



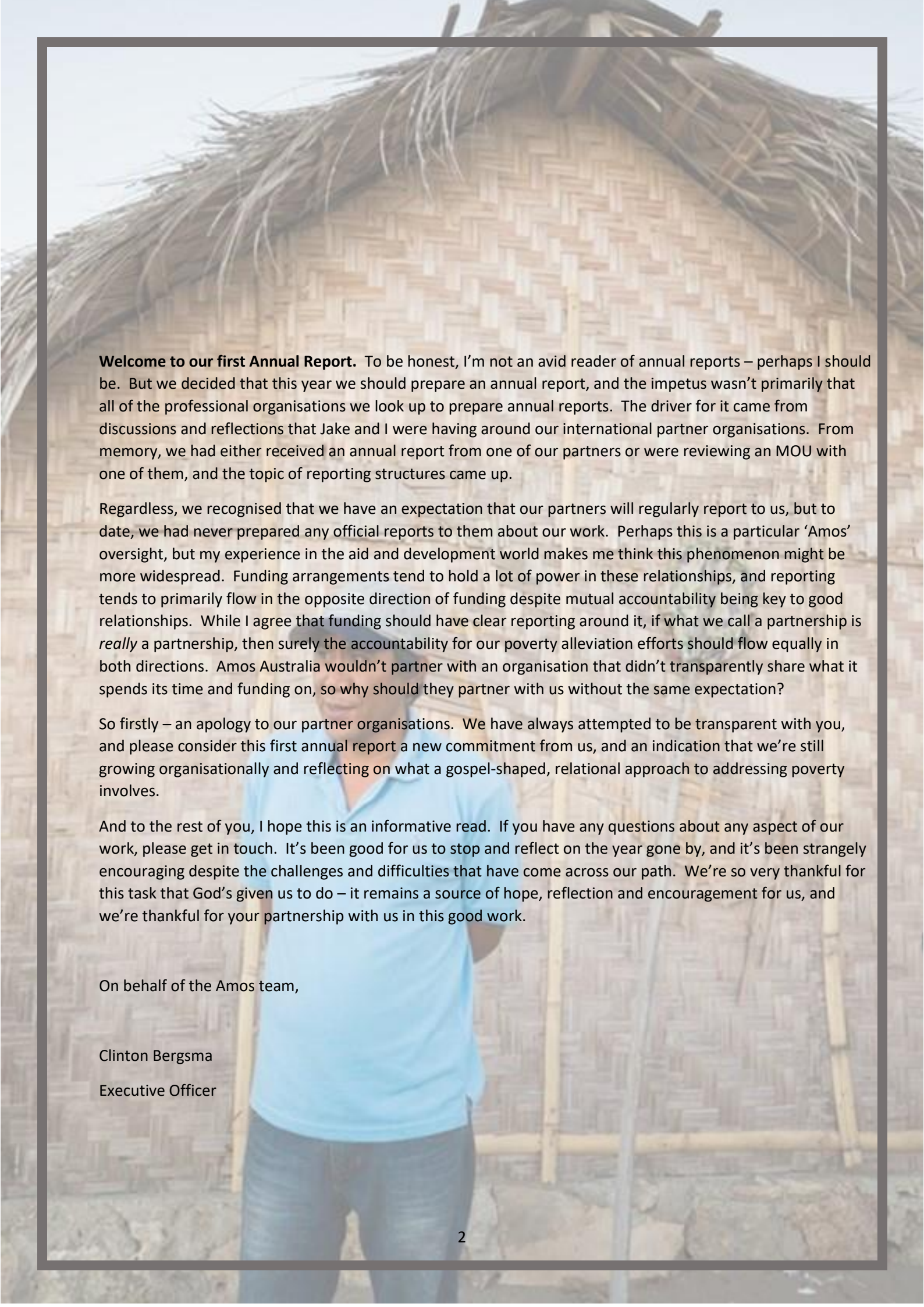
Amos Australia

Annual Report

FYE 2021

Jake Turvey
Aimee de Haan
Clinton Bergsma

Pak Deni Karanggulimu, director of KOPPESDA visits a salt farming community in Eastern Sumba. Photo: Arlene Ward

A person wearing a light blue polo shirt and dark trousers stands in front of a traditional thatched roof structure. The roof is made of woven palm fronds or similar natural materials, showing a complex, textured pattern. The person is positioned centrally, slightly to the left, and their face is partially visible. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the person and the roof.

Welcome to our first Annual Report. To be honest, I'm not an avid reader of annual reports – perhaps I should be. But we decided that this year we should prepare an annual report, and the impetus wasn't primarily that all of the professional organisations we look up to prepare annual reports. The driver for it came from discussions and reflections that Jake and I were having around our international partner organisations. From memory, we had either received an annual report from one of our partners or were reviewing an MOU with one of them, and the topic of reporting structures came up.

Regardless, we recognised that we have an expectation that our partners will regularly report to us, but to date, we had never prepared any official reports to them about our work. Perhaps this is a particular 'Amos' oversight, but my experience in the aid and development world makes me think this phenomenon might be more widespread. Funding arrangements tend to hold a lot of power in these relationships, and reporting tends to primarily flow in the opposite direction of funding despite mutual accountability being key to good relationships. While I agree that funding should have clear reporting around it, if what we call a partnership is *really* a partnership, then surely the accountability for our poverty alleviation efforts should flow equally in both directions. Amos Australia wouldn't partner with an organisation that didn't transparently share what it spends its time and funding on, so why should they partner with us without the same expectation?

So firstly – an apology to our partner organisations. We have always attempted to be transparent with you, and please consider this first annual report a new commitment from us, and an indication that we're still growing organisationally and reflecting on what a gospel-shaped, relational approach to addressing poverty involves.

And to the rest of you, I hope this is an informative read. If you have any questions about any aspect of our work, please get in touch. It's been good for us to stop and reflect on the year gone by, and it's been strangely encouraging despite the challenges and difficulties that have come across our path. We're so very thankful for this task that God's given us to do – it remains a source of hope, reflection and encouragement for us, and we're thankful for your partnership with us in this good work.

On behalf of the Amos team,

Clinton Bergsma

Executive Officer

Our Vision

To see all relationships restored between people, God and the earth, starting with the poorest of the poor.

Our Mission

To serve the economically poor as equals before God.

We do this in two ways:

1. By supporting local community development organisations to serve economically poor communities beyond Australia.
2. By encouraging and supporting the Australian community to make choices that are good news for the poor.

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 three 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 allows it to receive tax-deductible donations.



The Team

Board

Name	Position
Daniel Bosveld	Chairperson
Eric de Haan	Secretary
Carolyn de Haan	Treasurer
Simon Steenhof	Member
Diane Bosveld	Member
Michael Hidding	Member

Employees

Name	Position
Clinton Bergsma	Executive Officer
Jake Turvey	International Relationships Officer
Aimee de Haan	National Relationships Officer

Volunteers

Name	Position
Arlene Ward ¹	Creative Director
Diane Bosveld	Sales

¹ Arlene has volunteered with Amos Australia for the past three years, and undertook some paid work with Amos in FYE 2021, primarily assisting with transitioning through our response to the impacts of COVID-19.

Our supporters

Amos Australia's supporter base is primarily comprised of Australian Christians who find alignment with Amos Australia's work and approach. This year we had a supporter base of around 250 people, and while the total number fluctuated slightly over this period, the total number of actively engaged supporters increased.

Our supporters come from a range of demographics and Christian communities, and the support we receive from them is fundamental to our work and widely varied in the way it is provided. We have roughly 40 people who support our work financially, and we received support from many supporters through other means: helping out at events, offering encouraging words, donating time, creative pieces or articles to the Amos Magazine, committing to prayer, offering their homes to host events and so on – and we have supporters who contribute in multiple ways.

We're very thankful for our supporters and the variety of ways in which they contribute to and participate in the work that we do. The simple fact is that we couldn't do our work without their input, generosity and encouragement. It's a regular prayer at the Amos office that they have somehow felt supported and encouraged by us, as we, our partners and the people they serve, have felt supported and encouraged by them.



Jake sharing about the impacts of Covid-19 on Indonesian communities and our partner organisations at the 2020 Amos mini-conference

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, primarily operating as a micro-finance organisation providing loans to women's weaving groups. They also operate a small gallery selling local traditional weavings made by the weaving groups and products at a fair market price. Since 2017 Amos Australia has worked with BKAD to implement numerous projects including business management training and product value-adding training for weaving groups and a large school weaving program across two schools with nearly 1,000 students participating.

TLM: As Amos Australia's largest partner organisation, TLM facilitate a diverse range of programs throughout Kupang, Sumba and Eastern Indonesia. First established in 1994, TLM's main area of expertise is micro-finance, and they operate a for-profit rural bank across Nusa Tenggara Timor. A portion of profits from the bank and micro-finance program are used to facilitate community development initiatives in local areas. Amos Australia has partnered with TLM 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.



Clinton with Park Martinus (2nd from left) from YAKERRSUM and community members in Prai Hambuli, Eastern Sumba. Stage 1 of a water project was completed here this year, and stage 2 is in the design phase.

YAKERRSUM: Based in Wamairang, Yakerrsum were one of the first official community development organisations in Eastern Sumba, 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 community gardens 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.



Students learning traditional weaving skills as part of BKAD's weaving program. The curriculum developed by BKAD was picked up by the local government this year and looks to be implemented in many schools across Eastern Sumba as a result.

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. Amos Australia has previously supported NCED with a successful seed bank project and funded an initial COVID-19 response which provided information and public health resources to remote Indigenous communities on the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. 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.

FYE2021 in review

In South East Asia

Key Objectives:

- Ensure international partner organisations receive ongoing holistic and flexible support during COVID-19
- Deepen the current relationships with existing partner organisations
- Maintain level current level of international work and projects (ensure no permanent loss to COVID-19)
- Achieve greater inter-organisational coordination between existing partner organisations in Indonesia
- Develop evaluation processes for proposals from partner organisations
- Broaden our understanding of contemporary challenges faced by partner organisations
- Ensure integrity between international and domestic programs of Amos Australia
- Keep supporters well informed about developments in Amos' international program

Activities, challenges, responses:

For our international partners, FYE2021 was dominated by the unfolding and rapidly changing pandemic. Understandably, its emergence and corresponding societal implications had significant impacts on the day-to-day functioning of our partner organisations and their projects. Subsequently, much of Amos Australia's work with our partner organisations had to adapt. A conscious effort was made by Amos Australia to remain understanding of the new organisational limitations of our partners and to offer responsive, empathetic and timely support.

A key challenge for FYE2021 was that almost all of our partners were in some form of hibernation for a significant portion of the year. While we had funding available for their programs and were very open to transitioning the funding to new programs, they were unable to implement them (or develop alternative programs) because of restrictions on movement and community interaction. While we fully support their decision to follow government health directives, this did mean that their overall activity (and by extension ours) was reduced.

BKAD:

As a consequence of the COVID-19 outbreak within Sumba, much of BKAD's work was paused or significantly altered. School closures has forced the continued hiatus of the school weaving program whilst social distancing measures have prevented weavings groups from meeting and participating in further training. Due to wider socio-economic impacts in the Sumba region, many of BKAD's loan clients have paused or defaulted on their loans, leaving BKAD without a large proportion of their financial income. Furthermore, the demand and sale of weavings and other goods has dropped dramatically in Sumba, further reducing potential income streams for the organisation. At the height of the pandemic, BKAD's revenue had reduced by 60%.

In response, Amos Australia supported BKAD with a small grant to create a website and establish an online store through which weavings and other goods could be sold to a wider domestic and international market. Amos Australia also placed an advanced bulk order of annual weaving products to bolster BKAD's income and ensure financial stability. Amos Australia also employed BKAD staff to conduct an independent evaluation of phase 1 of the Prai Hambuli water project currently facilitated by Yakerrsum as a means of addition income support and cross-organisational collaboration.

TLM:

FYE2021 was filled with numerous challenges for TLM, however as a relatively large organisation, TLM has had the capacity to weather the pandemic relatively well. Social distancing measures meant many programs such as the Village Advocacy Program were paused, as staff were unable to meet or travel. TLM's offices shut during lockdowns and many loan recipients struggled to meet repayments. However, most of TLM staff were able to continue working from home, and once allowed back, the TLM office operated on a tight shift rotation system to ensure social distancing capacities. TLM were also proactive in adapting many of their programs to new restrictions, such as adapting the Village Advocacy Program to an online format and distributing physical material and resources instead of meetings.

Together with Amos Australia, TLM also began the Palu Project, which provides small grants and resources to small business operators impacted by the earthquake and tsunami in Palu in late 2018.

YAKERRSUM:

As a very small organisation, much of Yakerrsum's work consequently came to a halt at the peak of the pandemic. The agricultural and cow breeding programs were paused, and travel restrictions and social distancing measures meant staff could not meet or visit project locations such as the Prai Hambuli water project. Following the lifting of restrictions, Yakerrsum's work could resume travel to and from work sites. In the absence of Amos Australia staff, Yakerrsum have coordinated with our other partners BKAD and TLM to carry on the Prai Hambuli project, conducting independent evaluations and assisting with the phase 2 design for the project.

KOPPESDA:

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic were felt hard by Koppesda, with the organisation being forced to pause many programs which consequently saw losses from other funding sources. Consequently, Koppesda were forced to let three staff members go. Changes to the coffee market meant that the Coffee Humba project was postponed until next season, while the Agri-business project was also put on hiatus. At the height of the pandemic, Koppesda were able to use their community ties effectively, partnering with several other local organisations to distribute health and safety advice amongst the local and rural communities.

Koppesda have since been able to resume the Agri-business project, and have utilised their agricultural knowledge to create their own Koppesda Agri-business which will grow food for staff members and add an additional income stream to the organisation.

NCED:

Despite officially only partnering with NCED in June of 2021, Amos Australia has had a working relationship with the organisation for a number of years. Just like our Indonesian partner organisations, NCED was heavily impacted by the emerging COVID-19 pandemic. While Cambodia initially managed to contain the emergence of the disease in 2020, early 2021 brought rising cases, restrictions and eventual lockdowns even for the most remote communities in Mondulkiri. NCED were forced to pause their Indigenous Farmers Economic Livelihood project for a number of months as cases emerged in 2021. However, NCED were quick to act as the global pandemic reached their community, with Amos Australia supporting an emergency COVID-19 response program. NCED staff worked quickly to adapt and translate official government public health advice into Indigenous languages, and worked quickly to educate remote villages on COVID-19 health and safety precautions, whilst dispelling potentially dangerous myths about the emerging pandemic.

Cyclone Seroja:

In early April 2021, severe tropical Cyclone Seroja struck across West Timor and the South-eastern region of Indonesia, bringing substantial flooding, landslides, and damage to Kupang, Sumba, and other islands in the Nusa Tenggara Timur Province. All of our Indonesian partner organisations and the communities they serve were severely impacted by the cyclone. TLM suffered substantial damage to their office, whilst severe flooding and storm damage impacted many homes, community buildings and churches in the region. Many people were left without shelter in the first few days, whilst sadly an estimated 230 people lost their lives. Food, clean drinking water, clothing and basic supplies were in short demand, whilst telecommunications and electricity infrastructure were disrupted for weeks. Despite suffering substantial personal and organisational loss, all our partners responded quickly to bring immediate relief to their communities.



Cyclone Seroja damage to TLM's head office in Kupang, West Timor

In the early aftermath of the cyclone, Amos Australia immediately transferred funds to all our impacted partners in order to ensure relief supplies could be quickly secured. We knew that our partners were some of the best placed organisations to respond to this overwhelming need for support, and had the local insights, connections and understanding of need to make a significant difference in the cyclone's aftermath. Our partners worked in partnership with other organisations and government services to deliver emergency relief to affected people across the province of NTT. We invited the Australian community to contribute to this particular cause, and they responded with speed and generosity, enabling us to extend the program to include a second phase. Phase two of the recovery response is currently being undertaken, with the various partners working to assist people in economic recovery.

In Australia

Key objectives:

- Continue to engage with Australian Christians on issues of poverty and injustice through a variety of mediums and events
- Continue to expand the breadth of Australian Christians who are engaged with our work
- Keep Australian supporters updated about the work of our partners and the communities they support
- Partner with other Australian-based organisations where objectives and approach align

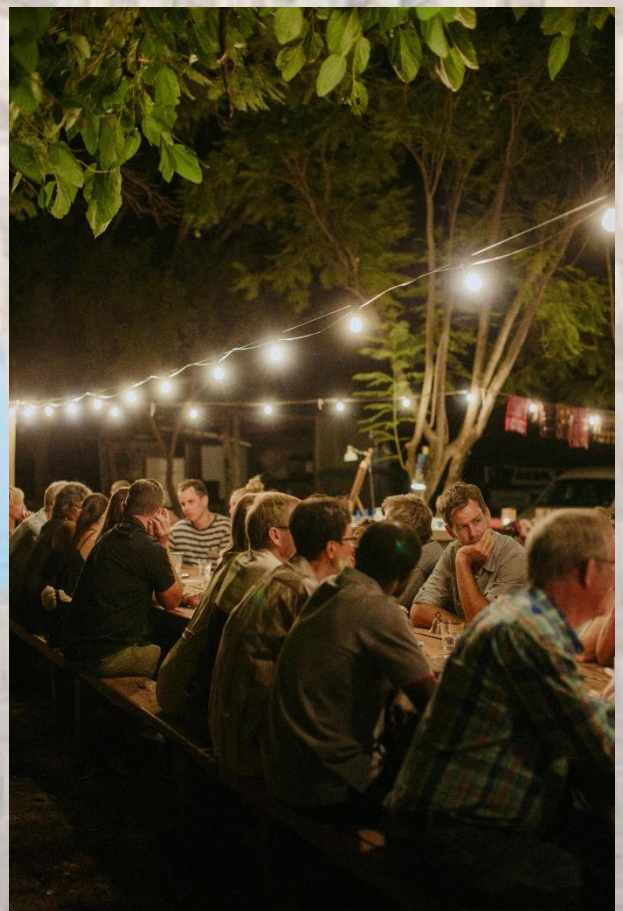
Key activities:

- Published [four short clips](#) outlining Amos Australia's approach.
- Presentation to students at a local high school.
- Provided teaching faith, poverty and injustice at [AMUC and Junior AMUC camps](#).
- Hosted the annual Amos mini-conference, including workshops on advocacy, the impact of Covid-19 on our international work, ethical shopping and [Prison Fellowship](#).
- Hosted an 'intro to Amos' evening in Busselton.
- Hosted a Long Table event in Gosnells in partnership with the Salvation Army. The evening created space for participants to meet other people and discuss various issues relating to poverty and injustice.
- Hosted a 'Coffee & Coffers' event in Rockingham [outlining our approach to the finances we steward](#).
- Coordinated the Cyclone Seroja Appeal.
- Published the [Amos 2021 magazine](#).
- Continued offering the [Amos Library online](#) and at events.

We began this financial year recognising that planning events would be difficult given the restrictions caused by the pandemic. So we began with producing four, short film clips outlining our approach to addressing economic poverty, the organisations we partner with, why we see engaging Australians as part of our work, and our financial situation. You can view them [here](#).

Because of WA's hard border with the rest of Australia, we were still able to host multiple events and be involved with or contribute to others, such as the AMUC camps. The AMUC camps are aimed at Australian Christians and create space for them to consider how the gospel might shape their approach to situations of poverty and injustice. Campers engage with teaching throughout the week, and visit local agencies working with marginalised people.

Lastly, we published the annual Amos magazine, which can be downloaded for free [here](#).



The Long Table event was held in the beautiful community gardens at the Harry Hunter's Rehabilitation Centre

We haven't seen any net growth in supporter numbers this past financial year – a few people have moved on, but we also saw a number of new people at our events or engaged with our work in other ways. We're encouraged by this because on balance it means that we have a larger group of actively engaged supporters. We continue to see around 40-50 people at our Perth-based events, many of whom have attended previous events, and the feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive. We remain convinced that our approach to support engagement is fairly unique and that many supporters find our approach refreshing and encouraging.

While overall, our Australian program ran very smoothly this financial year, a key challenge was Aimee taking maternity leave for a few months. While we were very excited with her, Tim and the girls on the birth of little Jude, it made us realise how much of the Australian program she carries. She came back on board in early June, and we're glad to have her back!



Each year we publish a small run of different 'Amos Cards' showcasing the work and reflections of a local artist, and helping to raise funds

Financial report

FYE2020-2021 has also been an unusual year financially, with the COVID-19 pandemic and recent Cyclone Seroja creating two very different financial situations for Amos Australia and our partners. Lockdowns and public health restrictions limited the financial needs of most of our international partners, as the many programs were paused or worked at reduced capacity, leading to a reduced distribution of finances to partners in FYE2021. However, in the aftermath of Cyclone Seroja in April 2021, we asked our supporters to consider whether they were able to give above and beyond their current financial giving. Together almost \$49,000 was raised, 30% of which was sent immediately to assist with emergency relief efforts, and the remainder will be distributed in the coming months. The information below provides a snapshot of the key budgetary features for FYE2020-2021.

Budget FYE2021

Income FYE2021

- Our YTD expected income (excluding Seroja appeal) was the same as last year, but our overall income was higher (\$189,855) due to donations received for the Cyclone Seroja appeal.
- The Cyclone Seroja appeal is intentionally being kept financially separate from regular project funding because it was an appeal for funding in addition to regular giving, and stands outside the regular programs of our partners.

Expenses FYE2021

- Amos Australia had a total expenditure of \$148,770 in FYE2021
- The consulting fees indicated in the budget were for the 3 months that Arlene (Amos Australia's Creative Director) worked in WA assisting with developing the short film clips.
- Events – we ran a number of events for a total of \$1,000 expended.
- Wages National – 100% of Aimee's wage and 50% of Clinton's wage.
- Wages International – 100% of Jake's wage and 50% of Clinton's wage.
- Our expenditure was less than forecast primarily due to Job Keeper payments and reduced activity by our partner organisations.

Budget FYE2022

Income FYE2022

- We expect our income to remain at \$130,000 for the coming financial year. However, if we received more, a number of our partners have a greater capacity than our current level of support, and additional funds would be channelled to them.
- We will continue to look for grant opportunities, although they have been reduced and those that remain are highly competitive.

Expenses FYE2022

- Events – We are planning on carrying out more events this year (COVID-19 restrictions permitting) with \$1,700 allocated to local events. The increased allocation is for a possible expansion into Tasmania in early 2022.
- \$5,000 has been allocated for international travel. While we are unsure as to when visiting our partner organisations will resume, it is possible it may resume in FYE2022.
- Other expenses remain similar to 2021.

Deficit in FYE2022

In FYE2022 we have purposely designed the budget to go into deficit. Currently Amos Australia has over \$67,000 in the bank. Given the expected growing needs of partner organisations in the wake of Cyclone Seroja and COVID-19 recoveries, we are happy to use this reserve funding for its intended purpose – to assist the most vulnerable communities. While we recognise the value of having reserves in order to maintain our commitments to our partner organisations, we also want to be an organisation that does not ask for funding when it isn't needed. We would rather operate with a lower reserve, and then ask for additional funding from our supporters when we need it.



A small cooperative kiosk set up by YAKERRSUM's clients provides products like soap and noodles to their community at cheaper prices while returning all profits to the community

Amos Australia Budget 2021-2022

	BUDGET FYE 2021	ACTUAL FYE 2021	BUDGET FYE 2022
INCOME			
Donations & Grants	130,000	130,000	130,000
Events and Sales	5,000	950	2500
Bank Interest	30	30	30
Seroja Cyclone Appeal	-	48,875	-
ATO - Cash Flow Boost	10,000	10,000	10,000
TOTAL INCOME	145,030	189,855	132,530
EXPENSES			
National Expense			
Bank Charges	320	880	600
Consulting Fees	-	7,200	-
Events	1,700	1,000	1,700
Office Expenses		500	500
Publications	2,500	2,558	2,500
Subscriptions Website/Email/Software	1,250	2,500	2,500
Wages - National	28,500	26,770	22,800
Less Job Keeper	-	- 15,000	-
Total National Expense	34,270	26,408	30,600
Partners			
KOPPESDA	15,000	3,000	15,000
TLM	30,000	55,000	30,000
UPK/BKAD	15,000	4,000	15,000
Yakerrsum	20,000	2,000	15,000
NCED	-	5,000	5,000
Cyclone Seroja	-	33,000	16,000
Total Partners	80,000	85,000	96,000
International Expense			
Travel	-	-	5,000
Wages - International	34,500	33,585	30,000
Less Job Keeper	-	- 12,000	-
Total International Expense	34,500	21,585	35,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	148,770	132,993	161,600
Surplus/-Deficit	-3,740	56,852	-29,070

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, lighting professionals 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. Conversely, 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 have 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 [here](#).

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 2-day annual conference. All are welcome to come along eat, listen, talk and learn about the complexities of nature amongst friends! All of our events are free, and they are not fundraisers, they 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:

- Continue staying in close contact with all partners, ensuring they feel well supported by us
- Remain responsive to their particular needs as their situations fluctuate
- Maintain 2020 levels of funding to partners, assist and encourage those partners who haven't returned to pre-Covid levels
- Complete the Cyclone Seroja appeal recovery program with our partner organisations in Indonesia
- Establish annual targets with partners
- Review MOUs and funding commitments with partners as necessary
- Continue to develop formalisation of partnership with NCED
- Continue to ensure synthesis between International and Australian programs
- Continue to ensure that Australian supporters remain informed about international program
- Continue monitoring COVID-19 situation, and if possible, visit all partner organisations when travel restrictions permit

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 AMUC and Junior AMUC
- Publish the Amos 2022 magazine
- Publish social media content regularly
- Continue to foster supporter relationships
- Keep supporters informed about the international program

Contact details

0422063208

aimee@amosaustralia.org

www.amosaustralia.org

55 Thorpe Street, Rockingham, Western Australia 6168

Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)



A traditional salt drying method in Sabu, Eastern Indonesia