

This policy will apply to activities and operations of CBM Australia, at all times.

CBM Australia seeks to fund initiatives which bring sound development outcomes and support CBM Australia Strategy, in accordance with the CBM Australia Human Rights Programming Policy.

### **What is the purpose of CBM Australia's Development Activities Policy?**

This policy and the underlying standards and procedures relating to it will be used in identifying activities for funding and clarifying the developmental direction of funded activities. This policy, supporting standards and procedures assist in aligning CBM Australia's program with both Australian tax deductibility status referencing the Australian Governments Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS), and with the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Recognised Development Expenditure (RDE) guidelines (2017).

CBM Australia ensures that funds classified as tax deductible donations for the purpose of overseas aid are used to support eligible development activities. CBM Australia has processes to review development initiatives throughout the project cycle. These processes classify development initiatives as defined in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT's) Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS) Guidelines (2016). These classifications are determined by the presence of three factors: participation in development, fair distribution of benefits in development and sustainability in development.

### **Eligible development activities**

Development activities improve the long-term well-being of individuals and communities in developing countries. Eligible development activities must demonstrate the fair distribution of sustained or lasting benefits and be informed by local people. This definition addresses Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS) Guidelines (February 2016):

- Fair distribution  
Seek to ensure that development activities aim to improve the well-being of those in need without favouritism or discrimination by race, religion, culture or political persuasion.
- Local participation:  
Meet the needs expressed by a community, and seek community participation in addressing those needs to ensure that activities are appropriate, are in direct response to local needs, and build on local capacities.
- Sustained or lasting benefits:  
Seek long term impacts through technical, social, cultural, financial and environmental sustainability. The activity itself does not need to be sustained or demonstrate that it is sustainable, but the benefits which have resulted from the activity should be lasting and able to be sustained.

CBM Australia seeks to maximise its Recognised Development Expenditure (RDE). This further guides the nature of CBM Australia's development program as follows:

- CBM Australia will not fund proselytism activities that promote a particular religious adherence.
- CBM Australia will not fund partisan political activities that support a political party, or to promote a candidate or organisation affiliated to a particular party.
- CBM Australia seeks to avoid or minimise funding for welfare activities as described in the DFAT RDE guidelines.
- CBM Australia seeks to avoid or minimise channelling funds on behalf Australian individuals or entities as described in the DFAT RDE guidelines.

The Board and management of CBM Australia are fully committed to the principles of this policy. Any breach of strategic significance or any material risk associated with this policy will be reported to the Board in a timely manner.