

# QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 2016 – SEPTEMBER 2017



School students in Tamil Nadu. Photo credit – Pitchandikulam Bio Resource Centre

Presented during the QSA Annual General Meeting held at  
Devonshire Street Meeting House, Sydney on January 14th 2018

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## Number of people helped during 2016-7

Nutritional support given to  
**63** primary school children



New and better ideas on  
agriculture shared with  
**985** farmers.

Awareness of ways to prevent  
domestic violence shared with  
**3,787** adults.

**1057** Men including 10 men  
with disabilities

Basic sanitation provided to  
**59** families

Child protection awareness  
knowledge shared with  
**1842** adults.

**3097** Women including 36  
women with disabilities

Awareness raising on climate  
change and care of the  
environment shared with  
**4,196** people

**1563** Boys including 3 with  
disabilities

**2857** Girls including 5 with  
disabilities

Improved access to  
clean drinking water  
for **596** people

Increased knowledge about hygiene shared  
with **2,854** people



Environmental knowledge  
shared with **417** teachers  
via in-service training

Sustainable livelihoods  
training given to **1127**  
adults



Photos – top CREST Trust, Tamil Nadu; bottom left – Kampong Thom Province with project-funded water tanks; Pursat Province weaver.



## **Report from Convenor, Garry Duncan**

Being a long established smaller development agency Quaker Service Australia (QSA) this past year has continued to work with project partners in India, Cambodia, Uganda and Indigenous Australia. Monitoring visits to each of the overseas countries was made along with a visit to one of our Indigenous Australia partner Kornar Winmil Yunti at their office in Adelaide. QSA is actively engaged with its project partners in a deep and ongoing manner where open and frank discussions build capacity for development work to adapt, refocus and thrive. Please take time to read the annual report, subscribe to the QSA newsletter and invite us to come and tell you more about the real positive change we are making in the lives of so many people.

Events in the political life of a country can impact on the way in which QSA is able to effectively deliver its programs. A few years ago our project in Zimbabwe ended. Recent changes in the political stability of this country cause us to reflect upon whether QSA is able to reengage with trialling some development projects there. Such is the nature of the work of development. Steps forward are made, sometimes a pause in projects is needed, a re-evaluation of effectiveness made and there are times to move on or later reengage within a country. We are concerned about the current trajectory of Cambodia but remain committed to those we work with there. On the ground reports, advice from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), reports from the peak sector body ACFID and other development agencies are all taken into consideration in QSA's project design.

It has been a challenging year for QSA staff working in a very noisy stressful situation day in and day out grinding away this past year as the light rail construction takes place right outside the QSA office. Thankfully we hope to see it completed this coming year. Reports to government and sector agencies, assisting other agencies with preparation for accreditation processes all form part of the day to day QSA office fabric. Emails and phone calls from QSA supporters are valued. Relationship is at the heart of all of what QSA does. We are a busy office with a hum of activity and a flow of ideas, creative possibilities imagined and practical outcomes achieved.

Supporters of QSA have long desired we work with refugees more extensively. Quakers around the world have had a significant legacy in helping refugees. With limited resources this has been a challenge for QSA to step into this work in any meaningful way in the recent past. We were delighted this year when a bequest for work with refugees came to QSA. It was well timed in giving a specific focus for the interstate representatives of the QSA Linkages Committee to become active in project partnering. Effectively this bequest broadens and deepens the work of QSA reorienting the organisation in ways that were unimaginable 12 months ago.

Responding to this change new opportunities have opened giving specific direction for QSA's new Multi-year Plan and assisting with longer term plans and transitions. QSA has joined the Refugee Council of Australia and is now exploring possibilities of partnering with organisations associated with them in a refugee program in Malaysia. Our sister agency Quaker Peace and Service Aotearoa New Zealand has been making small-scale grants available to organisations and is wanting to be

more active in project design. QSA hopes to be able to assist them by sharing knowledge and expertise from our experiences in the coming months. This is an exciting development for Quaker Service in this part of the world; a new Quaker Service hub in the making with expanded collaboration at its heart.



Nadukuppam school students in Tamil Nadu, South India explaining rainfall and caring for their environment to younger students using song and their art work. Photo credit: QSA

As a founding member of the Church Agencies Network (<http://www.churchagenciesnetwork.org.au/>) QSA brings knowledge and continuity to the other development agencies in a collaborative environment. This enables a fresh two way process of learning with exchanges of ideas and experiences well beyond the scope of our smaller agency. QSA staff continue to be actively engaged in professional learning, upskilling and participation in higher education degrees. A review of the appropriate levels of remuneration within the organisation is underway.

Extending a hand up, building economic and environmental sustainability, alleviating poverty in the long term, setting the scene for gender equality all put QSA at the forefront of development good practice. There is a great need for hope, a beacon of light to show a different way forward in a confused and warring world. We represent a vision for a better world. There is much more that can be done. Our project partners value you joining with QSA in building their future prospects enriching lives of individuals and communities. We thank our donors for continued support. There would be no QSA without you. A special thank you to the interstate fundraisers, the volunteers at the Quaker Shop in Adelaide, the Quaker Service stall volunteers, the diligent QSA staff and committee members. Our project partners thank you. As always please consider what you can do this year to make a real personal impact on the lives of others in need. Together we do make a meaningful difference. It is a work that enriches us all.

Garry Duncan





## **Report from the Executive Administrator, Jackie Perkins**

During the past year QSA has worked with Indigenous communities in Australia, and overseas with rural communities in Cambodia, India and Uganda. Regular monitoring visits are made to the projects overseas which helps QSA to develop sound working relationships with key project staff and project participants. During this year a visit was also made to Korna Winmil Yunti, the Indigenous project we are supporting in South Australia which was a great opportunity to learn more about their work. Although food and water security have been the primary focus of the projects completed overseas, this is by no means the end of the story.

QSA supports the training in organic agriculture and permaculture as a means to enhance nutrition by ensuring there is more than one meal available per day, thereby improving health and well-being. This leads to fewer days of sickness keeping children away from school and adults unable to work, and there is also the potential of surplus produce for sale. Some of the training facilitates the growing of specific crops for sale such as traditional varieties of grains, kapok and spirulina in India and cassava in Uganda. Other means of poverty reduction include training in handicraft skills – weaving baskets, scarves and mats; sewing clothing and bags; and making household items all in Cambodia, and growing herbs and making herbal medicines and nutritional supplements in India. However, poverty does not always simply mean a lack of income – it can also mean a lack of access to resources to help with this and a lack of understanding of their human rights. The projects all also attempt to address these issues with training in human rights, the rights and protection of children, to raise awareness of the needs of people with disabilities, and particularly in Australia, ways of reducing domestic violence and improving anger management.

This past year has also been a time of global uncertainty affecting many communities and regions. Natural disasters such as cyclones and floods have affected communities in Cambodia and Tamil Nadu, South India. Changes in rainfall pattern have affected all agricultural activities, such that water security has become a major issue and our projects in Cambodia have specifically included the provision of water storage tanks, secure wells for easy water access, and the provision of toilets for enhanced sanitation and hygiene.

QSA remains firmly committed to achieving its overarching Statement of Purpose, for the building of a more peaceful, equitable, just and compassionate world, working with communities in need to improve their quality of life. Projects are designed to be economically and environmentally appropriate and sustainable, which requires constant and effective consultation and collaboration. Working for a number of years with existing project partners enables a good working relationship to be established and maintained, and for capacity building training needs to be assessed and addressed, all of which lead to greater benefit for the communities they serve. Regular assessment of the project partners' capacity means that it is clear when they have the capacity and means to be self-sufficient and independent, both of QSA and other donors.

All of this work, funded in part by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, is dependent upon funding from Quakers and the public. QSA is very grateful for the strong and steadfast support from

individuals, Meetings, the Quaker Shop in Adelaide, stalls held in Sydney and at Meetings and Friends' School which enables the work to continue and to grow.

And on behalf of the communities we work with, we thank you all.

Jackie Perkins

**QSA Company Members, as at September 30<sup>th</sup> 2017**  
**\*Management Committee member, based in Sydney**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Experience/Qualifications</b>
David Cooper* <small>Attended 5/5 meetings</small>	New South Wales	Member from December 2016	Solicitor (retired) with many years' experience in general law practice.
Rhoda Dorrell <small>Attended 1/1 meetings</small>	Queensland	Member from September 2017	Long standing support for QSA and its work. Has also been active in supporting refugees to settle in her area, teaching primary aged children about Aboriginal heritage and supporting local Indigenous communities in a number of ways.
Garry Duncan* <small>Attended 11/11 meetings</small>	New South Wales	Convenor	Experience as High School geography teacher and business studies teacher in New Zealand and Australia, year adviser and has a keen interest in student welfare and restorative justice processes. Currently employed as faculty officer and researcher. Has served for 3 years on the Friends' School Board of Governors.
John Dundas* <small>Attended 5/6 meetings</small>	New South Wales	Treasurer	Retired bank officer and senior computer systems project manager. QSA office finance volunteer since 1999.
Henry Esbenshade <small>Attended 3/5 meetings</small>	WA	Member	Henry has expertise in dry-land agroforestry. He has maintained his commitment to overseas development assistance since being a US Peace Corps Volunteer in Sierra Leone.



Water Awareness Training program for community members organised by Children's Rehabilitation, Education and Social Empowerment (CREST) Trust, Tamil Nadu, with thanks to QSA. Photo credit: CREST Trust

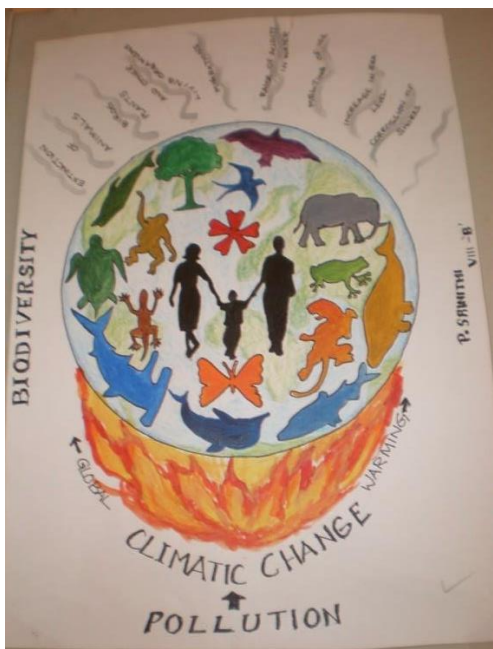
Topsy Evans Attended 5/5 meetings	South Australia	Member	Has served QSA as a monitor in Cambodia and Vietnam, written AIDS education project material for long term project in Cambodia, served for six years on the former QSA indo-China sub-committee. Former manager of the Quaker Op-Shop in Adelaide, a successful fund raiser and vehicle for outreach.
Richard Gibbons* Attended 5/6 meetings	New South Wales	Member	Extensive administrative and human resource management experience.
Miriam Goodwin* Attended 5/6 meetings	New South Wales	Member	12 years' experience in public relations, focussing on the technology sector. Has worked in communications, business growth and government relations services for more than 35 years.
Anne Herbert Attended 2/5 meetings	Victoria	Member from November 2016	An adult educator who has worked in a range of roles in Australia, Asia and Europe, and is actively involved with Quaker work in Europe and Australia.
Marian James Attended 2/4 meetings	QLD	Member until August 2017	Retired NGO manager, experienced adult educator specialising in adult literacy and Aboriginal education. Undergraduate degree in Asian studies and post-graduate education degree.
Beverley Jefferson Attended 1/2 meetings	Tas	Member from September 2017	Has worked within the not-for-profit sector, government and private enterprise in roles relating to projects, volunteer, organisational and grant management, administration, marketing and communications. She has worked for many years in cultural industries, also in Laos PDR with the Lao Disabled People's Association, currently is the Multicultural Community Liaison Officer, Tasmania's Settlement and Multicultural Affairs department.
Mary J Merindol* Attended 4/6 meetings	New South Wales	Member	Has worked as an activist, political reformer and social justice advocate, with a particular concern for refugees and asylum seekers.
Michael Morrissey	New South Wales	Public Officer, non-member	Experience in workplace health and safety (WH&S) management roles across a variety of workplaces including manufacturing, transport and government. This experience is supported by membership of Safety Institute of Australia and tertiary qualifications in business, human resources, WH&S as well as training and assessment.
Mardi Naulty	ACT	Member until	Twenty years' experience in teaching adult literacy, numeracy and English as a second language at

Attended 4/5 meetings		August 2017	Wagga Wagga and Canberra TAFEs, with particular interest in co-ordinating the volunteer tutor program, now retired. Co-ordinator Canberra Quaker Permaculture group.
Alex Nicolson Attended 1/1 meetings	ACT	Member, from September 2017	Retired public servant who worked for 15 years with Aboriginal and Torres Strait communities throughout Eastern and South Australia. He has also worked extensively in the Pacific including 6 years in Fiji with the Pacific Islands Forum and two years each with the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea Treasuries. He was Secretary to a Public Accounts Committee inquiry into the Efficiency of Australia's Overseas Aid Program (Report 201). He has post graduate qualifications in Cross-Cultural Psychology.
Jasmine Payget Attended 3/5 meetings	New South Wales	Member	Environmental educator, working with local communities through local government. She is an advocate for Asset Based Community Development to enable local people to create improvements for water conservation and biodiversity, particularly with Aboriginal, women's and ethnic organisations, and neighbourhood centres. Jasmine previously worked as an equal employment opportunity officer, changing systems to reduce discrimination. She has a keen interest in affordable housing, peace and support for East Timor. Has attended a study tour and undertaken some work for QSA.
Jackie Perkins*	New South Wales	Member until January 2017	Masters of Social Science (International Development). Three years' experience administering community centre, twelve years on collective of women's health centre, fifteen years' experience as medical herbalist. Was part time QSA office volunteer from 1999 to 2004 then became employed full time as administrator and project manager, and appointed company secretary January 2017.
Kyle Purnell Attended 0/2 meetings	Young Friends	Member from August 2017	Science background and interest, particularly in biology. Experience in retail, logistics and distribution, with a customer service orientation.
Barbara Wilde Attended 3/3 meetings	Tasmania	Member until July 2017	Taught English, Geography and Geology in Australian High Schools and Colleges. Six years' experience in working as project manager and book keeper for QSA, with particular reference to projects in Uganda and nine years as monitor to projects there.



<p>Audrey Wilson*</p> <p>Attended 4/5 meetings</p>	<p>New South Wales</p>	<p>Member until July 2017</p>	<p>Retired Associate Professor in Chemistry, and Director of 1<sup>st</sup> year studies at the University of Wollongong. Had experience of teaching in Papua New Guinea and Northern Nigeria at high school and university level.</p>
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**Consultant engaged during the year – Neville Ross (graphics and website redesign).  
Office Staff and volunteers**  
 Jackie Perkins – Executive Administrator, India and Cambodia Projects’ manager  
 Ai Leen Quah – African Projects’ manager (part time)  
 Alis Middleton – Finance (part time)  
 John Dundas – Volunteer, treasurer



Climate change art work from school students and exhibited at the 4<sup>th</sup> Indian Biodiversity Congress, held in 2017 at the Pondicherry University in Tamil Nadu. Proto credit: QSA

## **Quaker Service Australia – Statement of Purpose**

**The purpose of QSA is to express in a practical way the concern of Australian Quakers for the building of a more peaceful, equitable, just and compassionate world. To this end QSA works with communities in need to improve their quality of life with projects which are culturally sensitive, as well as being economically and environmentally appropriate and sustainable.**

QSA will not participate in any proselytising activities, or permit any of its funds or resources to be used in this way. It will not permit project resources or funds to be used to support terrorism in any way or a political party, or to promote a candidate or organisation affiliated with a political party in their party political activities. QSA is committed via its development projects to work towards the achievement of human rights for the communities (including the children) it comes into contact with and to advocate on behalf of all communities in this matter, and will not restrict its development work to a particular faith or religion.

### **Sector and regional focus for its development work**

**QSA sector focus** – This includes food security, water security, poverty alleviation, with all projects including awareness of environmental sustainability, inclusion of people with disabilities and marginalised groups, child protection, gender equality; and capacity enhancement which underpins them all.

**QSA regional focus** – The countries where QSA is providing support, either alone or with funding support from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) are Australia, Cambodia, India (Tamil Nadu), Uganda and Zimbabwe.

QSA will continue to work with its current project partners, assisting them to support communities in need as well as enhancing the partner's capacity to manage projects until such time as this support is no longer needed. QSA will, within its current financial and staffing capacity, include additional project partners situated in the same region as existing project partners, so that there are opportunities for local support and sharing of ideas, expertise and resources via a hub arrangement facilitated by QSA, with the expressed aim of forming and enhancing mentoring networks.

## **Are you happy with the way QSA is operating?**

The QSA Management Committee, in accordance with its principles and values, is committed to achieving the highest standard it can in every area of its work. It is recognised that a key way of learning what needs to be done to improve our work is through handling complaints well. QSA's Policy on Grievance Handling, Complaints and Dispute Resolution has been drawn up to take into account the rights of all concerned in resolving complaints, grievances and disputes, by open communication, in a manner consistent with cooperative work practices and in sympathy with Quaker teachings and ideals.

QSA's Public Officer, Michael Morrissey is the contact person for receiving complaints (QSA, 119 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 or [administration@gsa.org.au](mailto:administration@gsa.org.au)).

It is also possible to make a complaint directly to the Australian Council of International Development's Code of Conduct Committee regarding an alleged breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct.



**QSA is a member of The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)** which is the peak body for Australian not-for-profit aid and development organisations working towards a world where gross inequality and extreme poverty are eradicated. QSA has been a member of ACFID, and its predecessor ACFOA, since the 1970s, and became a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct when it was drawn up in 1996. The Code defines minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for non-government development organisations.

More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from QSA and from ACFID at Private Bag 3, Deakin ACT 2600, Telephone (02) 6285 1816 Fax (02) 6285 1720, or, on their website at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

The QSA Management Committee affirms its commitment to be bound by the independent, accessible, fair and confidential Code of Conduct complaints handling process and to comply promptly with reporting requirement, reasonable information requests and remedial or disciplinary actions recommended by the Code of Conduct Committee. Further, QSA will monitor itself to ensure compliance with the Code and notify the Code of Conduct Committee if it becomes aware of major transgressions by QSA or other signatory organisations. QSA's adherence to the Code of Conduct demonstrates its commitment to ethical practice and public accountability, and to supporting fellow ACFID members in the pursuit of their ideals and objectives.

### **Church Agencies Network**

QSA is a member of the Church Agencies Network (CAN) which provides another opportunity for close collaboration at many levels, including advocacy, staff training and mentoring. CAN comprises Australian church-based aid and development agencies who are members of ACFID and the National Council of Churches in Australia. Currently the members are Act for Peace; the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA); Anglican Board of Mission – Australia Ltd; Anglican Overseas Aid; Australian Lutheran World Service; Caritas Australia; Global Mission Partners; Quaker Service Australia; Salvation Army; Transform Aid, formerly Australian Baptist World Aid; and Uniting World.



*Churches Working  
Together in  
Aid & Development*

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



Floor mat weaving at the Bunrany Hun Sen Centre in Cambodia. Photo credit: QSA

## Project Results during 2016-2017

This section of the annual report lists all of the projects funded using QSA's own funds, either from its Overseas Aid Fund, or the Aboriginal Concerns Fund.

### **Australia – Kornar Winmil Yunti, based in South Australia. \$24,024 from QSA's indigenous Concerns Fund.**

This project with a focus on reducing Aboriginal family violence, has supported Aboriginal women and children's safety and well-being, and of recognising the importance of culturally appropriate responses. Through Kornar Winmil Yunti's accountability and responsibility to change program, this project has worked collaboratively to promote an increase in the safety of women and children. Supporting Aboriginal women who are the partners or ex-partners of domestic and Aboriginal family violence perpetrators and their children, this project has addressed the safety of the family through holistic assertive case management which includes on-going risk and safety assessments. Funding from QSA has enabled a full-time women's worker to be employed by Kornar Winmil Yunti.

During the first half of the year, 48 women entered into the program, and 23 of them had children living with them, a total of 66 children. Referrals came from a range of service providers as well as the women themselves. Work was undertaken to build relationships with the women, turning government language into that which could be easily understood and enabling the women to navigate the system. There was also strong support given to the women in the program, helping them to understand the benefits to be had from participation, and supporting them through the process of court cases and other tribunal matters. The worker employed plus support from other Kornar Winmil Yunti staff have enabled the women make changes in their lives, helping the families remain stronger and healthier.



### **Support for Cunnamulla Aboriginal community, Queensland \$5,160**

A range of small-scale ideas have been grouped together to provide support for the Aboriginal community in Cunnamulla, Queensland. A project to create a plant nursery has been carried out, providing the basis for a re-planting of indigenous trees on Murra Murra land. Seeds from the area have been germinated and it is hoped that this project has the basis of valuable work experience for future employment prospects for youth in the community.

Funding has also been provided for support of Indigenous offenders through the court system. This includes basic toiletries to enable the many homeless defendants to present themselves suitably to the Courts; transport for some of the Elders to meet with the defendants and write cultural reports



which may mitigate sentencing; and for Elders to visit and provide cultural support for indigenous prisoners.



Kooma land, Queensland. Photo credit: Lyn Dundas

Additional funding has been provided to contribute towards remote Aboriginal Secondary school students to have the books they need and to contribute to costs of travel and accommodation for additional education courses held in other areas which the local High School is unable to provide.

**Children’s Rehabilitation, Education and Social Empowerment Trust (CREST) in Tamil Nadu, South India \$4711 from QSA’s own funds.**

**Project title: Safe drinking Water**

This project has provided safe and clean drinking water to three remote rural villages in Tamil Nadu. It required secure bore wells to be drilled, at sites assessed as being suitable. In addition, training has been provided for key staff of the organisation about water management and hygiene and sanitation knowledge, which was then shared with the community. Each of the three communities have created a village water community and received training in efficient and effective management of water, how to prevent water borne diseases and personal hygiene and cleanliness.



New community water access, linked to vegetable plots for irrigation, and water diviner who successfully located the water source. Photo credit: CREST Trust

**Dream Farm Kyakabunga Group, Uganda. Project expenditure: \$9,989 from QSA's own funds**

**Project title: Enhancing Environmental Conservation through Water Harvesting, Crop and Livestock Production in Kiruhura District, South Western Uganda**

### **Project Results**

The overall aim of this project, begun in January 2017 for the calendar year, was to increase environmental conservation farming in the community. Over the year, the construction of a community dam enhanced the availability of safe and clean water for community members, school children, livestock and a nearby trading centre. This helped to increase production of an improved variety of pasture for livestock, and has resulted in healthier animals that have produced manure which in turn has improved soil fertility and crop production.

The planting and production of new crop varieties, particularly cassava, has increased the community's and schools' food supplies. In the case of schools, the improved supply of water and cassava flour for the use of school meals has resulted in increased attendance. Finally, community cohesion, particularly amongst women and youth, has improved over the year as a result of community members working together.

### **Project Challenges**

A lack of hands-on training, knowledge and skills in the community for climate change adapted agriculture has surfaced as a primary concern, which is not helped by the increasingly unreliable weather patterns and rainfall in the region. Transport or communication amongst farmers in order to share ideas and knowledge could help to facilitate community-based activities and decision-making.



Community group leaders receive cassava stems from the demonstration garden at Dream Farm; R: A female-headed family receives beans and maize for their home garden. Photo credit: Dream Farm Kyakabunga Group

For many of the overseas projects, additional funds have been sourced from the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, or DFAT under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program funding.



## CAMBODIA

Department of Women's Affairs, Kampong Thom. Funded by QSA and DFAT, \$44,666

**Project title – Enhanced food and water security for three rural communities.**

### Project results

60 trainees (49 women) have received extensive training and established home food gardens, growing a range of 5-10 vegetables, herbs and fruit trees. This has enabled increased food security but limited experience to date has given 7 months food security in first year of a two year training program. 87% farmers in the second year of their training have greatly benefitted from refresher training and 100% were able to increase home grown food security to year-round. In addition, 90% of participants report an increase in income of around \$60 per month, with greater income during the dry season when vegetable prices are higher. This has enabled families to improve living conditions with household repairs, and supply basic needs and clothes. However knowing what crops to grow for enhanced nutrition is also important, and 60 pregnant women and mothers of children under 2 years of age have been trained in nutrition and basic health as a means of enhancing maternal and child wellbeing.



Kampong Thom Province – secure water wells and household toilet provided by the project. Photo credit: Department of Women's Affairs, Kampong Thom.



Water security is also a significant issue in this region. 15 wells have been constructed for 15 families and their near neighbours to safely access water for domestic use and irrigation for 10 months of the year. 15 additional families have had a toilet constructed near their house, and related training in hygiene and sanitation has been provided to 120 villagers in attempts to reduce open defecation.

### **Challenges**

During the past year there has been considerably less flooding in comparison to earlier years so that agricultural activities have not been so adversely affected. However access to water for irrigation by hand or drip system does make a significant difference to crop yield, quality and nutritional value, as has been noted in regular monitoring reports. Easy access to local markets is a further factor in income opportunities.

Funding allocated has not enabled every family in the selected villages to become involved in the project at the same time, requiring prioritisation via implementation of the community determined selection criteria. Some community members may be particularly keen to learn but have limited time available to devote to their home food gardens as they need to continue paid employment elsewhere or extensive home duties take up their time. These families may only benefit from dietary enhancement from consuming their produce and have insufficient to sell.



Training course in permaculture, Kampong Thom. Photo credit: Department of Women's affairs, Kampong Thom

### **Khmer Community Development. Funded by QSA and DFAT, \$62,923**

#### **Project title – Inter-ethnic development in the border area of Kandal Province**

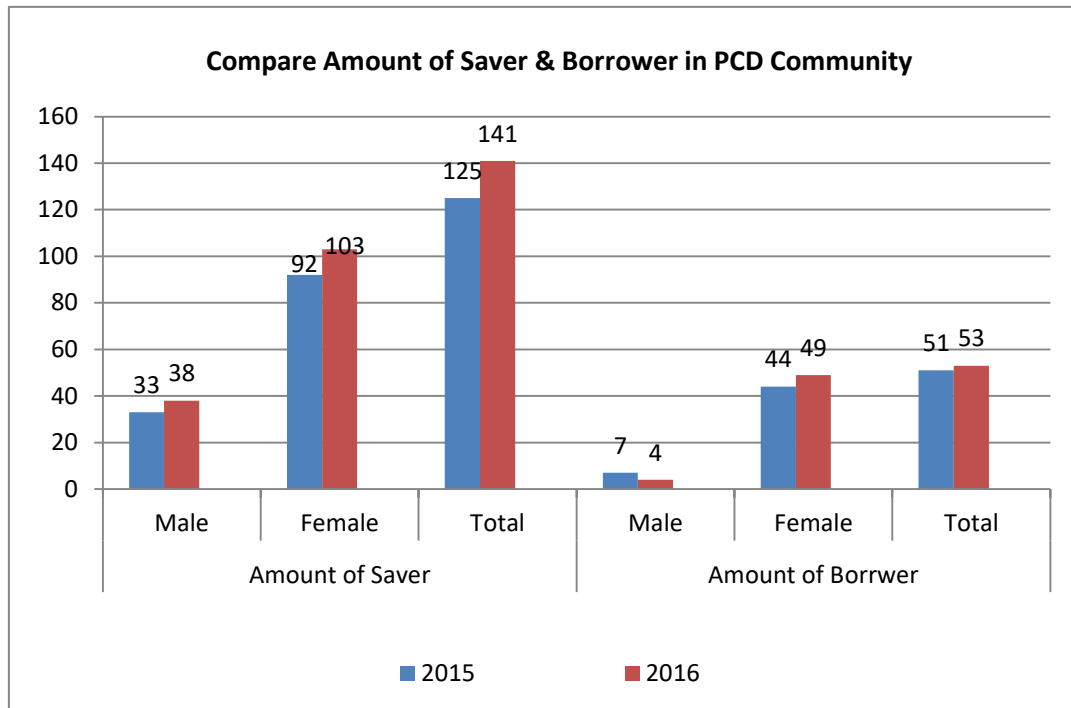
#### **Project results**

This project is part of a larger and more long term program funded by other donors and is working overall towards enhancing community cohesion among the Khmer, Vietnamese and Khmer-Vietnamese people living in a rural area in Kandal Province, close to the border with Vietnam.

As a means of increasing livelihood opportunities, training has been given in organic farming techniques. In the past year, 39 farmers have gained confidence as they transition to growing crops

organically as a result of the workshops provided. Agriculturally based enterprises involving 91 families reported a 30% increase in income. Micro finance schemes have increased in popularity, with a 31% increase in membership and 56% of all borrowers have taken loans for small businesses such as increasing the number of livestock or poultry, buying seeds, fishing nets and increasing business stock. All ethnic groups have membership of savings and credit groups.

Chart from KCD shows the increase in number of savers and borrowers There were 125 savers (w=92) in year 2015 and 141 savers (w=103) in year 2016. There were 51 borrowers (w=44) in year 2015 and 53 borrowers (w=49) in year 2016. Credit: Khmer Community Development



This project also provided workshops to raise awareness of issues such as domestic violence, attended by 142 people, community leadership team building workshops to 75 people and in particular to empowering women to stand as candidates for elected leader positions. Eight women stood as candidates and five were elected.

### Challenges

Ferry access to nearby Vietnam and its markets was closed for several months during the year. It was reopened after the commune elections which caused disruption to regular sales of home-grown produce. This resulted in the new idea of a local market being formed.

For parents there is a reluctance for their children to travel to school via the major road due to the high traffic volume now that it is completed. There has also been a need to provide road safety training within the community and school classes as this is such a new feature in this remote region.

The efficiency of growing organically needs to be demonstrated to farmers in order that they can see for themselves that the system works and is cost effective. This then encourages them to transition from their familiar farming techniques.



How to share the profits derived from the community-based micro-enterprises can be a difficult decision. The project partner encourages collective decision-making about the profit margin to be shared, and encourages a percentage to be allocated to support the extreme poor within the community.



Khmer Community Development – workshop on health and hygiene, and key staff members.  
Photo credit: Khmer Community Development

The lack of capacity to speak both Khmer and Vietnamese amongst the majority of people and in particular the staff has been recognised as another potential constraint to reducing inter-ethnic tensions. KCD has built relationships with people able to speak both languages and staff are undergoing training to facilitate greater communication and joint training workshops.



Ms. Sreang Sopheap in Prek Chrey explaining her experiences of organic farming to community members; QSA's Jackie Perkins meeting members of the Peace Club in Prek Chrey.  
Photo credit: Khmer Community Development

**Department of Women's Affairs, Pursat. Funded by QSA and DFAT, \$72,515**

**Project title – Poverty alleviation and development of business capacity in Pursat Province**

**Project results**

The Department of Women's Affairs in Pursat has worked with 100 women village leaders, providing training about the role of women, child protection issues, inclusiveness especially for people with disabilities, and how to work with village leaders to achieve greater results and to encourage more

inclusive decision-making. This training gave them greater confidence in their role as elected leaders, and they then went on to share the information with over 7,800 community members.

100 farmers have increased their skills and confidence through training in permaculture, enabling them to create home food gardens, growing 5-10 vegetable varieties, nutritious herbs and fruit trees. Successful and productive food gardens become a great motivator for the trainees, leading to continued application of knowledge with many neighbours learning from their example.



Project participants displaying their home food gardens. Photo credit: QSA

The addition of training in seed saving and fruit tree grafting techniques reduces financial outlays in future years, and the knowledge of the nutritional value of the crops grown adds to enhanced health and wellbeing. Each trainee received training over two years, ensuring their good understanding and application, despite differing learning abilities.

The produce grown, aside from improving health and wellbeing for the family, enabled the sale of surplus, generating \$65 - \$165 per month for participants depending on their skills and size of land available for use. 56% of the project participants achieved year round food security and anecdotal evidence from them suggests a reduction in illness by the participants and their families.

All staff attended a training workshop on the special needs of people with disabilities and child protection issues. This has helped marginalised groups become more involved in the project and the staff to have a better understanding of their needs.

## Challenges

The challenge from the previous project and its permaculture trainees who have insufficient time to establish home food gardens has been addressed in this current project by strengthening selection criteria and 100% achievement rate has now been achieved. However, access to water for most of the year and the size of land available for agricultural use are key factors affecting the degree of success in the food gardens.

Access to local markets for sales of produce is important, though transportation is often an issue if greater distances are involved. A way around this for the more remote trainees, is that neighbours now willingly purchase from them directly.

For some women village leaders, they may have poor comprehension of the role, therefore requiring additional training. They may also have extensive home duties or need paid employment to support their families, which reduces their time available for the role, and makes the additional training all the more valuable.

Discussing child protection issues can be a challenge when so many poor families rely on their children as labourers to help with peak season tasks on the land such as planting or harvesting or to care for younger siblings. This means they potentially miss school for weeks at a time.

Some very poor families do not have access to water from a well or river, or to water storage vessels, inhibiting their food garden success. This project has purchased water storage pots and lids for each family to assist in this regard. It also means that during a drought when the government distributes water by tanker, everyone can benefit.



Concrete water pots and storage containers distributed by the project. Photo credit: QSA

**Bunrany Hun Sen Development Centre and the Production and Marketing Services Association, Pursat. Funded by QSA and DFAT, \$95,858**

**Project title – Poverty alleviation and development of business capacity in Pursat Province**

### **Project results**

During the past year this vocational training centre's staff have worked hard to change its focus to become a production centre. Products sold include woven grass and bamboo floor mats; scarves made from cotton and silk with some dyed with natural dyes; bags and household items; woven baskets and sewn clothing. Sales occur at the Centre's showroom, via the website and to traders who place large quantity orders. A recent initiative has involved a mobile shop touring to the more remote villages in the province.

90% of the handicraft trainees and producers at the Centre derive an increased income of \$130 per month from the sale of the completed items. 60 women completed a comprehensive six month training course in vocational handicraft skills, and 80% of them have since opened up individual micro enterprises with the rest have secured employment elsewhere.



The consistency of the production quality of the completed handicraft items needs to be maintained for repeat sales. Stock handling and storage methods in use now ensure the quality of the finished product is maintained, and accurate stock records ensure orders to traders can be fulfilled on time.



Finishing the edges to floor mats; range of bags on display in the showroom. Photo credit: QSA

Rural communities in the province have gained an increased awareness of their legal rights, ways of reducing domestic violence and enhancing child protection. Staff also completed training to raise their awareness of the needs of people with disabilities, and at the centre two disability access toilets have been constructed to accommodate people with disabilities.



Disability access toilet signs at the centre. Photo credit: QSA

## Challenges

For handicraft production, the fashionable shade of a colour is very important and varies each season. This is particularly onerous when selling to a commercial outlet with precise requirements that are difficult to achieve, such as repeat colour shades when using natural dyes - which the Centre tries to use when possible for environmental purposes and greater worker safety.

The proximity to the Pursat garment factory employing many thousands of young people in cramped and difficult conditions but with regular salaries has meant that many trainees prefer to obtain work there rather than establishing their own micro-enterprise with varying income. This also had the effect of reducing the number of trained producers for the Centre.



Staff at Bunrany Hun Sen Development Centre with Production and Marketing Services Association.  
Photo credit: QSA

The opportunity to acquire the raw materials (grass, cane, and bamboo) is not always easy due to climate affecting the growth and quality of the products which impacts on the cost. These additional costs have to be factored in to the finished item, which could mean that the retail price is less competitive with other producers, reducing sales.



Weaving bamboo placemats and silk scarves. Photo credit: QSA

The quality of completed handcraft items needs to be closely monitored, and a wide range of marketing approaches are needed to broaden product exposure and achieve a greater market share.

## **TAMIL NADU, SOUTH INDIA**

**Pitchandikulam Bio Resource Centre, Tamil Nadu, South India. Funded by QSA and DFAT \$82,606**

**Project title – Integrated village rural development in Tamil Nadu**

### **Project results**

This project has environmental sustainability as its key focus. Indigenous tree seedlings have been germinated from locally sourced seeds and a total of 15,500 trees were planted to revitalise and recreate traditional tropical dry evergreen forest areas. Five classroom presentations were prepared this year and shared with 417 teachers as part of in-service training. Over 3,000 students attended



environmental education classes and exposure visits to Pitchandikulam Forest, and 2,800 students took part in weekend activities through Eco-Clubs.



Preparing for a new batch of seedlings and watering the newly planted tree seedlings in the reforested areas, Tamil Nadu. Photo credit: QSA

Enhancing sustainable livelihoods is also key to this project and initiatives created previously involving the growing and use of herbs, a plant nursery and spirulina production have been merged into the Common Facilities Centre. 45 women are involved in the centre and have been upskilled in effective rural marketing and enterprise management. The centre has enabled the sharing of resources and collaboration in the production and sale of herbal based chutney, pickles and nutritional supplements, as well as a range of herbal medicine preparations and creams. Increased sales have been generated by exposure at local, state and national events.



Regular sales of herbal products made by the women involved in the Amirtha Herbal medicine, Meera Herbal Food and Spirulina units through a local shop, local events, health and cattle camps and conferences. Photo credit: QSA

Additional use of locally grown herbs and herbal medicine products have been prescribed by professional doctors at health camps where 242 people were treated with subsidised remedies, and over 400 cattle were treated by veterinarians at cattle camps.

The project has also been able to significantly reduce child malnutrition with the provision of a twice daily health drink supplement based on locally grown herbs and organic grains and vegetables. 63 children are receiving the supplement and have been assessed regularly for height/weight ratio and

blood count. During the year improvements have meant that some children are healthy enough to no longer need the supplementation.

## Challenges

There is the challenge of political change and civil unrest which occurs around the time of commune and national elections. As always when elections are held, such as in late 2016, the project partner will cease project activities for some time before, during and after the election to ensure there is no wrong association linking project activities with political events; strict impartiality is maintained by keeping a distance from such events.

The relocation of teaching staff within Tamil Nadu means that there are always new teachers to learn and receive in-service training. It is however an advantage also in that the materials provided by the project partner are reaching new schools than perhaps was originally considered possible. For the women who are involved in the community enterprises, family members are not always supportive of their new-found confidence, income and abilities. Workshops and group discussions have helped the women to feel comfortable to address potential issues and continue their work. Their uniform saris give them a degree of visible status within the community. Some have even taken the leap to start their own independent enterprises.



Regular watering of the tree seedlings ensures a good survival rate. Photo credit: QSA

Water supply for the plant nursery enterprise and agricultural demonstration sites has proved a challenge this year. QSA was able to repair a windmill, provide safety systems for a bore-well and other water improvements to make the water supply more assured. Support is also being provided to assist the women growing spirulina address the marketing challenges of their product.

**Vasandham Society, Tamil Nadu, South India. Funded by QSA and DFAT \$24,770**

**Project title – Promotion of environmentally friendly and traditional agriculture in Tamil Nadu**

### **Project results**

Vasandham Society has established demonstration sites of water management techniques such as contour bunds, overflow channels and water storage methods. In addition 20 varieties of traditional grains have been grown; azolla – an aquatic plant that can be effectively used as cattle fodder has been successfully demonstrated; and the husbandry of traditional breeds of cattle and poultry which are better suited to the current climate are encouraged. Many of the 787 farmers (432 women) who visited the demonstration sites have adopted these ideas. 30 farmers have agreed to convert their farms to organic demonstration farms and 23 peer educators have been given additional training. Promotion of the use of traditional grains was shared with 1,500 people. At least 10 farmers have started to grow traditional millets, however the prolonged drought has reduced the quantity of crop available in the region. Also millet has now become an expensive commodity as people realise the health benefits from eating it, and it has become a lucrative crop, persuading families to sell rather than eat their own produce. 100 farmers have been trained in keeping traditional poultry breeds and 85 are now breeding traditional rather than exotic poultry breeds which are better suited to the current climate and type of feed available. 76 farmers trained in the husbandry of traditional strains of cattle, with 25 farmers willing to breed traditional rather than imported strains which are more hardy and can be more economically fed, though with a reduced milk yield.







“Light up a Lamp for Women” an International Women’s Day celebrations March 2017, a festival of dance, music and speeches from Women’s Self Help Group Federation leaders.  
Photo credit: QSA

A vigorous campaign has been undertaken by 670 people (585 women) in one region to remove rubbish, in particular plastics such as bags and water bottles. This has improved the overall appearance in the area as well as reducing the pollution and the numbers of rodents. It has additionally been very successful thanks to companies willing to purchase and recycle the plastics.

A total of 125 women’s self-help groups comprising 1743 members continue to be supported by Vasandham Society. In addition a campaign to increase knowledge about children’s rights, in particular to reduce the number of child marriages, is having great success.



“Educate girls up to Graduation” Procession attended by more than 800 women and children in awareness raising campaign to encourage girls to complete their education to the end of high school. Photo credit: Vasandham Society

### Challenges

The prolonged drought is having a serious impact on all agricultural activities, reducing crop quantity and quality, though those with crops to sell have benefitted from the higher prices obtainable in the dry season. By December 2016 the region had only had a quarter of its usual monsoon rainfall, creating problems not only for agriculture but also household consumption. It is also effecting a change of mindset among farmers about how water is managed, and range of techniques being demonstrated by Vasandham Society are being adopted. The types of crops recently grown in the



region are not successful with the unreliable water supply, but different and more traditional varieties and types of crops such as those promoted by Vasandham Society are yielding greater results.

Working with the communities to reduce child marriages is difficult as the district child protection units and the violence against women committees are not always aware an underage wedding is being planned. However, as more people become aware of the law around this and how desirable it is for children to complete their education, community support is increasing. This support is adding to the awareness raising workshops being attended by young girls along with the peer support groups.

## UGANDA

**St Jude Family Projects. Project expenditure: \$57,177 (DFAT and QSA funded)**

**Project title: Climate-resilient agriculture for sustainable livelihood improvement**



L: St Jude's Josephine Kizza at a conference in Nairobi to share some of her knowledge; R: School children have a hands-on lesson in planting seedlings. Photo credit: St Jude Family Projects

### Project Results

St Jude Family Projects has found that a 2-year project cycle is an effective model for teaching and equipping people with the skills to overcome the cycle of poverty. After the initial year of training in agriculture and livelihood skills, this second year directly involved 491 people from Rakai, Masaka and Lwengo Districts, and focused on increasing economic opportunities and business skills.

As of the end of the project, 162 participating women and youth (90%) achieved a diversity of nutritious home-grown food for their and their families' consumption with 3 adequate and healthy meals a day throughout the year. Their regular family earnings from the sale of surplus produce

reached over \$60 per month for a majority of the women, who now trade surplus cereals, grains, spices, tubers and bananas. The youth earn an average of \$55 per month which allows them to purchase protein-rich meat, fish and milk, beans, peas and nuts.

These women and youth are visibly practising small-scale irrigation, mixed crop livestock farming and crop diversification, which has improved soil fertility, crop production and quality, therefore strengthening adaptability for climate change and risk mitigation for rural farming. During dry seasons, manual irrigation has helped to conserve water, and a reduced amount of wood needed for stove fires has reduced the impact of tree-felling. The resultant livelihood improvements in family food and income have in turn helped to reinforce the sustainable practices in natural resource management.

95% of women and youth planted 20 fruits or multipurpose agroforestry trees and rotate indigenous and improved drought-resistant crops, legumes and other cover-crops, to help to increase crop production and success.

Environmental conservation practices and food production was increased and expanded in 3 schools who are now able to provide nearly 40% of their lunches from their garden, while 2 more schools produced 30% of their lunches; some 313 children in total, with the land size owned by each school accounting for the differences in achievement. A brilliant outcome was the 35% increase in school attendance, and a reduction in stealing and assault by otherwise hungry children.



Farmers studying crops at St Jude. Photo credit: St Jude Family

### **Project Challenges**

The project has provided participants with the knowledge and means to construct energy-conserving stoves that use only one quarter of the traditional stone fireplaces. Notwithstanding, wood remains the major source of energy for cooking. While it is now more efficiently managed, it still has a direct impact on the felling of trees in a way that may not be sustainable.

Beneficiaries have very limited means of storage facilities and sometimes have excess fast-moving but perishable crops. This compels them to sell their produce at market prices that restrict their earnings. Diversification of crops has helped in this regard, and for some crops like maize and beans, beneficiaries have devised means such as constructing granaries in protected home sites so that produce can last for months longer. Still, the most common and popular fruits, tubers, bananas and vegetables, must be sold as soon as they are harvested and thus sometimes fetch low incomes.

**Kyandondo Support Initiative for People Living with Disabilities (KYASIPED). Project expenditure: \$37,602 (DFAT and QSA funded)**

**Project title: Food and income security for smallholder farmers with a disability**

**Project Results**

The outcome of 35 people with disabilities meeting their nutritional requirements of 3 meals per day by the end of this project's second year was very ambitious considering participants' circumstances of high vulnerability. Only 7 of the beneficiaries have achieved such food security to date. Nevertheless, all 35 participants have successfully established their gardens and are growing at least 50% more food: another 16 participants are now able to manage 2 meals a day outside of prolonged periods of drought, and the remaining 12 are managing 2 meals a day whereas previously they had only one.



Project Coordinator Bibiana Namusisi and some of KYASIPED's project members. Photo credit: QSA

All 35 participants learned to improve their organic farming, practising soil quality maintenance and transitioning from conventional farming with harmful chemicals, and 8 more beneficiaries' families set up water tanks, so that a total of 29 households now have access to safe water for drinking and growing crops.

The financial situation of the participants has been strengthened in that sales of their surplus crops has increased their incomes by at least 50%: 7 participants are now earning approximately \$200 per harvest season, 17 participants are earning \$100, and 11 earn \$12-20 per season.

Two savings groups were established; the group of 17 women from Masulita secured formal district-level registration after a lengthy process and is pooling savings, but has not yet begun to disperse loans. Financial literacy is new to many beneficiaries, thus active saving and borrowing remains a longer-term goal.

As many as 535 members of the local Wakiso community have learned this year about people living with disability and organic farming, while the participants completed training in leadership and personal development for confidence-building, which remains an on-going process. The beneficiaries used these skills with their new knowledge of community-driven organisation and governance for awareness-raising that included dissemination of 120 materials and networking with stakeholders

including government, the Wakiso District NGO forum, the Ministry of Agriculture, and Animal Industry and Fisheries.

### **Project Challenges**

The beneficiaries involved in this project generally face strong social discrimination within a community of already high economic disadvantage. As such, the community and its members are prone to compounded impacts and high vulnerability when faced with crisis situations. Considering this, the project has been planned with modest inputs and relatively ambitious expectations and it must be recognised that overcoming marginalisation requires time and much effort to realise and sustain.



Some members from KYASIPED project. Photo credit: KYASIPED

There were significant difficulties during the drought season as many project participants are still in the process of adopting skills learned through the project that are aimed to develop confidence and resilience in both personal and small-scale agricultural capacities. As a result of hot temperatures and drought in January and February, water supply and agricultural production slowed, but what water and savings were collected as a result of the project, was shared amongst participants' households.

Most of those involved are not yet in an economic position to be able to save money. Once they are able to meet their basic needs, they will be able to partake in savings schemes.

The geographical distance that the project spans presents a constant challenge for logistics, considering the limited resources available for the project participants to maintain effective communication and community amongst themselves.



**Environmental Conservation and Agricultural Enhancement Uganda (Eco-Agric). Project expenditure: \$19,847 (DFAT and QSA funded)**

**Project title: Food security and livelihoods for vulnerable rural women in Hoima**

**Project Results**

90 vulnerable women and their household members have successfully increased their food consumption and nutritional intake through environmentally-sustainable conservation agriculture this year. Specifically, 58 are now eating three nutritious meals a day throughout the year as a result of continuous food and income supplies from their gardens. Crops harvested have included sweet potato, banana, eggplant, cabbage, beans and peas, however the project participants have yet to build enough capacity to remain secure during droughts. The remaining 32 beneficiaries averaged one meal a day, compared to non-project households that managed one meal in 2-3 days. Furthermore, 66 of the women were trained in constructing cleaner and safer energy-saving stoves and 12 have since constructed and are using their own stoves.

A total of 94 women applied their training on how to increase their households' agricultural productivity through sustainable diversified conservation methods that included sustainable crop production, semi-intensive poultry production, and agroforestry practices.

The financial situation of all 90 vulnerable women beneficiaries was strengthened for all 90 women from three village groups. Training helped to improve savings and business establishment, and each village has been meeting weekly with project support to actively contribute regular savings.



L: Women from Hoima sitting next to savings boxes funded by QSA, calculating their deposits together; R: In preparation to build a mud stove. Photo credit: Eco Agric

**Project Challenges**

A prolonged drought during the project year made circumstances additionally difficult for the project beneficiaries whose agricultural and economic capacity, whilst having improved on a day to day basis for parts of the past year, remains vulnerable including to the climatic conditions that are increasingly less predictable.

The project had underestimated the amount of feed required for the chickens, however over the course of the year, it was learned that gradual introduction of alternative feeds such as potato peel and food scraps as well as a free range system for chickens proved to be a more resourceful and successful way of managing the poultry as the chickens were able to adapt to natural environment conditions, improving their immunity and survival rates.



**Ai Leen Quah**



**Alis Middleton**



**John Dundas**

**QSA office staff**

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### **Evaluation of the St Jude Family Projects**

An independent evaluation has considered the work of the staff at St Jude over the past six years, and has noted overall very good results and notable achievements. For the staff and project participants the following have been observed:-

- Increased income for the project participants, and
- Training and experience in leadership and collaboration skills;
- Improved nutrition and food security;
- Agricultural skills developed and strengthened;
- Networking and learning from each other;
- Learning about climate change and its impact on their livelihoods;
- Improved crop and livestock production;
- Post-harvest handling and surplus production marketing.
- For staff – fundamentally changing attitudes towards agriculture in schools;
- Enhanced capacity of St Jude staff skills.

A particular component of success that will continue as a principle for future project implementation, is that the benefits of teaching and organising women with a collaborative and cooperative approach throughout the project become increasingly evident. This is especially true with a longer view of the project's impact, and was manifested in two prominent ways –

- Working together improved the women's bargaining power in the market, which greatly increased the sales and profit from their produce, compared to when they worked individually;
- The relationships amongst the beneficiaries that were formed as a result of the project lay the foundations for a supportive network and a 'spirit of togetherness' amongst the women that provided emotional support, counsel, and in some cases even financial support for each other's families. Ultimately this also contributes to project success.

#### **Some actions recommended by the evaluation team**

- Simple irrigation methods and water harvesting are still very small scale and require scale-up in order to counteract the impact of increasing droughts and water scarcity.
- Devising ways to increase involvement of beneficiaries' partners in the project, so that the male partners who own the land on which women beneficiaries grow their food, do not automatically assume ownership and decision-making over the produce.
- Additional research is needed to provide more organic methods to tackle a key problem of pests and diseases.
- A possible action could be to explore options to introduce simple machinery to add extra value to harvests in order to increase income further.



**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 35 989 797 918**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**



**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 35 989 797 918**

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## QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Quaker Service Australia Limited (the 'Company') for the financial year ended 30 September 2017.

#### Committee Members

The names of committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Garry Duncan (appointed 20/9/2013, appointed Convenor 17/10/2015)

John Dundas (Volunteer staff, appointed Treasurer 17/10/2015)

Audrey Wilson (appointed 7/1/13, retired 1/7/2017)

Richard Gibbons (appointed 4/6/2016)

Miriam Goodwin (appointed 4/6/2016)

Mary J de Merindol (appointed 6/8/2016)

David Cooper (appointed 3/12/16)

#### Ex officio:

AYM Presiding Clerk

Jo Jordan appointed 9/7/2016

AYM Secretary

Jacque Schultze appointed 1/7/2016

#### The Regional Meeting Quaker Service Committee Representatives are :

	<u>Representatives</u> (who are also members of the Committee)
Canberra Regional Meeting	Alex Nicolson
Queensland Regional Meeting	Rhoda Dorrell
South Australia & Northern Territory Regional Meeting	Topsy Evans
New South Wales	Jasmine Payget
Tasmania Regional Meeting	Beverley Jefferson
Victoria Regional Meeting	Anne Herbert
West Australia Regional Meeting	Henry Esbenshade
Young Friends representative	Kyle Purnell

#### Principal Activities

The principal activity of the company during the financial year was the provision of aid for humanitarian projects in Australia and overseas.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

#### Operating Result

The net surplus amounted to \$171,724 (2016: surplus \$65,361).

#### Review of Operations

During the current year the company has continued to provide services in line with our vision and purpose statement and also in line with the view of a not-for-profit organisation.

#### Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

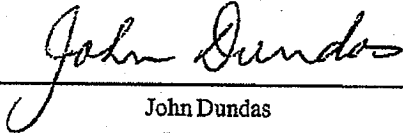
During the current year the entity moved from being an incorporated body to a public company limited by guarantee.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT**

**Auditors Independence Declaration**

The lead auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 September 2017 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee



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John Dundas  
Treasurer



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Garry Duncan  
Convenor

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2018

To the Committee Members' of Quaker Service Australia Limited

**Auditor's Independence Declaration under subdivision 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012***

As lead audit partner for the audit of the financial statements of Quaker Service Australia Limited for the financial year ended 30 September 2017, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (a) the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Yours sincerely



**Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Ltd**



**Lester Wills**

Director  
Registered Company Auditor

Sydney

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018



**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	Notes	2017	2016
		\$	\$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Donations and gifts			
- Monetary		409,879	345,923
- Non-monetary		-	-
Bequests and Legacies		305,000	121,907
Grants			
- DFAT (Australian Aid)		333,900	306,000
Investment income - Interest from financial institutions		7,960	10,435
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<u>1,056,739</u>	<u>784,265</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>			
International programs:			
- Funds to international programs		(617,421)	(538,185)
- Program support costs		(50,048)	(46,926)
Less overheads allocated to projects		31,000	30,000
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>		<u>(636,469)</u>	<u>(555,111)</u>
Community Education		(7,260)	(6,213)
Fundraising costs:			
- Public		(2,600)	(3,363)
- Government, multilateral and private		(19,370)	(9,237)
Accountability and administration		(69,235)	(28,409)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(1,354)	(533)
Domestic programs expenditure (incl. monetary and non-monetary)		(57,612)	(15,503)
Other expenditure		(91,115)	(100,535)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<u>(885,015)</u>	<u>(718,904)</u>
<b>Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenditure</b>		<u>171,724</u>	<u>65,361</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Other comprehensive income		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>171,724</u>	<u>65,361</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	<b>631,634</b>	334,019
Other financial assets	4	<b>251,507</b>	283,882
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>883,141</b>	617,901
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Plant and equipment	5	-	1,354
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		-	1,354
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>883,141</b>	619,255
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	6	<b>157,819</b>	95,119
Deferred income		<b>144,900</b>	126,000
Provisions	7	<b>41,117</b>	31,366
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>343,836</b>	252,485
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions		<b>811</b>	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>811</b>	-
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>344,647</b>	252,485
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	8	<b>126,430</b>	115,866
Retained earnings		<b>412,064</b>	250,904
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>538,494</b>	366,770

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 35 989 797 918**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	Notes	Retained Earnings \$	Reserves \$	Total \$
<b>2017</b>				
Balance at 1 October 2016		250,904	115,866	366,770
Excess of revenue over expenses		171,724	-	171,724
Other amounts transferred (to) or from reserves		(10,564)	10,564	-
Balance at 30 September 2017		<u>412,064</u>	<u>126,430</u>	<u>538,494</u>
<b>2016</b>				
Balance at 1 October 2015		189,335	112,074	301,409
Excess of revenue over expenses		65,361	-	65,361
Other amounts transferred (to) or from reserves		(3,792)	3,792	-
Balance at 30 September 2016		<u>250,904</u>	<u>115,866</u>	<u>366,770</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
<b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Bequests		305,000	121,907
Grants - DFAT (Australian Aid)		352,800	312,000
Donations received		409,877	345,923
Payments to suppliers and employees		(810,397)	(723,363)
Interest received		335	853
Net cash flows from operating activities		257,615	57,320
<b>CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		-	(681)
Proceeds from investing activities		40,000	-
Net cash flows from investing activities		40,000	(681)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		297,615	56,639
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		334,019	277,380
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year		631,634	334,019

**(a) Reconciliation of cash**

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	3	631,634	334,019
		631,634	334,019

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

#### 1 Significant accounting policies

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial report includes the financial statements and notes of Quaker Service Australia Limited ('the company').

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Corporations Act 2001*, *Australian Charities and Not-for Profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct Financial Standards*. Quaker Service Australia Limited is a public company limited by guarantee and is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the company's functional currency.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2017 were authorised for issue on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 by the Management Committee of Quaker Service Australia Limited.

The financial statements have been prepared using the significant accounting policies and measurement bases summarised below.

##### 1.2 Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of discounts. The company recognises revenue when the amount of revenue can be reliably measured, it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and specific criteria have been met for each of the company's activities as described below. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

###### a) Interest revenue

Interest income is recognised on an accruals basis, using the effective interest method.

###### b) Grant revenue

Grant revenue is recognised when the company obtains control or right to receive the grant, it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the company, and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

Grants that are refundable should specified services not be delivered or specified conditions not be satisfied, are initially recognised as a liability and revenue is recognised as the services are performed or the conditions satisfied.

###### c) Donations and bequests

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when the company gains control or right to receive, economic benefits are probable, and the amount of the donation or bequest can be measured reliably. This is generally on receipt.

###### d) Other revenue

Revenue from other sources is recognised when the fee in respect of other products or services provided is receivable.

##### 1.3 Income tax

The company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

##### 1.4 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

##### 1.5 Plant and Equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.



## QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

In the event that the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Note 1.8 for details of impairment).

#### *Depreciation*

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation Rate
Office furniture	15%
Office equipment	25%
Information technology	33%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the asset's carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### **1.6 Financial instruments**

##### *Initial recognition and measurement*

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets, this is the equivalent to the date that the company commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs, except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss' in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

##### *Classification and subsequent measurement*

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at either fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, or cost. The subsequent measurement depends on the classification of the financial instrument as described below.

Fair value represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as:

- the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition;
- less principal repayments;
- plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of the difference, if any, between the amount initially recognised and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method; and
- less any reduction for impairment.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense in profit or loss.

The classification of financial instruments depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and at the end of each reporting period for held to maturity assets.

##### *a) Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

## QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017

Loans and receivables are included in current assets, except for those which are not expected to be realised within 12 months after the end of the reporting year.

#### *b) Held-to-maturity investments*

These investments have fixed maturities, and it is the company's intention to hold these investments to maturity. Any held-to-maturity investments held by the company are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### *c) Available-for-sale financial assets*

Available-for-sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories. Available-for-sale financial assets are reflected at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from the changes in fair value are recognised in accumulated funds.

#### *d) Financial liabilities*

Non derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Fees payable on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the company has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

#### **Impairment of financial assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the Management Committee assess whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset has been impaired through the occurrence of a loss event. In the case of available for sale financial instruments, a significant or prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to indicate that an impairment has arisen.

Impairment losses are recognised through an allowance account for loans and receivables in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### **1.7 Impairment of non-financial assets**

At each reporting date, the Management Committee assess whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. For the purpose of determining recoverable amount, value in use is measured as the asset's depreciated replacement cost. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which it belongs.

#### **1.8 Trade and other payables**

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period which remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability. Trade and other payables are unsecured.

#### **1.9 Employee benefits**

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits not expected to be wholly settled within twelve months have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those estimated cash outflows are discounted using market yields on Commonwealth government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

#### **1.10 Goods and services tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**1.11 Economic dependency**

The company is dependent on the ongoing receipt of grants from the Federal and State Governments to ensure the continuance of its education services.

**1.12 Donated services**

The company partly relies on voluntary services of its supporters. These services are not brought to account.

*Overseas Development Work*

However, the management committee estimates that the volunteer time devoted to overseas development work for the financial year was \$1,456.14. This was calculated according to the Australian pay rate as outlined in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website.

*Community Education*

The committee also estimates that donated volunteer time devoted to Community Education was \$2,268.34. This is in addition to the Community Education expense (\$7,260.33) shown under Disbursements in the Income Statement (page 6) giving a total amount for Community Education of \$9,528.67.

**2 Accountability and administration**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	\$	\$
Audit fees	6,458	6,170
Bank and credit card fees	1,123	1,203
Computer expenses	2,887	1,338
General expenses	26,551	3,831
Insurance expenses	3,600	3,114
Office expenses	4,029	2,221
Rent expense	4,800	4,800
Subscriptions	16,792	2,088
Telephone expenses	1,445	1,251
Travelling expenses	1,390	2,074
Workers compensation	297	319
	<b>69,372</b>	<b>28,409</b>

**3 Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:

Cash on hand	251	177
Cash at bank	631,383	333,842
	<b>631,634</b>	<b>334,019</b>

**4 Other financial assets**

*Available-for-sale financial assets:*

Tasmanian Perpetual Trustee - long-term fund	251,507	283,882
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The effective return on the asset was 3.03% (2016: 3.13%) and it is redeemable with 7 business days' notice.

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**5 Plant and equipment**

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	\$	\$
IT Equipment, furniture & Fixtures	<b>6,236</b>	6,236
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u><b>(6,236)</b></u>	<u>(4,882)</u>
	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u>1,354</u>

*Movement in carrying value*

	IT Equipment \$	Furniture and Fixtures \$	Total \$
<b>Current year</b>			
Balance at the beginning of the year	<b>1,073</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>1,354</b>
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Depreciation	<u><b>(1,073)</b></u>	<u><b>(281)</b></u>	<u><b>(1,354)</b></u>
Carrying amount at the end of year	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>	<u><b>-</b></u>

**6 Trade and other payables**

CURRENT

Support money held	<b>160</b>	(210)
Project funding payable	<u><b>(157,979)</b></u>	<u>(94,909)</u>
	<u><b>(157,819)</b></u>	<u>(95,119)</u>

The carrying values of trade payables are considered to be a reasonable approximation of fair value.

**7 Employee benefits**

CURRENT

Annual and long-service leave	<u><b>(41,117)</b></u>	<u>(31,366)</u>
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NON-CURRENT

Long-service leave	<u><b>(811)</b></u>	<u>-</u>
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**8 Reserves**

The company holds a reserve fund of \$126,430 (2016: \$115,866) kept aside for expenditure outside of ordinary activities. This is to allow for exchange rate losses, staff annual leave and long service leave, and to provide for three

**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2017**

**9 Funds to international programs**

Includes no donations received this year and passed on to another agency.

**10 Key management personnel compensation**

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any member of the committee is considered key management personnel (KMP). The totals of remuneration paid to KMP or the company during the year are as follows:

	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	\$	\$
Total remuneration paid & payable to key management personnel.	<u>92,270</u>	<u>80,454</u>

**11 Related party disclosures**

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Related party transactions during the year totalled to \$4,800 (2016: \$4,800) paid as rent to the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) NSW Regional Meeting including the owners of the property at 119 Devonshire Street Surry Hills.

**12 Commitments**

*Project commitments*

Project commitments contracted for but not recognised in the financial statements:

Payable within 12 months	<u>257,662</u>	<u>235,567</u>
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Project liabilities and expenses are recognised when the service provider has met the milestone requirements.

**13 Events after the reporting period**

There has not risen in the interval between the end of the reporting period and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material or unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Management Committee, to affect significantly the operations of the entity, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the entity in future years.

**14 Company details**

The principal place of business of the company is:  
119 Devonshire Street  
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

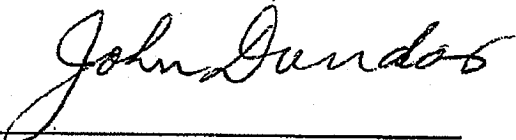


**QUAKER SERVICE AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE DECLARATION**

The Management Committee of Quaker Service Australia Limited declare that, in their opinion:

- (a) the financial statements and notes as set out on pages 6 to 15, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct Financial Standards* and:
  - i. comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
  - ii. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 September 2017 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;
- (b) in the Management Committee's opinion 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 declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee.



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John Dundas  
Treasurer



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Garry Duncan  
Convenor

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2018

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Quaker Service Australia Limited

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Qualified opinion

We have audited the financial report of Quaker Service Australia Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2017, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Committee Members' declaration.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and *Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct Financial Standards*, including:

- i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 September 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements, and *Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### Basis for qualified opinion

Fundraising revenue is a significant source of revenue for the association. The small size of the organisation limits its span of control over more remote fundraising activities by its volunteers around Australia. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from these sources was limited, our audit procedures with respect to fundraising had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion whether donations and fees recorded for the Company are complete.

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

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

#### Other information

The Committee Members are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in Quaker Service Australia Limited annual report for the year ended 30 September 2017, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or

our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Committee Members' responsibility for the financial report**

The Committee Members are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the *Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct Financial Standards* and for such internal control as the Committee Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee Members are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Committee Members either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the financial report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at The Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: [www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

We also provide the Committee Members with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.



### **Nexia Sydney Audit Pty Limited**



#### **Lester Wills**

*Director*

Registered Company Auditor

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018  
Sydney