

**ACTION
AID
AUSTRALIA
LTD**

159 Cranbourne Rd
Narre Warren
Victoria 3805

Postal Address
P O Box 42
Narre Warren LPO
Victoria 3805

Phone: 03 9704 6315
Fax: 03 9704 6354
A.B.N. 50 006 946 550
A.C.N. 006 946 550

For Those Who Have Less

November 30th, 2008

Dear Friends of Action Aid,

Please find enclosed our Annual Report for 2008, which was presented at our Annual General Meeting on Thursday October 16th, 2008.

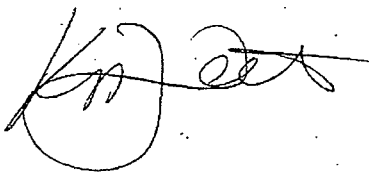
Should you require a copy of the full Financial Statements, please visit our website at www.actionaidaustralia.org.au or contact the office.

Directors of Action Aid Australia for the coming year are:

Chairperson: Ms Anne-Marie Maltby
Deputy Chairperson: Dr Roger Hughes
Secretary: Ms Kristin Burdett
Treasurer: Mrs Andrea Pickering

Committee Members: Mrs Glenys Hughes
Mrs Lyn Pickering
Mr Ian Pickering
Rev Chris Pittendrigh
Ms Jess Fliegner
Ms Amanda Stone
Dr Graham Moore

Yours Faithfully,



Ms Kristin Burdett
Honorary Secretary

ACTION AID AUSTRALIA LTD

MISSION STATEMENT

1. To undertake local community and economic development projects directed at improving the standard of living in rural areas in developing countries through environmentally sustainable approaches; and
2. To provide an opportunity for donors who wish to sponsor a child in a developing country to do so in a way that provides some direct assistance to the most disadvantaged families in a chosen rural community, but also facilitates development in the community as a whole.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The last 12 months has seen us continue our support of the two child sponsorship programs at SEDS and ABWU, and our project work in Bangladesh and India. We have seen more villages roll into our newest project in Phillipines. For more specific information in relation to these programs and projects, please refer to the reports given at the AGM by the relevant co-ordinators, which are on our website (www.actionaidaustralia.com.au) and in the December newsletter.

India:

SEDS – Child Sponsorship Program
SEDS – Watershed Management and Community Development Project
ABWU – Child Sponsorship Program

Bangladesh:

TTIS – Technical Training and Information Support Project
Jamuna River Sandbar Peoples Development Project

Phillipines:

Sinangpad Healthy Village Project

YOUR BOARD

Executive 3008/09

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Honorary Chairperson: | Dr Anne-Marie Maltby |
| Honorary Deputy Chair: | Dr Roger Hughes |
| Honorary Secretary: | Ms Kristin Burdett |
| Honorary Treasurer: | Mrs Andrea Pickering |

Board Members

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Mr Ian Pickering | Mrs Glenys Hughes |
| Rev Chris Pittendrigh | Mrs Lyn Pickering |
| Ms Jess Fliegner | Ms Amanda Stone |
| Dr Graham Moore | |

Graham D.N. Dace F.C.A.
Ken K. Y. Kwong C.A.
Simon A. Eccles C.A.

WATERS DACE PARTNERS

3rd Floor, 329 Thomas Street, Dandenong 3175
Correspondence to: PO Box 447, Dandenong 3175
Telephone: (03) 9794 6488 Facsimile: (03) 9794 5494
Email: reception@watersdace.com.au

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS ABN 98 918 211 297
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITORS

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the members of For Those Who Have Less – Action Aid Australia Limited.

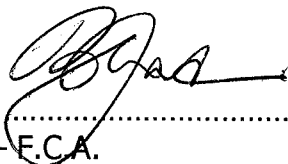
SCOPE

We have audited the summarised financial report of For Those Who Have Less-Action Aid Australia Limited for the year ended 30th June, 2008 in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the information reported in the summarised financial report is consistent with the annual statutory financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed an unqualified audit opinion in our report to the members dated 7th October 2008. For a better understanding of the scope of our audit this report should be read in conjunction with our audit report on the annual statutory financial report.

WATERS DACE PARTNERS
Chartered Accountants



.....
B J Waters – F.C.A.

3rd Floor
329 Thomas Street
DANDENONG VIC 3175

Dated this 25th day of November 2008.



Chartered Accountant

**ACTION AID AUSTRALIA LIMITED.
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 2008**

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| REVENUE | | |
| Donations and gifts | 172,831 | 149,337 |
| Legacies and bequests | 0 | 0 |
| Grants | | |
| * AusAID | 0 | 0 |
| * Other Australian | 0 | 0 |
| * Other overseas | 0 | 0 |
| Investment Income | 1,745 | 1,649 |
| Other Income | 0 | 0 |
| Total Revenue | <u>174,576</u> | <u>150,986</u> |
| EXPENSES | | |
| Overseas projects | | |
| * Funds to overseas projects | 116,816 | 136,820 |
| * Other project costs | 0 | 0 |
| Domestic projects | 0 | 0 |
| Community education | 0 | 0 |
| Fundraising costs | | |
| * Public | 1,011 | 691 |
| * government and multilaterals | 0 | 0 |
| Administration | 8,759 | 21,020 |
| Total Expenses | <u>126,586</u> | <u>158,531</u> |
| Excess of revenue over disbursements (shortfall) from continuing operations | <u>47,990</u> | <u>(7,545)</u> |

**ACTION AID AUSTRALIA LIMITED.
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT JUNE 30TH, 2008**

| | 2008 | 2007 |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current Assets | | |
| Cash | 91,453 | 43,039 |
| Financial Assets | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Other | 222 | 156 |
| Receivables | 0 | 0 |
| Non Current Assets | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 826 | 1,324 |
| Total assets | 102,501 | 54,519 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Current Liabilities | | |
| Creditors and borrowings | 999 | 1,006 |
| Provisions | 0 | 0 |
| Non Current Liabilities | | |
| Payables | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 0 | 0 |
| Total Liabilities | 999 | 1,006 |
| Net Assets | 101,502 | 53,513 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Reserves | 0 | 0 |
| Funds available for future use | 101,502 | 53,513 |
| Total Equity | 101,502 | 53,513 |

**ACTION AID AUSTRALIA LIMITED.
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 2008**

| | Retained Earnings | Reserves | Total |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|--------|
| Balance at 30/6/07 (commencing balance) | 53513 | 0 | 53513 |
| Excess of Revenue over Expenses | 47990 | 0 | 47990 |
| Amount transferred (to) from reserves | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Balance at 30/6/08 (year end balance) | 101502 | 0 | 101502 |

**ACTION AID AUSTRALIA LIMITED.
CASH MOVEMENTS FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES
FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE 30TH, 2008**

Not applicable for 2007/08

| | Cash available at beginning of year | Cash raised during year | Cash disbursed during year | Cash available at end of year | Comments |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Designated Purpose or Appeal A* | | | | | |
| Designated Purpose or Appeal B* | | | | | |
| Total for Other Purposes | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | | |

**No single appeal or other form of fund raising for a designated purpose generated 10% of more of
total income for the period under review**

Hon Chairman's Report 2008

It is with great pleasure that I present the Action Aid Australia Honorary Chairman's report for 2008.

It has been another busy but rewarding year. We continue to pursue our goal of empowering disadvantaged communities through community development, education, skills training and enhancing the status of women.

Projects

Our projects are all going well as can be seen from the reports by our project coordinators.

Our newest project, the Sinangpad Healthy Village project in the northern Philippines aims to enable village communities to improve their environmental sanitation practices. Over the last 12 months, implementation has commenced in 32 villages and we are extremely pleased with the progress.

We have two projects in Bangladesh. This year Action Aid Australia had started funding of the next stage of its involvement in the Technical Training and Information Support (TTIS) project in Bangladesh. This stage builds on and expands the number of training centres and continues with their aim of improving the vocational skills of the participants, empowering them in a general way, and improving the socio-economic and health status all involved.

The *Jamuna River Sandbar Peoples Development Project (JRDP)* also continues to run successfully. The project operates in difficult conditions on a sandbar in Sirajganj and on the adjacent banks of the Jamuna River. It aims to produce cooperation within the community, predominantly through the formation of cooperative groups which also function as savings groups. The overall goal is to improve the educational level and awareness of the community especially in environmental matters.

We also have two main project areas in India.

SEDS (Social and Education Development Society) has continued its work in watershed management and community development. Evidence of their continuing success is obvious in the improved quality of life in the area. The child sponsorship program has been highly successful with 186 village children currently in the program and who are now able, amongst other things, to attend school on a regular basis.

We also run a sponsorship program for the All Bengal Women's Union for their residential children and older girls to assist with their support, rehabilitation and vocational training. This year we have 85 sponsorships and have been able to allocate monies for a number of their requirements in addition to their vocational training projects.

Finances

We maintain a healthy and well monitored financial position which can be seen in the Treasurer's report.

General Activities

Website. The relatively recent addition of Jess Fliegner and Kristin Burdett to the AAA board has exponentially increased our computer skills. They have both been involved with updating our website and this will be an ongoing process. The website will be an increasingly valuable source of information and we hope to make it as comprehensive as possible.

Fundraising. Once again, our two main social fundraisers were lunch in Bright run by the indefatigable Joy Handley and the World Food Day dinner held at the home of our treasurer Andrea Pickering in Bayles. Much work goes into each of these very successful events and our thanks go to all concerned. A new and welcome source of donations was the Employee Donation /Workplace Giving Scheme where companies match employee donations, making them doubly effective. Currently we are registered on the BHP Employee Donation Scheme and hope to have some other workplaces added. Sponsorship fees have remained at the same level for several years and this, year we have been forced to raise our annual sponsorship fee from \$220 to \$240 pa. This is still considerable lower than similar schemes with other NGOs.

Vale Roger Griffiths

It is with considerable regret and sadness that we note the recent death of our esteemed Board member Roger Griffiths. Roger was a wonderful friend, an enthusiastic participant in the work of Action Aid and a generous donor. The news of his untimely death was received with great sadness. Notwithstanding his failing health over the past two or three years, Roger did not allow his lack of well-being to curtail his attendance at Board meetings, and other AAA activities, including a visit to the SEDS project in India. We will remember Roger for many things and, not least, his warm humanity, wisdom, humility, wit, collegiality, courage in adversity, and his practical concern for the poor and marginalized. He will be greatly missed.

AAA Board Changes

On a happier note, I would like to welcome our two newest board members, Amanda Stone and Graham Moore. They each bring skills and experience that will be invaluable to AAA.

One other major change to note is that Chris Pittendrigh, although remaining on the board, is stepping down after many years as the AAA secretary. Chris has a great deal of experience and knowledge and we owe him a great debt of gratitude for all his time and effort over these years. The secretary's role is pivotal to the smooth running of any organization and we have been very lucky to have someone so capable and reliable in the job for so long. Thank-you Chris. We are glad you're remaining on the board so that we continue to get the benefit of your great wisdom and commonsense.

Kristin Burdett has agreed to take over as secretary and her well known abilities in the field of form filling will be put to good use in the role.

I would like to thank all of the board for their hard work over the last year. I know that we all feel that what we do is very worthwhile and this is its own reward. I would also like to thank all of our members and supporters, not only for their donations, which do so much good, but also for their feedback and support.

I continue to be impressed at how much can be achieved by a small group of volunteers and their supporters, despite little corporate or government support. I look forward to working with you all in the coming year and welcome any feedback and suggestions.

Anne-Marie Maltby
October 16th, 2008.