

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES – Melbourne & Seattle

Highlights of the year's fundraising, were;

- Christmas cards for 2015 and the Chuffed Campaign raised approx.. \$30,000
- There have been a number of significant high value individual donors, along with a few regular donors that keep the funds ticking over during the year which is very heartwarming.
- Seattle Friends raised approx. \$6,500 for the project with cake stalls, slide nights, and contributions to the Chuffed campaign.

Despite a significant effort, FOTH was unsuccessful in our application to Rotary International for funding of the 2nd stage of the water system.

ETHIOPIAN ACTIVITIES – on the ground in Addis Ababa, Lalibela and the Hudad

Trip conducted by Conrad and Madge in December 2015

- 1: Completion of all submissions and documentation to local Charities Commission, Education and Finance Departments.
- 2: Finalisation of agreement with local Woreda (Lalibela) for use of the land to construct and operate the school.
- 3: FOTH engaged Sisay Maregu as Project Director/Country Representative in January 2016 and established an office in Lalibela.

Sisay is now supported by an administrative assistant (employed in Sept '16) and engages an independent accountant quarterly to reconcile expenditure and prepare reports to relevant Ethiopian Government Departments, as per our Agreement as an International NGO operating in Ethiopia.

All local financial and activity reporting is up to date and submitted to relevant authorities in Ethiopia.

FOTH members visit Ethiopia regularly to assist and support all local activities.

CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

Construction of the water system commenced in February 2016 with the digging of the pipeline trench, and up to the commencement of the wet season in June had achieved the following;

- Engagement of local water contractor Teshagar to construct masonry water reservoirs
- Spring Capping structures at 3 spring sites to protect and filter the water as it comes out of the earth, and then direct contained water into reservoirs.
- Construction of the first 25,000 storage reservoir at the site of springs 1 and 2
- Laying of approx. 2,500 metres of HDPE water pipe to the site of the school storage reservoir
- Continued liaison with Ethiopian Education Department regarding final design of the permanent school buildings.

Sustainable Agriculture

Delivery of training to local farmers on sustainable agriculture techniques

Independent assessment of training, and incorporation of participant feedback in future training delivery

Provision of vegetable seeds and tree seedlings to local community

Other Activities

- Support for temporary school staffed by Zone Education Department in BahirDar
- Provision of emergency financial support to local community members affected by severe storms.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Election of new Board after Jenny Ouliaris resigned her position of President of FOTH in May 2016.

New board members were elected as follows:

President – Madge Alexandra

Vice President – Leila Alexandra

Treasurer – Conrad Exton

Secretary – Jacqueline Exton