

The Chair
Independent Review of Aid Effectiveness
Mr Sandy Hollway AO

Australia has set itself a target to double its foreign aid to nearly \$9billion by 2015-16. This is in response to the need for Australia to meet its "international" obligations.

Well AID can only be measured by how it benefits its intended recipients.

Care Australia has a motto(slightly modified), "One can give a person a fish and feed that person for a day or one can teach a person how to fish and show them how they feed themselves for a lifetime".

Thus aid needs to be geared to assisting people in helping themselves.

Aid should not be measured in DOLLARS but in improvements to the lifestyle of the people it is intended for.

Australia provided over \$400 million in aid to Papua New Guinea(PNG). How much of the \$400 million gets to the people in the remote villages(and there are many of them).

On looking at a road map of PNG, it is extremely clear that geography dictates where roads can be built. But roads open up economies. As the Romans found out.

Thus Australia needs to continue and increase its delivery of effective benefits to less economically sophisticated countries in the following fields:-

- Food production
- Education
- Road construction
- Healthcare
- Local commerce and wealth creation
- Development of local, regional and national democratic
- governmental practices

Aid programs in some cases hinder self development in such cases as food aid which reduces the incentive to grow food locally.

Thus Australia's foreign aid program needs to emphasise local development.

David Karr