

Australian Volunteers Program Tanzania

Australian volunteers have supported partner organisations in Tanzania to achieve their development goals since 1964. The Australian Government's Australian Volunteers Program continues this rich history.

The Australian Volunteers Program develops long-term, mutually respectful partnerships with organisations across the Pacific, Asia, and Africa to contribute to locally-led change and the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The program aims to:

- Support partner organisations to progress their development objectives
- Increase program participants' cultural awareness and build stronger connections across countries
- Increase key stakeholders' appreciation of the value of volunteering

Our work in Tanzania

Pamela Whitman volunteered as a Program Development Officer with *AfricAid* in Moshi. Here she is meeting with colleagues Sarafina Kifaru and Felister MnDasha. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono

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Attho and Australian volunteer Amy Hofman working together at the Gender Training Institute in Mabibo, Dar es Salaam. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono

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Maasai woman Nongera teaches Australian volunteer Marketing and Communications Mentor Dani Yannoulis traditional beading techniques at Sidai Designs in Arusha. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono

Our team in Tanzania works closely with our partners to understand their priorities and objectives. Together with our partners, we identify how the program can support them and how that support might change over time.

The program provides support across a range of development priorities in Tanzania, including:

- Women's leadership, economic empowerment and eradicating violence against women and girls
- Agriculture and food security
- Supporting people living with disability
- Improving access to basic health services, especially maternal and child health
- Supporting local artisanal miners
- Supporting socio-economic enterprises aimed at reducing poverty levels

In Tanzania, we partner with organisations working in a broad range of sectors, including education, and social infrastructure and services. Program partners are mainly local or national NGOs and INGOs.

Most volunteer assignments are with partners in Arusha, Kilimanjaro, and Dar es Salaam with a small cohort of assignments in Dodoma. The program also supports partners through remote volunteer assignments.

The program facilitates opportunities for partners to connect with each other, exchange knowledge and share experiences. For example, partners participate in online and face-to-face workshops that focus on specific sectors or topics such as disability inclusion, gender equality and safeguarding.

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Girls Livelihood and Mentorship Initiative (GLAMI) has had an opportunity to host four Australian volunteers since 2014. These volunteers have supported us with both organisational and staff development in areas such as fundraising, program designs and communications. When each volunteer left, there was someone at the organisation that was trained by them to take over the tasks even if not at 100% but still at a great starting point."

Monica Swai, Interim Executive Director – Girls Livelihood and Mentorship Initiative

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Since 2018
the program in
Tanzania has
supported

30+
partner
organisations

50+
Australian
volunteers

35+
in-country
volunteer
assignments

15+
remote
volunteer
assignments

23
small
grants

Small grants

Through the Impact Fund, we provide small grants of up to AUD\$10,000 to our partners to support their vital work and progress towards achieving their development objectives.

The Impact Fund has supported over 200 partners to deliver hundreds of projects. Projects have been across a range of thematic areas including gender equality, disability and social inclusion, climate action, organisational strengthening, and COVID-19 response and recovery.

Australian organisations

We also partner with Australian organisations who share our commitment to locally-led change. We support existing partnerships between overseas partners and Australian organisations and identify opportunities for new partnerships. Australian partners contribute to skills and knowledge exchange and support volunteer recruitment.

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Peter Odullah and Australian volunteer Marketing Mentor Ron Schimpf at Kondiki Dairy Coop in Mwika Village. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono

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“ Australian volunteers and their local counterparts share knowledge and skills towards a better future. Australian volunteers bring their progressive problem-solving approach and complement local knowledge and understanding in addressing development challenges. In the end, both volunteers and their local counterparts learn from one another.”

Musa Naroro, Country Program Manager – Australian Volunteers Program, Tanzania

About our volunteers

Our program is all about people – volunteers, partners and the communities in which they live and work.

We value volunteers who are open to mutual learning and skills exchange, and who are committed to contributing to partners' priorities in support of locally-led change.

We are committed to ensuring that international volunteering is inclusive and accessible to Australians from a range of backgrounds, with diverse perspectives, identities and abilities. We recognise the

unique strengths and skills that people with diverse backgrounds and experiences offer, and we work with volunteers to remove barriers they may face.

Each volunteer assignment requires specific skills and experience. Australian volunteers work in a broad range of sectors including community and social development, health, science, engineering and architecture, skilled trades, education, disaster and emergency management, gender equality and child protection.

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Australian volunteer Cate Melzner walks with her colleagues Sarah Kessy and Esther Somi from HakiMadini in Arusha. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono

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Australian volunteer Nurse Trainer, Tiffany Tiong, with mother and baby at the Flying Medical Service in Arusha. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono



In-country

International volunteering is an incredible experience. It's an opportunity for volunteers and partners to share their skills and culture, while making a tangible difference to communities.



Remote

Through remote volunteering Australians are supporting organisations overseas to achieve their development goals anywhere, anytime.



Hybrid

By combining remote and in-country phases, hybrid volunteering offers our partners and volunteers flexibility while still allowing for genuine connections and meaningful skill sharing.

Spotlight on The Umoja Centre

The Umoja Centre is a non-governmental organisation with a mission to educate and empower young people in Arusha, Tanzania – enabling them to develop the knowledge and skills needed to create positive change for themselves and the wider community.

Umoja's target group is vulnerable Tanzanian youth who lack opportunities for education or employment. The organisation's vision is to help ensure vulnerable children and young people in Tanzania are educated, empowered and living free from poverty, abuse and exploitation.

The Centre has been partnered with the Australian Volunteers Program since 2013 and has been awarded one Impact Fund grant. The funding received in 2016, helped support a project designed to facilitate establishment of a social enterprise whose aim was to address the issue of menstrual hygiene for young girls from lower-income communities. As part of the project, a group of young girls were trained on how to make and market re-usable sanitary pads for girls and women from communities unable to easily access sanitary products. The project is still ongoing to this day.

Australian volunteer Helen Liedel completed a volunteer assignment as a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Mentor. In this role, Helen supported the Centre's program managers, coordinators, and management team to strengthen the organisation's monitoring and evaluation system by reviewing the previous framework and tools to match the needs of new and emerging strategic plans.

With Helen's support, staff updated Umoja's monitoring and evaluation framework and improved their existing monitoring and evaluation skills. Helen also organised a monitoring and evaluation refresher training process, which has increased staff's capacity to carry out monitoring and evaluation tasks and develop tools to effectively measure the outcomes and impact of their own specific projects.

The Umoja Centre's involvement with the Australian Volunteers Program has successfully enhanced the organisation's monitoring and evaluation framework, which plays a key role in the organisation's capacity to continue supporting vulnerable youth in Tanzania.



The Australian Volunteers Program is guided by principles that ensure we

-  Support locally-led change
-  Grow strong relationships and partnerships
-  Value volunteering
-  Evolve good practice and embrace innovation
-  Enhance diversity and inclusion
-  Ensure accountability and value learning

**Australian
Volunteers**

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Aid** 

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