

Anglicans in Development Ltd

Policy AID1041

Community Development and Non-Development Activities Policy

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To be reviewed no later than 2027

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Introduction and context

AID is committed to ensuring that it accurately and transparently represents its activities to the people it works with, its donors, its funders and the public.

AID raises and manages funds in order to engage with its church partners, both in Australia and overseas, via three distinct models:

1. *Overseas Aid and Development;*
2. *Benevolent Support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples via Educational initiatives; and*
3. *Responses, through church partners, to disasters in Australia.*

AID may occasionally fund overseas projects, via the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Scheme (OAGDS), which may be classed as *Welfare*. However, these activities are also clearly separated from AID's *Aid and Development* activities.

From time to time AID's activities may also include the support of partners who engage in political activities as part of their response to the imperative to alleviate poverty. However, AID will not use funds raised via the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Scheme (OAGDS) to fund such activities.

AID does not engage in Church Support or Evangelism. However, AID's parent company, Anglican Board of Mission Australia (ABM) does engage in such activities. These activities are completely separate from AID's activities and do not use funds raised for Community Development or Humanitarian Assistance.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is:

- i. To guide AID, and its stakeholders and partners, in making clear separations between *Aid and Development* activities on the one hand, and non-*Development* activities such as *Evangelism* and *Church Support*, *Partisan Political Activities* and *Welfare* on the other.
- iii. To address AID's compliance obligations with the Code of Conduct of the Australian Council for International Development ("the ACFID Code of Conduct") when communicating with or soliciting donations from private donors and the public, including fundraising for restricted and unrestricted purposes from aid agencies, sponsors and supporters, and fundraising from the general public.

Scope

This policy is intended to apply to the whole of AID: its governing body and committees, its employees and volunteers, its marketing and communication activities, its programming and advocacy activities, and its reporting to the public and other bodies. This policy also extends to AID's *Aid and Development* partners and associated implementing organisations.

Definitions

Aid and Development

Activities which address poverty and its causes and/or address global social justice issues, and those which provide emergency relief, disaster recovery, and meet the immediate needs of refugees and internally displaced people.

Development activities are those which aim to improve the long-term well-being of individuals and communities in developing countries. *Development* activities must demonstrate: fair distribution; be informed by local people; and deliver sustained or lasting benefits.

Development activities carried out by AID are governed by the following policies and guiding principles:

- AID2026 Guiding Principles for AID's Strengths-based Approach
- AID2030 Guiding Principles on Alleviation of Poverty
- AID1017 Human Rights-based Development Approach
- AID1018 Community Participation and Inclusivity Policy
- AID1021 Sustainable Impacts in Community *Development* Policy
- AID1024 Capacity *Development* Policy
- AID2025 Policy on *Development* Partnerships
- AID1028 Disability and *Development* Policy
- ABM1032-AID1032 Gender and *Development* Policy
- AID2032 Church Agencies Network (CAN) Guiding Principles on Proselytization and Poverty

Humanitarian *Aid* activities carried out by AID are governed by the *Core Humanitarian Standards*² and by the following AID policies:

- AID1033 Humanitarian Response Policy
- ABM1009-AID1009 Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment Policy

- B2024 Humanitarian Response Procedures
- B2023 Humanitarian Response Appeal Procedures

Church support

Activities which contribute to the support of the church for its own sake, as distinct from activities which help AID's implementing church partners to develop and strengthen appropriate systems for engaging in *Aid and Development* activities.

Evangelism

Activities whose purpose is to promote a particular religious belief or adherence to a particular faith or denomination (see also *Proselytisation*).

Partisan political activities

These are activities that are associated with facilitating or supporting a political party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

For the purpose of this policy '*Partisan political activities*' include:

- AID's or its partners' staff being involved in party political activities;
- Using funds or resources to facilitate or support a specific political party, candidate, or party-political organisation in a local, regional or general/ national election;
- Using funds or resources to facilitate or support a particular politician or faction to gain power within a government or within a political party structure.

Proselytisation

Activities undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denominational affiliation to another (See also *Evangelism*).

Welfare

Welfare activities are defined as care and maintenance which aims to maintain people in a particular condition on a longer-term basis and are not eligible for funding through the Australian Government's ANCP program. Substantial and broad impact on social and economic conditions in the community is not normally expected from *Welfare* programs.

Welfare may be provided to an individual or family basis including home-based and institutional care programs, such as those provided by orphanages, homes for the elderly, hospices and the provision of food for those who are destitute.

Welfare activities are typically:

- implemented independently of other sustainable community *Development* activities;
- include no strategy for integration into broader community *Development* programs;
- provided on an individual or family basis, rather than on a community basis, and are unconnected to emergency needs; and
- implemented on a long-term basis with no clear exit strategy.

Guiding Principles

- a. Within AID's understanding of *Aid and Development*, recognition of the spiritual dimension of a community's life is acknowledged. Any engagement with a community which seeks to change behaviour and/or practice cannot ignore this dimension. However, AID does not seek to impose, nor will it permit its partners to impose, religious beliefs or values as part of or as a condition of any of its *Aid and Development* activities or in conjunction with the same.
- b. Accordingly, AID will not fund or support the following:
 - i. activities which promote a particular religious belief; and
 - ii. activities which directly or indirectly require adherence to a set of religious beliefs.
- c. AID strongly supports the non-Proselytisation requirements of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct and accreditation with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- d. AID strongly supports Compliance Indicator 7.3.2 of the ACFID Code of Conduct (part of Quality Principle 7 – Governance), "Member development initiatives consistently demonstrate the separation of development and non-development activities".

Policy

1. AID will ensure that its Community *Development* funding to its partners is not directed to communities on the basis of their being Anglicans or Christians, or on the basis of political affiliation, but that selection of Community *Development* projects is made on the basis of need and the local partner's capacity to deliver the program.
2. AID will ensure that there is a clear differentiation between *Aid and Development* activities on the one hand, and Non-*Development* Activities on the other, in all its Advocacy work.
3. Funds raised for overseas *Development* projects and Humanitarian *Aid* via the Australian Government's Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS) will neither be used for *Evangelism* and *Church Support*, nor will they be used for *Partisan political activities*.
4. AID will ensure that all its staff, and all volunteers seeking to assist partners, are cognizant of and agree to comply with this policy.
5. AID will ensure that its promotion and education activities are in conformity with this policy and its preamble.
6. AID will ensure that its Community Development funds are kept separate in its accounts from funding for any non-development activities.
7. As AID believes that development assistance must be provided on a non-discriminatory basis, the acceptance of specific political beliefs or membership in a particular political group must not be a condition for participating in relief and development programmes on an equal basis.
8. Clear reference will be made to this policy in AID's Partnership Agreements, annual Project Funding Agreements and Conditions of Funding Agreements and Partner Toolkits. Partners' signing of the Conditions of Funding Agreement will signify their

acceptance of and compliance with this policy in respect of activities funded by AID.

9. AID will ensure separation of *Development* and non-*Development* activities in all stages of the project cycle, including partner capacity assessments, project appraisals, implementation, monitoring, learning and evaluation.
10. Any *Non-Development* components of a *Development* project will be managed, reported and accounted for separately from *Aid and Development* components.
11. All AID's fundraising materials will be reviewed prior to publication to ensure that appeals and funding requests make a clear distinction between *Aid and Development* and *Non-Development* activities, via the use of visually identifying materials such as a distinctive logo.
12. Any funds raised for non-*Development* activities will be tracked, managed and reported and accounted for separately to those raised for *Aid and Development* activities.

Resources (most recent versions of the documents below)

ACFID Code of Conduct and Good Practice Toolkit for Compliance Indicator 7.3.2

ACFID Code of Conduct: Definitions

DFAT's Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS) Guidelines

DFAT's Australian NGO Accreditation Guidance Manual

Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) Guidelines

AID Organisational Procedures Manual

AID's Partner Toolkits for (a) *Development* and (b) Humanitarian Assistance

AID's Communications Manual

B2018 AID Program Finance Manual

Review

This policy will be reviewed no later than 2027.

Policy History	
Name of Policy	Date Adopted
D1027 Community Development and Welfare Policy	March 2010, March 2015
D1026 Community Development and Political Activities Policy	March 2010, March 2015
D1025 Community Development and Evangelism Policy	March 2010, March 2015
D1041 Community Development and Non-Development Activities Policy	April 2018
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