

INF Australia separation of DEVELOPMENT and NON-DEVELOPMENT activities POLICY

Policy number:		Version:	3
Owner:	CEO	Approved on:	December 2018
Users:	All	Scheduled review date	December 2021

THIS POLICY COMPLIES WITH: ACFID CODE OF CONDUCT (7.3.2)

RELATED INF AUSTRALIA POLICIES: INF AUSTRALIA DEVELOPMENT POLICY

RELATED INF AUSTRALIA PRACTICE DOCUMENTS: INF AUSTRALIA SEPARATION OF DEVELOPMENT AND NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES PRACTICE DOCUMENT; AND DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE DOCUMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

INF Australia is committed to transparency in all of our activities and with all of our stakeholders: partners, donors, and the public.

2. PURPOSE

INF is a Christian organisation that works with a wide range of Christian and non-Christian donors and partners and we need to ensure clear separation between our aid and development and non-aid and development objectives and activities and that we clearly communicate how we use our funds. This policy addresses our ACFID compliance obligations.

3. SCOPE OF POLICY

This Policy is intended to apply to all INF Australia activities. The policy is applicable to all INF Australia employees and volunteers. The policy also extends to INF Australia partners and associated implementing organisations.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

INF Australia is a faith based agency whose philosophy of development is derived from biblical and theological reflection. Development is understood as a process of transformation that contributes towards people being able to live 'life in all its fullness'¹ – materially, socially and spiritually.

As part of its compliance with the ACFID Code of Conduct, INF Australia has committed to ensure that funds and other resources designated for the purpose of aid and development will be used only for those purposes and on the basis that activities are implemented without making participation conditional on conversion or adherence to a particular religious denomination. Development activities will not promote a

¹ INF Vision statement

particular religious adherence or seek converts, support a political party, or promote a candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

INF Australia supports and is committed to abiding by the following principles:

- to ensure accurate representation of our activities to the people we work with, donors and the public
- to ensure that funds raised for aid and development purposes are not used to exploit people and communities who are vulnerable and do not place any conditions or obligations on recipients in terms of non-development, religious or political outcomes that would affect their access to services being offered

Where there are components of partner programs which involve evangelistic or partisan political activities, these will be implemented, promoted and accounted for separately.

5. DEFINITION OF AID AND DEVELOPMENT

INF Australia supports the definition of aid and development given in the ACFID Code of Conduct and believes that good aid and development are characterised by:

1. Strengths based approaches which encourage people and communities to create sustainable solutions for themselves that seek to address the causes of poverty and injustice.
2. Advocacy and other processes that seek to empower rights holders to claim their rights and ensure that duty bearers exercise their duties
3. Supporting systems and structures which enable people to move out of poverty
4. Emergency relief, disaster recovery and meeting the immediate needs of displaced people.

6. DEFINITION OF NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Following the example of Jesus Christ, INF Australia takes a holistic approach to development, recognising spiritual aspects to human transformation. Any activity whose objectives include the promotion of religious adherence (undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith or denominational affiliation to another) will be considered as a non-aid and development activity and will be managed and accounted for separately. The following activities will be considered as non-aid and development activity and will be managed and accounted for separately.

1. Welfare: We recognise the need for improved institutional care in Nepal and support for extremely poor and marginalised individuals which meets DFAT's definition of welfare:

Welfare activities are defined as care and maintenance, other than in refugee and emergency situations, which aims to maintain people in a particular condition on a longer-term basis. Substantial and broad impact on social and economic conditions in the community is not normally expected from welfare programs.²

Ideally this will be integrated with good development practice that also strengthens communities (twin track approach). Some of our activities will have a welfare focus.

2. Evangelism: We will sometimes support activities that enable Christians to live out their faith, caring for and praying for those in need. Even when we are supporting specifically Christian

activities, their services will not discriminate on the basis of faith and we will never support activities that place pressure on people or provide incentives to change their faith nor take advantage of them.

3. Political: INF Australia may support programs that engage with local, regional or national politics but does not provide support for partisan political activities, which are those associated with facilitating or supporting specific political individuals or parties to gain power.

7. COMPLIANCE

This policy provides a framework for INF Australia’s compliance with principle 7.3.2 of the ACFID Code of Conduct which requires ‘consistent demonstration of separation of development and non-development activities, extended to partners’.

8. CONTROL PROCEDURES

The procedures that INF Australia uses to ensure that we and our partners can differentiate between development and non-development activity and communicate this appropriately to stakeholders, donors and the public are based on obligations in the ACFID Code of Conduct and are outlined in our separation of development and non-development activities Practice Document.

9. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW PROCEDURES:

1. INF Australia will review this policy on a regular basis, at least every three years.
2. Confirmation of internal compliance with this policy will be recorded in meeting minutes of the Relief Fund Committee at least once annually.
3. Discussion of the principles, implication and outworking of this policy will be conducted with partners on a regular (preferably at least annual) basis.

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Summary of Changes	Authorised by:
March 2015	Version 1: New Policy	INFA Board
June 2018	Additional definitions of development and evangelism	INFA Board
Dec 2018	Additional definitions of welfare, development, political and evangelistic activities Update of relevant clause in ACFID Code of Conduct Updated Section 9 to include discussion with partners	INFA Board

