



United Nations
Association
of Australia
WA Division

UN Photo/John Isaac

Annual Report 2025

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (WA) INCORPORATED

MEMBER, WORLD FEDERATION OF UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATIONS

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Table of Contents

VALUE PROPOSITIONS TO OUR MEMBERS	3
OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024 - 2025	4
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	5
VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Membership & Volunteers	9
VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Strategy & Partnership	13
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE	15
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE	17
GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE	19
SDG BUSINESS FORUM SERIES COMMITTEE	22
YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE	28
UN DAY COMMITTEE	30
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE	33
TREASURER'S REPORT	35
GRATITUDE TO OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS	39



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VALUE PROPOSITIONS TO OUR MEMBERS

1. **Our members make a difference....**
 - Through participating in our numerous and varied events
 - Through visible and felt commitment on issues critical to a just, peaceful, secure and sustainable future
 - Through contributions to our position papers and programmes
 - Through offering skills and time to our leadership, events and activities
 - Through membership funding our activities
2. **Our members engage...**
 - Through membership networking events
 - Through participating in discussion at our events
 - Through input to our policy positions
3. **Our members are informed...**
 - Through our regular newsletter
 - Through access to our national and global network of information
 - Through exposure to local and international experts at our events
 - Through our education programme and study tours
4. **Our members get involved...**
 - Through Volunteering to contribute to our diverse and exciting portfolio of activities
 - Through volunteering to be elected to the executive and playing a leading role in UNAAWA
 - Through becoming a role model in living the UN Values
5. **Our members become part of a greater local and global network....**
 - Through becoming part of UNAA with Australia wide Division, events and networks.
 - Through our affiliation to the World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA)
 - Through our academic network.



We make a difference!



OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2024 - 2025

OFFICE BEARERS

President	Randhir Amoganthan
Vice President	Melanye Wawrik
Vice President	Lucia Chen
Treasurer	Amanda Cumberbatch
Secretary	Yew Han Hee

EXECUTIVE ORDINARY MEMBERS

Dr. Sandy Chong:	Convenor, SDG Business Forum Series Committee
Mansi Zaveri:	Convenor, Environment Committee
Dr. Shuang Li:	Convenor, Gender Equality Committee
Charlotte Moss:	Convenor, Human Rights Committee
Angelica Jane:	Convenor, Young Professionals Committee
Aisha Parker:	Chair, Communications
Joseph A. Caruso:	Global Representative

AUDITOR

Silverback Management



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear UNAAWA members, friends and family,

To be part of and to serve the UNAAWA gives me much pride and satisfaction. I often say to others, the standout feature that distinguishes the UNAAWA is the spirit of altruism, goodwill and common purpose in our members. I see this quality clearly in our volunteers who serve selflessly, putting in much effort and sacrificing much of their own time to advance our mission.

To all the volunteers, committee members and executives of the UNAAWA, I give heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you for all the time and effort you have given and continue to give to the UNAAWA. You are what makes the UNAAWA run. Without your support or that of our many sponsors and members, none of what we have done would have occurred. To all UNAAWA volunteers, I am always grateful to work together with you and learn from you.

To our executive team, it is and remains a privilege to serve alongside you, to have your support and I will always continue to support each of you in any way I can.

Over this past year, 2024-25, we have continued to grow, and our organisation is stronger today, with stronger financial reserves and an executive team committed to delivering for our members.

We have increased engagement with local government authorities and are working to expand partnerships with them. The aim is to extend our reach to more people to raise awareness of the UN mission. We aim to promote our events and encourage attendance at our events, and in return to promote their events amongst our members and raise awareness of everyone as to the good work these authorities are doing. We are currently working to reach an arrangement with the WA Local Government Association (WALGA) which will have an impact across all local governments for the benefit of society in Western Australia.

The UNAAWA has 5 committees which are the driving force of its activities, namely the Human Rights committee, the Environment committee, Gender Equality committee, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) committee and the Young Professionals committee continue to work and run events. These events make an impact and raise awareness within their specialist mandate in Western Australia. The events our committees have run have not only spread awareness and raised the profile of the UN mission, but they have also inspired others, encouraged connections and are models to follow to raise awareness of the UN goals to make our world a better place. With these aims, the UNAAWA has continued in its mission.

Our biggest event of the year is ahead, namely our UN Day Gala, where we will celebrate our milestone 80th Anniversary of the United Nations on 17 October 2024 at the Duxton Hotel. At the UN Day Gala, we will welcome state leaders, consuls, industry figures, community champions and committed individuals. We can look forward to coming together on that day to celebrate the values of global solidarity with a sense of hope, upon which the UNAAWA was founded, and to remind ourselves we are united by more than what divides us.



Always, I am reminded that ultimately, it is in one another that we can find the best in our shared humanity.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

BALANCE SHEET, TOTAL EQUITY

On the financial front, I am pleased to announce that the UNAAWA has continued to manage our financial resources with diligence. UNAAWA has continued to stay financially solvent, and that we have managed to grow our fundraising through efforts by committee convenors and members. I wish to commend the professionalism of our Treasurer, our Deputy Treasurer and our Assistant Treasurer and all those who contributed for ensuring the long-term sustained financial health of our organisation.

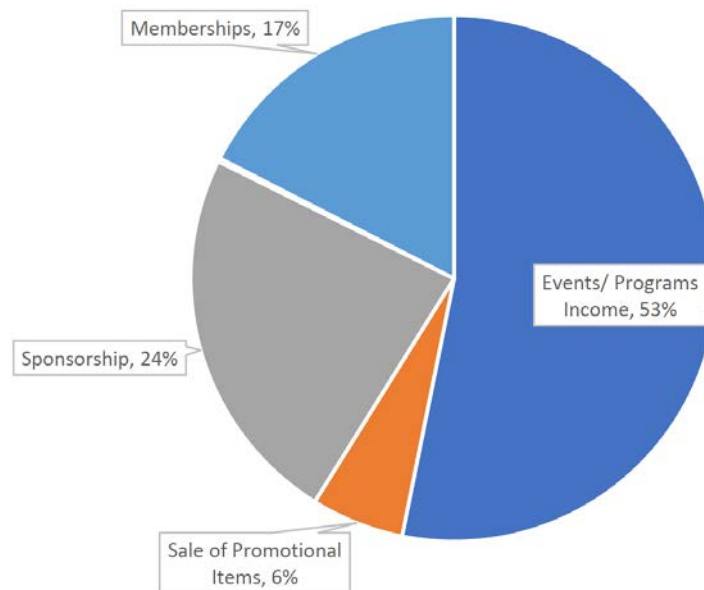
As of 30 June 2025, the organisation's total net assets stand at \$84,182 compared to \$84,839 in 2024) which is a 0.77% decrease over the previous financial year. The organisation recorded a modest net deficit of \$656 in current year earnings for 2025, compared with a surplus of \$7,372 in 2024. The Women's Grant for a Stronger Future income was received in 2024 and under accounting standards the UNAAWA operates under, the income had to be recognised immediately upon receipt of the grant, even though the related expenses incurred in 2025. The reduction shown in current year earnings is therefore understandable, and not an indication of the overall finances of the organisation.

The UNAAWA is financially solvent and remains an accountable and responsible steward of the funds received. The Treasurer has taken steps to invest our reserves strategically, and we have placed \$50,000 of UNAAWA funds into term deposits for an increased rate of return, to further strengthen our financial sustainability and support our ongoing initiatives.

The UNAAWA's most important source of income remains the Association's membership fees and fundraising events, including but not limited to the UN Day Gala, the SDG Business Forums, the Members networking events, including all activities organised by the Young Professionals, Environment, SDG, Gender Equality and Human Rights committees.



Income FY 2025



Our financial position and membership base enhances our financial position and enables us to reinvest in our programs and mission. We recognise the hard work of our dedicated volunteers, members and convenors who have collectively enabled the UNAAWA to obtain sponsorships and other sources.

MEMBERSHIP

I am happy to report we have had an increase in membership from 145 to 158 over the past year. Of interest is that the categories of membership are showing shifts. There are, for example, greater numbers of concession memberships and Young Professionals joining, and a reduction in Ordinary 1-year membership. We welcome all new members in all categories of memberships, and we look to grow these numbers further with more membership events.

The distribution of memberships remains consistent with the previous financial year, with the most popular membership category remaining the 1-year Ordinary type (43), followed by the 1-year Concession type (34). The membership as of 30 June 2025 numbers 158 compared to 145 in 2022, but Organisational 1–3-year membership (includes corporates, governments, and universities) has gone down from 5 to 4 this past year. Member's Ordinary 3-year membership has also increased from 10 to 20, with Young Professionals membership numbers increasing from 3 in 2023, to 22 in 2024 and 30 in 2025.



Membership Type	30-Jun-2025	30-Jun-2024
Concession (1 year)	34	21
Concession (3 year)	11	9
Corporate/ Government/ University (1 year)	1	3
Corporate/ Government/ University (2 year)	2	-
Corporate/ Government/ University (3 year)	1	2
Life	10	10
Non-for-profit (1 year)	5	4
Ordinary (1 year)	43	61
Ordinary (3 year)	20	10
School (1 year)	1	3
Young Professionals	30	22
Total	158	145

We continue to seek consultations with our members and stakeholders, to run more membership events with the aim to increase our membership numbers over the next year.

I certainly value the work done and efforts made by our members over the past year, and I look forward to greater things over the coming years.

Warmest regards,

Randhir Amoganathan

President, United Nations Association of Australia – WA Division





VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Membership & Volunteers

As Vice President for Membership at the United Nations Association of Australia WA Division (UNAAWA), I am proud to present this report outlining the key activities, events, and initiatives I have contributed to over the past year. My focus has been on strengthening membership engagement, recognising and developing our volunteers, and representing UNAAWA in local and international forums.

REPRESENTATION & ADVOCACY

Indo-Pacific Space & Earth Conference - November 2024

Attended the IPSEC conference where UNAAWA hosted a stall to engage with delegates. I also delivered a presentation on the importance of sustainability in space, linking our Association's work to the UN Space2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. This event enhanced UNAAWA's visibility in the space, defence, and sustainability sectors, opening opportunities for partnerships.



VOLUNTEERS ENGAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Volunteer Appreciation Event – May 2025

Organised and coordinated a highly successful volunteer celebration. The event not only recognised the efforts of our existing volunteers but also led to the recruitment of new members, strengthening the Association's base.





Volunteer Training Workshop – August 2025

Designed and delivered a training program for volunteers, focused on building capacity, confidence, and teamwork. The workshop was fully attended and received extremely positive feedback, with participants leaving motivated, better equipped, and more connected to UNAOWA's mission.



Executive Committee Training – November 2025

Aiming to facilitate a dedicated training session for Ex Co members to clarify roles, responsibilities, and governance processes, ensuring alignment with UNAOWA's values of Engage, Inform, Inspire.





PUBLIC EVENTS & UN COMMEMORATIONS

International Day of Peace – September 2025

Delivered the opening address, reflecting on peace as both a daily choice and a global responsibility. This event generated new memberships, partnerships, and potential performers for our upcoming UN Day Gala, strengthening UNAAWA's community reach.



Upcoming: International Volunteer Day Ceremony – December 2025

Together with Vice President Lucia, I am coordinating a recognition ceremony to honour our volunteers for their dedication. This will provide an opportunity for members to celebrate achievements and deepen their connection to the Association.



MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNITY GROWTH

- Welcomed and recruited new members at key events throughout the year.
- Strengthened communication pathways between members, volunteers, and the Executive Committee.
- Promoted inclusivity and diversity across all UNAAWA initiatives, ensuring volunteers and members feel recognised and valued.



REFLECTIONS & OUTLOOK

This has been a year of meaningful progress for UNAAWA's membership and volunteer community. From representing the Association at high-profile international conferences to growing and supporting our volunteer network, each activity has contributed to building a stronger, more connected organisation. Looking ahead, I am committed to expanding membership engagement, strengthening partnerships, and continuing to champion the values of the United Nations here in Western Australia.

Melanye Wawrik
Vice President for Membership





VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Strategy & Partnership

During the reporting period of 2024–2025, I have focused on strengthening UNA's strategic visibility, building meaningful partnerships, and delivering flagship events that embody the values of the United Nations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It has been both a privilege and a responsibility to serve in this role, where every activity was designed to inform, inspire, and engage the WA community in our shared mission for a more sustainable and inclusive world.

PARTNERSHIPS & ADVOCACY

Nature's Symphony International Art Exhibition – May 2025

In collaboration with the WA Zhejiang Association and The Lantern Collective, UNA co-hosted the inaugural Nature's Symphony International Art Exhibition at the historic Perth Town Hall. The exhibition ran for four days and was proudly supported by the Office of Multicultural Interests, the City of Perth, and over 15 local and international art studios and associations.

This initiative aligned with the following Sustainable Development Goals:

- **Goal 11** – Sustainable Cities & Communities
- **Goal 13** – Climate Actions
- **Goal 14** – Life below Water
- **Goal 15** – Life on Land



Key highlights:

- Over 70 artists from Australia and overseas presented works reflecting the interconnectedness of nature, culture, and sustainability.
- A special address was delivered by renowned Noongar artist Sharyn Egan, who shared her artistic inspiration and deep cultural connection to Country.
- Two workshops on Arts and Leadership engaged 30+ students, empowering young people to connect creativity with responsibility.
- The exhibition welcomed 2,000+ guests over four days, attracting families, professionals, and youth.

The event amplified public awareness of environmental protection, fostered cross-cultural dialogue, and highlighted the role of arts in advancing sustainability.





REPRESENTATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In addition to major events, I represented UNAAWA at various multicultural and civic activities, strengthening our presence and visibility. These engagements allowed us to:

- Build new partnerships across government, business, and civil society.
- Welcome new members and volunteers into our community.
- Showcase UNAAWA's leadership in advancing the SDGs in Western Australia.



REFLECTIONS & OUTLOOK

The past year has been marked by both achievements and opportunities to grow. Through arts, dialogue, and inclusive celebrations, we have broadened UNAAWA's reach and reinforced our identity as a connector between global ideals and local action.

Looking ahead, my priorities will be to:

- Expand strategic partnerships with government, local councils, and cultural organisations.
- Position UNAAWA as a trusted thought leader on sustainability, multiculturalism, and global citizenship.
- Ensure our flagship events continue to inspire, inform, and engage the next generation of leaders.

Together, we are planting seeds of change that will continue to grow, strengthening UNAAWA's role as a beacon of the United Nations' values here in Western Australia.

Lucia Chen
Vice President for Strategy & Partnership





COMMITTEE REPORTS

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The 2024–2025 reporting period was a transitional year for the Environment Committee (EC) as I stepped into the role of Convenor and have since concentrated on strengthening membership, engaging more volunteers, and delivering meaningful events that align with environmental priorities within the SDGs.



The UNAA(WA) Environment Committee has been focusing this year on growing our membership and creating a firm base from which we can engage, inspire and inform the wider community through high-profile and high-impact events.

This year, the UNAA WA Environment Committee successfully hosted a Circular Economy Event on 4th September, held at the sustainable building Boola Katijin at Murdoch University. The event included presentations and panel discussion with industry leaders, academics and Government professionals, who shared their lived and professional experience on the role of circular economy – millennia old concept. Their insights highlighted practical every-day advice for reducing waste as well as broader sector-wide strategies for engaging people in promoting resource efficiency.



A dynamic panel discussion followed, exploring opportunities and challenges specific to Australia's transition to circularity. A highlight of the event was the engaging Q&A session where the audience, and especially students actively took part in the discussion. It was heart-warming to see the level of engagement that this much-needed discussion on circular economy brought.



The event was well received, with participants commending the relevance of the topic and the quality of discussion. It reinforced the UNAAWA Environment Committee's commitment to promoting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and creating platforms for dialogue on innovative sustainability practices.

Looking ahead, the UNAAWA Environment Committee is planning to celebrate the UN Environment Day on the 5th June 2026 and to continue to engage in collaborative efforts to promote sustainable development in Western Australia.

REFLECTIONS & OUTLOOK

This year has been one of meaningful growth and impact for UNAAWA's membership and volunteer community.

- Welcomed and engaged new members through participation in key events throughout the year.
- Enhanced communication channels between members, volunteers, and the Executive Committee.
- Promoted inclusivity and diversity across all UNAAWA activities, ensuring that members and volunteers feel supported and valued.

Looking ahead, the focus will be on deepening member engagement, building stronger partnerships, and continuing to advance the values and vision of the United Nations within Western Australia.

Continue to expand the number of EC events, ensuring they serve as a meaningful platform to advance environmental awareness, foster partnerships, and promote collaborative efforts in Western Australia's sustainability journey.

Mansi Zaveri – Convenor
Environment Committee





HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

The 2024–2025 reporting period marked a pivotal year of transition for the UNAA WA Human Rights Committee. During this time, we deepened our engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), while exploring pressing local concerns, initiatives, and organisations across Western Australia. Our focus was on laying a strong foundation to support future initiatives and events that deserve greater visibility, recognition, and impact.



The Committee's work aligns with the following SDG goals and targets:

- **Goal 1: No Poverty** – Ending poverty in all its forms remains central to our efforts. Addressing homelessness is a key priority, as it is both a cause and consequence of poverty.
- **Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being** – Recognising the health impacts of homelessness, we support improved access to physical and mental healthcare.
- **Goal 4: Quality Education** – Emphasising education as a pathway out of homelessness and inequality, advocating for accessible and inclusive learning opportunities.
- **Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities** – We advocate for inclusive policies and practices that empower marginalised groups, including those experiencing homelessness.
- **Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities** – initiatives promote inclusive urban development and access to affordable housing for all.
- **Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** – Seeking to address systemic barriers to justice and promote inclusive, equitable institutions.

KEY IMPACTS

Strengthened engagement with National Reconciliation WA through deeper learning and support initiatives. Supported the screening of Destiny Rescue's award-winning anti-trafficking documentary, Operation Goldilocks, highlighting the prevalence of child exploitation and the increasing risks of online abuse.

- SDG Target 5.2: Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including trafficking and exploitation.
- SDG Target 8.7: Eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and eliminate the worst forms of child labour.
- SDG Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking, and all forms of violence against children.



In addition to promoting community engagement, volunteerism, and awareness of human rights issues at local levels, the committee has also supported the UN Day Human Rights Awards, recognising outstanding contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights in alignment with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Why Our Work Matters

The UNAA WA Human Rights Committee plays a vital role in fostering awareness, advocacy, and action on human rights issues that affect both local and international communities. Our work is grounded in the belief that meaningful change begins with informed engagement and inclusive dialogue.

FUTURE INITIATIVES & OUTLOOK

- Exploring the role of the private sector in addressing modern-day slavery, including potential collaboration with Destiny Rescue and the Australia International Counter-Slavery Alliance (AICSA).
- Walk for Reconciliation – 30 October 2025 at Galup (Lake Monger), featuring Welcome to Country, key speakers, song, and Smoking Ceremony to promote truth and healing.
- International Human Rights Day – 10 December 2025: Raising awareness of human rights challenges and amplifying the voices of marginalized communities through meaningful dialogue and advocacy.

Charlotte Moss – Convenor
Human Rights Committee





GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE



The reporting period of 2024–2025 has been a transformative year for the Gender Equality Committee (GEC). This year, our efforts have been dedicated to advancing gender equality and empowering women and girls through leadership development programs, community engagement initiatives, and strong partnerships. The GEC remains committed to the power of collaboration in advancing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

The following customised SDG 5 targets guide our work:

- Target 5.1 – Build resilience mindsets for girls while actively supporting and monitoring their mental health.
- Target 5.5 – Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels, with emphasis on education, STEM skills, and financial literacy to prepare girls and women for future opportunities.
- In 2024–2025, the GEC made meaningful strides in creating spaces for connection, education, and empowerment, building on the momentum of past years while launching new initiatives. Key highlights include:

Young Women’s Leadership Program (Metropolitan)

This year’s journey began with a powerful two-day Young Women’s Leadership Program (YWLP) in the Perth metropolitan area. As the new GEC convenor, I am deeply proud of the incredible branch of women leaders who helped deliver and develop this inspiring program for 2025. We are especially grateful to our speakers, who generously shared their time, expertise, and stories to empower the next generation of women leaders.





Community STEM & Drone Discovery Day

In August, we proudly supported the STEM & Drone Discovery Day at Murdoch University, bringing together students, families, educators, and technology professionals for a free, family-friendly celebration of innovation. The day featured a youth drone tournament, indoor drone light shows, a tech and AI panel, interactive workshops, and exciting demonstrations, helping to spark curiosity and confidence in STEM pathways for young women and girls.



Young Women's Leadership Program (Regional)

This September, the GEC extended its reach to regional and indigenous communities, hosting the Young Women's Leadership Program in Bunbury for young women in Year Levels 10–12. This program offered workshops and discussions on leadership, gender equality, financial literacy, and artificial intelligence, providing regional youth with access to mentors, role models, and resources to thrive.





These initiatives reflect our mission to strengthen pathways for young women to lead and succeed in their communities, regardless of location or background. Through the commitment of our committee members, speakers, and partners, the GEC continues to amplify voices, create opportunities, and contribute to a future where all women and girls can flourish.

Mid-Autumn Festival Booth

The Gender Equality Committee proudly supported the inaugural Mid-Autumn Festival at St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls, a shining example of cultural celebration and community spirit. With the generosity of families, partners, academics, and volunteers, the event fostered harmony, belonging, and intercultural understanding—values that reflect UNA AWA's mission and strengthened connections with diverse multicultural communities.



Our Committee Members:

- Deputy Convenor - Lien Duong
- Fundraiser - Myriam Baghnaoui
- Program Coordinator - Eleanor Cork
- Program Coordinator - Tanya Hallett
- Program Coordinator - Anita Cheng
- Communications Officer - Katherine Zhao
- Event Officer - Madalena Sande Lemos (left on May 2025)

Shuang Li – Convenor
Gender Equality





SDG BUSINESS FORUM SERIES COMMITTEE



The UNAAWA organised four SDG Forums in the past 12 months. The Forums were titled “Driving SDG Progress: Public Sector Innovations” sponsored by Murdoch University; “Path to 2030: Youth Fireside Chat on Education, Careers, and the UN SDGs” in partnership with the University of Western Australia’s Australia-China Youth Association; “Gross National Happiness & the Future of Sustainable Development” sponsored by EY Perth, and “Stronger Together: Connecting & Belonging through Sports” hosted at the West Coast Eagles’ Mineral Resource Park. An upcoming Forum will be held in November sponsored by Curtin University titled “AI for Good & Achieving the SDGs”.

SDG Forum 1: Driving SDG Progress: Public Sector Innovations

An SDG Business Forum was held on 30 October 2024 at The Platform, Perth, focusing on how public sector innovation can accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Opened by Hon. Klara Andric MLC, representing Minister Dawson, highlighted the Cook Government’s commitment to innovation through initiatives such as the WA Public Sector Innovation Network, and the use of AI and digital infrastructure to deliver inclusive solutions. Speakers included Assoc. Professor Martin Brueckner of Murdoch University, who outlined the university’s sustainability strategy, and a panel of experts from Department of JTSI, EY, Microsoft, and Murdoch University. Discussions explored overcoming barriers to innovation, leveraging AI, strengthening evidence-based decision-making, and building effective partnerships. Key themes underscored the need for cultural change, advocacy, and systemic collaboration across government, business, and communities to deliver a sustainable and equitable future.





SDG Forum 2: Path to 2030: Youth Fireside Chat on Education, Careers, and the UN SDGs

Held at UWA, the event gathered young professionals, students, and educators to explore how youth can shape a sustainable, inclusive future through innovation and cross-sector collaboration. The panel unpacked the growing need for partnerships between academia, industry, and youth organisations to address education and employment challenges. Speakers stressed that “profit and purpose can co-exist,” urging businesses—particularly SMEs—to integrate SDGs through innovation, incentives, and long-term impact thinking. The role of soft skills like adaptability, empathy, and critical thinking was highlighted as key in preparing youth for an uncertain job market. One speaker noted, “We need to empower students not just with degrees, but with the mindset to lead change.” The call to action at the forum was to localise global goals and create inclusive spaces for diverse youth voices in leadership.



SDG Forum 3: Gross National Happiness & the Future of Sustainable Development

Over 100 changemakers, students, public servants, and professionals gathered at EY Perth on 6 June 2024 for the SDG Forum, sponsored by EY Perth. The event examined alternatives to traditional economic measures, showcasing Bhutan’s Gross National Happiness (GNH) Index as a model of progress centred on well-being, sustainability, and community. The evening opened with Bhutanese filmmaker and environmental advocate Jamyang Jamtsho Wangchuk, who shared his “Messenger – Ride for Action” campaign, carrying Himalayan glacial meltwater across Bhutan, Nepal, and India to highlight the urgent realities of climate change. A distinguished panel featuring Professor Fiona Stanley AC, Richard McKenzie Head of WA Treasury Corporation, Bill Scanlan of EY Perth, and Dr Deki Choden of Curtin University, discussed themes of Indigenous knowledge, ESG in finance, values-driven leadership, and embedding sustainability into economic frameworks. Guests had an enjoyable time participating at an interactive quiz and were moved by a heartfelt letter from a 12-year-old Bhutanese student calling for climate action.



SDG Forum 4: Stronger Together: Connecting & Belonging through Sports

On 20 August 2025, in partnership with the West Coast Eagles, UNAAWA hosted its annual SDG Forum at Mineral Resources Park. The forum explored the importance intergenerational support and how it can reduce loneliness, foster inclusion, and advance the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Describing loneliness as a “quiet crisis”, the forum highlighted sport’s role in transforming isolation into connection. The panel session featured Mel Toia of West Coast Eagles, Hayden Marchetto of WA All Abilities Foundation, Elsie Blay of Ruah Community Services, and Chris Twomey of WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS), who shared perspectives on building a community through sport, dignity, and inclusion. The evening also showcased the West Coast Eagles’ Connecting Generations Program, an interactive SDG quiz, and networking to inspire cross-sector collaboration. Now in its 5th year, the partnership demonstrates how sport can unite communities and drive local action on global goals.





13th United Nations Business and Human Rights Forum

In late November 2024, I had the honour of attending the 13th United Nations Business & Human Rights Forum at UNHQ in Geneva. It is the world's largest annual gathering on business and human rights. With nearly double the participants from 2023, 4000 attendees of the government, private sector, civil society, international organisations, trade unions, academia and media gathered at the two-day forum sharing key learnings from business practices and multistakeholder initiatives amidst major disruptions in technology and demands for compliance and global governance. Key discussions centred on corporate responsibility in conflict zones, protecting Indigenous rights during the global energy transition, and advancing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in the face of growing global inequalities. An urgent and cross-cutting theme was the disruptive potential of artificial intelligence (AI)—its capacity to empower communities or entrench exclusion.

I contributed to two working group sessions on AI governance, trade, and ethical inclusion. It was highlighted at the sessions, the importance of embedding cross-cultural perspectives, particularly from Asia, into global frameworks to ensure that AI-driven solutions remain equitable, inclusive, and responsive to diverse contexts. I also participated in the progress of educational curriculum on human rights for the business sector – an initiative formed in 2022 between the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Geneva School of Economics and Management - UNIGE, and the Global Business School Network (GBSN).

The Forum also underscored the need for principled global leadership at a time of geopolitical volatility. Speakers emphasised that companies and investors hold pivotal responsibility in aligning corporate ambition with human dignity. Sustainable investment and responsible business practices were framed not only as ethical imperatives but as strategic necessities that underpin long-term competitiveness, innovation, and resilience. Beyond the plenary and working groups, the Forum highlighted opportunities to engage with practitioners whose tireless efforts are shaping meaningful change worldwide. These exchanges reinforced the value of collective action and the profound difference it can make when driven by shared purpose and global solidarity. While the challenges ahead are immense, the Forum reaffirmed the urgency of sincere collaboration across governments, business, and communities.





AI for Good Global Summit at the United Nations

I had the privilege to participate as a delegate at the AI for Good Global Summit in Geneva, hosted by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), where global leaders, innovators, and policymakers came together to explore how artificial intelligence can shape our collective future and accelerate progress towards the UN SDGs. This year's discussions moved beyond governance and philosophy to pressing questions of authenticity, inclusion, and responsibility. A major focus was the emergence of agentic AI—systems capable of acting without human oversight—and the urgent need for guardrails to prevent misuse in disinformation, media, and warfare. Nobel laureate Geoffrey Hinton, known as the “Godfather of AI,” cautioned that advanced AI could soon outpace human control, stressing the importance of global safety standards and cooperation.

Amid these sobering warnings, the Summit celebrated innovation from across the globe. The AI Innovators of the Year from Africa, Nepal, Mongolia, and South Korea highlighted how impactful solutions are being developed far beyond Silicon Valley. Encounters with young leaders—including the youngest TEDx speaker—were a reminder that the next generation is already shaping this dialogue. It was inspiring to connect with women leaders and changemakers in AI, building friendships that will extend beyond the summit. I am grateful to the ITU team and its leadership for convening such a meaningful platform, and I look forward to contributing to ongoing dialogue on building an ethical, inclusive, and globally relevant AI future.



Participating at the AI for Good Global Summit; Meeting the youngest TEDx speaker

Upcoming Forum: The next SDG forum will be held in partnership with Curtin University early November in the City of Perth. The theme will be “AI for Good & Achieving the SDGs”. The panel will include speakers from the Department of Energy & Economic Diversification, WA Data Science Innovation Hub, and Curtin Centre for Applied Ethics.



The SDG Forum Organising Committee Members & Supporters



Thanks to Our Sponsors:



Curtin University



Finally, in light of the current global challenges, including economic uncertainties, geopolitical tensions, and the accelerating climate crisis, there is a heightened urgency to make meaningful progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). With only five years left to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, the SDG Forum team remains committed to advancing our advocacy efforts by providing a platform for rigorous dialogue, meaningful exchange, and purposeful networking opportunities targeted at both the public and private sectors. Most importantly, the key takeaway from our forums this year has been the urgent need to transform and embrace innovative solutions to address ongoing challenges in the business environment, thereby accelerating the adoption of SDGs for all.

My engagement at the United Nations internationally has informed the work at the SDG Forum here in Western Australia, following the ethos of “Think Global and Act Local”. To date, the SDG Forum team has engaged over 3,000 attendees over the past seven years and generated over \$40,000 in revenue for the UNAAWA. We look forward to expanding our impact and engagement with both public and private sectors to help achieve our SDG targets by 2030.

Our Committee Members

- Dr Sandy Chong – Founding Chair
- Sky Vidamo – Secretary
- Garima Chopra – Editor
- Coko Tang
- Angelica Jane Reyes
- Tess Galloway
- Cherry Banagbanag
- Perla Valdez
- Kai Wang
- Wei Luo
- Isabel Schweers
- Nicole Baruela Ayathuray
- Boris Divis



Dr Sandy Chong - Founding Chair
SDG Business Forum Series



YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE

The reporting period of 2024–2025 was a year of growth and impact, with the Committee continuing to empower young professionals by creating opportunities to connect with global issues and align their careers with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our work this year has focused on building spaces for youth to engage with sustainability, entrepreneurship, and international development. These actions align with the following SDG targets:

- Target 17.7 – Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.
- Target 8.3 – Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation.
- Target 8.6 – Substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Pathways to Global Impact: Careers in the UN and Public Sector at Curtin University, featuring senior leaders from the UN and DFAT, who shared career insights with students and early professionals.
- Participation in UWA Enviro Fest 2025, where the Committee promoted the UN's SDGs and engaged students in conversations about sustainability and climate action.
- Hosting Empowering Sustainable Development Start-Ups, a panel event exploring entrepreneurship, sustainability, and community impact, with experts from business, academia, and start-ups inspiring youth to create ventures aligned with the SDGs.
- A sustainability follow-up to the Empowering Sustainable Development Start-Ups event: in partnership with Decarbonate, the Committee offset the event's footprint by purchasing carbon credits and planting 10 native seedlings, contributing to biodiversity restoration and carbon capture in Western Australia.

Why Our Work Matters

In today's rapidly changing world, young professionals face complex challenges from navigating sustainable business practices to building careers with global impact. The Committee's initiatives have created opportunities for networking, mentorship, and practical learning that empower youth to lead with purpose. By fostering dialogue on sustainability, innovation, and international engagement, our work ensures that the next generation is equipped to tackle global issues with creativity, resilience, and collaboration.



Our Committee Members

- Convenor – Angelica Reyes
- Deputy Convenor – Ayaan Kinani
- Secretary – Jingyi Chen
- Communications Lead – Garima Chopra
- Partnerships Lead – Syafiq Azman
- Memberships Lead – Mercy Jelimo
- Treasurer – James Duong
- Events Lead- Jaclyn Robson

Angelica Reyes – Convenor
Young Professionals Committee





UN DAY COMMITTEE

79th Anniversary of the United Nations – UN Day Gala – October 2025

The 79th United Nations Day Gala was held on Friday, 18 October. It was a resounding success attended by distinguished guests, including DFAT WA Deputy Director Kelly Tranter, Christine Tonkin MLA, Mayor Logan K. Howlett, and members of the Consular Corps, the event celebrated the UN's vital contributions and honored local leaders dedicated to global initiatives.



The evening began with a moving Welcome to Country by Kerry Ann Winmar, followed by cultural performances from Guildford Grammar School, The Zing Arts Group, and Korean Traditional Culture and Arts Incorporated. These presentations highlighted the importance of diversity and unity in our global mission.



UNAAWA President Randhir Amoganathan shared insights on the organization's impactful work, culminating in the presentation of five prestigious awards recognizing achievements in Environment, Gender Equality, Human Rights, Young Professionals, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Challenge. Keynote speaker Peace Musi, a former Rwandan refugee, offered a powerful account of her journey through UN refugee camps, underscoring the UN's transformative role in lives affected by conflict and food insecurity. This was followed by the announcement of the UN Day Award winners in the Human Rights, Gender Equality, Environmental Action, and the SDG Challenge Student Award categories.



80th Anniversary of the United Nations – UN Day Gala – October 2025

This year marks a historic milestone — the 80th Anniversary of the United Nations. I am honoured to serve for the second consecutive year as Chair of the UN Day Gala, UNAAWA's largest annual celebration.

Themed around Promoting Peace, Unity, and Global Partnerships, the Gala brings together leaders across government, diplomacy, business, and community. As of this report, over 30 dignitaries have confirmed attendance, including:

- Hon. Matthew Swinbourn MLC, Minister for Environment, Community Services, and Homelessness
- Sally Dawkins, Director of DFAT WA
- Mayors, councillors, multicultural leaders, and around 10 Consul-Generals from the WA Consular Corps.

The Gala will also feature:

- The UNAAWA Awards, recognising outstanding contributions across SDG, human rights, gender equality, environment, and young professionals.
- Multicultural performances celebrating WA's diversity.
- Opportunities for networking and dialogue, deepening collaboration on global and local challenges.

Through this event, we reaffirm the enduring relevance of the United Nations and create space for Western Australians to connect with its mission. This would not have been possible without the dedication of our UN Day volunteer team, in particular Diane Avice (UN Day Deputy Chair) and Wendy Ugarte (UN Day Awards Coordinator), whose leadership and commitment have been invaluable.





This year, the UN Day team has been working actively to secure both cash and in-kind sponsors, whose support will be vital in ensuring the success of the Gala. We have also strengthened engagement with multicultural communities and performance groups, whose participation will add a rich and inclusive cultural dimension to the evening.

REFLECTIONS & OUTLOOK

I am honoured to serve for the second consecutive year as Chair of the UN Day Gala, UNAAWA's largest and most prestigious annual celebration. This milestone event carries the theme "**Promoting Peace, Unity, and Global Partnerships**", reflecting both the global mission of the United Nations and our commitment to fostering dialogue and collaboration here in Western Australia.

As we enter the final stages of preparation, the 80th Anniversary UN Day Gala represents not only a celebration of the United Nations' founding but also a reaffirmation of our collective responsibility to advance peace, unity, human rights, and sustainability.

On behalf of the organising committee, I would like to express gratitude to all sponsors, partners, performers, and volunteers who are walking with us on this journey. Together, we are preparing to deliver an inspiring and impactful event that will honour the legacy of the United Nations while creating new pathways for collaboration in the years to come.

Our Committee Members

- Lucia Chen – UN Day Chair
- Diane Avice – UN Day Deputy Chair
- Wendy Ugarte – UN Day Awards Coordinator
- Dr Sandy Chong
- Angelica Jane Rayes
- Chen Yao
- Louis Kaestner
- Praveena Peter
- Marinalini Martin
- Yilin Yuan
- Emma Gu
- Lyla Peng
- James Wei

Lucia Chen – Chairperson
UN Day Event Organising Committee





GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

From our UNAOWA Global Representative

President, VP's, Executive Committee, Conveners, Members and visitors.

It is with pleasure I write this AGM report on my activities.

To our President, VP's, Executive committee conveners and volunteering individuals whom have served with professional commitment and exemplary service in the mission of UNA - thank you all.

The service of any organisation functions successfully only with sound disciplined principled strategic leadership, vision and administration governance proudly we aspire to this stewardship.

I trust your term in office will be rewarding and makes a difference to our society.

World Order

The World Order is continuously changing, and we have arrived into the 21st Century of rapid changes and technology.

At home, Australia is very much integrated into the Global landscape and is not limited to geopolitical global events. Crosswinds of social, economic, defence, security, carbon neutrality, bi-lateral trade treaties and country alliances are constantly headlining the agenda.

More than previously Australia is now an important entity in the global community.

Security awareness amongst other national social platforms priority has risen to heightened levels absorbing substantial defence budgets against neighbouring home threat; whilst reforms in housing, education, health, gender equality, and assistance with the development of social humanities suffer from inadequate budget and forward estimates priority.

The World political agenda impacts on Australian global pathways and communities as recently witnessed from Covid pandemic, Ukraine -Russian War, African famines, Asylum refugee Sudanese tent camps, and the more recent Israeli-Gaza continuing conflict.

It is in these times United Nations and its member Nations including Australia, contribute in non-combative attendance to preserving humanitarian needs.

We are called upon to rally in the name of humanitarian life support and preserving given principles enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of human rights written into the Charter of United Nations.



The Australian Landscape

In my commitment and capacity, I continue to represent our organisation at Consular functions, Government, Civic Community, private, and corporate levels of business in promoting the UNAA mission values these attendances are reported periodically.

I further have, and continue researching and writing, on UN agenda and Government programs encapsulating environmental life impacts, clean energy, pollution, conflict, inequality, human rights and UN Sustainability Development Goals.

Our organisation is blessed with special talented individuals, and you can be proud of your strong community volunteerism and energy to making the World a better harmonious village. However, it takes courage, commitment and enduring patience.

As Ambassadors your voice will be spoken, documented and recorded to upholding community and humanity initiatives which at times are viewed negativity.

Your continuation to this calling as enshrined in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Charter of United Nations with most recent SDG's are the pathway guidance journey map we all walk.

Your leadership, committee engagement as active volunteers and events actioning are rewarded far beyond the expectation of financial quantum. I am proud to be a part of your team.



Joseph A. Caruso
UNAAWA Global Representative



TREASURER'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

On behalf of the Board, I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Financial Performance

The organisation recorded a modest net deficit of \$656 for the year, compared with a surplus of \$7,372 in 2024. The Women's Grant for a Stronger Future income was received in 2024 and, under accounting standard AASB 1058 (Income of Not-for-Profit Entities), the income had to be recognised straight away, even though the related expenses incurred in 2025.

Financial Position

As of 30 June 2025, the organisation held total assets of \$91,923 (2024: \$88,430).

- Cash remains strong at \$85,544, boosted by two new term deposits worth \$50,000, giving the organisation a solid financial base for the future.
- mainly due to invoices received at the end of the financial year and income received in advance.

Although we recorded a small deficit this year, our reserves remain stable, and the organisation is in a good position to meet its ongoing commitments.

Looking Ahead

The coming year will focus on:

- Rebuilding income streams, particularly through events, sponsorship, and potential grants.
- Maintaining tight control over expenditure.
- Leveraging term deposits to strengthen financial sustainability.

The Board remains committed to ensuring that funds are managed prudently and that resources are directed towards achieving the organisation's mission.



Acknowledgments

I would like to thank our members for their ongoing support, as well as the Board for its guidance. I am especially grateful to our Deputy Treasurer, Priya Shah, for her dedicated support, and to our Assistant Treasurer, Yuko Murakami, for her consistent and valued contribution throughout the year.

Amanda Cumberbatch – UNAAWA Treasurer





Statement of Financial Performance

United Nations Association of Australia WA Division Inc.
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Account	2025	2024
Trading Income		
Events/ Programs Income	18,122	18,812
Sale of Promotional Items	1,945	3,380
Sponsorship	8,000	10,455
Total Trading Income	28,066	32,646
Cost of Sales		
Eventbrite Fees	931	0
Events/ Programs Expenses	21,035	24,490
Other Event Expenditure	64	164
Pay Pal Fees	3	5
Promotional Material	812	1,068
Square Fees	19	35
Stripe Fees	378	677
Total Cost of Sales	23,241	26,439
Gross Profit	4,825	6,207
Other Income		
Donations	70	66
Grants	0	8,558
Interest	0	38
Memberships	5,947	6,061
Total Other Income	6,017	14,723
Operating Expenses		
Annual General Meeting Expenses	268	0
Bad Debts	1,909	97
Bank Charges	3	18
Domain Name	73	0
Insurance	1,016	1,433
Membership Expense	(27)	0
National Levy	0	2,420
Office supplies	35	58
Other Subscriptions	144	480
Planning Day Expenses	385	0
Postage	45	24
Printing & Stationery	399	0
Professional Fees	0	2,975
Rent	5,042	4,842
Sundry Expense	225	155
Tidy HQ Subscription	809	535
Website	588	0
Xero Subscription	585	523
Total Operating Expenses	11,498	13,559
Net Profit	(656)	7,372



Statement of Financial Position

United Nations Association of Australia WA Division Inc.
As at 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
Assets		
Bank		
CBA Society Cheque Account	28,971	83,517
New Stripe AUD	6,498	-
PayPal	47	21
Stripe AUD	29	-
Term Deposit 1	10,000	-
Term Deposit 2	40,000	-
Total Bank	85,544	83,538
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	-	3,321
Petty Cash	-	20
Prepayments	6,379	1,552
Total Current Assets	6,379	4,893
Fixed Assets		
IT equipment	1,522	1,522
IT equipment - Accumulated depreciation	(1,522)	(1,522)
Total Fixed Assets	-	-
Total Assets	91,923	88,430
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	4,809	2,012
GST	165	447
Unearned Income	2,767	1,133
Total Current Liabilities	7,740	3,592
Total Liabilities	7,740	3,592
Net Assets	84,182	84,839
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	(656)	7,372
Retained Earnings	84,839	77,467
Total Equity	84,182	84,839



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