



# Palms Australia in a nutshell

## Who is 'Palms Australia'?

Palms Australia recruits qualified and experienced Australians who participate in an exchange of knowledge and skills to meet the requests of overseas communities seeking to reduce poverty by developing the capacities of their people and organisations.

## Who do we recruit?

The skills we recruit are determined by the requests we receive from community organisations overseas including educators, accountants, managers, tradespeople, agriculturalists, IT specialists, community and social workers, doctors, & health workers.

## Where do we send qualified Australians?

Currently to South Africa, Thailand, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Timor Leste & Samoa (and we are recruiting for positions in American Samoa and the Philippines).

## Where does the money go?

When you donate to one of Palms' overseas projects, you enable us to **recruit, prepare, send and support** Australians who build the capacity of communities and organisations abroad.



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## What is sustainable development?

Sustainable development means growth that can be maintained independent of external assistance.

Consider a school in a remote area that requires a maths teacher. An experienced Australian working there for 6-12 months may assist to teach maths to a group of students. However, we need to ask why the school did not have a maths teacher. If the school could not afford one, and this has not changed during the placement, there will be no-one to continue the maths teaching.

The school is reliant on a rotation of overseas teachers and this is not sustainable. However, if we support the school by providing a teacher to mentor fellow staff in teaching the maths program, the program is likely to be continued into the future without our support.

## What is the value of a skilled Australian to an overseas community?

A qualified Australian who gives two years of their time will add over \$140,000 in value to the community they're working in. Local community organisations are not able to afford expert consultants that international organisations recruit to support local capacity development, nor can they afford to send their staff away for additional training. Qualified and experienced Australians offer this expertise and training for an allowance equal to a local wage.

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