HISTORY, IDENTITY AND VISION

History

The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) was founded in 1989 by Nobel Peace Laureate Professor José Ramos-Horta and Emeritus Professor Garth Nettheim of the University of New South Wales (UNSW) Faculty of Law.

José established DTP to invest in building the knowledge, skills and networks of human rights defenders so that they can more effectively use international law and mechanisms to end human rights abuses and promote respect for human rights.

DTP is inspired by José's success in seeking solidarity and international action on human rights violations following the invasion of East Timor in 1975. He successfully mobilised international civil society and engaged the UN and governments, enabling the people of East Timor to vote for independence in 1999.

The Faculty of Law at UNSW Sydney supported DTP’s vision of investing in individuals working for justice and generosity agreed to give DTP a home and in-kind support. This affiliation has continued for nearly 30 years.

DTP’s first course was held at UNSW in 1990. Since then, DTP has run over 150 practical training programs in Australia and around the Asia-Pacific region, responding to the needs of human rights defenders and indigenous peoples’ advocates in over 50 countries.

These programs have provided training to over 3,000 human rights defenders – nearly 50 per cent of them were women.

DTP alumni use and share the skills and knowledge built through DTP programs to more effectively help and advocate for those whose rights are at risk, to promote shared values of human rights, and to further develop the capacity of the organisations they work for.

The training contributed immensely to my understanding of how to effectively engage in and with the UN system, processes and mechanisms. My attendance to the 28th Annual Human Rights and People’s Diplomacy Training in Timor-Leste in October 2018 was beneficial as it prepared me to engage at the 40th Human Rights Council session in March this year. I was able to connect knowledge to processes as I observed sessions at the Human Rights Council sessions.”

Louchrisha Hussain, DTP 2018 Annual Program participant

Identity and vision

DTP is an independent, non-government organisation (NGO) providing quality education in human rights advocacy to individual human rights defenders and community advocates in the Asia-Pacific region and Indigenous Australia.

DTP’s mission is to build the knowledge, skills, networks and capacities of those working to advance human rights, and to help them be more effective in making a difference for human rights.

DTP is a non-profit organisation that relies on donations, grants, fees and the goodwill of numerous individuals who provide their specialist expertise at no cost. DTP is recognised by the Australian Government as a ‘deductible gift recipient’ which ensures that donations to DTP are tax deductible.

DTP is solely an educational institution. It has no religious or political affiliations. As a training organisation, DTP’s neutrality is respected and valued by human rights defenders across the Asia-Pacific region. DTP is a member of the Australian Council for International Development and complies with its Code of Conduct.

In every society there are individuals who are committed to actively challenging injustice and to promoting respect for human dignity, sometimes at great personal risk. I wanted to establish DTP as a practical way to help them. Respect for human rights is a shared dream that is made real by the efforts of individuals working together in their own communities and across borders. Enabling the sharing of experience, and building knowledge and skills are a practical contribution to these individuals and to building greater respect for human rights for all.

José Ramos-Horta
FROM THE DTP CHAIR

I am pleased to present the 2018 Annual Report of the Diplomacy Training Program. As Dean of the Law Faculty at UNSW Sydney, I supported its valuable work and I was honoured to be elected Chair of the DTP Board in 2018.

DTP expresses with great effect UNSW’s commitment to education, wider social impact, and the use of the law for justice, commitment to education, wider social impact, and the use of the law for justice, and to the rich legacy in the causes he championed human rights more broadly. He has left a profound impact, and the use of the law for justice, commitment to education, wider social impact, and the use of the law for justice, and to the rich legacy in the causes he championed.

The creation of DTP was just one of Garth’s many contributions to promoting the rights of Indigenous peoples in Australia and human rights more broadly. He has left a rich legacy in the causes he championed and in the individuals he taught and inspired.

Early in 2018, the newly expanded DTP Board met to reflect and review DTP’s strategic priorities, drawing on input from DTP’s alumni, trainers and other stakeholders. The result was a sharper vision and mission, focused on the courageous and inspiring work of human rights defenders and Indigenous peoples’ advocates across the region.

As DTP approaches its 30th anniversary it is vital that the voices of Indigenous peoples be heard and have influence. Yet more and more we see that those who speak out are at risk. The work that DTP does in enabling solidarity and building networks is critical to these individuals.

I take this opportunity to thank those that support DTP’s work – as individual donors, as trainers, interns and volunteers. Thanks also to the governments of Switzerland and Australia who invest in DTP and in civil society.

I express my appreciation also to the DTP Board, the Advisory Councils and the DTP staff.

Professor David Dixon,
Chair, Diplomacy Training Program

FROM THE DTP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to DTP’s 2018 Annual Report, covering a year in which DTP increased both the number of programs it delivered, and the number of human rights defenders it trained. Effective partnerships and collaborative relationships are at the core of DTP’s approach to building the capacity of human rights defenders.

In 2018, DTP continued its long partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) (Manila). It is building its partnerships with the Pacific Islands Association of NGOs and Fiji’s Citizens’ Constitutional Forum. At the global level DTP has furthered its collaborations with Front Line Defenders (Dublin), WITNESS (New York), and the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London). DTP also worked with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), and the International Labour Organization (ILO) – two of the key UN agencies mandated to promote human rights, labour rights and the rights of Indigenous peoples.

DTP’s focus on the human rights of migrant workers continued in 2018. A special program in Nepal reflected on capacity building along the routes of migration, with participants from countries of origin and destination. DTP worked with partners on a successful pilot program on Business and Human Rights and Development in the Pacific – responding to requests from DTP’s alumni who have identified the impacts of mining and forestry on communities as key concerns.

DTP’s 28th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program was held in Timor-Leste with human rights defenders coming from across the region. DTP’s focus on the rights of Indigenous peoples continued with a 10-day regional capacity building program held in Sabah, Malaysia.

DTP also organised, co-hosted and contributed to a number of events in Australia linked to the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This report also provides financial information on the 2017-18 financial year. A modest surplus reflects efforts by DTP staff – and the importance of pro bono support from UNSW and DTP’s volunteers and trainers.

I take this opportunity to thank those that support DTP’s work – as individual donors, as trainers, interns and volunteers. Thanks also to the governments of Switzerland and Australia who invest in DTP and in civil society.

I express my appreciation also to the DTP Board, the Advisory Councils and the DTP staff.

Professor David Dixon,
Chair, Diplomacy Training Program

2018 AT A GLANCE

Capacity building programs

DTP’s programs are designed around thematic priorities and each raises specific highlighted issues. Content, methodology and program structure are detailed later in this report.

During 2018 activities included:

10 capacity building programs held in Fiji, Indonesia, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nepal, Qatar and Timor-Leste.

218 participants from 29 countries more than half were women human rights defenders.

67 trainers from 16 countries 37 per cent of trainers were women.

Defenders program

28th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Program
Timor-Leste, 15–26 October, 23 participants

Highlighted issues:

Sri Lanka ending the “disappearances”; locating the “disappeared”; building peace and reconciliation.

Indonesia/West Papua ending the torture and killings by the security forces; environmental destruction for palm oil; the right to self-determination.

Bangladesh restrictions on civil society; threats to human rights defenders and attacks on indigenous communities.

India conflict over land in the North East; status of Nagaland.

Philippines mass killings of “war on drugs”; threats to human rights defenders.

Timor-Leste discrimination against LGBT communities and advocates; the rights of persons with disabilities; justice for victims of violations during occupation.

Papua New Guinea forced evictions; threats against human rights defenders.

Highlighted issues:

Malaysia forestry; destruction of mangroves for prawn fisheries; large-scale hydro plants.

Myanmar conflict with ethnic minorities; impunity; mass human rights violations.

Indonesia destruction of forest for palm oil; denial of indigenous cultures and languages.

Bangladesh lack of implementation of peace accords; discrimination; rape; impunity.

Papua New Guinea environmental destruction; loss of livelihoods; displacement.

Business in the Pacific
Business, Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific
Suva, Fiji, 30 April – 4 May, 26 participants

Highlighted issues:

Solomons forestry, violence; lack of free, prior and informed consent.

Fiji mining; pollution; land conflicts.

Migrant workers

Review and Reflections on Advocating on Migrant Workers’ Rights Along Migration Corridors
Kathmandu, Nepal, 21–23 March, 28 participants

Highlighted issues:

Capacity Building Program on Human Rights and Migrant Workers in Qatar
Doha, Qatar, 23–26 September, 33 participants

MENA Regional Capacity Building Program on the Rights of Migrant Workers
Beirut, Lebanon, 10–14 April, 30 participants

Advocating for the Rights of Migrant Workers – a Capacity Building Program – Module 5
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 2–5 March, 22 participants

Advocating for the Rights of Indonesia’s Migrant Workers – Modules 1–3
Jakarta, Indonesia, June/September/November, 27 participants

Highlighted issues:

High illegal recruitment fees leading to debt bondage; fraud; physical violence.

Lack of legal protection for migrant workers.

Negotiation of UN Global Compact on Safe Migration.

Other DTP activities and initiatives in 2018

Roundtables and seminars

Marking the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), these were held at UNSW in partnership with the UNSW Australian Human Rights Institute. Speakers and topics included:

Workshop with Professor Benymaz Mezmir, member of UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Karen Gomez-Dumplit (DTP alumna), Human Rights Commissioner, the Philippines – Duterte’s War on the Poor and Mass Extrajudicial Executions.

Chris Sidoti, member of the UN fact-finding mission on Myanmar – Human Rights in Myanmar – The Rohingya and other Ethnic Minorities.

Sumitha Kishna, Malaysian Bar Council – Migrant Workers, Forced Migration and Trafficking.

Charles Wea (DTP alumnus) and FLNKS Delegation, New Caledonia – Independence Referendum in New Caledonia and Kanak Self-Determination.


Professor Surya Deva, UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights – Business and Human Rights – Challenges and Opportunities.

José Ramos-Horta, DTP founder – DTP and a tribute to Professor Garth Nettheim.

New technology and advocacy for migrant workers.

DTP worked with UNSW students and with Corrs Chambers Westgarth to develop two mobile phone and web-based applications for migrant worker advocates.
DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM – ANNUAL REPORT 2018

DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM – ANNUAL REPORT 2018

and Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia in Timor-Leste, the national level include the Justice System Monitoring Project in Timor-Leste, the other programs, DTP's partners at the Nepal and Bangladesh. intergovernmental forums. At the country level, DTP has partnered with MFA member organisations. The partnership with DTP has built the capacities of MFA's member organisations across Asia, and has helped to connect and network these organisations with each other and with those beyond the networks. MFA has guided the location, content and focus of programs, helped in participant selection, and followed up by supporting participants as they put their training into practice in different UN and intergovernmental forums. At the country level, DTP has partnered with MFA member organisations in Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Bangladesh.

In other programs, DTP's partners at the national level include the Justice System Monitoring Project in Timor-Leste, the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum in Fiji, and Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia in Sabah, Malaysia. These organisations – all established and led by local human rights defenders – are examples of the movements for human rights that exist across the region.

DTP also has a unique network of international partners, all bringing something different and useful to the programs.

WITNESS (New York) specialises in building skills in using video advocacy – increasingly this means using mobile phones as tools to document human rights issues and to build awareness and action for human rights. WITNESS will work with DTP participants and their organisations on how to use this technique effectively, including through follow-up sessions.

Front Line Defenders (Dublin) is dedicated to protecting human rights defenders through a range of strategies. These include training in personal security strategies for those at risk, mobilising international action through the European Union and governments, and assisting with temporary relocation of individuals at risk. The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London) helps to amplify the voices and concerns of individuals and communities negatively impacted by businesses. They provide help with researching cases and communicating with companies and specialised help to DTP's participants.

DTP would like to thank all its partners.

DTP PARTNERS

All of DTP's programs are developed and delivered in partnership with other organisations. In nearly every case, local partner organisations include DTP alumni on their staff or boards.

DTP has worked in partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) since 2004. MFA is a regional network of NGOs, associations and trade unions of migrant workers, and individual advocates in Asia who are committed to protect and promote the rights and welfare of migrant workers. It has worked to ensure that the voices of migrant workers are heard globally and regionally, and that their human rights are respected, protected and realised.

The partnership with DTP has built the capacities of MFA's member organisations across Asia, and has helped to connect and network these organisations with each other and with those beyond the networks. MFA has guided the location, content and focus of programs, helped in participant selection, and followed up by supporting participants as they put their training into practice in different UN and intergovernmental forums. At the country level, DTP has partnered with MFA member organisations in Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Bangladesh.

In other programs, DTP's partners at the national level include the Justice System Monitoring Project in Timor-Leste, the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum in Fiji, and Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia in Sabah, Malaysia. These organisations – all established and led by local human rights defenders – are examples of the movements for human rights that exist across the region.

DTP also has a unique network of international partners, all bringing something different and useful to the programs.

WITNESS (New York) specialises in building skills in using video advocacy – increasingly this means using mobile phones as tools to document human rights issues and to build awareness and action for human rights. WITNESS will work with DTP participants and their organisations on how to use this technique effectively, including through follow-up sessions.

Front Line Defenders (Dublin) is dedicated to protecting human rights defenders through a range of strategies. These include training in personal security strategies for those at risk, mobilising international action through the European Union and governments, and assisting with temporary relocation of individuals at risk. The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London) helps to amplify the voices and concerns of individuals and communities negatively impacted by businesses. They provide help with researching cases and communicating with companies and specialised help to DTP's participants.

DTP would like to thank all its partners.

DTP PARTNERS

All of DTP's programs are developed and delivered in partnership with other organisations. In nearly every case, local partner organisations include DTP alumni on their staff or boards.

DTP has worked in partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) since 2004. MFA is a regional network of NGOs, associations and trade unions of migrant workers, and individual advocates in Asia who are committed to protect and promote the rights and welfare of migrant workers. It has worked to ensure that the voices of migrant workers are heard globally and regionally, and that their human rights are respected, protected and realised.

The partnership with DTP has built the capacities of MFA's member organisations across Asia, and has helped to connect and network these organisations with each other and with those beyond the networks. MFA has guided the location, content and focus of programs, helped in participant selection, and followed up by supporting participants as they put their training into practice in different UN and intergovernmental forums. At the country level, DTP has partnered with MFA member organisations in Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Bangladesh.

In other programs, DTP’s partners at the national level include the Justice System Monitoring Project in Timor-Leste, the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum in Fiji, and Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia in Sabah, Malaysia. These organisations – all established and led by local human rights defenders – are examples of the movements for human rights that exist across the region.

DTP also has a unique network of international partners, all bringing something different and useful to the programs.

WITNESS (New York) specialises in building skills in using video advocacy – increasingly this means using mobile phones as tools to document human rights issues and to build awareness and action for human rights. WITNESS will work with DTP participants and their organisations on how to use this technique effectively, including through follow-up sessions.

Front Line Defenders (Dublin) is dedicated to protecting human rights defenders through a range of strategies. These include training in personal security strategies for those at risk, mobilising international action through the European Union and governments, and assisting with temporary relocation of individuals at risk. The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London) helps to amplify the voices and concerns of individuals and communities negatively impacted by businesses. They provide help with researching cases and communicating with companies and specialised help to DTP’s participants.

DTP would like to thank all its partners.

DTP PARTNERS

All of DTP’s programs are developed and delivered in partnership with other organisations. In nearly every case, local partner organisations include DTP alumni on their staff or boards.

DTP has worked in partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA) since 2004. MFA is a regional network of NGOs, associations and trade unions of migrant workers, and individual advocates in Asia who are committed to protect and promote the rights and welfare of migrant workers. It has worked to ensure that the voices of migrant workers are heard globally and regionally, and that their human rights are respected, protected and realised.

The partnership with DTP has built the capacities of MFA's member organisations across Asia, and has helped to connect and network these organisations with each other and with those beyond the networks. MFA has guided the location, content and focus of programs, helped in participant selection, and followed up by supporting participants as they put their training into practice in different UN and intergovernmental forums. At the country level, DTP has partnered with MFA member organisations in Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal and Bangladesh.

In other programs, DTP’s partners at the national level include the Justice System Monitoring Project in Timor-Leste, the Citizens’ Constitutional Forum in Fiji, and Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia in Sabah, Malaysia. These organisations – all established and led by local human rights defenders – are examples of the movements for human rights that exist across the region.

DTP also has a unique network of international partners, all bringing something different and useful to the programs.

WITNESS (New York) specialises in building skills in using video advocacy – increasingly this means using mobile phones as tools to document human rights issues and to build awareness and action for human rights. WITNESS will work with DTP participants and their organisations on how to use this technique effectively, including through follow-up sessions.

Front Line Defenders (Dublin) is dedicated to protecting human rights defenders through a range of strategies. These include training in personal security strategies for those at risk, mobilising international action through the European Union and governments, and assisting with temporary relocation of individuals at risk. The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London) helps to amplify the voices and concerns of individuals and communities negatively impacted by businesses. They provide help with researching cases and communicating with companies and specialised help to DTP’s participants.

DTP would like to thank all its partners.

DTP partner organisations 2018

Fiji
Citizens’ Constitutional Forum
Pacific Islands Association of NGOs

Indonesia
Sekretariat Buruh Migran Indonesia

Lebanon
Cross Regional Centre on Refugees and Migrants
Iranian Association

Malaysia
Malaysia Bar Council
Migration Working Group
North-South Institute
Out Journey

Nepal
National Network on Safe Migration

Asia and Middle East
Migrant Forum in Asia – migrant workers

Qatar
School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University in Qatar

Timor-Leste
Justice System Monitoring Program

Thailand/Regional
Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (Chiang Mai)

UAE
The Middle East Centre for Training and Development – migrant workers

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS SYSTEM

A significant part of each DTP course is building knowledge of key human rights standards and how to use the UN mechanisms and processes of accountability. 2018 marked the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). This is the foundation document for a framework of international human rights standards that give expression to shared and universal values of human dignity. There are now nine core international human rights treaties that bind governments to minimum standards. These include respecting freedom of speech and association, preventing torture and “disappearances”, promoting equality and ending discrimination against women, racial minorities, children and persons with a disability.

These human rights treaties have all been developed in response to specific problems. Governments freely enter into these treaties, agreeing to be bound by them and to be accountable for implementing them. Other human rights standards, including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights are not binding, but carry great moral force. They are powerful tools in the hands of skilled advocates.

Governments, negotiating through the UN, have agreed on creating a system of promotion and accountability mechanisms that review human rights performance and enable individuals to make complaints when human rights are violated. DTP teaches advocates how to use these mechanisms effectively.
DTP TRAINERS

DTP expresses its thanks to the following trainers who shared their expertise in 2018.

Abeer Al-Khairasha
Aika Kasud
Alejandro Fuentes
Amy Sinclair
Anjot Lanting
Anna Yang
Arul Prakrash
Bella Galhos
Colin Nicholas
Dato Rameshvelam Manimuthu
Dina Nurlyati
Dip Magar
Ellene Sana
Golda Benjamin
Horatio de Almeida
Houdan Homayounpour
Hugo Fernandez
Joshua Cooper
Julia Fromholz
Juvinal Dias
Kamal Thapa
Katia Chinizzi
Lily Purba
Marian Bhacker
Marie José Tayah
Matthew Coghlan
Mohammad Hassan Al Obaidi
Patrick Castellan
Patrick Earle
Phil Frubman
Ray Judeindri
Rizal Rozhan
Ryszard Cholewinski
Sophia Kagan
Sumitha Shaanthinhi Kushna
Surya Deva
Victoria Caranay
Virginia Danan
Wahyu Susilo
William Gois
Yuyun Wahyuningrum
Zahra Babar

“Professor Surya and Joshua Cooper were brilliant and engaging trainers ... wealth of knowledge.”

Participant, Pacific Program

DTP sees the value in investing in the individuals committed to helping those negatively impacted by business – whether they are women garment workers or communities displaced by mines. Surya Deva is an associate professor at the School of Law, City University Hong Kong and member of the UN Working Group (UNWG) on Business and Human Rights. As one of the UN’s Special Procedures on human rights, this UNWG is responsible for promoting the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as well as engaging affected communities, victims, businesses and governments. Professor Deva’s expertise and publications have contributed substantially to the areas of business and human rights. In his term as a UN expert he has given a special focus to issues of gender.

Professor Deva is a gifted trainer and a highly valued presence on DTP courses. He listens with great empathy to participants and makes international standards, policy frameworks and the UN system accessible to community advocates. Surya Deva is very generous in donating his time to teach on DTP’s courses.

Professor Surya Deva
UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights

Lily Purba
Indonesian Representative for ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) – Women’s Rights

Lily was a community activist, working with social movements and Indonesia’s democracy movement. Her focus was on promoting gender equality and the rights of migrant workers and she was one of the leaders of the Asian Migrant Centre in Hong Kong and a board member of Migrant Forum in Asia. She gained national recognition and was appointed as a commissioner to the ASEAN Commission on Women’s Rights. She is a valued trainer on many DTP courses, bringing decades of hard-earned experience on the frontlines of human rights advocacy to her role with the Centre for Migrant Advocacy (CMA) in the Philippines. Her association with DTP goes back to the 1990s when José Ramos-Horta was refused a visa to train for DTP in Manila. She was a part of the civil society protests that resulted and of the solidarity movement for Timor-Leste.

Ellene Sana
Director, Centre for Migrants Advocacy, Philippines

Ellene Sana brings decades of hard-earned experience on the frontlines of human rights advocacy to her role with the Centre for Migrant Advocacy (CMA) in the Philippines. Her association with DTP goes back to the 1990s when José Ramos-Horta was refused a visa to train for DTP in Manila. She was a part of the civil society protests that resulted and of the solidarity movement for Timor-Leste.

Ellene Sana is one of the most experienced advocates in Asia – ambassadors and ministers from the Philippines answer the phone when she calls. As well as working on legal and policy reforms for the migrant workers’ movement in the Philippines, Ellene can share experiences of rescuing women domestic workers who were victims of violence, and freeing migrant workers detained in gaols in the Middle East. A valued trainer on many DTP courses, Ellene is a tireless advocate who connects with participants instantly and shares her knowledge with great humour. Ellene and CMA have introduced a national DTP course into the Philippines, replicating DTP’s approach at the national level.

Ellene Sana
Director, Centre for Migrants Advocacy, Philippines

DTP trainer Lily Purba (second from right) at Migrant Workers Program, Indonesia
DTP ALUMNI

Human rights are sometimes criticised as western imperatives. This criticism is powerfully refuted by the work and efforts of DTP’s alumni and their organisations across the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific who share the universal values of human dignity and aspirations for justice that human rights standards reflect.

The work of DTP’s 3000-plus alumni reaches hundreds of thousands more. Some take great personal risks to stop illegal logging and mining, or to rescue domestic workers being physically abused behind locked doors. Some are advocates for children while others lobby governments to end forced labour and modern-day slavery, or fight in court for the rights of Indigenous peoples or the right to join trade unions.

Some of DTP’s alumni stay working at the community level, others move on to take senior positions in national and regional organisations or become politicians and officials. Hopefully they will all apply the human rights values that are at the heart of DTP’s work, as well as the sense of solidarity with other participants working for justice and dignity.

DTP’s growing network of alumni is one of its strongest assets. DTP works with its alumni as program hosts, partners, facilitators and trainers, and every DTP program involves alumni, creating a positive feedback loop across the region. DTP alumni also form a powerful network of their own for sharing experiences, advice and mutual support. DTP actively facilitates these long-lasting connections both in the design of its programs and in its ongoing alumni outreach through newsletters, email updates, social media, meetings and refresher training.

There is no better illustration of the value of DTP’s work than the stories of its alumni. We have included the profiles of just some DTP alumni from over the last 30 years.

Charles Wea (New Caledonia)
Representative in Australia of Front de Liberation Nationale Kanak et Socialiste (FLNKS)

DTP Program: 3rd Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training, Australia, 1992

Charles is a Kanak from New Caledonia and the Australian representative of FLNKS, the movement for Kanak independence from France. In 2018 he organised the Kanak leadership delegation to Australia in the leadup to the first of the key independence referendums. He put his DTP training into practice as he accompanied the delegation through meetings with the Australian’s Foreign Minister, key MPs and officials, and NGOs and supporters across Australia. He has requested DTP’s continuing help in providing training to Kanak leaders as they peacefully advocate for an independent Kanaky - New Caledonia republic.

Patricia Miranda Wattimena (Indonesia)
Program Associate – Breaking Out of Marginalisation (BOOM), Feminist Participatory Action Research (FPAR) and Network Support, based at Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) secretariat in Chiang Mai, Thailand

DTP Program: Indigenous Peoples Program, Thailand, 2010

Patricia Miranda Wattimena belongs to Haraku indigenous community from the Maluku province in the eastern part of Indonesia. She has been involved in advocacy for the rights of indigenous peoples, human rights and the rights of women in Indonesia and the region for over ten years.

Patricia was working with the Maluku chapter of Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara in Indonesia when she participated in DTP’s regional indigenous peoples’ rights program in 2010. In January 2016, she joined Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact in Thailand as the Advocacy Coordinator and is now working with APWLD. For Patricia the DTP program had a significant influence as it inspired her and sparked her curiosity about how advocacy works at various levels. She realised that when government’s negligence and violations of rights are exposed, there are many allies out there, both indigenous and non-indigenous, who are ready to fight with indigenous peoples and to extend their solidarity to amplify indigenous demands and support their case. Patricia has also returned as a trainer for DTP’s program on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, held in Thailand in 2017.

Noha Roukoss (Lebanon)
Head of the Training Department and Advocacy at Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center (CLMHC)

DTP Program: Migrant Workers Program, Kuwait, 2014

Noha started her work with CLMHC as a social worker inside Lebanese prisons and Beirut’s detention centre for foreigners. She worked there for more than 10 years before being assigned her current position at CLMHC. In Lebanon detention is automatic for undocumented migrant workers, including those who have fled abusive employers. Many of these women are from Asia and East Africa, brought to Lebanon as domestic workers, and their stories are heartbreaking.

With Caritas, Noha worked hard to get the women out of detention and into shelters where they could be supported and receive counselling. She helped them to seek justice, and to return home safely if they wished. She currently trains officials, including those in law enforcement, in the rights of migrant workers so as to provide training, support migrant workers and change attitudes in the wider Lebanese community towards migrants and refugees. Since April 2016 Noha has led the Secretariat of the Social Workers’ Syndicate (union) in Lebanon. Noha has returned as a trainer to DTP’s migrant workers program. She finds the value in DTP training is not just the transmission of information, it is also the sharing of experiences and stories that participants can relate to from their daily work.

"I am going to conduct training for what I have learnt to the indigenous communities and translate related material into Malay language for understanding of indigenous peoples."

Participants at Indigenous Peoples Program, Malaysia

Diplomacy Training Program – Annual Report 2018
DTP CONTENT AND METHODOLOGY

Theory of change

Underpinning DTP’s work is an understanding that individuals, working together, can drive change. Individuals and the organisations they build and belong to in civil society play a critical role upholding human rights, in promoting peace, seeking redress for grievance, and in holding governments and business to account. Individuals and civil society organisations are critical in generating the political will to allocate resources to address poverty and discrimination, to develop laws to protect the environment, to regulate the private sector and to provide access to justice.

Investing in the knowledge, skills and networks of these individuals is a strategic, sustainable and cost-effective approach to promoting and protecting human rights and shared values of human dignity.

DTP’s participatory training methodology has developed over nearly three decades. It is constantly evolving to reflect changes in technology and best practice, as well as feedback from participants and partners. DTP’s courses build practical skills for strategic advocacy through role plays, case studies, and specifically tailored sessions on everything from media engagement to government lobbying. DTP programs provide a unique opportunity for developing networks and sharing best practice.

DTP’s courses build the skills and confidence of human rights defenders, encouraging creativity and a focus on developing and proposing solutions. The aim of these programs is to enable participants to be more effective in claiming their rights, in promoting the human rights of others and in making governments and business responsive to human rights claims.

DTP includes consideration of gender in all of its programs and encourages its trainers to include a gender perspective in the content that they deliver.

DTP has structured its programs around some key thematic priorities that reflect its analysis of human rights risks and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region and the Middle East.

This ensures that DTP participants working on specific human rights concerns can benefit from tailored, directly relevant skills and capacity building, while networking and exchanging knowledge with trainers, alumni and fellow participants who have similar objectives and challenges.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE: KEY HUMAN RIGHTS PRIORITIES

DTP’s flagship Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Program is the longest running human rights capacity building program in the Asia-Pacific. Uniquely, it brings together individuals working on a wide range of human rights issues in many locations – from Nagaland to West Papua.

For 28 years, this program has been helping to build the human rights movement in the Asia-Pacific region. In recent years this program has been held in Timor-Leste. There is no better place to bring advocates to learn about international law and advocacy, the UN system, international solidarity, protecting human rights in repressive and authoritarian environments, building peace and reconciliation. DTP’s founder and patron, José Ramos-Horta, has delivered masterclasses in international advocacy, and participants have been inspired by the success of the Timorese people in overcoming extraordinary hardships to achieve their independence.

In 2018, program participants included: survivors from the civil war in Sri Lanka who work with families of the “disappeared” to seek justice; advocates from West Papua working to highlight the rapid destruction of pristine natural environments, and the use of torture by Indonesian security forces; indigenous peoples’ advocates from Bangladesh, including the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and from East India; advocates working for the rights of garment workers in the factories of India, for migrant workers from India and Nepal, and for LGBT communities in Timor-Leste.

A strong theme that emerged from the participants was the prevalence across so many societies of violence and rape against women. There was a lot of discussion on how to challenge and confront this violence, including through challenging traditional cultures and power structures.

There were opportunities for participants to meet with survivors of the Santa Cruz massacre, and the massacre in the Liquica Church that took place after the independence referendum, and to meet with UN, Timorese and Australian government officials. The ambassadors of New Zealand and Australia hosted a joint reception for DTP’s participants.

Human rights, migration and migrant workers

Poverty and inequality, and hopes for a better life for their families, and now climate change – these are among the forces that are driving more and more women and men from the Philippines, Nepal, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Myanmar, India, Pakistan and small islands of the Pacific to work in other countries. Their vulnerability begins before they leave, as they sell assets and borrow money to pay high recruitment fees. It increases dramatically as soon as they cross the borders and leave the safety of families and home.

In a foreign land, where they don’t know the law or the culture, or where to go for help, many are exploited and abused. Beyond the protection of labour laws they are denied their human rights. Women and domestic workers can find themselves effective prisoners inside an employer’s home in Kuwait or Saudi Arabia, without their passports, denied any time off, on

All the things that I wanted to learn, I got in this training. I was also able to build stronger networks.”

Participant, Indigenous Peoples Program

I am aware of issues my colleagues in the region face and am able to connect with them to amplify a unified voice and a stronger platform to advocate for HR.”

Participant, 28th Annual Program
call 24 hours a day and seven days a week on three-year contracts. Men from Nepal and Bangladesh can find themselves in cramped and unhealthy work camps or dormitories in industrial zones far from the glitz of Dubai and Doha.

Since 2004, DTP has been working with its partner Migrant Forum in Asia, to help the advocates for the rights of migrant workers. Programs have been held in the countries of origin, including the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, and in countries of destination including Malaysia, Lebanon, Kuwait, UAE and Qatar.

The individuals DTP has trained have rescued trapped domestic workers, they have won legal reforms, they have helped to make governments and businesses listen to the key international forums. They have not benefited or shared in the enormous wealth generated from the exploitation of the natural resources they have traditionally been custodians of. Rather, they have been displaced and experiencing conflict and heightened social problems, while losing traditional sources of livelihoods, connections to country and culture. These are the experiences of indigenous peoples across the world. Recognising this, the UN adopted its Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP).

DTP has given priority to working with indigenous peoples, building knowledge and understanding of their rights, and how to use UNDRIP in claiming these rights. Central to this is the right to participate in decision making and the right to free, prior and informed consent. Often indigenous peoples are the critical environmental defenders on the front lines of climate change conflicts and defending biodiversity.

DTP's 2018 regional program, Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Partnerships for Sustainable Development, in Sabah, Malaysia, brought together 29 participants from nine countries. Participants saw first-hand the impact of the huge palm oil plantations that have replaced the natural rainforest – home to many indigenous peoples and an extraordinarily rich biodiversity including most famously the orangutans. Participants visited a community that was battling to save mangroves and their sacred sites from a huge commercial shrimp farm that was poisoning their waters. There were sessions from UN officials and Australia’s High Commissioner to Malaysia, as well as leading academics and activists. The closing address was delivered by the Chief Justice of the Sabah High Court, an indigenous man.

Human rights, business and sustainable development in the Pacific
The world’s insatiable demand for natural resources is placing greater demands on the lands and seas of the Pacific. Nearly half the natural forests of the Solomon Islands have already been destructively logged. Mining in PNG and Fiji has destroyed environments and the livelihoods of communities. In some cases, such as Bougainville, it has led to devastating armed conflicts with intergenerational impacts. The threat of conflict over resources is ever-present given the economic, cultural and spiritual connections to land which communities need to confront the vast and rich fisheries of the Pacific and through sea-bed mining.

It is evident that some companies – and some countries – see the Pacific as a new El Dorado. There is an urgent need to build the capacity of civil society to engage with governments and business, to bring their concerns to the wider world and hopefully to gain understanding and support. Knowledge of relevant international law and the mechanisms of complaint and redress can help to level the playing field of competing interests between communities and companies, together with an understanding of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In 2018, DTP worked with local and regional partners in the Pacific to develop and deliver a new pilot capacity building program – Business, Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific. With a focus on the impacts of business it drew 26 participants from seven island nations. Two participants were subsequently selected to participate in the UN Global Forum on Business and Human Rights bringing the concerns of the Pacific in front of a key global audience.
provided financial support to the program in Timor Leste. A new program in the Pacific, focused on business, human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals was funded with support from the Christenson Fund, UNSW’s Institute for Global Development and the UN’s Office of UN Women. The program was funded with support from the Rights of the Child.

DTP continues to pursue new grant opportunities and training fees and to build philanthropic support for its work. We are grateful to our funding partners, donors and the many people who provided in-kind and pro bono contributions to DTP’s work for human rights.

Total expenditure for the year decreased again slightly to $868,028 in 2017–18. Of this, DTP spent $748,049 on delivering capacity building programs internationally in the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions – a decrease of about 1 per cent from the previous year.

Financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct to ensure transparency, accountability, integrity and good governance. More information on ACFID’s Code of Conduct can be found on the ACFID website www.acfid.com.au. A full financial statement and the report of the independent auditor on the summary financial statement is available at www.dtp.unsw.edu.au/dtp-financial-reports.

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REVENUE</th>
<th>2018 A$</th>
<th>2017 A$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations and gifts</td>
<td>113,817</td>
<td>75,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-monetary</td>
<td>101,823</td>
<td>95,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,179</td>
<td>1,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Australian</td>
<td>44,551</td>
<td>50,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other overseas</td>
<td>440,179</td>
<td>434,463</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>3,282</td>
<td>3,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>56,530</td>
<td>36,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL REVENUE</strong></td>
<td><strong>950,182</strong></td>
<td><strong>861,593</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>2018 A$</th>
<th>2017 A$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Receipts from donations, bequests and raffles</td>
<td>333,221</td>
<td>274,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt of government grants</td>
<td>190,000</td>
<td>165,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt of international grants</td>
<td>211,344</td>
<td>701,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>3,282</td>
<td>3,718</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment of program and operating expenditures</td>
<td>(1,039)</td>
<td>(1,039)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payment to employees</td>
<td>(1,039)</td>
<td>(1,039)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash generated from operating activities</td>
<td>100,425</td>
<td>70,546</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retained earnings</th>
<th>Restricted funds A$</th>
<th>Unrestricted funds A$</th>
<th>Gift Fund Reserve A$</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1 July 2016</td>
<td>129,866</td>
<td>(2,965)</td>
<td>141,266</td>
<td>268,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenses</td>
<td>(13,964)</td>
<td>(1,474)</td>
<td>34,144</td>
<td>(15,438)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer from gift fund reserve</td>
<td>70,720</td>
<td>70,720</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total other comprehensive income</strong></td>
<td><strong>70,720</strong></td>
<td><strong>70,720</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>(15,438)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total comprehensive income</strong></td>
<td><strong>66,756</strong></td>
<td><strong>66,756</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>(15,438)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2017</td>
<td>115,902</td>
<td>66,281</td>
<td>70,546</td>
<td>252,729</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenses</td>
<td>48,010</td>
<td>34,144</td>
<td>82,154</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total comprehensive income</strong></td>
<td><strong>48,010</strong></td>
<td><strong>34,144</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>82,154</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 June 2018</td>
<td>163,912</td>
<td>100,425</td>
<td>70,546</td>
<td>334,883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Our organisation is striving for the rights of Dalit communities. I will transform the learnt knowledge to my program team and the community.

Participant, 28th Annual Program
DONORS AND FRIENDS

DTP’s work relies on philanthropic support from individuals and foundations, project grants, training fee income and in-kind support. Together, this funding enables DTP to deliver support to those committed and courageous individuals on the frontline who are helping to create societies that respect human dignity and human rights.

DTP thanks all its past and present donors and friends for their generous support.

DTP’s work was sustained for some years through the generosity of Tom Kantor, and it was in recognition of his contribution that DTP established the Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program.

DTP would like particularly to thank the Scully Fund, Bill and Heather Webster, Jim Hart, and other DTP ‘Friends’. Grant funding for international programs in 2017–18 was provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the Australian Government through its aid program, and the Christensen Fund.

DTP acknowledges the work of its Advisory Council – International and Advisory Council – Australia, all of whom ensure the financial support DTP receives is used efficiently and effectively.

DTP GOVERNANCE

Board of Directors

- Professor David Dixon BA BPhil PhD
  Chair 2018
  Former Dean, Faculty of Law, UNSW Sydney

- Caroline Aebersold BA BA/BSc (Hons) PhD
  Former CEO, The Song Room;
  Deputy Chair, Suicide Prevention Australia

- Professor Andrew Byrnes BA (Hons)
  LLB (Hons) LLM
  Chair, Australian Human Rights Centre;
  Professor, Faculty of Law, UNSW Sydney

- Associate Professor Philip Chung BEc LLB
  Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, UNSW Sydney;
  Executive Director, Australasian Legal Information Institute

- Suwane Dharmalingam BComm LLB
  Associate Director, Macquarie Equities Ltd

- Michael Do Rozario B IT LLB
  Partner (Litigation), Corrs Chambers Westgarth

Advisory Council – Australia

- Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG
- Prof. Hilary Charlesworth
- Prof. Julian Disney
- Prof. Mick Dodson
- Dr Elizabeth Evatt AC
- Prof. Marcia Langton
- Mr Pat Walsh

Advisory Council – International

- HE José Ramos-Horta (Timor-Leste)
- Dr Philip Alston (Australia)
- Mr Basil Fernando (Hong Kong)
- Dr Hendardi (Indonesia)
- Mr Somchai Homlaor (Thailand)
- Mr Lopeti Senituli (Tonga)

- Hon. Motarilavoa Hilda Lini (Vanuatu)
- Prof. Viti Muntabhorn (Thailand)
- Mr Ravi Nair (India)
- Prof. Michael ÓFiaherty (Ireland)
- Ms Vicki Tauil-Corpuz (Philippines)