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DOHA SEPARATION OF DEVELOPMENT & NON DEVELOPMENT POLICY

INTRODUCTION:

Door of Hope Australia Inc. (DOHA) is committed to accurately representing our activities to the people we work with, our donors and the general public.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to guide DOHA and our partners to make a clear separation between development and humanitarian and non- development objectives and activities. This policy addresses our 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.

SCOPE OF POLICY:

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

BACKGROUND:

DOHA is a Christian based organisation that aims to help those that are suffering in the world, through practical expressions of God's love. Development is understood as a process of transformation that leads to improvement in the whole of human life – materially, socially and spiritually.

As part of its compliance with the ACFID Code of Conduct, DOHA 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 will not be used to promote a particular religious adherence or to support a political party, or to promote a candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

DEFINITION OF NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

DOHA defines evangelical activities are those activities that promote a particular religious adherence or are undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denominational affiliation to another.

DOHA defines partisan political activities are those that are associated with facilitating or supporting specific political individuals to gain power. This does not include advocacy which is aimed at persuading and influencing decision makers and opinion leaders, and is not aimed at promoting partisan political objectives.

DEFINITION OF AID AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

DOHA is committed to ensuring that funds and other resources designated for the purpose of aid and development are used only for those purposes. The concept of aid and development activities can be distinguished by the following principles:

- a. Strengths based approaches which encourage people and communities to create solutions for themselves
- b. Processes that seek to address the causes of poverty
- c. Processes that seek to empower rights holders to claim their rights and ensure that duty bearers exercise their duties
- d. Supporting systems and structures which enable people to move out of poverty
- e. Emergency relief, disaster recovery and meeting the immediate needs of refugees and internally displaced people.

COMPLIANCE:

This policy provides a framework for DOHA's compliance with [principle 7.3.2](#) of the ACFID Code of Conduct. This principle outlines four obligations for signatories to the ACFID Code of Conduct:

1. Signatory organisations will have a clear separation between aid and development and non-aid and development objectives and activities based on the definitions of aid and development and non-aid and development.
2. This separation will be clear in all fundraising, advocacy, programs and other activities, in public communications and in all reporting of activities and expenditure, including annual reports. Any fundraising solicitations that include references to both aid and development and non-development activities will provide donors with the choice of contributing to aid and development activity only. Donors will be made aware that donations to non-development activities are not tax deductible.

3. Signatory organisations will ensure that any such separation in fundraising, advocacy, programs and other activities, in public communications and in reporting, extends to partner and implementing organisations and is documented.
4. Tax deductible projects are managed in a separate bank account (Public Fund) from Administration and evangelistic and welfare activities. The monies that are donated towards community development projects are not to be used for any other purpose.

DOHA is required to extend this requirement for separation of development and non-development activities to partners through MOU's or similar.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

DOHA 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 evangelical or partisan political activities, these will be promoted and accounted for separately.

CONTROL PROCEDURES:

DOHA ensures that we and our partners can differentiate between development and non-development activity and communicate this appropriately to stakeholders, donors and the public.

The signatory will appraise all project proposals to determine whether they include non-aid and development components.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES:

Separation of development and humanitarian and non-development in programs and projects

1. DOHA will appraise all project proposals to determine whether they include non-aid and development components.
2. Appraisers will record any issues, which must then be followed up to ensure that the policy requirements are satisfied before the project is approved.
3. Appraisers record any aspects of the project that should be closely monitored over the life of the project to ensure compliance with this policy.

4. Partner capacity assessment processes require the signatory to identify whether the partner is engaged in non-development activities, and if so, how it is able to manage and account for them separately to aid and development activity.
5. Components of projects that represent non-development activity will be managed, reported and accounted for separately to aid and development components.
6. In-country project monitoring will include monitoring of the separation of non-development activities from development and humanitarian activities as part of project monitoring, learning and evaluation processes.

Separation and development and humanitarian and non-development in communications – including advocacy materials.

1. Guidelines are in place that address appropriate reporting in organisational promotional materials.
2. All articles written by overseas project partners or photos supplied by partners for reporting materials are reviewed for differentiation between development and humanitarian and non-development activities.
3. Communications materials are reviewed prior to publication to ensure separation of reporting and fundraising for development and humanitarian and non-development activities.

Separation of development and humanitarian and non-development in fundraising and provision of choice for donors.

1. Fundraising materials will be reviewed prior to publication to ensure that solicitations make a clear distinction between aid and development and non-development activities.
2. Where fundraising solicitations include references to both development and humanitarian and non-development activities, they will be reviewed to ensure that donors are provided with the choice of contributing to aid and development activity only.
3. Funds raised non-development activity will be tracked, managed, reported and accounted for separately to those raised for development and humanitarian components.

Extending the separation of development and humanitarian and non-development activities to partners

1. Communication with new partners will state the Member's position on support for non-development activity.
2. Member's partners will receive a copy of this policy.

3. The partner agreement Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or equivalent will include clear definitions of development and humanitarian activity and non-development activity.
4. The partner agreement (MoU or equivalent) will require the partner to agree that the Members funds designated for development and humanitarian purposes will not be used to fund any non-development activity.
5. Ongoing dialogue between the Member and its partners will reinforce the definitions of development and humanitarian and non-development activity and the need for a separation between development and humanitarian and non-development activity.

Reviewing the DOHA Development, Welfare, Evangelism & Politics Policy

DOHA Development, Welfare, Evangelism & Politics Policy will be reviewed every two years.