

HOW WE WORK

We work with communities to find practical, innovative and lasting ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive. And with partner organisations and alongside vulnerable women and men to end the injustices that cause poverty.

We take a human rights-based approach to development and believe that respect for the universal human rights codified in the various United Nations human rights treaties offer the best opportunity to lift people out of poverty, allow them to assert their own dignity and facilitate truly sustainable development.

We take a three-pronged approach to tackling poverty:

1. Long-term development projects

We believe poor people should be in control of their own future and be actively involved in lifting themselves out of poverty. We fund long-term development projects to build sustainable livelihoods, as well as access to basics including water, sanitation and education. Our long-term development work also covers the delivery of disaster risk reduction projects to assist communities prepare for future crises such as flooding and extreme weather events.

2. Responding to emergencies

In addition to long-term projects, we provide immediate — often life-saving — assistance to people affected by natural disasters and human conflict.

3. Advocating and campaigning for a just world

We're part of a global movement for change. We raise public awareness on the causes of poverty and encourage ordinary Australians to take action in support of a fairer world. Our campaign work includes the Close the Gap Indigenous health campaign, the GROW food and climate justice campaign and Make Poverty History. In developing countries, we empower communities to realise their rights to improve their lives. And we engage with the public and private sectors to change the policies and practices that contribute to poverty and inequality.

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Cover image: Rodney Dekker/Oxfam

THIS IS US



Currently, one in three people around the world live in poverty. Oxfam is determined to change that world, by mobilising the power of people against poverty.



OXFAM
Australia

OUR VISION

Oxfam's vision is to create a just world without poverty.

WHO WE ARE

One person in three in the world lives in poverty. Oxfam is determined to change that world by mobilising the power of people against poverty.

Around the globe, Oxfam works to find practical, innovative ways for people to lift themselves out of poverty and thrive. We save lives and help rebuild livelihoods when crisis strikes. And we campaign so that the voices of the poor influence the local and global decisions that affect them.

In all we do, Oxfam works with partner organisations and alongside vulnerable women and men to end the injustices that cause poverty.



OUR GOALS

Our plan to tackle poverty and inequality involves:



THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD

To reduce poverty and injustice, people need to know their rights. They also need access to governments and institutions to make their voice heard. Oxfam supports people in need; with an emphasis on supporting women, young people, and Indigenous communities including Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples. Part of this work involves mobilising Australians to demand change and make informed and ethical consumer choices.



GENDER JUSTICE

The fact is, you're more likely to be poor if you're a woman. Discrimination, violence and injustices against women and girls, and the power imbalances between men and women, are major causes of poverty worldwide. Oxfam's gender justice programs help right this imbalance, providing women with equal rights in their homes, communities and places of work.



A SAFE LIFE, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE

Australians see natural disasters and conflict ravage many of our nearest neighbours. We work with these neighbours to reduce the risks associated with these events before they occur. Oxfam Australia is also one of five Oxfam affiliates providing a humanitarian response during times of disaster; we focus on the security and livelihoods of vulnerable people, and the provision of water, sanitation, hygiene and emergency food.



SUSTAINABLE FOOD

Every day, one in eight people go to bed hungry. What's even more shocking is that 80% of these people are actually involved in producing food as fishers, herders or small-scale farmers. Increasingly, changing weather patterns are making it even harder to produce food. Oxfam helps people get access to land, credit and markets (including Fairtrade markets). We also support small-scale food producers to adapt to climate change, develop sustainable farming practices and diversify their sources of nutritional foods.



A FAIR SHARE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

For many poor rural communities, making a living depends on having ongoing access to productive land, as well as adequate water and natural resources. In many instances however these are under increasing threat from illegal or unethical behaviour of governments and corporations. Oxfam works with communities to provide the skills, tools, confidence and access to markets for these communities to earn an income and work their way out of poverty. We also work to hold governments and corporations to account where their policy or practice threatens local communities.



ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

To truly end poverty, rich countries and companies need to increase the money allocated to development and ensure that it is targeted at the poorest and most vulnerable. We work to ensure governments, corporations and multilateral institutions increase the amount spent on aid including private sector investment.