

Global Development Dialogue Series

Pre-Reading

AIDN and ACFID are delighted to be co-hosting the next instalment of the Global Development Dialogue at the Philanthropy Australia Conference 2026. Our sixth session to date, the Global Development Dialogue brings together senior leaders from across Australia to facilitate structured, action-oriented conversations on critical issues in international development and uniquely enables leaders to build collaborative, cross-sector relationships that support better development outcomes.

The topic for this session will be: "How do we accelerate a more strategic and coordinated campaign to engage a broader cross-section of Australians to give internationally? There is too much at stake!"

Plaza Room 11, Brisbane Convention &
Exhibition Centre | Monday 7 September 2026 |
5:00-8:00pm



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Global Development Dialogue Series - Philanthropy Australia Conference 2026

Speakers



Upenyu Mawande
Director of Programs
for Africa, Judith
Neilson Foundation



Andrew Binns
CEO, Australian
Communities Foundation



Marijke Frantzen
CEO, Kyeema
Foundation



Dr Genevieve Nelson
CEO, Kokoda Track
Foundation



Steffi Chang
Director of Philanthropic
Partnerships,
World Vision

This session will be facilitated by **Simon Lewis**,
Chair of AIDN and Founding Partner of GoodWolf



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Context

International development is facing a crisis following major cuts to aid by governments across the globe, and continued decline in regular giving to INGOs, as detailed in the recent *ACFID 2026 State of The Sector Report*; yet, the case for international giving and regional partnerships has never been more compelling. Australians have never been more wealthy, in aggregate; yet, overall giving and public generosity is trending down. Australian philanthropies are building larger corpuses, and Minderoo's 2026 *Unlocking Generosity Report* highlights the growing opportunity for Australia's private wealth and advisory sector to facilitate philanthropy as the country enters a major period of intergenerational wealth transfer; yet, international giving, INGOs and established development pathways are not always part of their plan.

This creates both a challenge and an opportunity.

The session will explore what it would take to build a more coordinated campaign to make the case for Australia's opportunity to invest more in our region and beyond. In particular, we want to explore how the sector might develop shared approaches to data, impact measurement and storytelling, strengthen trust and accountability, demystify the complexity of international development, and foster greater collaboration between those who fund development and those who deliver it. This session will build off the Philanthropy Australia Conference 2026 theme of "mobilising generosity, shaping the future".

Our five speakers will each offer a short five-minute provocation on why Australian philanthropies are not yet giving more internationally, why they should, and what their solutions are to unlocking greater global giving. We are particularly interested in perspectives on five potential hurdles, and their solutions, to greater global giving including: 1) impact and data, 2) trust, 3) accountability, 4) a lack of common language, and 5) duplication.

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Pre-Reading

The session will begin by grounding participants in key insights from a range of sector reports and previous Global Development Dialogue discussions, reflecting the iterative nature of the series itself.

We recommend that attendees are across the following reports:

- #1: Minderoo's 2026 Unlocking Generosity Report
- #2: ACFID's 2026 State of the Sector Report
- #3: AIDN's 2026 Impact Report

You can find the reports in this [public folder here](#). Short summaries of these three reports are also included on the next three pages.

Additional resources in the folder include:

- #4: Reflections from previous Global Development Dialogue series - which were used as a basis for this session
- #5: AIDN's Better Giving Framework
- #6: AIDN's Pathways to Global Giving



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Global Development Dialogue Series - Philanthropy Australia Conference 2026

Pre-Reading #1

Minderoo's Unlocking Generosity Report 2026

Executive Summary:

Australia is entering a major period of intergenerational wealth transfer, creating a significant opportunity to increase charitable giving. Minderoo argues that the challenge is not simply a lack of generosity, but the need to better activate giving through trusted advisers, better conversations and clearer pathways. For international development, this raises a key question: how do we make international giving more accessible, trusted and compelling to Australia's growing pool of private wealth?

3 key stats:

- Up to \$12 billion in additional charitable donations could potentially be unlocked by 2030.
- \$6+ trillion is expected to be inherited by Australians over the next two decades.
- Australia's charitable giving as a share of GDP is less than half that of New Zealand and the US.

Implications for the discussion:

1. Build the ecosystem, not just the fundraising pitch. Engage and up-skill the advisers and intermediaries who influence giving decisions.
2. Make international giving easier. Provide clearer pathways, evidence and trusted relationships that give donors confidence to act.



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Pre-Reading #2

ACFID's State of the Sector Report 2026

Executive summary:

ACFID's State of the Sector Report 2026 shows a sector operating in a more difficult environment, with growing need, changing donor priorities and significant pressure on funding. At the same time, Australian international development organisations continue to demonstrate strong partnerships, accountability and capability, with a growing emphasis on locally led development. The challenge is translating that capability into a clearer and more compelling proposition for new sources of philanthropic capital.

3 key findings:

- The sector is under significant financial pressure, with government funding cuts and challenging fundraising conditions affecting many organisations.
- Australian NGOs continue to demonstrate strong accountability and effectiveness, with high standards of financial transparency, governance and ethical practice.
- The sector is changing how it works, with a growing focus on locally led development, stronger partnerships and shifting power towards organisations and communities in the countries where development takes place.

Implications for the discussion:

1. Better communicate the value of the sector. Make capability, impact and accountability more accessible to potential new funders.
2. Develop a more coherent story. Combine evidence with compelling storytelling to make the case for international development.



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Pre-Reading #3

AIDN's Impact Report "The Glue That Binds" 2026

Executive summary:

AIDN's Impact Report 2026 demonstrates the role that trusted relationships, knowledge-sharing and connection can play in strengthening Australian international giving and investing, and the sector more broadly. 82% of respondents said AIDN encourages more giving. 93% said AIDN encourages better giving. \$9.9–\$14.5 million in international giving is estimated to have been catalysed with AIDN's support.

Broader context highlighted in the report:

- ACNC and JBWere: Overall participation in charitable giving is under pressure, with fewer Australians donating to charities. However, those who are giving, are giving more.
- Australian Government / ODA: While Australia's aid program has been more resilient than major ODA cuts globally, it remains on a long-term downward trajectory and represents only a tiny fraction of Australia's Federal Budget or GNI.
- CAF: Australia's overall generosity is trending down, making it harder to rely on traditional retail giving.
- AFR Top 50 Philanthropists: AFR reporting indicates that the number of Australians with an international component to their giving internationally is increasing.
- HNW + emerging giving trends: There is an opportunity to focus more deliberately on high-net-worth individuals, private wealth networks, tech and diaspora giving, and international impact investing as potential sources of growth for international giving.

Implications for the discussion:

1. Invest in the "glue that binds" our sector. Trusted networks and relationships can help overcome fragmentation between funders and development organisations.
2. Build better pathways. Connect philanthropic intent with credible opportunities, evidence and organisations more effectively.



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Pre-Reading and Thank You

Additional resources in the public pre-reading folder also include:

- #4: Reflections from previous Global Development Dialogue series.
- #5: AIDN's Better Giving Framework.
- #6: AIDN's Pathways to Global Giving.

These documents will also be referenced throughout the session.

Thank you and we look forward to welcoming you next week!



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