



Edmund Rice
FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA
Liberating Lives Through Education

2022 IMPACT REPORT

*Liberating
Lives
Through
Education*

ABOUT *US*

Edmund Rice Foundation Australia (ERFA) is a trusted international development organisation. Our vision is for access to quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Through the generous support of Australians, ERFA helps poorly resourced and marginalised communities to deliver:



skill-building and vocational training to support employment opportunities



human rights and advocacy training for poorly resourced communities



life-skills training and social development skills for disadvantaged communities



early childhood, primary and secondary education for communities affected by poverty

Liberating Lives Through Education



Vision

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



Purpose

Our purpose is to support the education of those who have been marginalised. ERFA's focus on education includes life-changing learning opportunities for children, financial literacy, farming and trade skills, health and human rights services and advocacy for adults. We walk with individuals and communities towards sustainable change.



Values

Presence

- ♥ Relationships built on integrity, mutual respect, trust, accountability and transparency
- ♥ Standing in solidarity with the disadvantaged and those living in poverty
- ♥ Belief in the equality and dignity of all persons

Compassion

- ♥ Our fundamental response is compassion which awakens us to our responsibilities and compels us to take action to eradicate poverty and suffering
- ♥ Being sensitive to and informed by the culture, experience and hopes of local people

Liberation

- ♥ Empowerment through education which promotes human development and increases the capacities of local people to break the poverty cycle and determine their own futures

Boys learn about boundaries and consent during a workshop at The Justice Deck in South Africa

2022 AT A GLANCE

We work with poorly resourced and marginalised communities, helping them to reach their aspirations and create sustainable solutions that leave lasting impacts.

7 countries



Partnered with programs in Australia, Kenya, Uganda, Zambia, South Africa, the Philippines and Timor-Leste

Through ERFA Programs:

25,032 women & girls



were supported in economic empowerment, health, vocational training and mentoring

47,041 people



directly impacted and hundreds of thousands more people indirectly impacted

642 people



living with disability were directly supported

21 projects



Partnered in delivering

1,816 employed



in paid and volunteer work directly supporting communities

\$2,282,481



disbursed for support to liberate lives through education

Accredited



Became a base level accredited NGO with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), eligible for Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) funding.



A mother walks her son to attend school at the Edmund Rice Centre Nairobi

PROJECT Partnerships

Your donations create lasting impacts for communities.

ERFA partners in community education projects with a clear goal and exit strategy to ensure sustainable outcomes.

Our aim is for whole communities to become stronger and more confident in controlling and exerting influence over the issues affecting their lives.

We seek to harness a community's assets, capacities, and strengths to achieve sustainable community development.



ERFA does not partner in delivering projects for evangelisation or partisan politics. Robust policy and process also ensure that we (and our partners) do not knowingly or unwittingly support terrorist activity.

ERFA supports activity that delivers ongoing benefits to communities. However, we recognise that sometimes welfare (such as clothing, food or medicines for individuals) is a necessary steppingstone to empowerment.

PROJECT Partnerships

GLOBAL

Edmund Rice (ER) Mission
Capacity Development project



Building capacity

Training for governors and managers of ER projects around the world to enhance best practice and deliver projects for lasting positive change.

Funds contribution **\$20,000**

Direct beneficiaries **97**

KENYA

Ruben Centre



Advocacy project

Strengthening the Mukuru community through: training in peace building and safeguarding, and through Ruben FM radio providing local news and information, community contributions and advocacy for human and civil rights.

Funds contribution **\$50,000**

Direct beneficiaries **721**

TIMOR-LESTE

Vanilla
"Beans of Hope"



Supporting farmers

Improving the livelihoods of farmers through sustainable and fair income from vanilla farming.

Funds contribution **\$28,600**

Direct beneficiaries **231**

UGANDA

St Joseph's Kensekka
Vocational School



Empowering vulnerable youth

Delivering vocational training for youth in Rakai, Uganda. Bricks made by trainees are sold to contribute to the school's income and used for the school's own construction needs.

Funds contribution **\$29,000**

Direct beneficiaries **160**

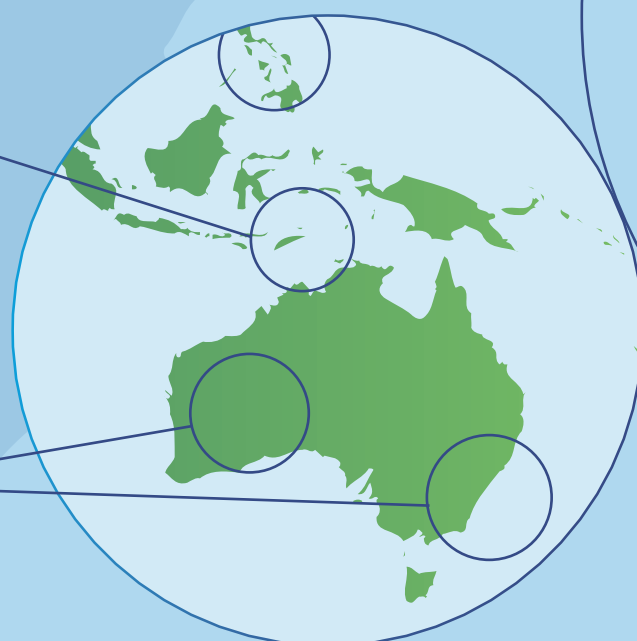
AUSTRALIA

Edmund Rice
Community Services



Supporting Edmund Rice Australian ministries including ER Camps, ER Community and Refugee Services and ER Centres in NSW and WA.

Funds contribution **\$350,000**



Formal education



Human rights & advocacy



Capacity building



Disability support

KENYA

Ruben Centre



Education Program

Supporting delivery of education for early childhood, primary school children, and children with a disability as well as vocational training for women and youth, and capacity building for sustainable agriculture practices.

Funds contribution	\$214,000
Direct beneficiaries	5,266

KENYA

Edmund Rice Catholic Education Centre



School Project

Supporting delivery of primary and secondary education for children facing injustice and adversity within Embulbul township.

Funds contribution	\$290,000
Direct beneficiaries	661

KENYA

Edmund Rice Catholic Education Centre



Vocational Training Project

Supporting delivery of vocational training in carpentry and joinery to students and parents from Embulbul township.

Funds contribution	\$30,000
Direct beneficiaries	191

KENYA

Edmund Rice Eldoret Empowerment Program



Children and Youth Empowerment Project

Delivering leadership, lifeskills, environmental and civil rights training to youth and children in schools in the Rift Valley region of Eldoret.

Funds contribution	\$30,000
Direct beneficiaries	3,448



Community education



Skill-building and vocational training

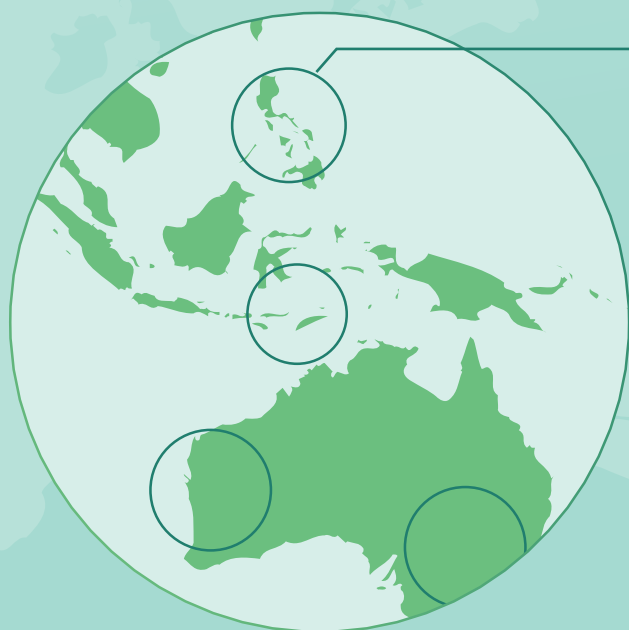


Agriculture



Infrastructure

PROJECT Partnerships



WESTERN ZAMBIA

CEP Western Province Zambia



Improved Protection of Women and Adolescent Girls From Gender-Based Violence

Delivering education for the protection of women and adolescent girls from Gender-Based Violence in rural communities.

Funds contribution **\$7,200**

Direct beneficiaries **2479**

SOUTH AFRICA

The Justice Desk



The Mbokodo Club Project*

Advocating for and equipping survivors of rape and Gender-Based Violence to promote self-awareness and providing education and support to enable them to lead change within their community.

Funds contribution **\$85,000**

Direct beneficiaries **98**



* This project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). Refer to page 15 for more information.

THE PHILIPPINES

FundLife



FundLife Leadership Academy: Reach to Teach

Providing supplementary learning support for internally displaced children and youth impacted by school closures due to COVID-19.

Funds contribution **\$40,000**

Direct beneficiaries **345**

KENYA

Mirror of Hope C.B.O



Construction of community meeting centre in Kibera

Construction of a new training facility and marketplace to improve livelihoods of women and youth in Kibera settlement.

Funds contribution **\$26,000**

SOUTH AFRICA

The Justice Desk*



The Ntsika yeThemba Project

Empowering young boys and men to assist in defending the rights of women and in building safer communities.

Funds contribution **\$65,000**

Direct beneficiaries **62**



Formal education



Human rights & advocacy



Capacity building



Disability support

PROJECT Partnerships

KENYA

Edmund Rice Centre Nairobi



Strengthening learning outcomes for Learners with Disability

Education for children living with disabilities. Providing education on disability inclusion to Kibera settlement residents.

Funds contribution **\$85,000**

Direct beneficiaries **77**

KENYA

Ruben Centre



Health Project

Providing community training in nutrition, hygiene, child health and oral healthcare. Upskilling of laboratory technicians and medical staff and maintenance of quality health management systems.

Funds contribution **\$77,000**

Direct beneficiaries **19,561**

KENYA

Mirror of Hope C.B.O



Future POA Project

Equipping youth with computer, music, entertainment, fine arts and environmental conservation skills to enhance their employment opportunities.

Funds contribution **\$15,600**

Direct beneficiaries **109**

KENYA

Mirror of Hope C.B.O*



Savings and Internal Lending Communities Project

Delivering business training and economic empowerment for women living in Kibera slums.

Funds contribution **\$61,500**

Direct beneficiaries **150**



Community education



Skill-building and vocational training



Agriculture



Infrastructure

STORIES OF *Strength*



KENYA • Edmund Rice Centre Nairobi

Strengthening protection and inclusion of children with disabilities

Esther's Story

Esther grew up as the oldest of four children in Western Kenya. Her dream was to become a nurse and help those in need. She became an Occupational Therapist (OT), initially working in an established hospital in Nairobi before pursuing her passion for helping those in the greatest need. This journey led her to Edmund Rice Centre Nairobi (ERCN), formerly the Mary Rice Centre.

On Esther's first day, she visited ERCN families in their homes within the informal settlement of Kibera which changed her life and perspective forever. Kibera is a large and densely populated urban slum characterised by intense poverty and little to no infrastructure and amenities. Esther witnessed families who faced enormous challenges including being shunned by their community because of disability. She recalls being in a one-room family home with eleven children, three of whom were living with multiple disabilities. For many, the struggle for a family managing disability and extreme poverty is heartbreaking to witness. Ten years on, Esther continues to be inspired and motivated to work tirelessly with this family and many others like them in Kibera.

Esther and the ERCN team advocate for disability rights, special needs education and provide access to vocational training. Esther has been instrumental in changing the damaging myths and deeply rooted cultural beliefs surrounding children with disabilities.

Where once it was common for children with disabilities to be restrained all day in their homes, now there is growing awareness and acceptance on matters of disability. ERCN provides a safe space for children with disabilities to learn and grow, and for their families to be supported.



OT Esther, works alongside a team at ERCN to provide a holistic approach for beneficiaries



Mamma Obama walks through the settlement and across a major highway so that her children can attend school each day.

Strengthening protection and inclusion of children with disabilities

Mama Vincent's story

As is the local custom, Mama Vincent is named after her firstborn son Vincent*. She lives in a 3 x 3 metre shack with her husband and seven children, in the informal settlement of Kibera. This valley of rusty corrugated iron shacks is estimated to be home to up to 1 million people. Kibera is defined by extreme poverty and very poor basic infrastructure. Vincent is 13 with severe autism and everyday milestones have been difficult for him to achieve. Vincent and his entire family face significant challenges and prejudice due to damaging popular myths and deeply rooted cultural beliefs surrounding children with disabilities. Often disability can lead to whole families being ostracised and their children being the target of violence and abuse.

Mama Vincent and her husband were introduced to the Edmund Rice Centre Nairobi – a haven for children with disabilities and their families – when Vincent was eight.

Here, Vincent attends school and occupational therapy and has a nutritious meal to aid his development. He also learns vocational skills in basic beadwork to help secure an income and contribute to his lifelong care. Vincent's siblings also benefit from support from the Centre, which works tirelessly to advocate for disability rights and shift beliefs surrounding the child and their family.

Mama Vincent volunteers in the kitchen at the Centre. She helps cultivate the gardens that provide nutritious meals for the children to aid their learning and development. Her husband has secured work as a daytime guard for the Centre, which provides a small income to the family. Their hope for Vincent is to gain access to a speech therapist to develop his communication skills so he can develop his confidence and independence.

**Not their real name*



Advocating for human rights

Edward's Story

Edward was deeply troubled by the persistent high levels of violence against women and girls in South African communities. He was compelled to write an honours thesis and companion blog, 'Boys will be Joys', on the link between masculinities and Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

Edward soon caught the attention of The Justice Desk in South Africa, and was invited to join iNtsika yeThemba. This project exists to support young men and boys to defend women's rights and become pillars of hope within their communities.

Edward is passionate about young people's development and challenging destructive ideas about masculinity. Since joining iNtsika yeThemba, he has affirmed his belief that we can work towards a future where boys are free to be themselves and become the next generation of positive male role models South Africa desperately needs.

Edward has witnessed tremendous growth in the iNtsika boys and their willingness to expand the norms of masculinity – they are willing to grow, learn, develop and embody healthy ideas of masculinity. In addition, he has seen growing confidence amongst the boys to be themselves and to stand up for women in their communities.



iNtsika yeThemba (Pillars of Hope) Young Males Ending GBV in South Africa is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



Edward is working towards a generation of positive male role models in South Africa.

Lewis' Story

Lewis* is 16 and lives in a one-room house in Langa, an impoverished Township in Cape Town that exists due to the cruel history of discriminatory apartheid rules. Lewis lives in a community where he does not feel safe, or able to be himself. Gang-culture is commonplace and young men learn early that it is normal to resort to violence and abuse, especially towards women.

Lewis' mother and brother work very hard to provide him with access to education. He was introduced to the iNtsika yeThemba "Pillars of Hope" project at school. The project exists to challenge persistently high levels of violence directed towards women and girls, and to teach young men that there are many positive ways to be a man.

The project engages with young men aged 13-18 during a critical time in their lives where opinions, ideas and beliefs that reinforce gender inequalities can be challenged and shaped. Lewis regularly attends empowerment workshops that challenge gender expectations and traditional male stereotypes to foster a generation of positive male role models. At the project, he has a safe space to talk about issues without judgement and is encouraged to believe in himself and his authentic version of masculinity.

Lewis has become a role model for his family, friends, and community. He has learned how to recognise community injustices and speak up. Lewis aims to go to university and become a social worker helping other disadvantaged children.

**Not their real name*



Growing Strong agriculture project

Makesh's Story

Makesh* grew up in Meru County in central Kenya. Her family farmed under the shade of Mt. Kenya, a sacred mountain revered by local tribes. For generations, Makesh's ancestors have prayed for rain and fertile lands. Her parents, peasant farmers, worked their small family farm for income and sustenance.

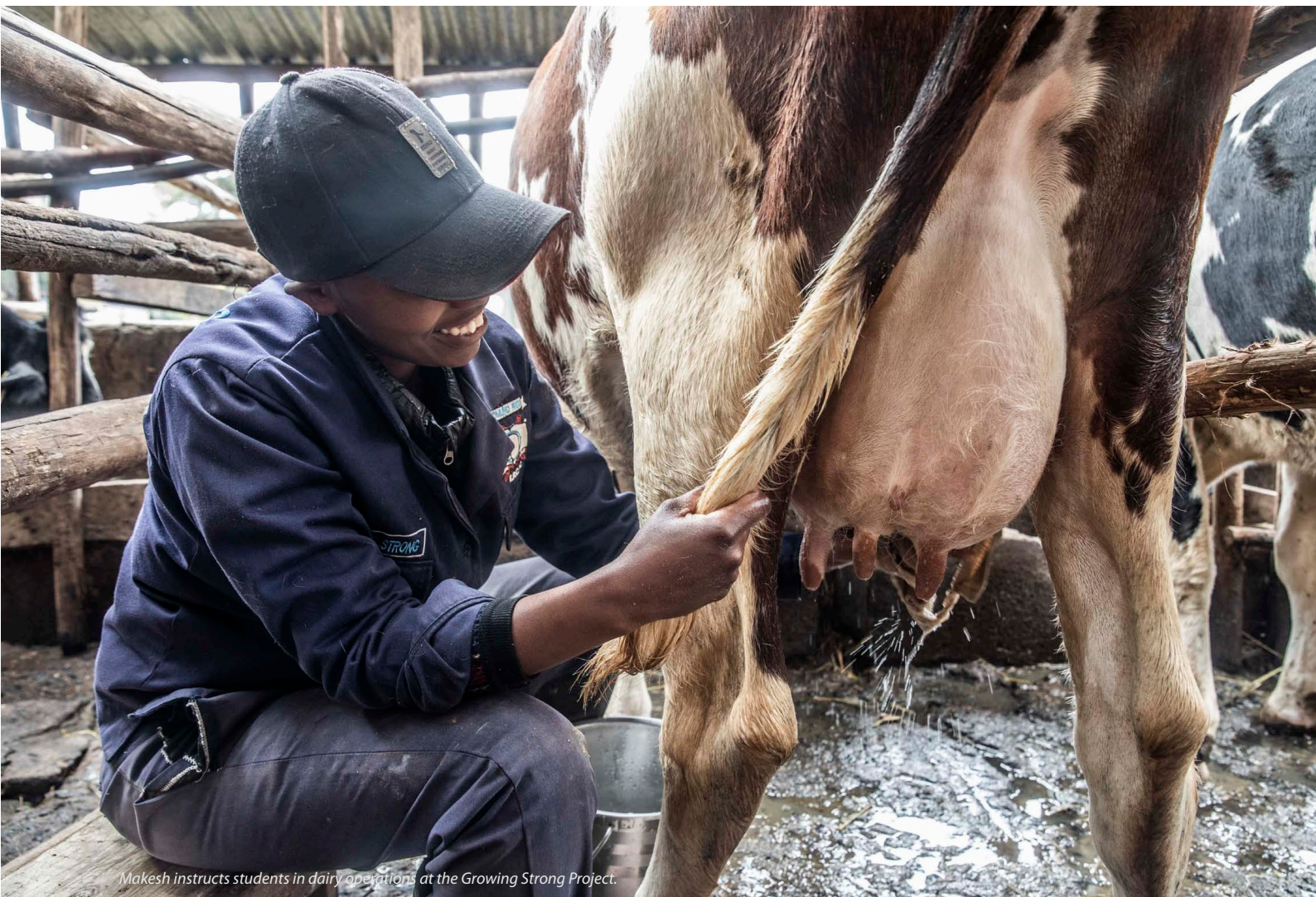
While there wasn't much money, she has fond memories of her childhood, and her parents worked hard to ensure both Makesh and her siblings obtained an education.

When Makesh completed high school, she recognised that her community would benefit from learning modern farming methods. However, farming is not respected, and many in her community attempted to discourage Makesh. Nevertheless, she remained committed to her passion and completed a diploma in general agriculture.

Today, Makesh is the Technical Supervisor for the Growing Strong Project. She advises the dairy on working effectively and efficiently, trains the local community on sustainable urban farming methods and advocates for agricultural empowerment within the community around Embulbul.

Makesh's greatest joy is witnessing the small-scale agricultural ventures appearing in homes within the community. These endeavours improve family nutrition and provide economic empowerment for families, particularly for women who sell excess produce at local markets. Makesh is also proud of the improvements to her family farm. She has taught her parents about crop diversification, pest management and producing organic manure leading to improved harvests.

**Not their real name*



Makesh instructs students in dairy operations at the Growing Strong Project.



Growing Strong agriculture project

Daniel's Story

Daniel* was born in Kosovo, Mathare – a violent and gang-controlled slum in Nairobi's Eastlands. Here, his mother sells grains, tea leaves and sugar in a small store to support Daniel's education. Daniel is the youngest of three and hasn't faced an easy path in his life. His older brother was killed when caught in a violent protest, his sister moved away, and his father died due to COVID-19 complications.

Daniel first experienced peace when he moved to Embulbul to live with his sister and attend school at the Edmund Rice Catholic Education Centre. It was also here that he joined the young farmers club under the guidance of Makesh. Since joining, Daniel has learned to grow traditional African vegetables. He now has a small 1x1 metre space behind his home where he grows vegetables for meals. His sister has also come to appreciate the project as Daniel's urban farm provides fresh vegetables, supplementing the food and nutrition of her own growing family.

Daniel has come to appreciate the value of agriculture in Kenya. He has experienced the power of urban farming and sees its potential to address crime and employment through food security. He hopes to inspire and influence his peers and classmates to change their perceptions of farming.

Daniel's dream is to obtain tertiary qualifications in agriculture, encourage the expansion of urban farming within his community, and become a large-scale manufacturer of organic fertiliser using the skills he's learned.



David has found peace in Embulbul and tends to the club farm on weekends.

A woman is walking away from the camera on a dirt path. She is carrying two large green plastic buckets, one in each hand. She is wearing a white short-sleeved shirt with black polka dots and a dark blue skirt with large, colorful, swirling patterns in red, yellow, and orange. She is barefoot. The background is a blurred landscape with trees and a clear sky.

We walk with
individuals
and communities
towards
*Sustainable
change.*

A woman walks to the well to gather water for farming in Zambia.

Support FROM THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

In 2022, ERFA achieved our long-term goal of becoming an accredited agency with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). As a base level accredited NGO, ERFA is eligible to receive annual funding under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) to support projects in developing countries.

In 2022/23, four ERFA partner projects are receiving funding under the ANCP:

The Mbokodo Club Project

Empowering Girl Survivors of Gender-Based Violence in South Africa implemented by The Justice Desk

iNtsika yeThemba (Pillars of Hope)

Young Males Ending Gender-Based Violence in South Africa implemented by The Justice Desk

Women's Empowerment

Women's Empowerment and Savings and Internal Lending's Community project in Kenya implemented by Mirror of Hope

Cebu Families Education

For Enhanced Livelihood Project in The Philippines implemented by Edmund Rice Ministries



Achieving DFAT base level Accreditation is recognition of our continued evolution as an international NGO with the UN Sustainable Development Goals at the heart of our work.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY



Sustainable Development Goal #1. To end poverty in all its forms everywhere.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Sustainable Development Goal #4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The DFAT Accreditation process assesses the organisational structure, philosophies, policies and practices of Australian NGOs.

This process ensures the Australian Government is funding professional, well-managed organisations that are capable of delivering quality development outcomes and are accountable to their stakeholders. It assures the Australian public that the Australian Government is working with the most effective partners.

ERFA is proud to be one of them.

MAKE A *Lasting Impact*

Every donation creates a lasting impact for disadvantaged communities.

ERFA is an accredited and respected international development organisation. We pride ourselves on being a safe pair of hands so that donors can feel confident that funds are only going towards carefully monitored and evaluated programs.

There are many ways you can help ERFA: attend an event, donate, involve your school through lesson activities or a fundraiser, or volunteer your time.

Your generosity makes a lasting impact.

Thank you for your support.

Lifelong learning opportunities for all, supporting empowered communities who determine their *Own futures.*

Boys play in the playground at Edmund Rice Catholic Education Centre





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*Liberating
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**Australian
Aid**



ACFID
MEMBER

Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia) is accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), responsible for managing Australia's development program. To maintain accreditation, ERFA's systems, policies and processes are rigorously reviewed by the Australian Government. ERFA receives support through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia) 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 the CEO at ceo@erf.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.