Australia and Mongolia have a long-standing bilateral relationship spanning trade, investment, diplomatic and people-to-people links, defence and aid. Australia continues to assist Mongolia’s economic development through building human resource capacity in the public and private sectors, and supporting an open, inclusive and well-managed economy.

**Strategic direction**

The main focus of Australia’s aid to Mongolia is support for tertiary education and governance of the mining industry and natural resources, helping to meet the Mongolian Government’s National Development Strategy in areas of Australia’s expertise. Our aid program builds skills, relationships and capacity in the public and private sectors, through scholarships for study in Australia and by improving technical and vocational education in Mongolia.

Good management of the mining sector attracts further investment and ensures benefits flow to all Mongolians. It is central to Mongolia’s goal of leveraging private investment to reduce poverty. We are assisting the Mongolian Government to improve resources governance and engagement with the mining industry, working with the Ministry of Mining in geoscience, gold industry regulation, mine safety, mineral valuation and communications.

**Program highlights**

- In 2018-19, 37 Mongolian postgraduate students received scholarships through Australia Awards.
- 29 **Australian Volunteers for International Development** undertook placements in Mongolia in 2019.
- The MonGeoCat geospatial database has modernised and improved access to mining resources information under the **Australia Mongolia Extractives Program**.
- The Direct Aid Program is supporting Mongolian community organisations to implement projects including in public health and vulnerable communities.
- Support for tertiary vocational education and training is strengthening the technical skills of young Mongolians in areas of industry need.
- The **Women’s Leadership Program** is increasing the skills and opportunities for women to fill senior decision-making roles in the public and private sectors.

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