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<http://cufa.org.au>

CUFA LAUNCHES PROVOCATIVE NEW PODCAST: **CONVERSATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT**

Cufa announced today the launch of Australian monthly podcast, **Conversations in Development**, hosted by Cufa's CEO, Dr. Peter Mason and journalist Olivia Rosenman.

With the upcoming Federal budget release on 8 May, there has been a high level of scrutiny on Australia's foreign aid contribution and relationship with the Pacific. Does Australia need to play an active role to remain influential? Does aid actually do more harm than good? Is there enough accountability from our leaders on aid money spent? These vital questions and more are explored in the first episode of Cufa's new podcast, **Conversations in Development**.

This first episode, *Blurring the lines between Good Intentions and Good Business*, features the special guest journalist, author, and documentarian, Antony Loewenstein. Antony recently co-produced the 2018 documentary, *Disaster Capitalism*.

The **Conversations in Development** series offers illuminating and occasionally controversial takes on issues within the foreign aid and development sector. Upcoming episodes will explore diverse and provocative themes including refugees, child labour, climate change and women's role in disasters, aid in conflict, faith in development and volunteer tourism. Each podcast will feature a special guest who is an expert in their field.

"Cufa is excited to launch an Australian podcast that encourages necessary and thoughtful dialogue on aid and development," said Dr. Peter Mason, CEO of Cufa. "The **Conversations in Development** podcast creates an important and incredibly relevant opportunity for Australians to hear and engage with the perspective of not just policymakers, but those with valuable experience within the sphere."

Co-host Olivia Rosenman commented, "through open and lively debate, the expert **Conversations in Development** guests provide unique humanitarian and economic insight."

The podcast is available to subscribe, download and stream from Apple Podcasts or your favourite other podcast platform.

Visit the podcast website: <http://ConversationsInDevelopment.com.au>

Conversations in Development: [RSS feed](#)

Dr. Peter Mason has been the CEO of international development agency Cufa for the last twelve years. Cufa's programs focus on economic development of underserved and disadvantaged communities across the Asia Pacific region. With multiple approaches including education, employment, enterprise, and financial institution development, Cufa's projects are implemented by local Cufa offices and country staff who work with local communities, organisations, and government. Peter has worked in Cambodia, Timor Leste, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Samoa, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, and the Federated States of Micronesia. His research interests include examining the way in which the social and the economic interact within the development environment and he has recently published a chapter, Credit Unions, in *The Routledge Companion to Alternative Organization*.

MEDIA RELEASE



Olivia Rosenman is the executive producer of Fourth Estate, a weekly media affairs show radio broadcast in Sydney on 2SER. She has previously worked as a reporter for news agencies in both Sydney and Asia. As an AusAID Youth Ambassador for Development, Olivia ran the communications department of a disability services organization in Nanning, China. Olivia holds a Master of Journalism from the University of Hong Kong and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Sydney.

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For all media enquiries, interview and image requests, please contact:

Tanya Ho
Marketing and Communications Manager
1300 490 467 | 0438 227 479
tanya.ho@cufa.org.au

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Cufa is an Australian government-accredited international development agency committed to alleviating poverty across the Asia Pacific. Cufa currently works in Cambodia, Myanmar, Timor-Leste and the greater Pacific. Cufa creates infinite value by reaching over 4 million people each year through grassroots programs focusing on economic, education, enterprise and employment activities.

Cufa | <http://cufa.org.au> | Suite 704A, 275 Alfred Street, North Sydney, NSW 2060 Australia

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