Australia has an enduring interest in the stability and prosperity of the North Pacific. Australia is investing in better water supply, improvements in early grade learning, gender equality and more reliable internet services.

**Strategic direction**

Australia’s bilateral development cooperation program in the North Pacific focuses on the quality of **basic education** (FSM), **clean water and sanitation** (RMI), reliable **internet services** (Palau), and **women’s social and economic empowerment** (SDG5) across all three countries.

**Program highlights**

- Following the installation of a salt-water reverse osmosis plant on Ebeye Island (RMI) to provide a reliable fresh **water supply**, Australia will now focus on delivering effective sewerage services and improving **hygiene** (SDG6) awareness and behaviours.
- Beginning in 2017 and co-financed with the Government of FSM and the Asian Development Bank, the Improving Quality Basic Education Project will improve the effectiveness and efficiency of FSM **education systems** (SDG4) to strengthen early grade learning in all schools.
- Australia is part of a multi-partner effort to reform Palau’s ICT sector and increase access to high quality, low-cost internet services (SDG17). Australia’s contribution is valued at AUD2 million over the four years to 2020.

For more details:

- Australia-FSM Aid Investment Plan 2016-2019
- Australia-RMI Aid Investment Plan 2016-2019
- Australia-Palau Aid Investment Plan 2016-2019