



Foundation  
Review

—  
2017

# The SMEC Foundation

The objective of the SMEC Foundation is to deliver the best possible social and development outcomes for individuals and communities in need.

By providing small-scale grant support to development projects, the SMEC Foundation contributes to communities and charities around the world, with a particular focus on health, education, environment, community development and emergency relief.

On 1 July 2016, SMEC implemented a number of important changes to its CSR Program, including the creation of Divisional CSR Committees located in each of SMEC's operating Divisions.

The new de-centralised structure improves delivery of SMEC's CSR Programs by empowering each CSR Committee to tailor their programs to suit their Divisional CSR aspirations. Localisation of SMEC's CSR Programs improves connection between the company, employees and their local communities.

→ A\$30,000

For AusRelief to provide emergency relief to Rohingya refugees at Cox's Bazar refugee camp in Bangladesh

→ A\$30,000

So They Can to fund the construction of a family home for eight orphaned children and a house mother in Miti Mingi Village, Kenya

Divisional CSR Programs are funded by SMEC with additional financial support from the SMEC Foundation and SMEC employees. The SMEC Foundation brand is used to unify and endorse SMEC's CSR Projects across the SMEC Group.

To date, the SMEC Foundation has supported over 200 projects around the world, delivering tangible outcomes to people in need.

This document covers the reporting period 1 January – 31 December 2017. During the reporting period, A\$88,500 was donated.

In addition, SMEC's Divisional CSR Committees funded a number of projects and SMEC employees participated in many inspiring activities around the world, underpinning our commitment to community development.

→ A\$16,000

For the Fred Hollows Foundation in support of the School Vision Program in Surigao Del Norte province in southern Philippines

→ A\$12,500

A\$12,500 to Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation to support reforestation of six hectares of tropical rainforest that were lost at the Samboja Lestari orangutan rehabilitation centre during major forest fires in East Kalimantan, Indonesia.



# Welcome



## ↓ A message from our CEO

**Hari Poologasundram**  
CEO, SMEC and CEO International, SJ Group

I am pleased to welcome you to the 2017 edition of the SMEC Foundation Review, my first as CEO of SMEC. The SMEC Foundation is a core part of SMEC's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program, and helps fulfill our commitment to community development and sustainable poverty reduction.

The guiding philosophy of the SMEC Foundation has always been that small amounts, spent wisely, can produce far-reaching social and economic impacts. Since its inception in 2001, communities in over 30 countries have received grant support for development projects in the areas of health, education, environment, community development and emergency relief.

Throughout the year, SMEC continued its commitment to support people in need through the SMEC Foundation and Divisional CSR Committees, providing funds to make a positive impact to those

in need. SMEC's CSR Committees are integral in ensuring that projects are appropriately selected and delivered in accordance with SMEC's business integrity policies. We have continued to strengthen our processes around compliance, to ensure that the SMEC Foundation and the agencies that we partner with, adhere to the highest standards of integrity.

I wish to thank all those who have contributed to the SMEC Foundation and Divisional CSR Programs over the past year. Working together, we will continue to make a real difference to local communities across the world.



## ↓ A message from our SMEC Foundation Chairman

**Roger Bayliss**  
Chairman, SMEC Foundation

The SMEC Foundation is a critical link between the corporate world and the real-life needs of communities impacted by natural disasters and those living in less fortunate circumstances, SMEC's employees, working alongside the SMEC Foundation, are making a real impact in providing vital support to communities at a grassroots level.

In 2016, we decentralised the SMEC Foundation's funding structure, so that each of SMEC's operating Divisions can allocate funding when and where it is needed most.

Since the decentralisation, one of the most positive changes we have seen, is the agility with which the SMEC Foundation has been able to respond to natural disasters that have occurred within the countries where we work. We have developed protocols for the rapid disbursement of cash grants for immediate

relief such as shelter, water supply, food and emergency medical supplies. This year, we responded to natural disasters in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

I wish to thank all those who have been involved with the work of the SMEC Foundation and SMEC's Divisional CSR Programs over the past year. The SMEC Foundation would not be the success it is without the support of SMEC's employees who not only contribute monetary donations, but generously offer their time and technical skills to help the communities in which they live and work. I look forward to The SMEC Foundation continuing its important work in the years to come.



**Roger Bayliss**  
Chairman

Roger was appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the SMEC Holdings Board in 2002, and was elected Chairman of The SMEC Foundation Board in 2015. Roger's career spans more than 40 years and has included policy development, marketing, international trade and investment.



**Angus Macpherson**  
Director

Angus joined SMEC in 1993, was appointed Director of Operations in 2017 and was elected a Director of The SMEC Foundation Board in 2015. Angus has extensive experience in the development of business management systems, project management, and all aspects of civil engineering.



**Philip Wilcox**  
Director

Philip joined SMEC in 2006, and was elected a Director of The SMEC Foundation Board in 2015. As SMEC's Group Company Secretary, Philip is responsible for the management of SMEC's corporate governance, and is experienced in environment, planning and local government law.

“SMEC’s international network is an invaluable partnership for a charity like Habitat for Humanity Australia. Great results are produced when we know that employees across an organisation are committed to making a difference in disadvantaged communities.”

**Christine Franks**  
Chair of Habitat for Humanity Australia.

## SMEC Foundation Objectives

- To consolidate links between SMEC and the communities in which the Company operates.
- To provide small-scale grant assistance to community groups and development projects in countries in which SMEC has a presence.
- To create a more systematic process for SMEC’s traditional corporate social responsibilities, ensuring the best possible social and developmental impact.
- To create partnerships with non-government organisations and community groups addressing poverty, social disadvantage and environmental protection.



# Projects

## Supporting emergency activities

**Location:** Sierra Leone

Following three days of heavy rainfall in August 2017, Sierra Leone suffered a devastating mudslide causing 300 people to lose their lives with many more reported missing. To support emergency workers assisting the victims, the SMEC Foundation donated 600 pieces of safety gear and equipment.

## Supporting flood and landslide victims

**Location:** Sri Lanka

SMEC's South Asia Middle East Divisional CSR Committee and the SMEC Foundation came together to support families left devastated by widespread flooding and landslides that struck Sri Lanka in May 2017. Extreme weather conditions caused severe damage in 12 districts, resulting in over 200 people losing their lives, and displacing half a million-people. SMEC's Sri Lanka office supported the cause, by focusing their efforts specifically on the resettlement phase, visiting the flood victims at their temporary camp shelter in Eheliyagoda, offering mattresses, gas cookers, gas cylinders and other kitchen necessities.

## Buguruni School for the Deaf

**Location:** Tanzania

Buguruni School for the Deaf caters for 268 students, including 150 boarders, who all use sign language as their main method of communication. With funding from the SMEC Foundation and engineering and contract management provided by SMEC's Dar-es-Salaam engineers, the school's water supply system was upgraded, providing a clean and safe source of drinking water and water supply to the school's kitchen, toilets and dormitories.

## Beit Cure Hospital

**Location:** Zambia

Beit Cure Hospital is a paediatric teaching hospital specialising in the treatment and care of children living with physical disabilities. Hospital management indicated that one of the immediate needs was means to store blood on site for surgeries and emergency needs. In response, the SMEC Foundation donated a blood bank refrigerator which can keep blood at optimum temperature for two weeks even without electricity. This is the first blood bank refrigerator the hospital has owned since its 10 years in operation.

## UTH Special Education School

**Location:** Zambia

The UTH Special Education School caters to children with special educational needs from the ages of 5 to 16. In recent times, the school had difficulties with its water supply including an intermittent water supply and a water tank not fit for purpose. With funding from the SMEC Foundation, and the engineering and contract management provided by SMEC's Lusaka engineers, a water supply and storage system for the school was constructed.

## Wheelchair donation

**Location:** Kenya

The SMEC Foundation donated 25 wheelchairs to Feed the Children, a non-profit relief organisation, who operates the Dagoretti Children's Centre and the Abandoned Baby Centre in Kenya. Dagoretti Children's Centre provides residential care for children with disabilities, and the Abandoned Baby Centre cares for abandoned and most at-risk children. Children at the facilities are provided with basic needs including food, shelter, education and health care.

## Kenneth Ulo Foundation

**Location:** Nigeria

The SMEC Foundation recently donated five computers with special software usable by the blind to the Kenneth Ulo Foundation. The Kenneth Ulo Foundation is a non-governmental organisation that promotes the welfare of the blind by offering training and post training support to develop entrepreneurial skills.

## La Mesa Watershed Reservation

**Location:** Philippines

In the Philippines, SMEC employees volunteered their time to plant 400 seedlings of guyabano (soursop tree) at the La Mesa Watershed Reservation, a protected area and the primary source of potable drinking water for more than 12 million people in Manila.

# Emergency relief to Rohingya refugees

**Location:** Bangladesh

SMEC's South Asia Middle East Divisional CSR Committee and the SMEC Foundation came together to provide funding to Global One Bangladesh, a UK Charity organisation providing medical and relief operations for Rohingya refugees.

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people are now living as refugees across Southeast Asia. In total, \$A30,000 was donated, which provided over 200 families living in refugee camps located in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh with food items and blankets, vegetable gardens and ponds to sustain school feeding programs.



# Supporting school vision program

**Location:** Philippines

The SMEC Foundation donated A\$16,500 to the School Eye Health Programme in Surigao Del Norte province in southern Philippines. Run in partnership with the Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF), the Program aims to help the provincial government to establish affordable eye-health services in the province.

FHF is an Australian non-profit organisation which develops sustainable community eye care services through advocacy and calls for improved integration of public eye health services.



# Projects

## One Voice

**Location:** Australia

One Voice provide practical human services and opportunities to the homeless and disadvantaged within Australia. SMEC's ANZ Divisional CSR Committee has made a donation to One Voice which will help fund their 'Elevate Life Restoration Community' Program. Under this program, residents who have completed rehabilitation programs are provided with an opportunity to complete studies and training courses.

## Indigenous Literacy Foundation, Australia

**Location:** Australia

The gap in literacy rates for Indigenous Australians widens with age and is even more pronounced in remote and isolated communities. SMEC's ANZ Divisional CSR Committee has made a donation to the Indigenous Literacy Foundation, which will provide 1,700 books in the 2018 book supply to 20 remote communities, supporting literacy for many more Indigenous children and their families.

## Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School

**Location:** Australia

SMEC's ANZ Divisional CSR Committee has provided a donation to support the Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School. Established in 1996 by Engineering Aid Australia, the school offers Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students a combination of engineering and social activities that provide a pathway to a career in engineering.

## Las Araucarias Preschool

**Location:** Chile

Las Araucarias Preschool provides early childhood education and development support for more than 100 underprivileged children (aged between two and four years) from the Huechuraba commune, an impoverished area in the Santiago province. SMEC has supported the Las Araucarias Preschool since 2012.

Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Project Profile

# Supporting orangutan survival in Borneo

**Location:** Indonesia

The SMEC Foundation partnered with the Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to the conservation of the Bornean orangutan and its habitat.

Funding from the SMEC Foundation has been put towards replanting six hectares of tropical rainforest that were lost at the Samboja Lestari orangutan rehabilitation centre during major forest fires. Samboja Lestari sanctuary provides a safe haven for orangutans to learn essential survival skills prior to being released back into their natural environment.



Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Project Profile

# Construction of family home

**Location:** Kenya

The SMEC Foundation has partnered with So They Can (STC) a not-for-profit organisation working with communities in Kenya and Tanzania to help break the poverty cycle through education and empowerment.

To date, a number of STC projects have received funding from the SMEC Foundation, with employees from SMEC Kenya augmenting the funding by generously giving their technical expertise to these projects. One of the projects is the construction of a family house in Miti Mingi Village, which provides a safe space for orphans and vulnerable children.



**local people**  
**global experience**