



EDUCATION

Development cooperation fact sheet: February 2020

Education contributes to prosperity, stability and security. Quality education can help individuals, families and communities achieve their aspirations and realise their full potential.

Strategic direction

Australia is investing in quality education for children and youth across the Indo-Pacific to reduce poverty, to support sustainable **economic growth** and enhance stability.

Education helps empower women, girls, people with **disabilities** and other marginalised populations in various ways, including by providing pathways to employment.

Our investments support Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 (Quality Education), and contribute to other SDGs. In line with the *Strategy for Australia's aid investments in education*, investments target four strategic priorities:

- getting the foundations right;
- learning for all;
- universal participation; and
- skills for prosperity.

The Strategy guides official development cooperation expenditure in education, and supports country, regional and global programs to make informed choices.

Australia is strongly committed to supporting the educational needs of children and youth in emergencies.

To maximise the effectiveness of our investments, Australia works with a range of partners including partner governments, the private sector, the Global Partnership for Education, non-government organisations and academic institutions.

Sector Performance

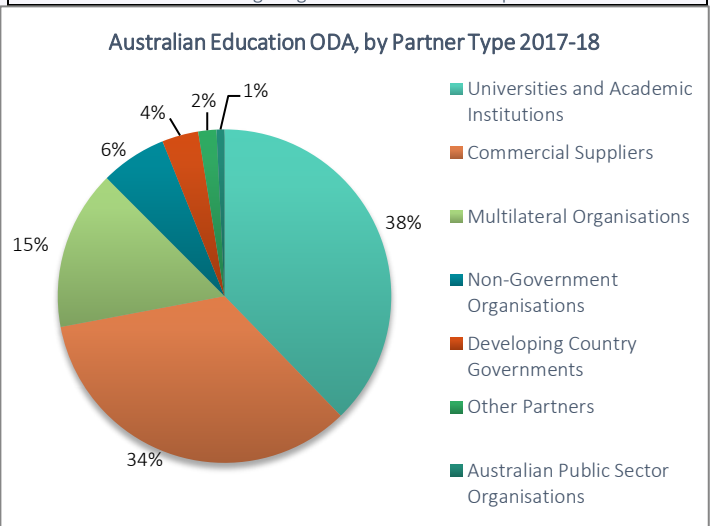
- In Bangladesh, Australia contributed to the graduation of 415,000 children (53% girls) from BRAC primary and pre-primary schools.
- Australia's funding for the Australia Pacific Training Coalition delivers more than 1,200 Pacific Islander graduates with highly regarded Australian qualifications each year.

Australian ODA	2017-18 Actual (\$m)*	2018-19 Estimated Outcome (\$m)*	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Pacific	211.4	210.3	229.2
Southeast and East Asia	245.4	238.9	215.8
South and West Asia	61.1	68.5	66.4
Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East	61.2	44.0	43.8
Rest of the World**	64.2	79.0	63.9
Total Australian Education ODA	643.4	640.7	619.1

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

**Includes ODA that is not attributed to particular countries or regions.

Note: All outcome and budget figures include scholarships.



- In Papua New Guinea, Australia is helping improve school based management with almost 14,000 school administrators in 7,876 schools trained in financial management.
- In Laos, we completed construction of 163 classrooms in remote areas to improve access to schooling. Support for curriculum development and teacher training (60 master and 623 provincial teacher trainers; 54 teacher training college lecturers; 212 newly graduated ethnic teachers deployed to ethnic schools) is helping improve quality of learning.

For more details:

<http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Pages/strategy-for-australias-aid-investments-in-education-2015-2020.aspx>

Current Priorities

- Support better learning outcomes in pre-primary, primary, secondary and post-secondary education through improved learning environments, curricula development, provision of learning materials, education data, and enhanced teacher capability.
- Enable the most marginalised in society, including girls, ethnic minorities, children with disabilities, and children in emergencies to receive a quality education.
- Improve the quality, relevance, cost-effectiveness and industry engagement in TVET (technical and vocational education training) services.
- Complement our bilateral programs through global initiatives like the Global Partnership for Education.



Photo credit: DFAT/Basic Education Sector Transformation Program, Philippines

Gender equality

Investments in education continue to perform well on gender equality and women's empowerment. 80% of education investments are rated satisfactory.

Disability inclusiveness

Disability inclusiveness is a strong focus of our education investments, including in Kiribati where we are helping implement an inclusive education policy. Watch the impact of our work here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrJ8il8UyVc>.

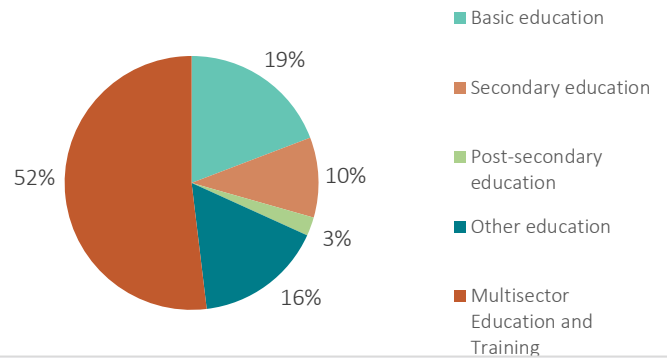
Indigenous peoples / ethnic minorities

In Myanmar, we are supporting the monastic and ethnic schools system to address barriers to inclusion and provide opportunities for participation by indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities.

Innovation

An innovation competition in partnership with MIT Solve and Australian company Atlassian is helping disadvantaged young people in the Indo-Pacific prepare for the workforce of the future. Funding supports promising pilots.

Australian Education ODA by Sector Groups, 2019-20



Education Investments Performance 2017-18
% of Aid Investments rated Satisfactory

