

# CAN DO

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17



Anna Tawake, in Tailevu, Fiji, Cyclone Winston. (Credit: Mark Mitchel)

# Contents

Executive Summary . . . . .	5
About CAN DO . . . . .	6
How we work . . . . .	7
CAN DO Achievements 2016-17 . . . . .	8
Update on Work Plan. . . . .	9
Demonstrating the reach of CAN DO . . . . .	11
GIS mapping in the Pacific . . . . .	12
Response to East Africa crisis . . . . .	13
Challenges and looking ahead . . . . .	14
Financial Update. . . . .	15





# Executive Summary

Above: Relief supplies being loaded by the Anglican Church of Melanesia, for distribution to Tropical Cyclone Donna affected communities in the Torres Islands, Vanuatu (Credit: ACOM, 2017). ACOM is a partner of Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) and Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA).



The Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) consortium was formed in the interests of collaboration and coordination in the humanitarian sector.

Against the backdrop of the World Humanitarian Summit and its agreements, especially among local structures like churches, eight Australian church NGOs came together to build a platform to respond to these developments.

We are greatly encouraged by our achievements in the 2016/17 financial year. We believe this consortium holds incredible potential to realise its vision of churches collaborating to enhance community resilience to disaster and conflict.

## Core strategies

CAN DO's core strategies have remained intact since its foundation but their implementation is under constant review and, where necessary, adjustments are made to accommodate changing circumstances. As we have begun to undertake our Pacific workshops we are seeing promising results in our reach and depth to influence communities in preparedness through church leadership and infrastructure.

We are finding the leverage we had hoped for through our long-term

relationships among denominations and between the church and communities. This gives confidence that CAN DO will make a significant impact, ensuring communities are better prepared and have greater coordination of churches during a response. Our Australian-based workshops are also ensuring the development of resources that will add value to good practice approaches, synergy in communications and greater solidarity between Australian churches and our Asian and Pacific neighbours.

## Stakeholders

As a member of the Australian Humanitarian Partnership with the Australian Government, we are working closely with other partnership holders and the Government to achieve its objective of Australia delivering more effective, innovative and collaborative humanitarian assistance across the region. Much work is ahead to deepen the relationships of our primary stakeholders, the Asia Pacific churches and our members, so that our collective action will meet the expectations of our constituency and the Australian Government to save lives, alleviate suffering and enhance human dignity during and in the aftermath of conflict, disasters and other humanitarian crises.

## Key Achievements

Our guidance documentation has been developed and our governance formation process is complete, with a

strong MoU and Steering Committee in place.

We have welcomed the appointment of Geoff Shepherd as our Coordination Unit Manager. Geoff's depth of experience has had an immediate impact. Five working groups have been established working on capacity mapping, emergency response procedures, Disaster Ready design preparation, communications and simulations. We have started Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping pilots in Fiji and Vanuatu and commenced many socialisation workshops among our partners. Finally, but critically we have identified our in-country lead agencies who are essential to ensure efficiency and coordination during activations.

I extend on behalf of all members, our gratitude to Caritas for its role as lead agency of CAN DO and their leadership that has brought about many of the early gains made in CAN DO's formation.

*Anthony Sell*

CAN DO Steering Committee Chair



# ABOUT CAN DO

Above: Two ADRA volunteers carry supplies for shelter kits for distribution in the aftermath of Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu. (Credit: Luma Bani)

The Church Agencies Network – Disaster Operations (CAN DO) was formed in 2015 to better coordinate and strengthen our global humanitarian, disaster risk reduction and management and resilience building work. CAN DO agencies are members of the Australian Church Agencies Network (CAN) and members of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID).

We are:

- Act for Peace (AfP)
- The Adventist Development and Relief Agency Australia (ADRA)
- Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)
- Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA)
- Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)
- Baptist World Aid Australia / Transform Aid International (TAI)
- UnitingWorld (UW)
- Caritas Australia (Caritas)

CAN DO is governed by a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** endorsed by the Chief Executive Officer of each agency. The MOU sets out operating principles and governance arrangements for coordination and co-investment in a range of outcomes and partnerships. CAN DO has developed a five-year strategic **Roadmap**, detailing our vision and mapping out activities and partnerships that we will pursue over the next five years.

## Our principles

CAN DO is guided in its work by the following principles:

- Faith matters** We are guided by Christian values and identity
- It's not about us** We will focus on the most vulnerable, at-risk communities
- Learning and improvement** We commit to continual learning to strengthen CAN DO's effectiveness
- Valuing what each entity brings** We balance unity with unique contribution according to member capacity
- Trust and respect** We mutually respect and honour each member's partnerships and church structures
- Transparency** We are open and thoughtful in all our work

## YEAR AT A GLANCE

**July 2016** CAN DO consortium is established in Australia (March 2016) and policies and procedures are in development

**January 2017** GIS mapping of church resources pilot program commences in Vanuatu and Fiji

**February 2017** CAN DO church partner workshop is held in Fiji

**May 2017** ADRA and AOA partners share resources and information in the response to TC Donna in Vanuatu

**May 2017** CAN DO church partners workshop in Vanuatu

**June 2017** CAN DO membership announced to the DFAT Australian Humanitarian Partnership



# How We Work

*CAN DO is made up of eight member agencies, guided by the work of the Coordination Unit and the Steering Committee*

## What we do

In preparing for and responding to disasters, members will share intelligence and, as far as possible, coordinate efforts to maximize their speed and impact on the ground, and to avoid duplication of effort. Members will support the development and sharing of Christian faith-based methods for building the resilience of communities to disasters and conflict; a unique domain of the agencies.

CAN DO invests in supporting church collaboration in disaster management by:



Investment in church leadership for disaster management



Disaster preparedness and planning capacity



Disaster response

## Our structure

CAN DO operates under the framework of the Australian Church Agencies Network (CAN) strategy with additional arrangements for collaboration and coordination on humanitarian and disaster risk management.

## CAN DO Coordination Unit



The coordination unit fulfils the central coordination function for the consortium, managing programming in collaboration with consortium members, the lead agency, in-country leads, the steering committee, Australian NGO member agencies and the AHP SU.

## Lead agency

Caritas Australia is the consortium lead agency and hosts the CU. The lead agency carries the ultimate responsibility for effective and efficient humanitarian programming, across the consortium's global response, as well as capability strengthening components.

## Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is responsible for governance of the consortium, including endorsing structures and overseeing the development of consortium policies and protocols. The Committee facilitates consortium-wide reflection and learning, and leads on advocacy with key stakeholders.



## Our collective vision

*To support churches seeking to collaborate and coordinate in disaster management to enhance community resilience to disasters and conflict.*

*Above: Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop with former Prime Minister of Vanuatu Joe Natuman (left) ADRA volunteer Kiri Maxwell and then Trade Minister James Bule after Cyclone Pam struck Vanuatu in 2015. (Credit: Carrie Unser)*

*Below: CAN DO Fiji workshop 2017*



## Achievements 2016-17



### CONSORTIUM MANAGEMENT

- Development of guiding principles for the consortium
- Allocation of in-country lead agencies
- Development of Terms of References and sign-off for Lead Agency, Steering Committee, Coordination Unit and in-country Lead Agency
- Development of 2016-17 workplan and budget, including allocations of member contributions
- Formation of Steering Committee
- Recruitment of Coordination Unit Manager
- Recruitment of Coordination Unit; Program Coordinator and Design, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Coordinator
- Development of consortium management structure with both internal and external stakeholders
- Engagement with sector events such as the Centre for Humanitarian Leadership's 2017 conference



### OPERATIONS

- Six CAN DO workshops conducted in Australia
- Development of DFAT funded Disaster Ready bridging proposal
- Decision on priority countries for the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) Disaster Ready Proposal
- Engagement with AHP Support Unit and AHP Communications working group
- Formation of five working groups and priorities: Capacity Mapping, Disaster Ready, Emergency Response Procedures, Communications and Simulation Exercise working groups
- Fiji and Vanuatu workshop with partners, including scoping trip prior to workshop
- GIS pilot mapping of Vanuatu and Fiji
- Partner capacity mapping undertaken in Vanuatu and Fiji, including mapping responses to tropical cyclones Pam and Winston



### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Development of draft Coordination and Communications Framework
- Development of draft Emergency Response Procedures (ERPs)
- Accountability matrices completed



# Update on Work Plan

*The following is a brief update against the five major areas in the agreed CAN DO work plan and activities for FYI 6-17.*

## 1. Coordination Unit Structures

The CAN DO Coordination Unit was established, including a Manager, Project Coordinator and Design, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (DMEL) Coordinator:

- In its first year, the CAN DO Coordination Unit has supported three streams of work:
  1. Emergency response: Developing the mechanisms between the consortium to respond to emergencies globally.
  2. Disaster Risk Management (DRM): Setting up the communication and coordination between partners in the Pacific to develop our DRM program.
  3. Consortium formation: Building relationships internally between partners and the broader humanitarian community in Australia.
- Accountability and risk matrixes have been set up by the consortium which cover these three areas.

## 2. Pacific Socialisation and Consultations

- The socialisation of CAN DO with partners in the Pacific has commenced. While it has been relatively well received by partners, the level of understanding varies across partners and ongoing consultation is needed.
- Discussions with Pacific academic and theological colleges will move forward significantly in 2017, with the commencement of the development of a Theology of Disaster Risk Management (DRM).

## 3. AHP Disaster Ready

- Through a successful submission process, the consortium was allocated funding by DFAT to support the design of Disaster Ready as well as start-up activities.
- Workshops with partners in Fiji and Vanuatu were conducted in February and May respectively in place of simulations. The workshops highlighted a huge diversity between partners, capacity and understanding of the humanitarian system and country contexts.
- A GIS mapping pilot commenced in Fiji and Vanuatu.



### What is **Disaster Ready**?

Disaster Ready is an allocation of funding from DFAT for AHP partners. The aim of this project is to strengthen local humanitarian capability in the Pacific to anticipate, prepare for, respond to and reduce the risk of natural disasters.



## 4. Coordination Systems and Communication

- The CAN DO Coordination Framework was drafted along with the Emergency Response Procedures (ERPs).
- Six CAN DO consortium workshops were conducted over the year; of particular significance were the five working groups (WG) which were set up in December to bring focus to important work plan areas for the consortium. These included a Simulation WG, Mapping WG, Emergency Response Procedures WG, Disaster Ready WG and Communications WG.
- The final workshop of the financial year was conducted in June, which reviewed activities for FY17-18 planning. All workshop reports have been completed and distributed to members.
- Caritas worked with CAN DO members to draft and submit the AHP bridge funding proposal to DFAT for FY17/18.
- CAN DO has also been part of a brokering process with the AHP Support Unit. This process is ongoing with two draft agreements being received and reviewed. While this agreement will not be legally binding, its purpose is to facilitate the interactions, coordination and effectiveness of the AHP and to maximise the results of the AHP goals, especially in the Pacific.
- CAN DO submitted an abstract entitled "Church Collaboration and Coordination in the Pacific and the Localisation Agenda" to present at the "Forum on Localising Humanitarian Need: the Role of Religious and Faith-Based Organizations" - Sri Lanka 16-19 October.

## 5. Other Significant CAN DO Activities include

- DFAT Emergency Response Activations were made for Lebanon, South Sudan and Yemen. Caritas received ongoing funding of \$5 million for Lebanon/Jordan.



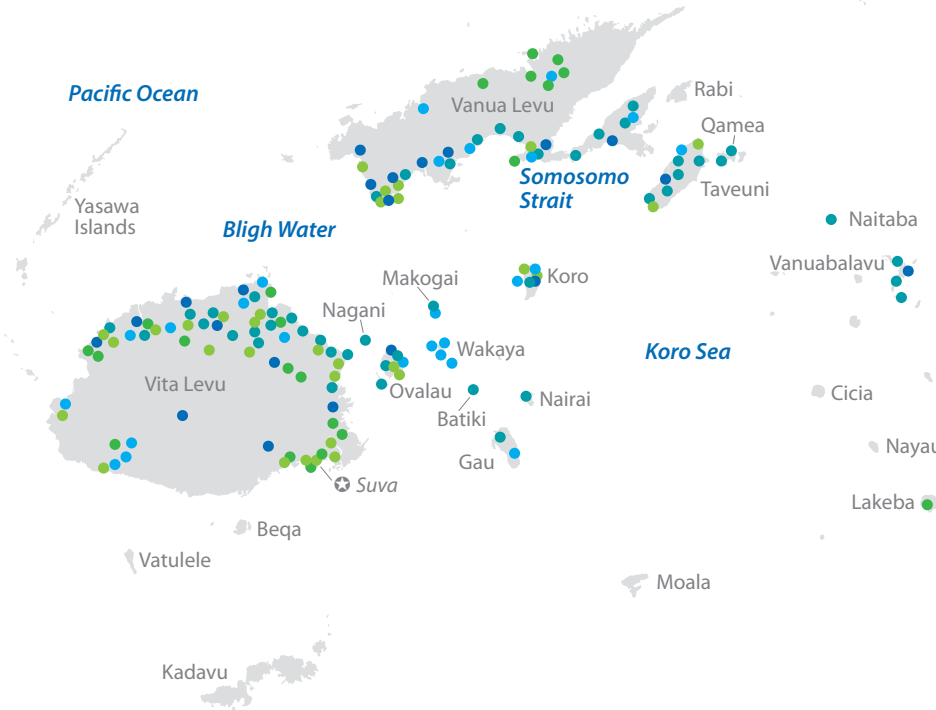
*CAN DO Partners Workshop Fiji, February 2017*



# Demonstrating the reach of CAN DO

## The response to Tropical Cyclones Winston and Pam

### Tropical Cyclone Winston response



The following map demonstrates the reach of CAN DO agencies and their Fiji church partners in the response to Cyclone Winston.

CAN DO Fiji Church Partners responded in more than 100 locations across the islands of Vanua Levu, Viti Levu, Taveuni, Koro, Matagi, Qamea, Naigani, Ovalau, Wakaya, Makogai, Nairai, Lakeba, Vanuabalavu and Gau in all four national divisions.

#### CAN DO Fiji Partners

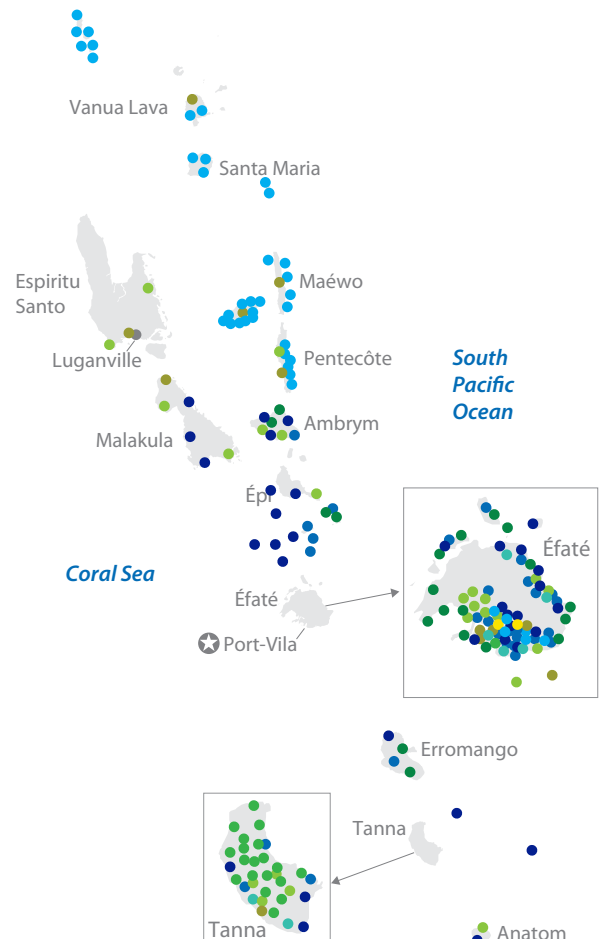
Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia; Fiji Baptist Church Convention and Ola Fou; Commission of Justice and Development and People's Community Network; Methodist Church in Fiji; Fiji Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)

### Tropical Cyclone Pam response

The map below highlights the reach of CAN DO agencies and their Vanuatu church partners in the response to Cyclone Pam. CAN DO Vanuatu church partners responded in more than 100 locations across the islands of Banks, Torres, Espiritu Santo, Maewo, Pentecost, Malakula, Vanua Lava, Santa Maria, Ambrym, Efate, Erromango, Tanna, Tongoa, Aniwa, Futuna, Epi, Anatom and Shepherd islands across all six provinces of Vanuatu.

#### CAN DO Vanuatu Partners

Anglican Church of Melanesia; Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Vanuatu and Vanuatu Seventh Day Adventist Church; Catholic Church and Commission Diocesaine d'Action Sociale; Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, Churches of Christ, Apostolic Church, Cornerstone Church and Assemblies of God; Nasi Tuan and Ola Fou; Vanuatu Christian Council



- |                                  |                               |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Anglican                       | ● Vanuatu Council of Churches |
| ● Ola Fou, Nasi Tuan and Baptist | ● Presbyterian                |
| ● Catholic                       | ● Church of Christ            |
| ● Methodist                      | ● Apostolic                   |
| ● Seventh Day Adventist          | ● Assembly of God             |

# GIS MAPPING IN THE PACIFIC

## CAN DO pilot activity

The mapping of the potential church properties as evacuation centers is a pilot initiative of CAN DO in Vanuatu and Fiji.

**Project objective:** This pilot project aims to establish and test the use of a Geographic Information System (GIS) to map various properties. The GIS uses an application using the Geographical Positioning System (GPS) to map the properties.

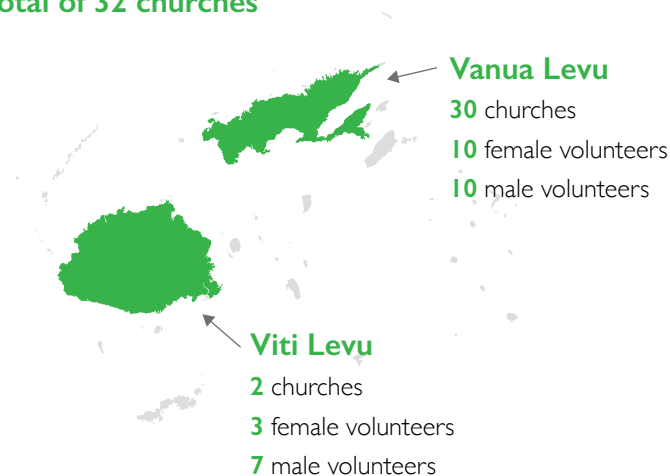
**Partners:** In Fiji, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) together with the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church collaborated with the Catholic Church to implement this activity on the islands of Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. In Vanuatu, ADRA and the SDA Church collaborated with the Anglican Church of Melanesia (ACOM) and implemented this activity on the islands of Efate and Santo.



GIS is being used to evaluate and map church property to see if building specifications met standards for the potential use as evacuation centres. The software has the potential to also map church communities and key hazards affecting Pacific communities, and the information collected and put into the system can help responding agencies and churches to make decisions for effective emergency response.

### FIJI

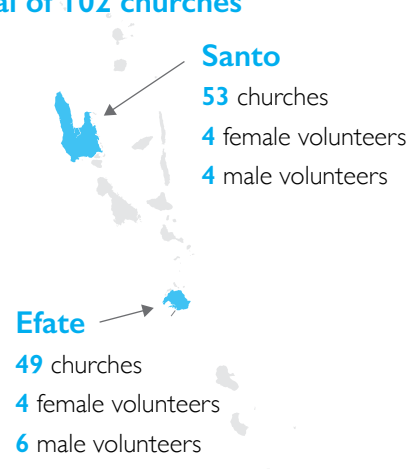
**In Fiji, the project surveyed a total of 32 churches**



**TOTAL: 32 churches | 30 volunteers**

### VANUATU

**In Vanuatu, the project surveyed a total of 102 churches**



**TOTAL: 102 churches | 18 volunteers**



## Response to East Africa crisis

The food crisis in East Africa brought by drought and conflicts is threatening the lives of more than 20 million people. East Africa is facing its third consecutive year of drought, causing thirst and hunger, decimating livestock, destroying livelihoods, spreading disease and triggering large scale population movements. The seriously affected areas include most of Somalia, South Eastern Ethiopia, South Sudan, Northern Eastern and Coastal Kenya, and Northern Uganda.

### What are our members doing?

Through funds raised by our member agencies and partners, CAN DO has provided emergency food, clean water, and health support to more than 500,000 individuals across Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. The overall target is to reach an additional 500,000 people.

CAN DO Australia agencies have a target to raise \$9.8 million and so far have raised nearly \$4.1 million (41%) for the response. Through the global network of CAN DO partners, the overall aim is to raise nearly \$145 million, supporting the needs of more than 4.5 million individuals. CAN DO members will continue to use their online platforms to share information, plans, needs and resources with each other.

### CAN DO relief activities

**Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)** is working through local partners to deliver emergency relief aid in South Sudan. Some activities include; setting up a demonstration farm to help people with kitchens and the provision of equipment including cooking and eating utensils and mosquito nets and blankets for vulnerable community members.

**The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)** is providing urgent food aid distribution, school feeding programs and cash transfers to thousands of children, women and men in Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan. Food parcels include rice, beans, maize, oil and salt.

**The Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS)** is working with local partners in Sudan, South Sudan, Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya. Some key activities include: food and water distribution, distribution of urgent hygiene kits including water purification tablets and sanitary pads; education through supporting a school feeding program and teachers and; supporting business initiatives including start-up grants and cash-for-work.

**Anglican Overseas Aid (AOA)** is supporting programs in Ethiopia, South Sudan and Kenya, providing emergency food and nutrition, health services, water, sanitation, and agricultural support to vulnerable communities, particularly women and children.

**Caritas Australia**, through the Caritas Internationalis network, is working to support 514,694 people across Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan. Local and international Caritas partner agencies are on the ground providing clean water; food items such as beans, sugar, salt, oil and maize flour; and sanitation supplies, as well as ongoing programs in education and shelter.

**Baptist World Aid Australia / Transform Aid International (TAI)** and its partners, have been providing vital food security and water, sanitation and hygiene to affected communities in South Sudan, Kenya and Uganda.

**UnitingWorld (UW)**, working with local, ACT Alliance church partners and directly through the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan is supporting the delivery of vital food supplies, nutrition supplements and water purification tablets to children and families desperately in need.



Caritas supported school in Agok, South Sudan. (Credit Paul Jeffrey)



Ayek Mayan, a widow, sweeps around her home built by Caritas in South Sudan. (Credit Paul Jeffrey)

# Challenges and looking ahead

*CAN DO acknowledges the challenges in coordinating relationships between multiple local partners and government at different levels. This is a focus for further development and investment through our institutional Roadmap, which identifies strategies and actions for deepening these relationships. Some of the challenges we have encountered, include:*

Challenges	What are we doing differently?
Workshops have allowed for accelerated learning about in-country context, however more participation and buy-in from partners is necessary.	Place greater emphasis on Pacific partners, including engaging more directly and developing a strategy and engagement plan.
Being more efficient with communication across the eight agencies.	Ensuring streamlined approach of information sharing with the Coordination Unit.
The direction and expectations for the Communications Working Group needed more clarity.	Outlining the direction/idea scenario for Communications Working Group.
Responding to emergencies, particularly in the Pacific, without coordination systems fully in place.	Being flexible, planning ahead and seeing where we can develop adequate systems to respond in the interim.

Looking ahead into 2017-2018 there are exciting plans on the horizon for the CAN DO consortium, including:

## Quarter 1:

- CAN DO consultation workshops in five pilot countries in the Pacific region
- Finalising key partnership documents including the Memorandum of Understanding and the Coordination and Communication Framework

## Quarter 2:

- CAN DO partners build ownership and endorsement from senior church leadership by engaging with the National Council of Churches
- Finalising the DFAT 4.5 year Disaster Ready project design

## Quarter 3:

- CAN DO partners develop country-level inclusive disaster management and contingency plans
- CAN DO partners strengthen baselines for GIS mapping

## Quarter 4:

- CAN DO partners build greater links with the National Disaster Management Offices
- CAN DO partners have strong and unified relationships with key stakeholders including the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)



# Financial Update

## Annual Work Plan and Budget

- A full review of FY16-17 plan and activities and planning for FY17-18 was conducted through a survey before the June CAN DO Workshop. This survey was used to plan activities for FY17-18 and provided positive feedback on the health of the CAN DO network and activities achieved in FY16-17. Members concerns were considered and included for follow-up in our FY17-18 planning.
- The full funding commitment of \$300,000 was received from CAN DO members for FY16-17. There is a carry forward of \$72,440 to FY17-18.

	2016 Budget	2017 Actuals	
Account	June YTD	June YTD	Variance
Caritas Australia - Govt Grants - DFAT Carried Forward (HPA)	187,000	165,689	(21,311)
CAN DO member agency contribution	300,000	300,000	0
<b>Income</b>	<b>487,000</b>	<b>465,689</b>	<b>(21,311)</b>
Program Costs	317,126	309,859	7,267
Caritas Australia (host costs)	20,000	20,000	0
Employee Costs	149,874	63,390	86,484
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>487,000</b>	<b>393,249</b>	<b>93,751</b>
<b>Carry forward</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>72,440</b>	<b>72,440</b>

\*All figures are in AUD



Above: Through the Catholic Church Education system the Caritas networks were able to provide disaster risk reduction training to children who are vulnerable during disasters. In Solomon Islands the Nursery Rhyme Program teaches children about how to respond during an emergency through adapting well known nursery rhymes to include safety messages. (Credit: Richard Wainwright)

<http://www.churchagenciesnetwork.org.au/can-do-consortium/>