

AFGHAN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION (AADO)

Working in Afghanistan as the
Afghan Australian Development
and Rehabilitation Organisation

AADO ANNUAL REPORT



For the year ending 30 June, 2018
www.aado.org.au

ABN 25 274 698 213



Afghan Australian Development Organisation

Education

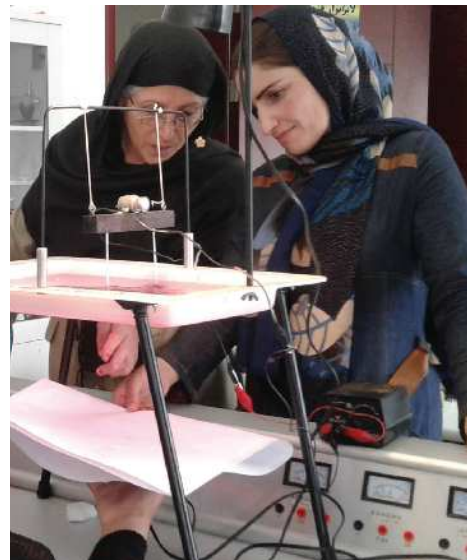
Training

Livelihoods

Working in Afghanistan as Afghan Australian Development and Rehabilitation Organisation

Established in 2002, the Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO) provides education and training in Afghanistan for those with minimal opportunities, in particularly women, to foster sustainable livelihoods and professional skills development.

Working in Afghanistan as AADRO, the Afghan Australian Development and Rehabilitation Organisation, AADO has a proven track record of high outcome, low-cost programs which are delivered by local project staff with deep community networks and trusted relationships



Report from the President and Executive Director

This year, despite a glimmer of hope for the dawning of peace with a unilateral ceasefire in June, attacks on civilians have been on the increase and the context of our work in Afghanistan remains very challenging. Nonetheless, the economy is edging towards recovery, schools are operating and stories of hope and advancement abound.

Our work is founded on the understanding of the critical role of education in accelerating peace and prosperity. A read through the pages that follow shows the Afghan women and men in our programs are committed to making the most of AADO's gift of education, training and livelihoods. Our work delivers great benefits because it is informed by and delivered by Afghans themselves.

As we take stock of another year of working at the coalface in Afghanistan, we thank our dedicated team in Kabul for their hard work and deep commitment to delivering our programs in a challenging environment. As Executive Director, Dr Nouria Salehi is in almost daily contact with the team, and has worked alongside them in August last year, and again in May and August this year. Despite the daily challenges, our staff continue to deliver our programs on time and within budget, and we thank each one of them for their hard work.

In September we were invited to showcase our work as change-makers at the Diasporas in Action national conference as an organisation that has enabled and sustained a voluntary, diaspora-led effort over 17 years. Our Executive Director is a leading example of an extraordinary diaspora leader bringing around her a group of skilled and experienced volunteers, philanthropic funding partners and a broad group of supporters and donors who have stayed the course to sustain and energise this endeavour.

For a number of years now, the Australian Government has spoken about the need for greater visibility and acknowledgement of the substantial contribution of diaspora-led NGO's like AADO. In AADO's case, we have successfully delivered humanitarian and development aid in Afghanistan since 2002 without government funding, aside from a few small DFAT grants for materials. This year we have worked hard to persuade DFAT to move more purposefully towards a fuller recognition of diaspora-led organisations in delivering Australia's aid. We convened

a consortium group and put a proposal directly to the Minister for International Development that a new funding mechanism be trialled and tested – one specifically tailored for diaspora organisations. We outlined the purpose of the mechanism, how it might operate, its scope and monitoring elements and stand ready to implement it but it appears unlikely to be accepted in the short term.

AADO's funding base has always been in large part from philanthropic organisations. Our partnership since 2004 with Cabrini Mission in the Village Life Skills programs has now concluded as they re-focus funds on countries where their religious sisters live and work. Our heartfelt thanks go to Cabrini Mission, Cath Garner and Kate Barker for their sustained support over the years.

This year again, the Planet Wheeler Foundation supported our Master Science Teacher Training strategy, enabling more than 4,000 high school teachers to be re-trained to strengthen the quality of science teaching in senior secondary schools, and to support school success and university entrance for Afghanistan's young people. We thank Anna Demant and Mark Cubit for their support and good counsel in our advocacy with DFAT and the Government.

It is greatly disappointing that the Australian Government travel ban and recent acts of violence by ISIS has discouraged new funders who were otherwise interested in our work in Afghanistan. As DFAT withdraws from directly funding aid programs in Afghanistan, our programs are needed more than ever. We must secure substantial funding to enable us to extend the Master Science Teacher Training program beyond June 2019. Dr Salehi has ensured that AADO continues to enjoy a strong and fruitful working relationship with the Afghan Ministry of Education and we are pursuing a number of avenues with their support, however the situation is indeed challenging.

In Australia, we are an entirely voluntary organisation, and so we thank our committee members for their tireless work this year. Assema Lazlad, our Vice President and Geraldine Allen our Treasurer retired from the Committee and both have our warmest thanks and best wishes. Long-time AADO supporter Lyn Allison joined the executive team and Rob Gilchrist, a former intern, also came onto the Committee. We were delighted that in August, Amanda Pagan returned to take up her previous

role of Treasurer. Jenny Sharwood OAM, another long-time supporter and former Committee member, also made a welcome return to the Committee.

Sadly, AADO lost its truest friend when Rosemary Marquardt passed away suddenly in December last year. Her tireless work for AADO as Treasurer and Secretary was always matched by her deep sense of compassion and generosity of spirit. Former and current members of AADO's Committee joined long-time supporters and friends at a gathering to remember Rosemary's extraordinary contribution to AADO's work, her support of the team in Kabul and her love of Afghanistan and its people. A generous donation from the Marquardt family in Rosemary's memory has funded state-of-the-art carpentry equipment that will increase the capacity of our carpentry workshop to deliver a broader range of furniture contracts.

This year our committee has redoubled its efforts to introduce AADO's work into new networks, including Science Teacher networks. We warmly welcome our new supporters and donors and look forward to seeing you again. Our annual fundraising event in March, the Nowroz luncheon celebrating Afghan New Year, was again a highlight and we were delighted to reach our fundraising target with a little help from a surprise donation. Our warmest thanks again go to Matthew Albert and Emily Forbes for their wonderful hospitality in opening up their beautiful historic home and garden for our luncheon.

Most of our programs rely almost entirely on the generosity of Australian people – donors big and small – and the dollars given go a long way in Afghanistan. We have had a steady increase in monthly donors who provide a level of certainty in our fundraising endeavours over the year. We warmly thank all our donors and supporters, with a special thanks to those new to AADO this year.



Sarina Greco and Dr Nouria Salehi OAM



**Sarina Greco, President (L) and
Dr Nouria Salehi OAM, Executive Director**



**Vale Rosemary Marquardt
AADO Treasurer 2007–14
AADO Secretary 2015–17
Friend of Afghans**

AADO lost its truest friend when Secretary and former Treasurer Rosemary Marquardt passed away suddenly in December last year. Her tireless work for AADO since 2007 was always matched by her deep sense of compassion and such generosity of spirit.

Our Work This Year

- Three hundred more teachers graduated as Master Science Teacher trainers in their own faculty and are now passing on their knowledge to other teachers. They join 4,100 other Master Teachers working as school-based training teams.
- Nine former street boys were trained in the carpentry trade over 12 months and all went into jobs after graduation in September making a total of 90 skilled carpenters to contribute to the rebuilding of Afghanistan.
- Another 210 women in seven villages joined the thousands of women who have learnt basic literacy and numeracy, as well as tailoring and horticulture to contribute to household income, and to act as role models for others.
- Twelve widows are growing vegetables in greenhouses built by AADO, learning to grow food for their families for a nutritious diet especially in the harsh winter months.



Thank You

We thank our funding partners

- **Planet Wheeler Foundation**
- **Cabrini Mission**
- **Toyota Employee Community Grants program**

We especially thank the following donors for their generous gift to AADO:

**Dick Marquardt Nouria Salehi Matthew Albert
Neil and Christina Jenkins
Constantine Pannousi and Birgit Reiman
Shaheer Komak Nicholas Bogiatzis Lyn Allison
Elizabeth and George Reid
Roya Najeem Assad Najeem
ML Jorgensen Dr Peter Hollingworth
Theresa Antonello Fiona Catto Tim Butler**

We thank all our monthly donors who help give us certainty of income over the year.

We thank Australian Volunteers International (AVI) for accommodating AADO and its board activities and sharing their physical and IT resources.

We thank the following for their pro bono donation of time, skills and facilities:

**Matthew Albert and Emily Forbes
Paul Bird
Julia Ferragamo
Timor Salehi and staff at the Afghan Gallery restaurant
Mark Crew CPA
Eleanor Curtain and staff at Eleanor Curtain Publishing
Sofia Lo Bianco
Carole Ross
George Boulos**



Giving the Gift of Education to Village Women

Many rural women like Jamilla living in the Qarabagh district 50 kilometers north of Kabul were excluded from schooling during the Taliban decade and have had no chance to learn to read and write. As a result of the conflict, this whole district suffered severe damage to its agricultural, health and education infrastructure. Many village women have been widowed and left with children provide for.

Our year-long Village Life Skills program teaches rural women who have not received formal education, basic literacy and numeracy, alongside health, hygiene and first-aid training. Over the past year, a total of 210 women from seven villages in the western part of Qarabagh district have taken part in our classes. Our disability specialist partner, AHRSO, delivered skills for 60 village women with a disability.

Employing local female educators, the classes were conducted in the women's own villages with each class comprising 30 women between the ages of 16 and 40. In the second semester, they learnt dressmaking, tailoring and embroidery skills, all of which helps them earn some household income. Upon graduation, they are presented with a sewing machine of their own. Some women go on to establish their own business and earn their own income, while others sew for family and friends as a way to increase household income.

In Qala-e-Kohna village where we have built a large greenhouse, 12 widows are growing vegetable crops and learning about plant cultivation. Others are harvesting their crops in Baghar village and helping provide a balanced and nutritious diet for their families, especially in the harsh winter months. They are also earning income by growing flowers to sell at market.

The knowledge gained by women through our village programs is shared with their children, friends and communities. Their status in the family and community is boosted and those women become role models for others who miss out on education.

Now in our 15th year of working in the villages, over 1,500 rural Afghan women have had the gift of education, thanks to Cabrini Mission and the donations of AADO's supporters.

Jamilla lives in a village of Qarabag district: *I am married and have four children. My husband died four years ago. I was interested in learning since childhood but I could not attend school and according to tradition I got married early. Whenever my children were facing any problems in their studies, I couldn't help them and had to ask my neighbours to help my children. I learned so much about keeping my children healthy. Now I am doing dressmaking and contributing to my family income. It was my dream to be a literate person, now I am literate and I can read and write, help my children and can solve my problems very well.*

Women like Jamilla become role models for younger women who may also have missed out on a formal education.



Young Afghans Gaining Access to University and Professional Skills

The quality of education is one of the biggest challenges in Afghanistan after the Taliban decade. Our Master Science Teacher Training program addresses the problem of the majority of science teachers being under-qualified to teach a contemporary science curriculum at senior levels. Being under-qualified to teach is a major impediment to university entry of their students. The flow-on effect of this is that Afghanistan will not be able to develop the necessary skills for engineering, science, agriculture or health service delivery.

Teacher training in the science field is particularly important for Afghanistan, given its current and future development priorities including for example, engineering for infrastructure and water supply, as well as science for agricultural development and health service delivery.

Our Master Science Teacher Training program was designed as a direct response to the poor performance of students in senior secondary levels and failure of young Afghans to transition to senior secondary or tertiary education.

Women teachers have the greatest need for re-training as they were altogether banned from teaching during the Taliban decade. They also play an important role in encouraging the participation of girls in post-compulsory education.

Since 2012, over 4,000 in-service secondary science and mathematics teachers have now been trained in theoretical and practical curriculum and modern pedagogy. Participants are selected by school principals on the basis of demonstrated leadership qualities. Around 60% are women. They now return to their schools as Master Science Teachers.

A train-the-trainer approach helps multiply the reach of AADO's training programs to the surrounding education community to support school success and university entrance for Afghanistan's young people.

Graduates, known as Master Science Teachers, in turn deliver training to teachers in their own and neighbouring schools. The practical benefits of our training reaches many additional teachers including new graduates and teachers re-entering the profession who have the support of Master Teachers on hand to develop confidence and stronger teaching skills in the classroom. As a result, hundreds of thousands of senior secondary students have indirectly benefited.

The demand for this training remains high and teachers are committed to making the most of this opportunity as demonstrated by a consistent full participation and graduation rates. The Ministry of Education fully endorses the training and encourages funding support.

Nazia: I am a physic teacher in high school and have been doing my best to teach my students, but I had a lot of problems. I felt so shy to teach my class and had problems with the school books and our education departments couldn't really help me.

AADO's seminar has been useful and solved our problems a lot. Our trainer is very experienced and talented, since we are attending this seminar we have changed and learned a lot. I feel more confident and am happy to help my students learn well. This type of seminar must keep repeating till we don't have any problems left. I would like to thank AADO for making all this happen.



Former Street Boys Training in Carpentry for a Job for Life

In Kabul, many teenagers face incredible family hardship and are forced to work on the streets where they are exposed daily to extreme risks and dangers. Going to school and learning a trade is too often simply out of the question for them. Without skills and education they and their families are destined for a lifetime of income insecurity and extreme poverty.

This year we recruited our 11th cohort of street working boys into our Trade Training in Carpentry – an apprenticeship that secures a livelihood for them and their families. A further nine teenagers have just completed their 12-month training, graduating with their own toolkit to set them up to work as carpenters. All of these boys have gone straight into jobs or are working for themselves. They add a further 90 carpenters to the class of young tradesmen for the rebuilding of Afghanistan. Another nine teenagers are currently in training.

Our carpentry workshop forms part of our Learning Centre in Kabul. Our Master Carpenter and his assistant, a former AADO apprentice, understand the students' circumstances and the daily difficulties they face. The program's success rests partly in the stipend we pay the trainees, which helps to replace the income they would otherwise earn on the streets.

The boys must attend school each day for half the day and learn their trade in the workshop for the other half. They learn communication skills alongside the technical skills they require to find meaningful employment after graduation.

This year we found that our made-to-measure timber furniture and office fit outs have increasingly had to compete with cheap imports. A generous donation from the Marquardt family in Rosemary Marquardt's memory has paid for glass-cutting machinery and other tools for our carpentry workshop. This assists in building our capacity to take larger contracts including for doors and windows.

Faisal: I am from Kandahar Province. We came to Kabul three years ago. We lost everything during my father and uncles war. We had thanks to AADO's for accepting me into this course. Before when I was seeing that other boys in my society can study and go to school, I said to myself I wish I was one of them, I wish I could go to school and learn a trade for a good job for me and my family. With joining carpentry course, I have learnt so much from course. Thanks to AADO, I feel good hope for the future of my family.



AFGHAN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION INC
25 274 698 213
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
REVENUE		
Donations and gifts		
Monetary restricted	140,000	119,500
Monetary – non restricted	73,634	79,792
Non-monetary	213,630	224,730
Investment income	73	809
Other Income	480	540
TOTAL REVENUE	427,817	425,371
EXPENDITURE		
International programs		
Funds to international programs	186,773	196,898
Fundraising costs	1,714	2,501
Accountability and Administration	12,795	38,217
Non-Monetary Expenditure	214,238	224,730
TOTAL EXPENSES	415,520	462,346
EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	12,297 -	36,974

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	129,134	131,153
Other financial assets	-	10,691
Total Current Assets	129,134	141,844
Non Current Assets	120	100
TOTAL ASSETS	129,254	141,944
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	1,530	25,942
Income in advance		-
Current tax liabilities		-
Other financial liabilities	200	775
Total Current Liabilities	1,730	26,717
Total Non Current Liabilities		-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,730	26,717
NET ASSETS	127,524	115,227
EQUITY		
Reserves		-
Retained earnings	127,524	115,227
TOTAL EQUITY	127,524	115,227

Grants (all), Program support costs, Bequests and Legacies, Revenue and Expenditure for International Political or Religious adherence promotion programs and Domestic programs all recorded a zero balance.

AFGHAN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION INC
25 274 698 2134
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Other	Total
Balance at 30 th June 2017	115,227	-	-	115,227
Profit of Revenue over expenses	12,297			12,297
Balance at 30 th June 2018	127,524	-	-	127,524

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018


Cash Flow from Operating Activities	2018
	\$
Interest Received	73
Donations and Grants	178,268
Fund Raising	10,420
Memberships	480
Exchange Rate Fluctuations	- 3,879
Total	185,362
Payments	187,381
Cash at Beginning of Year	131,153
Cash at End of Year	129,133

Our table of cash movements produced to comply with the ACFID Code of Conduct can be found within our full financial report on our website.

Auditor's opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the AFGHAN AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION INC as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the full financial statements.

Name of Firm: W.F.Titchener & Co. Pty. Ltd
Name of Director: Certified Practising Accountant



 Mark Donald Crew CPA
 Suite 1/84 Johnston Street, Fitzroy, 3065

Dated this day of November 2018

The Full Financial Report for 2017 is available on our website www.aado.org.au or a hard copy is available on request. The above Summary Financial Statement Report format complies with the standard set out by the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at www.acfid.asn.au.

AADO Committee of Management

President Sarina Greco (Nov 2014–present)

Vice-President Assema Lazlad (Nov 2017–Nov 2018)

Co-Secretary Rosemary Marquardt (2007–Dec 2017)

Co-Secretary Lyn Allison (Nov 2017–present)

Treasurer Geraldine Allen (March 2016–July 2018)

Amanda Pagan (August 2018–present)

Members Robert Gilchrist (Nov 2017–present)

Deborah Rhodes (Nov 2017–present)

Jenny Sharwood (Feb 2018–present)

Executive Director Dr Nouria Salehi OAM

Afghan Australian Development Organisation

Melbourne Directorate

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Afghanistan



In Afghanistan, AADRO is a member of ACBAR, the Agency Co-ordinating Body for Afghan Relief. The Afghan Australian Development Organisation is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory, we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity.

To lodge a complaint against our organisation, please email AADO at aadoevents@gmail.com. Our complaints handling policy can be found in our website. If you are not satisfied with the response and believe our organisation has breached the ACFID Code of Conduct, you can lodge a complaint with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee at code@acfid.asn.au.

Information about how to make a complaint can be found at www.acfid.asn.au

