

NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY POLICY

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Responsible person	Chris Armitage	Approved by Board on	6 February 2020
Date for Next Revision	6 February 2022		

INTRODUCTION

The Global Evergreening Alliance (the Alliance) is committed to ensuring that we accurately represent our activities to the people we work with, our donors, and the public.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to guide the Alliance and our partners to make a clear separation between development and humanitarian and non-development objectives and activities. This policy addresses our ACFID compliance obligations when communicating with or soliciting donations from private donors and the public, including fundraising for restricted and unrestricted purposes from aid agencies, sponsors and supporters, and fundraising from the general public.

SCOPE

This policy is intended to apply to all Alliance activities. The policy is applicable to all Alliance employees and volunteers. The policy also extends to Alliance partners and associated implementing organisations

BACKGROUND

The Alliance is a development organisation that advances social and public welfare by supporting marginalised smallholder farming and pastoralist communities around the world. It is a secular organisation and does not engage in or support any evangelical activities and is not linked to any political party. In some instances, the Alliance partners with local faith-based organisations on the basis that their delivery is without evangelising or making participation conditional on conversion or adherence to a particular religious denomination. It also partners with advocacy organisations from time to time on the basis that their activities are not in support of a political party or candidate.

POLICY

The Alliance is committed to ensuring that funds and other resources designated for the purpose of aid and development are used only for those purposes. The concept of aid and development activities can be distinguished by the following principles:

- a) Strengths based approaches which encourage people and communities to create solutions for themselves;
- b) Processes that seek to address the causes of poverty;
- c) Processes that seek to empower rights holders to claim their rights and ensure that duty bearers exercise their duties;
- d) Supporting systems and structures which enable people to move out of poverty; and
- e) Humanitarian response and emergency relief, disaster recovery and meeting the immediate needs of refugees and internally displaced people.

DEFINITION OF NON-DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Alliance is a secular organisation and does not provide support for evangelical activities and partisan political activities.

Evangelical activities are those activities that promote a particular religious adherence or are undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denominational affiliation to another.

Partisan political activities are those that are associated with facilitating or supporting specific political party, candidate to gain power or to support organisation affiliated with a political party. This does not include advocacy which is aimed at persuading and influencing decision makers and opinion leaders, and is not aimed at promoting partisan political objectives.

The Alliance will ensure separation of development activities from non-development activities in programming, expenditure reporting, fundraising, advocacy campaigns, communications, choice for donors, and partners.

The Alliance will also show evidence of the separation of development and non-development activities, to the extent possible.

The Alliance will extend this requirement for separation of development and non-development activities to partners through MOUs or similar, as appropriate.

COMPLIANCE

This policy provides the framework for the Alliance's compliance with principle B.1.5 of the ACFID Code of Conduct. This principle outlines four obligations for signatories to the ACFID Code of Conduct:

1. Signatory organisations will have a clear separation between aid and development and non-aid and development objectives and activities based on the definitions of aid and development and non-aid and development in section F (Definitions) of the Code;
2. This separation will be clear in all fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in all reporting including annual reports;
3. Any fundraising solicitations that include references to both aid and development and non-development activities will provide donors with the choice of contributing to aid and development activities only; and
4. Signatory organisations will ensure that any such separation in fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in reporting, extends to partner and implementing organisations and is documented.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Alliance supports and is committed to abiding by the following principles:

- a) to ensure accurate representation of our activities to the people we work with, donors and the public; and
- b) to ensure that funds raised for aid and development purposes are not used to exploit people and communities who are vulnerable and do not place any conditions or obligations on recipients in terms of non-development, religious or political outcomes that would affect their access to services being offered.

Where there are components of partner programs which involve evangelical or partisan political activities, these will be promoted and accounted for separately.

CONTROL PROCEDURES

The Alliance ensures that we and our partners can differentiate between development and non-development activities and communicate this appropriately to stakeholders, donors and the public.

As signatory to ACFID's Code of Conduct, the Alliance will meet each obligation of principle B.1.5 of the Code through the following procedures:

Obligation 1: Signatory organisations will have a clear separation between aid and development and non-aid and development objectives and activities based on the definitions of aid and development and non-aid and development contained in section F (Definitions) of ACFID's Code of Conduct.

Procedures:

1. The Alliance will appraise all projects proposals to determine whether they include non-aid and non-development components, as an integral part of our current due diligence activities.
2. Partner systems assessment processes will include identifying whether the partner is engaged in non-development activities, and if so, how it is able to manage and account for them separately to aid and development activities.
3. Components of projects that represent non-development activities will be managed, reported and accounted for separately to aid and development components.
4. In-country project monitoring will include ongoing, regular monitoring and reporting of the separation of non-development activities from aid and development activities.

Obligation 2: This separation will be clear in all fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in all reporting including annual reports.

Procedures:

1. Guidelines are in place that address appropriate reporting in organisational promotional materials.
2. All articles written by overseas project partners or photos supplied by partners for reporting materials are reviewed for differentiation between development and nondevelopment activities.

3. Communications materials are reviewed prior to publication to ensure separation of reporting and fundraising for aid and development and non-development activities.

Obligation 3: Any fundraising solicitations that include references to both aid and development and non-development activities will provide donors with the choice of contributing to aid and development activities only.

Procedures:

1. Fundraising materials will be reviewed prior to publication to ensure that solicitations make a clear distinction between aid and development and non-development activities.

Obligation 4: Signatory organisations will ensure that any such separation in fundraising, programs and other activities, in public communications and in reporting, extends to partner and implementing organisations and is documented.

Procedures:

1. Communication with new partners will state the signatory’s position on support for non-development activities.
2. Signatory partners will receive a copy of this policy.
3. Relationship Agreements (MoU or equivalent) will include clear definitions of aid and development activities and non-development activities.
4. The Relationship Agreements (MoU or equivalent) will require the partner to agree that the Alliance’s funds designated for aid and development purposes will not be used to fund any non-development activities.

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

Training on the policy will be provided to staff as part of the Alliance’s regular staff training program.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Program Design Policy

ACFID Code of Conduct Principle B.1.5

ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance: Definitions

REVISION HISTORY

Revision Date	Revision no:	Summary description of revision(s) made	Section(s) changed:
18 December 2019	1	Development of Policy	Addition of sections on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Definition of non-development activities. - Compliance - Guiding Principles and - Control Procedures

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1. AUTHORISATION



6 February 2020
Global EverGreening Alliance