

Nossal  
Institute

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2023**



The Nossal Institute is a not-for-profit applied research institute passionate about strengthening the health systems for populations across the Asia Pacific region.

At the Nossal Institute we proudly acknowledge the Boon Wurrung people of the Kulin Nations as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which our office is located and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Peoples and acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all First Nations people.

## Table of Contents

<b>A Word from the Chair</b> .....	3
<b>Director's Report</b> .....	4
<b>Sir Gustav Nossal</b> .....	6
<b>About the Institute</b> .....	7
<b>Our Leadership Team</b> .....	9
<b>Directors</b> .....	9
<b>Our Executive Team</b> .....	10
<b>Global Reach</b> .....	11
<b>Australian Global Health Alliance</b> .....	12
<b>Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income</b> .....	13
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b> .....	14
<b>Statement of Changes in Equity</b> .....	15
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b> .....	16

### Registered office

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# A Word from the Chair

The end of 2023 allowed me time to reflect on my time at Nossal as Chair for over a decade. It's been a rewarding time and especially in the last 5 years as the Institute has been able to weather changes in its external environment and significantly diversify its funding base.

In mid-2023, we welcomed the Institute's new Director, Professor Cathy Vaughan. Cathy is perfectly suited to the role and has taken the reins at a point-in-time when Nossal is financially stable and on a growth trajectory. If not for the years of dedicated work to realign and position the Institute under Professor Barbara McPake, Nossal would not be set up for success. We thank Barbra for her years of leadership.

The Institute also welcomed a new Chair in late 2023 with Professor Mark Hargreaves AM being appointed. I have handed the Chair to an experienced colleague whom I both know and trust will provide the necessary directorship to the Institute to ensure its continued place in the University of Melbourne and allow its ability to grow in the sector.

Nossal has a diverse mix of skills and expertise which attracts support from multilateral funding partners such as the World Bank, ADB, UN agencies (UNICEF and UNFPA), WHO and global foundations including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and The Global Fund. We undertake long-term research activities for NH&MRC and ARC. There is strong cross pollination and collaboration between University-employed staff and employees of Nossal Institute Limited. This co-operation allows the Institute to deliver positive impact for the communities in the Asia-Pacific and progress the aims of Global Health in the region.

In my new role, assisting the University to set up the Australia Institute of Infectious Diseases, providing targeted operational research to Australia's closest neighbours in the Pacific and South-East Asia is critical to ensure health equity and economic prosperity to the region.



Professor James McCluskey, AO (Outgoing) Chair



Professor Mark Hargreaves, AM, (Incoming) Chair

This will be Nossal's responsibility and lead role; and I welcome the Institute's expertise and experience in this regard.

This Annual Report provides but a snapshot of Nossal's strong performance over the past 5 years and specifically in 2023.

**PROFESSOR JAMES MCCLUSKEY, AO  
(OUTGOING) CHAIR**

# Director's Report

I want to begin this summary of Nossal Institute Limited activities and achievements for 2023 by expressing my immense gratitude. I commenced as Managing Director of the company mid-year, and was immediately made welcome by all Nossal staff. Change is often anxiety provoking in the workplace, and new leaders are not always fortunate enough to receive such a welcome – so I very much thank my colleagues for this, and for everything that they do to make Nossal such a vibrant and inclusive place to work. I particularly want to thank the Nossal Board for their support, Matt Ralston for his guidance, Tom Wright for their patience, and Professor Barbara McPake for her wisdom and for leaving such big shoes to fill!

The Nossal Institute Limited model provides unique opportunities for our staff to contribute to the global health knowledge base in immediate and applied ways that would be very difficult for personnel on a traditional academic pathway to do. These opportunities are invaluable to our people. More importantly, our research, practice, policy and program management expertise, in combination with our deep country specific knowledge and long-standing relationships in (particularly) Asia and the Pacific, mean we are a sought after partner across the region.

Underpinning these regional partnerships – with universities and research institutes, government agencies, civil society organisations and funders – are our values, with an overarching focus on equity, justice and respect for local knowledge.



Professor Barbara McPake, Outgoing Managing Director



Professor Cathy Vaughan, Incoming Managing Director

# Directors Report Cont.

In 2023 we have continued to implement a mix of large, multi-year research projects and smaller, nimble consultancies delivering applied research, evaluation, policy analysis, capacity building, and program design (for example). At year's end we had over 60 contracts under our management at Nossal Institute Limited, with a further 20+ research activities across the Institute that are managed through University of Melbourne systems. End of year financial reports show a small deficit, largely due to differences in timing of when activities were budgeted to be completed and when they could be invoiced for.

Our contribution to University undergraduate and Masters level teaching, PhD supervision, and training and capacity building in the region, continues to go from strength to strength. I would like to highlight here the team delivering the Foundations in Health Security in Indonesia program who were awarded the 2023 University Award for Excellence in Public Benefit for this innovative and highly impactful work.

A priority for me coming into the role has been to understand, strengthen and expand our collaborations and relationships across the University and the Parkville precinct.

Very strong collaborations exist between company and university-employed staff within the Institute, with strong existing partnership also between the Institute and researchers in the rest of the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, and at the Melbourne School of Health Sciences, the School of Social and Political Science (Arts), the Melbourne Veterinary School, the Melbourne Law School (including Melbourne Climate Futures) and with the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology. Given the complex and interdisciplinary nature of global health challenges, the expertise across the University and precinct is an invaluable resource.

Strengthening these collaborations will provide ever greater opportunities to expand the impact of the company's work for the benefit of the communities and partners with whom we work.

My introduction to Nossal in 2023 has left me filled with excitement and optimism about 2024!

**PROFESSOR CATHY VAUGHAN**  
INCOMING MANAGING DIRECTOR



## Sir Gustav Nossal

The Nossal Institute for Global Health (NIGH) is named after internationally renowned immunologist Sir Gustav Nossal, one of Australia's most dynamic scientific leaders. The Institute was established in 2006 to advocate for the public health of vulnerable communities, something Sir Gustav has long been passionate about.

Known for his global health advocacy, Sir Gustav was knighted in 1977 for ground-breaking immunology work. It was a long way from his early childhood in pre-World War II Europe. Sir Gustav was born in Austria and moved to Australia as a child in 1939. He graduated from Sydney University's Medical School with first class honours and gained his PhD at 29.

During a long and distinguished career, Sir Gustav researched how the immune system generates antibodies to protect us from infectious diseases and served as Walter and Eliza Hall Institute Director from 1965 until 1996. He is also an Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne and President of the Australian Academy of Science.

Sir Gustav's research and advocacy resulted in many awards. He made the annual Australia Day Honours list four times and received a Centenary Medal for "distinguished service to the study of antibody formation and immunological tolerance" in 2000, when he was also named Australian of the Year.

Sir Gustav was made a Companion of the Order of Australia in 1989, won the Albert Einstein World Award of Science in 1990 and in 1996 was awarded the highly prized Koch Gold Medal for major advances in biomedical science.

Community has always been important to Sir Gustav, who has worked with numerous organisations that allowed him to reach people, including the Centenary of Federation Victoria Committee, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation and the Global Foundation.

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# About the Institute

Nossal Institute Limited is the operating entity for the Nossal Institute for Global Health (NIGH). NIGH is housed within the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences and is a fully-owned subsidiary of the University of Melbourne, limited by shares owned 100% by the University of Melbourne.

The Institute was established to:

- undertake research, development, education, training, consultancy and other activities in regard to medicine, dentistry, health, health sciences and related areas; and
- provide facilities for study, research and education.

We support the strengthening of health systems towards achieving health equity, inclusion, sustainability, people centeredness, resilience and security.

We are a highly experienced, multidisciplinary team of applied researchers and practitioners working to improve the health of people in diverse settings globally, with a focus on Asia and the Pacific. We have expertise across the health social sciences and public health approaches, and in working with communities to promote development, livelihoods, resilience and equitable access to health. We use a systems lens to understand how strategies, policies and programs have an impact on the health and wellbeing of people.





Nossal Institute Limited (and NIGH) are a multi-disciplinary team of applied researchers with global expertise, knowledge and skills.

The Institute's permanent workforce as at 31 December 2023, comprised of 44 positions (16 full-time and 29 part-time) one less than 2022.

Consultants and other casual staff were used to respond to international and national opportunities for health programs. Staff members were located both in Melbourne and overseas.

**44** PERMANENT  
STAFF



Our Board and Executive leadership team are committed to achieving our purpose. The Board and Executive leadership team comprise highly qualified individuals who have rich and diverse skillsets spanning medical research, public health, medicine, law, business development, advocacy, communications, finance, corporate governance and innovation.



**Professor James (Jim) McCluskey, AO**  
Chair, Board of Directors  
1 September 2011 - 31 October 2023



**Professor Mark Hargreaves, AM**  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Appointed: 1 November 2023

## Directors



**Professor Nancy Baxter**  
MD PhD FRCSC FACS  
Head of the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health at the University of Melbourne.  
Re-appointed: 3 April 2023



**Mr John Demagistris**  
BBus CPA CA MAICD  
Re-appointed: 1 February 2022



**Professor Cathy Vaughan**  
BSc(Hons) PhD FNAI FAIP  
Director and Managing Director  
Appointed: 15 June 2023  
(Ex-officio)



**Professor Barbara McPake**  
BA(Hons) PhD  
Appointed: 1 February 2016  
(Ex-officio)  
Resigned: 15 June 2023



**Ms Leanne Fisher**  
Grad Cert(Bus) JP FAIOP  
HLMAIOP PMIAAP(US)  
MAICD FGIA  
Company Secretary  
Appointed: 17 November 2014



**Mr Matt Ralston**  
MMK, Grad Cert Man, BA  
Hons; GAICD  
Chief Operating Officer



**Ms Muthuni Fernando**  
Finance Manager

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# Our Executive Team

**Managing Director (and Director of NIL)**  
Professor Cathy Vaughan

**Disability Inclusion and Rehabilitation Head**  
Dr Alex Robinson

**Education and Learning Head,**  
Professor Linda Rae Bennett

**Emerging Programs in Global Health, Head**  
Professor Ajay Mahal

**Gender and Women's Health Head,**  
Associate Professor Meghan Bohren

**Chief Operating Officer**  
Mr Matt Ralston

**Health Systems Governance and Financing Head**  
Ms Katherine Gilbert

**One Health Head**  
Associate Professor Angus Campbell

**Social and Cultural Dimensions of Health Systems Head**  
Professor Sumit Kane



Sir Gustav joined the Nossal Team to celebrate a successful 2023

# Global Reach

We are expanding our international impact. We currently have 56 active projects in 25 countries with a combined value of more than \$20 million.



# Global Place

We build on our Asia and Pacific location and expertise to be the partner of choice. We work with stakeholders across the globe, including:

- ACIAR
- Asian Development Bank
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- CBM
- Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade
- Department of Health and Aged Care
- Elrha
- EQUINET Africa
- Fiji National University
- HelpAge
- Humanity & Inclusion
- IAEA
- International Atomic Energy Association
- Palladium
- Partners In Health
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
- Save the Children
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- USAID
- Water Aid
- WHO
- World Bank
- World Ed
- World Food Programme
- World Organisation of Animal Health

# Australian Global Health Alliance

The Australian Global Health Alliance (Alliance) is the member-based peak body for Australian global health organisations, with a mandate to strengthen the global health ecosystem through national and global connections, partnerships, research and innovation, promoting best practices in global health and advocacy. Its membership is diverse ranging from universities and research institutes to international and national non-government organisation or peak bodies, to government entities and public private partnerships.

The Alliance also hosts the secretariats of the Australian Network of WHO Collaborating Centres and Pacific Friends of Global Health. Founded in 2016 by a number of Australian global health organisations and leaders, the Alliance is currently the only OECD country global health alliance with a commitment to First Nations global health equity as part of its foundational mandate. The current strategic focus of the Alliance includes Planetary Health (with a specific focus on Climate Change and Health Security and Sustainable Development), Gender Equality, First Nations Global Health and Health Equity.

The Alliance has an Advisory Board chaired by Professor Brendan Crabb, AC. The following people are members of the Advisory Board:

Professor Jane Fisher, Deputy Chair  
Ms Helen Evans, AO  
Mr Matt Ralston  
Professor Ian Anderson, AO  
Professor Nancy Baxter  
Professor Tony Capon

Professor Colleen Fisher  
Professor Rachel Huxley  
Ms Leanne Joyce  
Professor Barbara McPake  
Adjunct Ass. Professor Darryl O'Connell  
Ms Marion Stanton

The patron of the Australian Global Health Alliance is the Honourable John Brumby (former Premier of Victoria from 2007—2010)



# Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue and Income from continuing operations</b>		
Operating Activities:		
Project income	4,773,570	4,990,117
Seminars, conferences and courses	694,765	666,817
Membership	40,792	38,708
Sponsorships	112,500	62,500
Grants	1,453,399	1,558,171
Other income	5,000	20,000
Non-Operating Activities:		
Interest income	2,123	2,511
	<u>7,082,149</u>	<u>7,338,824</u>
<b>Expenses from continuing operations</b>		
Employee benefits expenses	(3,904,588)	(4,162,639)
Depreciation expense	(48,750)	0
Other expenses	(3,332,454)	(2,965,567)
	<u>(7,285,792)</u>	<u>(7,128,206)</u>
<b>(Deficit) / Surplus for the year</b>	<u>(203,643)</u>	<u>210,618</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive (deficit) / surplus for the year</b>	<u>(203,643)</u>	<u>210,618</u>

The above Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<strong>ASSETS</strong>		
<strong>Current Assets</strong>		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,394,306	1,903,620
Trade and other receivables	1,258,513	2,088,946
<strong>Total Current Assets</strong>	<u>3,652,819</u>	<u>3,992,566</u>
<strong>Non-Current Assets</strong>		
Plant and equipment	146,250	195,000
<strong>Total Non-Current Assets</strong>	<u>146,250</u>	<u>195,000</u>
<strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong>	<u>3,799,069</u>	<u>4,187,566</u>
<strong>LIABILITIES</strong>		
<strong>Current Liabilities</strong>		
Trade and other payables	516,207	405,325
Contract and other liabilities	266,370	625,292
Employee benefits	359,896	282,985
<strong>Total Current Liabilities</strong>	<u>1,142,473</u>	<u>1,313,602</u>
<strong>Non-Current Liabilities</strong>		
Employee benefits	110,528	124,253
<strong>Total Non-Current Liabilities</strong>	<u>110,528</u>	<u>124,253</u>
<strong>TOTAL LIABILITIES</strong>	<u>1,253,001</u>	<u>1,437,855</u>
<strong>NET ASSETS</strong>	<u>2,546,068</u>	<u>2,749,711</u>
<strong>EQUITY</strong>		
Contributed equity	350,000	350,000
Retained earnings	2,196,068	2,399,711
<strong>TOTAL EQUITY</strong>	<u>2,546,068</u>	<u>2,749,711</u>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Contributed Equity \$	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2022</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>2,189,093</b>	<b>2,539,093</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year	-	210,618	210,618
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>210,618</b>	<b>210,618</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2022</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>2,399,711</b>	<b>2,749,711</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2023</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>2,399,711</b>	<b>2,749,711</b>
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>			
Surplus for the year	- -	203,643 -	203,643
<b>Total comprehensive (deficit) / income for the year</b>	<b>- -</b>	<b>203,643 -</b>	<b>203,643</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>2,196,068</b>	<b>2,546,068</b>

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from services and contracts inclusive of GST	7,586,928	6,826,666
Interest received	2,123	2,511
Payments to employees	(3,841,289)	(3,671,626)
Payments to suppliers inclusive of GST	(3,286,849)	(4,388,860)
	<u>460,913</u>	<u>(1,231,309)</u>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		
	<u>460,913</u>	<u>(1,231,309)</u>
<b>Cash Flow from investing activities</b>		
Payments for Plant & Equipment	-	(195,000)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(195,000)</u>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>		
	<u>-</u>	<u>(195,000)</u>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents held</b>	<b>460,913</b>	<b>(1,426,309)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	1,903,620	3,275,797
Net effect of exchange rates on cash holdings in foreign currencies	29,773	54,132
	<u>2,394,306</u>	<u>1,903,620</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December</b>		
	<u>2,394,306</u>	<u>1,903,620</u>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



## **CONTACT US**

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