



Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA

Please help these projects by donating to our Festive Season Appeal

Here are three projects which Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA is assisting.
Due to funding constraints, all three will need to be scaled back this coming year.

1. Skills training for women in Cambodia

Since 1985, Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA has assisted projects in 10 Cambodian provinces in three areas: (a) vocational skills training, (b) agriculture, forestry and fishery, and (c) women's health, HIV and nutrition. Over 80,000 Cambodians have been trained, most of them women, many of whom were heads of households due to the Khmer Rouge genocide.



A current AusAID-funded project is teaching skills training in 7 provinces, and domestic fish production in 5 provinces. When this project finishes in 2006, we will have to cut back to training in just 2 provinces.

All our evaluations show that skills training for women can have a powerful effect on their families' lives. Data shows that even a small increase in disposable income from selling in the village or town market the clothes they make or fish they grow can allow these women many more options in life and opportunities for their children.



2. Community Radio in East Timor

With high levels of illiteracy and few families able to afford TV, radio is an essential source for news and information in East Timor. Union Aid Abroad - APHEDA has been assisting Radio Rakambia for five years. The station is run entirely by volunteers, and they broadcast a mix of news, current affairs, discussion forums and entertainment for 16 hours a day. They also have a mobile broadcasting unit, and visit rural areas to present the concerns and voices of the people outside the capital, Dili.

Radio Rakambia have recently been asked to vacate their current rented premises, so they need \$14,500 to buy the bricks, windows, doors and soundproofing material to build their own studio. Volunteers will provide the labour for the construction.

3. Skills training for disabled youth in Vietnam

This project works with the Vietnam Women's Union in Hai Duong Province to provide vocational skills training for 30 disabled young people (15-25 years old), many of whom are next-generation victims of Agent Orange, to enable them to either earn some income or gain employment. The aim is to help them with the skills needed to establish their own small businesses, especially in handicraft production, which will allow them to earn a small income and assist their integration into society.



Hai Duong is in the north of Vietnam near the coast, and is near the tourist centre of Ha Long Bay, so there is scope for the sale of handicraft production to both domestic and foreign tourists as a source of income.