

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Between the Commonwealth of Australia (as represented by the Australian Agency for International Development) and Australian Red Cross 2010/11 – 2012/13

27 November 2010

The Australian Red Cross and AusAID are two leading humanitarian organisations in Australia. We have much in common. We share a similar belief in the fundamental rights of people to have their basic needs met and we work, separately and jointly, in situations of conflict and human insecurity. We have complementary strengths, and our humanitarian and development policies are closely aligned. Our different networks and accountability systems enrich our collective analysis, which in turn, guides our responses to humanitarian crises. The Partnership broadens our shared ability to prepare for disasters, address the needs of vulnerable people, and respond to emergencies on a global basis. AusAID will provide \$19.92 million over the period 2010-11 to 2012-13.

Guiding Principles

In entering this Partnership Agreement, the parties mutually acknowledge:

1. The unique position of Australian Red Cross as auxiliary to Australia's national public authorities in the humanitarian field, and as part of the global Red Cross Red Crescent Movement;
2. The principles and rules that direct the activities of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (including Australian Red Cross) such as the Fundamental Principles; International Humanitarian Law; Statutes, Regulations and Policies of the Movement; Resolutions of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent; and
3. The Australian Government's endorsement of the Principles and Good Practice of Humanitarian Donorship, and AusAID policies, including its Humanitarian Action Policy and Disaster Risk Reduction Policy.

In entering the Partnership Agreement, the parties also acknowledge their mutual commitment to:

1. Build a close, strong and more transparent partnership based on open and effective communication, including the sharing of lessons learned to strengthen the quality and effectiveness of joint and separate activities;
2. The Millennium Development Goals;
3. Assist vulnerable communities by enhancing Government and National Society counterpart capacities in areas of agreed focus;

4. Promote International Humanitarian Law and International Disaster Response Law;
5. Adhere to relevant humanitarian and development accountability standards, including: the Sphere Project Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response; Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief; and the Australian Council for International Development Code of Conduct;
6. Implement joint pledges made at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent;
7. Pursue gender equality and equity as a critical development goal in its own right wherein gender equality is recognised as essential to reducing poverty, promoting social justice and increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of development cooperation efforts;
8. Evaluate program effectiveness, particularly from the perspective of partners and beneficiaries, recognising that evaluation must be in line with the Development Assistance Committee Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance, including:
 - i. Sustainability, wherein programs are designed to benefit future generations as well as the present generation, taking account of issues of environmental sustainability and long-term economic, social and financial viability; and
 - ii. Disability inclusive development that promotes practical approaches to promote the dignity and well-being of people with disability, and promoting and enabling active participation and contributions by women, men, girls and boys with disability.

The parties also acknowledge their mutual respect for each other, recognising that:

1. Each party has different roles that can complement the other in contributing to international humanitarian and development outcomes; and
2. Each party holds independent and sometimes differing policies, and that in the spirit of respectful partnership, each party may make constructive comment on the policies of each other and, as appropriate, advocate for policy change.

Background

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) on behalf of the Australian Government has a long standing relationship with Australian Red Cross through both its international humanitarian and development work. Australian Red Cross is part of the International Movement of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement), which is recognised by AusAID as one of the four pillars of the international humanitarian system alongside: governments, the United Nations and the Non-Government Organisation community.

The Partnership Agreement outlines the principles to guide engagement between AusAID and Australian Red Cross and underpins AusAID's ongoing support of Australian Red Cross humanitarian and development initiatives. The Partnership is an arrangement under which various program and thematic areas within AusAID can form funding agreements with Australian Red Cross. This Partnership Agreement does not replace or affect existing

agreements between the parties. AusAID engagement with the International Committee of the Red Cross continues to be managed separately. The Partnership sets out the principles to guide future cooperation between AusAID and Australian Red Cross between 2010/11 and 2012/13.

This Partnership Agreement commits both parties to build on the existing relationship and to collaborate on shared global priorities to achieve humanitarian and development outcomes. It also acknowledges that Australian Red Cross and AusAID have other partnership agreements such as the Volunteers Partnership, AusAID-Australian Red Cross Pacific Disaster Management Partnership and Cambodia Initiative for Disability Inclusion which currently reside under separate Agreements. The AusAID-Australian Red Cross Pacific Disaster Management Partnership will transition under this Partnership from the 2011/12 financial year. It is expected that these programs will fall under this Partnership Agreement as their current contracts expire and they move into future phases.

GOAL OF PARTNERSHIP: Assist the most vulnerable people and communities to achieve healthier, safer, more protected and sustainable lives for themselves and their children by building and delivering an enhanced and complementary AusAID/Australian Red Cross contribution to international humanitarian action

Shared Objective 1 – The Australian Government, with Australian Red Cross as its auxiliary in the humanitarian field, complement and enhance each other's contribution to save lives and alleviate suffering in the face of international emergencies, by delivering assistance that is timely, effective, visible and appropriate.

Both parties aim to improve the effectiveness of international emergency responses by strengthening Australian Red Cross' capacity to contribute to the global Red Cross Red Crescent Movement's emergency response capabilities. During international emergencies, AusAID and Australian Red Cross will closely engage to share, as appropriate, resources, information, and knowledge. In the spirit of encouraging the development of its sovereign National Society¹, AusAID will consider funding mechanisms for international emergencies that promote Australian Red Cross inputs.

On an ongoing basis, both parties commit to strengthen each others disaster management capacity, as relevant to the complementary roles each party plays in international emergency preparedness, response and recovery. Both parties also commit to collaborate on relevant policy and analyses and to advocate jointly for commonly agreed outcomes relating to international emergencies.

Partnership commitments	Indicators
AusAID and Australian Red Cross will work in ways that facilitate the delivery of a timely, effective, appropriate and visible Australian contribution to international emergencies.	<p>Ongoing AusAID and Australian Red Cross funding to support skilled disaster management specialists through Australian Red Cross Delegates Program.</p> <p>AusAID support for a Red Cross Movement response to individual international emergencies, through both ad-hoc funding and international appeals.</p> <p>AusAID funding mechanisms promote, as appropriate, Australian Red Cross inputs to international emergencies in the areas of restoring family links, water and sanitation, public health and shelter.</p> <p>Australian Red Cross responds to regional emergencies with logistical, human and/or material support within 24-48 hours of a request from an affected National Society.</p>

¹ Statutes of the Movement: Section 1: General Provisions Article 2: States Parties to the Geneva Conventions Clause 2 states "Each State shall promote the establishment on its territory of a National society and encourage its development."

	<p>AusAID approves emergency response funds within seven days of announcement of Australian assistance.</p> <p>Australian Red Cross adds value and visibility to Australian Government emergency responses through strategic advice, providing an Australian contribution, and monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>AusAID support to Australian Red Cross improves the quality and coverage of Red Cross Movement responses.</p> <p>Australian Red Cross publications acknowledge Australian Government support to Red Cross emergency programs.</p>
On an ongoing basis, both parties commit to strengthen each others international disaster management capacity, as appropriate to their complementary roles in emergency response.	<p>AusAID and Australian Red Cross support improves the timeliness and effectiveness of international humanitarian response.</p> <p>Strengthened regional disaster management capacities through Australian Red Cross technical inputs.</p> <p>Evidence of increased sharing of operational knowledge and training between Australian Red Cross, AusAID and NGOs.</p>
<p>Enhance and expand sharing of information and emergency response plans in the event of an emergency.</p> <p>Collaborate on relevant policy, context and country analyses and share information, where possible, including the promotion of shared priorities on humanitarian issues in whole-of-government, domestic and international fora.</p>	<p>Information on response plans effectively communicated prior to a humanitarian emergency.</p> <p>Two-way information flows established to strengthen mutual policy positions on humanitarian response.</p> <p>Australian Red Cross to act as a collaborative consulting affiliate to ACFID's Humanitarian Reference Group, and within the Red Cross Movement to increase information sharing and collaboration between Australian NGOs involved in humanitarian action and the Red Cross Movement.</p>

Joint advocacy for increased disaster response where shared objectives have been identified.	Shared international emergency priorities identified and put forward at relevant fora (for example, water and sanitation, and shelter).
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Shared Objective 2 – AusAID and Australian Red Cross support the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction activities and strategies into disaster management and development programming

Both parties will work towards reducing risks faced by vulnerable communities in developing countries to disasters through engaging, as relevant to the complementary roles each party plays, in shared planning and dialogue, and through disaster risk reduction programs. Both parties aim to strengthen Government and National Society counterpart capacities in disaster risk reduction and to facilitate the alignment of our in-country counterpart's disaster risk reduction initiatives.

Partnership commitments	Indicators
Australian Red Cross will support National Societies to integrate disaster risk reduction into disaster preparedness, response and recovery programming,	Increased number of partner National Societies implementing Disaster Risk Reduction initiatives. Disaster Risk Reduction approaches evident through disaster preparedness, response and recovery activities.
Parties will champion the importance of Disaster Risk Reduction in all humanitarian and development programs and policies.	Leadership and advocacy on Disaster Risk Reduction are supported and enhanced. Shared commitment to the implementation of International Disaster Response Law. Joint participation in relevant Disaster Risk Reduction training events.

Shared Objective 3 – Reduce vulnerability and build resilience by ensuring development programs are well-targeted and delivered effectively

Based on Australian Red Cross' commitment to Sustainable Programming, and the *Paris Declaration*'s commitment to local ownership of the development process, both Parties commit to building the capacity of priority National Societies in Asia and the Pacific to effectively manage community-based programs that address local vulnerabilities and strengthen community resilience. Development programs will target the key sectors of Public Health (including community based health; HIV and AIDS; blood services; improving access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation); and Disaster Management (as outlined in Shared Objectives 1 and 2).

Partnership commitments	Indicators
Develop and sustain increased capacity of Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies in Asia and the Pacific to respond to, and reduce, local vulnerabilities.	<p>Increased capacity of prioritised National Societies (in the areas of planning, governance, program management, human resources, branch development, finances, communications, and volunteer engagement) to identify and respond effectively to local vulnerabilities.</p> <p>Prioritised National Societies demonstrate increased and sustainable technical capacity in the areas of Public Health and Disaster Management.</p> <p>Evidence of improved health and safety outcomes for vulnerable populations in targeted communities.</p> <p>Utilisation of vulnerable peoples including women, men, girls and boys with disability to facilitate identification and implementation of appropriate responses in situations of risk.</p>
Implement programs in line with the objectives identified in contracts between AusAID and Australian Red Cross.	All programs implemented in line with contractual requirements.

Shared Objective 4 – Renew commitments to share information and strengthen evaluation and lesson-learning

To improve the coordination and effectiveness of the Partnership Agreement, Australian Red Cross and AusAID commit to improving communications between the two organisations, both in Australia and internationally. An enhanced commitment will also be made to strengthening review, reflection and evaluation activities and to sharing and implementing the lessons learned from these practices.

Partnership commitments	Indicators
Increase dialogue between Red Cross National Societies, Australian Red Cross representatives in-country, and the Australian Government.	Regular meetings and sharing of local information between AusAID posts, AusAID country desks, National Societies and Senior Australian Red Cross representatives in-country. AusAID involvement in the National International Humanitarian Law Advisory Committee.
Actively collaborate and share lessons learned with AusAID, and within the relevant sector, on good practice approaches to development and humanitarian response.	<p>Joint reviews and lesson-learning exercises conducted where possible.</p> <p>Dissemination of case studies that demonstrate good practice in development and emergency responses.</p> <p>Joint reviews and lessons-learned exercises at least annually, conducted either in-country or in Australia.</p> <p>Exchange of information between staff of AusAID and Australian Red Cross through attending joint meetings, joint training and developing joint organisational capacity.</p>
Improved effectiveness of all responses.	<p>Evidence of evaluation of all AusAID-funded, and Australian Red Cross implemented, activities against at least one of the DAC evaluation criteria.</p> <p>Evidence of integration of lessons learnt into ongoing development programs and humanitarian responses.</p> <p>Increased harmonisation of management frameworks and reporting within the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement.</p>

	Collection, analysis and utilisation of relevant disaggregated data particularly regarding gender, age and disability, where appropriate, to inform future programming.
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Shared Objective 5 – Build public awareness of key humanitarian values, including International Humanitarian Law and the outcomes of the AusAID – Australian Red Cross Partnership

Both parties will work collaboratively to increase public awareness of the work carried out by AusAID and Australian Red Cross through this Partnership Agreement. Both parties recognise the benefits of raising public awareness of key humanitarian values, both domestically and internationally, as a means of educating and building support within the community.

AusAID recognises the right of Australian Red Cross to comment on Australian Government policy and advocate for policy change. AusAID also recognises the right of Australian Red Cross to implement humanitarian and development programs consistent with its humanitarian philosophy and mandate.

The Australian Red Cross recognises that AusAID is delivering the government's aid program.

Partnership commitments	Indicators
Acknowledge Australian Government support to Australian Red Cross through media engagement, communications and public affairs.	Jointly agreed public awareness activities are undertaken in Australia and in partner countries.
Strengthened advocacy on humanitarian policy and frameworks.	Joint media releases, public events and announcements in Australia and partner countries.
	Production and dissemination of joint research and communication pieces within Australia and internationally.
	Australian Government funding acknowledged in Red Cross Appeals and records.
	Australian Red Cross provides real-time reporting on Delegates deployed with Australian Government funding for use in media and public communications.

	Strengthened capacity of both parties and the sector to understand key humanitarian values through training and the provisions of thematically relevant information. Australian Red Cross is supported to promote and encourage the implementation of International Humanitarian Law domestically and regionally where appropriate.
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Funding Contributions

AusAID is committed to the provision of core funding to well-performing partners. AusAID will provide, subject to annual budgetary appropriations by the Australian Government, core funding of AUD19.92 million for Australian Red Cross for 2010/11 – 2012/13 as shown below:

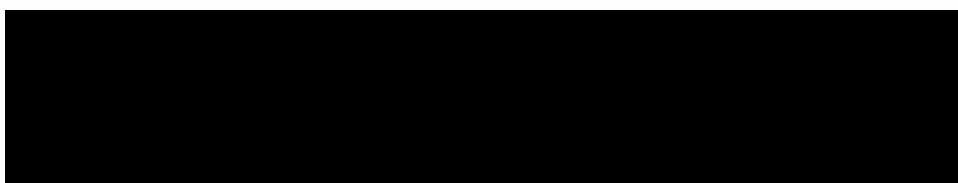
2010/11 – AUD 4.92 million (paid by separate invoices under existing programs)

2011/12 – AUD 7 million

2012/13 – AUD 8 million

While Australian Red Cross has the flexibility to program this core funding according to their priorities, a proportion of the funding must be used to deliver the objectives of the Delegates Program. Each year under this partnership, Australian Red Cross and AusAID will agree in writing to a broad suite of programs that will fall under this Agreement.

AusAID will provide this funding each financial year into the following account:



AusAID will make the core funding and may make additional financial contributions to Australian Red Cross and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) in times of humanitarian crisis and emergency. These contributions will follow the Grant Funding Orders under the existing Head Agreement between Australian Red Cross and AusAID – Agreement Number 37884. This Partnership will incorporate the current Pacific Disaster Management Partnership from 2011/12.

This Partnership Agreement does not apply to activities developed under the Volunteers Partnership and Cambodian Initiative for Disability Inclusion.

Where support to the IFRC and National Societies is not channelled through the Australian Red Cross, AusAID will notify Australian Red Cross of that decision and provide details of the support.

Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

In measuring the performance of Australian Red Cross and its programs, AusAID will rely principally on Australian Red Cross's own monitoring and evaluation systems, in particular, Australian Red Cross's own annual International program's Report. A joint Completion Review of the Partnership agreement will be conducted approximately six months before its end date to determine its value and impact.

Joint Review

Both parties agree to review this Agreement on an annual basis and at other times as mutually agreed at annual operational and high-level meetings between AusAID and Australian Red Cross.

Partnership Agreement

AusAID and the Australian Red Cross agree that this Partnership Agreement, whilst expressing the goodwill and intent of the Parties to cooperate and collaborate on issues of mutual interest, does not create any legal relations and does not create a partnership at law between the parties in any jurisdiction.

Settlement of Differences

The two parties will consult together at any time upon request of either partner regarding any matter relating to the terms of this Partnership Agreement and will endeavour in a spirit of co-operation, good faith and mutual trust to resolve any difficulties or misunderstandings which may arise. The Australian Government is not responsible for the activities of any person or third party engaged by the Australian Red Cross as a result of this Partnership Agreement, nor will AusAID be liable for any costs incurred by Australian Red Cross in terminating the engagement of any such person or organisation.

Amendments

The Partnership Agreement may be amended and supplemented at any time by an Arrangement in writing in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the two parties.

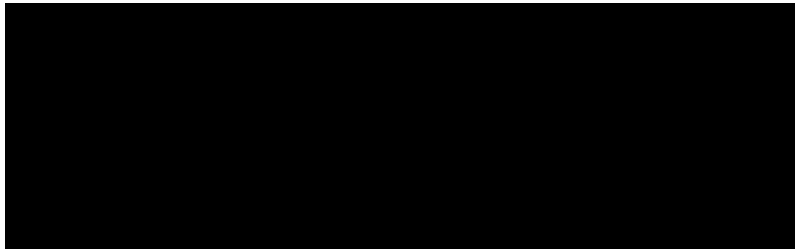
Duration

This Partnership Agreement will take effect from the date of its signature and will remain in effect until 30 June 2013.

Termination

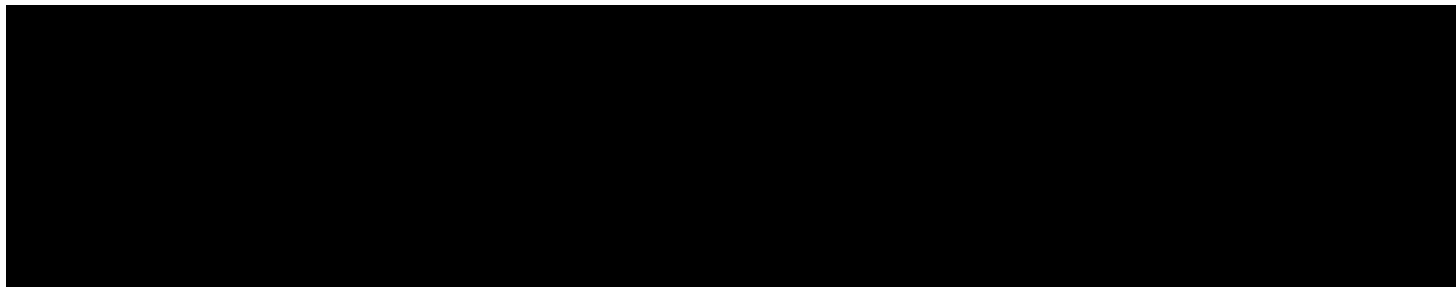
The Partnership Agreement may be terminated by either party for any reason at any time on six months' notice in writing to the other party.

SIGNED on behalf of the **AUSTRALIAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** 27th November 2010



Director General

SIGNED on behalf of **AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS** 27th November 2010



Chief Executive Officer

President

