

How the NTA started

The Nusa Tenggara Trust, the predecessor of the NTA was formed by visiting Australians and Indonesians during a major survey of socio-economic potentials of the East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) province, Indonesia, in 1988. The Trust subsequently built up links with the provincial government, local businesses, and other regional bodies in various development endeavours.

These links were consolidated during the three-day international seminar on "The Socio-economic Potentials of Nusa Tenggara Timur" held in Kupang in November 1989. This event was the first of its kind in eastern Indonesia, jointly organised by Australian and Indonesian academics in co-operation with the NTT provincial planning agency (BAPPEDA I).

Senior officials of regional government bodies, multilateral and bilateral aid agencies (with projects operating in eastern Indonesia), the private sector and non-government organisations (NGOs), as well as academics, attended the event. There was genuine participation from all involved, particularly as the seminar encouraged the exposure of different development perspectives in NTT. Both "insiders" and "outsiders" expressed views on the main challenges and potentials of the province.

Why the NTA started

The Australian NTA was established after a group of Australians and Indonesians working with various development projects in West Timor considered they should establish an effective focus in that area for the community development work, building on previous experience, with emphasis on community-based participation. The main recommendations of the study, which were presented at the seminar, and provoked much feed-back from the participants, were incorporated in the final report.

The President and Chief Executive Officer of the NTA is Dr Colin Barlow, MBE



PO Box 677, Jamison Centre ACT 2614

Email: enquiries@nta.org.au

Web page: www.nta.org.au

Donor/Membership Details

Name and Title: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Tel: (W) _____ (H) _____

(Mob): _____

Occupation: _____

Indonesian Language Skill working/fluent

I wish to donate to the NTA \$ _____

Cheques should be made out to "NTA Overseas Relief Fund"

Donations can also be made through the NTA web site.

Donations of over \$2 are tax deductible.

I wish to become a Member* of the NTA

Membership \$20

Signature of applicant: _____

(for membership applications only – if no proposer and seconder please submit with these sections blank)

Proposer: _____

(signature) _____

Seconder: _____

(signature) _____

(Note: proposers and seconders must be members of the NTA)

*Members participate in elections for the Board of Directors.

All members and donors receive newsletters and notices of events.

NTA East Indonesia Aid



NTA
East Indonesia Aid

What is the NTA?

The NTA is a not-for-profit non-government organisation (NGO) committed to supporting projects in the Indonesian islands of West Timor and Flores in the East Nusatenggara Province immediately to the north of Australia—the poorest region of Indonesia and amongst the poorest in the world. The NTA works through local Indonesian NGOs to help communities to plan and implement projects they themselves select. The NTA provides financial support and technical advice as well as a monitoring framework.

activities (fishing and seaweed harvesting) including the introduction of new technologies such as silage production and storage.

An important method of assistance is the provision of rotating credits. The original borrower pays back her/his loan and the money is re-lent to another person or group.

This system makes excellent use of scarce financial resources and recipients of loans feel trusted and empowered and take pride in ensuring that loans are repaid on time. Community networks become loan guarantors.

input to committees and monitoring teams is voluntary. There is a rigorous system of accountability which ensures that every dollar spent is accounted for. Monitoring and evaluation visits are made twice yearly to the projects by an Australian team that is usually led by NTAs founder and CEO Dr Colin Barlow. Accounts are checked and the effectiveness of project outcomes reported upon.

A great deal of effort has gone into developing and refining the NTA's financial accountability and project reporting systems to achieve tight audit trails and both accurate and meaningful project feedback.



Typical Projects

The aim is to contribute sustainably to poverty alleviation and development and to foster hope and empowerment in communities. The projects supported by the NTA are generally small scale but highly relevant to community needs in:

- smaller scale infrastructure such as local roads, fencing to control stock, toilets, water tanks and school buildings;
- educational resources such as books, equipment, improvements to buildings and teacher training; and
- resources and technical assistance to foster income-earning activities principally in agriculture and marine

How the Community Benefits

The NTA undertakes a large number of small projects at any given time—around 150 to 200. Over time these improvements have a significant impact on community health, income and wellbeing. The outcomes of its work in some communities, for over 15 years, have been transformative.

Value for Money and Accountability

The NTA aims to achieve the greatest possible development impact for the dollars generously provided by donors. More than 90% of the total funds are expended on actual projects in Indonesia. Modest levels of remuneration are provided to Indonesian partners to manage projects but Australian

How you can help

The NTA needs volunteers for its governing Board and committees and to help with monitoring projects. It also needs cash donations from members and donors (You may apply to become a full member with voting rights or simply register as a donor). This income stream represents a major part of total available funding but also forms the base funding without which the NTA does not qualify for assistance from other donors including AusAID.

The governing body of the NTA is elected by full members of the legal entity known as The Nusatenggara Association Incorporated. There are three supporting Committees; the Finance, Operations and Membership and Marketing Committees. The committees develop policies and activities which must then be approved by the governing Board.

