

Dear Aid Review Panel,

I am submitting these following suggestions/recommendations for your consideration during the current review of Aus-Aid.

**“Empowering local communities through sustained development to be the aim:** Aus-Aid should help kickstart development and leave by establishing self sustained growth through involvement of local community. **Identification of area of need, presence of local skills or potential and long term sustainability is key. This can happen** through investment in effective consultation, helping community ownership over projects, employing local people and Training locals to take over ASAP.

is crucial for success. Project staff must have a orientation about Aims, Objectives, Transparency, accountability, honesty, cultural & ethically appropriate approach in all project work.

**Engaging civil society** in the planning, implementation and evaluation of the aid program. This should include relevant groups in Australia, in each country and in the communities affected by Australia's aid.

One specific suggestion in my area of expertise: Medical & Health Care Education.

Australian Universities/medical schools to establish/improve medical & Health Care Education centres in pacific islands and other countries. Help, Guidance, curriculum support, supervision, Staff deployment/exchange etc.

Thanks you for considering my views.

Shashidhar Venkatesh Murthy