



Edmund Rice  
FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

*Liberating Lives Through Education*

# 2018-2020 at a glance



**Embracing** our historical expertise and experience by deepening our focus on programs with a strong educational outcome



**Developing** a strong programming footprint globally, including working with the most marginalised here in Australia



**Consistently measuring** the impact of our work so that the communities we partner with and our committed supporters are confident that together we are making progress



**Engaging, recognising and thanking** our committed supporters in new ways - offering new experiences and new products



**Identifying** new partners, especially exploring opportunities with corporate Australia



**Becoming an accredited partner** to the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)



**Building a robust, financially secure** organisation with a diversified funding portfolio and room for innovation



**Investing** in the expertise and skill of our staff here and across the world



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## 2018-2020

# Liberating Lives Through Education

Our vision is for access to quality education and **lifelong learning opportunities for all**, supporting empowered communities that determine their own futures.

# 2018-2020

As an international development organisation with a global footprint, we have seen first-hand the impact an empowering education creates. Our commitment is to support people and their communities, to develop the life skills to change their own world and be a force for positive change around them.

Our new strategic plan, *Liberating Lives through Education* (2018-2020) is our commitment to those communities, to our supporters who entrust us with their time, talent and financial gifts and to the public, as to how we will do this over the coming years. This strategic plan shows some significant shifts for ERFA.

ERFA is returning to our heritage, to our beginnings, with a clear and deliberate focus on supporting the education of the most vulnerable. For ERFA, education does not begin nor end in the formal education system, although this is a critical component of learning. For ERFA, the best education represents lifelong learning where skills are imparted and applied, lessons learned and life skills mastered.

ERFA's focus on education is not only in **life changing education** for children, but in **every day skills** such as financial literacy, farming, trades, health and human rights for adults.

The link between education and empowered, self-sustaining and healthy individuals and communities is clear. **The right education transforms and liberates lives, every day.**

To do this our strategic plan focuses on four critical areas:



**Liberating lives through education**



**Partnering with Australians for impact**



**Growing our revenue**



**Building a sustainable organisation**

## Liberating Lives through Education



ERFA's vision for 2020 is that more lives are changed through an empowered education. In partnership with others across the globe, we are seeking to support the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal Number 4:

**Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

We remain committed to partnering with local communities to identify, plan, deliver, monitor and evaluate development programs that are inclusive and empowering. Both the way in which we partner and the programs in which we invest, aim to result in local management and autonomy. Over the next three years ERFA will move its programming footprint to ensure all of our programs reflect our core focus on liberating lives through education. We recognise that this is a shift and we will work with our partners to ensure a smooth transition.

We believe that by focusing on lifelong learning through quality programming, ERFA's impact and that of our partners will be deepened and strengthened. Over the next three years, ERFA will renew its focus to ensure 100% of our programming supports the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal Number 4.

## Partnering with Australians for Impact



ERFA also understands that our work around the world is critically dependent on the commitment and support of the many Australians who entrust us with their time, talent and resources. Over the next three years we will offer new ways to engage with ERFA and that work.

We recognise that deepening our own commitment to partnering in quality education programs creates great opportunities for the extraordinary Edmund Rice schools network and their alumni that has supported our work over the years. With these partners, we will explore innovative engagement opportunities for their students and school communities – seeking to connect them more closely to the work they support. We are also seeking new partners, believing that both deepening and widening our supporter network will be critical for our work over the coming years.

## Growing our Revenue



ERFA's vision to support quality educational programming around the world requires ongoing financial support. We aim to grow and diversify our funding, including seeking funding from the Australian Government and corporate Australia.

## Building a Sustainable Organisation



Finally, the communities we partner with, and our supporters in Australia, expect ERFA to be efficient and effective, ensuring that the funds with which we are entrusted are invested well. We are committed to financial transparency, investing in the expertise and skills of our staff and an efficient and well-run organisation.

Inequality lies at the deepest roots of poverty. Now more than ever, appropriate education - that brings opportunities to build life-skills that address such inequality - are essential.

ERFA is returning to its own roots – to the power that lies in **liberating lives by offering opportunity and learning.**

ERFA recognises the extraordinary challenges that vulnerable people face every day. We also recognise that with the right kind of support lives can be changed. *Liberating Lives through Education* is our contribution to this change.

