

GUIDELINES AUSTRALIAN DIRECT AID PROGRAM (DAP)

The Australian Embassy has a small annual allocation of funds for development assistance known as the Direct Aid Program (DAP).

WHAT IS THE DIRECT AID PROGRAM?

The Direct Aid Program (DAP) is a flexible small grants program funded by the Australian Government and managed through the Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade (DFAT) overseas posts. The program aims to support projects with a strong development focus that complement Australia's broader aid program which contributes to sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction.

WHO CAN APPLY?

DAP is available on a not-for-profit basis to individuals, community groups, NGOs and other entities engaged in development activities in countries that are eligible for official development assistance (ODA).

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DAP SUPPORT?

DAP activities should primarily be aimed at achieving practical and tangible outcomes of high development impact. DAP is able to fund activities that have a direct, practical and immediate impact, including capacity building programs in the areas of governance and human rights engagement. We will favourably consider projects:

- supporting education, health, disability, water and sanitation, vulnerable children, women's empowerment, sustainable livelihoods and income generation for marginalised communities. We will also consider governance projects, aiming to link these to tangible outcomes where possible.
- where applicants and their communities make a contribution in labour, materials, transport or cash;
- that enhance educational and cultural exchanges and people-to-people links including through sport; and
- that are innovative, achievable, and have sustainable outcomes

We will generally NOT fund the following:

- cash grants or micro-credit schemes or projects that involve the return of money
- commercial ventures
- purchase of major assets, eg vehicles or land
- Australian or overseas study tours
- international travel
- sponsorship of major sporting tournaments or cultural displays that do not have a clear developmental benefit
- staff salaries
- routine, recurring running costs and administrative expenses including office rental and utility costs, spare parts, routine maintenance

Projects should be self-contained, with finite time lines. Activities in which the recipient community themselves makes a significant contribution in terms of labour, materials or cash are particularly well-received. Projects that might act as a catalyst for additional development of the community or a model for similar developments elsewhere will also be welcomed. Activities may run up to a maximum of two years.

Proposals must be clearly defined with specific outputs. Proposals will be approved or rejected on the basis of:

- the costs and the development benefits of the proposal
- achievable and sustainable outcomes
- soundness of the project's objectives and design
- the practicability of the proposed implementation arrangements, and
- whether the project conforms with the objectives of the Direct Aid Program

The funding ceiling per project is AUD 60,000 (approximately USD 45,000 - amount changes according to exchange rate).

Funding under the Direct Aid Program is limited and only a small proportion of the applications each year is funded.

HOW TO APPLY

The DAP application form is to be completed by the applicant online. The first DAP application round for 2019-2020 is open for submissions from 21 August 2019 at 1300 (CAT) and closes on 11 September 2019 at 2359 (CAT).

To access the English version of the online application form please visit:

<https://dap.smartygrants.com.au/Harare2019English>

To access the French version of the online application form (*for applicants from the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of the Congo*) please visit:

<https://dap.smartygrants.com.au/Harare2019Francais>

In the event you experience difficulties accessing the online application form, please email dap.harare@dfat.gov.au for assistance.

All applications must be accompanied by a fully costed project budget. **A detailed budget is required and must be supported by two quotations for any budget line between USD700 and USD7000 and three quotations for amounts above USD7000.**

Two referees (other than from the applying organisation) are required.

Additional documents may be attached if necessary, however applicants are encouraged to be brief. Pictures are often helpful. The Embassy will seek further information if required.

AFTER SUBMISSION OF YOUR APPLICATION

Applications for DAP funding are screened by the DAP Coordinator. Short-listed projects are then considered by the DAP Committee. Projects approved by the Committee are recommended to the Ambassador for final approval. The assessment process will begin after the closure of each round and can take up to three months. **Only successful applicants will be contacted.**

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Successful applicants will be required to report on implementation and provide (interim) financial acquittal in accordance with the individual DAP funding agreements.

Email enquiries should be directed to the DAP Committee: DAP.Harare@dfat.gov.au

Download the printable version of the guidelines here.