



DOOR OF HOPE AUSTRALIA INC

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DOHA PARTNER POLICY

1. Definition of a Partner

Partners are individuals, groups of people, or organisations that collaborate with Door of Hope Australia Inc. (DOHA) to achieve mutually agreed objectives in aid and development activities.

- Partnerships are viewed within their unique cultural context.
- Partnerships are based on equity, where both parties are accountable to each other and the community.
- Partnerships are negotiated, with responsibilities and expectations mutually agreed upon and documented.

2. Values Sought in a Partnership

DOHA seeks partners who demonstrate:

- **Mutual Respect & Equity:** Acknowledging the unique strengths each party brings.
- **Integrity & Transparency:** Openness in financial management and decision-making.
- **Commitment to Learning:** A desire for two-way knowledge exchange.
- **Community Standing:** A proven track record of trust within their local community.
- **Shared Vision:** A heart for positive change consistent with DOHA's Christian values.

3. Partnership Process and Due Diligence

DOHA does not enter into partnerships lightly. We follow a robust process to ensure alignment and safety:

- **Relationship Building:** At least five meetings are required with potential partners to verify shared values and goals before a formal agreement is considered.
- **Due Diligence:** For organisational partners, DOHA conducts a formal assessment to ensure:
 - Legal registration with local government.
 - Sound governance structures and ethical policies.

- Financial health and the existence of independent audits.
- **Vetting:** All partners (organisations and key personnel) must be screened against the Australian National Security List of Terrorist Organisations and the DFAT Consolidated List.

4. Partnership Agreements

All formal collaborations are governed by a **Partnership Agreement** or **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**, which includes:

- **Clear Objectives:** The specific project goals and timeframes.
- **Roles & Responsibilities:** Clearly defined obligations for both DOHA and the Partner.
- **Compliance Obligations:** Partners must adhere to DOHA's Child Safeguarding, PSEAH, and Financial Management policies.
- **Review Cycle:** Agreements are reviewed every two (2) years to ensure they remain effective and relevant.

5. Capacity Strengthening

DOHA is committed to "Locally-Led Development." We do not just fund projects; we invest in people. Whenever possible, DOHA will provide support to help partners improve their effectiveness in:

- Project design and implementation.
- Financial management and reporting.
- Integrating cross-cutting issues (Gender, Disability, Climate Action).
- Safeguarding and risk management.

6. Transparency with Stakeholders

DOHA will clearly communicate to donors and primary stakeholders the role that partners play in delivering activities. We believe in "naming" our partners to celebrate their local leadership, provided it is safe to do so.

7. Safeguarding and Complaints

Partners are primary guardians of safety in the field. They must ensure the safety and wellbeing of all stakeholders against harassment, exploitation, and abuse.

- **Reporting:** Any breach of conduct by a partner or its staff must be reported immediately.

- **Access:** Stakeholders are informed that they can direct complaints to the DOHA Chairman of the Board, Mr Bryan Grasby, at bgrasby@doorofhope.com.au or via the website at www.doorofhopeaustralia.org.

8. Policy Review

The DOHA Partner Policy will be reviewed every two years to ensure it reflects current best practices in international development and ACFID standards.

Last Reviewed: 13th March 2026

Next Review: [Date + 2 Years]