

# INTERNATIONAL NEEDS AUSTRALIA

## Board of Directors Policy

### **Title: 3.3 Policy on Development and Politics**

**Date of Adoption:** 24<sup>th</sup> August 2001

**Amended** 20<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**Amended** 4<sup>th</sup> May 2016

**Amended** 25<sup>th</sup> August 2021

***This policy is to be reviewed no later than 25<sup>th</sup> August 2026***

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to clearly establish INA's position regarding partisan political activities in development projects

#### **Definitions**

Political activities are those that involve supporting a political party, candidate or organisation affiliated to a political party.

General support for civil society participation in democracy does not fall within this definition of 'political'; for example, civic awareness campaigns or activities that promote the participation of women in the political and civil society arena for leadership positions (without promoting specific parties).

#### **Policy**

INA does not have political objectives within its mandate. All projects are supported on the grounds that activities are politically non-partisan.

#### **Procedure**

The following guidelines must be applied in all circumstances:

No Australian Government or INA funds are to be used in political activities, as defined above.

- Funds will be used in development on the basis of need without distinction on the basis of caste, creed, class, race, gender, sexuality, religion or political persuasion.
- INA staff and/or staff in INA-funded projects cannot be fulltime, or in manner that is or could be construed as project-supported, work in a partisan political position or campaign for a political party as this may compromise the neutrality of the organisation.

#### **Cross Reference:**

- Program Procedures Manual