



**Afghan Australian Development
Organisation (AADO)**
ABN 25 274 698 213



**Annual Report
2021-2022
Annual General Meeting
5 December 2022**

**Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO)
Annual Report 2021/2022
Annual General Meeting 5 December 2022, 5.30pm
Afghan Gallery Restaurant, 327 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy**

1. Introduction

This Annual Report covers the activities of the Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO) for the financial year 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Established in 2002, AADO is committed to improving opportunities for the people of Afghanistan, particularly its women and girls, providing education, training and support. AADO is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. AADO is registered as a charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). As a charitable development organisation, AADO relies on donations and benevolent funding and has accredited tax deductibility for such donations.

2. AADO Committee of Management (COM) members for 2021/22

COM members are elected at the AGM by AADO financial members who have voting rights. COM members for the 2021/22 financial year are:

Office	Holder
President	Jackie Fristacky AM
Executive Director	Dr Nouria Salehi AM
Vice President	Homaira Mershedi
Secretary	Jennifer Davis
Treasurer	Tony Lister (to 30/8/21) David Brennan (from 30/8/21)
Committee Members	Assad Najeem Sam Parslow (from 30/5/22) Farida Sharifi (from 30/5/22) Tony Lister (30/8/21 to 07/12/21 AGM)

Brief Profiles of AADO COM Members

The backgrounds of AADO's COM members elected at the 2021 AGM are:

- **Dr Nouria Salehi AM - AADO Executive Director:** Nuclear physicist and biophysicist, AADO founder and Executive Director since 2002; formerly on the Board of the Refugee Council of Australia, Amnesty International Australia, Brotherhood of St Laurence
- **Jackie Fristacky, AM - AADO President:** Lawyer and public policy analyst; formerly taught at La Trobe University; worked in Federal and State governments including as a Tribunal member; former City of Yarra Councillor and Mayor; author of *My Mother and the Prince: Jana Shindler Fristacky in Kabul 1946-1952*.
- **Homaira Mershedhi - Deputy President :** partner/manager at Afghan Gallery; former medical research assistant in nuclear medicine; medical laboratory scientist; interpreter/translator, trainer, events coordinator with UNHCR/UNHCR
- **Jennifer Davis - Secretary:** retired microbiologist with background in public health; volunteer at Community Radio; former Board Member and Chair, The Leprosy Mission Australia
- **David Brennan - Treasurer:** retired CPA with a background in financial management of manufacturing companies in Australia and Asia
- **Tony Lister - Treasurer 1/7/21 to 30/8/21:** background in taxation and finance, worked within Ministry of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan 2011-13
- **Assad Najeem - Member:** Practising engineer; active in Afghan youth communities; helped found the Afghan Youth Soccer initiative
- **Farida Sharifi - Member:** works with CultureVerse, a multicultural engagement consultancy with former roles in multicultural youth and as a volunteer with Refugee Legal
- **Sam Parslow - Member:** entering final year of law school at Graduate School of Business and Law, RMIT, with a keen interest in human rights law, geopolitics, and history

3. Report from AADO President and Executive Director

The year 2021/22 has been an extremely difficult time for Afghans in Afghanistan in the lead-up to the US and allied nations' military withdrawal under the US/Taliban 2020 'peace' agreement. With this and collapse of the former Afghan Government, the Taliban entry into Kabul on 15 August 2021 saw chaos as thousands of at-risk Afghan citizens sought evacuation on military flights, and border crossings.

The exodus of foreign personnel and development aid and continuing sanctions under the new regime, together with the impact of drought, have created a humanitarian crisis with millions of Afghans facing famine due to lost income, cash shortages and rising food costs.

Environmental problems, especially as regards drought, water and energy sources in Afghanistan, and suggestions for their long-term solutions were included in AADO's submission to the Senate Inquiry (see 'Other AADO Activities').

Transitioning from an insurgent group to a functional government with its foreign reserves frozen and aid curtailed, the Taliban Government has struggled to provide Afghans with security, food, and essential services.

AADO's work in Afghanistan through the year has focused on:

Humanitarian aid distributing food alleviating the plight of women and children in Kandahar and Kabul Provinces, supported by over \$21,000 donor fundraising for this purpose.

Year 12 Intensive Courses for Girls

In Kabul for several weeks in May and June 2022, AADO Executive Director, Nouria Salehi liaised with a group of academics called the Afghanistan Education Support Coalition (AESC) on educating Year 12 girls.

Women can attend University to study science, medicine, nursing; but this depends on year 12 graduation - hence the importance of continuing Year 12 for girls.

As a result, AADO agreed in June 2021 to fund a 13 week intensive program for 200 girls at a safe private facility in Kabul to commence in July 2022 with 5 key subjects: Chemistry, Maths, Physics, Dari and Pashto, taught by AESC academics. The aim is to provide capacity for the girls to graduate, enter higher education, perform better in teaching, other work or help siblings and other young women.

Aid for Deprived Kabul School

When in Kabul during May 2022, Nouria also visited a school with fellow Committee of Management member, Assad Najeem. Observing broken desks, children sitting on cold concrete floors, and poor families unable to buy notebooks, pencils or pens, Assad promptly notified an SOS to contacts in Australia. \$10,000, raised in a few days, was applied to purchase carpet for the children to sit on, basic stationery delivered directly to needy children, and repair of approximately 50 desks.

Literacy and livelihoods training for village women

Thousands of village women in Afghanistan have received this training through AADO over many years

AADO continued its funding in 2021/22 of courses in literacy, numeracy and dressmaking for 102 rural women across five provincial villages. Held in larger private homes in each village, commencing October 2021, the courses scheduled over 10 months, were due to conclude in October 2022.

On graduation, the women are gifted the sewing machines used in the course. This enables them to earn a livelihood making and/or repairing clothing to sell or barter for food and other essentials.

Master Science Teacher Training (MSTT) resumed in 2022

AADO has upskilled near 6,000 science teachers across Afghanistan since 2007 through MSTT modules in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Exams are held through each module segment to monitor progress and outcomes.

As funding from Australia requires training to be inclusive of women, the Afghan Ministry for Education supported AADO's MSTT for female science teachers in Kabul during 2022. With an acute shortage of male teachers and girls schools closed, female teachers are assigned to teach year 7-9 boys; they thus earn an income to support their families. MSTT enhances their skills and role model function as effective teachers.

MSTT programs completed through AADO funding were :

- 10 January to 08 February 2022) 100 male teachers
- 12 March 2022 to 9 April 2022) 100 female teachers
- 14 May 2022 to 7 June 2022) 100 female teachers -

Planning in June 2022 was undertaken for another 100 female science teachers to receive MSTT July-August 2022.

Other AADO activities

Apart from programs in Afghanistan, AADO's work within Australia included:

- **Visa applications** lodged in September-October 2021 through Refugee Legal in Victoria for at-risk personnel associated with AADO in Kabul. Follow up submissions on these applications have been sent to the former and current Ministers for Immigration. Although visas for these personnel are still outstanding in Australia, several applicants have had visas approved for settlement in the USA and Europe
- **Submissions to the Senate Inquiry into Afghanistan** lodged 8 October 2021 and 21 January 2022. AADO's President and Executive Director appeared before the Senate Inquiry on 8 November 2021 and 2 February 2022, and a further written response was lodged 11 February 2022.
- **Nowroz Afghan New Year celebration** with members and supporters at the Afghan Gallery on 27 March 2022. Dr Adeebulla Nawim former Senior Adviser to the Minister for Education, and airlifted from Kabul in 2021, spoke on "*Education: the foundation for peace and prosperity in Afghanistan*"

The work of AADO's COM being exceptionally demanding and busy, could not have been achieved without huge efforts to ensure continuation of programs in Afghanistan. A huge thanks is due to AADO committee members for their diligence.

The Committee also appreciates former AADO President, **Sarina Greco** for her ongoing assistance with AADO mailouts and other input. So too our dedicated small team in Kabul who organise our training programs in difficult circumstances.

Finally, hearty thanks to AADO's highly valued members and supporters for your donations which make AADO's ongoing vital work in Afghanistan possible. In particular, we acknowledge the generosity of the Jack and Hedy Brent Foundation and the Parwana for Afghanistan team in South Australia, for their support of our work.



Jackie M. Fristackey

Jackie M Fristackey AM, President



N. Salehi

Dr Nouria Salehi AM, Executive Director

Annual Financial Reports for 2021/22

The full audited Financial Statement with explanation of Notes and Independent Auditor's Report, PMK Partners, dated 20 September 2022 is available on AADO's website: www.aado.org.au/resources/ or on request

Summary of Financial Position

AADO received a large 223% increase in donations by the public in 2022 mainly in response to the fall of the Afghan government in August 2021 and heightened community concern as to the safety of Afghan people.

This enabled AADO to provide direct humanitarian aid and increase significantly training programs resulting in on the ground expenditure increasing by 116% over 2021.

With entirely voluntary personnel in Australia overhead expenditure continued to be low and accounted for 3% of revenue in 2021.



**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
AS AT 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022	2021
		\$	\$
INCOME			
Monetary Donations and Gifts		204,403	63,248
Fundraising Activities Income		6,438	-
Sale of Books		1,325	-
Interest Received		31	47
Membership Fees		510	210
Foreign Currency Exchanges		<u>(2,249)</u>	<u>(834)</u>
	3	210,458	62,671
EXPENDITURE			
International Programs		219,165	101,373
Accountability and Administration		<u>6,318</u>	<u>6,015</u>
		225,483	107,388
Loss for the year		(15,025)	(44,717)
Total income for the year		(15,025)	<u>(44,717)</u>

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4	177,960	165,961
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		177,960	165,961
TOTAL ASSETS		177,960	165,961
 CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	5	64,681	37,657
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		64,681	37,657
TOTAL LIABILITIES		64,681	37,657
NET ASSETS		113,279	128,304
 MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained earnings	6	113,279	128,304
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		113,279	128,304

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN
EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2022**

Balance at 1 July 2020	173,021	173,021
Profit attributable to members	(44,717)	(44,717)
Balance at 30 June 2021	128,304	128,304
Profit attributable to members	(15,025)	(15,025)
Balance at 30 June 2022	113,279	113,279

Recipients of AADO Emergency Aid: Displaced Afghan families in Kabul 2021, and a deprived Kabul school, funded by your donations.

An estimated 5M of 39M Afghans have been displaced having been forced to flee homes with Hazaras especially targeted. Many are subsisting in Kabul and other cities.

The UN estimates a near record 23M Afghans face acute hunger due to drought, conflict, displacement, and economic crisis.



Humanitarian Aid - food supplies for displaced families in Kabul; carpet and stationery for deprived Kabul school

Photographs of participants in this report have been digitally altered for security reasons



Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO) is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self - regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity.

To lodge a complaint against our organisation, please email info@aado.org.au. Our complaints handling policy can be found on our website. If you are not satisfied with the response and believe our organisation has breached the ACFID Code of Conduct, you can lodge a complaint with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee at code@acfid.asn.au. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at www.acfid.asn.au