



An Introduction



church
agencies
network



The Church Agencies Network (CAN) is comprised of **eleven church-based organisations** involved in overseas aid and development.

Each agency is a member of the **Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)** and adheres to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

CAN seeks to:

1. identify and act on opportunities for **collaboration** in our work;
2. communicate and demonstrate the **value** that church-based agencies bring to developmental outcomes; and
3. provide a forum for organisational **sharing** and support.



Our Members

Member agencies:

- Act for Peace
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency Australia
- Anglican Board of Missions
- Anglican Overseas Aid
- Australian Lutheran World Service
- Caritas Australia
- Global Mission Partners
- Quaker Services Australia
- Salvation Army
- Transform Aid International/Baptist World Aid
- UnitingWorld

Together these agencies represent a powerful network, with a direct voice into Australia's Christian community.

What we do



CAN members have the backing and support of their denominational church members and their communities throughout Australia. Members are therefore **uniquely placed to highlight issues of poverty and injustice** in developing countries to a large segment of the Australian population.

Our strong historical links with Partner churches, especially in the Pacific, means that we are able to work effectively within these nations at a **grass-roots level**, empowering local people to build their own capacity.

We run programs and projects, some with Australian Government funding to **assist communities** to rebuild after disasters, to have safe water supplies, improved hygiene and to tackle gender inequalities and gender-based violence.

We are working with local communities to establish frameworks to enable them to **better understand climate change and to be better prepared** for the inevitable cyclones, floods, earthquakes and tsunamis of the future.



How we do it

In implementing its Purpose, CAN members adhere to the following guiding principles:

1. **share** the workload of joint initiatives, relative to the capacity, skills and size of each member.
2. make decisions on a collaborative basis being as **inclusive** as possible, but recognising that not every initiative will involve all members.
3. share data and learning in order to enable **collaboration**, but actively protect the intellectual property and confidential information of each other.
4. seek to collaborate and **align** with the strategies and initiatives of related organisations such as ACFID and Micah.

Members are organised through the following working groups:

- CEO group;
- Programs & Effectiveness;
- Advocacy & Education; and
- Finance & Compliance.



In 2016, a group of eight CAN members established a sub-group: the Church Agencies Network - Disaster Operations (CAN DO). This collaboration undertakes **disaster risk reduction and emergency response work**, with an emphasis on the Pacific. CAN DO is a participant in DFAT's humanitarian partnerships.





church
agencies
network

cansecretariat@unitingworld.org.au

www.churchagenciesnetwork.org.au