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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. DAP projects should promote a distinctive and positive image of Australia.

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:

- in the areas of community and/or rural development, education, gender equality, disabilities, youth, human rights, the environment, small-scale infrastructure, economic empowerment and ad hoc humanitarian relief.
- where applicants and their communities make a contribution in labour, materials, transport or cash;
- sporting activities that enhance educational and cultural exchanges and people-to-people links
- that are achievable and have sustainable outcomes
- projects that provide educational or occupational/skills training
- 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, e.g. 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.

There is no minimum amount that a single DAP project can receive but the maximum is AUD60,000 (approximately USD 45,000 - amount changes according to exchange rate) over the life of the project.

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

NB: 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 when an official application round has been opened.

An announcement on the next DAP application round opening will be made via this website and the Embassy's other social media handles in due course. Please note that application rounds are usually open for a period of two weeks before the round officially closes.

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. Due to the high number of applications that DAP Harare receives, **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