



## Overseas & Northern Outreach Newsletter – May 2024

### Former Overseas Target Fund – Disaster and Climate Change in the Pacific – Tonga and Fiji

I have received a final report of this project and the project summary, with a number of photographs, will appear in the Winter Mia Mia. Please see the following page of my report for a further summary of project outcomes, outputs and inputs.

### Current Overseas Target Fund – Solomon Islands

I have been advised by our contact with Anglican Overseas Aid that a report on our current project to support the upgrading of churches into accessible evacuations centres for people with disabilities will not be available until August. In a recent edition of the AOA Abundance Magazine (Issue 24), there are several articles relating to the Solomon Islands, one highlighting the needs of people with disabilities in times of natural disaster, and another on a Mothers Union project to address issues surrounding domestic and family violence. I commend this magazine to you, which can be found online at:

<https://anglicanoverseasaid.org.au/news-media/abundance-magazine/>

### Northern Outreach Grants

In the past five years some \$190,000 has been made available to the three dioceses from the Northern Outreach Fund and the Training Fund for Indigenous Women. At its most recent meeting held this month, Australian Council adopted a motion to undertake a review of the guidelines and funding model for these grants through consultation with members with a view to taking a recommendation to the next Australian Council meeting which will be held in late October 2025. You will hear more of this over the next 18 months.

My report to the AC meeting highlighted the three areas that are a part of the O & NO portfolio: encouraging prayer, inspiring members to give financial support and sharing information. Encouraging prayer and sharing information are ongoing endeavours. The third aspect, inspiring members to give financial support, is a little more challenging. But it is vital.

You may have seen the recent launch of the Hope25 campaign. It encourages us to act locally and contextually in bringing hope to our world. This could very well be the bumper sticker for what we do as Mothers Union. We have global programs which aim to improve the lives of women and children and their communities that are implemented by working with those on the ground in each individual country to shape the programs into a model that will work locally and contextually.

It is our financial giving that helps support these programs, such as literacy circles, financial and small business development and parenting skills. As it is our financial support that allows our Overseas Target Projects to operate. I encourage you to continue to give as generously as you are able to the mission work of Mothers Union.

Blessings

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Project Goal:		
To enhance community resilience through strengthened community services, infrastructure, and livelihoods.		
Project Outcomes:	Project Outputs:	Project Inputs:
1) <b>Resilience:</b> Most Vulnerable Community Members have improved year-round access to nutritious food and sources of income through enhanced climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural methods.	1. Community Members including the most vulnerable are trained in climate-resilient vegetable growing methods and supported with appropriate materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community consultation to assess agricultural practices.</li> <li>○ Local market analysis of vegetable availability. Identification and preparation of land for community gardens. Vegetable growing workshops held. Irrigation and nursery established.</li> <li>○ Provide agricultural inputs (seeds, seedlings, organic fertilisers) and tools.</li> </ul>
2) <b>Preparedness:</b> Communities and parishes are supported to prepare for and respond to future disasters effectively.	2. Communities supported to identify risks and vulnerabilities to prepare for future disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CIVA volunteer trainers identified from each parish.</li> <li>○ Trainers deliver CIVA training to each Parish and wider Community</li> <li>○ Community mapping and contingency planning prepared.</li> </ul>
	3. Church buildings are certified and equipped as evacuation centres.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Church halls in each parish assessed against NEMO checklist.</li> <li>○ Buildings checked by engineer for structural integrity.</li> <li>○ Consult Christian Blind Mission for Disability Inclusion standards.</li> <li>○ Halls are retrofitted as necessary.</li> <li>○ Water tanks at each Parish assessed for integrity for RWH.</li> <li>○ Additional Tanks spouting etc added (per Sphere and CIVA assessments)</li> <li>○ Water Committee identified to manage and repair local RWH.</li> </ul>
	4. Volunteers trained and equipped to assist with clean up before and after disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Locate container at each parish.</li> <li>○ Procure approved list of clean up materials for each parish.</li> <li>○ Train identified volunteers for disaster response including use of power tools.</li> </ul>
	5. Volunteers trained in provision of psychosocial support following disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consult with existing PSS providers for appropriate model and training.</li> <li>○ PSEAH training for all Staff.</li> <li>○ Train PSS Volunteers.</li> <li>○ Social Support information accessible online.</li> <li>○ Disseminate information regarding access to psychosocial support.</li> </ul>