

# International Projects



This document provides a list of places where your support can help Jesuit Mission shine a light into the darkest corners of our world.

A ministry of the Australian Jesuit Province, Jesuit Mission partners with Jesuits and other companions in Asia and Africa, where the need is greatest.

We support projects which empower women, men and children to liberate themselves from poverty and injustice through participation in programs that build skills, capacity and resilience.

#### Our International Projects provide:

- Education,
- Health & basic rights,
- Livelihoods training,
- Services for refugees & the displaced,
- Leadership & capacity training, &
- Pastoral care.

#### Emergency Response:

We also respond to requests for support from communities devastated by:

- Humanitarian crises
- Natural disasters
- COVID-19

Share in our vision of faith, justice and reconciliation for a full and free life.

#### Projects by country

Cambodia	2
India	3
Myanmar	4
Thailand	5
Timor-Lesté	6
China	7
Indonesia	7
Vietnam	7
Malawi	7

# Cambodia



Decades of war have left Cambodia one of the world's poorest countries and permanently scarred its people both physically and psychologically. A staggering two million people - around a quarter of the population - were killed during the reign of the Khmer Rouge. Twenty years since their surrender, the country still has minimal access to education, health and infrastructure.

## Enhancing independence and building livelihoods

Partner: **Karuna Battambang Organisation (KBO)**  
Projects: **Enhancing the life of people with intellectual and physical disabilities**

Our partner KBO is running two programs to ensure people and their families affected by disability can access the help they need to live a full life. The 'Enhancing Life' program offers vocational training, improvements to housing, health care access and awareness raising in relation to the rights of people living with an intellectual disability, across seven districts.

The 'Livelihood Enhancement' program in Prey Thom strengthens the ability for people living with a disability to generate income through livestock raising, rice and vegetable production and Kroma weaving.

## Rebuilding the environment

Partner: **Jesuit Service Cambodia**  
Project: **Ecology Program**

The Ecology program focuses on supporting local communities in their forest conservation efforts. The four key themes include Ecological Restoration, Education and Advocacy, Research and Publications and Sustainability. Activities include management of a nursery and production of seedlings, with plans to provide 6,000 seedlings to local schools for planting of trees by students.



Everyone has the right to safety and shelter. Our partner KBO builds houses for those who need it.

## Safety and a start

Partner: **Prefecture of Battambang**  
Project: **Battambang Education Project**

With half of Cambodia's population under 25, many rural children in the Battambang Prefecture are needed on the farm. Many must also fend for themselves when their parents are forced to seek work in nearby Thailand.

This project provides education scholarships, accommodation and holistic support to children and young adults living with poverty. It has made education possible for hundreds of at-risk youth, some of whom are now at university.

## Education at the margins

Partner: **Jesuit Mission Cambodia**  
Project: **Fe y Alegria (FyA) Cambodia**

Fe y Alegria is a Jesuit educational movement founded in Venezuela nearly 70 years ago. FyA operates across Latin America and Africa educating more than 1.5 million marginalised children and adults. FyA Cambodia is focused on collaborative relationships between Xavier Jesuit School, Karuna Battambang Organisation and public schools.

This year a new FyA education hub based at Xavier Jesuit School will empower neighbouring communities and remote rural villages with quality education and training programs.

## Planting seeds of change

Partner: **Karuna Battambang Organisation (KBO)**  
Projects: **Training Cambodian Farmers on Sustainable Agriculture**

This project trains small landholder farmers and young men and women in sustainable agriculture practices including rice harvesting, organic farming, animal raising and waste management. The project will also assist farmers with accessing local and international markets to sell their produce, and build collaboration through self-help groups.

At some local schools, students are being trained in the the System of Rice Intensification System (SRI). SRI uses less seeds and less water, allowing farmers to save money and triple their yield.

## Nurturing Dignity

Partner: **Jesuit Service Cambodia**  
Project: **Light of Mercy Home**

The Light of Mercy Home provides a supportive home and centre for children living with a disability, who would otherwise receive no education at all.

Children attend local schools where they receive special education, and their individual talents are nurtured through extra classes such as music, dancing and computer skills. Children grow the confidence they need to become independent young adults, working towards gaining employment.

## Aiding refugees and promoting reconciliation

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Cambodia**  
Projects: **Towards an ever wider "WE" and Cry of the Poor / Cry of the Earth**

JRS Cambodia operates two projects supporting vulnerable communities. The first supports asylum seekers and refugees that have fled religious and political persecution to access housing and emergency services, finding solutions for resettlement, or repatriation. It also supports children, when their parents must travel to nearby countries to find work, with education and social services. The other project upholds the rights of Cambodian people wounded by war, living with a disability or in extreme poverty, by providing housing, accessible toilets, wheelchairs and income-generating projects.

## Dare to dream

Partner: **Jesuit Service Cambodia**  
Project: **Xavier Jesuit School**

In a country where only one in four students complete high school, Xavier Jesuit School (XJS) at Sisophon is a model of hope for Cambodian education.

XJS was established to empower disadvantaged students from the poorest villages to dream of contributing to a better future for their country. The school offers a Learning Centre, a primary and secondary school (K-12) and a development centre for teachers.

# India

Jesuit Mission's first projects were led by Australian missionaries who travelled by boat to Hazaribag, India in 1951. The aim was then, and remains today, to empower the most oppressed - tribal people and Dalits, those previously referred to by many in the caste system as "Untouchables". The Jesuits began their education projects by teaching a handful of children in the shade of a tree, they now educate over 25,000 students a year, at institutions ranging from village schools to universities. This year our projects will also be expanding beyond Hazaribag to other parts of India.

## A safe learning environment

Partner: **Hazaribag Jesuits**  
Project: **Kajarkilo Boys Hostel Project**

Kajarkilo is a small, remote village in the Bokaro district of Jharkhand, India. The surrounding villages are home to indigenous tribal groups including the Santhals, who are among the most marginalised and poorly-educated people in India.

The Jesuit-run Masi Marsal High School aims to deliver quality education to Santhal children. However due to the remote location of their villages, the children need to travel long distances and have nowhere to stay, meaning they end up sleeping in classrooms and hallways of the school.

This project will construct a Boys Hostel, providing safety and dignity for 245 boys, and enabling them to access life-changing education at Masi Marsal school. Education will empower these children to lift themselves out of poverty, and also to help their families and communities too.

## Climate resilient communities

Partner: **Jesuit Research and Development Society**  
Project: **Lok Manch: Ensuring Social Protection and Building Climate-Resilient Communities**

The Lok Manch program aims to improve the quality of life for the most marginalised communities, including Dalits and tribal people, across 13 states in India.

This phase of the project focuses on six basic rights - right to food; education; water, sanitation and hygiene; health; adequate housing and social protection.

The project will deliver training, workshops and community-based initiatives for community leaders in 2,100 villages. The community leaders will be mentored by experts in each area to strengthen their own capacity, leading to long-term sustainability and in turn aiming to reach over 300,000 marginalised families across these villages.

## Uplifting Dalit villagers

Partner: **Hazaribag Jesuits**  
Project: **Ankur Project**

The Ankur project provides tuition centres for Dalit children, and was started in response to the COVID-19 educational lockdown and the catastrophic effect this has had on Dalit children.

The project enables a local tutor in each village to provide tuition to village children, giving them the opportunity to continue their education and find a future path out of poverty.

As well as helping Dalit children with extra tuition, the centres enable continuation of education during school closures caused by COVID-19.

The Ankur project helps children and their parents renew their interest in education and encourages students who have dropped out to return to school. It also provides job opportunities to the tutors who are hired from each local village.

## St Xavier's College Mahuadanr

Partner: **Hazaribag Jesuits**  
Project: **St Xavier's College Mahuadanr**

St Xavier's College is a tertiary institution in the remote district of Mahuadanr.

It educates over 600 rural students from tribal groups including the Nagesia tribe, who would otherwise not have access to tertiary education.

Courses offered include degrees in Arts, Sciences and Commerce, and women represent nearly 50% of the students.

Great hopes are held for the contribution these educated young people will make to their community. Jesuit Mission contributes to the operational running of the College and is funding the current construction of an auditorium.

## Empowering 35 villages

Partner: **Karnataka Jesuit Province**  
Project: **Sustainable development of indigenous tribal populations**

In the coastal districts of Karnataka state in southwest India, more than 80% of tribal families depend upon the forest land for their livelihood. Facing discrimination, exploitation, lack of basic rights and land ownership - these tribal people also live with the constant fear of displacement.

There is poor sanitation, lack of clean water and 1/3 of children are malnourished. Most children do not go past Year 7 in school.

This three-year project aims to develop 35 villages in Karnataka province by empowering the people living within these villages. It will facilitate inclusive and quality education for children, empower women to become self-reliant and community leaders, educate men about land entitlements and their basic rights, and support overall sustainable development of indigenous tribal groups.



**Prakash, a Dalit man and graduate of a Jesuit teacher training college, now a qualified teacher educating the next generation.**

# Myanmar

Blessed with immense natural resources including jade, natural gas and teak, Myanmar is largely controlled by the military and foreign interests who benefit from this wealth while the environment is ravaged. People living on the most valuable sites, notably in Kachin State, have been displaced, and join up to a million others in 200 Internally Displaced People's (IDP) camps. In 2021, the military seized power over the democratically elected government in a shocking coup. More than 1,000 civilians have since been killed and over 300,000 people have been displaced. Millions of people continue to lose their jobs or sources of livelihood.

## Creating opportunities

Partner: **Myanmar Jesuit Region**  
Project: **Urban Poverty Alleviation Project**

In the crowded and muddy slums of Yangon, many struggle in the face of discrimination. Others do not even have identity documents, which prohibits them from securing a job.

This project provides relief in three ways:

It builds shelter for some of the poorest families in the slum. It provides microcredit loans which allow people to start businesses and become self sufficient. It runs evening study centres providing a supportive environment for students.

In addition, there are two education colleges run by the Jesuits in Thingangyun slum. Inigo English Academy teaches daytime, afternoon and evening classes which aim to develop the whole person and form confident leaders.

Yangon Loyola Community College provides internship experience, life skills and vocational skills in accountancy, computer and English. Vulnerable youth gain skilled employment, and become active and engaged members of their community.

## Teaching communities

Partner: **Myanmar Jesuit Region**  
Project: **St Aloysius Gonzaga Institute (SAG)**

Located in Taunggyi in central Myanmar, SAG is a higher education institute which embraces students from the country's ethnically diverse states, including Kayah and Karen.

It produces graduates with internationally-recognised qualifications in English, humanities and social science, empowering the country's future leaders. It also offers English classes for children and adults during the week and on weekends.

Tertiary students from SAG teach hundreds of enthusiastic young children at summer camps. Jesuit Mission supports scholarships, accommodation as well as some teacher salaries and is currently funding the construction of additional classrooms and amenities.

## Transforming futures

Partner: **Myanmar Jesuit Region**  
Project: **Campion Institute for English Language**

The Campion Institute in Yangon teaches young people English language and critical thinking to enable them to contribute to their country's future.

With a focus on service and social justice, Campion accepts students of all ethnicities and religions, while exemplifying Ignatian values.

## Forming compassionate leaders

Partner: **Myanmar Jesuit Region**  
Project: **Myanmar Leadership Institute (MLI)**

Myanmar Leadership Institute aspires to form a generation of leaders who see their role through the lens of social justice, and lead with competence and compassion. Its courses range from a one-year Diploma in Leadership to a ten-week Certificate in Business Communication. The curriculum includes nation building, ethical principles, social inclusion, restoration of peace, human rights, and strategic thinking.

Many of the students come from ethnic minority groups and are determined to overcome decades of conflict that have stunted the educational, social and infrastructural development of the nation.

## Supporting students in IDP camps

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Asia Pacific**  
Project: **Education and Outreach to the IDPs in Kachin State, Myanmar (Myitkyina and Banmaw)**

Due to decades of armed conflict in remote areas in Kachin State, many Internally Displaced People (IDP), especially children do not have access to a quality education.

This project provides teacher training and learning materials to improve the quality of education for children in IDP camps in Kachin State, to develop local teachers' capabilities to promote a safe learning environment.



People in the slums of Myanmar are gifted with a micro loan to start their own businesses, such as a food stall.

# Thailand

No stranger to political instability and social tensions resulting in violence, Thailand is nevertheless a destination for many refugees from Pakistan, Syria, Myanmar and elsewhere. Thailand has not ratified the 1951 UNHCR Refugee Convention, and so it is illegal for refugees to gain work or for locals to employ them. Refugee children cannot go to Thai schools and refugee families cannot access social services. These people who have fled intolerable situations now endure poverty and desperation. Many fear being separated and sent to an overcrowded and unsanitary Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) for overstaying their tourist visas.

## Caring for refugees

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Asia Pacific**  
Projects: **Education for Burmese Refugees, and Pastoral Accompaniment of Burmese Refugees, Mae Hong Son Province**

The Karenni are a number of ethnic groups who speak related Tibeto-Burman languages. Once enjoying autonomy in four independent states, they resisted Burmese military authority, which took control of their land and led to brutal war and massive displacement.

Hundreds of thousands of Karen people now live in mountainous, flood prone camps just 3km across the Thai Border.

In the face of these challenging, prison-like conditions, these Jesuit projects provide quality education to close to 3,000 students, build teacher capacity and provide curriculum support to people living in the camps. Many refugees have known atrocities and out-of-school youth are at particular risk. Psycho-social and life skills are taught to combat youth suicide.

"Family friendship groups" nurture connections within the camp. Training in peace, advocacy and reconciliation provides some hope for the future, and for the children pictured on the right.

## Supporting asylum seekers

Partner: **Support for Pakistani Refugees in Thailand**  
Project: **Pakistani Refugee Resettlement**

Thousands of Catholics, Protestants and Muslims have fled to Thailand to escape violent persecution and the harsh blasphemy laws in Pakistan.

The Jesuits in Bangkok offer tangible help to hundreds of families who have no savings and no income, and who live with the ever present fear of being sent home or incarcerated.

The refugees receive help with food, rent, education, medical and legal costs. This project offers invaluable help negotiating red tape and providing airline tickets to allow these trapped people to find a new home country.

## Giving hope to detainees

Partner: **Jesuit Foundation Thailand**  
Project: **Immigration Detention Services**

The Jesuit Foundation serves over 6,000 people each year in the Bangkok Immigration Detention Centre, providing practical help and pastoral care for detainees when they are often at the lowest point in their lives. Incarcerated because they lack correct visa or paperwork, families are separated and abysmal conditions wreak misery.

The project provides health care delivered by a doctor or nurse, including hospital referrals, and social services and basic supplies such as food, clothes and blankets - particularly for the elderly and vulnerable.

It also provides administrative support and solutions for detainee release, including organising travel documents and visas.

## Supporting refugee youth

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Asia Pacific**  
Project: **Urban Education Project**

Refugee youth in Bangkok are not allowed to attend government schools. With parents desperate to earn money any way they can, or without any parents at all, they are at risk of trafficking, sexual violence, exploitation or arbitrary arrest.

This project provides free training in Thai and English language, and vocational skills such as sewing, computer skills and beauty therapy.

They also offer help with housing, food and transport costs. It establishes peer to peer connections with local Thai youth to promote better understanding and a sense of belonging.

## Launching careers

Partner: **Xavier Learning Community (XLC)**  
Project: **Education of Ethnic Minorities**

Xavier Learning Community provides tertiary students from the hill tribes around Chiang Rai the opportunity to spread their wings. Traditionally destined to farm the family's mountainous land, young members of Karen, Akha, Lahu and Hmong ethnic groups now have great ambitions.

Recognising that spoken English is an essential international tool, all students study a Bachelor of English, along with eco-tourism, teaching and hospitality.

With a fully operational farm on the campus, sustainability is key to the ethos of XLC.



"Education with a heart" is taught at a refugee camp in Mae Hong Son.

# Timor-Lesté



Achieving independence in 1999 came at great cost for the Timorese. Thousands of people were killed and displaced, a great many buildings were demolished, public services were crippled and institutions destroyed. The education system lost most of its infrastructure and over 80% of its secondary teachers. Today, Timor-Lesté has a very high youth population (over 61%), high youth unemployment, and half of the population still live in extreme poverty. After consultation with the government and education sector, the Jesuit Education Project was established to provide the East-Timorese with high quality education institutes.

## Leading education

Partner: **Jesuit Region of Timor-Lesté**  
Project: **Colégio de Santo Inácio de Loiola (CSIL)**

Known as Loyola College or CSIL, this vibrant school is situated in Kasait, 17kms from Dili. It caters to 900 students in 2022 from years 7-12.

The campus includes six blocks of five classrooms, a multi-purpose hall big enough to hold the entire student body and their families.

In addition to funding several construction projects including science labs, performing arts and sports facilities; Jesuit Mission contributes to CSIL's scholarship fund which aims to support 20% of the student body by 2025.

The students are achieving excellent results - with all graduating Year 12 students achieving a 100% pass rate, and many receiving university offers.

## Teaching education

Partner: **Jesuit Region of Timor-Lesté**  
Project: **Instituto São João de Brito (ISJB)**

Situated adjacent to CSIL (see above) is the ISJB Teachers Training College. 509 students in 2022, across four years, are completing Degree programs. Students can major in teaching English, Portuguese or Religious Education, with Psychology and Sociology of Education as electives. All receive some type of scholarship assistance.

The campus has 18 classrooms, a specialist library, and computer, technology and audio laboratories.

The Institute aims to form secondary school teachers who are competent, who can think deeply and critically, and who have a deep-seated understanding of the social, political and cultural contexts of Timor-Lesté.

Coming from all parts of the country, it is envisaged that the students will return to their homes and lift the quality of education locally, and in turn, nationally.

## Providing food security

Partner: **Jesuit region of Timor-Leste**  
Project: **Railaco Food Security Program**

In Railaco, the rates of malnutrition in school aged children are up to 46% and many communities face food shortages.

The Railaco Jesuit Mission has been implementing a Children's Feeding Program for more than 15 years however, the need is still high.

Jesuit Mission is working with Jesuit Social Service to pilot a new Food Security Project to counteract food insecurity and to assist communities to produce nutritious food for their families.

## Transforming Railaco

Partner: **Jesuit Region of Timor-Lesté**  
Project: **Railaco Mission**

The NOSSEF Senior School in Railaco is located in a mountainous area about an hours' drive from Dili. The school educates 380 students, boys and girls from Year 10 to Year 12 and provides them with a subsidised nutritious lunch. 81 students live in dormitories nearby as their homes are too far away.

At the dormitories, a grassroots chicken coop and breakfast program supports their healthy development and independence.

In addition, the Feeding Program in Railaco provides children with nutritious food to reduce the incidence of malnutrition.

## Delivering water

Partner: **Jesuit Social Service**  
Project: **Clean Water Project**

Clean, safe drinking water has been piped to many remote and mountainous communities. This has provided direct and daily benefits to over 3,000 people. (See photo to right.)

Children who once spent hours fetching water may now go to school instead.

The project includes a maintenance training component to ensure the infrastructure remains viable and to provide a variety of community development projects.



**"When we were about to drill the wells the people gathered to pray for success. When the water came, they were so overjoyed, thanking God for giving them water at long last."**

*Marselinus Oki,  
Jesuit Social Service Water Project Engineer*

## Providing healthcare

Partner: **Jesuit Social Service**  
Project: **Centro de Saúde Daniel Ornelas (CSDO) Health Clinics in Kasait and Railaco**

In Timor-Lesté, people living in poverty lack access to the healthcare they desperately need.

One health clinic is located adjacent to CSIL and ISJB and provides critical health care to students and families from those schools, as well as the broader community. This project equips the clinical laboratory with health testing services to prevent, detect, and cure most of the prevalent diseases, such as tuberculosis, dengue fever, and malaria

The second health clinic is in Railaco, operating across 12 remote communities through a mobile service.

# China

## Providing Care

Partner: **Ricci Social Services Foundation**  
Project: **Care for Persons Affected by Leprosy**

In rural China, societal beliefs have shaped a powerful social stigma against people affected by leprosy and they have been forced to move away to 'leprosy villages'. This program is taking care of 94 patients living in two leprosy centres.

Most of these people do not have families to take care of them, suffer from chronic diseases, and have different degrees of physical disabilities. Our partner has missioned seven Religious Sisters who live with these people, to take care of their daily health, spiritual and social needs.

# Indonesia

## Befriending Refugees

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Indonesia**  
Project: **Befriend Towards Dignity During Refuge**

In March 2018, Australia withdrew its considerable support of refugees in Indonesia, who must now rely on charities. Australia also cut its resettlement quota in 2014, relocating these asylum seekers to Nauru and Manus Islands. The Indonesian government provides no refugee support at all and is closing down detention centres, flooding the streets with more homeless.

JRS Indonesia advocates for fairer policies for these people, vulnerable because they have fled real danger in their home countries. Whilst refugees are not currently permitted to work in Indonesia, JRS prepares 360 refugees with vocational training and practical assistance in the form of food, rent and access to healthcare.

# Vietnam

## Providing Water

Partner: **Jesuit Province Vietnam**  
Project: **High-Tech Water Filter Stations**

Dangerous industrial waste has caused most of the surface water sources in coastal areas of Vietnam to be highly contaminated. This forces families who are already struggling with poverty to purchase bottled water or risk becoming sick with life-threatening illnesses.

Our partner is responding to this urgent need by installing High-Tech water filter stations across four coastal districts. The water stations use 'Reverse Osmosis Ultraviolet' to sterilise contaminated water, giving communities access to clean, safe water and a better quality of life.

# Malawi

## Rewriting the narrative for Refugees

Partner: **Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Southern Africa**  
Project: **Digital Inclusion Program**

Conditions are extremely difficult for the 47,000 refugees at Dzaleka camp in Malawi, where movement outside the camp is restricted. As a result there are very limited opportunities to work and many live below the poverty line, depending on food rations. The average wait for resettlement is around 21-26 years.

In response to this, our local partner developed the Pathfinder Digital Inclusion Program. This innovative program trains participants in marketable digital skills they can use to enter the global online job market, allowing them to generate immediate income, and establish long-term livelihoods.

# Jesuit Mission helps where

- the need is greatest and most urgent
- material and spiritual benefits may be expected
- those who benefit will help others
- the most positive results are likely
- others are not available to help.



## What can your dollar do?

- \$100** Provides a dry ration pack for five families in India who are struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- \$250** Funds a school fee scholarship for one year, educating a student from a very poor village in Cambodia.
- \$1,000** Funds a teacher's salary in a village school.
- \$5,000** Funds a construction of a house for a family living in poverty.
- \$15,000** Funds a complete water project for a community in Timor-Lesté.



## Our Commitment

**We will continue**  
to stand with people living in the margins of our global community most affected by poverty, disaster and injustice.

**We will help**  
where help is needed, regardless of the recipient's religion, ethnicity or culture.

**We will respect**  
our supporters' faith and spread our transformative work with an Ignatian spirit that sees God in all things.

**We will manage**  
all gifts with financial acumen and rigorously assess our work on the ground to make the greatest impact.

**We will share**  
the stories of change and joy your gifts make possible.