

Nusa Tenggara Association

Policy on Development & Evangelism, Development & Welfare, and Development & Politics

v2.1 February 2023

Preamble

The mission of the Nusa Tenggara Association (NTA) is to alleviate the worst poverty in the province of Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia. The NTA sponsors economic and social development activities selected by our sponsored communities, ranging from building water tanks and wells, through providing farming equipment and training to local farmers, to supplying books for schools and training local teachers. We engage partner organisations that employ and provide training to over twenty Indonesian staff in West Timor and Flores. In the past decades, Indonesia has suffered severe terrorist attacks and faced major terrorism challenges.

Policy on Development and Evangelism

Religion, and particularly Christianity, is clearly an important factor in the daily lives of the people in this area and the NTA understands the importance of respecting the beliefs of the people. At the same time, it is careful not to intervene in any way either to support, oppose or change the people's religious beliefs.

Definition of 'Evangelism'

Promoting a particular religious adherence, such as activities undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and / or denominational affiliation to another.

Application

NTA will not fund, support or facilitate programs that are, or may be construed as, "evangelistic".

NTA will not use religious preference or similar ideological discrimination either as a pre-requisite to providing assistance or as an incentive for engagement in a project.

NTA will not use its own funds, other donor funds or government funds, including DFAT ANCP grants, to support projects where the beneficiary is a religious institution. The exception is that funding is provided to schools, including those with religious affiliations, but funds provided are used solely to promote education and are not used for evangelistic purposes.

Policy on Development and Welfare

The NTA does not undertake welfare activities of any kind.

Definition of 'Welfare'

Welfare is provision of assistance to maintain individuals in a particular condition on a long-term basis, such as institutionalised care programs provided by orphanages, child sponsorship (that is,

funds given directly to children or their families, and not funds drawn from child sponsorship and used for development purposes), hospital care programs, hospices, and costs for the maintenance of structures for institutionalised care programs (for example, schools or orphanages). Welfare:

- Is implemented independently of other sustainable community development activities;
- Includes no strategy for integration into a broader community development program;
- Is provided on an individual or family basis, rather than on a community basis, and is unconnected to emergency needs.

Welfare activities are implemented on a long-term basis with no clear exit strategy.

Application

The NTA will use neither its own funds nor other donor government funds, including DFAT grants, to support welfare projects.

The NTA will support projects that can be expected to lead to continuing self-generated activities by communities that contribute directly or indirectly to development outcomes.

The NTA's projects and programs will target communities, families, and schools and not individuals.

Policy on Development and Politics

The NTA seeks to ensure that it does not become identified with any particular political or ideological group. The NTA adopts a general stance of neutrality in relation to all issues of a political nature. At the same time, it recognises that staff of its partner organisation and project beneficiaries in the region have political views and affiliations and will express these in various ways.

Definition of 'Political'

Supporting a political party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party. Examples include:

- NTA staff being involved in party political activities;
- NTA staff 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; and
- NTA staff 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.

Application

The NTA will use neither its own funds nor other donor government funds, including DFAT grants, to:

- Support activities by partisan political organizations or individuals;
- Support independence movements; or
- Provide direct assistance to unions to organise industrial action and give direct material assistance to striking workers.

Reviewing this policy

This policy will be reviewed every 5 years or as required to assess its effectiveness, appropriateness and accuracy.

Version control

Version	Date	Approved by Board	Details
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1.0	2016	2016	Policy implemented
2.0	July 2018	31 July 2018	Updated Policy. No substantive changes
2.1	February 2023	21 Feb 23	Updated Policy. No substantive changes