

## 46. Non-Development Activity Policy

**POLICY OWNER:** Directors of AMF-Cufa

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### 46.1. Overview

AMF-Cufa is committed to ensuring that we accurately represent our activities to the people we work with, our donors, and the public.

### 46.2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to guide AMF-Cufa and our partners to make a clear separation between aid and development; and non-aid and 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.

### 46.3. Scope

This Policy is intended to apply to all AMF-Cufa activities. The policy also extends to AMF-Cufa partners and associated implementing organisations.

This policy applies to:

- Directors, employees, interns and volunteers of AMF-Cufa
- Contractors to AMF-Cufa
- Employees of contractors to AMF-Cufa, and
- Partners of AMF-Cufa, and

In this policy each person in the categories listed above is referred to as an AMF-Cufa “representative”.

### 46.4. Background

AMF-Cufa is an international development agency dedicated to alleviating poverty with over 50 years’ experience across the Asia-Pacific region.

AMF-Cufa is a secular organisation and does not engage in or support any evangelical activities and is not linked to any political party. In some instances, AMF-Cufa may partner with local faith-based organisations on the basis that their project delivery is without evangelising or making participation conditional on conversion or adherence to a particular religious denomination. AMF-Cufa may also partner with advocacy organisations from time to time on the basis that their activities are not in support of a political party or candidate.

#### 46.5. Definition of Aid and Development Activities

AMF-Cufa 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:

- Strengths based approaches which encourage people and communities to create solutions for themselves;
- Processes that seek to address the causes of poverty;
- Processes that seek to empower rights holders to claim their rights and ensure that duty bearers exercise their duties; and
- Supporting systems and structures which enable people to move out of poverty.

#### 46.6. Definition of Non-Development Activities

AMF-Cufa is a secular organisation and does not provide support for evangelical activities and partisan political activities

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.

Partisan political activities are those that are associated with facilitating or supporting a specific political party or candidate to gain power, or supporting organisations affiliated with a political party. 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.

#### 46.7. Welfare

As per the explanatory notes for the Australian Non-Government Cooperation Program (ANCP);

*“Funds disbursed overseas for welfare, religious or political activities [...] are inconsistent with Australia’s aid policy. NGOs must clearly document the assessment of inclusion or exclusion of disbursements in RDE calculations.*

*Welfare activities are defined as care and maintenance, other than in refugee and emergency situations, which aims to maintain people in a particular condition on a longer-term basis. Substantial and broad impact on social and economic conditions in the community is not normally expected from welfare programs. Welfare may be provided to an individual or family basis including home-based and institutional care programs, such as those provided by orphanages, homes for the elderly, hospices and the provision of food for those who are destitute. Welfare activities are typically:*

- *implemented independently of other sustainable community development activities;*
- *include no strategy for integration into broader community development programs;*
- *provided on an individual or family basis, rather than on a community basis, and are unconnected to emergency needs; and*
- *implemented on a long-term basis with no clear exit strategy.”*

Therefore, AMF-Cufa is unable to use any ANCP funds for welfare activities.

#### 46.8. Political Activities

As per the explanatory notes for the Australian Non-Government Cooperation Program (ANCP);

*“Political activities are defined as supporting a political party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party. Examples include:*

- *NGO staff being involved in party political activities;*
- *using funds or resources to facilitate or support a specific political party, candidate, or party political organisation in a local, regional or general / national election;*
- *using funds or resources to facilitate or support independence or separatist movements;*
- *using funds or resources to facilitate or support a particular politician or faction to gain power within a government or within a political party structure”.*

Therefore, AMF-Cufa is unable to use any ANCP funds for political activities.

#### 46.9. Religious Activities

As per the explanatory notes for the Australian Non-Government Cooperation Program (ANCP);

*“Religious activities are defined as supporting or promoting a particular religion, including activities undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denomination to another. Activities that build up religious structures (including infrastructure, training or organisational activities) are also ineligible for ANCP funding, unless those structures are specifically designed to provide nondenominational development outcomes”.*

Therefore, AMF-Cufa is unable to use any ANCP funds for religious activities.

#### 46.10. Compliance

This policy provides a framework for AMF-Cufa’s compliance with commitment 7.3.2 of the ACFID Code of Conduct. To meet this commitment AMF-Cufa agrees to the following four obligations:

1. AMF-Cufa 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 above.
2. This separation will be clear in all fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in all reporting including annual reports.
3. 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.
4. AMF-Cufa will ensure that any such separation in fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in reporting, extends to partner and implementing organisations and is documented.

#### 46.11. Guiding Principles

AMF-Cufa 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; and
- 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.