

# Annual Report

2021







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# Welcome to AIM's 2021 Annual Report

Peter Aldridge, Council Chairman

The year of 2021 has been another full of challenges.

The Council continue to meet online and look forward to when we can meet in person. However, AIM continues to be active in Australia, the Asia-Pacific and Africa.

The Council of Africa Inland Mission Ltd. (AIM Ltd), oversees AIM in the Asia-Pacific including separate legal entities in Australia, Hong Kong and New Zealand. Council policies set direction and targets for the Asia-Pacific Director and team.

This report gives some results from July 2020 to June 2021.

A driving purpose is to help churches in Australia and the Asia-Pacific participate in Jesus' Great Commission.

AIM Ltd. and our Asia-Pacific partners assist AIM International achieve its goals. These include proclaiming the gospel and making disciples, especially among Africa's unreached peoples.

Council has commenced the search for a new Executive Director with Len about mid-way through his final term.

Thank you for your support in 2021.

# AIM in Australia and the Asia - Pacific

#### Len Lesleighter, Australia & Asia-Pacific Director

The year 2020-21 was another of challenges with closed borders, lockdowns, and travel restrictions in Australia, the Asia-Pacific and Africa.

Africa Inland Mission Ltd. continued to support overseas workers and projects, encourage inquiries from prospective workers, inform our supporting churches and individuals, and support and coordinate with our partner organisations in Hong Kong and New Zealand.

The Australia Council, with responsibilities for AIM in Australia and the Asia Pacific, retained their strategic goals or ends. These declare our dependence on the grace and power of the Lord and focus the organisation on:

1. Challenging, educating, and equipping an in-

creasing number of Asia-Pacific churches to participate in the Great Commission.

- 2. Engaging an increasing number of Asia-Pacific Churches in AIM's mission, particularly to unreached African peoples (UPGs).
- 3. Increasing the number of Asia-Pacific Christians working cross-culturally in AIM's mission, primarily focused on unreached African peoples.
- 4. Increasing the number of Christians in the Asia-Pacific praying regularly for the work of AIM.
- 5. Increasing the number of Asia-Pacific Christians and churches committed to the regular financial support of AIM's mission effort.

Across the Asia-Pacific, in 2021, we reported achievement of all ends or strategic goals except 5. Nonetheless, God blessed the finances with an unplanned growth and surplus. Continued on page 3.

#### Who we are: We are an Australian-based Christian mission working with sister organisations in the Asia-Pacific, Africa and worldwide. What we do: We are focused on engaging the Australian and Asia-Pacific Christian community in the work of establishing Christ-centered churches among all African peoples. Why we do it: We are compelled by the Great Commission from Jesus in the Bible, to go, make disciples of all nations, teaching them all Christ taught his disciples. (Matthew 28: 18-20; and John 3:16-18). Cover: The 2020-21 year was one of uncertainty and change as reflected in The Africa News. See page 5.

The Mission of Africa Inland Mission Ltd:



#### Continued from page 2

AIM speakers in the Asia-Pacific presented the challenge of the Great Commission and God's call to His mission to more than 30 churches and Christian groups. In addition, some workers on home assignments in Australia and Hong Kong encouraged churches with updates on their ministry. About 530 churches in Australia and more in New Zealand received the *Africa News*.

AIM engaged more churches by sending information and guest speakers. Churches overall sent an increasing number of workers from the Asia-Pacific, especially in Hong Kong. In Australia, Churches gave \$153,409 toward worker support and projects.

In 2021 there were 29 full-term workers compared to 27 in 2020, comprising 15 from Australia, 11 including two new appointees from Hong Kong, and three from New Zealand. There was no short-term program operating from Australia or New Zealand due to travel difficulties. One short-term served from Hong Kong. We have new full-term applicants in Australia and are praying for more, and one couple is preparing to serve in Madagascar after a leave of absence.

More than 6,600 people received prayer information in 2021, increasing 535 from 2019 and 300 in 2020. More people are receiving prayer material by email and through social media. AIM's prayer website *PrayAfrica.org* remains a valuable source of daily prayer updates and resources on Africa's unreached or least-reached peoples.

In 2021, giving in Australia of \$667,325 came from 36 churches (\$149,160) and 315 individuals (\$459,195) to fund workers support, projects and general funds. An additional \$9,9143 net was transferred to Africa through our tax-deductible partners Global Development Group for *J1076N African Crises Relief*, increasing about \$5,000 compared to 2020. Hong Kong was the only centre showing an increase in supporting churches, with five new churches in Hong Kong supporting workers in 2021.

Thank you to all who have prayed and financially supported AIM, our workers and our projects in 2021. We value your support and enthusiasm for AIM's work.

# **2021 Financial Overview**

Africa Inland Mission Ltd. in Australia (See Audited Reports for Details on www.aimint.org/ap)



Values are AUD.



# **Overseas Activities 2021**

Africa Inland Mission Ltd. focused on its roles in Australia including engaging the Australian Christian Community, and mobilising workers and funds for overseas activities and projects with AIM International. We cooperate with AIM in Hong Kong and New Zealand. However, as part of our responsibilities we annually review activities in Africa. Here are some highlights from the 2021 review.

# **Projects** in Africa

AIM in Australia sent almost \$A12,000 for AIM projects in 2020-2021. Almost \$A5,000 went to two crises relief projects, *International Famine and Crises Relief IO130 and East Africa Famine Relief ER-002-R.* In the calendar year of 2020, *Project IO -130* gave \$US110,158 in emergency relief from floods in Tanzania and Chad; famine in Mozambique, Madagascar and Namibia, and cyclones in Mozambique, and other small relief gifts. *Project ER-002-R* gave \$US28,768 to flood relief in Tanzania and Kenya, drought relief in northern Kenya and Tanzania and food-aid for Bible college staff in the Covid-19 closures.

Other projects supported included *African Missionary Assistance* (\$A1945); *Safina Street Network* (\$A1,600) and *AIM-Air operations* (\$A1,000). From 10/7/20 to 9/7/21, our partners Global Development Group transferred tax-deductible funds of \$A9,0145.93 for *J1076N African Crises Relief.* These funds were used for similar purposes to *Project ER-002-R*.

### Thank you for caring.

### Workers and Activities in Africa

There were 30 full-term workers from the Asia-Pacific currently serving in Africa or on leave or home assignments in 2021. This number includes 16 from Australia, 11 including two appointees from Hong Kong, and three from New Zealand.

AIM in Australia sent \$A167,109 to Africa as allowances and \$A32,114.63 as work funds for Australian workers. Funds were paid to workers in Australia and held as benefits for those overseas. AIM in Australia also received support gifts for eight families or single workers from other mobilising regions.

A survey of all workers receiving support from Australia found the primary activity of 70% of respondents was disciple making among unreached people. Respondents recorded a high impact of Covid on their ministries. Impacts included contracting Covid, and not being able to meet with communities or travel.



After watching the Jesus film in her own language, one of the young girls at Dwelling Places transition home for street children fell to her knees in worship. It was so beautiful! Now she and the others have been reunited with their families and will bring His Word and hope to their village. — Kristen Fry, AIM Uganda.



Fiona Tyrrell (above & below) and the Didinga Focus Team in South Sudan shared God's good news through Bible stories. The team concluded mid 2021.



Snap Shots of 2021



Preparing for the impact of Covid in Kenya.

Africa News June-Sept. 2020



Lockdowns impacted Rwanda and north Africa. Pete and Cath Gitau reported from Rwanda: *"We wrestle each day with how to be the hands and feet of Jesus to those around in need."* From north Africa: *"People appreciated us staying during lockdowns... "* 

#### Africa News Oct.-Jan 202

Thanksgiving celebrations of AIM's 125 years occurred in a global online Concert of Prayer in November 2020, while many were in lockdown or could not travel. Online guests included new applicants Phil & Lauren Castelijn, and Chris and Fiona Tyrrell in South Sudan (left).

Africa News Feb-May 2021

#### Emergency Relief Given in Africa

Floods, severe and prolonged drought, and Covid restrictions impacted East Africa. AIM provided aid through AIM projects, and with the help of Global Development Group, via the tax-deductible project J1076N *African Crises Relief*.

The fruits of the tax-deductible GDG project *Equipping Leaders Kenya J1061N*, were evident as Rendille graduate Amos and new wife Raphaela became pastors in north Kenya. The project is open for gifts for training in 2022. www.gdg.org.au/GiveTo1061N





After 125 years, we are still making Jesus known,



<image>



AFRICA

AFRICA INLAND MISSION Christ-Centred Churches



In this issue

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations"



# **Asia-Pacific helps in Vision 2020**

# Vision 2020 Results

Data as at 30 December 2020

# 51 UPGs Engaged \*

\*Engaged since 2015, with 115 UPGs now engaged.

# 4 UPGs Reached 20 Teams; 26 Locations **441** Mobilised

(Level 2&3 mobilisation, Level 1= 10,615)

# 11,411 Equipped

6-year goals, January 2015– December 2020

Vision 2020 Targets

Engage 20 UPGs (African Unreached People Groups)

Reach 20 UPGs **Build 40 Diaspora Teams** Mobilise 400 African missionaries

### Equip 4,000 African Church Leaders

The AIM International Vision 2020 ended in Decem- About 70% of our Asia-Pacific workers live and work ber 2020. We praise God for the remarkable things He caused to happen. In 2020, 1730 new disciples were born among African unreached people groups, with 8,358 new disciples reported since 2016.

As the table above shows, many targets were exceeded during the six-year vision. Many Africans have been mobilised into mission via AIM, African churches and organisations.

Australian and Asia-Pacific workers comprise a small but significant part of the AIM International team.

among Africa's unreached people groups.

Australian and New Zealanders serve among the Karamojong in Uganda, while others work among the Didinga and Lopit people of South Sudan. Workers in Tanzania help make disciples of Christ among the Nyamwezi and workers serve the people of north Africa, the Horn of Africa and Chad. Workers in Rwanda and Kenya are among those training Africans and equipping some of the 11,411 church leaders or 441 Africans mobilised into missional disciple making.

### 

# **Vision 2021**

"Seeking the mind of Christ, looking to the interests of others" (see

Philippians 2: 3-5)

In 2021, AIM Internationally is using the time of lockdowns and travel restrictions to consolidate.

During the next two years, the goal is to press on with the current ministries God has called us to.

As a mission family let's focus on Philippians 2: 1-18.

### Organisational Change in AIM

As we look to the interests of others, we will:

- Onboard new workers
- Welcome majority-world workers, esp. Africans.
- Partner with churches in mobilising and receiving regions.
- Catalyse local believers.
- We hope to send 75 new personnel in 2022; 100 in 2023, and 125 in 2024 from around the world.

Africa Inland Mission in the Asia Pacific operates as: Africa Inland Mission Ltd. in Australia, serving as the Asia-Pacific Council; Africa Inland Mission International New Zealand, and Africa Inland Mission International (Hong Kong) Limited. Visit our websites for more information: www.aimint.org/ap; www.PrayAfrica.org.