



Anglicans in Development

Sustainable Communities Program Strategy 2024-2029

Anglicans in Development (AID) is wholly owned by the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) and supports ABM's overall vision and mission. AID particularly recognises the holistic nature of that mission, which seeks to see communities empowered and transformed spiritually, economically, and socially.

This 5-year program strategy takes into account changes in the Australian and global aid and community development landscape. These include greater urgency to address climate change, increasing requests for humanitarian assistance and disaster response, reduction in funding sources, increased opportunities and challenges post-pandemic, and strengthening locally-led development. This program strategy was developed following consultations across all stakeholder groups. These included ABM and AID board members, partners, other Anglican Alliance members, ABM and AID staff, and supporters.

Our Vision

Safe, healthy, resilient, and thriving communities that build on their strengths and talents to address environmental and socio-economic challenges.

Our Mission

With our partners, we promote a holistic, transformational approach to sustainable communities that is community-led, empowers women and people experiencing vulnerability, and fosters positive and sustainable change. We support our partners to be effective, self-sustaining communities and organisations through respectful relationships, mutual learning, and sharing of experience across our network. AID supports communities experiencing poverty or disasters to partner with local Anglican or ecumenical church-based organisations in transformational development initiatives.

Our Values

AID seeks to uphold the five marks of mission (<https://www.abmission.org/about/the-five-marks-of-mission/>). We also embrace ABM's values (<https://www.abmission.org/about/>).

Our Goals¹

- (i) stand in solidarity with and resource Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as they strengthen their institutions and communities.
- (ii) support communities in Australia and overseas as they build on their strengths, address challenges of poverty and injustice and enable whole and meaningful lives.
- (iii) engage with communities in Australia and overseas to prepare for and respond to disasters and humanitarian crises.

Changes We Want to See

1. Partner communities demonstrate increased prosperity, including for those experiencing greatest vulnerability.
2. Partner communities demonstrate behaviours that create new opportunities for women, safer families, and improved health outcomes.
3. Partner communities are better prepared for disasters and are able to respond effectively to disasters.
4. Partner organisations deliver effective, accountable community development.
5. Partner organisations demonstrate increased sustainability.

AID's Approach to Sustainable Communities

With Whom?

Partnership with local churches

Long term partnerships are at the heart of AID's approach to sustainable communities. We will work with our partners to learn from each other, building mutual understanding of effective sustainable communities.

As part of the Anglican Church of Australia, AID's mandate is to work with Anglican or ecumenical church organisations. This mandate is AID's 'comparative advantage.' The church is often an integral member of the poorest and most remote communities. The church's longevity, widespread presence, and ability to mobilise teams of motivated voluntary workers are all strengths that can be brought to bear in sustainable communities' work. The Anglican church has both grassroots reach and structures that enable effective management of resources.

¹ **ABM's Goal 3:** increase the scale and impact of AID's Sustainable Communities program by:

- i. standing in solidarity with and resourcing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as they strengthen their institutions and communities.
- ii. supporting communities in Australia and overseas as they build on their strengths, address challenges of poverty and injustice and enable whole and meaningful lives.
- iii. engaging with communities in Australia and overseas to prepare for and respond to disasters and humanitarian crises.

Partnership with communities

AID's Sustainable Communities program supports people in marginalised communities to identify changes they want to see to improve their lives, prepare for and recover from disasters, and use their learning to work together for a common agenda.

Sectors

AID's Sustainable Communities program in 2024-2029 will focus on Food Security and Livelihoods, WASH, and Education. Gender equity, social inclusion and environmental sustainability underpin all our programming. AID's support of local communities is largely through training and modelling sustainable technologies. This often includes harnessing and renewing traditional knowledge. In addition to community development programming, AID will support communities in preparing for, and responding to, disasters.

Where we work

Factors considered in choosing where to work include the local need, the potential for effective partnership and AID's ability to secure funds to work in that country.

In 2024, AID supports twelve partners across Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the Pacific.² AID also supports communities affected by humanitarian emergencies. The diversity of programs within the current portfolio brings benefits in terms of AID's capacity to learn and build a learning network, and for maintaining supporter interest in Australia.

Partner Capacity Development

AID's aim is to support our partners in their organisational development that draws on their strengths to deliver strategic, resilient, and self-sustaining community programs. AID adds value to the work of our partners through:

- Providing financial resources
- Sharing lessons and experience from across the Sustainable Communities program of twelve countries
- Engaging in dialogue on development effectiveness
- Sharing knowledge on sustainable communities' approaches, project design, implementation, evaluation, and thematic expertise
- Supporting the institutional and organisational capacity of our partners in areas such as strategic planning, financial management, and project management.
- Facilitating exchanges between our partners so that they learn from each other.
- Working with the global network of the Anglican church to exchange learnings and promote high-quality people-centred development practices.

Risk Management

AID needs sufficient resources to implement this program strategy successfully.

² ZACOP in Zambia, Eldoret Diocese and ADSE in Kenya, Al Ahli in Gaza, the Diocese of Jerusalem, CPM in Myanmar, the Diocese of Colombo, VIMROD and ECARE in the Philippines, ACPNG in PNG, and ACOM in Vanuatu and the Solomons.