

Aid Quality Check for

[Please note that word count often varies between MS Word and Adobe SmartPDFs. The final length of text is what fits into the SmartPDF template]

Instructions

AQC reporting is **mandatory** for all aid investments valued **\$3 million** and above, except for core contributions to multilateral organisations (covered by the AMPR process) and investments of a purely administrative nature e.g. salaries, rent, leases etc. Data from AQCs are used to report to the public and Government on the performance of the aid program. AQCs must be completed using the relevant pre-populated template downloaded from AidWorks. For annual performance assessments, use the Aid Quality Check (AQC) template. For final performance assessments, use the Final AQC (FAQC) template. For humanitarian response interventions, use the Humanitarian Response (HAQC) template. Completed AQC should be approved by a relevant EL2 or above and uploaded to AidWorks by **1 May**. The aid Investment Quality Reporting (IQR) Good Practice Note contains essential reading for completing AQCs. Additional information is in the Aid Programming Guide (APG Chapter 4), and AidWorks support materials page. Please direct any questions on AQC reporting to the quality reports mailbox qualityreports@dfat.gov.au

Summary

Investment name					
Investment number					
Investments within cluster					
Country or program					
Theme	[pre-populated by AidWorks]				
Investment allocation \$AUD		Investment start date		Reporting period start date	
Expenditure to date		Investment end date		Reporting period end date	
% expended		% time elapsed		Report drafted by	
Was this an Investment Requiring Improvement (IRI) in the previous AQC round?				Report approved by	
Yes		No		Date approved	

Description - What are we doing?

Briefly describe the investment, assuming the reader has no prior knowledge.

State the expected end-of-investment outcomes for this investment and where appropriate include any intermediate outcomes. Briefly describe the relevance of the investment to Australian Government and Partner Government priorities. Describe the aid delivery arrangements, approach, type of partner, and indicate the extent to which these arrangements offer the most appropriate approach and modality for achieving Australia's development goals.

(no more than 600 words)

Reviews and Evaluations

List the reviews and evaluations undertaken for this investment

Name of review or evaluation	Date finalised	Date uploaded in AidWorks	Date management response uploaded in AidWorks	Published on website?

Provide a brief summary of key findings and recommendations from any reviews or evaluations undertaken for this investment in the past year. (no more than 300 words)

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Australian Aid – Quality Criteria

For each criterion, use the focus areas in the [AQC Ratings Matrix](#) to inform analysis and to determine ratings

1. Effectiveness - Are we achieving the outputs and outcomes that we expected?

Provide evidence and analysis and discuss the extent to which the investment is making progress toward achieving its end-of-investment outcomes. Confirm that a documented M&E arrangement is in place that specifies what will be assessed, by whom, when, and how. Discuss how M&E information supports the assessment of effectiveness and identify any issues. Include actions to address any issues in Section 5 - Management Responses.

Use the focus areas in the AQC Ratings Matrix to inform analysis and to determine an overall rating.

(no more than 750 words)

Overall rating

1	2	3	4	5	6
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2. Efficiency - Is the investment making appropriate use of Australia's and our partners' time and resources to achieve outcomes?

Provide evidence and analysis and discuss the extent to which the investment makes appropriate use of time and resources toward achieving its end-of-investment outcomes. Explain if M&E information supports the assessment of efficiency through monitoring both expenditure and the delivery of outputs.

Use the focus areas in the AQC Ratings Matrix to inform analysis and to determine an overall rating.

(no more than 750 words)

Overall rating

1	2	3	4	5	6
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3. Gender Equality – Is the investment making a difference to gender equality and empowering women and girls?

(This field is pre-populated using data from the Gender theme question in AidWorks) Promoting equality between men and women is..

☐ a principal objective of this investment ☐ a significant objective of this investment ☐ not an objective of this investment

Rate each statement below using the six-point scale

Analysis of gender equality gaps and opportunities substantially informs the investment.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Risks to gender equality are identified and appropriately managed.	1	2	3	4	5	6
The investment is making progress as expected in effectively implementing strategies to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.	1	2	3	4	5	6
The M&E system collects sex-disaggregated data and includes indicators to measure gender equality outcomes.	1	2	3	4	5	6
There is sufficient expertise and budget allocation to achieve gender equality related outputs of the investment.	1	2	3	4	5	6
As a result of the investment, partners increasingly treat gender equality as a priority through their own policies and processes.	1	2	3	4	5	6

Provide evidence and analysis and discuss the extent to which the investment makes a difference to gender equality.

For supplementary guidance on this criterion please refer to the Aid Programming Guide [\(APG\) Chapter 4: Key resources /Guidance](#)

Use the focus areas in the AQC Ratings Matrix to inform analysis and to determine an overall rating.

(no more than 600 words)

Overall rating

1	2	3	4	5	6
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4. Risk

Briefly describe key (top three) investment risks and actions taken to ensure they are actively managed (e.g. regular discussions with partners on key risk; quarterly review of risk register; review of risk management controls and treatments etc.). Describe any new or emerging risks that may affect end-of-investment outcomes. Include actions to address any emerging risks in the Management Responses section.

*Use the focus areas in the AQC Ratings Matrix to inform analysis and to determine an overall rating.
(no more than 400 words)*

Overall rating

1 2 3 4 5 6

5. Management Responses

Discuss the extent to which progress has been made against previous management responses and describe the management responses proposed to address issues raised in this AQC.

Discuss key risks that may affect successfully achieving end-of-investment outcomes and what measures are proposed to avoid, mitigate and /or manage these risks.

Discuss any negative environmental and /or social safeguard risks associated with this investment. (e.g. environmental protection; children, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; resettlement and displacement; health and safety)

(no more than 600 words)

6. Other comments and information - this section is optional

Use this space to record any other information relevant to the performance of the investment, contextual information, or more detail on any significant quality issues not covered in the assessments above. If applicable, note any EDRMS file numbers or where additional information can be found in AidWorks. This text box may also include any key messages to be used in briefings or handover notes

(no more than 600 words)

Key Policy Priorities

Disability							
Rate each statement below							
The investment actively involves people with disabilities and /or disabled person's organisations in planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
The investment identifies and addresses barriers to inclusion and opportunities for participation for people with disabilities to enable them to benefit equally from the aid investment.	N/A	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>Briefly describe how this investment is making a difference for people with disabilities. For supplementary guidance please refer to the Aid Programming Guide (APG) Chapter 4: Key resources /Guidance. (no more than 300 words)</p>							

Safeguards						
Rate statement below						
Investment safeguard risks and impacts are actively managed, including regular monitoring and reporting	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>Briefly describe key negative environmental and /or social safeguard risks associated with this investment and describe actions taken to ensure safeguard risks and impacts are managed in accordance with DFAT's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policy and Safeguard Operational Procedures. Investment safeguard risks and impacts include: environmental protection; children, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; Indigenous peoples and /or ethnic minorities; resettlement and displacement; health and safety. For supplementary guidance please refer to the Aid Programming Guide (APG) Chapter 4: Key resources /Guidance. (no more than 300 words)</p>						

Climate Change and Disasters ('Building Resilience') – this information will be used to gauge the level of risk management and action on climate change and disasters.							
Rate each statement below							
Climate change and disaster risks associated with the investment are identified, included in the risk register, and effectively managed.	NA	1	2	3	4	5	6
The investment is delivering results on climate change (adaptation to climate impacts and /or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions) and disaster risk reduction.	NA	1	2	3	4	5	6
The M&E system (M&E frameworks, progress reports and evaluations) collect data on climate change and disaster risk reduction actions.	NA	1	2	3	4	5	6
<p>Briefly describe how this investment is addressing climate change and disaster risk reduction. Provide evidence and analysis to support the overall assessment and where appropriate, discuss alignment with partner country climate and disaster priorities. For supplementary guidance; including an explanation of climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction, please refer to the Aid Programming Guide (APG) Chapter 4: Key resources /Guidance. (no more than 300 words)</p>							

Private sector – this information will be used to gauge the level and nature of engagement with the private sector across aid investments.	
Refer to the AQC Good Practice note to determine eligibility and to calculate the value of private sector investment leveraged. To demonstrate how results were derived, please use the calculation worksheet which should be uploaded to AidWorks as an attachment.	
How often has DFAT directly engaged with the private sector in this investment in the past year?	1 = Not at all 2 = Once a year 3 = Every 6 months 4 = Quarterly 5 = Monthly 6 = Weekly
Has this investment contributed to private sector growth in the past year?	YES NO <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the value of resources leveraged from the private sector in the current reporting period? (that can be apportioned to DFAT)	AUD\$
What is the value of resourced leveraged from other partners, excluding donor government contributions? (includes NGOs, philanthropic organisations, State Owned Enterprises)	AUD\$
Describe how the investment is promoting private sector growth and engaging the private sector in achieving development outcomes. (no more than 300 words)	

Innovation - this information will be used to gauge the level and nature of innovation across aid investments.	
Answer each question below	
Is the investment applying innovative programming? - “the what”	[select]
Is the investment applying innovative partnerships and collaboration? - “the who”	[select]
Is the investment applying innovative processes? - “the how”	[select]
Briefly describe innovations in this investment and where available include any web references or hyperlinks. (no more than 300 words)	