



2020-21 AFRICA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

The *2020-21 Africa Development Program Progress Report* summarises progress for the reporting period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 of implementation of the Australia – Africa COVID-19 Response Plan and program highlights.

Our development program to Africa contributes to achieving the following Sustainable Development Goals.



Program Budget	2020-21 Budget Estimate \$m*
Bilateral	15.0
Regional	5.8
Global	35.5
Other Government Departments	5.1
Total ODA	61.4

*Actual expenditure is expected to be available in December 2021/ January 2022.

CONTEXT

Africa's stability and prosperity are important to Australia and our interests. COVID-19 is compounding Africa's development challenges and disrupting agricultural productivity, supply chains, employment, markets and food security.

African countries experienced COVID-19 differently in 2020-21. Many countries had to deal with third and sometimes fourth waves of the virus, amplifying development challenges by placing additional demands on health systems, disrupting supply chains, reducing economic activity including agricultural productivity, and expanding and compounding humanitarian needs across the continent.

Each economy has been negatively affected, particularly those dependent on tourism, oil exports and other extractive industries. The continent suffered its worst recession in more than 50 years as its gross domestic product declined by 2.1 per cent. Approximately 30 million Africans were pushed into extreme poverty in 2020, with estimates that a further 39 million may follow by the end of 2021. Inequality is also set to increase because of the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on vulnerable groups such as youth, women and low skilled informal sector workers. Women are particularly impacted because 74 per cent are engaged in the informal economy, where they are also more exposed to the virus and often unable to work in a COVID-19 safe environment.

Africa is expected to experience long-term effects from COVID-19, including reduced labour productivity and supply, long-term consequences of lockdowns and other restrictions on socio-economic development, and shifts in flows of trade, Overseas Development Assistance, remittances and foreign direct investment. The pandemic will inevitably reduce African countries' resilience to other shocks over the short to medium term.

AUSTRALIA'S RESPONSE AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

In response to COVID-19, **Australia prioritised its development investments in Africa to help foster resilience and protect economic and development gains.** Investments targeted niche areas where our engagement could have the greatest impact, and opportunities to work with partners to empower African governments, institutions and local communities to drive their own recovery.

For instance, in the reporting period Australian Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) **supported 6.5 million people from impoverished communities prevent the spread of COVID-19 and respond to its social and economic impacts** through 70 projects in health, education, rural development, agriculture, food security, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), livelihoods, disability support/advocacy and gender equality.

Our support to multilateral organisations also contributed to African resilience. For example, **Australia's contribution share to the World Bank International Development Association 18th Replenishment commitments to Africa for 2019-20 was approximately \$397 million.** This support contributed to a range of development activities that among other things empower women, leverage digital technologies for trade and government effectiveness, mobilise private financing, encourage job creation, and address the drivers and effects of climate change and conflict. We also empowered African partners to **improve basic and secondary education with a focus on girls and distance learning** through our support to the Global Partnership for Education.

Health Security

Australia responded swiftly to support African countries manage the health impacts of COVID-19. **We invested \$130 million in the COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) Advance Market Commitment to support equitable access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines which, by the end of June 2021, had shipped 26.07 million doses to Africa.** We also provided approximately \$24 million, pro-rata, for routine vaccinations to protect children against infectious diseases in Africa in 2020 through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance. Australian funding, estimated at **\$148 million**, pro-rata, was provided to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in the African region for the period 2020-2022.

In the reporting period, Australia provided **emergency assistance to 132,556 people in Somalia and South Sudan to address the 'triple threat' of COVID-19, severe locust plagues and drought.** Our contributions to Somalia helped save over 4 million people from famine, provided emergency relief to disaster-affected communities, and strengthened COVID-19 response capacities through provision of life-saving primary health care, procurement of critical medical supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), hygiene and sanitation kits, access to safe and clean drinking water, hygiene promotion and awareness campaigns. In South Sudan, Australia supported the provision of PPE to essential frontline workers in almost 1,500 health facilities, ensuring continuity of services.

In the reporting period, nine Australia Assists deployees provided program management expertise to six United Nations agencies to maintain and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of life-saving support to affected communities across Ethiopia, Uganda, Somalia, Mozambique, Malawi and Liberia.

Australian NGOs supported an estimated 881,032 people to prepare for and respond to COVID-19 in Africa by delivering hygiene messaging, ensuring access to safe water, training health staff, providing soap and protective equipment, and ensuring basic food security and livelihoods.

Additional small grants activities provided a range of community-level health support, including by: supporting women and girls' reproductive health and providing PPE and other essential hospital infrastructure in Madagascar; providing water and sanitation facilities to some of the most vulnerable in Ghana, Sierra Leone and Mali, including psychiatric wards and lepers villages; air ambulance and midwifery services for women in Tanzania; WASH services for cyclone affected communities in Zimbabwe; midwifery training in Lesotho; and women's health messaging in Botswana and South Africa.

To provide additional flexibility in Australia's humanitarian program, Australian funding for existing investments in Somalia and South Sudan will cease from 2021.

Stability

Australia worked with a range of African partners to increase the focus on the most vulnerable, including to help them weather the shocks of COVID-19. Through Geoscience Australia's world first, free and accessible Earth observation platform for all of Africa, **Digital Earth Africa**, millions of images were processed to create a dataset that anyone across Africa can use to actively monitor changes to the landscape and environment to manage food and water resources.

Communities in Rwanda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi and Nigeria benefited from expertise from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research in irrigation, agroforestry, farm mechanisation, conservation agriculture, disease mitigation and value-chain enhancement, resulting in improved agricultural productivity, food security and livelihoods.

In the reporting period, **Australia assisted over 1,200 people in Somalia, mostly women and people with disabilities, to improve their food security** with the supply of seasonal agricultural support packages (such as seeds, tools and ploughing support), training on good agricultural and climate-smart practices, and by building the capacity of local authorities and communities to prepare for, mitigate and respond to recurrent food security threats. **A further 17,245 people in Somalia received conditional and unconditional cash transfers**, preventing them from becoming destitute.

Children in 40 schools across the Democratic Republic of the Congo benefited from programs to enhance school retention and learning outcomes.

Small grants activities in the reporting period supported some of the most vulnerable including by: constructing an emergency shelter for gender-based violence survivors in Ghana; training for 200 women with caring responsibilities for children with disabilities in Kenya; agriculture training and provision of corn and rice huskers for food security and livelihoods in Rwanda and Guinea-Bissau; small-scale agricultural activities to improve the food security of orphaned and vulnerable children in Zimbabwe; and preventing violent extremism in South Africa and Mozambique.

Economic recovery

Australia has also supported a range of economic recovery activities in Africa during the reporting period. The construction of 30 kilometres of road in South Sudan helped improve farmers' access to markets, and reduce their transport costs and time, thereby increasing their earnings.

Australia Awards Africa scholarships for 137 professionals, primarily in fields such as agriculture, extractives and public policy, has helped equip awardees with skills and knowledge to address the health, economic and social impacts of COVID-19 in their home countries. These scholarships have also deepened connections between Australia and future African leaders. In the reporting period, a further 3,683 farmers were trained in harvesting and grading, diseases and pests, ecological farming, production and entrepreneurship, or received agricultural extension support in Ethiopia, Mozambique, and Uganda.

Australia supported 11 projects in Kenya, Senegal and Ghana to apply Digital Earth Africa data to help improve water resource management, crop productivity, coastal and city infrastructure planning for sea level rise, and manage flood risk, and mangroves. Our support to women in mining-affected communities in Kenya led to the development of people-centred mining vision and action plans, which resulted in three community mining agreements with large mining companies and seven women elected to oversight committees.

Australia provided a range of small grants in the reporting period to support the economic recovery of communities. Through these grants we mentored 50 women entrepreneurs, provided fisheries training for vulnerable women and promoted ecotourism in Mauritius, Madagascar and the Comoros. Microenterprise training was run for people with disabilities in Ghana and 280 women-owned businesses were delivered training in the extractives sector in Kenya. We also offered a Gender Leadership Program in Somalia and financial literacy training for 210 women in South Africa.

To respond to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic and emerging issues for Africa, a new suite of Australian development cooperation activities for Africa are being designed. This includes changes to the Australia Awards Africa program from 2021 with an emphasis on in-country and online short courses.

ANNEX 1: PROGRESS AGAINST COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN RESULTS INDICATORS

Health Security

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
Number of vulnerable women, men, girls and boys provided with emergency assistance in conflict and crisis situations (target 200,000 over 2-year Plan)	Supported 43,854 women, 26,409 men, 30,618 girls and 29,483 boys in Somalia and South Sudan with emergency assistance due to natural disasters, drought, conflict and displacement.
People provided with essential health services	Supported 5,580,073 people in conflict and crisis situations with essential health services.
Communities provided with WASH support	Supported 335,816 people in vulnerable communities, including remote communities, with improved access to clean water, handwashing facilities and sanitation.

Stability

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
Women and men receive help to increase livelihoods	Supported 123,962 women and 96,027 men with assistance for improving livelihoods.
Vulnerable communities reached with new or improved social protection programs, including remote communities	Supported 25,555 people in vulnerable communities, including remote communities, with new or improved social protection programs.
Countries Australia has supported in the last 12 months with policy and technical advice on building capacity for food security (including examples of assistance provided and results achieved)	Supported 13 African countries with technical assistance to strengthen food security (Botswana, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Niger, Nigeria, Tunisia, South Africa). Supported researchers, extension officers, governments and farmers in Ethiopia to receive new knowledge to address a fungal disease of faba beans, which is a serious threat to food security and livelihood of farmers in the highlands.

Economic Recovery

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
Women and men assisted to gain recognised post-secondary qualifications (target 30 over 2-year Plan)	Supported 31 women and 32 men to gain recognised post-secondary qualifications (target 30 over two-years).
Examples of small businesses having increased market access	<p>Supported 150 farmers in Kenya to process dried mangos when markets for fresh fruit fell with the onset of COVID-19, reducing waste and increasing their incomes.</p> <p>Supported the development of value chains in Zimbabwe to add value to crops through activities such as grading, packing and processing of different products for the market.</p>
Examples of African Government usage of Digital Earth Africa products to inform policy and/or practice	<p>Supported the Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics to use Digital Earth Africa data to analyse the water expanse of Lake Sulunga. This has helped inform ongoing monitoring and lake management policy in relation to drinking water, fishing, agriculture, livestock farming and salt production issues</p> <p>Supported the Ghana Statistical Services (GSS) to access and use Digital Earth Africa data for policy and planning purposes, including training GSS officials to use the data from Digital Earth Africa.</p>

ANNEX 2: INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE RATINGS

Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender
Digital Earth Africa Phase II Investment duration: 2019-23; Budget: \$9m	2021	4	5	4
	2020	n/a	n/a	n/a
Australia Awards - Africa 2015-2020 Investment duration: 2015-22; Budget: \$65m	2021	5	4	4
	2020	5	4	4

HUMANITARIAN INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE RATINGS

Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender
INN457 South Sudan Humanitarian 2019-20 Investment duration: 2020-21; Budget: \$7.5m	2021	4	4	5
	2020	n/a	n/a	n/a

Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas.

5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.

4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.

2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas.

1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major area.