



**AFRICA  
INLAND MISSION**  
Christ-Centred Churches  
Among all African Peoples

**AFRICA**  
news  
Jun-Sep 20  
[www.aimint.org/ap](http://www.aimint.org/ap)

# After 125 years, we are **still making** Jesus known,



You can help the work continue...

- Go and make disciples among Africa's 1,000 unreached people groups
  - Pray for God to do marvellous things and send more workers into His harvest
  - Support in practical ways

Find out more on  
[aimint.org/ap](http://aimint.org/ap) [aimstories.com](http://aimstories.com) [PrayAfrica.org](http://PrayAfrica.org)



# Just Briefly news from Africa and the Asia-Pacific

## New Council Member:

Laura Sleeman became a member of the AIM Asia-Pacific Council in March when the Council met by video conference. Laura (pictured) previously served with AIM in Kenya but is now working with a private firm in Melbourne.



## Workers remain in Africa:

Most workers from AIM Asia-Pacific have remained in Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for the well-being of our workers and for those they serve. Pray God will do marvellous things in this time of lockdown.

## AIM AGM and Event in September:

The proposed 5 September Afternoon Tea with AIM event to celebrate 125 years of AIM is unlikely to occur due to lockdown and travel restrictions. The proposed Annual General Meeting of Africa Inland Mission Ltd. may be delayed and may occur by video conferencing, accessible by members on computer or telephone.

Please check updates on our website, [www.aimint.org/ap](http://www.aimint.org/ap) or call the office nearer the time.

## Aitken Family set for Madagascar:

Jeremy and Felicity Aitken are set for a return to Africa to serve in a hospital in Madagascar in 2021. Pray for the family, who are currently on leave of absence in Melbourne, and expecting their fourth child mid-2020.

## ePrayerLink:

Weekly prayer emails are being used to give updates on workers and ministry in Africa. Request your copy by "Signing up for prayer information" on [www.aimint.org/ap/pray](http://www.aimint.org/ap/pray)

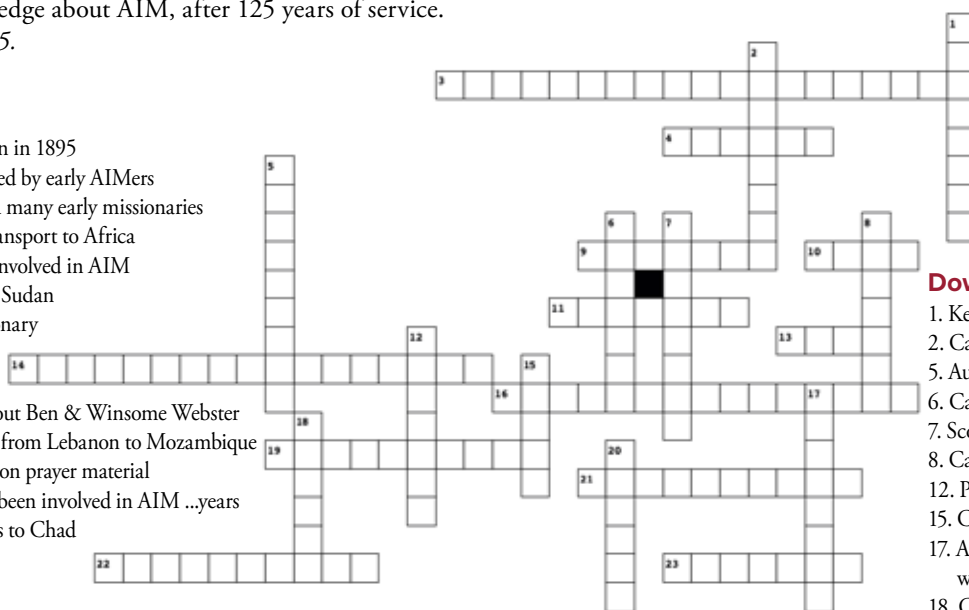
# In the Life of Africa Inland Mission

Test your knowledge about AIM, after 125 years of service.  
Answers on page 5.

## Across

3. Mission that began in 1895
4. Hospital established by early AIMers
9. Disease that killed many early missionaries
10. Early mode of transport to Africa
11. First Australian involved in AIM
13. Capital of South Sudan
14. First AIM missionary

16. Book written about Ben & Winsome Webster
19. Valley stretching from Lebanon to Mozambique
21. Website for mission prayer material
22. Hong Kong has been involved in AIM ...years
23. First missionaries to Chad



## Down

1. Kenya's closest neighbour
2. Capital of Chad
5. Australian doctor based at Kijabe
6. Capital of Kenya
7. Scott's planned destination
8. Capital of Uganda
12. Port in Kenya
15. Country where work began by AIM
17. Australian family long associated with AIM
18. Capital of Rwanda
20. Translator of Nandi Bible

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**Cover:** Africa Inland Mission celebrates 125 years since its foundation in 1895. You can be a part of the next chapter!

# Preparing for COVID-19 in Kenya

**A**frica Inland Church's Kijabe Hospital in Kenya is preparing for the COVID-19 pandemic.

Africa Inland Mission workers from Australia, Dr Peter and Sue Bird are among the team.

Mrs Bird said this was involving medical and non-medical people alike.

"Those of us who are not involved in the medical work, have been working on making face masks, gowns, caps and clear face shields.

"A few of us did research to find

out what we could make using local materials, and it is very satisfying to see this bearing fruit now," Sue said.

Teams have made 2,000 simple but effective face shields, more than 500 masks and about 200 medical gowns.

Kijabe serves patients from all over Kenya and other African countries. An 80-bed wing has been created for COVID-19 patients, with five ventilated ICU beds.

The hospital is a faith-based hospital sponsored by the Africa Inland Church,

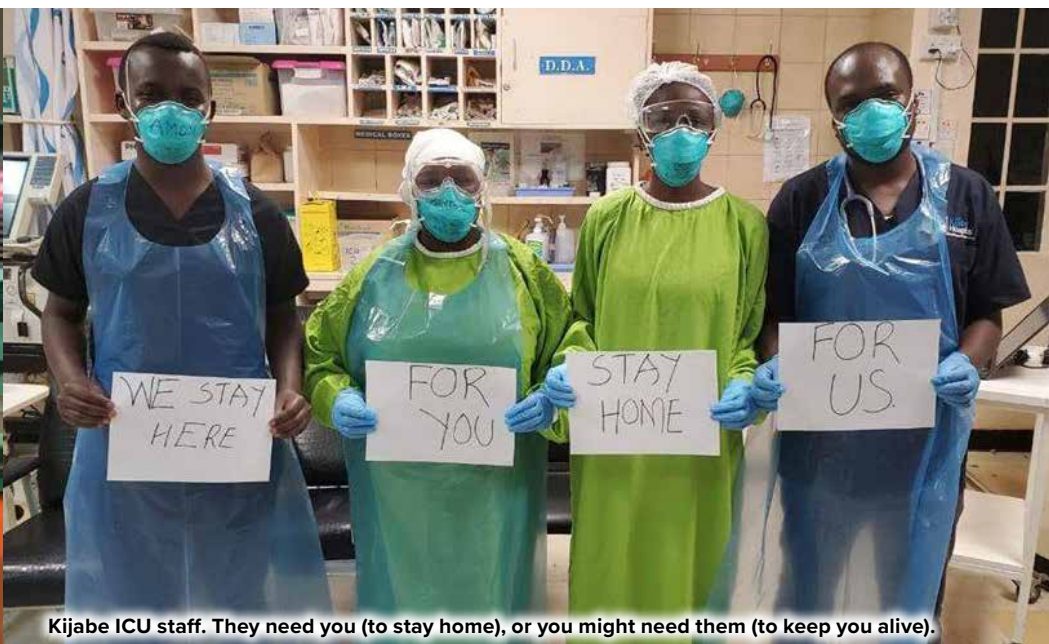
Kenya. The hospital's mission is to "Glorify God through compassionate health care provision, excellent training and spiritual ministry in Christ Jesus."

Please pray for those at Kijabe as they deliver health care to those in need during these difficult COVID-19 times.

*Please pray for those at Kijabe as they deliver health care to those in need during these difficult COVID-19 times.*



Sue Bird and the team wearing their own handmade face masks while sewing green ones for the hospital.



Kijabe ICU staff. They need you (to stay home), or you might need them (to keep you alive).

## Money Boxes — For Such a Time as This

Thank you for all those who have been saving change in our 125-year Anniversary money boxes. Thanks to those who have already transferred funds from their box to AIM.

*Your change is greatly valued in this turbulent time of Covid-19.*

You can deposit your money boxes in our ANZ bank account in: Australia (012633 469013706) or New Zealand (06 0241 0909688-00).

Please advise AIM of your deposit on the phone numbers below or by email (finance.au@aimint.org in Australia or admin.nz@aimint.org in New Zealand).

Please order your new money box from AIM in: Australia (Phone 02 4322 4777) or New Zealand (09 281 4595).

**Thank you for your support and for praising God for His faithfulness in AIM's 125 years of service.**



# When the Sacrifice Brings Joy

## How the Karamojong People of Northern Uganda Delight in the Lord

Story by Kristin Andre. Photos by Jordan Andre

The Karamojong are a people group who live off the beaten path. Theirs is a way of life most of us think of when we think about Africa. Their houses are made of mud and sticks, they don't wear much in the way of clothing (especially the children), and they are a semi-nomadic people who can often be found herding their livestock all over North Eastern Uganda.

They lead very simple lives, and often men in the culture have more than one wife and many, many kids. But there was something so beautiful about sitting with them after one of their church gatherings outside Kotido, Uganda, on an unusually rainy day in late November.

*I was blown away by their generosity and love for Christ and one another.*

They have next to nothing, yet here they were, bringing buckets, bags of food, multiple goats to be sold as an offering in celebration of the completion of the church building, which will serve as a community centre and gathering place for them all.

Now, you and I might think a church building is a bit of a silly thing; a thing of the past; no longer needed. Why waste money building such a thing when we can gather anywhere? We are the church, after all, right? It's the people, not the building.

But to the Karamojong, this building (which isn't even a fully walled-in structure, but rather simply short walls and a tin roof) represents way more than just a structure to host Sunday church gatherings.

It's a place for them to gather together in the name of Christ to lift his name high, as well as a place to celebrate together the big things in life: coming of age ceremonies, weddings, anniversaries, a place to mourn the dead together, and a place to learn new skills and share meals as a community.





A Karamojong boy walks through sticky mud while tending to his family's herd of livestock.

The completion of the church building meant so much to them. I wish you could have seen them! They danced and sang for hours, until some were dripping with sweat.

And after that? They came together and shared in the bounty of delicious peanuts they'd grown and prepared the rest of the food to be sold, with all of the proceeds to be given as an offering. The amount of food was more than I could have imagined. They all just kept bringing offerings of food. It was truly a beautiful sight. People who have next to nothing by Western standards, giving sacrificially and joyfully. I couldn't help but think of the poor widow Jesus talks about in Mark 12.

*'He sat down opposite the treasury and observed how the crowd put money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor woman also came and put in two small coins worth a few cents. Calling his disciples to himself, he said to them, "Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood."' (NAB)*

Sacrificial giving is the kind of giving that is done at great personal cost to the giver. The Karamojong people gave sacrificially that day. But here's the kicker – their sacrifice brought them all so much joy. They gave sacrificially AND joyfully. What a beautiful people and a beautiful picture of Christ's kingdom come.

*Karamoja is the ministry location for AIM Asia-Pacific workers Nita Finger (Au) and Bruce and Christine Turner (NZ). For this and more stories see [aimstories.com](http://aimstories.com)*



Answers to crossword on page 2. **Across** 3. Africa Inland Mission 4. Kijabe 9. Malaria 10. Boat 11. Barnett 13. Juba 14. Peter (Cameron Scott 16. Destination Chad 19. Rift Valley 21. PrayAfrica 22. Thirty-five 23. Webster **Down** 1. Tanzania 2. Ndjameria 5. Peter Bird 6. Nairobi 7. Chad 8. Kampala 12. Mombasa 15. Kenya 17. Checkley 18. Kigali 20. Bryson

# 4 Biblical Perspectives in the COVID-19 Crisis

The spread of the Coronavirus and its impact on our daily lives has generated anxiety, panic and suffering in many different forms. As the virus continues to spread globally, government authorities and society in general are taking measures to decrease the potential devastating effects of the virus. The Christian must embrace the measures being taken with zeal and responsibility.

In addition to the important government and societal efforts being taken, I would like to remind you of measures which we as believers can take:

**Trust and rest in the Lord.** Psalm 25 begins by stating that our trust is in the Lord (v.2) and concludes with a request, that He free us from all troubles (v.22). Days of crisis present themselves as an opportune scenario to reaffirm in whom we believe and how much we believe. Whether in the face of a destructive illness or any other clashes of life, our trust is in Him who reigns. He is the only shelter that does not crumble in the face of storms, wars and pestilence. And He invites us to believe enough to rest – even in the day of adversity. Trust and rest in the Lord! He is your shelter and peace.

**Keep your heart teachable.** Psalm 86 is a prayer of the “poor and needy” (v.1) written for “when I am in distress” (v.7). In the face of such a scenario, the psalmist asks: “teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness (v.11). Even in the midst of anguish, God teaches us about his ways and his truth. Moments of crisis should lead us to reflection, prayer and learning. We must ask: What does He want to teach us? God has the infinite capacity to deal with all scenarios and events – and even in the most unlikely ones – He brings light and teaching.

**Promote fellowship.** Churches are not defined by their church buildings and locations, but by their fellowship, love and worship. In Acts 2 we read that “all the believers were together and had



everything in common” (v.44), to the point where they sold their properties and shared them with the neediest (v.45). That was possible because “all the believers were one in heart and mind” (4:32). In these days of isolation, the closed doors of churches must not prevent the fellowship of God’s people. Pray for one another, care for one another and communicate with each other! Call, send messages, participate in online groups, and stay connected to your local worship services online. The fellowship among believers is unstoppable because it is the result of grace and the will of God.

*Trust and rest  
in the Lord!  
He is your shelter  
and peace.*

#### **Carry out the mission of God.**

In Acts 8, we see that the church did not pause its mission during the great persecution. On the contrary, even though they were scattered, they preached the Word everywhere. In moments of uncertainty God raises a faithful church. In days of suffering God strengthens his church for his mission.

If prevented from leaving home, become more active on social networks, promoting the Word – spreading hope to the downhearted, joy to the depressed, encouragement to the frightened; and reminding everyone that the true,

singular and eternal redemption and salvation is found in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ alone.

If confined to your home, take the opportunity to catch up with the family. Pray together, read the Word, discuss that great book you’ve been wanting to read and watch that must-see movie. Have an intentional attitude to be salt that is a seasoning of love and to be light that shines Christ brightly for all those around you to see.

Get involved with the persecuted church and the unevangelized world. Learn more. Pray more. Innovate, using your gifts and the opportunities that come to your hands so that others can see the absolute, eternal and amazing intervention of God, already revealed in Jesus Christ. For those involved in global missions, it is time to move forward, not backward; to find new ways to embrace those who are afflicted and share the gospel. God’s grace is never less than the challenge faced.

Sow abundantly, for you do not know which seeds will germinate! When possible, spread the gospel on the internet, interject your convictions and faith into conversations, invite others to listen to your pastor’s online sermons, live a life compatible with your faith, love so much that you engage with those who are suffering, and witness to the nations about the final and eternal answer for a broken world: Jesus Christ.

Article by Ronaldo Lidorio, Brazil,  
<https://godchurchmission.com/v2/index.php/9-coronavirus-2020-four-biblical-perspectives-to-consider>



# New Tax-deductible Project: African Crises Relief J1076N

**A**frica Inland Mission is partnering with Global Development Group in project J1076N, African Crises Relief. Gifts are tax-deductible for donors in Australia and New Zealand. (See details below) to (See Ways to Give to J1076N on adjacent slip.).

This project will help provide emergency aid and relief through financial aid for food, and essential supplies in the event of a crisis. This can include natural disasters, pandemics or other emergency situations. This aid will be provided in African countries and other locations where Africa Inland Mission is operating.

Primary activities include:

- Providing funds through AIM workers or trusted partners.
- Often giving first-response aid before other agencies arrive.
- Providing assistance in a prolonged disaster or famine from drought and other causes. Often Work-for-Food programs are used to help, with honour.
- Providing assistance to people regardless of race or creed.

*You can help Africans in a time of crisis by donating to this project.*



## Equipping African Leaders: Kenya Tax-deductible Project J1061N Update

**A**frican Leaders are being trained in an ongoing tax-deductible project commenced in August 2019, Equipping Leaders: Kenya, J1061N.

This project is a partnership between Africa Inland Mission in Australia and Kenya and Global Development Group in Australia.

The aim of the three-year project is to enhance transformational development and change, to ensure leadership with integrity. This will help provide spiritual, moral and economic development in Kenya and East Africa.

In the initial six months of the project to December 2019, 16 students were enrolled in several training colleges and received scholarships. This included six continuing students' part-way through their courses. Four of these students graduated from the AIC Missionary Training College in Eldoret and two graduated from the Northern

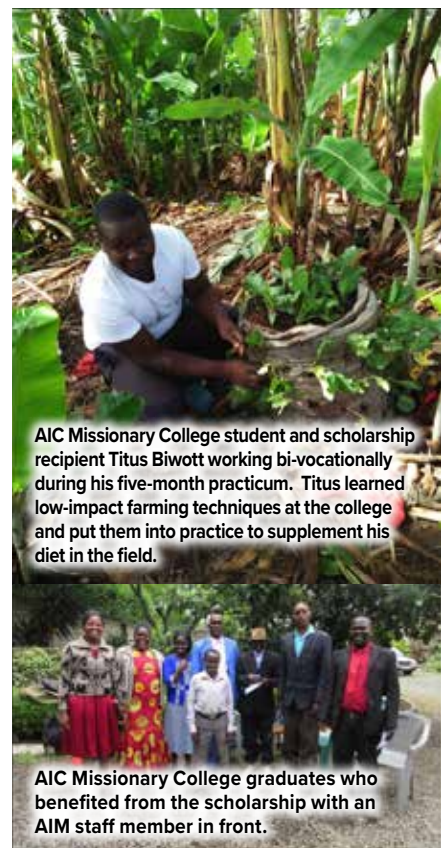
Bible Training College in Marsabit.

Africa-based project leader and Regional Executive Officer of AIM's Eastern Region, Colin McDougall said he was pleased with the progress so far.

"At least four graduates are providing guidance and encouragement as upcoming leaders in their communities."

Mr McDougall said they were encouraged that four scholarship recipients formed a team while at college. When they graduated, they grouped together with their wives, or fiancé in one case, and another student not on a scholarship. They agreed for their four families to move into depressed communities in Turkana to work there.

It is anticipated 36 potential leaders will be trained during the three years in one of five selected institutions in Kenya. This project has been fully funded for the three years.



AIC Missionary College student and scholarship recipient Titus Bivott working bi-vocationally during his five-month practicum. Titus learned low-impact farming techniques at the college and put them into practice to supplement his diet in the field.

AIC Missionary College graduates who benefited from the scholarship with an AIM staff member in front.

# Opportunities to Serve with Africa Inland Mission from 2021

COVID-19 has brought the world to a halt in many ways, for now. However, God willing, this will soon pass and new opportunities to serve God on-the-ground with AIM in Africa and diaspora ministry will open. In AIM we believe the best way to reach people is go live with them, just like Jesus did. Here *Personnel Manager, Liz Moore in Australia*, looks at just some of the opportunities open from 2021. Explore where God may be calling you and express your interest in service on [www.aimint.org/ap/go](http://www.aimint.org/ap/go)



## Ways to start your service

Africa Inland Mission offers several great ways to commence service in Africa or the diaspora, which are places around the world where we minister to African unreached people groups.

First, you can explore the field and see what it will be like to live cross-culturally in our **short-term program**, with opportunities up to **12 months**.

Our **GO-Program** is a great eight-week program, usually mid-year, in which you receive two-weeks classroom training and five weeks internship with experienced workers. This is offered in East and North Africa.



Our **full-term program**, for service of two-years or more has some great team and more individual and mentored options to start. AIM began the **Training in Ministry Outreach or TIMO program** more than 40 years ago. Today it is still a great way

to experience and learn about cross-cultural ministry at the same time, with experienced leaders and a cross-cultural team. A tested curriculum helps in language learning and ministry development on the field. Help make disciples among an unreached group. In some locations you can also help mobilise African churches into mission. **Our Focus and Ministry Teams** are also great ways to start your ministry career. These often have a rolling entry point to join the team.

## Full-Term Opportunities

### South Sudan

Join other Aussies already serving among the Didinga people of South Sudan. This AIM Focus Team is eager for a significant number of missionaries to commit a significant amount of time to storying, Discovery Bible Study (DBS) and relational ministry among the Didinga. Your medical, teaching or other skills could be used as ministry platforms. The goal of this work is to help establish Christ-centred fellowships in every Didinga village filled with people who have the desire to reach their neighbouring tribes with the Good News. There will be various times to join this team.

### Belgium

Multiply followers of Jesus among all the African people of the diaspora. This **AIM Diaspora TIMO Team** will partner with a local church in its ongoing work among refugee/immigrant groups in Belgium. Cross-cultural experience is desired, and a degree may be needed for a visa.

### Chad

There are about 600 Christian schools in the Muslim-dominated parts of Chad. In many of these schools, most students come from non-Christian families. Use your teaching skills in this **Christian Educators Ministry Team** to share the message of Jesus with these students and

among the community. There are seven positions on this team with open and flexible joining times.

### Kenya

The **Riverside Focus Team** in north-east Kenya needs people with a medical background to help shine God's light in a non-Christian community through medical education and community health.

### North Africa

Like a good chat? Love meeting people? There are opportunities for you to help shine the light in North Africa. If you have a CELTA qualification, you can teach English at the same location. This is **also open for short-term**.

## Short-Term Opportunities

### Farm Quest, Lesotho (three weeks)

This is in February/March each year. Learn about sustainable agricultural practices and how they can be used as ministry platforms in a variety of rural locations in Africa.

### 3D Christian Camps, Rwanda

Peter Gitau has a vision for the 3D Christian Campsite to have possibly the first climbing wall in Rwanda! The 3D Camps are great at teaching the Bible, discipleship, and having fun! Peter just needs to plan this possibility with a carpenter, who can then gather a gang of workers to come to Rwanda to help build it. This volunteer opportunity would suit a carpenter based in a church group that is willing to raise the funds required to purchase the materials and help team cover costs.

### But wait, there's more...

The above are just a few of the many current opportunities to help share Jesus among Africa's unreached people groups through AIM. Inquire online, at [www.aimint.org/ap/go](http://www.aimint.org/ap/go) or email Liz at AIM on **E: [personnel.au@aimint.org](mailto:personnel.au@aimint.org) or contact our Hong Kong or Auckland teams**. They will help you find out how you can serve, either long or short term.



# Response Form

## Yes, I would like to support AIM's ministry

I want to give monthly

\$50  \$25  \$100 \$

Give a one off gift of \$

Please complete the payment authority below.

Please make cheques payable to Africa Inland Mission Inc. or complete details below; or donate online: [www.aimint.org/ap/give](http://www.aimint.org/ap/give) (PayPal fees apply to online gifts)

Please use my donation

Where Most Needed

Kenya Famine Relief \$

AIM International Famine and Crisis Relief IO-130 \$

My Own Option \$

My Total Donation \$

## Gifts for these overseas projects are not tax-deductible in Australia or New Zealand.

General fund gifts in NZ are tax-deductible and are used in New Zealand. If a project is oversubscribed, your gift may be allocated to a similar project, or project in the same region. *Thank you for your support.*

## My Address

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Rev

Family Name

First Name

Address

Postcode

Email

Phone

## Payment Authority

(Card payments processed in Australia only)

Card Type Visacard / Mastercard

Card Number

Expiry Date

Name on Card

Signed

Date

## Periodical Payments/Internet Deposits

You can make direct payments into AIM Australia or New Zealand bank accounts.

### For Details, Contact:

New Zealand: T 09 281 4595, or

Australia: Robbyn T 02 4322 4777

### Response slips can be mailed to AIM in:

New Zealand: PO Box 13457 Onehunga 1643

Australia: PO Box 328 Gosford NSW 2250

# Ways to give to new tax-deductible project

*You can help Africans in a time of crisis by donating to African Crises Relief J1076N.*

## Donors in Australia

**Credit Card:** [www.gdg.org.au/GiveToJ1076N](http://www.gdg.org.au/GiveToJ1076N)

**Direct Deposit:** BSB 064118 A/C 10200094

(GDG) **Email details\*** to

[info@globaldevelopment.org.au](mailto:info@globaldevelopment.org.au)

**Cheque:** Payable to Global Development Group, Include a note with donation details\* and post to: PO Box 651, Rochedale South QLD 4123.

**PayPal:** [www.gdg.org.au/PayPalJ1076N](http://www.gdg.org.au/PayPalJ1076N)

## Donors in New Zealand

### Credit Card/PayPal:

[www.gdg.org.nz/GiveToJ1076N](http://www.gdg.org.nz/GiveToJ1076N), and complete details.

**Direct Deposit:** [www.gdg.org.nz/DD](http://www.gdg.org.nz/DD), and follow instructions on the page.

**Cheque:** Payable to: Global Development Group Ltd. Include a note with the donation details\* and Post to: Global Development Group NZ, PO Box 10076, Bayfair, Tauranga 3152.

\*Donation Details: date, amount, project number (J1076N), name & email/ address.

## Thank you for caring!

Africa Inland Mission Ltd in Australia and Africa Inland Mission International New Zealand are partners for project J1076N African Crises Relief with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) an Australian NGO approved by the Minister for Foreign Affairs in Australia, and with Global Development Group Ltd (GDGNZ) IRD: 116-721-430; Registered Charity #: CC54017. Gifts over A\$2 in Australia and NZ\$5 in New Zealand are tax deductible. Excess Funds may be applied to other approved project activities. Please note, no non-development (evangelistic, political or welfare) activities are a part of, or funded by, GDG projects.



For more information please visit

[www.gdg.org.au](http://www.gdg.org.au) or [www.gdg.org.nz](http://www.gdg.org.nz)

For other non-tax-deductible project options please see [www.aimint.org/ap/give](http://www.aimint.org/ap/give)