

DEVELOPMENT, WELFARE, EVANGELISM AND PARTISAN POLITICS POLICY

Compliance with this policy is mandatory.

The objective of the Development, Welfare, Evangelism and Partisan Politics Policy is to provide a framework to ensure that Save the Children Australia's (SCA) programs are designed, planned and implemented independent of evangelical, partisan politics or welfare activities. It encapsulates the full spectrum of services from humanitarian response to development and guides the principles which underpin all aspects of media, communications, policy, advocacy, programming and delivery.

Mandatory Requirements

1. Funds and resources raised by or provided to SCA must not fund or support any activity directed to welfare, evangelism and partisan politics.
2. All SCA staff should mainstream this policy into all programs and communicate the policy to all relevant program partners.
3. The policy must be used as a reference for the design, implementation and monitoring of all programs, communications and advocacy.
4. Programs and activities must be guided by the SC Theory of Change, Child Rights Programming Approach (CRPA), ACFID Code of Conduct, Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere) and DFAT CP Policy and SCA and donor policies.
5. Partners implementing SCA programs or using SCA funds must not undertake or participate in welfare and evangelical activities and partisan politics on those programs, or with those funds.
6. All programs to be subjected to SCA's rigorous appraisal process to ensure quality and accountability for adhering to the policy.

How does SCA define Welfare, Evangelism and Partisan Politics?

SCA recognises the following definitions and does not support activities that are evangelical, political or welfare as defined below.

1. Welfare: activities supporting or promoting a religion, including activities undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denomination to another.^{1, 2}
2. Evangelism: activities undertaken with the intention of converting individuals or groups from one faith and/or denominational affiliation to another.
3. Partisan politics: activities that align with a political party, designed to persuade people to support a particular political party.

Please refer to the Development, Welfare, Evangelism and Partisan Politics Policy Guidelines for more details and specific directions on how to apply this Policy.

¹ <http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/australian-ngo-accreditation-guidance-manual.aspx>, pp.38-39

² Welfare activities are typically: a) implemented independently of other sustainable community development activities; b) include no strategy for integration into broader community development programs; c) provided on an individual or family basis, rather than on a community basis, and are unconnected to emergency needs; and d) implemented on a long-term basis with no clear exit strategy. Examples include home-based and institutional care programs, such as those provided by orphanages, homes for the elderly or the provision of food for those who are destitute.

Review date	Current version	Comments	Author	Approved by Executive Committee	Approved by BPRC	Review date
Nov 2011	1.0	New Policy	Lanie Stockman, Program Quality	Director Programs	Board	Nov 2013
Nov 2013	2.0	Updates and revisions	Veronica Bell, Head of Program Quality and Effectiveness	Scott Gilbert, Director Programs	BPRC	Nov 2015
Oct 2015	3.0	New Policy Format plus additional mandatory requirements	Stuart Schaefer, Director International Programs	10 Nov 2015	BPRC	Q4 2017
Nov 2017	4.0	Updates and revision	Mat Tinkler, Director of IP and PAD	31 Oct 2017	29/11/17	Q4 2019
Nov 2019	5.0	Updates and revision	Mat Tinkler, Director of Policy and International Programs	12 Nov 2019	27/11/19	Q4 2021