



## **ACTION ON POVERTY**

*Building self reliance and enterprise in developing countries*

### **Strategy 2008-2012**

We have reviewed the context in which APT operates, through:

- stakeholder surveys (partners, donors, consultants)
- fundraising trends
- benchmarking (similar NGOs)
- review of operating environment (BDS and poverty alleviation)
- SWOT analysis
- visioning exercise – vision, mission, values

### **Vision**

A fair world free from poverty and discrimination where every person is empowered to fulfil their potential.

### **Mission**

To promote economic empowerment and social change by helping the most vulnerable and disadvantaged achieve sustainable livelihoods and by addressing the barriers that limit their participation.

### **Definition of Livelihoods:**

APT defines livelihoods as ““Livelihoods are the means by which households obtain and maintain access to the resources necessary to ensure their immediate and long-term survival. These essential resources are physical, natural, human, financial, social, and political. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities, assets and entitlements both now and in the future, while not undermining the natural resource base”

### **Key Strategies<sup>1</sup>**

We will do this by:

- Supporting the efforts of local partners to implement a range of projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to empower the most disadvantaged, both economically and socially
- Building the capacity of local partners to develop their organisations.
- Sharing the learning from this work for wider application and impact

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<sup>1</sup> These key strategies are outlined in more detail in Annexe A

## Values

- Mutual Respect and partnership – recognise the worth of all people and organisations and the value of diversity
- Equity and justice – fairness, non-discrimination and equal opportunity for all
- Honesty and transparency – accountable at all levels, open in our judgements and communications
- Innovative, flexible and cost-effective – requiring us to be creative,
- Radical and bold in our commitment to making the greatest possible impact on lives of the most disadvantaged, and not wasteful of resources
- Humility- in our presentation and behaviour, recognising that we are part of a wider alliance against poverty and local capacity offers a more sustainable solution
- Environmental sustainability

## Aims

To bring about the changes necessary to achieve this mission in the next 5 years, fall within 3 broad aims: to increase:

1. the impact of our work
  - Improve programme quality through impact monitoring learning and evaluation
  - Share APT's way of doing things and influence policy by enhancing APT's reputation and profile.
  - Increase numbers of partners and projects
2. the capacity of local partners
  - Improve the capacity and sustainability of partners and their capabilities to deliver projects successfully
  - Develop south to south networking and learning between partners
3. the organisational stability of APT
  - Increased turnover
  - Increased % of unrestricted funds

## **Annexe A - Key Strategies**

### **KEY STRATEGY 1**

**Supporting the efforts of local partners to implement a range of projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to empower the most disadvantaged, both economically and socially.**

Current local partners are non-government organisations involved in the following activities:

- Micro finance;
- Business/enterprise support;
- Rural development and training;
- Human rights development;
- Women's empowerment;
- Promotion of disability rights
- Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS awareness/best practice

The range of current projects involves:

- Integrating disability, HIV/AIDS, health, rights and enterprise;
- Promoting appropriate technologies;
- Apprenticeships and self-employment;
- Rehabilitation of Tsunami affected enterprises;
- Strengthening informal sector training and enterprise;
- Employment rights and access to business capital;
- Establishment of business resource and information centres;
- Strengthening community based organisations representing the most poor and vulnerable.

Projects are being implemented in the following countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia:

- Kenya
- Sierra Leone
- Sri Lanka
- Tanzania
- Uganda

We aim to empower the most disadvantaged, both economically and socially in some of the poorest countries of the world. Our focus is on people who face barriers and lack the capability to participate in income generating activities that will make a difference to their lives. Current beneficiaries from our projects reflect this and are:

- Disabled people and their families;
- Women, men and children affected by HIV/AIDS;
- Urban slum dwellers;
- Pastoralist communities;
- Poor and vulnerable rural communities recovering from civil war.

## **KEY STRATEGY 2**

### **Building the capacity of local partners to develop their organisations.**

We do this by:

- Forming alliances and entering into partnership agreements;
- Leading the development of funding bids to donors;
- Providing technical capacity for project management and implementation;
- Supporting business strategy, planning and improving management capabilities;
- Employing international and local consultants to build the capacity of staff in areas such as rights based approaches and impact monitoring;
- Enabling south to south exchange visits and networking events between our partners to learn and share experience;
- Undertaking courses and on-the-job training.

## **KEY STRATEGY 3**

### **Sharing the learning from this work for wider application and impact**

We do this by:

- Producing and disseminating best practice publications;
- Participating in livelihood development networks and events;
- Building national dissemination and advocacy activities into our projects;
- Feeding into the review of donor policies.