



CR 000 748 Partisan Political Activities and Development

INTRODUCTION

ADRA Australia recognises that all development activities occur within a political context, whether here in Australia or in the communities overseas that we support. Local staff members working for an ADRA implementing partner are themselves part of communities, each of which has its own political context. As citizens they may well play a part in the regular and expected democratic processes such as electing representative members. However, partisan political activity is seen as those activities such as “political, lobbying and advocacy activities, which are carried out for the sake of, or in aid of, a particular political party” (AusAID 2007 *Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme*, p11).

APPLICATION

ADRA Australia’s development interventions must not discriminate on the basis of the potential beneficiaries’ race, ethnicity, religion, gender or *political affiliation*.

Further, ADRA Australia considers support for any partisan political activities – be they for a particular party, or candidate, or position – by its staff or partners’ staff to be a misuse of the privileged position such staff hold by virtue of their role in a development intervention.

ADRA Australia’s projects will not be used as a platform for political activities.

With regard to its activities ADRA Australia will apply this philosophy in the following manner:

1. ADRA Australia will not use political allegiance or similar ideological discrimination either as a pre-requisite to providing assistance or as an incentive for engagement in a project or program.
2. ADRA Australia will not fund, support or facilitate projects or programs that can be construed as ‘partisan politics’.
3. ADRA Australia will not use its funds nor those of any other co-donor to support any kind of partisan political activity.
4. ADRA Australia expects every project or program partner to comply with this policy and such compliance will be periodically monitored.
5. This policy applies to *all* activities auspiced by ADRA Australia, not just those funded from AusAID funds.