

2024 Report



Partners in International
Collaborative Community Aid Ltd

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Overview

This is PiCCA's final report to members and other stakeholders about its activities to date in 2024. These activities have comprised a visit to Bougainville, more progress on the 2023 Goat Raising project in Vietnam and a dedicated focus on preparing for PiCCA's imminent closure.

For the past ten years, PiCCA has partnered with numerous communities overseas to generate significant benefits for local families. Members, donors and probono contributors can all be jubilant and proud of PiCCA's contribution to project partners' success and the ongoing benefits for communities.

At the start of PiCCA's journey, a group of like-minded friends and colleagues wondered how much they could contribute - financially and in kind - to support grassroots organisations overseas achieve great outcomes for their communities. The answer, it turns out, after ten years, is a legacy of significant impact in communities in Bangladesh, Bougainville, Eswatini, Nepal, the Congo, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. It has been a pleasure and an absolute privilege to work with and learn from the communities. There are many very happy memories.

Thank you to all of our members, partners and supporters for being a part of this extraordinary journey.

2023 PROJECT UPDATE:

Goat Raising in Vietnam

One of two major projects that commenced in 2023 concluded in 2024, with PiCCA's project partner, Hearts for Hue, reporting positive outcomes so far.

The project supported the development of goat raising as a family led cottage industry to help provide incomes, independence, social interaction and community respect for the many people in the village of Quang Nham affected by agent orange-induced disability. The project included training programmes for families, veterinarian advice and care, money and assistance to construct appropriate goat shelters and peer problem-solving and support through a local goat raising club.

Hearts for Hue reported that baby goats born from the original purchase of 35 nanny goats have continued to be distributed to other families chosen for the project. Unfortunately, three goats died due to the harsh winter in A Luoi district. However, the other 32 goats gave birth to 25 kids, 12 of which were nannies and were each given to a family once it reached a weight of 12kg. The Goat Club is in the process of selling the 13 male goats and purchasing female goats to distribute to the remaining families.

The Goat Club continues to meet. The final training session for participants on marketing goat products and the final review and evaluation of the project are expected to be completed by the end of June 2024.



2023 PROJECT VISIT:

Solar Power in Bougainville

As outlined in PiCCA's 2023 Annual Report, the Hako Women's Collective in Bougainville successfully installed a solar power system and batteries, which continue to provide reliable, cheap and environmentally sustainable power to all of HWC's main buildings. This project was enabled with funding and assistance from PiCCA and the Australian-based Indigo Foundation.

PiCCA's Chair, Steve Maguire, visited Bougainville in March 2024. He reported that the solar system has enabled expanded hours for service delivery, greater security for families in the Safe Haus, cost savings from reduced use of diesel and small business development Steve also reported that HWC are continuing to investigate options for importing and onselling rocket stoves, following the PiCCA-supported trial in 2022.

During this visit, HWC identified some critical issues and following the PiCCA Board's consideration, approval was given to remit PiCCA funds for the purchase of a spare part for HWC's generator to make it operational, and curtain rods and materials to improve the privacy and comfort of Safe Haus and other clients. These funds totalled \$2,549.55.

HWC will celebrate its 20 year anniversary in June as part of a three-day trade fair. HWC continues to go from strength to strength, receiving funding from UNDP and other sources, generating its own income from commercial activities, leading community change and running a range of programs and services to benefit Haku and Bougainville.

PiCCA can be very proud of its contribution to HWC's infrastructure and capability, to help enable HWC to apply their expertise, leadership and resources to assist their community.



Closure

Following the Extraordinary General Meeting in October 2023 where it was resolved to close PiCCA, PiCCA's Directors have been working diligently to plan and implement this decision. This has involved many steps, including:

- communicating with members, partners and supporters
- liaising with regulatory bodies to clarify detailed requirements for closure
- finalising all financial and non-financial obligations to partners under existing partnership agreements
- producing final Annual Reports and financial reports
- cancelling all PiCCA-related accounts, including social media, bank, international transfer, email and web hosting accounts
- archiving and securing all PiCCA records, and
- deregistering PiCCA's business name, charity status and fundraising approval.

As at 20 May 2024, there is approximately \$3,000 of PiCCA funds remaining. The Board is currently in discussion with Hako Women's Collective about some outstanding needs. At the final Annual General Meeting, the Board will update members about these discussions and the implications, if any, for expending all funds prior to PiCCA's closure.

Thank you

PiCCA's endeavours would not be possible without the support of many people. While the focus for 2024 has been on preparing for PiCCA's closure, it is important to note, with very warm gratitude, the people who have made PiCCA's 2024 activities possible.

Thank you so much especially to:

- Our members, 31 generous, supportive and caring people who are the heart and soul of PiCCA
- Our project partners in 2023: Hearts for Hue and the Hako Women's Collective
- Our donors and supporters
- Our wizard Web Master Mario Bono, and
- Importantly, the people of Quang Nham in Vietnam and the people of Haku in Bougainville who have welcomed us into their communities to work together for better futures.

About PiCCA

Partners in International Collaborative Community Aid Ltd is an Australian not-for-profit. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Country and their ongoing connections to land, sea and community in Australia. Our small group of members (currently 31) is passionate about improving education, health, livelihood and food security for people in developing countries.

Over the past ten years, we found local organisations in developing countries with wide support and a clear purpose, then worked with them by contributing funding and in-kind resources for a specific project. Mostly our projects have been one-off but were housed within a broader community plan.

PiCCA is a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and is registered to fund-raise through the Queensland Office of Fair Trading.

The PiCCA Overseas Aid Fund has been a Deductible Gift Recipient, meaning all donations over \$2 were tax-deductible. 100% of the funds donated went to projects. No donations supported PiCCA's administration expenses which were covered in part by the membership fee, and in bigger part by Directors in both cash and in kind.

PiCCA will cease operating in mid-2024.

PiCCA has been overseen by a Board elected by its members: Stephanie Boldeman, Steve Maguire, Tiziana Miceli, Warren McMillan and Terry Parker. The Board has operated collectively to the best of its capacity to ensure that PiCCA delivers on its vision, on its promise to its members and on its commitment to the communities it serves.

