

INA Prospective Board Member Brief

Our Vision

A just world where the most marginalised women and children are treated equally to reach their God-given potential.

Our Mission

We strengthen partners with locally developed and led solutions, to empower the most marginalised.

Our Motivation

International Needs Australia (INA) is motivated by a commitment to create a just world where all people are treated equally with dignity, opportunity, and respect, enabling them to reach their full potential. Central to this motivation is a belief that lasting change is achieved by empowering women, who play a pivotal role in improving family wellbeing and also children who are the future of their communities.

Rather than fostering dependency, INA invests in local knowledge, solutions, capability and leadership of its Local Lead Partners (LLPs) across 7 countries. INA has developed a robust approach over 50 years to enable its LLPs to lead their own agendas and move towards becoming financially and organizationally sustainable.

This is all underpinned by INA's commitment to its Christian values and working with all people regardless of age, gender, race or creed.

Our Values

We are Christian: We are motivated by the example of Jesus, reaching out to the most disadvantaged, marginalised, and oppressed of the world.

We support local communities: We promote self-reliance, community ownership and authentic participation.

We amplify the voices of the poor, the disadvantaged and the oppressed: We advocate for just actions that bring positive change to the lives of the disadvantaged, marginalised and oppressed of the world.

We value and respect people of all ages, genders, races and creeds: We embrace all people and treat everyone equally and with dignity.

We demonstrate integrity and commitment: We are ethical and passionate about meaningful and quality partnerships in Australia and overseas.

We are stewards of natural, human and financial resources: and financial resources: We are transparent and accountable, striving to maximise our impact and effectiveness.

The INA Story

International Needs Inc. was founded in New Zealand in 1974 by Ray Harrison. Ray worked passionately to develop a new form of ministry that worked through Christian partners from around the world. Eight months later, on 10 December 1974, International Needs Australia (INA) opened its doors and celebrated 50 years of operation in 2024. The original IN model, which was revolutionary at the time, relied on indigenous Local Lead Partners leading the mission and development work in their local context, with global Support Partners playing a supportive role helping raise funds, awareness and develop the capacity of LLPs. The idea was based on the notion that those who live in a community are in the best position to pursue transformation within their culture and context. This Locally Led Development (LLD) approach is the basis of every INA program, setting INA apart in the Australian development community as an exclusively indigenous partner led and implemented, aid and development agency.

Through our 2026-2030 Strategy, the INA Board and staff desire to increase INA's impact globally via the 6 following objectives:

1. INA becomes a leading Australian NGO in locally led development practice.
2. Double the impact of INA's Australian Schools Program.
3. Grow unrestricted funding, particularly within the Christian community by at least 5% per annum.
4. Efficient, secure, automated and integrated finance and IT systems.
5. Right people, right role, right culture.
6. Good-practice management and governance.

INA Board Recruitment

INA is currently seeking a new member for its Board which currently consists of 7 Board Members (minimum of 3, maximum of 9), and the INA CEO. The Board is currently looking for an experienced external Board Member, for a 3, 6 or 9-year term, particularly with skills and experience in:

1. Fundraising and Marketing
2. Strategy and Management.

We are seeking a Director/Member to join the Board who feels a strong Christian calling to contribute to strengthening and empowering the life changing work of INA around the world.

We are looking for a Board Member with connections to corporates, government, major donors and churches to enable INA to increase its impact with the local lead partners and communities we serve.

The Board meets every 2-3 months (4-6 times a year) for a 90-minute virtual meeting.

There are two additional meetings each year comprising a day-long Strategy Day and 1 ½ hour AGM which are in-person meetings.

Board Members also participate in one Committee each based on their skills. Board Committees meet every 2-3 months (4-6 times a year) for a 90-minute virtual meeting.

For Additional Information

Please visit INA's website at ina.org.au

Or contact the INA CEO (Andrew Catford) at andrewc@ina.org.au