# Repairing bodies and rebuilding lives in the Asia Pacific region

**INTERPLAST ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19** 





# About us

Interplast Australia and New Zealand (Interplast) sends teams of volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals to provide life-changing surgery and health professional training in 17 countries across the Asia Pacific region.

Interplast's key focus is on training and mentoring local health care professionals so that they build their skills in delivering safe and effective surgery, post-operative care and rehabilitation in their communities for the benefit of future generations.

Local partners are at the centre of everything we do. We place a high value on our partnerships in the 17 countries in which we work to support our purpose of repairing bodies and rebuilding lives.

Interplast is a fully accredited non-government organisation (NGO) with the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Interplast is registered by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct.

Interplast was initially established in 1983 by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in partnership with Rotary. Interplast is a company limited by guarantee.

#### **OUR VISION**

People in developing countries across the Asia Pacific region have timely access to high quality surgical, medical and allied health services.

#### **OUR MISSION**

To enhance people's health and wellbeing by enabling access to life-changing reconstructive surgery and related medical services.

#### **OUR PURPOSE**

Repairing bodies, rebuilding lives.

#### **OUR VALUES**

We respect the values, cultures and perspective of the countries and people with whom we work.

In all our endeavours, Interplast remains independent of any political or religious affiliations.

We value and harness the support, input and contributions of our volunteers, donors, partners and staff.

#### **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

Interplast delivers and enables surgical and related medical services of the highest standards where patient welfare is always of paramount concern.

Interplast is collaborative in its approach, building partnerships and fostering strategic alliances.

Interplast's Development Philosophy is underpinned by the fundamental principle that solutions, changes and impact are determined by local needs and should be sustainable and enduring.

Measuring and understanding the impact of the Interplast initiatives is critical to all aspects of the Interplast strategy. Accordingly, transparency, evaluation and accountability are embraced in all Interplast's undertakings.

Interplast responds to needs or opportunities as they arise and as its resources allow. In doing so, Interplast directs its resources and expertise in areas where it can achieve the greatest impact, ideally to those experiencing the greatest disadvantage.

Interplast Australia & New Zealand Strategic Plan 2018–2021

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Interplast Australia and New Zealand is actively supported by Rotarians in Clubs and Districts throughout Australia and New Zealand.



The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons established Interplast with Rotarians and the Fellows remain active supporters.



Interplast Australia and New Zealand is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct.



# Our four areas of work

At Interplast, we focus on four complementary areas of program work: surgical programs, training and mentoring, systems strengthening, and planning and evaluation. In the 2018–19 financial year we completed 72 programs.

A summary of these programs is shown here, and you can read more detail in the pages to follow.

# **TONGA** KIRIBATI **SOLOMON** 3 PROGRAMS 4 PROGRAMS 2 PROGRAMS Training & mentoring Surgical Training & mentoring Training & mentoring Planning & evaluation Planning & evaluation **VANUATU** SAMOA 3 PROGRAMS 14 PROGRAMS\* **6** PROGRAMS Surgical Training & mentoring Training & mentoring Training & mentoring Planning & evaluation Planning & evaluation

#### TRAINING AND MENTORING

These are programs that have a primary focus on training, from microsurgery to nursing and allied health (such as physiotherapy and hand therapy). This can involve larger programs, one-on-one mentoring, and bringing health care professionals to Australia, New Zealand or other regional countries for professional development opportunities.

**67%** [48 programs]

#### **SURGICAL**

Surgical programs focus primarily on treating patients, with some training built into the program through in-theatre mentoring and/or lectures.

**19%** [14 programs]

#### PLANNING AND EVALUATION

These programs usually involve a combination of Interplast program staff and health care volunteers visiting program countries to assess a situation to plan for new programs, or to monitor and evaluate the impact and effectiveness of existing programs.

**11%** [8 programs]

#### SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

These programs involve working with our local partners to improve their systems, processes and resources to enhance patient care and health outcomes.

**3%** [2 programs]

Note: In addition to the 70 programs delivered across the Asia Pacific, Interplast completed two regional programs – the Marshall International Scholarships and the development of our resource database.

\* Includes Pacific Islands programs



Interplast's financial result is positive for this financial year – a large turnaround in circumstances – due to the efforts of all in the organisation. Additionally, the Board and management have heavily focused on strengthening our systems, policies and processes in the lead-up to the five-year review of Interplast's accreditation with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

On the governance side of activities, the Board has welcomed three new members in Peter Caldwell, Kirstie MacGill and Amy McLeod. I look forward to seeing what they bring to

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been a busy and fruitful 2018–19 at Interplast.

Program delivery continues at high levels across our surgical, training and mentoring, planning and evaluation, and systems strengthening programs. This level of activity is only possible with the major support of our volunteers and local and international partners.

Board discussions from the breadth and depth of their careers. The Board has also established a new Supporter Engagement Committee which is providing new insights into the needs and expectations of our supporters.

I would like to formally acknowledge our key major supporters for their ongoing support including the Australian Government through DFAT, Rotary clubs and districts across Australia and New Zealand, the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons and the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons. We truly value your support and hope to extend our relationships into the future.

An undoubted highlight of the year was the function at Victoria's Government House to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the establishment of Interplast. It was a wonderful evening and a great way to honour our volunteers and supporters.

To conclude, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our supporters and volunteers, and Board with particular thanks to CEO Prue Ingram and staff for their tireless work and commitment to the organisation.

Keith Mutimer, President



# **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

I had the very great pleasure of having direct involvement with a number of Interplast programs this year. An example was the visit to Port Vila, Vanuatu and Honiara, Solomon Islands. These visits formed part of the Pacific Review that Interplast conducted this year.

Senior Programs Activities
Coordinator Thomas Loporto and
I met with various local partners
in Vanuatu and the Solomon
Islands including local surgeons,
anaesthetists, nurses, allied health,
hospital management, ministry staff
and Australian High Commission
staff. The aim of these visits was to
ensure the relevance and suitability
of our programs in both countries.
I'm pleased to report that a
Memorandum of Understanding was
signed with the Ministry of Health in
the Solomon Islands during the visit.

The in-country visits to Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands were also a great opportunity to observe Interplast programs: the inaugural nurse education visit in Port Vila and surgical program and allied health mentoring program in Honiara. Every time I observe volunteers on programs or meet with volunteers in Melbourne I am taken aback by their compassion and dedication. The volunteers give so freely of their time to Interplast and I am immensely thankful to them – one and all.

One piece of particularly important work completed this year was the development of a new online Child Protection Training module which all volunteers are now required to successfully complete prior to going on a program. This online tool is another important measure towards compliance with safeguarding and child protection.

In a first for Interplast, in February 2019 we completed our first surgical program to Luang Prabang in Laos, following a needs assessment undertaken in 2018. This program was not without its challenges however, and our volunteers were extremely flexible and delivered a successful program.

There is so much more I could report on but will let you read this Annual Report to learn more about our programs and activities.

I will take this opportunity to thank the Interplast staff who make everything you read in this report possible. My thanks also go to our supporters and donors, local partners and of course our amazing volunteers.

Prue Ingram, CEO





# **VALE**

Interplast's Patron, Professor Donald Marshall AM, passed away in December 2018. Donald played a key role in establishing Interplast in 1983 after witnessing the growing need for reconstructive surgery while establishing a training base in Bangladesh. He was President of Interplast for 16 years before becoming Interplast's inaugural Patron.

# Our work: Surgery

Plastic and reconstructive surgery is at the core of Interplast's work, changing lives for the better.

#### WHAT DOES A SURGICAL PROGRAM INVOLVE?

An Interplast surgical program includes a team of up to seven volunteers including plastic and reconstructive surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals such as hand therapists. The program runs for one to two weeks and we work in partnership with a local hospital to deliver a program primarily focused on treating patients.

Training is built into the program through mentoring within a clinical context in the operating theatre or on the ward. Interplast volunteers may also deliver formal lectures

#### WHY IS PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY SO VITAL?

The Lancet Commission on Global Surgery (2015) reports that:

- 5 billion people do not have access to safe, affordable surgical and anaesthesia care when needed.
- The urgent need for surgical care in the world's poorest regions is widely unrecognised. In 2010, an estimated 16.9 million lives (32.9 per cent of all deaths worldwide) were lost from conditions needing surgical care. This figure well surpassed the number of deaths from HIV/AIDS (1.46 million), tuberculosis (1.20 million), and malaria (1.17 million) combined.
- Each year, at least 77.2 million disability-adjusted life-years (DALYs) could be averted by basic, life-saving surgical care. As with so many global health challenges, the burden of untreated surgical conditions falls heaviest on individuals living in low-income and middle-income countries.
- An estimated 143 million people each year world-wide go without surgical attention they urgently need. More than 99 million of those cases are in Asia and Oceania, where Interplast works.

## SNAPSHOT: SURGICAL

PROGRAMS:

14

SURGERIES PER PROGRAM (UP TO):

80

SHARE OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY:

19%

#### 14 SURGICAL PROGRAMS INCLUDING

PATIENT CONSULTATIONS:

1014

OPERATIONS\*:

518

OLDEST PATIENT:

89

Male, Vanuatu, skin cancer removal

YOUNGEST PATIENT:

28 DAYS

Male, Philippines, burns scar contracture release, hands

\* The consultations and operations took place during surgical programs and training and mentoring programs.



#### **CAUSES OF CONDITIONS**

**36%** Congenital (e.g. cleft lip/palate)

■ 41% Trauma, including burns

■ **18%** Tumours (benign and malignant)

■ 5% Other (infective conditions and conditions that are inflammatory/degenerative)



#### **TYPES OF SURGERY**

29% Cleft lip and palate surgery

**7%** Repair of other congenital conditions

**23%** Reconstruction - burns injury

■ 19% Reconstruction - (non-burns) trauma

■ **18%** Surgical treatment of benign or malignant tumour

**4%** Treatment of infective or degenerative condition



# **FIJI: SURGICAL FIRST**

The highlight of the September 2018 surgical program in Fiji was the completion of a surgical first for the country. The procedure involved the removal of a large ameloblastoma tumour of the mandible (lower jaw) for a 34-year-old woman. The surgeons then reconstructed her lower jaw using a free fibular flap.

A free fibular flap is a way of replacing bone in either the upper or lower jawbone. It is used to replace bone that has been removed due to cancer. The surgeons took the fibular bone (the flap) from the lower leg along with the associated blood vessels. The bone was then transferred to the head and neck and secured in position with small plates and screws. The surgeons then joined the blood vessels supplying and draining the flap to blood vessels in the patient's neck, under a microscope. The blood vessels keep the flap alive while it heals into its new place.

This was the first free bone flap performed in Fiji and was carried out in close collaboration between Interplast volunteer surgeon Mansoor Mirkazemi, local plastic and reconstructive surgeon Semesa Matanaicake and local oral surgeon Dr Inosi.

The surgery was completed successfully.

Note this photo is of a different operation; volunteer surgeon Simon Thomson is demonstrating free flaps in Fiji.



# Myanmar: bringing back a patient's smile

During Interplast's Surgical Mentoring and Nurse Education programs at Yangon General Hospital, Myanmar in November 2018, our volunteers met 25-year-old Phyu Phyu.

Six years ago, Phyu Phyu's life changed when she fell into a fire during an epileptic seizure and severely burnt her face and right arm.

Phyu Phyu was treated at the local hospital and her burns were dressed, however, with no pressure garments or physiotherapy available her skin contracted as her burns healed. These contractures meant Phyu Phyu had difficulty eating, couldn't smile and could not extend her arm fully to pick up her young daughter or work.

Phyu Phyu travelled for nine hours by train with her husband to Yangon General Hospital to see the Interplast team and local team. When they assessed Phyu Phyu, they noted that without surgery the skin around her mouth and arm would have continued to contract resulting in further limitation of movement. Phyu Phyu had already developed a chronic ulcer on her arm from movement which caused tearing of the scar.

The skin around Phyu Phyu's mouth was released, which meant following recovery she could eat and smile again. Surgeons also completed a skin graft to restore function to her elbow. The Interplast team worked closely with the local staff during the surgery so that patients with similar conditions in the future can receive the same vital treatment.



## **SAMOA: SEVERE BURNS TREATED**

12-year-old Seeni had a severe burn on her hand. Her injury had caused her to have webbed fingers that she couldn't extend properly. When asked why she wanted surgery, she said it was because the kids at school bully her and she constantly hides her hand in her pocket.

On the day of her operation at Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital in Apia, Samoa, Interplast volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeon Ben Norris was able to take a skin graft from Seeni's forearm, separate the webbing on her fingers and recreate her hand. This meant that Seeni's hand regained its normal appearance and gave her the potential to regain the use of her fingers.

When Seeni had recovered from the surgery, she had hand therapy with Interplast volunteer physiotherapist Katie Anjou and local physiotherapist Mathew. This helped Seeni to regain the use of her hand. Mathew is now equipped to teach other local allied health professionals how to make and use splints as part of providing hand therapy.



# **KIRIBATI: COUSINS RECEIVE DUAL SURGERIES**

Novela is a one-year old girl born with a cleft lip and cleft palate. Her mother Tuete was surprised to learn that her sister Rakabwa also had a baby daughter (Tebaauea) born with a cleft lip and palate.

Nobody had mentioned Tebaauea's cleft lip and palate until Tuete posted a photo online of Novela and Rakabwa saw that her new niece also had the same condition.

The sisters felt surprised and yet comforted to share this experience with their daughters although they were very puzzled that such a thing happened as there was no prior history in their family.

The sisters and the cousins flew to Tarawa in Kiribati where the Interplast surgical team successfully operated on Novela and Tebaauea.



## **MYANMAR: BRIGHT OUTLOOK FOR AR**

Ar is a 4-year-old who was treated by the local team in Myanmar with support from the Interplast team during the June 2019 surgical mentoring program. Ar was less than a year old when she was scalded with hot water, badly burning her right hand.

Like other children her age, Ar wants to live an active life, playing and exploring the world.

Ar and her mother travelled to Interplast's clinic at Yangon General Hospital. If left untreated, the burn scar contracture would have tightened more over time, restricting Ar's hand movement and functionality as she got older.

The surgery took just over four hours, with the local team working alongside Interplast surgeons to successfully release the burn scar contracture.

Ar is pictured with her mother (centre) and Interplast volunteer anaesthetist Samantha Leung.





# Our work: Training and mentoring

Interplast aims to have a substantial and sustainable impact on the lives of people across the Asia Pacific. We do this in two main ways: the training and mentoring of local health professionals in their home countries and by supporting training visits of regional health professionals to regional locations or Australia and New Zealand.

#### WHAT DOES AN INTERPLAST TRAINING AND MENTORING PROGRAM INVOLVE?

An Interplast training and mentoring program is shorter in duration than a surgical program – usually no more than one week. The training and mentoring programs also have smaller teams than surgical programs – usually a maximum of two to three people depending on the training focus and the size of the trainee group.

The training and mentoring program may include some clinical work (such as consultations and operations) for teaching purposes, for example during a surgical or allied health mentoring visit or classroom-based teaching.

Our training and mentoring programs also include scholarships for overseas health professionals to attend training opportunities in Australia, New Zealand or other regional countries.

#### INTERPLAST DELIVERS TRAINING AND MENTORING IN VARIOUS WAYS

Interplast delivers a variety of different types of training opportunities through our programs in-country and through visits, scholarships and observational placements in Australia and New Zealand. These might range from highly advanced skills through to basic training. Each program is tailored to the needs of the local partners, the country, and the region.



#### SNAPSHOT: TRAINING & MENTORING

PROGRAMS:

48

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES DELIVERED:

1786

SHARE OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY:

**67%** 

#### **TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

EXTENDED OVERSEAS TRAINING PLACEMENTS (TWO OR MORE WEEKS):

5

PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS IN-COUNTRY OR OVERSEAS:

709

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN-THEATRE OR ON-WARD:

539

IN-COUNTRY LECTURES/ PRESENTATIONS:

**527** 

PARTICIPANTS AT OVERSEAS CONFERENCES (LOCAL TRAINEES):

6

TOTAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES DELIVERED BY INTERPLAST:

1786

# VANUATU AUDOC CDUCATO

### **NURSE EDUCATION**

Nurse education was delivered in an August 2018 training program. Interplast volunteer nurses Philippa Tesselaar and Bree Pilgrim are pictured right with training participants.

# **MYANMAR: VALUES IN ACTION**

In June 2019, a team of Interplast volunteers travelled to Yangon General Hospital (YGH) in Yangon, Myanmar to deliver a surgical mentoring and nurse education program. Working with local partners in the YGH Plastics and Maxillofacial Unit the surgical team completed 10 operations, with most being head and neck procedures.

In addition to mentoring, education and the surgery, some creative thinking by the team led to a 'first' for Myanmar and Interplast.

The surgeons and anaesthetists at the hospital are used to undertaking training on the Interplast team's final day in Myanmar. In 2019 for the first time, nursing staff were invited to participate in a team-building day with a focus on communication.

Interplast volunteer nurse Sarah Chadwick facilitated the training that focused on respect and teamwork. The Interplast team led some fun team-building exercises. The training covered serious matters too, with basic life support and advanced life support education, but the core of the training was team development.





## **MONGOLIA: OPTIMISM FOR BOLDKHUYAG**

At 19 years old, Boldkhuyag is an ambitious young woman. She moved away from her family in Murun to study her Bachelor of Chinese Language in Ulaanbaatar and hopes to complete her Master's degree to ultimately work as a translator for diplomats.

Boldkhuyag (pictured at left with Interplast volunteer nurse Mary Gow) was burnt by hot tea as a baby, scarring and changing the shape of her hand. This meant that school was not always easy for Boldkhuyag. The burn contractures on her right hand made it difficult for her to write quickly and keep up with the material being rapidly dictated by her teachers. She also often experienced stiffness, tiredness and pain in her injured hand and fingers when typing.

In August 2018 the Interplast surgical team successfully operated on her hand at Khovsgol United Hospital in Murun, Mongolia, releasing the burn contractures. This was part of the Interplast burns mentoring program.

Boldkhuyag is now optimistic about her future.



# Fiji: burns training enhances skills

In early 2019, Interplast volunteer nurse Bec Schrale completed her fifth program to Fiji to co-deliver the 'Emergency Management of Severe Burns' (EMSB) training alongside four other Interplast volunteers. This training is a collaborative project between the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA) and Interplast. The training drew participants from across the Pacific region.

The EMSB course focuses on the first 24 hours of care after a severe burn – a crucial period for action to ensure the best outcomes possible for the patient.

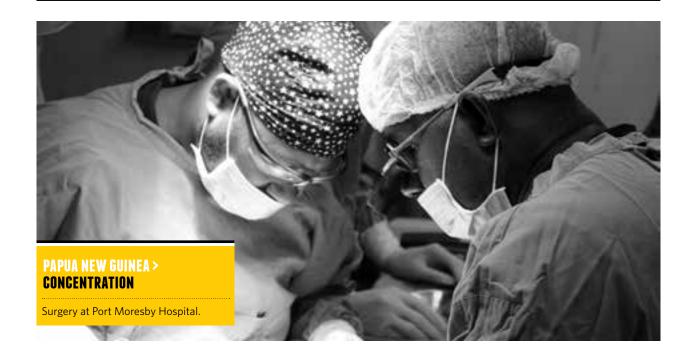
The EMSB training is for a range of health care professionals – from nurses and allied health to junior and senior medical staff – with everyone

undertaking the same course. Interplast ran two courses over two days, training 48 people.

Interplast volunteers also identified and trained instructors who will go on to deliver the EMSB training itself in future, with our support. Interplast's ambition is for the program to be delivered by local partners going

forward. Interplast aims to support our local partners so that Fiji becomes the Pacific hub for burns training as they have a dedicated burns unit and the Pacific's only plastic and reconstructive surgeon, Dr Semesa Matanaicake.







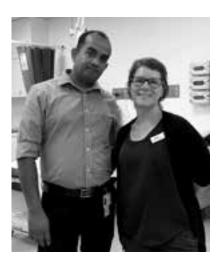
## SRI LANKA - MELBOURNE: LEARNING AT LEADING BURNS SERVICE

Priyantha Gunathilaka was a recipient of the Interplast Doyle Family Scholarship and had an observational training placement at the Victorian Adult Burns Service at the Alfred Hospital in March 2019. Priyantha is pictured with Alfred Hospital burns nurse practitioner Hana Menezes.

Priyantha, who visited with three Sri Lankan surgeons, has 12 years of experience as a theatre nurse and is passionate about making health care services accessible to marginalised communities in Sri Lanka to ensure patients can have the best possible outcomes.

Priyantha works at the Kurunegala General Hospital about two hours from Colombo in Sri Lanka. Kurunegala General Hospital is in the initial stages of developing the first regional burns unit in Sri Lanka, an initiative led by Dr Gayan Ekanayake. Priyantha was selected by Dr Ekanayake to participate in this placement through an extensive selection process which included attending lectures and sitting a theoretical examination on burns management.

Being the first nurse from Kurunegala General Hospital to be selected to participate in an international learning experience was an honour for Priyantha. He plans to implement his learnings from the Alfred Hospital at the hospital in Sri Lanka.





# Scholarships and professional development opportunities

This financial year Interplast provided a range of professional development opportunities for overseas health care personnel, supporting them to undertake invaluable training and networking with their overseas peers.

These opportunities included training attachments where Interplast supported individuals to travel from their base location to participate in a training activity or conference, or to join an Interplast surgical or training team. In many instances, Interplast volunteers also support these training placements in Australia and New Zealand.

Please note that this list does not include specific workshops run overseas for large groups such as those delivered in South Asia or the Pacific for regional participants.

#### **ACTIVITIES AND OVERSEAS HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL**

Anaesthesia professional development placement (Melbourne)

Dr Vanpheng Norasingh (Laos) and Dr Boualy Vannavong (Laos)

Anaesthesia professional development (Ballarat) supported by Interplast volunteers Dr John Oswald and Dr Shakti Palanivel

Dr Berliana Prastiti and Dr Putri Rizkiya (Indonesia)

Participation at the Australian Society of Plastic Surgery 'Plastic Surgery Congress' in Melbourne, supported by the Marshall International Scholarship (three people) and RACS (one person)

Dr Gayan Ekanayake (Sri Lanka), Dr Kingphouthone Saythala (Laos), Dr Pritha Hadi (Indonesia) and Dr Semesa Matanaicake (Fiji)

Presenting and participating in the International Society for Burns Injuries conference in India

Dr Animesh Biswar (Bangladesh)

Observational training placement focused on burns treatment (Melbourne), supported by Interplast volunteers Louise Higgins and Dr Heather Cleland (Doyle Family Scholarship)

Dr Jayathilakage Lasantha Nuwan Jayathilaka, Dr Dedohokarage Chandra Kumara Hemantha and Mr Hewa Pathiranage Priyantha Ranjith Gunathilaka (Sri Lanka)

Interplast craniofacial surgery mentoring program in Sri Lanka (supporting a Nepalese surgeon to attend)

Dr Pramila Shakya (Nepal)

Anaesthesia observational training placement (Melbourne) supported by Interplast volunteer Associate Professor Michael Leung and Dr Ashit Das

Dr San San Lwin (Myanmar)

Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Bangladesh (supporting Nepalese participants to attend)

Amir Bajracharya, Anoj Rajkarnikar, Rohan Pradhan and Suresh Pradhan (Nepal)



# Our work: Planning and evaluation

#### **BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE**

To ensure Interplast programs are effective and based on local needs, we plan and evaluate programs on an ongoing basis.

Activities in this area of work may include Interplast staff and/ or volunteers undertaking needs assessments for new programs, establishing formal agreements with local partners, or visits to meet with local partners to discuss ongoing programs.

The number of these of programs completed in any year depends on need and the funding available.

#### ${\sf SNAPSHOT:}\, \textbf{PLANNING}\, \textbf{\&}\, \textbf{EVALUATION}$

PROGRAMS:

8

SHARE OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY:

11%

#### WHAT PLANNING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES DOES INTERPLAST UNDERTAKE?

For all individual program activities, our volunteer teams complete comprehensive reporting on the program and its outcomes. This complements clinical information captured through patient records, as well as documentation around training participants and topics.

Local partners provide feedback on each activity, including local coordinators and trainees completing individual reports, and people who take part in training workshops completing evaluations. Reports are also completed by our program coordinators, covering logistical, financial and operational aspects of the activity.

All clinical activities are reviewed through our clinical governance processes.

Every year Interplast completes a comprehensive country plan for each of our 17 partner countries. Through this process, staff work closely with local partners and volunteer country coordinators to review the previous year's programs and plan for the coming financial year.

In addition to these routine activities, each year we identify specific countries or programs that are due for a more comprehensive evaluation, along with opportunities for needs assessments for potential new programs. These more focused planning and evaluation programs usually include a visit to partners in our program country by a team that can include Interplast staff and/or volunteers.



## **NEPAL: PLANNING AND EVALUATION PROGRAM**

In May 2019, two Interplast staff members visited several locations in Nepal on a planning and evaluation program.

## ^ NEPAL A TEAM APPROACH

The Dhulikhel Hospital physiotherapy team is pictured with Interplast staff member Lindsay Morton (fifth from the right) and Binay Kandel, lecturer/consultant physiotherapist from the hospital (fifth from the left).

The staff met with local partners at Kirtipur Hospital to obtain more information about policies and procedures relating to finance, child protection, PSEAH (Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment), environment, gender equality and disability inclusion.

In addition, the team visited local partners at Dhulikhel Hospital to discuss their five-year plan and obtain more information about policies and procedures relating to finance, child protection, PSEAH, environment, gender equality and disability inclusion.

The program also included meeting with local disabled persons organisations and gender organisations to discuss opportunities to make Interplast program activities more inclusive.

Interplast also completed a needs assessment at the National Trauma Centre to determine their interest and capacity to deliver Interplast surgical programs.

#### VIETNAM: DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

Interplast staff CEO Prue Ingram (third from left) and Jess Hill (second from left) with key local partners at Cho Ray Hospital in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam in May 2019.



# Interplast in the Pacific Region

A REVIEW OF PROGRAMS 1983-2018: FIJI, KIRIBATI, SAMOA, SOLOMON ISLANDS, TONGA AND VANUATU

This financial year Interplast staff and volunteers completed a major review of our programs delivered across the Pacific from 1983 to 2018. This 'Pacific Review' was a significant piece of research and included visits to the relevant partner countries.

Although Interplast has a long history of engagement in the Pacific region, we had not previously examined the region's programs in a holistic way. After over three decades of Pacific programs, Interplast decided to step back and assess what has been achieved across the region, capturing the impact of its surgical and training programs on the lives of individuals, families and communities in six Pacific Island countries; Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

The purpose of the review was twofold: to assist Interplast in assessing the effectiveness of its programs, and to inform planning for future programs across the Pacific. (Papua New Guinea was not included as a Pacific Island country for the purposes of the review.)

From August to early October 2018, the review team met with a broad cross-section of local partners and people in each of the Pacific Island countries that were the subject of this review as well as interviewing and surveying volunteers who had participated in Pacific programs.

#### **FINDINGS**

Without exception, the review team was told that the work Interplast volunteers undertake is greatly appreciated by hospital administrators, patient care staff, representatives of Ministries, and the patients and their families.

The range of services is viewed as being appropriate to the needs of medical professionals and patients. Those interviewed were able to assist the review team in ascertaining which aspects of the program Interplast is 'getting right' and identify areas of future need.

The Pacific Review identified that there is a great desire on the part of local partners for Interplast to continue to deliver surgical programs to meet needs which cannot currently be met by local surgeons, and to provide ongoing support to the professional development of local health care professionals. Much remains to be done to improve health care capacity in the Pacific region and Interplast clearly has an ongoing role in helping local partners achieve this aim.

People trust the work that Interplast does, but its legacy is training, training numbers of individuals to a level of competence, so that people have confidence in their own surgeons. The trust is the dividend of years of hard work and comes from treating people with respect and dignity.

Interplast has achieved this in spades; people have a huge affection for Interplast.

Volunteer

We are very grateful for the [Interplast] program. There are cases beyond our capacity, and Interplast fills that gap. We wish the program to continue for many years, and we support its [long-term] goal of sustainability.

Local partner



# SAMOA > OBSERVING SURGERY

Interplast ambassador Jess Hosking observes surgery during a program in Samoa in September 2018.

## < SAMOA BIG SMILE

Patient Olivian recovers from surgery.



# Our work: Systems strengthening

#### **ENHANCING LOCAL EXPERTISE**

In some partner countries, our local partners have the skills and capacity to deliver a range of health care training themselves, but they need support in other ways to deliver training locally, or to build other aspects of their local systems. This may include ongoing support from afar (clinical support via electronic communication) from Interplast volunteers in managing complex cases, or some funding for local partners to deliver workshops and to help with transport to allow participants from remote areas to attend.

Systems strengthening may also include supporting partners to develop local clinical curricula (such as in Fiji, PNG and Myanmar), and setting up local procedures and guidelines necessary for quality clinical service delivery. These types of activities are generally built into other visits and are therefore not fully reflected in the numbers at right.

Similarly, some of our local partners have the expertise to provide surgery themselves but need help with resources. In this case, Interplast may provide limited funding for surgical supplies, outreach programs or to support basic administrative costs

These programs require that local partners comply with Interplast's funding agreements and reporting requirements. The partners must also be actively working towards financial sustainability.

#### SNAPSHOT: SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING

PROGRAMS:

2

SHARE OF PROGRAM ACTIVITY:

3%

## **MONGOLIA: SHARED LEARNINGS**

In Mongolia we provided support for the operational costs of the Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists (MSA). In 2018–19 this support enabled the MSA to run three types of activities.

#### 1. JOINT MEETING

The annual MSA scientific congress in Ulaanbaatar for which participants from the country areas received support for their travel. This meeting is the major annual event for the MSA and is significantly supported by the Australian Society of Anaesthetists.

Note that this activity is counted by Interplast under Training and mentoring.

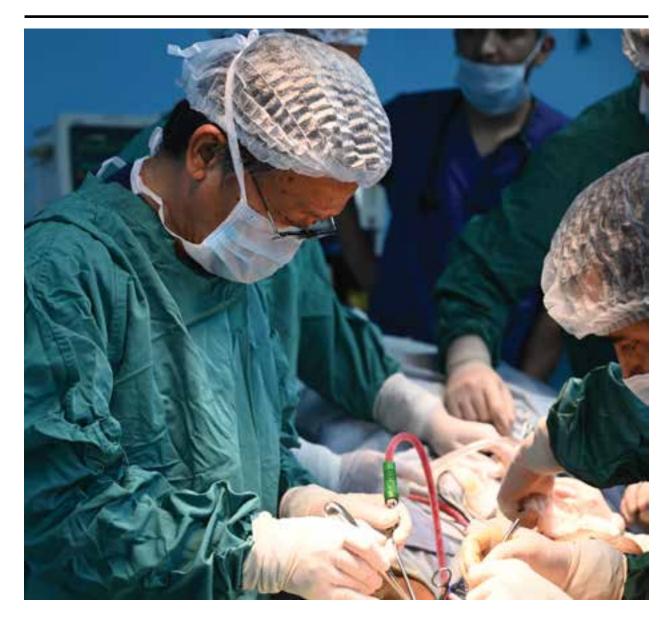
#### 2. EMERGENCY CARE TRAINING

Conducting the Initial Emergency
Course (IEC) in Aimag (District)
centre for rural GPs. Experts from
Australasian College of Emergency
Medicine joined with the Mongolia
emergency doctors to deliver an
updated course training GPs in how to
provide emergency care for nomads
who live and work in the districts.

#### 3. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Support to run MSA-based residency training for junior anaesthesiologists through the MSA education centre.





# ^ NEPAL CHANGING LIVES

Local partner and surgeon Dr Shankar Rai operates at Kirtipur Hospital in Nepal.

# NEPAL: MAJOR SURGERIES COMPLETED INDEPENDENTLY

In Nepal we supported the local plastic surgical team at Kirtipur Hospital to undertake 12 major reconstructive surgery (including microsurgery) cases between Interplast visits. This financial contribution enabled the surgeries and training to be undertaken while Interplast volunteers, such as Damien

Grinsell, provided remote monitoring. Cases included microvascular free tissue transfer surgery for patients with trauma to limbs, a major reconstruction of a jawbone defect and surgery to repair injury following an electrical burns injury.

The local partners value this funding. In their words:

The program has given us the opportunity to train our residents and faculty of the department in microsurgery. This has also given us the opportunity to provide this highly specialised service to people who would not otherwise be able to access the service. This also has generated a few publications which has helped a few of our faculty members to get academic promotions in the university. The image of the hospital has also been uplifted as a facility that performs microsurgery on a routine basis. Our confidence as an able plastic surgical team is also a product of this program.

Dr Shankar Rai

# Celebrating 35 years



Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria and Mr Anthony Howard AM QC hosted a reception at Victoria's Government House on Wednesday 27 March 2019 to celebrate Interplast's 35th anniversary. More than 120 Interplast supporters attended the event including many of our volunteers, corporate partners, donors, Board members and staff.

Photo credit: Woodrow Wilson, Clinical Imaging Australia





5 Training & mentoring 1 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

189 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Centre for Injury Prevention and Research Bangladesh (CIPRB) Dhaka Medical College Hospital Dhaka Community Hospital Acid Survivors Foundation Bangladesh Society for the Study of Pain

COUNTRY COORDINATOR Mr Russell Corlett

#### **BANGLADESH**

Through Interplast's work in Bangladesh we seek to strengthen the ability of the local health system to provide quality burns management and surgical, nursing and allied health services. This year, our work focused on burns management, essential pain management and allied health training.

Interplast Country Coordinator Russell Corlett and Interplast Program Manager Jess Hill attended the official opening of the Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery in Dhaka. During the visit they also met with local partners to discuss future training opportunities.

Interplast delivered essential pain management training to anaesthetists and medical personnel in Dhaka and Kushtia.

Building on previous Interplast training, we delivered a three-day allied health workshop to local physiotherapists and occupational therapists in Dhaka to build capacity in burns management. The workshop was hosted at Dhaka Community Hospital and was the first time that Interplast has delivered a program in partnership with this hospital. The workshop involved participants from a number of Interplast local partner agencies in Bangladesh. This activity promoted stronger relations between these local partners and provided great networking opportunities for the therapists involved. In addition, we delivered a short refresher training course in pressure garment manufacturing for staff at the Acid Survivors Foundation.

In partnership with the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association, we continue to support our local partner, the Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB), to provide training across the country in Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB). Interplast also supported a Bangladeshi physician from CIPRB to present at the International Society for Burn Injuries conference in India about the importance of training medical personnel in emergency management of severe burns.



#### **4 PROGRAMS**

2 Surgical

2 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

183 consultations 93 surgical procedures 382 hand therapy treatments 83 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital Mongar Regional Referral Hospital Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan Rotary Club of Thimphu

# COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dr Tim Proudman

#### **BHUTAN**

Interplast undertook four program activities to Bhutan.

With strong continued support from the Bhutan Ministry of Health and the Jigme Dorji Wangchuck National Referral Hospital, we delivered two concurrent surgical training and hand therapy mentoring activities. This included an outreach visit to Mongar Regional Referral Hospital in Eastern Bhutan in May 2019.

Each of these activities aimed to enhance the skills of local surgical teams and hand therapists and to provide improved access to plastic and reconstructive and hand therapy services to Bhutanese patients.

Training also focused on a young general surgeon, Dr Sonam Jamtsho, who has been identified as the first potential plastic and reconstructive surgical trainee and is expected to begin his specialised training overseas in 2020.

Our partners in Bhutan are eager to establish their own plastic surgery unit, with Interplast's support.



2 Surgical 10 Training & mentoring 2 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

52 surgical procedures 87 consultations 80 allied health treatments 280 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Colonial War Memorial Hospital Fiji National University Labasa General Hospital Lautoka General Hospital Rotary Club of Labasa Rotary Club of Lautoka Rotary Club of Suva North Ruel Foundation Fiji

#### COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Mr Simon Thomson

#### FIJI

Interplast undertook 14 program activities in Fiji.

We support the development of plastic and reconstructive surgery in Fiji through a multi-disciplinary approach to build local capacity in surgery, anaesthetics, nursing and allied health services. Our work also includes several regional programs that are implemented in Fiji but draw in participants from across the Pacific. These include training programs run through Fiji National University (FNU) in Suva as well as other regional training opportunities that target Pacific Islander health professionals, including Fijians.

Interplast provided mentoring support to Dr Semesa Matanaicake who leads the Plastics and Burns Unit at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital (CWM) in Suva through one individualised surgical mentoring visit to Suva, and two surgical service programs in Suva and Labasa.

These efforts were reinforced through a plastic surgery skills workshop run in partnership with FNU. This training allowed Masters and Diploma of Surgery candidates, as well as several junior surgeons from across the region, to learn some of the basics of plastic surgery.

Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB) courses (for both providers and instructors) resumed in 2018. Two provider courses were delivered again in 2019 in collaboration with the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA). These have been very successful, and the goal is to establish Fiji as the EMSB hub of the Pacific once a large enough local faculty is in place.

We continued our important work to strengthen local physiotherapy and speech therapy with an allied health mentoring visit to Suva and through the ongoing annual formalised training workshop for physiotherapists in partnership with FNU.

We delivered a nurse training workshop in Suva to the post-graduate (practicing) nurses from the CWM Hospital.

Interplast supported the ongoing training of Dr Matanaicake by facilitating his attendance at the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Plastic Surgery Congress.

Although Interplast has a long history of engagement in the Pacific region, it has not previously examined the region's programs in a holistic way. After over three decades of Pacific programs, Interplast decided to step back and assess what has been achieved across the region, capturing the impact of its surgical and training programs on the lives of individuals, families and communities in six Pacific Island countries; Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. See further about the Pacific Review on page 20.

On invitation Interplast presented at the annual Pacific Island Directors of Clinical Services meeting held in Nadi in April 2019.

# FIJI > WORKSHOP

Interplast volunteer speech pathologist Sarah Florisson trains nurses during the July 2018 allied health workshop.





1 Training & mentoring\*

#### THE NUMBERS

3 local health care staff trained

#### PARTNERS

Indonesian Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons Dr Soetomo Hospital - Surabaya

**COUNTRY COORDINATOR** Vacant

#### **INDONESIA**

Interplast undertook two programs\* for Indonesia, both of which involved bringing health care professionals to Australia for professional development. No activities took place in Indonesia itself.

Interplast seeks to support the development of quality plastic and reconstructive surgical and anaesthetic services in Indonesia through the training of local health professionals.

This year we supported two Indonesian anaesthetic registrars, Dr Berliana Prastiti and Dr Putri Rizkiya from the Dr Soetomo Hospital in Surabaya to undertake a professional development and mentoring placement at Ballarat Health Services, overseen by Interplast volunteer anaesthetist, Dr Shaktivel Patel.

Through the Marshall International Scholarship, we also supported Dr Pritha Hadi of the Indonesian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons (InaPRAS), to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Plastic Surgery Congress. She was able to meet with many of her Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on her own experiences working as a plastic surgeon in Indonesia.

Interplast continued to work with InaPRAS to talk about further collaboration to enable Interplast to resume our activities in Indonesia.



#### **3 PROGRAMS**

1 Surgical

1 Training & mentoring

1 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

22 surgical procedures

49 consultations

10 allied health treatments

15 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Tungaru Central Hospital

COUNTRY COORDINATOR Vacant

#### **KIRIBATI**

Interplast seeks to alleviate disability through the provision of plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the i-Kiribati people, and to help fill the current and ongoing gaps in local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

This year, Interplast delivered three programs in Kiribati and supported two local surgeons to attend training in Fiji.

We delivered one surgical program, and for the first time, delivered an allied health mentoring program in Tarawa. This joint program focused on providing training to local medical personnel and therapists as well as providing surgery and treatment for patients in need.

Two surgeons from Tarawa participated in a plastic surgery workshop and Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Fiji which was run over the course of a week.

Two Interplast staff also conducted a planning and evaluation visit which formed part of the Pacific Review. Through discussions with local partners at the Tungaru Central Hospital and the Kiribati Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Interplast strengthened relationships and identified future training opportunities for local medical personnel and therapists.

<sup>\*</sup> The Marshall International Scholarship is counted under 'regional' projects.



2 Surgical

2 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

167 consultations

63 procedures

38 allied health treatments

18 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Mahosot Hospital Lao Friends Hospital for Children Cooperative Orthotic and Prosthetic Enterprise Laos Women's International Group

COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dr James Savundra

#### LAOS

Interplast undertook four programs in Laos this financial year.

Our focus in Laos continues to be strengthening the capacity of Mahosot Hospital in Vientiane, to provide quality plastic and reconstructive surgical and allied health services to its people.

This year we provided in-theatre surgical training, allied health training and supported the delivery of an outreach program at the Lao Friends Hospital for Children in Luang Prabang province in central Laos. A number of surgeons, nurses and anaesthetists involved in the Mahosot surgical program also participated in the outreach program, providing plastic and reconstructive services to the people of Luang Prabang province. This visit to Luang Prabang followed on from the delivery of a busy one-week visit to Mahosot in Vientiane.

As part of our ongoing partnership with Lao Ministry of Health, we again provided training and professional development opportunities in Australia. This included supporting two Laotian anaesthetists from Mahosot Hospital through a three-week observational program, based at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne.

Through the Marshall International Scholarship, we also supported Dr Kingphouthone Saythala from Mahosot Hospital to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress. He was able to meet with many of his Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on his own experiences working as a plastic surgeon in Laos.



#### **4 PROGRAMS**

1 Surgical

2 Training & mentoring 1 Systems strengthening

#### THE NUMBERS

59 consultations
20 procedures
7 allied health treatments
247 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Mongolian Society of Anaesthesiologists National Traumatology and Orthopaedic Research Centre Hospital (NTORC) Khovsgol United Hospital

### COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dr David Pescod

#### **MONGOLIA**

In 2018–19, Interplast undertook four programs in Mongolia.

With continued strong support from our Mongolian partners, our programs focused on free, life-changing surgeries and training in allied health, along with systems strengthening to further anaesthesia education.

Following the significant and positive response to initial activities delivered in Murun, we delivered a second surgical program to the Khovsgol United Hospital. More than 60 patients were seen by the Interplast team during the week, mostly for burns injuries. We also undertook an allied health needs assessment at Khovsgol United Hospital and delivered an allied health training activity within the burns unit at the NTORC.

Interplast continued to support the Mongolian Society of Anaesthetists (MSA) by providing institutional support for the operational costs of the MSA's training and education centre, in partnership with the Australian Society of Anaesthetists. We also continued our support of the annual MSA Conference, which provides training and professional development for anaesthetists throughout Mongolia.



7 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

42 consultations 23 operations 262 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Yangon General Hospital University of Medicine 1, Yangon

#### **COUNTRY COORDINATOR**

Associate Professor Michael Leung

#### **MYANMAR**

Seven activities took place for the year; six in Myanmar, and one in Australia.

In Myanmar, Interplast continued to strengthen our partnership with the University of Medicine 1, Yangon, and Yangon General Hospital's Department of Plastic, Maxillofacial and Oral Surgery, undertaking three separate surgical mentoring and nurse education programs. This partnership helps to build the strengths of local surgical and nursing personnel, providing quality plastic and reconstructive surgical, nursing and anaesthetic services to the people of Myanmar.

Mentoring activities throughout the year have focused on the current post-doctoral candidate as well as other plastic surgeons and surgical trainees (Masters of Plastic Surgery candidates) with a focus on skin flaps, microvascular free flaps, burn scar contracture releases and full thickness skin grafts.

Nurse education programs, in conjunction with all three surgical visits, have focused on general nursing, post-operative care, and wound management – all areas of capacity building identified by local staff, particularly junior nurses.

Interplast also supported the training and professional development of a senior anaesthetist from Yangon General Hospital, through a six-week placement at Dandenong Hospital (part of Monash Health) in Melbourne, under the guidance of Interplast volunteers based at this hospital.



#### **4 PROGRAMS**

2 Training & mentoring 1 Planning & evaluation 1 Systems strengthening

#### THE NUMBERS

29 consultations6 operations30 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

PHECT Nepal - Kirtipur Hospital Dhulikhel Hospital, Kathmandu University Hospital and Kathmandu University School of Medical Sciences

# COUNTRY COORDINATOR Mr Damien Grinsell

#### NEPAL

Interplast seeks to improve quality access to plastic and reconstructive surgery services for the most marginalised and vulnerable Nepali people. We do this by training local health care personnel in plastic and reconstructive surgery, nursing and allied health.

We support the ongoing training of local plastic and reconstructive surgeons by providing in-country training and facilitating training opportunities outside of Nepal. We also provide a small amount of funding to Kirtipur Hospital to undertake microsurgery cases independently of Interplast so that the local surgeons can continue to improve their skills and provide this surgery after our teams leave.

This year we delivered a microsurgery mentoring program in conjunction with a nurse education program at Kirtipur Hospital to continue to build capacity of local health care personnel. The Interplast team delivered lectures to doctors, anaesthetists and nurses throughout the program.

Interplast also conducted a planning and evaluation visit to meet with local partners to discuss future training opportunities and completed a needs assessment at a hospital – a potential new local partner. Interplast staff also met with local non-government organisations working in gender equality and disability inclusion to identify opportunities for Interplast to improve inclusive practices.

Interplast also supported four local surgeons to participate in the Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Bangladesh, delivered by CIPRB. This program aimed to build capacity of local surgeons and foster connections with Bangladeshi counterparts.



1 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

23 consultations 14 surgical procedures 133 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Port Moresby General Hospital Papua New Guinea Tribal Foundation Modilon General Hospital (Madang)

#### CO-COORDINATORS

Dr Peter Maloney and Dr Siddharth Karanth

#### **PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

Interplast undertook one program to Papua New Guinea, seeking to improve access to plastic and reconstructive surgery services for the most marginalised and vulnerable individuals, through provision of surgery and building of local capacity. This program was with our partner, Port Moresby General Hospital, and focused on the ongoing training and mentoring of the plastic surgery trainee, other surgical trainees, anaesthetic and nursing personnel.

We also supported PNG surgeons Dr Akule Awasano (from Port Moresby) and Dr Sylvester Huafolo (from Wewak) to attend and participate in the Interplast plastic surgery skills workshop held in Suva, as well as the Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB) training delivered immediately prior.

Unfortunately, Interplast was unable to deliver any further programs in Papua New Guinea in this period due to a lack of funding, however a number of program activities are scheduled and currently in planning for FY19–20.



#### 2 PROGRAMS

2 Surgical

#### THE NUMBERS

111 consultations 89 procedures

154 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Benguet General Hospital Filminera (PhilGold) Masbate Provincial Hospital JR Borja Memorial General Hospital Rotary Club of Cagayan de Oro

#### **COUNTRY COORDINATOR**

Dr Kevin Ho

#### **PHILIPPINES**

In 2018-19, Interplast delivered two programs to the Philippines.

We seek to improve quality access to plastic and reconstructive surgery services in the Philippines for the most marginalised and vulnerable people.

This year we delivered two general plastic and reconstructive surgical programs – in Baguio and Cagayan de Oro. We provided lectures and hands-on training to local medical personnel throughout the programs.

One general plastic and reconstructive surgical program was scheduled to be delivered in Masbate, however, due to the risk of increased incidence of measles in the area, the program had to be postponed.



1 Surgical

2 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

32 procedures

70 consultations

14 allied health treatments

72 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Tuapa Tamasese Meaole Hospital Malietoa Tanumafili II Hospital Rotary Club of Apia

COUNTRY COORDINATOR
Dr Benjamin Norris

#### SAMOA

Interplast undertook three programs to Samoa this financial year.

We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the Samoan people, and by filling the current and ongoing gaps in local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year we provided a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Apia, accompanied by a concurrent allied health training program.

We delivered the third annual nurse education program at Tuapa Tamasese Meaole Hospital in Apia and, at the request of our Samoan partners, we extended the program to Malietoa Tanumafili II (MT2) Hospital in Savaii. The feedback from both local partners and the volunteer team was very positive, reinforcing plans to continue this arrangement in financial year 2019–2020.

During the year we met with our Samoan partners for a planning and evaluation visit. This formed part of the Pacific Review and aimed to ensure the continued relevance and impact of our programs in Samoa.



#### 2 PROGRAMS

1 Surgical

1 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

26 procedures

61 consultations

16 Allied health treatments

93 local medical staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

National Referral Hospital Rotary Club of Honiara

#### **COUNTRY COORDINATOR**

Dr Zac Moaveni

#### **SOLOMON ISLANDS**

Interplast undertook two programs to the Solomon Islands in 2018-19.

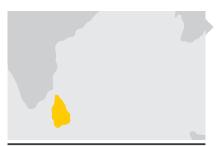
We seek to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgery to the Solomon Islands people, and filling gaps in local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical, nursing and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Honiara, complemented by a concurrent allied health training visit. These programs not only provided enhanced access to plastic and reconstructive services to the Solomon Islander population, but also delivered appropriate training to surgical, anaesthetic, nursing and allied health staff.

Of note, Interplast continued our support of Dr Scott Siota (our main contact and local general surgeon) and were please to witness his first two cleft lip repairs under the supervision of Dr Moaveni, with excellent outcomes. Dr Siota was the first Solomon Islands surgeon to perform a cleft lip repair in his country.

Due to a lack of funding, Interplast was unable to deliver the two nurse education programs scheduled.

During the year we met with our Solomon Islander partners for a planning and evaluation visit. This formed part of the Pacific Review and aimed to help ensure the continued relevance and impact of our programs in the Solomon Islands.



2 Training & mentoring

#### THE NUMBERS

100 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

National Hospital of Sri Lanka

#### COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Mr Yugesh Caplash

#### **SRI LANKA**

Interplast seeks to improve access to sustainable, quality plastic and reconstructive surgical services for the Sri Lankan people through collaborative local partnerships in surgical and allied health care.

This year, three medical personnel from Sri Lanka, including two surgeons and one nurse, participated in a week-long observational visit at the Victorian Adult Burns Service at The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. The program aimed to build knowledge in management of burns and operating a burns unit as they establish the first regional burns service in Sri Lanka.

In addition, we delivered a training program on lymphodema to local surgeons.

A hand therapy mentoring program was scheduled to be delivered in April 2019, however the program was postponed due to security risk following the terrorist attacks that took place on Easter Sunday.

Through the Marshall International Scholarship, we also supported Dr Gayan Ekanayake from the National Hospital of Sri Lanka to attend the Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) Plastic Surgery Congress. He was able to meet with many of his Australian and New Zealand peers and attend a number of lectures and workshops, as well as presenting to the audience on his own experiences working as a plastic surgeon in Sri Lanka.



#### **4 PROGRAMS**

1 Surgical 2 Training & mentoring 1 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

41 procedures

64 consultations

12 allied health treatments

32 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Vaiola Central Hospital Rotary Club of Nuku'Alofa

#### **COUNTRY COORDINATOR**

Mr David Morgan

#### **TONGA**

Interplast undertook four programs to Tonga this financial year.

We seek to alleviate disability through provision of plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the Tongan people and help to fill the gaps in local capacity in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical, nursing and allied health services.

This year we delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program activity in Nuku'Alofa, complemented by a concurrent allied health training visit. These programs not only provided enhanced access to plastic and reconstructive services to the Tongan population, but also delivered appropriate training to surgical, anaesthetic, nursing and allied health staff.

We also delivered a nurse training workshop in Nuku'Alofa for registered nurses from Vaiola Hospital. Interplast also made attendance at this workshop available for registered nurses from Vava'u, Ha'apai and 'Eua.

During the year we met with our Tongan partners for a planning and evaluation visit. This formed part of the Pacific Review and aimed to ensure the continued relevance and impact of our programs there.



1 Surgical

4 Training & mentoring

1 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

24 procedures

39 consultations

25 allied health consultations

29 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Vila Central Hospital Northern Provincial Hospital

COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dr Ian Holten

#### **VANUATU**

Interplast seeks to alleviate disability by providing plastic and reconstructive surgical services to the ni-Vanuatu people, and helping to fill gaps in plastic and reconstructive surgery and related medical and allied health services.

This year Interplast delivered six programs in Vanuatu. We delivered a week-long general plastic and reconstructive surgical program and a surgical mentoring program to Port Vila. The surgical mentoring provided one-to-one training for local general surgeon, Dr Samuel Kemuel.

To further support the ongoing training of Dr Kemuel, he attended Emergency Management of Severe Burns training in Fiji as part of the faculty delivering the training.

Interplast delivered two allied health training programs just after the surgical programs to allow recovery time for patients who received surgery, prior to received allied health treatments. We also delivering a short allied health training visit to the Northern Provincial Hospital in Santo.

A nurse education program was delivered to local nurses which involved four days of lectures and practical exercises.

Interplast staff completed a planning and evaluation visit as part of the Pacific Review. This involved meeting with staff at Vila Central Hospital and the Vanuatu Ministry of Health to discuss the partnership and future training opportunities for local medical personnel.



#### **3 PROGRAMS**

2 Training & mentoring 1 Planning & evaluation

#### THE NUMBERS

36 consultations 15 procedures 4 allied health procedures 43 local health care staff trained

#### **PARTNERS**

Cho Ray Hospital Da Nang Hospital

#### COUNTRY COORDINATOR

Dr James Masson

## VIETNAM > SURGICAL MENTORING

The Interplast and local team gather around to review a case during the surgical mentoring program in Da Nang in June 2019.

#### VIETNAM

Interplast undertook three programs in Vietnam during the year.

In all Vietnam programs, we seek to build the capacity of our local hospital partners to improve quality access to plastic and reconstructive surgery and allied health services for the Vietnamese people. To ensure this, and as part of our ongoing planning processes, Interplast undertook an in-country monitoring visit including Hanoi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City, assessing the needs of each of our local partners.

We also undertook a successful one-week program at Da Nang General Hospital with a surgical focus on hands and burns. To complement the surgical program, we ran a concurrent hand therapy component, mentoring the local rehabilitation team on post-operative treatment and care. This was well received and follow up programs are being planned.





# Our volunteers

Interplast's volunteers include plastic and reconstructive surgeons, anaesthetists, nurses and allied health professionals who passionately give their time and expertise.

Individually and collectively the teams change lives through direct treatment and by training local health care professionals across the Asia Pacific who treat patients all year round. The Interplast volunteers work hard to pursue our purpose of repairing bodies and rebuilding lives.

The volunteering doesn't start and end with a program. Many of our volunteers continue the mentoring relationship year-round, sharing their knowledge with colleagues across the region.

What's more, some of our volunteers give an additional contribution as Country Coordinators, providing advice and input into Interplast program planning, monitoring and evaluation. (Country Coordinators are listed in the Our work: in each country pages).

A number of our volunteers also support Interplast by serving on our Board, committees and working groups providing clinical governance and support.



#### **OUR VOLUNTEERS (140 TOTAL)**

**47** Surgeons

**26** Anaesthetists

**47** Nurses

**20** Allied health professionals

Note: the above includes those volunteers who have gone on a program in 2018–19.



## **THANK YOU TO OUR 2018-19 PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS**

66 I'm so proud to be a small part of the Interplast Australia & New Zealand story who make this type of work happen.

Dr Zac Moaveni, volunteer plastic and reconstructive surgeon

#### **SURGEONS**

Andrew Hadj\*
Anthony McDonald
Stephen Salerno
Anand
Ramakrishnan
Andrew Castley†
Benjamin Norris
Bernard Carney\*
Charles Baillieu
Craig Quarmby†
Damian Marucci
Damien Grinsell

David Morgan
David Ying
John Harvey
Stephanie Weidlich\*
Eugene Lim
Frank Kimble
George Pratt\*
lan Holten†
James Leong
James Masson
James Savundra†
Kevin Ho

Kirk Williams
Kirstie MacGill
Mansoor Mirkazemi
Mark Duncan-Smith
Mark Kol\*
Mark Moore
Michael Leung\*
Michael Lo
Mikko Larsen\*
Nelson Low\*
Nick Marsden\*
Peter Haertsch

Ramin Shayan\*
Rob Coren
Robert Gates
Rohan Price\*
Rory Maher
Russell Corlett
Siddharth Karanth†
Simon Thomson
Theo Birch\*
Tim Proudman
William Blake
Zac Moaveni

We have established a very good reputation over 10 years of working in Benguet General Hospital. We are considered a small, efficient, culturally sensitive team which works with, rather than around, the local teams. The success of our clinical work is also much appreciated.

Dr Lindsay McBride, volunteer anaesthetist

#### **ANAESTHETISTS**

Adam Nettleton Alan Goodey Ashit Das David Barker\*† David Pescod David Thomas David Vyse† lain Stewart lan Woodforth\* John Tang\*† Kirsten Seipolt\* Lindsay McBride Mae Chen Michael Whitehead\* Moira Rush Paul Goggin Philip Owen Philippa Hall Ramesh Menon\* Ray Hui\* Robert Grace Samantha Leung Sarah Goetz Scott Fortey Stephen Leung Vernon Moo

Fiji to be totally enjoyable and rewarding. Their friendliness and willingness to learn was highly encouraging. Their attention to detail and nursing knowledge in general was of a high standard. They were subjected to long days and were always present in theatre when needed. Nothing was a problem. They really looked after us and most importantly the patients.

Samantha Jervios, volunteer nurse

#### **NURSES**

Amy McLeod Annie Porter Ashleigh McCoy Rebecca Schrale<sup>†</sup> Bree Pilgrim<sup>\*</sup> Carolyn Grear Christine Wheeler Danielle Norton Diane Donohoe<sup>\*</sup> Di Elfleet<sup>†</sup> Gillian Bathgate<sup>†</sup> Hana Menezes
Jan Sloan
Jane Martin\*
Jo Oxbrow
Josephine Luke\*
Karolin King
Kayla Gilchrist\*
Lauren Harrower\*†
Leanne Bilson
Linda Quinn\*
Lisa Thompson\*†
Mary Gow\*

Megan Clody\*
Melinda Pacquola†
Melissa Woods
Michelle Anderson\*
Mary Jane Laing
Natalie Lambden
Nicole Ganderton\*
Olivia Patrick\*
Patricia McCristal
Philippa Tesselaar
Primila Moaveni
Sally McKelvie

Samantha Jervios Sarah Chadwick Sarah Stott Skye Giannino Sue Graham Susan McMillan Sue Quarmby† Suzanne Thomas Suzanne Wills Thao Phan\* Vanessa Dittmar

The Bhutanese are very accepting and appreciative of what they have ... I have loved learning about their culture through their eyes.

Tanja Klotz, allied health volunteer

#### **ALLIED HEALTH**

Birgit Svens Darcy O'Neil Diana Francis Elizabeth Ward\* Hannah Van Tuil Helen Scott\* Jennifer Ball†
Julia Wild\*
Karen Fitt
Katie Anjou
Kylie Harrison
Linda Fredheim†

Elizabeth Capell\* Megan Fitzgerald Melissa Parkin Sarah Florisson Sharon Goldby† Shirley Collocott Tanja Klotz\* Teresa Squires

Please note that the above list is of volunteers who completed a program during the financial year 2018–19 and does not include volunteer Board, committee or working group members. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our many other active volunteers.

<sup>\*</sup> New volunteer in FY19.

<sup>†</sup> Volunteer went on more than one program.

# Our partners

#### **INDUSTRY PARTNERS**

In addition to the volunteers, local partners, donors and corporate partners who make the work of Interplast possible, the organisation receives support and works collaboratively with the following industry partners.

Australasian Foundation for Plastic Surgery

Australian Hand Therapy Association Australian and New Zealand Burn Association

Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists

Australian Hand Surgery Society Australian Society of Anaesthetists Australasian Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgeons

Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Children First Foundation Lifebox Foundation

New Zealand Association of Plastic Surgeons

New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists ReSurge International

Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Rotary Oceania Medical Aid for Children Rotary New Zealand World Service Limited

#### **OUR SUPPLIERS**

In addition to the businesses and foundations listed, we wish to acknowledge the suppliers and individuals with whom we regularly work, many of whom go above and beyond for us. Although there are too many to mention by name, we would like to particularly acknowledge Sandy Abbott and Dr Alan Street. This year Dr Street retires after volunteering his expertise about occupational exposure to Interplast for more than five years.

We also acknowledge the support of airlines including Qantas, Virgin Australia and Druk Air.

These partners collaborate with Interplast and support our life-changing work across the Asia Pacific region. Together, they are helping to repair bodies and rebuild lives.

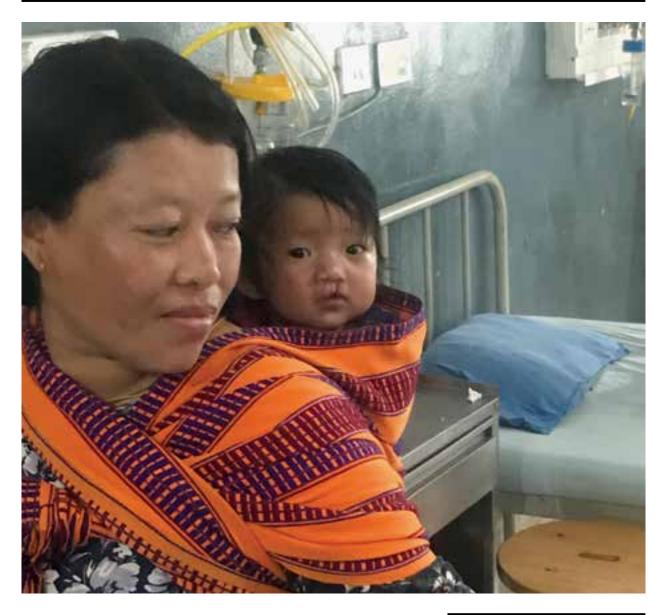
#### LIFEBOX AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Lifebox Australia and New Zealand (Lifebox ANZ) is a partnership between the Lifebox Foundation, Interplast, the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists (ANZCA), the Australian Society of Anaesthetists and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists.

The partnership distributes pulse oximeters and associated training to hospitals across the Asia Pacific region. Pulse oximeters measure the oxygen levels of a patient and support medical teams in the delivery of safe clinical treatment.

In 2018-19, pulse oximeters continued to be distributed across the Asia Pacific region, as requested by local partners. Lifebox ANZ also supported a project to improve the safety of surgery and anaesthesia in Bangladesh and India through distribution of pulse oximeters and associated training, including the SAFE OR (Safe Operating Room) course in Mumbai, India. These projects build on Lifebox's existing work and are only made possible through the generosity of supporters.





#### **CORPORATE AND PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS**

Interplast's work is made possible through the generosity and support of some leading corporate and philanthropic partners. As in previous years, they have supported Interplast by:

- providing funding for program activities;
- sponsoring events and campaigns;
- delivering pro bono support and expertise; and
- providing equipment, supplies and resources, either in-kind or at heavily reduced costs.

# A BHUTAN PREPARATION

A child with a cleft lip is seen by the Interplast team in May 2019.

Agility Logistics ANZ Trustees Avant The Baker Foundation

Bright Blue - Charity for Sick Children

Cabrini Health

Chemtronics Biomedical Engineering

Clinical Imaging Australia Corporate Traveller

Device Technologies Dynamiq Filminera Resources Corporation
Goldman Sachs Gives
Incredible Marketing
Johnson & Johnson Medical
Leconfield Wines
Medical + Optical
Medtronic
MicroCloud
Minter Ellison
MoniPlus

The Noel & Carmel O'Brien
Family Foundation
The Orloff Family Charitable Trust
OPC Health
PanAust
Spellbrook Foundation
Stryker
Therapist Support Laboratory (TSL)
Victor Smorgon Charitable Fund
Village Cinema
Vorotek

# Rotary and Interplast: proudly changing futures

Interplast was initially established in 1983 as a joint project between Rotary District 980 (now 9800) and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Today, Rotary clubs and districts remain vital partners of Interplast and we extend our deep thanks to each and every Rotarian, Rotary club and district who are dedicated to our purpose to repair bodies and rebuild lives in the Asia Pacific region.

Rotary donations and support contribute to Interplast's ability to send teams of volunteers to provide life-changing surgery and health professional training in 17 countries across the region. This includes many Rotary clubs in the countries we visit.

In acknowledging the significant contribution of Rotarians, we wish to particularly pay tribute to:

 those who give their time and dedication to undertake the voluntary role of Interplast District Chair within their area. Together, the Interplast District Chairs have helped connect Interplast to Rotary clubs across Australia and New Zealand;

- the nine past District Governors who sit on the Interplast Rotarian Committee, providing strategic and highly valued advice to the Interplast Board and management teams on matters related to Rotary;
- the two Rotarians who generously give of their time to undertake their roles as directors of the Interplast Board; and
- the many individual Rotarians who donated to Interplast through their club and district activities.

As some of our strongest supporters, advocates and champions, you have contributed towards the delivery of 72 programs across the Asia Pacific region. Thank you.

Interplast is grateful to the Rotary Foundation and clubs and districts for providing us with much appreciated funding.

# ✓ MYANMAR SHARING KNOWLEDGE

The Myanmar surgical mentoring and nurse education program took place in November 2018 at Yangon General Hospital. Pictured is the Interplast team and local partners. Rotary Observer Elizabeth Wright is pictured bottom left.





## TONGA: ROTARY OBSERVER'S STORIES

Rotary Observer Claire Holt accompanied an Interplast program to Tonga in May 2019. The surgical and training program took place at Vaiola Hospital, Nuku'Alofa, Tonga and was supported by Rotary District 9920. Claire Holt (left) is pictured with the volunteer Interplast team outside Vaiola Hospital, Nuku'Alofa, Tonga. These are two of the patient stories gathered by Claire.



#### **TEVITA**

Tevita is lively four-month-old baby boy. He has five brothers and sisters. His father has a job picking fruit and Tevita was brought to the Interplast clinic by his mother Susannah. Tevita was born with a congenital cleft lip. Tevita is a cheerful baby who has managed to feed adequately despite the lip condition.

During this year's visit, Interplast surgeon Andrew Hadj was able to perform a cleft lip repair on baby Tevita. Repairing the lip at this early stage will assist his feeding as he starts eating solid food and will help his speech as he starts to speak.

The surgery was a success and Susannah, Tevita's mother was delighted with how quickly Tevita recovered and how wonderful he looked with a complete lip. Tevita himself was not bothered at all by all the stitches and the team expect an excellent result once the wound healed.

Tevita is pictured with his mother Susannah.



#### **MOSESE**

Mosese is a 20-year-old mechanic who lives at home with his family. He has one brother and one sister. The volunteer Interplast team noted a significant scar contracture on the top of his foot which was deforming the shape of his foot. His foot was injured when he fell off a bus when he was 12 years old.

Whilst Mosese reported that his foot does not hurt, it was getting more and more difficult to wear shoes as the scar contracted further. As Mosese is a mechanic, he needs to be able to wear protective footwear for his job.

The Interplast surgical team and local partners were able to release the scar contracture and graft skin from Mosese's thigh onto his foot. The procedure was long, and the wound was complex to cover with the graft.

The surgery was a success and Mosese was very grateful once the procedure had been done. He is going to need further therapy to ensure the healing goes well.

## **ROTARY DONATIONS 2018-19**

The following districts and clubs made donations during the 2018–19 financial year. This listing may not include clubs whose funds were received after 1 July 2019. Whilst every effort has been made to accurately record these generous donations, we apologise for any that have been overlooked in error.

A number of clubs and districts have made a significant financial contribution which has been directly applied to specific program activities. For full details visit: interplast.org.au.

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9455**

Dalkeith Freshwater Bay Kalamunda Morley Mount Lawley Mundaring Nedlands Northbridge WA Northam Osborne Park Perth Swan Districts Welshnool Wyalkatchem 4 Individuals 1 Business

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9465**

Armadale
Booragoon
Canning Bridge
Como
Kenwick
Margaret River
Mill Point
Rockingham
30 Individuals
45 Businesses

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9500**

Gawler Mawson Lakes 1 Individual

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9520**

Brownhill Creek Red Cliffs

## ROTARY DISTRICT 9550

Ayr Cairns

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9570**

Biloela

Maryborough Sunrise

Monto

Rockhampton North

Walkerston

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9600**

Ashgrove/The Gap Bribie Island Caboolture 1 Individual

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9630**

Cleveland
Goodna
Ipswich
Ipswich City
Sunnybank Hills
Wellington Point
Wynnum & Manly

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9650**

Gloucester Inverell Woolgoolga

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9670**

East Maitland

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9675**

Concord
Corrimal
Fairy Meadow
Five Dock
Kiama
Narellan
Padstow
St George Next Gen
Wallacia-Mulgoa Valley

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9685**

Penrith Valley

5 Individuals

#### ROTARY DISTRICT 9700

Cowra Griffith

Wagga Wagga Kooringal Wagga Wagga Sunrise

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9710**

Belconnen

Canberra-Weston Creek

Crookwell Gerringong Ginninderra Goulburn Mulwaree

Pambula

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9780**

Ballarat West
Belmont
Bordertown
Cobden
Drysdale
Geelong
Geelong West
Hamilton North

Horsham East Kardinia

Kerang Mount Gambier West

Naracoorte
Portland
Portland Bay
Ocean Grove
Torquay
Warrnambool
Warrnambool Central
Warrnambool East
Wendouree Breakfast

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9790**

3 Individuals

Albury North
Bright
Lavington
Rutherglen
Yea
1 Individual

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9800**

Balwyn
Bacchus Marsh
Brighton North
Canterbury
Central Melbourne
Keilor East
Melbourne
5 Individuals

#### ROTARY DISTRICT 9810

Bentleigh Moorabbin Central
Box Hill
Box Hill Central
Clayton
Forest Hill
Healesville
Maroondah
Manningham
Mitcham

Moorabbin Mordialloc Mount Waverley Nunawading Templestowe Wandin

Warrandyte Donvale Whitehorse 15 Individuals

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9820**

Berwick Casey

Frankston Sunrise Koo Wee Rup-Lang Lang

Korumburra Mornington Sorrento Traralgon Central 1 Individual 1 Business

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9830**

Claremont
Devonport North
Howrah
Smithton
Wynyard

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9910**

Rarotonga

#### ROTARY DISTRICT 9920 Auckland Harbourside

Auckland South Drury Ellerslie Sunrise Howick Newmarket Otahuhu

Papakura Papatoetoe Central Savusavu St Johns Taravao Tahiti Iti

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9930**

Gisborne

1 Individual

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9940**

Heretaunga 5 Individuals

#### **ROTARY DISTRICT 9970**

Avonhead Christchurch Christchurch South Garden City Nelson West Riccarton 1 Individual

## **OUR NEW HONOURED MEMBERS**

Established in 2016, Interplast's Honoured Members program recognises individuals who have provided an exceptional service to the Interplast community. To become an Honoured Member, nominees must have provided at least five consecutive years of extraordinary service. Nominations are invited each year. Membership is awarded at Interplast's Annual General Meeting.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018 HONOURED MEMBERS:**



MRS CATHERINE GORR OAM — NURSE (pictured second from left)

First volunteered in 1985 and has since been on 38 programs including Fiji, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, PNG, Samoa, Philippines and Vietnam.

Packed all of the surgical and anaesthetic equipment on 288 programs (until 2002) at her home in Mt Eliza and transported to the airport.

Surgical Committee member from inception to 2013.

Awarded Paul Harris Fellowship in 2001 by Rotary Club of Mt Eliza.

Awarded an Australian Government commendation in 2002 for Volunteer of the Year.



#### DR CHRIS LOWRY OAM — ANAESTHETIST (pictured right)

Has volunteered with Interplast since 1987 on 34 programs to countries including PNG, Vanuatu, Mauritius, Cambodia, Indonesia, Solomon Islands, Vietnam, Tonga and Laos. Significant contribution in Laos in particular, having participated in 21 surgical programs. Retired as a volunteer in February 2018 with final program to Laos.

Has contributed many photos which have been used in Interplast publications over the years.

Awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in January 2019 'for service to medicine as an anaesthetist'.



#### MS TURIA PITT

Interplast Ambassador since 2013 and a great supporter of, fundraiser and advocate for Interplast.

Has hosted and spoken at numerous events on behalf of Interplast in her capacity as ambassador.

Has led many fundraising adventures including Ironman, Great Wall of China, Kokoda Trek, Everest Basecamp.

Observer on programs in Nepal and Laos.

Has raised over \$1 million for Interplast.



#### MR STEPHEN WEYCHAN (pictured right)

Past president of the Rotary Club of Kenwick.

Great supporter of Interplast for over 10 years as a Rotary fundraiser.

Observer on an Interplast surgical program to Fiji in 2010.

Instrumental in establishing and building the Direct Debit program which has raised approximately \$650,000 for Interplast.



#### MR RANDALL SACH AM — SURGEON (pictured left)

First volunteered with Interplast in 1984 and has been on 11 programs to countries including Fiji, Tonga and Sri Lanka.

Member of Interplast's Planning and Evaluation Committee until 2014.

Country Coordinator for Sri Lanka from 2007 to 2017.

Made a significant contribution to the 2017 Sri Lanka review.

Instrumental in developing hand surgery as a sub-specialty in Sri Lanka.

Developed and supported a number of training placements in South Australia for Sri Lankan surgeons.

Awarded a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in January 2019 'for significant service to medicine as a plastic surgeon, to international relations, and to professional organisations.'

## **GOVERNANCE, COMMITTEES AND STAFF**

#### **COMPANY MEMBERSHIP**

During the period of this report, the Company Membership has been constituted as follows:

Dr Michael McGlynn OAM MBBS FRACS Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

Mr Keith Mutimer MBBS FRACS Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

Professor David Watters AM MB ChB FRCS (Edinburgh) FRACS Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Nominee

Past District Governor (PDG) Anne Brand OAM District 9630 Rotarian Nominee

PDG Brian Guest District 9465 Rotarian Nominee

PDG Kel Hobby District 9820 Rotarian Nominee (retired April 2019)

PDG John Barnes District 9800 Rotarian Nominee

The Hon. Dr Kay Patterson AO PhD BA (Hons) DipEd MAPsS GAICD Independent Nominee (retired November 2018)

Mr David Inglis AM Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws Independent Nominee (appointed February 2019)

Professor Mark Ashton MBBS MD FRACS Australian Society of Plastic Surgeons Nominee

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mr Keith Mutimer Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

#### President

Dr Michael McGlynn OAM Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

#### Vice President

Mr John Georgakis Bachelor of Business (Accounting), Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants

#### Treasurer & Vice President

Mr Brian Guest Company Management, Company Director

#### Secretary

Mr Peter Caldwell Diploma of Business Studies (Accounting), Chartered Accountant, FCPA

**Director** (appointed November 2018)

Ms Andrea Coote Bachelor of Arts

Director (Retired November 2018)

Ms Marie Dorrington OAM Bachelor of Arts, Diploma of Education, Diploma of Teaching

#### Director

Dr Kirstie MacGill Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Diploma in Anatomy, Master of Surgical Education

**Director** (appointed November 2018)

Ms Amy McLeod Bachelor of Laws, Bachelor of Commerce, Certificate in Governance Practice **Director** (appointed November 2018)

Ms Hayley Morris Bachelor of Arts (Communication)

#### Director

Dr Philip Ragg Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Fellow Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists

#### Director

Mr Paul Sundberg Bachelor of Economics (Honours), Chartered Accountant FCA

#### Director

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Committee consisting of the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer meets as required to provide strategic support to the CEO.

#### **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

The objective of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities in relation to financial affairs, managing risk and compliance with regulatory requirements.

Mr Paul Sundberg (Chair)

Mr John Georgakis

Dr Michael McGlynn

Mr Grant Chisnall

Mr Peter Caldwell (appointed April 2019)

#### **SURGICAL COMMITTEE**

The Surgical Committee assists the Board of Directors to discharge its corporate governance responsibilities to exercise due care, diligence and skill in relation to clinical review and risk involved in the implementation of program activities.

Dr Philip Ragg (Chair)

Professor Mark Ashton

Mr Chris Bennett

Ms Gillian Dickinson

Dr Ian Hogarth

Mr Ian Holten

Mr Nick Houseman (resigned May 2019)

Mr Damian Ireland

Mr James Leong

Associate Professor Michael Leung

Dr Kirstie MacGill (appointed April 2019)

Mr Peter Maloney

Dr David Pescod AO

Ms Robyn Price (appointed April 2019)

Mr Anand Ramakrishnan

Ms Leonie Simmons

Ms Melissa Woods (appointed April 2019)

#### **ROTARIAN COMMITTEE**

The Rotarian Committee provides professional advice and assistance to the Board of Directors in relation to all matters pertaining to our relationship with Rotary Clubs and Districts across Australia and New Zealand.

PDG Marie Dorrington - D9500 (Chair)

PDG Brian Guest - D9465

PDG John Barnes - D9810

PDG Anne Brand OAM - D9630

PDG Kel Hobby - D9820 (resigned April 2019)

PDG Gerard Blizzard - D9830

PDG Murray Verso - D9800

PDG Dr Iain Wakefield - D9920

PDG John Dodd - D9685

# SUPPORTER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Supporter Engagement Committee assists the Board of Directors in relation to matters pertaining to fundraising, marketing and communication, and supporter engagement strategies.

Ms Hayley Morris (Chair)

Mr Gary Ahmad

Mr Grant Chisnall

Ms Amy McLeod (appointed April 2019)

Mr Keith Mutimer

Ms Emma Simson

# MONITORING AND EVALUATION WORKING GROUP

The Monitoring and Evaluation Working Group has an increased role in providing professional advice and assistance to Interplast in monitoring and evaluating all Interplast's activities and functions.

Ms Prue Ingram (Chair)

Mr Cameron Glover

Ms Jess Hill

Mr Peter Huggan

Ross Sutton

(advisor to the working group)

#### **NURSE WORKING GROUP**

The Nurse Working Group provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast nurse education activities.

Ms Leonie Simmons (Chair)

Ms Gillian Dickinson

Ms Angela Doherty

Mrs Linda Ferguson

Ms Christine Hunter

Ms Karolin King

Ms Hanna Menezes

Ms Jo Oxbrow

Ms Jan Rice

Ms Daisy Sargeant

Ms Annette Tarabaras

# ALLIED HEALTH WORKING GROUP

The Allied Health Working Group provides clinical and educational advice and assistance to Interplast on the development and evaluation of Interplast program activities that include components of hand therapy, physiotherapy and burns rehabilitation.

Ms Jess Hill (Chair)

Ms Katie Anjou

Ms Jennifer Ball (Allied Health Coordinator - Pacific)

Mrs Shirley Collocott

Ms Yvonne Fellner

Ms Diana Francis

Ms Sharon Goldby (Allied Health Coordinator - Asia)

Ms Kylie Harrison

Ms Brodwen McBain

Ms Penny McMahon

Ms Beth McNeish

Ms Sarah Florisson

Ms Megan Fitzgerald

Ms Melissa Parkin

#### **INTERPLAST STAFF**

Current staff as at 30 June 2019

Prue Ingram

Chief Executive Officer

Cameron Glover

Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Matthew Blanks

Program Activities Coordinator

Alison Chan

Finance Assistant

Ana Gálvez

Rotarian Engagement Coordinator

Jess Hill

Program Manager

Peter Huggan

Finance Manager

Thomas Loporto

Senior Program Activities Coordinator

7oe Martin

Equipment Assistant

Connie Monteleone

Executive Assistant

Lindsay Morton

Program Activities Coordinator

Isabella Muto

Donor Insights and Analytics Officer

Leonie Simmons

Thisun Gunasena.

Equipment and Supplies Coordinator

Dinushka Vethavanam Fundraising Coordinator

Interplast thanks the following staff who worked for part of the financial year: Laura Nicholson, Di Gillies, Genevieve Globke, Carol Chevalier, Kathryn Rogers,

Interplast also thanks Chloe Han and Trina Hasan for their volunteer support of our Programs team.

#### **INTERPLAST AMBASSADORS**

Turia Pitt

Mike Rolls

Jess Hosking

# Year in review

#### WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM

Total revenue for FY19 (the financial year 2018-19) was \$2.95m, an increase of 20% from FY18. The improvement in revenue was driven through a 33% increase in grants and a 39% increase in public donations. The rise in public donations came from higher community fundraising revenue and bequests. Strong support was again provided by Rotary clubs and districts who continue to be a key supporter of Interplast programs. This revenue increase was offset against reduced corporate donations that fell 33%.

Most of the operational surplus for FY19 (\$343k) related to the recognition of income that will fund program expenditure in FY20 program. New Australian Accounting Standards will likely mean variable operating results from year to year due to timing differences between revenue receipt and expenditure on programs. Interplast fully discloses these timing differences in the notes to its accounts.

#### WHERE THE MONEY WENT

Interplast's international program spending is up slightly despite a number of programs being deferred due to in-country and timing issues. Operating expenditure was up slightly from FY18 which related principally to consulting expenses to support internal project initiatives. A new fundraising strategy saw a small increase in fundraising expenditure.

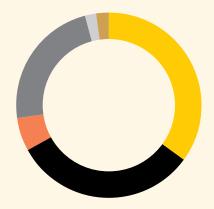
#### SIX YEAR PERFORMANCE SUMMARY



Revenue

#### WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

COMMUNITY SUPPORT Income received from the Australian public, Rotary and corporations in the form of public donations, fundraising and bequests.  35%	\$1,016,501
<b>DFAT</b> Grants received directly from the DFAT – Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and the Pacific Islands Program managed through the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.  ■ 32%	\$949,890
AUSTRALIAN ORGANISATIONS & TRUSTS Income received from other Australian organisations, trusts and foundations.  6%	\$184,501
ROTARY Income from grant and donation receipts from Rotary clubs, and individual donations attributed to a donor's Rotary club and/or district.  23%	\$677,855
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS Income received from overseas corporations and trusts.  2%	\$65,485
OTHER INCOME Income received from in-kind donations, interest and other.  2%	\$62,240
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,956,472



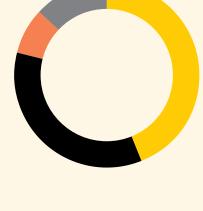
#### WHERE THE MONEY IS SPENT

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM COSTS Includes all expenses and support costs associated with our country programs. 60%	\$1,573,813
DOMESTIC PROGRAM COSTS  Costs relating to support and training of international health care staff in Australia.  2%	\$60,226
OPERATING COSTS  Covers administrative and other costs inherent in running an organisation, including staff time in the areas such as finance, program co-ordination and administration, insurance premiums, office supplies, consultancy fees and other running costs.  15%	\$380,822
FUNDRAISING COSTS  Costs associated with attracting more support through donations, sponsorships and awareness. This includes costs such as staff time, events, advertising, mail-outs, website and the processing of donations.  18%	\$460,721
COMMUNITY EDUCATION COSTS  Costs relating to increasing awareness and educating the Australian community about humanitarian and development issues.  5%	\$137,500
TOTAL COSTS	\$2,613,082

Further details are available in our full financials which can be accessed at interplast.org.au.

#### **THE REAL VALUE IS PRICELESS**

<b>VOLUNTEER SERVICES*</b> 86 surgeons and anaesthetists for a total of 681 days	<b>\$2,046,702</b> \$1,714,590
18 allied health specialists and nurse educators for a total of 278 days	\$198,412
33 nurses for a total of 382 days	\$133,700
INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC PROGRAM COSTS  ■ 35%	\$1,634,039
OPERATING COSTS ■ 8%	\$380,822
FUNDRAISING COSTS ■ 13%	\$598,221
REAL VALUE	\$4,659,784



<sup>\*</sup> The value of volunteer services reported in the financial accounts is based on rates determined by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) which, given the highly specialised nature of our volunteers is a significant underestimation. The above figures represent a more realistic, although still conservative estimate. This chart illustrates the real impact if Interplast had to pay for this invaluable expertise.

The above figures include total Australian and New Zealand health care volunteers in FY19.

# Summary financial statements

The summary financial statements have been prepared in accordance with requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance available at www.acfid.asn.au or by emailing contactus@interplast.org.au.

Further details are available in our Annual Financial Report which can be accessed at interplast.org.au.

STATEMENT	OF COMPREHEN	ISIVE INCOME
2 I A I LIVILIA I	OI COMILKEILL	ADIAF HACOME

TOTAL REVENUE	2.956.472	2,460,164
Other income	2,720	10,325
Interest	59,520	67,658
Revenue from commercial activities	_	30,463
— Overseas	65,485	131,416
— Other Australian	422,032	606,204
Grants — Government: Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade	949,890	713,044
Bequests & Legacies	268,117	42,932
— Non-monetary	77,636	61,465
Donations & Gifts — Monetary	1,111,072	796,657
REVENUE		·
For the year ended 30 June 2019	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)

TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS)	343,390	(167,141)
Other comprehensive income	<del>-</del>	_
Excess/(Deficiency) of revenue over expenditure	343,390	(167,141)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,613,082	2,627,305
Commercial activities (domestic)	<del>-</del>	14,333
Domestic programs	60,226	109,530
TOTAL INTERNATIONAL AID AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE	2,552,856	2,503,442
Non-Monetary Expenditure	56,895	51,612
Accountability and Administration	380,822	311,156
— Government, Multilateral and Private	22,013	20,407
Fundraising Costs — Public	438,708	449,068
Community education	137,500	167,387
— Program support costs	209,721	263,269
International programs — Funds to international programs	1,307,197	1,240,543
INTERNATIONAL AID AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS		
EXPENDITURE		

<b>STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION</b> For the year ended 30 June 2019	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,779,834	2,810,849
Receivables	101,377	59,766
Prepayments	92,325	38,364
Inventories	4,552	5,119
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	2,978,658	2,914,098
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property and equipment	92,588	108,243
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	92,588	108,243
TOTAL ASSETS	3,070,676	3,022,341
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	126,518	105,472
Deferred income	210,245	555,474
Provisions	101,982	56,802
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	438,745	717,748
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	4,675	20,727
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,675	20,727
TOTAL LIABILITIES	443,420	738,475
NET ASSETS	2,627,256	2,283,866
EQUITY		
General Reserve	500,000	500,000
Retained Earnings	2,127,256	1,783,866
TOTAL EQUITY	2,627,256	2,283,866

## Summary financial statements (continued)

BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2019	2,127,256	500,000	_	2,627,256
Surplus for the year	343,390	_	_	343,390
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2018	1,783,866	500,000	_	2,283,866
Reserve Transfer	80,000	-	(80,000)	_
Deficit for the year	(167,141)	_	_	(167,141)
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2017	1,871,007	500,000	80,000	2,451,007
<b>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY</b> For the year ended 30 June 2019	Retained earnings (\$)	General reserve (\$)	Capacity reserve (\$)	Total (\$)

#### **AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEERS**

TOTAL VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES	678,124	671,892
68 Allied Health Specialists, Nurse Educators and Nurses for a total of 645.5 days	225,740	277,873
69 Medical Specialists for a total of 654 days	452,384	394,019
For the year ended 30 June 2019	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)

#### RECOGNISED DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE: VALUE OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

The value of volunteer services is not included in the accounts. However, for the purposes of claiming DFAT Recognised Development Expenditure this information has been prepared in accordance with the rates approved by DFAT.

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## **AUDITOR'S REPORT**



## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

#### Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the balance sheet as at 30 June 2019, the income statement, the summary of cash movements and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and related notes are derived from the audited financial report of Interplast Australia & New Zealand for the year ended 30 June 2019.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Notfor-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct.

#### **Summary Financial Statements**

The summary statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited annual financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

#### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019. That report also includes an Emphasis of Matter which describes the basis of accounting which draws attention to the financial report being for the purpose of fulfilling the Company's financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012 as outlined in Note 1 to the audited financial report, and as a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion was not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Director's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The Director's of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the summarised financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Australia Accounting Standards, Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the summarised financial report.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which are conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS Level 20, 181 William Street Melbourne VIC 3000

Telephone +61 3 9824 8555 williambuck.com

William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd ABN 59 116 151 136

J.C. Luckins

Dated this 8th day of October 2019

William Buck is an association of firms, each trading under the name of William Buck across Australia and New Zealand with affiliated offices worldwide. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation other than for acts or omissions of financial services licenses.



#### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Interplast operates in a highly regulated environment, with laws, regulations, licences and codes of conduct that we need to comply with to ensure we remain accountable to the community in our funding countries, and in our program countries.

#### IN OUR PROGRAM COUNTRIES

We comply with all the regulations and expectations of each country in which we work. We ensure that all medical volunteers have relevant medical registrations, along with the correct visas. We also comply with all Customs requirements regarding medical equipment and supplies. We abide by all local laws and protocols, along with following the work practices of our partner hospitals. We only go where we have been invited and have the approval of local authorities.

# AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION

As a registered charity, Interplast is required to comply with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Act 2012. This includes complying with Australian Accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.



#### AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE

The Australian Taxation Office has given Interplast the status of a Deductible Gift Recipient, granted exemption from Income Tax and provided concession for Fringe Benefits Tax and GST. Reporting requirements comprise annual fringe benefits tax returns, quarterly Business Activity Statements and monthly pay-as-you-go (PAYG) submissions.

# AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION

As a public company limited by guarantee, Interplast is required to comply with the regulations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

#### DEAT ACCREDITATION

Interplast is fully accredited by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), which is responsible for managing the Australian Government's aid program. To maintain accreditation, Interplast's systems, policies and processes are rigorously reviewed by the Australian Government every five years. Accreditation ensures the transparent and accountable use of funding, and covers our entire portfolio, including non-development activities and activities that are not funded by DFAT.

As a fully accredited agency and trusted recipient of funds, Interplast receives support from DFAT through the Australians NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).



#### Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

#### ACFID

Interplast is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. ACFID is the peak body for aid and international development NGOs and its code of conduct upholds the highest standards of ethics, effectiveness and accountability. For further information about the Code, please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at acfid.asn.au.

Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct by an ACFID member can be made to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee (www.acfid.asn. au/code-of-conduct/complaints).



#### **FUNDRAISING**

Fundraising licenses are required by all states in Australia in order to raise funds within their borders.

Interplast holds all required licenses and complies with the requirements associated with these licenses, which include such conditions as providing extra reporting to particular states. Interplast is a member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA) and complies with the FIA Code of Conduct.



## COMPLAINTS AND WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

Interplast has a process for handling any complaints. The complaints policy and process can be found on our website at interplast.org.au. If you wish to lodge a complaint about Interplast, send an email to contactus@interplast.org.au, phone our office on 03 9249 1231 or mail the office listed on the back cover of this report.

If you suspect serious misconduct related to the disclosure or witness of fraudulent, corrupt or unethical behaviour by Interplast, or if you feel unable to raise a concern through the standard feedback channels because of fear of identification or reprisal, you may use the process outlined in our Whistleblower Policy which can be viewed at interplast.org.au.

#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Minter Ellison Lawyers Level 23, Rialto Towers 525 Collins Street Melbourne Vic 3000

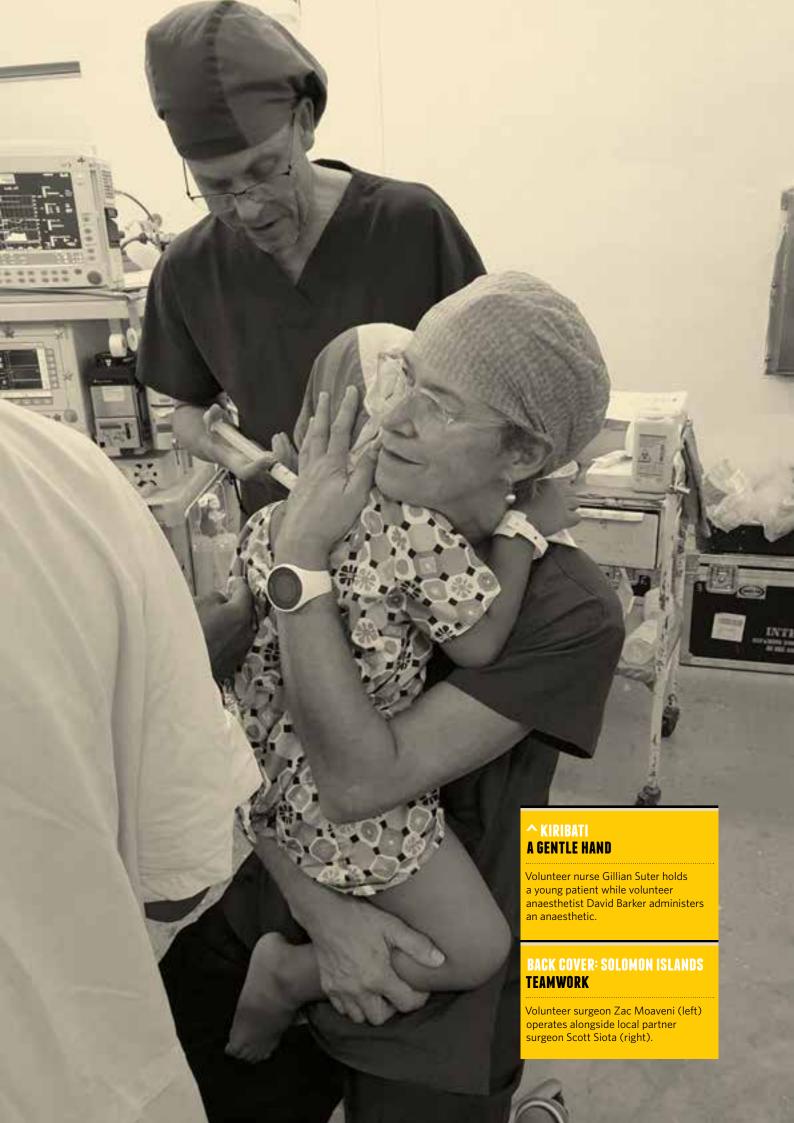
#### **BANKERS**

Westpac

#### ABN

59 006 155 193

Consent has been provided for all photos published in this Annual Report.



#### **INTERPLAST AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND**

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