

# THIS IS YOU



**OXFAM**  
Australia

# YOU & OXFAM

OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS, AS A MEMBER OF THE OXFAM COMMUNITY, YOU STOOD BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD, ALL HELPING ONE ANOTHER.

TOGETHER WE BUILD, WE STRIVE AND WE FIGHT FOR EACH OTHERS' EQUALITY.

JUL

AUG

SEP

## WINTER 2011

Last winter, you and thousands of others rallied to help small-scale farmers like Ecerina (pictured with her grandson below). From her farm in Queme village, Mozambique, Ecerina told us about the problems she faced before she became a part of the Oxfam community. *"The maize does not grow well. The soil is poor and we haven't got enough rain. The crops just die. I still attempt to grow it. I must try in case we get something,"* she said.

Now, thanks to you, she is able to grow nutritious vegetables for her family to eat and to sell at market. *"Oxfam is helping me to grow different types of crops. I received vegetable seeds and I am now growing many different vegetables — cabbages, onions, lettuce and tomatoes,"* Ecerina says. *"I have never grown them before. I am very proud that I grew them myself."*

**YOU DID THIS.**



Mozambique: Ecerina and her grandson Marcos. Photo: Matthew Willman/OxfamAUS.



OCT

NOV

DEC

## SPRING 2011

Last year you were with us in rural Western Australia supporting Aboriginal healing circles. Healing circles create new opportunities for Aboriginal women, men and children to improve their health and deal with past trauma.

In the tiny coal town of Collie, women can congregate, calling themselves the Collie Yorga's, meaning women. Diane Barron is one of those women.

Within the Oxfam community, you have welcomed Diane, and many more like her into a safe space where Aboriginal women can discuss sensitive issues and support each other. Participants feel stronger when their problems can be shared and tackled together. These circles have proven to be a very effective form of healing for Indigenous people as Diane explained, *"Since I've joined the group ... I feel happy. They say it's a healing group, well, it really helped me."*

**YOU DID THIS.**



Western Australia: Collie Yorga's members sharing stories. Photo: Bonnie Savage/OxfamAUS.



Cambodia: Oeun and her family had their lives changed with a water filter.  
Photo: John Sones/OxfamAUS.

JAN

FEB

MAR

## SUMMER 2012

Last summer you were with Oxfam working in Koakagnae village, Cambodia, teaching Oeun and her family (pictured above) about water-borne disease, as well as providing them with water filters, hygiene training and materials for building toilets.

*"If my husband and children got sick, I couldn't go and work on our farm. For me it's okay, I can take care of my children, but if my husband is sick we can't do anything ... nobody can work in the field," Oeun said. "When my boys get sick they can't go to school."*

We've now seen how a simple water filter can mean better health for many women, men and children in the world. It can also give the invaluable gift of time — for school and for finding new ways to earn an income.

In a village as remote as Oeun's — three hours to the closest health centre and 100 kilometres from a hospital — diarrhoea can mean death. Clean water is a basic necessity. Without it, families are thrown into an ongoing cycle of problems. Sickness can stop children from getting an education and families from growing food.

But as an Oxfam member, helped by other members like you, all that is in Oeun's past. *"My life is easier now. I don't have to go to the bush to collect firewood to boil water. I have more time to do other work," Oeun explains. "The toilet and the water filter have reduced the sickness in my family."*

**YOU DID THIS.**



Chimbalanga, Malawi: Erinimo and his family have more opportunities and grow more nutritious food thanks to a single goat and you. Photo: Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam.

APR

MAY

JUN

## AUTUMN 2012

This past autumn in Malawi, you worked with farmers like Erinimo to send his children to school. Erinimo tells us *"I received my goat in 2005. Since then it's had nine kids. I sold five and still have four plus one large female. When I received the first female kid, I gave it back to the community-based organisation and then it had another kid. I sold that one so that I could pay school fees for my two children at secondary school."*

And the goats keep on giving. Erinimo says *"We collect the manure every two to three days and put it on our compost heap. The compost is used as fertiliser for all our crops ... When we use chemical fertiliser the vegetables lose that natural touch, they are less nutritious and they don't taste the same. You are assured of better health when you eat vegetables from a manure garden."*

Erinimo's wife Nora says *"When we were married things were really tough. We had not started farming and relied on ganyu (casual labour). We had no money. We could not even afford small things like soap. Now that we have the goats and pigs and we have our own land, things have changed."*

**YOU DID THIS.**

**YOU & OXFAM**  
**AND ALL THAT WE'RE ACHIEVING TOGETHER**

WE ARE A SEA OF HANDS,  
HELPING TEACH MOTHERS  
TO GROW GARDENS AND  
FEED THEIR FAMILIES.

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**YOU  OXFAM**  
**AND ALL THAT WE'RE ACHIEVING TOGETHER**

Cover caption: Natercia, age 22, is part of Lepo village in Timor-Leste which frequently experiences heavy rain and long drought periods. After working with Oxfam, communities like Natercia's now plant weather-resistant crops and have more food to eat and sell.  
Cover photo: Tim Herbert/OxfamAUS.