

# Annual Impact Report 2021



**ina**  
international  
needs australia

[www.ina.org.au](http://www.ina.org.au)







Photo this page: Linked children from Ghana were happy to be back at school.  
 Photo front page: Ifinesh proudly stands with her goats, thanks to Ethiopia's SELD project.

83% of funds to overseas and community education projects  
 50,000 people were reached with Health information  
 11,261 members trained in Child Protection  
 5,586 children benefitted from Education work  
 3,417 participants in income-generating activities



ACFID  
MEMBER



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## Acknowledgement of country

INA respectfully acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of the land which INA's office is located.





## WHO WE ARE

### INA'S VISION

A just world where all people are treated equally to reach their God-given potential.

### INA'S MISSION

We are committed to building innovative partnerships for community wellbeing and empowering women and children in our work.

### INA'S CORE VALUES

**We are Christian:** We are motivated by the example of Jesus, reaching out to the poor, marginalised and oppressed of the world.

**We value and respect people of all ages, gender, race and creed:** We do not discriminate against any person but treat all equally and with dignity.

**We are committed to empowering local communities:** We promote self-reliance and community ownership; participation that is both inclusive and genuine.

**We are a voice for the poor, the disadvantaged and the oppressed:** We advocate for just actions that bring positive change to the lives of the poor.

**We are stewards of natural, human and financial resources:** We are transparent and accountable, at all times striving to maximise our impact and effectiveness.

**We demonstrate integrity and commitment:** We are ethical and passionate about meaningful and quality partnerships, both in Australia and abroad.

Above: Participants in Ghana's project celebrate International Day of Education.

## GOALS & DIFFERENCE



### STRATEGIC GOAL 1

Gender equality for women, men, boys and girls



### STRATEGIC GOAL 2

Promote healthy, safe, educated children



### STRATEGIC GOAL 3

Build alliances and be a voice for the voiceless



### STRATEGIC GOAL 4

Strong relational supporter transformation

## WHAT SETS INA APART?

International Needs Australia (INA) is a Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) and donor-funded international development organisation, working with the poorest and most marginalised communities – especially women and children – to eliminate poverty and its causes, regardless of affiliation. INA is different in its approach to international development and engagement with Australian supporters because INA:

- Directs over **83% of funds to overseas projects or community education** programs,
- Focuses on three key areas: **Education, Health and Livelihoods**,
- Works in **Southeast Asia, South Asia & Eastern Africa** (currently Ethiopia, Uganda, Ghana, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Philippines),
- Commits to in-country project **localisation** with innovative partners and work through local staff and volunteers. We believe this is respectful and supports the development of more substantial and sustainable partner organisations and community outcomes,
- Believes in poverty alleviation through a **cross-sectoral and holistic approach** to community development. This approach allows us to partner with donors and other agencies committed to holistic poverty alleviation, focusing on community-prioritised needs,
- Conducts **national education programs with Australian students** that align with the Australian curriculum and increase empathy, understanding of global poverty and the Sustainable Development Goals,
- Is grounded in **Christian values** and strives for a just world where all people are treated equally to reach their God-given potential,
- **Brings our funding contributors and in-country partners closer together** and easily co-design projects with all stakeholders to support innovation and alignment of programs.

## FROM THE CEO



Dear friends,

Thanks for letting us work with you as we make a positive difference in some of the poorest communities in Southern and Southeast Asia and Eastern Africa. We continue to strive for a just world that treats all people equally to reach their God-given potential.

Thank you to Pri Fernando and Pam Winstanley as former and acting CEOs, and the donors and program partners who contribute to the unique nature of INA programs.

This past year has been challenging but has encouraged new levels of support and achievement from INA and our in-country partners. COVID-19 has ripped

the heart out of the informal economy in so many developing countries. The choice for so many has been to *"stay at home and starve, or try to make ends meet and risk infection"*. The informal economy supports the livelihood of so many program participants.

Committed supporters like you continue to connect with partners and us to make a meaningful difference.

Being new to INA, I am humbled by the many beautiful people who have a heart for the poor and possess high expectations that effective development programs should make a real difference. The ongoing support of the Australian Government enables so much of our work, and we gratefully acknowledge this.

Our new strategy has a clear focus on Education, Health and Livelihoods, and we will continue to work to eliminate poverty and its causes, regardless of affiliation. In addition, we know that Australian youth care about their world. We have relaunched the range of online INA Education programs to align with the Australian curriculum and help Australian students understand global poverty and the Sustainable Development Goals better. The enthusiastic interest of schools across Australia is very positive.

INA has reaffirmed a commitment to project localisation through local

staff and volunteers in local in-country organisations.

Some highlights from this financial year include:

- **4,500 mothers** in Nepal were educated on locally available, nutritious food,
- **5,708 children** benefitted from INA's Education work, and
- **3,430 farmers** were trained in livestock and agriculture to help them earn an income.

With 712 million people living in poverty (earning less than \$2.25 per day), the challenges remain for global humanity. Even with COVID-19, three times as many people are escaping poverty compared to those entering. We make global progress through our collective efforts. The rural divide remains significant, and, for example, 47% of those living in rural Uganda face extreme poverty. INA's focus on Education, Health and Livelihoods remain central to helping these and others escape poverty. Thank you for your direct contribution to making a positive difference.

**David Ensor**  
Chief Executive Officer



I had the great pleasure of filling the position of Interim CEO from May until December 2020.

During this time, I was blessed to work with staff who continued to give over and above what their roles required, to ensure INA was able to continue with the important work being carried out in the marginalised communities we serve. I would also like to thank the Board who trusted and supported me to fill this caretaker role for this period. It was great to welcome David Ensor, INA's new CEO in January and I look forward to working with him in the future.

A 'big thanks' to amazing donors whose generosity assisted INA in helping communities so badly impacted by COVID. Regular support and appeal results made it possible for INA to assist in partner organisations' areas not only impacted by the pandemic, but also by a typhoon in the Philippines, devastating storms in Uganda and floods in India and Nepal. What a blessing to see the photos and reports about the help provided, and the gratitude of the communities.

Together with you, INA continues to make an impact for those in need.

Kind regards

**Pam Winstanley**  
Finance Manager & Company Secretary,  
Interim CEO May-December 2020



## FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Dear friends,

I seem to have been writing my report in the midst of several difficult years, and this year has been no exception. The various lockdowns experienced here in Melbourne, Victoria, have caused us many operational issues throughout this reporting period. And right at the commencement of my report I want to pay tribute to the staff who have negotiated each one of the changes with great professionalism and continued optimism. There have not been many days when all the staff were present in the office, but they have continued to interact with each other and adjust to the

various circumstances with great aplomb and a wonderful attitude.

We are pleased that we have managed a small surplus for the year, excluding government assistance. We are also deeply grateful to each donor who made this result possible. Some of our programs, such as the schools program, have simply not been able to operate, resulting in significant lost income that we had budgeted. Yet other areas have either been maintained or even exceeded, and I can only reiterate my thanks to so many of you who, although experiencing these same difficulties, have put the needs of people doing it much tougher than us above your own. Thank you.

We continue to also be thankful to the Australian Government, not only for their continuing outstanding assistance through their Aid program, but also for the assistance with other funding at various times throughout the year, which enabled us to maintain all our staff in their positions.

But the outward circumstances were not all we experienced this year. After many years as our CEO, Pri Fernando retired

last year as I reported in my last Annual Report. We undertook an extensive search process for her successor, and we were thrilled when David Ensor was appointed and began work in January this year. David comes to us with a deep and broad experience, from his time in South Africa where he led an education NGO and was recognised by President Nelson Mandela, through to extensive experience here in the Australian University sector. David was looking for a chance to 'give back' and we are delighted that he is doing that through his leadership of International Needs Australia.

I also want to thank our Finance Manager and Company Secretary, Pam Winstanley, for being the Interim CEO for several months in 2020 until David's arrival. This was a particularly difficult time during the major lockdown, and often Pam was the only staff member cleared to attend the office, but she maintained a cool head and dedicated service through that period, maintaining close contact with staff suddenly forced to work from home for extended periods, and working out new ways to interact with our overseas partners with all travel banned to the field. Thank you, Pam.

Finally, I want to thank the Board who have also had more virtual meetings than ever before, and yet functioned with their usual degree of excellence and responsibility. We are grateful for their service and their professionalism. We look forward to resuming a degree of normality and meeting face to face in future.

With a grateful heart,

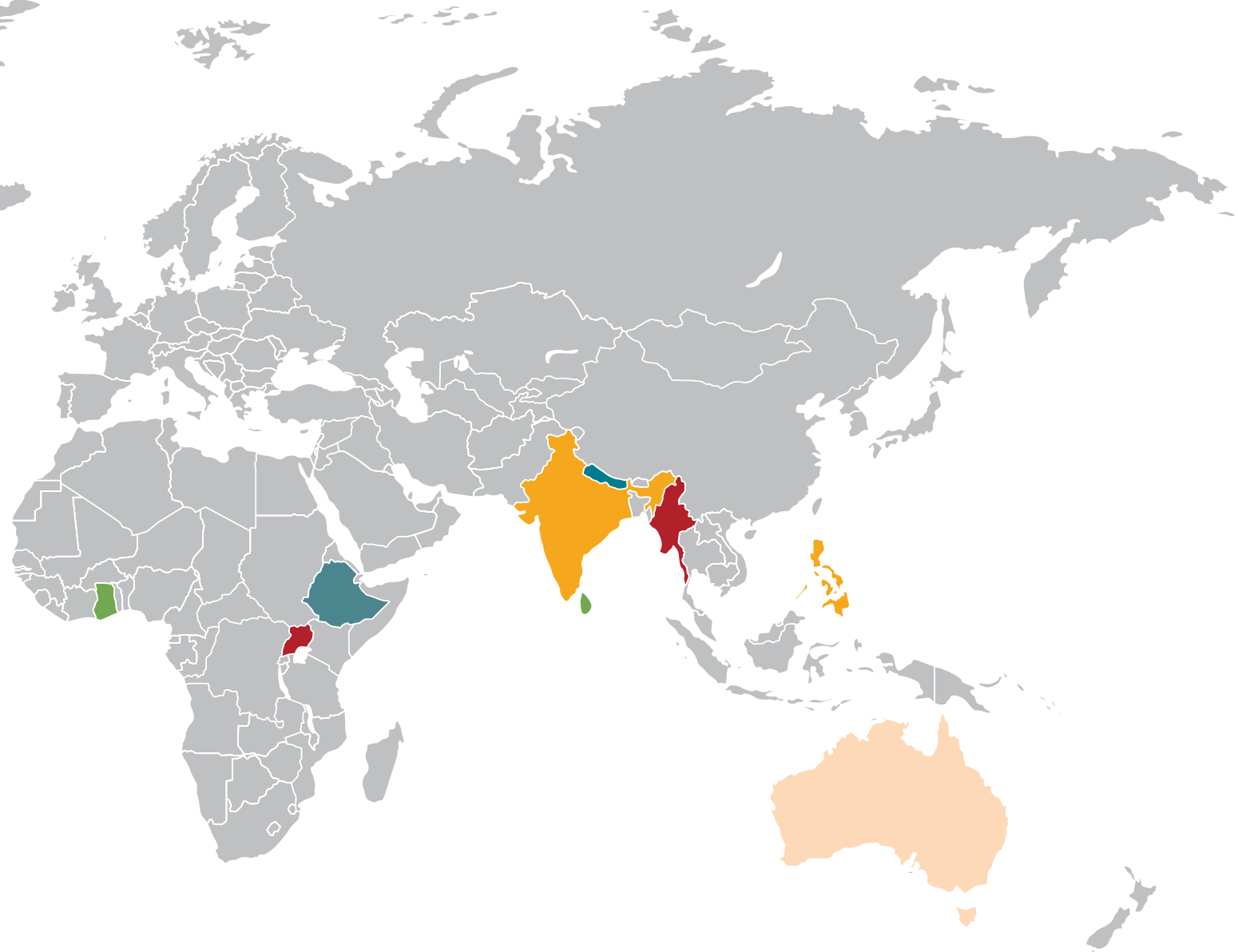
A blue ink signature of Ian Curtis AM, written in a cursive style.

**Ian Curtis AM**  
Board Chair

## WHERE WE WORK

“  
Thank you  
for making life  
better for us.  
I am able to  
go to school...  
You are a  
blessing to us.”

Sarah, a Linked  
child whose family was  
enabled to buy a cow that  
has provided ongoing  
income and the ability  
to afford the children's  
school and basic needs.







## ETHIOPIA

**Partner: Bole Bible Baptist Church (BBBC)**

Community-Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene (CLTSH)  
Scale Up Maternal and Child Health Outcomes in Lemo District  
Shurmo Education and Livelihood Development (SELD)



## PHILIPPINES

**Partner: Vineyard of His Grace Ministries (Vineyard)**

Education and Economic Empowerment (EDEE)  
Expanding Health Access and Awareness (EHAA)



## GHANA

**Partner: International Needs Ghana (INGH)**  
International Needs Child Assistance Project (INCAP)



## NEPAL

**Partner: Human Development & Community Services (HDCS)**  
Strengthening Sustainable Maternal & Child Health Systems  
in Rukum District  
Improving WASH and Livelihoods in West Rukum (WALI)



## INDIA

**Partner: ACTS Group of Institutes (ACTS)**  
Allahabad Empowering Women and Girls (EWG)  
**Partner: Krupa Inc.**  
Empowering Prison Inmates & their Families (EPIF)  
**Partner: Development Association for Integrated Activity (DAIA)**  
Empowering Vulnerable Communities (EVC)



## UGANDA

**Partner: International Needs Uganda (IN Uganda or INUG)**  
Agri-Business for Community Development (ABCD)  
Improving the Wellbeing of OVCs, their Households &  
Communities (INCAP)  
Women At Risk (WAR)



## MYANMAR

**Partner: Karen Women Empowerment Group (KWE)**  
Enabling and Strengthening Child Protection in the  
Community (ESCP)

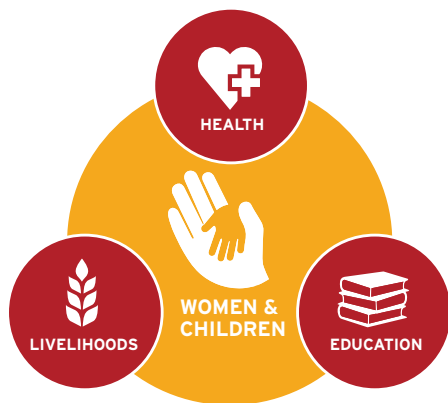


## SRI LANKA

**Partner: International Needs Sri Lanka (IN Lanka)**  
Ensuring the Rights of Children through Empowering Women  
& Strengthening Communities (ERCEW)

## FOCUS ON WOMEN & CHILDREN

*Recently, INA reviewed its overall strategy, as well as that of International Programs. As part of this process, staff recognised the need to reconsider the way we think about our thematic focus areas. Three thematic pillars were defined: Health, Education and Livelihoods, with the empowerment and protection of women and children at the centre of this work.*



Across the year, each of the projects INA supports addressed the empowerment and protection of women and children in different ways, aligned to their overall project goals.

In Nepal, HDCS's Maternal and Child Health project focused on empowering

women with knowledge about maternal healthcare and how to care for their newborn children. This project works closely with Female Community Health Volunteers (FCHVs), who are part of the government healthcare network, to upskill them in Maternal and Child Health care knowledge and support them to facilitate Mothers Group classes. This knowledge also equips women to meet the needs of their children in the early years of life. This year, this project trained 144 FCHVs and provided Safe Motherhood classes to 4,700 women.

In the Philippines, the Baxter International-funded Expanding Health Access and Awareness project equipped women to address issues around child health and wellbeing. One of the key project aims was the establishment and training of local advocacy groups, using a Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) approach. These groups are supported to identify key issues in their community and design their own CVA plans to address these issues with local duty-bearers, including government. Two of the CVA groups identified child malnutrition as a big challenge in their communities during COVID lockdowns. The members of the CVA group have existing relationships

within the community, and they were able to organise a network of monitoring, to identify families struggling to afford food, and supported the local government unit to prioritise delivery of rations to these families.

One CVA also identified that teenage mothers often drop out of school, which compromises their future job prospects and impacts on the welfare of their babies. During lockdown, when all children were learning remotely, teen mothers were at high risk of dropping out, but had the opportunity to continue their education at home while caring for their babies. The CVA leaders connected with the local high school, and helped to procure the remote learning modules, deliver them to teenage mothers, and link them back into the school. These CVA groups are simultaneously empowering women as leaders in their community at the forefront of development issues, and supporting these women to protect the rights of children in their communities.

Right: Anari is looking after her grandson Deepak after his mother left when he was five months old. Anari is a regular member of a Mothers Group, and was taught nutritious food preparation to aid in Deepak's nutrition.



**10,676**  
women reached through Maternal  
and Child Health projects

**3,206**  
children provided with  
Health Education

**213**  
active Child Groups gained  
knowledge of Child Rights and  
Child Protection, including 6 new  
Child Groups

**692**  
girls attended vocational  
training in sewing

**1,980**  
female farmers educated  
on the effects of large family  
size on household incomes  
and food security



## COVID-19 RESPONSES

Over the course of this financial year, the COVID-19 pandemic continued to have a significant **impact across the world** and INA's partners saw some of the most **devastating impacts**.

Health was significantly impacted. During the worst of the COVID spikes in India, Nepal and Myanmar, patients **struggled to get access to doctors**, hospital beds, oxygen and even simple medications. In India, there were shortages of wood for coffins and funeral pyres. As already under-resourced healthcare systems were overloaded with the demand of COVID patients, treatment for other illnesses and preventative healthcare were neglected.

In Nepal, one study found that the number of women **giving birth in a hospital fell by over 50%** and **neonatal deaths more than tripled** during COVID lockdowns. This was due to a combination of factors - lack of capacity in hospitals facing COVID, women fearing that they would contract COVID in a hospital setting, and in remote areas like

Rukum, difficulty accessing transport to health facilities was increased by lockdown. INA's Nepali partner HDCS have a focus on healthcare, and was on the frontline of COVID response with hospitals that they run becoming COVID treatment centres. INA supported HDCS with **emergency response funding** which enabled them to provide critical **free healthcare to 79 patients** who could not otherwise afford it. This service will continue in FY21-22.

The pandemic has also caused severe **economic disruption**, with low-paid daily wage workers feeling the brunt of income loss. Government support packages for those suddenly unable to work have been inadequate or non-existent in many countries. In India, during the COVID surge in April-June, strict lockdowns were enforced with people confined to their homes. All three of INA's Indian partners saw a **great need to meet the basic survival needs** of poor families in this context. With INA and donor's support, ACTS, Krupa and DAIA each rolled out **emergency response food relief packages** to families unable to afford enough food. They also supplied hygiene supplies like masks, soap and sanitiser, and continued to create

Right: An Indian woman receives supplies during a surge in COVID cases, thanks to partner DAIA.

awareness among communities about preventing COVID spread. In total, **1,586 families** were reached with COVID relief packages in India.

Children **missed out on face-to-face education** for long periods of time. In most of our project countries, they didn't go back to the classroom at all. For the poor families that our partners work with, remote learning poses an array of challenges including no or bad internet connection, no money for mobile data, no device or multiple children sharing a device, no quiet space for children to learn and low education levels of parents trying to support their children. INA's Education-focused projects adapted their plans to meet education needs in the 'new normal', including **supporting children to access remote learning materials** as appropriate to the context of their education system. We also provided **emergency COVID relief packages** to families participating in Education projects in the Philippines and India.



Project participants in the Philippines received relief packs during the pandemic.

## CHILD RIGHTS & EDUCATION

INA aims to **improve the quality and accessibility of education** for children aged 3-17 years old, equipping them with hope and skills for their future.

It is well established that **education is the key to breaking the poverty cycle**. Without education, children go into adulthood without proficiency in reading and mathematics, which significantly disadvantages them in life, work and active citizenship. Literacy is the key to engaging in other domains of life, such as understanding health messaging, agricultural training, managing savings and loans, and supporting the education of their own children.

In this financial year, INA's Education projects faced **ongoing challenges with school closures** in many countries interrupting schooling. INA's partners, and the schools and community volunteers who they work with closely, found **creative ways to support children** to continue accessing education.

In India, ACTS conducted school classes in small **'cluster groups' of children** outdoors, instead of having large groups of children coming into the school centres. This initiative meant that girls in their project could continue to engage in learning. Keeping girls in school means **preventing them from early marriage or child labour**, which is a high risk in the challenging economic environment.

In the Philippines, most of the children in Vineyard's project were **unable to engage in online schooling** as the families could not afford devices and data and were accessing paper-based remote learning modules. Some CoMSCA members were able to use their cash shareouts to invest in gadgets supporting online learning. For other families who had lost income, even the costs of travelling to schools to collect resources, or printing costs were unaffordable. Project volunteers identified these cases and the project **supported families with the basic costs** to ensure children could keep learning. Vineyard also held

an **online training session for parents** with educational experts who provided advice on how parents can support their children learning at home, which has been a real challenge for many parents with low education levels.

In Uganda, **hand-washing facilities were installed** in three schools and home-schooling packages were provided to children during the period of school closures to ensure they could continue to learn. This year, INUG **focused on engaging particularly vulnerable youth** with counselling, including pregnant girls and 226 teenage drug users.

In Ghana, when the school term started in May 2021, INGH noticed a **2% drop in school enrolments** in their partner schools. Many of these are due to the relocation of families from project communities resulting from the negative impact of COVID-19 on their livelihoods. However, INGH and Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) were concerned that families do not prioritise

“  
I was given the opportunity to hold on to my dreams and for that reason I also want to do same for other young people through teaching.”

Delali, student in INGH's INCAP program



Right: Delali is part of Ghana's Education program. And while she had a tough upbringing because of poor health and family finances, Delali is now studying to become a teacher.



children's education during times of economic hardship. The CCPCs organised community-wide engagement and **home visits to families** to educate parents and children on Child Protection and on the importance of education. Project staff continue to **monitor individual families** in the program and encourage them to continue sending children to school.

Some of INA's key achievements include:

**1,060**  
LINKED CHILDREN  
were supported to access education

**5,586**  
CHILDREN  
benefitted from Education work  
supported by INA

**956**  
PARENTS  
participated in campaigns to  
promote Education

**71**  
TEACHERS  
from pre-schools and primary  
schools were trained

**213**  
ACTIVE CHILD GROUPS  
with knowledge of Child Rights  
and Child Protection including  
**6 NEW CHILD GROUPS**

**250**  
STUDENTS  
participated in online youth camps

**250**  
STUDENTS  
took part in training to improve  
writing and communications skills

**11,261**  
Community Child Protection  
Committee members participated  
in sessions on prevention,  
reduction and response to  
violence, abuse and exploitation  
of children

## CHILD RIGHTS & EDUCATION CASE STUDY

### Alfiya and Shifa

Alfiya and Shifa are sisters who have been **Linked to the ChildLink program** in India for over 10 years. They **graduated this year**, thanks to the support of their Linked supporters.

When Alfiya and Shifa were about 7 years old, the family endured significant hardship after **their father left**. There was **no money for schooling and basic needs**. Alfiya and Shifa's mother was married at 11 years of age and **didn't have the skills or education** to support her six children. Despite this, she was determined for her daughters to at least complete Year 10. She started rolling 1,000 'beedis' (Indian cigarettes) to earn INR 40 - less than \$1 AUD - a day to buy food for the family to cook.

Life was very tough, so they moved, and Alfiya and Shifa were enrolled in the Neva Village School Centre. As **school drop-outs**, their self-esteem had hit rock bottom. However, as time passed, they improved and soon started getting back their enthusiasm and studied hard.

This year, **they passed their examinations** in the 1st division. They are so grateful for their Linked supporters and our Indian partner ACTS who have stood by them as they lifted themselves out of poverty. Now, they're happy and tutor children at home.



Right: Alfiya and Shifa, shown with their mother, are grateful for the support they received as Linked children in India

## HEALTH

COVID-19 has been a significant health threat since early 2020. The World Health Organisation and reports from our local partners reveal that the pandemic has caused **disruption to health service delivery, immunisation, and fewer people seeking healthcare** because of fear of COVID-19 infection and overwhelmed health systems. It is well recognised that the pandemic has **impacted the mental health** of poor and vulnerable children profoundly. Our field partners had to adapt to the restrictions and health threats they constantly faced.

INA projects supported training for **222 (210 female) Health Volunteers in primary healthcare, counselling and communications skills**. The role of these volunteers is even more critical during COVID-19 when communities are fearful and do not dare to seek healthcare from health facilities. Health Volunteers are local community members who stay close to the community we are serving.



A local Health Volunteer in Ethiopia.

Through partners in Nepal and Uganda, INA supported **73 local radio broadcasts** covering topics like COVID 19, nutrition, institutional birth delivery, parenting, Child Protection and good hygiene, **reaching over 50,000 people**. Such radio programs **effectively conveyed essential health messages** to remote communities during COVID-19 while communities were reluctant to attend health facilities, and community gatherings were restricted.



Radio programs in Nepal broadcast health information into remote areas.

INA and our partners continued to ensure that pregnant women living in remote communities could deliver their babies with the support they needed. With the generous donation from Fullife Foundation, we **constructed one more waiting room** at a Health Centre in Ethiopia, including a kitchen, a shower and a toilet. This waiting room can accommodate up to **eight pregnant women** at one time who come to stay at the Health Centre before delivery and discharge so that any complications could be addressed.



Because of the waiting room, Gete could come to deliver her baby at a health facility for the first time. Her first three children were born at home, where she suffered from several problems.

Overall, Maternal and Child Health projects, in collaboration with local Health Centres and volunteers, benefitted **10,676 women** through Health education, counselling, referral and medical care services, and **4,500 mothers received training on nutrition**.

The mothers now know how to cook nutritiously solid food for their infants using available ingredients that they can find locally. When lockdowns eased, project staff in India went house-to-house to spread messages to **206 household members on COVID-19 prevention** and encourage household members to stay up-to-date with public health advice, maintain social distancing and practice good hygiene.

Because of COVID-19 restrictions, some face-to-face activities could not be implemented, which forced local partners to implement COVID safe measures. Our partner in the Philippines adopted an online youth camp to **tackle mental health issues** affecting youths in target communities. **125 youths (77 female), aged 13-20**, participated in the forum to learn about mental health, emotional stability and physical wellness.



Participants attended an online Youth Camp to tackle mental health issues.





Above: This training was on Advocacy Using Citizen Voice and Action Approach.

Though most schools were intermittently closed, INA projects provided **1,089 students** from four schools in West Rukum of Nepal with **new toilets** and hand-washing facilities. This brings the ratio of students to a toilet down from an average of 100 students to 43 students per toilet. Girls and boys now have **separate toilets**. New water supply systems have been installed in the four schools. Students used to bring water from home, but now they have **access to safe drinking water** at school. School Health programs conducted training sessions for **3,640 students (1,882 female)** on reproductive health, safe drinking water, sanitation and good hygiene.

Our Nepal, Philippines and Ethiopia projects have supported communities to advocate for their rights and better social services and trained **524 community members (385 female)** in local advocacy. In the Philippines, the community successfully advocated

for the government to allocate more resources to monitor and rehabilitate malnourished children.

**50,000**  
PEOPLE  
were reached with Health  
information through 73 radio  
broadcasts,  
**10,676**  
WOMEN  
benefitted from Health education,  
counselling, referral and medical  
care services,  
**4,500**  
MOTHERS  
received training on nutrition,  
**3,640**  
STUDENTS  
were trained on reproductive  
health, safe drinking water,  
sanitation and good hygiene.

## HEALTH CASE STUDY

### Almaz

Bole Bible Baptist Church Child Care and Community Development (BBBC) and INA, with the support of Fullife Foundation, have constructed new Maternal and Child Health facilities at Shurmo Health Centre in Ethiopia. The project is also training Health Centre workers to **provide quality care**. Women and children can access the centre and women no longer have to give birth at home.

Almaz gave birth to two of her children at home, **without the support** of skilled birth attendants. After BBBC began to

build health awareness in the community and improve services, Almaz visited the Shurmo Health Centre. She was **able to access pre-natal and post-natal care**, and give birth to her last child in the centre.

Almaz said, *“Before, I did not come to visit this Health Centre. Now, thanks to God! All facilities are improved. All things are improved. Really I am happy to come to here and I advise my neighbours to visit this centre.”*

Below: Almaz was able to give birth to her last child at the new Health Centre in Ethiopia, thanks to the newly-built facility. Before, Almaz birthed twice at home, without skilled attendants.



## SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS

The year 2020/21 marks a difficult one for the global population. COVID-19 drove an additional **120 million people into extreme poverty** in 2021, according to World Bank estimates<sup>1</sup>. Currently, 9.1% of the world survives on less than \$1.90 a day. If not because of COVID, this rate would have fallen to 7.9% in 2020.

The impact of COVID results in **119 million more people facing hunger**, bringing a total of approximately **760 million people currently facing hunger**<sup>2</sup>. Disruptions to economic activities and employment have led to a drastic reduction in working hours in the informal economy, affecting 1.6 billion workers<sup>3</sup>. Temporary closure of businesses leads to **increased unemployment**, resulting in the repatriation of workers from cities back to their hometowns or villages. This puts pressure on households that are already struggling to provide for their family members.

Around **85% of families** in INA's programs have been **economically impacted**, as they rely on selling agriculture produce, small businesses, and daily-wage labour jobs.

The work of INA to build economic resilience and livelihoods of communities where we work has never been more critical. Despite a challenging year, INA and our in-country partners across the eight countries where we operate have continued to stay together with communities and **support them through this difficult time**.

Over the past year, INA's project supported **3,417 community members** participating in various **income-generating activities** to boost their income. These activities include farming, animal husbandry, weaving, printing, tailoring, grocery store and more.



Josephine, with her 400 chickens which provide additional income and protein for her family.

**579 girls** participated in **sewing and embroidery training**, supported by our India project. During lockdowns, some girls took leadership to provide training and coaching to other girls without the girls having to come to the training centre. The girls could practice at home during the lockdowns. A few girls continued to sew wedding costumes, helping **provide for their families** when some members were jobless.



Girls learn embroidery and sewing in India.

**27 new Self-Help Groups** were formed, with **122 new farmers** also adding to existing Self-Help Groups established over the past years. These groups are a platform where members can learn from and support each other and save money together. Access to small loans is vital for

rural farmers who often cannot access bank loans to strengthen or expand a business. Over the past year, **699 new households** were provided with **start-up capital, low-interest loans or share-outs**. Our projects trained **273 group leaders in Financial and Credit Management** to manage their credit program effectively.

Agriculture is an income source for up to 80% of the population in the countries where we work. Our projects trained **3,635 household members** to improve their livestock and agriculture practices. Following the training, some of these households received agriculture inputs and other support. Linkage with local Agriculture Extension for ongoing coaching and support has been established in some of our projects. Furthermore, following training, **66 of the poorest families** were provided with **goats and sheep** to help them kick-start their farming.



A Community-Managed Savings and Credit Association (CoMSCA) group in the Philippines.

<sup>1</sup> Poverty Overview (worldbank.org)

<sup>2</sup> The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2021 (fao.org)

<sup>3</sup> COVID-19: Stimulating the economy and employment: ILO: As job losses escalate, nearly half of global workforce at risk of losing livelihoods (ilo.org)





Above: Kibinesh of Ethiopia increased her income from sheep by 294%, allowing her to buy more sheep and provide for her family.

“  
I am delighted  
for the training  
provided to me  
and being a part  
of the saving  
group, ”

said **Bhima**, member of a Village Saving and Loan Association who earned a meagre income until attending 4-day agriculture training and taking a loan. Now she grows vegetables.



Bhima now earns an income through growing vegetables, thanks to taking part in Nepal's Livelihoods project.

## SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS CASE STUDY



**Shierlie**

*“I am Shierlie Credo, 48 years old. I am a member [and chairperson] of CoMSCA\* Towerville since 2017. Four years ago I **just had a normal life ... with lots of chores at home. With CoMSCA, I learned the value of saving and loaning money** for more purposeful reasons. It helped my family, our livelihood and my personal growth.*

*“I gained friends from our community who together with me grow as a person with what we have learned in our CoMSCA experiences. Every year I gladly look forward to these seminars and teach what I learned to my children and friends.”*

*“One of the things I am thankful about ... is we were able to repair our house. It is through persistent and consistent savings we were able to do it. CoMSCA teaches discipline. I didn't thought it could be possible ... because I also have*

*children who are in high school and college at the same time.”*

*“CoMSCA has made it possible for me to have a place for my small business. We were able to extend our house for the stall ... at home. I was also able to franchise a small bakery. My children see how we manage our money and they learn. Despite the challenges the CoMSCA groups ... went through during this pandemic, we are still hopeful that our group reproduce other groups in the near future.”*

\*CoMSCA stands for Community Managed Savings and Credit Association



Right: Thanks to CoMSCA, Shierlie was taught how to save money consistently. Through this, she was able to make needed repairs to her house to make it safer and more comfortable. Above: Shierlie pictured in the circle.



# PROJECT EVALUATION & COMPLETION

**Evaluating the effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability of projects. Here we focus on two that have been completed.**

## **Strengthening Partnerships for Maternal and Child Health in Rukum, Nepal**

Between July 2017 and August 2020, INA and Nepal partner, Human Development and Community Services (HDCS), have implemented the Strengthening Partnerships for Maternal and Child Health project across **16 communities** in the Rukum district of Nepal. The project was supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). The main goal of the project was to **reduce maternal and child mortality**, and **improve child health** through awareness and behaviour-change, capacity-building and advocacy for service delivery. Due to COVID-19, the evaluation could not be implemented until May 2021. Overall, there has been a **significantly positive impact** on the local communities as follows:

- Decreased maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 people from 85 at baseline to

71.2 at end-line,

- Decreased rate of early pregnancies in people under 19 years of age from 18.8% to 10.9% at end-line,
- Increased percentage of mothers who conducted four or more ante-natal care visits to health facilities, from 52.4% to 90.6% at end-line,
- Increased presence of a skilled birth attendant during delivery from 35.3% to 85.9% at end-line,
- Increase of post-natal care check-ups for women within 48 hours after delivery, improved by 38% to 76.5% at end-line,
- General increase in understanding among the population of maternal and childcare complications, symptoms and community practices.

However, the coverage of all basic vaccinations in children was 66.7% at end-line, as compared to 74.9%. This could be due to the impact of COVID-19 from April 2020, during which there was a lockdown in the country and the immunisation program was badly compromised.

The evaluation provided some crucial insights into ways to improve the sustainability and effectiveness of the

Right: New CoMSCA members go through orientation, thanks to the EED Project.

project. To ensure continued success, the interventions of the projects should continue to strengthen the following further:

- Capacity strengthening of health facilities, including the continued training for health workers on Maternal and Child Health,
- Promoting community campaigns on Maternal and Child Health and early marriage,
- Advocating for improved service quality,
- Mother's role in leading community-based actions on improved nutrition,
- Awareness-raising campaigns in schools,
- Addressing the needs of disadvantaged community members, in particular people with disabilities.

Poverty remains one of the key reasons for not utilising healthcare services. However, these services are supposedly financially covered by the government and therefore, **greater community awareness is required** to change the

“  
For me and the other mothers, the educational assistance is not just a material support. It gives us hope and encouragement to rise above our poverty knowing that there are other people who make sacrifices to help us, like Vineyard.”

**Rose**, Parent Volunteer, Marikina (Philippines)



perception that individuals cannot financially afford the care. Based on the success of the schools' program and mothers' groups, **information education and community activities should continue** with greater use of local communication media, including radio and audio-visuals. Additionally, local **health facilities should be well-equipped**, so people do not need to travel to the city for care. This provides a bigger perspective on costs and travel, which impact those living in poverty. Finally, the project should **re-consider the success of child vaccinations** done in 2016, to help inform its decline in 2021 and how the immunisation program can continue despite the pandemic.



Dhanmaya was one of many new mothers to benefit from Nepal's Maternal and Child Health project.

## Education and Economic Development Project in the Philippines

In March 2021, an end of project evaluation was conducted for INA and Vineyard's Education and Economic Development (EED) project in the Philippines. This project was **funded**

**through ChildLink and SHE**, and ran from January 2018 to June 2021, aiming to **address the need for better economic management and access to education** in five areas in the Philippines. The evaluation was conducted by an independent consultant, and the process was a **great learning opportunity** for staff and community leaders involved in the process.

The objective of the project was to enable Linked families to manage and respond to the basic needs of family members.

The evaluation found that **education assistance remains crucial** in sustaining children's participation and completion in school, especially during economic and health emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Community Resource Mobilisation (CRM) efforts need clear management and structure to be effective, while Community Managed Savings and Credit Association (CoMSCA) groups were found to be very effective, with **many remaining functional** despite the economic impact of COVID-19.

The final year of the EED project was **significantly impacted** by the pandemic, with many activities unable to proceed as originally planned due to public health orders.

Restrictions, while challenging to project management, **created a wide range of opportunities** to incorporate leadership

and participation of community leaders, volunteers, local partners and CoMSCA leaders to implement project activities. This has set a new benchmark for Vineyard's partnership with the community in the next phase of the project.

Some of the key findings of the evaluation include:

- 99.78% of Linked children participated in school and were successfully promoted to the next grade,
- Partnerships were established with four partner schools and two volunteer groups,
- 86 tutors were organised for primary students, and 34 for secondary students,
- 104 families participated in financial literacy training sessions,
- 33 groups were provided with CoMSCA orientation and training to form their CoMSCA group,
- Out of a total 43 formed CoMSCA groups, 76% are still functional despite COVID-19 and 4% have the potential to reorganise very soon,
- The existing CoMSCA leaders demonstrated capacity to organise new CoMSCA groups which indicates replicability of the method.

The findings of this evaluation report are being used to **inform the next phase** of Education and Economic Development work in the Philippines,

so the recommendations are crucial for INA and Vineyard to **learn and continue improving** the effectiveness of our work.

Some key recommendations for future projects include:

- Ensuring that barriers to accessing basic education are eliminated while building the capacity of families and communities to achieve economic wellbeing,
- Develop capacity to support access to education in emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic, as this is when children in poverty are most vulnerable to leaving school,
- More intentionally integrate with strategies and programs of the Department of Education and Local Government Units,
- Continue and scale up the partnership model with schools and volunteers,
- Formalise the structure and roles of CRM groups and support their initiatives to strengthen community-led development,
- Upskill CoMSCA leaders to manage and resource group capacity development,
- Aim to connect all Linked families to CoMSCA groups,
- Strengthen monitoring systems with all team members involved, so that any issues are quickly identified and the project is able to quickly adapt to changing circumstances.

## AUS GOVERNMENT FUNDING

INA acknowledges the significant support from the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). Being one of around 55 charities receiving this support, we recognise the responsibility to ensure the highest levels of compliance and quality provision.

INA has been fully **accredited with DFAT since 2004** and will undergo the reaccreditation process again in late 2021.

Being accredited means that ANCP provides annual grants for some of INA's key projects. These funds rely on INA supporters and friends to contribute as well. When INA fundraises for a project that is ANCP-funded, there is an opportunity for donors to have their contributions combined with this funding to maximise impact on the ground. INA and supporters will contribute \$1 for every \$5 received from the Government, up to the value of the ANCP grant.

This is a wonderful way for donors to see their donations reach more people and do more! And we acknowledge the wonderful work that DFAT and ANCP are enabling as well.

### ANCP-FUNDED PROJECTS:

#### Ethiopia

- Scale Up Maternal and Child Health Outcomes in Lemo District

- Shurmo Education and Livelihood Development (SELD)

#### Myanmar

- Enabling and Strengthening Child Protection in the Community (ESCP)

#### Nepal

- Strengthening Sustainable Maternal & Child Health Systems in Rukum District
- Improving WASH and Livelihoods in West Rukum (WALI)

#### Uganda

- Agri-Business for Community Development (ABCD)



### THROUGH THESE ANCP AND DONOR-FUNDED PROJECTS:

**106,309**

beneficiaries were reached

**2,268**

children living with a disability were supported

**41,540**

children were championed

**58,193**

girls and women were strengthened

## PARTNERSHIPS FOR GOOD

### VIDYAJEY FOUNDATION

The VidyaJey Foundation contributes to INA's work with Krupa and DAIA in southern India. Krupa's Empowering Prison Inmates and Families project aims to **reduce reoffending, and trains prisoners and their families** in skills to earn an income. INA and DAIA started a partnership in July 2020 to support Livelihoods and Health activities for **vulnerable community groups**, including the elderly and people living with HIV and AIDS, and commence a Rural Upliftment Programs and Awareness project.



Viyalaksmi was provided a sewing machine so she could earn from her tailoring business, thanks to VidyaJey's support.

We thank VidyaJey Foundation for their **past and ongoing support.**

Below: Beneficiaries in Ethiopia's SELD project receive sheep that will help them feed their families and earn an income.



## OPERATION TOILETS (ROTARY INTERNATIONAL)

The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central via its entity Operation Toilets Australia and the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia are currently supporting Community-Led Total Sanitation and Hygiene (CLTSH) project in the Shurmo area in partnership with INA and BBBC. This major project involves the provision of 60 Improved Ventilated Pit Latrines to **vulnerable households**, 24 Improved Ventilated Pit Latrines in **12 villages**, and four, four-seat, Improved Ventilated Pit Latrines in **four schools**. The project is using the internationally-recognised CLTSH approach to eradicate open defecation. This project is funded by Operation Toilets Australia, Australian and overseas Rotary Clubs and Districts, and supported by Matching Grants from The Rotary Foundation.

This partnership has been very strong for several years and we thank Rotary International for the **work we are achieving together** to improve community sanitation.



Ayelech stands outside a newly-built latrine, thanks to Operation Toilets.



Representatives from Fullife Foundation stand in front of the newly-built Health Post they helped to fund (taken in 2019 alongside previous CEO Pri Fernando, 2nd from the left).

## FULLIFE FOUNDATION

The Fullife Foundation was established to make a positive difference to **the health of women and children** in Ethiopia. The latest collaboration between INA and Fullife Foundation in Lemo District, includes the **construction of a water reservoir** to provide clean water to households, and support for the Shurmo Education and Livelihood Development Project through **ChildLink**. However, the highlight of our partnership is a Maternal and Child Health project, equipping Health Centres and Health Posts in the target areas, **constructing waiting rooms** at Health Centres for pregnant women, training healthcare workers and volunteers, and providing community Health education. The strong partnership between INA and Fullife has resulted in improving the lives of **approximately 11,362 people** in the past year alone.

INA is grateful to Fullife for engaging actively in our projects and rallying support through their network within the pharmacy industry to join us on our **journey to make a difference**.

## MISSION ENTERPRISES

Mission Enterprises is a not-for-profit charity established in 1978 to generate funds to support Christian ministries and community development organisations. With a **focus on alleviating poverty**, and driven by Christ's mandate to take care of the vulnerable and marginalised, Mission Enterprises partners with organisations such as INA to increase **economic empowerment**, provide **educational opportunities**, improve **health outcomes** and to **stop human trafficking**.

INA is grateful to Mission Enterprises for their **continued long-term partnership**, and their special support of our projects in Sri Lanka, Ghana, the Philippines and Nepal.

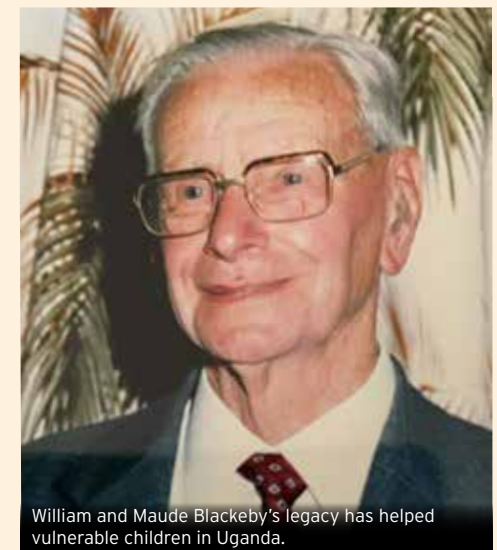


Mission Enterprise has supported projects in Sri Lanka in the past.

## EB CHARITABLE TRUST

EB Charitable Trust has provided generous support to the work of INA for over 20 years. INA **honours the memory of its founder**, William Edward Blackeby, a Godly man of sincerity and integrity. In a letter to his children, he wrote, *"Talk to God about your business, ask Him to manage it for you, as I have always done and He has never failed me. I have no fear that you will know the same"*.

INA is grateful to his children, Graham, Roger, Anne, Paul and Peter, who, in celebration of their father's life, and the closing of the Trust, provided INA with a substantial gift to **support vulnerable children in Uganda** through the Empowering Women Alleviating Poverty Project. Many lives have been blessed due to the **legacy of William and Maude Blackeby**.



William and Maude Blackeby's legacy has helped vulnerable children in Uganda.

# MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

For everyone who partners with INA to enable the good work we can do together, you are blessing the vulnerable, the marginalised, the oppressed. You are allowing children, families and communities to take the important steps towards freedom from poverty.

INA's Marketing and Communications team connect projects and overseas programs with our generous supporters through campaigns, reports, newsletters and more. It is indeed a privilege to bring individual's stories, positive outcomes and amazing achievements to light for those who partner with us to make them happen. Here are a few campaigns that the team shared in this financial year.

## CHILD LINK

INA continues to keep Linked supporters updated throughout the year, even though many communities

were closed at various times due to COVID-related lockdowns. Even so, updates were mailed to supporters that included positive impacts in the country of their Linked child, as well as a story directly from a child describing their situation and feelings about COVID, and how ongoing support was helping.

Some supporters received Christmas messages from their Linked children – though not all were possible, because of lockdowns. ChildLink is covered more fully on page 24.



SHE supporters also received updates through the year about positive stories and outcomes

for girls and women and the projects in which they were involved. INA partners found ways to continue supporting girls and women in many ways – especially as they have been more negatively affected during the pandemic than men and boys. We thank SHE donors for their continued contributions that enabled such positive stories at such a difficult time. Read more about SHE on page 24.



Above: Farmers like Robinah were encouraged to double their farming income during INA's 2020 Christmas Appeal. Right: Iyasu (2nd from the right) and his family have been supported through the pandemic. He shared his thoughts with Ethiopian ChildLink supporters in a July update. Far right: 325 Indian families were given relief packages to help them through the worst of the pandemic.

## BIRTHDAY APPEALS

The Birthday Appeals for this financial year focused on Hope for Linked children. Funds raised helped ChildLink partners to provide a celebration for the children to look forward to once they returned back to school after lockdowns.

## GIFT CATALOGUE AND ONLINE STORE

This year Gift Catalogue items continued to be offered in the Online Store on INA's website. Items were available all year long, not just at Christmas. This meant that supporters could help buy books for students in Ghana when kids were heading back to school. They could donate hygiene packs when communities

needed protecting. Or they could buy chickens that lay eggs when it was Easter time!

## TAX APPEAL

Supporters really came through again this year, to generously back Nepal's Maternal and Child Health project. The focus was on the vital roles that Social Mobiliser and Female Community Health Volunteers play in the health of mums and babies in very remote areas. Contributions to this appeal were combined with funding from the Australian Government's ANCP as well as being matched dollar-for-dollar by a group of generous INA supporters. It's great when donors know their donations can go that extra bit further!





# EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION

## CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Christmas 2020 concentrated on Uganda's ABCD project, which again invited donors to have their donations matched and combined with ANCP funds. Thanks to the Givers Fund, donors could see their gift doubled while helping Ugandan farmers to double or multiply their crop harvests or incomes.

## URGENT OR EMERGENCY APPEALS

It's probably no surprise that the year held many opportunities to lend a bit of extra support to the vulnerable peoples that we serve together. We thank our supporters for their generous hearts when these emergencies arise. They helped to provide relief packs to Linked families after Typhoon Vamco (locally called Ulysses) hit the Philippines. They dug deep to help give food and rations relief packages to Indian families struggling to afford basic needs when the COVID situation was dire.

**If you contributed in any way to any of the above, all we can say is... thank you!**



## THROUGH INTERNSHIPS

This financial year, INA's **partnerships with universities were strengthened** nation-wide. We aimed to be the sought-after destination for university interns and committing to providing them the best possible experience. This was part of INA profiling careers in international development, supporting universities and helping students gain valuable skills.

This connection has **proven invaluable** for both staff and the students who join us for a semester. After finishing their degrees, our interns' stories have included working for the United Nations in Europe, providing aid in Chad and Senegal, and assisting in refugee camps in Greece.

William, who joined INA from Adelaide, has recently moved to France, writes of his internship:

*"My time with INA has been nothing short of transformative... Now, at the end of my internship, it's not just the skills that I've developed and the insight into development*

*work that I prize the most. It's putting in the work with a real world and tangible outcome that has been the most rewarding aspect of my internship with INA... I've learned a lot and done my part in a small way, to the great work INA does for the world."*



## THROUGH SCHOOL STUDENT ADVOCATES

In February 2021, the Year 12 cohort at Queensland's Suncoast Christian College selected INA as their chosen charity to fundraise for throughout the school year. The school charity leadership team, lead by Elijah Harrison, examined six charities before finally agreeing on INA.

The student leadership team were responsible for planning, resourcing and running fundraising activities throughout the school calendar. The activities included uniform-free days with gold coin donations, food stalls including over-priced hot dogs, challenge days and many other activities.

The student body was exposed to several presentations about international development, focussing on the countries where INA work. As part of education sessions, students were given stories and hope through the outcomes of the vital work of INA.

This year, a legacy has been created that will last in each of the Year 12 students well into the future. They have been deeply impacted, and are now motivated to be part of a generation which will not stand by, but will take up a challenge to care for and change the world for good.

Thanks to Elijah Harrison, the Suncoast student leadership team and to all the students who supported INA this year. You made a difference!

“  
**My time with  
INA has been  
nothing short of  
transformative.**  
”

**William**, on his university  
internship with INA.

# CHILDLINK, SHE & GIFT OF JUSTICE

## CHILD LINK

INA's ChildLink program is **more than supporting one child**. It's the chance to walk alongside their family and wider community. ChildLink operates in six partner countries and focuses its work on the **wellbeing of vulnerable and at-risk children**. Through the program, kids are connected through education, health, support services, protection, rights and more.

We believe that "poverty should not be a life sentence" for children or their families. And we **sincerely thank the many ChildLink supporters** for believing this through their actions too.

This financial year, those Linked supporters enabled great work that includes:

### CHILDLINK IMPACT

1,060

LINKED CHILDREN

were supported to access education

3,640

CHILDREN

provided with Health education

125

(77 GIRLS),

aged 13-20, were trained in  
mental health awareness

956

PARENTS

participated in campaigns to  
promote education

66

HOUSEHOLDS

received goats or sheep to build  
a Sustainable Livelihood for their  
families

*Thank you!*

Havor attends school in Ghana,  
thanks to the Education project.  
He said,

“

Anytime I received  
the support, I  
pledged that I must  
concentrate on my  
education to make  
myself and  
International Needs  
proud.”



## she

SHE programs run in seven of the countries in which INA works. SHE highlights and supports **work with women and girls** to ensure their empowerment through Education, Livelihood development, Health and Rights, as well as a brighter future and the opportunity to **rise out of poverty**.

SHE supporters give regularly towards SHE programs. Through these incredible contributions, some **amazing achievements** were seen in this financial year. Below are just a few of the highlights:

Left: Havor's character is being shaped through the ChildLink program.





Left: Mangaleswary was able to build her family a home with her farming income, thanks to support for SHE Sri Lanka's Livelihood project.

Through her village Self-Help Group, Mangaleswary learned to save and received crops to cultivate. Her harvest was huge, meaning she could sell her produce and invest in more. She said:

“

I am very happy. With this profit, I set up the hall of the house we built. I have completed all of the work in my home. Therefore, I would like to thank [you and] International Needs Lanka organisation for transforming us for the better.”

## SHE IMPACT

11,261

community and Child Protection committee members participated in sessions on prevention, reduction and response to violence, abuse and exploitation of children

1,980

UGANDAN WOMEN have had access to over 200 EXTENSION TRAINING sessions on improved crop farming and animal husbandry

499

FEMALE STUDENTS have access to 6 NEW TOILETS that were constructed in Nepal project schools

*Thank you!*



This financial year, INA launched a NEW program named **Gift of Justice**, where supporters are making an impact for just \$11 a month.

Poor communities around the world foster environments of discrimination, wage disparagement and unequal rights for women - often resulting in unserviceable debt and generational poverty.

Gift of Justice supporters are helping women and girls be part of community, **to be seen, safe and protected from injustice**. Gift of Justice is doing this by:

- Educating on women's rights,
- Inviting women into support groups,
- Helping women with opportunities for employment,

- Advocating on behalf of young girls,
- Advocating against traditional and harmful practices.

By supporting these activities, the Gift of Justice can result in:

- Proper wages,
- Healthy families,
- Sustainable Livelihoods,
- Reduction in domestic violence,
- Girls staying in school,
- Freedom from discrimination,
- Improved self-esteem and restoration of dignity,
- Hope for a better life.

**Thank you** to all of our NEW Gift of Justice supporters!

# AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS EDUCATION & ADVOCACY PROGRAMS



**Just Like Me** has continued as INA's primary school **social justice education program** for Australian schools that links the Australian Curriculum through action to help students understand global poverty and find their purpose to create a better, brighter and more sustainable future for everybody, everywhere. Each participating student has been personally challenged to act, reflect and understand the lives of children overseas in context to their own. The program employed videos, worksheets and action cards for students to follow "a day in the life" of children in 3 countries – Ghana, Uganda and India.

INA has developed and delivered a face-to-face and online **Year 12 Global Health / Health and Human Development Workshop**. A new **Girls Education Workshop** and **Democracy and Poverty Workshop** have been developed for face-to-face and online delivery to early secondary school students. These programs directly link INA's overseas

fieldwork with the Australian Curriculum and the Sustainable Development Goals.

It sometimes takes role play to help younger children understand and empathise with life in a developing country. Students are confronted by the reality of poor water quality when they witness facilitators risk becoming very sick **drinking dirty water** (fortunately, it's just pretend) during the **Just Like Me** workshop experience, where students discuss issues around global poverty and what they can do to help people in less fortunate situations.



Students at Heany Park Primary School enjoyed learning about children from other countries during their Just Like Me school workshop.

Right: Is that real dirty water Corlien is drinking? Or just an example to teach Australian school kids that some children around the world don't have clean water?

These workshops fit in especially well with globally-minded schools and those schools committed to **social justice and positive education** through student action.

Students sometimes want to give overseas programs their pocket money, and the feedback from teachers is inspiring: *"The students loved the workshop, were very engaged and gained some valuable insights into the lives of children with different cultural background,"* said a teacher at Heany Park Primary School (IB Primary Years Program School).

While program implementation has been slowed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and school lockdowns, workshops were delivered at seven primary schools, reaching **600 children**, and raising **\$6,500** to support INA's Education projects in countries like Uganda or the Philippines.

We can't wait to **inspire more children** to follow their hearts and **be part of the solution** to end global poverty and dirty drinking water as soon as possible.



7

primary schools held  
Just Like Me workshops

600

Australian students  
participated

\$6,500

raised by students for INA  
Education projects





Above: Australian children, through the Just Like Me program, learn about school-aged children from other countries - just like these from Ghana!



## OUR TEAM

### MEET INA STAFF

Because INA's main office is located in part of Melbourne, Victoria, a significant portion of this financial year saw staff working remotely from home, unable to come into the workplace due to lockdowns and restrictions.

But that didn't mean that the team was any less connected or passionate about what they do!

Instead, this year saw many video meetings and phone calls to collaborate on projects and keep doing what we do best. Staff also attended weekly virtual devotions and time for prayer as well as regular all-staff meetings and some guest speaker presentations.

While they would much rather be able to see and talk to one another in person, we commend their ongoing commitment to serve those we work with.



**David Ensor, CEO**



**Phearak Svay,**  
International  
Programs Manager



**Pam Winstanley,**  
Finance and  
Administration Manager



**Preeti Anand,**  
Donor Relations  
Officer



**Corlien Heijnen,**  
Education Officer



**Catherine Middleton,**  
International  
Programs and  
Compliance Officer



**Jenny Nicholls,**  
Marketing and  
Communications  
Coordinator



**Amanda Southwell,**  
Community  
Engagement Manager



**Serene Tan,**  
Accounting Officer



# GOVERNANCE

## OUR GOVERNANCE

The Board of INA is responsible for the governance of the organisation. Board members are selected based on their skills and experience and all serve on the Board voluntarily. The Board sets the strategic direction for INA and reviews the performance of the organisation against set targets at every Board meeting. Each year the Board approves the annual budget and is also responsible for appraising the performance of the Chief Executive Officer.

At last year's Annual General Meeting, Janelle Richards and Shirley Reeder were both elected for a second term. Janelle Richards accepted the role of Deputy Chair of the Board. Tristan Heron was also elected as a new member of the Board and accepted the role of Chair of the Finance Risk and Audit Committee. There continues to be a healthy gender balance on the Board and the organisation is grateful for the way our Board members give their time and utilise their various professional backgrounds in the service of INA.

In keeping with the constitution, two Board members will retire and both will be eligible for re-election for a further term at the 2021 AGM.

## GOVERNANCE COMMITTEES

INA currently has two governance committees, comprising both Board Members and external professionals, who provide input to the Board. Each of these committees report directly to the Board and support the Board in discharging its governance duties through monitoring and reviewing key strategic initiatives and organisational policies as well as by making recommendations. The Finance Risk and Audit Committee assists the Board to fulfil its corporate governance responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, the application of accounting policies, financial management, internal control, risk management and compliance systems and occupational health and safety. The Development Committee ensures the quality and integrity of our development programs are monitored and reviewed regularly, and that our programming strategy is consistent with the organisation's strategic plan as well as best practice in the sector.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2021 Annual General Meeting of INA was scheduled for the 24 November 2021.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**IAN CURTIS AM FGIA**

*Chairperson, Chair of Development Committee from 25 November 2020*

*Ex Officio All Committees*

Bachelor of Arts

Executive Program (Graduate School of Business, University of Melbourne)

Fellow Governance Institute of Australia

AM - Member of the Order of Australia



**JANELLE RICHARDS**

*Deputy Chairperson*

Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences)

Graduate Diploma in Innovation and Service Management



**TRISTAN HERON**

*Director*

*Chair of Finance Risk and Audit Committee, appointed 25 November 2020*

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting and Finance, Deakin University)

Majoring Accounting, Finance, Bus Comm, Bus Info Systems

Chartered Accountant (Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia, 2010)



**RICHARD LIM B BUS, FCPA**

*Stepped down from Chair of Finance Risk and Audit Committee on 25 November 2020*

*Treasurer*

*Member of Finance, Risk and Audit Committee*

Bachelor of Business (Accounting)

CPA (Fellow CPA Australia)

AM - Member of the Order of Australia



**SHELLEY NAYLOR**

*Director*

*Member of Finance, Risk & Audit Committee*

Bachelor of Laws

Bachelor of Economics

Admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High Court of Australia



**SHIRLEY REEDER**

*Director*

Post Grad Certificate - Applied Science - Innovation and Service Management

Certificate IV - Professional Coaching

International Coach Federation - Accredited ACC

Member - Australian Human Resources Institute CAHRI

## MEMBERS OF OTHER COMMITTEES



**WILLIAM (BILL) MURCUTT**

*Resigned 25 November 2020*

*Member of Finance, Risk & Audit Committee and Chair Development Committee*



**TERESA THOMSON**

*Member of Development Committee*



**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR MAX KELLY**

*Member of Development Committee*

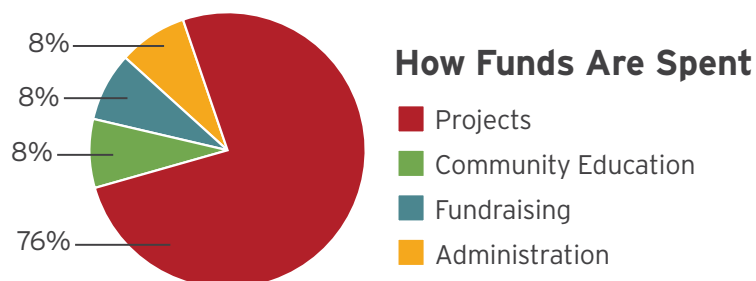


**JONATHAN YAP**

*Member of Finance, Risk & Audit Committee*



# FINANCIAL REPORTS



NOTE: For comparison purposes and to be consistent with previous years, the Government Assistance income due to COVID-19 of \$269,718 for Cash Boost, Jobkeeper and Business Grants has not been taken into account when calculating these % of expenses. These funds are being held in retained earnings.

Despite the unprecedented challenges of the financial year ended 30 June 2021, INA has been able to achieve an overall surplus of \$283,220, and a surplus of \$13,502 excluding government support income. This result is a testament to the diligent work of INA staff and the faithful support of our donors and partnerships.

Raising funds for charitable purpose has remained difficult this financial year, with many lockdown disruptions and limited opportunities for meeting in person. Despite this, total revenue has remained strong at \$1,873,015 excluding government support income, which is only a decrease of \$6,727 on the prior year. Reductions in income were mostly for ChildLink and general donations and school programs but have almost been offset by increases in special projects, emergency relief and support for communities and women programs.

INA was able to send out \$1,226,098 to programs during the year, which is an

increase of \$54,905 over the prior year, and a great achievement during this critical time. Administration costs have remained low, with a reduction of \$5,873 from the prior year. INA's operations and financial management continue to be regularly monitored by the Board, sub-committees and management.

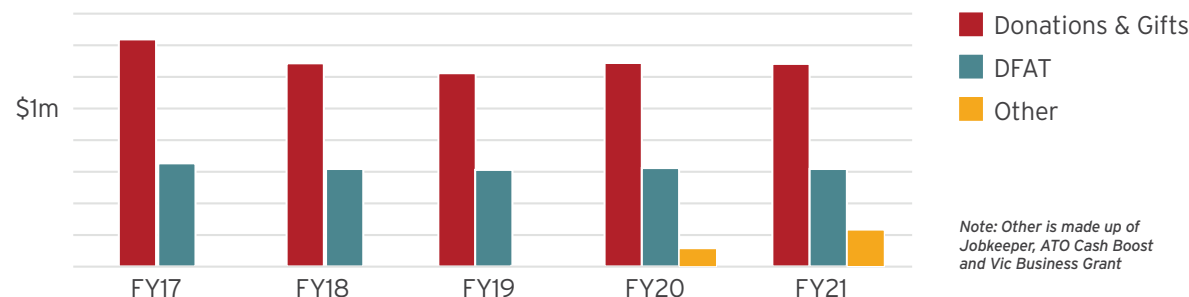
You can request a copy of our full Financial Reports for the year end 30 June 2021 by contacting our office at 196 Rooks Road, Vermont 3133 or by going to our website [www.ina.org.au](http://www.ina.org.au).

## BOARD DECLARATION

The Board of International Needs Australia declares that the accompanying concise financial report is presented fairly and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and is consistent with the company's 30th June 2021 financial report.

In respect of the 30th June 2021 financial report of International Needs

## Revenue Past Five Years



Australia the board declares that:

1. The company is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 requirements to prepare and distribute financial statements to the members of International Needs Australia.
2. The financial statements and associated notes comply with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the Accounting Standards, Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements
3. The summary reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code

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

4. The financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
5. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable. This statement has been made in accordance with a resolution of the Board made on 24th October 2018.

This statement has been made in accordance with a resolution of the Board made on 27th October, 2021.

Ian Curtis  
Board Chair

Tristan Heron  
Chair of FRAC

# FINANCE STATEMENTS

## INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Donations and Gifts	1,253,004	1,263,485
Grants		
Dept. Foreign Affairs and Trade	609,874	608,272
Investment Income	4,937	5,556
Other Income	269,718	115,534
Revenue for Int. Political or Religious Adherence Promotion	5,200	2,429
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>2,142,733</b>	<b>1,995,276</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
International Programs		
Funds to International Programs	1,226,098	1,171,193
Program Support Costs	188,571	192,483
Community Education	149,767	157,900
Fundraising		
Public	142,449	154,487
Accountability & Administration	148,228	154,101
<b>TOTAL INT. AID AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,855,113</b>	<b>1,830,164</b>
Int. Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Expenditure	4,400	1,181
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>1,859,513</b>	<b>1,831,345</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>283,220</b>	<b>163,931</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,038,756	617,178
Trade and other receivables	7,188	32,405
Held-to-maturity investments	150,000	150,000
Other	10,091	8,473
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>1,206,035</b>	<b>808,056</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	5,232	9,857
Right of Use Asset	49,221	73,832
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>54,453</b>	<b>83,689</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,260,488</b>	<b>891,745</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	18,341	20,346
Provisions	38,001	25,836
Lease Liability 1 yr	24,968	24,231
Other	202,151	103,380
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>283,461</b>	<b>173,793</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Provisions	19,162	18,339
Lease Liabilities 1 yr plus	25,727	50,695
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>44,889</b>	<b>69,035</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>328,351</b>	<b>242,828</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>932,137</b>	<b>648,917</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	4,899	4,299
Retained Surpluses/Deficits	927,238	644,618
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>932,137</b>	<b>648,917</b>



## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Capital reserve (\$)	Retained profits (\$)	Total equity (\$)
<b>BALANCE AS AT 1 JULY 2019</b>	<b>15,654</b>	<b>469,332</b>	<b>484,986</b>
Excess/Deficit of Revenue over Expenses	-	163,931	163,931
Amount transferred (to) from Reserves	(11,355)	11,355	-
<b>BALANCE AS AT 1 JULY 2020</b>	<b>4,299</b>	<b>644,618</b>	<b>648,917</b>
Excess/Deficit of Revenue over Expenses		283,220	283,220
Amount transferred (to) from Reserves	600	(600)	-
<b>BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE 2021</b>	<b>\$4,899</b>	<b>\$927,238</b>	<b>\$932,137</b>



Right: Belaynesh and her husband Mulatu were low-income farmers that couldn't afford education or healthcare for the children. Through the SELD project, they received heifers and training. Now they can generate income and afford their family's basic needs.



## INTERNATIONAL NEEDS AUSTRALIA

ABN 84 006 053 229

### Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Report

#### Opinion

The 2021 annual report that contains a summary financial report, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the income statement and statement of changes in equity for the year then ended are derived from the audited financial report of International Needs Australia for the year ended 30 June 2021.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial report is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, which is compliant with the ACFID Code of Conduct.

#### Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial report does not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the ACFID Code of Conduct. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

20 Albert St, PO Box 256, Blackburn VIC 3130  
T +61 3 9894 2500 F +61 3 9894 1622  
contact@sawarddawson.com.au  
sawarddawson.com.au



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### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 4 November 2021.

### Board's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the summary financial report.

### Auditor's Responsibility

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

Saward Dawson

Jeffrey Tulk  
Partner

Blackburn VIC  
Date: 30 October 2018

20 Albert St, PO Box 256, Blackburn VIC 3130  
T +61 3 9894 2500 F +61 3 9894 1622  
contact@sawarddawson.com.au  
sawarddawson.com.au



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# LET'S CHAT

## ACCREDITATION

INA is fully accredited with the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

INA is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID). As a member and signatory to ACFID's Code of Conduct, INA is required to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management for nongovernment development organisations.

Adherence to the Code is monitored by an independent Code of Conduct Committee elected from the NGO community. Our voluntary adherence to the Code of Conduct demonstrates our commitment to ethical practice and public accountability. For more information on the ACFID Code of Conduct, visit the ACFID website on [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au) or email [code@acfid.asn.au](mailto:code@acfid.asn.au)

If you believe INA has breached the ACFID Code of Conduct, you may lodge a complaint here: [www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints](http://www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints)

INA is also a member of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), which, is the national regulator of charities, and in part helps to support Australian charities and maintain public trust in not-for-profits.

## ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION



ACFID  
MEMBER



## THIS ANNUAL REPORT IS ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY



We welcome feedback and suggestions.  
Please email yours to [info@ina.org.au](mailto:info@ina.org.au)

For INA's Complaints Policy or to make a complaint,  
please visit [www.ina.org.au/complaints](http://www.ina.org.au/complaints)

INA would like to acknowledge the incredible people  
- volunteers, interns, contractors, suppliers and partners  
- who have given of their time, energy and talents throughout  
2020/21, especially as so much of it was done remotely.

INA appreciates all of your efforts and values the  
relationships we hold that help us do what we do. Thank you!

## CONTACT DETAILS

### Mail

PO Box 121  
Mitcham VIC 3132  
AUSTRALIA

### Physical Address

196 Rooks Road  
Vermont VIC 3133  
AUSTRALIA

### Phone

1300 731 550 (cost of a local call)  
or (+61) 3 9877 7177

### Web

[www.ina.org.au](http://www.ina.org.au)

### Email

[info@ina.org.au](mailto:info@ina.org.au)

### ABN

84 006 053 229

### ACN

006 053 229



Please visit us at [www.ina.org.au](http://www.ina.org.au)

Above: Families received relief packages during the pandemic in the Philippines.