Aid Program Performance Report

2018-19

Fiji

September 2019

FIJI Aid Program Performance Information 2018-19

Key Messages

2018-19 was a year of consolidation and growth for Australia’s development assistance program elevating our partnership with Fiji to a new level. Our relationship was cemented with Prime Minister Morrison’s bilateral visit in January 2019, followed by Foreign Minister Payne in June. The Australian development program has bedded down an education program, progressed the design of a new Governance program and made development gains in both health and private sectors.

**Pacific Step-up** initiatives and collaboration with the Government of Fiji (GoF) have headlined this year’s aid program. The Australia Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) undertook a scoping mission in May 2019 to prioritise Fiji’s infrastructure with the Government and other stakeholders. In April 2019 Fiji joined Australia’s **Pacific Labour Scheme** (PLS). Australia has provided an advisor to the GoF Ministry of Employment to ensure the PLS can maximise benefits to Fiji’s long-term economic development. The PLS got off to a promising start with 23 Fijians engaged to work in the meat works industry and in hospitality by July 2019.

**Increased Private Sector Development** through the Market Development Facility (MDF) continued to make progress on supporting economic opportunities for women. Between 2011 and December 2018, 7030 women have benefitted from additional income and/or employment through the MDF, with 2730 of these benefiting in the 2018 calendar year alone.

Australia supported two International Finance Corporation (IFC) foundational studies into [domestic violence](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/region__ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/east%2Basia%2Band%2Bthe%2Bpacific/resources/fiji-domestic%2Band%2Bsexual%2Bviolence%2Breport) and [childcare](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/news_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/news%2Band%2Bevents/news/fiji-tackling%2Bchildcare), highlighting the important role the private sector could play in these areas. These studies will underpin IFC’s collaboration with Fiji’s leading businesses to implement women-friendly policies and programs that deliver protection and market access for women while also enhancing market productivity. With the IFC, Australia is also helping increase the climate and disaster resilience of low income families by working towards the provision of disaster risk insurance with payments available immediately after disasters.

More work must be done to achieve disability inclusion results. This work will need to align with the important reforms by the GoF to fulfil its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities through the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018. We need to ensure our governance portfolio satisfactorily addresses gender issues in its implementation. There are also opportunities to further integrate climate change and disaster resilience across the bilateral program.

The Institutional Partnerships Program has made good progress, with strong support from key leaders within the GoF, including the Prime Minister. Reforms are on track to achieve the GoF's desired long-term outcome of improving the services provided to the public by civil servants. Of particular note was Australia’s support to the 2018 Fijian election, which was judged by the GoF to have been excellent.

Our investments in health and education continue to support development of a healthy, well-educated population to drive economic growth. Australia’s support to Fiji’s **Education Sector** operated flexibly, delivering a range of transitional activities which responded to Fiji’s education priorities while awaiting the finalisation of the four year plan for the new Education Program which was approved in November 2018. Key achievements include the Ministry of Education, Heritage and the Arts (MEHA) agreeing to share its (Australian supported) information management system Source Code with other interested Pacific countries (including Vanuatu and Samoa). This will facilitate consistent reporting and comparisons across the Pacific among other stakeholders. The **Fiji Health Program** supported the strengthening of maternal services in four key community hospitals to improve access and service quality for mothers and their newborns, including support to train 40 midwives locally to help address a critical shortage in Fiji.

Through Australia’s support to the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre (FWCC), 1713 survivors **of domestic and sexual violence** received counselling, legal and medical support. Of the 1713 cases, 435 were reported to the police with FWCC support. Australia supported the first regional dialogue between Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs), violence response service providers and government ministries on barriers to disability inclusion in Ending Violence Against Women through the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development program. As a result of the dialogue, a toolkit was developed jointly by the Pacific Disability Forum, its member organisation Fiji Disabled People’s Federation and UN Women.

In 2018-19, progress was made on finishing the remaining elements of Australia’s $35 million package of assistance for **Tropical Cyclone (TC) Winston** (six schools on Koro Island). Finalisation, however, was delayed during the reporting period due to unanticipated late delivery of final completion certificates.

Context

The **Fiji-Australia Vuvale Partnership and Pacific Step-Up** sets an ambitious and intensified level of engagement with Fiji, and the Australian aid program is well positioned to meet the commitment for deeper economic and people-to-people links. We are aligned with the Fiji National Development Plan and GoF efforts to achieve their 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Australia’s 2018 ODA investments totalled $51 million and focus on three strategic objectives; **enhancing private sector development, improving human development and supporting Fiji’s recovery from TC Winston.** In 2016-17 (latest available data), Fiji received USD145 million in total ODA[[1]](#footnote-1). Australia provided $51 million in official development assistance (ODA) to Fiji in 2018-19, and is the largest donor, followed by the EU institutions, New Zealand and Japan. Aid as a percentage of GNI increased from 2.5 per cent in 2016 to just under 3 per cent in 2017 – reflecting slowing economic growth.[[2]](#footnote-2)   However, **Fiji’s economic environment remained stable, and is entering its tenth year of growth.**

Real GDP growth in 2018 is estimated to be around 3.5 per cent and continues to be driven by tourism. In the 12 months to July 2019, arrivals grew by 4.2 per cent to reach 895,000 visitors. Remittances remained the second largest earner of foreign exchange behind tourism. The contribution of agriculture, sugar and manufacturing was more modest. Many sectors of the economy experienced labour shortages across skill levels, necessitating a cautious and managed approach to Fiji’s involvement in overseas labour schemes to ensure a “brain gain” is achieved.

The scale up by the Multilateral Development Banks, in particular the World Bank’s (WB) decision during the reporting period to grant Fiji access to International Development Association (IDA) Resources, will provide an important source of concessional finance to the Government of Fiji. Fiji is now expected to receive at least USD21 million on the most concessional terms resulting from IDA access, and is now eligible for funding through the IDA Regional Window, Crisis Response Window and Private Sector Window. The Asian Development Bank’s (ADB) Country Partnership Strategy 2019-23 anticipates an allocation of USD600 million in sovereign and non-sovereign resources for Fiji.

The2018-19 budget **signalled the GoF’s commitment to fiscal consolidation** in order to rebuild fiscal buffers that were depleted after TC Winston.The 2018-19 budget projects a 12 per cent reduction in the net deficit, which is to be achieved largely through a reduction in expenditure, rather than increasing taxes. GoF has an ambitious reform agenda, centered on improving the investment enabling environment (Fiji ranks 101 in the World Bank Doing Business Index). In August 2019, Standard & Poor’s raised its rating from B- to BB+ on the basis of the Government’s fiscal consolidation and a credible economic reform agenda.

**The year was one of relative stability for Fiji.** The 2018 election was a success. The multinational observer group, of which Australia was co-lead, reported a credible and transparent election process demonstrating a positive trajectory for Fiji’s path back to democracy. The election of ten female members of Parliament, with three holding Cabinet positions in education, trade and women, is a positive result for Fiji.

**Australia made two important shifts in our development assistance support during the period.** First, following Prime Minister Morrison’s successful visit to Fiji in January, we commenced discussions with the GoF about infrastructure priorities under the AIFFP. Secondly, we continued to monitor the effectiveness of the ADB and WB budget support operations with the GoF. A priority for 2019-20 is to conduct an Assessment of National Systems and consider ways to work in a more integrated way with the GoF through budget support and other modalities. Our relationship with the GoF has strengthened over the period of the previous Aid Investment Plan (AIP) (2015-19). It is important to continue to partner with GoF to catalyse resources outside of ODA to meet our AIP goals and to promote sustainable outcomes.

**The Pacific Step-up** continues to influence expectations around Australia’s assistance to Fiji, and engage across more sectors, resulting in increasing expectation of Australia’s development assistance. A new AIP will be developed in close partnership with Fiji to clearly specify priority areas for assistance, in line with GoF priorities and Australia’s ability to add value and catalyse resources. **Climate change** continues to be a key priority for the GoF, in support of Prime Minister Bainimarama’s global leadership on this issue. Fiji’s low emission development strategy 2018-2050 commits Fiji to achieving net zero emissions across all sectors of its economy by 2050.

Expenditure

Australia’s total ODA to Fiji in 2018-19 was $51 million, compared to $61.7 million the previous year (Table 1). The reduction in ODA was due to a tail-off in expenditure on TC Winston recovery as construction efforts were completed ($2 million in 2018-19 compared to $10.2 million in 2017-18).

**Table 1: Total ODA expenditure in 2018-19**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective** | **A$ million** | **per cent of total ODA** |
| Objective 1: Increased Private Sector Development  | 9.0 | 17.6 |
| Objective 2: Improved Human Development | 24.0 | 47.1 |
| Objective 3: Tropical Cyclone Winston Recovery | 2.0 | 3.9 |
| **Sub-Total Bilateral** | **35.0** | **68.6** |
| Regional and Global | 12.4 | 24.3 |
| Other Government Departments | 3.6 | 7.1 |
| **Total ODA Expenditure**  | **51.0** | **100** |

Progress towards AIP Objectives

The Fiji Program has continued to make good progress on private sector development (Objective 1). Despite overall human development objective success, progress on disability inclusion has been elevated to a management action. The TC Winston Recovery investment has now concluded, but due to delays in the issuing of the final engineering certificate for school buildings constructed on Koro Island, this objective will be carried over. These issues will be worked through with the managing contractor. Objective 3 will be carried over as Australia works with the contracting partner to achieve our shared outcome.

**Table 1 Rating of the Program's Progress towards Australia’s Aid Objectives**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Objective | Previous Rating | Current Rating |
| Objective 1 – Increased Private Sector Development | Green | Green |
| Objective 2 – Improved Human Development  | Green | Green |
| Objective 3 – TC Winston Recovery | Amber | Amber |

Note:

⬛  Green. Progress is as expected at this stage of implementation and it is likely that the objective will be achieved. Standard program management practices are sufficient.

⬛  Amber. Progress is somewhat less than expected at this stage of implementation and restorative action will be necessary if the objective is to be achieved. Close performance monitoring is recommended.

⬛  Red. Progress is significantly less than expected at this stage of implementation and the objective is not likely to be met given available resources and priorities. Recasting the objective may be required.

Objective 1 – INcreased Private sector development

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**Progress towards this objective - improving the competitiveness of pro-poor sectors was as expected** and is rated green.

With a comprehensive and credible reform agenda, the 2018-19 PAF target of 20 per cent of the aid budget for aid-for-trade was exceeded by two per cent. A key achievement during 2018-19 was that 80 per cent of long-term technical advisers working across the GoF were judged by the GoF to have provided good or excellent support.

The Australian aid program is providing economic opportunities for Fijians and Fijian businesses through the Market Development Facility (MDF), the Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access program (PHAMA Plus), the Australia-IFC Fiji Partnership, and Australia’s labour mobility schemes.

**Outcome 1: Increased incomes for poor households**

In April 2019 Fiji joined the Pacific Labour Scheme. A long-term advisor has been placed in the Ministry of Employment to support the GoF to strategically manage its engagement in this scheme in order to maximise the benefits to Fiji’s long-term economic development. The Seasonal Worker Programme has seen almost double the number of participants from 2017-18 and improved investments by the GoF in enabling systems and processes.

As at December 2018, MDF’s work has resulted in 246 new formal sector jobs and additional income of USD13million. Of note are MDF’s partnerships with 11 companies offering community made products and services resulted in an additional USD3million in sales (included in the USD13 million figure), with half of the profit returning to source communities.

MDF proactive efforts to reduce the barriers to women in accessing markets has resulted in 7,030 women (50 per cent of the total beneficiaries) enjoying increased incomes or employment – an increase of 2730 in 2018. Further progress is nevertheless needed to support economic opportunities for people with disabilities.

In Fiji, all of MDF’S partnerships strengthened women’s empowerment, and not just through increased economic opportunities. For example, through the introduction of mechanical harvesters to sugarcane farming households, one of MDF Fiji’s partners Charan Jeath Singh reduced the burden of women in target households by 90 per cent. The women used the time saved to rest more and help their children with their education, while also investing some time in managing other crops.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Outcome 2: Fiji’s business environment is conducive to inclusive private sector-led growth**

There were consistent or modest gains in private sector-led growth, with a three per cent increase in adults with active mobile money accounts used within a 90 day period. Through the Private Sector Development Initiative (PSDI), an online registry for small to medium enterprises was established. Improved reporting has been achieved through IFC support to the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, specifically on International Visitor Survey (IVS) analysis. Results are supporting improved targeting of marketing activities to tourists who make the greatest financial contributions to the Fijian market.

Streamlining the official requirements for businesses and strengthening the financial sector are priorities for Fiji, and Australia’s aid program is assisting. We are working to strengthen people’s access to insurance; to improve the accessibility and range of services of online banking functions for remote communities; and to improve SME’s access to loans and strengthen the capital market.

Under PSDI, Australia supported Fiji to enact the Personal Property Securities Bill in 2017 (a PAF target under this outcome). This is an important reform to assist micro and small-to-medium enterprises (MSME’s) grow. It allows non-land assets to be used as collateral for loans, increasing access to finance for people in customary land ownership settings and for women who do not own land. In 2018-19 PSDI supported the Reserve Bank of Fiji to develop an online moveable assets registry. This was launched on time in June 2019 (a PAF target). As of July 2019, four banks had registered 12,000 assets. In 2019-20 we expect to see banks offering new lending products to customers, and will monitor the extent to which MSME’s are taking up these new lending products. This will ultimately strengthen access to finance, providing much needed capital for MSME’s to innovate and expand their business operations.

Jointly administered by the UN Capital Development Fund and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP) is increasing the number of low-income Pacific Islanders who adopt financial services by working with banks and ICT providers to develop new services.  Through PFIP’s innovation lab work on Vodafone’s M-Paisa mobile money platform, the scope of Fiji’s digital financial services has widened greatly in 2018-19. M-Paisa users can now pay their bills, receive remittances, top up their E-transport tickets and make voluntary pension contributions.

With PFIP’s support, in 2018-19 Vodafone also scaled up the Mobile Village Agent model, after a successful trial period. There are now more than 75 agents in remote locations around Fiji. These agents are averaging up to 100 transactions per week. Since 2017, over 28,400 customers (40 per cent women) perform transactions beyond normal banking hours on mobile phone or at 23 Vodafone outlets around Fiji. As a result, we met our PAF target of three per cent of adults with an active money mobile account.

With PFIP’s assistance, Fiji has increased the proportion of adults with “bundled” insurance that covers life, funeral and fire events. In 2018-19, the GoF announced that all civil servants and social welfare beneficiaries will automatically be covered under FijiCare’s bundled insurance program. As of June 2019, approximately 40 per cent of the adult population have bundled insurance, with over 60 per cent being first-time insurees. Improved rates of insurance provide an important safeguard to deal with family and community shocks. Bundled insurance products also ensure people are aware of the range of projects available, helping to design their policies to their own individual circumstances.

Well-functioning capital markets provide governments and large corporations with access to long-term financing. In 2018-19 the IFC worked with the Reserve Bank of Fiji and the Ministry of Economy to manage the expenditure of the Green Bond (issued 2017-18) and submit the [first annual report](https://www.rbf.gov.fj/Left-Menu/Financial-Market-Operations/Domestic-Markets/Green-Bond-Prospectus) to shareholders. The green bond remains a valuable tool in attracting climate change financing. In February, the IFC and RBF hosted a workshop with Fiji’s largest businesses, regulators and market intermediaries to revitalise the corporate bond market (the last issuance was 2002). While there seems to be interest amongst some large corporates to raise capital in this way, the overarching regulatory environment requires some revisions to ensure incentives are in place for investors. The IFC will continue to work in this area in 2019-20. The lessons to be identified from this process will be valuable in understanding the value of new approaches to climate change financing.

The World Bank’s Doing Business Index ranked Fiji as 101st in 2019. The GoF is receiving assistance from the IFC (under the Australia-IFC Fiji Partnership) and Singapore. Reducing the time taken to establish a business (currently 40 days) is a PAF indicator, but no progress was made in 2018-19. Rather, the GoF set up a cross agency Investment Facilitation Task Force and commissioned the World Bank’s Doing Business team to undertake a review and prepare a roadmap of highest priority regulations and requirements for improvement. The ADB’s sizeable budget support operation with the GoF is performing well and has high-level Government commitment. Now into its third phase, the operation continues to provide reform impetus on public financial management, state-owned enterprise and the enabling environment. It represents a new way of working for the GoF.

Two IFC foundational studies into [domestic violence](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/region__ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/east%2Basia%2Band%2Bthe%2Bpacific/resources/fiji-domestic%2Band%2Bsexual%2Bviolence%2Breport) and [childcare](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/news_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/news%2Band%2Bevents/news/fiji-tackling%2Bchildcare) and their cost to the private sector is set to inform future work with Fiji’s private sector.  The GoF established a Taskforce on Early Childhood Care and Education as a result of the childcare study, which has led to a policy and quality framework to improve childcare service delivery and a financial allocation within Fiji’s national budget.

**Outcome 3: Improved competiveness of key pro-poor sectors**

The most significant progress has been made in tourism and building Fiji’s agriculture sector. This year the PAF target for attracting private investment to the economy exceeded the target, with USD4.9 million leveraged in 2018 compared to USD3.5 million in 2017. This represents a strong result with private sector investment a key driver of Fiji’s strong economic performance in the last ten years.

MDF and IFC’s work with the GoF has supported a growth in Fiji’s tourism industry and associated labour market. A key focus has been to increase the numbers of tourist arrivals and travel to remote regions where formal economic opportunities are limited. This includes the Denerau and Coral Coast regions. This has seen up to a seven per cent increase in tourists per annum to the areas of focus.

MDF research on the ‘[Economic Impact of Yachting Tourism in Fiji’](https://nam03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fmarketdevelopmentfacility.org%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2019%2F02%2FFiji-Yachting-Study-Hi_Res-copy1.pdf&data=02%7C01%7Cacooper4%40ifc.org%7Cb8734402a0ab40c8ce7608d7331017f1%7C31a2fec0266b4c67b56e2796d8f59c36%7C0%7C1%7C637034016535282502&sdata=XewnlGsKekPW15QCAbICDuUkC2bosPkO9iy4En6EhO0%3D&reserved=0) and a soon to be released study on the cruise ship industry has established baselines of the current economic benefit of maritime tourism. Infrastructure projects currently underway to certify marinas to cyclone standards will open year-round tours and yachting that will bolster maritime tourism.

The program anticipates a 30 per cent increase in tourist arrivals via Melbourne due to a brokering role MDF played between the Savusavu Tourist Association, Fiji Airways and Northern Air. This resulted in Melbourne-Nadi flight routing to domestic transfers allowing for more efficient travel options for tourists.

An IFC partnership with the Ministries of Agriculture and Industry Trade and Tourism resulted in the “[From Farm to the Tourist’s Table](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/news_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/news%2Band%2Bevents/news/ifc%2Bstudy%2Breveals%2Bpath%2Bto%2Bboost%2Blinks%2Bbetween%2Bagriculture%2Band%2Btourism%2Bin%2Bfiji)” study. This document provides evidence of businesses sourcing local fresh produce that has led to the ‘IFC Hotel Local Sourcing Program’. One internationally branded hotel has joined and three are in the process of joining to support local business growth.

The agriculture sector is slowly rebounding after TC Winston and subsequent cyclones and flooding events in 2017 and 2018. The new phase of PHAMA Plus commenced in November 2018 and the focus for the remainder of 2018-19 was on recruitment and working with stakeholders to confirm priorities and plans of action for the new five year program. In Fiji, PHAMA Plus will work on kava, root crops, trade facilitation, biosecurity, and accreditation.

MDF’s collaboration with Fiji’s private sector has improved commercial distribution processes resulting in improved access to critical farming inputs (seedlings, fertilisers, machinery) for 8,600 of the country’s 38,000 commercial and semi-commercial farmers. This has increased their productivity and profitability.[[4]](#footnote-4)

**Improved civil service performance and strengthened democratic institutions**

Through funding from the Institutional Partnerships Program (IPP) (2014-2010, $9.5 million), good progress was made in the area of *improved civil service performance* over the APPR reporting period. Of particular note was the finalisation of the last of 16 key GoF ministries functional and capacity reviews by the WB and the release of the final of five key central guidelines (Open Merit Recruitment, Job Evaluation, discipline, performance management and learning and development) to guide human resource practices. The guidelines were originally drafted by the WB with DFAT funding.

Further key achievements supported through Australian assistance were:

* A revised planning guide for all Ministries
* Improved implementation of discipline guidelines leading to reduced tribunal hearings
* GoF acceptance of a report outlining a new structure to improve service delivery for the Ministry of Education
* The Fiji Bureau of Statistics releasing seasonally adjusted visitor arrival data for the first time in 2018.

With strong support from leaders within the GoF, including the Prime Minister and Minister for Civil Service, the reforms are on track to achieve the GoF's desired long-term outcome of improving the services provided to the public by civil servants. Australian support has played an important role in helping to achieve this progress.

Through the IPP, Australia also partnered with the ADB to support implementation of the GoF’s *Public Financial Management Improvement Programme.* Key achievement under this pillar were

* A report with recommendations on enhancing the functions of the Government Financial Management system was accepted by GoF
* Technical advice was provided to help the GoF update its Chart of Accounts (CoA) and Financial Management Act (FMA).

Strong progress was also made in the area of *strengthened democratic institutions*. Of particular note was Australia’s support to the 2018 Fijian election. Australia’s key aim of assisting Fijian electoral bodies to implement a transparent and credible election was achieved. The final report of the Multinational Observer Group (MOG), in which Australia was a co-lead, judged the 2018 election to be “transparent and credible overall, and the outcome broadly reflected the will of Fijian voters”. The MOG also judged that the “Fijian Elections Office (FEO) prepared for the election thoroughly, implementing a long-term strategy of improvement throughout the electoral cycle”.[[5]](#footnote-5) Australia was judged by the GoF to have provided excellent support through its direct technical advisers and the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC). In addition, Australia’s support for MOG logistics ensured this important group was able to observe every aspect of the 2018 election, providing the Fijian public confidence in the robustness of electoral processes.

Australia also co-financed the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to undertake extensive and well received training for newly elected members of Parliament in key areas such as:

* General induction training on their roles as Parliamentarians
* Specific training to help Members of Parliament understand the Fijian Parliament Standing Orders
* Specific training for the important work of the Fijian Parliament Standing Committees.

A key achievement for the IPP was that 80 per cent of long term technical advisers funded under this work stream during the reporting period were judged by the GoF to have provided good or excellent support. There is room for improvement in the incorporation of cross-cutting issues into all aspects of this work. A new design is under way, which will look at how to more effectively integrate gender/social inclusion considerations into a next phase of the Governance program.

Objective 2 – improved human Development

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**Rating for this objective:**

There are four sub-objectives under this objective: Education Sector Support, Health Sector Support, Gender and Social Inclusion, and Climate and Disaster preparedness and response. The progress under each objective is detailed in Annex E and summarised below.

**1. Education Sector Support**

**Outcome 1: Improved education access and quality, including for children with disabilities, in schools formerly supported by AQEP.**

**Outcome 2: Improved use of education management information system**

Education quality remains a priority issue in Fiji. The Government has an ambitious agenda to strengthen Fiji’s education; the NDP recognises the importance of a quality education for the creation of a skilled and adaptable workforce in a knowledge-based society, which in turn boosts productivity and economic growth. At the individual level, each additional year of schooling typically raises an individual’s earnings by eight to ten per cent, with larger increases for women.[[6]](#footnote-6) A new strategy for 2019-2023 is currently being finalised by MEHA. The 2018 end of program evaluation of AQEP found that education outcomes would be enhanced by support for national systems as well as inputs at the school level. Australia’s new education program, which aims to achieve a better balance between supporting government systems and service delivery will assist Fiji to achieve its education agenda.

Australia’s support to Fiji’s Education Sector is a five-year program (Education Program; 2017-2022) of up to AU$25million and administered by the Fiji Program Support Facility (Facility). The Education Program currently focuses MEHA’s strategic priorities of systems strengthening, teacher preparation and development, literacy and numeracy, inclusive education, and the Fiji Education Management Information System (FEMIS); as well as supporting the GoF’s civil service reforms in the education sector. There may be a re-alignment of priorities once the new Strategic Plan is endorsed by Fiji’s Cabinet. A key strength of the Facility has been its responsiveness to GoF priorities. Our support to Fiji’s education sector in the reporting period has directly aligned with the immediate priorities of GoF, cementing our credibility as the partner of choice for Fiji’s education reforms.

During the reporting period, Australia operated flexibly, delivering a range of transitional activities which responded to Fiji’s education priorities while awaiting the finalisation of the four-year plan for the new Education Program, which was approved in November 2018. Activities undertaken have included foundational work to prepare for implementation, such as consultation processes to develop a Theory of Change and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MELP). Responding to MEHA’s demand to support broader sectoral reform needs through Technical Assistance (TA) was the other key focus during this period, including a new focus on human resource management and remuneration reviews for MEHA.

Key achievements during this reporting period include:

* Flexible and demand driven support through TA to MEHA
* A close working relationship with MEHA
* Successful uptake by MEHA of AQEP best practice in Literacy and Numeracy (allocated budget in national budgets since 2017/18 for training of all Years 1-4 teachers)
* Learnings from Fiji – South-South cooperation, cross learnings and sharing of FEMIS sources codes in the area of education management information system with other Pacific countries
* Completed ten online professional development training modules for Heads of Schools – ready for national roll out soon.

Fiji’s improved performance in the education sector is driven partly by significant government investment in expanding quality education and making it free for all. In 2017-18, 22 per cent of the government budget went to education.[[7]](#footnote-7) Our new program supported this investment across three pillars:

**Pillar 1: Central systems enable schools to provide learning for all**

* A total of 35 MEHA policies, through TA provided by the Program, were supported during the reporting period - 18 current policies (two approved, eight under revision, three sent for approval and five currently under legal review) and 17 new policies were under development.
* A Disability Inclusion Strategy for the Program was developed to guide approaches for disability-focused efforts in years two to four, which will strengthen central, district and school policies and processes to enable all students to learn.
* To support the education of students in remote /maritime locations, the Program funded internet connection for 14 primary schools providing the schools access to FEMIS and other online learning and development resources for teachers.
* MEHA has agreed to share the FEMIS Source Code[[8]](#footnote-8) with other interested Pacific countries including Vanuatu and Samoa. This will facilitate consistent reporting and comparisons across the Pacific, for other stakeholders, including UNESCO.

**Pillar 2: District and schools systems support teachers and the learning of students**

* The teacher-mentor model used in the literacy and numeracy roll out in years one to four is improving the quality of teaching and learning in Fiji classrooms. The Program contributes to the teacher mentor model through the provision of two literacy and numeracy coordinators directly to MEHA’s Curriculum Advisory Unit.

**Pillar 3: School communities contribute to inclusive teaching and learning**

* The CSO approach to education with a focus on WASH and student support services has been developed.
* The Program is co-funding, with MEHA, the Counselling training through the Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) for 36 teachers who will provide support to current divisional counsellors.

Currently there are 17 special schools in Fiji that accommodate children with disability, with a total student roll of 1771. In addition there are 71 disability inclusive schools, in which 2151 students are enrolled. The Program is working with the Ministry to be able to report on inclusive data.

A Program Disability Inclusion Specialist was recruited by MEHA during this reporting period with a ToR including development of a Disability Inclusion Strategy. The Disability Inclusion Specialist, along with the Disability Inclusion Coordinator will ensure that the gains in disability inclusion made under the previous education program will be continued. The Disability inclusion team will work with MEHA and disabled persons organisations to develop the Program’s Disability Inclusion Strategy and to support the implementation of MEHA’s Special and Inclusive Education Policy Implementation Plan 2017 – 2020.

The Facility GESI Specialist and Disability Inclusion Specialist have been included as members of the Program Reference Group to continuously reinforce the importance of addressing GESI due to the impacts of inequality and exclusion on academic performance. The ability of the facility to quickly source technical expertise has proven valuable in progressing priority cross cutting issues.

**Outcome 3: Fiji alumni from the Australian Awards scheme have necessary skills and knowledge to progress sustainable development priorities**

The Government of Australia provides Australia Awards Scholarships ($3.7million 2018-19) to build skills that contribute to economic and human development and to foster links between Australia and countries in the region.

Annually, DFAT, through its bilateral program, engages with key government and private sector representatives to determine priority sectors. Stakeholders are further engaged at the selection stage to ensure the right candidates are selected to study and return to contribute to long-term country objectives.

Australia Awards support Fiji by offering scholarships for specialised study programs in Australia that are unavailable locally. Locally, the Australia Awards Pacific Scholarships program supports study programs in the region which address critical skills shortages, such as midwifery.

For the reporting period 2018-19, a record number of 85 awards were offered to Fijians in 10 priority areas. Of the 85 awards, 43 awards were awarded to women and 42 to men. Priority areas included education, health, governance, economic growth, infrastructure, social inclusion, environment, agriculture, fisheries and forestry. The selection across priority areas demonstrated the development priorities, and aligned with Fiji and Australia’s mutual interests. A highlight of the Fiji Pacific Scholarships was the offering of ten postgraduate diploma midwifery scholarships.

In the same period, a completion rate of 95 per cent (36 alumni) was achieved for returning alumni from Australia. Forty-four per cent of alumni returned to substantive positions in government and state-owned enterprises, 19 per cent and 16 per cent respectively returned to employment in academic institutions (FNU & USP) and the private sector. Of the 36 alumni that returned in this period, only one undergraduate alumnus remains unemployed. The high completion rate is reflective of the meritorious selection process in place.

Alumni engagement remains a key priority. There are plans to strengthen alumni engagement for the next reporting period. The Australia Awards Global Strategy will provide guidance for alumni management.

**2. Health Sector Support**

The Fiji Health Program commenced in July 2017 ($20.7million over five years). Managed by the Facility, it contributes towards reducing mortality rates for mothers, children and infants, increased health spending, and the efficiency and reach of basic health services. In 2016, Fiji’s GDP per capita was $7,465 and per capital expenditure on health was $300; with total health expenditure as a proportion of GDP of 4.5 per cent. It generally under-invests in public health financing, yet still manages to have a primary health care system that is accessible to 80 per cent of the population. [[9]](#footnote-9)

Australia supports Fiji’s health sector to respond to health challenges through activities oriented to support the achievement of Fiji’s Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) Strategic Plan. The Health Program’s support includes: a) technical support to the MHMS to enhance or develop initiatives, systems, and processes, b) procurement of equipment and key supplies, c) training support, d) MHMS led initiatives and innovations, and e) CSO grants. These outputs supported MHMS’ key priorities in quality of services, staff and facilities, providing improved care across the entire Fijian health system

We supported the strengthening of maternal services in four key community hospitals to improve access and service quality for mothers and their newborns, including support to train 40 midwives locally to help address a critical shortage in Fiji (the maximum number that can be trained in Fiji per year due to course limits). Fiji currently has 181 active midwives. Based on the global midwives to deliveries ratio, Fiji should have 620 active midwives. Our support for the installation of urgently needed oxygen concentrators to replace bottled oxygen in one sub-divisional hospital through a joint funding arrangement with CureKids Fiji is helping to increase the reliability of oxygen supplies not only for children but for the surrounding population. This will help MHMS address the high cost of bottled oxygen locally, providing important savings that can be redirected to other pressing health priorities.

**Outcome 1: sub-divisional hospitals managing decentralised clinical health services**

During the reporting period, Australia provided technical assistance to design and implement a new model of care for four of the larger sub-divisional hospitals, aiming to improve the quality of care and safe services for mothers and their babies and bring services closer to people’s homes, taking pressure off the main divisional hospitals. This model of care includes mentoring, monthly rotation of clinical midwives at the pilot sub-divisional hospitals, and monthly outreach by senior obstetricians. Evidence of impacts includes an increase in adherence to Mother and Neonatal Safe Hospital Initiative standards across the four hospitals from 58 per cent in 2018 to 73 per cent in May 2019.

Building upon our earlier contribution towards the establishment of the Vaccine Preventable Disease Unit, the program supported the MHMS HR budget bid for this unit, resulting in the recruitment of a Surveillance Officer. This will mean quicker identification of outbreaks of diseases such as measles, polio, and neonatal tetanus, leading to quicker responses and thus fewer children and adults contracting such diseases.

**Outcome 2: functional annual planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting cycles consistently applied within the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS)**

The focus on budget execution rates is important, as historically the MHMS was challenged to use its annual budget allocation. Australia’s collaborative fiscal planning effort with MHMS has contributed directly to the decrease in staffing gaps from 19 per cent in 2017 to 17 per cent in 2019, and MHMS annual budget execution rates tracked consistently higher than the previous reporting period. This form of catalytic support helps Fiji use its own resources to drive improved health outcomes.

The value of services planning in the health sector cannot be understated. Australia supported the development of a Role Delineation Model, which provides guidance on the scope and level of specialisation that might be appropriate for different population sizes and patient needs. This work has supported senior health staff to determine how best they might develop their services.

Support for the development of the Human Resources Management Information System has resulted in significant improvements in data accuracy to the point that the MHMS example is now being rolled out to other Ministries so it can be a consistent tool across whole of government. This is also helping to fill vacancies, inform workforce planning, improve budgeting, and optimise the utilisation of funding.

We have supported Canberra-led initiatives that produced positive health outcomes for Fiji. Our Humanitarian Preparedness and Response section began working with MHMS in 2016 to become a WHO accredited emergency medical assistance team (FEMAT). Accreditation was achieved in May 2019 and FEMAT is now able to deploy domestically and across the Pacific region, providing a broad range of field based emergency and medical services. This capability strengthens the role of Fiji as a potential health hub of the Pacific region.

**3. Gender and Social Inclusion**

The GoF is committed to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. The Fiji National Gender Policy 2014 focuses on the promotion of women’s human rights and gender mainstreaming across development planning and decision making processes within government, as well as addressing structural and social barriers that impede gender equality. The policy is consistent with the Government’s commitment to implement the Women’s Plan of Action (WPA 2010- 2019), which aligns with the Beijing Platform for Action, and Fiji’s commitments under the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

Fiji’s ranking against 149 countries on the World Economic Forum’s (WEF) Global Gender Gap assessment improved from 121 in 2015 to 106 in 2018. The WEF Report[[10]](#footnote-10) measures gender parity across four broad areas: economic participation and opportunity; educational attainment; political empowerment; and health and survival.

Despite these improvements, gender inequality remains a challenge for Fiji’s sustainable development. Fiji has one of the highest rates of domestic and sexual violence in the world with almost two-thirds of the country's women experiencing domestic or sexual violence during their lifetime. In 2018, nine of every ten sexual offences reported to the police were reported by women survivors of violence. There are also significant gender gaps in labour force participation (men 76.4 per cent; women 37.4 per cent) and unemployment rates (men 2.9 per cent; women 7.8 per cent). In the 2018 Fiji General Elections, however, ten women were elected into Parliament.

Australia’s Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development (*Pacific Women*) program aims to improve opportunities for the political, economic and social advancement of Pacific Women. The second *Pacific Women* Fiji Country Plan (2018–2021) builds on successes and lessons learned and supports enabling environments that enhance women’s participation in community, local and national level leadership. It also supports female market venders to work together to lead market reform and supports strategies to prevent and respond to violence against women.

**Outcome 1: Women (including survivors of violence) and communities in Fiji have access to responsive support services and justice to reduce violence against women.**

For the reporting period 2018-2019, Australia’s support to the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre (FWCC) enabled 1713 survivors of domestic and sexual violence to receive counselling, legal and medical support. Of these, 435 cases were reported to the police with FWCC support. In November 2018, the Fiji Police Force endorsed their Gender Based Violence Policy to establish zero tolerance on all reported cases of violence against women and children. FWCC trained 126 police and law and justice officials on responsive support services and justice to reduce violence against women. FWCC will undergo an End of Program Evaluation towards the end of 2019, jointly commissioned by DFAT and New Zealand’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Fiji Women’s Fund (FWF) supported three grantees to deliver violence prevention programs and sexual and reproductive health and rights services. Medical Services Pacific provided health and social services to 2997 women and men in the Maritime Islands and is one of five civil society organisations delivering services responding to gender based violence under the Fiji National Service Delivery Protocol. House of Sarah continued to support community activists through its Preventing Violence Against Women in Fiji’s Faith Settings program. The Reproductive Family Health Association of Fiji provided camps for 10 to 14 year old girls and provided sexual and reproductive health and rights training for the girls and their parents. Importantly, grantees engaged with men and boys, as well as women and girls, to build more comprehensive understanding of women’s rights to be free from violence.

Further, House of Sarah’s community activists and Rise Beyond the Reef’s male advocates all received training to help drive the work of gender equality and address harmful norms of violence in the communities where they worked.

**Outcome 2: Women in Fiji have increased capacity to access to income generating, business and employment opportunities:**

Women’s economic empowerment is increasingly recognised as a path to improved economic development for Pacific communities and countries. It also supports efforts to increase women’s agency and end violence against women and girls through holistic designs which operate at multiple levels and include community empowerment and awareness raising for women and men.

Australia’s ongoing support for the Markets for Change (M4C) program, implemented by UN Women and UNDP, provided 829 women market vendors with financial literacy training and access to business services. M4C also supported capacity building by convening three Improving Market Safety divisional meetings in Labasa, Suva and Nadi which included police, municipal councils, vendor associations, the Ministry of Women and the Land Transport Authority which resulted in Crime Prevention Committees for all 12 Fiji M4C markets. Fiji M4C also renewed a partnership with the Fiji Red Cross Society for the provision of First Aid Training to 360 market vendors and municipal staff in all Fiji M4C markets.

FWF provided financial literacy training to 21 grantees to enhance implementation and reporting against disbursed funds. Five FWF grantees worked specifically to empower women economically, including Rise Beyond the Reef which worked with 603 women artisans in 24 communities who collectively achieved a 300 per cent increase in their sales compared with 2017 figures.

A Rise Beyond the Reef impact study showed that women who participated in Rise Beyond the Reef activities learned new marketing strategies, including distribution and marketing outlets, and had increased understanding of the importance of supply and demand. The study also found that artisans’ efforts to meet deadlines also improved their time management skills and productivity. Additionally, product-related training and artisans’ efforts to produce handicrafts for the tourist market broadened artisans’ skills and improved the quality of their handicrafts. Importantly the study also found that 95 per cent of women working on Rise Beyond the Reef activities reported increased control over their finances. The study also found that increased income and assets contributed to increased family harmony by reducing economic stress.

**Outcome 3: Women in Fiji undertake leadership and decision making roles.**

After the 2018 Fiji general election, women held 20 per cent of parliamentary seats with three women appointed as Cabinet Ministers and two as Assistant Ministers. In the Fiji public sector five (20 per cent) of Permanent Secretaries are women and women hold 30 per cent of the 55 diplomatic posts in 18 missions in 16 countries[[11]](#footnote-11).

M4C Program activities have led to an increase in leadership roles held by women. There are 12 market vendors associations in Fiji with over 3387 registered members, 2321 of which are women. Five out of the 12 market vendors associations are led by women and women occupy 50 per cent of leadership roles in all the associations[[12]](#footnote-12). Women market vendors are also represented in provincial councils and district advisory councils. The project is seeing a new generation of women leaders at the local level who have enhanced their skillsets, to negotiate with government agencies, have confidence to speak at large regional events and are able to mobilise their members.

Other leadership initiatives included: FWF’s support for 12 grantees who worked with a range women seeking participation in leadership and decision-making roles; femLINKpacific’s engagement with rural women leaders in Ba, Tavua and Rakiraki; Graduate Women Fiji’s support for girls from urban squatter settlements in Suva to break Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths gender stereotypes; Pacific Sexual and Gender Diversity Network’s organisation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI+) activists and human rights defenders, and Rise Beyond the Reef’s investment in remote rural communities. Building the skills of a diverse group of women as leaders and decision-makers will ensure greater representation of women’s interests.

Women are developing leadership skills, have increasing influence in their communities due to their improved economic status from women’s economic empowerment activities and are engaging in meaningful decision making processes.

**Outcome 4: Gender is effectively addressed in all Australian bilateral aid investments (DFAT performance benchmark)**

Efforts to improve gender equality through Fiji bilateral program investments are ongoing. The gender teams in Suva and Canberra work with other Fiji bilateral teams to improve investments that rated poorly under the gender criterion of the Aid Quality Checks.

**Outcome 5: Enhance the participation of people with disabilities as contributors, leaders and decision makers in their communities**

Australia supported the first regional dialogue between DPOs, violence response service providers and government ministries on barriers to disability inclusion in Ending Violence Against Women through the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development program. As a result of the dialogue, a toolkit was developed by the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF), its member organisation Fiji Disabled People’s Federation and UN Women.

Through **FWF**, we have signed a three-year partnership with the PDF, the Federation and its national affiliates. This will focus on: promoting the participation of women with disabilities through leadership and decision making; raising public awareness on violence for women with disabilities experience, and conducting research on access to services for women and girls with disabilities.

**Outcome 6: Improve equity of access of people with disabilities to benefit from Australian bilateral aid investments.**

The Australian aid program recognises works to champion inclusive education. DFAT has worked closely with the **University of the South Pacific** to support the establishment of a Disability Centre and has made progress in supporting students with disabilities. The **Australia Awards** program 2020 intake offers two programs tailored to support people with disability, including youths who seek to hold leadership positions in the communities or are looking to establish a business. A significant achievement was the implementation of an inclusive approach at five Disability Inclusion Demonstration schools, which included training in braille and sign language, provision of teacher aides and specialised equipment and inclusive infrastructure upgrades. Further, using the toolkit for disability Inclusive Education in Fiji (developed by AQEP in 2015), all AQEP infrastructure repair post TC Winston were made accessible for people with disability.

**4. Climate and disaster preparedness and response**

Fiji is highly vulnerable to disasters, particularly tropical cyclones, and the impacts of climate change. Australia did not provide humanitarian response funding to Fiji in 2018-19 as there were no significant disasters in this period. In addition, the reprioritisation of development funds meant that Australia spent only 0.7 per cent of the 2 per cent target on preparedness activities. This supported preparedness activities by the National Disaster Management Office, MHMS and the MEHA. Some further progress was made in 2018-19 on integrating climate change and disaster resilience across the bilateral program, including ensuring the social housing program with the IFC (see below) and via the Facility’s Preparedness and Response Fund. However, more could be done to ensure the bilateral program’s development impact is sustainable in a changing climate.

In 2018-19 PFIP and the IFC examined options with the GoF to insure houses against natural disasters. Currently less than 10 per cent of households have home and contents insurance for natural disasters. The intention is to have new parametric insurance products on the market in 2019-20. (Parametric insurance is a category of insurance which does not require an assessment of the damage caused by a particular event, but pays out only when defined parameters are met, such as a specified intensity level of a tropical cyclone. This means that the pay-out mechanism is predictable and rapid.)

A key achievement in 2018-19 was the FEMAT receipt of WHO accreditation, with support from Australia’s aid program. Fiji is the first Pacific country with this certification and it will greatly boost the capability to provide rapid in-field health care assistance after natural disasters. FEMAT has the potential to be deployed to other countries.

In 2018-19, the IFC received approval from Australia and GoF to investigate the feasibility of a large scale affordable and environmentally friendly housing development at four sites in urban centres. The housing development intends to meet IFC’s “Edge” environmental principles while maintaining affordability.

In 2018-19, the AIFFP team undertook a scoping mission in Fiji to investigate GoF’s infrastructure priorities. GoF has signalled its strong interest in Australia’s involvement in the Nadi River Flood Mitigation project led by the ADB and Japan. The scope of Australia’s assistance will be confirmed in 2019-20. All infrastructure investments in Fiji under the AIFFP will incorporate climate and disaster resilience principles in design and construction.

In 2018-19, progress was also made in integrating climate change into the work of regional programs operating in Fiji, including MDF and PHAMA Plus, as well as ensuring the work of climate change specific programs, like the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac2) and the Pacific Resilience and Governance Program, are better aligned to bilateral priorities.

Objective 3 – TC Winston Recovery

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**Outcome 1: Timely and efficient implementation of TC Winston $20m recovery package**

**Outcome 2: Improved health and education facilities through repaired/rebuilt buildings in select communities Ra and Koro**

**Outcome 3: Increased livelihood opportunities for those affected, particularly women in Rakiraki.**

Australia’s TC Winston $20million recovery package included repairs and building of 34 schools in Ra Province and Koro Island, upgrading and building the Waimaro Health Centre in Ra Province and Koro Health Centre, and co-financing with GoF the rebuilding of the Rakiraki Municipal Markets and women’s accommodation centre.

While the majority of the recovery work was completed in the 2017-18 reporting period[[13]](#footnote-13), the outstanding work to be completed are the six schools in Koro Island and the Rakiraki Markets.

The 28 completed schools, fitted with a comprehensive furniture package, and health centres were handed over to the GoF in 2018. These are now fully operational, supporting the surrounding population in Ra Province and Koro Island.

The Koro schools, although completed and ready for occupation, were delayed due to problems with the finalisation of certificates. We anticipate this will be resolved by December 2019, ready for the start of the new school year in January 2020.

The Rakiraki Market was to be completed by June 2019, however, due to the adverse weather conditions and the change of scope by GoF, competition was delayed. The project is now on track to be completed and open by the end of 2019.

## Mutual obligations

The AIP 2015-19 expired in mid-2019. However, Australia continues to support Fiji to achieve its development goals through agreed priority areas.

Looking forward, under the Fiji-Australia Vuvale Partnership, signed by Prime Ministers Morrison and Bainimarama on 16 September 2019, committed both governments to:

* engage each other with trust, respect, and understanding;
* share responsibility for delivering programs and policies to achieve our goals;
* listen and speak carefully to understand our respective points of view when differences arise;
* share in the prosperity of improved economic and social well-being;
* help each other to grow as individual sovereign states and as partners; and
* work in a considered and sustainable manner that achieves lasting outcomes.

These principles will underpin the development of mutual obligations in the upcoming process to develop a new AIP.

## Program Quality and Partner Performance

Overview

Australia continued to develop a systematic approach to monitoring and evaluating aid in Fiji. Annual assessment of performance occurs against a PAF. An agreed rating for each AIP objective is the result of presented evidence that is subject to critique and review. Other key performance processes in 2018-19 included AQCs, Partner Performance Assessments and program evaluations. All of these systems and processes generate learning that has informed decisions and been fed back into the program planning and design process – including the AIP for 2019-22. We acknowledge that the PAF developed is no longer fit for purpose. Our development program has shifted in response to the Pacific Step-up and increasing requests from GoF. We need to review the indicators for the Education Program, Labour Mobility Scheme and the Governance Program. The AQC scores, which include progress against PAF targets in addition to qualitative and quantitative data, are currently a better reflection of program performance. The results from 2018-19 were used to make many of the performance assessments in this document.

Aid Quality Checks (AQCs)

AQCs were conducted for seven investments for the period 2018-19. A summary of AQC ratings is at Annex D. The overall average ranking of the seven AQCs is 4.2, compared to 4.3 in 2018-19.

**The Facility is consolidating program delivery in its second year of operation and is already producing cost savings and addressing gender and disability across investments**. In 2018-19, the rating for efficiency was increased from three to four noting the quality of program performance and reporting and recruitment of senior management and program staff. DFAT’s internal time and effort survey of staff, June –November 2018, saw a marked improvement in focus on strategic tasks, with the Facility able to manage the more administrative functions. A mid-term evaluation of the Facility is scheduled in 2019-20.

**The Governance Program was assessed as providing relevant, flexible and responsive assistance in 2018-19, with progress on track towards end-of-program outcomes.**  The Program lifted its rating for effectiveness from four to five due to the significant undertaking of managing the MOG for Fiji’s election in November 2018, in addition to the regular activities of the program. There was also an improved evidence base following the development of an M&E framework during the reporting period.

**The Australia-IFC Fiji partnership was rated highly in the 2018-19 aid quality check process.** The program delivered valuable outputs highlighting the cost to Fiji’s economy of gender inequality and violence against women. The programs focus on catalysing private sector investment continued to be well received by the GoF. The IFC was also recognised for its strong partnership and dialogue with the GoF. These results, coupled with our ongoing advocacy, resulted in New Zealand deciding to join this partnership. An end of program evaluation is scheduled in 2019-20.

MDF made satisfactory progress on implementing its activities with partners, and signed eight new partnerships in 2018-19[[14]](#footnote-14) with influential market actors. This is testimony to its reputation. The overall effectiveness rating was reduced from four to three. However as the program was unable to deliver ‘systemic change’ in Fiji’s economy, a promised end of program objective (we also acknowledge this was a highly ambitious objective). We are looking at MDF’s contribution to the functioning of markets in Fiji to capture a true picture of its effectiveness.

Both the health and education programs maintained their performance in 2018-19, scoring similar scores to those received in 2017-18. The health Program is at a more advanced stage of implementation, with activities well underway and on track across its two focus areas. The education Program commenced in 2018-19 and expected progress was made on foundational activities.

The AQCs show a mixed picture of how our aid programs are addressing gender. Programs delivered under the Facility are benefitting from the advice and support provided by the GESI team in the Facility Management Support Unit. From July to December 2018, the support unit provided 1,061 women and 520 men with GESI training. This has supported buy-in from our partners (government and CSOs). However, traction in the Health Program waned in 2018-19 due to shifting priorities in MOHMS. The Governance Program continued to ensure that gender analysis underpinned all of its activities, or to articulate a coherent gender strategy for the program. Conversely, our partnership with the IFC has adopted an effective twin track approach to gender, with an innovative targeted activity working with leading businesses, as well as effective mainstreaming.

While we contributed strongly to disability-inclusive development in 2018-19 through our DFAT-TC Winston recovery work, disability inclusiveness was weak in our programs under objective 1: improved private sector development. Specific interventions will be developed and implemented to address these areas of weakness in our Governance Programs. All relevant investments reported actions to address climate change and disaster risks during implementation. In 2019-20 all DFAT development staff at the Australian High Commission in Suva will undertake gender and disability inclusive development training.

**Performance of key delivery partners**

In the 2018-19, the delivery of important components of the Program was undertaken through partnerships with Cardno (Pacific Women), Coffey International Development Pty Limited (the Facility) and Palladium/Griffith Australia Pacific Climate Partnership Support Unit (Climate Change). Suva DFAT continued to collaborate with other civil society organisations including the FWCC, femLINKpacific and Medical Services Pacific. Our bilateral programs worked closely with multilateral organisations, including the ADB, IFC, UNICEF and UN Women.

The performance of key partners was assessed during the reporting period through DFAT’s Partner Performance Assessment process. Partners were rated as “adequate” or “performing well” on most criteria.

FWCC continues to be one of Australia’s flagship partners working to end violence against women and girls in Fiji and across the Pacific. The relationship between DFAT and FWCC has been strengthened during the reporting period.

We continue to value the WB and IFC’s commitment and performance in Fiji. In February 2019, the World Bank and the IFC opened a joint office in Suva.

The Facility is still a relatively new management modality, for both DFAT and Coffey International in Fiji. Despite maturing relationships and programs in active implementation phases, there is still some overlap of responsibilities between the Facility and DFAT. Coffey International’s head office has provided smooth and consistent support during several senior level staff transitions.

## Risks

**Table 3: Management of Key Risks to Achieving Objectives**

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| **Key risks (emerging and ongoing)** | **What actions were taken to manage the risks over the past year?** | **What further actions will be taken to manage the risks in the coming year?** | **Provide a Risk Rating (low, medium, high, very high)** | **Are these same risks in in DFAT’s Risk Register (Yes/No)\*** |
| (Ongoing) Climate Change and natural disasters are an ongoing risk to Fiji’s development. GoF required to divert resources to respond. Aid programs delayed.  | Increased coordination with NDMO, CSOs and Australian Humanitarian Partnership agencies. Engagement in Disaster READY program. Improved engagement with Fiji Council of Social Services and Fiji Red Cross Society through the Preparedness and Response Fund.  | - IFC and PFIP working on disaster risk insurance for households - ANS will assess use of GoF’s cash transfer system in event of natural disaster - Further integration of climate change and disaster resilience across the bilateral program to help safeguard development achievements in a changing climate.  | High | Yes |
| (Ongoing) Consolidation of program delivery under the Facility does not reduce burden on staff, improve coherence, or deliver high quality programs  | Active monitoring of the Facility’s performance against established M&E framework at the Facility and program level. Continued senior management engagement with Facility.  | Conduct a mid-term review to inform management engagement New format of senior management engagement with the Facility, including more targeted, regular meetings between all senior management teams. | Medium | Yes |
| (Emerging) Global economic conditions could lead to reduced Government revenue and fiscal consolidation. Expectations of donors to provide budget support.  | - Active monitoring of economic conditions - Support to ADB’s PFM program with Ministry of Economy - Considering twinning partnership with Fiji Tax Office and Australian Tax Office | - Finalise ATO-FRCA partnership - Continue to work with IFC’s to support Fiji’s credible economic reform agenda. - Undertake ANS and consider joining ADB/WB economic reform and budget support  | Medium | No |

The overall risk profile to Australia’s aid program has remained relatively constant over the last 12 months. The impact of climate change and natural disaster will remain a key risk to Fiji’s development. The Program has responded by investing in targeted activities, including the Preparedness and Response Fund. In 2019-20, the GoF is expected to introduce new disaster risk insurance, with Australia’s support. The Australia Pacific Climate Partnership Support Unit is providing expert advice to our existing programs on how to better address climate change and disaster risks. For instance, under PHAMA Plus, the Support Unit will engage agricultural scientists to provide advice on how the changing climate will impact root crops in Fiji in the decades to come.

## Management actions

Two management actions identified in the 2017-18 APPR have been achieved, with a third on track for completion through the finalisation of the Governance Program design.

**Management actions identified that have not progressed as expected (rated amber):**

DFAT has progressed the DFAT-TC Winston reconstruction action to its limit. While we expect the schools to be handed over by the end of 2019, DFAT is monitoring the situation closely.

Progress against developing a new AIP, while not completed in the reporting period, is on track for completion in 2019. A new AIP was not able to be developed until after the *Vuvale Partnership*, an overarching agreement between the Governments of Fiji and Australia covering political, economic, aid, trade and security relationships, was signed.

We are taking great strides on ensuring the Facility remains on track to achieve program outcomes and provides timely and credible reporting on its progress. The facility has now bedded down and has been able to realise more efficiencies.[[15]](#footnote-15)

**We will implement the following management actions in 2019-20:**

1. Review allocation of responsibilities among staff at Suva Post to ensure effective deliver on priorities for Australia and the region in the context of Pacific step-up, and the Vuvale Partnership (by end 2019).
2. Finalise development of an AIP for 2019-23 with GoF. Momentum from the signing of the Vuvale Partnership will support frank discussions about how to maximise Australia’s investments. Ensure DFAT leverages multilateral development bank increases in funding, as well as the opportunities from the AIFFP, to catalyse investment to help Fiji progress towards its objective of achieving high income status (by end first quarter 2020).
3. Introduce a process of annual partnership talks/high level consultations with GoF on bilateral partnership performance and priorities (by end first quarter 2020).
4. Develop a new PAF in conjunction with the new AIP, and ensure it collects credible, useful real time information (by end first quarter 2020). The PAF will include better ways of tracking cross cutting issues, such as gender, disability and climate change. We recognise the current PAF includes indicators that cannot be adequately tracked due to data gaps, which undermines its utility and credibility.
5. Develop a strategy to increase human development performance benchmarks relating to disability and gender equality. In particular, this is required to identify approaches for the Fiji program to reach the gender equality target requiring at least 80 per cent of all aid investments, regardless of their primary objectives, to effectively address gender issues in their implementation. Planned evaluations in 2019-20 will provide evidence on how to strengthen our approach to gender and disability in our investments. Strategy to be completed and implementation commenced by end of reporting period.
6. Conduct a rapid analysis of the role of DFAT in supporting regional initiatives, to examine how investments are being monitored to ensure the most efficient and effective monitoring systems are in place (by end first quarter 2020).
7. Conduct an assessment of national systems for Fiji, with a view to joining the ADB budget support program in 2019-20 (by end first quarter 2020).
	1. If successful, complete a systems assessment of one sector, to investigate potential for moving to earmarked budget support.
8. Continue to track progress of the Facility and ensure efficiencies from the Facility model are realised. A review of the Facility in 2020 will assist in analysing and refocusing efforts (ongoing).

Annex A - Progress in Addressing Management actions

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| **Management responses identified in 2017-18 APPR**  | **Rating** | **Progress made in 2018-19** |
| 1, Develop and implement specific interventions to achieve gender and disability outcomes under new and existing programs. These will include the development of an inclusivity guidance note for private sector development program and integrating gender analysis in the design of the new governance program.  | Partly Achieved | The draft design for the new Governance program has integrated gender analysis, the design will be finalised in the coming months. An inclusivity guidance note was not developed for Private Sector Development (PSD), however, the two key PSD programs (MDF and IFC) both improved significantly in achieving gender equality outcomes over the reporting period.  |
| 2, Commence implementation of the new education program. | Achieved | Full implementation of *Australia’s Support to Fiji’s Education Sector* commenced in November 2018.  |
| 3. Take appropriate steps to ensure progress of the final phase of DFAT-TC Winston reconstruction, enabling completion in 2019. | Partly achieved | All schools have been completed. The last five schools (in Koro) will be handed over to the GoF by the end of 2019. |
| 4. We will develop a new Aid Investment Plan for 2019-23 with the GoF. The new plan will reflect Australian Government priorities in the Pacific and be aligned closely with Fiji’s NDP. It will include a robust and focused PAF for measuring progress. The size and mix of Australia’s investments will be appropriate to the context, taking into account Fiji’s status as an upper middle-income country where aid is only a small portion of the national budget | Partly achieved | Work on the new Aid Investment Plan (AIP) is well underway, including initial consultations with the GoF. The AIP will be finalised in 2019. |
| 5. Take steps to ensure the Facility remains on track to achieve program outcomes and provides timely and credible reporting on progress. DFAT and the Facility contractor will agree more precise definitions of, and ways to measure, the change to be achieved by the Facility; and clarify roles and responsibilities between DFAT and the Facility. There will be an independent mid-term review of the Facility’s progress in 2019 | Partly achieved | The Facility has met the majority of agreed outcomes, verified by timely and credible reporting. DFAT and the Facility have agreed a number of more precise ways to measure the change to be achieved by the Facility with reporting on these changes to commence in 2019-20. Roles and responsibilities have been clarified and agreed in a series of DFAT/Facility governance meetings. A mid-term review of the Facility will be complete in late 2019. |
| 6. Engage with program partners to ensure they prioritise the collection of credible performance information (particularly at the outcomes level) and communicate it accurately. Continue to build the capacity of DFAT staff to undertake, or provide oversight of, monitoring and evaluation of aid activities in Fiji and ensure that the information collected is used to strengthen program performance.  | Achieved | DFAT have engaged additional technical expertise to help develop appropriate monitoring and evaluation tools and to upskill DFAT staff to undertake and provide oversight of monitoring and evaluating activities. This remains an area where ongoing strengthening will be beneficial.  |

**Note:**

**⬛  Achieved. Significant progress has been made in addressing the issue**

**⬛  Partly achieved. Some progress has been made in addressing the issue, but the issue has not been resolved**

**⬛  Not achieved. Progress in addressing the issue has been significantly below expectations**

 Annex B – PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

1 Progress towards Performance Benchmarks in 2018-19

**Note:**

**⬛  Achieved. Significant progress has been made and the performance benchmark was achieved**

**⬛  Partly achieved. Some progress has been made towards achieving the performance benchmark, but progress was less than anticipated.**

**⬛  Not achieved. Progress towards the performance benchmark has been significantly below expectations**

Progress towards Performance Benchmarks in 2018 -19

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Aid Objective** | **Performance Benchmark** | **Rating** | **Progress in 2018 -19** |
| Increase Private Sector Development | New formal sector jobs created for the poorTarget: 350 | Achieved | By end of December 2018, 246 new jobs were created as a result of Australia’s aid program. This is less than the target of 350 new jobs or 70 per cent of the target. However, the additional personal income is USD13million as a result of aid program which superseded the target of UDD5million. In addition, Fiji’s participation in the Seasonal Workers Programme increased by 100 from 200 in 2017-18 to 300 in 2018-19. |
| Increase Private Sector Development | Aid budget allocated to aid for trade initiativesTarget: 20 per cent | Achieved | In 2018-19, 22 per cent of the total aid budget was directed to aid for trade initiatives.  |
| Improved human development | Reduction in percentage of students in the AQEP program targeted schools achieving in the national bottom quartiles in literacy and numeracy | Achieved | AQEP was completed in the last reporting period.  |
| Improved human development | 80per cent of investments, regardless of their objectives, will effectively address gender issues in their implementation | Partially achieved | Overall 66 per cent of investments effective addressed gender issues in implementation. This is a three per cent increase from the previous period. The Fiji Program Facility had its full year implementation and have effectively implemented gender issues in their systems and processes. The Governance portfolio however has not met the 80 per cent target.  |
| Improved human development | 80 per cent of investments, regardless of their objectives, will actively involve people with disabilities and/or Disabled People’s Organisations (DPOs), in planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation  | Not achieved | Overall 38 per cent of investments effectively involve people with disabilities and/or DPOs in planning, implementation and monitoring. Remedial actions will include the development of performance benchmarks relating specifically to disability. |
| Improved human development | 80 per cent of investments, regardless of their objectives, will identify and address barriers to inclusion for people with disabilities to enable them benefit equally  | Partially achieved | Overall 53 per cent of investments scored 4 and above in AQC reporting on this indicator. There is strong outcome reported with disability engagement with the DPO under the Pacific Women and the Fiji Program Facility GESI framework.  |
| Improved Human Development | Climate resilience are assessed and taken into account in the new Australian Aid Investments and activities in Fiji – including design, implementation arrangements, monitoring and, evaluation and reporting frameworks; and risk | Partially achieved | . Under the Fiji Program Facility an annual budget of AUD700,000 is established for Preparedness and Respond Fund (PRF) of which AUD429,000 is for preparedness. IFCs work is aligned to DFAT and GoF’s priorities around climate change and building resilience. In 2018-19, the Australia Pacific Climate Partnership Support Unit has supported Fiji DFAT and implementing partners to integrate climate change and disaster resilience via: Reviewing the Facility preparedness and response fund annual plan Presenting on the risks of climate change to key private sector entities at the Fiji Business Forum Engaging in the design process for the IFC social housing program Reviewing the education sector program annual plan Reviewed Fiji’s disaster management act Supported the Facility to develop climate change and disaster resilience indicators Reviewed the Fiji school disaster risk reduction handbook  Provided advice on a range of proposals from GoF for COP23 related activities  Reviewed the Fiji Shelter Handbook (developed with support from AHP) Reviewed the Facility’s annual planReviewed the MoE’s school WASH policy |
| Improved human development | Increased number of births and four sub-divisional hospitals by skilled attendants | Achieved | There was an increase in adherence to Mother and Neonatal Hospital Initiative standards across the four sub-divisional hospitals from 58per cent in 2018 to 73per cent in May 2019. |

ANNEX C – EVALUATION PLANNING

1 List of evaluations completed in the reporting period

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Investment number and name  | Name of evaluation | Date completed | Date Evaluation report Uploaded into AidWorks | Date Management response uploaded into AidWorks | Published on website |
| INL397 Pacific Women Fiji Country Plan | Mid-term evaluation of the Strengthening Feminist Coalitions and Partnership for Gender Equality: We Rise Phase 2 project  | January 2019 | April 2019  | April 2019 | March 2019 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

2 List of program prioritised evaluations planned for the next 12 months

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluation title** | **Investment number and name (if applicable)**  | **Date – planned commencement (month/year)** | **Date – planned completion (month/year)** | **Purpose of evaluation** | **Evaluation type** |
| Independent end of program evaluation of Australia-IFC Fiji Partnership | INM108 Australia – IFC Fiji Partnership | November 2019 | January 2020 | The evaluation will assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the Fiji partnership to provide recommendations and lessons that will inform the design of the next partnership.  | Partner-led  |
| Fiji Women’s Fund Mid Term Review  | INK496 – Fiji Women’s Fund  | May 2019 | January 2020  | The mid-term review will undertake an independent assessment of the Fiji Women’s Fund and identify key achievements and lessons since establishment in 2017.  | Joint DFAT and Partner  |
| Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre End of Program Evaluation  | INL397 – Pacific Women Fiji Country Plan  | July 2019 | February 2020 | The evaluation will assess the overall performance of the program to inform design of the next phase of support | Joint DFAT and Partner  |

Annex D - Aid Quality Check ratings

1 AQC ratings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Investment name** | **Approved budget and duration** | **year on year** | **Effectiveness** | **Efficiency** | **Gender equality** | **Relevance** | **Monitoring and Evaluation** | **Sustainability** |
| **INM059 - Fiji Program Support Facility**  | $66.0m | 2019 AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| 2016-22 | 2018 AQC | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| **INM059 - Fiji Program Support Facility (Health Program)**  | $25.0m | 2019 AQC | 4 | 4 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 2016-22 | 2018 AQC | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| **INM059 - Fiji Program Support Facility (Education Program)** | $25.0m | 2019 AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| 2016-22 | 2018 AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| **INL339 - Fiji Bilateral Governance Program** | $25.8 million | 2019 AQC | 5 | 4 | 3 | - | - | - |
| 2014-20 | 2018 AQC | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| **INK629 - Inclusive Economic Growth (Market Development Facility)**  | $17.5m | 2019 AQC | 3 | 4 | 4 | - | - | - |
| 2017-22 | 2018 AQC | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AQC Analysis** |  | **2017-18** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Investment Name** |  |  **Effectiveness** | **Efficiency** | **Gender****Equality** | **Relevance** | **M&E** | **Sustainability** | **Total Score** | **Aver Score** | **per cent Performance** |
| Fiji Program Support Facility |  | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 24 | 4 | 0.67 |
| Fiji Bilateral Governance Program |  | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 24 | 4 | 0.67 |
| Inclusive Economic Growth (MDF) |  | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 27 | 4.5 | 0.75 |
| Private Sector Development Fiji |  | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 27 | 4.5 | 0.75 |
| Pacific Women Fiji Country Plan |  | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 26 | 4.3 | 0.72 |
| Total Score  |  | 21 | 20 | 21 | 25 | 20 | 21 | 128 | 21.3 |   |
|  Average Score per criteria |  | 4.2 | 4 | 4.2 | 5 | 4 | 4.2 |   | 4.3 |  |
|   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **AQC Analysis** |  | **2018-19** |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **Investment Name** |  |  |  |  | **Effectiveness** | **Efficiency** | **Gender****Equality** | **Total** **Score** |  |  |
| Fiji Program Support Facility |  |   |   |   | 4 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 4 | 0.67 |
| Fiji Bilateral Governance Program |  |   |   |   | 5 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 4 | 0.67 |
| Inclusive Economic Growth (MDF) |  |   |   |   | 3 | 4 | 4 | 11 | 3.7 | 0.61 |
| Private Sector Development Fiji |  |   |   |   | 5 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 5.0 | 0.83 |
| Pacific Women Fiji Country Plan |  |   |   |   | 4 | 4 | 5 | 13 | 4.3 | 0.72 |
|  Total Score |  |   |   |   | 21 | 21 | 21 | 63 | 21 |   |
|  Average Score per criteria |  |   |   |   | 4.2 | 4.2 | 4.2 |   | 4.2 |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Decrease  | -1.55per cent |  |

Annex E – Performance Assessment Framework

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| ***AIP Objective 1: Increased Private Sector Development***  |
|  |
|  | **Indicator** | **Baseline** | **2016-2017 (Actual)** | **2017-2018 (Actual)** | **2018-2019 Target** | **2018-2019 Actual** | **DFAT Programs contributing to outcome**  | **Data collection method** |
| **Sub-objective: Poverty for men and women is reduced through a more inclusive and competitive private sector** |
| **Outcome 1:** Increased incomes for poor households  | 1.1 New formal sector jobs (FTE) created as a result of our aid program | 191 (as at Dec 2015) | 222 jobs (as at Dec 2016) | 250 jobs (by Dec 2017) | 350 jobs | 246 jobs (by Dec 2018)  | MDF | Annual reports from DFAT aid programs |
| 1.2 Additional personal income for men and women generated as a result of our aid program | USD2.5 million (as at Dec 2015)  | USD3.3 million (as at Dec 2016) | USD4.2 million (by Dec 2017) | USD5 million | USD13 million (by Dec 2018) | MDF | MDF Annual Report |
| 1.3 Fiji increases its participation in the Seasonal Worker Program  | 160 | 190 (5% female) | 200 (10% female) | continued increase (numbers) | 300 (10% female) (by December 2018) | Seasonal Workers Program  | DFAT central reporting |
| **Outcome 2:** Fiji's business environment is conducive to inclusive private sector-led growth  | 2.1 Reduced number of working days to start a business | 58 days | 40 days | 40 days | Less than previous year | 40 days | PSDI and IFC | WB Doing Business Survey  |
|
| 2.2 Improved performance of SOEs, as measured by the return on assets (ROA)  | 1.5% average between 2010-2014 | Maintain or increase ROA from baseline | Maintain or increase ROA from baseline | Maintain or increase ROA from baseline | Limited data available.  | PSDI | PSDI progress report |
| 2.3 Improved accountability of SOEs, as measured by the proportion of SOEs that publish audited annual reports within statutory timeframes  | 10-20% of SOEs submit and publish audited annual reports within statutory timeframes | Increase  | Increase | Increase  | No change from baseline.  | PSDI |
| 2.4 Improved MSMEs access to finance through secured transactions reform | Moveable assets not able to be used as collateral.  | A secured transactions framework developed | Personal Property Securities Act passed by Parliament | Establish online registry | Online registry established | PSDI |
| 2.5 Percentage of adults that have an active mobile money account (used in the last 90 days) | 2.16 per cent | 2.6 per cent | 3.04 per cent | 10 per cent | 3.32 per cent | PFIP | Reserve Bank of Fiji annual report |
| **Outcome 3:** Improved trade competitiveness of key pro-poor sectors  | 3.1 Market access maintained or improved for three export commodities (ginger, taro, kava) and new market access opened for new commodities | Market access protected for fresh ginger, taro and kava | Market access protected for fresh ginger, taro and kava  | Breadfruit import risk analysis commenced | a) Breadruit draft import risk analysis completed b)start risk assessment for chilli | Achieved  | PHAMA | PFIP |
| PHAMA |
| 3.2 Growth in tourist numbers to less visited areas of Fiji (i.e destinations other than Denerau Nadi-Coral Coast-Mamanucas) | In 2016, 142,000 tourists (or 19% of total tourists) visited other regions | 142,000 (19% market share) in 2016 | 143,000 (15% market share) in 2017 | Data not available | Data not available | MDF |
| Fiji Bureau of Statistics |
| 3.3 Increased private investment due to our aid programs | USD1.4 million leveraged in 2015  | USD2.8 million leveraged in 2016 | USD3.5 million (by Dec 2017) | USD4.5 million | USD4.9 million (by Dec 2018) | MDF |
| Annual reports from DFAT aid programs |
| 3.4 Increased aid budget allocated to aid-for-trade initiatives  | 10.5 percent (2015-16) | 14.3 percent | 20 percent | 20 per cent | 22 percent | All |
| AidWorks / Budget data |

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| ***AIP Objective 2: Improved Human Development*** |
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| **Objective 2: Improved Human Development** | **Indicator** | **Baseline** | **2016-2017 Actual** | **2017-2018 Actual** | **2018-19 Target** | **2018-19 Actual** | **DFAT Programs contributing to outcome** | **Data collection method** |
| **Sub-objective: Education *(Please note that the indicators for the new education program are still under consideration and will not be finalised until an alignment exercise to the yet to be approved, Strategic Plan 2019-2023, has been conducted.)*** |
|  **Pillar 1: Central and decentralised systems and partnerships deliver the support to schools that enable all primary girls and boys to learn** |
| **Outcome 1.1:** Quality and inclusive education prioritised in MEHA strategic planning, policies, resourcing and capacity development | TBC | TBC | NA | NA | TBC |   | Education Sector Support Program | FEMIS reports |
| TBC | TBC | NA | NA | TBC |   | Education Sector Support Program | FEMIS reports |
| **Outcome 1.2:** MEHA inclusive policies and systems informed by evidence-based analysis | TBC | TBC | NA | NA | TBC |   | Education Sector Support Program | FEMIS reports |
|   |
| TBC | TBC | NA | NA | TBC |   | Education Sector Support Program | FEMIS reports |
| **Pillar 2: District and school systems support teachers and the learning for students** |
| **Outcome 2.1:** School management and teaching practices are informed by analysis of FEMIS data |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 2.2:** District education officers monitor and support school performance in inclusive learning |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Outcome 2.3:** School heads monitor and support inclusive learning in the classroom |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  **Outcome 2.4:** Teachers use skills/knowledge, curriculum, resources and assessment tools for effective L&N learning |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **Pillar 3: School communities contribute to inclusive teaching and learning** |
| **Outcome 3.1:** MEHA and school owners collaborate in management of inclusive learning |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **Outcome 3.2:** Respectful and inclusive learning supported by school communities |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **Pillar 4: Australian Awards** |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| **Outcome 4.1:** Fiji alumni have necessary skills and knowledge to progress sustainable development priorities | 3.1 Maintaining proportion of Australia Awards recipients (men and women) who complete their study successfully  | 80% | 80% | 85% | 95% | 95% | Australia Awards | OASIS reports |
| 3.2 % of graduates (men and women) who find employment in their area of study within X months of graduating | 80% | 90% | 85% | 90% | 90% | Australia Awards | OASIS reports |
| **Sub-Objective: Health (Health program has commenced in late 2017. Over the next 18 months, outcome areas and indicators are pitched at an intermediate level that sit below shared Ministry of Health and Australian health program long-term outcomes)** |
| **Long-term Outcome I: Sub-divisional hospitals managing decentralised clinical services** |
| Intermediate Outcome 1: Quality obstetric care at sub-divisional hospitals | 1.1 Average % attendance to Mother Safe Hospital Initiative (MSHI) standards in subdivisional hospitals | 38% (2014) | Increase from previous years actual | 58% adherence to MSHI standards across four sub-divisional hospitals that we are working in.  | Increase from previous years actual | 73% adherence to MSHI standards across four sub-divisional hospitals that the program is working in.  | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Intermediate Outcome 2: Strengthened clinical governance for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) at sub-divisional and district hospitals | 1.2 # of Mortality and Morbidity NCD Reviews held in a quarter in sub-divisional and district hospitals | tbc: X# out of 20 hospitals (DH/SDH) | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report |
| Intermediate Outcome 3: Strengthened surveillance and response to vaccine preventable diseases  | 1.3 # of surveillance reports (Hospital based Active Surveillance (HBAS)) submitted monthly | tbc: X# out of 20 hospitals (DH/SDH) | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report |
| Intermediate Outcome 4: Strengthened relationships between CSOs and MOHMS to improve service delivery | 1.4 # of CSOs contracted to provide services in line with MOHMS priorities | TBD by HSSP and MOHMS | Program inception | First Targeted Call for CSO Support completed. Facility CSO Grant framework and Strategy completed. Ministry CSO program management support strengthened. CR 100% | Second Open Call for wider CSO Grants for Health Sector made. Ministry CSO Program Management engaged in the process. CR 100% | 5 CSOs contracted: Save ther Children Fiji, Medical Services Pacific, Empower Pacific, Partners in Community Development Fiji and FRIEND | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report |

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| **Long-term Outcome II: Functional annual planning-implementation-monitoring-reporting cycles consistently applied within MOHMS** |
| Intermediate Outcome 5 - Improved capacity of MoHMS Director of Policy and Planning, and Director Finance to improve links between the MoHMS planning process and well-costed and successful budget bids.  | 2.1 % of spending against Budgeted expenditure | 2016 Budget expenditure figures at 61% | 61% is the current spending capacity of the Ministry. | 65% Spending target. Planning and Budget submissions and Fiscal frameworks and changes to policies identified. | 70% Spending target. Embedding planning approaches within the planning cycle. Fiscal policies for cabinet approval.  | Too early to tell as 2018/2019 financial year has just ended. Indications are that it was on track to hit 85%.  | Annual Budget and the Annual National Health Accounts | Annual |
| Intermediate Outcome 6: Strengthened and adequately staffed health workforce to deliver quality services, through the successful establishment of the Learning and Development Unit  | 2.2 Ratio of vacancies to establishment for clinical cadres | 30% (2014) | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | No target set | 21% | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report/MOHMS HRD records |
| 2.3 Ratio of vacancies to establishment for non-clinical cadres | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Health Sector Support Program | Health Sector Support Program Progress Report/MOHMS HRD records |
| Intermediate Outcome 7: Established NCD information system capable of providing accurate data for patient detection, management, and tracking.  | 2.4 Number of people (sex / age disaggregated) screened and referred to the next level of care in the health system | This was part of previous Health Program | This was part of previous Health Program | This was part of previous Health Program | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Health Sector Support Program | Screening reports (MOHMS / CSOs) |
| 2.5 Number of people (sex / age disaggregated) referred to and captured by next level of care in the health system | This was part of previous Health Program | This was part of previous Health Program | This was part of previous Health Program | Information not held by Program  | Information not held by Program  | Health Sector Support Program | Screening reports (MOHMS / CSOs) |

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| **Sub-objective: Gender and social inclusion** |
| Outcome 1: Women (including survivors of violence) and communities in Fiji have access to responsive support services and justice to reduce violence against women. | 1.1 Increased numbers of women reporting domestic violence and sexual assault to the police | 630 (2015) | 950 | 1000 | 1000 | 435 | GESI | FWCC Client Data Reports |
| 1.2 Number of women survivors of violence receiving support services (counselling, financial, legal and medical services) | 2,761 survivors of violence (including 33 with disabilities) received counselling, financial, legal and medical services (2016) | 2,761 | 2800 | 2900 | 1713 | GESI | Implementing partner reports |
| 1.3 Number of police and law and justice officials trained (women and men)  | 389 (208 men and 181 women) in 2016-17 | 389 | 390 | 450 | 126 | GESI | Implementing partner reports |
| Outcome 2: Women in Fiji have increased capacity to access to income generating, business and employment opportunities | 2.1 Number of poor women accessing financial literacy training and business services | 93 women market vendors receiving financial literacy and business management training | 93 | 100 | 100 | 829 women market vendors/farmers(M4C) and 21 from FWF Grantees | GESI | Implementing partner reports  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome 3: Women in Fiji undertake leadership and decision making roles.  | 3.1 a. Number of management committees in which women are equally represented | Women are underrepresented in decision making and leadership processes. At the school management level, at schools considered the most disadvantaged in rural and remote areas, women occupy only 10% of positions on school committees. 16% (8 out of 50 members) of Fiji's National Parliament are women.  | 9 out of 12 marketplaces with a market vendor executive committee has at least 50% women in leadership roles  | 9 out of 12 marketplaces with a market vendor executive committee has at least 50% women in leadership roles  | 12 out of 12 marketplaces with a market vendor executive committee has at least 50% women in leadership roles  | 12 | GESI | Implementing partner reports  |
| 3.1.b. Increased number of women taking up a leadership/decision making role at a local, sub-national or national level  |  |   | 10 | 15 | 12 (M4C) and 81 (FWF) | GESI | Implementing partner reports  |
| Outcome 4: Gender is effectively addressed in all Australian bilateral aid investments (DFAT performance benchmark) | 4.1 At least 80 per cent of investments effectively address gender issues in their implementation (score 4 or higher in AQCs) | In 2015-2016, the Fiji program scored 83% (5 out of the 6 investments scored 4 or higher) | 75% | 75% | 80% | 66% | GESI | Aid investment AQC reports  |
| Outcome 5: Enhance the participation of people with disabilities as contributors, leaders and decision makers in their communities | 5.1 Percentage of investments that actively involve people with disabilities and/or Disabled People’s Organisations in planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. | 100% (2015-16) | 80% | 80% | 80% | 38% |   | Annual Investment Aid Quality Checks |
| Outcome 6: Improve equity of access of people with disabilities to benefit from Australian bilateral aid investments. | 6.1 Percentage of investments that identify and address barriers to inclusion for people with disabilities to enable them to benefit equally from the aid investment.  | 100% (2015-16) | 80% | 80% | 80% | 53% |   | Annual Investment Aid Quality Checks |

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| **Sub objective: Climate and Disaster preparedness and response** |
| Outcome 1: Increased focus on climate change and disaster resilience in Australian bilateral aid investments.  | 1.1 Percentage of investments that are actively managing risks & action on climate change and disaster resilience. | 75% | 80% | 90% | 100% | 50% | All programs | Risk Register/Aid Quality Checks |
| 1.2 Percentage of investments that align with Fiji's climate & disaster resilience priorities. | 75% | 80% | 90% | 100% | 50% | All programs | Annual Investment Aid Quality Checks |
| 1.3 Annual contingency fund of at least 2 per cent of the bilateral aid program in Fiji is programmed to prepare for and respond to disasters.  | Contingency set aside in previous years but only for emergency response. | NA | 2 per cent of bilateral funding | 2 per cent of bilateral funding | 0.7% of Bilateral funding  | Facility | Facility bi-annual and annual reports |

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| ***AIP Objective 3: Tropical Cyclone Winston Recovery*** |
|  |
| **Objective 3: TC Winston Recovery** | **Indicator** | **Baseline** | **2016-2017** | **2017-2018** | **2018-19 Target** | **2018 -19 Actual** | **DFAT Program contributing to outcome** | **Data collection method** |
| **Outcome 1:** Timely and efficient implementation of TC Winston $20m recovery package | 1.1 Percentage of recovery funds ($20m) programmed and spent. | 20% spent & programmed (as of 1 July 2016) | 52% spent; 100% programmed | 100% spent by June 2018 | NA (complete) |   | AQEP/UN Women M4C/Oxfam/ACC | Aidworks / Budget data |
| **Outcome 2:** Improved health and education facilities through repaired/rebuilt buildings in select communities Ra and Koro | 2.1 Percentage of rebuilt schools and health centres that receive certification as complying with Fiji's National Building Code or higher certified by a engineer | 0 (as at 1 July 2016) | Health centre 5% complete; schools 39% complete | 100% by December 2017 | Almost fully completed | Will be 100% by end of Dec 2019. | AQEP/ACC | Weekly reports; monthly monitoring meetings; monitoring visits (DFAT, ACC, MC); site meetings; quarterly reports; exception reports. |
| 2.2 Number of TC-Winston schools with rebuilt facilities (including early childhood centres) | 0 of 18 (as at 1 July 2016)  | Average of 39% of work completed across 18 schools | 18 schools (12 Ra & 6 Koro) complete by December 2017 | Almost fully completed | Schools have been completed. Awaiting engineering completion certificates. Handover of the schools in Koro to have occurred by Dec 2019. | AQEP/ACC | Weekly reports; monthly monitoring meetings; monitoring visits (DFAT, ACC, MC); site meetings; quarterly reports; exception reports. |
| 2.3 Number of health facilities with improved facilities (including new or replaced solar systems, medical equipment) | 0 of 2 (as at 1 July 2016)  | Waimaro Health Centre rebuilding 5% complete; equipment procured | Waimaro Health Centre complete by December 2017; Nasau Health Centre has improved facilities/equipment by June 2018 | NA (complete) |   | AQEP/ACC | Weekly reports; monthly monitoring meetings; monitoring visits (DFAT, ACC, MC); site meetings; quarterly rpts exception rpts. |
| 2.4 Percentage of reconstructed buildings that meet universal access standards (note: not applicable to repaired buildings). | 0 (as at 1 July 2016) | Health centre 5% complete; schools 39% complete | 100% | NA (complete) |   | AQEP/ACC | Weekly reports; monthly monitoring meetings; monitoring visits (DFAT, ACC, MC); site meetings; quarterly reports; exception reports. |
| **Outcome 3:** Increased livelihood opportunities for those affected, particularly women, in Rakiraki, Savusavu and Nausori | 3.1 Number of TC Winston-affected marketplaces with improved gender-responsive infrastructure that better meets the health, safety, universal access, and convenience needs of women market vendors. | 0 of 3 (as at 1 July 2016)  | Work commenced on Rakiraki Municipal Market | Rakiraki, Savusvau and Nausori market upgrades complete by June 2018, including accommodation centres | NA (complete) |   | UN Women | Site meetings; site visits; bi-annual reports; stakeholder (incl. GoF) meetings. |
| 3.2 Number of post-TC Winston market infrastructure development plans which have been developed based on consultations with women market vendors. | 0 (as at 1 July 2016) | Rakiraki Municipal Market infrastructure plan complete | Savusavu/Nausori markets infrastructure plans complete | NA (complete) |   | UN Women | Bi-annual reports; monthly meetings; monitoring visits. |
| **Outcome 4:** Restored access to water and sanitation facilities and services for those affected in target areas (tbd) | 4.1 Number of water systems repaired | 0 of 127 (as at 1 July 2016) | 127 | NA (complete) | NA (complete) |   | Oxfam | Implementing partner reports |
| 4.2 Number of sanitation facilities repaired or constructed | 0 of 574 (as at 1 July 2016) | 574 repaired; 271 constructed | NA (complete) |   |   | Oxfam | Implementing partner reports |
| 4.3 Number of villages with WASH Action Plans developed | 0 of 43 (as at 1 July 2016) | 43 | NA (complete) |   |   | Oxfam | Implementing partner reports |
| 4.4 Number of beneficiaries (male, female and PWD) with improved access to water and/or sanitation facilities in TC Winston affected areas | 0 of 11,747 (as at 1 July 2016) | 11,747 beneficiaries | NA (complete) | NA (complete) |   | Oxfam | Implementing partner reports |

Appendix 1: 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INFOGRAPHICS

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| \\TITAN\CHCH\Desktop\scarpen2\Desktop\New folder (2)\SDG 1.png | End poverty in all its forms everywhere |  |  | Reduce inequality within and among countries |
|  | End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture |  |  | Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable |
|  | Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being at all ages |  |  | Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns |
|  | Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all |  |  | Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts |
|  | Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls |  |  | Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development |
|  | Ensure availability and sustainability management of water and sanitation for all |  |  | Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems |
|  | Ensure access to affordable, reliable sustainable and modern energy for all |  |  | Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and provide access to justice for all |
| C:\Users\scarpen2\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\SDG 8.png | Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment |  |  | Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development |
|  | Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable Industrialisation and foster innovation |  |  |  |

1. OECD-DAC database, accessed 9 September 2019 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/DT.ODA.ODAT.GN.ZS?locations=FJ>).  [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://marketdevelopmentfacility.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/MDF-Annual-Report-Revised-DFAT-Comments-.pdf> p20 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://marketdevelopmentfacility.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/MDF-Annual-Report-Revised-DFAT-Comments-.pdf> p 23 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/70ff7f_3b750fd0ac914d968eff8748b69b1575.pdf> [Final Report ofhte Multinational Observer Group] [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. World Development Report 2018, at <https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2018> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, at <https://www.unescap.org/blog/escaping-gravitational-pull-gdp> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The FEMIS Source Code is a collection of small files that instruct a software application what to do, from telling the application the colours and fonts to use to how to perform complex calculations and render reports. Source code files do not include data. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. <https://iris.wpro.who.int/bitstream/handle/10665.1/13963/9789290618409-eng.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. The Global Gender Report 2018 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Fiji VNR Goal 5 and Others Brief, 2019 [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Fiji VNR Goal 5 and Others Brief, 2019

6 UN Women Markets for Change 6 monthly report [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. See the Fiji Aid Program Performance Report 2017-18 at <https://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/fiji-appr-2017-18.pdf> for a full analysis of the TC Winston recovery package [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Fiji Sugar Corporation, Investment Fiji, Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation, Denarau Marina, Pacific Bed Bank, and Vou Dance Group [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Annual report 2018-19, unpublished at APPR report date/ [↑](#footnote-ref-15)