



WATCH
Action on Aid, Trade and Debt



For Aid Partnership

Not Market Ideology

For Real Development

Not Narrow Australian Interests

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

AID/WATCH Inc.

.ABN: 97 491 078 647 | Charity Reg No: 17671 | Registered Assn No: Y1724231

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COVER IMAGE:

Left photo - Young child from Paga Hill in Port Moresby, PNG, now displaced with her family at Gerehu. Photo: Nat Lowrey

Right photo - APEC Haus situated adjacent to Paga Hill where 3000 people were illegally evicted. Photo: Andy Hau

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ABOUT AID/WATCH

Our Purpose

AID/WATCH is an independent membership-based watchdog on aid, trade and debt, working with communities in the Global South. We challenge practices which undermine the ability of communities to determine their own futures, and promote development alternatives based on social and environmental justice. We research and evaluate development policies and practices, and we campaign around these issues as part of the global justice movement.

Our Vision

A thriving global justice movement, based on mutual solidarity, and on social and environmental justice. A world free from structural inequalities, where people can determine their own futures within a global framework of mutual respect for the environment and for one another. A world where trade, aid and debt no longer exploit peoples, but instead promote environmental and social justice.

Our Values

We believe in solidarity not charity

We are committed to global justice and equality. We campaign as much for our futures as for the futures of others. We are respectful of the different approaches and views of others in the movement for global justice. We acknowledge and aim to strengthen the power and agency of communities.

We are independent and fearless

We are a member-based organization. We do not take funds from governments or corporations. We respect diversity of ideas. We are free to make critical comment and are uncompromising in advocating for social and environmental justice. We are principled and where necessary pugnacious. We are never afraid to say what we think.

We are informed and transformative

Our campaigns are grounded in experience and our research is thorough and constructive. We believe in building alternative futures, founded on experience and on community-level capacity. In this respect we are innovative and creative.

We are activist and movement-based

We are a member-driven activist organization, working as part of the wider global justice movement. Our campaigns provoke public debate to generate engagement with development issues, and to inspire public participation in efforts to transform development policies and practices.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Elected from the AID/WATCH membership the following members have given generously of their time over the past year: James Goodman (Chair); Margaret Carey (Treasurer); Natalie Lowrey (Coordinator); Matt Hilton; Pooja Chowdhary; Ken Davis, Katie Barry and Gareth Bryant.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to our Treasurer Margaret Carey who has dedicated her time and skills to support AID/WATCH's accounting and administration. Her commitment to Aid/Watch allowed us to rebuild our organisational capacity leaving us in a much healthier financial state. We can't thank Margaret enough for the invaluable work she has done for Aid/Watch.

James Goodman
Chair, AID/WATCH

PEOPLE AND PARTNERS

Staff

Natalie Lowrey, Coordinator (from 11/11/16)

Committee of Management

The Committee of Management is elected from the AID/WATCH membership. Throughout 2016, the following members gave generously of their time by serving on the AID/WATCH Committee of Management:

AID/WATCH Committee of Management:

- Matt Hilton
- Pooja Chowdhary
- Margaret Carey
- Katie Barry
- James Goodman
- Natalie Lowrey
- Gareth Bryant
- Ken Davis

Our thanks go to all of them for their involvement, leadership and energy. A special thanks to Margaret Carey who dedicated her time and skills to support AID/WATCH's accounting and administration.

Networks

- PACTRADE – Pacific Trade Network
- Publish What You Pay
- Melanesian Indigenous Land Defence Alliance (MILDA)
- Reality of Aid Network
- Our World is Not for Sale
- Nature Conservation Council of NSW
- IBON Foundation
- Asia Pacific Research Network

Partners

The backbone of AID/WATCH's work are our partners in the global South. While not a complete list of all collaborators, special thanks to the below groups:

- Bismarck Ramu Group
- Lands Desk, Vanuatu Cultural Centre
- Act Now! PNG
- Pacific Action Network on Globalisation (PANG)
- GRAIN
- IBON Institute
- Focus on the Global South

CAMPAIGNS



IMAGE: AID/WATCH Coordinator Natalie Lowrey interviewing Paga Hill leader, Mr. Daure Kisu at Gerehu in May this year. Mr Kisu was bought into Paga Hill to be caretaker of WWII relics. He was a Fuzzy Wuzzy Angel (PNG soldier) who helped to fight with and save many Australian and New Zealand soldiers. Mr Kisu was part of the ~600 Paga Hill community members that were dumped and displaced in Gerehu. He continues to fight for land title and justice for the community at Gerehu and advocates for the protection of Paga Hill as a significant war site in PNG. Photo: Allan Mogerema

Throughout 2017 AID/WATCH participated in existing networks and kept up the momentum on its campaigning as a counterpoint to the new 'aid paradigm' that is favouring national interest and private finance over the need for real aid.

2016 saw AID/WATCH focus internally to rebuild our organisational capacity. 2017, saw us become publicly active again. Aid/Watch has continued to build upon our research and advocacy efforts in monitoring and holding to account the aid-industrial complex that solidifies vulture capital, aid agencies, 'donor' governments and local cronies. This includes calling for a new aid agenda founded on global and climate justice to address the pressing problems of growing inequality and climate change.

In 2018, AID/WATCH will continue to expose bad aid, this will include critiquing Privatisation of Aid and developing a regional campaign against land-grabbing, focused on APEC 2018 to be held in Port Moresby in November.

Some of our work, initiatives, and projects in 2017 have included:



Coordination of a new Economic Justice Network (EJN) - bringing together key

organisations working on global justice including Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA, Jubilee Australia, Australian Fair Trade & Investment Network, SEARCH Foundation and the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons. In April 2017, EJN held a public event at NSW Parliament on 'Australian Foreign Policy in the Age of Trump' to provide an alternative voice in the debate on foreign policy in Australia in light of Australia's Australia's foreign policy White Paper.

IMAGE: AID/WATCH Chair, James Goodman presenting at the 'Australian Foreign Policy in the Age of Trump' public event, 5 April 2017. Photo, Nat Lowrey

#Justice4Paga - an initiative to expose illegal evictions in PNG with our partners Jubilee Australia, Human Rights Law Centre and *The Opposition* film. In seeking justice for the forcibly evicted Paga Hill community AID/WATCH's work has included research, lobbying, a petition, media, and public screenings of *The Opposition*.

There is nowhere more evident of the aid-industrial complex than in our work with the Paga Hill community in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. Evicted, displaced, abandoned - their homes were completely demolished at the hands of two Australian-run companies, Curtain Brothers and Paga Hill Development Company. What was once home to 3000 people of up to four generations, Paga Hill is now part of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) summit 'AELM Precinct' which will take place in November 2018.

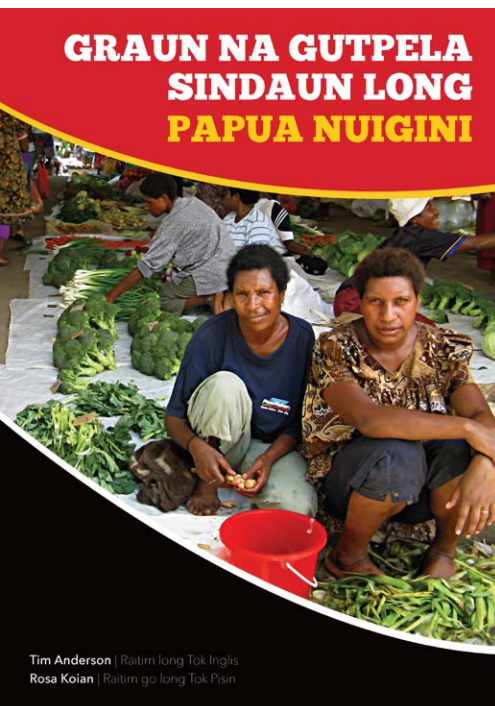
IMAGE: Settlers illegally moved from the foreshore of Paga Hill to the inland site of Gerehu, where they live in appalling conditions. Photo: Allan Mogerema

AID/WATCH wrote to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on 28 February 2017, requesting detail on the Australian APEC assistance funding package - close to \$75m is committed, \$50m of this being 'development assistance', for a meeting of 20 Asia-Pacific government leaders, including President Trump. Off the back of the letter AID/WATCH launched a petition calling for Australia's public



money not to enrich land grabbers in PNG and that global summits should not be bankrolled by development aid. AID/WATCH believes this is a gross misuse of precious aid money.

AID/WATCH, in partnership with Paga Hill leaders, Jubilee Australia, Human Rights Law Centre and The Opposition film will continue to challenge the illegal eviction of the Paga Hill community and seek #Justice4Paga. AID/WATCH will continue to challenge the use of Australian aid in supporting the APEC Summit and conduct a wider research and advocacy initiative against land grabbing in PNG and the Pacific in the run-up to APEC in 2018.



Graun Na Gutpela Sindaun Long Papua Nuigini - 'Land is Life' campaign publication in Tok Pisin for PNG communities highlighting the need for economic alternatives for rural families maintaining their customary land as the basis for rich hybrid livelihoods.

The publication is a shortened and adapted version of Australian academic Tim Anderson's *Land & Livelihoods in Papua New Guinea* book. Translated in Tok Pisin for Papua New Guinean communities the booklet has been distributed and disseminated by PNG partner organisation, Bismarck Ramu Group to local PNG communities who are fighting developments and destruction of their ways of life, livelihoods, local economies, lands, and food sovereignty. The purpose of the publication is to support rural PNG communities with alternative economic options by maintaining customary land as the basis for rich hybrid livelihoods.

Submissions and Proposals: AID/WATCH Submissions and Proposals in 2017 included:

- Submission to the DFAT White Paper for Australian Foreign Policy and Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters;
- Proposals for amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918 has seen our landmark 2010 Aid/Watch case being sighted several times in the media.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

AID/WATCH's financial year runs from January 1st to December 31st. These reports cover the timeframe from January 1 2017 to December 31 2017.

Statement by the Committee of Management of AID/WATCH Incorporated

In the opinion of the Committee:

- a) The attached financial report presents fairly the financial position of AID/WATCH Inc. as 31 December 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, mandatory professional reporting requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
- b) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that AID/WATCH Inc. 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 of Management of AID/WATCH Inc. and is signed for, and on behalf of, the Committee by the chairperson of AID/WATCH.

Declaration by the chairperson of the Committee of Management of AID/WATCH Inc.

In my opinion,

- a) the attached accounts give a true and fair view of all income and expenditure during the year ended 31 December 2017 with respect to fundraising appeals;
- b) the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2017 gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of AID/WATCH Inc. with respect to fundraising appeals;
- c) the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, the regulations under the Act and the conditions attached to the fundraising authority have been complied with by AID/WATCH Inc.; and
- d) the internal controls exercised by AID/WATCH Inc. are as appropriate and effective as is practicable in accounting for all income received and applied by AID/WATCH Inc.

James Goodman
Chair, AID/WATCH
19 June 2018

TREASURER'S REPORT 2016

AidWatch remained financially stable during 2017. A grant from Planet Wheeler enabled us to increase our activities as we were in a position to pay contractors. This also enabled us to look at much needed revamp of infrastructure.

Unspent grant income has been held in reserve until the funds are expended which will enable us to roll out more activities in the current financial year. AidWatch remains in a financially sustainable position.

Margaret Carey
 Treasurer
 13th June 2018

Aidwatch Inc Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2017

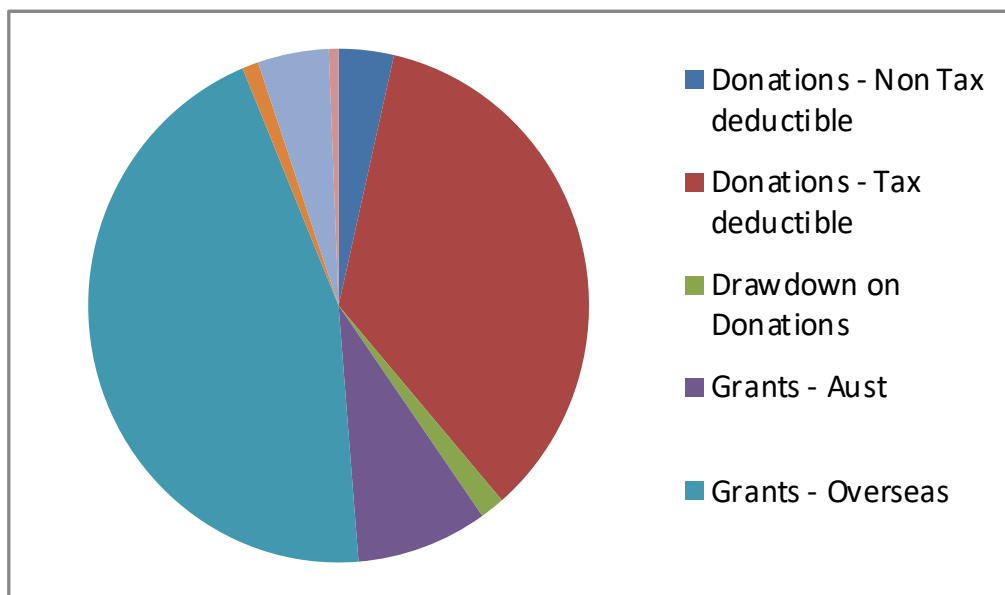
	Dec 31, 17	Dec 31, 16
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Chequing/Savings		
Bank Aust - Fund	12,005.71	0.00
Bank Aust - Grants	25,181.53	0.00
Bank Aust - Operating	5,257.68	0.00
Westpac - Cash Reserve	1.56	5,261.81
Westpac - Fund Account	192.23	25,503.10
Westpac - Operating Account	461.51	2,102.83
Total Chequing/Savings	43,100.22	32,867.74
Total Current Assets	43,100.22	32,867.74
Fixed Assets		
Equipment at cost	5,944.00	5,944.00
Equipment at cost less Acc Dep	-5,944.00	-5,944.00
Intangible Assets at Cost	3,000.00	3,000.00
Intangible Assets less Acc Dep	-3,000.00	-3,000.00
Total Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	43,100.22	32,867.74
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Donations in Advance	24,440.00	0.00
GST Payable	-328.00	19.07
Unspent Grant	6,750.05	22,706.83
Total Other Current Liabilities	30,862.05	22,725.90
Total Current Liabilities	30,862.05	22,725.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES	30,862.05	22,725.90
NET ASSETS	12,238.17	10,141.84
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	10,141.84	1,229.08
Net Income	2,096.33	8,912.76
TOTAL EQUITY	12,238.17	10,141.84

Profit & Loss January - December 2017

Income

Donations - Non Tax deductible	1,261.60
Donations - Tax deductible	12,455.00
Drawdown on Donations	560.00
Grants - Aust	3,000.00
Grants - Overseas	15,956.78
Interest Income	372.79
Membership	1,625.60
Miscellaneous Income	223.10

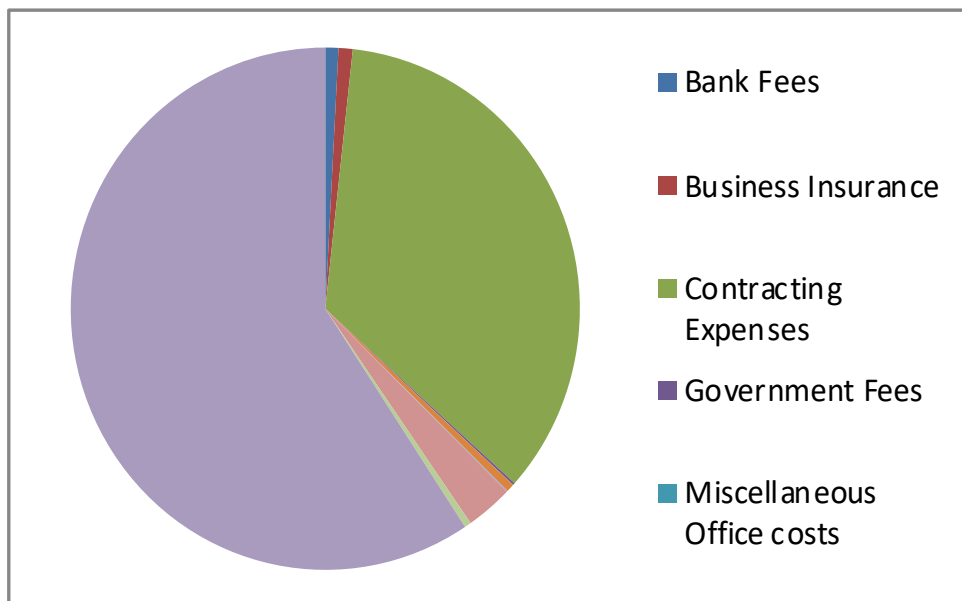
Total Income 35,454.87



Expenses

Bank Fees	276.56
Business Insurance	300.00
Contracting Expenses	11,650.00
Government Fees	44.00
Miscellaneous Office costs	2.99
Postage	167.28
Stationery	18.93
Subscriptions	994.25
Event Expenses	138.66
Grant Expenses	19,765.87

Total Expenses 33,358.54





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