

# Annual Report 2015-16



Cover (clockwise from bottom):  
**Lensa Dinka**, Oromia Support Group  
Australia; **Moftahudin Babackerkhail**,  
Afghan Australian Rehabilitation and  
Development Organization; **Najeeba  
Wazefadost**, Hazara Women of  
Australia; **Otto Mark Otim**, Nurture  
Hope; **Immaya Paulino**, Mamaland;  
**Clark Wang**, DAA Volunteer.

Below: **Denise Cauchi**, Executive  
Director of DAA, addressing  
delegates at the Diasporas and  
Afghanistan forum.

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# Vision, Mission, Principles & Strategic Outlook

## Vision

We envisage and work towards an Australia where diaspora communities from countries in war and conflict have a strong voice, and the power to promote change and improve peace, development and human rights in their country of origin.

## Mission

At Diaspora Action Australia, we make it our mission to work in Australia with people from countries affected by war and conflict who promote peace, development and human rights in their countries of origin. We support diaspora initiatives, provide resources, information and training, facilitate dialogue and shared learning, build networks, and seek to amplify community voices at local, national and international levels.

## Principles

We are committed to and guided by the following principles, laws and approaches:

### A Rights-based Approach

We recognise the human rights of all people and work for the empowerment of people to claim their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights.

### Community Development

We recognise the wealth of knowledge and experience within communities. We respect their independence and support their empowerment. Diaspora Action Australia works in solidarity with community partners who maintain leadership of their projects for the long-term benefit of whole communities.

### Gender Equality

We are committed to gender equality and recognise that gender-based oppression is structural and systemic.

### Neutrality

We do not take any political or partisan positions regarding

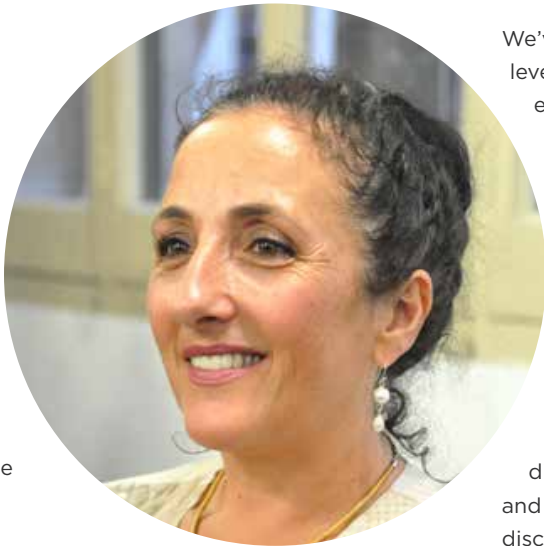
any conflict. Diaspora Action Australia is concerned with the human rights of all people affected by conflict.

### International Human Rights Standards

We are committed to promoting respect for, and compliance with, relevant international law and principles. This includes Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law and Refugee Law.

## Strategic Outlook

- We support the empowerment of diaspora communities.
- We raise awareness of issues relevant to diaspora communities.
- We work to maximise the effect of diaspora community action.
- We develop expertise through partnering with diaspora communities.
- We ensure a strong and sustainable organisation.



Left to right: In loving memory of Ann David; Denise Cauchi, Executive Director; Jez Hunghanfoo, outgoing Chair; Hala Abdelnour, Chair.

# Letter from the Chair & Executive Director

**The last year has been one of change and evolution at Diaspora Action Australia (DAA). While remaining small and focused, we've taken big steps in building our profile, extending our reach and strengthening the organisation.**

We've taken our partnership with Oxfam Australia to a new level, building on the productive relationship that we've enjoyed since our origins. And we've secured a partnership with the Refugee Council of Australia, which will see us share a workspace and resources. Our profile and influence in the sector will help to keep diaspora communities in the spotlight for those working on international and community development.

We also commenced work on our upcoming conference, mounted in conjunction with the University of Melbourne's Refugee Studies Program and a group of other prominent agencies. This event will bring together diaspora leaders, academics, humanitarian practitioners and others to share knowledge, increase understanding, and discuss the challenges and opportunities facing diaspora communities around the world.

The "business as usual" of DAA continues as well. We've conducted training, run events, facilitated talks and built relationships with diaspora communities throughout the year. And we have been fortunate in having the support and passion of an amazing array of staff and volunteers who bring our activities and programs to life. They are the beating heart of this organisation.

The theme of change also extends to the Board itself; after several years, Jez Hunghanfoo has stepped down from his



role as Chair, welcoming Hala Abdelnour as his successor. Hala will lead the organisation into a new phase of development. This year we also conducted an external review of the Board, which found DAA's governance to be in excellent health.

Thanks are due to all the Board members, staff and volunteers, partners, donors and funders, community members, and other stakeholders who support the work of DAA. Our sincere thanks to all who have been involved with us over the years.

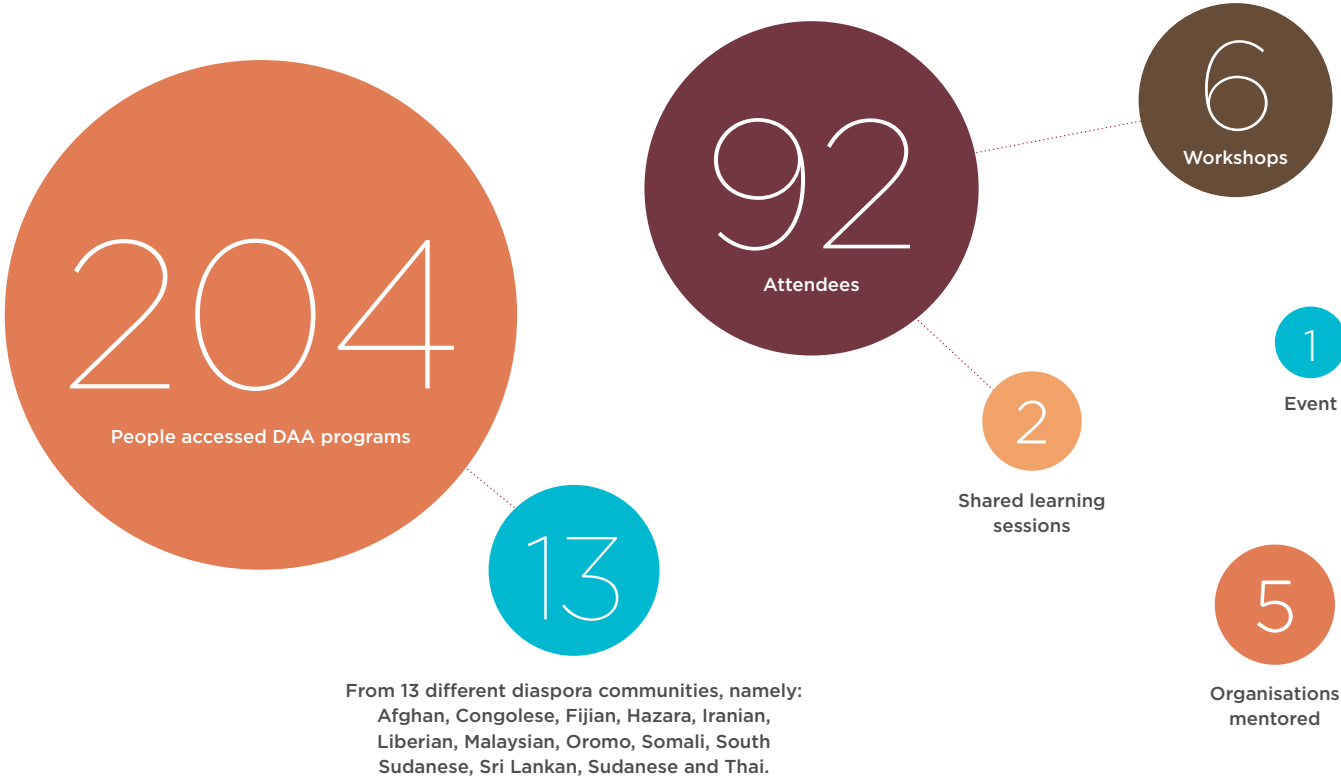
Finally, we wish to remember our dear colleague and friend, Ann David, who passed away earlier this year. A woman of uncommon character and spirit, she lived fully and wasted no time. Before joining us as volunteer coordinator, Ann had spent 20 years in the aid and development sector, motivated by her sense of justice and compassion. She was respected and admired by colleagues around the world for her integrity, keen intelligence and sense of humour, and will be missed by many of us.

**Vale Ann**

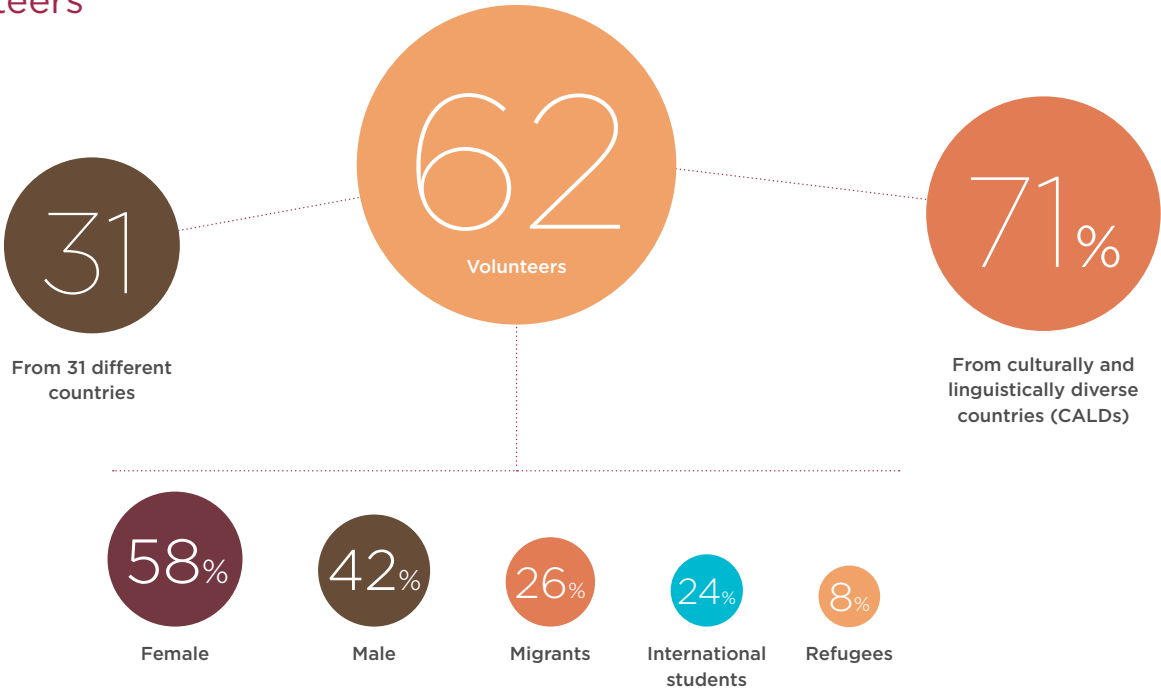


# Our Year at a Glance

## DAA Programs



## Volunteers



# Community

“Why can’t we take the knowledge or the privilege that we have here and do something to help other people who are struggling and children and the women after the war?”

*Stella Lado, Mamaland.*



Volunteers often build lasting friendships and connections during their time with DAA.



# Finding Common Ground Among the Afghan Diaspora

Diaspora Action Australia's (DAA) work with Afghan communities and organisations over the past year revealed a wealth of initiatives, energy and passion aimed at improving the lives of people in Australia, Afghanistan and neighbouring countries.

In cooperation with Melbourne University's Refugee Studies Program and the Refugee Council of Australia, DAA hosted the first ever Diasporas and Afghanistan forum. On 27 November 2015, more than 100 people from 22 Australian-Afghan organisations and a diversity of ethnic, cultural and political-interest groups from across Victoria, and as far as Sydney and Brisbane, gathered at the University of Melbourne to discuss development and humanitarian issues with representatives from Oxfam Australia, Save the Children, World Vision and the Embassy



of Afghanistan. Annemarie Watt from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) briefed participants on Australia's aid program, and diaspora organisations presented their projects.

## The Burning Issues

Throughout the presentations, workshops and discussions, it became clear that there is reason for concern for communities in Australia, Afghanistan and other neighbouring countries. One of the pressing issues highlighted was the fact that communities in rural areas of Afghanistan are not reached by international development programs, while corruption within some parts of the Afghan government results in international aid money not reaching those in need. The persecution of the

Hazara people in Pakistan is another area of significant concern due to restrictions on freedom of movement and work rights. Hazara women and girls, in particular, have limited access to education and health services. An urgent need for family reunification and the formalisation of visa status for asylum seekers in Australia are other areas of concern. Many participants were, and are still, actively supporting their communities and helping people settle in Australia.

## Facilitating Advocacy and Action

Participants expressed a keen interest in finding ways for Afghan-Australian organisations to collaborate with the hope to voice their common concerns to decision makers and stakeholders in international



During the panel discussion of the Diasporas and Afghanistan forum (pictured right) it became clear that there is reason for concern for communities in Australia, Afghanistan and other neighboring countries.

From the left: Denise Cauchi; Nadera Hayat; Dawood Baqiri.

development agencies and government. One participant said: "In hearing all the views and points, I can conclude that change can be brought if communities connect together." An advocacy group has started to form as a result of the forum, and DAA is proud to announce that we are working with the group to facilitate discussion with the Australian government and international development agencies.

## DAA's Work in Regional Victoria

Throughout this year, DAA has been reaching out to and working with Afghan and Hazara groups in Shepparton, Bendigo, Swan Hill and Mildura. The issues of concern to these communities include security and safety in Afghanistan, family reunification, Australian visas, and the future of their children. DAA's work with these communities will continue in 2016 - 2017, and we are planning a regional forum in Bendigo to connect these communities

and explore opportunities for collaboration.

## Hazara Womens' Friendship Network

We are also continuing our work with our long-term partner, the Hazara Womens' Friendship Network (HWFN), and we are currently working with a group of women to help them build capacity for engagement with the local community and government representatives. This includes a range of workshops on, amongst other things, human rights and democracy. This project will continue throughout 2016 and is supported by the City of Greater Dandenong.

Through these projects, it is increasingly evident that the well-being of communities in Victoria is linked with that of





# DAA & the Oromia Support Group Australia: The Story of a Prosperous Partnership

Lensa Dinka, Marama Kufi and many of their fellow Oromia Support Group Australia (OSGA) members come from a deeply divided country, Ethiopia. Many NGOs such as Human Rights Watch have reported on the human rights abuses the Ethiopian government has inflicted upon the Oromo people, an ethnic majority who constitute more than 50% of Ethiopia's population.

Approximately 5,000 Oromo live in Victoria, and many of them work towards halting the violence in their country of origin. In 2009, the OSGA and Diaspora Action Australia (DAA) joined hands and helped to create an organisation that promises to have international reach. DAA interviewed two OSGA members, the husband-and-wife team of Marama Kufi and Lensa Dinka. The couple arrived in Australia in 1999 and have spent hours each month advocating for their people.

Both Marama and Lensa joined the OSGA in 2001 and quickly became leaders within the group. By 2009, they were working with the then-new organisation – the Humanitarian Crisis Hub (HCH) – known today as DAA.

## Joining Forces, Gaining Skills

With DAA's help OSGA contributed to Ethiopia's Universal Periodic Review – a report to the United Nations Human Right Council (HRC). Encouraged by successfully completing this project (which they now do every three years), the OSGA became a partner of DAA. Many OSGA members and Oromo community leaders began attending various DAA workshops and meetings with DAA mentors, gaining valuable skills in organisational management, leadership and communications, among others.

## Partnerships & UN Consultative Status

Through DAA, the OSGA was put in touch with the Refugee Council of Australia (RCOA), where they have been given invaluable office space. RCOA recently sent a representative

to Indonesia to visit Oromo refugees there – based on OSGA's recommendation.

The culmination of the OSGA-DAA relationship is the consultative status given to the OSGA in July, 2016, by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Now, OSGA members can directly report to different bodies of the UN as an official source of information on human rights abuses in Ethiopia. "This is a very successful outcome for DAA as well because they invested a lot of energy, advice and consultation," Marama and Lensa note. The consultative status by the UN makes a world of difference to the OSGA – the only Oromo diaspora organisation in the world to have this honour.

"Now we will develop procedures on how best to work with various UN bodies. What is the best way of connecting with them and reporting things? How and when should we go to the UN?" Marama and Lensa query. "OSGA can now go to the next level." Crucially, this recognition means that OSGA can be the voice of not just the Oromo in Ethiopia, but of other communities within the Horn of Africa.

government does. This is how we help our people. We especially want the Australian government to understand what is happening in Ethiopia because Australia gives money to Ethiopia every year. We pay taxes: are our tax dollars ultimately giving a gun to a man who might kill our people?

"We would like to see our Oromo people and other people to be free

more closely with the United Nations, our voice is becoming stronger all the time," Marama and Lensa say.

## A Hopeful Future

OSGA members are committed to bringing the

human rights of the Oromo and other people in the region to light, and working with DAA has made them more effective in doing this.

"Our reports make sure that the UN and the Australian government start understanding what the Ethiopian

*"We wanted to have a voice but didn't know who to tell..."*

from human rights abuses.

"We see every step as positive because 10 years ago there was no hope. But when we connected with DAA, we realized that we could have a voice. And now that we can work



From the left: Lensa Dinka; Fekadu Dinagde and Gemechu Denbel; Marama Kufi; Lensa Dinka, Denise Cauchi and Marama Kufi during a recent 'Friends of DAA' event.

# Enhancing Learning & Good Practice



Working with diaspora communities and organisations to refine their existing skills and knowledge forms the backbone of

Diaspora Action Australia's (DAA) work. Because of our

specialised focus, DAA is able to offer a unique training, mentoring and shared learning program that is attuned to the specific needs of our partners.

## Training

We held six workshops throughout this financial year with the support of the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship focusing on building stronger, more sustainable diaspora organisations. The workshops covered topics from fundraising to project management. These workshops were attended by 73 people, who form a part of the Oromo, Hazara, Somali, Afghan, South Sudanese, Congolese, Iranian, Sri Lankan, Fijian, Nuba Mountains [Sudanese] and Malaysian diaspora communities. Karimi, one of the participants who attended the Swan Hill women's workshop, held on 4 June 2016, said that *"when I'm helped I can help"*.

## Mentoring

Throughout 2015 and 2016, DAA played a part in mentoring organisations one-on-one. We worked closely with Nurture Hope to develop their website and to tell the story of their school in the village of Pajok, South Sudan, which will help to financially support their school, helping them to extend their capacity and reach. Our work with the Oromia Support Group

Australia (OSGA) has grown exponentially (see page 11). We've also supported Bridging Lanka to identify several grant opportunities and assisted them in the grant writing process. The Hazara Women's Friendship Network is in the first stages of an advocacy project in, and with the support of, the City of Greater Dandenong.

## Shared Learning

As many of our partners have common issues and interests, we held a shared-learning session on funding and fundraising on September, 2015. Sixteen participants from the Oromo, Hazara, Afghan, South Sudanese, DRC, Thai, Liberian and Somali communities exchanged examples of successful projects and discussed challenges relating to financing their organisations. The wealth of experience in the room made for a valuable session. Also in September, another group consisting of eight women activists visited Australia as fellows through the University of New South Wales's Diplomacy Training Program. At that time, DAA hosted a meeting with women from diaspora communities to discuss ways to connect women in Australia with activists in the Asia Pacific region.

Top to bottom:  
DAA workshops are attended by diaspora community leaders and members and are hosted by industry specialists.



# Amplifying Diaspora Voices, Raising Awareness & Building Partnerships

As the work of diasporas in peacebuilding, development and humanitarian response is still largely unknown in Australia, Diaspora Action Australia (DAA) actively raises awareness and fosters an environment in which diaspora work is recognised and valued. We build relationships with federal and state government departments, international development agencies, universities, and the community sector.

## Diasporas in Action Conference and Diaspora Learning Network

DAA and the University of Melbourne's Refugee Studies Program formed the Diaspora Learning Network in 2016 to convene a major international conference, *Diasporas in Action: Working Together for Peace, Development and Humanitarian Response*, that was held in September, 2016. Together with its other members – Australian Council for International Development, Australian Red Cross, Oxfam Australia, Refugee Council of Australia and Research for Development Impact Network – the network plans to continue promoting knowledge and learning about diasporas' contribution to peacebuilding, development and humanitarian response after the conference.

## DAA Partnerships

DAA has increasingly worked in partnership with the University of Melbourne's Refugee Studies Program over the past year, resulting in the *Diasporas and Afghanistan Forum* (see page 8) and the preparations for the *Diasporas in Action* conference. DAA also has a new partnership with the Refugee Council of Australia and a memorandum of understanding with the Brotherhood of St Laurence, which enable us to work collaboratively with these organisations to leverage our different specialised areas of expertise in order to better support refugee and migrant communities in Australia.

## International Development and Foreign Affairs

As a member of the federal government's Advisory Group on Australia Africa Relations, DAA's Executive Director, Denise Cauchi, promotes engagement between government and Australian-African communities and highlights their contributions to creating linkages between the two continents. Denise also contributes to the international development sector as a member of the board of the Australian Council for International Development.

## Raising Diaspora Voices

DAA links diaspora leaders with government, NGOs and other sectors, creating opportunities for diaspora voices to be heard. In 2015, this resulted in a roundtable discussion between the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Africa Branch and 11 African community leaders on issues

relating to foreign policy and development in Africa. In early 2016, South Sudanese leader and Director of Peace Palette David Nyuol Vincent and DAA's Denise Cauchi teamed up to give presentations about civil society approaches to peacebuilding at the Australian Defence Force's Peace Operations Seminar, which trains UN peace operations personnel.

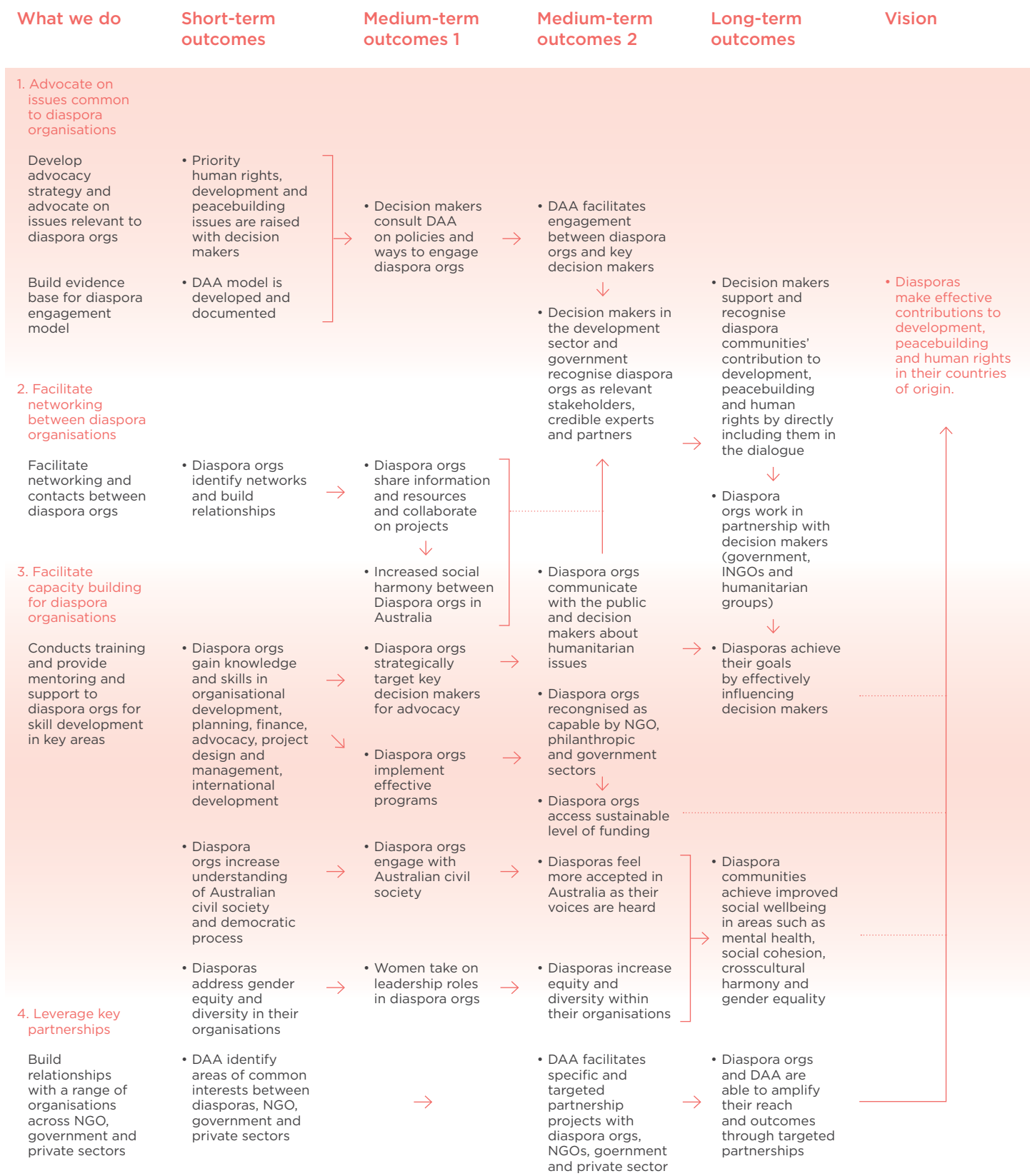
DAA is pleased to note that the level of interest in diaspora work among a range of sectors and stakeholders continues to grow, and we will be continuing our contribution in this space.



DAA Executive Director, Denise Cauchi and Refugee Council of Australia CEO, Paul Power, sign on to a new partnership.



# Theory of Change



# Our people



“Working at DAA has aided in my professional development as I am confident that the knowledge and skill set I have built and refined, make me a better equipped and more competitive candidate for future employment. I have truly enjoyed my experience thus far with DAA and look forward to each new project and challenge I am tasked with.”

**Meaghan Cobbins,**  
Resource Mobilisation  
Co-ordinator for  
DAA.



DAA volunteers past and present meet at Friends of DAA gatherings: **Saheem Wani, Audrey Potter, Jeevika Vivekananthan and Maria Guerrero Hurtado.**



# Our Volunteers

Our volunteers come from all over the world, they speak different languages and have different backgrounds and skills. But every person volunteering with DAA has one common purpose: a commitment to making a difference. These are the people who give their time, knowledge and skills to the work of DAA.



## ELENA LOBAZOVA

Graphic Designer  
Russia, 12 Jan 2015 – present

Being part of DAA as a graphic designer gave me a lot of great creative experience for my career through the variety of projects I have been working on for different events and workshops at DAA. I have met a lot of amazing people that have helped me to become more confident and knowledgeable by giving useful advice and feedback.

which has been a privilege. This chance has meant I can keep my CV “active” while trying to find remunerative work. DAA has allowed me to develop skills such as facilitating communication and storytelling workshops.

## DANIELA SANTA CRUZ

Volunteer Coordinator  
Argentina, May 2015 as volunteer, Sept 2015 – August 2016 as staff

DAA made a wonderful and positive impact in many aspects of my life. I was a recent migrant when I started volunteering here and knew very few people and very little about the Australian life. The friendly and diverse environment at DAA, gave me the possibility to interact with and learn from people from many different backgrounds and cultures which introduced me to new ideas and perspectives. Also, the open and participatory approach allowed me to build up skills and challenge myself. Lastly, as an unexpected bonus



I got a job here which gave me the first ‘local experience’ that for recent migrants is so difficult to gain. I am truly grateful to DAA and its wonderful people.

## KOBIE ARAYATAKUL

IT Coordinator & Website Developer  
Thailand, Oct 2015 – July 2016

My time at DAA has been very helpful for my professional and personal life. I had the opportunity to meet some amazing people. I learnt to implement my skills in keeping the website up and running despite many challenges.

## PALLAVI SINGHAL

Social Media Coordinator & Grants Writer  
India, Jan 2015 – present

My year and a half at DAA has been a stimulating and rewarding journey. I had the opportunity to employ my media management skills in the “real world” setting and experience the challenges that are part of the job. The best bit, undoubtedly, is the remarkable people I crossed paths with, many of whom continue to be great friends and colleagues.



## CLARK WANG

Community Support Worker  
China, Jan 2015 – Jan 2016

DAA was my first assignment after I moved to Australia. It offered me quite a unique experience. It really helped me engaging into the local community and culture, getting to know new friends, building network, and polishing my English as well. It is one of my cherished memories to work with DAA and friends.



## AMY RASHAP

Writer  
USA, Apr 2015 – present

I've been a volunteer at DAA for a year and a half, and the experience has been great for several reasons. I've had the opportunity to interview and write about some stupendous people,



# The Team

## Board

The Board is the governing body of Diaspora Action Australia and consists of up to seven elected members.

Board members as of June 30, 2016:

**Chair:** Hala Abdelnour (Jez Hunghanfoo until 15 June, 2016)

**Deputy Chair:** Andrew Hewett

**Secretary:** Joe Selvaretnam

**Treasurer:** Jamie Han Chu

**Member:** Nuran Higgins

**Member:** Joanna Hayter was a member of the Board until 23 November, 2015

## Operational Team

The Operational Team is made up of staff who manage DAA's day-to-day operations.

**Executive Director:** Denise Cauchi

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Daniela Santa Cruz

**Community Coordinator:** Sandra Chestnutt (from March 2016)  
Lisa Vettori (until March 2016)

**Financial Advisor:** Lin Sun

## Volunteers

Our amazing volunteers work in four teams: Communications, Community Engagement, IT, and Office Management and Resource Mobilisation.

We would like to thank the following volunteers for offering their time and expertise throughout the past financial year.

Adeline Kim

Amy Rashap

Angie Helle

Arun Singh

Audrey Potter

Behnam Khamisi

Bibiana Huggins

Bronwyn Duke

Chris Szymanski

Clark Wang

Dale Simons

Daniel Deleña

Daniela Santa Cruz

Diana Paola Ascencio

Diana Rincon

Dinesh Liyanage

Elena Lobazova

Elly Freer

Emilia Katarina Janca

Evelina (Lina) Gyulkhandanyan

Franky Tee

Haritha Theekshana Fonseka

Jeevika Vivekananthan (Jeevi)

Jenny Davidson

Jimmy Wang

Joaquim Soriano Viana

Jonathan Fenderson

Judith Kamffer

Katherine Loo

Lorenza Lazzati

Mac Thi Nhung

Maeghan Rebecca Cobbin

Malik M Umer

Manuela Ruhstaller

Maria Alejandra Guerrero Hurtado

Mariana Katolyk

Mark Condello

Mark Macdonald

Matthew Graham-Freeman

Mia Wotherspoon

Michael Liddell (Mikey)

Michael Muchomba Kinyua

My Nguyen Phuong Ha

Muhammad Jawad

Nadege Boutin

Natasha Baxter

Neha Sanjay Nambiar

Nick Chiarizia

Pallavi Singhal

Porama Arayatakul (Kobie)

Prasad Hettiarachchi

Rostand Bongwa (Ross)

Rudy Jayaratnam Ruthirakumar

Sally Lin

Satoko Inagaki

Sean Hewett

Shah Sarker

Sue Chaplin

Suzanne McKenzie

Tamara Hettipathirana

Ursula Smerdel

Yavor Stamenov

# Finance

## Overview

The year ended 30 June 2016 represented an improved financial situation compared with the previous financial year. Overall, the organisation recorded a surplus of \$6,579, compared with a deficit of \$3,652 for the year ended 30 June 2015. The total revenue for 2016 was \$268,547, and the total expenditure for 2016 was \$261,968. In this financial statement, we have recognised non-monetary income and expenditure - this amount is \$97,714. In FY1415 non-monetary income and expenditure were \$198,491. Project grants for 2016 totalled \$162,761 which represents a 4% decrease on 2015. The total equity for 2016 was \$34,461 which is an increase of \$6,579 compared with the previous financial year.

## Income statement

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	2016	2015
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	3,551	4,259
Non-monetary (Note 3)	97714	198491
Grants	162,761	169,671
Other Income	4,521	2,440
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>268,547</b>	<b>374,861</b>
Expenditure		
International programs	-	-
Community education	7,006	16,860
Fundraising costs	-	319
Accountability and administration	29,114	31,849
Non-monetary expenditure (Note 3)	97,714	198,491
Domestic programs expenditure	128,134	130,994
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>261,968</b>	<b>378,513</b>
<b>Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenditure</b>	<b>6,579</b>	<b>(3,652)</b>

## Notes

### Note 1

The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

### Note 2

For a copy of the full financial report for the year ending 30 June 2016 please go to our website [www.diasporaaction.org.au](http://www.diasporaaction.org.au) or contact [info@diasporaaction.org.au](mailto:info@diasporaaction.org.au) or phone **0447235425**.

### Note 3

Non-monetary Income and Expenditure: In FY15/16, volunteers contributed 2950 hours which is valued at AUD 88,500, and consultants contributed pro bono work valued at AUD 9214. The total Non-Monetary Income and Expenditure FY15/16 is AUD 97,714.



## Summary balance sheet

as at 30 June 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	141,433	85,751
Trade and other receivables	1,471	34,476
Inventories	-	-
Assets held for sale	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>142,904</b>	<b>120,227</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Trade and other receivables	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	1,057	2,435
Investment property	-	-
Intangibles	-	-
Other non-current assets	-	-
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>2,435</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>143,961</b>	<b>122,662</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	15,105	17,419
Borrowings	-	-
Current tax liabilities	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	15,146	12,393
Other	79,249	64,968
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>109,500</b>	<b>94,780</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Borrowings	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	-	-
Other	-	-
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>109,500</b>	<b>94,780</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>34,461</b>	<b>27,882</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Reserves	-	-
Retained earnings	34,461	27,882
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>34,461</b>	<b>27,882</b>

## Statement of changes in equity

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Retained earnings \$	Reserves \$	Total \$
<b>Balance 1 July 2015</b>	<b>27,882</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,882</b>
Adjustments or changes in equity	-	-	-
Items of other comprehensive income	-	-	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	6,579	-	6,579
Amount transferred (to) from reserves	-	-	-
<b>Balance 30 June 2016</b>	<b>34,461</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>34,461</b>

## ACFID Member and signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct



The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) is the peak Council for Australian not-for-profit aid and development organisations. Diaspora Action Australia is a full member of ACFID and is signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)

Diaspora Action Australia welcomes the opportunity to listen to, and respond to, concerns and complaints using its complaints management process. Please direct any complaints to Denise Cauchi at [denise@diasporaaction.org.au](mailto:denise@diasporaaction.org.au)

## Table of cash movement for designated purposes

for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Cash available at beginning of financial year	Cash raised during financial year	Cash disbursed during financial year	Cash available at end of financial year
Oxfam Australia - Core operations	30,000	30,000	60,000	-
Sponsorship for Diasporas in Action Conference	-	13,773	5,301	8,472
City of Melbourne - Communicate and Connect project	-	17,764	992	16,772
Victorian Multicultural Commission - Strengthening Multicultural Communities program	-	18,000	15,048	2,952
Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship - Organisational development for sustainability	34,968	89,867	81,420	43,414
City of Greater Dandenong - Community Support Grants Program	-	4,973	-	4,973
Humanitarian Advisory Group - Afghan Diaspora community support	-	2,666	-	2,666
All other purposes	20,783	87,074	45,672	62,185
<b>Total</b>	<b>85,751</b>	<b>264,116</b>	<b>208,434</b>	<b>141,433</b>

### Diaspora Action Australia Inc. Statement by Members of the Board

The Board of the Association has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose summarised financial report have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board, the summarised financial report set out on pages 1 to 5:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016 and its performance for the year that ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Hala Abdelnour  
Chair

Jamie Han Chu  
Treasurer

Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016



### Scope

We have audited the summarized financial report of Diaspora Action Australia Inc. which comprises the Summary balance sheet as at 30 June 2016, the income statement, statement of changes in equity and table of cash movement for designed purpose for the year ended on that date in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards and to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the Diaspora Action Australia Inc. has complied in all material respects with the relevant requirements of the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct

### Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion Diaspora Action Australia Inc. has complied in material respects with the requirements of Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct and the information reported in the summarized financial report is consistent with the annual financial report from which it is derived and upon which we expressed an unmodified audit opinion in our report to the members. For better understanding of the scope of our audit, this report should be read in conjunction with our independent auditor's report to the members accompanying the annual financial report of Diaspora Action Australia Inc.

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Armstrong Dubois Pty Ltd. A.B.N. 29 082 709 741

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### Independent Auditor's Report To the members of Diaspora Action Australia Inc.

Armstrong Dubois

David Armstrong  
Partner

Melbourne  
4 October 2016

# Thank you

**We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our partners who have provided us with financial support over the past five years:**

- Act for Peace
- Caritas Australia
- CatholicCare
- City of Melbourne
- City of Greater Dandenong
- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- Helen Macpherson Smith Trust
- LaTrobe University
- Oxfam Australia
- South Sudanese Community Association
- VicHealth
- Victorian Government, Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship
- Victorian Government, Department of Planning and Community Development
- Victorian Multicultural Commission
- William Buckland Foundation
- World Vision Australia

**And without the following people and organisations sharing their time and knowledge, our work would not be possible:**

- Aarathi Krishnan
- Aneeha Singh
- Anna Aristotle
- Ann Major
- Ben Murphy
- Beth Sargent
- Bina Fernandez
- Bronwyn Tilbury

- Caitlin Phillips-Peddlesden
- Cameron Glover
- Camilla Macdonell
- Catherine Gayed
- Chrisanta Muli
- Christian Nielsen
- Christie O'Donnell
- Crina Virgona
- Devaki Monani
- Effie Mitchell
- Elmina Joldic
- Emily Wilson
- Hannah Lewis
- Harry Minas
- Hayley Mansfield
- Helen Szoke
- Henry Parham
- Isadora Quay
- Jacque Wise
- Jenny Vaccari
- Joanna Hayter
- Jo Lindner Pradela
- John Ball
- Julian Silverman
- Kate McFarlane
- Lan Anh Hoang
- Les Terry
- Lisa Vettori
- Louise Oliff
- Marc Purcell
- Mark Clisby
- Marty Hope
- Megan Williams
- Melika Sheikh-Eldin

- Melissa Phillips
- Najeeba Wazefadost
- Nicole Bieske
- Nicky Reiss
- Nicky Woods
- Paul Leonard
- Paul Power
- Philippa Smales
- Ruth Friedman
- Sadkhijan Mangal
- Samanthi Gunawardana
- Stephanie Cousins
- Shirley Sproats
- Sue Woodward
- Tim O'Connor
- Australian Hazara Women's Friendship Network, Benetas, Bridging Lanka, Brotherhood of St Laurence and Ecumenical Resource Centre, Clayton Utz, Global Somali Diaspora, Grill'd, Hope for the future, Humanitarian Advisory Group, Mamaland, Nuba Mountains International Association, Nurture Hope, Oromo Support Group Australia, Refugee Council of Australia, RMIT, South Sudanese Community Association of Victoria, South Sudan Child First Education, University of Melbourne Refuge Studies Program, Victoria University.

**Annual Report Editorial Team:**

- Judith Kamffer (Report Editor), Amy Rashap (Writer), Pallavi Signal (Writer), Adeline Kim (Graphic Designer), Eunice Sotelo (Subeditor), Behnam Khamisi (Photographer).

**And to Brendan Ross, who came up with the excellent idea of founding Diaspora Action Australia in the first place.**



**diaspora action australia**

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