

B.Com, M.Div. GAICD

John is Managing Director and Equity Partner of Chartered Accountants, Dewings Pty. Ltd. He has previously served as HR Manager and Practice Manager. From 2000-2002 he undertook a Bachelor of Ministries at Morling College, Sydney, and later completed a Master of Divinity through the Australian College of Theology. John is a Graduate of the Institute of Company Directors and serves on boards for a number of not-for-profit organisations.



TINA RENDELL-THORNTON *Lives on Gandangara country*

BA, GradDip Ed, Assoc Dip Social Welfare, M Social Admin

Tina is well known in the Uniting Church for her eleven years of service as Executive Director of the Board of Mission of the Synod of NSW and ACT. She has a background and qualifications in education, community development and social welfare and is currently Children, Youth and Families Service Delivery Lead for Uniting NSW/ACT. Tina has 30 years' experience in cross-cultural relationships and brings that expertise to her current role. In her previous role interactions with UnitingWorld included a review of social services in the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga.



LIN HATFIELD DODDS *Lives on Ngunnawal/Ngambri country and Yuin country.*

BSc (Hons), MPsych, MAICD

Lin is an active member of the Uniting Church including 15 years as National Director of UnitingCare Australia. She's held positions including: Deputy Secretary in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Associate Dean in the Australian and New Zealand School of Government, Chair of the Australian Social Inclusion Board, Chair of The Australia Institute, and President of the Australian Council of Social Service. Lin is a member of the Australia Institute of Company Directors, was ACT Australian of the Year in 2008, received a Churchill Fellowship in 2004, and was awarded a Chief Minister's International Women's Day Award in 2002. Lin also serves on the board of Better Evaluation and mentors emerging women leaders.



ASHLEIGH JOHNSTON *Grew up on the lands of the Darawal people.*

BA-BCMS

Ashleigh has over a decade of experience in the technology industry, holding leadership roles both locally and internationally. She has a background in digital strategy and marketing, with a focus on growth through digital transformation and equipping teams to thrive with changing technology. Ashleigh is a mentor to emerging leaders from under-represented minorities and is a founding member of Pride@SAP Singapore, an employee network group championing equality.



RENEE O'SHANASSY *Lives on Ngunawal country.*

MPPM, BIR/LLB

Renee grew up in the Uniting Church and first engaged with UnitingWorld as an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development in 2010 and then joined as an intern. Renee holds a Masters of Public Policy and Management and Bachelors of Laws and International Relations. She is undertaking a Masters in Arts (Women's Studies) with Flinders University. Renee has worked with the UNDP, agencies of the Australian Public Service, development organisations and academia. She works in public policy, with a strong interest and experience in gender, development, and international relations.





WALKING TOGETHER

Blessed to be a blessing

UnitingWorld holds the relationship between Uniting Church people in Australia and across the globe, and this year we've been reflecting on the covenant between God and God's people – everywhere! Described in Genesis 12:2-3 as being blessed in order to bless others, it's a striking image of the way we're called to share our love and resources in response to God's goodness. Our reach, God promises, is to every nation and every people.

We see that spirit at work in the many faithful people who breathe life into our shared mission – praying for us, encouraging us, giving sacrificially.

One of our long term supporters wrote to us recently:

"I want to thank each and every one of you for listening to, working alongside and sharing so closely in the lives of individuals like Rev John

Yor (Presbyterian Church of South Sudan General Secretary). Just knowing about these people and places touches me deeply - I find myself praying for Rev Yor, his community and country throughout the day as I go about my activities... You enlarge and enrich my life beyond measure. Thank you, UnitingWorld. May blessings abound."

Our supporter's words echo the commitment of so many others in the Uniting Church and beyond – people who prayed for peace between Muslims and Christians during Lent and gave sacrificially to sponsor workshops for young leaders and livelihood opportunities for families; people who held Everything in Common Stalls to share the news of gifts that fight poverty and build hope; all those who help others know and grow in their passion for seeing people transformed by the love of God from the inside out.

Thank you!

This year, you chose to give 14,367 times to support God's work amongst our partners. Your generosity added up to \$2.6M for the year. Twenty one of you gave up your time to help us tell our story to others or serve in the office. You shared our journey and passed on our prayer requests through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter over 8,000 times.

Partners often tell us how their dedication deepens when they hear of your love and support, and they pray for us regularly. In turn, their resilience and faith shapes us and our response: truly we are blessed to be a blessing.

Image: Participants of the Uniting Church President's Conference 2019 in Nadi, Fiji. The theme 'For the Whole Creation' focused on commitments of the UCA to take action to address climate change and gender justice.



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ABN 16 939 630 947
ABN 47 817 183 926 (from 1 Oct 2020)



UnitingWorld is an agency of the National Assembly
of the Uniting Church in Australia.