



Scope of Initiative

Afghanistan and Pakistan Assistance

2009-10 Budget

As announced in the 2009-10 Budget, the Australian Government will implement initiatives targeted at responding to the global recession and advancing the Millennium Development Goals. The 2009-10 Budget underlines the Government's ongoing commitment to increasing Australia's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to 0.5 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI) by 2015-16. This budget initiative is an important part of that commitment.

The *Afghanistan and Pakistan Assistance* initiative will increase Australia's humanitarian and development assistance to Afghanistan and Pakistan, targeting education, health, agriculture, rural development and improved governance.

The initiative will invest \$352.8 million over four years.

Activities include:

Afghanistan

- Increased development and humanitarian funding, building on reconstruction activities through the Australian Defence Force in Oruzgan Province and police training activities undertaken by the Australian Federal Police.
- Assistance to the World Bank's Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund to support rural development, local governance, education and access to microfinance.
- Assistance through Australia's bilateral Development Assistance Facility to deliver basic training in areas such as health, education, agriculture, irrigation and livestock, rural construction and development.

Pakistan

- Increased support for improved food security, rural development and national and provincial governance.
- Assistance includes funding for civil society institutions working to improve governance at national and provincial levels and continued support to the World Food Programme.