Aid Program Performance Report 2014-15 

Pacific Regional Program

November 2015

## Key Messages

This Aid Program Performance Report (APPR) evaluates the achievements and development results of Australia’s Pacific Regional aid program over the period July 2014 to June 2015.

Key findings in this report are:

* Australia is actively supporting Pacific islands to implement the new ‘Framework for Pacific Regionalism’. Pacific-led integration and regional cooperation has great potential to increase prosperity, development and stability.
* The Pacific Regional program is delivering strong results. This includes a further 1,440 Pacific islanders graduating with vocational qualifications from the Australia-Pacific Technical College, with 95 per cent of them finding employment; supporting the Pacific Islands Trade and Invest network to facilitate over $3.5 million in export sales, $11 million in investment and $30,000 in income from creative arts in 2014; providing more than 4500 medical specialist consultations and surgery to 1183 individuals; and enabling the Solomon Islands to issue a malaria warning, based on Australian-supported meteorological advice.
* New multi-year partnerships with the major Pacific regional organisations are helping to improve governance and to encourage long-term strategic planning.
* The Regional program is improving areas of underperformance. Performance against our economic and gender objectives improved, with additional funding allocated to these areas.
* Budget consolidation and restructuring is continuing. The number of initiatives has reduced, but further efforts are needed to meet our targets in this area.

## Context

*Pacific regional development context 2014-15*

The Pacific faces a range of development challenges. In much of the region, population growth exceeds economic growth and small populations reduce opportunities for economies of scale and specialisation. Poor infrastructure and transport links compound the problems of geography. Growing businesses face regulatory challenges, weak contract enforcement, limited access to finance, and low-skilled workers. While issues such as geographic isolation, small populations and limited resources are not going to change, Australia’s Pacific Regional and bilateral aid programs have been working to help overcome the challenges they pose.

As Cyclone Pam in March 2015 demonstrated, the region remains vulnerable to natural disasters such as cyclones, flooding and earthquakes. More than 20 per cent of people in most Pacific island countries are unable to meet basic needs. Poor health or a disability can lead to poverty and marginalisation and is a further drag on growth and resilience. Progress towards empowering women is slow. Up to 60 per cent of women and girls have experienced violence at the hands of partners or family members and there are half as many women as men in paid employment, at generally lower wages.

With respect to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), good progress has been made across the Pacific in getting children (especially girls) into primary education and reducing the incidence of HIV and tuberculosis. Slower progress has been made on improving sanitation and access to water. Poor data is a problem – only one of the 19 countries in the region has data on the number of people living on less than $1.25 a day. Least progress has been made on eliminating extreme poverty and hunger; of the fourteen forum countries, only Cook Islands and Niue are on track to achieve this goal.

*Objectives of the Australian regional aid program*

The Pacific Regional program compliments the work of bilateral programs with a focus on areas where a regional approach would be more effective. The Aid Investment Plan for the Pacific Regional Program (published in September 2015) establishes the four objectives for the Regional program: supporting increased economic growth; the development of more efficient regional institutions; healthy and resilient communities; and the empowerment of women and girls in the Pacific. The four objectives are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

## Expenditure

Expenditure for the Pacific Regional Program was $199.8 million in 2014-15.

This report only covers the Pacific Regional Program managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs. Other agencies also provided $12.4 million in support for Pacific programs 2014-15. The Australian Federal Police (AFP) comprised over half this expenditure at $6.5 million. The Attorney-General’s Department, Department of Immigration and Border Protection and Department of Employment comprise the remaining expenditure.

Table Total ODA Expenditure in FY 2014-15

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Objective** | **A$ million** | **% of total ODA** |
| ***Regional***  |  |  |
| Objective 1: Economic growth  | 98.2 | 45.0% |
| Objective 2: Effective regional institutions | 54.9 | 25.1% |
| Objective 3: Healthy and resilient communities | 30.0 | 13.7% |
| Objective 4: Empowering women and girls | 13.3 | 6.1% |
| **Sub-Total Regional** | 199.8 | 91.5% |
| Global | 6.1 | 2.8% |
| Other Government Departments | 12.4 | 5.7% |
| **Total ODA Expenditure** | 218.3 | 100% |

## Progress towards Objectives

Progress towards all four objectives improved slightly in 2014-15, with improvement against the economic growth objective resulting in a change of rating from Amber to Green. Amber ratings were mostly the result of underperformance in Monitoring and Evaluation, Sustainability and Gender Equity. Investments in the Regional Program scored well for Relevance and Efficiency.

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

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Objective | Previous Rating |  | Current Rating |
| Objective 1: Economic growth  | Amber |  | Green |
| Objective 2: Effective regional institutions | Amber |  | Amber |
| Objective 3: Healthy and resilient communities | Amber |  | Amber |
| Objective 4: Empowering women and girls | Green |  | Green |

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.

Reporting period:

### Objective 1: Economic growth

Economic growth is essential to improve development outcomes in the Pacific, which is why it accounts for around half of our regional investment to the Pacific. Our support aims to improve the capacity for growth, such as helping the private sector, improving education outcomes, improving access to finance, and encouraging trade and economic integration. The rating on economic growth increased from a very high amber rating to a low green. The small improvement tipped it over to the next level and was largely the result of improvements in monitoring and evaluation of investments and improved efficiency. If investments are weighted according to their size, the outcome would be even more pronounced, with by far the largest program – the Asia Pacific Technical College – also one of the best performing.

**Private Sector Initiatives**

Private sector support focuses on removing the impediments to businesses, increasing access to finance and creating jobs through business expansion and labour mobility. In 2014‑15, we focused on working more innovatively with the private sector. We entered into two new corporate partnerships, with Westpac and ANZ, to help us to improve access to finance and the conditions for private sector development. We also commenced a new initiative to support labour mobility and remittances.

Key results:

* As of 2014-15, Carnival’s P&O Pacific Cruises fleet is sourcing products from the Pacific and we worked with Carnival to increase their value and variety. P&O Pacific Cruises displays local handicrafts that are pre‑approved to pass Australian quarantine laws, helping increase revenue for small producers.
* In recognition of its role improving access to finance for women, ANZ was awarded the International Finance Corporation’s CEO Gender Award in 2015 for its mobile banking project in Solomon Islands. By December 2014, ANZ had signed up more than 24,000 customers in Solomon Islands, including 15,000 clients who were previously unbanked. Half these customers were women.
* The *Pacific Financial Inclusion Program* increased access to financial services among low income and rural households in the Pacific through improving financial literacy, working with financial service providers and regulatory bodies, and grants for pro-poor financial services. More than 700,000 previously unbanked people gained access to financial services since 2008, around 107,000 of them since June 2014.
* From inception to 2015, the Pacific Partnership with the World Bank Group’s *International Finance Corporation* (IFC) leveraged $320 million in private sector investment and improved opportunities for over 12,000 people through direct investment, small and medium enterprise lending, support for Public Private Partnerships and advice.
	+ In one example in 2014, IFC supported Digicel PNG to provide a mobile market information service for coffee and cocoa farmers.
* DFAT supported the participation of 2801 citizens of Pacific island countries and Timor‑Leste in Australia’s Seasonal Worker Programme in 2014‑15 (to 31 May 2015), resulting in total estimated remittances of $15 million. This number is on track to meet our target of 3000 citizens for 2015.

**Aid for Trade**

The Pacific Regional Program is on track to have at least 20 per cent of investments supporting Pacific islanders to trade and invest by 2020. Alongside our private sector support, Aid for Trade work supports the growth of exports, investment and regional trade integration in the Pacific.

Key results:

* Australia supported Pacific export, investment, tourism and creative arts promotion through direct finance and policy advice for the Forum Secretariat’s *Pacific Islands Trade and Invest* network. The network (with offices in Auckland, Beijing, Geneva, Sydney and Tokyo) facilitated over $3.5 million in export sales, $11 million in investment and $30,000 in creative arts in 2014.
* The *Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program* (PHAMA) helped countries meet the quarantine and other requirements of key trading partners through policy advice and support
	+ for example, PHAMA supported Solomon Islands to comply with illegal logging regulations implemented by Australia in November 2014, allowing the Solomons to maintain its $7 million dollar exports of sawn timber to Australia and New Zealand.
* A variety of initiatives help Pacific Island Countries to negotiate, consult with their stakeholders and undertake research and analysis to inform their positions in Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus negotiations
	+ for example, in 2014‑15, Australia’s funding for the Office of the Chief Trade Adviser in Port Vila, Vanuatu, provided advice and support to help Pacific Island Countries participate in PACER Plus negotiations.

**Fisheries**

Fisheries remain a key economic driver in the Pacific region. The offshore tuna sector provides around
US 350 million in direct revenues and makes equally significant contribution to GDP, employment and investment. The inshore sector is critical to food security and livelihoods. The highly migratory nature of offshore tuna stocks makes a regional approach to management essential. Our investments in regional fisheries also reflect the Australian Government’s commitment to enhanced engagement in the broader Agriculture, Fisheries and Water sectors as part of Australia’s global aid policy framework. DFAT works closely with the Departments of Agriculture, Defence and Environment, and with the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Australia’s aid and technical support is critical to the Forum Fisheries Agency’s effective engagement in the complex management of offshore tuna stocks. Our support to the Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC‑FAME) helps underpin world-class tuna and billfish stock assessments. SPC-FAME also takes the lead role in responding to the growing challenges within the inshore sector. In partnership with ACIAR, we are helping communities to manage their own inshore fish resources sustainably in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu.

Key results:

* *Economic returns*: Revenues, sectoral contributions to GDP and exports have all held their value or increased, despite depressed prices – exceeding expectations. PICs successfully negotiated a one year extension to the US Tuna Treaty valued at US 89 million in July.
* Pacific Fisheries Ministers (including Australia’s) enthusiastically endorsed a new *Regional Roadmap for Sustainable Pacific Fisheries* (the Roadmap), which Australia strongly supported in development. The Roadmap identifies targets for enhanced revenues, employment and food security.
* Our support to SPC-FAME was critical in the adoption of *The New Song for Coastal Fisheries: Pathways to Change* which provides a blueprint for more effective community management in inshore fisheries management.
* *Management*: The Australian Government Department of Agriculture secured endorsement in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) of a Harvest Strategy approach to ensure sustainability in fisheries.
* *Women and fisheries*: The New Song endorsed by Fisheries Ministers highlighted the critical role women play in community-based fisheries.

Factors affecting progress and future actions

Overfishing by modern fleets threatens the sustainability of fish resources. Securing the support of distant water fishing nations to meet management targets remains a challenge. Transparency and governance issues and the high cost of doing business impact on the success of local development. Depressed tuna prices and maintaining access to export markets are enduring issues. Population growth, over‑exploitation and environmental factors threaten inshore fisheries, and the sector in turn struggles to secure recognition and funding.

In 2015-16 and 2016-17, Australia will work with our regional partners to help implement the Roadmap, which will improve sustainability and profitability in both the inshore and offshore fisheries sectors.

**Education**

Australia’s long-term focus is to ensure that all Pacific Islanders have the skills needed to lead a productive life and contribute to economic growth. The Pacific Regional Education Program in 2014-15 was guided by the Pacific Education and Skills Development Agenda, aimed at improving access to quality basic education, and skills and qualifications for young people. In 2014-15, the regional education program continued its focus on benchmarking literacy achievement and supporting quality provision of tertiary education as a major contributor to economic growth.

Key results:

* *Australia-Pacific Technical College* (APTC): an independent evaluation of APTC, completed in November 2014, highlighted that APTC has generated “extensive goodwill”, achieved a high completion rate, and helped raise quality standards in wider Pacific Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). In 2014-15, 1,440 Pacific Islanders (35 per cent women) graduated from APTC with internationally-recognised qualifications in areas of demand - more than 95 per cent are employed.
* *University of the South Pacific (USP)*: The Regional program provides core-funding for USP, which continues to provide quality, internationally-recognised higher education. In 2014, a total of 4,455 students graduated; 54 per cent were women and 71 per cent found employment within four months.
* DFAT’s 2015 Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) financing reports provided comprehensive data on TVET in seven Pacific island countries (Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu), which informs sectoral planning. Pacific countries committed to action plans to improve TVET management, based on deliberations at the 2015 forum on TVET Financing, supported by DFAT.

Factors affecting progress and future actions

Remaining constraints to capacity of Pacific regional partner agencies and national qualifications authorities continue to limit progress against program objectives. Successful program consolidation during 2014-15 included progress on both collection of vital education data and establishment of strategies for future data collection, aggregation and use.

In 2015-16, Australia will continue to consolidate regional education programming focussed on economic growth, reducing poverty and empowerment of women and girls. Work with regional institutions will target quality assurance and recognition of qualifications. With employer input, we will tailor training to labour market needs. We will foster graduate access to Australia’s employment market.

### Objective 2: Effective regional institutions

As a member of the major regional organisations, as well as their most significant development partner, Australia plays a key role in enabling them to contribute to regional growth, stability and development.

**Regional institutions**

Most of Australia’s regional program is delivered through partnerships with five major PROs: the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) and the University of the South Pacific (USP). In 2014-15, Australia supported our regional partners to implement reforms that will secure greater commitment to collective action, strengthen linkages between regional organisations, streamline governance arrangements and achieve more effective interventions. Improvements to ratings remain slow, explaining why this objective remains amber. Australia alone cannot achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness and nor should we seek to. The regional organisations are governed and owned by all the countries in the region, which all play a role in owning and seeking improvements.

Key results:

* In January 2015, Australia’s *Regional Advisory Services (RAS)* began providing technical assistance to the major regional organisations in strategic planning, monitoring and reporting, governance and accountability; and results-based and transparent budgeting.
* The *Secretariat of the Pacific Community* (SPC) made good progress in its corporate reform agenda, including undertaking a Review of SPC Governance Arrangements, streamlining meetings, drafting a new strategic plan and improved reporting. SPC’s Programme Results Report (with *RAS assistance)* for 2013-14 (published in the reporting period) presents all programs and outcomes in one comprehensive publication for the first time.
* The *University of the South Pacific (USP)* increased its international profile through research and accreditation of courses, including the MBA program, as well as programs in law, accounting and finance, tourism and hospitality, computing and software engineering.
* The *Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP)* made significant progress in its governance including through establishing of a Project Review Monitoring Group (PRMG) to improve projects, enhanced Monitoring and Evaluation, human resourcing as well as finance and internal audit functions.

**Governance**

Australia also supported regional investments that promote effective governance in individual Pacific Islands through a range of specialised services, including: technical assistance, capacity building and professional development, social protection and inclusion, media, and leadership skills.

Key results:

* The *UNDP Pacific Centre* assisted the development of Freedom of Information policies and legislation in Tonga, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Solomon Islands in 2014. It included a Freedom of Information Bill submitted to the Tongan Parliament in 2014, and advice on redrafts to Right to Information Bill and to the Freedom of Information Unit in Vanuatu.
* The Australian-supported *Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy* made significant progress in building the capacity of Pacific Island countries to collect data and report progress against the Millennium Development Goals. As a result of this work, by the end of 2015, 9 out of 22 Pacific island countries will have multiple data points enabling the assessment of poverty and hardship over time.
* The *Pacific Leadership Program’s* support to the Women in Shared Decision Making (WISDM) coalition contributed to the Vanuatu Department of Women’s Affairs initiative to increase women’s participation in local level government, which will be crucial to the participation of women in municipal elections in late 2015.
* With Australian support for the *Pacific Regional Audit Initiative*, 94 per cent of Supreme Audit Institutes (SAIs) in the region rating their capability as satisfactory in 2014, compared to 57 per cent in 2011 and 73 per cent in 2012. Professionally qualified staff in SAIs increased from an average of 23 per cent in 2011 to 77 per cent in 2014.

Factors affecting progress and future actions

In 2014-15, DFAT rationalised governance activities to support the four objectives in the regional program. Consolidation is intended to reduce transaction costs and the complexity of the regional program to allow it to better deliver on its objectives. The consolidation has reduced the number of small activities within the program and consolidated these into core funding for regional organisations. Core funding will mean regional organisations can make strategic choices about where to focus their attention, instead of managing a large variety of small projects funded according to donor priorities. A leaner and better-targeted regional governance program in 2015-16 will focus on key needs, including strengthening public administration and accountability institutions, improved leadership and informed decision making.

### Objective 3: Healthy and resilient communities

**Health and disability support**

Australia’s health and disability support helps women, men and children to lead healthy, productive lives. The regional program complements bilateral health investments by focusing on health activities that would benefit from a regional or multi-country approach. This includes workforce training, specialised clinical services and cross-border disease threats. The regional program places great importance on disability-inclusive development through design and implementation. There was a sustained improvement in performance against this objective, but this was not enough to change the performance rating to Amber as areas of relatively poor performance remains – particularly in gender outcomes and monitoring and evaluation. With close attention in 2014-15, outcomes achieved by the Pacific HIV and Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Response fund, managed by the SPC improved greatly. However, it remains the regional program’s worst performing investment, reflecting the difficulties of making progress against strong cultural and other barriers.

Key results:

* *Quality health workforce development*: Australia provided core support for the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences at the Fiji National University, which produced 620 graduates in 2014, 463 of them women. Australia supported the development of new post graduate courses in Pathology, Emergency Medicine, Mental Health and Oral Surgery.
* *Specialised clinical services*: Through the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Australia provided 43 specialist clinical service and mentoring visits to 10 countries. This enabled them to provide islanders with 4512 consultations and deliver 1183 surgical procedures.
* *Pacific Regional Blindness Prevention Program*: In collaboration with New Zealand, Australia supported the training of 48 health professionals from six countries in 2014. These professionals carried out over 27,000 clinic consultations and almost 2,000 surgeries at regional eye institutes.
* *Improving sexual and reproductive health:* Australia supported International Planned Parenthood Federation to improve access to sexual and reproductive health services for women and girls, including the most marginalised. Work like this also contributes to meeting Australia’s objective of empowering women and girls.
* *Increasing the voice of People with Disabilities in regional development processes*: Australia’s partnership with the Pacific Disability Forum helped build the capacity of Disabled Peoples Organisations and give a voice to people with disability to influence national and regional decision-making processes. The increased advocacy capacity of Pacific DPOs contributed to 13 Pacific island countries signing or ratifying the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by 2014-15.

Factors affecting progress and future actions.

Barriers remain to realising the full human rights and participation in society of people with a disability. Data collection on disability inclusion continues to be a challenge across the Pacific region. More work needs to be done in the area of legislative change and service provision for people with disabilities, partnerships between disabled peoples’ organisations, mainstream NGOs and other agencies must be formed in the Pacific region.

Australia will further consolidate regional health programming guided by the Health for Development Strategy 2015-2020, which has the objective of strengthening country-level health systems and regional health security to ensure effective regional solutions to trans‑boundary health threats. In 2015-16, Australia will commence a new design for specialised clinical services and health workforce development.

**Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction**

Climate change and natural disasters erode economic gains and exacerbate developmental challenges. Australia provides funding and technical support to help promote economic and social resilience to these impacts. Australia also implements measures to protect aid investments that may be vulnerable to future climate risks. For example, the regional program includes a number of activities which help communities manage drought and natural disasters, such as providing water tanks to resist droughts that may be caused by the current strong El Niño event in the Pacific.

Key results:

* Through the *Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific* (COSPPac), the Australian Bureau of Meteorology supports the National Meteorological Services of 14 Pacific countries to provide meteorological and early warning services to Pacific communities. For example, our support enabled the Solomon Islands Meteorological Service to issue its first malaria season risk assessment in January 2015 and monthly malaria outlooks customised for health services. Authorities can now implement eradication and public warning messages during high risk periods.
* The regional program has helped communities be better prepared for inundation and flooding events from extreme tide and weather. As of 2014, real time weather and sea level data can now be easily accessed through an online ‘dashboard’ in Tonga, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Nauru. The dashboard and tide gauges were developed and installed with funding from the Regional program. The Kiribati Meteorological Service and local disaster agencies use an annual tidal prediction calendar, based on tide gauge data, to warn communities about likely inundation events.
* The *Pacific Risk Resilience Program* (PRRP) strengthened resilience in four disaster-prone countries: supporting communities in Tonga affected by Tropical Cyclone Ian to restore crops and livelihoods in ways that build resilience to future events; supporting the integration of risk management into national budgeting and planning processes in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu; developing and implementing disaster plans in 21 schools in Temotu and schools across Guadalcanal Province in the Solomon Islands; and partnering with the tourism industry, and corporate and philanthropic organisations to support better community-level management for disaster and climate change risk in Fiji.

Factors affecting progress and future actions

Australia will use its influence with global, multilateral and other development partners to ensure the region has sustained access to climate finance. For example, Australia is using its seat on the Green Climate Fund Board to push for greater action in the Pacific and provided funding to the Green Climate Fund Secretariat to deliver a regional workshop on how to access the Fund. Our support to regional organisations is promoting coordination in this multi-disciplinary sector.

Australia supported regional organisations, including the SPC and SPREP, to develop a strategy for Disaster and Climate Resilient Development. We will support high-level endorsement of the strategy in 2016 and will work with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) to implement it.

### Objective 4: Empowering women and girls

A core element of DFAT’s Pacific regional program is working with governments and communities across the Pacific to achieve gender equality. We work across three inter-connected areas - leadership, domestic violence and economic empowerment, using the full spectrum of Australian engagement in the Pacific. Regional program investments in this sector performed highly, accounting for its Green rating in 2014‑15. A significant contribution toward this objective is also made by other investments in the regional program, which are all encouraged to include gender-positive aspects. However, greater efforts are needed to ensure that women and girls are empowered through these other investments, given this was generally the worst performing indicator in the Aid Quality Checks (see annex D).

Key results:

* Market Vendors Associations were established or revived in produce markets in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. Association membership increased from 585 to 950 in 2014‑15 (73% women) in Fiji, with representation by women and men in committees now equal. Membership of two new associations in Solomon Islands is 250 (90% women), with 74% of committee positions held by women, including President; and Vanuatu’s two association committees have women in four of the five management positions, including as President.
* The *Private Sector Development Initiative* gave advice to the Governments of Solomon Islands and Vanuatu to reform legislation and develop a secure transaction framework to encourage women to take out loans and financial institutions to lend to women. The reform enables lending secured by personal property, rather than land or other large assets which women often do not have access to. The number of women borrowers - either equal parties or as majority members of a borrower group - increased significantly. For example, in Vanuatu there was an almost six-fold increase in majority women borrowers in 2015 compared to 2011.
* The program supported around 10,000 survivors of family violence in 2014-15 through counselling, referral to health and justice services, legal services and crisis accommodation in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, PNG, Tonga and Vanuatu.
* *Improving gender-based policies*: through the SPC’s Social Development Division, we supported a further three countries (total of eight since 2013) to undertake cross-government gender mainstreaming capacity stocktakes; five countries to develop and/or review their national gender policy; eight countries to develop and commence implementation of work plans to improve gender mainstreaming; and thirteen countries to strengthen the collection and analysis of gender statistics and reporting of progress against key gender equality commitments, including the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination (CEDAW).
* Australia supported over 30 women parliamentarians and senior government officials to attend the *Pacific Women Policy Makers’ Dialogue* in Tonga in July 2014 to identify strategies to improve women policy makers’ leadership; over 20 private sector and civil society representatives met in Fiji in November 2014 to identify ways the business community can address violence against women.

Factors affecting progress and future actions

There are many structural barriers to women’s empowerment in the Pacific region, for example many constitutions and customary laws obstruct women’s access to employment, ownership of assets and the capacity to be heard in decision-making. While there have been major improvements in legislation on family and sexual violence across the Pacific there are financial and social barriers to the effective implementation of these new laws. Women still face a large unmet need for contraception to help them plan and space their families.

### Performance Benchmarks

The Pacific Regional program achieved the majority of the five Performance Benchmarks established in the 2013-14 APPR. This included increasing government revenue from tuna fisheries, where the region significantly exceeded the benchmark; increasing the number of Australian Pacific Technical College graduates; and increasing the program expenditure on private sector engagement and development and aid for trade.

However, the program only partially achieved its benchmark of supporting the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat to help Forum countries realise their aspirations for effective regionalism. ‘Effective regionalism’ is a subjective term and will take many years to achieve. Australia is supporting the Secretariat to implement the new Framework for Pacific Regionalism, agreed at the Pacific Islands Forum in July 2014. While progress has been made, new approaches will take time to deliver. Similarly, partial progress was achieved in meeting the benchmark of reducing the number of investments from 85 to 55 (to improve the efficiency of the program), with the number of investments reduced to 75 by June 2015.

The Aid Investment Plan for the Pacific Regional Program includes seven new benchmarks for the Regional program in 2015‑16: increasing revenue to island governments from offshore tuna resources by a further five per cent; supporting a further 1000 islanders to gain qualifications from the Australia-Pacific Training College; leveraging a further $350 million in private sector investment, increasing engagement of Pacific Island countries in decision-making in Pacific regional meetings to at least 70 per cent; ensuring at least $10 million from the Green Climate Fund is allocated to the Pacific; increasing the number of Pacific governments undertaking surveillance and response plans for outbreaks of infectious diseases; and providing a further 2000 market vendors (85 per cent women) with financial and business literacy training.

### Mutual Obligations

Australia and its partners have made good progress under mutual obligations set out in multi-year partnership agreements with the major Pacific Regional Organisations (PROs) – the PIFS, SPC, USP, and SPREP – setting out how Australia will work with these organisations to address major regional development challenges. DFAT tracks and discusses programs regularly with each partner. During the reporting period, Australia increased its core funding for PROs from $30.8 million in 2013-14 to $45.1 million in 2014-15. This provided predictability and flexibility to help plan and budget for PRO priorities more effectively. Australia also provided strategic advice and training support through the Regional Advisory Service.

Our assistance has helped the PROs to improve governance, strategic planning and monitoring and evaluation systems, and to strengthen their intra-regional linkages. The PIFS is undergoing large institutional changes to respond to a changing regionalism agenda and improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Following major corporate and strategic reviews, SPC and SPREP have established internal committees to assess project proposals and are developing strategic plans to guide their operations from 2016. The partnership agreement between USP and the Australia Pacific Technical College brings together two significant regional investments to help economic growth in the Pacific through international-standard hospitality training. New Zealand is also taking a partnership approach with USP and SPC, demonstrating an increased collective resolve to support the PROs efforts to enhance effective regionalism.

## Program Quality and Partner Performance

### Overview

To ensure programs are working effectively and Australia is receiving value for its investment, independent consultants completed evaluations of five parts of the Pacific Regional Program in 2014-15. These included the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific, the Australia‑Pacific Technical College, SPREP Partnership Agreement, the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre, and the Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre. Evaluations reported overall positive results and provided useful recommendations for improvement. A number of evaluations planned for 2014-15 were delayed to 2015-16. Fourteen evaluations are scheduled for 2015-16, including evaluations of major programs such as our new Partnership arrangements with the University of the South Pacific and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (see Annex C). This will be a significant workload over the coming twelve months.

### Analysis of Aid Quality Checks (AQCs)

As part of the Australian Government’s performance framework for the aid program, aid investments are subject to annual AQCs to ensure they are performing well and achieving their intended results. The AQCs evaluate seven performance criteria (as shown along with performance ratings in Annex D) and are peer reviewed against a six point scale.

In 2014-15 the Pacific Regional program completed 46 AQCs. Analysis shows that program scores in 2014-15 improved overall in comparison to the scores provided for the Quality at Implementation (QAI) reports in 2013-14 (AQCs were previously called QAIs). This indicates that Australia’s investments are largely working as intended. The positive trend is attributed to the investments performing better and the closure/non-renewal of some investments as part of the consolidation agenda of the Regional program.

All regional investments reviewed were assessed to be relevant to the development context and/or as a tool of foreign diplomacy. Four per cent of investments were rated ineffective, four per cent were rated inefficient, seven per cent require sustainability improvements and four per cent require better risk management. Areas that require further effort include the 22 per cent of monitoring and evaluation systems that require further enhancement and the 43 per cent of investments that do not satisfactorily address innovation (innovation is a new AQC criteria introduced in 2015).

All projects were rated for gender equality, but overall scored relatively poorly in this area, with 28 per cent of investments not receiving a satisfactory rating in 2014-15 (although this was still an improvement from 35 per cent unsatisfactory in 2013-14). The Pacific Regional Program is below Australia’s target (in the performance framework) to have more than 80 per cent of investments, regardless of their objectives, effectively address gender issues in their implementation. Investments that have failed to receive a satisfactory rating will be systematically appraised to ensure that gender equality and disability is appropriately and adequately addressed. On current trends of improvement this target will likely be met in 2015‑16.

### Performance of key delivery partners

The Pacific Regional program’s delivery partners include regional and multilateral organisations. The diversity of these organisations mitigates risks associated with performance and/or relationship vulnerabilities typically associated with a highly-concentrated partner profile. It remains early days for the new partnership arrangements with the key regional organisations, but the partnerships will ensure these organisations adopt strategic and focused goals, in contrast to the plethora of activities driven by donor funding of individual projects, rather than Pacific needs. The partnership agreements each include a performance assessment framework to clearly assess the regional program’s performance in delivering its objectives.

### Risks

Table 3 Management of Key Risks to Achieving Objectives

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Key risks | 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? | For emerging/ongoing risks provide a Risk Rating (low, medium, high, very high) |
| Program funding and objectives are undermined by fraud | Regularly monitored our systems and processes to reduce opportunities for corruption across the Regional Program. | Use our comprehensive fraud control and risk management frameworks to help prevent, detect and control fraud. Will seek to engage with trusted and effective implementing partners: major international organisations (eg ADB and UN), regional institutions, & high-performing NGOs. | Medium. Some fraud is inevitable, but we will take action to ensure that it can have a minimal impact by identifying it early. |
| Pacific Regional Organisations and multilateral organisations do not implement reforms and improve effectiveness | Worked actively through the new partnership agreements with the USP, PIFS, FFA, and SPC to ensure more strategic management and effectiveness. | Pacific Regional Program will continue to work with Pacific Regional Organisations and multilaterals to support their reform agendas and improve their accountability and effectiveness. | High. Australia alone cannot direct outcomes in the regional organisations and progress so far has been slow.  |
| Regional and bilateral programs exhibit poor coordination and cooperation | Country annexes to the 2013-14 APPR made clear the regional program contribution to bilateral programs. Worked to ensure bilateral Aid Investment Plans reflected regional contributions to development relationships. | Pacific Regional Program will continue to work with bilateral programs to ensure coordination and cooperation. | Medium. It remains difficult to coordinate across the full range of programs. |
| Over-programming and proliferation of initiatives | Reduced the number of investments from 85 to 75.  | Further work on initiative consolidation will be done in line with strategies.  | Low. The number of investments has been falling.  |

## Management Responses

In 2014-15, the regional program will work to implement the new Aid Investment Plan for 2015‑16 to 2018-19. In particular, we will continue to work within the new partnership agreements with the Pacific Islands Forum, the Secretariat for the Pacific Community, the University of the South Pacific, Forum Fisheries Agency, and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme. Core-funding under these partnership arrangements now comprises close to a quarter of our total investment under the regional program, so it is important these investments meet their potential. We will make continued efforts to ensure strategic plans are implemented and organisations continue to take a long-term, more strategic, view of their work.

We remain on track to meet the government’s targets for the share of spending on aid-for-trade initiatives and for investments to support gender equality. However, we will make greater efforts to ensure that gender equality and disability inclusiveness is integrated throughout the regional program. We will also seek to increase innovation across all investments, currently our worst performing area across the regional program.

We will also continue to reduce the number of investments, where it is efficient to do so, by working with key partners. Between June 2013 and June 2015, we reduced the number of investments by 12 per cent and the number of investments under $3 million by one-third (33 to 21). Greater efforts are needed to meet our target of 55 investments in the regional program. This will help reduce the administrative costs of the regional program and support investments that are performing well and achieving value-for money.

Finally, we will prioritise the significant number of independent evaluations of investments due in 2015-16, and will ensure we act upon recommendations to ensure that investments continue to be as effective and efficient as possible.

## Annex A - Progress in Addressing Management Responses

* Describe progress made against management responses in 2013-14 report

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Management responses identified in 2013-14 APPR  | Rating | Progress made in 2014-5 |
| **Focus on implementing the government’s aid policy**, in particular in relation to the ten strategic targets set for the aid program. This will require concerted effort in the areas of consolidation and performance management, and an increased focus on gender issues and aid-for-trade investments. | Achieved | There has been greater use of core funding to regional organisations and a reduction in the number of investments by 12 per cent and the number of investments under $3 million by one-third (33 to 21) to June 2015. The Aid-for-Trade spending is on track to reach 20 per cent of spending, with progress made on increasing the proportion of activities on that address gender. |
| Critical need for the forthcoming Pacific Regional **Aid Investment Plan to establish a set of clear and specific objectives** for the Pacific regional program, against which program effectiveness can be robustly assessed. | Achieved | The Aid Investment Plan was published on 30 September 2015. It sets out four objectives for the Pacific Regional Program: economic growth; effective regional institutions; healthy and resilient communities; and empowering women and girls. A Performance Assessment Framework accompanies the Aid Investment Plan, along with a set of measurable benchmarks for performance. |
| **Enhance the way regional programs interact with bilateral programs**, bringing to the fore the principles of aid effectiveness, including alignment to country-level priorities. Structural changes will be implemented in 2014-15 to improve regional/bilateral coherence at the country level. | Achieved | Greater coherence between regional and bilateral aid programs has been achieved through more regular communication between staff working on regional and bilateral programs and greater advisory support in health and education to improve links between bilateral and regional activities. |
| **Maintain a strong focus on integration of cross-cutting issues**, such as gender equality and disability-inclusive development, into design, implementation and reviews across the full regional program portfolio. | Partly achieved | There is a need to take systematic action on programs to ensure that gender equality and disability inclusiveness have been appropriately and adequately addressed. |
| Careful effort will be required to **manage the upcoming shift of full management responsibility and senior engagement to Canberra**. The Pacific regional aid program requires extensive administrative and relationship management effort, with overall management currently split between Canberra and Suva.  | Partly achieved | The final demarcation of management responsibilities between Canberra and Suva has yet to be resolved. However, the objective of ensuring strong oversight of all programs in Canberra has been advanced. |

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 - Progress towards Performance Benchmarks in 2014 -15

| Aid objective | 2014-15 benchmark  | Rating | Progress in 2014-15 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Supporting the management of shared natural resources*:Increase government revenue from tuna fisheries | Direct government revenues flowing to FFA members from offshore tuna fisheries demonstrate average annual increases of 5% or more (2013-14 baseline: US$240 million) | Achieved | The region significantly exceeded this performance benchmark in 2014-15, despite lower fish prices. Total Government revenues for the year are estimated at $450 million. We have commissioned new analysis of baseline fisheries indicators and will incorporate relevant data over the coming twelve months. |
| *Supporting the provision of specialised services*:Increase the number of APTC graduates | APTC will have produced 7,200 graduates by June 2015, after 8 years of operation | Achieved | We significantly exceeded this benchmark with a total of 8445 students having graduated from APTC programs by June 2015.  |
| *Strengthening the performance of the regional architecture*:Support the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, as the premier political regional organisation, to help Forum countries realise their aspirations for effective regionalism. | Both Australia and PIFS will work together to improve collective understanding of the complex political economy and other factors that influence success of regional support, and how best to bring national and regional attention to address complex development challenges. | Partly achieved | Australia is a strong supporter of PIFS in its efforts to implement the Framework for Pacific Regionalism and engage national governments and Pacific Regional Organisations in more effective collective action. PIFS has made some progress with this new process to identify regional priorities including the establishment of a Specialist Subcommittee on Regionalism, however new approaches will need to be introduced slowly and with regard to pre-existing structures. Australia also successfully advocated for a Forum Foreign Ministers Meeting on Disaster Management to review national and regional capabilities to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. |
| *Program management/operations*:Improved management efficiency through reduction in total number of investments. | Reduce number of investments from 85 to 55 by June 2015 | Partly achieved | Further work needs to be done on the consolidation agenda. We have reduced the number of investments from 85 to 75 by June 2015. Of those 75 investments, 6 were completed during that financial year.  |
| Reorient program to focus on Australian Government’s new development priorities | Increase percentage of program budget invested in private sector development and aid-for-trade to 20%. | Achieved | Engagement with business is central to the Pacific Regional Program’s approach to growth and development. We are on track to achieve our target of 20% of aid invested in aid for trade in 2015-16. |

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

## Annex C - Evaluation and Review Pipeline Planning

* List all evaluations and reviews completed in the reporting period.

### List of evaluations completed in the reporting period

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Investment** | **AidWorks number** | **Name of evaluation** | **Date finalised** | **Date Evaluation report Uploaded into AidWorks** | **Date Management response uploaded into AidWorks** | **Published on website** |
| Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) | INJ488 | Independent Progress Review | Feb 2015 | Feb 2015 | June 2015 | Sept 2015  |
| Australia-Pacific Technical College Stage 2 | INJ862 | Independent Review | November 2014 | September 2015 | September 2015 | Sept 2015 |
| SPREP Partnership Agreement 2011-2015 | INJ804 | Partner-led evaluation | 18 August 2014 | 10 September 2014 | 10 August 2014 | August 2014 |
| Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre | INC676 | Partner-led evaluation | June 2015 | 20 August 2015 | 20 August 2015 | August 2015 |
| Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre (FWCC) | INI598 | Independent Progress review | 1 June 2015 | In process | In process | Est Dec 2015 |

### List of evaluations planned in the next 12 months

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Investment | AidWorks number | Type of evaluation | Purpose of evaluation | Expected completion date |
| Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) – Government of Australia Partnership for Pacific Regionalism  | 69294/1 | Independent Mid-term Review |  Assess the performance of the Partnership against its stated objectives and assess the effectiveness of the partnership modality in supporting the Pacific regional architecture  | May 2016 |
| Pacific Financial Inclusion program | INI898 | Partner led evaluation | Progress, implementation and inform future | June 2016 |
| Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program | INI851 | Independent evaluation | implementation and inform future progress | March 2016 |
| Strengthening Specialised Clinical Services in the Pacific (SSCSiP) | INK933 | Independent evaluation | To inform a future phase of program  | September 2015 |
| Tertiary Health Services Pacific Islands Project (PIP), Royal Australasian College of Surgeons | INK933 | Independent evaluation | To inform a future phase of program | September 2015 |
| Fiji National University, College of Medicine Nursing and Health Sciences (former Fiji School of Medicine)  | INK933 | Independent evaluation | Completion review | October 2015 |
| UN joint programme on reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health  | INK933 | Annual country level consultations | To review the status of the program | 2015 |
| Pacific Regional Blindness Prevention Program | INK794 | Partner-led evaluation | To verify program outcomes | November 2015 |
| Regional Rights Resource Team | ING982 | Independent progress review | To inform a future phase of the investment | December 2015 |
| Tertiary Health Pacific Islands Project | INJ833 | End Of Program Evaluation | To inform a future phase of the investment | October 2015 |
| University of the South Pacific Partnership Arrangement | INJ 054 | Independent Review | Mid-term review of the USP Strategic Plan 2013-2018 | October 2015 |
| Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC)/Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) | ING982 | Independent Progress review | Assess the performance of RRRT against its stated objectives with specific focus on its relevance, effectiveness and sustainability | December 2015 |
| Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) | INI486 | Independent Progress review | Assess the performance of PDF against its stated objectives in terms of effectiveness (impact), efficiency and sustainability | January 2016 |
| Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development (PWSPD) |  | Independent Progress Review | Assess the performance of PWSPD against its intermediate objectives and implementation strategies (coalition building, partnership approaches and action learning) | Mid to late 2016 |

## Annex D - Aid Quality Check ratings

The previous investment level performance assessment system utilised Quality at Implementation (QAI) reports. Two criteria, Risks and Safeguards and Innovation and Private sector were not assessed in QAI reports and there have been significant changes in AQC reporting this year. Innovation and Private Sector is not a quality standard.

### AQC ratings

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Investment name | Start date | End date | Approved budget | AQC/QAI year | Relevance | Effectiveness | Efficiency | Monitoring and Evaluation | Sustainability | Gender equality | Risks and Safeguards |
| **Objective 1: Economic Growth** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre  | 25/10/1995 | 30/06/2014 | $15,501,760 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| PACER Plus Support  | 1/07/2007 | 30/06/2016 | $12,452,693 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| Labour Mobility Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme   | 1/07/2008 | 30/06/2017 | $7,286,807 | 2015FAQC | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Regional Agricultural Market Access  | 1/07/2009  | 30/06/2017  | $32,239,068  | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| UNDP Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme  | 1/07/2009 | 31/12/2017 | $19,465,000 | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| World Bank Pacific Facility  | 1/07/2009 | 31/12/2014 | $25,600,007 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Fisheries Development Assistance in the Pacific  | 1/06/2010 | 31/12/2018 | $49,869,858 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Fisheries and Food Security - SPC  | 10/10/2010 | 30/11/2015 | $9,878,106 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Infrastructure Program  | 18/07/2012 | 30/06/2016 | $7,928,127 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | n/a |
| International Finance Corporation Pacific East Timor  | 1/10/2012 | 30/09/2016 | $18,333,000 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | n/a |
| Private Sector Development Initiative Phase 3  | 1/07/2013 | 30/06/2019 | $23,501,117 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | n/a |
| World Bank Pacific Facility 4  | 1/07/2013 | 30/06/2018 | $27,848,387 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| University of the South Pacific Partnership  | 1/01/2010 | 31/03/2019 | $80,901,820 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 5 | n/a |
| Scholarships French Collectivities ADS  | 1/01/2010 | 30/06/2018 | $8,340,244 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Tertiary Health Pacific Islands Project  | 31/03/2011 | 30/06/2016 | $8,970,905 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| Australia-Pacific Technical College Stage 2  | 1/05/2011 | 31/07/2018 | $240,464,163 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | n/a |
| In-PNG Scholarships From 2013  | 15/11/2012 | 30/06/2020 | $42,769,529 | 2015AQC | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Pacific Benchmarking Education Quality for Results  | 1/06/2012 | 30/06/2016 | $4,721,539 | 2015AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Aust Awards Pacific Scholarships - 2014 Intake  | 1/07/2013 | 30/06/2021 | $14,148,826 | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| **Objective 2: Effective Regional Institutions** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| State Society and Governance Melanesia  | 22/08/1995 | 30/06/2017 | $32,160,197 | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | n/a |
| UNDP Pacific Sub Regional Centre  | 1/01/2006 | 30/12/2018 | $30,080,335 | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | n/a |
| Pacific Technical Assistance Mechanism  | 1/09/2006 | 30/09/2017 | $7,072,679 | 2015FAQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT)   | 1/07/2006 | 31/12/2016 | $11,301,097 | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 | n/a |
| Pacific Regional Audit Initiative  | 1/10/2008 | 30/06/2015 | $4,250,000 | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | n/a |
| Pacific Public Sector Linkages Program  | 1/07/2009 | 30/06/2016 | $25,654,922 | 2015AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | n/a |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Investment name | Start date | End date | Approved budget | AQC/QAI year | Relevance | Effectiveness | Efficiency | Monitoring and Evaluation | Sustainability | Gender equality | Risks and Safeguards |
| Program to Strengthen Pacific Statistics  | 3/02/2010 | 31/01/2016 | $12,184,482 | 2015FAQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) 2  | 1/06/2011 | 31/12/2015 | $11,686,091 | 2015AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Public Administration Governance Initiative  | 1/07/2014 | 31/12/2017 | $10,700,000 | 2015AQC | 5 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Pacific Leadership Program Phase 3  | 1/07/2014  | 30/06/2017  | $17,250,000  | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| SPC - GOA Partnership for Pacific Regionalism (core and program funding) | 26/05/2014 | 31/03/2017  | $51,000,000  | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| GoA-PIFS Partnership 2014-2019 | 1/01/2014 | 31/03/2017 | $22,142,360 | 2015AQC | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| UNICEF Pacific Child Protection Program 2014-2017  | 12/06/2014  | 30/06/2018  | $7,000,000  | 2015AQC | 6 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| **Objective 3: Healthy and Resilient Communities** |
| Australian Sports Outreach Program  | 1/07/2006  | 30/06/2016  | $31,375,582  | 2015FAQC | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Pacific HIV & STI Response Fund  | 1/10/2008  | 31/01/2015  | $21,791,088  | 2015FAQC | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 2 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | n/a |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Investment name | Start date | End date | Approved budget | AQC/QAI year | Relevance | Effectiveness | Efficiency | Monitoring and Evaluation | Sustainability | Gender equality | Risks and Safeguards |
| UNICEF Multi-Country Program 2013-2015  | 24/01/2011  | 30/12/2015  | $11,745,000  | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 6 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Sports Partnerships  | 1/07/2011  | 30/09/2016  | $8,437,500  | 2015FAQC | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 | n/a |
| Strategic Support: Fiji School of Medicine  | 1/05/2012  | 30/06/2016  | $7,634,846  | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Specialised Clinical Services  | 23/05/2011  | 30/06/2016  | $4,392,000  | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Pacific Development through Sport  | 15/06/2012  | 30/09/2017  | $14,681,935  | 2015FAQC | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| SPC Climate Change   | 19/10/2009  | 31/01/2015  | $9,000,000  | 2015AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific  | 11/10/2010  | 30/06/2017  | $33,812,083  | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | n/a |
| SPREP Partnership Agreement 2011-2015  | 1/03/2011  | 31/05/2016  | $16,197,000  | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| Pacific Risk Resilience Program  | 23/05/2011  | 30/06/2018  | $17,023,462  | 2015AQC | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| PACCSAPP  | 12/12/2011  | 31/03/2015  | $32,168,000  | 2015FAQC | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 2014AQC | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 4 | n/a |
| Investment name | Start date | End date | Approved budget | AQC/QAI year | Relevance | Effectiveness | Efficiency | Monitoring and Evaluation | Sustainability | Gender equality | Risks and Safeguards |
| Objective 4: Empowering women and girls |
| Fiji Women's Crisis Centre Phase 5  | 30/05/2009  | 30/06/2016  | $8,749,311  | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 6 | n/a |
| Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development | 2/04/2012 | 30/06/2022 | $190,854,394 | 2015AQC | 6 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 |
| 2014AQC | 6 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 6 | n/a |

Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

⬛ = 6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all or almost all areas

⬛ = 5 = Good; satisfies criteria in most 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 but does not fail in any major area

⬛ = 2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas

⬛ = 1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major areas

Timing: some programs were assessed on calendar, not financial years, with the reported against the financial year in which the time period ended. ie 2014 results are reported as 2014-15, and therefore marked here as 2015ACQ.