



2020

Annual Report

Alola Australia

'Strong Women, Strong Nation'
'Feto Forte, Nasaun Forte'

Alola Australia
PO Box 382
Abbotsford Vic 3067

friends@alola.org.au www.alola.org.au

Benvindu!

Thank you for reading the 2020 Annual Report of Alola Australia.

We are delighted to share with you how the effort and generosity of our community in Australia is improving the lives of women and children in Timor-Leste.

Volunteer board members

9



Part-time employee

1



Funds raised

\$280k



CONTENTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| Vision, Mission and Purpose | 4 |
| Co-Chairs' Report | 5 |
| Our Acknowledgements | 6 |
| Snapshots from Timor-Leste | 8 |
| Stories from Australia | 13 |
| Financial Report | |



Alola Australia acknowledges that we work, live, and play on the traditional lands of First Nations people. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and 3 structural reforms: a Voice to Parliament, a Treaty, and Truth Telling.



OUR VISION

'STRONG WOMEN, STRONG NATION'

SHARED WITH OUR PARTNER FUNDASAUN ALOLA

'FETO FORTE, NASAUN FORTE'

OUR MISSION

Partner with Fundasaun Alola in enabling women and families in Timor-Leste to build a strong future by raising awareness, funds and creating links in Australia, and building a strong sustainable organisation.

Purpose

Alola Australia was established in 2008 and works in partnership with **Fundasaun Alola**, a Timorese NGO founded by Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão AO in 2001 to make positive and sustainable changes in the lives of women and children in Timor-Leste.

Alola Australia and our supporters raise awareness and funds to support **Fundasaun Alola's** mission which is to promote women's rights and increase women's leadership capacity; improve the health status of women and children; increase access to, and quality of, education for women and children; and strengthen women's small enterprises at the grassroots level. **Fundasaun Alola's** core values and principles are equality, justice, participation, and respect; and teamwork and voluntarism are critical elements to Alola's achieving its mission.

To achieve the mission **Fundasaun Alola** has 4 integrated programs:

- Advocacy: promote women's human rights
- Education: improve quality and access to education
- Maternal and Child Health: improve women's and children's health status.
- Economic Empowerment: strengthen women's economic participation.

Fundasaun Alola's programs create employment, promote human rights, and strengthen community development. They enhance the status of women across Timor-Leste, and they work together with the Government of Timor-Leste to achieve the nation's Development Goals.

Alola Australia is committed to enabling **Fundasaun Alola** undertake its work effectively and sustainably. We recognise that the interests of women, men and children are best served when local communities mobilise local community capacity. We obtain funds for Alola's development work by harnessing supporters, undertaking fundraising activities and holding events which aim to raise at least \$120,000 per year.

Co-Chairs' Report

Alola Australia is a small but effective organisation run by a voluntary Board of Directors and with a large group of supporters across Australia. Our collaboration with Fundasaun Alola involves responding to the issues it identifies as being important, and focuses on supporting development programs to enable women and families in Timor-Leste to build a strong future.

Our partnership with Fundasaun Alola is guided by our partnership/relationship document: ***Servisu Hamutuk – Working Together***.

Our Strategic Plan 2018 - 2020 continued to shape the key priorities for Alola Australia's work in 2020 – a most significant and challenging year for us and even more significant for Fundasaun Alola. Our supporters gave generously to support Fundasaun Alola adapt its programs to the COVID-19 context – which were subject to significant risks as a result of reduced funding from some other key donor organisations.

Alola Australia is committed to keeping our organisational costs to a minimum so that the funds we raise are transferred to Fundasaun Alola. In 2020 we testified once again to this achievement due to the significant unpaid voluntary work by the Board and dedicated volunteers.

We are both inspired by being involved with Alola Australia and Fundasaun Alola. We take this opportunity to thank the Board for their vision, leadership, commitment and very hard work. We thank our volunteers, and Breanna Guterres who worked as Administration Contractor until the end of October (and then joined the Board), and Sue Lee who took on the Administration Contractor role in November.

We thank Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão AO for her ongoing leadership of and devotion to Fundasaun Alola, and her warm and strategic support for Alola Australia. We also thank Fundasaun Alola CEO Macu Guterres, for her inspirational leadership in Timor-Leste, and for regularly joining Alola Australia Board meetings, via Zoom, to share current news and updates.

Like all organisations in 2020, Alola Australia quickly adapted to a different kind of year and continued to work hard to support our sister organisation in Timor-Leste.

Our Board meetings were held online and our fundraising activities effectively adapted to the COVID-19 context. We are proud that in 2020 we provided **\$259,061** to support Fundasaun Alola.

Maria Bohan & Helen Skinner
Co-Chairs, Alola Australia
May 2021



Our Acknowledgements

Our Board Directors

Nicole Bluett-Boyd
Maria Bohan (Co-Chair)
Nandy Gurr
Breanna Guterres
Stephen Lavender (Treasurer)
Jacky Mandelbaum
Christine Perkins
Natalie Savin (Company Secretary)
Helen Skinner (Co-Chair)

Our Partner Fundasaun Alola

Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão, AO (Chair of the Board), the members of the Board, Macu Guterres (CEO), the Staff Team, and the Volunteer Team.

Congratulations to ***Fundasaun Alola*** on approaching 20 years supporting women and children of Timor-Leste, and of significant national and regional leadership on women's rights and gender equality.

Alola Australia's Avos

Avo Advisers are respected *elder* women who have or have had a particular association with Timor-Leste and/or Fundasaun Alola. They are appointed by the Board of Alola Australia, and their role is to provide wise counsel on Alola Australia's activities, especially on matters that may require sensitivity and reconciliation.

Alola Australia's Avos are:

Melanie Atkins, Jan Curtain, Jill Forsyth, Wendy Mayne, Christine Perkins, and Rosalie Sword.

Over many years Wendy Mayne has coordinated for Alola supporters, 4 newsletters per year and the Facebook page. We thank Wendy for her significant contribution.

Patron

Dame Quentin Bryce, AD CVO

Supporters

Friends of Alola groups and individuals across Australia and overseas.

Volunteers & Pro Bono Contributors

A great list of people who helped in 2020 with Alola Australia's website, social media, newsletter, campaigns, and fundraising.

Our Corporate Supporters

Salesforce.com
PKF Australia
Kimberley Maxwell, Online Tree

Our Community Partners

- International Women's Development Agency
- Australian Catholic Religious Against the Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)

Our close association with Timor-Leste Friendship Groups, especially

- Friends of Same
- Friends of Baucau
- Geelong Friends of Viqueque
- Ballarat Friends of Ainaro
- Bendigo friends of Maubisse
- Indigo Shire Friends of Atauro
- Wangaratta Friends of Lacluta
- Macedon Ranges Friends of East Timor
- Monash Friends of Vermasse

Alola Australia Administration Support

- Breanna Guterres worked one day per week until the end of October to support Alola Australia's work, and
- Sue Lee worked one day per week beginning in November to support Alola Australia's work.

Alola Australia acknowledges and thanks everyone who has contributed to and supported bringing our mission to life during 2020.

Our Campaigns

Thanks to our supporters who contributed to our key fundraising campaigns in 2020, as well as those who made generous donations throughout the year. We raised **\$280,200**.

Alola Australia is proud to keep our operating costs to a minimum so that most funds raised can be transferred directly to Fundasaun Alola.

In 2020 Alola Australia ran three key fundraising campaigns, highlighted later in this report. These campaigns also contribute to community awareness and support of the fantastic programs carried out by Fundasaun Alola, which are further detailed in the following pages.

Snapshot Reports from Timor-Leste

Due to COVID-19 Fundasaun Alola's Annual General Meeting was held on 27 November 2020. Fundasaun Alola's Annual Report 2019, including the Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2019, was presented at this meeting. The snapshots below are taken from this report as well as from conversations with Fundasaun Alola's Chair and CEO at Alola Australia Board meetings.

Fundasaun Alola: Annual General Meeting

Fundasaun Alola's Chair Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão, AO reported that the political and economic uncertainty throughout 2020 caused Timor-Leste's economy to significantly contract, with resulting pressures on the livelihoods of women, particularly women in rural areas. This made Alola's work in empowering women to manage their household budgets and to access seed funding and markets even more vital.



Kirsty affirmed CEO Macu Guterres' leadership from the beginning of 2020, as she led Fundasaun Alola with intelligence and flexibility at the time the COVID-19 crisis first emerged in Timor-Leste. It was a situation of uncertainty and a host of threats emerged. Macu adapted Fundasaun Alola's programs to ensure their continuation and on-going relevance in the context of this global pandemic.

Macu also organized the process for Fundasaun Alola's Strategic Planning 2020-2024. The process affirmed Fundasaun Alola's strengths in 4 program areas, recommending that all programs make optimal use of digital technology to enhance achievement of program results. The plan was underpinned and shaped by the problems and challenges faced by women and children in Timor-Leste.

From Dili to Remote Villages across Timor-Leste ...COVID-19

During various periods in 2020, Fundasaun Alola offices in Dili and Baucau were closed, and staff worked from home. Core programs, such as Infant and new Mother Care, Early Childhood Education, Women's Cancer Support, and Economic Empowerment, were forced to stop or adapt. Fundasaun Alola's CEO and Management Team worked urgently to develop new plans to respond to the COVID-19 challenge.

Public Health and Education: Fundasaun Alola shared important health information via community radio and social media – about how the virus spreads, and simple methods to prevent infection. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Mother and Child Health Team led this public health work across Timor-Leste. Staff educated communities in remote villages, making house-to-house visits distributing information about COVID and sanitation packages. Staff monitored hand-washing facilities in every house, sometimes teaching families how to make simple hand washing facilities, as for example from used jerry cans.

Sewing Masks: Fundasaun Alola, together with other NGOs, made more than 250,000 masks enabling students and teachers to return safely to school. This huge task made a tremendous and practical contribution to containing the impact of COVID-19.



Fundasaun Alola’s immediate action and commitment to preventing the spread of COVID-19 in Timor-Leste is also a tribute to excellent leadership. The 2020 global COVID-19 crisis has reaffirmed Fundasaun Alola’s deep commitment to working for change for the peoples of Timor-Leste.

The Australian Embassy in Timor-Leste provided support to Fundasaun Alola for this important work.



Economic Empowerment

The Economic Empowerment Program supports rural women, including weavers of traditional cloth and producers of handcrafts. Not only is this work significant from an everyday livelihood point of view, but it also serves to promote and protect Timor-Leste's unique, intangible cultural heritage. Activities successfully implemented involved training on improving the quality of products, especially the use of natural dyes in traditional fabrics, training on product diversification and basic marketing education.

The Mid-Year Fair and the Christmas Fair were each held for two days in 2019 at Fundasaun Alola's national office. Products showcased included tais, scarves, ceramics, dolls, wood carvings, recycled plastic products, women's accessories, local soap, virgin coconut oil, traditional herbs, local coffee, and food. 112 artisan groups participated in these Fairs.

Aiming to increase the ability of vulnerable women to continue to improve their lives, women in 4 municipalities, Ainaro, Bobonaro, Covalima and Ermera participated in a special 6-month project. Activities included introduction to local authority, training on gender-based violence, business, and financial management, as well as opportunities to access micro-credit activities. The project in Ermera was held in the village of Railaco-Fatuquero, with direct impact on 80 women and an estimated 525 indirect beneficiaries.

Fundasaun Alola's Economic Empowerment Program continued to support women's savings and loans groups in municipalities. A reflection meeting in Dili was attended by 31 women from 15 savings and loans groups, across 11 municipalities, including Dili. The meeting was an opportunity to share successes and challenges, lessons and especially inspiration.

Maternal and Child Health

Timor-Leste continues to make significant improvements in reducing the infant mortality rate. A priority issue is addressing the critical issue of malnutrition for children under 5. Fundasaun Alola utilizes a range of strategies at national and municipal levels to support women to access health facilities including the national hospital, community health centres and rural health posts.

- Supporting Newborn Care – Promoting Breastfeeding
- Hospital Playrooms
- Increasing Access to Safe Birthing: Maternity Packs Initiative
- Peer to Peer: Expanding Mother Support Groups and *Suco Hadomi Inan no Oan* groups in new villages.
- Raising awareness of improved health care practices and nutrition.
- Male engagement
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Activities for Youth



Haliku-Raising Awareness, Support and Referral for Women's Cancers

"Hau Hili Atu Kura" (HALIKU) means *"I choose to be healed."*

This innovative program involves multi-faceted activities including:

- Informing the community about risk factors, signs, and symptoms
- Sensitizing women and young people to not be embarrassed or afraid to come to a health facility for treatment
- Mini workshops at 2 universities to raise awareness about women's cancers
- Education of women in religious orders
- Conversations with young people in remote villages
- Special presentations to female and male police officers, and to staff in other work environments
- Information sharing via community radio, television and brochures
- Direct support to women: for biopsies, provision of wigs, mastectomy bras, arm sleeves, transport support and purchase of prescription medicines

Education

Fundasaun Alola's Education Program supports teachers, children, students, and communities to access and gain skills and knowledge to fulfill their personal goals. Several key programs were established:

- Scholarships support in-country disadvantaged students from basic school to university. Scholarships are funded through financial support from international government agencies, corporations, not-for profit international NGOs, Timor Leste Friendship Groups in Australia, and many individual supporters. Alola staff keep in regular contact with students to check progress and life challenges that might impact on their study; and visit their families in villages. Job Preparedness Training supports students apply for jobs in their new occupations.
- The Teacher Training Project conducts 3 activities: a Reading Program, Classroom Observation, and Local Mentors Program. School leaders appreciate these activities in their schools because they uncover both the successes and difficulties of teaching and learning in classrooms. Local Mentors visited schools in the municipalities of Baucau, Manatuto, Viqueque, Liquica, Bobonaro, Aileu, Manufahi and Dili.
- Mobile Libraries – Developing Reading Culture: Alola's Mobile Libraries visit children in remote communities providing access to both reading and after school hours activities. Community leaders are encouraged to identify student participants and encourage children to access reading activities in the Library vans. Parents, older students, and young people are engaged to sit with children and read with them. To encourage stronger local ownership of the Mobile Library program the mobilization of parents, community leaders and youth is prioritized.



- Best Start for Children: Community Based Preschool, Home-Based and Centre-Based. These programs operate in remote areas and children attend for an average of 9 hours per week. Trained facilitators offer various activities including play-based learning, creativity, problem solving, independence and respectful relationships.

Advocacy

The Advocacy program aims to promote and protect women's rights in Timor-Leste and focusses on working towards women and children living free from violence and discrimination in all aspects of their lives, raising awareness of gender issues and strengthening the voices of women in decision-making. A key focus is securing cooperation with partners at municipal, regional, national, and international levels. This program leads significant advocacy on Human Trafficking. Advocacy focuses on:

- Alola's Women's Resource Centre continues to provide free computer, internet, and library services to female and male youth; conduct sessions on gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health, leadership, and public speaking; raise awareness about the laws against human trafficking, domestic violence; and gender responsive budgeting, and gender issues in tax law.
- Monitoring shows that 90% of participating young people increased their knowledge about gender-based issues; 85% of people improved their ability to prevent and protect themselves from drugs (including alcohol), infectious disease, violence, and discrimination.
- 24 women were identified as potential candidates for local level elections in 12 municipalities. Fundasaun Alola facilitated public dialogues between parliamentarians and potential women candidates. Citizen Forums were held in 24 villages to identify women's and children's problems. Candidates were provided with training in organisational management, evaluation, and monitoring plans.
- Fundasaun Alola raised awareness about human trafficking to 133 participants, including community members, women's associations, young people, and Village Advisor members.



Snapshots from Australia

Tax Campaign

Our Alola Australia Tax campaign in 2020 focussed on raising funds to provide critical support to allow Fundasaun Alola to continue operating during ‘the unprecedented times’ created by the COVID-19 virus challenge.

Fundasaun Alola CEO Macu Guterres, reported that many staff were asked to work from home and Alola’s core programs were forced to stop or radically adapt their delivery strategies. Due to the cessation of some program activities, some program donors withdrew a proportion of their funding. This left Fundasaun Alola in a very challenging position. Funds were necessary to keep Fundasaun Alola operational and to help cover such things as financial management, logistics management, communications, human resources, information technology, premises, and insurance costs.

Alola supporters understood these 2020 critical challenges in Timor-Leste, including the reduction of funding for infrastructure. The response received by friends and donors was unprecedented. \$73,000 was donated and significantly, the number of donors increased by 130% - a testament to the generosity of Alola supporters.

Our 2020 Tax Campaign raised \$73,000 to support Fundasaun Alola.

MILK Campaign

Due to COVID-19 the 2020 MILK Campaign operated an on-line event on 13 August 2020, to coincide with World Breastfeeding Week. Supporters were invited to join an intimate conversation with Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão AO. Kirsty spoke about the origins of the MILK campaign, Alola’s Maternal and Child Health Program, including reports and stories about the program’s recent activities.

Alola Australia supporters also appreciated hearing Kirsty’s insights into the impact of COVID-19 on Fundasaun Alola and the women and children in Timor-Leste. Supporters were able to engage directly with Kirsty where she answered questions from the audience. Fundasaun Alola CEO Macu Guterres featured in a video, as she took supporters on a tour of Fundasaun Alola’s Breastfeeding Café – an initiative of the Maternal and Child Health Program.

Supporters joined the webinar from all over Australia, as well as at least one supporter from overseas.

Our 2020 MILK Campaign raised 7,390 to support Fundasaun Alola.



Christmas Campaign

The collective global experience of hardship in 2020 saw Alola Australia supporters provide unprecedented assistance and encouragement to the women and children of Timor-Leste at Christmas time.

Our annual Christmas Campaign, which promotes the purchase of Alola Gift Certificates, generated vital funds for Fundasaun Alola's core programs: Advocacy, Maternal and Child Health, Economic Empowerment and Education.

Supporters reminded us of the enduring generosity and empathy of our supporters, despite the challenges of the year.

Our 2020 Christmas Campaign raised \$32,000 to support Fundasaun Alola.



Our Supporters

Loyal and innovative supporters across Australia continue to keep their eye on the women and children of Timor-Leste by making regular donations, bequests and organizing special fundraising initiatives – more difficult however in 2020.

We thank:

- each supporter for continuing to give the gift of empowerment to the women and children of Timor-Leste
- our regular donors
- Australian Community Foundation's Dorrie Alcock Trust, for on-going support of Alola's Maternal and Child Health Program
- Jack and Hedy Brent Foundation
- Good Samaritan Foundation, for ongoing support for scholarships.

Communicating with Alola Supporters

In November 2020 we sent out the first edition of **Alola nia Lian – Alola's Voice**.

This quarterly newsletter, in a new format, shares stories direct from Timor-Leste, including special updates from Dr Kirsty Sword Gusmão, AO and CEO Macu Guterres; interviews with Fundasaun Alola staff about the programs they lead or work in; and news of Alola Australia events and campaigns.

**"Our women are the mothers of our nation.
From strong women a great nation is born."**

Alzira Reis, former CEO Fundasaun Alola

Alola Australia Limited

ABN 20 132 084 050

Financial report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Table of contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Corporate information | 1 |
| Directors' report | 2 |
| Auditor's independence declaration | 5 |
| Statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income | 6 |
| Statement of financial position | 7 |
| Statement of changes in equity | 7 |
| Statement of cash flows | 8 |
| Notes to the financial statements | 9 |
| Directors' declaration | 11 |
| Independent auditor's report | 12 |

Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Corporate information

Directors

N. Bluett-Boyd
M. Bohan, Co-Chair (Leave of absence to 17 Aug 2020, Co-chair from 17 August 2020)
S. Lavender
J. Mandelbaum
N. Gurr
C. Perkins
N. Savin
H. Skinner, Co-Chair (acting Chair 1 January to 17 Aug 2020, Co-chair from 17 August 2020)
H. Tchong (resigned 18 May 2020)
B. Guterres (appointed 17 August 2020)

Company secretary

N. Savin

Registered office and Principal place of business

377 Clarke St
Northcote VIC 3070

Solicitors

Holding Redlich
Level 8, 555 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Bankers

Bank Australia
280 Brunswick St Fitzroy VIC 3065

Auditor

PKF Melbourne
Level 12, 440 Collins St
Melbourne, VIC 3000

Alola Australia Limited

ABN 20 132 084 050

Directors' report

Your directors submit their special purpose financial report for the for the year ended 31 December 2020

Directors

The names and details of the Company's directors in office during the calendar year and until the date of this report are as follows. Directors were in office for this entire year unless otherwise stated.

N Bluett-Boyd

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Arts (Honours - Criminology)
- PhD Law (Legal theory and Jurisprudence)

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Lead Researcher, Safe Futures Foundation (Timor-Leste)
- Senior Research Officer, Australian Institute of Family Studies
- Extensive Experience in Researching Violence Against Women

M Bohan, Chair (leave of absence to 17 August 2020); Co-Chair (from 17 August 2020)

Qualifications

- Dip of Teaching Primary
- Graduate Diploma in Community Development RMIT

Relevant Experience/Roles

- CEO Carers Victoria 1994 - 2010 (annual budget \$10.5m)
- Manager Services Development CatholicCare 2012 - 2016
- Member of Steering Committee, Women in Local Democracy, Geelong
- Committee Community Owned Renewable Energy Project – Geelong Sustainability
- Pro bono mentor NFP CEOs,
- Significant leadership and social change experience

Special responsibilities

- Chair (leave of absence to 17 August 2020); Co-Chair (from 17 August 2020)
- Member Audit & Risk Management Committee

N Gurr

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Coordinator New Community Ringwood -Fundraising Timor Leste 2003-16
- Board Member Caleb Leadership Ministries 2008-2013
- Partnership with Kirsty Sword Gusmao - study tours and projects 2007-2019
- Leading Teams from New Community Ringwood to Timor Leste 2012-2016
- Board Member Casa Vida Timor Leste

Special responsibilities

- Advocacy
- Fundraising

B Guterres

Qualifications

- BA (Dean's Scholar's Program, Monash University)

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Communications Manager, Eating Disorders Victoria 2018 to date
- Marketing, communications and fundraising experience in the NFP sector
- Former Alola Australia Administration Services Coordinator

Special responsibilities

- Communications
- Fundraising

S Lavender

Qualifications

- B Comm (UoM)
- Graduate Diploma in Community Education (Caulfield IT)
- Dip of Frontline Management (RMIT)

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Member Institute of Chartered Accountants 1975-2011
- Treasurer, Only Just Fair Trade 2013- present
- Election Monitor Timor Leste Presidential Election 2012
- Treasurer East Timor Women's Association 2012-2013

Special responsibilities

- Treasurer
- Member Audit and Risk Management Committee

Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Directors' report

J Mandelbaum

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Laws (Honours), Bachelor of Science

Relevant Experience/Roles

- General Counsel, Orygen 2020 to Date
- Legal Policy Advisor Obesity Policy Coalition Cancer Council of Victoria 2017-18
- Special Counsel, Corrs Chambers Westgarth (2015-17)
- Senior Legal Researcher, Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (2011-2014)
- Senior Associate, Griffith Hack Lawyers (2008-2011)

Special responsibilities

- Deputy Chair (from 17 December 2019)
- Member Audit and Risk Management Committee

C Perkins

Qualifications:

- Diploma of Nursing
- Certificate IV Workplace Training and Assessment

Relevant Experience / Roles

- Board Member Healthsharing Women and Macaulay Community Credit Cooperative
- Extensive experience in International Development and long time supporter of Timor-Leste

Special responsibilities:

- Finance, Administration, Fundraising, Communications, Governance
- Member Audit and Risk Committee

N Savin

Qualifications

- BA (Queensland)
- MA - Policy and Law (La Trobe)

Relevant Experience / Roles

- Executive management – state and local government
- CEO roles in several Not For Profit Organisations
- Previously Board Member of
 - Dental Health Services Victoria (9 years, last 3 years as Chair)
 - Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital (2 years)

Special responsibilities

- Company Secretary
- Convenor Audit and Risk Management Committee

H Skinner, Acting Chair (until 17 August 2020); Co-Chair (from 17 August 2020)

Qualifications

- BA (University of Cambridge, UK)
- MA (University of Cambridge, UK)

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Director PwC
- Member Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales Admitted 2006
- Member of Institute of Internal Auditors Australia
- Board Member St Paul's Primary School Bentleigh

Special Responsibilities

- Acting Chair (to August 2020); Co-Chair (from August 2020)
- Member of Audit and Risk Management Committee

H Tchong (resigned 18 May 2020)

Qualifications

- B. Comm (UoM)
- B. A (UoM)

Relevant Experience/Roles

- Senior Policy Officer Premier and Cabinet 20015-Present/Director
- Communication and Strategy Roles at several NFP organisations
- Policy Officer at Federal Attorney General Department 2012-15
- Alola Milk Campaign Volunteer

Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Directors' report

Directors' meetings

During the financial year 7 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

| 2020 Directors' meetings | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Director | Number eligible to attend | Number attended |
| N Bluett-Boyd | 7 | 6 |
| M Bohan, Chair & Co-Chair | 7 | 4 (leave of absence granted for 3 meetings) |
| N Gurr | 7 | 5 |
| B Guterres | 3 | 3 |
| S Lavender | 7 | 7 |
| J Mandelbaum | 7 | 7 |
| C Perkins | 7 | 2 (leave of absence granted for 4 meetings) |
| N Savin | 7 | 6 |
| H Skinner, Acting Chair & Co-Chair | 7 | 7 |
| H Tchong | 2 | 2 |

Directors benefits

Directors are not remunerated by Alola Australia Ltd for their service.

Indemnification and insurance of directors

Directors and Officers insurance is in place for officers of the company.

Principal activities, objectives and results

The principal activities during the year were to conduct awareness raising and fundraising appeals for the Australia Timor-Leste Relief and Development Fund.

The company's mission is to partner with Fundasaun Alola in enabling women and families in Timor-Leste to build a strong future.

The company's objectives are to:

- Raise awareness, funds and create links within Australia
- Build a strong and sustainable organisation in Australia

In pursuit of those objectives the directors' focus in 2020 was to increase awareness in Australia of the work of Fundasaun Alola, to raise at least \$125,000 for the programs of Fundasaun Alola, to recruit volunteers to meet the promotional activity and skill needs of the organisation, and to strengthen and improve governance.

Sound progress was achieved against each of these goals.

As a not for profit entity, all donations received, less costs, will be distributed to Fundasaun Alola for use in a range of development projects in Timor-Leste.

Significant events after the balance date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

Capital structure

Alola Australia is a company limited by guarantee and as such does not have any share capital. Its Constitution precludes the payment of any dividends. In the event that it is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$2 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 31 December 2020 there were 19 members of the company.

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 31 December 2020 has been received and can be found on page 6.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors.



H Skinner
Co-Chair
Melbourne, 25 April 2021



M Bohan
Co-Chair
Melbourne, 25 April 2021

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Alola Australia Limited

In relation to our audit of the financial report of Alola Australia Limited for the financial year ended 31 December 2020, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* or any applicable code of professional conduct.



PKF



Steven Bradby

Partner

Melbourne, April 2021

Alola Australia Limited

ABN 20 132 084 050

Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2020



| | Note | 2020 | 2019 |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
| Revenue | | | |
| Advocacy | | 350 | 1,150 |
| Breast cancer support | | 2,300 | 6,400 |
| Economic Empowerment | | 1,000 | 74,500 |
| Education | | 34,715 | 1,890 |
| Scholarships | | 67,867 | 57,840 |
| Maternal & Child Health | | 21,590 | 18,831 |
| Gifts and donations - untied | | 152,362 | 76,677 |
| Interest income | | 16 | 54 |
| Total revenue | | 280,200 | 237,342 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Overheads and campaign expenses | | | |
| Administration support | | 13,365 | 14,564 |
| Audit fee | | 2,800 | 2,800 |
| Bank fees and charges | | 1,725 | 1,945 |
| Event and campaign expenses | | 51 | 5,788 |
| Insurance expense | | 1,175 | 1,166 |
| Breast Cancer Support Costs | | - | 4,044 |
| Inventory expense | | - | - |
| Other expenses | | 1,606 | 1,121 |
| <i>Subtotal</i> | | <i>20,722</i> | <i>31,428</i> |
| Disbursement to Fundasaun Alola | | 259,061 | 201,993 |
| <i>Subtotal</i> | | <i>259,061</i> | <i>201,993</i> |
| Total expenses / disbursement to Fundasaun Alola | | 279,783 | 233,421 |
| Surplus / (deficit) before income tax expense | | 417 | 3,921 |
| Income tax expense | 2 | - | - |
| Operating surplus / deficit for the year | | 417 | 3,921 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year | | - | - |
| Total surplus and comprehensive income for the year | | 417 | 3,921 |

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



Alola Australia Limited
 ABN 20 132 084 050
Statement of Financial Position
 As at 31 December 2020

| | Note | 2020 | 2019 |
|---------------------------|------|---------------|---------------|
| ASSETS | | \$ | \$ |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 1(b) | 16,108 | 16,452 |
| GST receivable | | 2,490 | 1,729 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 18,598 | 18,181 |
| NET ASSETS | | 18,598 | 18,181 |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Retained surplus | | 18,598 | 18,181 |
| TOTAL EQUITY | | 18,598 | 18,181 |

Statement of Changes in Equity
 For the year ended 31 December 2020

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Equity at the beginning of the year | \$ 18,181 | \$ 14,260 |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 417 | 3,921 |
| Equity at the end of the year | 18,598 | 18,181 |

The above statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



Alola Australia Limited
 ABN 20 132 084 050
Statement of Cash Flows
 For the year ended 31 December 2020

Cash flows from operating activities

Receipts in the form of donations and fundraising

Payment of expenses / disbursements

Net cash flow from operating activities

Cash at beginning of financial year

Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities

Cash at end of financial year

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| | \$ | \$ |
| Note | | |
| | 280,200 | 237,342 |
| | 280,544 | 234,851 |
| 1(a) | (344) | 2,491 |
| | 16,452 | 13,961 |
| | (344) | 2,491 |
| | 16,108 | 16,452 |

(a) Reconciliation of net cash flow from operating activities with operating surplus:

Operating surplus

Increase in payables / decrease in receivables

Net cash flow from operating activities

| | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | 417 | 3,921 |
| | (761) | (1,430) |
| | (344) | 2,491 |

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Notes to the financial report

Note 1 Statement of significant accounting policies

Corporate Information

Alola Australia Limited is a not-for-profit entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The principal activity of the company during the year was to make positive and sustainable changes in the lives of women and children in Timor-Leste.

The company had no employees as at 31 December 2020.

Financial Reporting Framework

The Company is not a reporting entity because in the opinion of the directors, there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. Accordingly, this "special purpose financial report" has been prepared so as to provide information required by the Directors, Members and Donors. Alola Australia Ltd is a small company limited by guarantee as defined by s45B of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of applicable Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, modified for use by non-reporting entities. It is compliant with the disclosure requirements of the following standards:

- AASB 101 "Presentation of Financial Statements"
- AASB 107 "Cashflow Statements"
- AASB 108 "Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors"
- AASB 110 "Events after the Balance Sheet Date"

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report:

Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Notes to the financial report

(a) Going Concern

The financial report has been prepared adopting the going concern convention which assumes continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

(b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the balance sheet comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

(c) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised and measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable to the extent it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity and the revenue can be reliably measured. Gifts and donations are recognised when they are received or when the right to receive payment is established.

The Company acts as an agent for and on behalf of Fundasaun Alola to collect grants and donations from Australian supporters. The gross inflows of economic benefits in such cases are initially controlled by the company and therefore recognised as revenue.

These accounts are presented in Australian dollars.

Note 2 Income tax

Alola Australia Ltd has Tax Concession Charity status from the ATO (via ACNC).

Note 3 Related party transactions

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

Note 4 Economic dependency

The future operations of the company are dependent upon the continuation of adequate funding from donors and grantors.



Alola Australia Limited
ABN 20 132 084 050
Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors:

- (a) The company is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with either the *Corporations Act 2001* requirements, or other request, to prepare and distribute financial statements to the members of Alola Australia Limited;
- (b) The financial statements and notes of the company give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2020 and its performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in note 1; and
- (c) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors

H Skinner

Co-Chair

Melbourne, 25 April 2021

M Bohan

Co-Chair

Melbourne, 25 April 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALOLA AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Report on the audit of the Financial Report

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of Alola Australia Limited (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, the statements of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, changes in equity, and cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and the directors' declaration of the company.

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis of Qualified Opinion section of our report, the accompanying financial report of the company is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act), including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Cash donations are a significant source of fundraising revenue for the company. The company has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of cash donations prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding fundraising revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to cash donations had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We are therefore unable to express an opinion on whether the recorded cash donations of the company are complete.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ACNC Act and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the company's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

The Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The Directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is fairly presented and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors of the company are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



PKF
Melbourne, April 2021



Steven Bradby
Partner