

## PM 1.4 POLITICAL AND EVANGELISTIC ACTIVITIES POLICY

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain Anglican Aid's approach to Political and Evangelistic Activities across the organisation. It also guides Anglican Aid and our partners to make a clear separation between development activities and non-development activities. It elaborates on the relevant programming principles detailed in the Aid and Development Guidelines with respect to broader organisational implications including: Programming, Expenditure reporting, Fundraising, Advocacy campaigns, Communications, Choice for Donors and Partners.

### 2. Scope

This policy applies to all Anglican Aid staff and volunteers. Anglican Aid works with a broad range of in-country partners, local to where our work impacts, and as such applies to the staff and volunteers of these organisations as well.

### 3. Glossary of Terms:

Term	Description
<b>Anglican Aid</b>	Means the Archbishop of Sydney's Anglican Aid, a body corporate which administers the Anglican Aid Fund, the Overseas Ministry Fund and the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund. ORAF is the fund which has ACFID accreditation.
<b>Overseas Relief and Aid Fund (ORAF)</b>	ORAF is the relief and aid fund undertaking long term development and relief projects in developing countries.
<b>Anglican Aid Fund (AAF)</b>	This fund provides welfare support to churches in Australia and partners overseas for activities of a benevolent nature consistent with the PBI rules.
<b>Overseas Ministry Fund (OMF)</b>	This fund provides support to Anglican churches to support theological education, evangelistic activities and supporting ordained clergy in related activities.
<b>Development</b>	This is what is needed to bring a person or community to self-sufficiency <sup>1</sup> . It is an activity undertaken in order to reduce poverty and address global justice issues. This involves activities such as emergency management, education, job creation, training, advocacy, and community education, provision of technical services, environmental protection, protection and protection of human rights <sup>2</sup> . It is not done for people but with people. <sup>3</sup>
<b>Evangelism</b>	Telling someone the gospel of Jesus – in its variety of metaphors, formats and methods and praying that God in his mercy will save. But the characteristics of <i>effective</i> evangelism are also becoming a trusted friend. Taking an interest in the other person's life. Spending time with them. Earning the right to speak by being a good listener. Making the effort to hear, understand and empathise with the other person's story. <sup>4</sup>
<b>Gospel</b>	The message of forgiveness through the death and resurrection of Jesus. <sup>5</sup>
<b>Non-development activity</b>	Includes activities undertaken to promote a particular religious adherence or to support a particular party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

<sup>1</sup> Keller, T, The Gospel and the Poor in Themelios (2008), Volume 33, Issue 3, p. 21

<sup>2</sup> ACFID – General Definitions: <https://acfid.asn.au/content/general-definitions>

<sup>3</sup> Corbett, S., & Fikkert, B, When Helping Hurts, Moody Press, 2009, p.100

<sup>4</sup> Dr Sam Chan – Evangelism in Australia Today, August 2016 TGC <http://ow.ly/ImFp30h12qj>

<sup>5</sup> DeYoung, K., & Gilbert, G. (2011). What is the Mission of the Church? Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission, p.110

<b>Political Activities</b>	Supporting a political party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.
<b>Proselytism</b>	Refers to violence, coercion, manipulation, or incentives being provided to induce someone to change their faith position <sup>6</sup> ( <i>or worldview or ideology</i> ) [Text in italics added]. All interventions risk some form of either religious or secular proselytism. <sup>7</sup>
<b>Relief</b>	Relief is the urgent and temporary provision of emergency aid to reduce immediate suffering from a natural or man-made crisis. <sup>8</sup> It is direct aid to meet physical/material/social needs. <sup>9</sup> Relief programs alone can create patterns of dependency.
<b>Welfare Activities</b>	Care and maintenance, which aim to maintain people in a particular condition on a longer-term basis. Welfare may be provided to an individual or family including home-based and institutional care programs, such as those provided by orphanages, homes for the elderly, hospices, educational opportunities for children and adults, and the provision of food for those who are destitute. <sup>10</sup>

#### 4. Principles

Anglican Aid is the trustee for the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund (ORAF) which delivers development activities and the Overseas Ministry Fund (OMF) which resources the church outside Australia to fulfil the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20). Anglican Aid is committed to the belief in the Bible as the Word of God, subsequently, Biblical principles, categories, and imperatives form the foundation of Anglican Aid's, mission, vision, and practice. Relevantly it affirms:

- All human beings are created in the image of God, are precious in his sight, and are worthy of love, protection and care, regardless of any other factors (e.g. race, religion, ethnicity, indigeneity, disability, age, displacement, caste, gender, sexual orientation, poverty, class or socio-economic status).<sup>11</sup>
- Government is an institution upheld by God and therefore it is important to honour it and uphold its authority accordingly, including abiding by relevant tax laws.
- The mission of the church is to go into the world and make disciples by declaring the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Spirit and "gathering these disciples into churches, that they might worship the Lord and obey his commands now and in eternity to the glory of God the Father."<sup>12</sup>
- Concern for (1 John 3:17) and giving to the poor (2 Cor 8:8-9) will result from having believed the gospel and is a crucial sign that we believe the gospel.

Anglican Aid, through its various funds supports a variety of projects which include development activities, relief activities, welfare activities and evangelism. Anglican Aid does not support political activities or religious or cultural proselytism.

<sup>6</sup> Mitchell, B, Mapping a theology of change for Christian development organizations, World Vision, 2010, p.18

<sup>7</sup> Proselytizing Development, Fountain P in Emma Tomlin (Ed) The Routledge Handbook of Religions and Global Development, Routledge (29 Jan 2015), p.80

<sup>8</sup> Corbett, S., & Fikkert, B, When Helping Hurts, Moody Press, 2009, p.99

<sup>9</sup> Keller, T, The Gospel and the Poor in Themelios (2008), Volume 33, Issue 3, p. 20

<sup>10</sup> ANCP Manual, 2016, p.16

<sup>11</sup> 1 John 4:7-11, John 3:16, Luke 2:9-14, Psalm 8

<sup>12</sup> DeYoung, K., & Gilbert, G. (2011). What is the Mission of the Church? Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission, p. 61.

For all of the projects we deliver, Anglican Aid provides assistance to people on a non-discriminatory basis. Anglican Aid supports people irrespective of race, religion, ethnicity, indigeneity, disability, age, displacement, caste, gender, sexual orientation, poverty, class or socio-economic status.

## 5. Guidelines

- a) All project proposals are appraised to ensure they fall within the criteria for activities for funding, according to the relevant tax legislation, for the fund they are expected to receive funds from.
- b) Once a project is approved to receive funds from a particular fund an activity agreement is developed and projects will be re-reviewed upon formation of each successive activity agreement or upon staff concern.
- c) No project will be approved for funding by Anglican Aid or the funds for which it is the trustee if it includes political activities.
- d) The Overseas Relief and Aid Fund will only support development or relief activities and a project will only be approved to receive funds from the Overseas and Relief Fund if it does not include evangelism.
- e) All campaign communication will be consistent with the Fundraising and Marketing Policy and clear that all fundraising activities will be for the stated purpose of the appeal and will comply with Anglican Aid's stated mission and purpose.
- f) Communication with new partners will make it clear that Anglican Aid has a number of funds and activities that are evangelistic cannot be funded under the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund.
- g) A separate activity agreement is to be formed in the case that a partner receiving funds from the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund is also to receive funds for evangelistic activities.
- h) While evangelism is not undertaken as part of relief or development activities funded by the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund, provision of support to beneficiaries occurs through relationships with communities and individuals through Anglican Aid's partners. Aid is not delivered in a relational vacuum.
- i) Anglican Aid recognises that in working with Christian partners, faith will be shared through relationships built across the wider program of a Christian organisation's work.
- j) During the life of the project, Anglican Aid will receive and review regular project reports, including financials to ensure no political or evangelistic activities are carried out using funds from the Overseas and Relief Fund and that project activities are in accord with the approved proposal and Activity Agreement.
- k) All Activity Agreements with funding from the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund will contain a clause that clearly states that the funds cannot be used for evangelistic or political purposes.
- l) Anglican Aid's Annual Reports will include a separate summary of income and expenditure for each of the funds and the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund will have financials that are ACFID-Code Compliant.
- m) The Annual Report will also include a statement of the availability of our full financial reports.
- n) Projects that are funded by the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund will be clearly marked in the Annual Report, and on each project advertised on the website, as well as any other communication medium, to ensure separation of activities in our communication.
- o) The Annual Report will include a description about how we work.
- p) Anglican Aid does not conduct advocacy campaigns through the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund.

**Working with partners**

- q) Communication with new partners will accurately represent what funds can legitimately be used to support development, relief or evangelistic activities and Anglican Aid's policy on the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund exclusively funding development and relief activities.
- r) Anglican Aid's partners will receive a copy of this policy.
- s) Ongoing dialogue between Anglican Aid and its partners will reinforce the definitions of development, relief, evangelism, proselytism, and political activities and the need for the Overseas Relief and Aid Fund exclusively funding development and relief activities.

**6. Related Documents**

Where necessary, procedures for each of the above will outline more information as to how each guideline is to be understood and implemented.

- DFAT OAGDS Guidelines (2016)
- PBI Guidance Document
- PM 1.1 Aid and Development Guidelines
- Anglican Aid Development Activity Agreement Template
- PO 4.1: Fundraising and Marketing Policy

**7. Review**

To ensure that the guidelines continue to be effective and applicable, they will be reviewed by the Anglican Aid Board every 5 years. Conditions which might warrant a review on a more frequent basis would include:

- Employee or management concern
- Changes to legislation

Following completion of any review, the guidelines will be revised/updated to correct any deficiencies if required and approved by the Board. Any changes to the policy will be communicated to staff and partners.

**CHANGE HISTORY**

DATE	COMMENT
31/8/19	New Policy approved by the Board