

Direct Aid Program Application (2026-27)

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Introduction

Overview

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

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
- 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

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maximum is USD40,000 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

Instructions

This form is to be completed by the applicant online. All applications must be accompanied by a fully costed project budget.

This application form should be read in conjunction with information on the Direct Aid Program available at - <https://www.dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/direct-aid-program/pages/direct-aid-program>

Notes:

1. DAP building and construction related projects should meet or exceed Australian standards wherever reasonably practicable to do so. Departure from Australian WHS standards on the basis that meeting such standards is not "reasonably practicable" should only be accepted where it is defensible to do so, supported by a clear, persuasive and documented explanation. In such cases, the project should meet the highest standard that is reasonably practicable, with hazard mitigation measures supported by a hazard identification and risk assessment report identifying the residual risks of injury and illness to any workers or third parties, and proposed mitigation strategy.
2. If the project involves incidental or minimal contact with children, the organisation/applicant must meet the essential standards required by DFAT's Child Protection Policy. But if the organisation or the DAP activity will have direct, sustained or significant contact with children then the organisation/applicant must meet the comprehensive standards. However, DFAT may consider essential standards for locally based/small organisations delivering a DAP activity if deemed appropriate following a risk assessment. Posts may support an organisation to mitigate child protection risks. For information on child protection policy, see <https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/themes/child-protection/Pages/child-protection>
3. Projects must play an active role in addressing the risk of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. For further information see [Protection From Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade \(dfat.gov.au\)](https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/themes/sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/Pages/sexual-exploitation-and-abuse)
4. Recipients of DAP funding must ensure that no support or resources are provided to any individual or entity subject to sanctions (by the United Nations Security Council or the Australian Government) or to any individuals or entities associated with terrorism.
5. Recipients of DAP funding must ensure that the work conducted in relation to this project is undertaken in a safe manner and complies with all applicable local laws, standards and policies that relate to health and safety.

Applicant Details

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* indicates a required field

Applicant Organisation and Contact Details

Organisation Name *

Organisation Name

Type of Organisation *

Other:

Postal Address *

Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, and Postcode are required.

Primary Contact *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Position *

Work Phone Number *

Must be an international phone number

Mobile Phone Number

Must be an international phone number

Email *

Must be an email address

Previous DAP Projects

Have you received DAP funding previously? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, list any projects previously done by this organisation through the Direct Aid Program

Project Name	Name and Contact	Currency Type	Amount Funded	Dates
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If No, provide details of two referees for your project

Referee One

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Position *

Primary Phone Number

Must be an international phone number

Primary Email *

Must be an email address

Referee Two

Name *

Title

First Name

Last Name

Position *

Office Phone Number

Must be an international phone number

Office Email *

Must be an email address

Project Proposal

* indicates a required field

Project Summary

Name of Project *

Word count:

Must be no more than 20 words

Project description *

Word count:

Must be no more than 150 words

Anticipated Start Date *

Must be a date

Anticipated End Date *

Must be a date

Project Location

Project Country *

☐ Palau

Project Location *

Address

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Country is required.

Project Purpose

Select one or more of the Purposes below.

What is the purpose of this project? *

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Education | ☐ Agriculture (including Forestry and Fishing) |
| ☐ Health | ☐ Industry, Mining and Construction |
| ☐ Water Supply and Sanitation | ☐ Trade Policies and Regulations |
| ☐ Government and Civil Society | ☐ Tourism |
| ☐ Conflict, Peace and Security | ☐ Environment Protection |
| ☐ Other Social Infrastructure and Services | ☐ Emergency Response and Relief |
| ☐ Transport and Storage | ☐ Disaster Prevention and Preparedness |
| ☐ Communication | ☐ Gender Equality |
| ☐ Energy | ☐ Other: <input type="text"/> |
| ☐ Business and Other Services | |

Child Protection

DFAT has a zero tolerance approach to child exploitation, abuse and harm. Successful applicants will need to demonstrate their commitment to protecting children through their activity, including with support from DFAT. Applicants are asked to familiarise themselves with the [Child Protection Policy](#) and [The Child and Adult Safeguards Implementation Handbook | Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

Direct Aid Program considers a child to be a person under the age of 18 years.

Please refer to the definitions below to assist with clarity.

No contact with children (No standards to apply): Activities with no anticipated interaction with children

For example: Office-based roles, one-off delivery of corporate goods, service or a trade or remote, desk-based policy advice or writing

Incidental or Minimal contact with children (Essential Standards to apply):

Activities where interaction with children is limited, indirect or incidental

For example: The focus of the activity is solely engaged with adults but is in a setting where children may be present, for example institutional settings such as health centres, attendance at public diplomacy events or delivery of goods/services, where children may be present under the supervision of parents/carers.

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Direct, sustained, or significant contact with children (Comprehensive standards):
where children are anticipated to be regularly in attendance or a beneficiary of activity.

Will this project involve contact with children? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

If yes, does the project have: *

☐ Incidental or minimal contact with children

☐ Direct, sustained or significant contact with children

If Yes, attach a copy of the policy, procedure or guidelines *

Attach a file:

Funding

* indicates a required field

Please outline the total amount of funds you are requesting and breakdown of what the money will be spent on here. This includes materials, transportation of goods, building services

Please note it is not sufficient to simply refer to quotes, a detailed budget must be outlined here. Please attach two quotes for the purchase of any products.

Currency Type *

☐ USD - US DOLLAR

Total Project Cost *

What is the total budgeted cost (in currency selected) of your project?

Total Amount Requested *

What is the total amount (in currency selected) being requested for this project?

Applicant's contribution *

How much are you contributing (in currency selected) to the project?

Budget

Please provide a detailed budget.

NOTE: Ensure all costs quoted in the budget are in the same currency type as the **Total Project Cost**

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Item	Cost per item	Number of Items	Total cost	Applicant contribution	Contribution from other donors	DAP Contribution
EG: water pipes	EG: \$20 per metre	EG: 50 metres	Must be a number.	Must be a number.	Must be a number.	Must be a number.

Attach quotes here

Attach a file:

Recurrent Costs

DAP funding cannot be used for recurrent costs.

Will the project have recurrent costs? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

Explain how you will recover recurrent costs. *

Project Details

* indicates a required field

Why does this work need to be done? *

Word count:

Describe the specific issue or need you want to address (200 words recommended)

What are the planned activities? *

Word count:

Briefly list (bullet points) the specific activities that will take place and where they will take place (200 words recommended)

What are the expected outcomes of the project? *

Word count:

Describe three things you want the project to achieve in terms of benefits for participants and/or others (200 words recommended)

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How will you know if these outcomes have been achieved? *

Word count:

Describe three changes you will see if the expected outcomes of the project occur (150 words recommended)

Risk Assessment

Complete the table below identifying the risks that will be involved in delivering this project. Some risks for consideration may include:

- Performance risks
- Fraud and Corruption risks
- Work, health and safety risks
- Risks of harm to children
- Terrorism Resourcing Diversion risks
- Environmental and/or social risks
- Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment risks

Click the '+' sign or "Add More" at bottom right to add new rows.

Risk Event	Risk Impact	Mitigation Strategy
What could go wrong?	What are we concerned about?	What are we going to do, and who is responsible?

Beneficiaries

Who will benefit from the project? *

Word count:

Describe the estimated number, gender, age and location/region of these participating in the project. Must be no more than 150 words.

Funding Agreement

*** indicates a required field**

Conditions of funding

As a condition of this DAP funding, your organisation must ensure that no funds, resources or support, including training, is provided to any individuals or entities associated with criminal, illegal or terrorist activities.

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Accordingly, your organisation must take all necessary steps to ensure that funding provided by us does not, directly or indirectly, support or contribute to any criminal, illegal or terrorism-related activity.

Does your Organisation, directly or indirectly, support or contribute to, any criminal, illegal or terrorism-related activities? * ☐ Yes ☐ No