



diaspora
action
australia

PEACE. DEVELOPMENT.
HUMAN RIGHTS.



2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Vision and Mission..... 4

Letter from the Chair & Executive Director..... 5

Our Year in Numbers..... 6

COMMUNITY

Diaspora Conference Breaks New Ground..... 8-9

Commemorating Loss, Celebrating Resilience and Culture..... 10-11

Building Capacity..... 12-13

Promoting Learning and Awareness..... 14

ABOUT US

Our Volunteers..... 16 -17

The Team..... 18

Theory of Change..... 19

Summary of Financial Reports..... 20-22

Thank You..... 23

COVER: Eunice Ann Sotelo, David Kuel, Manuela Ruhstaller, Anshuman Chaturvedi, Diana Paola Ascencio, Adikinyi Agimba, Sanne de Swart.

RIGHT: A member of the Darfur community performs at the Refugee Day event.



OUR VISION

Diasporas are able to contribute effectively in Australia and abroad to peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights.

OUR MISSION

Diaspora Action Australia works with diasporas in Australia that promote peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights.

We do this by: supporting diaspora initiatives; providing resources, information and training; facilitating dialogue and shared learning; building networks; amplifying diaspora voices at local, national and international levels.

We advocate for the inclusion of diasporas in policy dialogue relating to their countries of origin and communities, and seek to build an environment in which diaspora contributions are recognised and valued.

STRATEGIC GOALS

Our strategic goals describe the world we want to see by the end of 2019.

Goal One

Diaspora communities and organisations have the capacity and voice to achieve their goals for peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights.

DAA will work towards this by:

- Building capacity of diaspora organisations and helping them to achieve their goals. We will particularly facilitate opportunities for women and youth to lead change.
- Forging relationships between diaspora communities, other sectors and the Australian public.

Goal Two

Diaspora communities and organisations are recognised as critical stakeholders and partners in policy and program development and delivery.

DAA will work towards this by:

- Building networks and sharing knowledge, particularly through growing the Diaspora Learning Network.
- Raising awareness about diaspora contributions to peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights and promoting collaboration among a range of stakeholders including government, NGOs, universities, the media and others.

Goal Three

Diaspora Action Australia is viable, sustainable and able to grow.

DAA will work towards this by:

- Investing in our people.
- Strengthening our governance and working towards continuous improvement.
- Securing sustainable funding.

When Diaspora Action Australia (DAA) was founded in 2008, the term “diaspora” was rarely heard. A lot has changed since then with talk of diasporas cropping up in the news and in everyday conversations. This is a welcome development for us and the communities we work with. It means that more and more people and institutions are recognising that refugee and migrant communities have an important connection with their countries of origin, and that these linkages benefit Australia too.

We believe we have made an important contribution to this change by highlighting the role that diasporas play in the areas of development, peacebuilding, human rights and humanitarian response, while at the same time strengthening their communities locally in Australia.

This increased recognition was evident in the success of our conference in September 2016 that brought diasporas together for peace, development and humanitarian response. Spearheaded by DAA, in conjunction with the University of Melbourne and a group of dedicated agencies under the Diaspora Learning Network, this conference took a significant step to bring diasporas, government, humanitarian organisations and academics together.



Denise Cauchi,
Executive Director

For the first time in Australia, it was clear that the work of diaspora organisations is now on the map.

Buoyed by the energy and enthusiasm found through the conference, the Diaspora Learning Network continues to take this message forward and promote the important role diasporas play.

Of course, DAA continues to support the work of individual communities and organisations, through our mentoring and training program, which this year extended to regional Victoria. We also showcased their successes with a vibrant event held in Flinders Street Station on World Refugee Day, which gave Victorians a taste of the talents of our colleagues and friends.

After seven great years in Ross House, DAA moved to Collingwood, where we now share an office with our new partners the Refugee Council of Australia. This has led to further collaboration between our two organisations and a very vibrant workplace.

In 2016, DAA also released its new strategic plan that will guide our work over the next three years. While we continue to juggle the resourcing challenges of being a small organisation with a big mission, we look forward to finding the solutions we need with a little help from our friends, colleagues, volunteers and diaspora partners.



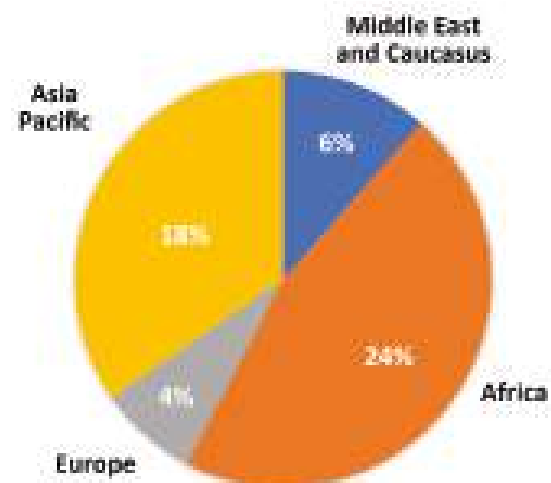
Hala Abdelnour,
Chair

Our Year In Numbers

In 2016-17 WE WORKED WITH

75
diaspora
organisations

who promote peace, development,
humanitarian response and human
rights in over **20** countries

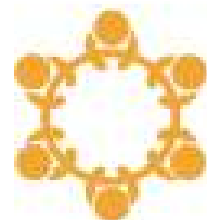


853 PEOPLE REACHED
BY DAA PROGRAMS



WE SUPPORTED

402 members of diaspora
organisations & communities
through capacity building activities:



16 workshops

19 mentoring sessions



1 conference

2 regional outreach
initiatives

WE CONNECTED



80

experts from NGOs,
government and
academic institutions
with diaspora activists



COMMUNITY

Volunteer Joel Khemis Musa greets Komi Bana
from Nuba Mountains International Association

Diaspora Conference Breaks New Ground

The Diasporas in Action conference in September 2016, marked a turning point in how aid and development thought leaders consider the role of diasporas in peacebuilding and humanitarian response.

For the first time in Australia, participants gathered at the University of Melbourne to hear about bold and unique approaches to peacebuilding; private sector investment in conflict-affected countries; international experiences of national diaspora action plans; contestation of authoritarian regimes; use of communications technology for development; and importantly strategies to maximise diaspora contribution after natural disasters.



Samuel Sebenzo
Australia Zimbabwe Business Council

Spearheaded by DAA in partnership with the University of Melbourne Refugee Studies Program, the conference was supported by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and convened by the Diaspora Learning Network, including ACFID, Oxfam Australia, Refugee Council of Australia, Australian Red Cross and Research for Development Impact Network.

In her opening address, the Minister for International Development and the Pacific Concetta Fierravanti-Wells underscored the importance of diasporas. "I am committed to working with diaspora communities so that they benefit from the Government's aid expertise and in turn, that the Government benefits from diasporas' local knowledge," she said.



Nawal El-Gack
University of Canberra

It had the hallmarks of a successful conference, with stimulating presentations with international experts, a strong cohort of attendance, and importantly a palpable buzz in the air, and a sense of excitement that something new was happening.

The 170 participants represented a unique breadth of sectors and backgrounds that there was no place for business as usual. Academics rubbed shoulders with artists. International development practitioners explored collaboration with diaspora organisations. Government representatives discussed risk with diaspora business councils.

Community sector organisations met young diaspora entrepreneurs and conversations were lively and engaged. Two separate participants commented that it was the friendliest conference they had been to. An important starting ground for connections to be made.

"We are very grateful for this first step and we are hoping that this diaspora movement will grow and gain more prominence particularly in the eyes of the Australian government."

Jeremy Liyanage, Director, Bridging Lanka

For diasporas, it was clear that they were not alone and that there are many other communities in Australia tackling the same issues.

For the government and non-government international development agencies, there were international examples to look to, demonstrating how the sector can engage meaningfully with diasporas to enhance development and humanitarian outcomes.

For refugee settlement and community sector organisations, it was clear that Australia's multicultural communities not only help people to settle, but are also connecting Australians with the rest of the world.

Since the conference there has been a notable increase in interest from a range of stakeholders in keeping up a multi-sector dialogue on these issues live. The Diaspora Learning Network has continued, with DAA as its secretariat, and a second conference is planned for 2018. For more information on DLN, see p. 14



Najeeba Wazefadost
Hazara Women's Association

"This conference can allow diasporas to be primary agents of change over their own destiny."

Najeeba Wazefadost, Director Hazara Women's Association

"The first step in successful collaboration is to understand one another's experiences and learn from them. [When] the role diasporas play is more widely understood and accepted, [then] business as usual is no longer an option."

Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Concetta Fierravanti-Wells



Q&A with keynote panel:

From left to right Chukwu-Emeka Chikezie, Laurent de Baëck, Helen Szoke, Will Jones, and Denise Cauchi.

Commemorating Loss, Celebrating Resilience and Culture

On World Refugee Day in June 2017, DAA hosted “My Journey, My Home” at Flinders Street Station in the Melbourne CBD to celebrate the cultures and journeys of diaspora communities.

Using dance, music, storytelling, short films, videos and silent dramas, diaspora communities raised awareness of the impact of conflicts in their countries of origin, and of their process of seeking safety.

Throughout the course of the day, members of the Sri Lankan, Oromo, Darfuri, Nuba Mountains (Sudan), Hazara, South Sudanese, Middle Eastern (Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Egypt) diasporas presented 15 performances to some 700 commuters through the station.

The Darfur community transitioned from dances to a silent drama that portrayed the violence and persecution in Sudan that brought them here to Australia. Their performances set a double edge of both celebration and mourning of their journey and home. For many commuters who stopped to watch, their

“I felt unity, I saw so much love and so much hope and joy, it was amazing, and I loved it.”

Audience member of Christian Faith Women’s group



Rapper Krown,
South Sudanese community

interactions with the performers were the first time they had heard of these conflicts or met members of the different communities in Australia. One member of the audience watching the Darfuri silent drama commented on the beauty and importance of the performances.

“Their stories - through creativity and creative expression - need to be told and people need to understand and hear because that’s what gives us compassion and understanding and empathy”.

Another commuter, who initially expressed negative impressions about refugees, talked with some of the participants and left shaking the hand of a Darfuri performer, saying “I’m glad you’re here, mate”.

“My Journey, My home” was part of the Refugee Council of Australia’s Refugee Week events to mark the United Nations’ (UN) World Refugee Day that honours the courage, strength and determination of women, men and children forced to flee their homelands under threat of persecution, conflict and violence.

We thank Gandel Philanthropy for their support of this event.

“I am really very happy to be in a country like Australia because there is nothing better than multiculturalism ... we all have to recognise and to understand that the world is for all of us.”

Audience member



Shyama Fuad (right) discusses Bridging Lanka's projects with a member of the public



Christian Faith Women’s Group



Chaltu Dabassa performs the Oromo coffee ceremony



John Gulzari shares the story of his journey from Afghanistan

Building Capacity

DAA works with diaspora communities and organisations to increase their capacity to work in Australia and overseas.

WORKSHOPS

We delivered eleven workshops in Melbourne and Dandenong and two regional workshops reaching a total of 106 people.

Support from the Victorian Multicultural Commission and the City of Melbourne was provided for Melbourne workshops focusing on communicating and connecting to the wider community and building stronger, and more sustainable diaspora organisations.

On top of this a series workshops in Dandenong focused on building the advocacy capacity of Hazara women and their knowledge of human rights and democracy. These workshops were supported by the City of Greater Dandenong.

A further 68 people from the Sri Lankan, Oromo, Nuba Mountains, South Sudanese, Afghan, Tibetan, Hazara, Darfur, Vietnamese and Thai diaspora communities attended 11 workshops building their skills to speak out publicly. This effort directly saw three of the organisations present at the Diaspora Learning Network Conference in September.

We completed the two remaining regional workshops in Mildura and Bendigo with support from the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship [OMAC], and 38 people from the Hazara, Burundi, Karen, South Sudanese, Vietnamese and Malaysian diaspora communities attended these sessions.

As a direct result of the regional workshops a request was received from the Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services to mentor two Karen organisations.

RIGHT:
Salam Dankha, Assyrian Chaldean Women's Choir, and DAA Community Engagement Coordinator Sandra Chestnutt work on preparations for the Refugee Week event.

OPPOSITE PAGE FROM TOP:
Sei Sei Mu Thein, Karen Organisation of Bendigo; Members of Karen community attends a mentoring session; the Karen Organisation of Bendigo and Karen Culture and Social Support Foundation built their skills in organisational development.

MENTORING PROGRAM

DAA furthered its mentoring of diaspora organisations. With Gandel Philanthropy's support we worked with Karen Organisation of Bendigo and the Karen Cultural and Social Support Foundation (KCSSF) to design and implement a tailored program.

With this training and support, these organisations are now working towards new initiatives including introducing Karen New Year to Bendigo and establishing a medical centre on the Thai-Myanmar border.

DAA also supported Darfur Humanitarian Advocacy Australia to develop briefings on the continuing conflict in Darfur and arrange meetings with Government. The delegation visited Canberra to build support to contain the conflict and in March 2017, the delegation met with the Foreign Minister Julie Bishop.

We worked with the Nuba Mountains International Association – Victoria advocate to the New Zealand Government on the 'Unknown War' and asked them to use their seat on the UN Security Council to take their message to end the war and humanitarian crisis in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States Sudan.

With this mentorship, the Oromo and Ogaden community leaders have worked towards a new Horn of Africa alliance and Hazara women met with the Member for Dandenong in November in her office to discuss the many issues that impacted on them including discrimination in the community.

REGIONAL REACH

Bendigo is home to Victorians of many nationalities and ethnic backgrounds. Since late 2016, Diaspora Action Australia has mentored two Karen-Burmese communities in Bendigo, expanding DAA services to communities in regional Victoria for the first time.

Through regular mentoring sessions, DAA has worked with 24 members of the two groups to develop the essential skills needed to improve the governance and management of their organisations, build networks and enhance influence within their community.

"We work very hard but the legal part is one of our weaknesses and these courses have helped us improve on that," said Sei Sei Mu Thein the President of the Karen Organisation of Bendigo.

The Karen-Burmese community in Bendigo has hundreds of members where they support the Karen and Burmese people to retain traditions and integrate into their local community. As the organisations aim to assist their communities in Myanmar, DAA's support has included furthering international projects.

We would like to thank Gandel Philanthropy and the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship for their support of this project.



Promoting Learning and Awareness

As the only organisation in Australia specialising in supporting diaspora work on peace-building, development, humanitarian response and human rights, DAA has been at the forefront of advocating for diasporas to have a seat at the table in policy discussions relating to their countries of origin. This is now having a noticeable effect as the Australian Government, international development agencies and universities are gaining interest in the work of diaspora organisations and increasingly seek DAA's advice on how best to engage them. As one of our key goals is to link diasporas with these stakeholders, we welcome this development.

DAA brokers public speaking opportunities for diaspora partners. In 2016 this included creating presentation and radio interview opportunities for leaders from the Sri Lankan, Hazara and South Sudanese communities.

We have also delivered presentations in conferences and seminars on different aspects of diaspora work, including:

- University of Queensland Asia Pacific Centre for the Responsibility to Protect: Advancing Gender, Peace and Security in the ASEAN Region;
- University of Melbourne: Justice, Conflict, Responsibility Symposium;
- Monash University: Realising Women, Peace & Security in Asia-Pacific.
- Deakin University, Centre for Humanitarian Leadership: Asia Pacific Humanitarian Leadership Conference.



“I’d like to commend the [Diaspora Learning] Network for organising this conference. I think it’s really important that we start to formally to talk about the work that diasporas do.”

Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Concetta Fierravanti-Wells.

As a member of the Australian Government’s Advisory Group on Australia Africa Relations, Executive Director Denise Cauchi directly promotes the inclusion of African diasporas on policy matters. She is also a member of the Board of the Australian Council for International Development.

DIASPORA LEARNING NETWORK

The Diasporas in Action conference not only put diaspora activity on a public stage, but it was also convened by a group of agencies who formed a new committed network. Buoyed by the success of the conference, the network has continued to promote collaboration and learning on the role of diasporas in peace, development and humanitarian response.

With DAA acting as the Secretariat, the DLN currently comprises ACFID, Oxfam Australia, Australian Red Cross, Research for Development Impact Network, Refugee Council of Australia and academics from University of Melbourne, and Australian Catholic University.

One of the DLN's first activities was to provide a submission to the Foreign Policy White Paper consultation. Over the next year the network will increase its membership, run seminars and produce a series of papers that provide recommendations to government and other stakeholders.

A second conference is planned for 2018.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:
Amy Rashap, David Kuel, Pallavi Singhal, Anshuman Chaturvedi, Maeghan Cobbin, Diana Paola Ascencio, Emilia Katarina Janca, Manuela Ruhstaller.

ABOUT US

Our Volunteers



YAZMIN GONZALES

Volunteering with Diaspora Action Australia since 2012, Yazmin Gonzales is a core member of the Community Engagement Team.

She has a Masters in Community Development and brings a wealth of experience from working with NGOs in Mexico. Through Diaspora Action Australia, Yazmin says she has witnessed significant growth in activists' capacity and advocacy work.

"Diaspora Action Australia has been a great way to meet like-minded people."

Yazmin is now an Australian resident and working at the McKillop Family Services.



JOEL KHEMIS MUSA

Joel Khemis Musa is a member of the Community Engagement Team with strong passion for creating thriving communities, locally and abroad.

Joel is a youth worker and studies Community Development at Victoria University. He values the opportunity to work alongside communities with lived experience of war and conflict, and work towards a career with the United Nations.



MUSTAFA NAJIB

Mustafa Najib is a committed Board member. Originally from Afghanistan, Mustafa has been working with Diaspora Action Australia for over one year.

"DAA's work builds bridges between diaspora communities and builds shared understanding." - Mustafa said.

"It's provided us an opportunity to engage with the community and find solutions to world issues."

LULU JEMIMAH

Lulu Jemimah managed communications during her time at Diaspora Action Australia before returning to Uganda in 2017.

Lulu notes the impact volunteering had on her professional pursuits.

"I felt constantly motivated about the work that DAA does. It was great to work with like-minded people and improve my skillset along the way."



MANUELA RUHSTALLER

Manuela has a strong passion for international relations and joined Diaspora Action Australia in 2015 after moving from Switzerland to finish her Masters Degree.

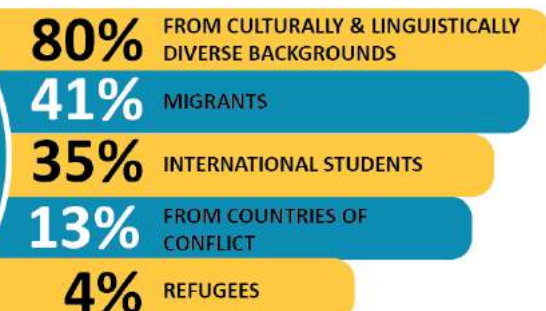
When asked her favourite thing about being a volunteer, she notes the contribution it plays in bringing the world one step closer to peace.

"It's hard to measure progress, but you begin to see the impact that DAA has. You see communities become hopeful and that's what leads to progress."



THANKS TO OUR

46 volunteers from **27** countries



The Team

BOARD

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

Board members as at June 30, 2017:

Chair: Hala Abdelnour

Deputy Chair: Andrew Hewett

Secretary: Lisa Vettori

Treasurer: Jamie Han Chu

Member: Aarathi Krishnan

Member: Karen Medica

Member: Mustafa Najib

Joe Selvaretnam was Secretary until October 2016 and Nuran Higgins was a member until November 2016.

OPERATIONAL TEAM

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

Executive Director: Denise Cauchi

Volunteer Coordinator: Sanne de Swart (from August 2016)

Daniela Santa Cruz (until August 2016)

Community Coordinator: Sandra Chestnutt

Conference Coordinator: Gayathiri Jambulingam

Financial advisor: Martyn Green

VOLUNTEERS

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

We would like to thank the following people who volunteered their time and expertise this year:

Adeline Kim

Adikinyi Agimba

Alana Beitz

Alexandra Galo

Amy Rashap

Annabel Dixon

Anshuman Chaturvedi

Arun Singh

Behnam Khamisi

Cameron Deans

Cheng (Jimmy) Hui Hui

Claudia Vecchia

Diana Paola Ascencio

Elena Lobazova

Emilia Katarina Janca

Erandi Navaratna

Eunice Ann Sotelo

Evelina Gyulkhandanyan

Harsh (Harry) Gajjar

Joel Khemis Musa

Judith Susara Kamffer

Lorenza Lazzati

Lucas Watt

Lulu Jemimah

Mac Thi Nhung

Maeghan Cobbin

Malik M Umer

Manas Ramesh Sorte

Manuela Ruhstaller

Mariana Katolyk

Mariana Yazmin Gonzales Nieto

Milena Moneva

My Ha

Nadie Kammallaweera

Noemi Lavorato

Oluwatobi (Tobi) Folorunso

Pallavi Singhal

Paul Antonio Reyes

Peita Collard

Pete Widdows

Phoebe Scott

Pin Pei (Sally) Lin

Rana Ebrahimi

Sumaiya Rizvi

Ursula/Urša Smerdel

Yavor Stamenov

Theory of Change

Vision

Diasporas are able to contribute effectively in Australia and abroad to peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights



Long Term Outcome

Diasporas achieve their goals by leveraging their skills, knowledge, networks and resources, and influencing key decision-makers.



Medium Term Outcomes

The role of diasporas in promoting peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights is understood by government, international development agencies, researchers and others.

Decision-makers in government and the international development sector recognise diasporas as relevant stakeholders, credible experts and partners, and include them in dialogue.

Diasporas have the necessary skills, knowledge, networks and resources to implement effective projects.

Diaspora communities enjoy high levels of social cohesion and intra-community harmony in Australia



DAA Program And Policy Strategies Over The Next Three Years

Raise awareness about diaspora contributions to peace, development, humanitarian response and human rights.

Facilitate increased collaboration between diaspora communities and key stakeholders, and promote inclusion of diaspora communities in policy dialogue

Assist diasporas to build their capacity and voice through mentoring, training and network building,

Support diasporas to build intra-community harmony, including through promoting leadership opportunities for women and young people.

Summary of Financial Reports

OVERVIEW

For the year ended 30 June 2017 the organisation recorded a deficit of \$27,432 (2015/16: surplus \$6,579). Total revenue for 2017 was \$344,573, and the total expenditure was \$372,005. In this financial statement, we have recognised non-monetary income and expenditure - this amount is \$153,110. (15/16: \$97,714). Project grants income for 2017 totalled \$186,956 which represents a 14.9% increase on 2016. The total equity at year end 2017 was \$7,029 which is a decrease of \$27,432 compared with the previous financial year.

INCOME STATEMENT

for the year ended 30 June 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
REVENUE		
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	3,004	3,551
Non-monetary (Note 3)	153,110	97,714
Grants	186,956	162,761
Other Income	1,503	4,521
TOTAL REVENUE	344,573	268,547
EXPENDITURE		
International Programs	-	-
Community Education	48,017	7,006
Fundraising Costs	-	-
Accountability and Administration	22,669	29,114
Non-Monetary Expenditure (Note 3)	153,110	97,714
Domestic Programs Expenditure	148,209	128,134
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	372,005	261,968
EXCESS/ (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	27,432	6,579

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

Note 2

For a copy of the full financial report for the year ending 30 June 2017 please go to our website www.diasporaaction.org.au or contact info@diasporaaction.org.au or phone **0447235425**

Note 3

Non-monetary Income and Expenditure: In FY 16/17, volunteers contributed 4,490 hours which is valued at AUD \$147,990, and consultants contributed pro bono work valued at AUD \$5,120. The total Non-Monetary Income and Expenditure FY 16/17 is AUD \$153,110.

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET

as at 30 June 2017

ASSETS	2017 \$	2016 \$
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	132,859	141,433
Trade and other receivables	338	1,471
Inventions	-	-
Assets held for sale	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-
Total Current Assets	133,197	142,904
Non-current assets		
Trade and other receivables	-	-
Other financial assets	-	-
Property, plant and equipment	-	1,057
Investment property	-	-
Intangibles	-	-
Other non-current assets	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets	-	1,057
Total Assets	133,197	143,961
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	14,029	15,105
Borrowings	-	-
Current tax liabilities	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	22,443	15,146
Other	89,696	79,249
Total Current Liabilities	126,168	109,500
Non-current Liabilities		
Borrowings	-	-
Other financial liabilities	-	-
Provisions	-	-
Other	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	-	-
Total Liabilities	126,168	109,500
Net Assets	7,029	34,461
EQUITY		
Reserves	-	-
Retained Earnings	7,029	34,461
Total Equity	7,029	34,461

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Retained earnings \$	Reserves \$	Total \$
Balance 1 July 2016	34,461	-	34,461
Adjustments or changes in equity	-	-	-
Items of other comprehensive income	-	-	-
(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses	(27,432)	-	(27,432)
Amount transferred (to) from reserves	-	-	-
Balance 30 June 2017	7,029	-	7,029

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

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

TABLE OF CASH MOVEMENT FOR DESIGNATED PURPOSES for the year ended 30 June 2017

	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	-	52,000	52,000	-
Sponsorship & ticket sales for Diasporas in Action Conference	8,472	45,403	53,875	-
City of Melbourne - Communicate and Connect project	16,771	-	16,771	-
Victorian Multicultural Commission	2,952	-	2,952	-
- Strengthening Multicultural Communities program				
Office of Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship	43,414	-	43,414	-
- Organisational development for sustainability				
City of Greater Dandenong	4,973	-	4,973	-
- Community Support Grants Program				
Humanitarian Advisory Group	2,666	-	2,666	-
- Afghan Diaspora community support				
Gandel Philanthropy - Upskill. Connect. Celebrate!	-	30,000	10,304	19,696
DFAT - Diaspora Learning Network	-	50,000	-	50,000
DFAT - South Sudan Diaspora Peacebuilding	-	20,000	-	20,000
All other purposes	62,185	4,507	23,529	43,163
Total	141,433	201,910	210,484	132,859



Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements to the members of Diaspora Action Australia Inc.

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprises the summary balance sheet as at 30 June 2017, the summary income statement, summary statement of changes in equity and summary table of cash movement for designed purpose for the year then ended, related notes and declaration by board of management, are derived from the audited financial report of Diaspora Action Australia Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 20 September 2017.

Responsibility of the Board of Management for the Summary Financial Statements

The Board of Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic)*, and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Armstrong Dubois
David Armstrong
Partner
Melbourne
23 November 2017

DIASPORA ACTION AUSTRALIA INC. ABN : 67 754 968 942

Declaration by Board of Management

The Board of Management of Diaspora Action Australia Inc. (The Association) declares that:

- The Financial Statements and notes set out on pages 1 to 5, are in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Council For International Development Code of Conduct, including:
 - comply with relevant Australian Accounting Standards as applicable; and
 - give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
- At the date of this declaration, 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 of Management.

Hala Abdelnour
Chair

Jamie Han Chu
Treasurer

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
City of Melbourne
City of Greater Dandenong
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Gandel Philanthropy
Helen McPherson Smith Trust
Humanitarian Advisory Group
Latrobe University
Oxfam Australia
Refugee Council of 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

We would particularly like to thank the Refugee Council of Australia for sharing their office with us and providing finance and IT expertise, all of which have enabled us to reap the benefits of a close working relationship.

Without the following people and organisations sharing their time, knowledge and good will, our work would not be possible:

INDIVIDUALS:

Aarathi Krishnan
Anna Aristotle
Ariadna Relea
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Bina Fernandez
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Chrisanta Muli
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ORGANISATIONS:

Brimbank Council
Brotherhood of St Laurence
Catholic Care
City of Greater Dandenong
City of Yarra
DJ Warehouse
Humanitarian Advisory Group
Infoxchange
Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services
Metro Trains
Ross House
University of Melbourne Refugee Studies Program
Volunteering Victoria
Victoria University

ANNUAL REPORT EDITORIAL TEAM

Emma Lang (Report Editor)
Elena Lobazova (Graphic Design)

Contributors: Connie Constanza, Jeanne Khin, and Jo Sutton

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



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