

AUSTRALIAN DOCTORS FOR AFRICA

Policy: NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Date last approved: 10/2024

Date of next review: 10/2027

Approved by: Board

1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide ADFA and its partners to make a clear separation between aid and development and non-aid and non-development objectives and activities. This policy addresses ACFID compliance obligations 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.

1.2 Scope

This policy applies to all ADFA staff, board members, volunteers, donors, partners and funders, and to all ADFA's activities, including fundraising activities.

2 DEFINITIONS

Aid and Development: Activities undertaken in order to reduce poverty and address global justice issues via direct engagement through community projects, emergency management, community education, advocacy, volunteer sending, provision of technical and professional services and resources.

Non-development: Activities undertaken to promote a particular religious adherence or to support a particular party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

Welfare: Welfare activities often have a narrow focus on the provision of services to individuals, families and communities on a long-term basis with no clear strategy to build local capacity and reduce dependence on external support.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

3.1 Guiding Principles

- 1 ADFA is a not-for-profit organisation. It has no political or religious affiliations.
- 2 ADFA does not engage in non-development activities, nor generally in welfare activities (see section 3.3), or any activity whose objectives include the promotion of religious adherence, or partisan activities that are associated with facilitating or supporting specific political individual or parties to gain power.
- 3 ADFA is only concerned with providing development in the form of medical training and provision of services, medical equipment and structural redevelopments for vulnerable communities in East Africa, to enable greater access to treatment and long term sustainable development.
- 4 ADFA will not accept funds, donations, advice, support or enter into project partnerships intended to influence the political or religious affiliations of the vulnerable communities with which it works.
- 5 ADFA does not fund any non-development or welfare activities that are undertaken by any of its partners or any other party.

3.2 Application

Communication with new partners, including all memoranda of understanding, will state ADFA's position with respect to non-development activity. New partners will be advised of this policy.

3.3 Welfare

Given its development purpose, ADFA does not generally engage in or fund welfare activities. However, it is recognised that on occasion a volunteer medical team may encounter specific circumstances that warrant unusual expenditure on welfare. Such instances need necessarily be one off expenditures, on compassionate grounds for humanitarian reasons. Such expenditure is restricted to ADFA and is not an option available to partner organisations to request.

Such expenditure must be separately differentiated in the trip reconciliation by the Team Leader, or by the Finance Administrator, and acquitted as a line item on the monthly profit and loss statement. Government grants and tax deductible donations will not be used to fund such expenditure.

4 REFERENCES

- ACFID Code of Conduct
- ADFA Constitution
- ADFA Policy – Approval of Projects
- ADFA Policy – Donations and Fundraising
- ADFA Policy – Financial Management

Established: February 2014

Reviewed: November 2016; May 2020, August 2022, September 2024

Note: ACFID requires this policy to be reviewed every two years.