# Development Cooperation Factsheet

## Effective Governance

MAY 2025

### Overview

Estimated Australian ODA: $1,210.2m (2025-26)

#### Table 1: Australian Governance ODA 2023-24 to 2025-26

| Region | 2023-24 Actual ($m)\* | 2024-25 Budget Estimate ($m)\* | 2025-26 Budget Estimate ($m)\* |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pacific | 567.6 | 645.6 | 690.3 |
| Southeast Asia | 281.8 | 295.6 | 311.3 |
| South and Central Asia | 39.3 | 55.6 | 52.1 |
| Middle East and Africa | 15.1 | 7.1 | 21.8 |
| Rest of the World^ | 131.5 | 114.0 | 134.7 |
| **Total Governance ODA** | **1,035.4** | **1,118.0** | **1,210.2** |
| **Percentage total Australian ODA** | **21.5%** | **22.5%** | **23.7%** |

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

^Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items in totals

#### Figure 1 presents the percentage of Australia’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) to Governance for the financial year 2025-26 attributable to six sub sectors. This information is presented in a doughnut chart, where the six sub sectors take a portion of shading in the doughnut in direct proportion to the total percentage attributable to the Governance sector. The percentages of total Australian Governance ODA by sub-sectors are: Democracy and Human Rights 10% General Budget Support 21% Legal and Judicial Development 13% Public Sector Management and Finance 26% Women’s Organisations and Ending Violence Against Women 11% Other Infrastructure and Services 19%Figure 1: Australian Governance ODA by Sub-sector, 2025-26 budget estimate

### Sustainable Development Goals



Effective governance is central to the vision of building a peaceful, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

Australia prioritises investments in governance because it underpins effective, accountable states that can sustain their own development, deliver for and engage all citizens, navigate differences peacefully, and are resilient in the face of external pressures and shocks. Where governance is effective, all other development outcomes are also stronger. Governance is Australia’s largest sector investment.

### Strategic direction

Australian investments are tailored to each local context. They support local leadership, foster accountable and inclusive governance policies and practices, improve access to basic services and support businesses to thrive. Australia partners with public institutions such as parliaments, audit and law enforcement agencies, elections administrations, as well as multilateral, civil society and private sector organisations.

Our Governance work directly contributes to SDG 1’s target of poverty eradication, SDG 5’s commitment to gender equality and SDG 16’s focus on peaceful and just societies, and effective and inclusive institutions.

### Program highlights

In 2023-24, Australia supported:

* Transparency International to work with the Government of Sri Lanka to strengthen its anti-corruption legal frameworks, including a new Anti-Corruption Act.  This resulted in the addition of 70 provisions, including the criminalisation of sexual bribery.
* Provincial governments in PNG under the Subnational Governance Implementation Plan to improve access to safe drinking water by improving capacity, resources and water governance practices.  Active representation of vulnerable groups ensured equitable access to enough clean water for people and livelihoods.
* A local NGO, Tumikang Sama-Sama (TSS), to mediate conflict in Sulu though the Peace Building in Conflict Affected Mindanao Program. Working with security forces and local leaders, TSS negotiated a ceasefire which led to the signing of a peace covenant in May 2024 - helping build safter communities in the Philippines.