



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



AUSTRALIA – SOLOMON ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2024–2029

Section 1: Introduction

Australia's partnership with Solomon Islands

Australia and Solomon Islands are family with interconnected futures – we share a region, an ocean and a history of partnership. Australia and Solomon Islands established diplomatic relations upon Solomon Islands' independence on 7 July 1978. We have strong people-to-people links, shared democratic values and a longstanding history of cooperation.

Australia is Solomon Islands' partner of choice – with the largest economic, development and security cooperation programs in Solomon Islands. Australia's 2017 bilateral security treaty with Solomon Islands provides an enduring framework for security assistance, most recently used for the deployment of the Solomons International Assistance Force from 2021 to 2024. Two-way trade between Solomon Islands and Australia continues to grow. Australia and Solomon Islands also have substantial infrastructure cooperation, with close to AUD1 billion invested by Australia in high-quality, disaster-resilient infrastructure across Solomon Islands since 2019.

Our development program in Solomon Islands is our third largest globally. Australia's Official Development Assistance (ODA) brings together efforts from bilateral, regional and global programs as well as other Australian Government departments and agencies, including the Australian Federal Police. The Australian Government Department of Defence is a significant non-ODA contributor to Solomon Islands development.

Purpose of the Development Partnership Plan

Australia's [International Development Policy](#) presents a long-term vision for how the development program will meet the critical needs of our partners, support sustainable development and help lift people out of poverty. Australia seeks relationships based on respect and partnerships that create economic and social value for us all. To achieve this, Australia supports our partners to:

- build effective, accountable states that drive their own development
- enhance state and community resilience to external pressures and shocks
- connect with Australia and regional architecture
- generate collective action on global challenges that impact us and our region.

The Australia – Solomon Islands Development Partnership Plan 2024–2029 (DPP) translates into action the development priorities Australia shares with Solomon Islands. The DPP sets out agreed objectives, how we will work together to deliver shared outcomes, and how progress will be monitored. It also identifies where Australia can add value to Solomon Islands' national development priorities and how Australia will work with other development actors, ensuring the Australian Government contribution to Solomon Islands' development ambitions is well coordinated.

The DPP reflects the full spectrum of Australia's development support – Australian Government bilateral ODA as well as significant regional and global ODA and non-ODA development activities. A commitment to ongoing dialogue and engagement with government and non-government actors in support of a genuine and respectful partnership underpins this DPP. A mid-cycle review of the DPP will be undertaken.

Preparing the Development Partnership Plan

In early 2023, before the release of Australia's International Development Policy, Australia refocused its bilateral programs to better align with Solomon Islands Government priorities of infrastructure, economic growth and job creation, while maintaining support to human development investments in areas such as health, education, and gender equality.

These priorities were reconfirmed after consultations with key stakeholders in Australia and Solomon Islands. In June 2024, consultations were held with the Australian Council for International Development, Australia-based non-government organisations (NGOs), the development contracting community and academics. In July 2024, consultations took place with the Solomon Islands Government, NGOs and the private sector. Solomon Islands ministers with significant responsibility for the development partnership with Australia were consulted in August 2024, including the ministers for Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Finance and Treasury, and National Planning and Development Coordination. Other development partners and donors were also consulted in August 2024.

How has our partnership changed?

Consultations with key stakeholders in 2024, including with the newly elected Solomon Islands Government, reaffirmed the priorities that were identified in the refocusing of Australia's bilateral development program in early 2023. This DPP embeds this transformed agenda into our strategy for development program delivery.

As one of Solomon Islands' longest standing and most comprehensive development partners, Australia has a proud track record of supporting Solomon Islands across nearly every sector of the economy and society. While this widespread support will continue, the DPP process has identified areas in which Australian support can be more closely aligned with Solomon Islands Government priorities, ensuring greater strategic and developmental effect.

As a key economic partner for Solomon Islands, we will continue to support open access to Australian markets – free of tariffs and quotas – through the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus) and will continue to support the tourism sector to not only attract more tourists, but enhance their experiences through improved quality, quantity and value for money while in Solomon Islands.

Through the Australia Pacific Training Coalition and the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme, Australia is upskilling Solomon Islander workers and providing them with paid employment opportunities. We will expand our support for technical and vocational education and training and enable Solomon Islanders to fill enhanced job opportunities under PALM, including aged care work opportunities. Australia has also increased the number of prestigious Australia Awards, providing more study and training opportunities for Solomon Islanders.

Since 2022–2023, we have doubled our investment in quality infrastructure, noting this is a priority for the Solomon Islands Government, while recognising the significant challenges that exist to design and build high-quality, climate resilient infrastructure in a timely manner. We will prioritise local content and local job creation wherever possible, to ensure Australian infrastructure projects maximise the opportunities for Solomon Islanders and Solomon Islands-owned businesses. Our bilateral infrastructure efforts will be supported by projects funded under the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), as well as through contributions to the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank.

In education, we will focus Australian support to deliver high-quality school infrastructure across Solomon Islands, strengthen pre-service teacher training, and provide long- and short-term training opportunities aligned with Solomon Islands' skills needs.

In health, our bilateral program will target provincial health service delivery reducing the need for people to take the expensive and long journey to Honiara and relieve pressure on the overstretched National Referral Hospital.

This effort will be supported by new regional health programming, including the Partnerships for a Healthy Region program.

We will continue to support services for victim/survivors of gender-based violence and will mainstream gender equality outcomes in all our investments in Solomon Islands.

Noting the localisation agenda, we have trebled our bilateral support for community infrastructure under our Solomon Islands – Australia Community Partnerships program. This program supports locally led investments in infrastructure, with communities identifying where Australian support is best directed. Our localisation efforts have also been strengthened through our support to civil society organisations, including faith-based organisations. With Australian support, these organisations can drive their own approach to achieve development outcomes.

Acknowledging the important role that a strong and dynamic civil society and media play in building and strengthening democracy, Australia will continue our civil society strengthening program and support of local media institutions to amplify local voices.

We are supporting current and emerging leaders across all sectors of Solomon Islands to access leadership and professional development opportunities, building the capability of Solomon Islands' leaders and strengthening people-to-people links.

Climate change is anticipated to exacerbate the impacts of disasters. Recognising that climate change and disasters are major impediments to the achievement of sustainable development goals in Solomon Islands, we have increased our funding for climate change action and humanitarian preparedness and response. We are partnering with Solomon Islands to build significant new humanitarian warehousing and strengthen the operations of the National Disaster Management Office.

We will more closely integrate the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade-led law and justice support with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force and Australian Federal Police Policing Partnership Program (RAPPP) to bolster stability and security in Solomon Islands. This includes strengthening the rule of law, improving access to justice services for all Solomon Islanders and enhancing law enforcement capabilities. Recognising the important role the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) plays in Solomon Islands' security and stability, we have set a new foundation in our security partnership through the landmark 2024 agreement to expand the size and capability of the RSIPF in response to a direct request from the Solomon Islands Government.

The Defence Cooperation Program will continue partnering with the RSIPF to boost its maritime security, explosive ordnance disposal, infrastructure and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief capabilities. We are also continuing to expand our non-policing security assistance to support new initiatives to bolster Solomon Islands' cyber resilience and border security.

Section 2: Solomon Islands development context and Australian partnership

Australia is proud to be Solomon Islands' number one partner. Our broad-based work spans human and economic development and security. Our relationship is based on shared values, community links and mutual respect, nurtured through institutional, education, cultural, church and sporting relationships, and diaspora connections.

Solomon Islands National Development Strategy

The Solomon Islands Government has a clear vision for the country's long-term development. Its National Development Strategy 2016–2035 sets out the country's priorities for advancing human and economic development and ensuring peace and security. The National Development Strategy identifies five key long-term objectives:¹

- sustained and inclusive economic growth
- poverty alleviated across the whole of Solomon Islands, basic needs addressed and food security improved; benefits of development more equitably distributed
- all Solomon Islanders have access to quality health and education
- resilient and environmentally sustainable development with effective disaster risk management, response and recovery
- unified nation with stable and effective governance and public order.

Pressures arising from a young and fast-growing population

Solomon Islands has high levels of cultural diversity with strong reliance on traditional practices, including subsistence agriculture, and strong community bonds, including via the 'wantok system' which supports individuals in the absence of a formal social security net. The proportion of the employment-aged population still living below the international poverty line (USD2.15 PPP per day) is estimated to be around 35 per cent.²

Solomon Islands has a young and growing population. More than 59 per cent of the population is aged under 24 years and the total population is projected to grow from around 720,000 in 2019 to more than 1.3 million by 2050.³ Population growth is outstripping economic growth, leading to high unemployment and challenges in delivering services. Most of the population lives in low-elevation coastal zones that are highly vulnerable to rising sea levels and disasters, and the population is highly dispersed across the nine provinces.

Uneven development and limited economic opportunities across the provinces have driven Honiara's rapid urbanisation (27 per cent of the national population according to the 2019 census⁴) resulting in high urban unemployment, particularly among youth, which is a risk for stability.

Stability and public order

Solomon Islands is a post-conflict society and has faced multiple periods of instability and civil unrest. There remain unresolved peace and reconciliation issues from 'the tensions' between 1998 and 2003. Unexploded ordnance from the Second World War is an ongoing threat to public safety.

Australia is Solomon Islands' security partner of choice. We partner with Solomon Islands in law and justice, policing, maritime security, explosives disposal, cybersecurity and border security. During the Solomons International Assistance Force, Australia worked with Fiji, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand to assist the RSIPF

to respond to Honiara unrest in 2021, and provide security support for the Pacific Games in 2023 and the elections in 2024.

Sustained and inclusive economic growth

Solomon Islands' economy experienced a challenging period of slow and stagnating growth through 2020–22. This was a result of structural decline in the logging sector and two severe shocks – COVID-19 and the 2021 Honiara riots. The economy is reliant on primary production and resource extraction as well as foreign aid.

Solomon Islands' goods exports to Australia more than doubled in 2023 and increased by another 50 per cent in 2024. Both countries continue to benefit from our comprehensive economic partnership. Solomon Islands exported AUD224 million worth of goods and services to Australia in 2023⁵ (with gold being the largest export) and Australia exported AUD167 million worth of goods and services in return. In 2023, 55 per cent of Solomon Islands' goods exports (87 per cent timber⁶) were sent to China. Australia was the primary destination for Solomon Islands' non-timber goods exports.

Economic diversification is a top priority of the Solomon Islands Government. The major export industry is logging but the sector is in decline. Commercial fishing and fish processing is a key area of growth alongside the expansion of commercial agriculture, underpinned by increased agricultural research and biosecurity capacity development. Other identified growth sectors include tourism and mining. Remittances and agricultural skills gained from labour mobility, particularly the PALM scheme, support local livelihoods and the economy.

Economic challenges include infrastructure needs, an underdeveloped agricultural system, a labour force that is geographically dispersed, the highest electricity costs globally, land tenure issues, and a need to improve public financial management. In early 2025, the International Monetary Fund improved its assessment of Solomon Islands' risk of external debt distress from moderate to low. However, the public debt to gross domestic product (GDP) ratio is rising and is expected to exceed 30 per cent by 2029,⁷ reflecting challenging fiscal conditions.

Infrastructure is a critical enabler of economic and social development. Solomon Islands Government priorities are improving transport connectivity, power and water systems, and education, security and health facilities. Telecommunications is also important to enable the uptake of new technologies and ways of working. Australia has planned for around SBD9 billion in additional public and private sector infrastructure investment, equivalent to approximately 75 per cent of Solomon Islands' GDP. Australia is supporting many infrastructure initiatives, including the Tina River Hydropower Development Project and the Naha Birthing and Urban Health Centre. There are many additional needs at community level, particularly improved water and sanitation and access to electricity, with approximately 85 per cent of the population not connected to the grid.

Access to quality health and education

In recent years, Solomon Islands has achieved improvements in important health indicators. Life expectancy has increased (from 57 years in 1971 to 71 years in 2022) and child mortality has reduced (from 22.7 per 1,000 live births in 2015 to 18.3 per 1,000 live births in 2020).⁸ However, Solomon Islands faces significant health challenges. Issues to be addressed include increasing demand for services arising from population growth, an increasing burden of non-communicable disease, challenges in managing supply chains of medicines and medical supplies, and weak health information management. Climate change exacerbates the challenges faced by the health system, with health facilities, including the National Referral Hospital, increasingly subject to flooding and storm surges, increasing maintenance costs in an already strained health system.

Solomon Islands is committed to ensuring equitable access to quality basic education. It intends to remove barriers to accessing education and empower the provinces to manage schools and teachers, although these reforms will take time to implement. Vocational and higher education allow Solomon Islanders to access more economic

opportunities, including abroad. Ongoing challenges include low completion rates and challenging learning conditions. By the end of year six, only 70 per cent of Solomon Islands children achieve at least a minimum proficiency level in reading and mathematics.⁹ School infrastructure and the number of qualified teachers are insufficient for the growing school-age population of about 280,000.

Climate change

Climate change is expected to exacerbate existing challenges to Solomon Islands' development across all sectors, with implications for the country's economy, human development, and security and stability.

Climate projections indicate that Solomon Islands will continue to get warmer and experience more extreme weather events.¹⁰ With the population concentrated in coastal areas, the country is vulnerable to the impacts of sea level rise and coastal hazards such as tropical cyclones, storm surges, inundation and erosion. Sea temperatures are also projected to increase,¹¹ which when combined with increasing ocean acidification, would have major implications for Solomon Islands' valuable coral reefs, fisheries and marine resources.

Due to the country's heavy reliance on its natural resources, climate change is expected to impact many of Solomon Islands' productive sectors, including fisheries, agriculture and tourism, with implications for jobs growth and the economy. Climate change will also increase the vulnerability to extreme weather events and sea level rise of critical infrastructure, including roads, bridges and public buildings, which are mostly situated on the coast and in low-lying areas. Ensuring infrastructure is designed and built to be resilient to future climate change will be critical.

Despite rapid urbanisation over the past 10 years, almost three-quarters of Solomon Islanders live in rural areas and are reliant on agriculture, forestry and fisheries for both food security and livelihoods. The food system is mostly subsistence based, primarily comprising small-scale agriculture and fishing industries, and most food is grown in coastal areas. Extreme weather events and climate variability have shaped Solomon Islands' food system over time; traditional knowledge will be important for adapting to future changes.

Climate change impacts will exacerbate the vulnerabilities of many communities, and will predominantly impact women, people with disability and people experiencing other forms of marginalisation. Communities in informal settlements also have fewer options to adapt and respond to climate change. Climate change will widen existing inequalities, including between rural and urban areas and across provinces due to factors such as remoteness and availability of natural resources.

Climate-related migration has the potential to trigger instability, involving complex issues of property rights and deep cultural connections to land. Since 2008, weather-related events have triggered around 26,000 displacements, with two events (Cyclone Uli in 2010 and Honiara flooding in 2014) responsible for 15,000 of these displacements. Sea level rise has submerged five islands in the past 50 years. Modelling indicates that sudden-onset hazards could displace 3 per cent of the population per year.¹²

While Solomon Islands is not a major contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions, a low-carbon development pathway offers significant opportunities for the country. Renewable energy offers cheaper and more reliable alternatives to imported fossil fuels, especially for outer islands and remote communities where electricity transmission is difficult. Solomon Islands has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to 27 per cent below 2015 levels by 2025 and 45 per cent below 2015 levels by 2030¹³ with international assistance, and to integrate gender analysis and gender considerations in planning and implementation of mitigation actions. The Solomon Islands Long-Term Low Emissions Development Strategy outlines a vision for low-emissions, equitable and resilient development, including net zero emissions across all sectors by 2050.¹⁴ The Solomon Islands Government has identified specific actions under its National Development Strategy to improve disaster and climate risk management, adaptation and environmental management. The Solomon Islands National Climate Change Policy

2023–2032 guides actions to manage the impacts of climate change, address loss and damage, and strengthen low-emissions growth and resilient development.¹⁵

Addressing the underlying vulnerabilities that drive the social and economic impacts of climate change will continue to be central to Australia’s climate change response in Solomon Islands. Our investments in economic growth through key sectors such as agriculture, job creation, infrastructure development, health and education are all important for building Solomon Islands’ adaptive capacity and ability to cope with climate shocks.

Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)

Gender inequality is widespread and a serious impediment to development in Solomon Islands. Men hold most leadership positions in state, customary and faith-based institutions. Women, girls and people with disability face additional challenges in accessing health and education services and achieving development gains.

High rates of gender-based violence persist with 64 per cent of ever partnered women having experienced physical or sexual violence from an intimate partner.¹⁶ There are significant gender barriers to accessing education and economic opportunities, with 75 per cent of women in informal employment and only 16 per cent of women (compared with 21 per cent of men) having completed secondary school.¹⁷ Solomon Islands has some of the highest adolescent birth rates and lowest rates of met family planning needs in the Pacific region.¹⁸

Solomon Islands ratified the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2002; however, female representation in Solomon Islands national and provincial governments remains low. Three women were elected to the National Parliament on 17 April 2024 out of a total of 50 Members of Parliament. Temporary special measures to improve women’s political representation in Provincial Assemblies are being considered.

There is limited disability data in Solomon Islands. Available data indicates that potentially 14 per cent of the total population¹⁹ live with a disability, likely an underestimate given global prevalence. The prominence given to children with disability in the Solomon Islands National Education Action Plan 2022–2026 and subsequent work towards inclusive education are encouraging signs of commitment from the Solomon Islands Government. However, students with disability experience compounding barriers, such as inaccessible infrastructure and services and discriminatory attitudes.

In June 2023, the Solomon Islands Government ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, but support is needed for the requisite policy and legislative changes for implementation. We will continue to partner with the peak disability rights organisation, National Disability Forum of Solomon Islands.

Section 3: Joint objectives of the Australia – Solomon Islands development partnership

The goal, objectives, priorities and programs in our development partnership were planned in consultation with the Solomon Islands Government and guided by Solomon Islands' National Development Strategy and Australia's International Development Policy.

The overarching goal for the Australia – Solomon Islands development partnership is supporting a stable and prosperous Solomon Islands. Our three development partnership objectives and how we will work together to progress them, are summarised in Table 1 and set out in detail later in this section. These objectives align with the goals and objectives of the National Development Strategy in areas where Australia is well placed to offer support. A mid-cycle review of this DPP will be undertaken to review progress and make adjustments as required.

Table 1: Australia – Solomon Islands development partnership

Goal: A stable and prosperous Solomon Islands

Objective	Objective 1 Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation	Objective 2 Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region	Objective 3 Improved stability, security and resilience
Outcomes	<p>Outcome 1.1</p> <p>Infrastructure: Investment in high-quality, climate resilient infrastructure supports economic growth and improved access to essential services</p> <p>Outcome 1.2</p> <p>Private sector: Increase in business activity, trade, agricultural production and connection to supply chains for more diverse livelihoods</p> <p>Outcome 1.3</p> <p>Skills and jobs: Enhanced tertiary and vocational opportunities allow Solomon Islanders, especially youth and women, to access more economic opportunities including labour mobility</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1</p> <p>Health, education and community resilience: Essential health and education services are improved for all Solomon Islanders, and communities are more resilient</p> <p>Outcome 2.2</p> <p>Gender equality and disability equity: More women, girls and people with disability are safer, participate economically and are involved in decision-making</p> <p>Outcome 2.3</p> <p>Linkages: Enduring relationships between individuals, leaders and institutions strengthen the relationship between Australia and Solomon Islands</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1</p> <p>Governance: Strengthened policies and systems are enabling Solomon Islands Government institutions to be more inclusive and accountable to citizens</p> <p>Outcome 3.2</p> <p>Climate change and disaster resilience: Support to government, civil society and communities equips them to adapt to climate change and prepare for and respond to disasters</p> <p>Outcome 3.3</p> <p>Security and stability: Enhanced capacity in policing, maritime security, rule of law, border security, cybersecurity and the justice sector</p>
Focus areas	<p>Objective 1 focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labour mobility Infrastructure Economic growth and private sector development Technical and vocational education and training and skills Scholarships Budget support and economic reform 	<p>Objective 2 focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic education Health Gender equality and disability equity Water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure Faith-based organisations Community partnerships Leadership programs Sports Australian Volunteers Program 	<p>Objective 3 focus areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law and justice Governance Support to elections, media and civil society Policing, defence and border force cooperation Cyber support Explosive ordnance disposal Climate change Humanitarian and disaster recovery

Ways of working

We will work together to progress the objectives set out in Table 1 through:

- holding ongoing consultation and policy dialogue with the Solomon Islands Government and ensuring regular and timely reporting on program implementation
- promoting locally led development, including strengthening collaboration with civil society organisations
- maximising effectiveness and results
- taking a twin-track approach to gender equality, disability and social inclusion and climate change
- coordinating with other donors.

Objective 1: Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation

The Solomon Islands Government has identified infrastructure, economic growth and job creation as critical for Solomon Islands' development and stability, and in turn its partnership with Australia. We anticipate that climate change will impact many of Solomon Islands' productive sectors, including fisheries, agriculture and tourism, with implications for jobs growth and the economy. With this in mind, Objective 1 will contribute directly to enhancing Solomon Islands' inclusive economic growth and job creation. We will focus on infrastructure, encouraging private sector growth (including in agriculture), and providing workers with the skills they need for productive jobs. Investment in agriculture will contribute to economic growth, while strengthening food security, climate resilience and stability. Australia is the largest investor in infrastructure in Solomon Islands. Working in all provinces, Australia will assist Solomon Islands with its economic priorities through a range of existing and new phases of programs.

Creating more jobs and providing economic opportunities, particularly in rural areas, is essential for Solomon Islanders to support themselves and their families and is linked to human development outcomes. Australia will continue to create inclusive jobs for Solomon Islanders through our partnerships with the private sector and our labour mobility, skills and training programs, as well as our focus on using local labour and companies in our infrastructure projects. Australia is well positioned to drive change under this objective, which contributes to Australia's International Development Policy's commitment to prioritising local leadership, job opportunities and procurement, including direct financing to partner governments. Focusing on local content and funding for local partners, both government and in the private sector, has a double dividend, creating local jobs and delivering direct economic benefits. Australia has demonstrated its ability to deliver on this objective, having created more than 27,300 jobs for Solomon Islanders since 2021 and provided more than AUD210 million in budget support to the Solomon Islands Government since 2019.

Australia's provision of budget support has supported major expenditure priorities of the Solomon Islands Government including the Pacific Games held in November 2023 and the elections held in April 2024. Further budget support and technical assistance will support the Solomon Islands Government to address its fiscal pressures and effect economic reform. Australia is committed to helping Solomon Islands progress economic reforms in areas such as tax, mining and energy to improve revenue and attract greater investment. Technical advisers will enhance public financial management and support debt sustainability including by supporting cash flow management and forecasting activities. Support for economic reforms will be coordinated through the Joint Policy Reform Group.

The ability to trade and be export ready is crucial to economic growth. Strongim Bisnis has been Australia's flagship private sector development program in Solomon Islands since 2017. It has built strategic partnerships with local businesses and supported civil society organisations and the Solomon Islands Government. It has a strong track record of increasing incomes, generating new jobs, leveraging new private sector investments and expanding sales of value-added products locally and overseas, including in agriculture and tourism. A third phase will help businesses in target sectors increase sales and profits to increase employment and household incomes with a focus

on women, youth and people with disability and increasing the labour force participation rate. The Solomon Islands Government also has an important role to play in supporting the private sector through partnerships and reforms to improve the enabling environment.

Gender equality and women's economic empowerment activities support inclusive economic growth in Solomon Islands, and we will continue to mainstream gender considerations across our activities – especially in infrastructure and economic cooperation. For example, Strongim Bisnis has led to more than 1000 businesses owned or led by women, youth or people with disability adopting improved business practices in 2023.

Our partnerships in agriculture, biosecurity and customs – and work to grow the private sector's capabilities – will help to increase Solomon Islands' ability to trade with Australia and the rest of the world. The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Plus (PHAMA Plus) Program, is assisting local companies to meet international requirements, such as food safety and organic certification, to help boost exports. Australia's 10-year biosecurity partnership with the Solomon Islands Government is supporting the Solomon Islands Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock to conduct plant and animal health surveys and training, carry out pest and disease prevention, and improve market access and trade facilitation. Australia's funding of the Pacific Trade Invest Australia office helps generate new trade deals for Solomon Islands companies; and our funding of the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat office in Geneva is ensuring Solomon Islands' interests are represented at the World Trade Organization. The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research has a long-running program in Solomon Islands to support the agriculture sector.

Maximising access to Australia's PALM scheme is a priority for Solomon Islands and it continues to be a shining light of our economic partnership. Thousands of Solomon Islanders have participated in Australia's labour mobility program since 2018 and the scheme has transformed the lives of many Solomon Islanders, helping them build homes, pay for school fees and grow the capital needed to start new businesses. It also drives demand for Solomon Islands exports to Australia of goods consumed by workers, such as cassava. The Central Bank of Solomon Islands estimates Solomon Islander labour mobility workers remitted approximately AUD80 million in 2024, equivalent to around 85 per cent of the Solomon Islands Government 2024 development budget expenditure. Through the Pacific Labour Support Program, which commenced in 2025, we are focused on improving skills delivery in line with PALM employer demand and enhancing support to PALM workers on return to Solomon Islands to capitalise on their earnings and create job opportunities locally.

We recognise the need for vocational training and higher educational opportunities. Australia's leading investment in skills in Solomon Islands, the Australia Pacific Training Coalition provides job-ready skills for the domestic market, and prepares workers for international job opportunities, including under the PALM scheme. Since 2007, 2,816 Solomon Islanders (1,354 women and 1,462 men) have gained Australian accredited full qualifications. A further 526 Solomon Islanders have completed an accredited short course, while 2,193 have completed a non-accredited short course and 3,124 a micro-credential course. Australia's new skills investment will continue to provide vital skills and training, with the training to be market tested to ensure it is in line with Solomon Islands priorities.

Australia Awards provide the next generation of Solomon Islands leaders with the skills and knowledge to drive economic and development change. Our Australia Awards are growing, through increased opportunities for PhD, master's and bachelor degrees and bespoke short-term training opportunities in Australia. Since 2006, 600 Solomon Islanders have studied under Australia Awards and Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships. In March 2024, Australia signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Solomon Islands National University, building on a 10-year relationship, to strengthen tertiary education in Solomon Islands.

We are committed to working with the Solomon Islands Government to deliver high-quality, climate resilient infrastructure that supports long-term economic growth and jobs across the country. Our infrastructure projects prioritise local expertise, create local jobs in the construction phase and avoid unsustainable debt burdens.

Australia has invested more than AUD900 million in infrastructure since 2019. We will continue to work closely with like-minded partners to leverage co-financing and maximise our reach.

To drive growth, help diversify the economy and support rural development, the grant-financed Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program (SIIP) focuses on economic infrastructure including transport (land, sea and air) and markets, and social infrastructure including health, water and sanitation. SIIP is supporting long-term institutional change through capacity development, including infrastructure pipeline planning and asset management. A major project that will be delivered in coming years is the Naha Birthing and Urban Health Centre.

Australia improves community infrastructure and connectivity and employment opportunities for vulnerable people by contributing to the second phase of the World Bank Community Access and Urban Services Enhancement Project. Like the first phase of the project, the second phase will improve basic infrastructure and services for vulnerable urban populations (including youth and women) in Honiara, Auki, Gizo, Munda and Noro. Australia's investments in infrastructure will also advance the objectives of the Solomon Islands National Urban Policy 2020–2035 towards sustainable urban growth.

The AIFFP is supporting a steady pipeline of major infrastructure projects in Solomon Islands across multiple sectors. Two projects are agreed and announced and will be implemented during the period covered by this DPP: loan and grant financing for the Tina River Hydropower Development Project transmission system and support for the operations of the Tulagi Shipyard in Central Province. Telecommunications infrastructure has also been a strength of our presence in Solomon Islands. Consistent with its mandate, the AIFFP will continue working with the Solomon Islands Government to identify opportunities to finance quality climate resilient infrastructure in Solomon Islands that avoids unsustainable debt burdens. SIIP will be available to support projects to become AIFFP finance ready.

Objective 2: Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region

Investing in people and communities is essential for Solomon Islands' economic and social development and is key for building human capital, resilience and wellbeing. Aligning with the National Development Strategy, Australia will invest in education, health, gender equality and disability equity, and community partnerships. Our long history of engagement with Solomon Islands across human development initiatives positions us well to continue to support the ambitions of the Solomon Islands Government to improve the social and economic livelihoods of Solomon Islanders.

Australia is Solomon Islands' largest bilateral partner in the education sector, with dedicated basic education programs running for a decade (totalling approximately AUD100 million from 2015 to 2025). The Education Sector Support Program (2019 to 2025), in partnership with New Zealand, has delivered 40 school infrastructure projects, provided 3,000 untrained teachers with basic teaching qualifications and developed 82 curriculum titles. The program was instrumental to the development of legislation for the *Education Act 2023*, the biggest education reform in Solomon Islands since its independence, which included regulation and administration of early childhood education centres, replacement of Education Authorities with Education Providers and devolution of powers to Education Providers to take on teacher management responsibilities. The program has supported critical reforms and strengthening of education sector management.

Australia will maintain its long-term support for Solomon Islands education through our new Solomon Islands – Australia Partnership for Education launched in January 2025. Our new partnership will strengthen the foundation for improved access to quality elementary and lower secondary (year six to nine) education in Solomon Islands. We will do this through delivering inclusive and resilient school infrastructure, including water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, information and communication technology, and sustainable energy options. We will also strengthen the capacity of the Solomon Islands National University to improve training for new Solomon Islands teachers. In partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), we are providing WASH

infrastructure facilities in 30 schools in the Central Islands Province with a focus on girls' access. Over the life of the DPP, we will explore how we can further expand our support for WASH in schools and in vulnerable communities.

Australia's bilateral, regional and global investments in health will support the achievement of the Solomon Islands National Health Strategic Plan 2022–2031, with a current focus on three key areas: improving health infrastructure, delivering essential services and building a stronger health system. Our new bilateral health investment, which commenced in February 2025, will focus on provincial level service delivery. The Naha Birthing and Urban Health Centre in East Honiara will be the flagship project of our health infrastructure support, supplemented by smaller infrastructure projects across the country. Australia's regional health initiative, Partnerships for a Healthy Region, will extend the reach of our bilateral program through targeted activities to strengthen health security, health service delivery and health systems, promoting a One Health approach across the human and animal health sectors.

We will explore options for enhancing the many clinical partnerships and institutional linkages between Solomon Islands and Australia to achieve targeted and sustainable outcomes aligned with Solomon Islands priorities and to build capacity of clinical and corporate teams to operate the new Naha Birthing and Urban Health Centre. We will increase our focus on supporting essential service delivery in the provinces and responding to Solomon Islands Government priorities such as non-communicable diseases, malaria control, medical supplies and health infrastructure. We have also assisted with provision of medical supplies.

Australia is Solomon Islands' largest partner supporting gender equality and disability equity, working closely with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs to assist the Solomon Islands Government to meet its objectives under the National Development Strategy and the Solomon Islands National Disability Inclusive Development Policy 2023–2030.

We will work with the Solomon Islands Government, key women's organisations and other partners on three key priorities: ending violence against women (including by improving women's access to justice), women's leadership and decision-making (including advocacy for temporary special measures), and women's rights and economic empowerment. Gender will also be mainstreamed and essential to achieving all the objectives of this DPP. We will do this through our bilateral programs and regional programs such as Pacific Women Lead. In line with Australia's International Development Policy and the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's International Gender Equality Strategy, we will enhance support for gender equality by ensuring that at least 80 per cent of investments address gender equality effectively and that all new investments more than AUD3 million include gender equality outcomes.

Australia has provided grant funding and technical assistance to the National Disability Forum of Solomon Islands and we will continue to explore ways to strengthen their voice and contribution to policy debate in Solomon Islands, guided by their priorities. The National Disability Forum of Solomon Islands is one of seven members of the consortium of NGOs implementing the Disaster READY fund, with funding to support other NGOs to better incorporate disability equity in their workplans.

Communities will be given opportunities to improve their living standards through small projects under the Solomon Islands – Australia Community Partnerships program. We will prioritise small-scale infrastructure projects that benefit disadvantaged groups, such as people from isolated communities, women, youth, and people with disability, and that are awarded across all provinces of Solomon Islands.

Australia and Solomon Islands are family with interconnected futures – we share a region, an ocean and a history of partnership. Many of our investments – including the PALM scheme, Pacific Engagement Visa, Australia Awards, Australian Volunteers Program, Defence Cooperation Program, Australian NGO Cooperation Program and sports diplomacy – help to build strong linkages between our communities and our nations, creating deeper connections and understanding between Australia and Solomon Islands.

Objective 3: Improved stability, security and resilience

Strengthening stability, security and resilience to disasters and climate change will enable Solomon Islands to grow its economy and improve the livelihoods and wellbeing of its people. Australia will continue our enduring partnership with Solomon Islands to strengthen its public institutions. Our shared commitment to democracy and the rule of law underpins our approach to driving change under Objective 3. We will be conscious of the importance of women's empowerment and gender equality to more peaceful and stable outcomes for communities.

Australia's governance and law and justice investments will help build an effective and accountable Solomon Islands state that drives its own development at the national, provincial and community levels. Acknowledging the important role that a strong and dynamic civil society and media play in building and strengthening democracy, Australia will continue our civil society strengthening program and support to local media institutions to amplify local voices and ensure accountable democratic institutions.

The Australia – Solomon Islands Partnership for Governance (ASIP-Gov) will remain our flagship program to support macroeconomic and fiscal stability. The program provides specialised technical assistance consisting of long-term embedded advisers and short-term specialists. Bespoke leadership development opportunities for key current and emerging leaders will also be crucial to strengthening the Solomon Islands Government's capability. Targeted areas of capacity building to meet Solomon Islands' priorities will include areas such as procurement and contracting, debt management, financial management, and information and communications technology and cybersecurity.

Australia and Solomon Islands share a commitment to democratic values, including free and fair elections. Australia will continue to support Solomon Islands to strengthen electoral administration and implement priority electoral reforms through the next electoral cycle, including in the lead-up to the elections to be held in 2028. This will include our continued support to the United Nations Development Programme's Strengthening the Electoral Cycle Project and the longstanding technical partnership between the Australian Electoral Commission and the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission.

Solomon Islands is exposed to a range of natural hazards including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, landslides, tropical cyclones, droughts and floods, making disaster preparedness crucial. Australia supports disaster preparedness and risk reduction initiatives throughout the Pacific. Australia maintains a response capability to deploy technical expertise and relief supplies to the region within 48 hours of a request for assistance. This includes deploying civilian technical experts (such as medical, hazard and disaster assistance response, and powerline restoration expertise), funding key humanitarian expert response agencies (such as the Red Cross, the United Nations and NGOs) and distributing relief supplies from Australia's global humanitarian warehouse in Brisbane, with capability to support up to 11,000 families (or 55,000 people). Australia will continue to respond to humanitarian disasters at the request of the Solomon Islands Government.

Australia will also continue to support the Solomon Islands Government to better prepare for and respond to disasters through a new, dedicated humanitarian and disaster risk resilience program and improved infrastructure. Australia is committed to partnering with Solomon Islands to establish a new humanitarian warehousing precinct in Honiara. Scoping is also underway for a national humanitarian and disaster relief warehouse in Auki in Malaita Province to improve national response capability through the Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program (2023 to 2031) in partnership with the Pacific Community, Partners in the Blue Pacific and France. Defence is supporting the construction of humanitarian stores in Lata and Temotu. The new warehouse facilities will strengthen Solomon Islands to support impacted communities in the first 48 hours after a disaster. Through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership, we will continue to support local partners and the community to implement Disaster READY, a climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and resilience program. The Disaster READY program includes a focus on ensuring women, youth, children, people with disability and other at-risk groups are more resilient to

disasters. Australia will continue to support joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief exercises in Solomon Islands through the Australian Defence Force and the Solomon Islands National Disaster Management Office.

Acknowledging that climate change will exacerbate Solomon Islands' development challenges across all sectors, we will integrate climate considerations across all our development investments in Solomon Islands and increase the number of investments that have a climate change objective. This will be complemented by targeted investments that will help Solomon Islands to access more climate finance, transition to renewable energy and build resilience to the impacts of climate change. We will partner with the Global Green Growth Institute to help Solomon Islands undertake national adaptation planning, build institutional capacity, and mobilise climate finance for priority adaptation projects.

We will support Solomon Islands' transition towards secure, resilient, reliable and accessible clean energy through initiatives such as the Tina River Hydropower Development Project and the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership, including the REnew Pacific program. These projects will bring together tangible project delivery capability to ensure timely and effective rollout of renewable energy projects in remote and rural communities that will drive human development.

Australia will also continue to assist Solomon Islands in addressing the impacts of climate change through regional programs, including the longstanding Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific, Governance for Resilient Development in the Pacific, Climate Resilient Communities, the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme, Climate Resilient by Nature and the Australian Water Partnership. Australia is contributing AUD100 million to the Pacific Resilience Facility, a Pacific-led initiative for climate finance and a longstanding regional priority. Through partners including Australian universities, the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and other Australian agricultural research agencies, we will continue targeted initiatives to build climate resilient agriculture and food systems. We will support the Baru Conservation Alliance in East Malaita to protect the unique socioecological systems that support traditional communities living on customary tribal land, building resilience to climate change and reducing emissions through avoided deforestation.

Australia is Solomon Islands' enduring law and justice partner. Through our law and justice program, we work across law enforcement, justice, national judicial and correctional services to strengthen capacity and improve access to justice for all Solomon Islanders, in all nine provinces. Reflecting the interdependencies between the rule of law, justice services and law enforcement, we will seek to further integrate and complement Australian Government efforts to improve security and stability in Solomon Islands. This includes working closely with the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to provide mentoring and technical assistance to the RSIPF in drafting proposed amendments to law enforcement legislation and delivering training in police investigations. The law and justice program is helping to improve access to justice at the community level through support to deliver court circuits in the provinces, enhance professional development and strategic planning across law and justice agencies, and support the sector's most pressing small-scale infrastructure priorities such as a new armoury for the Correctional Service of the Solomon Islands.

A strong RSIPF is crucial to Solomon Islands stability and security. In December 2024, Australia and Solomon Islands took a new step in our bilateral partnership. Australia will provide a package of support to grow the size and capability of the RSIPF, including funding, training and infrastructure and support for a new sovereign Police Training Centre in Honiara. This initiative is based on Solomon Islands' three-tier security framework – a strengthened RSIPF first, support from Melanesian countries second, and support from members of the Pacific Islands Forum third.

In addition to expanding the RSIPF, the AFP (through the bilateral RAPPP) and the Australian Government Department of Defence (through its Defence Cooperation Program) will also continue to provide technical assistance and enabling assistance to support the RSIPF. This builds on more than four decades of security

cooperation, spanning policing, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, defence, border security and cybersecurity.

The AFP will support Solomon Islands in their engagement with regional security initiatives, including the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police, the Pacific Community for Law Enforcement Cooperation as the regional coordination mechanism for police capability development, and the Pacific Policing Initiative following its endorsement by Pacific countries in August 2024. The Pacific Policing Initiative is a major regional initiative to strengthen national policing capabilities and collective peace and security throughout the region. Australia will support police training, combined deployments and capability uplift to ensure the Pacific Policing Initiative delivers on the aspirations of Pacific countries, including Solomon Islands.

The AFP will continue to coordinate and disseminate transnational criminal intelligence information to detect, investigate and disrupt transnational crime in the region, including drug crime, through the Pacific Transnational Crime Network, which includes the Transnational Crime Units and the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre.

Through the Defence Cooperation Program, Australia plays a key role in strengthening the capacity of the growing RSIPF to manage law and order, maritime security, explosive ordnance disposal, border surveillance, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. The Defence Cooperation Program is delivering key security infrastructure, including border outposts in the Western and Temotu Provinces, wharf upgrades to Aola Wharf, and improved safety and amenities at the RSIPF's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Facility at Hells Point. Embedded advisers provide capacity development for police, customs and immigration officials. Regular deployments of Operation Render Safe complement ongoing explosive ordnance destruction support and training. The shape of the Defence Cooperation Program will be driven by Solomon Islands' priorities, in line with Australia being Solomon Islands' security partner of choice.

The Australian Border Force is committed to supporting Solomon Islands border and law enforcement agencies to build resilience and capacity to address domestic and regional challenges. This includes working with current and emerging leaders to develop strategic and enduring partnerships, coordinate operational and capacity building initiatives, and identify gaps and vulnerabilities.

We have deepened our engagement on cybersecurity, including through deployment of technical advisers to enhance Solomon Islands' resilience to cyber-attacks through our regional cyber support program.

Section 4: Delivering our partnership

Locally led development

Locally led development is a key element of our partnership with the Solomon Islands Government. Australia defines locally led development as cooperation that respects and enables the agency, leadership and decision-making of diverse local actors in framing, design, delivery, resourcing and accountability, in given local and operating contexts. Embedding locally led development practices throughout our development partnership will be a practical demonstration of our commitment of working in partnership across all parts of Solomon Islands society. We will:

- align our bilateral and regional programs with the Solomon Islands National Development Strategy 2016–2035
- when appropriate, use Solomon Islands Government national systems through the provision of budget support aligned with the Joint Policy Reform Group, and use Solomon Islands Government systems to deliver sectoral programs
- use Solomon Islands' development partner coordination processes and mechanisms, and advocate for other development partners to improve aid coordination and alignment to Solomon Islands priorities
- support and strengthen local civil society organisations, including the media, think tanks and universities, to build organisational capability to implement programs and provide services for the Solomon Islands Government that draw on their local leadership, knowledge and networks
- support civil society to offer leadership pathways, particularly for women and people with disability
- consider culturally sensitive approaches that reinforce local governance arrangements, adapt approaches to align with local norms, and engage and collaborate with communities to achieve outcomes
- use local expertise in program consultation and design, operational management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, technical assistance and advisory services
- increase use of Solomon Islands contractors in infrastructure projects and employ local people
- engage with and support local supply chains and small and medium enterprises through the Strongim Bisnis program
- build the leadership skills of current and emerging leaders across Solomon Islands
- on a grassroots level, continue working with local communities on projects that are of priority to them through Solomon Islands – Australia Community Partnerships
- engage local expertise as much as possible to design, deliver and review development programs including drawing on the invaluable expertise of our locally engaged staff to provide input into strategic discussions and documents and provide advice and guidance on our development programs.

Consultation

The Australian Government is in constant dialogue with the Solomon Islands Government to ensure our development assistance responds to Solomon Islands' priorities. The Solomon Islands Government will continue to be our primary partner informing our priorities and giving feedback on our development programs. Annual consideration of progress towards achievement of the objectives of this DPP and consideration of new and emerging priorities will be incorporated into existing development program discussions at Senior Officials Talks.

Review and discussion of DPP progress will also be incorporated into existing Solomon Islands Government coordination meetings and development stakeholder forums. These include the biannual Development Partners Dialogue and Development Partners Meetings which are led by Ministry of National Planning and Development Cooperation. We will actively share information on our approaches with other development partners and will

harmonise engagement with the Solomon Islands Government, where we can, to avoid duplication and reduce transaction costs for Solomon Islands counterparts.

Annual stakeholder forums in Solomon Islands and Australia will provide the opportunity for ongoing dialogue with key organisations that informed the development of the DPP on the priorities and delivery of Australia's development assistance efforts in Solomon Islands.

Evaluation and learning

We will evaluate key investments and priority sectors to promote continuous improvement and ensure our approaches are fit for purpose to achieve effective outcomes. We will publish a minimum of three evaluations each year over the life of the DPP, as outlined in Table 2, and leverage these findings to influence the management and design of programs, including those beyond our current portfolio of investments (see Annex 1).

Table 2: Consultation, evaluation and learning plan

Objective	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27
Objective 1 Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation	Mid-term review of the Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program Review of support for private sector development	Mid-term review of the Australia – Solomon Islands Partnership for Governance program	Review of Australia Awards
Objective 2 Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region	End-of-program evaluation of the Health Sector Support Program End-of-program evaluation of the Solomon Islands Medical Partnership for Learning, Education and Research Review of Addressing Gender Inequality in Solomon Islands	Mid-term review of the Australia – Solomon Islands Program Support Facility	Mid-term review of the new health program Mid-term review of Advancing Gender Equality in Solomon Islands
Objective 3 Improved stability, security and resilience	Mid-term review of the Australia Solomon Islands Partnership in Justice program	Review of Civil Society Strengthening Grants	End-of-program evaluation of the Australia Solomon Islands Partnership in Justice program
Cross-program	Annual development stakeholder forum (Solomon Islands Government, civil society organisations, Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Senior Officials Talks	Annual development stakeholder forum (Solomon Islands Government, civil society organisations, Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Senior Officials Talks	Annual development stakeholder forum (Solomon Islands Government, civil society organisations, Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Mid-cycle review of development partnership plan Senior Officials Talks

Performance and results

The Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) at Table 3 provides a selection of indicators and expected results for the first three years of the DPP. The PAF will be updated periodically including at the mid-cycle review point, at which time indicators and results for the second half of the DPP will be identified.

Table 3: Performance Assessment Framework

Objective 1: Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.1 Infrastructure: Investment in high-quality, climate resilient infrastructure supports economic growth and improved access to essential services	1.1.1 Improved infrastructure across priority sectors	30 infrastructure projects delivered	6 infrastructure projects delivered	5 infrastructure projects delivered	SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.1	1.1.2 Improved policies and regulations in the infrastructure sector (Tier 2)	<p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Priority Pipeline</p> <p>Supporting development of the Solomon Islands Government Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Supporting development of the Solomon Islands Government Monitoring and Evaluation Policy</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the National Building Code</p>	<p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Priority Pipeline</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands Government Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands Government Monitoring and Evaluation Policy</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the National Building Code</p>	<p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands National Infrastructure Priority Pipeline</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands Government Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the Solomon Islands Government Monitoring and Evaluation Policy</p> <p>Supporting implementation of the National Building Code</p>	SDG9
Outcome 1.2 Private sector: Increase in business activity, trade, agricultural production and connection to supply chains for more diverse livelihoods	1.2.1 Number of market actors in key economic sectors supported to expand market access and/or improve supply chain resilience (Tier 2)	30	30	30	SDG2: Zero hunger SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG9 SDG12: Responsible consumption and production SDG15: Life on land

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.2	1.2.2 Number of women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services (Tier 2)	500	500	500	SDG5: Gender equality SDG8, SDG9
Outcome 1.2	1.2.3 Number of households and small enterprises benefiting from additional income increase	500	500	500	SDG8
Outcome 1.2	1.2.4 Remittance flows per year	Solomon Islands receives remittances from Australia	Solomon Islands receives remittances from Australia	Solomon Islands receives remittances from Australia	SDG8
Outcome 1.3 Skills and jobs: Enhanced tertiary and vocational opportunities allow Solomon Islanders, especially youth and women, to access more economic opportunities including labour mobility	1.3.1 Number of Solomon Islanders, who successfully complete a tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training (Tier 2)	2,955	3,155	3,355	SDG4: Quality education SDG8

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.3	1.3.2 New jobs created	2,576	2,566	2,486	SDG9
Outcome 1.3	1.3.3 Number of organisations that have had participants undertake professional development opportunities	30	30	30	SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Objective 2: Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1 Health, education and community resilience: Essential health and education services are improved for all Solomon Islanders, and communities are more resilient	2.1.1 Improved health system capacity to provide quality, accessible, affordable health services (Tier 2) ^a	3 examples of improved health system capacity to provide quality, accessible or affordable health services	Evidence of increased, higher quality or more equitable/inclusive provincial health service delivery Instances of improved PHD systems (e.g. for planning, budgeting, financial management, monitoring and evaluation) as a result of health partnership support Instances of infrastructure/equipment/supplies contributing to improved service delivery Number of women and young professionals participating in leadership programs	Evidence of increased, higher quality or more equitable/inclusive provincial health service delivery Instances of improved PHD systems (e.g. for planning, budgeting, financial management, monitoring and evaluation) as a result of health partnership support Instances of infrastructure/equipment/supplies contributing to improved service delivery Number of women and young professionals participating in leadership programs	SDG3: Good health and wellbeing SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure SDG10: Reduced inequalities

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1	2.1.2 Improved ability to anticipate, prevent, detect and control communicable disease threats (Tier 2) ^a	3 examples of improved ability to anticipate, prevent, detect and control communicable disease threats, including for diverse communities	<p>Evidence of improved treatment and case management of communicable diseases that considers equity and inclusion</p> <p>Evidence of strengthened laboratory systems</p> <p>Evidence of improved use of early warning and public health surveillance systems, including those that use a One Health approach and/or are at community level</p>	<p>Evidence of improved treatment and case management of communicable diseases that considers equity and inclusion</p> <p>Evidence of strengthened laboratory systems</p> <p>Evidence of improved use of early warning and public health surveillance systems, including those that use a One Health approach and/or are at community level</p>	SDG3
Outcome 2.1	2.1.3 Number of animal and plant health diseases detected and eradicated or managed	<p>Example of ability to identify animal and plant health risks in a timely manner</p> <p>Number of exotic pests and disease incursions detected and eradicated or spread controlled</p>	<p>Example of ability to identify animal and plant health risks in a timely manner</p> <p>Number of exotic pests and disease incursions detected and eradicated or spread controlled</p>	<p>Example of ability to identify animal and plant health risks in a timely manner</p> <p>Number of exotic pests and disease incursions detected and eradicated or spread controlled</p>	<p>SDG2: Zero hunger</p> <p>SDG12: Responsible consumption and production</p> <p>SDG15: Life on land</p>
Outcome 2.1	2.1.4 Number of schools benefiting from Australian support, including improved water, sanitation and hygiene and other infrastructure	10	15	10	SDG6: Clean water and sanitation

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1	2.1.5 Strengthened quality of locally led pre-service teacher training, including curriculum, practicum and lecturer skill improvements	Nil (investment commences in April 2025)	4 local Solomon Islands National University (SINU) teaching lecturers have tertiary teaching qualifications Partnership for improved teaching curriculum and practicum (at SINU) is established	15 local (SINU) teaching lecturers have tertiary teaching qualifications Construction started at SINU teachers' lab New teaching students at local institutions (SINU) have begun using improved teaching curriculum and practicum	SDG4: Quality education
Outcome 2.1	2.1.6 Number of community partnership grants	100 grants funded (at least 50 in each round)	100 grants funded (at least 50 in each round)	100 grants funded (at least 50 in each round)	SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities
Outcome 2.2 Gender equality and disability equity: More women, girls and people with disability are safer, participate economically and are involved in decision-making	2.2.1 Bilateral Official Development Assistance funding channelled to Women's Equality Organisations and Institutions (Tier 2)	AUD3.8 million	AUD3.8 million	AUD3.8 million	SDG5: Gender equality SDG10, SDG11 SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Outcome 2.2	2.2.2 Number of women and girls who are respected, listened to and influencing decision-making at all levels	2,200	2,300	2,400	SDG5, SDG10, SDG11, SDG16

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.2	2.2.3 Number of services provided to victim/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (Tier 2)	800 women and children	900 women and children	1,000 women and children	SDG5, SDG16
Outcome 2.2	2.2.4 Number of organisations of persons with disabilities (regional/national/state/local) receiving capacity building support (Tier 2)	1 organisation	2 organisations	3 organisations	SDG4 SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG10, SDG16
Outcome 2.3 Linkages: Enduring relationships between individuals, leaders and institutions strengthen the relationship between Australia and Solomon Islands	2.3.1 Number of Australia Awards scholars	Scholarships: 25 Fellowships: 5 Short courses: 25	Scholarships: 25 Fellowships: 5 Short courses: 25	Scholarships: 25 Fellowships: 5 Short courses: 25	SDG4, SDG8 SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
Outcome 2.3	2.3.2 Percentage of alumni reporting relevant and useful relationships with Australia	35% of alumni report having relevant and useful relationships with Australia	40% of alumni report having relevant and useful relationships with Australia	50% of alumni report having relevant and useful relationships with Australia	SDG4, SDG17

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.3	2.3.3 Number of Solomon Islands Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) workers in Australia (Tier 2)	Number of PALM workers from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	Number of PALM workers from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	Number of PALM workers from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	SDG8, SDG10, SDG17
Outcome 2.3	2.3.4 Number of Solomon Islanders in Australia on Pacific Engagement Visa (PEV)	Number of PEV holders from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	Number of PEV holders from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	Number of PEV holders from Solomon Islands in Australia (subject to demand and policy settings)	SDG8, SDG10, SDG17

a Health program design is pending – indicators and results will be refined.

Objective 3: Improved stability, security and resilience

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.1 Governance: Strengthened policies and systems are enabling Solomon Islands Government institutions to be more inclusive and accountable to citizens	3.1.1 Policy and technical advice on economic reform and management (including examples and results achieved) (Tier 2)	2 examples of policy or technical advice provided which has supported economic reforms or improved management in areas such as domestic resource mobilisation, strengthening public financial management and promoting sound fiscal policy, promoting good governance, and promoting economic growth	2 examples of policy or technical advice provided which has supported economic reforms or improved management in areas such as domestic resource mobilisation, strengthening public financial management and promoting sound fiscal policy, promoting good governance, and promoting economic growth	2 examples of policy or technical advice provided which has supported economic reforms or improved management in areas such as domestic resource mobilisation, strengthening public financial management and promoting sound fiscal policy, promoting good governance, and promoting economic growth	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Outcome 3.1	3.1.2 Number of media outlets supported to strengthen their capacity and integrity of reporting	10 media outlets supported across all mediums (online, print and broadcast)	10 media outlets supported across all mediums (online, print and broadcast)	10 media outlets supported across all mediums (online, print and broadcast)	SDG4: Quality education SDG16
Outcome 3.1	3.1.3 Number of government institutions, organisations or systems (by type and level) Australia has supported in the reporting period to strengthen accountability and/or inclusion, including examples of assistance provided and significant policy change achieved (Tier 2)	4 government institutions supported: Solomon Islands Electoral Commission; Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	4 government institutions supported: Solomon Islands Electoral Commission; Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	4 government institutions supported: Solomon Islands Electoral Commission; Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Office of the Auditor General; Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	SDG16

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.1	3.1.4 Number of civil society organisations or systems (by type and level) Australia has supported in the reporting period to strengthen accountability and/or inclusion, including examples of assistance provided and significant policy change achieved (Tier 2)	28 organisations	30 organisations	35 organisations	SDG4 SDG5: Gender equality SDG10: Reduced inequalities SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities SDG16
Outcome 3.2 Climate change and disaster resilience: Support to government, civil society and communities equips them to adapt to climate change and prepare for and respond to disasters	3.2.1 Number of people for whom Australia's investments have improved adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters (Tier 2)	13,600 people	14,400 people	15,300 people	SDG11 SDG13: Climate action

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.2	3.2.2 Number and value of investments that are contributing to low-emissions development pathways or are supporting mitigation activities and improving climate change adaptation and disaster resilience (Tier 2)	15 investments AUD6.2 million	14 investments AUD5.5 million	14 investments AUD5.5 million	SDG11 SDG12: Responsible consumption and production SDG13
Outcome 3.3 Security and stability: Enhanced capacity in policing, maritime security, rule of law, border security, cybersecurity and the justice sector	3.3.1 Solomon Islands resilience and ability to manage its maritime domain, border and cyber threats is strengthened through capacity building and data and information sharing	Australian Border Force in-country training on operational command, investigations, and border fundamentals for Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division, Solomon Islands Immigration Division and other border agencies Border Management System is sustained by the Solomon Islands Government Defence training to the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) Maritime Division in support of the operation of 2 Guardian-class patrol boats	Australian Border Force in-country training on operational command, investigations, and border fundamentals for Solomon Islands Customs and Excise Division, Solomon Islands Immigration Division and other border agencies	Border Management System is independently managed by Solomon Islands Immigration Division, under the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration	SDG4, SDG16

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.3	3.3.2 Improved rule of law through support to the RSIPF and broader law and justice sector policy advice and training	<p>10 government institutions supported: Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs (MJLA); Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services (MPNSCS); Attorney General’s Chambers; Registrar General’s Office; Solomon Islands Law Reform Commission; Public Solicitor’s Office; Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Correctional Service of the Solomon Islands; RSIPF; national judiciary</p> <p>Continued delivery of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force —Australian Federal Police Policing Partnership Program (RAPPP) through the provision of technical policing and enabling advisory support and assistance to the RSIPF to identify, target and combat emerging crime and security issues</p>	<p>10 government institutions supported: MJLA; MPNSCS; Attorney General’s Chambers; Registrar General’s Office; Solomon Islands Law Reform Commission; Public Solicitor’s Office; Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Correctional Service of the Solomon Islands; RSIPF; national judiciary</p> <p>Continued delivery of the RAPPP through the provision of technical policing and enabling advisory support and assistance to the RSIPF to identify, target and combat emerging crime and security issues</p>	10 government institutions supported: MJLA; MPNSCS; Attorney General’s Chambers; Registrar General’s Office; Solomon Islands Law Reform Commission; Public Solicitor’s Office; Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions; Correctional Service of the Solomon Islands; RSIPF; national judiciary	SDG16

Cross-program

Theme	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Gender equality	Percentage of investments addressing gender equality effectively (Tier 3)	75	80	85	SDG5: Gender equality
Disability equity	Percentage of investments effectively addressing disability equity in implementation (Tier 3)	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	SDG10: Reduced inequalities
Localisation	Number of local personnel, sub-contractors and staff engaged (employment created) – Managing Contractors (Tier 3)	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	SDG10 SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
Localisation	Number and dollar value of local contracts and grants (local supply chains) – Managing Contractors (Tier 3)	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	SDG17

Annex 1: Supporting investments in Solomon Islands

Note: 'bilateral' indicates the project is funded from our bilateral allocation of Official Development Assistance (ODA). 'Regional, global, other' indicates that the project is funded by regional ODA and/or global ODA or non-ODA budgets.

Australian Government supporting investments for Objective 1 – Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation.

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Australia Pacific Training Coalition Phase 3 (APTC) (new skills investment to commence in 2025) (regional, global, other)	2017–2025	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development; Solomon Islands Tertiary Education and Skills Authority
Pacific Horticulture and Agriculture Market Access Plus (PHAMA Plus) Program (regional, global, other)	2018–2026	Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; Ministry of Forestry and Research
Strongim Bisnis (bilateral)	2023–2026	Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour and Immigration; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade; Ministry of Culture and Tourism; Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; Ministry of Forestry and Research
Pacific Digital Economy Programme (regional, global, other)	2021–2025	Telecommunications Commission Solomon Islands; Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI); United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF); United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program (bilateral)	2021–2031	Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination; Ministry of Infrastructure Development; Ministry of Finance and Treasury
Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) (regional, global, other)	2019–2028	Solomon Islands Electricity Authority; Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification
Community Access and Urban Services Enhancement Project, phase 2 (bilateral)	2024–2030	World Bank; Ministry of Infrastructure Development; Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Honiara City Council

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Tina River Hydropower Development Project (Australia – Pacific Islands Partnership trust fund) (regional, global, other)	2019–2028	Ministry of Finance and Treasury; Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification
Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership (regional, global, other)	2023–2029	Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification; Ministry of Finance and Treasury
Fisheries Development Assistance in the Pacific (regional, global, other)	2010–2026	Forum Fisheries Agency
Solomon Islands Biosecurity Development Program (SIBDP) (regional, global, other)	2013–2025	Biosecurity Solomon Islands (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock)
Transformation pathways for Pacific coastal food systems (regional, global, other)	2023–2026	Pacific Community; World Wildlife Fund Solomon Islands
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock; various ministries

Australian Government supporting investments for Objective 2 – Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Education Sector Support Program 3 (bilateral)	2020–2025	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development
Solomon Islands Australia Partnership for Strengthening Education Together (SIAP-SET) (bilateral)	2025–2033	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development; Solomon Islands National University
Health Sector Support Program, phase 3 (bilateral)	2016–2024	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Solomon Islands Australia Partnership for Health (bilateral)	2025–2028	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Partnerships for a Healthy Region (regional, global, other)	2024–2027	Ministry of Health and Medical Services; Biosecurity Solomon Islands (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific, phase 2 (regional, global, other)	2022–2028	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Advance Universal Health Coverage Multi-Donor Trust Fund (regional, global, other)	2022–2026	World Bank; Ministry of Health and Medical Services
The Global Fund (regional, global, other)	2024–2026	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance (regional, global, other)	2021–2025	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Core funding to the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
Advancing Gender Equality in Solomon Islands (bilateral)	2024–2028	UN Women; Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs
Water for Women (regional, global, other)	2017–2025	Plan International Australia; Live and Learn Environmental Education
Pacific Women Lead (regional, global, other)	2021–2026	Pacific Community; Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs
Australian Volunteers Program (AVP) (regional, global, other)	2017–2027	Various
Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	ChildFund Australia; World Vision Australia; Plan International Australia; Family Planning NSW; Anglican Overseas Aid; International Women’s Development Agency; Save the Children Australia; SurfAid International Australia
New Colombo Plan (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	Australian universities

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme (regional, global, other)	2023–2032	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade
Australia – Solomon Islands Program Support Facility (ASIPS) (bilateral)	2022–2027	Various
Australia Awards in Solomon Islands (bilateral)	2019–2027	Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development
Solomon Islands – Australia Community Partnerships (bilateral)	2024–2025	Various

Australian Government supporting investments for Objective 3 – Improved stability, security and resilience

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Australia – Solomon Islands Partnership for Governance (ASIP-Gov) (bilateral)	2022–2027	Ministry of Finance and Treasury
Australia Solomon Islands Partnership in Justice program (bilateral)	2021–2026	Ministry of Justice and Legal Affairs
Solomon Islands – Australia Media Sector Partnership (bilateral)	2023–2027	Media Association of Solomon Islands
Royal Solomon Islands Police Force – Australian Federal Police Policing Partnership Program (RAPPP) (regional, global, other)	2021–2026	Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF)
Pacific Policing Initiative (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	RSIPF
Defence Cooperation Program (regional, global, other)	Ongoing	RSIPF
Disaster READY (regional, global, other)	2017–2027	Save the Children Australia; Oxfam Australia; World Vision Australia; Caritas Australia/CAN DO; Live and Learn; Plan International Australia

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program (regional, global, other)	2023–2031	National Disaster Management Office; Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology
Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance (regional, global, other)	2023–2027	Pacific Community; National Disaster Management Office.
Australia Assists, phase 2 (regional, global, other)	2024–2029	National Disaster Management Office
Australian Red Cross (regional, global, other)	2019–2024	Solomon Islands Red Cross
Disaster assistance response teams (regional, global, other)	2023–2028	National Disaster Management Office
Deployable Power Restoration, phase 1 (regional, global, other)	2021–2024	To be confirmed
National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (regional, global, other)	2023–2026	Ministry of Health and Medical Services; Solomon Islands Emergency Medical Teams (SOLMAT)
Weather Ready Pacific (regional, global, other)	2023–2029	Pacific Meteorological Council; Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology; Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Endnotes

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Cover photo credits

Top row (from left to right):

- Australian Defence Force bulk distribution of ballot boxes for the Solomon Islands 2023 National General Elections.
Credit: Australian Government Department of Defence
- Workers at the western extension works of the Honiara central market.
Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and SIIP

Bottom row (from left to right):

- Schoolchildren of Mwanihuki Village, Makira-Ulawa Province, using their new water supply system funded by Australia through the Solomon Islands – Australia Community Partnerships.
Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Angeline Chamber, an aged care worker in the PALM scheme.
Credit: Pacific Labour Mobility Facility
- Head of mission visiting a women led agribusiness partnership at Amazing Grace Cocoa Farm.
Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Strongim Bisnis program