

Academy of Root Development (Australia) Incorporated

2018 Annual Report



**Women's Empowerment in Indian Villages (WEIV)
is a programme of ARD(Australia)Inc**

Academy of Root Development (Australia) Inc 2018 Annual Report

Academy of Root Development (Australia) Incorporated was established in 2005 to source donations and on-going funding to support the social development of disadvantaged women and their families in Bihar, India.

ARD has worked with Microfinance initiatives through Self Help Groups and Income Generating Activities and is now working in the areas of Reproductive and Child Health, as well as Literacy Centres for illiterate adolescent girls.

The ARD(Australia)Inc project is being delivered through it's operational centre in Guraru township by "*Women's Empowerment in Indian Villages*" (WEIV) which has a trained staff of 13 in the Reproductive and Child Health programme and 8 teachers in the Literacy Centres.

Reproductive and Child Health

The Reproductive and Child Health programme is entering its fourth year of operation and the benefits are becoming more and more evident in the lives of the participating families.

WEIV field-staff meet regularly with individuals and groups of newly married women, pregnant women and new mothers to deliver health education to pregnant and lactating mothers on safe delivery, nutrition, breast-feeding, child care, sanitation and hygiene and to make them aware of existing government health support programmes.

Gender equality is promoted through Adolescent Girls Groups, Adolescent Boys Groups and Literacy Centre's for Girls.

WEIV staff and programme participants attend government Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSND), where we are supporting the Bihar Health Department in the proper implementation of all aspects of Reproductive and Child Health.

Literacy Centres

ARD(Australia)Inc has, since May 2015, established eight Literacy Centres for poor adolescent girls, who otherwise would not be engaged in the education system. The girls are taught Hindi reading and writing, functional mathematics and basic English.

An average of twenty adolescent girls are enrolled in each of the Literacy Centres, making a total of one hundred and sixty girls. Classes run from 10am to 2pm, which allows the girls time in the morning and evening to perform domestic and rural working duties to support their families.

For more information, please visit our website www.weiv-india.org

Wendy and Graeme visit the project every year and have many tales to tell of the impressive work being done with adolescent girls and boys, newly married women, pregnant women, married women and community members.

Child marriage, equality for women and girls, eradication of the dowry, literacy for illiterate adolescent girls, vasectomies and reproductive health and hygiene are just some of the areas covered.

Earlier this year, Committee Members Fay Goodchild and Bayla Nerden accompanied them on the visit to the project. Here is the report Fay Goodchild wrote about her visit:

Doing Due Diligence in Bihar

Having followed and supported WEIV for the last year, not only was I moved to join the Committee but I also booked a ticket to Bihar, India, to see first-hand the work being done by ARD. Talk about Due Diligence!

I joined Wendy and Graeme, and committee member Bayla in Bodhgaya, our base from where we visited Guraru Block. We stayed in the ARD office, and travelled to the villages supported by WEIV. For the visits and meetings we needed 2 interpreters to travel and sit with us as no-one speaks English, while Co-ordinator Sarika, and supervisors have limited English. We split into two groups in order to cover all centres and projects.

These villages are in deep rural India, where rarely if ever a Westerner is seen. Each day we visited one literacy centre and another WEIV group. For me this included visiting a new mother from a pregnancy support group, a newly married woman at home, an adolescent girls group, and a self-help group. I also participated in meetings with the supervisors and teachers.

It was great observing and 'speaking' with these girls and women, asking how the programs have affected their lives, and hearing their enthusiastic feedback. I was moved and impressed observing the classes and groups. For most of them education is more often than not an option. Despite initial shyness they soon opened up and were happy to show off what they know. It was encouraging to see how keen the girls were to display their skills and share their knowledge.

Particularly inspiring were the older women, newly married or pregnant, and the adolescent girls. They have moved forward from learning the basics of the Literacy Centres to having a real appreciation of Education on every level, and the opportunities it provides. They are now able to envision a future of possibilities beyond the traditional roles they were traditionally expected to fill. It was also encouraging to meet their extended families, who are learning from these girls and supporting their family members participating in WEIV programs.

A highlight was meeting with first female Mayor of Guraru Block, herself a graduate of the WEIV micro finance and self-help group program!

Each evening we would get together discussing what we saw, what was working and what needed fine-tuning. We had meetings with dedicated female Co-ordinator Sarika, herself a village woman, the Supervisors and the teachers. It was a very full couple of weeks with long but fulfilling days.

What I took back from this unique and emotional journey: Witnessing the truly positive impact and changes WEIV is having on girls, young women and their families. Also experiencing the dedication of founders Wendy and Graeme. It is no small feat logistically, physically and emotionally to pull the work of WEIV together.

So I saw the proof for myself: WEIV projects are successfully employing local educators to promote reproductive and child health, increase female literacy rates, improve women's status in their communities and support women to take control of their own lives. I am still in the afterglow of this wonderful experience, and humbled and proud to be on the committee of WEIV.

Namaste, Fay Goodchild



In Australia

The secondhand goods stall at the Lismore Carboot Market has consistently made a substantial contribution to our fundraising. We wish to express our deep appreciation to all of the volunteers who have regularly given their time and energy to support the market stall, especially the “early birds” who give up their chance for a Sunday morning sleep-in to setup the stall!

After doing the Lismore Carboot Market for the past eleven years, we have decided to stop doing the markets and the November Carboot Market, at which we will be Charity of the Day, will be our last market for now.

The market has provided a considerable proportion of the funds that we send to India each month, so we are looking to find an alternate source of funding that will bring in regular funds that do not require such a large commitment. Primarily, we are looking to increase the regular Monthly Donations to replace market funds.

We extend heartfelt thanks to all those who donate on a regular basis, as the regular flow of donations enables ARD(Aust)Inc to forward plan and ensure our programme can continue to build upon the foundations already laid down.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed for your continuing support of this important initiative to empower the women and consequently their families, in villages of Bihar, India.

**Committee of Academy of Root Development (Australia) Incorporated
November 2018**

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
ABN 18 446 710 511
Financial Statements
For the Period ended 30th June 2018

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Donations & Fundraising	31,174	27,516
Ipex	8,749	3,376
Interest Received		
- Related Corporations	163	253
	<u>40,086</u>	<u>31,145</u>
Expenditure		
Accountancy Fees	132	132
Administration Costs	104	219
Advertising/Postage/Stationery	169	375
Bank Charges	249	217
Insurance	253	-
Internet Expenses	270	170
Overseas Projects	39,540	32,671
Registration /Licences	45	131
Replacement/ Tools	-	33
	<u>40,762</u>	<u>33,948</u>
Loss before Income Tax	<u><u>(676)</u></u>	<u><u>(2,803)</u></u>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.
These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in
conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.*

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

Balance Sheet As at 30 June 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Equity		
Retained Profits	18,009	18,685
Total Equity	<u>18,009</u>	<u>18,685</u>
 Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Petty Cash Imprest	16	120
Cash at Bank - SCU Gift Account	2,263	1,968
Cash at Bank - SCU Access Plus Account	15,577	16,468
Cash at Bank - Redi Access	153	129
	<u>18,009</u>	<u>18,685</u>
Total Assets	<u>18,009</u>	<u>18,685</u>
Net Assets	<u>18,009</u>	<u>18,685</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Compilation Report To ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED, which comprise the attached income and expenditure statement for the year ended 30 June 2018. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is to provide financial information to the Committee of Management.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The Committee of Management is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements and has determined that the basis of accounting adopted is appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee of Management for the purpose of complying with the Association's Constitution.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Committee of Management, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the directors provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of Management. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

Irvin & Company Accountants

Public Accountants

7 Carrington Street, Lismore NSW 2480

Sean McNerney

6 August 2018

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

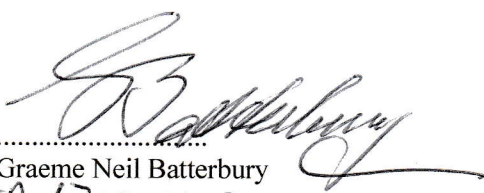
Statement by Members of the Committee

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:


.....
President: Graeme Neil Batterbury

TREASURER / PUBLIC OFFICER


.....
Treasurer: *

SECRETARY WENDY SUE ROYSTON

Dated

12th August 2018

ACADEMY OF ROOT DEVELOPMENT (AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

Committee's Report

The committee members present their report on the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

Committee Members

The names of each person who has been a committee member during the year and to the date of this report are:

Graeme Neil Batterbury

*

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

Not-for-profit Charitable Organisation

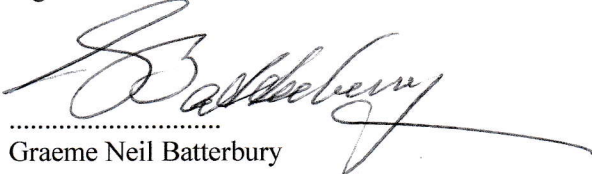
Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of the association's activity occurred during the financial year.

Operating Result

The loss of the association amounted to (\$676).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



.....
Graeme Neil Batterbury

12th August 2018
.....
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Dated