



Government Matching Projects

Invest
Impact
Transform



WHAT IS A GOVERNMENT MATCHING PROJECT?

Many community development programs are funded through a partnership between Australian non-government organisations (NGOs) and an Australian Government initiative called the AusAID and Non-government organisation Cooperation Program (ANCP). These ANCPs are also known as Government Matching Projects.

NGOs like World Vision submit proposals to the Australian Government's international development agency, AusAID. AusAID provides 75 percent of funding to approved projects and the NGO must raise the remaining 25 percent. World Vision needs your support to fully utilise these grants.

Because AusAID matches three dollars for every one dollar raised (up to the value of the approved projects), World Vision can have a greater impact in communities where we do not currently run child sponsorship programs, or meeting a specific need in communities in which we already operate. Beneficiaries include mothers, children, people with disabilities and entire communities.

Around 50 to 60 ANCP projects are approved each year. The projects generally run for an initial three year period, and may extend for a further three years.





HEALTH

Across the world, people are at a higher risk of premature death if they lack the basics of clean water, healthcare and enough food.

Malnutrition is a major contributing factor in one third of child deaths world-wide. It leaves people, especially the young, particularly vulnerable to easily preventable infections and illnesses.

As well as malnutrition, there are three main reasons why preventable diseases kill so many people in poor countries: lack of essential health services (such as immunisation programs for children), insufficient money for medical treatment and inadequate sanitation.

The effects of chronic poor health on families and communities is significant:

- worldwide, more than 10 million children die each year before their fifth birthday, mainly from preventable illnesses. Over 98 percent of these are in developing countries.
- when family members are ill, scarce financial resources must be spent on healthcare instead of food, schooling or other necessities.
- if parents are too sick to work, their children may have to in order to support the family. This can trap them in a cycle of low-skilled, low-paid work which continues when they have families of their own.

ANCP health projects address these issues through:

- providing education on nutrition, hygiene and healthcare to enable communities to take control of their own health.
- working with communities to improve their access to sufficient, nutritious food.
- training local health workers and community health volunteers such as traditional birth attendants.
- working with communities to build and equip healthcare clinics.
- providing access to clean water and improved sanitation.
- targeting specific infectious health risks, such as malaria, with training and preventative action.
- running immunisation programs.

HIV/AIDS

Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV) and the illnesses that arise from carrying the virus, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), have had a devastating impact on the world since it was first diagnosed in the 1980s. Yet while developed countries have generally managed to contain the spread of the virus, developing nations – particularly in Africa and Asia – still face an immense crisis.

Over 15 million children have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS. The number will reach 40 million by 2010, leaving large numbers of child-headed households at risk of malnutrition, illness, abuse, child labour and sexual exploitation.

HIV/AIDS has a disproportionate impact on the poor. People living in poverty are more likely to be poorly educated, malnourished and vulnerable to exploitation, with less access to basic medicines (let alone anti-retroviral drugs) and healthcare – all of which can contribute to the spread of HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS pushes people deeper into poverty. Households lose their breadwinners, livelihoods are compromised and savings are consumed by the cost of healthcare and funerals. HIV/AIDS affects the most productive group of people: those between 15 and 49 years old. Therefore, it threatens not only the food security of families but the long-term capacity of communities and nations to produce food and secure their livelihood, as knowledge of livelihood skills are lost to the younger generations. Lack of food also decreases the resistance to opportunistic infections and accelerates the onset of the disease.

ANCP projects focusing on HIV/AIDS involve:

- education and awareness campaigns aimed at halting the spread of the disease and reducing social stigma.
- providing access to adequate healthcare to fight opportunistic infections and working to make anti-retroviral drugs available.
- psychological and social care and support programs for people living with HIV/AIDS, including the sick, orphans and other vulnerable children.
- providing life skills training and income-generating activities for affected families.
- supporting community organisations and institutions that work with those in need.

These measures make a difference. In Uganda, the introduction of education and awareness programs contributed to a drop in the number of HIV/AIDS-related deaths of 40 percent in the last five years. In the same period the rate of new cases of infection dropped by 50 percent.



EDUCATION

Education isn't just about getting a good job, it changes lives in many ways. Education is essential for self-esteem, financial security, social justice, health and, in the long run, community and economic development.

Yet for many of the world's poorest people, education is not an option. Many families, especially child-headed households, can't afford school fees, uniforms or books. Poverty may mean that children have to work to help support the family or look after their siblings rather than attend school. Some schools are too far away for a child to easily or safely reach. Others have no proper buildings, furniture or educational materials. In some places, preference for schooling is given to boys.

Lack of education affects the adult population as well. Illiterate and innumerate parents are limited in their choice of employment and find it difficult to improve their circumstances. People with little education are more likely to be in low-paid, dangerous and exploitative work.

The United Nations Millennium Development Goals stress the importance of education for the world's poor. They call for all boys and girls to complete a full course of primary schooling by 2015.

ANCP education programs address these problems for both adults and children in various ways. Approaches include providing:

- early childhood educational and developmental support for children up to the age of five years.
- vocational training and support, enabling communities reliant on agriculture to diversify their income and develop new income generating opportunities.
- adult literacy and numeracy courses in a non-formal, community learning environment.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building empowers communities to take command of their own futures by supporting them to develop knowledge, skills, networks and institutions which address their development needs sustainably and inclusively.

In developed countries, most people have access to a range of resources which can help them expand their knowledge and skills, helping them to take control of the direction of their lives. Schools, universities, libraries, training courses and mentorships are all ways of building on our current capacities.

However, less industrialised countries do not always have these resources, or people living in poverty are frequently excluded from them through distance, cost or availability.

The style of schooling may also influence capacity building. Many developing countries' education systems are based on rote learning and are less analytical in their approach than Western methods. To deal with some of the issues they face, communities need to discover other ways of managing and processing information.

Capacity building is an intrinsic part of World Vision's transformation development philosophy. World Vision supports and promotes activities that:

- work with families and community leadership to promote self-reliance and self-sufficiency, with a focus on improved leadership and empowerment.
- build partnerships with other institutions such as churches, governments, UN agencies and other NGOs.
- lead to more technically appropriate and sustainable activities and practices that contribute to self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

AusAID has stated its support for programs which support 'practical measures at building capacity in partner countries'. This recognises that a lack of skilled personnel and reduced technical and institutional capacity are barriers to development.

ANCP Programs that focus on capacity building can take many forms. Past programs have included working with communities to:

- create disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies.
- support the human rights of children and women.
- encourage the involvement of women in the planning and management of projects.
- engage with local networks and institutions to maximise their service to the community, and support the community's access to the information and services offered.



WATER AND SANITATION

Water is one of the most important of all natural resources. It is vital for all living organisms and ecosystems, as well as human health, food production and economic development. Difficult to purify, expensive to transport and impossible to substitute, water is essential to life.

To stay healthy people need:

- 20 to 40 litres of safe water per person per day for drinking and personal and household hygiene.
- a safe water source located within a convenient distance from the household, and safe water-storage containers.
- a safe way of disposing of excreta and waste water.

Yet over a billion people around the world don't have access to clean water, and over two billion don't have access to adequate sanitation. Poor hygiene and inadequate sanitation quickly spread diseases. Of the nearly two million children who die each year from diarrhoea and other water-borne diseases, almost all are under five.

Women and children are further affected, as they are primarily responsible for the collection of water for the household. In Africa and Asia, women and children walk an average of six kilometres to collect water that may not even be safe to drink. Time spent on collection is time not spent attending school, or growing and preparing food.

ANCP water and sanitation projects address the needs of communities by:

- improving infrastructure, such as wells, rainwater catchments and toilets.
- training communities in disease prevention through basic hygiene and sanitation.
- providing training and support to more effectively manage local water resources.

FOOD SECURITY

There are many reasons why some communities lack sufficient food to eat throughout the year. Many farmers in developing countries only grow enough for their family's immediate needs. This subsistence farming is particularly vulnerable to external factors such as flood, drought, civil conflict and changing weather patterns.

Rising population numbers place increasing pressure on arable land, resulting in farming being taken up in places which are not suitable for successful agriculture. Land degradation also reduces the amount and quality of farm land.

'Food security' is defined as 'when all people at all times have both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life'.

Food insecurity means that many communities are hungry for at least some months of the year. This affects all aspects of their lives.

Hungry people cannot work, so cannot improve their income. Hungry children can't concentrate in school, and inadequate nourishment in children is known to impair cognitive development. Hunger and improper nutrition can leave people, especially children, vulnerable to illness and increase their recovery time. If a family member falls ill, the farm can't be efficiently worked and crop production falls even further.

The UN estimates that around 60 percent of child deaths are linked to hunger. Hunger also increases the risk of maternal mortality.

ANCP programs addressing food insecurity work to ensure long-term change in a number of ways, including:

- encouraging sustainable agriculture through crop rotation, terracing and introducing new types of seeds and plants. This may also include exploring new ways of using local resources through forestry development.
- supporting people to diversify their income by learning new skills and jobs which are not so reliant on agriculture.
- addressing food preparation and storage, so that food can be safely stored year-round.
- building savings funds so that food can be purchased when it is not locally available.
- improving the marketing of agricultural produce to increase income.
- training in nutrition, food preparation and hygiene to achieve better nutrition and health, particularly for children.



Government Matching Projects (ANCPs) usually run over several years, giving partners an opportunity to be involved with a community for a longer period. Programs can be funded in part or in full, and donors are provided with a report at the end of each year.

If you are interested in supporting a World Vision ANCP project in part or in full, please contact:

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Please note: should funds received exceed the matching amount World Vision is required to raise, the excess will be used in another ANCP project of similar need.