



Charitable Trust  
global vision international

# Trustees' Annual report 2012







**Our Mission:** *We connect people to sustainable grassroots projects around the world, engaging them through live updates and opportunities to see and work first-hand upon their chosen projects and empowering them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to address local and global issues independently*



### Our Objectives:

**Awareness:** *To increase cultural understanding and awareness of global issues*

**Impact:** *To make long term, sustainable contributions towards key global and local issues*

**Empowerment:** *To equip our team with the knowledge and ability to further contribute towards key global and local issue.*

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## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	3
Structure, Governance and Management.....	5
Objectives and activities of the GVI Charitable Trust .....	5
Performance.....	7
Impact in 2012 .....	8
Impact Total .....	9
Challenges.....	10
GVI Charitable Trust Fundraising events.....	10
Latin America .....	12
Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador and Perú.....	12
Mexico.....	13
Costa Rica.....	14
Africa .....	15
Mombasa .....	15
South Africa.....	17
Seychelles.....	18
Asia.....	19
India .....	19
Thailand.....	20
Laos.....	21
Nepal.....	21
Australasia.....	22
Fiji .....	22
Australia .....	23
National Scholarship Program.....	24
Disaster relief.....	24
Trustee Declaration.....	24



## 2012 Update

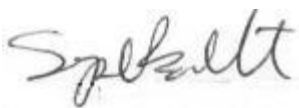
### Dear Supporters,

Despite being a challenging year in some respects, 2012 still saw fantastic achievements for the GVI Charitable Trust. The global recession had a later impact on us than many organisations and charities but whilst fundraising declined, we were delighted to see a good growth in donations and this meant we could continue to have great impact in the field. Our local partners and community groups, the students and teachers in the schools in which we work, our dedicated staff teams and of course our amazing supporters made this possible.

We have seen 5 of the projects we helped grow establish themselves independently and will now watch them hopefully succeed well into the future on their own. We have launched new projects in Nepal which have seen instant success in assisting Nepalese school children to attend school, and are now ready to help our friends in Kenya not only set up their own school but also purchase the land where it will be. In Fiji, we have seen one of the schools we support awarded Blue School status from the International Rainwater Harvesting Alliance.

I hope you enjoy reading about our progress over this period and share our excitement for the year ahead. As always thank you to everyone who has supported the GVI Charitable and our projects.

All the very best



Sophie Birkett  
Charitable Trust Manager

**Facebook** – <https://www.facebook.com/GVICharitableTrust>

**Twitter** - <https://twitter.com/GVICT>

# Trustees' Annual Report

## Structure, Governance and Management

### Trustees' Annual Report

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document - Trust Deed

How the charity is constituted - Trust

Trustee selection methods - Appointed during preparation of Trust Deed

Once proposed recipients of funds are reviewed and agreed by the Trustees. These are usually, but not limited to long-standing project partners of Global Vision International.

## Objectives and activities of the GVI Charitable Trust


The “Objects” as set out in the Trust Deed are in any part of the world:

- to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment;
- to advance education and research for the benefit of the public in the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment
- to relieve sickness and preserve and promote the good health of persons
- to relieve poverty, financial hardship and distress

The GVI Charitable Trust has raised money for a number of causes as outlined above, in each case the GVI Charitable Trust is duly diligent with how funds are used.

The GVI Charitable Trust strongly believes that it is only through local participation and leadership that projects can be successful. This is why each award that the GVI Charitable Trust makes is carefully vetted to ensure that the goals of that award are both sustainable and realistic. Awards are given for conservation and research, humanitarian aid and education, but we do not accept unsolicited requests for money. Awards are not given simply in the form of handouts, with local communities, organisations and other stakeholders being consulted to develop long term planning and sustainability for the goals of each one.



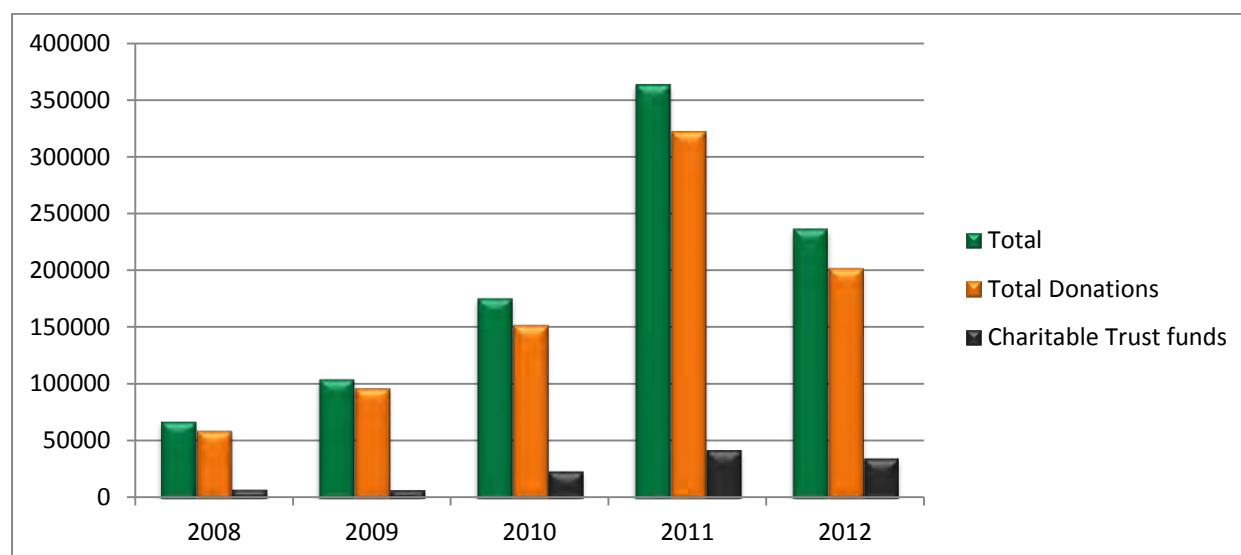
A group of African children are sitting on colorful plastic chairs (yellow, green, red, blue) outdoors. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. One child in the foreground is waving. The children are wearing various colorful clothing. The background shows more children and a paved area.

***"These beautiful children have so much potential and with a little help they can achieve so much. Already they are showing great signs of development since GVI started working with them"***

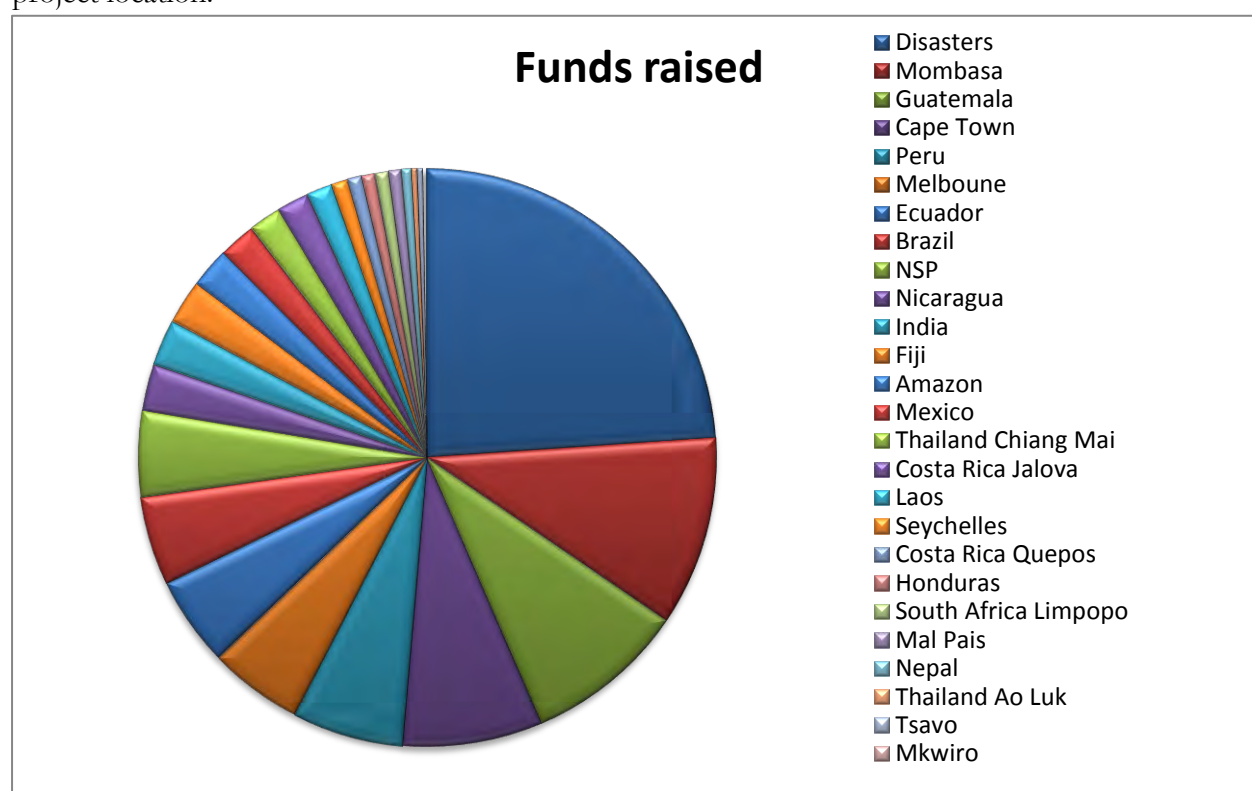
**Mama Lumka - Co-founder of IkhayaLethemba  
orphanage**

## Performance

This report covers the year period from January to December 2012. During this period, the incoming fund total had decreased from the previous financial year. The below graph compares the total incoming, total donations and total Charitable Trust funds in previous years:



We have still been able to achieve great results, despite this decrease. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported the GVI Charitable Trust during this period and in a tough financial time. The below pie chart demonstrates a breakdown of funds raised by project location:





## Impact in 2012

National Scholars  
Environmental Education  
Teacher Training  
Empowerment Support  
Animal Protection  
Education  
Orphaned Children  
Recycling  
Water  
Disadvantaged Children  
Environmental protection  
Alternative Livelihoods  
Community Development



*Boy: Girl ratio for students in our Primary Schools*

Girls Boys



*School lunch meals provided  
on GVI CT projects in Africa*

 **30,840**

*Number of partner  
organisations*

 **92**



## Impact Total

# 100,000

### Community Members

Including 38,905 primary school children who have received education or training through over 1,000 initiatives.



# 500,000m<sup>3</sup>

### Rainwater Harvest

Rainwater harvesting capacity installed to allow communities access to fresh water.



# 2,500,000

### Hectares of Protected Land

Our 629 critical conservation programs have helped conserve and record 429 IUCN red listed species.





## Challenges

This year has been quieter than previous years for external fundraising events but we have still seen supporters complete half marathons and marathons for the projects, long distance bike rides, sponsored hair cuts and we even had a supporter do the London to Paris triathlon!

Continuing the tradition from previous years, this year has been very busy for all our hubs across the GVI Charitable Trust for internal challenges.

As always, thank you very much to everyone who has organised or participated in an event to support the GVI Charitable Trust or made to donation to a fundraising campaign.

### GVI Charitable Trust Fundraising events

Following the accomplishments of our teams last year in their fundraising efforts, the GVI Charitable Trust challenges continued to bring not only much needed funds to our projects but also helped to spread awareness of the work the Trust is doing in the different challenge locations.

In Latin America, we had some adventurous physical challenges in 2012! These included a 2 Days Beach trek through the Atacama Desert in Peru, the annual Guatemala volcano challenge and a 3 day biking, hiking and kayaking challenge around Lake Atitlán.

In Limpopo, South Africa we had two fantastic challenges. The first was the Amazing Race: Mariepskop Edition, a scavenger hunt organised by the team to raise funds for environmental education in the area they work. Thirteen volunteers and five staff were split into three teams with the aim

to follow the clues to the buried treasure. The second challenge was the Daktari delivery drive where an 11km Toyota Hilux was pushed up hill to the Daktari School, filled with educational items donated by local shops in Hoedspruit, spurred on by “Eye of the Tiger” played on repeat!

In March, thirty GVI staff and volunteers took part in a day of challenges around the island of Mahe, Seychelles. They included hiking up a tea plantation, becoming a sand mermaid, visiting as many beaches as possible and dancing at the President’s Village Children’s home. It was a day of trials and tribulations that culminated in a sunset cruise around the St Anne Marine Park to thank everyone for their hard work. The day was a great success with over £1000 raised by friends and families for the Children’s home.





One of our longest challenges this year came from the GVI Ecuador Amazon team who completed a 5 day Huaorani Jungle Challenge, which involved hiking and kayaking through Huaorani indigenous territory and living as the locals do with traditional activities and accommodation.

The team in Kerala, India decided to do a two day trek around the Munnar region during the hot and rainy weather of July to raise funds to send 21 kids through school for a year.

In Fiji, the group undertook a unique challenge to swim around the island of Nanuya LaiLai to raise funds for three different initiatives; Ratu Meli Memorial School crucial resources and school maintenance, water and agricultural initiatives and marine awareness workshops.

Following the success of last year's challenge, GVI Cape Town tackled the Hoerikwaggo trail this year. An 80km hike from Cape Point to the top of Table Mountain which usually takes 5 days; they achieved this in just 3 days!

The team in Laos decided to take a cultural approach to their challenge. The staff and team there gave alms to Buddhist monks and novices 5 days in a row, the challenge being the early starts (3am) followed by a day of work!

An absolutely amazing effort by everyone involved in each of these events. Thanks to everyone's hard work and dedication



## Latin America

### Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ecuador and Perú

Across Latin America, we work with impoverished children from indigenous and rural communities helping to provide a sustainable infrastructure in which they can access a safe and consistent education. From 2013, these projects will be running independently as a new charity.



Over the past ten years, the GVI Charitable Trust have been promoting the basic rights of education, food and employment in these communities, by supporting schools, investing in secondary education and through supporting communities by providing food and essential items. Donations have helped us to provide essential day to day materials for students, with thousands of children receiving daily education on our projects. Donations have also helped us employ local people, including teachers to help run our projects.

We wish them all the best with their future endeavours!



## Mexico

We have two initiatives underway on our projects in the Yucatan peninsula, Mexico.

Our project in Punta Allen is focused on establishing a recycling centre in the community situated in the Sian Ka'an reserve. The aim being that, in addition to helping to conserve the area and reduce waste, the centre will act as an example to other communities. The recycling centre construction began this year; the land was cleaned up and the workers built the foundations, grounding and columns, which will support the roof and walls (built out of plastic bottles). The centre will be built with the plastic bottles that people have been filling up to show the community that they can reuse these kinds of material to build houses or other structures.



Our second project in Mexico is working to protect the marine ecosystems in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve. The Yucatan peninsula has a rich biodiversity that is threatened by the

development of the tourist industry. The Charitable Trust is working alongside Amigos de Sian Ka'an on different project focusing on integrative management strategies and to influence environmental regulation. This year, donations have been used to purchase equipment to be used on different projects such as monitoring the Coral reef to know its health, as well as in the projects that they are developing about climate change mitigation impacts in coral reefs to look at developing an integrative



coral reef stress response plan with stakeholder participation.



## Costa Rica

### *Mal Pais*

We continue to work with the community in Mal Pais and Santa Teresa this year. The Mal Pais Kinder program has been well received with the goal to continue sponsoring these children after they finish by securing and financing scholarships at the bilingual school in Cobano.

Infrastructural repairs have also been a priority; the school was in a very bad state when we started. All roofs leaked, causing huge pools of water in the classrooms and also electrical problems. The classrooms were also hot and uncomfortable. Through the repairs, we installed blinds and fans, built shelving units and fixed electrical and plumbing issues. We also built a hygienic kitchen and cafeteria.

### *Quepos*

We have been working in the community of El Cocal for over a year now. There are several reasons why this community was identified as a priority for our work: there is only one school on the entire island meaning the school day is divided to accommodate all students in its existing structure and also the major issue of drug use.

This year, the team in Quepos opened a community centre so the children can still receive a full day of education as well as have a safe, drug free space available to them. The new centre is a fun, educational, drug-free zone on the island.

They have also renovated a spare storage room at the school to turn into a classroom and resource room, allowing volunteers to work one on one with students that need a little extra help in order to catch up with the rest of the class.





## Africa

### Mombasa



In Mombasa, we continue to work with our local partners on educational projects at Precious Vision and the Olives Rehabilitation Centre. We have maintained our focus on important initiatives including the food program, teacher's wages and training and our on-going land fund.

In addition, donations have funded much needed materials such as blackboards, text books and classroom renovations. Previously, many students have needed to share text books between large numbers; this resulted in very slow progress in the classroom. Our investment in text books is a simple solution but a worthwhile investment which has led to more efficient classrooms.

### *Medical Fund*

A very special donation by one individual allowed us to purchase first-aid and medical products to treat minor illness, injuries and afflictions of students in our schools whose parents cannot afford to do so. If a student's family is deemed financially unable to provide basic medical care, the Directors are now able to provide the required materials through this initiative.

The medical fund consistently ensures the students are able to be treated for minor issues, which would otherwise become more serious illness.

### *Food Programs*

Funds this year have continued to support the on-going feeding program at Precious Vision Care Centre. It covers food purchases, transport to the market, cooking materials and monthly wages to provide lunch to 250 children, Monday to Friday throughout the school term and to around 100 students throughout holiday programmes. The children continue to benefit with improved health, fewer absentee days and improved academic results.

Lack of adequate meals are thought to be the number one cause of primary school drop-out in Kenya. A child's ability to absorb information and focus is significantly impacted by diet. The Precious Vision feeding scheme is vital for the children's academic success and provides children with a daily nutritious meal. For several students, lunches provided by donations through the GVI Charitable Trust are their only guaranteed meal of the day.



### *Teachers Wages and Training*



We now assist with the wages for one full-time teacher at Olives Rehabilitation Centre's primary department and six full time teachers in Precious Vision Care Centre's kindergarten and primary departments. The schools cannot afford to pay their teachers the standard Kenyan minimum wage. The local teachers are one of the school's greatest resources and are invaluable in terms of the schools on-going success. They provide



stability and continuity for the children, and have a deep understanding of the backgrounds of the students, and often the individual family backgrounds.

As well as supporting monthly teacher wages, GVI Charitable Trust is also committed to the funding of long term capacity building initiatives. This year we have supported three teachers through training college to ensure that a proportion of teachers in each school are qualified and able to share their knowledge with other local teachers. This is also a condition of the schools becoming formally recognized institutions, part of the centre's strategy to achieve self-autonomy in the long-term.

## South Africa

### Cape Town

The Hope Centre we opened last year has been temporarily closed as we work with the community to ensure the building is up to the correct health and safety standard to be fully registered as a safe learning environment. Once this has been established we will be back to continue the work the centre provides.

The second focus in Cape Town is our work with Children with Special Needs. In poorer communities, facilities to suitably care for these children can be severely limited due to lack of funding. We are working with the IkhayaIthemba Orphanage in the Nomazamo



township with the ultimate goal to establish a dedicated centre to provide care for Children with Special Needs and act as a training centre for parents and carers.

So far this year we have developed the health care initiatives at IkhayaIthemba with first aid equipment and also communication and development projects for the children. The project has also utilised space at the village to construct a specific safe play area the children with Special Needs as they requires constant supervision.

## Limpopo



Since the beginning of this year, we have been working with underprivileged children in the Limpopo Province, an area rich in natural resources and cultural heritage, yet it is known to be the poorest and least educated area of South Africa, with an associated very high level of wildlife poaching. The project supports an outreach program to help foster enthusiasm and involvement in wildlife clubs among children from poorer

communities. Activities such as litter clean-ups, educational bush-walks, day trips to learn about Eco-Tourism and wildlife sanctuaries are organised along with assistance in achieving eco-school status, and much more.

## Seychelles

As one of our newer GVI Charitable Trust projects, the team in the Seychelles have done great work this year to get the local community involved in their work through challenges and locally organised events.

GVI Seychelles Curieuse also began a project this year for the installation of a Solar system to help the base become an example of zero emissions living. Leading by example not only educates the local population but demonstrates that renewable energy technologies, once installed, are a cheap, clean and efficient way to produce the energy we need.

The installation started with a very small solar array and progressed to the installation of a new photovoltaic system. Other developments include the completion of a new water catchment system, allowing staff and volunteers to collect rainwater. This is of particular importance as fresh water is extremely limited on the island. The harvested water will be used for numerous purposes including watering the organic garden that is starting to take shape.

Over the coming year, we look forward to bringing you more information on how the team will continue to develop green initiatives on Curieuse Island. The long term goal is to become carbon neutral and minimize our impacts further so that GVI Curieuse is viewed as a working example of a model research station.







## Asia

### India

We've had huge support for the sports program in Kerala this year, with a focus on providing sports shoes and clothing for children who could not afford them. Previously, many of the



children would need to play sports bare foot leading to injuries. The sports clothing also means the children do not have to play in their uniforms making them sweaty and dirty. They also bring a sense of team spirit with unified colours and numbers. Donations have supported a local sports coach to provide some structure to sports lessons. In the long term we hope to help the students become more active and confident through sports, all of which is important for their development and growth.

In sad circumstances, a group of 23 boys and girls, age 6-13 years were given to the orphanage from the State of Manipur last year, caught up in a child labour racket. They were not allowed to be put into the school system in Kerala due to insufficient paper work and so we gave them education whilst the orphanage waited on their paperwork. Fantastically, after 12 months at the orphanage, the kids have all been sent home by the government to be reunited with their families.

We have also worked with two centres to provide summer camp activities this year. Pratiashya Bhavan is a home for girls and Sneha Bhavan is a unique home for 84 boys who do not have the possibility of living with their family, or do not have a family to support them. The team in India decided this year it was time to arrange a summer camp, with the goal to activate these two groups of children in lots of fun as well as learning.



## Thailand

### *Alternative livelihoods and Elephant rescue*

Although highly endangered, many Asian elephants live out their lives working in tourist camps: giving rides and performing in circus shows. On our Thai Elephant project, we are helping a traditional elephant-keeping community return their elephants to live in the forest, where they can socialise naturally and forage on native plants.

Our Thailand elephant project aims to impact the management of Thailand's highly accessible yet still endangered population of 3000 captive elephants, by empowering an indigenous community to keep their elephants in the forest and care for them with traditional and more natural methods. This project has been documenting the social and foraging behaviour of elephants allowed to roam in the forest since July 2010, and continues to seek new alternatives to increase the odds of survival for the Asian elephant. The members of the village own more than 60 elephants distributed around tourist

camps in the area. We work with villagers giving them incentive to bring their elephants back to the forest, with 6 elephants currently living in Huay Pakoot's forest.

### *Stray Dogs*

GVI Thailand and the vets from Santisook Dogs and Cat Rescue are joining forces to provide vaccinations and sterilization for the stray dogs in Huay Pakoot village, the base for the Elephant reserve. There are over 60 dogs in the village; most are without basic medical care or enough food. By providing basic vaccinations for rabies, parvo, distemper etc. we can help keep the animals and community disease free. Sterilizations will keep the numbers of dogs from exponentially growing as resources are limited in the community.

So far, we've raised enough funds to neuter 12 of the village dogs, taking about 30 minutes per dog to complete and provided vaccinations for 60 dogs which included rabies, parvo, distemper, worms and fleas.



## Laos

Our relationship with the Wat Pasa Viet temple has still been going strong this year. Recent donations have funded the sponsorship of 9 novice monks from the temple for 12 months of English lessons. Three of the nine monks will be progressing onto their second year of study at the Mekong English Centre in Luang Prabang. The other 6 monks will be commencing their first year of study.



Each sponsored novice was selected by the Abbot of the temple who considered the qualities of a hard working student and their disadvantaged background. The beneficiaries of the sponsorship come from families who would not be able to fund the cost of further education for their sons leaving them at a disadvantage.

## Nepal



From 2012, GVI started supporting 7 centres/schools in Pokhara, Nepal that were in need of help from financial aid in securing basic resources including: one children's home that provides food and shelter to children who would be living on the street; two day-care centres that provide a stable and safe environment while

parents work; one preschool providing care and therapy to disabled and special needs children and their families; a youth group focusing on building English skills and confidence to improve school grades and find higher paying jobs.



## Australasia

### Fiji

At the end of the 2011, we began working in Fiji and began evaluating the individual needs of the pupils at Ratu Meli Memorial School in preparation for implementing a one-on-one tuition programme. The aim was to improve the literacy levels and confidence of those pupils who needed additional support.

RMMS is a government run school on the island of Nacula in the Yasawa island chain with 116 pupils between the ages of 5-14 years old. The school has poor literacy pass rates and previously insufficient resources to offer individual support. As of March 2012, the one-on-one programme introduced by GVI is now successfully integrated into the daily routine at RMMS. In addition to classroom assistance, volunteers are now providing 20-30 minute tuition sessions which are tailor-made to meet the individual needs of 22 pupils. Additionally, the Fijian teachers are following our example and have initiated one-on-one sessions of their own. For the Infant classes (age 5-9) sessions have focused on improving phonics, as well as enhancing reading confidence and English vocabulary.





## Australia

Since 2011, we have partnered with an organisation in Australia called Desert2Surf, whose mission is to build capacity in indigenous youth from remote and disadvantaged communities through outdoor experiences such as surfing. Donations received through the Charitable Trust help fund recreation activities to promote physical and mental health plus empower youths in leadership roles.



This year, we were able to support the ‘Stand and Lead 2012’ project. This gives indigenous youth the opportunity to participate in stand up paddling sessions, on billabongs in their own community, where they learn both technique and water safety. Stand up paddling is a perfect flat water alternative and can lead up to ocean surfing, where some participants in the stand-up paddling sessions are invited to travel south to surf with D2S on Victoria’s west coast in the warmer months.







## National Scholarship Program

The National Scholarship Program (NSP) is the flagship initiative for the GVI Charitable Trust. It provides opportunities for students and adults in the regions where we work to receive support and access to education, training and opportunities that may lead to long term improvements for them, their local community and environment.



Our program is going strong with scholarships being awarded around the world, most recently to 50 students in Kerala, India, for whom the funding allows them to attend primary education, a basic human right. Further similar educational scholarships have also been awarded in Laos, South Africa, Peru, Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala. We have also been delighted to have been invited to discuss a potential partnership with an Indian Ocean based University, to sponsor the best students from their new Environmental B.Sc. course each year to attend a placement for further practical training and work experience. We have secured additional funding and agreements to allow us to expand our capacity for building programmes, which will this year see us introduce the new projects in Fiji and Nepal, plus some exciting new initiatives in Australia, the UK and the US.



## Disaster relief

### Fiji

The team in Fiji took part in disaster relief efforts following the flooding disaster in the western district of Viti Levu. GVI volunteers were deployed to the field with the Red Cross to perform disaster damage assessments and to distribute aid packs. GVIs partnership with the Red Cross enabled us to provide much needed human resources in response to what had to that point been Fiji's most widespread and devastating flood.

Houses were surveyed, villagers interviewed, and data collected. Water sanitation packs from UNICEF, hygiene packs from AusAid, clothing, cookware, tarpaulins - were hand distributed to each assessed family. The damage to personal property and homes has been extensive. The experience of visiting these areas and assessing the damage was very moving for all involved.

After our participation, GVI has continued to have a close relationship with the Red Cross and regional disaster preparedness operations. In the aftermath of the Floods,

GVI Fiji 's Country Director, Dan, joined the Red Cross and was elected an Executive of Nadi Red Cross. GVI has since participated in a week long, Disaster Risk Reduction Trainer of Trainers course and have helped to facilitate Disaster Risk Reduction workshops in Flood affected villages of the Nadi Basin.

Our continuing involvement and support of the Nadi Region and the Red Cross was made possible through the compassionate donations that enabled GVI to fund Disaster Relief operations in April.

### Thailand

As we mentioned in last year's report, we successfully raised \$70,000 for the floods that devastated Thailand in 2011. Since then, volunteers have helped to clean up flood water lines, repaint, rebuild walls that were rotted and or washed away, clean up furniture, and salvage what could be reused. They also rebuilt the gardens and playgrounds. The photos show the extent and reach of the water damage.



## Trustee Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature



Full name

Andy Woods Ballard  
Trustee

