

*Supporting women.
Defeating poverty.*



Introduction



“Sometimes our leaders forget us,” says Petronella, who runs a women’s savings group in Timor-Leste. “Especially those of us with disabilities.”

Petronella works hard to ensure CARE Australia’s disaster-preparedness work in her community supports the needs of people with disabilities.

She is one of the many local leaders who have informed CARE Australia’s work over the past year.

In a year of remarkable challenges, CARE Australia has stayed committed to supporting local priorities, constantly adapting our approach to make real, lasting differences for the communities we support.

Our focus has been steadfast: supporting women to seize opportunities, pursue sustainable livelihoods, become leaders, and build their resilience to climate crises and economic shocks.

As the world faces widening gender inequality, rising costs of living, conflict, natural disasters, and intensifying climate emergencies, the need grows for our humanitarian responses and long-term programs that tackle the underlying causes of poverty.

We are one of the world’s largest humanitarian networks operating in 109 countries, and this year we are proud to have directly reached 166,647,108 participants with 1,671 poverty-fighting projects. We celebrate the deep connections we have with the local partners and communities who we have worked alongside since 1945.

Gender equality is at the heart of CARE’s overall programming approach. Look for these icons throughout to see how we’re supporting change in three ways:



**Building
individual agency**



**Strengthening
relations**



**Transforming unequal
power structures**

Our path towards gender equality

Poverty is caused by the unfair distribution of wealth and resources. While extreme poverty has been declining for almost 25 years, inequality is growing — and conflict, climate change, and the lasting impacts of COVID-19 are only making things worse. The solution is equality.

CARE supports women to change unequal power relations, and supports movements that drive transformative change to achieve gender equality.



Building individual agency

Our poverty-fighting programs help build the self-esteem, confidence, and aspirations of people experiencing gender discrimination.

Through helping women develop knowledge, skills, and capabilities, they are able to seize opportunities to earn an income, have sustainable livelihoods, and develop the resilience to withstand the increasing impacts of climate disasters and emergencies.



Strengthening relations

We work with families and communities; within economic and government spheres; marketplaces; and entire societies to change inequitable dynamics that sustain gender inequality.

This helps women claim their fair share of resources and opportunities, assume leadership positions, and participate in decisions that affect their lives.



Transforming unequal power structures

We seek to shift resources and decision-making power to those most impacted by poverty. We are reshaping the very systems which exclude people from power by advocating against discriminatory laws and working with leaders to transform harmful and discriminatory practices.

We strive for more diverse representation in social, economic and political spheres, to ensure people of all genders can realise their full potential.

Gender justice: supporting her to have equal opportunities

“When a woman in the community has an initiative, all other women come to support her.” — Bule, Vanuatu

In many places, COVID-19 has rolled back decades of progress towards gender equality. CARE Australia is supporting women as they fight to build back better.

Bule is a champion for gender equality in her community; facilitating collaboration, sharing skills and knowledge, and supporting other women to speak up on the issues that affect them.

One of the major concerns raised in her community was the prevalence of gender-based violence. After CARE Australia ran workshops on gender equality, Bule reports a dramatic shift in attitudes:

“Nowadays, you feel safe when you go around the community,” she shares. “We are living peacefully.”

“Attending the CARE workshops has greatly positively impacted my life. I am extremely grateful.” Not only have the workshops changed Bule’s life, but she makes sure she stands up for the rights of all the women in her community.

“I speak for my friends whenever they are shy. I am not afraid to speak openly.”

Confident and independent, Bule offers advice and comfort to those in need and a voice that advocates for gender equality at the decision-making table.



Spotlight on our impact: Gender Equality Together in Vanuatu

This project supported women to join and lead the movement for gender equality in Vanuatu.

All program participants reported increased leadership skills, confidence and knowledge, and noted that for the first time in Vanuatu, a project provided the space and time for young women to come together to create this kind of solidarity.

Read the evaluation [here](#).

HIGHLIGHTS



In **Bangladesh**, our local partner Mukti is providing safe spaces for women and girls, running comprehensive gender-based violence case management and referral systems, and providing need-based support.



In **Tonga**, our partner organisation The Talitha Project is changing household dynamics by running financial management sessions with adolescent girls and their family members. Covering topics like household labour, decision-making and budgeting, the workshops are shifting social norms to create an environment in which girls can grow up to become leaders.



In **Jordan**, group activities are challenging social norms, beliefs and practices around gender and sexuality that hold power over people’s lives. They are promoting a change in their communities for refugees and vulnerable Jordanians.

Climate justice: supporting her to strengthen her resilience

“Our mission is prevention. We save money at home and in the group so that we can attend to any disasters in the community.” — Petronella, Timor-Leste

Climate disasters are causing endless crises – amplifying existing inequalities faced by women and girls. CARE Australia is supporting women to take a lead role in preparing for, and adapting to future crises and a changing climate.

Petronalla (centre) leads a CARE Australia-supported savings group in her community, where she makes sure the needs of all women are considered – especially those with disabilities, who she says are too often overlooked. Group member Hermelinda (right) explains: “Even though I have a disability, I want to be part of the group so that I can save money.”

As climate change threatens to bring about more frequent and ferocious weather events, Petronalla has taught her group about the importance of saving money together, so that they have a means to support themselves when the next disaster strikes. “We want to save money,” Petronella explains. “Our financial capital and interest is to attend to our own emergency situations,” she says.

Another group member, Natalia (left) explains: “These disasters are unexpected. When they happen, we call the group together and discuss how we are going to help with the disaster that the community is facing.”



Spotlight on our impact: Disaster READY in Timor Leste

Supported by the Australian Government, this project helped communities in Timor-Leste better prepare for, manage and respond to rapid and slow onset disasters.

Participants gained more knowledge and awareness of disaster risks, and thanks to women taking lead roles in Disaster Management Committees, the steps to prepare for crises became more inclusive of everyone’s needs.

Read the evaluation [here](#).

HIGHLIGHTS



In **Vanuatu**, CARE Australia is supporting diverse groups of women to build economic resilience, which is critical to enabling communities to prepare for, adapt to, and recover from the impacts of climate change.



In **Somalia**, our local partner WASDA is helping to minimise disease outbreaks through hygiene information sessions, as well as screening and referring children and pregnant and lactating women for acute malnutrition, and facilitating behaviour change sessions on infant and child feeding.



In **Papua New Guinea**, with CARE Australia’s assistance, the cocoa industry is piloting using clonal variety cocoa seedlings which have been developed in response to the devastation caused by the Cocoa Pod Borer.

Economic justice: supporting her to invest in her livelihood

“I am very confident about who I am now. I see working on the farm as part of my identity.” — Haneen, Jordan

Unfair barriers and discrimination keep women from financial independence. CARE Australia supports women to earn a fair wage in dignified work, and to have a say in how it's spent.

Haneen started her hydroponic farm on the roof of her house. With a grant and training from CARE Australia and our partner organisation Jordan River Foundation, she expanded to a larger site on proper farmland — despite her family's concerns.

“My family, at the beginning, were hesitant about me working on a farm alone,” she explained.

But they quickly realised Haneen's financial independence was an incredible advantage. Within three years she'd outgrown the new site and moved to an even larger one — and has even hired a full time employee to work for her.

With the full support of her family, including her husband, Haneen says “Now it is a family business.”

“The first support to move [the farm] outside my house was from CARE, but the place I have now is from my profits. I knew all the costs needed to build the metal structure. Now I am planning to plant new crops.”



Spotlight on our impact: Boosting cocoa production in Papua New Guinea

This project built up the technical and social skills of farmers, strengthened cooperatives, and enhanced the effectiveness of farming groups in Papua New Guinea. Participants reported increased yields, with some becoming recognised leaders with demonstrated expertise in cocoa farming for their communities, and were even employed by other farmers to help on their cocoa blocks.

Read the evaluation [here](#).

HIGHLIGHTS



In **Lebanon**, CARE Australia provided emergency cash assistance to vulnerable and marginalised community members who were severely impacted by the explosion in the port of Beirut in 2020. This enabled them to meet their basic needs like food, medication and rent.



In **Ukraine**, our partner organisation, HelpAge International established safe spaces where older people affected by the war could participate in activities and be part of a community. The project ensured that older people with mobility restrictions and those who are isolated have improved access to social services to improve their wellbeing and resilience.



In **Papua New Guinea**, the effectiveness of cooperatives and other farmer groups is being increased thanks CARE Australia's efforts to increase the participation of women through the establishment and strengthening of gender-sensitive and inclusive structures and governance.

Emergency response: supporting her through crisis



“If it rains and the river floods, it will flood the school and there will be no school.”

— Raelyn, Solomon Islands

COVID-19, climate disasters, conflict and the global hunger crisis saw our global humanitarian response double in scale in less than three years. CARE Australia is driving the call for not only more aid, but better aid.

In February 2023, Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin both caused havoc across Solomon Islands. In the low-lying region where Raelyn is a teacher at her local primary school, the strong rains and flooding are an all-too-regular occurrence — and a life-threatening one to the children in her care. On top of the immediate danger, floods contaminate their water supply, and give rise to waterborne diseases which make the entire community sick.

CARE Australia’s partner organisation, Live and Learn Solomon Islands, installed a water tank in the school, so students have permanent access to clean drinking water, and is training Raelyn and other teachers to be equipped with the skills to lead during emergencies.

Raelyn knows that being better prepared for emergencies will help ensure the school’s children are safer when the next disaster strikes:

“This project will help us teach the children how to be prepared when there are disaster events, and what to do when it happens. We will know what to do when there is flooding.”

Spotlight on our impact: Refugee response in Bangladesh

This project contributed to international efforts to meet the humanitarian and protection needs of the 1 million Rohingya refugees from Myanmar, as well as host communities in Bangladesh. Safe spaces for women and girls, as well as male engagement meetings helped change the attitudes of both women and men with regard to intimate partner violence, and the rights of women.

Read the evaluation [here](#).



Vanuatu: In March, Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin impacted more than 251,000 people across the country. The most urgent needs were shelter, food and water. CARE Australia's response focused on early recovery priorities in the education and health sectors, reaching 9,927 people through the distribution of emergency shelter, household kits, community kits, agricultural and farming tools, and dry food rations.



Ukraine: The humanitarian catastrophe still unfolding after more than a year of violence in Ukraine continues to cause havoc, with more than 17 million people in need of urgent assistance. CARE and our partners have reached more than 1.2 million people in Ukraine and neighbouring countries, with cash, food, water, shelter, access to schools, and safe spaces for women and girls.

Türkiye and Syria: The massive earthquakes that struck in February left more than 54,000 people dead, 100,000 injured, and 3 million homeless. More than 9.1 million people were affected by the disaster. CARE and our partners have reached 740,000 people across both countries with shelter, water, hygiene and sanitation services, food, cash, and protection services, including psychological first aid.



Update from the Chief Executive Officer

The past 12 months have been challenging for the communities we serve, made worse by the impact of the climate emergency, rising gender inequality, and rising cost of living.

Through it all CARE Australia has stood alongside women, supporting them to defeat poverty and to claim their rights when the odds are stacked against them. We're proud of everything we've achieved this year, but we couldn't have done it without the continued support of you, our incredible donors. Please enjoy our annual report and within it, the stories of hope from the inspiring communities we work with.

Thank you

Despite the challenges of 2023, the incredible support of our donors, partners, program participants, and staff has meant that we have been able to reach more people, increase our impact, and continue to deliver on our mission to support women and defeat poverty. From the bottom of my heart I thank you for every contribution you've made to support our work.

A challenging year, a world in crisis

The past 12 months have been challenging as the world navigated converging global crises. Devastating earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria, the escalating hunger crisis in the Horn of Africa, twin cyclones in the Pacific, and floods in Pakistan all highlight the urgency of CARE's work. Ensuring communities are prepared for these crises and supported in the aftermath is as vital to CARE's work as it ever has been.

Towards genuine locally-led impact

Stark global inequality is a timely wake-up call to change the way we work as humanitarians so that we are truly able to address the root causes of poverty. Creating genuine, long term partnerships with local organisations and governments will do much to put the power in the hands of those most affected. We are proud to be a part of the launch of the [Pledge for Change](#) initiative. CARE Australia is the only Australian INGO represented on the Pledge steering committee and I am looking forward to continuing this work to ensure we walk the talk on genuine locally-led impact.

Greater than the sum of our parts

As part of our commitment to ensuring CARE functions as the most effective and accountable confederation possible, we have begun the transition away from direct management of a number of our Country Offices. This will ensure we are able to focus on where CARE Australia can add the most value. We will continue to directly support our work in Myanmar, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, and Papua New Guinea.

Adapting to future realities

We remain committed to a number of strategic investments that cement us as a future-focused organisation. As planned, we have dedicated resources to the development of our new microfinance platform, [Lendwithcare](#), which will revolutionise the way Australians can support the women we serve, and diversify the way we raise funds to deliver impact.

We successfully applied for two \$100,000+ grants through the 2023 Perpetual Trustees Impact Philanthropy Application Program to help fund this initiative. We also co-sponsored CARE International's *Global Radicals Fundraising Leadership Program*, an initiative that will train 150 CARE staff — particularly in the Asia and Pacific regions — in high value fundraising, increasing our locally-led fundraising capacity in the global south.

Looking ahead

I am buoyed by the hope and resilience of the people and communities we work with, and the continued support of our donors; all of whom give us the inspiration and confidence to move our mission forward.

No matter what the next year brings, we will continue to adapt — more determined than ever — to build a world where women and girls are valued, supported, and empowered. Thank you for joining us on this journey.

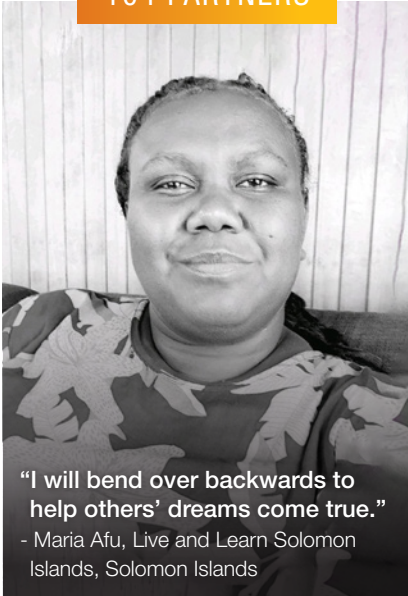


Peter Walton

Chief Executive Officer, CARE Australia

CARE Australia's global community

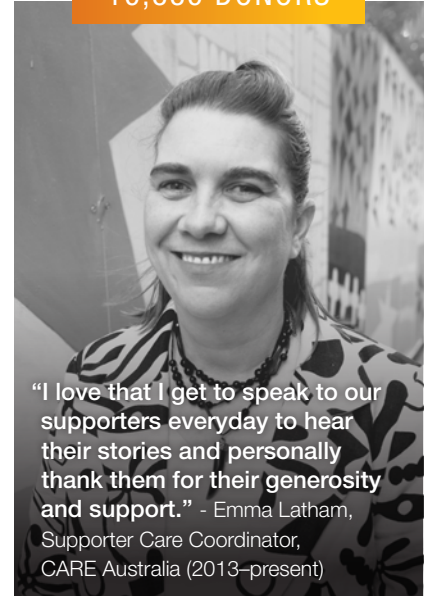
104 PARTNERS



637 STAFF



16,886 DONORS



87%

of CARE Australia's partners were local organisations.

96%

of CARE Australia's Country Office staff were local to the countries in which they worked.

\$9,736,245

was contributed to CARE Australia's poverty-fighting work by our donors.

TOGETHER, WE HAVE:



Supported more than 1.37 million people across 23 countries.



Responded to 37 emergencies across 16 countries.



Raised \$1.5 million through emergency appeals.



Delivered humanitarian assistance in times of emergency or crisis to more than 445,618 people.

Thanks to our supporters

CARE Australia thanks these generous individuals, trusts and foundations, and organisations who supported us in 2022/23, and we acknowledge and thank those who have chosen not to have their names published

Multilateral

European Commission – Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA)
European Commission Humanitarian Office (ECHO)
European Investment Bank
European Union (EU)
Global START Fund
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
United Nations Women
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United National Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations Children (UNICEF)
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)
World Bank Group

Bilateral

Government of Australia
Government of Canada
Government of Denmark
Government of France
Government of Germany
Government of Ireland
Government of Japan
Government of Luxembourg
Government of Netherlands
Government of New Zealand
Government of Norway
Government of Switzerland
Government of United States of America

Private – non-Australian

Botstiber Foundation
Cargill Foundation
Centre for Disaster Philanthropy
Danish Telethon (Danmarksindsamlingen)
Deloitte Consulting LLP

Fondation L'Oréal (FLO)
Give2Asia Foundation Ltd
Levi Strauss & Co.
Lululemon USA Inc.
Lyreco
Margaret A Cargill Philanthropies
Mastercard International
McCormick Global Ingredients Limited
Patsy Collins Trust Fund Initiative
PepsiCo Foundation
Ping Y.Tai Foundation and Sharon Mackenzie
Primark Holdings Ltd.
Sall Family Foundation

Private – Australian

ACME Foundation
Ainsworth 4 Foundation
Annie & John Paterson Foundation Ltd
David Hirsch and Gillian Fox
Davies Family Foundation
Goldie Nominees Pty Ltd
Handbury Foundation
Ian Kennedy
Jason Squire
John Peyton
Keo Charitable Foundation
Key Foundation
Michael Greenaway
Mike and Stephanie Hutchinson
Neil and Carolyn Andrew
Norman Cooper
Paul Reilly
Perpetual Foundation – Jenny and Michael's Sharing Hope Endowment
Peter & Barbara Hoadley Foundation
Peter Turner
Ravenmill Foundation
Ravine Foundation
Savannah Foundation
The Dick and Pip Smith Foundation
The Graeme Robson Endowment
The Metamorphic Foundation

The Sir Wilfred & C H (Roger) Brookes Charitable Foundation
Valerie and John Braithwaite
Wood Family Foundation

Corporate

Accenture
Ashurst
Bookeo Pty Ltd
Corrs Chambers Westgarth
Hall & Wilcox
King & Wood Mallesons
National Australia Bank
Optus
Portable

Bequestors

The Estate of Allan Archibald Rowling
The Estate of Ernest Leslie Isles
The Estate of Gabrielle Pitcher
The Estate of Geoffrey Ian West
The Estate of Geoffrey Nicholas Horton Westley
The Estate of Helen Elizabeth Kemp
The Estate of Janette Dunbar
The Estate of Joan Beazley
The Estate of John Robert Thomas Brown
The Estate of late Edel Wignell
The Estate of Marjorie Frances Bowen
The Estate of Mary Harris
The Estate of Phyllis Crowley Shares
The Estate of Phyllis Crowley
The Estate of Suleman Kesh
The Estate of Terrence Damien Burdeu
The Estate of Thomas Charles Tucker

Managing Contractors

Abt Associates
Alinea International
Cardno/DT Global
Cowater International
The Pacific Community



Timor-Leste: Participating in CARE Australia's gender equality training is transforming men's understanding of women's reproductive health.

A matter of trust

At CARE Australia, we're dedicated to transparency and ethical conduct. Upholding high standards in equality and social justice is integral to our mission.

When issues arise, we act quickly and responsibly to address them. We strongly encourage the reporting of all suspected misconduct, viewing reports as indicators that our systems are functional and our organisational culture is strong.

An accredited and registered charity

CARE Australia is [registered](#) as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission (ACNC) and is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR), meaning that people making a donation to our organisation may be able to claim an income tax deduction. We are fully accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to participate in the Australian aid program, and are in the process of renewing that accreditation for the next 5 years. We are a member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia and are entitled to fundraise in all states of Australia and overseas.

CARE Australia is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of

Conduct, which sets out standards of management, communications, and spending. CARE Australia is committed to full adherence to the Code of Conduct.

CARE Australia is also a signatory to several international codes of conduct (care.org.au/codes-of-conduct).

Privacy and cybersecurity

As cyber threats become increasingly complex and frequent, we're steadfast in protecting the privacy and security of our participants, donors, and all stakeholders. We experienced zero cybersecurity breaches in the past year — a testament to our robust and continuously evolving security systems. As part of our ongoing commitment to data protection, our new Microfinance platform, Lendwithcare, has been designed with privacy and cybersecurity integrated from the ground up. Your trust is invaluable to us, and we're committed to maintaining it through vigilance and constant improvement.

CARE Australia is fully compliant with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), ensuring all online transactions are secure and protected against identity theft.

Safeguarding

CARE Australia is committed to preventing all forms of harm, abuse and exploitation of children and adults, including our personnel.

Across all the countries in which we work, we take proactive steps to foster a safe organisational culture, raise awareness of expected standards of conduct, and offer safe and accessible mechanisms to allow concerns to be raised by all people involved in, or impacted by, CARE Australia's work.

In 2022/2023, CARE Australia received 16 reports relating to Child Safeguarding and the Prevention of Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, Abuse (PSHEA). This increase in reports is testament to the work being done to raise awareness, create safety, establish new and accessible pathways to report, and to strengthen CARE Australia's overarching safeguarding policy, system and practices.

Our response to every report was considered, appropriate, and proportionate. Our investigations found 13 reports to be substantiated, leading to:

- three partnership agreements/service contracts being terminated
- seven employment contracts being terminated
- and three formal warning letters being issued.

In each instance, psychosocial support was made available to the victim/survivor and other parties, including through external referrals, with additional awareness-raising and training delivered to staff, partners and communities around the importance of taking action and immediately reporting concerns.

Several additional reports were determined to be outside the scope of CARE Australia's safeguarding work and are therefore not recorded in this report, including reports relating to family and domestic violence. In these instances, CARE Australia has worked closely with our Country Office teams to offer guidance, support policy strengthening and response, including identifying appropriate, safe referral pathways. These measures reflect CARE Australia's mission to support women and girls, and our commitment to safeguarding and gender equality.

We are working closely with our Country Office, programming partners and communities to come alongside, listen and understand what CARE Australia can do better to prevent harm to children and adults, and how we can tailor our responses and disciplinary measures to be meaningful and appropriate in the different contexts in which we work.

CARE Australia's Preventing Sexual Harassment, Exploitation, Abuse, and Child Abuse reports from 2022/23 — presented as part of our commitment to transparency:

Type of abuse	Reports filed	Substantiated	Outcome
Sexual Harassment	11	10	2 warning letters issued (incidents involved CARE staff members) 6 employment contracts terminated (incidents involved CARE staff members/contractors) 2 partnership agreements terminated (incidents involved partner organisations)
Sexual Abuse	1	1	Report referred to local partner agency (incident involved partner staff member, external to CARE)
Child Protection	3	2	1 employment contract terminated 1 referral to Government Department (ongoing monitoring by CARE staff in community) 1 case was found not to involve a child
Alleged Code of Conduct breach (other)	1	0	Review of integrity screening practices

Our people

While gender equality remains a key focus for CARE Australia, we also recognise the need to provide an environment where people of all diversities feel safe, valued and enabled to participate meaningfully in our organisation and programs. These commitments are articulated in our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion policy.

We welcomed the Respect@Work legislative reforms to strengthen safer employment practices, which are central to our overall safeguarding approach. We not only embed those practices through our employment lifecycle (employees and volunteers, in Australia and in Country Offices), we also work with our partners to support them to prevent and respond to the risk of harm, abuse and exploitation.

After two years of remote work due to the pandemic, we recognised the need to reinforce our internal bonds, and organised in-person gatherings at key conferences — the CARE Conference in November 2022 and the Pacific Conference in February 2023 — to facilitate deeper connections between our staff in Australia and our Country Offices.

A cohort of Pacific Islander trainers from a range of our partner organisations delivered a series of ‘Learning Together’ sessions to each other on critical topics like inclusivity for the LGBTQI+ community, Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI), and safeguarding. The Learning Series attracted 130 participants from individuals, civil society and government organisations across the Pacific region, and proved an excellent opportunity for individuals and organisations to connect, learn, unlearn, share their experiences, and develop new skills that will strengthen their support in their communities.

Over the last year CARE Australia co-sponsored the development of CARE International’s *Global Radicals Fundraising Leadership Program*, an initiative designed to provide training for CARE staff — particularly in the Asia and Pacific regions — in high-value fundraising. The program has received an innovation award from Reimagining Fundraising and will train 150 CARE staff over the next 18 months.

This program highlights CARE Australia’s commitment to the Pledge for Change, a process that is shedding light on the colonial nature of international aid by building joint strategies for increasing locally led fundraising capacity in the global south.

Mekong transition

CARE Australia decided in 2021 to transition the lead membership of the Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam Country Offices to CARE USA. This transition was designed to best position each Country Office to achieve long-term success and sustainability. The transition was completed on 1 January for Cambodia and Vietnam, with Laos transferring on 1 July 2023 and Myanmar to follow in February 2024.

CARE Australia will continue to work with each of the Country Offices as a CARE Member Partner, continuing to support the implementation of individual projects as is done with other Country Offices internationally. CARE Australia will also continue to hold its role as Lead Member of CARE in Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste and Vanuatu, as well as through our Pacific Partnership Unit that operates in the region outside of the traditional country office platform.

This decision and process reaffirms CARE’s commitment and intention to be a relevant presence in the South-East Asia region, driven by impact and the humanitarian imperative, and will enable CARE’s presence in the region to evolve into a strong, locally-led platform that contributes to positive change in the region.

No tolerance for fraud and corruption

All suspected fraud cases are thoroughly investigated and — where substantiated — disciplinary action and recovery of loss are pursued.

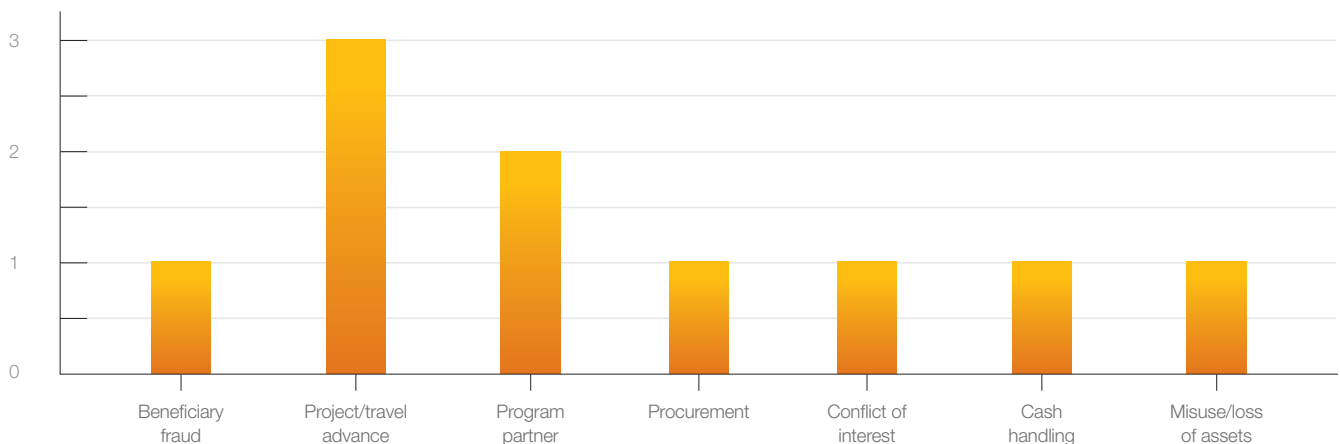
Reporting of suspected fraud and corruption is encouraged, with a number of avenues available, including the option to remain anonymous. Our training, policies and processes focus heavily on the prevention and early identification of suspected fraud and corruption, and staff and suppliers are screened for links to terrorist organisations.

In 2022/23, there were 10 suspected incidents of fraud across the countries in which we work. In accordance with CARE Australia's zero tolerance policy, all suspected incidents have been appropriately investigated. Nine of the suspected cases were substantiated.

The total financial loss to fraud in 2022/23 was \$22,000 — roughly 0.03% of our total expenditure. Given the complex and vulnerable environments in which we work, we consider this to be a testament to the integrity and professionalism of the overwhelming majority of the 1.44 million project participants, staff, and partner organisations involved in CARE Australia's work.

Details on CARE Australia's approach to preventing and responding to fraud and corruption are available on the CARE Australia website at care.org.au/fraud-and-corruption-policy

Number of suspected fraud cases in 2022/23



Our finances

We work hard to invest every dollar wisely: building strong and trusting partnerships with local organisations, backed up with strong financial stewardship and a commitment to efficiency and effectiveness in all activities.

While monitoring our spending and keeping track of the number of people we reach helps us measure our efficiency, it's vital to complement this with evaluations that show the true impact and quality of our programs in order to make sure we are facilitating genuinely positive and lasting change for women and their communities.

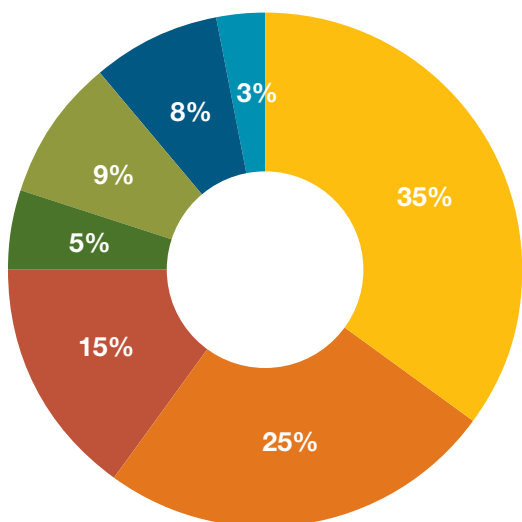
2022/23 was the second year in our three year plan to adjust our operations to deliver maximum impact in response to an increasingly complex and changing environment. Our strong financial stewardship in

recent years has put us in a good position to be able to undertake this investment plan in line with our organisational strategy.

This was the second of three years in which we will be reporting a planned deficit as we implement this plan to deliver high quality projects supported by capable staff, secure technology and efficient processes. Our Board has approved a drawdown on our general reserves to implement this plan.

Our balance sheet reflects the change process that we are undertaking. Our liquidity position (ability to access cash when it's needed) has meant that we have been able to respond rapidly when crises hit. Our prudent reserves management will continue to provide a good platform for our planned investments.

HOW YOU SUPPORTED CARE AUSTRALIA

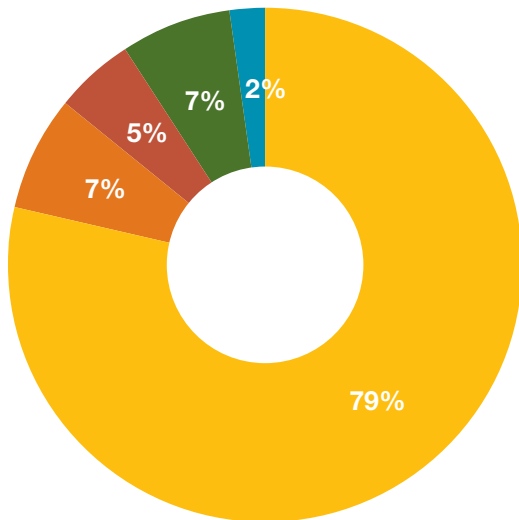


Our total revenue in 2022/23 was \$66.2m.

Despite the unpredictability of life in Australia, our donors proved once again how generous they are. We saw incredible support for our emergency appeals, however we did experience an overall reduction in our donations income of \$2.6m. Our grant revenue in the previous year was 7% higher than this year's \$54.4m, as we responded to less large scale disasters than the previous year.

- Grants – CARE International members (35%)
- Grants – Other Australian (25%)
- Public Fundraising (15%)
- Grants – DFAT (5%)
- Grants – Multilateral agencies (9%)
- Grants – Other overseas (8%)
- Other income (3%)

THE IMPACT OF YOUR INVESTMENT



In 2022/23, our expenses decreased by 1% to \$70.1m.

We spent \$55.3m on our international programs which represented 79% of our total expenditure. Prudent cost control ensured that we were able to keep accountability and administration costs to 7% and fundraising costs to 5% of this total. Accountability and administration costs increased compared to the previous year to reflect the planned investment from our strategic plan, including improving our cyber security and broader technology capabilities

- Funds to International Programs (79%)
- Program Support (7%)
- Fundraising (5%)
- Accountability and Administration (7%)
- Advocacy and Community Education (2%)

Funds to International Programs includes Development and Resilience Programming, which are the funds we invest in supporting local communities to run long-term development programs, the logistics required, and the costs of expert programming staff to ensure the impact is maximised. Also in this category are funds spent on Emergency and Humanitarian Action which are the lifesaving measures taken to support women and marginalised groups to anticipate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters, conflicts and economic shocks. It includes disaster readiness and risk-reduction measures like training and prepositioning of supplies, support given to people in times of crisis, as well as the logistics required, and the costs of expert humanitarian staff to ensure the impact is maximised.

Program Support includes the experts and advisors who deliver training, guidance, oversight, and evaluation of project initiatives and urgent emergency action by CARE Australia, as well as the costs of staff who are employed by the CARE International confederation to more cost-effectively provide services and expertise to all of its members — all in the name of maximising impact for the women we work with.

Fundraising is how we secure cash donations, grants, and investments from long-term supporters. It covers the costs of our expert fundraising staff, our efforts to acquire new donors, and the provision of supporter care services — all of which help ensure our critical programming and advocacy can continue into the future with as much impact as possible.

Accountability and Administration refers to many of the costs required to ensure CARE Australia remains a strong, innovative and accountable organisation with a team capable of achieving our goals. This includes investments in infrastructure, technology and cybersecurity, human resources, finance and accountability, quality assurance and risk management, as well as the costs of our key leadership, administrative and support staff — in effect, the costs of ensuring that we operate in impactful and effective ways.

Advocacy and Community Education supports local partners to tackle inequality at a community level as well as petition for change. It also ensures members of the public in Australia and around the world are aware of social justice issues and the ways to overcome them, and are able to do their part.

Visit care.org.au/finances2023 to read CARE Australia's full financial statements for 2022/23

Thank you from the Board


Despite the financial pressures Australians are under this year, they continue to give; to support women facing the devastating impacts of climate change and an ever-widening gender gap.

Amidst floods, earthquakes, cyclones and displacement; our teams in Australia and at country-level with our local partners, continue to deliver against all odds. I am particularly grateful for our dedicated staff and partners.

War continues to rage in Ukraine and now in Sudan; as climate change drives increasingly intense cyclones which this year destroyed our offices in Vanuatu. The women and girls in communities that we serve need our solidarity now more than ever.

CARE Australia, as part of the global CARE confederation, aims to unlearn old ways of working by redefining the way aid is delivered and who it is delivered by.

Where we can break this new ground, we will. We must. And we cannot do this without the support of our donors, to whom I extend my deepest gratitude.



Marcus Laithwaite
Chair CARE Australia

Members

Marcus Laithwaite Director since 2017, Chair from 2020

Joseph Tesvic Director since 2016, Treasurer from 2020

Diana Nicholson Director since 2019

Dr Phoebe Wynn-Pope Director since 2018

Joanne Thomson Director since 2021

Morgana Ryan Director since 2021

Peter Varghese AO Director since 2019

Committee members and observers

Natalie Kyriacou OAM
Fundraising & Marketing Committee since 2021

Moana Leilua
Board Observer since January 2022

Hong Pham
Board Observer since January 2023

About CARE Australia

Throughout this report, CARE Australia refers to our operations in Australia, as well as Australian-based donor-supported and/or funded programs and emergency responses in the seven Country Offices we managed in 2022/23 (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu and Vietnam) and the six countries in which we worked through partners with no direct CARE presence (Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu).

We also collaborated with other CARE Members, Candidates, Affiliates and Country Offices. From Afghanistan to Syria, from Bangladesh to Ukraine, we utilised the CARE confederation's resources to maximum effect.

CARE Australia was established in 1987. Former Prime Minister the Rt Hon. Malcolm Fraser AC CH was the founding Chair. We rely on the generous support of the Australian public to fund our work. We build on this support by attracting additional funds from institutional donors such as DFAT and the United Nations.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the data in this report is from the 2022/23 financial year and all dollar figures are in Australian Dollars (AUD).

About CARE International

Throughout this report CARE International or CARE refers to the entire CARE International organisation consisting of a confederation of 21 International Members, Candidates and Affiliates — Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Luxembourg, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the UK and the USA — forming one of the world's largest independent, international emergency relief and development assistance networks which worked in 109 countries in 2022/23. The national agencies operate independently but cooperate closely and work together with the CARE International Board and Secretariat, based in Geneva.

CARE International was founded in 1945.

Feedback

CARE Australia's 2023 Annual Report was produced in full adherence with the ACFID Code of Conduct requirements.

We welcome feedback on this report and in relation to our operations and conduct. Please send any feedback or complaints to Company Secretary, CARE Australia, PO Box 372, Collins St West, Melbourne, VIC, 8007 or complaints@care.org.au.

Feedback and complaints can also be lodged in each of the countries in which CARE Australia works via CARE Line at care.ethicspoint.com. Further details can be found in CARE Australia's complaints policy: care.org.au/complaintspolicy.

Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct by an ACFID member can be made to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee via acfid.asn.au/content/complaints.

Read our Privacy Policy at care.org.au/privacy-policy.

Support

To contact us please call 1800 020 046.

Solomon Islands: CARE Australia's partner organisation, Live and Learn Solomon Islands are implementing disaster preparedness training that is helping families feel safer and more prepared for crises.



CARE Australia

1800 020 046
info@care.org.au
care.org.au
ABN 46 003 380 890

Canberra Office

Ground floor
243 Northbourne Avenue
Lyneham ACT 2602

Melbourne Office

Level 4
53 Queen Street
Melbourne VIC 3000



Supporting women.
Defeating poverty.

care.org.au    

