



ABOUT US

Business for Millennium Development (B4MD) is a partnership forum that connects Australian business with profitable opportunities that deliver poverty reduction outcomes in support of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in the Asia Pacific region.

Established in 2007, B4MD is supported by its founding members IBM, KPMG, Insurance Australia Group, Visy, Oil Search and World Vision Australia. B4MD is further supported by the Australian Federal Government through AusAID.

In 2008, together with AusAID and the UNDP, B4MD hosted the inaugural Business for Millennium Development National Summit. The event was endorsed by The Hon. Kevin Rudd, Prime Minister of Australia and was officially opened by The Hon. Stephen Smith, Minister for Foreign Affairs. Over 150 delegates from Australia's leading companies and NGO's were in attendance at this event.

From 2009 onwards, B4MD is directing its attention to the facilitation of multi-party links between Australian companies and NGO's to deliver specific development projects that are self-sustaining, profitable and which progress the MDGs

The only organisation of its kind in Australia formed by business for business, B4MD believes that Australian businesses have the opportunity to utilise their core competencies to do business with the poor in the emerging markets of the Asia Pacific region.

B4MD works to complement the Federal Government's commitment to the Business Call to Action which calls upon companies around the world to undertake profitable core business with the poor.

The Base of the Economic Pyramid comprises 3.7 Billion people with purchasing power (PPP basis) of US\$5 trillion. The entry of these communities into the formal economy will reduce poverty and increase Australian business opportunity, particularly in the Asia Pacific region. B4MD will act to generate and facilitate project leads that connect Australian companies to business opportunities at the Base of the Economic Pyramid.