



# Community Partnerships Awards Policy

## 1. Introduction

The Overseas Aid & Development Commission (the Commission) is a committee of the States of Guernsey with a mandate to:

*Distribute funds voted by the States for aid and development overseas by making contributions to ongoing programmes and to emergency and disaster relief;*

*Develop programmes relating to the collection and distribution of funds involving the private sector;*

*Carry out the duties and powers above in accordance with the policies set out by the Policy and Resources Committee; and*

*Fulfil the responsibilities set out in Annex 1 to the mandates of the Committees of the States.*

The objectives of the Commission are to manage and administer the budget approved by the States of Guernsey for Overseas Aid. The Commission's President is a member of the States of Deliberation and the six Commissioners are lay people appointed by the States of Deliberation.

This policy relates to **community partnerships** (programmes involving the private sector). Policies for the Commission's **grant aid** and **disaster and emergency relief** are available separately on [www.gov.gg/overseasaid](http://www.gov.gg/overseasaid).

## 2. Background

Guernsey has been contributing to overseas aid and development projects since 1980, through the award of grant aid to approved charities and agencies. The approach adopted by the Commission, on behalf of the States of Guernsey, is:

*To support projects which will help to provide the basic needs of the world's least developed countries or to help the indigenous population to meet those needs.*

Basic needs include medical and health facilities, educational programs and facilities, housing, water and sanitation provision and the means of sustaining a living, e.g. through agriculture, horticulture or training in sustainable employment skills.

The Commission also supports projects which will generate a lasting and sustainable improvement in the living conditions of the community receiving the aid. This ethos underpins the Commission's overriding objective to offer a 'hand up' to some of the world's least developed communities, rather than a 'hand-out'.

### **3. Budget**

The Commission receives an annual budget from the States of Guernsey (£2.9m in 2018) which is used mostly for an annual program of **grant aid awards** for charities working on sustainable development projects among the world's least developed communities. A small proportion of that budget is allocated to disaster and emergency relief.

Demands on the Commission's budget are largely externally-driven (e.g. by grant funding applications from charities and/or by the occurrence of natural disasters or emergencies which require a response), which makes it difficult to predict its exact spend in advance. In addition, from time to time, charities underspend on projects and return funds to the Commission. This leaves the Commission with a small amount of funding each year which it uses to support **community partnerships** – programs involving the private sector which help to expand the impact of overseas aid, in accordance with the second limb of the Commission's mandate.

There is no designated annual budget for community partnerships, and the Commission will make decisions on applications throughout the year, depending on the availability of funding. Generally, the awards made by the Commission under this policy will be smaller than those made through its grant funding program – from £5,000 to £20,000 per application, with smaller awards also considered. However, the Commission may also make larger awards by exception.

### **4. Purpose**

The purpose of this part of the Commission's mandate is to strengthen community support for overseas aid by working together with local organisations which are fundraising for and/or delivering aid and development projects.

Projects supported under this policy must meet a basic need, as defined above. The Commission will normally only support projects that take place in countries that fall within the lowest quartile of the UN Human Development Index, but may consider other applications by exception. Examples of the kind of exceptional circumstances that the Commission may take into account are set out in the **grant aid** and **disaster and emergency relief** policies.

## 5. Applicant Organisations

One of the important aspects of this policy is its connection to the local community. The Commission will therefore consider applications from:

- Guernsey-based and registered charities;
- Guernsey-based groups, teams or individuals who are carrying out fundraising for overseas aid and development projects; and/or
- Guernsey-based businesses, other private sector organisations, clubs or community groups who are supporting overseas aid and development projects.

All applicants must have the ability to demonstrate that funds donated by the Commission will be used in compliance with the Commission's financial governance standards, including anti-money laundering and counter terrorist financing, and that projects will be delivered in a manner that protects beneficiaries from sexual exploitation or abuse, i.e. through effective child protection and adult safeguarding policies. In practice, this means that either the applicant or the organisation for which the applicant is fundraising must be a charity, which complies with the Commission's standards as set out in the **grant aid awards** policy.

## 6. Assessment Criteria

In addition to considering whether the application will meet a basic need, consistent with the Commission's overall policy, the Commission will consider the following:

- Is there an opportunity to significantly increase the project's impact through funding from the Commission? (*e.g. is there a multiplier effect from match-funding by another donor? Would additional funding attract publicity or substantially expand the project's reach?*)
- Is there an opportunity to reward a considerable effort by the local community if the Commission contributes to this project? (*e.g. does the fundraising approach require particular effort, sacrifice or thoughtfulness on the part of fundraisers?*)
- What are the applicant's plans for raising the profile of its work, and of the Commission's support?
- Does the application provide an opportunity to increase awareness among a specific sector of the community? (*e.g. school-led fundraising efforts; projects which involve a local business as a third partner, together with the charity and the Commission.*)
- What makes the application different from a routine application for grant-funding, or a project which the community can support without the Commission's involvement?

The Commission may make a grant of an agreed amount, or it may agree to match any funds raised by the applicant up to an agreed ceiling. The Commission will normally offer match-funding where this creates an incentive for fundraisers to raise more on their own initiative.

## 7. Application Process

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact the Commission Secretary to discuss their ideas before submitting a formal application in writing to the Commission.

Written applications can take any form (due to the diversity of applications received under this policy, there is no standardised application form) but must demonstrate how they meet the Commission's standards – applicants should refer to the **grant funding** and **disaster and emergency relief** policies and guidelines for more information. The application should explain how the money raised will be spent, i.e. provide an overview of the development aid project which will benefit from the fundraising. The Commission will not generally support such partnerships where the money raised is not for a specific purpose but rather

Once the Commission has agreed its support in principle, applicants will be required to undergo the same strict governance checks as any other organisation funded by the Commission. No funding will be released until these checks are complete and satisfactory.

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