

Another year passes, and we pause to look back and write down key moments and achievements, hold ourselves accountable to the goals we set for the year, and outline those for the year ahead.

And it's been an interesting year of things returning to some form of normality. We've been able to travel internationally and visit most of our partner organisations for the first time in years. Almost all of them have returned to their pre-pandemic levels of community work, and we had a number of requests for partnership from new organisations.

Here in WA we've been able to host events with much less risk of them needing to be cancelled at the last minute. Schools are more open for incursions and we came very close to bringing a small cohort of people to visit our partner organisations in Indonesia for a first-ever Amos Connect trip.

This has all been very positive news, and it's been helpful to be able to set targets, plan things out and see them happen. It's been wonderful to see proposals come in from our partner organisations and see them implementing projects and programs that are helping economically poor communities. There is much to celebrate in this past year!

One risk with all of this as an organisation that wants to be faith-integrated is that we centre our work around targets and outputs – and it's a very real risk! In reviewing this past year, I've felt a level of guilt in not achieving some tasks that we set out to do, and – when a few partners asked for additional funding we hadn't planned for – wondering how folks would feel about us going over budget. I often feel a very real tension between being strategic or planning things out and being relationally-driven and Spirit-led. Some would say these are false dichotomies (I know I've said that!), and I understand that theoretically, but in practice it feels more like a tension that we have to work with.

I hope that our desire to be relationally-shaped and Spirit-led is evident in this document too. I hope you'll find evidence of our planning, and proof that we've achieved what we set out to do. But I hope you'll also read about us doing things that we didn't plan for, but believed - through prayer and reflection - that we should do them. Things like providing extra funding for a community truck that is integral to a partner's work, cancelling a weeklong camp and swapping an event for a mail-out.

It's been so very helpful to have gifted, wise and gentle people to work with – from the board to fellow staff, partner organisations and supporters. Each of them have been good news to me this past year, and I trust that collectively our work has been a holistic declaration of the Gospel to the economically poor and to each other.

Clinton Bergsma Executive Officer

Our Vision

To serve the poor as equals before God

Our Mission

To work internationally to support local faith-based organisations engaged in community development

AND

To work domestically to support Christians to make whole-of-life responses to the realities of poverty and injustice.

Our Approach

We have come to the conviction that poverty is fundamentally relational, and caused by a break-down in relationships. We identify four key inter-dependant relationships: relationship between self and God, self and others, self and the earth, and relationship with self (our understanding of who we are and what we were designed for).

As such, our approach to addressing poverty is fundamentally relational, and aims to be restorative. This means that we attempt to put people ahead of projects and that our measurements of 'success' are relationally shaped. It means that we seek to be hopeful, warm and personable in our communications with an emphasis on dialogue and a willingness to hear differing views.

Our Story

Amos Australia was established in 2005 by a small group of friends who wanted to go beyond supporting economically poor churches overseas to serving the whole community. We began with an anti-malaria program in Sumba, Eastern Indonesia, and now work with five locally-led organisations in South-east Asia who support their communities in a whole range of ways – from water projects to advocacy, creating or facilitating fair-trade markets, micro-finance and local sustainable livelihoods. We have two part-time paid staff, three part-time volunteer staff, and a host of people who support and participate in our work in a range of ways.

Amos Australia is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), and has DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status which means all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

The Team

Board

NAME

Daniel Bosveld Eric de Haan Carolyn de Haan Simon Steenhof Diane Bosveld Michael Hidding

POSITION

Chair Person
Secretary
Treasurer
Member
Member
Member

Paid Staff

NAME

Clinton Bergsma Aimee de Haan

POSITION

Executive Officer
Community Engagement
Officer

Volunteer Staff

NAME

Arlene Ward Carolyn de Haan Diane Bosveld

POSITION

Creative Director Financial Officer Sales

Our Supporters

Amos Australia's supporter base is primarily made up of Australian Christians with whom our work and approach resonate. This year we had a supporter base of about 250 people, with a large handful of those supporters being actively engaged with our work in meaningful ways that extended beyond financial giving. Our supporter numbers fluctuated throughout the year, but overall we're seeing a growth in people who actively support our work.

Our supporters come from a wide range of demographics, Christian backgrounds and localities and we receive support in a variety of ways. We received financial donations from approximately 45 people in the last year, and we also receive support in many other ways. In fact, our work is not possible without the generous contributions of others.

These in-kind contributions include volunteering at events, catering our events, creating art and producing written pieces for the Amos magazine, praying regularly for our work, hosting our events at their homes, giving their time or expertise, contributing financially or offering an encouraging word.

We are continually grateful for the support we receive from our supporters and it's our prayer that as they engage with our work they would feel supported and encouraged in turn.





In October we held a long table event in Busselton. Jonathan Cornford was our guest speaker for the night and talked with us about the 'economics of the household'. Our events provide space for people to have conversations about making whole of life responses to the gospel.

Our Partner Organisations

Amos Australia is privileged to work with the following international partner organisations to implement local and community-centred development initiatives.

BKAD: BKAD work in Eastern Sumba in Indonesia, originally operating as a micro-finance organisation that provided loans to women's weaving groups. BKAD continue to support weaving groups and operate a small gallery selling local traditional weavings at fair market prices. Amos Australia began working with BKAD in 2017 to implement numerous projects including business management training and product value-adding training for weaving groups and a large school weaving program.



In August 2022, Aimee and Clinton visited one of the schools where BKAD is running a weaving training program aimed at providing meaningful paths of income generation for youth - employment is a key driver for young people leaving their rural homes for places like Malaysia and BKAD is aiming to reduce this trend.

YAKERRSUM: Yakerrsum were one of the first official community development organisations in Eastern Sumba in Indonesia, and this is reflected in the extensive relationships and rapport they have with the community. Yakerrsum focus on supporting agricultural development throughout the region, with past projects including agricultural training, water projects and cattle breeding programs. Amos Australia has been partnering with Yakerrsum since 2009.

KOPPESDA: With a strong focus on environmental and agricultural management, Koppesda have been embedded in the East Sumba community for over 20 years and implemented a range of programs ranging from improving cropping methods to mitigating the effects of climate change and developing fair-trade markets for rural coffee-growers.

TLM: As Amos Australia's largest partner organisation, TLM facilitate a diverse range of programs throughout the province of NTT in Eastern Indonesia. First established in 1994, TLM's main area of expertise is micro-finance, providing small loans at fair rates to people who often wouldn't be able to access financial services. TLM's transformation division complements the micro-finance program and delivers programs and projects aimed to address poverty and improve livelihoods. Amos Australia works with TLM's transformation division to implement a number of these initiatives, including the Village Advocacy Program, which provides governance training for local village leaders to build effective and financially sustainable management in order to allow them to access significant government funding.



A community meeting in the early stages of TLM's program designed to holistically address the issue of malnutrition and stunting in West Timor. TLM is trailing the program in 10 villages, four of which are funded by Amos Australia.

NCED: After having an informal relationship with NCED for a number of years, Amos Australia established a formal partnership with the Cambodian organisation in June 2021. NCED are a locally led Christian organisation, working to improve the economic and social livelihoods of Indigenous communities in the Mondulkiri Province. NCED's first official project with Amos Australia aims to teach innovative farming techniques, and foster co-operative farming groups from within local Indigenous villages.

We also sometimes work with small organisations on one-off projects without having a formal partnership. This past year we've explored a potential one-off project with SSA (see below).

FYE2023 in Review

In Southeast Asia

Key Objectives:

- Visit all partners in-country once within the financial year: completed.
- Collaborate with Tambourine for NCED partnership visits to reduce costs: completed.
- Return to pre-Covid-19 levels of programs and projects by partner organisations: completed.
- Explore the possibility of a Sumba Connect trip with supporters for August 2023: completed, but there wasn't sufficient interest to warrant running the trip. We've decided to continue to offer this yearly and run it if numbers permit.
- Coordinate learning between partner organisations: completed and ongoing.
- Seek mentoring from a larger Australian FBO regarding international partnerships: incomplete.
- Explore potential partnerships with one or two new organisations in South-East Asia: partially complete. We do have a few organisations that we'd like to explore partnerships with, and we had two organisations that approached us for partnerships but were deemed not suitable.

Overview:

It's been wonderful to be able to visit our partners in-country this past year. We hadn't seen some of them for a few years, and between Covid-19, Cyclone Seroja and a continuing locust plague, some of them had been through a lot – so it was very special to see them again, share stories and look to what lies next for them. It was also an opportunity for Aimee to see first-hand the work of our partners in Sumba and for us to make the most of her photography skills at the same time. We also gathered all of our Indonesian partner organisations together while we were there to encourage more collaboration and networking between them – our sense is that they all came away energised and encouraged by the meeting, and some collaboration has followed. The only partner we didn't visit this past year was NCED. One of their other partners had planned a visit and was happy to share their insights with us, so we will visit NCED next year instead. This year we also trialed reducing our travel by only visiting each partner organisation once, and having our partners undertake some cross-monitoring on our behalf. It seems to be working well, encourages collaboration and reduces our costs and environmental impact, so we'll do the same again next year.

Over the past year, most of our partners have also continued or restarted their operations:

TLM:

- The Palu project continues to run, assisting small businesses to get back on their feet (post-tsunami) through a loan program.
- We applied for and received a \$7,500 grant from the Wanless Foundation for TLM's water staff
 members just before Christmas, so we were able to provide this funding in addition to our
 regular allocation for TLM. TLM's two water staff continue to assist communities to access water
 by providing technical assistance and minimal infrastructure.
- TLM also began piloting a whole-of-village program in 10 villages with the foundational goal of addressing stunting. We're providing funding for two villages in West Timor, and the pilot will run for three years.
- We'd previously funded part of TLM's advocacy program; they are now able to fund that internally, and have directed this funding towards the stunting program.
- TLM have also assisted us with some monitoring, which we greatly appreciate. It's been very helpful for us, and there's been some excellent cross-pollination between our partner organisations as a result.

Koppesda:

 Began an economic livelihoods program in late 2022, aimed at improving farming and agricultural methods. TLM have been providing some technical input and support for the program, and it seems to be going well despite some challenging weather.

BKAD:

- Continued the school weaving program, and requested a further extension of it just before
 Christmas. We were only able to fund half of the requested extension request, and this ran in
 early 2023.
- Ran a program providing some training to volunteer community health workers on malnutrition and stunting (identifying & addressing).
- The Arlin Foundation approached us about funding some of BKAD's work, and we were able to partner with them to providing funding for equipment for a local health clinic. While the equipment should technically be funded by the local government, it hasn't been, and so the health workers haven't been able to properly measure and record malnourishment and stunting.

YRM:

 YAKKERSUM have had a few setbacks this past year, and so we didn't receive any complete proposals this past year.

NCED:

- NCED has continued rolling out their livelihood project (it's a three-year funding agreement)
- We provided an additional \$10,000 towards replacing a 4wd that NCED uses for a lot of its work and community support. It's now been fully funded with the support of some of NCED's other partners.

SSA:

 In late 2022 we received a proposal from an organisation in Sumba who want to run a pilot on training communities to grow bamboo. We expect to finalise the details with SSA when we visit Sumba again in early August.

Key Projects and Achievements

In Australia

Key Objectives:

- Continue running engaging events that are a variety of ways for people to reflect on faith-shaped responses to issues of poverty and injustice.
- Deepen engagement with schools and youth groups across Perth and the South-west.
- Recruit an additional part-time staff member to assist with Perth metro engagement.
- Publish the annual Amos magazine.
- Produce an in-depth newsletter every three months, and continue to produce meaningful and engaging content for social media.
- Team-lead the annual AMUC event
- Run an 'Amos Connect' trip where folks could visit some of our partner organisations in Indonesia to learn from them.
- Partner with Scripture Union to provide workshops for their school holiday camps.

An overview of FYE2023

In the YE23 we continued to focus on producing high-quality events as well as producing our annual publication, the Amos Magazine. We also published a document detailing our budget and the principles that guide our finances that was mailed to our supporters.

We had regular engagement with schools in the South West and continued to develop relationships with schools and churches. We updated our supporters via our newsletter and produced meaningful, thought-provoking content for our social media platforms. Providing multiple touchpoints for people to connect with our work has allowed a wide variety of people to interact with our work.

For a small organisation, we are very encouraged by the level of support that we continue to receive. We pray and hope that Amos Australia continues to be a blessing and beacon of encouragement wherever our work is received.

Key activities

Events:

- Jonathan Cornford Speaking Tour
- AMUC (Among the Urban Community)
- Conference in the 'Burbs held at various locations across Perth
- Busselton Long Table Event with guest speaker Jonathan Cornford
- Documentary Film Night at Harry Hunter's Garden of Hope where we viewed three short films and listened to several responses to the films from people involved in the areas of the film subject

Publications:

- Published the 2023 Amos Magazine. Physical copies were mailed to our supporters and digital copies were made available on our website. You can access a copy here.
- Published a document outlining our budget and guiding principles for our financials. It was mailed out to our supporters.
- Produced 3 'think for a minute' videos on different topics like 'pursuing enough' and 'money, poverty and projects'. We published these on our social media platforms. You can find them on our website here.
- Sent out regular newsletters to our supporters with updates on both our international and Australian programs.

School & Church Engagement:

- Presentations at the South West John Calvin Christian College in Capel to year K-10
- Presentations, a workshop and film viewing at Cornerstone Christian College with highschool students.
- Presentation and workshop at a Scripture Union cooking camp.
- Presentation at a Bible College open day.





Financial Report

FYE2022-2023

Income FYE2023 notes

Our expected income was \$155,830, which was an increase of just over \$20,000 from the previous year. Our actual income was \$153,885, which was slightly lower than expected, but we were encouraged that our budget was able to be increased.

We received one grant of \$7,500 from the Wanless Foundation, and the Arlin Foundation grant was included in the regular donations as we didn't apply for it.

Amos receives a considerable amount of in-kind giving, and while we are cautious about turning every gift into a dollar figure, we do believe that on balance it is a worthwhile exercise. We estimate that we received \$9,000 of in-kind giving this past year.

Expenses FYE2023 notes

The only notable national expense difference is travel – it was allocated, but not utilised. This has been carried forward to the next year.

Regarding international expenditure: The Wanlass grant was forwarded to TLM for the wages of their water staff – we hadn't expected to be able to cover this, and so it was given in addition to our forecast allocation for them. We also increased our allocation to BKAD through the Arlin Foundation grant and a request to extend a program. The increased allocation to NCED was due to a \$10,000 contribution to the community vehicle. Allocations to Yakerrsum and SSA were not given due to proposals not being ready prior to the end of the year, and will carry forward into the next year.

International travel and wage expenses were less than expected as Jake resigned in September and was working on the international program.

While we delivered a deficit for this financial year, our bank balance remains healthy and we are confident that we are operating within our capacity.

Budget FYE2024

Income FYE2024 notes

We expect our income to increase to \$161,060 for the coming financial year, partially through increased donations and a slight increase in grants received.

Expenses FYE2024 notes

We forecast as slight increase in wages as they are linked to fluctuations in CPI.

Partner allocations will remain the same as last year excluding the additional allocations provided last year.

We expect our international travel expenses to remain stable for this year.

Deficit in FYE2024

In FYE2024 we expect to have a small deficit. We are comfortable with this as we would rather maintain lower bank reserves and only request additional funding from supporters when we need it, rather than aim for a balanced budget.

	YE 2022	YE 2023	YE 2023	YE 2024
	Actual	Budget	Projected	Budge
Income		Dauger	110]00000	Dunge
Donations	124,719	145,000	145,000	150,000
Grants	,	10,000	7,500	10,000
Events and Sales	643	800	1,250	1,000
Bank Interest	11	30	135	50
Total Income	125,373	155,830	153,885	161,050
7				
Expenses				
National Expense	577	750	1.050	1 000
Bank Charges	126	750	1,050	1,000
Consulting Fees		1.500	1.600	1 500
Events Office Events	704	1,500	1,600	1,500
Office Expenses	783	500	50	100
Publications	1,789	2,600	2,563	2,600
Subscriptions Website/Email/Software	2,865	2,500	2,500	2,500
Travel - National		1,200		1,200
Wages - National	28,046	39,000	30,655	33,420
Total National Expense	34,890	48,050	38,418	42,320
Partners				
KOPPESDA	5,000	15,000	14,500	15,000
TLM	50,000	40,000	50,050	40,000
UPK/BKAD	4,300	15,000	28,282	15,000
Yakkersum	3,825	15,000	11,000	15,000
NCED	14,178	12,000	23,500	15,000
SSA			10,000	
Total Partners	77,303	97,000	137,332	100,000
International Expense				
Travel	5,212	10,800	6,992	8,000
Wages - International	29,758	26,000	18,705	16,710
Total International Expense	34,970	36,800	25,697	24,710
Total Expenses	147,163	181,850	201,447	167,030
Net Operating Surplus/-Deficit	-21,790	-26,020	-47,562	-5,980
In-kind giving estimates				0.000.00
Magazine collating & graphics				2,000.00
Hosting & catering				1,800.00
Rent - Home Office				5,200.00
Total estimated in-kind giving				9,000.00
Bank Balances	YE 2022		YE 2023	YE 2024
W	Actual		Projected	Projected
Westpac Account	102,779.86		15,000.00	15,000.00
Westpac Interest Account Paypal Account	40,139.19		80,000.00	74,000.00
Cash on Hand	142,919.05		95,000.00	89,000.00

How to Get Involved with Amos Australia

Volunteer your time

If you'd like to get involved and volunteer some time with us, we'd greatly appreciate your assistance! In the past we've had help from interesting speakers, caterers, musicians and more. We're always on the lookout for anyone happy to serve no matter your skills and expertise. Volunteering opportunities are mostly in the Australian program. Also, if you're interested in or working in whatever capacity to encourage Australians to consider the impacts of their choices for economically poor people, we'd love to support you as well – and it doesn't need to have our logo on it. So if you're doing that kind of work and need help, encouragement or resources, we'd love to hear from you and have a chat about how we can work together.

Make a donation

While we encourage our Amos Australia community to consider a range of avenues to assist the poor that go beyond financial gifts, we still very much welcome any donations to help us in our work to serve the poor. All donations are tax-deductible. You can give via our website <u>here</u>.

Leave a bequest

If you can't donate now and would like to leave a gift or bequest to help Amos Australia's future work, we're incredibly grateful for any support you provide. Please talk to your family and legal support to explore this option, and get in touch with Aimee (aimee@amosaustralia.org or 0422063208).

Get involved with an event

Amos Australia hosts 3 to 4 local Perth-based events throughout the year, with a number of smaller gatherings periodically throughout the South West of WA. These range from pizza and movie nights to deeper discussions of poverty and justice at our conference-style events. All are welcome to come along eat, listen, talk and learn amongst friends. All of our events are free, are not fundraisers and are designed to create space for people to consider how the Christian faith and addressing issues of poverty and injustice fit together. Keep an eye out for the next event on our social media pages or on our website.

Pray

We pray regularly for our partner organisations, the communities they serve, and for the Australian community. A number of our supporters have told us they have committed to this important part of our work as well – we'd love you to join us in that, whether regularly or as the Spirit prompts.

Sign up

We also produce a number of publications annually, including the Amos Magazine, which is filled with insightful articles, beautiful art and poetry, along with stories from our partners and the wider development field. If you'd like to join the mailing list for these publications or be alerted to upcoming events, let Aimee know, and she'll make sure you're kept in the loop (aimee@amosaustralia.org or 0422063208).

The year ahead

International program objectives:

- Visit all partner organisations once
- Visit at least one new potential partner organisation
- Gain mentoring from a larger faith-based development organisation
- Potentially arrange a gathering of all Indonesian partner organisations
- Apply for more grants and get in touch with more foundations that might be interested in funding our work

Australian program objectives:

- Host a mini-conference, plus three other events in Perth
- Host one event in Busselton and one in Albany
- Host one event in Melbourne and/or Launceston
- Contribute to organising and running the Mission in the Margins camp (previously AMUC) and a 'mini', weekend version.
- Publish the Amos 2024 magazine
- Publish social media content regularly
- Publish a quarterly newsletter to supporters
- Continue to foster supporter relationships
- Widen engagement with schools and youth groups across Perth Metro and the South-West
- Continue exploring partnerships with other organisations for school and youth engagement



A community gathering in Paranda, Sumba to discuss a water project

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Pak Nahum Tse pauses by a kolum ikan, a concrete fish farm that was constructed as part of a water project that Amos Australia funded in West Timor. Pak Nahum and his community worked hard to construct the water project and are now reaping the benefits of clean water and small business opportunities - like fish farming - as a result.