

2023



ANNUAL REPORT

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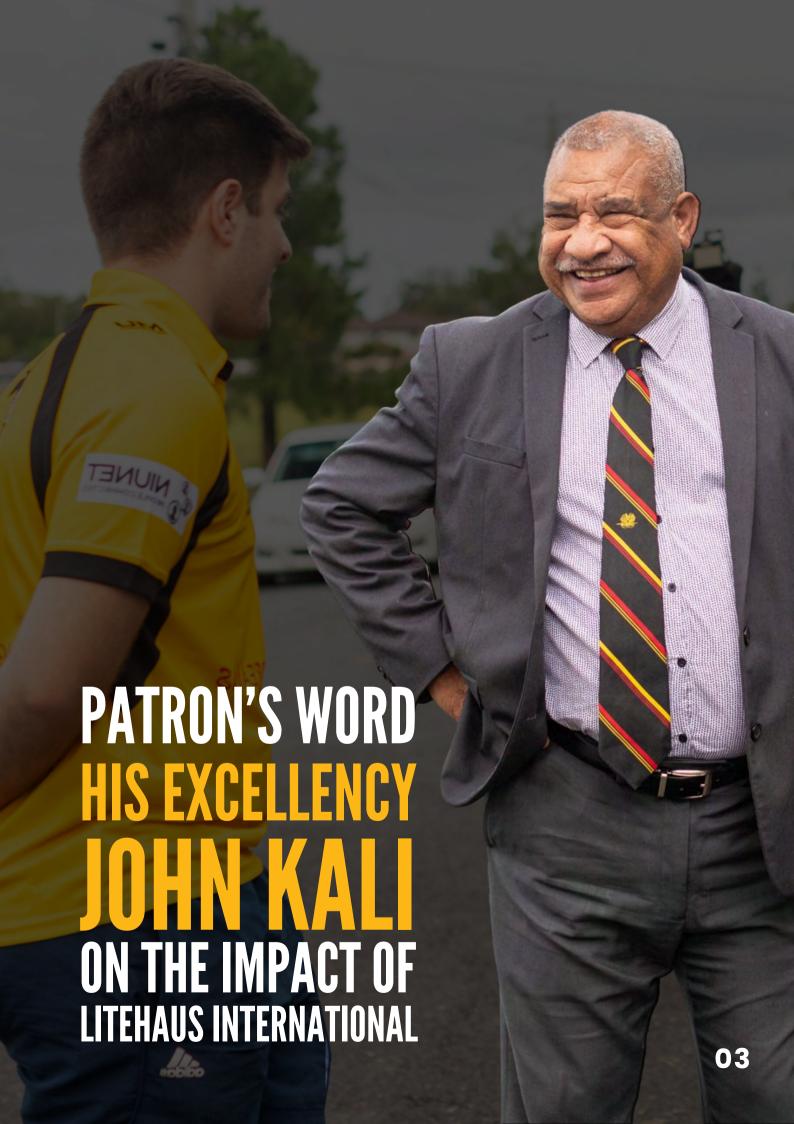
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AUSTRALIA'S DIGITAL EQUITY CHARITY

LiteHaus International is a Townsville based NGO that bridges the digital divide across Asia-Pacific. We repurpose end-of-life computers and distribute them to students in Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Fiji, Samoa, and regional Australia, fostering digital education and bringing opportunities.

LiteHaus International acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we are headquartered (the Bindal and Wulgurukaba peoples) and extends this acknowledgement to Elders, past, present, and emerging, of all traditional country upon which we operate globally.





PATRON'S WELCOME

Every second, hundreds of digital devices are thrown away around the world, while billions go without the tools they need to realise their dreams in the digital age today. I learnt this in 2019, when a young Australian, Jack Growden, came to visit me in Canberra to share LiteHaus International's vision to create a digitally literate global society where access to technology is equitable and prosperous for all.

In educational pursuits in the digital age, access to digital technologies constitutes a fundamental human right, however this is unfortunately far from reality throughout marginalised communities across the world. For developing nations such as Papua New Guinea, having its future leaders stranded on the wrong side of a widening digital divide constrains its vision for a prosperous and equitable future. Since 2017, LiteHaus International has intervened, advocating that a quality education can only be a digital education in today's world.

Over 250,00 people have been empowered with digital learning tools and opportunities so far. In my country, LiteHaus International has completed 320 digital classrooms, widening possibilities for education in Papua New Guinea. This has been achieved by transforming hundreds of tonnes of 'e-waste' into opportunities.

For children in remote villages in Papua New Guinea, many of whom walk three hours to school each morning to keep their educational dreams alive, this is immensely encouraging and rewarding. Now, LiteHaus International is looking to the dreams of some 2 billion people across Asia-Pacific experiencing digital inequality.

I commend LiteHaus International for its efforts to enrich the lives of a million people in need across Asia-Pacific. From the Philippines, to Timor-Leste, to Samoa to the Outback of Australia, across more geographies and more demographies, a fairer, more equitable digital world awaits. From one dream to a million dreams...

His Excellency John Ma'o Kali CMG OBE

PNG High Commissioner to Australia Patron, LiteHaus International

CEO'S MESSAGE

We live in an age of staggering technological advancement where the digital revolution collides with that of artificial intelligence. In the first quarter of the twenty-first century, our work has been transformed by the Internet, social media, and the ubiquity of the smartphone. The devices we hold in our hands today hold boundless capability, knowledge and potential, unrivalled in human history.

But not everyone gets to hold them. Digital innovation has not been matched by digital inclusion. Globally, over 3 billion people experience some form of digital inequality daily. I first used a computer in 2003 and ever since, digital has been indispensable to my lived experience. Fast forward twenty years, and 88% of Papua New Guinean students have never had that chance. Tens of millions of students in the Philippines lost years of education during the pandemic with digital delivery modes inaccessible to them.

One million Australian students do not own a laptop. Yet, as a nation, we throw away about half a million computers each year. E-waste is the fastest growing waste stream in the world, and most of it is still perfectly reusable. This needs to change, and LiteHaus International has the answer. Since 2017, we have repurposed over 10,000 computers through our digital equity initiatives which have provided 200,000 marginalised students with digital learning opportunities.

In 2023, we took giant strides forward, deepening our program footprint in Papua New Guinea, Philippines and Australia, and expanding our efforts in Solomon Islands and Samoa. We provided nearly 6,000 students across Australia with their own personal laptop, securing a major partnership with the Queensland Government to tackle device poverty across the state. We attained membership with the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), demonstrating our commitment to best practice and good governance. We were also recognised for our efforts to bridge the digital divide globally by the International Telecommunications Union's SDG Digital Gamechanger Awards in New York during the United Nations' General Assembly Week.

The digital gap is widening, but our organisation is rising to meet the challenge, emerging as Australia's digital equity charity. I sincerely thank our supporters for enabling us to continue conquering digital inequality.

Jack Growden

Founder & CEO



10,233 computers kept out of landfill and repurposed



320 computer labs completed



1,074,465+ hours of digital usage made possible



INTERNATIONAL

203,732
PEOPLE IMPACTED



441 tonnes of CO2 prevented from release



\$5 million total support raised

214 tonnes of e-waste repurposed

OUR PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

In an era where digital technologies play an integral role in shaping societies, the issue of digital inclusion has risen to the forefront of global discourse. The digital divide, encompassing disparities in access, affordability, and digital literacy, has the potential to deepen existing inequalities.

Developing countries across the Asia-Pacific region present a diverse and complex landscape, where cultural and geographical factors significantly impact access to adoption of digital technologies. These nations face unique challenges in achieving digital inclusion. Meanwhile. despite Australia's advanced technological infrastructure. urban-rural disparities. economic divides, and digital literacy gaps pose obstacles to achieving universal digital inclusion.

Digital inclusion is not just about access to technology; it is about empowering individuals and communities to thrive in an increasingly digital society. By understanding the nuances of digital inclusion efforts in diverse contexts, we can work towards a future where digitalisation is truly inclusive, leaving no one behind.

2023 marked the beginning of our five-year journey towards the goal of "A Million Dreams". We are proud to share that in 2023, LiteHaus International built 169 computer labs across five countries and distributed nearly 3,150 devices to Australian students, benefiting over 100,000 people.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

Infrastructure: Completed 169 computer labs across Asia-Pacific.

Inclusion: Distributed 2,978 laptops across Australia.

Communities: Distributed 170 devices into community hubs and vulnerable groups across Australia.

Sustainability: 5,749 devices repurposed and 100 tonnes of e-waste diverted from landfills.

Positively impacted the lives of 101,862 people.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT SINCE 2017:

Completed 320 school computer labs across the Asia-Pacific region.

Provided digital learning opportunities to over 203,991 students.

Diverted 214 tonnes of e-waste from landfills.

Repurposed 10,387 devices.

Positively impacted the lives of 374 communities.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

MISSION:

A quality education can only be digital in today's world. Our Digital Infrastructure Program aims to equip schools in developing countries across the Asia-Pacific region with the necessary tools for digital learning, bridging the digital divide and improving educational equity. The program started in 2017 in Papua New Guinea and has since expanded to the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Fiji, with plans to expand to more countries in 2024.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Built 169 computer labs in five countries.
- Deployed 2,598 devices, impacting the lives of 95,837 people.
- Expanded into Solomon Islands, Samoa, and Fiji, deploying a total of 375 devices into these new markets.
- Continued our work in Papua New Guinea, with a total of 94 new digital classrooms.
- Expanded our work across in the Philippines, completing a further 40 computer labs.

- Received international recognition for the program at the SDG Digital Gamechanger Awards at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- Launched LAB-IN-A-BOX, a portable computer lab designed to overcome issues of electricity and connectivity in some of the remotest schools in Papua New Guinea.
- Conducted a comprehensive School Needs Assessment Report for the Kutubu district, Southern Highlands Province, in partnership with Santos Foundation.

DIGITAL INCLUSION PROGRAM

MISSION:

A million Australian students do not own a personal laptop to learn with in the digital age today. Our Digital Inclusion Program tackles the digital divide by providing students across rural, regional, and remote Australia with a device for free. Beyond school students, we also build digital capability amongst regional communities more broadly through communal digital hubs and enabling digital literacy training. The program started in 2020, when schools shut down during the pandemic, and since then, LiteHaus International has deployed **5,272 devices** across **50 communities** through this program.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2023:

- Provided over 5,883 students across Australia with digital access, reaching 50 communities nationwide.
- Partnered with the Queensland Government to distribute 5,000 devices, into rural, regional and remote areas in Australia.
- Collaborated with organisations such as SSI, Centacare, and the Townsville Multicultural Centre to support migrants. In 2023, 857 of our beneficiaries were students with a migrant background.
- Continued our partnership with QATSIF, and in 2023 alone, distributed personal laptops to over 1,600 First Nations students experiencing digital exclusion in Queensland, in communities as far as Cape York.



OUR 2023 IMPACT IN AUSTRALIA



3,148 laptops distributed



330,540+ hours of digital usage made possible



59 communities reached



5,882 students impacted

4,500 OF THESE STUDENTS WERE FROM FIRST NATIONS OR REFUGEE/MIGRANT BACKGROUND

DIGITAL INEQUALITY ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Despite being a highly developed nation, Australia faces significant challenges in bridging the digital divide, particularly in the education sector. While connectivity is widespread in most areas, a million Australian students still lack personal access to digital devices. Many schools report device ownership rates of less than 15%.

Many schools report device ownership rates of less than 15%.

This diaital divide mirrors broader socioeconomic inequalities in Australia. First Nations communities, regional populations, and students from migrant backgrounds are disproportionately affected by digital poverty, limiting their access to crucial digital resources. As essential services. iobs. education, and social connections increasingly move online, addressing this disparity becomes critical.

In 2023, Australia has been marked by a costof-living crisis, exacerbating these challenges. With a million Australian students returning to school without their own laptop, parents are under immense cost-of-living pressures, struggling to purchase devices for their children. Some have incurred lingering debts in attempts to achieve digital inclusion for their kids.

Meanwhile, Australia discards half a million devices into landfills annually, contributing to environmental degradation. This cycle of waste not only harms our environment but also represents a missed opportunity to recycle and repurpose functional devices for those going without.

In 2023, Australia has been marked by a costof-living crisis, exacerbating these challenges.



Our Digital Inclusion Program addresses device poverty across rural, regional, and remote Australia, providing laptops to students in those areas and equipping them with essential e-safety and digital skills. In 2023 alone, we have distributed 3,148 quality laptops, positively impacting the lives of 5,882 students. Our focus is on First Australians, New Australians and Regional Australians. This initiative not only helps reduce e-waste but also ensures that devices reach students who need them to participate in the digital world.

PARTNERSHIP WITH QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT



One of the highlights of 2023 in our Digital Inclusion Program was our partnership with the Queensland Government. Delivered as an initiative of the Digital Professional Workforce Action Plan 2020-24, the project deployed 5,000 laptops into the hands of Queenslanders, significantly enhancing their access to digital learning tools. This has gone a long way to eliminating device poverty in schools across the region, Far North Queensland, from the Tablelands to from Cape York and Torres Strait Islands, and across regions in Central Queensland, North Northwest and Queensland.

5,000 laptops into the hands of young Queenslanders, enhancing their access to digital learning tools.

Alongside the laptops, students received digital literacy education and critical e-safety skills, equipping them to navigate the digital world safely and effectively. These devices build digital capability within the students and their families, extending benefits to the entire community.





POSTCODES MUST NOT DETERMINE PARTICIPATION IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

LiteHaus International goes to the ends of the Earth, quite literally, to ensure that no student is left behind in the digital world. First Nations communities in Cape York and Torres Strait are situated in some of the most remote parts of the country. Schools here reported device ownership rates of less than 10% before we intervened.

In 2023, through our partnership with Queensland Government, we distributed 530 laptops to students in these regions, significantly improving digital access and educational opportunities.

Dan Tonon, Principal of Western Cape College, said, "LiteHaus has been incredibly important in improving the digital literacy of our students and ensuring they are ready for the future."

Vernon Clark, Principal of Kluthuthu Christian College in Napranum, stressed the importance of digital technology: "In this day and age, digital technology is essential, especially for schools teaching remotely."

We have also continued our partnership with Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation (QATSIF), through which we have provided personal laptops to over 1,600 First Nations students across the state. In remote communities such as Doomadgee, Normanton and Kowanyama, we have lifted the device ownership rate amongst secondary students from <5% to almost universal, as part of our commitment to closing the digital gap.

"LiteHaus has been incredibly important in improving the digital literacy of our students and ensuring they are ready for the future." - Dan Tonon, Principal of Western Cape College.

TACKLING DIGITAL INEQUALITY ACROSS REGIONAL AUSTRALIA



Australia faces significant disparities between rural and urban regions, particularly in digital access and educational resources. Many regional areas struggle with limited internet connectivity and lower device ownership rates, exacerbating educational inequalities.

In 2023, LiteHaus International supported schools in the Tablelands, Mt Isa, Longreach, and other areas across Far North Queensland and Central Queensland. We distributed 1,180 devices laptops in these regions alone, since the program started.





CASE STUDY: RAVENSHOE STATE SCHOOL

Ravenshoe State School in regional Queensland faces challenges typical of low-income areas, including limited job prospects and substance abuse issues. In 2020, only 2 out of 194 secondary students had a laptop, highlighting a national failing.

Through our partnership with Queensland Government, we have supplied over 150 devices, revolutionising digital access for the school and community.

Teacher, David Chinofunga, noted the positive impact on students' learning attitudes and accessibility, especially for remote learners.

Only 2 out of 194
secondary students had a
laptop. Through our
partnership with
Queensland Government,
we have supplied over
150 devices to the school.

Devices have also facilitated advanced studies like Maths C, previously hindered by financial constraints. Notable students like Albert have utilised laptops for family accounting, while Darcy's laptop led him to discover tertiary opportunities, now pursuing electrical engineering at JCU. His story exemplifies the transformative power of digital access in shaping future careers.

DIGITAL INCLUSION

Digital inequality is a pressing issue in Australia, disproportionately affecting underserved communities, particularly individuals with migrant or refugee backgrounds who face significant barriers as they settle into Australian life.

LiteHaus International works closely with organisations such as Settlement Services International (SSI), Centacare, and the Townsville Multicultural Support Group (TSMG) to support people with migrant or refugee backgrounds in their settlement journey. These organisations play a crucial role in easing the transition by providing essential services and support, including digital literacy training and access to technology.

LiteHaus International has donated 300 laptops to SSI, 10 to TSMG, and supported Centacare with 130 laptops over the past three years. These devices enable individuals to engage effectively with educational resources, job opportunities, and essential services online, crucial for their integration and success.

Stephanie Naughton, CEO of TSMG, emphasises the critical role of digital literacy for people with migrant or refugee backgrounds: "One of the major challenges faced by people with migrant or refugee backgrounds is the lack of digital literacy

and access to technology. In today's digital age, everything from job applications to essential government services is online. Understanding and utilising digital resources are essential for their integration and success in Australia."

When Australia received Ukrainian refugees seeking asylum in 2022, Natasha Arens, a Ukrainian migration lawyer based in Cairns, reached out seeking support for the new settlers who were struggling with digital exclusion and feeling socially isolated. In response, we provided 125 laptops for their community.

"...everything from job applications to essential government services is online. Understanding and utilising digital resources are essential for their integration and success in Australia."

Digital inclusion is a form of social inclusion. By providing a laptop, we foster independence, empowerment, and a sense of belonging. Addressing digital inequality and responding to community urgencies, we aim to ensure that every New Australian feels welcome and supported in their journey toward a brighter future.





CASE STUDY: TOWNSVILLE STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Townsville State High School has a significant population of ESL (English as a Second Language) students, with around 25% coming from refugee backgrounds. These students represent a diverse range of countries in Central Africa and South-East Asia. To meet their unique needs, the school has an English Intensive Centre that gradually integrates them into age-level classes.

During the pandemic, the lack of devices for online learning became a critical issue, and most students struggled to follow online classes. Ahmed Osman, a Student Support Officer, reached out, and we immediately recognised the need to support these students

The students used the laptops to learn English with Literacy Planet, applied for work and further studies, and join social clubs. Since then, we have supported 1,931 students with refugee backgrounds across Australia

"LiteHaus International was crucial during COVID, when our students had to take online studies. Our students are mostly English as Second Language, and the majority didn't had a computer at home. We started rolling out door by door. Now every family member has a computer."

- Ahmed Osman, Student Support Officer at Townsville State High School



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Our Digital Inclusion Program directly contribute to SDG 10 by reducing inequalities in rural, regional, and remote Australia. By providing digital devices to students in underserved communities, including First Australians, New Australians, and Regional Australians, we are addressing educational disparities and promoting equal access to digital

learning tools. Our Digital Inclusion Program empowers individuals with the digital skills necessary for academic and future professional success, bridging the digital divide and fostering a more inclusive society. LiteHaus International remains committed to creating opportunities that enable all Australians to fully participate in the digital economy and society.







OUR 2023 IMPACT IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA



1,488 devices distributed



156,240 hours of digital usage made possible



94 computer labs installed



55,186 students impacted

THE DIGITAL DIVIDE &

CHALLENGES FOR EDUCATION IN

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea faces a significant digital divide, characterised by inadequate infrastructure, poor connectivity, and limited access to digital technology, especially remote and rural areas. With only one-third of the population having internet access and mobile phone coverage being sporadic and often low-speed, the digital landscape is challenging. The high cost of devices and data plans, combined with low levels of digital literacy and a shortage of trained IT professionals, further exacerbates this divide. This situation hinders economic development, restricts access to education and healthcare, and diminishes the country's ability to compete in the global digital economy. Bridging this digital divide is essential for promoting social and economic inclusion.

Addressing these challenges requires holistic approaches that go beyond infrastructure development. It involves investing in education and skill development programs to empower individuals to navigate the digital landscape confidently.



Since 2017, our Digital Infrastructure Program has been at the forefront of addressing these challenges. In 2023, we completed 94 digital classrooms in primary schools across Papua New Guinea, bringing our total to 237 in the country. These classrooms, the first of their kind among the 3,500 primary schools in the country, have benefited over 150,000 students and teachers, 90% of whom had never previously used a computer.

Each school receives 15 desktop computers and essential operating software, along with digital skills training, which provides crucial digital competency training for students and teachers. In partnership with Niunet PNG, we also offer a unique offline internet experience, granting access to 6.3 million pieces of educational content in a secure, curated learning environment—

replacing outdated book collections with modern digital resources

By installing a new computer lab every 48 hours, LiteHaus International is addressing a critical resource gap in Papua New Guinea's education sector, empowering the next generation of digital leaders and fostering equal opportunities for all students.



INSTALLING DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE CLASSROOM

Our Digital Infrastructure Program plays an important role in advancing SDG 9 by improving access to digital learning tools in some of the most underserved regions of Papua New Guinea. Our efforts focus on enhancing infrastructure, promoting innovation, and fostering inclusive and sustainable development through the following key initiatives:

Enhancing Educational Infrastructure:

By installing groundbreaking digital classrooms, LiteHaus International is transforming the educational landscape in Papua New Guinea. Each classroom is equipped with 15 desktop computers, providing students and teachers with access to digital learning tools and resources. This infrastructure development is crucial for fostering a conducive learning environment and bridging the digital divide in rural and remote areas.

Providing Access to Educational Content:

Through our partnership with Niunet PNG, we offer a unique offline internet experience that provides access to 6.3 million pieces of curated educational content. This initiative ensures that even in areas with limited or no internet connectivity, students can benefit from a vast repository of knowledge, enhancing their learning opportunities and academic performance.



Promoting Digital Literacy:

Our Digital Skills Training program provides essential digital competency training for teachers, ensuring they can effectively integrate digital devices into their teaching practices, enhancing the overall quality of education and preparing students for the demands of the modern digital economy.

We have delivered digital skills training for four sub-national divisions of education through the PNG Partnerships for Education Improving (PIE) program, supported by the Australian Government. We have worked with 70 staff from Provincial Divisions of Education (PDoE) for Sandaun, Central and Enga Province. and the Bougainville Department of Education (BDoE) to strengthen competencies in the Microsoft Office suite and to improve e-safety awareness. In addition to training, each PDoE/BDoE received a set of refurbished laptops to enhance digital capacity and enable the important work of education service delivery.

Fostering Innovation and Creativity:

The availability of digital classrooms encourages innovation and creativity amona students. With access computers and digital resources, students can explore new subjects, develop critical thinking skills, and engage in interactive and collaborative learning experiences. This environment nurtures future innovators and leaders who can contribute the country's socio-economic development.

Supporting Community Development:

The digital infrastructure installed in schools also benefits the wider community. Many schools make their computer labs available for community use, allowing adults to improve their digital skills. This inclusivity promotes lifelona learning and supports development of a more digitally literate society.





CASE STUDY: AVIAMP PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sly Vii Joan is a teacher at Aviamp Primary School in rural Jiwaka, Papua New Guinea (PNG). When LiteHaus International was founded, few of the 3,500 schools in PNG had quality digital learning infrastructure. Aviamp Primary School was one of them until LiteHaus International stepped in with Deloitte and the Sir Brian Bell Foundation to install a computer lab.

When Aviamp Primary School received the computers, Sly Vii saw this as an opportunity to further her studies and enrolled in a university computer course. Now, she is the IT Teacher at the school.

"I always say to my students, that nowadays mastering computing is a survival skill." - Sly Vii Joan IT teacher at Aviamp Primary School.

Sly Vii has developed a daily schedule for digital classes and graduated Grades 3 to 8, and organises free computer lessons for teachers after hours.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG GINDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Our Digital Infrastructure Program directly contributes to SDG 9 by significantly improving access to digital learning tools in one of the least developed countries. By building resilient educational infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and fostering innovation, we are helping to

create a more equitable and prosperous future for Papua New Guinea. Our work ensures that the benefits of the digital world reach all corners of the country, empowering individuals and communities to participate in and contribute to the global digital economy.



IMPROVING DIGITAL LITERACY

In today's world, a quality education must inherently be a digital education. Recognising the importance of digital literacy, the integration of digital tools and skills into educational curricula is essential. LiteHaus International's commitment to SDG 4 is evident through our extensive efforts to improve digital literacy in Papua New Guinea, ensuring that students and teachers have regular access to digital learning tools.

Every 48 hours, we build a new computer lab in a school in Papua New Guinea. Ninety-four percent of students in PNG do not have regular access to digital learning tools. Many remote schools have empty

libraries with fewer than 50 reading books available to students. This critical shortage of quality learning materials hinders the delivery of quality education. We are changing this.

CASE STUDY: KUNABAU PRIMARY SCHOOL

At Kunabau Primary School in Chimbu Province, digital learning classes are held every day, and the school has successfully integrated digital usage into the daily teaching of other subjects. Students use the comprehensive Niunet e-library, which has over 6.3 million educational articles, to assist them in their social sciences, mathematics, and geography projects.

We have partnered with the Chimbu Provincial Department of Education and its remarkable women leaders to complete 22 digital classrooms since 2022.



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Our efforts directly contribute to SDG 4 by ensuring that quality education is accessible and inclusive. By integrating digital literacy into school curricula, providing essential digital tools and training, and targeting vulnerable populations, we are fostering empowerment, equality, and shared prosperity. Our work helps to bridge the

digital literacy gap, ensuring that individuals are equipped with the skills needed for the digital era. This commitment to digital inclusion is crucial for preparing students for the demands of the modern economy and society, ultimately contributing to a more equitable and prosperous future for Papua New Guinea.

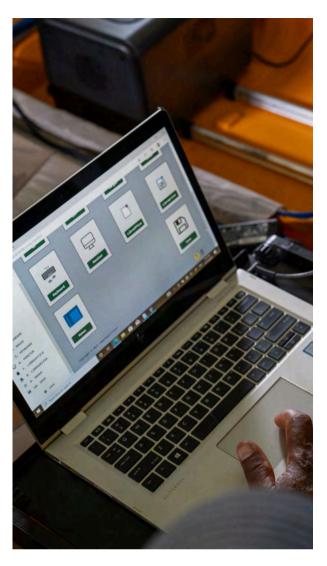


ENHANCING TEACHING & LEARNING & RESOURCES THROUGH

NIUNET

Partnering with Niunet PNG, we provide a unique offline internet experience that offers beneficiaries access to 6.3 million pieces of educational content in a safe, curated learning environment. Where once only a shelf of outdated books was available for students, Niunet now serves





as an e-library, free to use, with opensource content from platforms like Wikipedia, Khan Academy, and many more, along with content developed in-house by Niunet. This e-library offers an internet-like experience and is the perfect solution for schools with limited or no internet connection. Niunet, a local company based in Port Moresby, is dedicated to enhancing educational resources in Papua New Guinea.

The LiteHaus International journey has grown from humble origins to partnering with some of the most renowned brands in Papua New Guinea. The Sir Brian Bell Foundation, one of our major partners, has trusted us from the beginning of our journey, sponsoring multiple containers full of digital devices each year.

OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Uniting the efforts of Niunet, Sir Brian Bell Foundation and, LiteHaus International makes all our work possible. By leveraging the strengths of local expertise, private sector support, and international outreach, we are fostering a more inclusive and

sustainable educational environment in Papua New Guinea. Our collaborative efforts not only bring groundbreaking digital learning tools to students but also demonstrate the power of partnerships in achieving the SDGs.





THE DIGITAL WORLD ANYWHERE FOR EVERYONE LAB-IN-A-BOX

Since 2017, LiteHaus International has supported 237 schools in 17 provinces in Papua New Guinea with the installation of computer labs. However, thousands of schools in remote corners of the country suffer from energy poverty, lacking reliable access to electricity.

REACHING THE MOST REMOTE COMMUNITIES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

In 2023, we were determined to ensure that their students and teachers are not left behind in the digital age. We launched Lab-In-A-Box, a solar-powered, portable computer lab and offline e-library setup that fits inside a single suitcase. This portable solution addresses the challenges of no electricity, no connectivity, and no furniture, making it possible to bring digital education to the most isolated areas.

We have provided Lab-In-A-Box units to 12 remote schools situated along the Purari River in Gulf Province, bringing the digital world to a place it had previously left behind.



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG 7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Lab-In-A-Box exemplifies our commitment to SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, by leveraging sustainable energy solutions to overcome electrification challenges and ensure that the benefits of digital education reach every student, regardless of their location.

Many communities in Papua New Guinea face significant electrification challenges with unreliable or non-existent power



supplies. This lack of consistent energy access severely limits educational opportunities, particularly in remote and rural areas

Our Lab-In-A-Box initiative addresses this issue by providing solar-powered digita classrooms. These labs are equipped with solar panels, batteries, and energy-efficient devices, ensuring uninterrupted learning experiences. By harnessing clean energy, we not only promote sustainable development but also empower students with the digital skills necessary for a brighter future.





GENDER EQUALITY

IN DIGITAL EDUCATION:

Digital inequality continues to impact women and girls disproportionately. Addressing this issue is essential for achieving gender equity in the digital age. Chimbu Province is driving change in the country, with many schools managed by women and a significant number of school inspectors being women.

Women Leading the Way

Rosemary Teine and Bainam Gela, two dedicated women leaders, are testaments to the power of female leadership in driving educational and digital transformation.

We are proud to have completed 22 primary school computer labs in Chimbu Province. Through these efforts, almost 50,000 women and girls across Papua New Guinea now have access to LiteHaus International's digital classrooms. By empowering the next generation of girls with digital skills, we are contributing to a more inclusive digital economy where everyone has an equal opportunity to thrive.



OUR CONTRIBUTION TO

SDG 5 GENDER EQUALITY



Our initiatives directly contribute to SDG 5 by promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls through education. By ensuring that digital tools and training are accessible to female students and educators, we are working towards eliminating gender disparities in education and fostering a more equitable learning environment. The leadership of women like Rosemary and Bainam is crucial in creating equitable schools where all students, regardless of gender,

have the resources and opportunities to succeed. Their commitment to improving digital literacy and education in their communities sets a powerful example for others to follow.

By focusing on gender equality in our digital education programs, LiteHaus International is helping to build a future where women and girls are not only participants but leaders in the digital world.





BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN THE PHILIPPINES

The Philippines faces a significant digital divide, especially in rural and indigenous communities, where inadequate infrastructure and limited access to digital technology hinder educational opportunities. This divide restricts economic development, access to education and healthcare, and the country's ability to compete in the global digital economy.

Our Digital Infrastructure Program in the Philippines began its pilot project in 2022, collaborating with the Energy Development Corporation (EDC). Our initial efforts were focused in Kidapawan City, Mindanao, where we installed 18 computer labs in primary schools. The majority of the



population in this region are from the indigenous Obo Manobo community, making most students in these schools indigenous.

Building on this success, in 2023 we expanded our efforts to Bicol, where we have completed installations in 15 schools, also in partnership with EDC as part of a broader initiative covering 22 schools. This project is set to be completed in 2024, further expanding our reach and impact.



In October 2023, we teamed up a new partnership with the Australian Foundation for Fostering Learning in the Philippines (AFFLIP) to drive digitalisation in Talomo, Davao. Together, we distributed 360 laptops across 15 schools in the Talomo District, delivering quality education to underprivileged students. For many, this was their first encounter with a computer.

In total, we have delivered 855 devices and established 48 computer labs in the Philippines since our initial project in 2022. In 2024, we plan to roll out a new initiative in Leyte with EDC, aiming to install laptops in 31 schools. This expansion will further our mission to bridge the digital divide and ensure that no student is left behind in the digital world.





ADVANCING DIGITAL EQUITY IN THE PACIFIC

In 2023, we expanded our program footprint across the wider Pacific region, building on the successes of our digital infrastructure initiatives in classrooms across 17 provinces in Papua New Guinea. The digital divide across the Pacific exacerbates educational disparities, hindering access to quality learning resources and opportunities. **Nations** in the Pacific are often geographically vast and are some of the most remote on the planet. In regions with limited Internet connectivity technological



infrastructure, students face barriers to online education, essential skills development, and information access crucial for academic success. This divide widens disparities between urban and rural areas, limiting educational equity and





socio-economic mobility. Bridging this gap requires concerted efforts in infrastructure development, digital literacy programs, and equitable distribution of resources to ensure all students can access the transformative power of education in the digital age.

In Samoa, we have partnered with E3 Samoa Trust, Bluewave and Code Avengers on their collaborative Pacificode project, designed to improve digital access and build digital literacy amongst the future leaders of Samoa. Targeted at the island of Savai'i, which has a lower standard of living than Upolu, the program has provided digital capability uplift to dozens of schools and church-run study centres. In 2023, we supported the locally-led initiative with 300 laptops which have been deployed into 30 schools across Samoa.

The Solomon Islands faces similar development challenges to its Melanesian neiahbour. Papua New Guinea. provision of quality education is immensely difficult given the remoteness of much of the country. Even in the capital city of Honiara, the main high schools have limited digital capability. In 2003, we provided 75 laptops to schools across Honiara, including King George VI High School and Honiara High School. IT teachers in both institutions reported that this has enabled better students to device ratios as there are very large class sizes in Solomon Islands.

In the years ahead, we plan to broaden our programs across Samoa and Solomon Islands and move to tackling digital inequality in other Pacific nations, where similar challenges abound.



OUR DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM RECOGNISED AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK

In 2023, LiteHaus International was honoured for our Digital Infrastructure Program at the SDG Digital Gamechanger Awards held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The SDG Digital Gamechanger Awards, commissioned by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and UNDP, recognise initiatives that mobilise digital solutions to tackle the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). LiteHaus International was named a Runner-Up from among 462 nominations from nearly 100 countries, underscoring the global recognition of the impact of our work in bridging the digital divide.

Jack Growden received the award at the United Nations Headquarters, highlighting the international acknowledgment of our efforts in creating a more inclusive digital world. This recognition not only validates our mission but also inspires us to continue expanding our reach and impact.

This prestigious award coincided with our 6th anniversary, marking the journey from when our Founder & CEO, Jack Growden, donated his personal laptop to a school in Papua New Guinea. This initial act of generosity planted the seeds of what would become LiteHaus International. Six years later, we have distributed over 10,000 computers, installed 374 digital labs, and impacted more than 204,000 students. LiteHaus exists to contribute to Goal #4 - Quality Education, ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

IN 2023 WE ATTAINED MEMBERSHIP WITH

In 2023. LiteHaus International attained membership with the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID). demonstrating our dedication to high standards of good governance, transparency, and accountability in our operations. ACFID is the peak body for Australian non-government organisations involved in international (NGOs) development and humanitarian action. By aligning with ACFID's Code of Conduct, we affirm our commitment to ethical practice, organisational integrity, and the delivery of quality development programs.

Principles of Good Governance

By achieving ACFID membership, LiteHaus International adheres to principles central to good governance, including:

Transparency: Ensuring our activities and financial practices are open, clear, and accessible to all stakeholders.

Accountability: Taking responsibility for our actions and decisions, ensuring that our conduct aligns with the expectations of our beneficiaries, donors, and partners.

Effectiveness: Striving to achieve significant, sustainable, and positive outcomes through our programmes and initiatives.

Ethical Practice: Conducting our operations with integrity and respect, ensuring that we uphold the rights and dignity of all individuals we work with. Inclusivity: Promoting inclusive practices that respect and value diversity, ensuring that our programmes are accessible and beneficial to all, especially the most marginalised and vulnerable groups.





DEVICE DONATION CAMPAIGN

Every second, hundreds of digital devices are thrown away around the world, while billions of people go without the tools they need to realise their dreams in our digital age. We are changing this by transforming e-waste into opportunities for students and future leaders across Asia-Pacific. The Sustainable Lifecycle Program repurpose old, end-of-life digital devices by providing them to students in need, creating a circular economy that reduces e-waste.

2023 marked the first year of our five-year journey towards our goal of A Million Dreams. In 2023 alone, the program received over 6,000 devices, diverting almost 100 tonnes of e-waste from landfill, mitigating the significant environmental

threat caused by electronic waste. Beyond reducing e-waste, the program improved educational outcomes and bridged the digital divide by providing essential tools to over 100,000 students.

BRISBANE AIRPORT CORPORATION

Brisbane Airport Corporation donated 400 laptops and 800 monitors, significantly aiding our efforts to combat digital inequality in Papua New Guinea and regional Australia. With this collection, we were able to distribute these devices entirely within our programs in Papua New Guinea, enabling us to build 27 computer labs.

"We partnered with LiteHaus because we share the vision that a digital future is essential in this day and age and aligns really well with BAC's corporate values of connecting the world and creating the future." - Anthony Tully-Smith, ICT BAM at Brisbane Airport Corporation.

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

In 2023, Flinders University joined our list of donor partners. With support from CompNow, they donated a total of 270 devices. The majority of these devices were distributed to students in North Queensland as part of our Digital Inclusion Program, which prioritises First Nations students, regional students, and those with diverse language backgrounds.

AECOM

AECOM generously contributed 450 devices from their Australia and New Zealand offices, with a commitment to continue their support. Their donations enabled us to provide digital learning tools for students in Regional Queensland, New South Wales, and the wider Pacific in 2024. This collaboration has significantly enhanced educational opportunities in these communities, fostering a more inclusive digital landscape.

DELOITTE:

Deloitte has been a huge contributor to our mission. In 2023 alone, Deloitte contributed 460 devices, which were distributed in our programs in Papua New Guinea and Australia. Since 2017, they have supported us with over 2,500 devices. Their support has been a huge boost in enhancing our capacity to deliver digital education tools to underserved areas, promoting digital literacy, and reducing the digital divide.

"It is a no-brainer...it's quick, it's easy, so we've donated over 2,500 devices to LiteHaus" – Rogier Piepers, Chief Information Officer Delloite Australia



DEVICE DONORS





























Deloitte.













VISION TO 2027

Over the next five years, we aim to digitise a million dreams across the Asia-Pacific region. This means empowering one million people with digital learning tools and opportunities to enable them to realise their dreams.

In 2017, Jack saw something he could not accept - a glimpse into a world of inequality where some do not get to dream. A world where billions of people are kept apart from opportunity, kept apart from realising their dreams by an ever-growing digital divide. A digital world where



postcodes determine participation. He did not accept that.

Today, we refuse to accept that any child or person should be left behind. Every person deserves their place in the digital

world and the digital world deserves them. It deserves their creativity, their ideas, their capabilities. We aim to create a digitally empowered world where there are no barriers to dreams. Digital equality and empowerment for a million people. A million dreams.





IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITIES

2024 is the second of five years towards our target of A Million Dreams. Currently, we have impacted 204,000 people as we enter the mid-term phase of our plan.

High-Level Strategic Goals for 2024

Infrastructure: Complete 300 computer labs across Asia-Pacific.

Inclusion: Distribute 5,000 laptops across Australia and New Zealand.

Communities: Distribute 1,500 devices to community hubs and vulnerable groups across Australia.

Sustainability: Close the device lifecycle loop in our programs to ensure e-waste is permanently kept out of landfill.

In 2024, we aim to deploy 12,500 devices throughout our programs, a 60% increase from the 7,750 devices deployed in 2023. Eighty percent of these distributions will take place in existing markets: Australia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands. We will also expand our efforts to Timor-Leste, Cambodia, Thailand, and Kiribati.

To support our growing scale, we will increase our team by incorporating a Warehouse & Logistics Lead and a Training & Development Lead. These new roles will directly impact our programs by ensuring efficient logistics and enhancing training for beneficiaries, preparing us for continued growth.

Our next goal for 2024 is to increase our presence in Brisbane. Given that a significant portion of our donations and connections come from Brisbane corporations and considering the robust corporate sector in the capital city, it makes sense to focus our efforts on establishing a stronger foothold there. Exploring the potential of this market will help us forge new partnerships and secure more resources to further our mission.

OUR GOVERNANCE

LiteHaus International is governed as a company limited by guarantee under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and its activities are overseen by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). LiteHaus International is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is therefore signatory to its Code of Conduct. The organisation is committed to ACFID's principles of good governance and practice.

OUR TEAM

LiteHaus International's team drives the operational execution of the organisation's programs to ensure the strategic goals and the change that we want to see both within ourselves, and in the world are achieved. They bring a breadth of knowledge and experience coupled with passion and commitment that creates a culture that lives our values of innovation, integrity and community.



Jack GrowdenFounder & CEO

Appointed: 2021



Peter Raim Country Lead Papua New Guinea

Appointed: 2021



Rob Birnie Australian Programs Lead

Appointed: 2022



Laura BenitoMarketing & Communications
Officer

Appointed: 2023



Andrew FarringtonBusiness Development Lead
Appointed: 2023



Jienelle CatubayExecutive Assistant
Appointed: 2023



Luke WakehamWarehouse & Logistics Lead
Appointed: 2024



Lachlan ParkerTraining & Development Lead
Appointed: 2024

OUR BOARD

LiteHaus International's Board is comprised of dedicated and experienced individuals who guide our strategic direction, oversee governance, monitor accountability and ensure that the organisation lives and achieves its mission.



Jack Growden
Founder & CEO

Appointed: 2020



Dr Nathan Groenhout Chairman

Appointed: 2020



Peter Williams Director





Louise Vella Cox Director

Appointed: 2020 Chair – Policy & Risk Committee



Ashley FinnDirector

Appointed: 2020

Chair – Audit & Finance Committee



Kim Skubris

Director

Appointed: 2021

Chair – Policy & Risk Committee



Tosin Aro

Director

Appointed: 2023

Chair – Policy & Risk Committee

In 2023, the following sub-committees supported the Board:

- The Audit & Finance Committee provides guidance to LiteHaus International's Board and management related to independent external audit and financial standing and reporting.
- The Policy & Risk Committee provides guidance to LiteHaus International's Board and management related to its policy framework, procedures and the ongoing development of the agency's risk management framework.

ABN: 73 854 293 707

ACFID-Code-Compliant Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 December 2023

ABN: 73 854 293 707

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ABN: 73 854 293 707

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
REVENUE		
Donations & Gifts Monetary Non-Monetary	351,002 1,613,930 1,964,932	400,048 1,258,255 1,658.303
Grants DFAT Grants Other Grants & Sponsorship	23,200 601,225 624,425	259,865 259.865
Investment Income Other Income	34 57,921	24 30,576
TOTAL REVENUE	2,647,312	1,948,768
EXPENDITURE		
Program Expenses Operations Expenses	528,923 562,892 1,091,815	241,059 346,749 587,808
Non-Monetary Expenses Depreciation and Amortisation	1,831,355 6,377	737,760 -
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,929,547	1,325,568
(DEFICIT)/EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	(282,234)	623,200
Other Comprehensive Income		-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	(282,234)	623,200

ABN: 73 854 293 707

Statement of financial position As At 31 December 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	343,446	377,520
Trade and other receivables Inventory	600 582,505	41,000 799,930
Total current assets	926,551	1,218,450
Total danoni addata	020,001	1,210,100
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment _	51,694	10,000
Total non-current assets	51,694	10,000
Total assets	978,245	1,228,450
Total assets	910,243	1,220,430
Liabilities		
A		
Current liabilities	4E 04E	0.740
Trade and other payables Employee benefits	15,815 32,765	9,710 10,059
Total current liabilities	48,580	19,769
Total dallolit liabilities	10,000	10,100
Non-current liabilities		
Employee benefits	8,147	4,929
Total non-current liabilities	8,147	4,929
Total liabilities	EC 707	24.600
i otai liabilities	56,727	24,698
Net assets	921,518	1,203,752
=	021,010	1,200,702
Equity		
Retained earnings	1,019,982	1,302,216
Revaluation reserve	(98,464)	(98,464)
		<u>-</u>
Total equity	921,518	1,203,752

ABN: 73 854 293 707

Statement of changes in equity For the Year Ended 31 December 2023`

	Retained surplus \$	Revaluation reserve \$	Total Equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2022	679,019	(98,464)	580,552
Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	623,200	-	623,200
Total comprehensive (loss) for the year	623,200	-	623,200
Balance at 31 December 2022	1,302,216	(98,464)	1,203,752
Balance at 1 January 2023	1,302,216	(98,464)	1,203,752
Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	(282,234)	- -	(282,234)
Total comprehensive (loss) for the year	(282,234)	-	(282,234)
Balance at 31 December 2023	1,019,982	(98,464)	921,518

ABN: 73 854 293 707

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

The financial statements cover LiteHaus International Ltd as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. LiteHaus International Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

NOTE 1 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

This special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance at www.acfid.asn.au.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

This financial report is summarised version of our annual financial report. Our 31 December 2023 audited annual financial report can be obtained by visiting https://www.acnc.gov.au.

ABN: 73 854 293 707

Directors' DeclarationFor the year ended 31 December 2023

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of LiteHaus International Ltd, the directors have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

- 1. The accompanying financial statements are in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the company's financial position at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.
- 2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Jack Growden

Chief Executive Officer

Ashley Michael Finn

Non-Executive Director | Chair, Audit & Finance Committee

20 June 2025 Townsville



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LITEHAUS INTERNATIONAL LTD

Report on the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying ACFID-Code-compliant financial report of LiteHaus International Ltd ("the Company"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity or the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of material accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration. The ACFID-Code-compliant financial report has been derived from and is consistent with the company's full audited financial report for the year ended 31 December 2023.

In our opinion the accompanying ACFID-Code-compliant financial report of the Company is in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct, including:

- a) Giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACFID-Code-compliant financial statement requirements.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the directors' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACFID Code of Conduct. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



Directors' Responsibilities for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Note 1 to the financial report and the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct which has been determined as appropriate to meet the needs of members. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individual or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

PKF NORTH QUEENSLAND AUDIT

TIM FOLLETT PARTNER

20 JUNE 2025 TOWNSVILLE

