



# COOK ISLANDS



Development Cooperation fact sheet:  
March 2020

ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN ODA 2019-20	\$3.7 MILLION
GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA	USD20,354 (2017)
POPULATION	17,434 (2016)*

## Australian assistance is aligned with Cook Islands' Sustainable Development Strategy.

### Strategic direction

For a number of years, Australia has worked with New Zealand through a delegated cooperation arrangement to support Cook Islands' long-term prosperity. Australia supported development activities to:

- improve water and sanitation (SDG 6) by upgrading septic tanks to a reticulated sanitation system and providing technical assistance to strengthen the regulatory environment;
- improve quality of education (SDG 4) through budget support; and
- improve women's economic participation (SDG 5) and eliminate violence against women.

The OECD Development Assistance Committee approved the graduation of Cook Islands from the DAC List of Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipients, effective 1 January 2020. Future development assistance to Cook Islands will focus on supporting engagement in regional initiatives, and will not be reported as ODA. For more information, see the Cook Islands' country brief.

### Program highlights

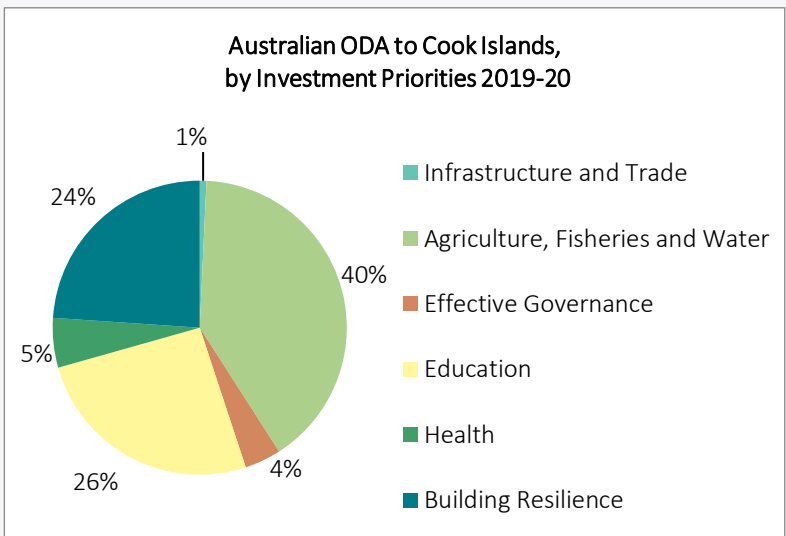
- Supported the establishment of a crown-controlled entity, To Tatou Vai, to operate and maintain Rarotonga's reticulated water and wastewater systems.
- Supported Cook Islands to draft a national sanitation policy to improve sanitation procedures and practices.

For more detail:

[Joint Commitment for Development between New Zealand and the Cook Islands](#)

Australian ODA	2017-18 Actual (\$m)*	2018-19 Actual (\$m)*	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Country Programs	1.6	1.9	1.9
Regional	1.8	3.2	1.6
Global	0.2	0.3	0.2
Other Government Departments	0.03	0.05	-
<b>Total Australian ODA to Cook Islands</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>3.7**</b>
<b>% of Total Australian ODA</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>

\*Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals  
\*\* The Cook Islands graduated from Official Development Assistance eligibility on 1 January 2020.



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

