



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 11 July 2014

Chair: The Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP

**Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee**

ACFID to appear at inquiry into economic growth and poverty reduction

The Foreign Affairs and Aid Sub-Committee of the Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade will take evidence from the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) as part of its inquiry into the role of the Australian private sector in stimulating economic growth and poverty reduction in the Indo-Pacific region.

ACFID has over 100 members operating in more than 100 developing countries. As the peak body for Australia's independent overseas aid sector, ACFID works to provide leadership and represent and promote the views and interests of its membership.

Sub-Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone said the inquiry would evaluate how the non-government aid organisations and the commercial sector work with government agencies to support private sector development in the region. "We need to identify best practice, where NGOs have worked with the private sector on projects that contribute to the reduction in poverty and improved the lives of the most vulnerable in our region, often women and girls," she said.

"In addition, we are interested in how public-private partnerships may be monitored and evaluated, including how ACFID's code of conduct and compliance mechanisms contribute to international development outcomes, and how they may have enhanced transparency and accountability."

The hearing will be held on **Monday 14 July 2014, from 5:30pm** in Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra.

Live audio broadcast will be available at <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

Further details about the inquiry, including copies of submissions and how to contribute, can be obtained from the committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jfadt or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 2313 or emailing jscfadt@aph.gov.au.

For media inquiries contact the Sub-Committee Chair, the Hon Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371 (Electorate Office) or 02 6277 4477 (Parliament House)