



BHUTAN

Development cooperation fact sheet:
February 2020



ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN ODA 2019-20*	\$6.4 MILLION
GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA	US\$3,080 (2018)*
POPULATION	754,394 (2018)*

Australia is supporting Bhutan to meet its sustainable development challenges by helping to build human resources and institutional capacity in this young democracy.

Strategic direction

Australia is a modest but highly regarded donor to Bhutan. **Education** (SDG4) remains the central pillar of the bilateral development cooperation program.

The goal of Australian development cooperation with Bhutan is to build the capacity of individuals and institutions, in a way which improves gender equality. Strategic objectives to support this goal include:

- building **human capacity** (SDG1 and SDG4) through the provision of Australia Award scholarships and fellowships; long-term assistance to enhance tertiary education through Bhutan's Royal Institute of Management; technical and vocational education and training sector (TVET); and
- Supporting **gender equality** (SD5) and **women's empowerment** (SDG10) through advocacy and institutional strengthening with Bhutanese NGO RENEW and International Planned Parenthood Federation.

Program highlights

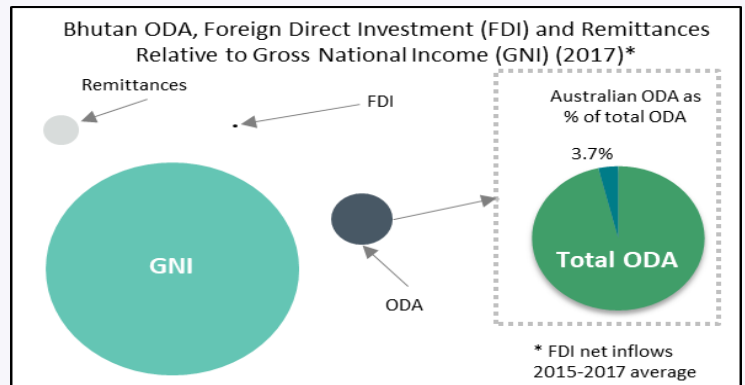
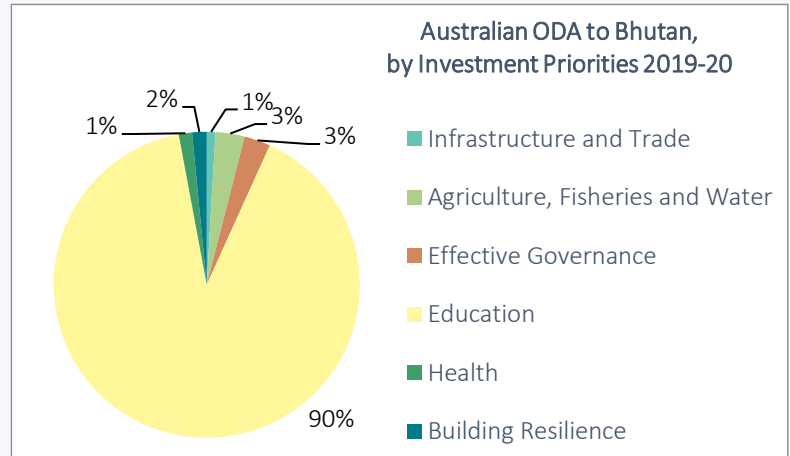
- Australia, through the **Australia Awards program**, has trained senior civil servants in Bhutan, helping to strengthen public sector leadership. In 2019, we are offering 14 long-term Australia Awards scholarships and 35 short course placements in education, governance, infrastructure and natural resource management.
- To help address youth unemployment and trade skill shortages, we will commence a two-year project in 2019 to build capacity in Bhutan's Tertiary Vocation Education & Training (TVET) sector.
- Australia's support for the **Royal Institution of Management** has resulted in the establishment of masters and PhD level courses in business administration, public administration and management.

For more details:

[Overview of Australia's development cooperation program to Bhutan](#)

Australian ODA	2017-18 Actual (\$m)	2018-19 Estimated Outcome (\$m)	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Country Programs	2.3	2.1	2.1
Regional	3.9	4.0	3.4
Global	1.3	1.0	0.9
Other Government Departments	-	-	-
Total Australian ODA to Bhutan	7.5	7.1	6.4
% of Total Australian ODA	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%

*Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

