



AFRICA INLAND MISSION

2023

Annual Report



Africa Inland Mission Ltd.

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Peter Aldridge,
Chair
Australia / Asia-Pacific
Council



Thank you for your support in 2023. Several changes occurred in 2022-2023. Some difficult issues were resolved, giving overall positive outcomes.

Thanks to the staff who kept the office running, ensuring support monies were collected and appropriately distributed. I especially acknowledge Robbyn Lesleighter, who retired in October 2022 after more than 16 years, handing her role to Ann McLellan. Thanks also to Liz Moore, Personnel Manager and our volunteers who help in the office with mailouts and support the permanents.

I acknowledge Len Lesleighter as our Mission Mobilising Director (MMD) and CEO. Len has supported me as Chairman, and I couldn't have fulfilled my responsibilities without his input and support. Len retires in March 2024 after 18 years leading AIM in the Asia-Pacific, including an initial six months in Africa.

Tim Matthews is the MMD designate, due to assume the MMD role in 2024, subject to a visa to Australia from the UK where he served with AIM Europe.

New board members in the year were Ben Chia and Kevin Lane, due for ratification by the 2023 AGM. Colin Earnshaw resigned after a long and valued stint as

a board member and Deputy Chairman to concentrate on other ministries. We wish him well and thank him for contributing to AIM, including serving in Kenya with the Africa-Based Support team. Thanks to Heather Love for her board service over many years and for being our minute secretary. Please pray we can find new board members for a slightly larger board to share the load.

Our major role as AIM AP is finding, training, and commissioning people called to spread the Good News and make disciples among Africa's least reached. I am pleased to report that the commissioning and sending of people have stepped up after lockdowns.

Under the guidance of volunteer accountant Sean James, AIM requested a Private Ruling from the ATO on the eligibility of the MMD position for fringe-benefit tax (FBT) exemption. That recognition was granted effective in the FBT year ending 31 March 2023 to the FBT year ending 31 March 2026.

A substantial lift in the total package for the MMD has been achieved from May 2023, linked to the salary schedule of pastors with the NSW Baptist Churches. Extra financial support for the mission will be needed.

In June, the board decided to sell the AIM house in Niagara Park. The funds since generated have been invested at a high rate of return to support our operations. The Gosford office remains a strategic asset supporting AIM's operations.

The Purpose of Africa Inland Mission Ltd:

- 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).
- HOW we do it:** We help Churches fulfill the Great Commission, by assisting them and their members send and support cross-cultural workers and fund relevant overseas projects.

Cover: *AIM serves across more than 22 African countries and many more globally, among Africa's unreached.*

Mobilising Director Report



Len Lesleighter

Mission Mobilising Director / CEO

Africa Inland Mission Ltd

AIM Asia-Pacific Region.

Mobilising Workers for Africa

We thank God for His calling people to serve and support. There were 27 full-term workers from the Asia-Pacific serving in Africa, on leave or home assignments or ready to go in 2023. This includes 16 from Australia and two from the Philippines supported via Australia, eight from Hong Kong, and one from New Zealand.

Another seven supported workers served in the Asia Pacific in 2023 in Australia (2) Hong Kong (3) and New Zealand (2). There were another six part-time administrative staff in Australia, Hong Kong and New Zealand. In December 2023, we have from the region three appointee workers set to serve in 2024 and four short-termers ready to serve in 2025.

Supporting Projects in Africa

AIM in Australia sent almost \$A18,500 for AIM projects in 2022-2023, with \$A7,397 going to two crises relief projects, *International Famine and Crises Relief IO130* and *East Africa Famine Relief ER-002-R*. Crisis included drought in Kenya.

Other projects supported included *African Missionary Assistance* (\$A2,694); *Safina Street Network* (\$A1,675) *Karomoja Ministry, Uganda* (\$A3237). and *Pastors' Training* (\$A1,215).

Promoting Tax-deductible Projects

From 8/7/22 to 11/7/23, our partners **Global Development Group** sent tax-deductible funds of \$A11,444.46 for *J1076N African Crises Relief*. These funds included purposes similar to *Project ER-002-R*. The scope of *J1076N* widened in June 2023 to other African countries. Funds of \$A8,274.71 were sent to provide relief in the **Sudan crisis** following conflict in Khartoum. Relief was provided to help displaced people in Darfur and the Nuba Mountains. Accrued funds continued to support *J1061N Equipping African Leaders: Kenya*.

2023 Financial Overview

Africa Inland Mission Ltd. in Australia

(See Audited Reports for Details on www.aimint.org/ap)

Your Support—Thankyou!

Financial Partners: 504 Families

41 Churches

Prayer / Information Partners:

1,500+ People

500 Churches

Income	\$954,008
Donations	\$888,359
Investment Income	\$38,467
Share Revaluation	\$23,841
Other Revenue	\$3,341

Expenses	\$969,916
Employee Expenses	\$854,220
Projects Overseas	\$18,500
Depreciation	\$14,517
Other	\$82,679

Net Deficit	(\$15,908)
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Assets	\$2,413,011
Current Assets	\$1,658,811
Non-current	\$754,200

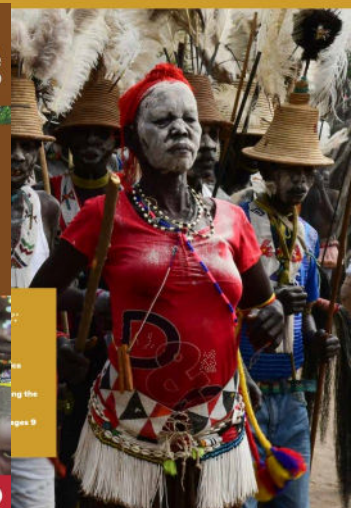
Liability / Equity	\$2,413,011
Liabilities	\$16,371
Restricted Funds	\$893,257
Unrestricted Funds	\$1,503,383

The AIM *Africa News* from the Australia office remained a positive means of connecting and informing our supporters in 2023.

Headlines introduced new workers, updated ministry activity and reported on crisis encouraging prayer, giving and going.

You can view *Africa News* on our website:

aimint.org/ap/connect.



AIM Movie Event

Fund, or is it fun-raising in 2023 included a 10th anniversary screening of AIMs feature movie *Distant Boat* at Avoca Beach in March 2023. The movie aimed to encourage Africans and others into mission.



Open borders and opportunities in 2023, meant normal mobilising activities recommenced. Orientations of volunteers and new missionaries (above), and missions information and recruitment events (below) were on again.

Crises in the year included military destruction of Khartoum in Sudan. Internally Displaced People sought refuge in the Nuba Mountains (right). AIM and our partners provided help.

