

# campaign for *Australian Aid*

## Submission to Labor's Draft Policy Platform

The National Policy Platform is an opportunity for the Australian Labor Party to demonstrate leadership on Australian aid as a vital way Australia can help to address global inequality, climate change and poverty.

**Campaign for Australian Aid, a coalition of 26 of Australia's aid and development organisations, surveyed 761 Australians to shape our organisational submission to Labor's Draft National Platform.**

62.7% of people surveyed identified as either Labor supporters (34.1%) or swing voters (28.6%).

Of the 761 respondents who completed this survey,

- **87.4%** of people think Labor's goal to grow Australian aid to 0.5% of GNI is not enough.
- **93.1%** think Labor should make a timetabled commitment to increasing aid.
- **97.5%** of people consider each party's position on rebuilding aid "very important" (77.9%) or "important" (19.6%) when deciding who to vote for.

Based on these responses, Campaign for Australian Aid recommends amending the following sentences to paragraph 123 as follows:

- Labor in Government will grow the aid program as a percentage of Gross National Income every year starting with our first Budget.***
- Labor will, over time, achieve the UN target for the international development program of at least 0.7 per cent of GNI.***

722 respondents described why aid is important to them in the survey. Australians consistently expressed that a generous aid program is simply the right thing to do, and that Australia has a responsibility to do its part to ensure every person has the opportunity to have a fair go at life. Below are a few examples of powerful statements of support for aid from survey respondents:

*"The "fair go" should apply to all Australians AND our global neighbours. Australian Aid isn't just about strengthening the region to protect our national interests- it's about doing the right thing and making sure our nation's actions align with our national values of compassion and justice."*

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*“For me this is the key federal election issue. I have been blessed to be born in Australia, and think we should get on board with the UN and do what I think is this small thing to share our wealth with our neighbours. As a swing voter, each parties foreign aid policy is the first thing I look for at election time.”*

*“Being human is about caring for humanity, and I believe that those better off can afford to help those less well off, at a personal and government level. I have been appalled by the current government's decrease of Australian aid and would hope that Labor can improve on this more than it seems they are prepared to commit to right now. I'm glad they are moving in the right direction though.”*

*“It's effective, it saves lives, it has all sorts of economic benefits, it empowers women and girls, it reduces risk of conflict and fights extremism, it helps people adapt as climate change impacts their lives, the list goes on.”*

*“I care about other people, and Australia should too. As a wealthy country which claims to accept all people and give everyone a ‘fair go’ we should be making sure the less wealthy countries around us get plenty of aid from us. Strengthens our partnerships with other nations and saves peoples lives!”*

*“Health and education in those countries are crucial for equity, especially for women and girls, and for people with disabilities or special needs.”*

*“In 2012 I spent 7 months at the UN in New York as an NGO & I was so proud to be Australian - we were a generous nation and shared some of our resources - we are no longer generous. I am ashamed and do not support the reduction in aid. NOT WITH MY VOTE.”*

*“I have a passion for social justice and value any opportunity I have to do whatever I can to aid people facing the inequalities of poverty and human trafficking in our world. I believe that my country should have these same values.”*

*“We live in such a privileged country with abundant resources that we ought to share to our neighbours in need. It's important to me that the government reflects the values of young people to really care about helping and empowering others. We act as an example for developing countries and future generations.”*

**The full list of survey responses to the question, “why is aid important to you” is appended to the end of this submission.**

# campaign for *Australian Aid*

## **About Campaign for Australian Aid**

Campaign for Australian Aid is a coalition of Australia's aid and development organisations including:

ABM

Australian Business Volunteers

Australian Education Union

Australian Volunteers International

Care Australia

Caritas Australia

CBM

ChildFund Australia

Fairtrade Australia and New Zealand

Global Concern Ltd

Family planning NSW

Fred Hollows

Greenpeace Australia Pacific

KYEEMA Foundation

Mercy Works - Sisters of Mercy

Motivation Australia Development Organisation

Oaktree Foundation

Office for Justice and Peace, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

Oxfam Australia

Quaker Service Australia

Results Australia

Tear Australia

The Leprosy Mission Australia

Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA

World Vision Australia

World Wildlife Fund Australia

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## Full list of participant responses

Below are more than 700 responses to the question, “why is rebuilding aid important to you”?

inequality is bad within a country and it is also bad between countries.
I live in East Timor and know firsthand how valuable and valued aid from Australia is for the people here.
I want to see Australia as a great, compassionate country helping those who don't have the same advantages - mateship and a fair go on the international stage.
To help offset the disasters we and our allies have foisted on 3rd world countries with our misguided support for US inspired wars and other examples of imperialism
Help people who do not share advantages Australians take for granted.
I think we need to support our international neighbours and that our support is vital to changing lives. Decreasing it is un-Australian.
Australia must do its share to relieve the suffering of our less developed neighbours. The continued reduction in aid by the Federal government in the last 5 years has worsened already dire situations in many countries.
The more we lower aid, the more our traditional friends in the area will turn to other countries which could jeopardize our relationship with them. Also, obviously, as a wealthy country we have a duty to help those in need around the world and to keep to the UN amount and timetable.
1. Seems as tho the richer we become, the less generous we become. 2. Climate change hits the polar and equatorial areas first, and the temperate areas (us) later; however we temperate area residents contribute more to climate change. 3. China is upping its aid to the Pacific. We should be there, too.
Because there is no empathy All I hear said is” charity begins at home” and other entitled whinges. It is our duty as a wealthy first world country to contribute our fair share totheworld
Australia has a responsibility to be a good global citizen & give to those in need without prejudice.
Global human rights
Because we have a moral obligation to assist the less fortunate, and desperately needy , wherever they are , starting with our own indigenous , people
we need to share our good fortune with other people around the globe who are caught up in war and famine.
Fairer distribution of resources.

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We are a rich country with responsibility to aid those in our area less well off. Also if we don't aid those around us China will and we lose soft power in our area.

Because of global solidarity

Helping other nations makes the world safer, improves our relationships and trade partnerships with them. We are one of the most developed nations in the world and enjoy a quality of life that is enviable. We should not be greedy and leave developing countries to flounder when we have wealth.

We are a prosperous nation and should share with others less fortunate

As a wealthy nation, we have the capacity and responsibility to do more to reduce poverty & suffering. Supporting fundamental human needs for the world's most underprivileged people should not be secondary to domestic spending.

We need to be good global citizens so that all citizens have the opportunity for a decent life

Helping others in need will hopefully help them to be able to improve the quality of their lives.

Because it's Australia as a first world country to assist developing countries, especially in SE Asia and the Pacific to develop socially and economically - especially targeting support for the poor and especially women. It is our moral and ethical responsibility to provide untied aid - not simply aid for trade deals with those developing countries that support Australia's economic, financial and political interests. Our reputation has been tarnished enough with our repressive border protection and immigration policies and treatment of individuals and families fleeing from oppressive and punitive regimes. Grow up Australia...and at least achieve the minimum UN targets for AID.

Because the more we help other countries the more likely we are to have fewer refugees and to have good relationships with countries in our region and further afield.

Recently aid provided by Australia has declined. We can no longer view ourselves as an insular community. Australia needs to become part of a global community who shares its wealth.

We need to stand up and be a good neighbour a helper and a decent country. I have been told by people who came to this country from states where Australia helped they tell of great improvement in their lives and how they were turned towards doing the right thing not joining in wars etc

People need our help. Even if it's just clean water and food. We are their only hope for survival. Everybody deserves that.

We have a responsibility to help those less fortunate in the world, and to take a place as world leaders in compassion, humility, and humanity.

Australia is a wealthy country and has responsibility to look after its poorer neighbours. It is not in anybody's interest to have people starving in this world

Foreign aid has already been decimated by the policies of the Coalition Government

We are a country of such good fortune, we should share that with other people who are less fortunate.

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It is not only the right thing to do, it is an action that will help keep us secure.

Many developed western nations like Australia are built on the backs of oppressed developing countries -- through imperialist foreign policy and multinational corporations taking advantage of lax worker protections. Foreign aid is the least we can do.

We have so much here, it is untenable to leave those that have nothing and/or existing in war torn countries to fend for themselves. There is enough for everyone if we would only share.

We are a very lucky country and we should give to others less fortunate

We need to help the helpless.

I have worked in third world countries and seen the need and know we need to share the disproportional level of wealth we have for purely moral reasons but also because we care about others. However at a more selfish level we need to counter the influence of other powers who have rather doubtful motives. They threaten world security and the best way to counter their influence is to win the hearts and minds of the needy by providing real, constructive, lasting help and support.

It isn't

Australia is a wealthy and healthy country who has the resources to contribute to those in less fortunate situations

Australia is a wealthy country and should help other countries

Charity begins at home.

We are a affluent country in a region surrounded by struggling countries. If we work to support and develop our neighbours then all of us will flourish together. If we retreat from helping our neighbours, then countries like China will fill the gap and the loyalties of our neighbours will turn towards China and they will not come and trade with us.

aiding independence in foreign countries

Inequality is selfish and unfair. We should be giving aid to people who are hungry, homeless and sick and we should be donating to educational progress for all the world's children.

We call ourselves the "lucky country" because of the abundance we have in Australia - natural resources, good foundation of government, solid infrastructure, etc. I believe that we should do more to equitably share what we are fortunate enough to enjoy. Aid that contributes to strong development in other countries provides opportunity to others, who are in less fortunate conditions through no fault of their own, to be able to experience the fullness of life that we largely take for granted here in Australia.

Opportunities such as access to safe water, better health and sanitation understanding and facilities, access to education, etc. A stronger community results in a more resilient community which is better for everyone, overall.

So many reasons. It's effective, it saves lives, it has all sorts of economic benefits, it empowers women

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and girls, it reduces risk of conflict and fights extremism, it helps people adapt as climate change impacts their lives, the list goes on.

We are a wealthy country and there are lots of people who live in appalling conditions. A world in which the rich help the poor is a much safer and happier place in which to live.

Fairness and to promote good living conditions throughout the world

Australia has the capacity to support communities around the world with aid programmes that fit their priorities for long term sustainable development. That can only have happen if there is a long term commitment of adequate funding.

We are the "lucky country and should share what we have with the underprivileged of the world.

I work as a volunteer with ABV and witness first hand the benefits of the work we do and how essential it is.

Bringing humanity and unconditional support to those that lives depend on our help

It's a question of living justly in this world of inequity, of supporting others to have a decent life where their capacity can flourish and contribute to the wellbeing of all of us

As a developed country, I believe Australia has a moral and ethical obligation to provide aid to developing countries.

Help children of other countries to be educated, education stops terrorism

Australia is one of the richest nations in the world. We should show leadership in our generosity to other countries who are less privileged.

I support any effort to promote justice and peace in the world.

Human rights are very important.  
GET THE REFUGEES OFF NAURU AND MANUS AND BRING THEM HERE

To share our wealth with countries less fortunate than us

Aid is the first step in creating an environment where disadvantaged people can learn, grow and develop to become self sufficient.

It is the right thing to do, as individuals and as a nation, to the best of our ability, to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

We are enormously fortunate and should share our luck. Aid also makes us an effective and credible member of the global community.

Share our wealth and address global inequality

We are a rich nation, we should share our wealth and support the vulnerable.

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Australia should play its part in helping to address inequality. Ranking 19 out of 29 OECD countries in its foreign aid contribution is pitiful and heartless a shame job

We are a lucky country and need to do more to support those who are less fortunate.

a wealthy nation like australia has a moral obligation to help others

People are starving, thirsty, need shelter and have hygiene/health problems. They should have hope to stay living.

It helps support people who through no fault of their own find themselves living in poverty fear safe and often far from home

If other countries have appropriate aid to stabilise their management there might not be the crisis of economic and political refugees seeking asylum in other countries.

We are responsible for each other. We have a duty of care for those who share this earth with us.

Because we made a pledge to give 0.7% ODA, and we must achieve that to end poverty by 2030 per SDG #1

For peace, security and compassion especially addressing drinking water catastrophic issues like dirty water and having to walk all day to fetch water Australian government must directly intervene the time is now water is essential.

We are a wealthy country. Compassion and integrity demands that we assist those nations and their people who are unable to financially meet their most basic human needs.

Because we are a wealthy prosperous and blessed nation and I think we have an obligation to share our wealth with those in need.

Aid helps to make the world and Australia safer.

It makes a huge difference to those countries needing both emergency help and long term preventative & developmental aid.

If our country was in trouble we would want help. We are a country with the financial ability to help others so we should

We have to help countries in need; as we never know when we may require assistance.

Fairness and equity

In 2012 I spent 7 months at the UN in New York as an NGO & I was so proud to be Australian - we were a generous nation & shared some of our resources -we are no longer generous. I am ashamed & do not support the reduction in aid. NOT WITH MY VOTE.

Not important at all we have enough needy people in our country we need to start looking after our own and what I mean by that is Australian citizens and our elderly that have contributed to what once made Australia great place

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Australia has a global responsibility, both as a signatory to the Sustainable Development Goals as well as committing to overseas development assistance. It is up to us to rebuild our destroyed aid budget and change the way aid is viewed both in Australia and other developed states. As an Australian citizen I want to see my country giving aid on my behalf. We benefit from their suffering, the least we can do is give them aid.

To address global inequality and injustice and provide opportunity for much needed improvements in human opportunity, health, education, employment, security and dignity.

As a wealthy nation, we have an obligation to help alleviate poverty and other hardship in places less fortunate.

As a rich nation with so many resources we have an obligation to poorer nations to help them, especially since we live in a global economy where we benefit from a lot of poorer countries. We would want other countries to help us if we were in their shoes, so we should help them.

Supporting people to be able to support themselves makes it better for everyone

One humanity one world

Australia is a rich country, it can afford to help

share our wealth

To better fulfill our obligations as human beings by:  
firstly, providing practical assistance to people in peril and protecting the human rights of all peoples;  
secondly, assisting communities to better meet their needs and care for themselves in a sustainable way.  
thirdly, sharing our abundant wealth with people without such wealth for the betterment of all.

It's right - aid promotes world stability and our national interests are affected by that stability.

And it's right - our national honour and reputation are affected

We are citizens of the world. We must keep our eyes and hearts focused on a global picture. I believe that for too long we have let our oceans isolate our thinking....mind you at the same time that we need to struggle harder to protect those precious oceans

As a wealthy country we have a responsibility to help out other less fortunate countries especially in the Pacific region

What is often forgotten is that the donor country receives far greater benefits from aid given in trade and other benefits. Giving aid is an absolute good to Australia and assists other nations to be full participants in the world by improving everyone's economic security.  
In coming years there will be waves of refugees from drought and flood affected countries, so some timely aid to prevent climate-related disasters and food shortages makes sense.  
Australia is an extremely rich country that can share its' knowledge, expertise and wealth with our neighbours, remembering that we live in a global village and we are all neighbours.

# campaign for Australian Aid

People around the world are living or dying, depending on what we as a country can offer them. The current rate is horribly low and is costing lives around the world. As one of the most well-off countries in the history of humanity, we have a responsibility to share some of what we are lucky to have with those that don't.

Rebuilding aid is compassionate, and the right thing to do. But it also helps keep Australia and our region safe, can assist in making Australia more prosperous, and improves our international reputation. There is no downside to increasing our overseas aid.

As a wealthy nation and part of the world economy we have a responsibility to support those who struggle to survive. Aid also helps develop good relationships with other nations. As we help others in appropriate ways, our aid can enable other peoples to become more self sufficient. I believe our aid also needs to support the many displaced people in our world. However, it's also important to see that aid given is used where it is needed and not swallowed up by abusive dictatorships who would keep the funds for their own use.

Australian aid saves millions of lives, and improves quality of life

There is no excuse for slow, ineffective aid responses. The people of this planet must share and rapidly assist those in need. There is No excuse for not acting to save people.

I used to be very supportive of aid but with all the refugees these days they seem to be causing more issues and demanding laws not acceptable to Australians and crimes are constantly being committed by Somalis and Sudanese. I have changed my beliefs

Australia is a beautiful space but we have fragile old natural resources ie limited quality water supply and yet we have a lot of space. If we don't help people NOW in their countries where they WANT to stay... it is only natural that eventually governments of big countries wanting more space will take ours

ALL HUMANS DESERVE THE BASICS IN LIFE FREE ACCESS TO WATER SHELTER AND FOOD

Because it's right and helping others ultimately helps the world

We are relatively wealthy and it is a way to show compassion to our neighbours, to assist in education, health and gender equality issues and join other countries who have committed to a .7% target.

we are lucky to be in a wealthy country, we need to share that with people who are less fortunate

it helps people

It is the only way to get closer towards global justice. We can't engage in arms trade whilst also refusing to rebuild the cities our guns will destroy.

justice

We have to deliver our obligation

The more we can help anyone to help themselves, the less they will need in the future. We can't help everyone but we can do more, one person, one village at a time.

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Overseas aid improves living conditions which helps reduce population numbers which is the planet's most serious economic, social, environmental problem.

It is our duty as a wealthy and resource rich nation to assist less fortunate nations. There is also a strong argument for improving aid as a means to help counteract the threat of war and terrorism.

From a purely pragmatic viewpoint it is a good way to keep people in their own countries and to provide a balance to Chinese influence in our region. The fact that it promotes a fairer world does not need any defense at all and is simply the right thing to do.

we cannot opt out of a global world

I believe we live in a global world and should respect and support our neighbors.

It demonstrates the values we hold as a society, as a community .

There is no peace without justice

We are a wealthy country we should help others

Our home is ONE planet. Everything is interconnected and failure to support those suffering and struggling in other countries means that this sorrow and disruption will travel across the waters to our shores. Besides - ALL human life is precious, and we are a wealthy enough country to aid those who have little or nothing. Compassion + common sense (don't create refugees and asylum seekers) = action in line with the UN's assessment of need. We've behaved badly for too long (I'm a bit embarrassed to be an Australian these days).

It's the right thing to do

We live in a global village, what's good for our neighbours is ultimately good for us

Society should be measured by how it treats the world's most vulnerable

Because it is both the decent thing to do and very much in Australia's interest.

It's not. and foolish. we have 100000 people starving on Sydney streets. Wake up

Because we have an important responsibility to help people less fortunate than us

We're such a wealthy place, and with great power comes great responsibility. We're able to make life-changing things happen with even our spare change. So let's be generous!

I would have that was obvious, see your photo

If we want to maintain our borders and national security we need to make sure people in other countries aren't living in poverty.

Because we have, on the whole, all our essential physical needs met. There are others in this world who do not, and this inequity should not exist. Whilst we all try to find long-lasting solutions to these social injustices, we should give what we can in the now to help nations and people who are in the urgent states of need. Love your neighbour as yourself (Mark 12:31)

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I would just like to say that the ALP should firstly increase Newstart by no less that \$100 per week. Once this is done then increase foriegn aid.

We're one of the richest countries on earth, and it's the very least we can do.

There is no real world peace while such inequity is accepted. We need to share our skills, resources, and build bridges. Training teachers, engineers, nurses is wiser than training commandos. Social responsibility is ours

Common decency.

many countries are being destroyed, many are on the move, many are lacking so much. We have the capacity to assist getting communities on "their feet",take control of their lives . But then we can always let China do it all!

Helping our neighbours especially those most in need. It's also good for peace and security in the region.

It supports development and education in countries where radical idealism can develop in the absence of education and in an an environment of deprivation and poverty.

Australia is a wealthy country. Increased aid is one way to make things fairer.

Helping nations and communities who have historically suffered because of colonialism ie sharing some of our ill gotten gains

All world citizens need a fair go including a lift up when their circumstances are dire and potentially deadly

For me this is the key federal election issue. I have been blessed to be born in Australia, and think we should get on board with the UN and do what I think is this small thing to share our wealth with our neighbours. As a swing voter, each parties foreign aid policy is the first thing I look for at election time.

It's our responsibility in our region and as a developed nation

As a comparatively wealthy country, we have a moral obligation to assist other countries in need. Australia could do a lot more for others than it does currently.

Assist other countries in need to improve their day to day life

A civilised society is one that looks after those that can't.

As one of the richest countries in the world, we need to help reduce inequality.

We who are fortunate have an obligation to assist those less fortunate in ways that help build self-sufficiency.

Many overseas people don't get the support from their greedy governments. We have SO much more to share & much more help for our own who are suffering. Let's share generously!

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People's lives are at stake and could be put at risk

Rebuilding Aid is important for a fairer World

In do not think we have a set plan for aid and we should

Helps to improve equity across the globe and reduce economic injustice

Australia is a wealthy country, but no matter how full our pockets are, we will never have full hearts if we continue to live our privileged lives here while our friends across the globe face unnecessary inequality. We have the power to change lives, and I believe it is our duty to do so.

Helps disadvantaged people in the third world

we are a wealthy nation, we should share .

For moral & strategic reasons we should assist other nations.

Helping the desperately poor in the world serves at the same our own vital interests when viewed from the perspective of an equitable world producing the best environment for global growth and peace.

Aid assists in capacity building to help improve communities and help people remain in their home country, instead of becoming refugees. It is especially vital in driving the empowerment of women, achieving equitable health outcomes and boosting education participation.

By world standards we are a very wealthy nation. I think we should do more to help those in poverty.

I am already embarrassed by the terrible way we treat refugees...and apologise to friends overseas,

We have a responsibility as a rich nation to help those in countries less fortunate than ourselves. One way to ensure world peace is through education and health! It's our responsibility to share the load in this very important policy arena and our aid could really reach a lot of human beings and enrich their lives and in the long term all of our lives!

It is time we were compassionate.

People need help when they've lost everything.

Because I am a Christian and as part of my Christian faith I believe that we who have so much have a responsibility to those who haven't. I have visited poor countries through World vision and I know how important our help is.

We have an obligation to support programs in developing countries

This country needs our support

Aid is a moral obligation and a necessity to prevent further issues down the line such as terrorism and mass migration, making it a pragmatic obligation also.

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We have a responsibility to help those who can't help themselves

it's only a smidgen of our GNP and means a lot to the suffering masses

We are a very wealthy and lucky country. Many do not come from such fortunate countries where we all have access to food, shelter and education. To have a peaceful and fair world we all need to have these opportunities,

As a relatively wealthy nation we have a responsibility to assist those nations doing it tough

The story of the Good Samaritan says it all. It is also good politics especially with China's largesse to third world countries.

REBUILDING AID IMPORTANT TO BANGLADESH LOW INCOME COUNTRY AND INDUSTRY CAPITAL PROBLEM.

To improve relations between Australia and its world neighbours, to promote world peace, to acknowledge our shared humanity, to save human lives and alleviate unnecessary suffering

Our Duty and obligation

It is an important builder of peace as well as serving the cause of international justice.

Third world people need our help.

Because every human being deserves equal opportunities and aid is one simple way to encourage that

Human rights and equality.

It is important to demonstrate responsibility, faith, and humanity.

Australians, including myself, are very fortunate and we need to share that good fortune with our fellow humans who, often due to circumstances beyond their control, are not as lucky as we are. I feel very passionate about this.

Help the world not exploit it

Australia has become an international pariah over recent years. As a so-called rich nation we can well afford to help other, less fortunate nations, by increasing our aid budget. Doing so would, in a small way, help to improve our current poor international standing.

The world is becoming harder for many of our neighbours and we need to do more to help them. Rising sea levels, political upheavals and economic disparity are contributing factors that people have no control over. If we don't assist our immediate neighbours, other powers will, and that might bring about consequences we don't like so close to home.

We are a wealthy country that can afford to be generous to the needy.

Distributive Justice

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Because it helps prevent refugee problems from the source

soft diplomacy for Australia; counteract Chinese influence in the Pacific and other areas

Countries are so interconnected on the global stage in this age of travel communication and trade. As a prosperous nation supporting those that are less so reflects positively on us as a nation and may provide example to others to do the same.

Give that you will receive to quote a famous person we in Western World admire.

Because we shouldn't balance our budget on the backs of the worlds poor

To maintain or build good relationships with foreign countries who may help us in the future

We are fortunate to live in a wealthy country. We didn't do anything to deserve it so why should others miss out? On a more cynical and practical scale, aid = influence

The only way communities will be able to withstand the impacts of climate change is if they are supported to develop. We need to help them on their way. Extremism, terrorism and global unrest follow when people have nothing left to lose.

Using our country's good fortune to help others shows our character

To assist pensioners

It is not. Look after your own Country first. That is why we pay taxes. We dont pay taxes to forget about your own. We are the boss of you not the other way around.

We are one of the wealthiest and most secure countries in the world which partly comes about as we have educational opportunities, gender equality, support for the disadvantaged and so many other assets that ensure

As a rich, supposedly 'developed' nation, Australia must earn its right to participate in global forums that seek to ensure a 'fair go for all'. Our overseas aid and development commitment is an important measure of the seriousness of our intent.

Australia is very well-off and we have a basic human obligation to other people in the world whose health, environmental, living, and education standards are inadequate

Because we need to help people in less wealthy parts of the world lift themselves out of poverty and oppression

We are very well off in our country; we should show a generosity of spirit and fellowship with fellow Humans. I understand we do have many needy in our own community, but we should recognise the very poor in other parts of the world. We can and must give a hand up to those in need.

Australia can afford it. It's a moral duty.

It is a humanitarian response to global inequality. It also increases Australia's influence at the expense of some dubious regimes.

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As a relatively wealthy country we should be able to contribute at least 0.7% of GDP to help less fortunate nations.

we have become mean

If we want healthy, vibrant communities on our doorstep then Australian aid is essential. If we want to stop terrorism then Australian Aid is essential. Also for strong economic neighbours and peaceful neighbours. Justice and Peace and economic development and educational opportunities for all those in 3rd world will ultimately benefit Australia too.

Wealthy nations need to help communities who are struggling, especially when struggles are the result of issues associated with former colonisation or exploitation.

Rebuilding Aid for struggling countries is essential if we want to see a World living in harmony. It is up to the more established economies to assist with real aid that benefits the people of the countries, not the Governments of those countries. Aid should be specific and targeted to make real change.

It makes human rights sense. It makes business sense. It makes political sense. It just makes sense!

Firstly, it is just the right thing to do, to help those less fortunate and secondly, other wealthy but different ideologically nations are using their money to influence foreign governments detrimentally.

Comparatively speaking we are a rich nation. Our UN membership requires 0.7% of GNI and this is a figure we can well afford with an even minor reduction in arms expenditure. If we must buy more military hardware it should have peacekeeping, civil defence and disaster relief applications as a first priority and not be leaching funds from the aid budget.

Because we have so much and so much of the world has so little; because our aid can make a genuine material difference to people's lives; because our aid can lead to people working their way out of poverty over time.

We either help people have a good life where they are and be good world citizens or we live with the chaos of refugee movements that lead to disappointment and negativity when receiving countries cannot or will not accommodate them.

And take note, I will not vote for any party that doesn't to advocate for onshoring all inmates of the Manus and Nauru concentration camps immediately. No fluffing around. Bring them here and try to undo the damage this country has wrought on people we have treated as human shields. Disgusting.

We need to care for others less fortunate than ourselves.

It is the responsible and fair thing to do and in the long run it is the interest of all of us, rich and poor.

Australia is a rich country. We should be on par with other developed nations when it comes to international aid.

No one is an island. If one is in need then all of us are in need and need to share. 7% is an absolute minimum. 10% is the time honoured proportion.

# campaign for Australian Aid

I was an NGO representative at the UN for 7 months in 2012 & I was proud to be Australian. I believe we can do better than this - I feel ashamed as an Australian today.

It's important to me that Australia, as a prosperous nation, meets its obligation to help the less fortunate around the world.

I think it is immoral for us not to do more in aid when it is a comparatively tiny part of our budget yet makes such huge differences

Rebuilding aid is the best way to increase justice and equality in our world.

Generosity of spirit is a critical part of being human. We are in a rich and delightful country and I believe we need to show compassion and generosity to others. It not only does them good but lifts our sense of being a country of good will: provided of course the politicians remind the population of our obligation to help others.

Poverty and lack of education cause people to despair and struggle. Helping them with aid prevents illness, violence and inability to work. It also promotes good relationships with other countries.

I believe we will never see a world at peace whilst so many of our fellow humans have no hope of a worthwhile future.

As a member of the human race and fortunate to be born in a relatively wealthy country I am keen that others less fortunate through no fault of their own should be able to have ready access to the necessities of life such as water, food and shelter, not to mention, education and opportunities to make their lives better.

It is the right thing to do

We are a wealthy country and should at the least meet international standards for aid.

The only way to get peace is for people feel safe, fed and with jobs in their own country. Nobody wants to be forced from their homes for any reason.

We have so much and are rich beyond the wildest dreams of so many. We must be a good global citizen and help those who can not help themselves

As one of the world's most privileged countries, reversing the downward slide of our aid budget to bring it in line with UN guidelines is an international responsibility.

Australia is truly a lucky country. I feel ashamed of our government which is so greedy and uncaring of those in great need.

We have fresh water and fresh food our neighbours don't and we should be able to help. Being a good neighbour is what we must be.

Both for strategic reasons of soft diplomacy and to fulfil our moral obligation as a wealthy, peaceful nation to assist poorer and conflict ridden states. Poverty breeds conflict and we are all the losers for that.

# campaign for Australian Aid

I want to be a proud Australian living in a country giving generously as we can afford to

Because I know that we can do better as we have done before. We have continued to become a country that has much more than we know what to do with but we now give less to those that need it desperately.

Australia agreed to 0.7%. It's our fair share. As one of the richest countries on earth we should be doing far more to lift others out of poverty.

The rich world has plundered other parts of the world. It is about time we paid something back!

Because it is simply being a 'good neighbour' to others in our region who don't have the same resources and advantages as we do in Australia, and any money provided will be amply 'repaid' in terms of positive relations with our neighbours.

Everyone has a right to basic needs ,eg clean water, sewage, housing, education, health etc.

i've worked overseas I know the impact it has

Because we are a lucky country & should share that with those who are not so lucky.

Because the impact of poverty is worsened by the disparities between rich and poor countries, which in turn threatens social stability, and promotes the exploitation of uneducated peoples.

all people deserve a hand up

We are blessed when we give to those less fortunate than us. Time to stop being greedy and selfish.

I am a citizen of the world and believe we are all equal and should help one another as best we can.

It has to happen and we can do it.

social justice..equity issue

I have worked in East Timor and Africa and have witnessed the critical need for aid funding in so many countries.

Improves relationship within region, boosts Australia 's influence, curbs Chinese and American influence, lifts poverty and inequality, bolsters security

An affluent country such as Australia should be doing more for countries that need assistance

Its humane and assists world humanity

As a "first world" country, we have a moral obligation to support those whose standard of living is so well below ours that we can't really envisage it.

There is a great deal of essential needs for people around the world - especially those living in war zones, natural disaster areas or nations ruled by tyrants. Australia could drastically reduce the \$32 billion it intends to spend on defence and use this for priority aid locations and bona fide

# campaign for Australian Aid

peacekeeping missions. Australia should be spending 1% of its GNP on foreign aid to assist people who are refugees or are poverty stricken and should cease spending on US initiated wars that cause unnecessary deaths, injuries and destruction of the environment and important infrastructure.

Golden rule treat others how you wish to be treated. It could be us in their position

Global citizenship in a globalised world. Addressing global injustice.

It is part of living thoughtfully. We must continue to try and lead our country down a caring and giving path. The more selfish we become nationally, the more selfish we become individually. This is not a world I wish to live in.

We are a very wealth country and can afford to support those who earn less than the poorest Australians

Caring for the global community

I strongly believe that our world is lacking in economic equity which is leading to premature deaths, disease and miserable lives for many. The legacy of colonialism is a factor that has led to many economic disaster and cultural destruction in many countries. Australia, as a wealthy nation, has a part to play in ensuring economic equity across all nations including Indigenous Australians. A fairer world is a better world for everyone.

we have a duty to be working within the international community to be assisting those who ask and require our help

Whether we like it or not other countries poverty has an impact on our way of life. Whether it be from the impact of climate change, or the education of a child who may save the world.

This is where the most likely positive solutions to how Australia is viewed by its neighbours is likely to come from. Australia has a generous spirit, but when leadership doesn't reflect a generous use of our wealth towards clear, targeted and effective aid development program, it sends a signal to the wider population of ignoring the needs around us

The rich should help the poor.

The way we care for disadvantaged people at home and overseas is a reflection of the care we have for ourselves. Let us be caring of all life on Earth - which includes ourselves. Make friends, not enemies.

We Australians live privileged lives; it is important we give back to the world.

We can afford to help the poorest people. It lifts our relationships with other countries.

It is a significant moral issue and fundamental to social justice.

As is one of the most politically stable and wealthiest countries in the world, I think we are well placed to help other nations move towards greater stability and prosperity. Increased stability and prosperity, especially in our own region, can only be to Australia's long-term benefit in terms of both our security

# campaign for Australian Aid

and our economic opportunities.

We have a responsibility to countries that are the poorest to work towards getting them back on their feet.

Helping those less fortunate than us is what we are called to do and **MUST DO** from a spiritual, ethical, moral, and compassionate standpoint. Our perspective on life in the Western world is horribly skewed and cruel when we are willing to reap the profits gained from resources procured from third world nations yet compensate them with such pittance. It is but for the Grace of God that we in the west are so fortunate, and our current position on foreign aid across the entire political spectrum in Australia and the west is deserving of condemnation and criticism.

Because a country is only content if we all have enough to live on.

It would help Australia to become less Australiacentric.

for global well being

Because we have so much to share

Foreign aid not only raises people from poverty & allows them to fulfil their human potential; it also build strong relationships with our neighbours, thus making Australia is a safer country.

Most of us are very fortunate in Australia. There are others in Australia, and many others elsewhere worldwide, who are not so lucky, and are suffering from a huge range of issues: poverty, disease, prostitution, conflict, etc. It's not fair that we, the fortunate ones, are not helping those who just by chance were born into a less fortunate situation. Especially when many of these issues are exacerbated by climate change, which we fortunate ones are making much worse for those in less fortunate situations. Australia needs to rebuild our aid to ensure we are giving to those who need it, to help the overall wellbeing of humans on earth.

We remain a wealthy country and can do so much to help others

Because we are a rich country and should help those who are not.

It is shameful that while we waste copious amounts of money on statues, banquets, overseas junkets dressed up as study tours. We

We who have so much can help ease the burdens of those in real need for the benefit of all.

To help the less fortunate both in Australia and globally

Compassion, social justice. Reducing inequity may decrease the risk of conflict and pressures on immigration as people are able to live comfortably in their place of origin.

We are relatively well off compared to our neighbours Indonesia and Papua New Guinea and most people there deserve a better chance in life.

Because we are a wealthy country and the widening gap between rich and poor both here and in the world at large is a major cause of suffering, and of threat as the dispossessed must eventually take

# campaign for Australian Aid

action.

I think we need to do our part to assist poorer countries in our region to cope with the effects of climate change, and to rebuild countries who have suffered from conflicts we have participated in. In the long-term, this could help stem the flood of migration that has been partly responsible for the destabilisation of politics in the west.

It's part of our obligation as both global citizens and also being in positions of privilege to assist and aid those in need to create a more fair, equal and just international society.

To help our poverty-stricken sisters and brothers in the human race, who are in dire circumstances in so many countries. As a wealthy country, we have a moral obligation to help those who have so much less than we do. We cannot just stand by and see millions of people in suffering and do nothing substantial to help them. We are diminished as a nation if we do nothing or if our response is miserly.

We live in a globalised and interconnected world. We cannot pretend that people overseas are not connected to us. Under the SDGs all states have a responsibility to contribute to ending poverty and achieving the SDGs.

We have a perversely skewed perspective on how wealthy we are as a nation and we have a responsibility to aid in the healing of the damage that British imperialism has had on developing nations

I want to belong to a compassionate nation.

We are living in one of the richest nations in the world. It is imperative that we look after our poorer neighbours. If we cannot help 3rd world countries to achieve basic living conditions then we are the poorer for our selfish and greed will eventually destroy our lives.

We are a wealthy country, instead of spending on armaments (let alone manufacturing them to sell, what horror) freeways subsidies to coal produced energy companies, having armies in countries we should not be interfering in, etc, we can afford to help the really needy more.

Every person deserves right to a decent life. Much of the world's problems caused or exacerbated by western nations so we are responsible to help solve these problems. We can easily afford to offer aid at the UN level - and it's in our interests to push for an end to poverty. (As big business argues in the case of increasing New Start, give the poor funding & they will spend it on goods & services). So even cynics should support the cause!

I believe that we have more friends around the world when we as a nation help those that we can. I don't like the reputation as the stingy backsliding country under the current NASTY Party.

We are a global society and our standard of living is far better than most other countries.

We have an obligation as a prosperous country to help our fellow humans, and animal/marine species, to also prosper.

Aid is critical because it stops the slide of vulnerable nations into failed states or ones that become under the influence or control of other nations. Aid is a way of avoiding having to increase military

# campaign for Australian Aid

spending even more to cope with new potential enemies if we ignore their needs. Aid is cheap compared to US dictated military spending and is also the humane way to behave as good global citizens.

People, planet, prosperity

It's not  
Stop spending our money on everything overseas you bastards

We live in such comfort and safety it just makes sense for us to support others, especially when at 0.7% it is not going to have any noticeable effect on ourselves.

We have known about the dire need of these people since the 70s and promised 0.7% of GNP but each government has dipped into the moneys set aside to square our budget and reached shameful levels of 0.35% GNP.

These people need our help

we should all be brothers and sisters

In a world of excessive material possessions & physical greed, we are widening the gap between those in need & losing our ability for compassion. We are also spending way too much money on things that don't matter

Australia is a wealthy country so we should be giving aid to poorer countries so everyone has enough food and access to clean water.

We should be generous in aid as it is our duty as world citizens

Because lifting people to a better standard of health and education is beneficial to the whole world, and it is a human right; this planet and its resources belongs to all of us

BILLIONS are spent on ARMS!! If this was redirected to developing countries - PROBLEM SOLVED!

It more equitably distributes wealth

We are a wealthy country and we have an obligation to make sure other less well off countries have enough.

Because it's the right thing to do! We are wealthy, and we can save and change countless lives!

Having lived in the developing world for many years, I know that aid is a matter of justice and compassion.

Our privileged nation has a responsibility to care for others who need help

To be a nation that is generous, supporting poverty, devastated areas around our globe, to be known as a nation that helps people up no matter where they live.

We live in a privileged country. Let's share our resources freely with the underprivileged.

# campaign for Australian Aid

It is important to help those that are less fortunate than ourselves. Building aid helps to better our relationships with other countries and helps to support the local communities where the families of immigrants and refugees here live.

It is our obligation to care for others who need our help

We should share the wealth with others less fortunate

Because we help people to help themselves.

We are a wealthy country which needs to support our neighbours especially those in the Pacific.

With globalisation of commerce etc, international trade & foreign policy, We are responsible for how and what we have impacted elsewhere in the world.

Australians must do our part to assist the world to rise up from greed, self-interest, exploitation, bullying, intimidation, slavery, war, personal danger, injustice and poverty - with true justice there can be no poverty - currently we have the greatest level of slavery that has ever existed in the history of mankind... we must do our part to assist the world to move on from the greedy money hungry atrocities of the present and recent past towards a safe world with true justice, caring, sharing, education, peace, personal safety and equality for all - and not just for the gentry and sociopaths as it is now...

It is the pivotal way to promote peace and economic equality around the world

We are capable of doing better .

Rich countries like Australia have a duty

We are a relatively wealthy country. We should aim to give 0.7% of GNI as countries like Britain are doing. It is in our interest to help others and to help others to help themselves. Aid can employ Australians and will foster better relations with others. The 0.5% target is a good first step in lifting our aid, but we should set a target to achieve 0.7% Aid as a %age of GNI as well.

\* Please I do not want to receive further emails - please respect this. I am happy to respond to the survey.

As one of the wealthiest countries in the world, we should be helping those less fortunate. We should also be exercising soft power and making friends in our region.

We've a global responsibility to do so.

We have it good in Australia, and we can afford to be generous to the poorest of the poor. When we compare our standard of living with that of our nearest neighbours, the difference is shocking (health care in PNG and East Timor for a start).

Like all first world countries, our wealth has been built on injustice and exploitation: we need to try and redress that unfairness by responding directly to the needs of those countries we have exploited.

# campaign for Australian Aid

It's not just a moral obligation - effective aid strengthens the economies of potential Australian trade partners, and reduces the threat of local and international terrorism.

It is an established principle that countries who bless others (with aid) are themselves blessed. The prosperity of the USA grew exponentially following its commitment to assist (defeated) Japan rebuild after the end of WWII.

It's a fair go and is in our own best interests.

For me personally, because compassion and justice matter. For Australia because regional stability is important and good relations with our neighbours are strategically important for Australian interests (soft power).

demonstrate values

It shouldn't matter where someone was born as to how much dignity they can 'afford'. Poverty and injustice are recognised precursors to religious extremism and terrorism.

We are a rich country and the wealth needs to be shared with all Australians and other nations for fairness and peace

Because as a wealthy country, it is our responsibility to the international community to help those who are less fortunate. It doesn't just make economic sense, it is the moral and correct thing to do.

In a time where humanitarian need is greater than it has been since world war 2 it is incredibly important that people are treated with basic human decency and get the living conditions they deserve to have

The only future we have is one of equality and justice for all, anything else is death. For all. Aid is an important tool in redressing centuries of brutal abuse.

We have so much to be thankful for, much of which is ours by chance. It is only fair to reach out and help those who are not as fortunate as us so that they have a chance to live fulfilling lives.

We're a part of the world, we should be supporting other countries.

We committed to the Millenium development goals and we should adhere to this

We are a particularly rich and fortunate country. It's fair that we share.

It's critical that we use our abundant wealth to help improve this world for everyone.

Aid is a versatile tool that needs to be managed effectively, too often we see incompetent aid policy being driven by emotion (and pop stars), rather than by logic. If we increase our aid funding but allow it to be squandered on ineffective ODA programs we will have achieved nothing. Increasingly literature in developmental economics is suggesting that many typical forms of aid have either negligible effects or are completely counter production (See the works of William Easterly).

Instead, we need to sponsor effective and innovative aid programs, like the Australia Awards, that we

# campaign for Australian Aid

know are effective and yield positive benefits. We also should strive to implement aid in ways that do not promote corruption or inequality, and instead work with the free market and local private enterprise to deliver economically viable solutions to real problems.

I believe in helping to solve our domestic issue of homeless first. The many of the countries that are receiving aid have billionaires who do not help their own people. In my job I see & talk to about 200 people per week. Majority believe that we need to look to solving the homeless, aged care, mental health issues before we give Millions to overseas.

Fairness

The Coalition has massively cut aid. We have to recommit to the goals set at the UN.

I see it as Australia's moral responsibility - all of our moral responsibility - to help others.

we have so much - itz a matter of integrity & justice

It can serve millions of people in desperate need

We need to think globally and help poorer nations to survive and build their own healthy communities.

to help other countries to flourish & prosper

Care for those those less fortunate is the mark of a civilized country and is also good for the well being of everyone worldwide. Greater equality leads to greater happiness for everyone and a better chance for peace.

My experience overseas

stagnation is the death of all.

Helping others in need is a moral responsibility. Australia's current level of aid is simply an embarrassment for the nation.

We, as a comparatively wealthy nation, have a responsibility to help those in need. There are millions of desperate people in the world!

It's our obligation as a wealthy country that benefits from the exploitation of developing countries for minerals and cheap labour, and which is notionally committed to the advancement of human rights.

It is not fair that we live in a country where our lives are free and comfortable while millions of people in developing a war torn countries suffer terribly from lack of nutritious food and vital health care. If the world was more fair an equitable it's people would have happier lives and there would not be so much aggression and hatred.

Suffering & poverty & sense of hopelessness builds resentment & fuels terrorism apart from the moral issue of sharing the planet's resources equitably & if necessary, sacrificially.

humanity health and national security

# campaign for Australian Aid

We should leave no one in the world behind in terms of education, food, shelter and safety

we are a wealthy country. we have a moral obligation to redistribute our wealth often gained as the expense/exploitation of the developing world.

Humanitarian aid should always be a priority. If we have the means, then we have a moral obligation.

Aid is the best form of protection it builds good international relations. The investment of \$200 billion in killing machines is a cave mentality that is also supported by Labor. Change your investment policy!

It is essential in order for Australia to be a compassionate, ethical country.

I am my brother's keeper. It is the responsibility for those who have, to share with those who don't. It also contributes to World peace and to the prosperity of all.

aid is critical to a better world

It is a matter of justice and fairness which we should be striving towards as a rich and generous nation

Aust. should be a global citizen;everything goes better with assistance and cooperation

It's a moral imperative, to do what is right. There is also an element of self-interest in promoting a world where we can work together to solve the problems of humanity.

Generous people prosper; same for nations. We are not doing our fair share to support the world's poorest people. Reducing poverty and improving living standards around the world helps the whole world, Australia included.

I believe that Australia is one of the most fortunate countries in the world, and can afford to help the many countries which have a large poor population.

we have spent too long in self absorbed neglect of a fair world.

We need to increase aid, especially after the LNP government has slashed our aid spending. If we increase our aid spending we will help to reduce the number of refugees world wide.

We need to do all we can to lessen poverty and help to create stable states around the world. By helping others we are not only doing the right thing but we can also make the world a safer place to live in

Our rich country has an obligation to assist poorer nations

Effect our aid budget has on our region, especially in relation to women and girls, refugee resettlement, climate change and vulnerability to self-interested Chinese influence. In addition, our self-respect as one of the richest countries on earth.

I believe in equality for everyone.

Better Aid reduces international tension and creates more trade opportunities both ways.

# campaign for Australian Aid

Because it is necessary to right the wrongs of the past

Creates a stable region capable of reacting to international issues with unity and prevents bio threats reaching Australia. With strong regional neighbors we become a stronger country capable of increasing trade and sharing of resources.

Aid helps economies to move out of poverty and underdevelopment. By so doing, relationships with Australian business become known and trusted supportive conduits. Aid also assists government's provide sound education, relieving the poor from trusting free, potentially extremist groups who claim to educate the young.

I have visited many countries in the developing world. I have seen the benefits of Australian aid in these countries. Without it, people would have died. This is a life or death issue. We can't continue to build our economy on the backs of the poor.

There must be equity between all people and nations of the world for peace and harmony to exist.

my ideal of global community and security

World humanity is one, when some are struggling its imperative to help

Its the responsibility for those with plenty to help those who are less fortunate. It an idea that has yet to filter through to the vast majority of privileged white humans on the planet.

Australia is a developed and wealthy nation. It can well afford to increase its aid to less fortunate nations. Sadly, the current means spirited Federal Government has no understanding of Social Justice in either the National or International context and it is high time for it to adopt fairer action in this matter, viz. increase Overseas Aid to higher and more acceptable level

Aid is a critical component of defence. Nations who rely on our financial assistance are less likely to be hostile. On a micro level, improving opportunities for young people in poor and war-torn countries gives them a global perspective which is at odds with extremism. Finally, helping out because we can is the right thing to do.

poor people need help, it is for peace

The strongest and most beautiful human trait is compassion. The single most powerful and fulfilling action a human can exercise is to help others. Being human means having the ability to stand together as one, to grow as one. Providing aid for those in need is not just Aussie spirit, it's human spirit. Put your best human foot forward and step up!

Australia is a wealthy country but is part of a world community, many members of which are destitute - we have a responsibility to provide our fair share of aid so the UN request should be seen as minimal.

Its enlightened self -interest - to have all nations able to fend for themselves through enlightened spending by wealthier nations, bringing about independence/interdependence in turn brings about justice and peace world-wide.

Generosity is important to model justice and share our wealth.

# campaign for Australian Aid

We need to do our part as privileged global citizens to share with our brothers and sisters.

For humanitarian reasons firstly and security in the world.

As a wealthy country we need to be more humane and support those facing poverty and atrocity

We need to be a more generous country

To share our resources with communities that have limited resources to enable all humankind to have sufficient resources to live without famine, disease and inadequate housing

Its important as a relatively rich country to help other countries in the pacific region. Soft power!

Too many. Living in poverty. Need our assistance to survive.

given our place in the International Community, it's only fair that Australia shares some of its riches with less well off countries

Because it equates with humanity

Just look at what has become of PNG & Pacific Islands since Oz gave up on them - it is also about security for all as well as social justice

Because as a nation who has benefited from economic and trade systems that have largely hindered the developing world, it is our duty to share the benefits of our wealth with those who continue to live in poverty, regardless of whether it benefits us as a nation or not.

We are a rich country which should sustainably support health and food supply around the world

australians are generous people, and we should show that generosity to those in most need globally

We need to help people who are less fortunate than us.

many reasons but we have become a smaller,tighter and sadder place under the cons.they have done a lot of damage to the economy and structured it away from asset building to invisible earnings fro banking and finance.It will be difficult to rebuild Aus so a reasonable target is sufficient from Labor in the meantime

Australia's wealth has been built at the expense of colonial and other exploited nations. We have a responsibility in justice to help these peoples rebuild their lives and their economy.

I think the delivery of international aid is complex (as I have been involved in capacity development in healthcare in Timor Leste myself). Much good has come of international aid provided by Australia but there is the potential for poor outcomes and even harm. So I believe an underfunded aid program is a riskier program for both Australia and recipient nations.

13 trips to East Timor as a volunteer to help in education and chairing Geelong Viqueque Friendship Schools for 10 years demonstrate my personal commitment and my wife's to helping people in poorer countries. I think it is appalling for a so called wealthy Christian country has such an insignificant aid program. If the issues for politicians is that a high percentage doe not hit its target then reduce the

# campaign for Australian Aid

targets, and make sure that recipients have integrity.

It's the right thing to do for Australia's national security and it's the right thing to do for the people who need help and support.

We go to East Timor often and see all the aid and loans and building that China is doing there. Besides the fact that we know they need more aid, we think it is very bad that China is being seen as the benefactor there not Australia.

Australia should play a part in supporting people and communities around the world

I value compassion and want to see Australia express compassion toward her neighbours. Foreign Aid is one clear and strong expression of compassion. As a former Australian soldier, I also consider foreign aid to a better investment in regional security than defence.

I wish to live in a country that is generous towards those in need. As a rich country we can and should be generous.

Our country is wealthy enough to meet the UN target

We are one of the least generous nations and have our priorities in the wrong places

If we only look after our own hip pockets and care nothing for the rest of humanity the human race and our planet is doomed. We need strong political leadership which is nowhere to be seen to look to the big picture

There is a great need and we have the resources to help.

We have a moral obligation to try to lift other communities out of poverty and to help establish health, educated, self-sustaining communities. Doing this also contributes to a more peaceful world community.

A generous spirit is always a blessing all round.

Australia is super privileged with affluent businesses, a good safety net, and relatively quality provisions for health, education, social services and arts. We are in position to give, and Australia must learn and acknowledge that there are global needs much more significant than ours that would be assisted greatly if Australia decided to make aid a priority.

We should share our wealth

australia is a wealthy country and should be near the top of the table of countries that provide foreign aid. The current amount is shameful.

It reflects on my values as a human being. We are all equal and should continue to work towards an equal and fair world.

Australian aid is how we help people in less wealthy parts of the world to lift themselves out of poverty and oppression,

# campaign for Australian Aid

it is the right thing to do

We are a prosperous country and it is our duty to help disadvantaged countries

Being human is about caring for humanity, and I believe that those better off can afford to help those less well off, at a personal and government level. I have been appalled by the current government's decrease of Australian aid and would hope that Labor can improve on this more than it seems they are prepared to commit to right now. I'm glad they are moving in the right direction though.

We are appalled at the current refugee numbers. One thing Australia can do is assist people to have a reasonable hope of living with essentials in their own countries with the assistance of our Foreign Aid. We are a wealthy country- no excuses are tenable!!

We are a rich country and not assisting those less well off is immoral

the good of our country is marked by how we treat the poor, suffering and dislocated.

It is about creating the world I want my children to inherit where there is justice for all not just a few.

Because everyone matters in this world!!!!!!

We need to re-invent our moral compass. Australia now follows self interest only.

God asks us to look after the poor. It will also reduce pressure on refugee resources and increase global security if we reduce poverty.

i want to share this world wealth with the world not just those lucky enough to be born in a country that is doing well (probably due to in some part at least others doing worse)

Australia needs to play its part in ensuring safe and fruitful lives for all humans on this planet. Enabling our neighbours to live well increases Australian safety.

Common decency and desire for my country to be a responsible international citizen.

We are a wealthy nation and have an obligation to support people's less well off than ourselves.

Australia is a rich country and can afford to be much more generous with foreign aid. Foreign aid is also a kind of soft power which should support Australia's regional and global influence.

Despite our whingeing, Australia is a comparatively rich country and we should do what we can to improve things for those in less fortunate countries.

because Australia should be doing its bit as a rich country to help those less fortunate

Mainly humanitarian reasons but also to keep on good terms with our impoverished neighbours and to keep other foreign powers from gaining influence in these regions

Aid is a way of building a fairer world and establishing political stability. Australia can afford to show leadership in sharing our wealth with those in poverty in our neighbourhood.

# campaign for Australian Aid

Australia should be seen as a generous country

Providing basic food, health and education requirements to citizens of less fortunate countries, is not only the humane thing to do but, it has to be a central strategy to combating terrorism.

We are a wealthy country with a foundation of Christian values. It is our responsibility to assist the poor, the needy, the disaster prone, those with dreadful health issues. And we should encourage everyone to adopt this mindset. As history has demonstrated, no man/country is an insular island. When we demonstrate a caring ethic for those less fortunate than ourselves we all flourish.

Lifting people out of poverty is fundamental to addressing a wide range of social, political and ecological issues

Inequality, both economic inequality and gender inequality, is the greatest threat to world security. Climate change threatens to greatly exacerbate global inequality and destabilise the entire globe. The UN goal of 0.7% of GDI is a result of a compromise amongst developed nations, based on poor quality data and is not, in itself, sufficient to solve the basic problem of global inequality.

To care for those less fortunate in our world, to live compassionately towards all is important to me. Humanity is family.

We're all on this planet together

We have a responsibility to look after those in need and it also builds trust with our neighbours and so is a strategic move for defense.

It is the right thing to do as global citizens and by addressing poverty we helping to promote political stability.

For principles of social justice, help stem the tide of refugees and help countries affected by climate change

We are a rich country and so many people in world suffering

to help the less fortunate people of the world. It will also improve international relations.

As a wealthy nation it is our duty to come to the assistance of the poorer nations. Not just think of ourselves. We waste too much money on promoting evil and encouraging more misery such as building submarines which sole function is to uphold international conflicts and create more suffering.

It is our human responsibility to help those who are suffering. We're lucky to have been born in a developed country. We did nothing to earn this - its chance. It's our duty to help those who do not have what we have. It's disgusting that our government spends millions of dollars on unnecessary luxuries like fireworks while there are millions of people in the third world starving, women dying in child birth, rape, under age girls being married, female castration, child soldiers, human trafficking etc, We should be ashamed of our lack of compassion and generosity as a nation.

Australia is a very rich country. Providing Aid to better the lives of others is a matter of fairness as well as helping to ensure stability in the world

# campaign for Australian Aid

Generosity to the less fortunate is a core value and important for my fellow human beings. Comparatively we are extremely well off.

We, as a first world nation, have a responsibility to care for those who are less fortunate.

aid while a human act is self defese too

Considering the history of wealthy nations ruining less well off countries for profit, It's best is those nations help pay to fix the problems they have profited off.

Because Australia is wealthy economically, cultural and orhanisationally and should provide support to those groups in other countries which are not. Such contributions should be targeted intelligently and effectively to bring about benefits for those crushed by poverty.

We are one of the richest countries in the world, we have a responsibility to share

Our family supports with donations monthly and we expect our govt to do this as wholeheartedly!

A step towards building a caring and fair world

Because Australia, as a wealthy nation has a duty of care to less advantaged people around the world.

I love children and am very sad to see their conditions in other countries.  
Also I believe in the Bible's teaching on helping others in need, not just children.

Australian aid is important to help those that are less fortunate than we are. I do understand though, the reasons for onlynincreaing to 0.5% GNI and not setting a deadline.... because we have many problems of our own, including poverty (I can barely afford to pay rent and bills, let alone put food on the table) amongst indigenous Australians, substance abuse, crime (which is on the rise)...bottom line, it's great to help others, but we also have to look after our own... otherwise how can we help others when our own house is in disarray?

Simple humanity, but as a side benefit, security - especially of the local region.

Human rights and justice for all.

I am an international natural resource economist

We need to be helping as much as we can the less fortunate and people suffering hardship

We would have plenty to give in aid if we made companies pay their fair share of tax and stopped helping the rich at the expense of the poor. The poorest of the poor are our brothers and sisters. We leave them in their poverty and let them die of preventable causes for no other reason than that we are mean.

We should help those less fortunate

Well being of all people is the priority

# campaign for Australian Aid

I think all rich nations should help where possible

Humanity is one family - we sink or swim together.

I think it is important to help people by teaching them how to help themselves, eg with training programs.

A great amount of difference can be made to a great number of people with a relatively small amount of well directed aid. It is incumbent on all of us to help those less fortunate, because it is good fortune that we live in a country as wealthy, prosperous and peaceful as ours.

I have worked in developing countries for 17 years and have seen the needs!

Australia can afford more, therefore should give more

We have a responsibility to help those who by pure luck have been given so much less than we have, especially when the system we support enforced the cyclical nature of poverty.

Because it plays such an important virtue in Australian Values, and being an important role in international affairs.

Australia is rich and should be helping those less fortunate and making friends with them

It's the right thing to do for a wealthy country like Australia

Aid is a moral responsibility, and should help developing countries alleviate poverty and inequality, which is in Australia's interests.

It's a matter of justice

Justice and humanitarianism

We are a wealthy country and have a responsibility to help others less fortunate.

How we treat the least fortunate in our world shows who we are. If we can fulfill our obligation as set by the United Nations we then have a more creditable voice to speak on issues relating to world politics rather than being obliged to keep to ourselves as seems to be our current policy. Lives of generosity breed stronger communities. There is no doubt our world needs this now.

I see myself as a citizen of the world not just Australia.

We are a wealthy country that can afford to help the poor at home as well as abroad. All people are important no matter where they live.

Also

From a selfish point of view, Australia benefits by creating goodwill.

I believe in a fairer world for everyone

We're SO so lucky in Australia. Most of our island neighbours are not NEARLY as lucky as we are. Health and education in those countries are crucial for equity, especially for women and girls, and for

# campaign for Australian Aid

people with disabilities or special needs.

Compassionate justice

helping people live in a healthy environment with sustainable agricultural practices, clean water and sanitation is important

helping people educate their children is important

It addresses inequality and poverty in our region. That inequality contributes to destabilisation in the Pacific in particular. It is in Australia's best interest to improve the lives of our neighbouring countries. Further, as a developed nation, we have contributed to the issue of climate change which is a major issue for Pacific nations in particular; we contributed to their problems, so we should help them to deal with it.

We are responsible for many poorer countries outcomes through our inaction on climate change and Australia's involvement in wars, foreign aid helps in a very small way to promote justice and equality.

For the security of future generations.

As a wealthy country we have an obligation to help those in less fortunate circumstances. They did not choose the life they have. As humans on this earth today we have the privilege of helping others. We should exercise that privilege.

We are a wealthy country and can afford to be more generous.

In the name of compassion ethics

Australia's international reputation as a country of generosity and "the fair-go" depends on us reaching (and even exceeding) the UN target. As a prosperous developed country, we have a moral obligation to support others. It will also enhance our international relations.

Australia is a lucky country. We owe it to humanity to share some of our riches with those less fortunate

Whatever we do to invest in our global village will result in benefits to us in Australia

Because people are important. I worked in the Pacific and was appalled by the amount of \$ paid to white experts. China is winning heart and minds because we have behaved like rich bwanas in the region, using aid to get what we want. People in the Pacific see through us. We need good policies and committed \$\$ to match

Hopefully, it will assist in stabilising the worlds little, and allow people to remain in their homelands.

It is a humanitarian responsibility to help those less advantaged than ourselves. But it is also vital to our own security that other regions attain sustainable prosperity - for which they particularly need to lower birth rates, and need external resources for family planning programs. Labor should commit at least 4% of the aid budget for family planning, and contribute generously to the FP2020 program, redressing the failure to live up to Bob Carr's 2012 commitment to it.

It shows maturity and compassion. What better way to strengthen respectful relationships with our

# campaign for Australian Aid

neighbours.

Because it contributes to a fairer and safer world for all, including Australians

Australia is so affluent we need to assist others who are so much worse off. We need to play our part.

It is only by good luck that we live here in this land of plenty. If we, a prosperous nation, can't help those less fortunate than us, who can?

I believe we are a wealthy country with an unbelievable lifestyle and many of us can afford to assist those that struggle for basic needs and support

It's the right thing to do

Not every one is as lucky as us. We have a global responsibility to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

It would be best if Labor wins the next election.

We have a responsibility to share our wealth around.

We have a moral responsibility. We will have greater influence with our neighbours.

I believe it is important for the wealthy, affluent nations should contribute to the UN goals and to provide for the underprivileged.

We have a responsibility to share our luck

Dont fund Islamic countries that persecute Christians ( eg any of them )

For me, justice matters for its own sake. But I also hope that we can all recognise that justice increases security for everyone.

We are world citizens and need to be responsible in helping fellow citizens of this world.

It's the right thing to do in both a moral sense and a geopolitical sense.

Aid is required everywhere, not just overseas. We need to recognise that we have the wealth to support all.

I feel that the more we help the more we promote peace

We live in a lucky country, so should share!

As part of being a decent inclusive nation we have a responsibility to help other human beings in need as well as Australians in need

We contribute to the impoverishment and effects of war on many countries who need our help

we, in Australia have so much, we need to share some of this with the poorest people in the world.

# campaign for Australian Aid

we are part of one planet.

I want to live in a better world

The "fair go" should apply to all Australians AND our global neighbours. Australian Aid isn't just about strengthening the region to protect our national interests- it's about doing the right thing and making sure our nations actions align with our national values of compassion and justice.

I believe that helping underprivileged people in poorer countries is our moral duty. It is also one way in which we can save discontented young people from turning to Isis or other terrorist groups because of their bitterness at their lack of opportunities.

Because by any measure we are a wealthy country, and simple humanity demands that we do all we can to raise the living standard of those who do not have enough

We need to see ourselves as a world village. We are a wealthy country and a selfish country. The poverty in other parts of the world is our responsibility. Our wealth has for too long depended on 'them' remaining poor. It must stop.

We should share from our wealth not only with the poorer people of Australia but also with the extremely poor people around the world.

Because we are fortunate to live in a wealthy country, we have an obligation and an opportunity to help people who don't.

We are global citizens. We do need to choose between os aid and supporting our own poor. Distribute the income fairly.

There are so many countries worse off than us, & with all the disasters happening worldwide more aide is needed.

I have worked in developing countries and seen the circumstances people live in

Those who have plenty should help those in such great need.

We are a wealthy country and it is only right that we pull our weight

Australia is a rich country that should be compassionate to those less fortunate than we are.

Australia's aid is soft power and can ensure that we can show that we are a generous country. In an era when China is lending money and building roads and other infrastructure as part of their aid we can do better.

I have a passion for social justice and value any opportunity I have to do whatever I can to aid people facing the inequalities of poverty and human trafficking in our world. I believe that my country should have these same values.

Effective aid improves the lives of those with so little

A fairer world. A more peaceful world.

# campaign for Australian Aid

Because we are a rich country full of selfish bigots.

Australia is in a position to help those in great need. By increasing foreign aid we can help people help themselves get of poverty by increasing education, improving health and sanitation, improved farming techniques, etc

Australia is a rich, safe country, we need to be generous to other less fortunate nations.  
I have long (aged 90) felt Australia to be unduly selfish, having spent 3 month stints in Vietnam (1966) & Swaziland (1999), & learned from a nephew who was an UNICEF employe for say 30 or more years. 0.7% of GDP is my aspiration, not the miserable 0.22% or thereabouts from present Government or earlier 0.37%.  
Education will bring African nations up & they will remember our selfishness, although I will be gone!

We are a wealthy country and can afford to and should be concerned to help others less fortunate than us.

Because the needs are great and we are a rich country so can afford it

It is a fundamental human value that we help those less fortunate than us.

World inequality drives me mad. We are the rich and we pretend we are poor. We should be supporting people in their own countries rather than poaching their best educated and bringing them here.

We have a responsibility as a wealthy country to support the poor and needy in the world. We are personally committed to doing our part. Governments have an even greater role as they have much more money. At present we are not doing our part as citizens of the world.

We can do more for those who need our help. Not only is it the right thing to do, it is our obligation.

Because the country should help those who need help and that is even more important when those in need have been "helped" by our military who have followed the US into yet another misadventure.

As people living in a relatively affluent society we must ensure that all people possible have adequate shelter, food, uncontaminated water, clothing, education and medical care. Those without are our sisters and brothers too. We must express our solidarity with them and share what we have by personal donations and through the action of our government. The current government level of aid brings shame upon us all.

We have an abundance of wealth in Australia and the Western world yet some people go without food or clean water. We have the resources and means to ensure every human can attend to their basic human needs plus more yet over half of the worlds population live in poverty. This is simply just not good enough.

Sharing and caring just the right thing to do.

We are a privileged society. We must help those less fortunate both for humanitarian and strategic reasons . Aid encourages allegiance

# campaign for Australian Aid

We need to contribute to a more equitable world and support education, health and living standards for all people.

We are a wealthy country and need to help those in need.

WE are a wealthy country who needs to help those less well off. It is our global responsibility.

Because we have plenty of wealth to share

Aid is important, but by using it the right way not only helps community's to a better future, but should also be used on a needs basis to strengthen diplomacy between country's.

Australia has the wealth to look after its own citizens and help other countries progress. Foreign aid is important in building our future in Asia.

Because, just because

As the wealthiest and biggest country in the South Pacific, it is incumbent on us to look after our poorer neighbours...not to mention our own national self interest, countering an increasing Chinese strategic push into this region by being at least as generous as PRC

we a citizen of the world and need to contribute to world problems not just keep to ourselves

Because seriously people need help and we have plenty to give.

Rich affluent country with shameful low aid levels

Vital that Australia, as a rich country, helps those countries that are so much less fortunate.

Millions in extreme need

As Christians we should give more towards needy countries.

We need to respect and look after each other and as climate change impacts us more and more then the need to support each other is going to increase.

Because humans

Otherwise people suffer needlessly

Rebuilding aid is important for improving Australia's reputation and for bringing relief to countries less fortunate than our own.

I work in developing countries as a volunteer and have seen how developed countries are reducing funding and the impact it has on communities

We have so much. We should be willing to share with the least fortunate in our world.

because we should share our good fortune

# campaign for Australian Aid

We are a wealthy nation and should share our wealth with those less fortunate. In addition, spending more on aid is a far better way to keep our neighbours happy and therefore protecting our borders. We should NOT spend so much money on submarines, planes and arms.

We are one the largest Island Continent country on Earth. We rank about 13th when comparing our gross national income with other countries. We have a duty of care to poor countries and by sharing our immense wealth we lift them up and assist them to become self-sufficient. Australians will always be respected amongst nations of the world if we contribute to alleviate starvation, and corruption.

Helps keep peace in our region

Lifting another country lifts us all in many ways

We have to help the people who can not help themselves. This benefits Australia as well as those who receive the aid.

I care about other people, and Australia should too. As a wealthy country which claims to accept all people and give everyone a 'fair go' we should be making sure the less wealthy countries around us get plenty of aid from us. Strengthens our partnerships with other nations and saves peoples lives!

It not it should be sorting our own first

Who help us out in the bush fire plus who help us out in the flood

Did not see any or their country helping us out

It should be stop handing money out for any country that don't lift a finger to help us

Human decency demands it; a (very much) secondary reason is that it's strategically of value - read of China's efforts in the Sth Pacific

As i have seen first hand the need for aid and the direct benefits. It is our responsibility to support those without other means

Because Australian has an obligation to help other countries. As an ALP member, I really care about this.

Australia is a rich country. I am a believer in Scandinavian social democracy, and have lived in Scandinavian countries (Sweden, Denmark) for 15 years some time ago. They have among the highest rates of aid in the world, and still have very strong economies and a much better social welfare system than Australia. It sickens and embarasses me that Australia used to be like Scandinavia and is now like USA.

Help ppl stay in their home countries

Aid is essential otherwise China will take over this region and use their influence for voting in the UN. But, for god's sake, do something about climate change first before it is too late.

Because we give far too little and also because it's in our own interest to help poorer people and countries

To play our part as a Humanitarian country.

# campaign for Australian Aid

As a rich country we need to be responsible in supporting those less fortunate.

It's crucial for global stability, poverty and disease reduction, and systemic economic health.

I believe that Australia needs to live up to its humanitarian obligations as part of the international community.

We are more connected than ever through globalisation and natural systems. Working with our partners in the Pacific to create a sustainable future is important for future generations. It is important for our foreign policy, to be seen as a serious nation on the world stage and to honour our culture of mateship.

Equity

It's our responsibility as a relatively affluent nation

People's lives matter, wherever they live. We have more than we need here in Australia, whilst people in other countries are struggling to stay alive.

Apart from addressing the gross inequalities between our society that has a tendency to exploit the vulnerable in the world, it is just common decency and compassion to care about people struggling to live safe and healthy lives wherever they are. More pragmatically, for those who don't have the compassion bone, we can use aid to manipulate people to ensure our border security which, sadly, is a key selling point for many in the electorate and many politicians.

We are a fortunate country and need to assist those less fortunate than ourselves. It is our moral obligation to encourage peace in our region by more a more equitable approach to our neighbours. Terrorism breeds on discontent.

As a wealthy nation it's not only our duty but it is in our best interest to build up those around us.

Because we have the responsibility to be a good global citizen.

As a global citizen, I recognise that many countries (predominantly developing) are in serious need of foreign assistance for necessities like education, infrastructure and food. Australia has capacity to increase their foreign aid budget to help less fortunate people to meet these needs.

As it benefit people in developing countries and it built the relationship between countries.

Because it is a matter of justice, that people struggle through life with little agency whereas I am able to prosper. It's unfair, and helping to resolve this justice will help to find solutions for many of the greatest challenges that human-kind currently faces.

because I believe all people are entitled to equal opportunities no matter where they were born or grew up!!

Australia has the capacity to do more and aid others in developing nations.

It's a human rights and equality issue. As a wealthy nation we have an obligation to help where we can, especially in nations where we've been complicit in some of the inequalities. It's not about

# campaign for Australian Aid

whether we should do it from an economic or strategic perspective, but what is the right thing to do on behalf of the hundreds of millions of people still living in poverty who don't have a say in their life circumstances.

If we have the capacity to help our fellow neighbours, then we should do so. Turning a blind eye is not Australian.

We need to work towards creating a more just society in all policy aspects.

We have the responsibility to support the vulnerable and disadvantaged even if they are not Australian - everyone is a citizen of the world.

To support other countries and create a more equal world.

A strong aid program represents Australian values of generosity and a fair go for everyone. As one of the world's strongest economies, it is our responsibility to play our part in addressing global challenges of inequality and injustice.

Justice

It is our responsibility and so important to achieving more just world.

Because it's just.

It is our moral responsibility as a developed nation to provide aid to those in need.

Because it is the primary way to solve inequalities in developing states.

Because we have the ability to help those that aren't as privileged as us and I feel that is our duty as humans.

We used to be a generous country and knew that to share what we have was not only a responsibility but would result in better outcomes for everyone. Rebuilding aid is a strong step forward.

I live comfortably in a wealthy country, while others struggle hugely at home and abroad. Helping them is the best way to spend my taxes.

Helping others less fortunate than ourselves is what all Australians should stand for.

We have wealth that can be shared with those worse off, we should treat our neighbours as ourselves, we all live on the one planet so we are responsible for each other.

As global citizens, I believe it is our duty to rebuild the aid budget to an acceptable level of 0.7% GNI, We have the means to do more and we have the means to have real impact. We just need to make that step.

We are extremely lucky in Aus and have a duty to help those less fortunate in the world.

We're a very rich country, so we have a responsibility to do more.

# campaign for Australian Aid

Able nations have a duty to share resources.

We are a country of plenty and so many of our brothers and sisters around the world are starving or living in poverty. Let's make our mantra of 'a fair go' extend beyond arbitrary political borders!

Because poverty is unacceptable.

i think that you should not borrow money to give it away, get your costs right first then assist australians when you have done that properly then we can share our wealth with overseas people

The impact that aid has in our region is beyond monetary value; it contributes to the empowerment of people and the stability of our region.

As Australia is a fortunate, developed country there is an overarching responsibility to support other countries in need!

I donate 3% of my gross income per year to charities. I go without small luxuries to do this because I live well. Australians live well and our Government needs to give more of a hand to those who struggle to help them live well too. A hand up not a hand out is important to countries to get on top of their economic, social and political problems.

Supporting a loving, compassionate global community.

I think we should always take opportunities to help people.

We live in such a privileged country with abundant resources that we ought to share to our neighbours in need. It's important to me that the government reflects the values of young people to really care about helping and empowering others. We act as an example for developing countries and future generations.

There are so many countries in dire need.

Because we are one of the richest countries in the world and feel like we are more than able to provide the same aid budget as the UN standard.

Because it is the way we move forward as an international community.

We are a wealthy country whose wealth has come partly from those countries continuing to struggle - developing nations. It's time for us to share our wealth, our expertise, our knowledge - to help others live sustainably.

Because as a lucky and highly developed country, we should be able to help our fellow global citizens to at least achieve basic human rights. Further, this will increase political stability for the benefit of all.

Aid is so important- we must do our bit to contribute to the fight against inequity in this world.

It's the right thing to do for a generous country.

I believe we have an obligation from a justice perspective. Not just because everyone deserves the same opportunities to be who they want to be in this life, but because so many people in Australia

# campaign for Australian Aid

have benefited from the legacy of colonialism, when so many of our neighbors have suffered its negative effects for so many years.

It is our first response to the problems of the world. We do things to help other nations. Be peacemakers not war mongers. Be a compassionate country. Revive our reputation in the world as fair and just.

We are a rich country and there are so many people in the world in poverty.

Australia has a responsibility to help those who are less fortunate. It is our duty as a good neighbour, especially because helping others and fairness is a huge part of Australian identity.

We are one of the richest countries in the world. Not meeting the UN target is negligent. Need to a) unhook aid from military and political aims as much as possible, b) find savings and efficiencies within government expenditure to enable aid objective to be met Labor needs to fight against increasing narcissism in Australia so don't mind if some funds go toward educating people in Australia. Interesting to talk to young Australians who travel overseas and are confronted firsthand by poverty. ..it changes their outlook.

We should be helping those who need us, and these people do.

I think there is too much focus on how to keep the rich, rich and so little focus on the terrible things happening across the world. It's time Australia took a stand and aligned with the UN to truly help those in trouble.

Social justice.

We have such a high standard of living it is absolutely of paramount importance that we help people in poorer countries to achieve the dignity that they deserve.

We all share the same planet, those who have opportunities should help those who are more vulnerable.

well I don't really want anyone to rebuild AIDs it was pretty horrible tbh

It feels ridiculous to have to even explain this. It's the right thing to do. We should feel privileged to actually live in a space that allows us the opportunity to help fellow global citizens doing it tough. We should feel ashamed that we don't do the best that we could.

We have a duty to help out our poorer nations!

It will improve Australia's position in the region as an economic leader. For me, I hope this means more jobs and wealth in Australia. Investing into the Asia-Pacific region through foreign aid improves our relationships with our neighbours and our ability to do business with them. If we have better relationships within the region, with Pacific island nations and with ASEAN, our ability to foster free trade will be positively impacted. Let's not follow the trend of protectionism in the West and let's make trade with cool again by strengthening our relationships with Asia and the Pacific through increasing our aid programs we do in the region.

# campaign for Australian Aid

As a person who is more fortunate I believe in helping others and providing others with the same opportunities as my own.

It is the fair thing to do as a wealthy country and beneficiary of colonialism. Also as Christian I believe it is important to be just and generous toward the poor. Aid is also an important part of our foreign policy in increasing the capabilities of our neighbours.

if we're not using our privilege to lift others up and help make a fairer, healthier world, then what the hell are we doing. we get so caught up in man-made distractions that we forget to help each other. Lets do better.

Because it is the right thing to do. We have more than enough here in Australia, and it is time we recognised our privilege and share what we have.

Aid is important morally because we are a wealthy country and are surrounded by poorer nations, some suffering through climate change especially which we in the west are largely responsible for. Aid also gives us soft influence in our region of influence and countering the hegemony of China especially is important in keeping Asia and the Pacific free. Aid from the west also shows a positive outlook to others and may have an influence in deradicalisation in places like Indonesia and Bangladesh where poverty has a bearing on radicalising muslim youth.

Not only is it within our national interest to rebuild the aid budget, but a fair aid budget is the hallmark of a country that recognises the value of equality of opportunity and seeks to provide moral leadership in its region - something Australia claims to do.

It is what is fair and just

I have been so lucky to have access to quality education, access to healthcare, and the choice to take whatever path I decide. Everyone, no matter where they were born, should have the same opportunities as I did.

because we're all humans on this planet and should look out for each other - not sit in a privileged bubble alone

As an act of international justice

As a well off nation we cannot possibly let ourselves continue to barely assist our less well off friends around the globe. I see it as is our duty to provide assistance to other nations.

It's about a fairer world, and doing our fair share as a country.

Aid not only helps tens of thousands of people in need today, but it helps build a safer, wealthier an happier world in the future.

Australia is a regional leader, and aid represents a way to accelerate the development and security of the Indo-Pacific. Increased aid doesn't represent a significant enough deduction from other initiatives to justify it being cut.

# campaign for Australian Aid

As a wealthy country we have a duty and responsibility to help our neighbours across the world. Being more generous as a nation would set the right tone for individuals as well. We talk of mateship and helping our neighbour as being the aussie way, it's time we started living it out.

I believe in contributing and creating a fairer world where individuals have the same opportunities as I do, no matter where they are born. I believe Foreign Aid is imperative for improving the quality of life for individuals in the region and giving them the opportunity to rise up from poverty. Foreign aid is currently such a minute portion of national budget and Australia's aid performance is dismal. We have a responsibility to give our neighbours the opportunity to achieve their dreams just like you and I.

We have a responsibility as a wealthy global citizen to support those less fortunate than ourselves, especially our Pacific and Asian neighbours. A strong aid program reduces world tensions and conflict.

Instrumental to adhering to our obligations to the international community.

It is both important on a human level of helping those in need, and an economic level of helping build long-term trading partners.

To ensure that everyone has equal access to the best opportunities in life.

Because it changes peoples lives drastically for the better and we have a responsibility to help that we have already agreed to!

We are such a wealthy, developed and fortunate nation with so many resources that we have the responsibility to share with our neighbouring countries who are suffering. We pride ourselves on our Australian values of mateship, yet at the moment we aren't helping those who need our assistance. As Australians we are in a prime position to make a difference and support the millions of people who have limited access to education, health care, housing, food and water - all the things that we take for granted. We are able to help and increasing foreign aid is one of the best ways we can do that.

It is one way that Australia shows that we are a good global citizen that care about our neighbours. We should value global equality and be generous.

Our interest in decreasing terrorism, and making our region more stable for trade.

Western aid and foreign investment to the developing world are the only long-term means to stymie illegal migration and create a fairer world.

Because aside from the ethical obligations that rich people should help poor people, the social and economic factors are important too. Societies and international relations are safer and stronger when everyone shares relatively equal wealth. Diplomatically, the benefits of helping people are returned with greater trust and willingness to negotiate and share, and nations lifted out of poverty become strong financial partners in trade, strengthening our own earning capacity. It is baffling to me that our major parties see greater benefit in deceiving people about the point of global aid, rather than reaping both the short and long term benefits of committing to the relatively meagre amount we pledged to the UN that we would provide. Why would Australia so willingly be a shitty neighbour that breaks promises?

# campaign for Australian Aid

I was an AVID volunteer in the Philippines in 2016 and saw first hand how effective the Australian aid program is and how it is needed.

We're being selfish. We are a global society now.

In a connected world, not nation is an island. Global prosperity is important for our long-term security.

To enhance and restore Australia's relationship with those in need and to lend a hand in bringing all peoples to a safe and healthy life.

Ethics, humanity, international stability.

We are a wealthy country and can afford to be generous.

I come from a third world country so I realise how important aid is , particularly for education and health.

We have heaps, we should be generous.

It is the responsibility for a country as profitable and stable as ours that we give back to others as much as we are able.

I believe that as an affluent country, we have a responsibility to look after our neighbours.

Having exploited developing countries to enrich ourselves - it is now time to do the just thing and ensure that disadvantage is confined to the dustbin of history.

we are a very affluent nation - can afford social justice and generosity

Because we are responsible for each other. Also, it is in giving that one receives! Karma!

We are incredibly blessed in our country and we have a responsibility to help others who do not enjoy anywhere near the standard of living we do.

Because I think part of why we are put in this world is to be caring, kind and compassionate others, and to be generous to those less fortunate than us. What is more important than keeping people alive and providing them with hope!

It's the right thing to do.

The world is a better place for all when all have a fair share of the resources and have good health and education as well as fair and just government.

Its important when we have repaid our debts and have a balanced budget. Boring to donate to others is a road to disaster.

This is vital to the world I want my children to inherit free from injustice and poverty.