Volunteers at a glance 2016–17

Total number of volunteers ▸ **1212**

665 commenced new assignments

547 continued assignments from previous year/s
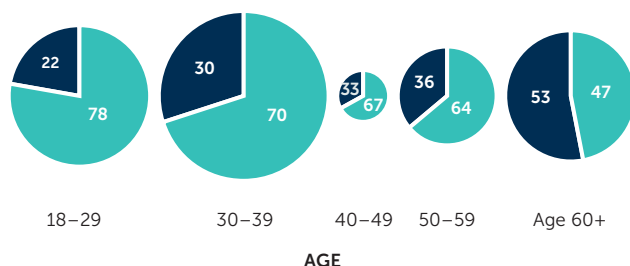
Gender of volunteers

👤 **65% FEMALE**   👤 **35% MALE**
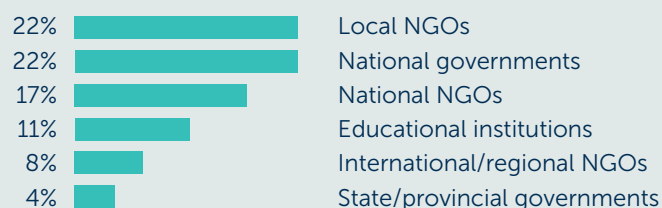
Age range of volunteers by gender

■ Female % ■ Male %

- 18–29: 22 / 78
- 30–39: 30 / 70
- 40–49: 33 / 67
- 50–59: 36 / 64
- Age 60+: 53 / 47

AGE

Number of host organisations ▸ 754

Host organisation category (top six)

- 22% Local NGOs
- 22% National governments
- 17% National NGOs
- 11% Educational institutions
- 8% International/regional NGOs
- 4% State/provincial governments

$41.4M ◂ AVID allocated funds 2016–17 (A$)

Six most common areas of assignment focus

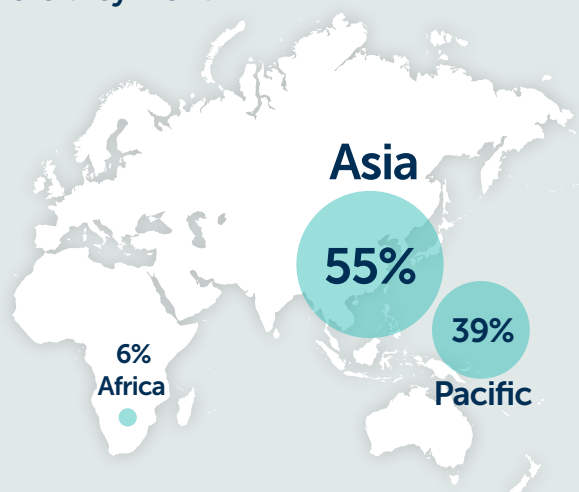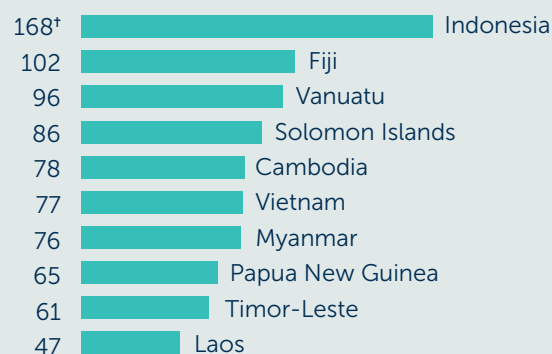|		
👥	Community and social development	**17%**
➕	Health	**15%**
💬	Media, communications, public relations, fundraising	**12%**
🎓	Education, training, library	**12%**
📈	Business, marketing, tourism, art and design	**11%**
👥	Management, administration, human resources	**10%**

Where they went

Asia 55%

39% Pacific

6% Africa

Total number of countries ▸ 25

Top 10 countries

- 168[†] Indonesia
- 102 Fiji
- 96 Vanuatu
- 86 Solomon Islands
- 78 Cambodia
- 77 Vietnam
- 76 Myanmar
- 65 Papua New Guinea
- 61 Timor-Leste
- 47 Laos

† Total numbers of volunteers supported in 2016–17

Australian Volunteers for International Development program

Photo: AVI

The Classic Wallabies Indigenous Exchange participants at the handover of vegetable gardens at Mphako primary school, South Africa. This initiative under the AVID program provides young Indigenous Australians with the opportunity to volunteer overseas. Established in 2014, the program was inspired by the spirit and friendship that rugby legends experienced on their overseas tours. The principal of Mphako primary school, Joyce Nxumalo, explains *"Most students are from child-headed families and depend on the school for feeding. A garden like this will help feed the students and teach them about a healthy mind and body"*.

In 2016–17, Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) delivered an effective program with strong development and public diplomacy outcomes in 25 countries in the Indo-Pacific in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.

A total of 1,212 Australians volunteered their time, energy and expertise to work for 754 host organisations. The total AVID budget allocation in 2016–17 was $41.4 million, a 13 per cent change from $47.8 million in 2015–16. Volunteers worked to support Australian and partner government priorities, with 95 per cent of assignments aligning with Australian Government aid priorities.

The AVID program makes a considerable contribution to the achievement of the Government's public diplomacy objectives. Volunteers promote a positive perception of Australia in the region, and promote a positive perception of the aid program domestically. The Returned Australian Volunteer Network (RAVN) was launched in 2015 to recognise the ongoing contribution returned Australian volunteers make to the Australian aid program. The inaugural RAVN conference in December 2016 brought together close to 300 dynamic returned Australian volunteers. The two-day conference provided an opportunity to share stories, reconnect with peers and learn from each other. An inspiring line-up of speakers encouraged returned volunteers to harness their volunteering spirit through activities back home or their continued engagement with communities overseas. RAVN provides networking, engagement, and professional development opportunities for around 13,000 returned volunteers.

The AVID program was funded and delivered by DFAT in partnership with AVI and Scope Global (in consortium with Australian Business Volunteers). The AVID program will run until 31 December 2017. The next chapter of the Australian Volunteers program will commence in January 2018. The Australian Volunteers program will build on AVID's successes, and will be delivered by AVI in consortium with Cardno and the Whitelum Group.

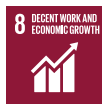## AVID support for Sustainable Development Goals in 2016–17

DISABILITY: 223 volunteers (18 per cent) focused on working with people with a disability, and four volunteers self-identified as having a disability.

GENDER: 785 volunteers (65 per cent) were women, and 94 assignments (8 per cent) had a primary focus on gender equality.

YOUTH: 271 volunteers (22 per cent) were under the age of 30.

PRIVATE SECTOR: 151 volunteers (12 per cent) engaged with the private sector either directly or indirectly.

CHILD PROTECTION: AVID partners reported 100 per cent of eligible host organisations complied with the requirements of DFAT's Child Protection Policy.

Photo: AVI

Australian volunteer Charmaine McBrearty, PNG: *"My work facilitates everyday people to be part of growth and change in their communities."*

The Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program is an Australian Government initiative.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

scope global
PEOPLE FOCUSED PROGRAMS

AVI
inviting change