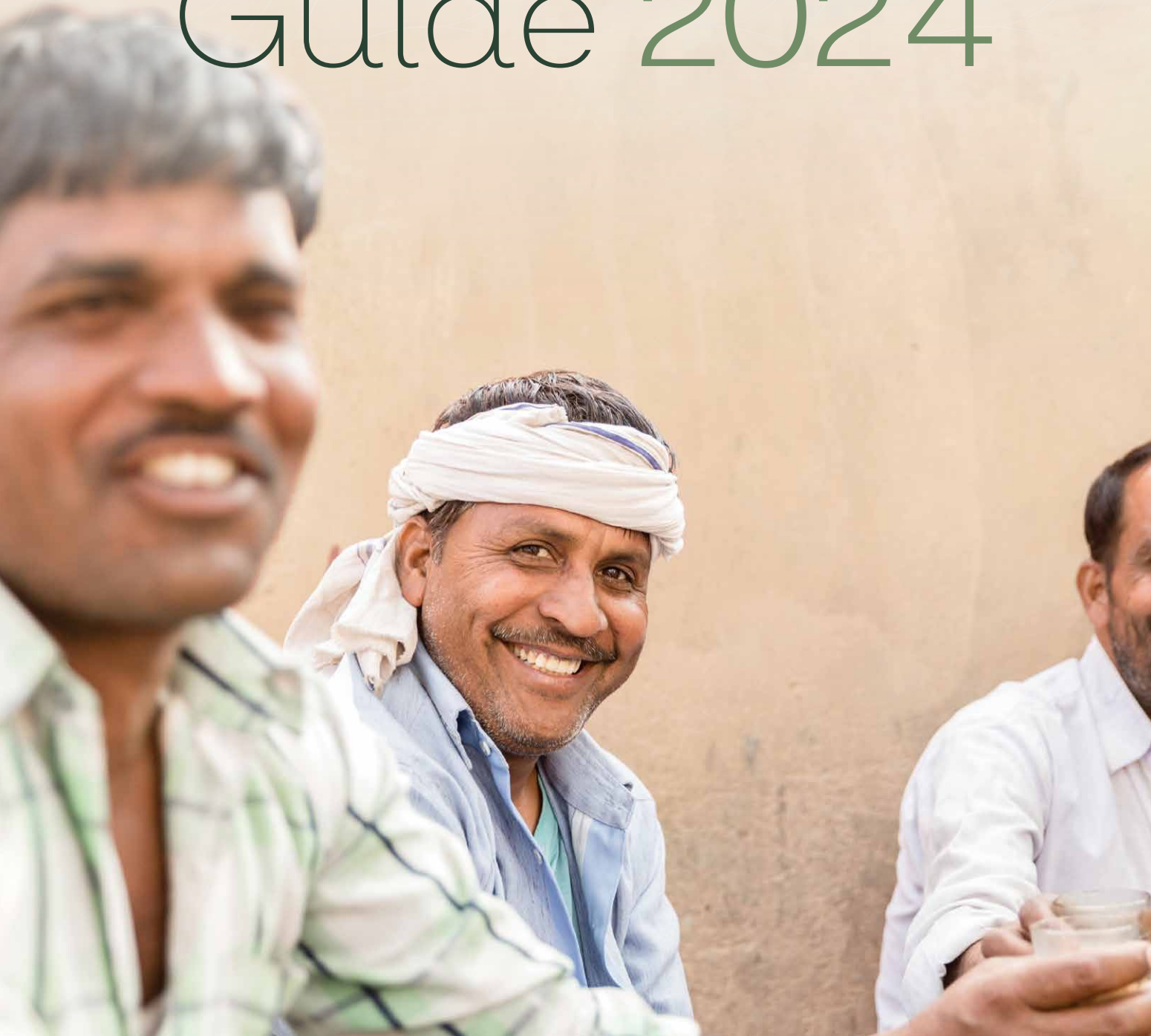


Baptist
Mission
Australia



Baptist Mission Australia

Guide 2024



Our Four Key Causes

At Baptist Mission Australia we're about four Christ-centred mission causes. These causes are pursued by our teams and mission partners in local communities across the world.

What We See

Vibrant faith communities following Jesus in their own distinctive ways

Why

Because nothing matters more than sharing God's love for the world

How

Through Spirit-led people and mission partners, humbly contextualising the good news of Jesus in every place



Disciple-making faith communities

We're supporting the formation, strengthening and multiplication of local disciple-making faith communities, who are following Jesus in their own distinctive ways.

Community-transforming initiatives

We're serving alongside others, putting our faith into action through community-transforming initiatives that holistically address local poverty, health, justice, education, employment and climate challenges.

Missional leaders

We're coming alongside local believers and our partners to support the equipping of pastors, leaders and intercultural team members for missional leadership in our changing world.

Innovative expressions

We're fostering innovative expressions, which support intercultural missional imagination, collaboration and practice in multi-cultural Australia and across our rapidly changing world.



Be involved

The long history of Baptist Mission Australia is one of partnership.

And your faith-filled investment of prayer, gifts and encouragement will make a lasting impact.

There are so many ways for all of us to partner together. Get in touch with us to explore how God is calling you to join in His mission.

PRAY

- » Subscribe to fortnightly **News & Prayer** emails
- » Pray through **newsletters** from our teams
- » Get involved with **Walk the World**

GIVE

- » Invest in a **team member, project** or ministry
- » Choose how much and how often you give
- » Give with your church during **May Mission Month**
- » Make a lasting difference through a **Gift in Will**

GO

- » Explore short and long-term opportunities
- » Participate in the **Exploring Mission** course
- » Start the discernment conversation with us

COME ALONGSIDE

- » Invite intercultural team members to share at your church or small group
- » Encourage and advocate for our teams
- » Learn and grow through **May Mission Month**



Get involved and give at:
www.baptistmissionaustralia.org

Welcome to the 2024 Baptist Mission Australia Guide!



When Australian Baptists came together 160 years ago to consider global mission opportunities, they faced many challenges. But from their writings, prayers and initiatives

we discover an expectant people! They knew they would not succeed in their own strength, but in faith they shaped an audacious vision for their time.

They were expectant of what God would do as they stepped out in faith!

Today, we live in a time of unprecedented global change and seismic shifts in World Christianity. We face different challenges to our pioneers, and yet like them, we see wonderful opportunities to share the whole Gospel with the whole world.

Like our pioneers, we're called beyond our comfort zones, confident in a God who is faithful and trustworthy. We're beckoned to new things, expectant in a God who by His mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infininitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts or hopes. (Ephesians 3:20)

In Malawi, having seen God at work in amazing ways, our team steps into 2024 expectant in the God of new things!

In South East Asia our team has united around a prophetic vision that despite all they have seen, it is “only the beginning” of what God will do. Among our growing cohort of global mission partners there is hope and excitement as we pursue a range of new Spirit-led initiatives.

This year we will sign off on a strategic Future Directions paper. Beyond strategic priorities, this watershed paper will bring to life our 2024 ministry theme, *Expectant!* This theme reminds us that in all the seasons our mission community has journeyed through, one thing has been constant. We have always looked with expectancy to our great God to lead us in new ways.

We thank all our partners who share with us in our compelling vision. We can only do what we do with the faithful, generous and prayerful support of churches and people like you. Please join me in using this Guide to pray for our ministries in 2024.

Expectantly, we look to our amazing God to continue leading us at Baptist Mission Australia.

Grace and peace

Scott Pilgrim
Executive Director

Your people

Malawi



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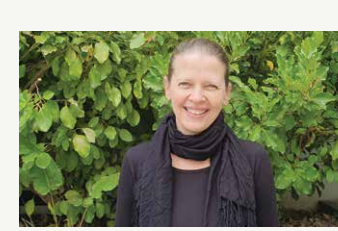
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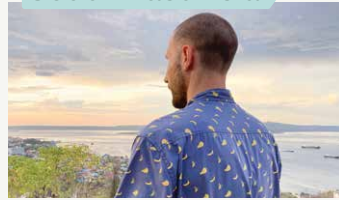


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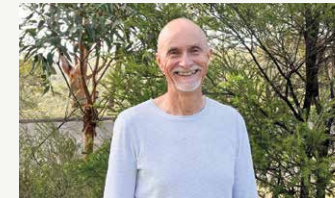
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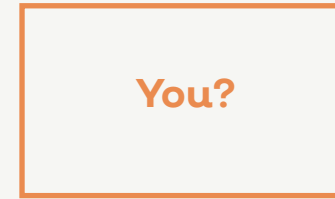
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Graham Keen
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Leadership Team



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Daphne Phung
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Alan Couper
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David Fong
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Karen Le Gassick
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National Support Team



Nathan Reid
Mobilisation



Chris MacCartney
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Specialists & Advisors



Geoff Maddock
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Growing Participation



Jane Harris
Wellbeing



Mark Dickinson
Wellbeing



Lisa Cornish
State Leader SA / NT



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Andrew Duncan
State Leader NSW / ACT



Bu Lu Kareng
Administration NSW / ACT



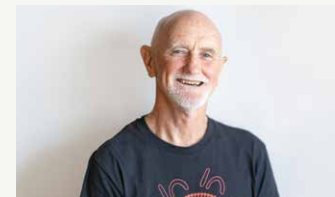
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Community Development



Roger Kemp
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Nathan Reid
Papua New Guinea



Mark Holt
Papua



Alison
Projects



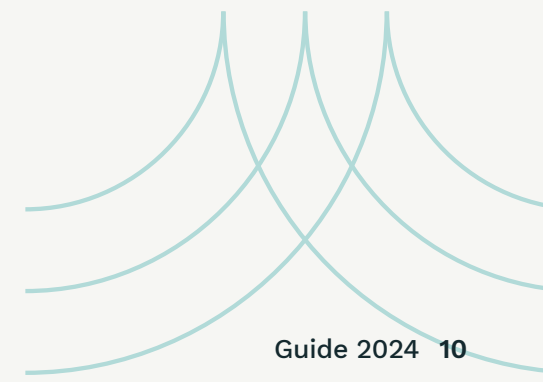
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Communications





Lena Lim
Communications





Jemimah Atsimale
Central Services




Where we serve and partner

-  **Ministry locations**
Where our teams live, serve and work alongside local communities.
-  **Ministry partnerships**
Where we partner with Baptist churches and other Christian groups.

 Silk Road Area

 South Asia

 Bangladesh


 Myanmar

 India

 Thailand


 Cambodia

 Indochina


 South East Asia

 Papua


 Papua New Guinea

 Zambia

 Malawi

 Mozambique

 Zimbabwe

 Australia

We are also proud to be active partners with Baptist World Alliance and the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation



Malawi

People Group: Yawo
Population: 2.5 million
Main Religion: Islam

“Baptist Mission Australia’s work in Malawi has moved with the tide of urbanisation. In recent years we have seen the local faith communities amongst the Yawo grow and mature. **The urban believers have come together and created a childcare facility from the women’s group and a cafe from the youth group. These entities are working to create sustainable employment, as well as income to support village ministries.**”

As intercultural team members we stand alongside, teaching, training and developing strategies to best assist this community. The Yawo need hope through Jesus and it is an honour to share and serve in this endeavour.” - *Melanie*

PRAY

- » For the team: Tim, Melanie, Joyce, Jean-Claude, David, Susie, Gary, Shirley, Gunther and Sarah
- » For the faith communities as they grow in faith and share the good news of Jesus with others

Mozambique

People Group: Yawo
Population: 330,000
Main Religion: Islam

“Our Yawo friends are acutely aware of the power, reality and danger of what’s happening in the spiritual realm. Many live their lives in fear of upsetting ancestral and other spirits, and the consequences that they believe come from that. They are often keen to talk about God and are interested to hear about Jesus and the authority He has in that realm.”

Please pray with us, that as we share with people about Jesus, the truth of the Gospel will take hold in the hearts of many. Pray that our Yawo friends will know and follow the Messiah, be filled with the Spirit and walk in freedom.” - Kath

PRAY

- » For the team: Sally, Scott, Bek, Heather, Tobias, Kath and Cam
- » For the various groups of Yawo women and men that our team meets with each week to explore God’s Word
- » For God’s love to be experienced in transforming ways as the team journeys alongside Yawo friends



Silk Road Area

People Group: K people
Population: 14 million
Main Religion: Islam

“‘Lots of work, no time,’ is the catchcry of our neighbours. The demands of the seasons and the need to celebrate important life events in a nominally Muslim culture leave little space for seeking a relationship with God. **But our team has noticed how the Holy Spirit has been moving over the past year. A neighbour has come to faith and she is sharing the Gospel with others. We have welcomed three new team members and relationships with our K friends are deepening.**”

We are thrilled to see how God is using our ministries – English teaching, allied health, metalwork and carpentry – for relationship building and transformation.” - *Eliza*

PRAY

- » For the team: Eliza, David, Ben, Petra, Mel, Suzanne, Lydia and Calvin
- » For the local teachers our team works alongside to come to faith in Jesus
- » For God to open opportunities for His love to be shared through our team’s ministry



South Asia

People Group: B people
Population: 165 million
Main Religion: Islam

“The B people are a resilient people group who know what it is like to fight for survival. Living in one of the most densely populated regions on the planet, and prone to regular cyclones and flooding, poverty is a constant threat. For B people, their Muslim faith is central to their identity and family expectations shape their way of life.”

Our work amongst the B people is through our local community development organisation. **We serve and walk alongside a local staff team through agriculture, health and education projects aimed at capacity building and poverty alleviation.** We are also currently working on scripture and discipleship resources for the growing network of believers.” - *Ryan*

PRAY

- » For the team: Phil, Ryan, Suzie, Lisa, Fiona, Morris, Anthony, Jacqueline, Graeme, Pat, Graeme, Roger, Walt and Jeanine
- » For B believers and for the next generation of leaders to be equipped



South East Asia

People Groups: Various

Population: 50 million

Main Religion: Islam

“Our team serves in a communal culture across three people groups. Family and cultural traditions are important to them and are embedded in each generation from a young age. While this is a beautiful part of the culture, it makes it challenging for people to choose to follow Jesus.

The team’s engagement through education, community development and social enterprises opens opportunities for God’s love to be shared in practical ways. And we have seen how living as alongsiders can open doors to the Gospel. The Holy Spirit is at work and our team has a sense that this is just the beginning!” - *David*

PRAY

- » For the team: Ando, Daz, Bee, Dave, Caz, Joy, Pat, Max, Ezzie, Mike, Widya, Simon, Ally, Kate and Jan
- » For local people whose lives have been transformed by the Gospel to have wisdom as they share their faith

Thailand

People Group: Ethnic Thai

Population: 57 million

Main Religion: Buddhism

“‘Saving face’ for Ethnic Thais is based upon an inherent characteristic of being ‘kreng jai’, which is to be extremely considerate to others’ feelings. This makes Thailand a friendly nation and a land of smiles.

As our team seeks to share the Gospel, we often encounter this response of ‘kreang jai’ with politeness and smiles. This means that it takes time for deep relationships to be built, and for Ethnic Thai people to understand the truth of God’s Word.

Please pray for the local believers and our team as we seek to contextually share the Gospel in a way that affirms the ‘kreang jai’ of the culture, while speaking the truth in love.” - *Muana*

PRAY

- » For the team: Carolyn, Dema, Glenn, Liz, Muana, Villy, Luke, Belle, Jan, Jit and Margaret
- » For God to raise up more intercultural team members for His harvest in Thailand

Cambodia

People Group: Khmer

Population: 14 million

Main Religion: Buddhism

“Khmer people are highly committed to their families and community. Hardships are owned by the entire family and life decisions are made together. In this context, it can be difficult for someone to make a personal decision to follow Jesus.

‘It’s a hard life, but a good life’, a Khmer person once told me. Khmer people accept the uncertainty in their lives. Nevertheless, seeking a better life for future generations is important. **This desire for a better life provides opportunities for the team to support Khmer people in a range of areas, including health education, social work, disability support, life and vocational skills training, spiritual formation and sports ministries.**” - *Rachel*

PRAY

- » For the team: Rob, Deb, Luke, Rachel, Tristan, Megan, Catherine, KimLean, Rours and Reaksmeay
- » For the team to experience the Spirit’s leading as they seek to share God’s love with new and existing Khmer friends

Indochina

People Group: Indochinese

Population: 82 million

Main Religion: Folk Religion and Buddhism

“In Indochina, our team serves through a vocational training centre for people with disabilities. The students are trained in teaching, business management, English, baking and more.

We celebrate that this centre is fully managed and operated by local people with disabilities. **As team members, we come alongside these young people and share the love of Christ by doing life together.**

We have also begun a weekly house church gathering where we prepare a meal and invite the local staff to join us in exploring God’s Word and praying together.

Our hope and prayer is that through our house church ministry, our friends will have the opportunity to experience God’s love and care, and to slowly grow in relationship with Jesus.” - *Ngoc*

PRAY

- » For the team: Mark and Ngoc
- » For people with disabilities to be empowered and experience God’s love in relevant ways



Australian Intercultural Team



This year, we officially launch a new team that we are calling our ‘Australian Intercultural Team’. This team brings together our long-term ministry in Outback Australia among First Nations people and our emerging work among intercultural communities in urban and regional Australia.

Australia

“Baptist Mission Australia is increasingly welcomed to play a pivotal role in intercultural mission not just overseas, but also throughout our diverse nation.

We acknowledge that the nations have come to our land and take joy in the vibrant tapestry of cultures and religions existing in Australia today. This as an exciting opportunity to spread the message of Jesus in new and creative ways.

Responding to this, our vision encompasses various initiatives: supporting churches and pastors in expanding their missional imagination, offering consultancies and ongoing coaching to help them overcome cultural and religious barriers in reaching

diverse communities, engaging with international students on university campuses, strengthening engagement with First Nation Christian leaders, forging new partnerships with diverse intercultural communities nationwide and raising up the next generation of intercultural team members to serve here and around the world.

We envision a growing team of practitioners and educators ministering in a variety of contexts, while at the same time coming alongside the Australian church to strengthen its capacity for intercultural mission.” - *Andrew*

PRAY

- » For the team: Andrew, Daniel, S, F, Paul and Pip
- » For people from diverse cultures and backgrounds right here in Australia to meet Jesus in ways that make sense to them and place their trust in Him
- » For our team to effectively come alongside the Australian church to love, serve, equip and inspire
- » For God to continue to raise up the next generation of intercultural team members



Outback Australia

“The Outback team works across five remote Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory. Each of the communities are unique and filled with a breathtaking mix of joy and sorrow.

Ministry in these communities is varied too, but at the core of it all is our value of walking with people as they discover and embrace their own distinctive ways of following Jesus. Learning, listening, encouraging, discipling, praying, loving and living are at the core of what we do in the Outback.

Please pray for the Holy Spirit to continue transforming hearts and lives, as only He can, in these traditional homelands of some of Australia’s First Peoples.” - *Shannon*

PRAY

- » For the team: Mat, Shannon, Vivian, Beth, Danny, Chris and Mal
- » For the local believers who were recently baptised to be growing in Christ-likeness daily as they walk in step with Him
- » For our team as they journey alongside community members in faith and life
- » For transformational conversations to be sparked as groups of First Nations believers gather together to explore God’s Word
- » For God to lead another team member to join the team and serve in the southern Outback communities

Ministry partnerships

By 2030, 70% of followers of Jesus will live in the Global South (the non-western world). With this huge shift in World Christianity, Baptist Mission Australia is committed to strengthening existing and developing new Global South partnerships aligned with our vision and four key causes.

We will also expand innovative partnerships at home as ‘the world’ continues to come to Australia.

Current Team Locations

As faith communities grow and local leaders are developed, we’re committed to building partnerships that empower locally led mission initiatives. We have partnership agreements with local entities where we serve in **Malawi, South East Asia** and **South Asia** and will add to these in 2024.

Other Locations

In other locations across the globe, we partner with Baptist churches and other Christian groups in the shared pursuit of our four key causes:

Zambia

Partnering with the Central Baptist Association of Zambia in a holistic transformation strategy.

Zambia and Zimbabwe

Partnering in leadership development and training of pastors, as well as funding scholarships to equip leaders.

Bangladesh

Continuing our long ministry relationship with the Bangladesh Baptist Church Fellowship.

India

Our valued partners include the Baptist Convention of Mizoram, Lower Assam Baptist Union and Chakhesang Baptist Association. Together we are involved in contextual mission training, humanitarian support, integral mission initiatives and funding scholarships to train pastors.

Myanmar & border areas

Partnering with Sharing Hope, Kachin Baptist Convention and other partners in leadership development, trauma training and humanitarian relief to displaced people.

Papua

We are excited to be exploring a new season of partnership with Baptist associations in Papua, building on strong long-term relationships.

Papua New Guinea

Partnering with the Baptist Union of Papua New Guinea in leadership development, consultancy and supporting the establishment of their own mission sending agencies.

Australia

Partnering in new innovative pilots supporting mission initiatives, including Nepali community support (Hobart) and international student ministry (Sydney).

Asia Pacific Baptist Federation

Supporting several missional initiatives including the strategic Director of Mission role.

Baptist World Alliance

We are a founding member of the Global Baptist Mission Network and support other initiatives.

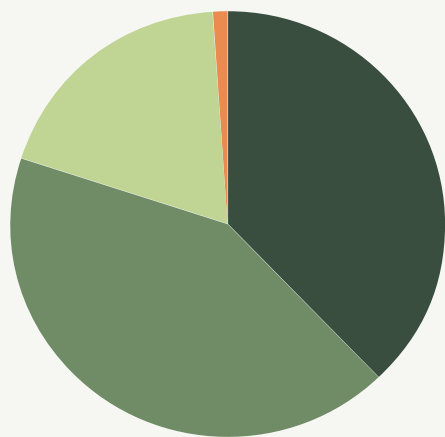
Join us in prayer for our partnerships across the world in 2024.



Your impact

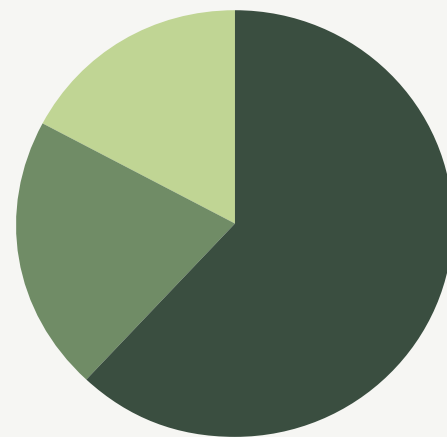
When you partner with Baptist Mission Australia, you are supporting the expansion of life-transforming faith communities, mission partnerships, leadership development and integral mission initiatives in Africa, Asia and Australia. Thank you!

3,684 Financial partners
900+ Australian Baptist Churches engaged
2,500+ Prayer partners
91 Intercultural team members
23 National support team members



Where the funds come from

- Churches 38%
- Individuals 42%
- Bequests 19%
- Investments 1%



How the funds are spent

- Intercultural ministry and projects 62%
- Mission resourcing, mobilisation and Australian church initiatives 21%
- Team member support and central services 17%

Based on 2022 audited figures, most recent figures available on request.



Ministry highlights

With your partnership and God's leading, we give thanks for some recent ministry highlights:

In Cambodia, team members have established a new centre to support children with disabilities to grow in their ability to communicate and engage with their community.

In Mozambique, groups of Yawo are enthusiastically meeting with our team to explore God's Word and pray together.

In Malawi, Yawo faith leaders are studying theology with our team and believers are working together in income generating initiatives to support their families.

In Indochina, our team is getting alongside young people with disabilities who are being trained and employed.

In South East Asia, practical initiatives run by our team are opening doors for the Gospel to be shared, and a network of believers is growing.

In Australia, new opportunities have opened up for ministry among intercultural communities.

In the Silk Road Area, doors have opened for God's love to be shared with children with disabilities and their families through Occupational Therapy.

In South Asia, our team is working with local believers in the development of contextualised discipleship resources.

In Thailand, our team is journeying with the local believers as they set up a house for ministry and hospitality.

In Zambia, Baptist Mission Australia has partnered with the Baptist Association to build and open a training centre.

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Edited and designed by Teagan Dwyer-Riviere. Photos by Christine Tan (pages 2, 15 & 22), William Crank (pages 2 & 13), Jhodi Bennett (page 13), Christoph Ziegenhardt (page 15), Geoff Maddock (pages 18 & 22) and Scott Pilgrim (page 22).

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Security: Names of team members and locations may be limited or altered in this publication for the security of local believers and our ongoing ministry.

What's Baptist Mission Australia about? Four Christ-centred mission causes: disciple-making faith communities, community-transforming initiatives, missional leaders & innovative expressions. You too? Let's partner together in sharing the whole Gospel with the whole world.



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