ANNUAL REPORT

DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

“Working together for Human Rights”
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Our Identity and Vision ........................................ 1
How the Diplomacy Training Program Began .................. 2
Message from our Chair ...................................... 3
Message from our Executive Director ......................... 4-5
Training Programs to Meet Today's Challenges ............... 6-7
Activity Overview for 2011 ................................... 8-9
Where our Participants Advocate for Human Rights ...... 10-11
Program Outcomes and Impacts ............................... 12-13
DTP’s Alumni – A Growing Network ......................... 14
DTP’s Program Trainers .................................... 15
DTP- Achieving Together in Partnerships .................... 16
Friends and Funders ....................................... 17
Financial Report Overview ................................ 18
Financial Statement ....................................... 19
DTP Team ............................................. 20
Board of Directors ...................................... 21

Cover photo: Ameera Haq, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Timor-Leste meets with DTP participants at UNMIT Headquarters 2011.
OUR IDENTITY AND VISION

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

DTP’s vision is for a world in which all governments fulfill their obligations to respect protect and fulfil human rights to ensure universal standards of human dignity.

DTP strives to fulfill this vision by offering practical support to human rights defenders and community advocates through its range of training programs.

DTP believes that skills in advocacy, diplomacy and communication, together with sound knowledge of internationally agreed human rights standards and inter-governmental systems, are some of the most effective tools human rights defenders can use to peacefully achieve improved human rights outcomes.

The name and concept behind the Diplomacy Training Program originated from its founder José Ramos-Horta who spent many years working to gain support for East Timor’s people from governments, the UN and international civil society. His commitment to building ‘Peoples’ Diplomacy’, to peace and to human rights and to sharing his knowledge and skills with others led him to establish the Diplomacy Training Program with Professor Garth Nettheim.

DTP is a non-profit organisation that relies on sponsors, grants, donations, fees and the good will of numerous individuals who provide their specialist expertise at no cost.

DTP is affiliated with the University of NSW through the Faculty of Law which provides academic and in-kind support. 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.

“This program has opened up a new way of thinking-instead of shouting in the dark I will turn on the light. I am now able to follow a process.”

Human Rights Defender & DTP Alumni
The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) was founded in 1989 by Professor José Ramos-Horta, (1996 Nobel Peace Laureate) and Emeritus Professor Garth Nettheim, (Faculty of Law, University of NSW) following a meeting of the UN Working Group on Indigenous Populations in Geneva.

The organisation draws its inspiration and sense of purpose from José Ramos-Horta’s experiences in seeking solidarity and international action on human rights violations following the invasion of East Timor in 1975.

In establishing the Diplomacy Training Program, José Ramos-Horta wanted to support more effective ‘peoples’ diplomacy’, to enable advocates to use the available international standards and mechanisms and to mobilize civil society to seek effective redress for grievances and to realize their human rights through peaceful advocacy.

Since its first annual course in 1990, DTP has also responded to requests to support Indigenous Australian advocates as well as advocates from the Asia-Pacific region.

From 1990 to 2011, over 85 specialised and general training programs have been held in Australia and around the Asia-Pacific region and over 2000 human rights advocates have benefited from developing skills and knowledge in human rights advocacy.

In 2009, the Australian government recognised DTP’s valuable work by providing it with ‘Deductible Gift Recipient’ status. Since then all donations to DTP have been fully tax deductible. For many years before this, DTP benefited from the generous support of the University of NSW which enabled tax deductible gifts to be directed to DTP.
How the Diplomacy Training Program Began

From Small Beginnings –

We have responded to growing reports of human rights violations and abuses in West Papua – reports from our alumni and international human rights NGOs. We have explored ways that we can contribute to meeting the needs of human rights defenders in West Papua, including training those who now live outside their country.

In 2011, the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) increased its human rights training programs from eight to fourteen and increased its range of activities.

This increase reflects the growing demand for DTP’s involvement in building the knowledge and skills of Indigenous community advocates in Australia and human rights defenders in the region. DTP’s regional program on The Rights of Indigenous peoples in the Asia-Pacific attracted 200 applicants for the 30 available places.

In 2011, civil society demands for democracy and human rights have seldom been out of the news – particularly in the Middle East. Closer to home, we see signs of change in Myanmar/Burma, change we anticipated in the increasing numbers of DTP participants coming from inside Burma. Since 1990 we have trained many human rights defenders and democracy activists from Burma. We share their hopes that their hard work, commitment and courage may finally be rewarded.

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Mining operations continue as a flashpoint for conflict in West Papua. DTP’s course focussing on Human Rights Advocacy and Business responds to the concerns of advocates about the impacts of corporations. It helps advocates to ensure corporate policies and practices are consistent with accepted human rights norms.

In 2011, our program on Human Rights Advocacy and Business was introduced by HE Rafendi Djamin, Chairperson of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights, and Professor Harkristuti Harkrisnowo, Director General for Human Rights in Indonesia’s Ministry of Law and Human Rights. DTP received requests from India, Malaysia and Indonesia to assist with training programs on human rights and business, indicating a growing understanding of the need for businesses to consider human rights in their operations.

Here in Australia, we expanded our programs with Indigenous Australian advocates and communities – with programs conducted in Alice Springs, Broken Hill, Darwin, Melbourne, Sydney and Townsville. These programs took place against a backdrop of consultations on proposals to change the Australian Constitution to remove racially discriminatory provisions and for the first time recognize Australia’s Indigenous peoples. Extraordinary work is being done by Indigenous Australian community advocates, often in very difficult circumstances.

DTP’s Founder and Patron, José Ramos-Horta, through his sustained work for Timorese independence, exemplifies what skilful, peaceful advocacy can achieve in the international arena. Speaking at DTP programs, he has said that he is humbled and inspired by advocacy in communities across our region to assist the most vulnerable and marginalized.

I think of the individuals advocating to end infanticide in India; to help migrant workers in Bahrain and Singapore; to challenge the impact of palm oil plantations in Indonesia; to end political killings in the Philippines; and to stop the use of torture in Thailand.

There are now over 2,000 DTP alumni across the region – from Vanuatu through to Jordan. It is a growing community of advocates committed to shared values of human dignity and practical action to protect and promote human rights.

DTP is very grateful for the generous support provided by its funders. In 2011 DTP secured its first significant Australian Government support from AusAID. It continued its partnerships with the Fred Hollows Foundation, Oxfam Australia, Amnesty International Australia, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and the UN’s Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

DTP’s work has also been made possible by the generous in-kind support of the UNSW Faculty of Law and the pro bono contributions of its committed trainers.

I acknowledge with gratitude the dedication and commitment of fellow board members. In particular I would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of Louise Sylvan who resigned from the DTP Board in November 2011, after more than 10 years of service. In October 2011 Louise was appointed as the first CEO of the National Preventative Health Agency, and we wish her every success in that important new role.

I also acknowledge with appreciation the remarkable DTP staff along with DTP’s volunteers and social justice interns who have achieved so much this year under the effective leadership of Executive Director, Patrick Earle.

Emeritus Professor
Paul Redmond
Chair, Diplomacy Training Program
Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

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Bina Shah, Bahrain
A 2011 DTP program participant.

Bina Shah runs a Shelter for The Migrant Workers Protection Society in Bahrain.

The Shelter provides female migrant workers who have been subjected to abuse and discrimination with temporary refuge whilst their cases are being heard by the police or in court.

Bina helps individual women to ensure they receive justice and, when needed, she helps them to be repatriated safely to their home country.

Bahrain is home to millions of migrant workers, many of whom are female domestic workers. They are vulnerable to many types of abuse ranging from violence and sexual violence from their employers or from local officials, to the non-payment of wages.

Their human rights are rarely recognised in a society where the space for advocacy is very limited.

“This program gave me a lot of knowledge on migrant workers, lobbying and legal frameworks. It also gave me the confidence and courage to lobby for vulnerable groups knowing that others are also working hard to protect and promote human rights.”

Human Rights Defender & DTP Alumni
2011 was a particularly busy and productive year for the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP), a year in which human rights developments in our region have often made the headlines – from the Middle-East, through Malaysia, Burma/Myanmar, Fiji, Thailand and Tibet. The news was of rights being denied and rights being claimed and common values of human dignity being asserted.

Australia was one of a number of countries that had its human rights record reviewed through the UN Human Rights Council’s Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The situation of Indigenous peoples again featured strongly among the concerns raised by other governments.

Every UN Member state has now had its human rights record reviewed under this process, leading to commitments to make change. The UPR has emerged as a key focus of advocacy for human rights defenders and is now an established part of our DTP curriculum as the UPR goes into its 2nd round of reviews.

At DTP we are constantly reviewing and adapting our courses and curriculum to respond to the changing global and regional environment, and the challenges and opportunities that these changes present to human rights defenders.

Recent years have seen remarkable advances in the recognition of human rights, in particular the rights of women, of Indigenous peoples, migrant workers and persons with disability. Implementation of standards calls for knowledge and will and skills.

In 2011, our relationship with Oxfam Australia and The Fred Hollows Foundation grew and strengthened, based on a shared commitment to strengthening the capacity of communities to drive solutions on poverty, health and development.

Amnesty International Australia became a new partner in 2011 and it is hoped that we can build on this collaboration to strengthen the human rights movement in the region.

DTP is also seeking to deepen and strengthen its partnerships in the region with Migrant Forum Asia and Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact at the regional level, and Business Watch Indonesia, Human Rights Working Group and Cividep.

While funding for our Australia programs has grown, securing funding for programs in the region has continued to prove a challenge. This is reflected in the financial results which, after years of building reserves, this year show an operating deficit.

As we look forward to 2012 and beyond, we will need to secure increased and more sustainable funding to enable us to meet the challenges and opportunities for our work in the region.

At DTP we are committed to growing philanthropic support as we believe that there are many individuals in Australia who would like to offer practical support to human rights defenders in the region.

We are also committed to seeking more significant and sustained support through AusAID as our work is consistent with the Australian government’s commitments to human rights, building civil society capacity and democracy.

Our growing alumni and strong relationships through the region mean that DTP is uniquely placed to support those individuals and organisations working on the ground to uphold shared values of human dignity.

As we look forward to doing more for human rights in 2012, I acknowledge with thanks the commitment and contribution of my colleagues in the DTP Secretariat and our partner organisations, DTP board members, our volunteers and interns and the support of Professor David Dixon and his colleagues in the UNSW Faculty of Law.

Patrick Earle
Executive Director,
Diplomacy Training Program
In 2011 the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) conducted 14 human rights training programs in Australia and the region attracting over 250 participants from 21 different countries, just over 50% of them women. These programs included DTP’s annual three-week Regional Human Rights Defenders Program.

Indigenous peoples and migrant workers are some of the most marginalised sectors of societies and particularly vulnerable to violations and abuses of their human rights. For this reason, DTP has introduced short, specialised programs focussing on advocacy skills for these two sectors.

Rapid economic change has also seen an increase in the power and influence of business, in particular multi-national enterprises. To address the needs of communities, DTP has introduced courses focussing on the impacts of business on human rights.

New and updated course content in 2011 programs reflected developing human rights standards, changes in international and regional intergovernmental institutions, changing human rights challenges and new developments in technology.

The 2011 programs were designed to respond to the changing needs and opportunities for community advocates and human rights defenders.

Human rights standards provide a common ground for advocates from different cultural and religious perspectives and DTP’s courses are enriched by the experiences and aspirations of participants.

DTP’s teaching methodologies are participatory, providing space for course participants to share and learn from each other’s experiences and to develop mutual support networks.

All of the 2011 programs provided participants with foundational knowledge of the international human rights framework and the UN system and all also had an emphasis on building skills in strategic advocacy, including the capacity to engage with governmental processes at the national, regional and international level.

Using ‘role play’ scenarios, practical exercises and case studies, advocates enhanced their negotiation and lobbying techniques and developed the skills needed to interact with wider audiences to engage public support.

‘Hands-on’ sessions helped advocates to learn how to effectively utilise the media, the internet and video to help them to effect peaceful, positive change in human rights law and practice in their communities and societies.

The specialist programs focussed on information and strategies specific to Indigenous issues, the impacts of business on human rights and migrant workers rights.

“Ensuring that people are both aware of their basic human rights and are able to argue and campaign for them is central to Oxfam’s work. That’s why our partnership with the Diplomacy Training Program has been so important over the years.”

Andrew Hewett, Executive Director, Oxfam Australia
Meet Today’s Challenges

REGIONAL PROGRAMS IN ASIA-PACIFIC

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, HUMAN RIGHTS AND ADVOCACY
In April, DTP conducted a 10 day Asia-Pacific Indigenous Peoples Human Rights and Advocacy program in Bagiu City in the Philippines in partnership with Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact and local Indigenous peoples NGO, the Cordillera Peoples Legal Centre (DINTEG). It was a 10 day program with 41 participants.

HUMAN RIGHTS & BUSINESS
In June, DTP held its Human Rights Advocacy and Business program in Jakarta in partnership with Human Rights Working Group and Business Watch Indonesia. The program included sessions on the OECD Guidelines on Multi-National Enterprises and a focus on the Palm Oil industry.

21ST ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM
In September, DTP held its 21st Annual Human Rights and Peoples Diplomacy Training program in Timor-Leste at the invitation of President José Ramos-Horta. The program was made possible with the support of the President’s Office, the UN Mission in East Timor and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND MIGRANT WORKERS
In October, DTP held its 9th Regional Course on Human Rights and Migrant Workers in Bangkok, in partnership with Migrant Forum Asia, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and the Human Rights Development Foundation.

There were participants from the Middle-East as well as from Asia. The Middle-East is a major destination for migrant workers from the region, including many women who travel to be domestic workers. The program had a particular focus on the Kafala system of sponsorship which can result in conditions of virtual slavery.

The program was made possible through the support of the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

PROGRAMS IN AUSTRALIA

NEPALESE INDIGENOUS NATIONALITIES
In April, in response to a request from the Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities Forum of Australia, DTP convened a one day training session on Human Rights Advocacy for the Indigenous Peoples in Nepal.

UN PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES
In May, DTP held a preparatory program for Australian delegates attending The UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

The program had a practical focus and participants were able to benefit from the knowledge and experience of Australia’s representative to the UNPFII, Megan Davis (who is also a valued DTP board member).

WEST PAPUANS LIVING IN AUSTRALIA
In August, DTP held a two day course at UNSW on Human Rights Advocacy for West Papuans/Indonesians living in Australia.

“The fact that we undertook real exercises helped me find out what was needed for lobbying to be successful. No other method would have provided the skills and information needed for such a task”
Human Rights Defender & DTP Alumni

INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS AROUND AUSTRALIA

DTP held a series of Indigenous Australian programs, Indigenous Peoples, Human Rights and Advocacy in February, June, August, September, October, November and December. These were held in partnership with Amnesty International Australia, The Fred Hollows Foundation, Oxfam Australia, Maari Ma Health and the Victorian Indigenous Youth Advisory Council.

The programs were held in locations around Australia including Alice Springs, Broken Hill, Darwin, Lake Bennet (NT), Melbourne and Townsville.

The programs were aimed at informing people of rights recognised in international standards and building skills to enable the voices of communities to be heard with the purpose of influencing government policy.

Participants learnt how an understanding of rights can help to guide participatory development processes involving communities, governments and others working together to identify community priorities and appropriate solutions.

Each program had a particular focus such as Indigenous youth, health, Outstations or the justice system. Particular concerns raised during the programs included:- racism; the protection of culture; living ‘on-country’; the impact of the Northern Territory intervention; the failure of governments to consult with communities; incarceration rates and the detention of children in adult lock-ups.

A special program on the human rights based approach to development was conducted for both Indigenous and non Indigenous staff of The Fred Hollows Foundation’s Indigenous Australia program.
Try Thy, Cambodia
A 2011 DTP program participant

Try Thy works at the NGO Development and Partnership in Action and is the Coordinator for The National Network on Extractive Industry Social and Environmental Impact.

Try works with Indigenous communities to build their capacity to monitor issues related to mining, logging and land confiscation.

He also supports work on Natural Resource Management, basic health care, traditional culture conservation and improvement of adult and child education opportunities in 34 target villages.

He works with NGO’s and community advocates to lobby at both a local and provincial level and has successfully negotiated with mining companies to comply with mining laws and procedures to avoid possible negative environmental impacts on rice fields and resin trees used by the local community.

In 2011, the Diplomacy Training Program held 14 human rights education programs in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region, an increase from the 8 held in 2010. These programs ranged from DTP’s annual 3 week human rights program to shorter one day programs with a specific focus. (For more detail on these programs refer to DTP’s training Programs on pages 6 and 7 of this annual report.)

In addition to these core training programs, the Diplomacy Training Program also conducted a number of Sydney based roundtables and events.

In January, DTP Board Member John Pace led a session on Human Rights, the UN and Tibet as part of a training program for Tibetan youth leaders from Australia and New Zealand.

In February, DTP made a submission to The Independent Review of Australia’s Aid Program recommending more flexible funding arrangements, and support for human rights and civil society capacity building.

In February, DTP hosted a forum at UNSW Faculty of Law on Burma and Human Rights following the elections and release of Daw Aung Suu Kyi. It was led by DTP alumnus Soe Aung and DTP trainer and Coordinator of the ALTSEAN advocacy group on Burma, Debbie Stothard.

Also in February, DTP was invited to participate in the NGO preparatory processes for the ASEAN Heads of Government meeting in Jakarta.

In March, DTP and the Australian Human Rights Centre at UNSW co-hosted a forum on Human Rights and Disaster Response with DTP trainer and former Chairperson of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Prof Virginia Dandan.

In August, DTP collaborated with Joshua Cooper, DTP Trainer and Director of the Hawaii Institute of Human Rights in hosting a seminar at UNSW to mark the 20th Anniversary of the Cambodian Peace Accords.

Gareth Evans, Australia’s Foreign Minister at the time, played a significant role in negotiating the Peace Accords that ending the Cambodian conflict after the Khmer Rouge’s genocide.

“This training opened up my mind. I came to understand how to use international human rights instruments in a more effective way for my country and my community.”

Human rights defender & DTP Alumni
In October, DTP and UNSW Law Faculty hosted a special screening of the film ‘Balibo’ with an introduction by DTP Advisory Council Member, Pat Walsh as part of the Law Faculty’s 40th Anniversary Celebrations. DTP organized a follow-up seminar with Pat Walsh on the issues of truth, justice, peace and reconciliation, drawing on Pat’s experiences in Timor-Leste.


In December, DTP and the Australian Council of Trade Unions and the NZ Council of Trade Unions co-hosted a roundtable on Building Collaboration on Human Rights and Labour rights in Asia and the Pacific with representatives from the ILO, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and legal networks in Australia and New Zealand. DTP was commissioned by the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions to contribute to a new Manual for staff of NHRIs in the region on The Rights of Migrant Workers to help defend and promote the rights of migrant workers and their families.

2011 was marked by the extensive engagement of DTP alumni – as program partners, hosts, organisers, facilitators and trainers.

DTP’s E-News, which goes to over 6000 people became a monthly publication and continued to act as a useful resource for keeping alumni informed and in touch.

DTP continued to work with Oxfam Australia and the Australian Human Rights Commission to develop the Indigenous Human Rights Network of Australia (IHRNA) to support the ongoing advocacy of its Australian alumni.

DTP also spent time and resources sourcing funding and developing new partnerships in Australia and the region.

“The program helped me to see the things that I can do to promote the human rights of migrants. It helped me realise that there are actually many things that I can do!”

Human rights defender & DTP Alumni
Where our Participants Advocate for Human Rights

**Solomantine Francis**, Sri Lanka
A 2011 DTP program participant.

Solomantine Francis works with *The Centre for Human Rights and Development* in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He facilitates trainings on peace building and human rights at local and national levels and organises legal aid clinics.

*The Centre for Human Rights and Development* engages with the UN human rights system and works to provide protection and support to individuals at high risk of human rights violations. The organisation also provides free legal advice to migrant workers.

In 2011, using knowledge and contacts gained in DTP’s course Francis successfully organised action to safely repatriate three Sri Lankan women migrant domestic workers from Jordan and Saudi Arabia who had been sexually abused and inhumanely treated by their employers.

**“The world is becoming a very close family struggle; to defend human rights is to defend Earth. If human rights and dignity is not defended, then it will be the end of the world.”**

*Human rights defender & DTP Alumni*

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**DTP ALUMNI ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS ACROSS THE REGION**

- Eliminating racism
- Protecting Indigenous peoples’ rights
- Advocating on behalf of victims of genocide
- Addressing housing rights violations & evictions
- Helping victims of torture
- Working to help disadvantaged women
- Working towards democracy
- Advocating for the release of political prisoners
- Eliminating poverty
- Working for peace
- Working to abolish the death penalty
- Limiting the negative impacts of corporations
- Supporting communities affected by mining
- Protecting women workers
- Demanding compensation for mega dams
- Lobbying for the right to education
- Establishing constitutional protection of human rights
- Protecting vulnerable children
- Conflict resolution in land issues
- Helping victims of conflict
- Advocating for persons with disabilities
- Protecting vulnerable groups including those with HIV/AIDS
- Protecting migrant workers

Over the past 22 years, the Diplomacy Training Program’s (DTP) human rights education programs have been conducted in 13 countries in the Asia-Pacific region. DTP program participants have come from over 30 countries.

Most participants have come from community organisations and NGOs. Sometimes participants have also been accepted from staff of UN agencies, National Human Rights Institutions and occasionally from government agencies.
Most participants in DTP courses are active in community organisations and NGOs. Sometimes participants are also accepted from staff of UN agencies, National Human Rights Institutions and occasionally from government agencies.

The Diplomacy Training Program seeks applicants who will apply the training to their work and who can give a commitment to using their training for the benefit of their organisation/community.

Fadiah Nadwa, Malaysia
A 2011 DTP program participant

Fadiah Nadwa is a practicing lawyer and the Campaign Director for Lawyers for Liberty in Malaysia, an organisation that seeks to challenge repressive laws and human rights abuses by pushing for accountability and law and policy reform. It works for refugees and migrant workers.

Fadiah’s role includes public campaigning, test case litigation and intervention, parliamentary lobbying and independent policy analysis. Fadiah is currently working on cases of forced evictions carried out by the government.

Mia Christophersen, Australia
The Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), Australia

Mia Christophersen’s family is from the Murran tribe in West Arnhem Land.

Mia is Development Coordinator of Indigenous Programs for The Fred Hollows Foundation, coordinating capacity building programs and community development activities for Aboriginal communities. Having worked with DTP in the coordination of a number of capacity building programs in the Northern Territory, Mia participated in the 2011 Regional Human Rights Advocacy and Indigenous peoples program in the Philippines.

Mia sees recognition of the Rights of Indigenous peoples and core human rights standards as central to effective approaches to close the health gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians – and knowledge and skills development as vital to enabling effective community participation in decision making processes.
Marappan Selvam, India
A 2011 DTP program participant.

Marappan Selvam is the Director of SACRED, an NGO which through a range of advocacy and education strategies strives to establish gender equality and enhance the livelihoods of the indigenous people of the Jawadhu Hills in India.

The major focus of his advocacy is to end the practice of female infanticide, a practice that is a particular problem for the poor as the cost of a dowry for a girl child will often threaten the precarious existence of a whole family.

Marappan’s organisation seeks to reform the dowry practice and to educate families and communities in order to end the practice of female infanticide.

In 2011, the Diplomacy Training Program provided knowledge and skills to over 250 human rights advocates from 21 different countries.

It continued to develop partnerships with key human rights organisations in the Asia-Pacific region and it continued to provide practical support and encouragement to its growing alumni.

The results of DTP’s work in 2011 will only be seen over the coming decade as participants use the skills they have gained from the programs.

It is hard to attribute specific outcomes directly to the actions of individual human rights advocates or organisations. To stop the torture of one political prisoner takes the actions of many. To prevent the use of torture in a country is usually a long process. Success depends on many factors.

In Burma/Myanmar today there are signs of rapid change, following over twenty years of terrible repression. Whether this change continues will depend partly on the efforts of people DTP has trained.

We have seen both setbacks and advances for human rights in the past decade. Advocates have won significant recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples’ rights, migrant workers rights’ and the responsibilities of business.

Effective and sustained advocacy is needed to translate this recognition into real change for people. DTP alumni, equipped with the tools and knowledge to most effectively advocate for change, have been instrumental in some of the changes achieved – and work daily across the region to keep advancing respect for human rights and dignity.
At the conclusion of each DTP course participants anonymously complete a survey about the quality of the learning experience. DTP uses participant feedback to tailor and improve course content.

In 2010, Oxfam Australia commissioned an independent evaluation of the impact of DTP’s programs, with a focus on the programs it had funded with Indigenous Australian participants.

The evaluation found that alumni were ‘overwhelmingly positive’ in their assessment of DTP’s programs. It observed that people were making use of the information, skills and networks gained during DTP’s programs over the long term.

It also found that DTP was a dynamic organisation responding flexibly to the changing context for its work in Australia and the region.

‘DTP’s training programs have had deep and lasting impact on the personal and professional lives of its alumni’

In 2011, to build on the valuable information gained by the Oxfam report, DTP commissioned a former intern to conduct an extensive survey of alumni from 1990-2010.

The survey report highlighted the practical ways that alumni are using the skills and understanding gained from courses in their advocacy work. Participants claim increased confidence to formulate arguments, write appeal letters, engage with the UN human rights process such as the Universal Periodic Review, make videos to highlight issues, create press releases, contribute to talk shows, take part in diplomatic talks, build the capacity of others in their community and sharpen their advocacy at the international, regional and national level.

According to the survey report “DTP’s training programs have had deep and lasting impact on the personal and professional lives of its alumni, and have contributed towards their activism and work in the Asia-Pacific region.”

“In today’s world, information is power. Knowledge of human rights and the UN system will open so many channels to look for different options to solve the problems of migrant workers.”

Human rights defender & DTP Alumni

Human rights and Migrant Workers, Bangkok, Thailand
By the end of 2011, the Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) had over 2000 alumni across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. These alumni work for human rights in many different ways. Some have established new human rights NGOs, including Mandira Sharma who established Advocacy Forum in Nepal – and has been recognised for her work by Human Rights Watch. Joao Pequinho, Director of Forum Tau Matan (Eyes on Human Rights) in Timor-Leste, has received the Presidential Sérgio Vieira de Mello human rights prize for his work. Colin Nicholas in Malaysia has led work for Indigenous peoples in Malaysia – the Orang Asli. Paula Makabory from West Papua continues her work for human rights in exile. Pia Oberoi is Migration Advisor to the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva. Soe Aung has been a leading representative of the Burmese democracy movement. Yuyun Wahyuningrum from Indonesia has established an extensive email listserve for civil society advocates in ASEAN. Many DTP alumni keep in touch with each other through email and through social networks such as Facebook. They continue to share personal experiences whilst providing each other with advice and mutual support. They sometimes come together at meetings and conferences, and lobbying visits to the UN or ASEAN. The Indigenous Human Rights Network of Australia has been formed largely by DTP alumni. DTP recognises the value of its alumni as a unique network of trained human rights defenders in the region and has placed priority on building on and drawing from this network. All of DTP’s programs in recent years have involved working with DTP alumni – as program hosts and partners, facilitators and trainers. DTP keeps in touch with its alumni through a regular monthly E-Newsletter that provides information on training and job opportunities, new resources on human rights and advocacy and information about human rights developments across the region and at the UN. The E-Newsletter also provides opportunities for alumni to disseminate information and request support from other alumni. The E-Newsletter goes out to approximately 6000 email addresses across the region. DTP’s alumni are its most valuable resource – and their knowledge and expertise is increasingly being drawn on by organisations and academics wanting to contact human rights defenders in different countries and on different issues. DTP helps facilitate appropriate contact with alumni. Over the coming year, DTP aims to continue to extend and develop its alumni support program including facilitating contact between alumni from different year groups and programs, as well as encouraging appropriate individuals to act in a mentoring role to other alumni. “The DTP programs provide great opportunities to widen co-operation among advocates in the region and exchange strategies and share experiences.”

Human Rights Defender & DTP Alumni
The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) draws upon some of the most respected and experienced human rights academics and practitioners in the region and beyond. Their pro bono contribution makes the work of DTP possible. Their involvement is an affirmation of the value they see in DTP’s work in building skills and knowledge in others, and of their commitment to empowering those who are doing the often difficult and dangerous work of defending and promoting human rights in their societies.

“I never really understood the UN role until now… it has strengthened my knowledge to advocate and lobby”

No-one exemplifies this more than DTP Board Member and Sydney Barrister, Dr Sarah Pritchard who has been active since DTP was established in providing the foundation for many successful DTP courses on human rights and the rights of Indigenous Peoples. She has generously given up her time to share her knowledge and experience and is a cornerstone trainer of so many DTP programs. Dr Sarah Pritchard’s sessions are consistently rated very highly by participants for their thoroughness and their accessibility.

As one participant commented, “The information given by Sarah in relation to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is so important. I never really understood the UN role until now… it has strengthened my knowledge to advocate and lobby.”

Others who taught on DTP courses in 2011 include DTP’s Founder and Patron José Ramos-Horta; Professor Virginia Dandan, UN Special Rapporteur on International Solidarity; Rafendi Djamin, Chairperson of the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights; Vicky Tauli Corquz; Prof. Andrew Byrnes; Aderito Soares; and Sumi Dharnarajan.

In 2011, DTP worked with trainers from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; Amnesty International; Oxfam Australia; WITNESS; Human Rights Law Resource Centre; Asian Institute for Human Rights; NZ Human Rights Commission; The International Labour Organisation; Migrant Forum Asia; Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact; Tebtebba; Business Watch Indonesia; Australasian Legal Information Institute; Hawaii Institute of Human Rights; ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights & members of DTP and the UNSW Law Faculty.

DTP is profoundly grateful to all those who contribute to its programs for their generosity in sharing their knowledge and experience.
The Diplomacy Training Program’s (DTP) achievements are made possible through a range of partnerships with organisations that share a commitment to developing human rights advocacy capacity.

International development NGOs including Oxfam Australia, The Fred Hollows Foundation and Amnesty International Australia see the need to build the knowledge and skills of advocates on the ground in communities and societies if sustainable change is to be achieved.

Since 2004, DTP has worked with Migrant Forum Asia to develop the capacity of its members, and to help its members to promote and defend the rights of migrant workers. In recent years this partnership has expanded to include The Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions – which has members from Jordan through to Sri Lanka and Malaysia.

Since 2010, DTP has been developing a partnership with Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact, in Thailand, which has member organisations in countries across Asia, together we have been working to build the capacity of Indigenous advocates.

On Business and Human Rights, DTP has been working with Business Watch Indonesia, Human Rights Working Group and Cividep, India.

DTP is in the process of rejoining the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and will become a signatory of ACFID’s Code of Conduct. The Code is a voluntary, self regulatory code of good practice which demands high standards of governance, management, financial control and reporting.

Part of the code calls for an open and transparent way for complaints to be made to and about signatory organizations. Any issues or complaints in relation to DTP and its work may be directed to the Executive Director of DTP at dtp@unsw.edu.au. When DTP is a member of ACFID any breaches of the Code of Conduct can be lodged via the complaints section on the ACFID website on www.acfid.asn.au or by telephoning ACFID on 02 6285 1816.
The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) acknowledges with appreciation all its past and present donors and friends for their generous support.

DTP relies on philanthropic support from individuals and foundations, project grants, training fee income, partnership income and in-kind support. Together, this funding enables DTP to deliver support to those on the frontline of efforts to build societies that respect human dignity and human rights.

DTP would like to record its appreciation of the following generous Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program in 2010/11 for their vital financial support to DTP in 2010/11.

In addition to its significant funders: Oxfam Australia, The Fred Hollows Foundation and AusAID, the Diplomacy Training Program would also like to acknowledge support it has received from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, the United Nations Development Program, the Ford Foundation, Bread for the World, the ILO and UNIFEM.

DTP is very appreciative of the support provided by Professor David Dixon, Dean of UNSW Faculty of Law.

The Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales provides valuable support in the form of office space, training venues, academic support to programs, contributions to program costs and UNSW Law Faculty student interns.

We would also like to acknowledge the pro bono contribution of our legal advisors Clayton Utz.

DTP would like to acknowledge the very special contribution of Tom Kantor. It was his vision and support that sustained the organisation for a number of years.

Julie Kantor very generously continued that support to enable DTP to deliver support to human rights defenders and human rights advocates.

Inspired by Tom Kantor’s example, DTP established ‘Friends of the Diplomacy Training Program’ to provide vital financial support for DTP’s work.

Bill and Heather Webster
Jim Hart
John Basten and Gillian Moon
Beth Jackson and John Griffiths
Fleur Spitzer
Elizabeth Fullerton
Ricci Swart

SHARING THE THANKS RECEIVED FROM HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Cordial greetings from M.Selvam, one of the most fortunate alumni of DTP’s 21st Annual Regional Human Rights Defenders Program.

I have been reminiscing the unique experiences of the program with human rights defenders back home. With renewed vigour, rededication and unusual self will I have been trying to disseminate the knowledge sown in me. Your expertise, moral support and material assistance is helping SACRED create a new society where women are not only respected but they take the leading role in shaping, guiding and reigning the society.

M. Selvam
Director of SACRED, an NGO that advocates for gender equality and an end to the practice of female infanticide in the Jawadhu Hills in India

I just wanted to thank all of you for the excellent training that I received from DTP. I had no knowledge or understanding of the International human rights instrument and the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

However, today as an organization we have been able to take a small step and send our suggestions for the programme of the new Working Group on the issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises.

For a small grassroots organization this is a big step and this has been possible because of the opportunity I got by attending the DTP Training and excellent teachers like you all.

Pekham Basu
Director of Mine Labour Protection Campaign
Please note that the audited financial accounts cover the 2010/11 financial year, while the narrative report covers activities in calendar year 2011. The audit is conducted in compliance with the Australian Council for International Development's Code of Conduct.

Expenditure includes expenditure of funds received in the 2009/10 financial year for programs conducted in the 2010/11 financial year, with a large proportion of these funds allocated to Australian based programs.

Prudent financial management in recent years has enabled a growth in reserves and in 2010/11 the DTP board agreed to establish a higher level of reserves, given the uncertainty of some future income.

In 2010/11, DTP secured its first significant support from AusAID.

The 2010/11 results show a deficit. The deficit reflects expenditure of funds received in 2009/10 for some programs in 2010/11, the difficulties in securing income for the development and delivery of DTP’s international programs and a decrease in donation income, which was down significantly on previous years.

Costs of fundraising have been included in this year’s accounts and reflect time and resources allocated to developing and securing government and NGO grant income and private philanthropy.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW
For The Year Ended 30 June 2011 (All figures in Australian dollars)

Where the Money Comes From

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Support</td>
<td>$105,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monetary-Australia</td>
<td>$25,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non Monetary Income</td>
<td>$80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Income received from the Australian public in the form of donations and in-kind support)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$393,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-AusAID</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-Australian</td>
<td>$215,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Grants received from the Fred Hollows Foundation, Oxfam Australia for Programs)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants-Overseas</td>
<td>$58,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training fee income</td>
<td>$74,233</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>$23,964</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL REVENUE** $597,610

How the Money is Spent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overseas projects</td>
<td>$(298,956)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic projects</td>
<td>$(304,882)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising Expenses</td>
<td>$(15,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration Expenses</td>
<td>$(94,690)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS** $(713,528)

TOTAL Comprehensive income for the year $(115,918)
## Balance Sheet

* As At 30 June 2011 (All figures in Australian dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>484,048</td>
<td>566,149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other receivables</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>6,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>2,028</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>491,076</td>
<td>572,634</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant and equipment</td>
<td>3,113</td>
<td>1,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>3,113</td>
<td>1,790</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>494,189</td>
<td>574,424</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade and other payables</td>
<td>58,112</td>
<td>19,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short term provisions</td>
<td>51,519</td>
<td>54,049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>109,631</td>
<td>73,948</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Non-Current Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>109,631</td>
<td>73,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NET ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>384,558</td>
<td>500,476</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Reserve</td>
<td>217,000</td>
<td>105,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated funds</td>
<td>167,558</td>
<td>395,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong></td>
<td>384,558</td>
<td>500,476</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Balance Sheet refers to the “Statement of Financial Position” in the Full Financial Statements

This is an extract from the full audited financial statements prepared by HOUSTON & CO Pty Limited. The full audited accounts are available on request.
2011 was perhaps the organisation’s busiest year since it was established in 1989, with 14 training programs, and a range of other activities to support human rights defenders and promote human rights.

These activities were made possible through the hard work and dedication of DTP’s small secretariat staff consisting of Dr Imelda Deinla, Sarah Torcasio, Lorelle Savage, Dharshini Paheetharan, Patrick Earle and Christine Pollard.

The support of volunteers and interns was also vital and these included: Wei San Lee, Amy Rogers, Alma Mir, Emma Norrie, James Skelton, Francis Wong, Amana Lao, Olivia Girard, Bella Glenny, Zalika Rizmal.

DTP would also like to recognise the commitment of its board of directors who continues to make a significant voluntary contribution to the organisation’s success. Its members provide support, leadership, guidance and input into programs and strategy.

DTP is also appreciative of its international and Australian Advisory Committee whose expertise and counsel has been an invaluable contribution to the organisation over the years.

DTP is honoured that the Hon Michael Kirby has accepted an invitation to join the Advisory Committee.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**International**

- Dr Philip Alston, Professor of International Law, New York University, NY (UN Special Rapporteur on Extra-judicial Executions)
- Ms Vicki Tauli-Corpuz, Director, Tebtebba Foundation, Philippines
- Mr Basil Fernando, Executive Director, Asian Human Rights Commission, Hong Kong
- Dr Hendardi, Executive Director, PBHI, Indonesia
- Mr Somchai Homloar, Asian Institute for Human Rights, Bangkok
- Prof Vitit Muntabhorn, Faculty of Law, Chulalongkorn University, UN Special Rapporteur on Korea
- Mr Ravi Nair, Director, South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre, New Delhi
- Mr Michael O’Flaherty, Director, Centre for Human Rights, Nottingham University, Member of United Nations Human Rights Committee
- Mr Lopeti Senituli, Former Director, Tonga Human Rights and Democracy Movement, Tonga
- Hon Motarilavoa Hildi Lini, Director, Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, Fiji

**Australia**

- Hon Michael Kirby, retired Judge of the High Court of Australia
- Prof Hilary Charlesworth, Director, Centre for International Public Law, Australian National University, Canberra
- Prof Julian Disney, Social Justice Project, UNSW, and former President, International Council on Social Welfare
- Prof Mick Dodson, Chairperson, Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Canberra
- Dr Elizabeth Evatt, Commissioner International Committee of Jurists
- Prof Marcia Langton, Dept. of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Melbourne
- Mr Pat Walsh, CAVR Secretariat, Timor-Leste, former Human Rights Director, Australian Council for Overseas Aid

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**DTP’s staff, volunteers and interns**
Board of Directors

Emeritus Professor Paul Redmond BA LLB LLM
– Chair
Former Dean, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

Louise Sylvan BA MPA
– Director
Commissioner, Australian Government Productivity Commission

Emeritus Professor Garth Nettheim LLB MA AO
– Director
Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

Dr John Pace BA LLD
– Director
Former Secretary to the UN Commission on Human Rights
Chief of Branch Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Dr Sarah Pritchard BA LLB LLM DrIur
– Director
Barrister, Selborne Chambers, Sydney

Phillip Chung BEc LLB
– Director
Executive Director, Australasian Legal Information Institute, University of Technology, Sydney

Roewen Wishart BA LLB MPubPol
– Director
Philanthropy Executive, Bush Heritage Australia

Professor Andrew Byrnes BA (Hons) LLB (Hons) LLM
– Director
Chair, Australian Human Rights Centre, Faculty of Law, University of New South Wales

Associate Professor Megan Davis BA LLB LLM GDLP PhD
– Director
Director, Indigenous Law Centre, Faculty of Law, UNSW, Member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples
“The knowledge I’ve gained at DTP will be used to improve a campaign strategy to lobby for freedom of expression and the abolition of the death penalty in my country.”

“The format of the programme was excellent, I gained an insight into all the issues related to migrant workers - their plight as well as their rights.”

“I’ve got so much instilled in me, not just instilled but it has stirred a stronger zeal and will; this is something that I will definitely ‘recall’ FOREVER!”

“The DTP program is a great opportunity to widen cooperation among advocates in the region and exchange strategies and share experiences.”

“I truly believe that real change will come as a result of the skills learnt by people participating in this program.”

“In my advocacy work I will be far more armed with skills and knowledge.”

The Diplomacy Training Program
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www.dtp.unsw.edu.au

Affiliated with UNSW