



# Connecting Australia and the Pacific through sport

Through two key programs - *PacificAus Sports* and *Team Up* - Australia and the Pacific are further strengthening our close regional ties through our shared love of sport.

*PacificAus Sports* develops pathways for Pacific teams and athletes to compete in elite competitions, and access high performance coaching in Australia and internationally. *Team Up* helps address barriers preventing women, girls and people with a disability from accessing beneficial sport programs.



## *PacificAus Sports* initiatives include:

- Providing ongoing support for the participation of **Fijian women's and men's teams** in the elite Super Rugby Women's and Super Rugby Pacific, as well as the **Fiji Silktails** and **PNG Hunters** in Australian state rugby league competitions
- Supporting athletes across the Pacific to attend high-performance training and qualification events for **Olympic, Paralympic**, and **Commonwealth Games**
- Supporting **national football teams** through increased international fixtures and high-performance training camps in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and PNG
- Holding the annual ***PacificAus Sports Netball Series***, providing valuable high-level competition for netballers throughout the Pacific
- Creating **AFL Talent Pathways** to support the development of Australian Rules Football in Nauru, PNG, Fiji and Vanuatu
- Providing **Pacific cricketers** access to high-performance coaching and competition, and cross-cultural engagement with Australia's First Nations teams



## *Team Up* initiatives include:

- Partnering with over **70 organisations across 15 sports in seven Pacific countries**, with a focus on gender, disability, leadership, governance and knowledge
- Combining **cricket participation** and **structured education** to bring community awareness and solutions to gender and disability issues
- Using table tennis to **promote inclusion** and **showcase the skills** of individuals with disabilities
- Improving the **rapid growth** and inclusion of women and girls in rugby union



Photo: Fijiana Drua at the 2022 Super W grand final

The Australian Government has also announced a partnership with the Australian Rugby League Commission to deepen connections in the Pacific through rugby league. This investment will support a PNG team to enter Australia's National Rugby League competition and develop pathways for girls and boys, and women and men to play rugby league from the grassroots to the elite level across PNG, Fiji, Samoa and Tonga.

Through *PacificAus Sports* we partner with Australian national sports organisations to support a range of Pacific sports, including rugby league, rugby union, netball, football, AFL, cricket and Olympic/Paralympic sports, with funding split evenly between women and men.

## HOW WE DELIVER

Through *Team Up* we partner with organisations to deliver sport for development programs and support vulnerable communities in Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.