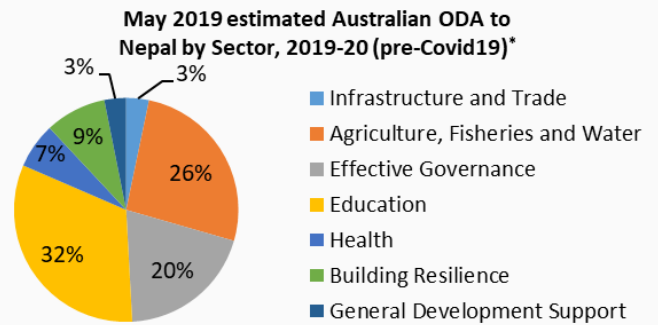




## 2019-20 NEPAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Program Budget	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Bilateral	9.1
Regional	5.0
Global	7.4
Other Government Departments	1.0
<b>Total Australian ODA to Nepal</b>	<b>22.5</b>

\*Actual expenditure is expected to be available in December 2020



\* Due to rounding the total percentage may not add up to 100 per cent

### COVID-19 Development Response

- Through a pivot of our existing programs, Australia is supporting Nepal’s immediate response to COVID-19 and its longer-term recovery needs.
- In partnership with The Asia Foundation, and in consultation with the Government of Nepal, our Sub-National Governance Program (SNGP) supported the development of key legislation, which has helped ensure the supply of essential medical equipment and goods during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Our humanitarian partners, the World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) are working closely with the Ministry of Health and Population, the Nepal Army and humanitarian agencies to coordinate and manage the supply of COVID-19 response commodities, and provide storage and transport, which was also used during the 2020 monsoon response. Through Australia’s support, UNFPA has distributed Dignity Kits to women in quarantine centres, enabling them to continue to meet their basic hygiene and protection needs.
- Australia has developed a COVID-19 Response Plan 2019-21 for Nepal, which outlines our key development objectives for the next two years in support of the *Partnerships for Recovery Strategy*.

### Other program highlights

- SNGP has supported the Government of Nepal to strengthen the effective transition to federalism and develop model procedures to ensure transparency and accountability in government funding. In the reporting period the program began development of the second phase to support the coordinated stabilisation of federalism in Nepal with an increased focus on health governance and economic recovery.
- The Australian NGO Cooperation Program is delivering projects throughout Nepal, providing support to local communities in regional and remote areas, in food security, education and health care.
- Ensuring our programs are inclusive remains a key priority. In 2019, Post finalised its Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion Strategy. Its implementation will ensure women and girls, people with diverse disabilities and people from different caste and ethnic backgrounds, especially those who have historically been marginalised and excluded, contribute to, and benefit from, the activities we support.
- We maintain a commitment to monitoring and evaluation and continuous learning to strengthen our ongoing work.

## PROGRESS AGAINST 2019-20 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

TITLE OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK INDICATOR/BENCHMARK	BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AGAINST INDICATOR/BENCHMARK
Objective 1. Expand economic opportunities for the poor, particularly women, by promoting enterprise and job creation	1.1 Micro Enterprise Development for Poverty Alleviation (MEDPA) is further aligned with the federal structure. With the additional funding from DFAT, UNDP and Government of Nepal (GoN) in June 2019, the technical assistance team will be expanded to increase its overall efficiency and to help achieve the objectives of institutionalising MEDPA in GoN systems.	MEDPA has been incorporated into the GoN's 15th Periodic Plan and microenterprise has been incorporated into the Local Government Operations Act. The GoN has doubled the budget for MEDPA in 2020-21, which will be implemented through the 753 local governments. Technical assistance staff has been expanded to 39 (from 28) to support the institutionalisation of MEDPA in GoN systems.
	1.2 A new livelihoods investment (PRAGATI) to commence in 2019-2020. PRAGATI aims to reach 5,000 poor households through a 'lift-reach' of which 1,250 households will be extremely poor.	Due to changing priorities in 2019-20, PRAGATI has not yet commenced. As we continue to focus our efforts to support Nepal's immediate COVID-19 response and recovery, PRAGATI will remain on hold.
Objective 2. Support the government to improve governance and policy implementation	2.1 Completion of the third survey of the Nepali people regarding perceptions on subnational governance through the Subnational Governance program.	Survey field work, data analysis and consultation were completed by the program in March, and preliminary findings shared with key stakeholders. The survey is expected to be finalised by October 2020 (delayed since June, due to COVID-19).
	2.2 Five-Year Strategic Plans developed for five municipalities.	SNGP has developed Five-Year Strategic Plans for five municipalities. Four municipalities (Waling, Tikapur, Bhimeshwor and Tansen) have endorsed the plans. The Damak plan is pending formal approval from the municipal assembly (delayed due to COVID-19).
	2.3 Community Mediation services extended to an additional six municipalities by establishing 90 new mediation centres in these six municipalities.	Community Mediation services have been extended to all six municipalities. 74 new community mediation centres have been established in five municipalities (Tikapur, Damak, Waling, Tansen and Kalaiya). All preparatory tasks have been completed to establish the remaining 16 mediation centres in Birendranagar municipality, however the process has been suspended due to COVID-19.
	2.4 500 mediators (40 per cent women) trained in Community Mediation	585 mediators (51 per cent women) trained in Community Mediation across six partner municipalities.
Objective 3. Promote human development through improved access to and quality of education	3.1 In accordance with the indicators set out by the global Australia Awards Scholarships program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Alumni using their skills, knowledge and networks to contribute to sustainable development</li> <li>- Alumni contributing to cooperation between Australia and partner countries</li> </ul>	Australia Awards alumni supported community members, particularly people with disabilities, in projects on inclusive education, vision impairment prevention and management in older people, and an inclusive learning online platform, through Alumni Disability Initiative Grants. Alumni also provided sanitation materials to 139 households and delivered hygiene awareness orientation to 600 people through COVID-19 Response Grants. Alumni actively participated in regular program activities including the Regional Alumni Workshop

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Effective, mutually advantageous partnerships between institutions and businesses in Australia and partner countries</li> <li>- Alumni view Australia, Australians and Australian expertise positively.</li> </ul>	and Alumni Forums, highlighting their transformative experiences at Australian universities, and longstanding linkages to Australia.
	3.2 Australia Award scholarships awarded reflect shared human resource priorities, with selection process taking account of gender and social diversity.	Australia Awards supports Nepal's human resource development priorities in education, economic development, governance, health, water-resource management, and gender equality, disability inclusion and social inclusion (GEDSI). A GEDSI strategy was developed to ensure women, people with disabilities and other marginalised groups are targeted in the selection process. 52 long-term scholarships were awarded in 2019-20. Of these, 28 were awarded to women (24 to men), and four scholarships were awarded to people with disabilities (two females and two males).
	3.3 Two short courses delivered in areas of Nepal's development priorities.	The University of Queensland delivered a short course on <i>Inclusive Governance for Effective Disaster Risk Reduction</i> for 21 GoN officials. A regional short course on <i>Promoting Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure Development</i> was delivered through the University of the Sunshine Coast, in which four GoN officials participated. The final phase of the <i>Building Capacity in Vocational Training and Assessment Nepal</i> delivered by TAFE NSW was not completed due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.



## ANNEX A: PROGRAM QUALITY

### Investment Monitoring Report ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	year on year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality
INM141- Subnational Governance Program	\$20m	2019 AQC	4	5	4
	2017-21	2020 AQC	5	5	5
INL973 World Bank Multi Donor Trust Fund	\$7.6m	2019 AQC	4	4	3
	2016-22	2020 AQC	4	4	4
INM504 Strengthening Humanitarian Preparedness in Nepal	\$5.2m	2019 AQC	4	4	4
	2018-24	2020 AQC	5	5	5

#### Definitions of rating scale:

##### Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas. 5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.

4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

##### Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.

2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas. 1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major area.