

## ACFID submission to the JSCFADT Inquiry into the role of Australia's International Development Program in Preventing Conflict

ACFID would like to thank the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade (JSCFADT) for the opportunity to provide this submission on the role of Australia's international development program in preventing conflict.

This submission was drafted in consultation with relevant ACFID members and includes inputs from a reference group specifically established for this submission. This group comprised of **17 individuals from Australian NGOs, Academic Institutions and Research Institutes**, with expertise across policy, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. Further information about ACFID's members can be found in Appendix B.

### Executive Summary

**Australia's International Development Program is a critical tool in strengthening state and community resilience, reducing instability and, in doing so, preventing crises.** Globally, and particularly within the Asia-Pacific region, US and European cuts to development assistance – together with the compounding effects of economic uncertainty due to tariffs – have heightened the drivers of instability and state fragility.<sup>1</sup> Combined together, these factors have negatively impacted programs contributing to resilience such as climate adaptation, disaster preparedness, and poverty reduction.<sup>2</sup> This has happened against a global backdrop of increasing need due to **the global rise in conflict and displacement** and is particularly problematic in the Asia-Pacific, the region that is the most disaster prone in the world, and where lives and livelihoods are under increasing threat due to the impacts of climate change.<sup>3</sup>

*For every additional \$1 invested in peacebuilding in fragile and conflict-affected countries, up to \$16 in future conflict costs are avoided.*

**Civil society organisations (CSOs) - including local and international NGOs - are central to building resilience and addressing early conflict risks.** Their agility, proximity to communities, and ability to quickly adapt to emerging needs and address drivers of instability, reinforce their cost-effectiveness. In contrast, the financial and human costs of responding militarily after a crisis has broken out are exponentially higher. As such, in line with Recommendation 2 in the *JSCFADT's Report on Pursuing the Priorities of the Pacific* and Recommendation 8 in *JSCFADT's previous Report on Supporting democracy in our region*, **ACFID asks the Australian Government to prioritise civil society partners in the delivery of Australia's Official Development Assistance (ODA).** By doing so, the Government saves on future costs that will arise if crises – including conflict – are allowed to emerge.

Additionally, each £1 spent on conflict prevention can generate, on average, savings of £4 in response.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, for every additional dollar invested in peacebuilding in fragile and conflict-affected countries,

<sup>1</sup> Raga, S., Agarwal, P., Fur, V. (2025). Vulnerable nations on the brink: the double shock of aid cuts and US tariff increases. ODI Global. Available at: <https://odi.org/en/insights/vulnerable-nations-on-the-brink-the-double-shock-of-aid-cuts-and-us-tariff-increases/>

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Economics and Peace, 2025. Global Peace Index 2025. Accessed via: GPI-2025-web.pdf; The Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), 2024. Conflict Trends: A Global Overview, 1946-2024. <https://www.prio.org/publications/14453> & OECD (2025). Cuts in Official Development Assistance. Available at: [https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/cuts-in-official-development-assistance\\_8c530629-en/full-report.html](https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/cuts-in-official-development-assistance_8c530629-en/full-report.html)

<sup>3</sup> UNESCAP (2023). Asia-Pacific Disaster Report 2023: seizing the moment: targeting transformative disaster risk resilience. Available at: <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/4016071?v=pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Chalmers, M. (2007). Spending to Save? An Analysis of the Cost Effectiveness of Conflict Prevention versus Intervention after the Onset of Violent Conflict, Centre for International Cooperation and Security, Department for Peace Studies, University of Bradford. Available at: <https://ideas.repec.org/a/taf/defpea/v18y2007i1p1-23.html>

up to \$16 in future conflict costs are avoided.<sup>5</sup> **Therefore, it is critical that any review of the effectiveness, cost benefit, and delivery of Australia’s development program must consider increasing the Official Development Assistance budget to maintain impact.** This is in line with Recommendation 1 in the *JSCFADT’s Report on Pursuing the Priorities of the Pacific* that recommends the Australian Government continues to work towards securing bipartisan support for the international development program, including through indexation, **for the long-term growth of the aid program.**

#### Key Messages

1. Investments in civil society (Australian NGOs and local partners) to deliver Australia’s development program are value-for-money, impactful, and strategic ways to prevent conflict.
2. Women are central to conflict resolution and lasting peace efforts.
3. A clearly defined and resourced approach to conflict prevention, using all tools of statecraft, will positively contribute to stability in the region.
4. In achieving peace, investments in development are complementary to investments in defence and diplomacy.

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<sup>5</sup> Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), *Reaping the Benefits of Cost-Effective Peacebuilding*, July 31, 2017. *Reaping the Benefits of Cost-Effective Peacebuilding* - IPI Global Observatory.

## Recommendations

**Recommendation 1:** Clearly articulate Australia’s approach to conflict prevention, ensuring dedicated leadership<sup>6</sup>, and outline the actors responsible for achieving prevention outcomes using all tools of statecraft.

- **Recommendation 1a:** Build the capacity of data systems and data collection across Government Departments to generate robust, real-time insights on drivers of conflict.

**Recommendation 2:** Continue to strengthen the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s (DFAT) internal arrangements by establishing a clear central location for conflict prevention coordination and oversight. Conflict prevention should be reflected as a specific goal of DFAT policy.

**Recommendation 3:** Ensure future investments in development are complementary to investments in defence and diplomacy, to maintain synergy between these investments, and the sustainability of peacebuilding outcomes. Steps to achieve this include:

- **Recommendation 3a:** Ensuring that investment in military capabilities is complemented with increased investment in civil society’s capability to respond to disasters and crises and that both capabilities are coordinated.<sup>7</sup>
- **Recommendation 3b:** Increasing Australia’s Official Development Assistance to 1% of the Federal Budget to strengthen Australia’s ability to build resilience in the Indo-Pacific region. Recommendation 4 outlines how this increase could be spent.

**Recommendation 4:** Re-orient Australia’s development cooperation program towards sustainable investment to - and through - civil society organisations, providing flexible, core, and multi-year funding. Investments that will achieve this are outlined below.

- **Recommendation 4a:** Invest in high-quality NGO programs to build resilience through strengthening civil society and addressing known drivers of instability.<sup>8</sup>
- **Recommendation 4b:** Support institutional strengthening and robust reform agendas in partner countries, ensuring that any provision of direct budget support to partner governments is accompanied by multi-year funding to local civil society organisations, empowering them to play a role in driving accountability, transparency and state responsiveness.<sup>9</sup>
- **Recommendation 4c:** Increase support for social inclusion and equality by investing in civil society organisations that promote the rights of marginalised groups and communities.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>6</sup> This leadership could be in the form of an ambassador role similar to the Gender Equality, First Nations and Climate Change portfolios.

<sup>7</sup> ACFID, ACFID Humanitarian Reference Group Review, 2024. [ACFID-HRG-Humanitarian-Policy-Review.pdf](#). Specific financial asks are in ACFID’s 2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission - Appendix A.

<sup>8</sup> Program examples include the Australian NGO Cooperation Program and the Civil Society Partnerships Fund.

<sup>9</sup> The Civil Society Partnerships Fund provides an avenue for this investment.

<sup>10</sup> Examples of Australian programs that drive this work include the Gender Equality Fund, and the Inclusion and Equality Fund.

- **Recommendation 4d: Increase support for civil society-led climate adaptation and nature-based solutions, including in fragile, conflict-affected areas, to effectively address climate-related drivers of conflict.**<sup>11</sup>
- **Recommendation 4e: Increase the current Protracted Crises Fund to increase support for flexible and multi-year approaches that build resilience, improve stability.**<sup>12</sup>
- **Recommendation 4f: Invest in civil society-led programmes that enhance community Early Warning Systems, to mitigate the outbreak and escalation of conflicts.**
- **Recommendation 4g: Strengthen Australia’s Women, Peace and Security leadership by resourcing and embedding women-led organisations in security and peace decision-making processes, simplifying compliance requirements to enable access for small, grassroots organisations. Promote the formal inclusion of women-led organisations in peace negotiations, prevention and early warning mechanisms, through legal and policy mandates.**

**Recommendation 5: Partner with Australian civil society organisations to build public understanding and support around conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the region, utilising existing and strong linkages to the Australian public, and people-to-people linkages across the Indo-Pacific.**

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<sup>11</sup> Program examples to achieve this: Develop a new Locally-led Climate Adaptation Funding Window for the Pacific, and a Gender-Responsive Climate Adaptation and Resilience Funding Window.

<sup>12</sup> Financial asks are outlined in ACFID’s 2026-27 Pre- Budget Submission - Appendix A.

## An Australian Approach to Conflict Prevention

To guide Australia's conflict prevention efforts, it is critical that the Government articulate a clear conflict prevention approach. This should set out how different levers of Australia's international engagement come together - such as deterrence, diplomacy and development - to support conflict prevention.<sup>13</sup> Specifically, this approach should outline the role of the development program, its intersection within broader foreign policy objectives, and the *strategic* role of civil society in achieving these objectives.

Prevention is highly cost-effective. Modelling by the **Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP)** shows that peacebuilding delivers significant economic returns by reducing the long-term costs of conflict. IEP estimates that every additional dollar invested in peacebuilding in fragile and conflict-affected countries, saves up to **\$16 in future conflict costs**.

*Across 31 high-risk countries, there are potential savings of nearly \$3 trillion over the next decade in avoided violence, displacement and economic loss.*

While achieving these gains would require increased upfront investment, the evidence demonstrates that prevention is far more cost-effective than responding to conflict after it escalates.<sup>14</sup> This value-for-money argument is further bolstered by the World Bank and the Asia Pacific Development, Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue (AP4D), with the latter arguing that stalling ODA relative to defence investment is likely to weaken conflict prevention in fragile contexts.<sup>15</sup>

A 2022 review of the UK Government's Peacebuilding work, by the Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI), highlighted that the reduction in aid spending (with a shift towards diplomacy) resulted in peacebuilding programmes becoming less predictable, and not able to achieve over-ambitious peacebuilding targets.<sup>16</sup> These aid reductions also resulted in shorter project cycles, and a risk-averse project management approach, which negatively impacted the UK's ability to maintain and develop local partnerships with peacebuilding actors. Further findings from this review also highlighted that programmes were less likely to be successful in contexts where the programme managers were unable to engage with conflict-affected people directly, as well as monitor conflict dynamics in real-time.

Recognising the inextricable link between violence, protection, and humanitarian needs, ACFID encourages the Australian Government to take a more ambitious role in relation to conflict prevention and violence reduction, scaling up its investment in prevention-focused interventions and its capacity to support such programs. **We urge the Government to review and evaluate its own internal capacity to support conflict prevention and clearly articulate Australia's approach to conflict prevention**, outlining the actors responsible for achieving prevention outcomes using all tools of statecraft. Investing in the Government's capacity to collect and track data on the factors' driving conflict is a key element of these efforts.

**To ensure Australia's development program effectively contributes and enables the Government's approach to conflict prevention, a central location within DFAT is critical.** This would help increase DFAT's conflict prevention capabilities and ensure effective implementation, monitoring and oversight of relevant

<sup>13</sup> Development Intelligence Lab (2025). Deterrence, diplomacy and development. Towards an 'Australian Model' for conflict prevention. Available at: [https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/649a2383e9c878a2f62832b2/68dc8064aaa63b3255af1467\\_PRB\\_Towards%20an%20Australian%20Model%20for%20conflict%20prevention\\_WEB.pdf](https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/649a2383e9c878a2f62832b2/68dc8064aaa63b3255af1467_PRB_Towards%20an%20Australian%20Model%20for%20conflict%20prevention_WEB.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> IEP, Reaping the Benefits of Cost-Effective Peacebuilding, July 31, 2017. [Reaping the Benefits of Cost-Effective Peacebuilding - IPI Global Observatory](#)

<sup>15</sup> Asia-Pacific Development, Diplomacy & Defence Dialogue (AP4D). "Submission to the New International Development Policy." Canberra, 2022. World Bank (2018) Pathways for Peace: Inclusive Approaches to Preventing Violent Conflict. Available at: <https://chooser.crossref.org/?doi=10.1596%2F978-1-4648-1162-3>

<sup>16</sup> Independent Commission for Aid Impact (2022). The UK's Approach to Peacebuilding: A Review. Available at: [The UK's approaches to peacebuilding - Independent Commission for Aid Impact](#)

work as well as facilitate linkages between development, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. This recommendation is in line with Recommendation 5 of the newly released *OECD DAC Peer-Review of Australia Report*, which emphasises that DFAT should “better structure the department’s conflict prevention knowledge and analysis to maximise the contributions of development investments to building stability and security”.<sup>17</sup>

**Recommendation 1: Clearly articulate Australia’s approach to conflict prevention, ensuring dedicated leadership, and outline the actors responsible for achieving prevention outcomes using all tools of statecraft.**

- **Recommendation 1a: Build the capacity of data systems and data collection across Government Departments** to generate robust, real-time insights on drivers of conflict.

**Recommendation 2: Continue to strengthen the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s (DFAT) internal arrangements by establishing a clear central location for conflict prevention coordination and oversight.** Conflict prevention should be reflected as a specific goal of DFAT policy.

**Recommendation 3: Ensure future investments in development are complementary to investments in defence and diplomacy,** to maintain synergy between these investments, and the sustainability of peacebuilding outcomes. Steps to achieve this include:

- **Recommendation 3a: Ensuring that investment in military capabilities is complemented with increased investment in civil society’s capability to respond to disasters and crises** and that both capabilities are coordinated.
- **Recommendation 3b: Increasing Australia’s Official Development Assistance to 1% of the Federal Budget** to strengthen Australia’s ability to build resilience in the Indo-Pacific region. Recommendation 4 outline how this increase could be spent.

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<sup>17</sup> OECD (2026), *OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews: Australia 2025*, OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris. Available at: [https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/oecd-development-co-operation-peer-reviews-australia-2025\\_c58230a4-en.html](https://www.oecd.org/en/publications/oecd-development-co-operation-peer-reviews-australia-2025_c58230a4-en.html)

## 1. The role of Australia's international development program in building resilience in fragile states, including by strengthening community and civic participation, governance, security reform and human capital;

**Strengthening civil society through Australia's development assistance, is critical to building resilience in fragile contexts.** Civil society plays a critical role in strengthening a state's capacity to cope with crises and drivers of instability, and in turn, building state resilience. Strengthening state resilience reduces state fragility, and in doing so, and lowers the likelihood of violent conflict. Civil society also has the dual effect of strengthening democratic norms including transparency, accountability, and responsible government amidst trends of rising authoritarianism.<sup>18</sup> CSOs provide critical channels for citizens to articulate political, social and economic concerns, complementing democratic accountability mechanisms and fostering civic participation that strengthen inclusive and resilient institutions.<sup>19</sup> To strengthen state resilience in partner countries, **civil society funding should be prioritised as a core pillar of effective development assistance.**

**Recommendation 4: Re-orient Australia's development cooperation program towards sustainable investment to - and through - civil society organisations,** providing flexible, core, and multi-year funding. Investments that will achieve this are outlined below.

**Effective public institutions are essential for delivering services, upholding the rule of law and responding to crises in ways that reduce public grievance and fragility.** Civil society works within governance systems to strengthen institutional resilience by enabling citizen engagement with government, supporting anti-corruption efforts and improving transparency, accountability and responsible government.<sup>20</sup> CSOs also support resilience building through uplifting government capacity in service delivery, disaster preparedness and response and providing targeted technical assistance. For example, during Covid-19, through the **PNG Church Partnership Program**, community church organisations mobilised quickly and effectively to role out healthcare services and provide critical information about public health measures, countering disinformation and supporting public education campaigns.<sup>20</sup> **Australia's development assistance can build resilience** through supporting governments to respond to unexpected shocks, as well as supporting civil society to strengthen public institutions through monitoring government performance, advocating for reform and building public trust and state responsiveness.

<sup>18</sup> UNDP (2021). Anti-corruption for Peaceful Societies. Available at: <https://www.undp.org/policy-centre/governance/anti-corruption-peaceful-and-inclusive-societies>

<sup>19</sup> CIVICUS (2025). State of Civil Society Report 2025. Available at: <https://publications.civicus.org/publications/2025-state-of-civil-society-report/democracy-regression-and-resilience/>

<sup>20</sup> PNG Church Partnership Program, <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/development/papua-newguinea-church-partnership-program-phase-3>

**Recommendation 4a:** Invest in high-quality NGO programs to build resilience through strengthening civil society and addressing known drivers of instability. *Program examples include the Australian NGO Cooperation Program and the Civil Society Partnerships Fund.*

**Recommendation 4b:** Support institutional strengthening and robust reform agendas in partner countries, ensuring that any provision of direct budget support to partner governments is accompanied by **multi-year** funding to local civil society organisations, empowering them to play a role in driving accountability, transparency and state responsiveness. *The Civil Society Partnerships Fund provides an avenue for this investment.*

### The role of Australian NGOs in supporting local civil society

Due to their connections and partnerships with local CSOs and communities, **Australian NGOs are well positioned to deliver targeted programs that are locally led and directly address present and emerging risks.** Australian NGOs work with local civil society to build resilience through targeting unmet needs and uplifting the capacity and capability of governments to cope with risks, threats and unexpected external shocks.

As a valued part of Australian civil society, **Australian NGOs bridge communities, church groups and the Australian public with local civil society groups in partner countries**, amplifying support for Australia's development program. Using the development program to increase support for civil society through Australian NGOs comes with the added benefit of **building strong people-to-people links across the region, benefitting Australia's diplomatic standing** as well as partnerships beyond the government-government level. Importantly, the engagement of Australian NGOs at the community level also provides a valuable opportunity build greater public understanding of why conflict prevention matters, ensuring sustained support for Australia's role in promoting peace and building resilience across the region.

**Recommendation 5:** Partner with Australian civil society organisations to build public understanding and support around conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the region, utilising existing and strong linkages to the Australian public, and people-to-people linkages across the Indo-Pacific.

## 2. The strategic use of Australia's international development program to prevent conflict in the Indo-Pacific;

**The delivery of Australia's development assistance with and through civil society partners is a strategic choice for conflict prevention in the Indo-Pacific, particularly where conflict is at risk of emerging within countries.** This is because CSOs are deeply embedded within local communities and often well-connected with local governance structures enabling them to act in a diagnostic capacity, identifying drivers of fragility and conflict risks as they develop. They understand local grievances and can build trust where state and institutions may not be able to, contributing to the outcome of conflict prevention through targeted programming that addresses root causes. For example, a 3-year project in Timor Leste and Indonesia implemented by **ChildFund Australia**, together with local civil society organisations, directly responded to rising inter-group tensions and violence driven by socio-economic inequality, social exclusion and weakened community trust. By addressing root causes through trust-building, dialogue and peace education among 1,800 participants (including teachers, religious leaders, youth, and local government officials), the project has made significant contributions to strengthening social cohesion and sustainable peace.<sup>21</sup>

**Civil society organisations also contribute to conflict prevention at the community level through supporting customary and community-based justice processes to mediate disputes, strengthen social accountability and improve social cohesion.** Addressing grievances early and supporting mediation and dispute resolution at the community level can be important in preventing the escalation of grievances into violence.<sup>22</sup> In the Pacific where customary, religious and community-based justice processes are a common form of dispute resolution, CSOs play an important role in community justice processes. They work with communities to strengthen local dispute resolution, support community-police pathways, and develop women's and youth leadership programs, all of which contribute to stability and reduce conflict risks which are both critical to conflict prevention.<sup>23</sup> Investing in civil society to support community justice processes is another way Australia can strategically use the International Development Program to prevent conflict at the local and community level.

**Recommendation 4a:** Invest in high-quality NGO programs to build resilience through strengthening civil society and addressing known drivers of instability. Program examples include the Australian NGO Cooperation Program and the Civil Society Partnerships Fund.

**Civil society organisations strengthen resilience and address drivers of conflict through targeting and reducing inequality.** NGOs are equipped with the technical expertise and contextual knowledge needed to work with communities and people who are the most disadvantaged, particularly those experiencing intersecting marginalisation and facing exclusion from public services, political processes and economic opportunities. Civil society plays a crucial role in advocating for and ensuring services are inclusive of and reach these groups and communities, as well as driving longer term policy and legal reform to address the

<sup>21</sup> ChildFund Australia. Strengthening Social Cohesion in Lampung (Indonesia) and Liquiçá (Timor-Leste) EU Funded Project, Jan 2023 – Jan 2026. ChildFund Australia: <https://www.childfund.org.au/>

<sup>22</sup> OECD (2020). DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian – Development – Peace Nexus. <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/development-co-operation.html>

<sup>23</sup> Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP) (2024). Global Peace Index 2024: Measuring Peace in a Complex World. <https://www.economicsandpeace.org/reports/global-peace-index-2024>. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (2020). DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian–Development–Peace Nexus. <https://www.oecd.org/dac/recommendation-on-the-humanitarian-development-peace-nexus/>.

societal structures and norms that often underpin marginalisation.<sup>24</sup> When the voices and needs of the most marginalised groups are represented and addressed, societies become more equitable, more resilient and are better able to withstand future shocks.<sup>25</sup> By advancing investments in these areas to NGOs, Australia's development program can reduce inequality and reach the most vulnerable, particularly in the Asia-Pacific region where climate impacts are increasingly threatening lives and livelihoods.

**Recommendation 4c: Increase support for social inclusion and equality** by investing in civil society organisations that promote the rights of marginalised groups and communities. *Examples of Australian programs that drive this work include the Gender Equality Fund and the Inclusion and Equality Fund.*

**Climate change further amplifies conflict and fragility, acting as a threat multiplier that undermines livelihoods, exacerbates inequality and fuels household and community violence.** Evidence from **Conciliation Resources** in Uganda, Kashmir and the Philippines shows that climate responses which overlook local knowledge and gendered impacts can deepen instability.<sup>26</sup> By supporting gender-responsive, locally and women-led civil society initiatives, Australia's development program helps turn climate adaptation into a pathway for resilience and peacebuilding. Existing programs with a climate objective can be strengthened to have better alignment to conflict prevention and peacebuilding outcomes. This would enable the strategic use of the international development program by leveraging the linkages between climate change and conflict prevention. Programs such as the **World Wildlife Fund's Nature-based Solutions** recognise that 'bottom-up' peacebuilding around local natural resource provide opportunities to alleviate local conflict.<sup>27</sup> Restoring riparian zones, promoting drought-resistant agroforestry, protecting mangroves, community-led watershed governance, and developing urban green spaces are strongly linked to peace dividends that lower risks of localised tensions, grievances and displacement.<sup>28</sup>

**Recommendation 4d: Increase support for civil society-led climate adaptation and nature-based solutions, including in fragile, conflict-affected areas,** to effectively address climate-related drivers of conflict. *Program examples to achieve this include developing a new Locally-led Climate Adaptation Funding Window for the Pacific and a Gender-Responsive Climate Adaptation and Resilience Funding Window.*

<sup>24</sup> Khan, S., Combaz, E., McAslan Fraser. (2015). The role of civil society and social movements. GSDRC. Available at: <https://gsdrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/SocialExclusion.pdf>

<sup>25</sup> As above.

<sup>26</sup> Conciliation Resources (2023). A Changing Climate for Peace: Navigating Conflict in the Climate Crisis, Practice Paper. Available at: <https://www.c-r.org/learning-hub/changing-climate-peace-navigating-conflict-climate-crisis>. Conciliation Resources: <https://www.c-r.org/>

<sup>27</sup> WWF Australia (2026). Submission to the Inquiry on the Role of Australia's International Development Program in Preventing Conflict. Available at: [https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/Foreign\\_Affairs\\_Defence\\_and\\_Trade/PreventingConflict/Submissions](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Foreign_Affairs_Defence_and_Trade/PreventingConflict/Submissions)

<sup>28</sup> As above.

### 3. Options for effective support through Australia's aid program in pre-conflict and/or post-conflict zones;

In pre-conflict and post-conflict zones, Australian NGOs and their long-standing local partners are well placed to quickly diagnose and respond to drivers of conflict, as they have strong linkages with communities. As principled actors, they can respond without doing harm, ensuring safeguarding is central, and the most vulnerable are not excluded from receiving support.

Across diverse contexts - from the Highlands of Papua New Guinea to Mindanao, the Horn of Africa and climate-affected regions of Asia - **case studies from Australian NGOs** show that conflict is rarely driven by a single factor. Instead, violence emerges when drivers such as social exclusion, harmful gender norms, economic pressure, weak governance, and environmental stress intersect. **Investing in programmes that address these drivers of conflict should remain a key focus for Australia's development program.**

Australian NGOs also play a critical role in supporting conflict-sensitive development and humanitarian programming, where poorly designed interventions risk exacerbating tensions. A four-year Australian Research Council-funded partnership between **Plan International** and **Deakin University** developed a Conflict and Extremism Do No Harm Tool, to support NGOs working in fragile contexts.<sup>29</sup> The tool was co-designed with local NGO teams and trialled in conflict-affected regions including Mindanao (Philippines), coastal Kenya and northern Mozambique. It enables organisations to analyse overlapping drivers of conflict, such as extremism, resource disputes and social exclusion, and adapt existing development programs accordingly. By embedding conflict analysis into routine planning, monitoring and evaluation, such approaches support effective engagement in pre-conflict and post-conflict settings while safeguarding community trust and reducing the risk of harm.

In **post-conflict settings**, Australian NGOs are experienced in implementing programs that prevent relapses into violence and cycles of revenge, focusing on cooperation, livelihoods opportunities, and youth leadership. Evidence shows that **addressing trauma and economic insecurity at the community level are as critical as political settlements** in many post-conflict settings.

#### Case Study 1

In post-conflict Bougainville, while military-led, the stabilisation process was also dependent on civil society actors. International and local NGOs provided support to displaced populations, helped reintegrate former fighters, and promoted reconciliation. **The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** and **Caritas** provided humanitarian aid during and after the conflict, while community church-based groups played key roles in community rebuilding and mediation.

Women's organisations were highly influential. For example, the Bougainville Women's Federation and other grassroots groups organised peace marches, community dialogues, and trauma counselling activities, creating safe spaces for reconciliation and filling gaps in the peace process. This demonstrates that political agreements alone are insufficient, and that lasting stabilisation requires sustained societal healing and meaningful grassroots engagement.

<sup>#</sup> Case Study 1: Evaluation findings from Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). (2009). Working Together: Lessons in Australian Peacekeeping Operations. <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/peace-operations.pdf>.

<sup>29</sup> Plan International and Deakin University (2025). Conflict and Extremism Do No Harm Tool.

Further evidence from Australian NGOs working in conflict-affected regions of Africa and Asia reinforce these lessons. In Somalia and Ethiopia, **World Vision's** programming demonstrates that shared resource-use agreements, early-warning systems and trauma healing reduced cycles of revenge even during shocks such as drought.<sup>30</sup> Successful programs in Bougainville and Mindanao showed that combining livelihood support with psychosocial care, youth leadership and peace education helped stabilise post-conflict communities and prevent relapses into violence.<sup>31</sup>

### Case Study 2

In urban Lae in Papua New Guinea, escalating youth violence resulted in schools experiencing inter-group fighting, and high youth unemployment left many vulnerable to gangs. Through a city-wide effort, **World Vision** supported schools and teachers to be trained in conflict resolution; youth clubs were formed; and sports and peace events brought over 1,000 young people together. Following these activities, teachers reported fewer violent incidents, and youth described feeling more confident and connected. The key change is simple: when youth have organised, positive roles and see pathways to opportunity, they are less likely to engage in violence.

**CSOs can also contribute to resilience building in protracted crises and fragile settings, through Australia's development program.** Protracted crises, which are increasing globally, erase decades of development gains, increase poverty, and contribute to instability both locally and regionally. Large-scale and protracted displacement -whether internal or cross-border - place immense strain on institutions, services, and social cohesion in host communities.<sup>32</sup> Additionally, climate and disaster induced displacement often overlaps with conflict risks, increasing fragility in already unstable environments, causing complex displacement where multiple drivers compound vulnerabilities.<sup>33</sup> **Often already present in these contexts,** CSOs play a critical role resilience and capability building as well as service delivery, ensuring the needs of the most marginalised are met, while also addressing long-term drivers of <sup>34</sup>. In situations of protracted displacement, CSOs act as intermediaries that adapt social protection delivery systems helping displaced people access essential services when government systems are fragmented or inaccessible.<sup>35</sup>

In protracted contexts, an increasingly large body of evidence is demonstrating the wide range of benefits of **multi-year approaches** in building community resilience, improving stability, and preventing further outbreaks of conflict.<sup>36</sup> The efficiency gains of multi-year approaches also ensure that partners, both national and international, can maintain their responsive capacity and quickly scale up to deliver life-saving assistance in the event of a conflict spike, or recurrent climate shocks. By scaling up funding for multi-year

<sup>#</sup> Case Study 2: World Vision's RESPECT YOURSELF, RESPECT OTHERS AND LET'S STAND UNITED Project in PNG, October 2019 – November 2023.

<sup>30</sup> World Vision Case Studies, Conflict Sensitivity and Peacebuilding Portfolio.

<sup>31</sup> As above.

<sup>32</sup> United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), UNHCR and UNDP. (2020). Responding to Protracted Displacement Using the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus Approach: UNDP and UNHCR Theory of Change. Available at: <https://cdn.unrisd.org/assets/library/papers/pdf-files/responding-protracted-displacement-hdp-nexus-theory-of-change-undp-unhcr-unrisd.pdf>

<sup>33</sup> See, S., Opydyke, A., Banki, S., (2025). A review of the climate change-disaster-conflict nexus and humanitarian framing of complex displacement contexts, Climate and Development, DOI: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/17565529.2025.2514027>

<sup>34</sup> Mailman School of Public Health, UK AID, UNHCR, World Bank Group (2022). The Big Questions in Forced Displacement and Health. Available at: <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099060623042032159/pdf/P1802960cbb1930b90a1c20b7a50617ba6c.pdf>. See also: Ferris, E. and Kerwin, D. (2023). Durable Displacement and the Protracted Search for Solutions: Promising Programs and Strategies. *Journal on Migration and Human Security*, SAGE. Vol. 11(1). pp. 3-22. Available at: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/23315024231160454>

<sup>35</sup> Lowe, C., Holmes, R., Mazzilli, C., and Rubio, M. (2022). Adjusting protection delivery to support displaced populations. ODI Working Paper. ODI. Available at: [https://media.odi.org/documents/Adjusting\\_social\\_protection\\_delivery\\_to\\_support\\_displaced\\_populations\\_2022.pdf](https://media.odi.org/documents/Adjusting_social_protection_delivery_to_support_displaced_populations_2022.pdf)

<sup>36</sup> FAO, NRC, OCHA, (2017). Living up to the Promise of Multi-Year Humanitarian Financing. Available at: <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/world/living-promise-multi-year-humanitarian-financing> See also: International Rescue Committee (2020). A win-win: multi-year flexible funding is better for people and better value for donors. Available at: <https://www.rescue.org/report/win-win-multi-year-flexible-funding-better-people-and-better-value-donors-0>

approaches, Australia can support resilience building efforts in protracted crises to reduce fragility and further conflict.

**Recommendation 4a:** Invest in high-quality NGO programs to build resilience through strengthening civil society and addressing known drivers of instability. *Program examples include the Australian NGO Cooperation Program and the Civil Society Partnerships Fund.*

**Recommendation 4e:** Increase the current Protracted Crises Fund to increase support for flexible and multi-year approaches that build resilience, improve stability.

### Civil-Military Cooperation within Humanitarian Response and post-conflict settings

**Prevention, stabilisation and peacebuilding depend on predictable, flexible, multi-year civilian financing.** Funding through DFAT enables early action, supports NGOs and local civil society to build trust over time, and sustains inclusive governance, mediation, protection and resilience programs that the military cannot—and should not—deliver. During humanitarian crises, DFAT’s established partnerships allow rapid, principled and community-centred responses, with international military assets used only as a last resort, in line with the Oslo and Asia–Pacific Guidelines, and under civilian leadership.<sup>37</sup>

**Post-conflict,** DFAT development financing underpins institution-building, reconciliation and livelihood recovery, forming the backbone that links prevention, response and peacebuilding into a coherent civilian-led pathway. Clear role delineation is essential: civilians lead conflict prevention, governance, mediation and recovery, while the Australian Defence Force provides time-bound logistical or engineering support under civilian direction when required. Across all phases, flexible financing, localisation, conflict-sensitive approaches and disciplined civil–military cooperation remain central to Australia’s comparative advantage in reducing fragility and strengthening regional stability.

**Recommendation 3:** Ensure future investments in development are complementary to investments in defence and diplomacy, to maintain synergy between these investments, and the sustainability of peacebuilding outcomes. Steps to achieve this include:

**Recommendation 3a:** Ensuring that investment in military capabilities is complemented with increased investment in civil society’s capability to respond to disasters and crises and that both capabilities are coordinated.

<sup>37</sup> OCHA (2007). Oslo Guidelines on the Use of Foreign Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief. Available at: <https://emergency.unhcr.org/sites/default/files/Guidelines%20on%20the%20Use%20of%20Foreign%20Military%20and%20Civil%20Defence%20Assets%20in%20Disaster%20Relief%2C%20the%20Oslo%20Guidelines.pdf>. OCHA (2014). ASIA-Pacific Regional Guidelines for the use of Foreign Military Assets in Natural Disaster Response Operations. Available at: [https://disasterlaw.ifrc.org/sites/default/files/media/disaster\\_law/2021-03/Asia%20Pacific%20Guidelines\\_0.pdf](https://disasterlaw.ifrc.org/sites/default/files/media/disaster_law/2021-03/Asia%20Pacific%20Guidelines_0.pdf)

#### 4. The impact of international development in the maintenance of peace and prevention of conflict, including for early identification and mitigation of conflict;

As emphasised throughout this submission, international development **programming that focuses on addressing drivers of conflict helps to prevent conflict**. In partnership with local NGOs in fragile contexts, ANGOs are well placed to **rapidly pivot existing development programming** to respond to shocks or emerging conflict, and work with local partners within countries to implement community-led early warning systems. These early warning systems can enable civilians to anticipate and respond to violence, strengthening their preparedness and reducing harm. For example, in Myanmar, civil society organisations supported communities to implement locally-led Early Warning Early Response (EWER) mechanisms to enable civilians to anticipate and respond to violence, strengthening their preparedness and reducing harm through timely evacuation and community-led action.<sup>38</sup>

**World Vision**, in partnership with the **Institute of Economics and Peace** translate global conflict data into practical prevention tools, by combining IEP metrics with community-level analysis. This approach has enabled World Vision to **identify rising risks early**, resulting in targeted **conflict-sensitive programming** and stronger local resilience. This model has been applied in fragile contexts such as South Sudan, exemplified through the Australian-funded GREAN project. Evaluations found the project improved food security and incomes for 10,000 farming families and contributed to stronger social cohesion and less reliance on negative coping strategies linked to violence, like cattle raiding and armed group recruitment.<sup>39</sup>

Early warning systems also help link climate shocks to risks of violence, instability and humanitarian crises by combining climate data with socio-economic, governance and conflict analysis. For example, UNDP's Climate Security Mechanism integrates climate risk into conflict prevention and peacebuilding decision-making, while the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative strengthens risk monitoring in climate-fragile contexts. CREWS has worked effectively with civil society, including the Red Cross in Djibouti and community networks in Madagascar, improving early warning design and preparedness.

An example from Papua New Guinea highlights that escalating inter-group violence in places like Hela and the Southern Highlands is often fuelled by competition over resources, the proliferation of weapons, and limited access to justice.<sup>40</sup> To mitigate violence, **Conciliation Resources** demonstrated that peacebuilding efforts that combined participatory analysis, negotiation training and the repair of shared infrastructure successfully shifted rival groups away from conflict and toward cooperation. Rebuilding water systems, markets and footbridges created practical reasons for rival groups to work together, while increased women's leadership in local decision-making helped address gendered drivers of violence.<sup>41</sup>

##### Case Study 3

In Mindanao, CARE supported communities affected by long-standing tribal conflict by facilitating peace dialogues between feuding groups. The program elevated women's leadership, enabling women to participate in dialogues and articulate the social and historical impacts of conflict on their communities. As a result, two previously warring tribes in Caraga reached a peace agreement, resolved land boundary disputes, and established conflict-resolution mechanisms to prevent future violence.

<sup>#</sup> Case Study 3: CARE Australia program example.

<sup>38</sup> Nonviolent Peaceforce (2024). Annual Report 2024. Nonviolent Peaceforce International.

<sup>39</sup> IEP (2024); World Vision Australia (2024). Available at: <https://www.worldvision.com.au/>

<sup>40</sup> Conciliation Resources, Conflict challenges and opportunities for building peace in Hela province, Papua New Guinea, August 2022 & World Vision Papua New Guinea's 2024 Impact Report

<sup>41</sup> Conciliation Resources (2022). *Conflict challenges and opportunities for building peace in Hela province, Papua New Guinea*.

**The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda** recognises that conflict and crisis disproportionately affect women and girls, and that women’s meaningful participation is essential for effective conflict resolution and lasting peace. In the Pacific, women peacebuilders and civil society leaders play a critical role in mitigating conflict and shifting gender and social norms. However, current global anti-gender backlash is heightening risks for women peacebuilders and undermining institutions that support gender equality. This erosion of global leadership and support for the WPS agenda has serious implications for women’s rights organisations operating in conservative and high-risk contexts. Despite this erosion, multiple comparative studies show that **when women actively participate in peace negotiations, agreements are significantly more durable**. Peace accords with strong women’s influence are 20 per cent more likely to last at least two years and 35 per cent more likely to last 15 years.<sup>42</sup> Agreements that **include civil society, including women’s groups**, are also 64 per cent less likely to fail.<sup>43</sup>

It is important to note that ACFID members acknowledge the longstanding bipartisan commitment of the Australian Government to WPS, reflected through endorsements of key UN Security Council resolutions and Australia’s Second National Action Plan on WPS (2021–2031). The Plan adopts a whole-of-government approach to advancing women’s participation in peace processes, preventing gender-based violence, and strengthening women’s rights, resilience, and leadership across security, law and justice contexts. Building on this, DFAT can further the WPS agenda by adopting **measurable targets, clear institutional responsibilities and accountability mechanisms that make prevention, participation and protection enforceable in practice**. This includes addressing the chronic underfunding of women-led organisations through predictable, flexible financing, simplified compliance requirements, and a shift away from expensive intermediaries toward direct, equitable partnerships with local women-led organisations (WLOs). This is particularly important also for women with disabilities who face barriers in participation, of which 75% are women in low- and middle-income countries.<sup>44</sup>

Australia should also support the formal inclusion of WLOs in peace and security institutions, peace negotiations, security sector oversight, and early warning and prevention mechanisms, through legal mandates where appropriate. Closing persistent gaps in sex-, disability- and age-disaggregated data is critical to ensuring women’s experiences and the value of women-led responses are visible and acted upon, particularly as these organisations play a vital role in amplifying survivor voices and protecting civic space for women leaders facing physical and digital risks.

**Recommendation 4d: Increase support for civil society-led climate adaptation and nature-based solutions, including in fragile, conflict-affected areas**, to effectively address climate-related drivers of conflict. *Program examples to achieve this include: a Locally-led Climate Adaptation Funding Window for the Pacific and a Gender-Responsive Climate Adaptation and Resilience Funding Window.*

**Recommendation 4f: Invest in civil society-led programmes that enhance community Early Warning Systems**, to mitigate the outbreak and escalation of conflicts.

**Recommendation 4g: Strengthen Australia’s Women, Peace and Security leadership by resourcing and embedding women-led organisations in security and peace decision-making processes**, simplifying compliance requirements to enable access for small, grassroots organisations. Promote the formal inclusion of women-led organisations in peace negotiations, prevention and early warning mechanisms, through legal and policy mandates.

<sup>42</sup> International Peace Institute (IPI) (2015). Reimagining Peacemaking: Women’s Roles in Peace Processes. International Peace Institute.

<sup>43</sup> UN Women. <https://www.unwomen.org/en>

<sup>44</sup> The World Bank. “Disability and Development: women with disabilities (articles 3 & 6)”. <https://disabilitydata.worldbank.org/en/topics/gender>

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## Appendix A: ACFID's 2026-27 Budget Proposals

Appendix A includes Budget Proposals from ACFID's [2026-27 Pre-Budget Submission](#) to Treasury that are referred to in this submission.

Proposed Investments	Budgetary Ask
Increase the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) to \$200m p.a.	\$57m additional (p.a.)
Increase the current Protracted Crises Fund to \$400m p.a.	\$232.3m additional (p.a.)
Develop a Locally-led Climate Adaptation Window for the Pacific (\$400m over 4 years)	\$400m (\$40m in 2026-27)
Establish a Gender-Responsive Climate Adaptation and Resilience Funding Window (\$300m over 4 years)	\$50m in 2026-27
Double the Gender Equality Fund to \$130m p.a.	\$65m additional (p.a.)
Increase the Inclusion and Equality Fund by \$11.5m p.a.	\$11.5m additional (p.a.)

## APPENDIX B: About ACFID

*The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) is the peak body for Australian non-government organisations involved in international development and humanitarian action.*

### OUR VISION

Our vision is Australia acting with compassion and fairness for a just, sustainable and equitable world.

### OUR SHARED PURPOSE

Our purpose is to lead, unite and support international development and humanitarian organisations to realise our vision.

### ABOUT ACFID

Founded in 1965, ACFID currently has 138 full members and 17 affiliate members operating in more than 85 developing countries. The total revenue raised by ACFID's membership from all sources amounts to \$1.968 billion (2023- 24), \$750 million of which is raised by 793,274 Australians. ACFID's members range between large Australian multi-sectoral organisations that are linked to international federations of NGOs, to agencies with specialised thematic expertise, and smaller community-based groups, with a mix of secular and faith-based organisations.

ACFID members must comply with the ACFID Code of Conduct, a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice that aims to improve international development and humanitarian action outcomes and increase stakeholder trust by enhancing the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of signatory organisations. Covering 9 Quality Principles, 31 Commitments and 90 compliance indicators, the Code sets good standards for program effectiveness, fundraising, governance and financial reporting.

Compliance includes annual reporting and checks. The Code has an independent complaint handling process.

### ACFID'S VALUES

#### INTEGRITY

We act with honesty and are guided by ethical and moral principles in all that we do.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

We take responsibility for our actions and are accountable to our stakeholders, and in particular primary stakeholders, for our performance and integrity.

#### TRANSPARENCY

We openly share information about our organisations and our work with all our stakeholders and the public.

#### RESPECT

We recognise the value and diversity of all people and are committed to treating others with due regard for their rights, dignity and integrity.

#### EFFECTIVENESS

We strive to deliver outcomes that bring about positive change in the lives of people living in poverty.

#### EQUITY

We are committed to overcoming prejudices and disadvantage and promoting fair and just access to resources and opportunities.

#### COOPERATION

We work with and alongside others in a spirit of mutuality, respecting diversity and difference in the pursuit of common goals.

## ACFID Members

### Full Members: 138

- ACC International Relief
- Act for Peace - NCCA
- Action on Poverty
- ActionAid Australia
- ADARA Development Australia
- ADRA Australia
- Afghan Australian Development Organisation
- Anglican Overseas Aid
- Anglican Relief and Development Fund Australia
- Anglicans in Development
- ASHM Health
- Asia Justice and Rights
- Asian Aid Organisation
- Assisi Aid Projects
- Australia for UNHCR
- Australian Afghan Hassanian Youth Association
- Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society (ANZICS)
- Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer
- Australian Doctors for Africa
- Australian Doctors International
- Australian Himalayan Foundation
- Australian Lutheran World Service
- Australian Marist Solidarity Ltd.
- Australian Medical Aid Foundation
- Australian Red Cross
- Australian Respiratory Council
- AVI
- Bridgit Water Foundation
- Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation
- Burnet Institute
- Cambodia Rural Students Foundation Ltd.
- CARE Australia
- Care for Africa
- Caritas Australia
- CBM Australia
- CFC ANCOF Australia Ltd.
- ChildFund Australia
- CINI Australia
- CLAN (Caring and Living As Neighbours)
- Conciliation Resources Australia Ltd.
- Cufa
- Dana Asia Ltd.
- Destiny Rescue Australia
- Diplomacy Training Program
- Door of Hope Australia Inc.
- Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia)
- Educating the Future
- Engineers Without Borders
- Every Home Global Concern
- Fairaction International Pty Ltd.
- Fairtrade Australia New Zealand
- Family Planning New South Wales
- FemiliPNG Australia
- Foresight (Overseas Aid and Prevention of Blindness)
- FreO2 Foundation Australia \*
- Global EverGreening Alliance
- Global Mission Partners
- Good Neighbours Australia Inc
- Good Return
- GraceWorks Myanmar
- Habitat for Humanity Australia
- Hagar Australia
- Health Equity Matters (formally AFAO)
- HealthServe Australia
- Hope for Children
- indigo foundation
- International Justice Mission Australia
- International Needs Australia
- International Nepal Fellowship (Aust) Ltd.
- International Women's Development Agency
- Interplast Australia & New Zealand
- Islamic Relief Australia
- KTF (Kokoda Track Foundation)
- Kyeema Foundation
- LiteHaus International
- Live & Learn Environmental Education
- Lotus Outreach Australia \*
- Love Mercy Foundation
- MAA International (Muslim Aid Australia)
- MAF International
- Mahboba's Promise Australia
- Mary MacKillop Today
- Mary Ward International Australia
- Melanie Jewson Foundation \*
- Mercy Ships Australia
- Mercy Works Ltd.

- Mission World Aid Inc.
- MIT Group Foundation
- MSI Asia Pacific
- Murdoch Children's Research Institute
- OCI Foundation \*
- Opportunity International Australia
- Orthopaedic Outreach Fund Incorporated
- Our Rainbow House
- Oxfam Australia
- Pacific Assist
- Palmera Projects
- Partners in Aid
- People With Disability Australia
- Plan International Australia
- Pollinate Group
- Project Rozana
- Quaker Service Australia
- RedR Australia
- Reledev Australia
- Rotary Australia World Community Service Ltd (RAWCS)
- Royal Australasian College of Surgeons
- Salesian Missions
- Salvation Army International Development
- Save the Children Australia
- School for Life Foundation
- SeeBeyondBorders
- ShelterBox Australia
- Sight For All
- Sisters Of The Good Samaritan Foundation (Good Sams)
- So They Can
- St John of God Outreach Services
- SurfAid International
- SUSTAIN Projects Myanmar
- Symbiosis International
- Taking Paediatrics Abroad Ltd.
- Tearfund Australia
- The Fred Hollows Foundation
- The Hunger Project Australia
- The Leprosy Mission Australia

- The Nusatenggara Association (NTA), Inc
- This Life
- Transform Aid International (incorporating Baptist World Aid)
- Transparency International Australia \*
- UNICEF Australia
- Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA
- UnitingWorld
- Water for a Village
- WaterAid Australia
- World Vision Australia
- WorldShare Australia
- WWF-Australia
- YWAM Medical Ships

**Affiliate Members: 17**

- Australian Global Health Alliance
- Australian National University - Development Policy Centre
- Deakin University - Centre for Humanitarian Leadership
- Global Citizen
- Institute for Economics and Peace
- La Trobe University - Institute of Human Security and Social Change
- Monash University - Monash Sustainable Development Institute
- Nossal Institute for Global Health
- Refugee Council of Australia
- RESULTS International (Australia) Inc.
- Sydney Children's Hospitals Network
- United Nations Association of Australia
- UNSW Institute of Global Development
- UTS - Institute for Sustainable Futures
- Vision 2020 Australia
- Western Sydney University- School of Social Sciences and Psychology
- Women's Plans Foundation