



Australia's International Development Contractors Community

## ABOUT THE IDCC

The IDCC is the formal peak body representing independent consultants and private sector contractors working with the Australian aid program. Members represented will range from individuals to small businesses to large companies. They will be involved in the delivery of the Australian aid program, either as a past, present and/or potential supplier.

The IDCC aims to:

- Increase public awareness of the achievements of the Australian aid program as delivered by its members
- Advocate on behalf of members, which includes providing accurate and evidence-based information to policy makers and influencers, on Australian aid delivery and impact
- Shape and influence public policy on Australian aid and international development
- Raise member awareness and capability to respond to the evolving legislative and policy requirements of the Australian Government.

## WHY IDCC

There is a very strong cohort of technical and professional people who have been working with the Australian aid program for a long time, both in Australia and overseas. Not only are they passionate about improving the lives of people in developing countries, they have a wealth of experience, skills, knowledge and contacts which ensure projects are implemented and sustainable. These people – irrespective of which contracting firm they work for – are a genuine community of dedicated professionals, with much to contribute to aid policy and strategy formulation.

Unlike NGOs and universities, and contracting firms in the UK and US, independent consultants and private sector contractors working with the Australian aid program have not had a united voice in the form of a representative body. While the former IDC group was an informal gathering of contractors for the purpose of obtaining regular updates from DFAT, it did not have any formal status in terms of a constitution, memberships, or fees.

As the Australian aid program has been evolving in terms of strategy, structure and suppliers, the former IDC Executive had been discussing how the IDC should move onto a more professional footing to be a more effective and valuable organisation for members and the Australian government. It was decided in late 2017 to move ahead and establish a new organisation as a legal entity – a company limited by guarantee.

The word 'community' in the IDCC name is a deliberately chosen word - the IDCC is intended to be an inclusive community of technical and professional aid workers, employed as private sector contractors and consultants – present and past. The IDCC will establish a strong working relationship with the Australian Government, enabling DFAT to develop a more strategic partnership approach to its relationships with contractors.

## FORMING THE IDCC

The IDCC has been formed as a legal entity – a company limited by guarantee – with three initial directors guiding the transition to form IDCC as a new organisation that is owned and valued by its members.

The three initial directors are

- Colin Adams, Cardno Director and Area Manager, Asia Pacific
- Therese Faulkner, Coffey Country Manager, Papua New Guinea
- Brian Ramsay, Asia Pacific Representative DAI

Colin is based in Victoria, and Therese and Brian are based in Canberra.

The initial directors will oversee the membership drive, establish operating principles, and convene the first General Meeting. The General Meeting must be convened within six months of IDCC's Incorporation; a proposed date of 1 June 2018 has been set aside for this purpose. All Director positions will become vacant and members will elect five inaugural Directors, representing members' interests.

## MEMBERSHIP

IDCC memberships can be at organisational or individual levels, with a tiered structure reflecting differing membership fees and voting rights, as follows:

Member Type	Annual Fee	Votes
Large organisations (with contract values exceeding \$50 million)	\$5,000	3
Medium organisations (with contract values between \$5 million and \$50 million)	\$2,000	2
Small organisations (with contract values less than \$5 million)	\$1,000	1
Individuals	\$200	-

Voting rights refers to electing directors and making amendments to the constitution.

The IDCC will accept membership applications from 15 February 2018, with fees for financial year 2018/19 also covering the period to 30 June 2018. For each subsequent year, fees will be due by 1 June for full financial year membership for the following financial year (eg. fees due by 1 June 2019, for financial year 2019/20).

Membership application forms are available on the IDCC website [www.idcc.org.au](http://www.idcc.org.au). Member applications should be sent to [admin@idcc.org.au](mailto:admin@idcc.org.au), and an invoice will be issued for payment on acceptance of application.

## DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS AND GENERAL MEETING

Director nominations will be sought from 1 April, with voting to take place during May 2018. Members will be invited to a General Meeting in Canberra, anticipated to be on 1 June. It is envisaged that this will coincide with a general update from DFAT, to provide further incentive for members to travel to Canberra.

## IDCC RESOURCES

IDCC will be a lean, agile organisation that can scale up and down quickly to provide optimal value for members. Once Memberships are paid, the IDCC will be in a position to engage some administrative assistance and develop a website, with a view to the elected Directors making decisions on future resourcing. For example, an Executive Director (perhaps part-time) could be engaged, and as membership and income grows, strengthening communication and operational capabilities will be important for the IDCC to perform as a responsive and influential organisation on behalf of its members.

## IDCC OPERATIONS

IDCC will consult with members via surveys and emails to ensure that its operations reflect members' needs. As a minimum, and reflecting the Objects (aims) of the IDCC, it will initially:

- Establish a website for members
- Distribute monthly updates to members
- Respond to media reports on the aid program, as appropriate to its members
- Share information on what members are doing and achieving in the aid program
- Provide comment on aid budget statements and other relevant public policy statements
- Act as a conduit for DFAT, where appropriate, in providing advice and information to members.

## IDCC VISION

The IDCC sees itself playing an essential and distinctive role in contributing to Australia's aid and international development agenda, ensuring that members are part of delivering an effective aid program which makes a strong and positive impact in developing countries. This will happen with the IDCC representing a large membership base, including major contracting firms, medium and smaller enterprises, and individual consultants and contractors. Becoming a member is the first small step in achieving something big in the future.

