

DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

20
19

30 YEARS
OF BUILDING
HUMAN RIGHTS
CAPACITY



DIPLOMACY
TRAINING
PROGRAM

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

José Ramos-Horta



DTP founder José Ramos Horta delivers a human rights and diplomacy masterclass at the 29th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training program, Timor-Leste

HISTORY, IDENTITY AND VISION 1989–2019

History

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

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

José and the East Timorese demonstrated the potential power of peaceful advocacy in their struggle to end human rights violations and exercise their right to self-determination. By mobilising international civil society and engaging international law, the UN system, governments and the media, they eventually gained East Timor’s vote for independence in 1999.

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

During that time DTP has delivered over 150 practical training programs in Australia and around the Asia-Pacific

region, providing training to over 3,000 human rights defenders (half of them women) in over 50 countries.

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

These alumni are DTP’s greatest asset and their stories, featured throughout this report in profiles and quotes, help illustrate the value of DTP’s work.

Identity and vision

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

DTP’s vision is a world in which all people have the freedom to advocate for the promotion and protection of human rights and are able to realise their human rights and achieve dignity.

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

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

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



FROM THE DTP CHAIR



As I write this message to introduce DTP’s 2019 Annual Report, I am struck by both DTP’s achievements in 2019, and the very changed and changing world we are witnessing in 2020. The pandemic of Covid-19 and the different responses to it by governments, business and civil society is exposing some of the global fault lines and fractures in societies and in global cooperation.

Covid-19 brings to the fore some of the key priorities of DTP’s work – the need to support the individuals who ensure that migrants, the elderly and persons with a disability are not left behind, and a focus on the responsibilities of governments and business to respect human rights. It puts a sharp focus on our values of shared human dignity. Covid-19, like climate change, migration and refugees, is a problem that does not respect borders. It demands international collaboration at a time when multilateral frameworks and institutions are being undermined and many governments are further restricting civil society and critical voices.

Covid-19 will challenge DTP, not least because its model of capacity building for 30 years has been based on bringing individuals together across borders. DTP will work with its unique network of alumni, trainers and partner organisations, drawing on the relationships of trust established over 30 years to meet the challenges with greater reliance on online technologies

I take this opportunity to thank DTP’s supporters, its donors, trainers, interns and volunteers, and the different funders who share its commitment to invest in civil society and the work of courageous human rights defenders.

David Dixon

Professor David Dixon,
Chair,
Diplomacy Training Program

FROM THE DTP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Welcome to DTP’s 2019 Annual Report, which includes information on DTP’s programs and its summary financial report. In 2019, DTP delivered 11 programs in eight countries. It was a year of many highlights, including greater engagement with human rights, climate change, development and environmental movements in the Pacific.

The 29th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program held in Timor-Leste coincided with the 20th Anniversary of its act of self-determination in 1999. On International Human Rights Day, in Taipei, DTP received the 2019 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award, recognising 30 years of work building the capacity of human rights movements in Asia.

These movements are facing challenging times. The rising tide of populist, authoritarian rulers makes the work of human rights defenders more difficult and dangerous, shrinking the safe space for them to operate. The repressive power of states has increased, with growing gaps between rich and poor. The multilateral system based on a commitment to universal values of human rights, and which human rights defenders look to for support and action, is under great strain.

DTP has built unique networks among human rights movements in Asia and the Pacific, working collaboratively across borders on critical issues. Strengthening and supporting these networks to meet the challenges ahead will be a key priority.

On behalf of DTP I offer my thanks to those that make our work possible – our partners, alumni, trainers, volunteers, interns and staff, as well as the DTP Board.

Patrick Earle

Patrick Earle
Executive Director,
Diplomacy Training Program

List of abbreviations		BHR	Business and human rights	OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
ACD	Association for Community Development	BHRRCC	Business and Human Rights Resource Centre	PIANGO	Pacific Islands Association of NGOs
ACFID	Australian Council for International Development	CCF	Citizens’ Constitutional Forum	PNG	Papua New Guinea
AICHR	ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights	DTP	Diplomacy Training Program	SBMI	Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia
AIPP	Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact	INSEC	Informal Sector Service Centre, Nepal	SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
		MENA	Middle East and North Africa	UNSW	University of New South Wales



Clockwise from top left: Executive Director Patrick Earle receiving the Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award from Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen; Yuyun Wahyuningrum receiving certificate at DTP program, Thailand; José Ramos-Horta and Jonathan Mesalum (PNG), Timor-Leste; DTP participants, Fiji; DTP participants, PNG; DTP participants, UAE

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2019

In 2019 DTP worked with human rights organisations in the Asia-Pacific region to successfully develop and deliver 11 intensive capacity building programs. The programs were held in eight countries including Indonesia and Timor-Leste, Thailand and Lebanon. 226 human rights defenders from 33 countries participated, with 57 per cent of them women.

DTP’s re-engagement with human rights in the Pacific continued to grow with programs in Fiji and Papua New Guinea. DTP developed its focus on children’s rights with a new program in Australia.

DTP’s 29th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program was held in Timor-Leste, coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the country’s vote for independence – an inspirational event for human rights and democracy movements across the region.

Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award

On Human Rights Day, 10 December, DTP was presented with the 2019 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award by Taiwan’s President Tsai Ing-wen who stated:

“The Diplomacy Training Program has made it possible for the seeds of human rights to flourish and bear fruit around the world, and offer mutual support.”

The award, from the Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, recognises DTP’s 30 years of service to human rights movements in Asia.

DTP was nominated by alumna Yuyun Wahyuningrum, Indonesia’s representative to the AICHR, and by Sri Lanka’s Centre on Human Rights and Development.



Participants at 29th Annual Program, Timor-Leste, with trainer Bella Galhos, former independence activist and now Timorese LGBT+ advocate

DTP'S PARTNERSHIPS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN ASIA-PACIFIC

Partnerships are critical to DTP's work in building the knowledge, skills and networks of human rights defenders and their movements in Asia and the Pacific.

DTP's partners provide advice and guidance on strategy, and on the focus and content of programs. They are critical in identifying the needs of human rights movements in the region and the needs of human rights defenders. They are involved in the selection of participants and trainers, and help with logistics. They use the training programs to build the capacities of their member organisations and their representatives.

At the regional level DTP works in partnership with Migrant Forum in Asia, the Asian Forum on Human Rights and Development (Forum Asia), Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and the Pacific Islands Association of NGOs (PIANGO).

DTP's national partners include the Justice System Monitoring Project (Timor-Leste), the Citizens' Constitutional Forum (Fiji), Jaringan Orang Asal SeMalaysia (Sabah, Malaysia), Our Journey (Malaysia), Cross-Regional Center for Refugees and Migrants (Lebanon), Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia, and INSEC (Nepal).

These organisations – all established and led by local human rights defenders – are examples of the movements for human rights that exist across the region.

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

WITNESS (New York) specialises in building skills in using video advocacy – increasingly this means using mobile phones to document human rights issues and to build awareness and action for human rights. WITNESS will work with DTP participants and their organisations

on how to use this technique effectively, including through follow-up sessions.

Front Line Defenders (Dublin) is dedicated to protecting human rights defenders through a range of strategies. These include training in personal security strategies for those at risk, mobilising international action through the European Union and governments, and assisting with temporary relocation of individuals at risk.

The Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (London) helps to amplify the voices and concerns of individuals and communities negatively impacted by businesses. They assist with researching cases and communicating with companies, and provide specialised help to DTP's participants.

DTP also works closely with the UN's Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).



DTP trainer Joshua Cooper and DTP Board member Suwanee Dharmalingam with Jorge Camoes, Secretary-General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, at the 20th anniversary celebrations of the Timorese vote for independence

DTP'S HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINERS – PRO BONO CONTRIBUTIONS

DTP relies heavily on an extensive network of academics, experts and practitioners who train on DTP courses pro bono. They are committed to investing in building the knowledge and expertise of human rights defenders.

Trainers include DTP's founder José Ramos-Horta, senior UN experts and officials, and many experienced advocates and practitioners.

An increasing number of DTP's trainers are also DTP alumni who return to share their experience with new generations of human rights defenders. This contribution is a critical part of DTP's movement building strategy.

DTP's trainers are a part of the unique DTP network that links individuals and organisations from Beirut to Bougainville.

Each shares a commitment to DTP's participatory teaching methodology.

Their pro bono work represents a highly valued in-kind contribution. DTP expresses its profound thanks to each of them.

In 2019, there were 55 DTP trainers – 48 per cent of them women.

DTP's trainers in 2019

Sayeed Ahmed	Virginia Dandan
Alithia Barampataz	Surya Deva
Paul Barker	Sinthia Dewi
Alexis Bautista	Juvinal Dias
Mary Boni	Rafendi Djamin
Ryzsard Cholewinski	Hugo Fernandez
Joshua Cooper	Bella Galhos
Dan Crumlin	Pak Gentu
Jean D'Cunha	William Gois
Fernando da Costa	Abel Guterres

Roula Hamati	Ian Martin
Muhammad Irsyadul Ibad	Nirmala Masilaman
Alberico Junior	Kristina Mejo
Relishni Karan	Justine Nolan
Amish Karki	Dina Nuriati
Dorothy Kesenga	Noam Peleg
Sumitha Shaanthinni	Kerry Pither
Kishna	Kedar Poudyal
Rosa Koian	Arul Prakkash
Anjet Lanting	Iman Prihandono
Dip Magar	José Ramos-Horta
Mana Benecia Magno	Paul Redmond

Ellen Sana
Chris Sidoti
Clare Sidoti
Amy Sinclair
John Southalan
Bobbie Sta. Maria
Debbie Stothard
Michelle Taumpson
Dio Tobing
Robert Vaughan
Yuyun Wahyuningrum
Patrick Walsh

“Professor Surya was a plus. He has a natural gift in presenting and teaching, he made it so easy to follow. He is strict and disciplined which brought the seriousness of learning and applications into the room. Thank you!”

Participant, Business and Human Rights and the SDGs, PNG

DTP ALUMNI WORKING FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Since 1989, over 3000 human rights defenders and community advocates have participated in DTP’s human rights training programs. The work of these alumni in over 50 countries reaches out through societies and across borders, protecting human rights and building respect for shared values of human dignity.

DTP alumni are active in all of the region’s human rights, peace and justice movements. They may be found in faith-based organisations, NGOs, trade unions and women’s movements. They include those working for environmental and indigenous rights, for religious freedom and LGBT+ rights, for child rights and for disabled people’s organisations. They link migrants and advocates for migrant rights along migration corridors.

DTP’s growing network of alumni is one of its strongest assets. DTP alumni return to teach on DTP’s programs and every DTP program involves alumni as program hosts and partners.

Participants in each DTP program establish their own network. As well as maintaining friendships made on the intensive programs, alumni share advice and mutual support. They also become part of the larger DTP network that links alumni from over three decades with DTP’s trainers and partners. DTP actively invests in these networks and facilitates these long-lasting connections.

In 2019, DTP alumni in the Pacific and in PNG established new human rights networks at the regional and national level.

There is no better illustration of the value of DTP’s work than the stories of its alumni. The profiles included here are just a few DTP alumni from the last 30 years.



Faranise Ratu
Faranise Ratu is inaugural president of the Nasinu Tailevu Students Association of Fiji National University. She participated in DTP’s 2018 program *Business and Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific*.

“As a future leader of tomorrow, I find that this program has renewed my passion for making a difference in the future for my Fiji and of course the Pacific.”

Faranise is studying law at the Fiji National University and is passionate about indigenous rights and land and environmental laws. In 2015, she founded Youths Against Corruption (YAC-Fiji) building an organisation that was more independent, youth-led and youth-inspired

Following her participation in the DTP program, she was selected by the Office of the UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Youth to be one of the 2018 Class of Young Leaders for the SDGs at the 73rd Session of the UN General Assembly. Faranise spoke at a side event of the General Assembly where she called on bigger nations to ensure that businesses coming from their countries to Pacific nations are not destroying local environments and the living things on the land and under water.

“Knowledge is power, and learning and knowing a few things taught at this training is definitely one of the key ingredients to advocating and eventually making better decisions for the future. This program has renewed my passion to not only advocate but to really ensure that in the future, responsible laws and policies are put in place for a sustainable future for all on both the land, environment and the sea.”



Sharmin Subrina
Sharmin Subrina is Program Director for the Association for Community Development (ACD) in Bangladesh. She participated in the 29th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program in Timor-Leste in 2019.

“DTP helped me to gain good practices and professional approaches which I can replicate in my work in Bangladesh for children and women, including victims of trafficking.”

Sharmin works with rural women and children near the Bangladesh–India border seeking to challenge and change entrenched gender-based violence and the vested interests behind trafficking of women and children. It is confronting work among some of the region’s poorest communities. They adopt innovative approaches to improve access to justice for marginalised groups and victims of sexual violence. ACD received the Anti-Slavery International Award in 2001 for protecting women and children from bonded slavery.

“The program was also an opportunity to connect with other participants from 11 countries who shared their country’s human rights situation and organisational work.”



Dina Nuriyati
Dina Nuriyati is Coordinator of Research and Foreign Relations of Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (SBMI). She is an alumna from DTP’s Migrant Workers Program in Indonesia in 2004 and the 16th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’ Diplomacy Training Program in Timor-Leste in 2006.

“My participation in the DTP programs changed my view and perception, helping me realise that the issue of migrant workers is not an issue to be handled alone, but requires strong cooperation with other parties sharing a common ideology and similar objectives to struggle for the right of migrant workers and justice.”

Dina was a young migrant domestic worker in Hong Kong when she began her advocacy for migrant workers’ rights. Returning to Indonesia, she joined with other former migrant workers, to establish the Federation of Indonesian Migrant Workers Organisation, later known as SBMI – a trade union for migrant workers. She was its first chairperson.

“I am indebted to the DTP trainers who taught me this significant skill,



Clockwise from top left: group work at MENA program, Lebanon; participants present trainers with certificate of appreciation, Fiji; trainers and participants at the 29th Annual Program, Timor-Leste; Ratu Nafisah (Indonesia), Timor-Leste

which I have put into practice in my career as an activist for migrant workers’ rights. I have also learnt about the importance of media and documenting our activity to support our work, and maintaining good relationships with the media when campaigning and making press releases.”

“Training exercises really helped us to apply the knowledge that we gained and really enhanced our capacity to access and participate in governmental and intergovernmental processes to promote and protect human rights and the rule of law.”

“The skills I have learnt from DTP still inform how I approach consultations and have built my capacity and self-confidence, especially when speaking at forums regionally, nationally and internationally.”



Shafat N. Ahmad
Shafat N. Ahmad is Director and co-Founder of the Centre for Law and Development Policy in India/Kashmir. He participated in the 16th Annual Human Rights and Peoples’

Diplomacy Training Program in Timor-Leste in 2006.

“DTP training came my way at a key moment in my life, as I had just started my professional career. This process-oriented course gave me knowledge of not just the working of the UN systems, but also of the ways of advocacy, innovative thinking and various approaches. This has helped me a lot in my developmental and peace-building work as well.”

“One of the primary learnings from the program was the focus on complementarity between rights-based approach, peace-building and advocacy through engagement with diverse stakeholders. The core program dynamics of working with participants from different countries and on various issues gave me an understanding of issues beyond my own ... [especially from] interactions with people like José Ramos-Horta, the Chega! report team who worked on Truth and Reconciliation in East Timor, and film makers like Tom Zubrycki.”

Shafat went on to further study in the US, qualifying for the prestigious International

Ford Fellowship Program and a Master’s in International Development from Stanford School of Public Policy. He has worked with local, national and international organisations on issues of juvenile justice, peace-building and conflict-sensitive disaster preparedness. At the Centre for Law and Development Policy he runs training and skills development programs as well as working with young scholars at universities.

“One thing I always carry with me and keep talking about in my work is how innovatively a small DTP team was doing such a huge work. It always gave me confidence of running organisations and programs effectively despite the resource constraints.”

Shafat N. Ahmad is from Kashmir and is active there on issues of human rights and peace. He continues his work in very difficult circumstances in the middle of one of the longest-running and most bitter conflicts in Asia as many Kashmiris struggle for a level of self-determination that the Indian government denies.



Participants at DTP regional program on Business and Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples, Thailand

DTP 1989–2019: 30 YEARS OF BUILDING THE MOVEMENTS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

"I believe that over 30 years DTP has made a uniquely valuable contribution to human rights and democracy in Asia... If our region seems to be resilient despite rampant human rights abuses and violence, perhaps that is because of DTP's contribution to our capacity to cope and resist the challenges."

– DTP alumna Yuyun Wahyuningrum, representative of Indonesia to the AICHR

Tackling key human rights issues

Since its first program at UNSW Sydney in 1989, DTP has quietly helped to develop and strengthen human rights movements in Asia and the Pacific. These movements are as diverse as the region, made up of individuals committed to addressing the critical challenges which include: poverty and growing inequality, the destruction of the natural environment, aspirations for self-determination, authoritarian government, civil conflict, gender equality and gender-based violence, freedom of religion and conscience, freedom of speech and association, and an end to torture and the death penalty.

Over 30 years DTP has developed unique expertise in making the growing body of

international standards, guidelines and frameworks accessible and useful for advocates working on the ground. Its key focus areas are outlined in this section.

Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award

DTP's 30 years of service to human rights movements in Asia was formally recognised with the 2019 Asia Democracy and Human Rights Award which was presented by Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen on Human Rights Day, 10 December 2019.

Human rights defenders

The vital work of human rights defenders was recognised in the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1999, ten years after DTP started using the term to describe the work of its participants. Human rights defenders play a vital role in defending democracy, the environment and the rule of law. Often they are the dissenters – challenging those in power, calling out corruption, and standing against injustice and discrimination. Human rights standards are tools that they can use as they seek to both promote and protect those experiencing discrimination and denial of their rights. Building the knowledge and skills of human rights defenders helps them to make a difference.

Over 30 years DTP has become the key training program for human rights defenders in Asia and the Pacific. DTP's programs help to build bonds of solidarity. Each year in DTP's *Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program*, advocates for many causes find common purpose in defending the human rights of all. They share their challenges and lessons, knowing they are not alone.

Rights of migrant workers – and modern-day slavery

The human rights of migrant workers have become a key focus area for DTP. Migrants from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines who work in Malaysia, Singapore and the Gulf States are often treated as third-class inhabitants – or worse. Many of them are employed by plantations and factories, or as domestic workers locked away behind closed doors, sometimes for years.

DTP has taken its work on migrant workers into the Middle East, perhaps the most confronting and difficult destination for a migrant worker. The "rule of law" is critical to human rights, but here the "law of the ruler" makes human rights precarious. The insecurity and exploitation of workers is often extreme, qualifying as forced labour



Clockwise from top left: group work, Fiji; William Gois (Migrant Forum in Asia), Lebanon; trainer Chris Sidoti receiving certificate, Timor-Leste; Participants in the DTP Special Program in Indonesia on the Rights of Migrant Workers (5 modules); DTP alumnus and trainer HE Abel Guterres awards certificate, Timor-Leste

and slavery, while the violence experienced by many migrant women domestic workers is deeply shocking. Advocacy in these countries takes extraordinary courage, skill and determination.

Over the years we have seen the evidence that good Advocacy works. At an individual level it can mean ensuring wages are paid or enabling a domestic worker to escape an abusive employer to return home, while at a macro level systemic change may result in new laws and policies, education programs and allocation of resources. This work will only become more important in a world where more people are on the move in an atmosphere of growing nationalism and emphasis on borders.

Self-determination, reconciliation and the rights of indigenous peoples

Many DTP participants and alumni are involved in struggles for self-determination, and for recognition and respect as indigenous peoples. From West Papua to Nagaland and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, these situations are often the legacies of incomplete de-colonisation. For indigenous peoples the efforts to maintain language and cultures are often linked with the need to defend the environment, sacred places and traditional livelihoods.

Many years of advocacy resulted in the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This is an affirmation of experience, identity and rights and is a useful tool that has influenced the world's development framework – the UN SDGs.

Business and human rights

Immediate threats to indigenous peoples often arise from logging, mining and agribusiness. DTP has worked with its partners to develop specialised training on business and human rights, including how to use the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs).

This has been driven by stories from indigenous peoples and migrant workers in situations as diverse as garment factories of Dhaka and Phnom Penh, palm oil plantations in Sabah and West Papua, mines in PNG and Myanmar, or tuna fishing industries of the Pacific. Building the knowledge, skills and networks to hold corporations accountable is a critical part of DTP's capacity building work. New advocacy approaches linking affected communities and workers with concerned investors and consumers can help make a difference. In 2019, DTP worked with regional partners AIPP and Asian Forum

on Human Rights and Development to organise a special capacity building program in Bangkok linked to the OECD Global Forum on Responsible Business and Human Rights.

Pacific network and capacity building on business and human rights

DTP has increased its focus on the Pacific where there are pressing issues of decolonisation, migration, poverty, sustainable development and the destruction of fragile ecosystems through logging, mining and fishing. DTP's engagement builds on a long history since its first program in 1990 which included self-determination advocates from Bougainville, New Caledonia and West Papua. DTP's current focus is on business and human rights and the SDGs, collaborating with the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, the UN's OHCHR, the BHRRC, PIANGO and CCF. Two programs in the Pacific were held in 2019, and new human rights networks established in PNG and the Pacific.

DTP and its partners are hoping to secure the resources to continue this work at a time when voices from the Pacific demand – and need – to be heard.



“Before coming to DTP, my knowledge was limited to a basic level i.e. UDHR and CRPD. Now I feel like I have extensive knowledge of the UN system and history.”

Participant, 29th Annual Program

Participants, Regional Workshop on Responsible Business and the Rights of Migrants, UAE

DTP 2019 PROGRAMS: KEY HUMAN RIGHTS PRIORITIES

DTP has organised its capacity building programs on thematic priorities to respond to some of the key human rights challenges in the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions. Each of these thematic programs includes content on human rights standards and mechanisms, integrating the development of different advocacy skills and the building of networks.

Human rights defenders

The 29th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training Program was held in Timor-Leste in 2019. DTP's longest-running course, it has become the key capacity building program for human rights movements in the region. Held over two intense weeks, the 2019 course included 25 participants from 11 countries – Australia, Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, PNG, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

This program brings together human rights defenders working on many different issues – self-determination for indigenous peoples from India and Bangladesh to West Papua, “disappearances”, LGBT+ rights, environmental issues, migrant workers and persons with a “disability”. There was strong representation from civil society in Timor-Leste.

Program highlights included sessions with DTP's founder and patron, José Ramos-Horta, Virginia Dandan, Chris Sidoti, Bella Galhos, Kerry Pither, Pat Walsh, Fernando da Costa, Anjet Lanting and Yuyun Wahyuningrum. There was a special session with Ian Martin, who led the UN mission that supervised the independence referendum 20 years previously. Program participants were invited to the official celebrations marking the 20th anniversary of the vote for independence – including the honouring of DTP alumni who were so important in mobilising Asian civil society in defence of human rights in Timor-Leste.

Human rights of migrant workers

Every year millions of women and men leave their homes in Asia to work in other countries. They may work as domestic workers in Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, in electronic and garment factories in Malaysia, Taiwan, Mauritius and Jordan, or in the construction, oil and gas industries in Saudi Arabia and the Middle East. Some are trafficked, some are forced to work as “modern-day slaves”, indentured by debt and unprotected by the law. Their labour sustains the economies of the countries they work in and of those they have left,

but they are the often invisible victims of terrible abuse and suffering.

DTP and its partner, Migrant Forum in Asia, have pioneered capacity building programs for migrant rights advocates. These programs have helped to advance law, policy and practice and to lift these issues up the political agenda in many individual countries and globally.

In 2019, DTP organised programs in Nepal, Indonesia, the Philippines, Lebanon and UAE. There was a focus on building links between advocates in migrant sending and receiving countries along migration corridors, and on building national-level networks.

Human rights of indigenous peoples

Across Asia and the Pacific, indigenous peoples experience discrimination and marginalisation. This makes them more vulnerable to land grabbing for palm oil plantations, mining, logging and agriculture. Across the region, indigenous peoples are over-represented in indicators of poverty and are denied access to health and education services including mother-tongue education. Climate change is also increasingly threatening their livelihoods



Small group work and practical exercises encourage learning, experience sharing and network building, Lebanon

and ways of life. Indigenous peoples can find themselves in very unequal battles with mining and logging companies that are supported by governments. Defenders of indigenous peoples' rights are at particular risk of intimidation, violence and killings when they protest.

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples promotes the diversity of cultures and knowledge systems and shared values of human dignity. Accepted by governments and business as the key international standard, it can be a powerful tool when used skilfully in advocacy especially when linked with the SDGs and their imperative “to leave no one behind”. Knowledge can be power.

In 2019, DTP worked with AIPP and Forum Asia to develop and deliver a capacity building program for community advocates in Bangkok, coinciding with the OECD Global Forum on Responsible Business and Human Rights.

Business and human rights

The impacts of business on human rights have come under the spotlight, often for the wrong reasons. The Rana Plaza collapse that killed over 1100 Bangladeshi garment workers highlighted the conditions of the workers making the clothes many of us wear. In Bougainville the Panguna mine and civil war highlighted the destruction and conflict that mining can cause. Palm oil plantations have notoriously endangered the survival of the

orangutan in Indonesia and Malaysia, and also resulted in the eviction of indigenous peoples from their land and the exploitation of plantation workers.

Ensuring that business respects and has a positive impact on human rights is a focus of DTP's capacity building programs. If advocates are aware of the responsibilities of business with regard to environmental standards, human rights and workers' rights, they are better equipped to engage in dialogue to hold business accountable.

In 2019, DTP organised programs with a focus on business and human rights in Thailand, PNG and Fiji.

Building human rights capacity and networks in the Pacific

In 2019 DTP increased its engagement with two regional programs on *Business and Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific*. Working with local and regional NGO partners, the UN and UNSW's new Institute for Global Development, DTP organised a regional capacity building program in Suva, Fiji. Trainers included Professor Surya Deva, Chair of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, DTP board member Professor Justine Nolan and Amy Sinclair of the BHRRC. Participants agreed to establish a new regional Pacific network on these issues.

DTP also worked with the UN's OHCHR to organise a similar program in PNG. There were over 200 applications for the five-day program that included representatives from

civil society and government across PNG. Participants established a new national network on business and human rights, and worked together to send a video message to the UN Global Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva.

Children's rights in Australia

Australia helped to draft the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and was one of its first signatories, but its content is little known among government officials at the state and territory level, or in civil society. Working with Youth Law Australia and Australian Lawyers for Human Rights, and with Danila Dilba in the Northern Territory, DTP organised a national program on children's rights, with a focus on juvenile justice and disproportionate impacts on Indigenous Australian families and communities.

“I found the most useful is about how human rights, indigenous people and business are intersectional and it's helped me to form strategy to advocate for indigenous peoples' rights.”

Participant, Indigenous Peoples' Human Rights and Business Program, Thailand



Pacific programs, clockwise from top left: Business and Human Rights and the SDGs, PNG; participants, PNG; reception hosted by Australian and NZ High Commissions, Fiji; participants, Fiji

DTP – REFOCUSING ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE PACIFIC

In 2019, DTP stepped up its work with partners in the Pacific to focus on the pressing issues facing environmental and human rights defenders and those working for sustainable development and to address climate change.

While the terrible environmental impacts of logging and mining have drawn international concern, further issues are now coming under the spotlight, among them the impacts of commercial fishing with issues of modern-day slavery, as well as plans for seabed and deep-sea mining

There has been insufficient focus on the effects on individuals and communities – their loss of livelihoods and cultures, and increases in gender-based violence. Human rights defenders and those who oppose mining and forestry or challenge corruption in projects are at risk of intimidation and violence.

As the Pacific becomes the focus of growing strategic competition, DTP is working with its partners to focus on

the responsibilities of companies and the need for investment to contribute to sustainable development, with particular reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In Fiji in April 2019, DTP held its second regional capacity building program: *Business and Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific*. Participants came from across the Pacific region. In November 2019, DTP worked with its partners to deliver a similar capacity building program on business and human rights in PNG.

From these programs, new networks on business and human rights were established across the Pacific and in PNG. DTP alumni were subsequently invited to speak at major conferences in Australia, Canada, Ireland and Switzerland. PNG participants sent a special video message to the 2019 Global Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva. In 2019 the Pacific leaders responded to community advocacy and announced a moratorium on seabed mining.

DTP and its partners have greatly valued the involvement and support of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights, and in particular its Chair, Professor Surya Deva.

With new networks established and strong partnerships with PIANGO, Citizens' Constitutional Forum (CCF), Business and Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRRC), the UN's OHCHR and others, DTP is looking forward to building its engagement in the Pacific in the years ahead.

“ My personal network will now help me (make) contact with both government representatives and civil societies in PNG. ”

Participant, *Business and Human Rights and the SDGs in the Pacific, PNG*



ENABLING AND CONNECTING CIVIL SOCIETY: DTP PROGRAM CONTENT & METHODOLOGY

DTP's theory of change

Underpinning DTP's work is an understanding that individuals, working together, can drive change. Individuals and the organisations they build and belong to in civil society play a critical role in upholding human rights, in promoting peace, seeking redress for grievance, in holding governments and business to account.

Individuals and civil society organisations are critical in generating the political will to allocate resources to address poverty and discrimination, to develop laws to protect the environment, to bring action on gender-based violence, to regulate the private sector and provide access to justice.

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

DTP's participatory training methodology has developed over three decades. It is constantly evolving to reflect changes in society, in technology and best practice, while responding to feedback from participants and partners. Gender consideration is included both in selection of participants and trainers and in program design and content.

DTP's courses build human rights defenders' skills and confidence, encouraging creativity and a focus on

developing and proposing solutions. Practical skills for strategic advocacy are gained through role plays, case studies and specific sessions on everything from media engagement to government lobbying.

Program participants gain bonds of friendship and solidarity that help to build and sustain movements for human rights in Asia, the Pacific and the Middle East.

These programs enable participants to be more effective in claiming their rights, in promoting the human rights of others and making governments and business responsive to human rights claims.

Participants, Thailand



“ I love video advocacy and I love DTP. I also made friends who shared ideas from different countries. ”

Participant, *29th Annual Program, Timor-Leste*

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019

	2019 A\$	2018 A\$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	309,618	354,427
Trade and other receivables	171,427	254,760
Other current assets	–	2,881
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	481,045	612,068
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	1,856	769
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1,856	769
TOTAL ASSETS	482,901	612,837
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	99,804	195,187
Employee provisions	82,826	82,767
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	182,630	277,954
TOTAL LIABILITIES		
	182,630	277,954
NET ASSETS	300,271	334,883
EQUITY		
Reserves	229,725	141,266
Retained earnings	70,546	193,617
TOTAL EQUITY	300,271	334,883

“...I am filled with knowledge gained from this workshop about how to hold the company and government accountable for damages done to the lives of indigenous people and the environment through understanding UNGPs/SDGs/OECD Guidelines/ UN mechanisms and the UPR/VNR.”

Participant, Business and Human Rights program, Fiji

Statement of comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019 A\$	2018 A\$
REVENUE		
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	258,557	113,817
Non-monetary	67,586	101,823
Grants		
Dept. of Foreign Affairs and Trade	150,000	190,000
Other Australian	15,271	44,551
Other overseas	435,852	440,179
Investment Income	4,631	3,282
Other Income	29,254	56,530
TOTAL REVENUE	961,151	950,182
EXPENDITURE		
International aid and development program expenditure		
International programs		
Funds to international programs	(667,985)	(632,187)
Fundraising costs		
Public	(13,828)	(14,039)
Government & multilateral and private		
Accountability and administration	(32,880)	(85,194)
Non-monetary expenditure	(44,964)	(48,656)
Total international aid and development programs expenditure	(759,657)	(780,076)
Domestic programs expenditure		
Domestic programs		
Funds to domestic programs	–	(13,525)
Accountability and administration	(49,572)	(21,260)
Non-monetary expenditure	(22,622)	(53,167)
Total domestic programs expenditure	(72,194)	(87,952)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(831,851)	(868,028)
EXCESS (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	129,300	82,154

Statement of changes in equity for the year ended 30 June 2019

	Restricted funds A\$	Unrestricted funds A\$	Gift Fund Reserve A\$	Total
Balance at 1 July 2017	115,902	66,281	70,546	252,729
Comprehensive income				
Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenses	48,010	34,144	–	82,154
Balance at 30 June 2018	163,912	100,425	70,546	334,883
Adjustment upon adoption of accounting standards				
	(163,912)			(163,912)
Balance at 1 July 2018 (restated)	–	100,425	70,546	170,971
Comprehensive income				
Excess/(shortfall) of revenue over expenses		129,300		129,300
Balance at 30 June 2019	–	229,725	70,546	300,271

Summary of 2018–2019 results

The financial year 2018–19 was another strong year for DTP, with a modest surplus recorded for the second year running. Total revenue was \$961,151, an increase of 1.2 per cent from 2017–18, while international program expenditure decreased 2.6 per cent to \$759,657 despite a greater number of programs and trainees.

DTP has three main sources of income: grants for programs, donations and training fees. Grant income in 2018–19 came primarily from the Swiss government’s Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs

and Trade (DFAT) through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). New Zealand’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs provided financial support to the program in Timor-Leste.

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

“Absolutely critical in today’s modern society. Thank you for your support, please keep this support alive.”

Participant, BHR and SDGs Programs, Fiji

Report of the independent auditor on the summary financial statements of Diplomacy Training Program Limited “DTP”

The accompanying summary financial statements as set out on pages 14 to 15, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, the summary statement of comprehensive income and summary statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial report of DTP for the year ended 30 June 2019. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that financial report in our report dated 15 November 2019. That financial report and the summary financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of DTP.

Management’s responsibility for the summary financial statements
Management is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Auditor’s responsibility
Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Independence
In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Opinion
In our opinion, the ACFID-Code-compliant financial statements derived from the audited financial report of DTP for the year ended 30 June 2019 comply with the presentation and disclosure requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct and is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Owen Houston
Registered Company Auditor No 4548
Dated: 15 November 2019



DTP Participant group with trainer, Fiji SDGs, March 2019

INVESTING IN HUMAN RIGHTS – DTP’S DONORS AND FRIENDS

DTP’s work relies on philanthropic support from individuals and foundations, project grants, training fee income and in-kind support. This funding enables DTP to deliver support to committed and courageous individuals working for societies that respect human dignity and human rights.

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

DTP would like particularly to thank the Scully Fund, Bill and Heather Webster, Jim Hart, and other DTP ‘Friends’.

The Swiss, Australian, Netherlands and New Zealand governments all provided support to DTP’s work in 2019.

The Faculty of Law at the University of New South Wales provides valuable in-kind support with office space, training venues and academic support to programs, as well as a supply of wonderful and talented interns. UNSW’s Institute for Global Development also provided valuable financial support.

DTP acknowledges with appreciation its very significant pro bono partnership with Corrs Chambers Westgarth.

DTP also acknowledges the work of its committed staff; its interns and volunteers; and the invaluable voluntary contribution made by its board of directors and its Australian and international advisory councils, all of whom ensure the financial support DTP receives is used efficiently and effectively.

DTP – an Australian development agency committed to good conduct

DTP is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID), the peak council for Australian not-for-profit aid and development organisations. DTP was awarded ACFID’s Sir Ron Wilson Human Rights and Development Award in 2015.

DTP is committed to and fully adheres to the ACFID Code of Conduct, the agreed set of operating principles to ensure transparency, accountability, integrity and good governance.

Information and complaints relating to breaches of the Code can be referred to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee: www.acfid.asn.au

DTP is committed to good educational and development practice and to ensuring that its programs and activities, including the actions of staff and trainers, are consistent with the human rights standards and values it is committed to promoting. Feedback, including complaints, should be

forwarded to the Executive Director or the Chair of the Board.

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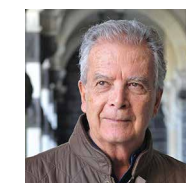
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