



AFAP Newsletter

Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific Limited

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Community Partnership Workshop

The AFAP Community Partnership (CP) Service gives AFAP members a chance to be practically involved in development activities. The CP Service held its first member workshop on the 29th and 30th of September 2007. Over 20 people attended, representing some 15 Community Partnership groups. Most travelled long distances, some from as far away as Perth and all gave up a good part of their long weekend to be involved.

The law firm Minter Ellison kindly donated the use of their premises which offered the group fabulous views of Sydney Harbour. This was great for the visitors and also made for a welcome change for the AFAP staff, who usually see the Pacific Highway out of their window!



The meeting gave everyone a chance to learn more about what everyone else does and we can now put faces to names, which is valuable in itself in these email-dominated times. Importantly, the workshop gave people the chance to share ideas and learn from each other's work. There were many instances during the weekend where the synergy between groups was discovered and this will no doubt lead to more collaboration in the future.

The guest speakers also donated their time covering topics ranging from the distinction between welfare and development through to practical points about fundraising, child protection, Corporate Philanthropy, Australian Council for International Development's Code of Conduct and insurance issues.

A group dinner was held on Saturday night for more networking. The feedback given to AFAP was overwhelmingly positive and we plan to hold a similar event next year.



AFAP is a not for profit organisation concerned with emergency relief operations, sustainable international development and the eradication of poverty worldwide.

AFAP promotes self-reliant community development projects in the areas of:

- institution building;
- health;
- water and sanitation
- education;
- literacy;
- agriculture;
- environmental protection;
- hospital rehabilitation;
- village improvement;
- disaster relief; and
- small industry development

which emerge from the aspirations of the local people.

AFAP supports projects that are environmentally and economically sustainable, gender balanced and supportive of the integrity and self-determination of local communities.

AFAP aims to improve the status of women, children, ethnic minorities, handicapped and other disadvantaged or marginalised sections of society.

AFAP is a membership organisation, which provides opportunities for Australians who wish to volunteer their services in supporting our overseas development programs.

AFAP aims to:

Promote the advancement of education and the relief of poverty and sickness through innovative and appropriate community based development throughout the developing world where needed.

Tax Deductible Donations

Donations to AFAP of \$2.00 or more are Tax Deductible.

Call 1800-007-308

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Stephanie Moore Volunteering in Viet Nam

Under AusAID's VIDA (Volunteering for International Development) program, Stephanie Moore arrived at AFAP's representative office in Ha Noi to assist in reducing poverty in Viet Nam. Stephanie's role was primarily to transfer skills, provide institutional strengthening and capacity building for the local staff. Stephanie achieved all her goals as the Program and Public Relations Advisor and was instrumental in achieving a number of projects for the Viet Nam office.

With a previous background of working in land and natural resource management with Aboriginal organizations in Australia, Stephanie was able to use her experience and skills to boost funding for HIV/AIDS and Avian Influenza (AI). Stephanie attended the 8th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific in Sri Lanka at the invitation of ADB who fund our HIV program *Addressing HIV risk and vulnerability in youth in Phuc Tan Ward, Ha Noi*.



Stephanie with AFAP Ha Noi Staff

Working closely with staff, partners and the private sector, Stephanie was successful in securing funding from USAID through Kenan Institute Asia (KIA) for Avian Influenza. Stephanie played a key role in capacity building for staff to organise the AI workshop to promote private sector awareness, which brought together the private sector animal pharmaceutical and feed companies with key government departments.

To top all of this, Stephanie also worked tirelessly to stimulate innovative ideas among local staff. One major achievement was to initiate AFAP representation at the World Bank Development Marketplace in Washington DC by advocating the improvement of environmental health through administering enzymes to help reduce human disease caused by fecal-oral contamination.

Accompanied by her partner Ben Cole, they lived in Ha Noi and learned the cultures of Viet Nam, food, and music and travelled locally. "I have enjoyed my time here in Viet Nam working with AFAP and wish all staff, both in Viet Nam and in Australia all the best for their future work". Likewise we will all miss Stephanie and the positive influence she had with staff and partners.

Stephanie leaves to return back to Perth in mid November and hopes to find work in the area of Aboriginal natural resource management and we wish her well in her future.



AFAP is a signatory to the
ACFID Code of Conduct



Tamworth Women bring out the Voice of an Angel

"Inspiration for a fundraising concert came when Ruth Blakely and I saw Annalisa Kerrigan perform at the Sydney Opera House...she had an absolutely beautiful pure, clear voice, just like a boy soprano...no wonder so many at her concerts weep," says Dianne Drew, who was instrumental in organising a concert to raise funds for AFAP in Tamworth. It was Ray Martin, television presenter who had commented that Annalisa had "the voice of an angel, you will want to stop and listen".

Stop and listened is what Tamworth did. When Dianne contacted Annalisa who kindly agreed to perform in Tamworth, the first concert was held at the local racecourse with rain belting down on a tin roof and birds nesting being dislodged from the rafters and floating down in front of Annalisa ... amazing that she ever considered coming back, the 2007 concert was her fourth.

Bringing a classical concert to Country Music Capital had been a challenge, but one that the locals greatly appreciate. "It is now expected that we will have this annual event, which has become one of Tamworth's cultural highlights," Dianne continued. The Rotary Club of Tamworth became involved in the last concert and support from local businesses/people, friends and family has been truly amazing.



Annalisa performing with Christopher Saunders and Dean Lucas at Calrossy Auditorium, Tamworth

Together with members of the 2007 committee comprising of Dianne, Ruth Blakely, Phillipa Powell, Liz Graham, Robyn Collins, Sheila Donaldson organising the event, part of the funds raised at the concert will go towards AFAP's overseas aid programs in Africa and Asia. As well as Annalisa, tenor Christopher Saunders (he has sung for the Prince of Wales) and accompanist Dean Sky-Lucas (Vic Opera) combined to deliver a world class act. CD's from the concert will be available in a few months and can be purchased by emailing Dianne Drew on drew.dd@bigpond.com.

"We are great admirers of the work done by AFAP staff and have every confidence in their ability to plan and monitor projects for women and their families in developing countries," said Dianne.

The FSPI Network

AFAP is a member of the FSPI (the Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific International) network, which was formed by independent organisations in 1990.

FSPI's network of affiliates work together with their respective governments and community groups in a broad range of community development initiatives, focusing on primary health care, education, community-based natural resource management (terrestrial and marine), capacity building, local institutional building, conflict management, and sustainable enterprise development.

FSPI member organisations are committed to:

Advocating and fostering human dignity and sustainable development

Striving for world justice and peace through programs of social, cultural and economic development, relief and reconstruction

Continuing to work at institution building and the development of self reliance

Building public awareness and understanding as a necessary prerequisite for humanitarian assistance

Initiating and continuing dialogue with government and public bodies on public policy issues of importance to the member organisations

Being accountable to the individual constituencies, partners in development and the people we strive to assist

Respecting the diverse perspectives and methods of operation of member agencies as a source of strength and creativity

Working in a spirit of collaboration as the most effective way to achieve common objectives

Encouraging professional competence, ethical practices and quality services

Advocating and fostering human dignity and sustainable development



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Donations

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MEMBERSHIP

If you are interested in becoming a member of AFAP please request a Membership Application Form. Membership fees are \$25.00 per annum including GST.

FSPI Member Organisations

- ◇ Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia & the Pacific (AFAP)
- ◇ Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF)
- ◇ Foundation of the Peoples of the South Pacific, Kiribati
- ◇ Foundation for People and Community Development, PNG
- ◇ Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, Vanuatu
- ◇ Counterpart International, USA
- ◇ Solomon Islands Development Trust
- ◇ Tonga Community Development Trust
- ◇ Tuvalu Association of Non-Government Organisations
- ◇ O le Siosiomaga Society (OLISSI), Samoa
- ◇ Timor Aid, East Timor

AFAP International Partners

- ◇ FSPI
- ◇ Kathmandu Environmental Education Project (KEEP), Nepal
- ◇ Sikkim Development Foundation, India
- ◇ Neo-Synthesis Research Centre (NSRC), Sri Lanka
- ◇ Commutech, Zimbabwe
- ◇ Concern Universal: Malawi, Kenya, Mozambique
- ◇ Chikuni Mission, Zambia
- ◇ Bairo Pite Clinic, East Timor
- ◇ Alola Foundation, East Timor
- ◇ Moris Rasik, East Timor
- ◇ Arte Moris, East Timor
- ◇ Pradet, East Timor

Wenona helps Sri Lanka Schools

Reproduced from Wenona School Newsletter

Wenona School desks and chairs are being used in Sri Lanka in a school damaged by the Boxing Day tsunami.

Wenona's Maintenance Department supports the Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP), a not-for-profit organisation that sources superseded and surplus equipment and supplies from the NSW education and health systems. The donated goods are refurbished at AFAP's warehouse and then sent overseas.

The Carmel Fatima College in Kalmunai, Ampara, on Sri Lanka's east coast was severely damaged by the tsunami and the boys' home close by was totally destroyed.

The boys were accommodated and allocated classrooms by the College. The College however did not have the equipment available for the boys' classrooms and the donation of school equipment from Wenona and Shore was very gratefully received. Two other schools in Kalmunai were also given desks and chairs in this distribution. Other equipment donated by Wenona was also distributed, including blackboards and library shelves.

Over a period of five years, the Wenona Maintenance Department has donated desks, chairs, tables, storage units, shelving, chalk boards, sports gear, clothing, beds, blankets, books and stationery to AFAP for distribution wherever it is needed in Asia and the Pacific.

Vern Smith

Property and Maintenance Manager

