

oaktree



19 YEARS OF
IMPACT

HELLO WE'RE OAKTREE



Like our namesake tree, we had humble beginnings.

In 2003, we had only a small team of passionate volunteers. We met in living rooms, cafes and school classrooms with one goal in mind: end extreme poverty.

Since then, we have grown. We have grown in size, but we have also grown to realise that poverty is a mere symptom of greater injustices: from economic inequality to the climate crisis.

We exist to shift resources and build the capabilities of young people to solve these injustices. We believe that the key to long-term sustainable development lies in young people having the resources, backing and belief to turn their ideas into a reality.

In the same way that a mighty oak grows from the tiniest seed, we at Oaktree invest in the potential of young people as global leaders.

Over the last 18 years, we have empowered thousands of young people to build a better world. Here are some highlights from our story so far.

2003 - 2007



Community Development

- Supported more than 400 children and young people in the Mpumalanga Province of South Africa through the *Heartbeat Emtweni Centre*.
- Supported the Generation of Leaders Discovered HIV peer education scheme in 12 schools in HIV ravaged communities in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, ensuring more than 6,000 young people had access to increased education opportunities.
- Provided scholarships for more than 1,400 young people in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, to attend life-changing life skills and leadership programs run by the World Changers Academy.
- Provided library services and vocational training to young people in the Valley of a Thousand Hills, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa, through the Sethani Ogaganeni Resource Centre.
- Through our partner, Stromme Foundation, established a program to build seven schools, train teachers for each school and provide scholarships to hundreds of children in the Likisa district of Timor-Leste.
- Supported nine young people through accredited training at teachers' college in partnership with the Baptist Union in the Enga Province, Papua New Guinea.

Campaigns & Advocacy

- Campaigned across Australia on the *Zero Seven Roadtrip*, which saw 700 youth ambassadors and volunteers travel from five capital cities to Sydney on a national road trip.
- Educated thousands of Australians through the *Zero Seven Roadtrip* and the *Schools 4 Schools* program on our government's promise to commit 0.7 of gross national income to foreign aid by 2015.
- Successfully influenced the incoming government to lift foreign aid to 0.5% of gross national income by 2015 at the *Zero Seven Roadtrip* finale in Sydney.



2008-2011



- Supported the **Generation of Leaders** HIV peer education program to be delivered in 12 schools in KwaZulu Natal province and 7 schools in Mpumalanga province, South Africa
- Supported **9 young people through accredited training at teachers' college** in partnership with the Baptist Union in the Enga Province, Papua New Guinea.
- **Reopened a school** in the remote community, Yangis, in the highlands of PNG
- Implemented the Gold Program in 19 schools as part of our longstanding development project, **HIV/Aids Peer Education Project** in KwaZulu Natal and Mpumalunga, South Africa.
- **New partnership with KAPE**, implementing the Beacon Schools Initiative (BSI)
- Collected **47, 000 signatures** to support of the Act to End Poverty, a petition calling on the Australian Government to reaffirm its commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, resulted it being passed through both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

200
YOUNG PEOPLE
IN TIMOR-LESTE
WERE UPSKILLED IN
**STARTING THEIR
OWN BUSINESS**



2012-2015

55
TEACHERS
PARTICIPATED
IN TEACHER
TRAINING
PROGRAMS



Youth Empowerment Peace Building Project, Ba Futuru, East Timor

- Aim: to build youth capacity to prevent, manage and resolve violent situations peacefully and non-violently.
- 16 conflict mitigation training sessions held (April-Dec).
- 492 participants trained.
- 212 female participants.

Beacon Schools Initiative, KAPE, Cambodia

- Aim: implement educational development models that promote the emergence of a new generation of public school in Cambodia that exemplifies good governance, professionalism and quality education.
- 1739 students across 3 secondary schools, including 840 girls, exceeding the goal of 1350
- Development of scholarship program for teachers to pursue further qualifications part-time
- Innovative implementation of smartphones and tablets to encourage interactive learning.

Men and Women's Vocational Training Project, City Mission, Papua New Guinea

- Aim: to address issues of gender inequality, youth unemployment, low literacy rates and lack of vocational training for men and women in PNG -- addressing high levels of crime and gang related behaviour in Port Moresby.
- 130 young men from disadvantaged backgrounds enrolled and graduated, finding employment straight away.
- 30 women enrolled in the Women's program (Haus Ruth) to gain a basic education and financial independence.

Community Leaders Bootcamp

- Over 200 young Australians brought together to launch the Community Leaders Initiative and the 2014 Live Below the Line Campaign.

2016-2019



The Cambodian Ministry of Education

Witnessing the success of the Beacon Schools Initiative program, the government introduced a similar program called the New Generation schools (NGs). The Ministry of Education has written a NGs policy, based on our model, which was signed in September 2016. This has since transformed the school curriculum across Cambodia.

Youth Participation Practice Note

We published a report with the Australian Council for International Development, outlining the importance of youth participation in development and provides guidance to practitioners on how to more actively engage youth in their programs.

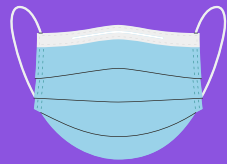
International Youth Exchange

- 5 partners (Pravah, CYC, The Voice Inc, Youth Against Corruption Association, ActionAid Myanmar/Global Platform, Youth Resource Development Program).
- 12 trip participants, 2 exchange trips (Myanmar), 2 hostings (Pravah and CYC)
- 2 IYE network collaborations.
- Representatives from Oaktree, The Voice Inc., YACA, and an alumni from the Australia-Papua New Guinea Emerging Leaders Dialogue presented a panel with the Lowy Institute on 'Engaging Young Australians and Papua New Guineans in the Political Process'.
- During the April 2017 hosting of Pravah, CYC, The Voice Inc., and Youth Against Corruption Association, we hosted a workshop between the five organisations at Oaktree's HQ office.
- We connected KAPE, our partners in Cambodia, with Ba Futuru, our partners in Timor Leste to share their advocacy learnings.

Campaigners for Change

- 80 participants
- Workshops focused on learning about the basics of campaigning and movement building, Australia's political system and Australia's current stance on Foreign Aid.
- Actions taken include sharing petitions, holding forums and writing letters to their local MPs.

2020-2021



Cambodia: Kampuchaen Young Leaders Action (KYLA)

In mid-2020, KYLA distributed much-needed at-home packages to 90 students across the six target schools. The packages included staples such as rice, noodles, oil, face masks, soap, and others. This initiative was in response to the difficulties and challenges faced by students and their families during (and as a result of) the COVID-19 pandemic. This activity was also led by the KYLA interns and highschool volunteers.

Ba Futuru: Foin-Sae Lidera Hamutuk (FoLiHa)

In 2020 & 2021, 50 Youth Changemakers developed leadership, community action and conflict resolution skills, advocating for youth issues in their community and building relations with community leaders.

Oaktree's voice in Parliament

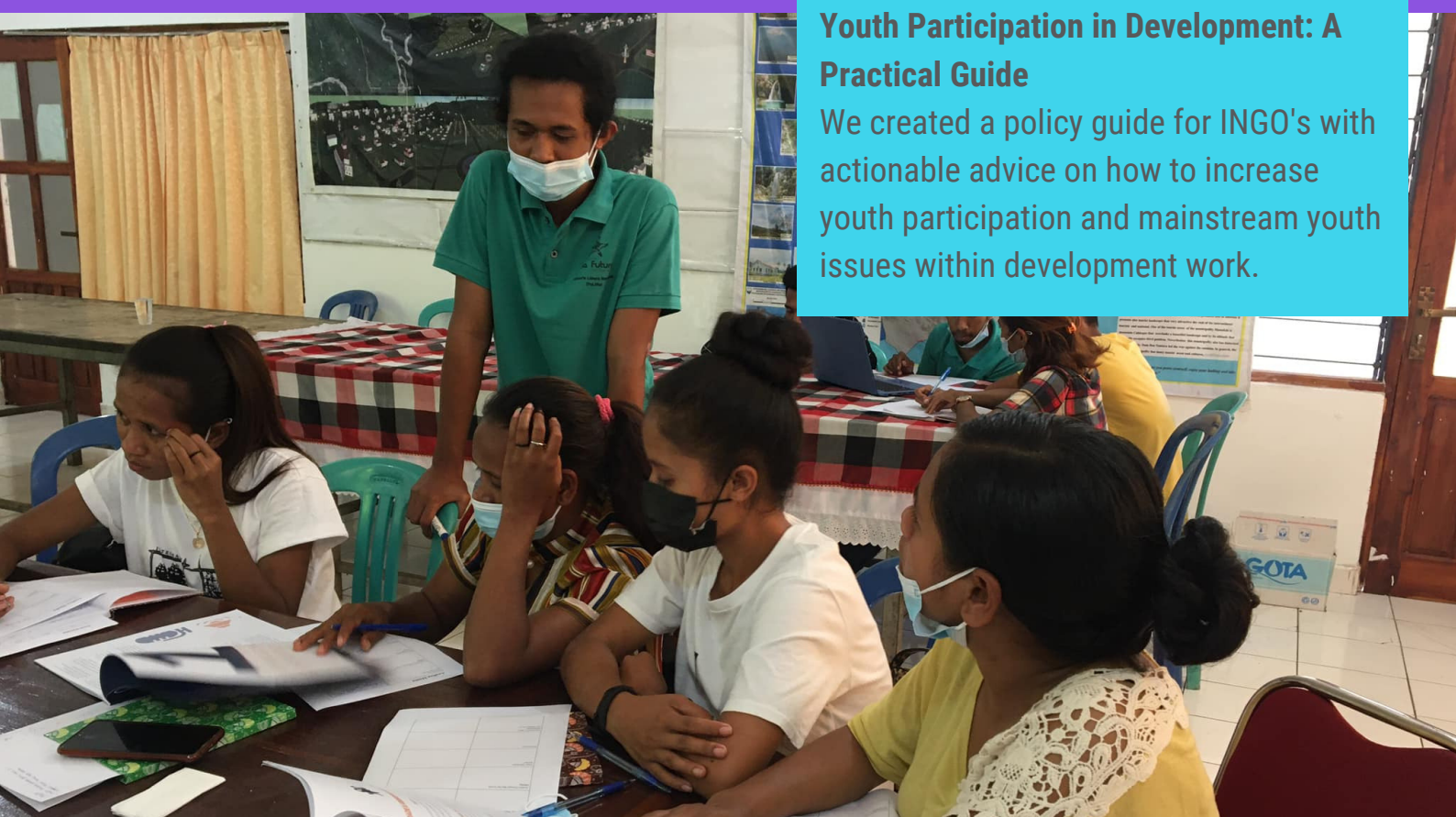
In 2021, Senator Janet Rice spoke on Oaktree's behalf in Parliament, pointing to the heavy impact the pandemic had on young people in our region. She urged the government to take responsibility by pushing the solutions our team proposed such as: increasing the foreign aid budget and Australia's contribution to COVAX.

Young people and COVID 19: In conversation with former PM Kevin Rudd

In August 2021, we engaged 182 young people from across Australia, Cambodia, and Timor Leste to discuss the role of young people in the COVID recovery with former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd. Our partners from KAPE & Ba Futuru joined the conversations, with Maun Ivo our FoLiHa facilitator joining the panel. We established that young people must act to ensure we rebuild a more just and sustainable future.

Youth Participation in Development: A Practical Guide

We created a policy guide for INGO's with actionable advice on how to increase youth participation and mainstream youth issues within development work.



OUR 2022 PLANS



1

Growing our Youth Solidarity Fund

After testing the concept of funding grassroots youth-run organisations over the last two years, we are embarking on the first year of a new project: The Youth Solidarity Fund and Network. This year we hope to fund 5 projects across **Timor Leste, Cambodia, Indonesia and Tonga**. These projects will focus on environmental degradation, climate change, women's ICT literacy, youth leadership & soft skills development.

2

Indo-Pacific Youth Activist Summit

We have a dream to bring together young change-makers from across our region and provide attendees with opportunities to meet and network with like-minded emerging leaders, attend upskilling workshops, connect people to funding and resources and learn from world leading experts. We want to provide attendees with opportunities to learn, collaborate and come up with solution to the most pressing issues in their communities.

3

Completing our projects with KAPE & Ba Futuru

We are in a final year of our projects with KAPE (Cambodia) and Ba Futuru (Timor Leste). Thanks to the generosity of our donors, our partners will finish their workshop series and complete a youth-led evaluation of KYLA and FoLiHa.

4

Global Youth Rights Campaign

We conducted some research last year and found a glaring gap in international human rights law when it comes to global youth rights to civic participation. With the support of leading legal academics, we will be launching a campaign to raise awareness of this issue.

OUR 2022-2024 STRATEGY



VIDEO



DOCUMENT

THANK YOU
FOR SUPPORTING
OUR MOVEMENT