

Australia's leading not-for-profit organisation, promoting sustainable technology and practice in order to protect our environment



International Projects Group - Capability Statement

The Alternative Technology Association, International Projects Group (ATA IPG) is a group of skilled professionals and volunteers who give their time and expertise to provide renewable energy systems and other appropriate technologies to communities in developing countries.

Areas of expertise

The IPG consists of a diverse group of renewable energy and community development professionals and volunteers. The group can contribute to improved development outcomes through its ability and desire to deliver:

- o Cost effective renewable energy system installation;
- o Capacity building and training in renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation; and
- o Project management and monitoring.

Renewable Energy System Installation

The group has completed the installation of over 40 solar lighting, refrigeration and power systems in remote areas of East Timor. The systems have been installed in health clinics and a range of other community and public buildings where no regular power supplies were available. Technical skills and industry contacts ensure the best systems are developed for each location with special attention paid to developing low maintenance systems. The installation teams include



electrical engineers, certified installers and Australian and local volunteers.

Capacity building and training

Sustainability is more than the technology, it is about the people who live with and maintain the energy systems. The IPG takes this seriously. Our team includes certified workplace trainers who have developed training programs in collaboration with technical institutions in East Timor. The IPG has also trained up local personnel with the capacity to monitor and maintain installed systems. The ATA is a leading Australian resource for information on sustainable, appropriate technology and the IPG is in a strong position to transfer this information to our neighbouring countries

Project Management

The IPG has the capacity and track record to manage a range of projects from the design/identification stage, through to implementation and review. The group has experience in procurement, import export arrangements, travel and logistics, administration and budget management. The IPG can draw upon professional project managers, international development and community workers. This diverse group can manage the hard technical issues of project implementation as well as ongoing sustainability issues, monitoring and evaluation.

IPG Purpose

The ATA International Projects Group was established early in 2003 by a group of ATA members interested in assisting low income communities in South-east Asia and the Pacific with technologies appropriate to their needs.

The ATA International Projects Group purposes are:

- o To assist communities to gain access to sustainable technologies which are appropriate to their needs.
- o To provide communities with the resources, materials and skills which help them to alleviate poverty.
- o To empower communities to make their own decisions on how to improve their quality of life.
- o To provide the ATA members and staff with the opportunity to contribute their knowledge and skills to work on projects that assist the communities in developing countries.

These objectives will be achieved by:

- o Working with local communities and with partners which have the local knowledge and skills required to manage successful projects.
- o Fostering partnerships to provide sustainable outcomes, with training and income generation where possible.

Who we are?

The IPG has approximately 40 members whilst the ATA has a membership of over 3400 in Australia and New Zealand. Key members of the IPG include:

Mick Harris: (B Ed, G Dip Businesses) Founder of the IPG and *ReNew* Magazine. Over 25 years experience in the design and construction of renewable energy systems.

Mike O'Connell [BE (Elec), Cert IV (Workplace Training and Assessment)] is an electronics engineer, project manager and qualified trainer with over 20 years experience in the telecommunications, IT, construction and renewable energy industries.



Anton Vikstrom: Anton [BSc (REM)] is an experienced community and international development worker. He is employed by the ATA as a project manager

Work with the IPG

The IPG is interested in participating in any projects which meet our stated objectives. We are always looking for new communities, partners and groups to work with. If you are interested in working with the IPG on a development project don't hesitate to contact:

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