



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Performance of Australian Development Cooperation Report 2024–25

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Government acknowledges Australia's First Nations peoples as the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises and respects their continuing connections to lands, waters and communities. The government pays respect to Elders past and present, to emerging leaders, and to all First Nations peoples, and recognises the continuation of diverse cultural, spiritual and educational practices. The government thanks all First Nations peoples who have generously shared their knowledge and expertise to inform the Performance of Australian Development Cooperation Report 2024–25.

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Introduction

The PADC report captures performance across Australia's development cooperation, including Official Development Assistance managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other Australian Government agencies.

At a time when development challenges and humanitarian crises are increasing, and traditional development partners are reducing Official Development Assistance (ODA), Australia remains a reliable development partner in the Indo-Pacific region. Australia is reprioritising its development investments to bolster support to the Indo-Pacific region and to ensure high-impact, responsive development assistance is provided where it is most needed. The 2024–25 Performance of Australian Development Cooperation (PADC) report outlines achievements and results from Australia's commitment to delivering an effective and sustainable development program centred on listening, respect and genuine partnership.

This commitment and Australia's development priorities are identified in Australia's International Development Policy (2023). A Performance and Delivery Framework (PADF) supports the policy's implementation, including a three-tier performance indicator framework.¹ This third annual PADC report shows the overall performance of Australia's development cooperation program. It also reports on progress against the PADF indicator framework for July 2024 to June 2025.

The PADC report captures performance across Australia's development cooperation, including ODA managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and other Australian Government agencies. It also captures development cooperation that leverages Australian expertise or resources, as well as other types of financing, such as non-ODA funding, loans, and private finance. The PADC report shares information on Australia's development program, ensuring transparency and delivering accountability to the Australian Parliament and public.

New information in the 2024–25 PADC report includes:

- results from the inaugural Biennial Perceptions Survey, which measured perceptions of Australia's development program across the Indo-Pacific region (Chapter 1)
- expanded analysis of multilateral performance (Chapter 3)
- a sample of key development results achieved under Development Partnership Plans (Annex B).

Outline of this report

This report is divided into five chapters and five annexes.

Chapter 1 reports on the three-tier performance indicator framework for the whole of the development program.

Chapter 2 summarises the performance of country and regional development programs across four regional groups: the Pacific, Southeast Asia, South and Central Asia, and beyond the Indo-Pacific.

Chapter 3 summarises the results of Australia's major global partnerships and programs, including multilateral partnerships and development banks, the Australian Non-Government Organisation (NGO) Cooperation Program (ANCP), Australia Awards and the Australian Volunteers Program.

¹ Australia's International Development Policy (2023) is available at <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/international-development-policy.pdf> and Performance and Delivery Framework is available at <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/performance-delivery-framework.pdf>

Chapter 4 reports on Australia’s development finance portfolio, including budget support lending under the *International Monetary Agreements (IMA) Act*, the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) and blended finance.

Chapter 5 presents performance data for the sectors: economic infrastructure and services; agriculture, trade and other production services; governance; education; health; humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction; climate change; and multisector and general support.

Annex A provides detailed results under the three-tier performance framework.

Annex B provides a sample of key development results achieved under Development Partnership Plans (DPPs).

Annex C summarises the major activities and achievements that different Australian Government agencies have contributed to Australia’s development cooperation.

Annex D lists and provides links to the published development evaluations completed in 2024–25.

Annex E presents detailed development finance tables (referenced in Chapter 4).

Please note: All dollar figures quoted in this report are Australian dollars unless otherwise indicated.

Performance assessment approach

This report draws on performance assessments at the four levels of Australia’s development program, shown in the PADF (refer to Table 1).

At the **whole-of-development-program** level, alignment with Australia’s International Development Policy and progress toward advancing a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region are assessed. Results are reported annually in DFAT’s annual report and the PADC report.

At the **country and regional program** level, partnerships are key to delivering the International Development Policy. Whole-of-government country and regional DPPs were progressively finalised during 2024 and 2025. Each DPP’s performance assessment framework includes indicators to measure progress toward stated objectives. This PADC report provides a sample of key development results achieved under DPPs at Annex B.

At the **multilateral program** level, DFAT conducts periodic multilateral performance assessments for certain multilateral organisations that receive core funding from Australia. Major global programs, including ANCP, Australia Awards and the Australian Volunteers Program, are assessed against program-specific monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

At the **individual investment** level, DFAT performs quality reporting annually on all development investments over \$3 million. Through the investment performance reporting process, DFAT investment managers complete one of these reports for each investment:

- annual investment monitoring report (IMR)
- humanitarian investment monitoring report (HIMR)
- final investment monitoring report (FIMR).

At the whole-of-development-program level, alignment with Australia’s International Development Policy and progress toward advancing a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region are assessed.

Each report type has its own ratings matrix. Investment performance is rated as satisfactory or unsatisfactory.² To ensure performance assessments in IMRs are robust and contestable, a subset is subject to moderation.³ FIMRs report on the performance of investments over their lifetime, including the level of achievement against the intended end-of-investment outcomes. External assessors independently validate all FIMR ratings.

Investments can also be subject to independent evaluations, which form part of the evidence in quality reporting. DFAT uses evaluation findings to improve the implementation of ongoing investments and to inform the design of new investments. The evaluation case studies in this report are from evaluations completed in 2024–25.

Table 1: Australia’s International Development Performance and Delivery Framework

Level	Policy settings	Performance assessment	Reporting
Whole of Development Program	International Development Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three-tier indicator framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFAT Annual Report Annual bilateral Development Partnership talks Annual Performance of Australian Development Cooperation Report Online development transparency portal, (adp.dfat.gov.au).
Country and Regional Programs	Development Partnership Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual reporting Mid-cycle review 	
Multilateral Programs	Strategic Partnership Frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodic multilateral performance assessment 	
Investments	International Development Programming Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment reports Independent evaluations Impact assessments 	

Performance indicators

The performance indicator framework (refer to Table 2) supports the implementation of the International Development Policy. The indicator framework has three tiers:

- **Tier 1 indicators** on the **Indo-Pacific development context** present selected issues central to achieving sustainable development outcomes for the Indo-Pacific. Improvements over time for Tier 1 indicators are the outcomes of collective efforts by countries and their development partners, including Australia.
- **Tier 2 indicators** on **Australia’s contribution to development** are annual results directly attributable to Australian development efforts, organised against the four focus areas of the International Development Policy.
- **Tier 3 indicators** on **how we work** are measures of DFAT’s operational approach to delivering Australia’s development program.

² Investments are rated on a 6-point scale: 6 (very good), 5 (good) and 4 (adequate) are satisfactory; 3 (less than adequate), 2 (poor) and 1 (very poor) are unsatisfactory.

³ Moderation of IMR/HIMR by experienced DFAT staff outside the program area is needed for investments that are: \$50 million and above; high risk (regardless of value); rated unsatisfactory for effectiveness, efficiency, gender equality or risk management in the previous IMR; in their penultimate year of implementation; DFAT-managed facilities.

Table 2: PADF indicator framework

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
Indo-Pacific development context	Australia's contribution to development	How we work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fragility • Gender equality • Political rights and civil liberties • Fiscal sustainability • Governance • Poverty • Economic growth • Health • Impact of disasters • Climate change adaptation • Climate change mitigation • Regional economic integration 	<p>Building effective and accountable states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved governance • Economic policy reform and management and private-sector development • Economic empowerment • Social protection measures • Gender equality • Disability equity <p>Enhancing state and community resilience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure • Education • Health • Food security • Climate adaptation, mitigation, environment and biodiversity • Maritime security <p>Connecting partners with Australian and regional architecture:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening leadership • Labour mobility • Strengthening regional architecture <p>Generating collective action on global challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multilateral engagement • Trade • Emergency assistance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our development cooperation is effective • Our development cooperation is inclusive with a focus on gender equality and disability equity • Addressing climate change is central to our development cooperation • Partnerships underpin our development cooperation • Our development cooperation is transparent • Our development cooperation uses local actors in design, delivery and evaluation • Our development cooperation is informed by monitoring, evaluation and learning • Our development cooperation is enhanced by First Nations perspectives



Credit: Opportunity International

Chapter 1

Progress and achievements against the indicator framework

Tier 1: Indo-Pacific development context

Tier 1 indicators present selected issues that are central to achieving sustainable development outcomes for the Indo-Pacific.⁴ DFAT measures progress against the Tier 1 indicators using open-source data. In 2024–25, the Indo-Pacific region faced challenges due to global disruption from cuts to development assistance by several major development partners, a liquidity crisis in the multilateral system, and the impact of new US tariffs. Given lags and the fact that data sources are updated at different times, this year’s Tier 1 dataset likely does not yet fully reflect the impacts of these reductions in development assistance funding.

Noting the above caveat, there was limited change in Tier 1 indicator progress during 2024–25, suggesting the development context in the Indo-Pacific region remained largely stable. The following sections discuss Tier 1, while Annex A includes data sources for each indicator. For some indicators, 2024–25 data were unavailable. In these cases, this report uses the most recently available data. This year, internal displacements by disasters capture the impact of disasters in the region. Economic data on the impact of disasters in the Pacific are limited, and cost estimates capture only a fraction of the impact on Pacific livelihoods.

Climate change and disasters

Climate change is increasingly impacting the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of climate-vulnerable countries and communities across the Indo-Pacific. Natural hazards are occurring more frequently and often simultaneously, undermining development progress and amplifying the risks of food and water insecurity, disease and displacement. Alongside climate-induced hazards, other shocks such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions (geological hazards) continue to threaten communities.

Pacific island nations are among the lowest carbon emitters globally, yet they are disproportionately affected by climate change. Climate change is expected to intensify the frequency and severity of natural hazards, increasing the likelihood and impacts of disasters, including loss of life and disruptions of essential services, and exacerbating inequality and poverty. In the Pacific, 33 disaster events were recorded, and 706 in Southeast Asia, resulting in 35,220 internal displacements in the Pacific and 10.6 million in Southeast Asia.⁵

The 2024 results of the Notre Dame Global Adaptation Index (ND-GAIN)⁶ show that many Pacific countries are taking action to reduce their vulnerability through integrated climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction plans.

Further supporting these efforts at the regional level are the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific 2017–2030 and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent. In Southeast Asia, countries have also strengthened their resilience through regional mechanisms such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response and national climate adaptation plans. However, implementation progress varies across the region.

Demographic and social trends

The proportion of fragile (institutional and social fragility) and

Pacific island nations are among the lowest carbon emitters globally, yet they are disproportionately affected by climate change.

4 For the purposes of Tier 1 data: Southeast Asia is classified as all ASEAN member states; the Pacific does not include French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Cook Islands, Wallis and Futuna, and Guam.

5 Internal displacement refers to the forced movement of people within the country people live in according to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre: <https://www.internal-displacement.org/internal-displacement/>

6 The ND-GAIN Country Index measures climate vulnerability and adaptation readiness based upon compiled indicators. The ND-GAIN Country Index does not include conflict related variables among the 36 vulnerability indicators and therefore conflict-related disasters are not referenced in this report. The index is available at <https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/>

conflict-affected countries was relatively constant, with 43 per cent of Pacific countries still classified as fragile in 2024–25. The geographic isolation of the Pacific Island nations heightens their vulnerability to climate change. It also increases the costs of delivering essential services to local populations. Myanmar remains the only country in Southeast Asia classified as conflict-affected by the World Bank Group. Ongoing violence worsens the humanitarian crisis for Rohingya people. In Cox’s Bazaar in Bangladesh, over 1.1 million Rohingya refugees are crowded into an area of less than 24 km².

The Global Gender Gap Index showed a marginal improvement in average index scores across the Pacific and Southeast Asia, marking the first reversal of the downward trend observed since 2018. In the Pacific, the score increased by 0.8 per cent in 2024–25. In Southeast Asia, there was a 0.2 per cent increase. If global economies continued to advance at this estimated rate, worldwide gender parity would be achieved in 123 years. Whether this positive change will be sustained is uncertain, given an unprecedented rollback of gender equality and human rights underway globally and in the Indo-Pacific at the time of reporting.

Political rights and civil liberties ratings have not changed in the Pacific. Meanwhile, Southeast Asia has seen declines at the lower end of the Freedom House score range, indicating ongoing governance challenges. There has been minimal change in government effectiveness according to World Bank indicators. This reflects the sustained effort and time required to build state capacity to develop policy, deploy resources, and deliver public services to all citizens. Government effectiveness continues to vary widely across Southeast Asia and the Pacific, requiring approaches tailored to each country’s needs and circumstances. Universal Health Coverage (UHC) indicator scores for the Indo-Pacific increased slightly between 2021 and 2023 at the regional level, with an average increase of 0.9 per cent in the Pacific and 1.8 per cent in Southeast Asia. However, within both regions, UHC continues to vary widely between countries; some Pacific countries saw a modest decrease in coverage between 2021 and 2023 (Kiribati, Vanuatu). This modest but slow and uneven progress is consistent with global trends.

Economic pressures

The region continues to face global economic instability fuelled by geopolitical tensions. However, in 2024–25, inflation was lower, and export performance was stronger than expected in the Indo-Pacific region, although there was significant variation across countries. Heightened debt repayment and liquidity risks remain a concern, particularly in the Pacific. This reflects variable post-pandemic recovery of fiscal positions, debt overhang and higher interest rates. Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu, and Tonga are Pacific countries at high risk of debt distress. In Southeast Asia, Laos is experiencing debt distress.

In June 2025, the World Bank published updated global poverty lines. According to World Bank data, the proportion of people living below USD4.20 per day (the poverty line for lower-middle-income countries) ranged from 22.0 per cent to 75.9 per cent in the Pacific, and 3.7 per cent to 81.9 per cent in Southeast Asia. The proportion of people living below USD8.30 per day (the poverty line for upper-middle-income countries) in the Pacific ranged from 26.7 per cent to 61.3 per cent, and 9.9 per cent to 95.3 per cent for Southeast Asia.⁷ Limited data on poverty continues to hinder understanding of the true scale of disruptions to social protection programs. With resources under strain, governments are forced to make difficult trade-offs that compromise the delivery of essential human services.

⁷ No countries in the Pacific or Southeast Asia are classified as low income.

Although Southeast Asia has recorded an increase in country-level Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita since 2024, weaker external conditions and trade tensions have dampened export, consumption, and investment expectations. Pacific growth is moderating as the region continues to face challenges in expanding tourism and implementing public infrastructure projects. These challenges include capacity constraints, vulnerability to disasters and external shocks, limited fiscal space, and an elevated risk of debt distress.

Whole-of-nation efforts to support Australia's development cooperation

Australia continues to leverage all its national strengths to respond to the needs of the Indo-Pacific region, integrating development with diplomatic, trade, economic, defence, migration, cultural, scientific and security engagement. Public and private institutions, philanthropic organisations and community-led initiatives all help to deliver sustainable development outcomes. Their expertise, networks and partnerships enable timely, effective and locally tailored support across the Indo-Pacific and around the world.

- **Technology for Solomon Islands (T4SI)** is a social enterprise based in Lismore, New South Wales. T4SI is harnessing information technology and digital literacy to address complex development challenges. T4SI partners with governments, NGOs and private sector actors to design and deploy technology solutions that improve education outcomes and break down barriers to access technology in Solomon Islands. Their work focuses on refurbishing and donating computers supplied by Australian organisations. They also deliver training and technical support to schools and NGOs in Solomon Islands, helping students build digital literacy, connect to the internet and access modern learning tools. T4SI exemplifies how Australian expertise in technology and innovation can drive sustainable, inclusive development outcomes.
- The **Queensland Government** and the **Government of Papua New Guinea** signed a renewed memorandum of understanding (MoU) in 2025. The MoU outlines 14 priority areas of cooperation such as business relations, support of cultural and sporting exchanges, tourism, agriculture, education, health, emergency services, and disaster resilience and response. The MoU builds on successive MoUs agreed since 1992. Queensland's local government sister city arrangements also continue between the City of Townsville and the National Capital District Commission of Port Moresby, and those of Cairns Regional Council and Lae City.
- Cervical cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer-related death among women in the Pacific, with mortality rates up to 14 times that of Australia. **The Elimination Partnership in the Indo-Pacific for Cervical Cancer (EPICC)** is led by the University of Sydney. EPICC brings together partners supporting Ministries of Health across the Indo-Pacific to accelerate progress toward cervical cancer elimination, including the Australian Centre for the Prevention of Cervical Cancer, the Kirby Institute (University of New South Wales), Family Planning Australia, the National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance and Unitaid. EPICC receives funding and in-kind support from different sources, including the philanthropic Minderoo Foundation and the Australian Government, and donations from the private sector. The success of the EPICC initiative rests on its collaborative operating model. Academic, philanthropic, private sector and public sector partners combine expertise and resources to bolster locally led, sustainable and nationally tailored cervical cancer elimination strategies.

Pacific growth is moderating as the region continues to face challenges in expanding tourism and implementing public infrastructure projects.



Credit: T4SI

Tier 2: Australia's contribution to development

Tier 2 results are annual results directly attributable to Australian development efforts. They are organised against the four focus areas of Australia's International Development Policy. Tier 2 results reflect contributions to development from various Australian Government departments and agencies. The full set of Tier 2 results is in Annex A.



Credit: DFAT

Building effective and accountable states



12,271

organisations supported to **strengthen accountability** and/or inclusion



35

countries supported with policy and technical advice on **economic reform** and management



\$844 million +

in **direct financing** to partner governments



538

market actors in key economic sectors supported to expand **market access** and/or improve **supply chain resilience**



\$127 million

in **additional private funds leveraged** to support sustainable development



469,181

women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services



165 million

people reached through new or improved **social protection programs**



\$70.3 million

in ODA funding channelled to **Women's Equality Organisations and Institutions**



231,769

services provided to victim-survivors of sexual and **gender-based violence** (SGBV)



1,552

Organisations of **People with Disability** receiving capacity building support

Enhancing state and community resilience



2,941

infrastructure projects supported that meet internationally agreed quality standards



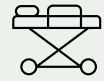
10,655

local people accessed jobs created by infrastructure projects



15

countries supported to improve minimum proficiency in **reading and mathematics** for children and young people



54

countries supported to improve the capacity of their health systems to provide **quality, accessible and affordable health services**



3.0 million

couple-years of contraceptive protection from unplanned pregnancies made available for **sexual and reproductive health**



42

countries supported to improve the ability to anticipate, prevent, detect and control **communicable disease threats**



816,319

people supported to improve **food security**



1.7 million

people assisted to use **climate resilient agriculture practices** on their farms



2.9 million

people supported to **improve adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters**



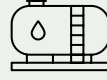
64 investments

(worth \$502 million) improving **climate change adaptation and disaster resilience**



26 investments

(worth \$133 million) promoting or delivering **nature-positive outcomes**



764,399

people supported to **use basic or safely managed drinking water services**



1.1 million

people supported to use basic or **safely managed sanitation services** and/or a handwashing facility with soap and water



37

countries supported to improve **resilience and ability to manage maritime domains** and marine resources

Connecting partners with Australian and regional architecture



1,214

completions of an **Australia Awards scholarship**



420

Australia Awards alumni worked with **Australian organisations** on joint projects, partnerships, research, and community initiatives



687,851

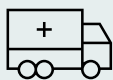
completions of a **tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training**



30,835

Pacific Australia Labour Mobility workers sent home \$542.9 million for 2024–25

Generating collective action on global challenges



9.8 million

people provided with **emergency assistance** in conflict and humanitarian crisis situations



64

countries supported to increase their capacity to participate effectively in **rules-based trade and economic architecture**



54

countries supported to engage productively with the **multilateral trading** system

Australia continues to support partner countries to sustain their own development, deliver for and engage all citizens, and build resilience to external pressures and shocks.

Building effective and accountable states

Effective governance underpins the success of development outcomes and remains DFAT's largest sectoral investment, with expenditure of \$1.267 billion in 2024–25. Australia continues to support partner countries to sustain their own development, deliver for and engage all citizens, and build resilience to external pressures and shocks.

As part of these efforts, Australia supported 12,271 organisations to strengthen accountability or inclusion in their policies or practices across 73 countries. This includes 9,718 government institutions, 1,478 civil society organisations and 1,075 private organisations. For example, Australia has supported the Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute (PacLII), managed by the University of the South Pacific School of Law and Social Sciences. PacLII expanded free online access to Pacific Islands laws via its website, averaging 1.4 million hits per month. In 2024–25, PacLII made available an additional 4,042 court decisions, and 1,869 pieces of legislation and government gazettes from 12 Pacific Island countries. The ability for all citizens to freely access current, accurate laws is essential to the rule of law and good governance in the Pacific.

Australia has supported 35 countries with policy and technical advice on economic reform and management. For example, through Australian funding, the World Bank implemented the Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands Umbrella Facility Trust Fund (PPIUF). The PPIUF, which supports correspondent banking relationships, digital ID infrastructure, and financial stability efforts across the Pacific. Australia has contributed to digital ID projects and developed business cases for digital ID infrastructure in seven jurisdictions: Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu. These initiatives strengthen banks' ability to meet global anti-money laundering requirements and promote financial inclusion across the region.

Australia's international development program has leveraged \$127 million in private funds. The program has also provided more than \$844 million in direct financing to support partner governments to adapt to increased pressure on public budgets. A further \$70.3 million in ODA funding was channelled to women's equality organisations and institutions, helping to build gender equal societies that are more resilient to conflict and instability.⁸

Australia's investments support local leadership, foster accountable and inclusive governance policies and practices, improve access to basic services and support businesses to thrive. That includes through capacity building support to 1,552 Organisations of People with Disability. The investments have reached 165 million people through new or improved social protection programs and provided 231,769 services to victim-survivors of SGBV. For example, the Australian Government provided \$4.5 million to deliver 14,273 SGBV services across Fiji. These services were primarily delivered by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and Women's Fund Fiji, which provide counselling, advocacy, and support for victim-survivors.

⁸ UN Women, Facts and Figures: Women's Peace and Security (accessed 18 October, 2024 at <https://www.unwomen.org/en/articles/facts-and-figures/facts-and-figures-women-peace-and-security>)

Case study

Setting up the first Pacific regional women's fund

Australia has provided \$14.6 million to women's rights organisations in the Indo-Pacific since 2021 through the Amplify-Invest-Reach (AIR) Partnership. AIR works through four key regional Women's Funds: Women's Fund Asia; Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific; Women's Fund Fiji; and the Pacific Feminist Fund. Together, in 2024, these women's funds disbursed 156 grants across 25 countries in the Indo-Pacific region. A 2025 evaluation of the AIR pilot partnership found that working with women's funds is a highly effective way to support locally led approaches to gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion and to reach the most marginalised women.

A key achievement of the AIR pilot was the incubation of the Pacific Feminist Fund – the first Pacific regional Women's Fund. The pilot also enabled the women's funds to improve language accessibility and access to grants for women with disability and their organisations. They also use their extensive networks to identify and reach groups otherwise excluded from traditional donor funding, including small and emerging local organisations driving community led changes to advance gender equality.

Enhancing state and community resilience

Australia is supporting partners to build stronger social and economic foundations in communities so they can respond more effectively to challenges, such as climate change, disasters, economic pressures and changing disease burdens. The approach to managing climate change risks is proactive and evidence-based. In 2024–25, Australia's investments improved adaptation to climate change and disaster resilience for 2.9 million people. Australia supported 35 investments (worth \$508 million) that contribute to low-emissions development pathways and mitigation activities, and 64 investments (worth \$502 million) that improve climate change adaptation and disaster resilience.

For example, the Water for Women investment in Indonesia supported the development of a coastal revitalisation program for Sumbawa. The program saw 120,000 mangrove seedlings planted to mitigate seawater encroachment and coastal erosion.

Climate change-related hazards are occurring more frequently, increasing the risk and severity of food and water insecurity, fragility and displacement. In 2024–25, Australia's development assistance improved food security for 816,319 people and enabled 1.7 million people to adopt climate-resilient agriculture practices on their farms, strengthening community resilience.

Australian investment in local employment also strengthened community resilience. In 2024–25, 10,655 local people (including 2,122 women), accessed jobs created by infrastructure projects supported by Australia. Overall, Australia supported 2,941 infrastructure projects that meet internationally agreed quality standards or principles, ensuring these projects withstand and adapt to risks and hazards, including climate change, disasters and cyber intrusions. For example, Australia supported the construction of 43 water security projects (rainwater tanks) at 15 rural markets in East Sepik, 23 elementary schools in Morobe, and 5 rural markets in Western Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea. Climate risks, adaptation and public health considerations were embedded from planning to final design, ensuring durable, sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure.

Equitable and inclusive health systems are essential for communities to prevent and manage disease outbreaks. In 2024–25, Australia supported 42 partner countries to improve their ability to anticipate, prevent, detect,

Australia is supporting partners to build stronger social and economic foundations in communities so they can respond more effectively to challenges, such as climate change, disasters, economic pressures and changing disease burdens.

Australia reinforces linkages and connectivity across the region and the world through international scholarships, volunteers, education and labour mobility programs.

and control communicable disease threats. Australia also supported 54 partner countries to improve the capacity of their health systems to provide quality, accessible and affordable health services. For example, the Vanuatu Australia Health Partnership supports the Ministry of Health to strengthen Vanuatu's health system to deliver equitable, inclusive health services. In Sanma Province, Australia funded the reconstruction of the Tasmalum Health Centre after it was damaged during Tropical Cyclone Harold in 2020. At the same time, Australia helped strengthen Tasmalum Health Centre's service delivery by enhancing provincial governance and referral policies and improving health administration and data collection. Since the facility's reopening, patient numbers rose from 551 patients in the October to December quarter in 2023, to 840 patients in the October to December quarter in 2024.

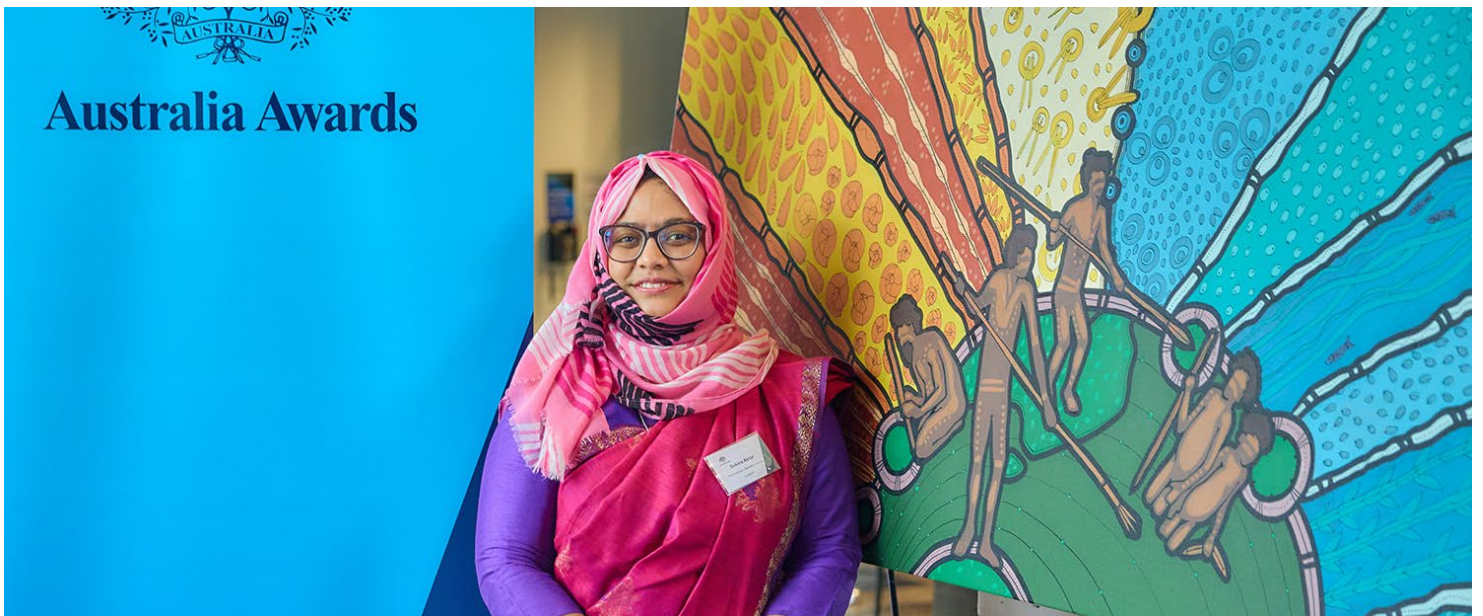
Through regional partnerships, Australia provides practical assistance to address shared maritime challenges to contribute to the security and prosperity of the region. In 2024–25, Australia assisted 37 partner countries to build resilience and enhance their ability to better manage their maritime domains and marine environments. For example, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs launched the Southeast Asia Maritime Institute, hosted by the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security in Malaysia, in December 2024. This is bolstering maritime security education and expertise for the region through training for government officials on maritime legal and policy issues. This includes training on law of the sea, ocean governance, maritime domain awareness and maritime environmental protection.

Connecting partners with Australian and regional architecture

Australia continues to support a stronger and more effective regional architecture by engaging closely with Pacific regional organisations and ASEAN. In the Pacific, Australia supported 95 activities to strengthen Pacific regional organisations and architecture. For example, Australian Government funding to the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Secretariat supported regional consultation on Fiji's proposal for a Blue Pacific Ocean of Peace. In 2025, the PIF Leaders' meeting in Solomon Islands declared the Blue Pacific Continent as an Ocean of Peace, a statement of the region's worldview, where peace, security and development are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Australia will work with other PIF members to implement this regional commitment.

Australia supported 79 activities that strengthened the ASEAN regional architecture. For example, providing \$24 million through the International Labour Organization for the TRIANGLE in ASEAN initiative to promote safe labour migration in the region. Working with the Lao People's Democratic Republic as ASEAN Chair and the ASEAN Secretariat, TRIANGLE supported the drafting of the *ASEAN Vientiane Declaration on Skills Mobility, Recognition and Development for Migrant Workers*, adopted at the October 2024 ASEAN Summit. The Declaration promotes labour migration systems and is a major step toward advancing skills recognition and enabling middle-skilled migration in the region.

Australia reinforces linkages and connectivity across the region and the world through international scholarships, volunteers, education and labour mobility programs. In 2024–25, Australia supported 1,214 Australia Awards Scholarship completions and 687,851 other course or training



Credit: Australia Awards

completions. A further 420 Australia Awards alumni participated in mutual collaborations between their countries and Australia after completing an Australia Awards Scholarship.

In 2024–25, 30,835 workers participated in the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) scheme, contributing to a skills dividend for the Pacific and Timor-Leste while also filling labour gaps in rural and regional Australia. Examples include the Aged Care Expansion (ACE) program and the early childhood education and care (ECEC) pilot.

The ACE program gives participants the chance to gain a Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing) and experience working in Australia’s aged care sector on their PALM scheme placement. It supports participants to build skills and helps Australian aged care homes address workforce shortages. Australian-accredited educators from Papua New Guinea were the first group of PALM scheme workers to be employed in Australia’s ECEC sector, arriving in the Northern Territory in February 2025. As part of their placements, the ECEC participants receive extra training to further develop their skills, enabling them to make a positive contribution to their countries’ long-term development on their return.

Generating collective action on global challenges

At a time of global instability and change, collective action and partnerships are critical to safeguarding peace, economic sovereignty and resilience. One focus area for Australia is supporting partners in the Indo-Pacific region to benefit from global rules-based trade as they integrate into the multilateral trading system through the World Trade Organization (WTO), implement free trade agreement commitments, strengthen their economies through Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework, and increase their participation in the green and digital economies. For example, Australia has supported 54 countries to engage productively with the multilateral trading system. Australia has also supported 64 partner countries to increase their capacity to participate effectively in rules-based trade and economic architecture.

Australia partners with multilateral agencies to deliver development and humanitarian assistance at scale in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. Through these partnerships, Australia has provided emergency assistance to 9.8 million people in conflict and humanitarian crises. With escalating humanitarian crises globally, demand for assistance will continue to grow.

Australia has provided emergency assistance to 9.8 million people in conflict and humanitarian crises.

Case study:

Realising the benefits of regional free trade agreements for women

Through Regional Trade for Development (RT4D), Australia supports ASEAN to realise the benefits of its two regional free trade agreements:

- ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement (AANZFTA)
- Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP).

RT4D supported Lao PDR's Department of Intellectual Property, Ministry of Industry and Commerce to deliver the Accelerating Women's Advancement in Intellectual Property project. The project ran between November 2023 and November 2024. It included four activities that equipped women-owned micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSME) to better use intellectual property (IP) to increase the value of their products. The project targeted products certified under the One District One Product Program – an initiative to open export markets for locally made goods.

The project enabled 14 women-owned MSMEs to successfully develop and register trademark designs and showcase their newly trademarked products at the 2024 IP Week in Lao People's Democratic Republic. RT4D contributed to women's economic empowerment by strengthening the protection and market recognition of these MSMEs. This enabled the MSMEs to distinguish themselves and position their products in domestic and international markets, ensuring that women benefit from AANZFTA and RCEP.

Tier 3: 'How we work'

Tier 3 of the PADF has eight indicators that track the Australian Government's operational approach to designing, delivering and managing Australia's development program. Table 3 summarises progress in 2024–25. The next sections show further analysis.

Table 3: Tier 3 results, 2024–25

Indicator	Progress
Our development cooperation is effective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of investments were assessed as satisfactory on both the effectiveness and efficiency criteria in the IMR process (target: 85%) • 81% of investments were effective in addressing gender equality (target: 80%) • 78% of completed investments were assessed as satisfactory on both the effectiveness and efficiency criteria in the FIMR process
Our development cooperation is inclusive with a focus on gender equality and disability equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81% of all investments addressed gender equality effectively (target: 80%) • 95% of eligible new investments valued at \$3 million or more have a gender equality objective (target: 100%) • 60% of investments effectively addressed disability equity in implementation (target: 60% by 2025–26)
Addressing climate change is central to our development cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 48% (31 out of 65) of all new bilateral and regional investments valued at \$3 million and above had a climate change objective (target 50%)

Indicator	Progress
Partnerships underpin our development cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular dialogues with partners have continued during 2024–25 12 country and regional DPPs were finalised in 2025, bringing the total number of DPPs to 20 The inaugural Biennial Perceptions Survey was completed in 2025, capturing views on Australia’s development program and partnership approach from development stakeholders across 17 Indo-Pacific countries
Our development cooperation is transparent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFAT’s transparency portal, AusDevPortal, launched in December 2024, was enhanced with additional data and functionality in 2025 The next Publish What You Fund Aid Transparency Index is expected to be published in November 2026
Our development cooperation uses local actors in design, delivery and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4,443 local personnel, individual subcontractors and staff were engaged by managing contractors 2,977 subcontracts and grants, with a total value of \$690 million, were awarded by managing contractors to local organisations Through the ANCP, 53% of allocated funding (\$75.5 million) was provided to local partners. More than 50 Australian NGOs were supported to work with more than 2,000 local partners to deliver community-based development outcomes⁹ Through the Australian Humanitarian Program, 34.5% of allocated funding (almost \$14 million) was channelled to local and national actors Through the Australian Red Cross, 42.9% of allocated funding (\$17.2 million) was provided to local Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies DFAT established a system to track humanitarian funding to local actors in 2025, and collected 2024–25 data for \$401 million of the \$674 million budget ascribed to humanitarian assistance, of which 29% (\$117 million) flowed through local partners 58% of bilateral investment designs and 67% of evaluations included local participation
Our development cooperation is informed by monitoring, evaluation and learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2025 Review of the Quality and Use of DFAT Evaluations focused on quality of a sample of evaluation plans completed in the reporting period 2024–25 (the review is expected to be published in the first half of 2026) Eligible monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) plans were assessed by DFAT against MEL Standard 5. Assessments were completed within 6 to 12 months from the start of implementation
Our development cooperation is enhanced by First Nations perspectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DPPs for Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste were published and are the first cycle of DPPs to include a focus on integrating First Nations perspectives Managing contractors engaged 30 First Nations Australians to support development program delivery Partnerships between First Nations and local leaders have been established

9 For reporting purposes, ANCP draws on 2023–24 performance data, which represents the most recent dataset submitted in September 2024.

In 2024–25, 81 per cent of investments were assessed as effective in addressing gender equality, meeting the target of 80 per cent

Indicator 1: Our development cooperation is effective

At least 85 per cent of investments are assessed as satisfactory on both the effectiveness and efficiency criteria in the investment monitoring report (IMR) process

IMRs are used to assess whether Australia’s development program is effective, efficient and responsive. In 2024–25, investment managers completed IMRs for 381 investments. Of these:

- 305 (80 per cent) had an IMR completed
- 17 (4 per cent) had an HIMR completed
- 59 (15 per cent) had an FIMR completed.

Of the 381 investments, 90 per cent were assessed as satisfactory (scores of 4 (adequate), 5 (good) or 6 (very good) against both the effectiveness and efficiency criteria. This is a 5-percentage-point improvement over 2023–24 and is primarily due to higher efficiency scores, which rose from 87 per cent rated as satisfactory in 2023–24 to 92 per cent in 2024–25. Effectiveness scores decreased by 1 percentage point, from 94 per cent in 2023–24 to 93 per cent in 2024–25.

The increase in efficiency scores reflects a higher percentage of both new and ongoing investments being rated satisfactory for efficiency. This was due to factors such as clearer investment outcomes, improved operating environments, and more suitable delivery mechanisms. The adequacy of these and other factors may vary year-on-year during an investment’s implementation, leading to fluctuations in annual aggregate efficiency outcomes.

Where underperformance was identified in ongoing investments, DFAT developed and implemented targeted actions to address shortcomings. Of the 381 investments with completed reports, 19 investments (5 per cent) were identified as underperforming, compared with 14 investments (4 per cent) in 2023–24. Of the 19 underperforming investments, nine were investments that had either ended or were ending shortly. Remediation plans were developed for the 10 ongoing investments.

At least 80 per cent of investments are effective in addressing gender equality

In 2024–25, 81 per cent of investments were assessed as effective in addressing gender equality, meeting the target of 80 per cent (see further analysis under Indicator 2).

At least 70 per cent of completed investments are assessed as satisfactory against both effectiveness and efficiency criteria in the final investment monitoring reporting process

FIMRs report on the performance of investments over their lifetime, including the extent to which end-of-program outcomes were achieved. In 2024–25, investment managers completed 59 FIMRs. All were subject to independent external validation. This represents 15 per cent of all investments required to undertake annual performance reporting in 2024–25. Of these completed FIMRs, 78 per cent of investments were rated satisfactory for effectiveness and efficiency, 2 percentage points less than in 2023–24. The validation process resulted in 5 investments’ effectiveness ratings changing from satisfactory to unsatisfactory and 7 investments’ efficiency rating changing from satisfactory to unsatisfactory.

Spotlight

Indonesia investment FIMRs and the Australia-Indonesia Partnership for Promoting Rural Incomes through Support in Agriculture

In 2024–25, the Australia–Indonesia Partnership for Promoting Rural Income through Support in Agriculture (PRISMA-2) received validated ratings of 6 for both effectiveness and efficiency. This is the highest rated completed investment in the development program for the reporting period. PRISMA-2 was a five-year (2019–24, \$95 million) market systems development program. It was the second phase of an 11-year rural development investment. The first phase ran from 2013–18 with a value of \$112 million. PRISMA-2 sought to build on the success of PRISMA-1 by substantially increasing the number of households it reached and improving the program’s sustainability by strengthening its approach to supporting systemic change.

PRISMA-2’s single end-of-program outcome was a minimum 30 per cent increase in the incomes of an additional 700,000 households by December 2023. At least 60 per cent of these households consisted of farmers living below USD2.50 per day at purchasing power parity. PRISMA-2 exceeded its target, reaching 1,140,092 households by June 2024. Beneficiaries of the investment experienced an average net attributable income change of 89 per cent, well above the 30 per cent target.

Following are the key success features of this program:

- Outcome statements were realistic, clearly defined and measurable for all areas. PRISMA had a clear set of key performance indicators, supported by internationally recognised measures which were subject to regular review and quality assurance.
- Strong evidence of very high levels of satisfaction among participating local actors, including households and businesses.
- Effective use of policy dialogue and partnerships influenced the development agenda and supported the achievement of outcomes.
- A MEL system that adhered to international standards was consistently used to support decision-making and learning. MEL was integrated within the program management and provided real-time feedback loops. The collected data were disaggregated by sex, type of impairment, and other aspects of social inclusion. MEL accounted for approximately 10 per cent of the implementation budget.
- Two phases over 11 years provided the long-term engagement needed to build support and demonstrate impact, recognising that achieving behaviour change takes time and continual reinforcement.
- Adaptive management, including a refreshed approach to achieving systemic change, combined with an additional year extension, enabled PRISMA-2 to secure long-term sustainability of the existing results. It could also harvest knowledge and best practices to support and inform Government of Indonesia policy makers, and for more resilience activities to embed changed practices among farmers and private sector partners.

In all, eight Indonesia program investments completed FIMRs in 2024–25, with four meeting end-of program outcomes and four either not adequately meeting end of program outcomes or not meeting them efficiently (details of underperforming investments can be found in Chapter 5). Two investments received the highest combined effectiveness and efficiency ratings across the FIMR cohort. Underperforming investments tended to be shorter in duration and smaller in budget, with end-of-program outcomes that were unclear and not measurable, and with monitoring and evaluation frameworks of poor quality and limited use.

In 2024–25, the Australian Government Minister for Foreign Affairs launched Australia’s International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy (IDEARS) and International Gender Equality Strategy (IGES), reaffirming Australia’s global leadership on gender equality and disability equity and rights.

Indicator 2: Our development cooperation is inclusive with a focus on gender equality and disability equity

DFAT achieved the PADF gender equality performance target for 2024–25. The Australian Government also increased its funding for women’s equality organisations and institutions, providing \$70.3 million in ODA to more than 555 women’s equality organisations and institutions, including civil society organisations, partner governments, international organisations and the private sector. This is up from \$49.5 million last year. Australia supported the capacity building efforts of 1,552 Organisations of People with Disability, a 25 per cent increase on 2023–24 figures.

In 2024–25, the Minister for Foreign Affairs launched [Australia’s International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy \(IDEARS\)](#) and [International Gender Equality Strategy \(IGES\)](#), reaffirming Australia’s global leadership on gender equality and disability equity and rights. Both strategies extend beyond the development program to apply across all of DFAT’s international engagement.

80 per cent of all development investments will address gender equality effectively, and all new investments over \$3 million will include gender equality objectives

In 2024–25, 81 per cent of development investments addressed gender equality effectively in implementation, up from 79 per cent in 2023–24. This reflects sustained efforts to improve gender equality performance, including:

- increased investment in capability development and access to technical assistance (TA) for DFAT staff
- greater engagement with implementing partners
- improvements in the quality of DFAT’s reporting.

In 2024–25, 95 per cent of investments had a gender equality objective, a small decrease from 2023–24. This decrease reflects a robust process for DFAT officers. They must seek exemptions from the gender equality objective requirement, which applies to investments of \$3 million or more where it is not feasible to meaningfully address gender equality. For example, DFAT approved an exemption for the Pacific One Stop Shop for cross-border VAT/GST compliance investment after independent gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) analysis found no viable GEDSI recommendations within the Initiative’s scope. Due to the initiative’s narrow focus on developing and administering a regional tax compliance IT system (rather than use or allocation of VAT), a gender equality outcome was not feasible. The investment will still apply appropriate safeguarding measures and has been assessed as posing no gender-related harm.

During the reporting period, two exemptions were granted. Exempted investments must still meet minimum gender equality standards, in line with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Gender Equality Policy Marker. These standards require all investments, regardless of focus, to undertake gender analysis to identify and mitigate risks, do no harm, avoid reinforcing discriminatory norms or practices and collect sex-disaggregated data where relevant.

In 2024–25, gender equality capability development activities reached more than 1,000 DFAT staff and partners in Canberra and at posts through formal training, capability development missions, webinars and on-the-job

‘buddying’. DFAT maintains a robust system of quality assurance of IMRs, with gender equality specialists reviewing the majority of IMRs and HIMRs, in addition to the validation of FIMRs by external experts.

Of the investments rated unsatisfactory for gender equality, 80 per cent had begun before the PADF gender equality objective requirement was introduced, and 95 per cent of these lacked a gender equality objective. Of the investments that underperformed on gender equality in 2024–25, 46 per cent will end before the next reporting period.

These figures confirm a trend identified in earlier years. That is, the development program’s performance on gender equality is improving as Australia’s investments are designed to address gender equality from the start, in line with the gender equality objective requirement. The requirement is also driving an increase in Australia’s ODA expenditure on gender equality. Between 2023–24 and 2024–25, ODA expenditure on gender equality increased from \$2.3 billion to \$2.6 billion.

Case study

Leveraging digital engagement to promote gender equality in the workplace

Under the Investing in Women program, TUVA Communications is contributing to positive shifts in gender norms among urban Gen Z in Viet Nam through Nhà Nhiều Cột (NNC). NNC is a multi-platform campaign combining digital engagement with offline community mobilisation.

NNC focuses on promoting gender equality in the workplace, specifically around care roles, leadership and income contribution. TUVA’s content strategy supports its audience to adopt more gender-equal attitudes and behaviours, while empowering early adopters to become advocates. Between January and June 2025, TUVA’s reach grew by 433 per cent, reaching 2.9 million people, up from 550,000 in the previous period. Cumulatively, TUVA has reached more than 3.5 million people, achieving 35 per cent of its 10 million target so far. With more than 30,000 TikTok followers and 57,000 on Facebook, NNC holds strong potential to influence young audiences at scale.

Complementing the campaign, TUVA’s Housemates Community of Practice (CoP) currently supports 28 youth leaders and aims to grow to 60. Members receive tailored support to lead peer-driven spinoff campaigns, while TUVA uses the CoP as a learning space to reflect, adapt, and improve its work. TUVA’s integrated approach is fostering a new generation of gender advocates equipped to challenge norms both online and in the workplace.

Case study

Making legal proceedings more accessible for d/Deaf Filipinos

Communication is a challenge for 1.8 million Filipinos with hearing difficulty, which can prevent them from exercising their rights to legal information and processes. Difficulty in accessing legal information, limited availability of sign language interpreters, poor understanding of deaf culture, and lack of accommodations in legal settings can lead to procedural delays and increase the risk of injustice. A 2024 study on legal feminism found that most child abuse cases filed in Philippine courts from 2016 to 2022 involved girls with hearing impairment.

In 2025, Australia’s Fostering Advancement of Inclusive and Rights-Based Justice program facilitated technical advice and consultations to support the Philippine Supreme Court in drafting rules on the use of Filipino Sign Language (FSL) interpreting in judicial proceedings. This support gathered around 100 individuals with hearing impairment, and organisations, judges, court personnel, FSL interpreters, and academics from across the country to ensure that the rules were informed by the perspectives and lived experiences of d/Deaf individuals and advocates.

Once adopted by the Supreme Court, the rules will provide a fairer, more inclusive court experience for d/Deaf Filipinos, with qualified and accredited FSL interpreters available, along with procedures and protocols for their engagement.

IDEARS established the first-ever performance target for disability equity and rights in Australia’s international development program.

Percentage of investments effectively address disability equity in implementation

IDEARS established the first-ever performance target for disability equity and rights in Australia’s international development program. The target is for 60 per cent of investments to perform effectively on disability by 2026, rising to 70 per cent by 2030. This encompasses both mainstream and targeted actions for people with disability.

The initial 60 per cent target was met in 2024–25. This figure is not comparable to previous years because the criteria used to assess performance were revised ahead of 2025 reporting. The revised disability performance criteria align with:

- IDEARS (the previous criteria aligned with DFAT’s 2015 disability strategy)
- the OECD DAC disability policy marker
- DFAT’s approach to assessing gender equality (based on the OECD DAC gender policy marker).

Achieving the 60 per cent target reflects a program-wide adjustment to the new criteria and sets a new baseline for future year-on-year comparison.

While the initial target has been achieved, reaching the target of 70 per cent of investments performing effectively on disability equity by 2030 will require sustained effort. DFAT will continue to invest in technical assistance and capability development for DFAT staff on disability equity and rights, including during annual investment performance reporting, to ensure quality and rigour. From 2025–26, disability equity reporting in FIMRs will be independently validated, along with criteria for effectiveness, efficiency, and gender equality.

In 2024–25, DFAT’s disability equity and rights capability development efforts reached 675 staff in Canberra and at post. DFAT also increased its technical advisory support to the Office of the Pacific, with a dedicated disability equity specialist supporting desks and posts to operationalise IDEARS in the Pacific context.

DFAT is further adapting disability equity technical assistance to meet the evolving needs of Australia’s development program. From 2026, an integrated GEDSI support unit will provide fit-for-purpose technical assistance and other services to Australia’s development programs and other areas of Australia’s international engagement.

Evaluation case study

Partnership Evaluation of the DFAT, CBM Australia and Nossal Institute partnership

A partnership between DFAT, CBM Australia and the Nossal Institute for Global Health has helped shape DFAT’s disability equity and rights agenda since 2018. The partnership provides capacity building, expert technical assistance and research to support Australia’s leadership in advancing disability equity and rights.

In 2024, DFAT commissioned an independent evaluation to assess the partnership’s progress and inform the design of follow-on arrangements. The evaluation found that the partnership had made substantial contributions to improving disability-inclusive awareness, capacity, policy and practice within Australia’s international development program. Key achievements included:

- the creation of practical tools, guidance, and case studies
- improved staff understanding of disability equity
- stronger engagement with stakeholders, including people with disability and their representative organisations.

The evaluation also identified areas for improvement, including:

- better tailoring technical advice to country contexts
- improved dissemination and accessibility of knowledge products.

DFAT used the findings to shape the design of follow-on arrangements, which include more proactive engagement with DFAT country teams, innovative strategies to disseminate knowledge and evidence, and increased support for locally led approaches to strengthen the disability movement.

Indicator 3: Addressing climate change is central to our development cooperation

From 2024–25, at least half of all new bilateral and regional investments that are valued at more than \$3 million will have a climate change objective, with a goal of this rising to 80 per cent in 2028–29

[Australia's International Development Policy \(IDP\)](#) puts climate action at the centre of development efforts. Australia is committed to taking ambitious action on climate change and to working closely with neighbours to address its many impacts. This approach is responsive to the priorities of the region and helps to ensure climate change (climate risks and opportunities) is integrated across Australia's development portfolio.

In line with IDP commitments, DPPs are informed by climate risk assessments. The Australian Government is aligning its bilateral programs with partners' National Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement and their National Adaptation Plans. With technical and financial support, DFAT is working to increase the proportion of new development investments with climate as a primary or secondary objective.

During 2024–25, 48 per cent (31 out of 65) of all new bilateral and regional investments valued at \$3 million or more had a climate change objective, against the IDP target of 50 per cent. An additional 28 per cent of investments (18 out of 65) took a mainstreaming approach to climate change. While mainstreaming does not fall within the scope of the target, 75 per cent of programs actively considered climate change in their investment designs.

Integrating climate objectives represents a major shift in focus in program direction. This requires time to adapt systems, approaches, and staff capacity across DFAT and implementing partners. Long lead times for program design and approval, including time for in-depth consultation with partner governments, meant some programs captured in 2024–25 data were conceived before the IDP target was set.

Despite falling marginally short on the first year of reporting, DFAT's strong focus on climate integration, combined with efforts to build the climate programming expertise among staff and partners, is expected to drive an uplift in climate programming over time. This should be evident in future reporting periods.

Australia delivered \$1.356 billion of climate finance in 2024–25, of which \$918 million was ODA. The remaining \$438 million comprised non-ODA grants and loans, and private finance mobilised. Australia delivered \$3.876 billion in climate finance from 2020 to 2025 and met its commitment to provide \$1.3 billion climate finance to the Pacific. The Australian Government's increased efforts to integrate climate change across the development program have led to significantly more climate finance over the latter years of the commitment period.

Australia delivered \$3.876 billion in climate finance from 2020 to 2025 and met its commitment to provide \$1.3 billion climate finance to the Pacific.

Indicator 4: Partnerships underpin our development cooperation

Regular dialogues, in Australia and at posts, to share emerging practices, exchange ideas and facilitate learning

Development Partnership Plans in place by 2024

In 2025, the Australian Government finalised a further 12 DPPs (20 DPPs have been finalised to date). These plans were developed through a partnership approach grounded in respect and listening. DFAT's country and regional geographic teams led consultations with government, civil society, business, academia, and other actors, both internationally and in Australia. Each plan reflects shared objectives and articulates how DFAT and its partners will work together to deliver shared outcomes.

In 2024–25, regular partnership engagement has underpinned the implementation of bilateral and regional DPPs. For example, in Indonesia, the Australian Embassy engaged through established partnership mechanisms to reaffirm the Australia–Indonesia DPP priorities in support of Indonesia's medium- and long-term development plans. The annual Development Senior Officials' Meeting was one such mechanism, a process also followed in many other partner countries to strengthen partner-led approaches to development cooperation. The dialogue resulted in several joint outcomes, including a commitment to joint high-level monitoring visits to assess the program's impact and support continuous improvement. In Laos, Cambodia and Sri Lanka, annual in-country dialogues were held with Australian NGO Cooperation Program partners and civil society organisations to share knowledge, expertise, and learning to inform implementation of DPPs.

Australia's Pacific partnerships draw on strong institutional and people-to-people links across government, civil society organisations, the private sector and academia to support Pacific priorities. For example, church and sports partnerships are enhancing people-to-people links and supporting inclusive development. In 2024, Australia's sports for development program, Team Up, enabled 232,617 people across seven countries, including women, girls and people with disability, to access 15 sporting codes. The Pacific Church Partnership Program bolstered development and humanitarian outcomes, including supporting accessible places for women, children, and people with disability following disasters. These partnerships also promote shared learning and support local leadership. Collaboration between Australian and Pacific institutions, including the Pacific Community Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Division, is improving fisheries health, security, and local livelihoods by integrating local knowledge, governance and modern science. In Papua New Guinea and Fiji, partnerships with locally led organisations are delivering HIV prevention efforts tailored to local needs and contexts.

DFAT Perceptions Survey conducted every two years

DFAT completed the inaugural perceptions survey in 2025. The survey is the first systematic measure of stakeholder perceptions of Australia as a development partner across the Pacific, Southeast Asia and South Asia. Stakeholder views of Australia as a development partner were broadly positive. Respect for local contexts, alignment of assistance with partner priorities, and collaboration with local actors were seen as key strengths of Australia's development cooperation. Areas for further enhancement included building local capacity and ensuring sustained, coherent and predictable funding. A summary of survey results is on pages 34 to 37.

Australia's Pacific partnerships draw on strong institutional and people-to-people links across government, civil society organisations, the private sector and academia to support Pacific priorities.

Indicator 5: Our development cooperation is transparent

Establish an online portal providing access to financial and performance data as well as key documentation on all DFAT-managed ODA investments

The IDP commits to enhanced transparency and accountability in the development program. In December 2024, DFAT delivered two major transparency initiatives:

- Reporting to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) recommenced.
- The [AusDevPortal](#) online development transparency portal was launched.

The portal publishes annual financial and performance information on all development investments. Post launch, the portal was enhanced with new data and functionality, based on user feedback.

Australia's ranking on the Publish What You Fund Aid Transparency Index (from 2025)

In 2024–25, DFAT continued reporting annual datasets to IATI, with 2023–24 data released in May 2025 and 2024–25 data expected to be released in the first half of 2026. The Aid Transparency Index previously ranked the top 50 development organisations. The 2026 Index has been relaunched as a fee-for-service accreditation model. Australia will participate, however ranking results will not be directly comparable to previous Indexes.

Indicator 6: Our development cooperation uses local actors in design, delivery and evaluation

This year Australia made good, incremental progress in supporting locally led development. Australia's Tier 3 indicators demonstrate continued gains in funding flows to local organisations, in generating local jobs, local procurement and supply chains, and for the first time, reporting strong baseline results for humanitarian assistance and key civil society partnerships. The combined story for 2024–25 data is a solid baseline from which to build further.

From the perceptions survey, it is clear that supporting local leadership is important to Australia's partners. Australia's efforts to put local leadership at the heart of partnerships have been recognised in the survey results, with alignment to partner priorities, collaboration with local partners and supporting local capacity seen as strengths by many of those working with Australia. While Australia is doing well, DFAT will continue to strive to do more in line with partners' expectations. In 2025, DFAT commissioned research on local leadership across 12 countries to continue to better calibrate support.

While DFAT's whole-of-program measures are important, the real story of locally led development is in the innovation and efforts of local partners and intermediaries. Guided by DFAT's Locally Led Development Guidance Note, DPPs published this year included country-specific commitments to support local leadership. Program designs are increasingly embedding relevant approaches to invest in locally led solutions and initiatives, including in project monitoring and evaluation. These efforts are led by a global network of locally led development focal points and supported by an external reference group. They are ensuring DFAT can capture important progress at the country and program level, and embed locally led development approaches that are appropriate and relevant in each context.

While DFAT's whole-of-program measures are important, the real story of locally led development is in the innovation and efforts of local partners and intermediaries.

The ANCP is the Australian Government's longest running and largest NGO program, celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 2024.

Number of local personnel, subcontractors and staff engaged (employment created) – managing contractors

The Australian Government has continued to prioritise local jobs, which can provide expertise for Australia's programs while supporting local income and skills. Managing contractors engaged 4,443 local personnel and individual subcontractors in 2024–25, up 4 per cent from 2023–24, and 16 per cent since 2022–23. In 2024–25, \$180 million was paid in salaries to local personnel and subcontractors through managing contractors. This was an increase of 8 per cent from 2023–24 and 24 per cent from 2022–23. The Australian Government is also funding infrastructure projects involving local workers, with Tier 2 indicator results showing more than 10,000 local jobs were created through infrastructure projects.

Number and dollar value of local contracts and grants (local supply chains) – managing contractors

DFAT tracks funding to local partners as an indicator of the local benefits derived from Australian development cooperation. The number of sub-contracts and grants with local organisations entered into by managing contractors, and the value of payments made through these subgrants and grants, remained relatively stable this year. In 2024–25, managing contractors entered into 2,977 subcontracts and subgrants with local suppliers, with in-year payments of \$294 million. The total value of these subcontracts and grants was \$690 million, an increase of 3 per cent from the previous year.

Funding was also channelled to local partners in other ways in 2024–25, such as providing:

- \$70.3 million directly to more than 555 women's equality organisations and institutions
- support to more than 1,500 organisations representing people with a disability.

In 2024–25, Australia also provided more than \$844 million in direct financing to partner governments to support locally led development priorities, including the delivery of essential services, social protection systems, and public financial management reforms (refer to Tier 2 reporting in Annex A).

Number of local partners supported through the ANCP, and funding (amount and proportion) to local partners through ANCP organisations, the Australian Humanitarian Partnership and the Australian Red Cross (from 2025)

The **ANCP** is the Australian Government's longest-running and largest NGO program. In 2024, the ANCP celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Each year, the ANCP supports more than 50 Australian NGOs to work with local partners to deliver community-based development outcomes. Building on the approach established in 2023–24, the ANCP expanded 'pass through' funding flows to local partners. These now include support for implementing project activities and for administrative and overhead costs related to organisational development. In 2024–25, the program provided \$75.5 million to nearly 2,000 local partners, ensuring 53 per cent of ANCP's budget (\$143.0 million in 2024–25) flowed through to local organisations.¹⁰ This included \$1.6 million allocated to local partners for 'pass through'

¹⁰ This figure is based on reports by ANCP accredited agencies. ANCP defines local partners as organisations that are registered nationally (and not a country office of an international network). The figure includes organisations working in partnership with national and sub-national government line ministries.

administrative costs, up from \$1.3 million in 2023–24.

Locally led humanitarian action through Australian NGO networks is a key principle of the **Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP)**, including for Disaster READY projects and humanitarian responses. AHP has piloted reporting of local funding flows for the past two years, with systems now established. For 2024–25, baseline data show that nearly \$14 million was channelled to local actors, representing 35 per cent of AHP funding. While not directly comparable to earlier pilot reporting, this was an increase from 28 per cent in 2023–24.

Importantly, funding to local partners will vary year to year based on factors relating to the AHP activation in a period. These factors include the length of each activation, the nature of the crises, the country context, and AHP partners' own networks in that geographical location.

The **Australian Red Cross (ARC)** partnership supports locally led humanitarian action, including efforts to increase the effectiveness of national society-led disaster risk management. In 2024–25, more than \$17 million (43 per cent of funding) was provided to local Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies through DFAT's multi-year partnership with the ARC, rapid humanitarian responses, and the pooled International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies Disaster Response Emergency Fund. This is the first year of formal reporting for the entire partnership now that tracking systems are in place.

By 2025, develop systems to track the proportion of humanitarian funding to local and national partners

In 2025, DFAT established a system to track humanitarian funding to local actors, including local civil society and regional organisations, and national government agencies. In 2024–25, data were collected for \$401 million of the \$674 million budget ascribed to humanitarian assistance.¹¹ Of this portion, 29 per cent (\$117 million of \$401 million) flowed through local actors. In 2026, new investments and partnership agreements will be included, enabling a greater proportion of the humanitarian budget to be assessed.¹²

By 2026, 80 per cent of bilateral investment designs and evaluations include local participation

Engaging local personnel on design and evaluation teams enables deeper local knowledge, networks, and insights to be applied to designs and evaluations. This can deliver more fit-for-purpose, contextually appropriate programs and evaluation findings, and recommendations.

In 2023–24, the baseline result showed 72 per cent of bilateral design teams and 74 per cent of bilateral evaluation teams included local personnel. Local personnel includes individuals from the country where the program is implemented. In 2024–25, this fell to 58 per cent of design teams and 67 per cent of evaluation teams.

As the number of bilateral designs and evaluations is relatively small, year-on-year results for local personnel are sensitive to fluctuation. DFAT design and evaluation managers also reported that in some locations the limited pool of sector-specific technical skills continues to be a challenge.

There were also positive trends this year. DFAT design and evaluation managers highlighted the close involvement of DFAT locally engaged staff

In 2025, DFAT established a system to track humanitarian funding to local actors, including local civil society and regional organisations, and national government agencies.

¹¹ As different humanitarian partners have different reporting periods (by calendar or financial year), this figure is the average of the humanitarian budget for 2023–24 and 2024–25

¹² For 2024–25 tracking included expenditure of funds directly administered or overseen by DFAT's Humanitarian Division. In future years this system will expand to include funds managed by other areas.

in shaping programs and findings. Also, local consultants were increasingly used in technical rather than administrative roles.

DFAT has changed its ways of working to help meet the target of 80 per cent by 2026, including by:

- embedding local personnel requirements into terms of reference
- promoting knowledge of the benefits of local expertise with staff and contractors through training and briefings
- better tailoring design and evaluation team procurement processes.

Indicator 7: Our development cooperation is informed by monitoring, evaluation and learning

MEL plans assessed against DFAT design and MEL standards at six months of implementation

DFAT continues to apply its Design and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Standards across all stages of the programming cycle. Investment MEL plans build on the program logic in investment designs and set out how outcomes will be achieved, the indicators to assess progress and the risks to delivery.

Early assessment and finalisation of investment MEL plans against an agreed standard ensures there is a shared understanding between investment partners of how investment performance will be assessed over the duration of the investment and supports appropriate data collection. Weaknesses in MEL plans and data collection, and late finalisation of MEL plans, are common with underperforming investments.

In 2024–25, eligible MEL plans were assessed by DFAT against DFAT’s MEL Standard 5. These assessments were completed within six to twelve months of the start of implementation. In some cases, these timeframes exceeded the six-month target, reflecting factors such as the time required for partner government approval processes. Contract submission dates for MEL plans also influenced the assessment completion timeframes. The dates are negotiated at contract signing but may require consultation with multiple or downstream partners before finalisation. Overall, assessments were completed within timeframes that enabled the operationalisation of MEL plans for investment implementation.

Conduct an annual review of the quality and use of evaluations and publicly report on the findings

The 2025 annual Review of the Quality and Use of DFAT Evaluations focused on the quality of evaluation plans. This addressed a key finding from the 2024 review: DFAT staff were least confident in reviewing evaluation plans and assessing their quality in line with the DFAT Design and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Standards.

The review assessed the quality of 20 evaluation plans for DFAT-led evaluations completed in 2024–25, along with a sample of nine related evaluation reports with low-, medium-, and high-quality evaluation plans. It investigated common strengths and weaknesses and the relationship between plan and report quality.

The review found that 8 of 20 evaluation plans assessed were of adequate quality or above when reviewed against Standard 9 of DFAT’s Design and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Standards.

The three strongest areas across the evaluation plans assessed were purpose and use of evaluation, roles and responsibilities and evaluation

questions. Common weaknesses included evidence generation processes, activity planning and scheduling and GEDSI considerations.

There were high-quality evaluation reports linked to low-, medium-, and high-quality plans, suggesting a limited correlation between plan and report quality at the macro level. However, more detailed analysis showed that higher-quality plans were linked to evaluation reports with stronger evidence. This was especially the case for plans that were well-tailored to the context and demonstrated stronger analytical approaches.

While findings are indicative, given the small sample size, recommendations are informing actions to strengthen support to staff in the review of evaluation plans against DFAT's Design and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Standards.

Indicator 8: Our development cooperation is enhanced by First Nations perspectives¹³

The Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste DPPs were published during the reporting period. These DPPs were identified as pilot countries for the first cycle of DPPs to include a focus on integrating First Nations perspectives.

These are some examples of activities engaging First Nations perspectives:

- The Timor-Leste Partnership for Strengthening Village Development and Municipal Administration (PARTISIPA) program established a cross-cultural learning group to bring together First Nations Australian and Timorese communities to discuss water resource management.
- The Australia-Papua New Guinea Economic Partnership's Strongim Bisnis initiative provides business support to small and medium enterprises. It is implemented by i2i Global, an Australian First Nations organisation and the Papua New Guinea Women's Business Resource Centre.

There continues to be an upward trend in the number of First Nations Australians engaged through managing contractors in Australia's development cooperation. In 2024–25, managing contractors engaged 30 First Nations personnel to support delivery of the development program, an increase from 26 in 2023–24. In 2024–25, managing contractors entered 32 subcontracts with eight First Nations organisations (valued at \$3.3 million). This is an increase from 2023–24 when 20 subcontractors were engaged (valued at \$2.8 million). Overall, the number of First Nations personnel engaged, and the value of subcontracts with First Nations Australian organisations have increased more than threefold over the last four years.

During the reporting period, DFAT published a guidance note¹⁴ on embedding First Nations Australian perspectives into Australia's international development programming. The principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People underpin the guidance note.

The guidance note provides practical advice for DFAT staff on opportunities for First Nations engagement at all stages of the programming cycle. A new First Nations CoP has created more opportunities for upskilling DFAT staff and delivery partners. The CoP is co-led with Ninti-One. It brings together implementing partners engaged under DFAT's Partnerships

The Timor-Leste PARTISIPA program established a cross-cultural learning group to bring together First Nations Australian and Timorese communities to discuss water resource management.

¹³ Reporting under this indicator is focused on First Nations Australians' perspectives, referring to the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia.

¹⁴ View the guidance note at <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/international-relations/guidance-note-our-development-cooperation-enhanced-first-nations-australians-perspectives>

for a Healthy Region initiative. The CoP intends to support knowledge exchange and facilitate peer-to-peer learning on best practices for embedding the perspectives of First Nations Australians into development programming. To expand opportunities for First Nations international development practitioners to engage in Australia's development program, DFAT funded the Association of First Nations Australians in Development to develop a strategic plan. The strategic plan will focus on creating a culturally safe practitioner community, professional development and career pathways, sector influence and advocacy, and organisation sustainability and governance.

Reviews of current systems for recording and sourcing data about First Nations engagement in Australia's development program are ongoing. DFAT is exploring further opportunities to strengthen the provision of technical support for country and regional programs during the design and implementation phases.

Case study

Building local ranger skills along the Kokoda track

Through the Kokoda Initiative Partnership, Australia is working with the Government of Papua New Guinea to strengthen local leadership in environmental conservation and heritage protection. A key focus has been building the capacity of the Kokoda Track Authority rangers who play a vital role in managing and preserving the Kokoda track.

With Australian support, six rangers (three men and three women) successfully completed an internationally recognised 18-month Certificate III in Conservation and Ecosystems Management. This training was part of the Ranger Capacity Development Program. It included a unique ranger exchange program with First Nations Australian rangers from the Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, promoting cross-cultural learning and collaboration in land management.

Perceptions survey results

The Biennial Perceptions Survey (BPS) provides a systematic, comparable measure of stakeholder sentiment toward Australia's development program in the Indo-Pacific region. The combination of quantitative and qualitative data, along with coverage across 17 countries and multiple stakeholder types, gives the findings high credibility and policy relevance.

Respondents represented a diverse cross-section of Australia's development partners, spanning 17 countries across the Pacific, Southeast Asia, and South Asia. Of the respondents:

- 41 per cent were from a Pacific country
- 40 per cent were from a Southeast Asian country
- 19 per cent were from a South Asian country.

Most lived in big cities and used languages other than English at home or at work. Just over one-third reported that their position was directly funded through Australian development assistance. Respondents had engaged with Australia's international development cooperation in some capacity for around eight years on average.

Views of Australia as a development partner were broadly positive. Respondents were most likely to agree that Australia respects local cultural, social and political contexts, with nearly 9 in 10 agreeing or strongly agreeing.

The results show a broad consensus on Australia's reliability, professionalism and responsiveness. This suggests that positive perceptions are not confined to a single subgroup of partners but are distributed across the development community.

When asked about Australia's strengths, the most common responses were that:

- Australia's development assistance aligns with partner priorities (56 per cent)
- Australia collaborates well with local partners (49 per cent).

The top priority for further enhancement was building more local capacity to deliver and sustain assistance (50 per cent).

Almost three in five respondents (59 per cent) said they would turn to Australia first in the event of an urgent development or humanitarian need, far ahead of other bilateral partners. Australia was also regarded most highly for its long-term commitment to the region. Though stakeholders were divided in their comparative judgments, respondents in the Pacific showed the highest preference for approaching Australia first. Those in Southeast Asia and South Asia were more likely to consider other options.

Overall satisfaction with Australia's performance as a development partner was very high at 86 per cent (comprising 48.9 per cent very satisfied and 37.0 per cent fairly satisfied). The highest ratings were in South Asia, where 90.5 per cent of respondents reported being satisfied (64.3 per cent very satisfied and 26.2 fairly satisfied). The lowest ratings, though still favourable, were in the Pacific at 83 per cent (with 39.8 per cent very satisfied and 43.0 per cent fairly satisfied). Respondents who had deeper involvement with Australian development cooperation, non-government affiliations or positions funded by Australian development programs were more likely to report strong satisfaction.

Positive overall perceptions were most closely linked to respondents' views that Australia is partner-focused, responsive and consistent in meeting commitments. The need for long-term engagement, support for local capacity building and ensuring coherence across Australia's development programming were highlighted as areas for further enhancement.

The qualitative findings in the report reinforced the survey responses. They highlight support for Australia's IDP commitments to locally led development, gender equality and climate resilience. They also highlighted the importance of Australia's efforts to translate these commitments into consistently visible practice across development cooperation programming.

The BPS sets a baseline for future surveys. This enables monitoring of shifts in stakeholder sentiment and the evaluation of the impact of policy and delivery reforms over time. Findings from the inaugural survey will inform ongoing implementation of the IDP. They will particularly inform Australia's approach to partnerships, support for locally led development and increased transparency. DFAT will continue to track these annually through relevant PADF Tier 3 indicators.

The results showed broad consensus on Australia's reliability, professionalism and responsiveness.

Biennial perceptions survey

Survey overview

Timing:



14 Aug – 5 Sept 2025

Sample:

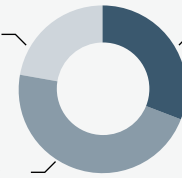
235 respondents

17 countries

21% response rate

Stakeholders:

22%
Multilateral



31%
Government

47%
NGOs

Focus:

→ Trust

→ Effectiveness

→ Responsiveness

→ Respect

→ Transparency

→ Alignment with partner priorities

Method:

28

quantitative questions

1

qualitative question

<10
mins

median completion time

Headline findings

Australia as a development partner:



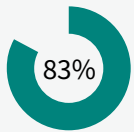
Willing to listen



Respectful



Responsive



Meets commitments

Comparative standing:



Would approach Australia first in urgent need—well ahead of other bilateral partners



Australia rated **better than most partners** for regional commitment, responsiveness, and transparency

Satisfaction:



Satisfied overall with Australia as a development partner



Satisfaction is linked to **positive perceptions** of effectiveness and reliability

Effectiveness:



Development programs viewed as effective



Effectiveness perceptions **rated highest** for government representatives

Strengths identified



Aligns assistance with partner priorities



Collaborates well with local partners



Long-term commitment and flexibility noted in qualitative feedback

Areas for enhancement



Building **local capacity** to sustain results



Improve **coordination and coherence** across programs



Ensure **predictable, long-term funding**

Regional and stakeholder variations

Pacific respondents

More likely to call for deeper local capacity building and longer-term funding

South Asia respondents and NGOs

Highest satisfaction and positive perceptions

Multilateral organisations

Lower satisfaction compared to other groups

Why it matters



Provides a **baseline for future surveys** to monitor shifts in sentiment



Informs DFAT's **PADF** and policy adjustments



Reinforces Australia's role as a **partner of choice** in the Indo-Pacific, while highlighting areas for enhancement



Credit: DFAT

Chapter 2

Performance by region

Introduction

This chapter summarises key performance data¹⁵ for Australia’s country and regional development programs. A sample of outputs delivered against country and regional DPPs is included at Annex B.

Performance data are organised into four regional groups:

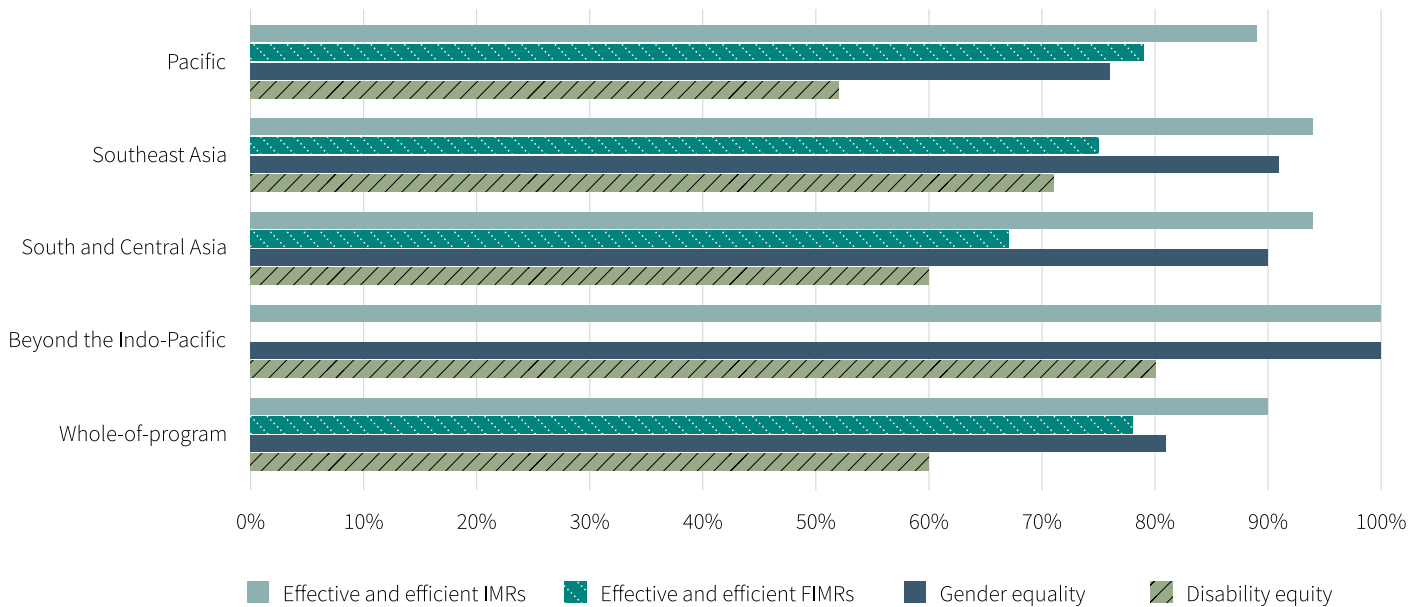
- Pacific
- Southeast Asia
- South and Central Asia
- Beyond the Indo-Pacific.

The chapter highlights key investment performance trends, and examples of the quality and use of evaluations completed and published in 2024–25.

Performance data in this chapter are drawn from DFAT’s investment performance reporting system and include both annual outcomes and three-year trends.¹⁶ Figure 1 summarises the 2024–25 investment performance of each region. It also shows all investments across the development program against four common criteria assessed in the investment performance reporting process: effectiveness, efficiency, gender equality and disability equity.

Data presented in Chapter 2 and Chapter 5 for effective and efficient IMRs and three-year averages are exclusive of FIMRs. The whole-of-program outcome includes FIMRs.

Figure 1: 2024–25 investment performance results across regional groups and whole of development program



15 DPPs set out agreed objectives, how Australia will work with partners to deliver shared outcomes, and how progress will be monitored. Twenty DPPs have been finalised. More information on DPPs is available under Indicator 4: Partnerships underpin Australia’s development cooperation, on page 28 of this report.

16 Investment performance reporting comprises three types of monitoring reports: annual investment monitoring reports (IMR), humanitarian investment monitoring reports (HIMR), and final investment monitoring reports (FIMR). Refer to Chapter 1 for more information on these three types of reports. Three-year trends cover the 2022–23, 2023–24 and 2024–25 reporting periods.

Results for effective and efficient IMRs for all regions exceeded the Tier 3 whole-of-program target of 85 per cent. All regions, except for South and Central Asia, exceeded the Tier 3 whole-of-program target of 70 per cent for effective and efficient FIMRs. All regions except the Pacific exceeded Tier 3 whole-of-program targets of 80 per cent for effectively addressing gender equality.

Gender equality results for the Pacific region improved for the third consecutive year, but are yet to reach the Tier 3 whole-of-program target of 80 per cent. Improved disability equity performance in the Pacific region is required to meet the 2026 performance target of 60 per cent effectiveness. The target is set out in the IDEARS (refer to the Tier 3 section on page 20).

The 2024–25 reporting period has been a time of disruption. Several development partners cut development assistance funding and the multilateral system faces an ongoing liquidity crisis. New US tariffs had a significant impact on the development context in the Indo-Pacific. Despite this challenging context, Australia has made strong progress with DPP finalisation and implementation across the region.

Consultation and responsiveness to partner priorities underpin DPPs. Together with the built-in flexibility of Australia’s development investments, this has meant Australian and regional programs have been well-positioned to respond to the region’s needs.

The Australian Government has continued to ensure assistance is aligned with regional priorities and architecture, such as the implementation of the Blue Pacific Ocean of Peace declaration; securing climate funding commitments for the Pacific Resilience Facility; continued Pacific air connectivity; and enabling security to be provided by the Pacific through the Pacific Policing Initiative, Pacific Response Group initiative and the Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program.

Australia has made progress against the outcomes of the March 2024 ASEAN-Australia Special Summit in Melbourne, delivering the Southeast Asia and Australia Government-to-Government Partnerships program, new phases of the Mekong-Australia Partnership and Investing in Women, establishing the Australia-ASEAN Centre and launching the ASEAN-Australia Energy Cooperation Program.

The \$5.1 billion ODA Budget for 2025–26 reinforced Australia’s ongoing commitment to the Indo-Pacific region, cementing Australia’s reputation as a trusted and reliable partner willing to stay the course at a time of great disruption. The Budget included reprioritisation of funding to meet the most acute needs in the Indo-Pacific arising from impacts of global ODA cuts and economic uncertainty. The full impact of global cuts is only beginning to be felt. Australia has responded by prioritising targeted, high-impact investments to bolster support to the region and ensure essential activities continue. DFAT continues to monitor the impact of global development funding cuts to enable Australia to respond quickly to emerging needs.

Pacific

Investment performance

Pacific programs account for the largest number of investments for which IMRs are completed. In 2024–25:

- IMRs were completed for 123 investments
- HIMRs were completed for one investment
- FIMRs were completed for 19 investments.

The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency was 89 per cent (excluding FIMRs), exceeding the whole-of-program target of 85 per cent. This outcome was slightly lower than the whole-of-program outcome (90 per cent) but higher than the three-year Pacific average (85 per cent).

Of the five ongoing investments in 2023–24 that required improvement, four performed better in 2024–25, and one was reassessed as requiring improvement. Overall, 11 investments required improvement based on 2024–25 IMR results. Five of these investments ended. Management action plans are in place for the six that are ongoing.

The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 76 per cent. This was higher than the three-year average of 72 per cent but lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate rating for disability equity was 52 per cent, lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.

Gender mainstreaming and disability inclusive programming continue to improve across the Pacific but have not yet met targets. Australia is supporting ongoing improvement, improving access to technical specialist expertise and support on gender equality and disability equity program design, delivery, monitoring and evaluation. Australia will continue to support Pacific-led women’s rights organisations and Organisations of People with Disability through the implementation of:

- Pacific Women Lead, Australia’s flagship regional gender equality investment
- [Australia’s International Gender Equality Strategy](#)
- [Australia’s International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy](#).

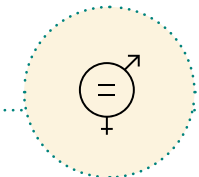
These efforts will enable Australia to listen to people with lived experience and invest in robust gender and disability analysis, data collection and research.

For completed assessments (FIMRs) 79 per cent were assessed as effective and efficient, above the whole-of-program outcome of 78 per cent, and 15 of 19 completed investments were assessed as satisfactorily meeting end-of-program outcomes.

Of the four investments assessed as not satisfactorily meeting expected outcomes, two were in Kiribati (refer to the Governance and Education sections of Chapter 5), and two were regional programs (refer to the Multisector section of Chapter 5).



89% Effective and efficient IMRs



76% Gender equality



52% Disability equity

Case study

Attorney Generals Department — Supporting the Pacific to combat corruption and money laundering

The Pacific Islands Law Officer's Network's Corruption Working Group delivered a 3.5-day workshop in Fiji, in February 2025. The aim of the workshop was to strengthen Pacific governments' capacity to seize assets and confiscate proceeds of crime.

The workshop was delivered in partnership with the Government of Fiji. It was supported by the Australian Attorney-General's Department and the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime. In attendance were 27 prosecutors and law enforcement officers (14 male and 13 female) from 15 PILON member countries.

The working group suggested responses to the Financial Action Task Force's mutual evaluation processes, including uplifting practical skills in combatting corruption and money laundering and enhancing the effectiveness of anti-money laundering frameworks.

Participants reported positive workshop outcomes, including that it improved their capacity to implement asset seizure regimes, bridged communication and knowledge gaps between prosecutors and law enforcement officers and built regional cooperation.

Case study

Strengthening public service capability of Pacific countries

Australia is supporting Pacific countries' public service capability by drafting practical tools and step-by-step guidance. In May 2025, the Australian Public Service Commission hosted 22 senior human resource practitioners from across 10 Pacific countries for a Workforce Planning Intensive Workshop in Canberra.

Cofacilitated by the Samoan Public Service Commission (PSC), the workshop provided a platform for knowledge exchange and collaboration. Pacific delegates gained deeper insights into workforce planning challenges and opportunities across the Pacific. These discussions built on momentum from the 2024 Workforce Planning Study Tour and the 2023 Pacific Public Service Commissioners' conference.

A major outcome was the codevelopment of a draft Pacific Public Service Workforce Planning Guideline, led by the Samoan PSC. Participants committed to sustaining a Pacific Workforce Planning CoP and recognised that its success relies on continued collaboration, shared experience, and regional engagement.

Case study

Responding to education needs of the Pacific Community member countries

Australia supports the Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP). EQAP is a regional public good that provides demand-driven technical services and support to 15 Pacific island countries, including student assessments, curriculum development and data-informed policy and planning.

Administered by EQAP every three years, the Pacific Islands Literacy and Numeracy Assessment (PILNA) is the Pacific's largest regional assessment of literacy and numeracy for students in Grades 4 and 6. In 2024–25, EQAP conducted in-country PILNA field trials in all 15 Pacific Island Countries and piloted the Pacific Assessment for Lower Secondary in 10 schools across four Pacific Island Countries. It also supported quality assurance of national exams in Samoa, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

In March 2025, at the Conference of Pacific Education Ministers in Papua New Guinea, EQAP launched the 2024 Status of Pacific Education Report. This report contributes to global education reporting, including UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) reporting, alongside PILNA regional and country reports.

EQAP is co-financed by New Zealand and implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC) with technical support from the Australian Council for Educational Research.

Case study

Australian Federal Police — Supporting Samoa Police to deliver a safe and secure Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

Samoa was the first Pacific country to host the 2024 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). More than 3,000 delegates from 56 Commonwealth member countries, including His Majesty King Charles III, gathered to discuss global economic, environmental and security challenges impacting the region.

The Australian Federal Police (AFP) partnered with the Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Service for three years to prepare for the event, helping to deliver specialist capability uplifts in tactical training, establish an emergency radio communications network, install new CCTV infrastructure and introduce bicycle policing operations.

Samoa gained resources and expertise to provide a safe, secure environment for visiting leaders and delegates. The security operation during CHOGM reflected the professionalism and confidence of the Samoa Police, making the event both a diplomatic achievement and a security success.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, 15 evaluations of Pacific programs were completed, with 14 published on the DFAT website with a management response.

- This represented 33 per cent of total evaluations completed in 2024–25.
- All evaluations were commissioned by DFAT.
- Almost half covered investments in the governance sector.
- 40 per cent covered investments that were coming to the end of the current phase or that had ended, and 60 per cent were progress or midterm reviews covering investments still underway.

The following case studies demonstrate how evaluation findings were used to enhance the design of subsequent phases of each program.

Evaluation case study

Kiribati Australia Skills for Employment Partnership Evaluation

Established in 2016, the Kiribati Australia Skills for Employment Partnership (KASfEP) was a 10-year, \$50 million bilateral skills program that aimed to improve employment outcomes for I-Kiribati. The program was designed to address limited paid employment opportunities domestically, regionally, and internationally. To do this, the program supported the Government of Kiribati to develop a more capable, qualified, and mobile workforce. A key component of KASfEP was to enhance the capacity of the Kiribati Institute of Technology, the national provider of technical and vocational education.

DFAT commissioned an independent evaluation of KASfEP to assess its successes and challenges, and to identify opportunities for future investment. The evaluation found the program to be effective, appropriately targeted, and closely aligned with the Government of Kiribati's key policy priorities. It highlighted the need to transition to greater local ownership to ensure the program's long-term success and sustainability.

Recommendations from the evaluation directly informed the design of a new bilateral skills program. The new design identifies opportunities to enhance local ownership and coordination among national stakeholders and maintains Australia's critical, longstanding role in supporting the Kiribati Institute of Technology.

Evaluation case study

Partnerships for Social Protection End-of-Phase Evaluation

Through Partnerships for Social Protection (P4SP), Australia partners with Pacific island governments to strengthen national social protection systems. P4SP provides tailored technical advice, delivery system improvements, and targeted research and analysis. This enables governments to develop inclusive and effective social protection policies and programs.

DFAT commissioned an independent evaluation of the first phase of P4SP (2021–25), assessing its effectiveness, efficiency, gender equality, disability equity and relevance. The evaluation found that P4SP had significantly improved the coverage, quality and inclusiveness of social protection systems across the Pacific and elevated the status of social protection within national policy agendas.

The evaluation recommended extending the program into a second phase and identified key areas for enhancement. Recommendations included:

- raising ambition on disability equity and gender equality
- integrating climate change more explicitly into program outcomes.

In response, the second phase of P4SP (2025–29) includes two new outcomes focused on climate change and gender equality. The program now has a stronger alignment with Australia's commitments under Australia's IDP.

The program is also deepening its focus on disability equity. It forms partnerships with civil society organisations and in-country reviews of disability allowances to ensure benefit schemes are more inclusive.



94%

Effective and efficient IMRs



91%

Gender equality



71%

Disability equity

Southeast Asia

Investment performance

In 2024–25:

- 88 IMRs were completed for Southeast Asia investments
- HIMRs were completed for two investments
- FIMRs were completed for 20 investments.

The proportion of investments rated satisfactory for effectiveness and efficiency was 94 per cent (excluding FIMRs). This outcome exceeded the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and the three-year Southeast Asia average of 91 per cent.

Of the two ongoing investments identified in 2023–24 as requiring improvement, the performance of one improved in 2024–25 and one was assessed again as requiring improvement. Overall, four investments were identified as requiring improvement based on 2024–25 IMR results. Two of these investments have ended. Management actions plans are in place for the two that are ongoing. The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 91 per cent, above the three-year average of 87 per cent and higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate rating for disability equity was 71 per cent.

Completed investments (FIMRs) assessed 75 per cent as effective and efficient compared with 78 per cent for the whole-of-program outcome. Of the 20 completed investments, 15 were assessed as satisfactorily meeting end-of-program outcomes. Of the five investments assessed as not satisfactorily meeting expected outcomes, four were in Indonesia (refer to the Agriculture, Governance and Health sections on pages 84, 87 and 93) and one was in Myanmar (refer to the Governance section on page 87).

Case study

Supporting ASEAN Member States to strengthen cybersecurity governance

Under the Cyber and Critical Tech Cooperation Program, Australia helped deliver four executive courses and three alumni workshops on the application of international law in cyberspace. The training included 143 participants from all ASEAN countries. Participants included legal advisers to government ministries and organisations (especially the ministries of foreign affairs and defence); practicing attorneys from Attorney Generals' offices, ministries of justice and the judiciary; policy experts; diplomats; law enforcement personnel; and individuals tasked with planning and approving cyber operations. Evaluation data confirmed lasting improvements in participants' ability to apply international law to cyber operations. This shared understanding is necessary to achieve international cyber stability. It is needed to foster the protection of human rights online and promote a cyberspace governed and safeguarded by a common set of rules.

Case study

Developing ASEAN digital economy frameworks and skills

The Aus4ASEAN Futures Initiative is Australia's flagship \$204 million investment under the ASEAN-Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. It supported the development of a study on the ASEAN Digital Economy Framework Agreement (DEFA). The DEFA identifies steps to accelerate growth in the regional digital economy, aiming to increase it from around USD 300 billion to USD 1 trillion by 2030.

The study found that improvements in the digital economy would also deliver social benefits, including climate resilience, job creation, social mobility, inclusivity, and improved access to services.

The study enabled ASEAN to commence negotiations toward a DEFA two years earlier than anticipated. Aus4ASEAN Futures is also providing demand-driven, targeted capacity-building support for ASEAN Member States to participate in DEFA negotiations.

Case study

Strengthening Women's Roles and Incomes in Timor-Leste's Coffee Sector

In Timor-Leste, the Market Development Facility (MDF) provided business development support to women entrepreneurs in coffee farming households. In partnership with Cafe Brisa Serena and Olam, 2,217 women (59 per cent of participants) received training, strengthening women's roles in coffee production and on-farm decision-making. MDF also improved access to coffee processing equipment through partnerships with Karst and Cooperativa Comercio Agricultura de Timor. The cooperative distributed drying racks to 105 women who can now dry their coffee and produce higher quality beans. The women also gained access to drying nets, and pulping machines.

Anita de Jesus is a coffee farmer and extensionist in the Aileu Municipality. Anita said, 'I lead a group of 18 farmers, including women, and together we are now using drying racks and pulping machines to produce better [product]. Many of us are selling cherries at higher prices, earning more for our families, and playing a stronger role in farm decisions. This support is giving us the tools and confidence to build a better future in coffee.'



Credit: Market Development Facility

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, 15 evaluations of Southeast Asia programs were completed and 13 were published on the DFAT website with a management response.

- This represented 33 per cent of evaluations completed in 2024–25.
- 11 evaluations were commissioned by DFAT, and four were jointly commissioned or commissioned by a partner with DFAT input.
- One-third covered governance investments, and more than a quarter covered the sectors of education, and agriculture, trade and other production.
- 40 per cent covered investments coming to the end of a phase or that had ended, and 60 per cent were progress or midterm reviews covering investments still underway.

The following case studies show how evaluation findings were used within a design to shape program outcomes.

Evaluation case study

TRIANGLE in ASEAN: Safe and Fair Labour Migration – Independent Final Evaluation

Tripartite Action to Enhance the Contribution of Labour Migration to Growth and Development (TRIANGLE) in ASEAN is a 10-year (2015–2025) regional program, which will move into its third phase in 2026 (2026–2030; TRIANGLE's first phase ran from 2010–2015). It promotes safe and fair labour migration within ASEAN to protect the rights of migrant workers and reduce their vulnerability to trafficking.

Implemented by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the program partners with the ASEAN Committee on Migrant Workers and delivers support through Migrant Workers' Resource Centres in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, and Malaysia.

In 2024–25 the ILO concluded an independent final evaluation of the second phase of TRIANGLE. The evaluation confirmed that the program had helped strengthen migration governance and empowered migrant workers to claim their rights and access decent work.

The evaluation strongly recommended continued, coordinated support to ASEAN to sustain progress and address emerging challenges in labour migration. It also advised expanding the program's geographic reach to include Indonesia and the Philippines. The evaluation also noted that migrant worker empowerment was not explicitly documented as a key outcome, leaving a gap in the program's theory of change. These recommendations informed the design of TRIANGLE's third phase, which features a more robust theory of change and expands the program's reach to additional ASEAN Member States.

Evaluation case study

Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement Economic Cooperation Program – Katalis Mid-term Review

The Indonesia–Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA-CEPA) Economic Cooperation Program, known as Katalis, is designed to maximise the benefits of IA-CEPA. IA-CEPA is a bilateral free trade agreement between Indonesia and Australia.

The program focuses on three areas: supporting greater, mutually beneficial market opportunities; aligning standards and procedures to bring Australian and Indonesian businesses closer together; and building labour market skills to boost productivity, gender equality and social inclusion.

In 2024–25, DFAT commissioned an independent mid-term review of Katalis to assess its performance and inform decision-making for the remainder of the program. The review found that Katalis is making meaningful progress across its three focus areas. Key achievements include:

- supporting commitments within IA-CEPA side letters, such as the mutual recognition of professional engineers in both countries
- supporting micro-credentials developed by Australia’s Registered Training Organisations to be integrated onto Indonesian technology platforms
- delivering capacity building for the Indonesian grains industry through the delivery of Australian Awards Indonesia short courses.

However, the review also noted that the original end-of-project outcomes were overly ambitious for the program’s timeframe. It highlighted the need to further strengthen communication with stakeholders, particularly within government and the business sector, to manage differing expectations.

These findings directly shaped the design of the next phase of Katalis (2026–2031). In response to the review, the program refined its intermediate outcomes to enable more robust evidence collection and better demonstrate its contribution to long-term goals. Several communication products were enhanced to better articulate the program’s achievements, clarify its scope, and engage a broader range of stakeholders. Products included podcasts, newsletters, and brochures.



94% Effective and efficient IMRs



90% Gender equality



60% Disability equity

South and Central Asia

Investment performance

In 2024–25:

- IMRs were completed for 13 South and Central Asia investments
- HIMRs were completed for four investments
- FIMRs were completed for three investments.

The proportion of investments rated satisfactory for effectiveness and efficiency was 94 per cent (excluding FIMRs). This outcome exceeded the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and the three-year average of 91 per cent.

The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR, and FIMR) for gender equality was 90 per cent, above the three-year average of 83 per cent and the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate rating for disability equity was 60 per cent.

Completed investments (FIMRs) were assessed at 67 per cent effective and efficient, compared with 78 per cent for the whole-of-program outcome. Of three completed investments, one was assessed as not satisfactorily meeting end-of-program outcomes. This investment was a regional program (refer to the Agriculture, Trade and other Production sectors section on page 84).

Case study

Building knowledge and capacity to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems

Australia funds the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Blue Carbon Hub, led by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). The hub builds knowledge and capacity in Indian Ocean countries to protect and restore blue carbon ecosystems. Its impact enhances livelihoods, reduces risks from natural disasters, and helps mitigate climate change. The hub also facilitates collaboration and knowledge sharing among blue carbon stakeholders in the Indian Ocean.

In 2024–25, the hub hosted the fifth IORA Blue Carbon Hub think tank meeting on ‘Nature, biodiversity and carbon markets for sustainable management of coastal ecosystems’ in Thailand. At the meeting, IORA Member States learnt more about the potential to use market mechanisms to finance protection and restoration and to generate livelihood opportunities for coastal communities. The hub also hosted six early career ocean professionals from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Singapore, Kenya, and Sri Lanka in Perth to complete seven-week research projects on blue carbon relevant to their country.

Case study

Delivering governance reforms in Bangladesh's social protection system

Australia is supporting tangible governance reforms in Bangladesh's social protection system through the Social Security Policy Support (SSPS) program. Over the past year, SSPS has provided support for improved inter-ministerial collaboration, more robust monitoring systems, and greater use of data in decision-making.

SSPS directly contributed to policy proposals for Old Age and Disability Allowances, the development of the National Social Insurance Scheme, and guidelines for Shock-Responsive Social Protection. It also helped advance gender-responsive policy advice and accountability tools and strengthened the influence of NGOs and Organisations of People of Disability in decision-making, enhancing transparency and inclusivity. These efforts are enabling more inclusive, efficient, and resilient social protection systems that reach a broader population across Bangladesh.

Case study:

Supporting climate change adaptation in Sri Lanka's agriculture sector

Through the Market Development Facility, Australia helped enable the expansion of a private sector-led digital advisory service, Dialog's Govi Mithuru, to support climate change adaptation in Sri Lanka's agriculture sector. The platform provides real-time, localised agricultural advice, including pest alerts, to more than 130,000 farmers. This timely information enables early detection and response to pest outbreaks, which are increasing in frequency and severity due to climate change. In 2024, more than 17,700 farmers sought advice from Govi Mithuru. This reduced their pest-related harvest losses by at least 60 per cent, and increased their cumulative farm income by an estimated \$10.6 million (USD 7 million). The advisory service builds resilience by offering scalable, low-cost digital agricultural extension support, reducing reliance on overstretched public services, and helping farmers adapt to climate-induced risks.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, five evaluations of programs in South and Central Asia were completed, and all were published on the DFAT website with a management response.

- This represented 11 per cent of evaluations completed in 2024–25.
- Four of the evaluations were commissioned by DFAT and one was commissioned by a partner with DFAT input.
- The evaluations covered investments in the governance, education, economic infrastructure, and agriculture, trade and other production sectors.
- Two evaluations covered investments that were coming to the end of the current phase or that had ended, and three were progress or midterm reviews of investments still under way.

The following case study shows how evaluation findings were used to improve performance management and inform the investment's future.

Subnational Governance Program Phase II Mid-Term Review

The Subnational Governance Program (SNGP) has supported the rollout of Nepal's federated system of government since 2017. It focuses on federal, provincial and local government capacity building and service delivery. SNGP is helping to ensure greater coordination across Nepal's three tiers of government to improve resource management and the inclusion of women and marginalised groups in policy processes and implementation.

A mid-term review conducted in 2024 found SNGP to be largely effective. The review found that SNGP made strong contributions to Nepal's evolving federal system and served as a good example of locally led development. To sustain and build on this success, the review recommended increasing the program's investment in qualitative data to better inform performance management. It also identified fragmented interventions across sectors in seven municipalities as a key challenge to efficiency. The review recommended consolidation through more robust decision-making, while preserving SNGP's adaptive and flexible nature.

In response, the program's MEL framework was updated to better capture qualitative outcomes. To support accountability and track progress, a standing item has been added to quarterly management meetings to ensure interventions are aligned and consolidated. The review's findings are also informing the early design of a successor governance investment, helping to define its strategic direction and build on SNGP's achievements in a shifting political context.

Beyond the Indo-Pacific

Investment performance

In 2024–25, five investments from beyond the Indo-Pacific region completed reporting:

- three investments completed HIMRs
- two investments completed an IMR.¹⁷

All investments were rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency and for gender equality. This reflects the comparatively small number of investments comprising the beyond the Indo-Pacific portfolio, which can lead to volatility in annual aggregate percentage outcomes. The aggregate rating for disability equity was 80 per cent.

¹⁷ Four of these five investments were delivered in Syria and Palestine. One investment was the Australia Awards Africa program, which supported scholars from Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, The Gambia, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Case study

Supporting emergency drought response in Africa

With support through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership, Oxfam conducted a multi-sectoral emergency response in conflict- and drought-affected areas of Tigray, Afar and Amhara Regions of Ethiopia. Food security and livelihood activities included providing early-maturing, drought-resilient crop seeds and farming tools, restocking livestock, developing irrigation schemes and strengthening the capacity of Savings and Credit Cooperatives.

Overall, the project benefited 13,745 individuals, including 7,482 women, 1,662 children under 5 years old and 270 people with disability. The end-line results showed a 60 per cent decrease in the use of negative coping strategies among targeted households. This reflected a marked improvement in their livelihoods and resilience to future shocks.

Case study

Promoting biodiversity in the Brazilian Amazon

In the Brazilian Amazon, DFAT's Direct Aid Program supported indigenous NGO Iepé on the release of 3,291 yellow-spotted Amazon River turtles, a vulnerable species. The program involved 23 indigenous communities from the Oiapoque Indigenous Land, including 36 indigenous environmental agents. The activities included capacity building for indigenous environmental agents on how to manage turtle eggs and care for hatchlings until release, as well as environmental education actions in local schools. The results go beyond the short-term benefits for turtle conservation. The organisation also reports a long-term impact, including strengthening traditional indigenous knowledge, environmental and territorial management in the Oiapoque region.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, one evaluation for a program outside the Indo-Pacific region was completed and published on the DFAT website with a management response.

- This represented around two per cent of evaluations completed in 2024–25.
- The evaluation was commissioned by DFAT and covered the whole of Australia's development assistance in Palestine.

Evaluation case study

Strategic review of Australia's Humanitarian and Development Assistance to Palestine

Australia's assistance to Palestine responds to the humanitarian and development needs of Palestinians. It reflects Australia's commitment to support enduring peace and a two-state solution. Australia's assistance focuses on improving maternal and child health, preventing violence against children, strengthening education systems and enhancing child protection services.

In June 2023, DFAT commissioned an independent review of Australia's assistance to Palestine with the in-country component conducted in September 2023. One month later, in October 2023, the Israel-Hamas conflict started. The review was intended to provide an important accountability mechanism for DFAT and to supply evidence that would guide the development of Australia's humanitarian and development approach to Palestine.

The review found the programs to be highly relevant, effective and adaptable, with strong risk management practices despite the challenging context. The review recommended that DFAT balance immediate humanitarian needs with long-term resilience building, increase its focus on gender equality and maintain rigorous risk management.

These recommendations helped shape Australia's emergency response to the Israel-Hamas conflict and informed adjustments to future programming. They ensure support remains responsive to urgent needs and aligned with long-term development objectives.

g programs
and Ladakh.



Credit: Australia Awards

Chapter 3

Global partnerships

Introduction

Australia works with a range of partners with unique strengths, expertise and reach to deliver development and humanitarian assistance.

At the global level, partners include multilateral development and humanitarian organisations and funds, and multilateral development banks (MDBs). Australian NGOs, volunteers and education institutions are important partners. They include the ANCP, Australia Awards, and the Australian Volunteers Program.

This chapter summarises the recent achievements and performance of Australia's global partnerships and programs.

Multilateral partnerships

Australian ODA provided through multilateral agencies, humanitarian organisations and global funds complements Australia's bilateral and regional programs. These organisations have convening power, technical expertise and financial resources. They have a large footprint that extends the reach and maximises the impact of Australia's investments, and play an important role in helping the world solve the biggest problems of the day and keeping Australians safe.

Australia's partnerships also support a coordinated and scaled effort to address global and regional challenges. Multilateral development and humanitarian organisations develop and implement international norms and standards. This supports a globally consistent approach to providing development assistance. They also provide a platform for Australia to work with others to shape global approaches to development.

There have been significant disruptions to the multilateral system in the past 12 months, including the downsizing of UN operations worldwide. In this context, Australia continues to advocate for a multilateral system that can reliably deliver what the region needs most: global public goods and functions that can only be provided through international systems and cooperation.

Development financing contractions and funding reductions to international organisations are reshaping the multilateral system. Australia is engaging to ensure operational decisions, funding cuts and efficiency drives do not result in ineffective organisations. Instead, we push for effective reform, focused mandates, greater localisation, and long-term viability for organisations that offer services only they can provide.

Australia engages in the governance processes of multilateral organisations to ensure they are performing well, their work aligns with Australia's interests, and there is more coherence across the multilateral system. Australia supports actions to make bodies more efficient, results-oriented, responsive and appropriately focused on delivering for the region, particularly in the Pacific. Australia's partnership arrangements with multilateral organisations are used to:

- ensure they remain focussed on the Indo-Pacific region
- enhance performance and accountability
- promote system-wide reforms
- advance policy commitments to address climate change and gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion
- support locally led development and humanitarian action.

Australia engages in the governance processes of multilateral organisations to ensure they are performing well, their work aligns with Australia's interests, and there is more coherence across the multilateral system.

Multilateral Performance Assessments

Multilateral Performance Assessments (MPA) assess Australia’s work with certain multilateral organisations to ensure partnerships are performing effectively and delivering results.

In 2024–25, DFAT completed MPAs for 15 organisations.¹⁸ MPAs considered each organisation’s performance at global, regional and country levels in delivering on their development and/or humanitarian mandates. They focused on the priorities set out in the IDP and alignment with the strategic partnership frameworks between Australia and each organisation.

The MPA is an internal DFAT assessment of the multilateral organisation as a partner. It is intended as a ‘health check’ of the partnership and helps address any risks, weaknesses or potential issues that arise. The methodology for MPAs continues to be developed, drawing on the experience of a pilot process conducted in 2024 and expanded to 15 organisations in 2025. The next round of MPAs is scheduled for 2027. While MPAs use a set of common criteria to guide assessments, they are not formal reviews or evaluations and are not moderated. As such, there may be variability in the scope and depth of completed assessments and individual assessments are not directly comparable. This chapter provides MPA summary findings for UN development agencies, MDBs, international humanitarian agencies and global funds.

Australia views UN development agencies as trusted partners. They continue to advance norms and values important to Australia.

UN development agencies

Key themes from MPAs

DFAT’s MPAs confirm that most UN development agencies continue to deliver on their mandates. They are leveraging their unique comparative advantages to provide impactful development assistance, despite reduced funding levels since 2024. They provide technical and other support on critical functions in areas such as health security, biosecurity, people movements and displacement, humanitarian response, governance, economic prosperity, climate and weather, and security sector reform. Their work can be critical to conflict prevention and peacebuilding.

UN development agencies are trusted partners for Australia. They continue to advance norms and values important to Australia. Progress on advancing Australia’s priorities such as gender equality and disability equity is mixed. Some agencies have structurally embedded gender equality and disability equity principles and have achieved tangible results. Others have yet to mainstream these considerations across strategies, often limiting efforts solely to activities funded through GEDSI-earmarked funding.

Australia needs to continue to advocate for UN development agencies to focus on the Indo-Pacific region, especially as conflicts and crises in other parts of the world deepen. We need to ensure both headquarters and in-country representatives understand and respect the unique perspectives and needs of the region. All UN development agencies recognise the importance of locally led development and that sustained and increased investment in implementing local solutions is required. Continued Australian advocacy is needed to ensure all agencies have appropriate and resourced policies in place for child protection and preventing sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (PSEAH).

¹⁸ There are two types of assessment completed: a full MPA for organisations receiving on average \$12 million or higher in core funding annually over the past three years or a streamlined MPA for those organisations receiving lower core funding amounts.

Some UN development agencies are more effective partners to the Pacific than others. These organisations prioritise resilience-building in Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. Agencies that maintain resourcing in the Pacific also tend to place more focus on climate change considerations. This highlights the need for comprehensive climate programming across all UN development agencies.

UN development system reform

The UN development system comprises at least 37 UN agencies, funds, and programs that work across humanitarian, peace, and development issues. Over the last 10 years, the UN General Assembly has endorsed a series of reforms to streamline and improve the system, with a focus on on-the-ground impact.

Australia's Foreign Minister has said that the UN is in crisis, with steep budget reductions, a liquidity crisis and confidence undermined across the three pillars of the UN Charter – peace and security, development and human rights. Australia considers UN reform essential as UN agencies are siloed, duplicative and spread too thinly due to their extensive mandates. Australia wants a UN that helps the world solve the biggest problems of the day and deliver for the people who need it most. The UN should deliver global public goods and functions that can only be achieved multilaterally, and that we and the world rely on.

As funding has been cut or becomes more unpredictable, UN bodies have responded by reducing budgets, footprints and staff levels. DFAT is monitoring how this is affecting agency responsiveness, services and overall performance in the field. Australia is encouraging agencies to continue to focus on the Indo-Pacific region, while encouraging implementation of agreed reforms. Australia is also encouraging agencies to align reform efforts and avoid fragmented approaches that undermine system-wide coherence and weaken institutional capacity.

Present challenges offer an opportunity for bolder reforms of the UN development system. Under the UN Secretary General's UN80 Initiative, Australia's advocacy focuses on ensuring the system can advance sustainable development and deliver protection and humanitarian assistance where it matters most. Australia is supporting efforts to promote impact, efficiency, and better resource use. The aim is not to reduce the UN's capabilities, but to ensure it is fit for purpose and delivers maximum value to the communities it serves. This is why Australia, with partners, is advocating for the UN to retain a focus on the Pacific and the unique challenges faced by Small Island Developing States.

Australia's key priorities for UN development system reform under the UN80 Initiative include:

- protecting functions that the UN is uniquely able to deliver
- ensuring a continued focus on the region, including the Pacific, Southeast Asia and situations of protracted crises
- reducing duplication and strengthening cooperation and coordination across agencies
- considering the consolidation of functions and the merging of agencies
- safeguarding the UN's normative role, particularly on gender equality and human rights
- improving efficiency through shared services and common offices, especially at country level

Present challenges offer an opportunity for bolder reforms of the UN development system.

- better and more efficient integration of cross-cutting priorities, including gender equality and disability equity, and PSEAH
- ensuring the Resident Coordinator system is equipped and empowered to lead a sharper, more unified UN presence at the country level.

Summary of MPA findings from the United Nations Development Programme

Like all UN agencies, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is facing significant budget cuts and has to prioritise its efforts, while reforming and finding efficiencies. Overall, UNDP continues to deliver effectively against its mandate to eradicate poverty, support democratic governance, and build inclusive institutions. The agency has delivered impactful development outcomes and maintained a strong operational footprint, particularly in the Pacific.

UNDP has demonstrated effectiveness in reducing poverty, advancing democratic governance, and enhancing climate resilience, while also playing a critical coordination role within the UN system. UNDP is Australia's largest multilateral partner delivering the country's climate priorities for sustainable development in the region, a key challenge facing Small Island Developing States.

UNDP has strong, institutionalised commitments to advance gender equality, disability equity and rights and social inclusion. This is evident through organisational policies and strategic plans, but sustained effort is needed to ensure consistent implementation, monitoring and reporting. UNDP has consistently demonstrated its ability to leverage Member State contributions to mobilise significant financing from diverse sources. UNDP demonstrates catalytic impact. For every USD1.0 received between 2022 and 2024, UNDP mobilised nearly USD60.0 in public and private investments aligned with the SDGs, including securing Green Climate Fund investments in the Pacific. UNDP's financial management is strong. As global ODA funding declines, UNDP's budget strategy will need to be adaptable and highly prioritised to ensure UNDP can respond flexibly to crises, innovate, and ensure ongoing impact.

UNDP plays a central role in the UN80 process as the UN development system's key institution for bringing together varied lines of effort on sustainable development. With a multilateral system under strain, UNDP will need to take a more proactive role in driving policy coherence and systemic efficiencies across the UN development system. This includes ensuring that reforms deliver tangible benefits for the Indo-Pacific and informing which UN functions are most critical for the region, specifically those that are uniquely or best delivered by the UN. UNDP must focus more on its strategic policy and operational offerings to governments, avoid duplication with other agencies, demonstrate impact at the country level and fully support the leadership and convening role of Resident Coordinators.

Multilateral development banks

Key themes from MPAs

MDBs offer financial and technical assistance to developing member countries so they can achieve their development goals. Approximately one-fifth of Australia's development assistance is channelled through the World Bank Group (WBG) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) through core contributions, trust funds and financial intermediary funds.

UNDP has demonstrated effectiveness in reducing poverty, advancing democratic governance, and enhancing climate resilience, while also playing a critical coordination role within the UN system.

Australia's contributions leverage MDB expertise and financial capacity to support collective action, advance shared development objectives, and respond to crises. Collectively, as the largest source of development finance to the Indo-Pacific, MDBs play a major role in building a stronger, more prosperous, and more resilient region. Given the current and growing presence of MDBs in the Pacific, the effectiveness of MDB financing is integral to delivering sustainable, long-term stable development. MDBs contribute significantly to climate finance targets and mobilise substantial private capital.

Compared to other parts of the multilateral system, funding for MDBs has been relatively stable over recent years. MDBs remain strong and trusted partners for Australia and continued to achieve results in 2024–25. Overall, MPAs assessed MDBs' performance against their mandates as effective. However, sustained Australian advocacy is needed to address core national priorities in MDBs, including: increased allocations to the Pacific; essential procurement reform to ensure quality partners; greater leveraging of MDBs' balance sheets; gender equality; climate change outcomes; and disability equity. DFAT will closely monitor delivery of results, including in these priority areas. More work is needed to ensure sustainable reform.

MDBs have social inclusion policies, however, there has been mixed progress on gender equality in practice. For example, while some MDBs screen strategies, policies, and projects through a gender lens, others need to embed gender considerations more deeply within projects and, in some cases, the organisation itself. Most MDBs are setting higher ambitions for disability equity but implementation remains inconsistent. Some institutions report declines in disability inclusion outcomes.

Only a few MDBs have a dedicated policy on locally led development. In its absence, most MDBs rely on strong social policies and country-level plans that empower local governments to influence financing decisions, including compliance with local content requirements. Australia will continue to actively engage with the MDBs to address these issues.

Multilateral Development Bank reform

Australia continued to work with other MDB shareholders to reform the scale, speed and effectiveness of their operations, in line with the recommendations of the [G20 Roadmap towards Better, Bigger, and More Effective MDBs](#). MDBs continue to pursue reforms aimed at improving operational efficiency, system-wide impact and enhanced coordination. For example, in 2025, five mutual reliance agreements were signed, helping streamline the preparation and implementation of co-financed projects across institutions.

The Australian Government continued to advocate for MDB procurement reform to encourage increased competition, a greater focus on quality, and more local content. In response to ongoing advocacy from Australia and other shareholders, the WBG and ADB have shifted toward more quality-focused procurement practices. The WBG has increased use of Rated Criteria that incorporates value, quality and sustainability, in addition to price, in procurement evaluations. Similarly, the ADB has increased the use of Merit Point Criteria in procurement evaluations to deliver better value for money by incorporating non-price factors such as technical quality, sustainability and innovation. This approach is intended to address longstanding concerns that MDB projects are awarded to the lowest-cost bidders, which sometimes fail to deliver quality and value for money.

The WBG has responded to calls for reforms, enhancing its operational and financial framework through the World Bank Evolution Agenda. In 2024 and

MDBs remain strong and trusted partners for Australia and continued to achieve results in 2024–25.

The FMRF is the first of its kind among MDBs and is expected to improve efficiency, streamline implementation, deliver faster results, and achieve better outcomes for borrowing countries.

2025, the WBG implemented capital adequacy frameworks and innovative financing mechanisms to enhance lending capacity without compromising financial stability or the WBG's AAA credit rating. The WBG also introduced operational initiatives to improve impact, speed, and efficiency, including for the poorest and most vulnerable member countries, including:

- strengthened results orientation through a new Corporate Scorecard
- improved operational effectiveness and efficiency, including strengthened and streamlined implementation of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework
- faster project preparation and an emphasis on stronger implementation support
- new crisis preparedness and response tools.

The ADB is also recognised as a leader in MDB reforms. It has responded to G20 calls to optimise the balance sheet and increase the volume and speed of operations while preserving quality. The ADB continues to enhance its ability to attract private investments through blended finance and public-private partnerships. In 2024, the ADB announced the Innovative Finance Facility for Climate in Asia and the Pacific (IF-CAP). IF-CAP allows donors to guarantee parts of the existing sovereign loan portfolio on the ADB's balance sheet to free up capital to invest in new climate projects. In November 2024, Australia announced a guarantee of up to USD200 million for IF-CAP. Collective contributions from donors will support the ADB to deliver up to USD11 billion in climate-related loans, boosting private capital mobilisation. Australia's guarantee is expected to enable the ADB to make more than USD900 million in additional loans to assist countries in Asia and the Pacific.

The ADB and WBG are also working to improve collaboration, signing a Full Mutual Reliance Framework (FMRF) in 2025. The FMRF is the first of its kind among MDBs and is expected to improve efficiency, streamline implementation, deliver faster results, and achieve better outcomes for borrowing countries. This partnership addresses the needs of client countries in Asia and the Pacific that demand faster, more efficient, and more effective development financing, as well as more seamless coordination by MDBs. It also responds to G20 Leaders' call for MDBs to work more effectively as a system.

The Australian Government continues to advocate for the ADB and the World Bank to improve the application and implementation of safeguard principles, including health and safety; protection of children, vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; PSEAH; and environmental protection. Australia advocated for the development of the ADB's new Environmental and Social Framework (agreed during 2024–25), which provides stronger environmental and social protections and requirements on ADB-funded projects.

Summary of MPA findings for the World Bank Group

The WBG is Australia's largest multilateral partner and the world's largest development organisation. The comparative advantage of the WBG comes from its combination of country depth and global breadth, public and private sector instruments and relationships, credible technical expertise and sectoral knowledge and ability to mobilise and leverage financing.

It is the third-largest source of development finance for Southeast Asia and the fifth-largest financier in the Pacific.

The WBG provides support to developing countries to achieve its overarching mission to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a liveable planet. Country-led development is the foundation of WBG support, and the WBG aims to ensure its operations align with its member countries' development programs. Country Partnership Frameworks guide implementation. The frameworks are based on Systematic Country Diagnostics and the member country's own vision of its development goals.

The WBG is a major donor in the Indo-Pacific, and its influence and credibility on economic policy and country development ambitions are highly relevant for Australia. Its overall performance is assessed as effective, however, there remain areas for improvement.

The WBG has been responsive to Australia's priorities, including increased resources dedicated to the Pacific. The WBG's investments in infrastructure and climate adaptation and mitigation are crucial for the region's development, security and wellbeing. As at March 2025, the WBG has an active Pacific portfolio totalling USD3.22 billion across 91 projects. Australia has used its advocacy to secure continued recognition of the unique vulnerabilities of small states, including all Pacific Island countries, through the Small States Exception. The Small States Exception (previously the Small Island Economy Exception) ensures that small states receive WBG financing on the most concessional terms in their country classification. The WBG is now developing a Small States Strategy to ensure its work in these countries reflects their unique circumstances and needs.

The WBG has also responded to Australian advocacy for a greater on-the-ground staff presence in the Pacific. Together with the Papua New Guinea Pacific Umbrella Investment Facility, Australian advocacy has increased WBG staff presence on the ground from 37 across six countries in 2013 to 72 across eight countries in 2023. Also, in response to Australia's campaigning, the Papua New Guinea WBG representative has been elevated to the Country Director level.

The WBG sets global standards for best practice governance and management and actively promotes them internationally. It employs strong policies to combat sexual exploitation, bullying and harassment. Noting the progress made by the WBG, Australia continues to push for mandatory, zero-tolerance policies on sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment. Australia also pushes for more regular reporting on these issues.

Australia is pushing for stronger child protection policies that move beyond a narrow focus on child labour and adopt a more holistic approach. Australia also urges the WBG to increase the share of projects that address the needs of people with disability and to advance disability equity and inclusion in project outcomes.

In response to ongoing advocacy from Australia and other shareholders, the WBG and ADB have shifted toward quality-focused and locally inclusive procurement practices, particularly through the mandatory use of Rated Criteria for most international procurements. Rated Criteria allow for a multidimensional evaluation of bids, incorporating non-price factors such as technical quality, sustainability, innovation, health and safety, and local content alongside financial considerations. This approach moves away from the traditional lowest-price model. It enables borrowers to select suppliers based on their ability to deliver fit-for-purpose solutions tailored to the specific risks and complexities of each project. It also promotes development impact by emphasising market and skills development in recipient countries.

Australia is pushing for stronger child protection policies that move beyond a narrow focus on child labour and adopt a more holistic approach.

International humanitarian agencies

Key themes from MPAs

Multilateral humanitarian agencies have been hard-hit by funding cuts and are reforming and reprioritising quickly. Despite an increasingly complex funding environment, MPAs found that international humanitarian agencies continue to deliver on their core mandates, often in volatile security environments. These organisations demonstrate strong alignment with Australia's Humanitarian Policy (released in 2024), including actively supporting Australia's leadership on the Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel. This alignment is reinforced by broader efforts from most organisations to localise humanitarian assistance. Gender equality considerations are consistently embedded within these organisations' operations. However, further work is required to integrate disability equity considerations, which are critical for inclusive humanitarian responses.

While resourcing for the Pacific can be limited from these organisations, most are placing greater emphasis on climate-related emergencies and anticipatory action. Despite strong overall performance during the period, funding shortfalls, escalating conflict and disasters, reform uncertainty and weaknesses in humanitarian system governance were the biggest risks to the quality and coverage of humanitarian assistance, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.

Reform efforts are focused on seeking efficiencies and adapting to rising levels of conflict and disaster.

International humanitarian system reforms

An active reform agenda underpins international humanitarian assistance. Reform efforts are focused on seeking efficiencies and adapting to rising levels of conflict and disaster.

The December 2024 Egeland and Msuya report *Proposals for a simplified and more efficient humanitarian system* recommended measures to improve humanitarian system governance, leadership and information, and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs' (OCHA) administration and management. These recommendations align with DFAT's assessments, including areas such as improving the skills of Humanitarian Coordinators, better coordination across agencies, and streamlined planning, budgeting, administration, and shared services. These recommendations were precursors to the Humanitarian Reset and UN80 reform initiatives, which began in early 2025. Australia will prioritise reforms that increase efficiency and effectiveness, advance localisation and coordination, and uphold the mandate and programming for inclusion of women, children, people with disability and LGBTQIA+ people.

Progress in reform and a focus on innovation and efficient operating models will be required to sustain international humanitarian organisations amid major donor shifts in funding and policy priorities. Some organisations are well advanced in implementing changes. For example, the International Committee of the Red Cross has undertaken a significant uplift across the organisation and introduced financial reforms, following a financial crisis in 2023. These measures were designed to realign the organisation with the new resource environment and safeguard against financial insecurity.

Summary of MPA findings for United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

DFAT completed an MPA for OCHA. The assessment confirmed that OCHA remains critical in coordinating international humanitarian action across UN and non-UN agencies to ensure that crisis-affected people receive

assistance and protection. OCHA, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPF) are integral to an effective, efficient and coordinated humanitarian system.

OCHA has continued to deliver its core functions of coordination, analysis, and planning for countries and regions experiencing protracted crises and sudden-onset disasters. During the assessment period (2023 and 2024), OCHA initiated innovation and reform initiatives across the sector, including the Flagship Initiative pilot and CERF Climate Action Account, an innovative financing mechanism that successfully attracted new climate finance to the humanitarian sector. These are precursors to needed reforms commencing in 2025 and continuing in 2026.

OCHA was responsive to Australia's priorities during the period, notably through the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Regional Humanitarian Fund. It led the development of anticipatory action (AA) frameworks in the region and became a DFAT partner for AA activities in the Pacific. Annual reporting has improved and is now structured to align with the OCHA Strategic Plan, which includes performance indicators. However, organisational level reporting could better outline progress against review recommendations, reflection on risks and issues, and outcomes of advocacy efforts.

OCHA's pooled fund mechanisms facilitated timely and effective collaboration among international humanitarian partners across sectors. The pooled funds are an efficient mechanism and operate with very low overhead costs (averaging two to three per cent). Monitoring and evaluation systems for pooled funds are effective, with results-chain logic and performance dashboards in place. In 2026, these mechanisms will be further tested as they adjust to deliver a US contribution of USD2 billion for 18 countries to be programmed through OCHA's pooled funds.

Localisation, accountability to affected populations, and inclusion of women were substantially addressed through Country Based Pooled Funds. However, Australia will advocate for additional OCHA resources to increase the participation of people with disability. Further organisational reform will play an important role in sustaining OCHA's results amid global funding fluctuations.

Global funds

Key themes from MPAs

Australia provides funding to several global funds spanning health, education, climate and the environment, including:

- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (the Global Fund)
- Global Environment Facility
- Global Partnership for Education.

Overall, MPAs found that global funds continue to deliver effectively against mandates despite a context of dynamic political shifts and, for global health funds, significantly decreased ODA financing for health. Global funds such as the Global Partnership for Education and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, continue to reach significant numbers of beneficiaries in the region at a scale far beyond the reach of individual bilateral donors. With replenishments for Gavi and the Global Fund falling short of targets, difficult prioritisation decisions are being made as well as reductions to staffing. Australia has successfully advocated for the

Global funds continue to reach significant numbers of beneficiaries at a scale far beyond the reach of individual bilateral donors.

Across the climate funds, both the GEF and GCF are advancing reforms to improve access and responsiveness for Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries, including in the Pacific.

distinct needs of Small Island Developing States, low-income countries and middle-income countries to be recognised in revised Gavi and the Global Fund allocation models.

MPA assessments also found global funds provide strong value for money, particularly in leveraging additional financing, including from non-traditional partners such as the private sector. Global funds continue to reach significant numbers of beneficiaries at a scale far beyond the reach of individual bilateral donors. They can deliver partnership arrangements that facilitate donor coordination and joint dialogue within individual sectors.

Operational efficiency is generally satisfactory. In some cases, there remains a need to streamline country grant mechanisms, with minimal gaps between grant approval and disbursement. Ensuring appropriate recognition of the needs of middle-income countries can be challenging for some funds within allocation models that prioritise low-income countries. Sustainability of short-term grant-funded projects remains an issue.

Global funds have generally made substantial progress in prioritising and integrating gender equality, but more action is needed to advance disability equity. A more systematic embedding of climate considerations in the core strategies of non-environment-focused global funds is also needed.

Global fund reforms

An active program of reforms across global funds exists, including reforms to overall structures, the efficiency of each fund, and the sustainability of programs in changing financing scenarios.

Reforms to global health funds are being developed in the context of broader discussions on reform of the international health architecture. These discussions have highlighted a desire to simplify the global health architecture, with clearer mandates, stronger inter-agency coordination, and increasing ownership and financing from implementing countries.

Australia continues to emphasise: the importance of the global health funds delivering in the region and maximising impact at the country level; the importance of better collaboration and integration between global health funds and other multilateral health organisations; and the need for stronger cooperation between global health funds and multilateral development banks.

Agency specific reforms are leading to some progress with deepening relationships between global health funds and with other multilateral organisations although more progress is needed. For example, building on shared objectives and co-located headquarters, Gavi and the Global Fund have launched collaborative workstreams focused on malaria, health system strengthening, country engagement, and enabling functions. Some of these workstreams have also focused on the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents. Looking ahead, the agencies are exploring deeper integration through shared services, harmonised indicators, and aligned approaches to public financial management, to reduce the burden on countries and strengthen impact and sustainability.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) promotes collaboration with the other vertical Multilateral Climate Funds (MCFs):

- Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- Adaptation Fund
- Climate Investment Funds.

The Action Plan on Complementarity and Coherence guides MCF collaboration. Progress has been made in harmonising procedures and improving coordination. Further work is needed to recognise comparative advantages and address gaps in joint programming and operational alignment.

Across the climate funds, both the GEF and GCF are advancing reforms to improve access and responsiveness for Small Island Developing States and least-developed countries, including in the Pacific. The GEF is streamlining access, strengthening Operational Focal Point mechanisms, and accelerating project cycle timelines. Meanwhile, the GCF's updated Strategic Plan 2024–27 introduces simplified approval processes and expanded readiness support for small-island and vulnerable countries.

Summary of MPA findings for the Global Fund

The Global Fund continues to demonstrate strong performance across its mandate. The Global Fund remains a critical global health financing mechanism. It delivers substantial impact, mobilises resources effectively, and maintains robust governance and transparency standards. In 2024, it supported 25.6 million people on HIV treatment, treated 7.4 million for tuberculosis and distributed 162 million mosquito nets.

The Global Fund's market-shaping efforts have significantly reduced prices for key health commodities, enhancing sustainability and access.

The Global Fund has invested more than USD1.1 billion in the Indo-Pacific for 2024–26, supporting countries like Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Fiji. The Global Fund does not have an in-country presence. National Country Coordinating Mechanism committees prepare and submit funding applications to the Global Fund and oversee grants on behalf of their countries, which provides for local leadership and helps ensure low overheads. While programmatic results are generally strong, challenges persist, particularly in sustainability planning and health systems strengthening. The Global Fund's limited secretariat staffing for managing small Pacific portfolios hampers its influence and responsiveness, and Australia continues to advocate for enhanced engagement.

The Global Fund has made notable progress on gender equality, with 46 per cent of recommended proposals being gender-focused and strong tracking mechanisms in place. However, disability inclusion remains a significant gap. Australia will push for more systematic attention to disability equity through case studies, grant guidance and the development of the next strategy for the Global Fund.

Key challenges in the Indo-Pacific region include sustaining health system investments post-COVID-19, addressing human rights barriers and navigating reduced donor funding. The Global Fund's revised Sustainability, Transition and Co-Financing Policy aims to address these issues, but implementation will require close monitoring.

Evaluation case study

Advancing Multilateral Partnerships for Economic Development Mid Term Review

The Advancing Multilateral Partnerships for Economic Development (AMPED) program aims to contribute to rapid, sustainable and inclusive economic growth in the Philippines. AMPED has supported targeted economic reforms, improved the business operating environment, and strengthened physical and social infrastructure in the Philippines.

In 2024, DFAT commissioned an independent mid-term review to assess AMPED's achievements and guide future implementation. The review affirmed the program's continued importance and relevance, and recommended clarifying its strategic intent, with a focus on upstream policy, legal and regulatory reforms. It also noted the complexity of managing multiple partnerships and recommended DFAT streamline its engagement to focus on two key partners:

- World Bank, through the Australia-World Bank Growth and Prosperity (AGaP) Trust Fund
- International Finance Cooperation

In response, DFAT redesigned and rationalised the program. The partnership with the World Bank through the AGaP Trust Fund was extended until 2029, with activities reprioritised to focus on upstream reforms. The review also informed the design of Australia's new inclusive economic growth program in the Philippines (PROGRESS), ensuring that AMPED and PROGRESS were aligned and complementary.

AMPED is delivered through partnerships between Australia and multilateral institutions – the World Bank, ADB, International Finance Corporation and UNICEF.

In 2024–25, ANCP allocated \$142.4 million in grants to NGOs, enabling the delivery of 373 projects in 53 countries. These projects benefited 6 million people.

Australian NGO Cooperation Program

ANCP supports accredited Australian NGOs to implement international development projects to reduce poverty and promote sustainable and inclusive development. In 2024–25, ANCP allocated \$142.4 million in grants to NGOs, enabling the delivery of 373 projects in 53 countries. These projects benefited 6 million people.

Projects were implemented in partnership with more than 2,000 local NGOs and civil society organisations. Approximately 73 per cent of these projects were delivered in the Indo-Pacific. The projects focused on health, gender equality, food assistance, and climate action.

Significant global development funding cuts in 2024–25 led to funding shortfalls for some Australian NGOs and their local partners. In response, DFAT used the built-in flexibility of the ANCP to ensure the implementation of community-based programs continued. This approach allowed the Australian NGOs and their local partners to adapt to rapidly changing priorities in international aid funding.

Key results of the Australian NGO Cooperation Program:

- 9 million people received improved health services (46.6 per cent women and girls; 0.68 per cent people with disability).
- 217,000 people benefited from household-level access to improved drinking water sources and/or sanitation facilities (54.4 per cent women and girls; 1.7 per cent people with disability).
- 165,000 people received food aid (55.8 per cent women and girls; 3.0 per cent people with disability).
- 25,000 people were reached with programs designed to enable gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion and to enhance community resilience (56.5 per cent women and girls; 10.6 per cent people with disability).
- 26,000 women were supported to assume leadership roles in community organisations, and through small business development (2.7 per cent women with disability).
- 36,000 additional girls and boys enrolled in school (49.2 per cent girls; 3.7 per cent people with disability).

Case study

Banking on success

In Indonesia, where only one in four people with a disability aged over 15 have a bank account, financial inclusion is a national aspiration.

Aided by an Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) funded study, Opportunity International Australia and its partner, Financial Service provider, Koperasi Mitra Dhuafa (KOMIDA), aims to change all that.

In collaboration with Terala Foundation and MicroSave Consulting, KOMIDA used focus groups to explore the financial needs and barriers faced by women with disability.

Findings revealed that digital financial services can significantly improve access, especially through features like digital account opening, screen readers, and text-to-speech functionality.

For Rohanah, who lost a leg at a young age, a loan from KOMIDA helped her set up her food stall in West Java. Rising at 2:00 am each morning, she prepares nasi uduk, a traditional coconut rice dish, along with a variety of condiments, including fried chicken from her own farm, tempe (soybean cake), and bala-bala (vegetable fritters).

Through her entrepreneurial efforts, Rohanah has achieved financial stability and funded her children's education. Today, they are employed and contribute to the family, demonstrating the powerful ripple effect one individual can have on their community.

'I use loans and business profits to secure my future, not for leisure,' said Rohanah. 'The loans help me grow my business. I've renovated my premises, bought two motorbikes, and used the profits to support my children's education, now that they've finished vocational school. I have managed to create savings and occasionally draw on them to further develop my business when needed.'

KOMIDA currently has 913,605 clients and 885,360 active borrowers, including 17,259 women with disability.

Australia Awards

Australia Awards advances Australia's development and foreign policy goals by investing in future leaders across the Indo-Pacific and Africa. It offers long-term scholarships in Australia and the Pacific and short courses and fellowship opportunities. It also engages alumni worldwide to strengthen people-to-people and institutional links with partner countries. As a leading soft power asset for DFAT, Australia Awards enhances Australia's networks and influence. It underpins people-to-people connections and development outcomes across the region.

There were 1,516 long-term scholarships offered to scholars from more than 50 countries for study commencing in 2025. In addition, 1,133 participants from the Indo-Pacific, sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean completed short courses in 2025. A further 720 mid-career and senior professionals from 63 countries participated in Australia Awards Fellowships activities.

From July 2024 to June 2025:

- 4,120 scholars (2,406 women, 1,693 men, and 21 others) were enrolled in long-term degree programs at institutions in Australia, the Pacific and Indonesia
- 1,214 scholars (675 women, 533 men, and 6 others) completed long-term degrees and returned to their home countries equipped with advanced knowledge, skills and enriched professional and personal networks.

Australia Awards prioritises equity and inclusion through adjustments at all stages of the scholarship cycle. This is reflected in the proportion of female

The Australia Awards Scholarships Program prioritises equity and inclusion through adjustments at all stages of the scholarship cycle.

scholars (58 per cent in 2024–25). Among those completing long-term scholarships in 2024–25, 50 scholars with disability (14 women, 36 men) received reasonable adjustments during application and throughout their scholarship.

Australia Awards promotes women’s leadership. Its Women Leading and Influencing (WLI) program provides scholars and alumni from the Pacific with tailored leadership development opportunities, including bespoke workshops, learning and networking events, coaching, and mentoring support. In 2024–25, 483 participants from 13 countries engaged in WLI activities, with 28 women from seven Pacific nations completing the intensive 18-month Women’s Developmental Leadership Program.

Australia Awards fosters cooperation between Australia and partner countries. Data from 2024 show that at least 20 per cent of alumni surveyed reported examples of mutual collaboration between Australia and their countries. This demonstrates enduring links between alumni with Australia and Australians.

In March 2025, the Australia Awards Global Support Mechanism (AAGSM) was launched to provide centralised support for the program. It consists of the Global Support and Global Research Units, aiming to streamline operations, improve scholar and alumni engagement, and integrate technical expertise to achieve consistent, inclusive, high-quality outcomes. Through robust monitoring, evaluation, and research, the AAGSM enables evidence-based decision-making, helping DFAT assess performance, shape policy and improve impact.



Case study

Credit: Australia Awards

Indo-Pacific scholars building capacity in water management

Australia Awards Fellowships offer professional development opportunities for mid-career and senior professionals across the Indo-Pacific through collaborative learning in Australia. In November 2024, 15 Fellows from Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Thailand joined the National Centre for Groundwater Research and Training at Flinders University under the Unlocking Mekong Region’s Hidden Groundwater Potential through Collaboration and Capacity Building Fellowship.

The Fellowship helped build regional capacity in groundwater and water management through lectures, workshops, and a five-day Riverland field trip. Fellows engaged with leading Australian institutions, including CSIRO and the South Australian Department for Environment and Water. They gained practical skills in groundwater monitoring, modelling, and policy implementation. The Fellowship strengthened the Mekong groundwater network and produced a joint publication, *Towards Improved Groundwater Management in the Mekong Region*.

Case study

Championing road safety in the Philippines

Australia Awards alumnus Ray Adrian Macalalag completed a Master of Transport in 2024 at the University of Sydney. During his scholarship, Ray won Best Poster at the Transport Research Association for New South Wales Annual Symposium, presented at the Australasian Road Safety Conference. He also served as a Global Youth Ambassador at the World Youth Assembly for Road Safety in Morocco.

Ray has returned to the Philippines' Department of Economy, Planning, and Development, to drive solutions for transport and infrastructure challenges. Building on his Australia Awards experience, he is spearheading a Road Safety Action Plan and a Subnational Planning Manual. The plan and manual aim to halve road crash fatalities in Western Visayas by 2030. 'My vision is clear: a safer, smarter transport system for the Philippines and beyond,' said Ray.



Credit: Australia Awards

Evaluation case study

Australia Awards and Alumni Engagement Program – Philippines Final Program Evaluation

The Australia Awards and Alumni Engagement Program–Philippines provides scholarships for postgraduate study in Australia as well as scholarships for short courses in Australia and the Philippines. It also supports professional development for alumni educated in Australia. The program builds a cohort of skilled Filipinos who contribute to sustainable development in the Philippines and strengthen bilateral cooperation.

A DFAT-commissioned independent evaluation in 2025 found the program highly relevant and effective, with strong performance in delivering GEDSI outcomes. It highlighted the program's success in building individual and organisational capacity. The evaluation recommended improvements in alumni engagement, responsiveness to emerging priorities, and alignment with public diplomacy and reform objectives.

These recommendations are informing the design of a successor program. The next program will further integrate GEDSI through new tools, including an intersectionality reporting framework and dedicated resources. It will strengthen the linkages among scholarships, policy dialogue, and action plans that alumni implement upon returning to the Philippines or completing their short courses. The design will also set out a more targeted approach for engaging with alumni groups, ensuring alignment with Australian priorities.

Australian Volunteers Program

The Australian Volunteers Program enables Australians to work directly in local organisations across the region, building deeper understanding of the world and fostering life-long friendships.

Volunteers develop valuable professional networks during their assignments, leading to enduring partnerships and collaboration throughout their careers.

Over the last eight years more than 2,200 Australians have worked alongside 1,200 partner organisations across 26 countries.

The Australian Volunteers Program supports locally led change by connecting skilled Australians and Australian organisations with local partner organisations overseas.

In 2024–25, the Australian Volunteers Program supported 508 assignments across 297 partner organisations. The program sent volunteers around the world, with:

- 47 per cent in the Pacific and Timor-Leste
- 44 per cent in South and Southeast Asia
- 9 per cent in Africa.

Most assignments focused on education, health and wellbeing and supporting strong institutions.

The program's commitment to inclusiveness and accessibility continued. Of the volunteers in 2024–25:

- 61 per cent identified as female
- 2 per cent identified as having a disability
- 17 per cent reported speaking a language other than English at home
- 1 per cent were Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

An independent evaluation of the program in 2024–25 found strong evidence the program was achieving its goals, delivering effective partnerships and volunteer assignments. It recommended strengthening the program's alignment with Australia's country and regional priorities. The program focused on creating more opportunities to celebrate the achievements of volunteers and partner organisations. In Australia, events brought together program alumni who shared their experiences of living and working across different cultures. Events also profiled the contribution of volunteers to development outcomes overseas.

Case study

Volunteers supporting inclusive healthcare delivery in Federated States of Micronesia

The Australian Volunteers Program enhanced health system capacity in Federated States of Micronesia through targeted support for inclusive healthcare delivery.

The program supported a speech pathologist on a one-year assignment with the Federated States of Micronesia Department of Health and Social Services to develop an Early Development Checklist to screen children aged 2 months to 4 years. This milestone screening tool enables early diagnosis of disability and autism spectrum disorder (ASD), facilitating timely interventions. The volunteer helped customise the forms to be culturally and linguistically appropriate for remote staff use.

The Early Development Checklist was successfully implemented in Pohnpei State, earning recognition from health authorities and improving developmental milestone monitoring. The volunteer also supported Federated States of Micronesia health authorities to conduct ASD workshops for parents and health and education staff, advising on communication strategies and enhancing understanding of ASD.

The volunteer's contribution to these initiatives helped strengthen the department's capacity to deliver inclusive programs addressing marginalised groups' needs, improving early childhood development services and aligning with broader objectives of promoting equity, accessibility, and social inclusion within Federated States of Micronesia's health system.



Credit: Caritas

Chapter 4

Development finance

Introduction

Australia is committed to implementing the recommendations of the 2023 *Development Finance Review* and its focus on enhancing transparency. As part of Australia’s commitment, this chapter provides an overview of Australia’s development finance portfolio and its development impact. Supplementary data is available in Annex E.

The Australian Government defines development finance as capital deployed to achieve a development outcome – either directly or indirectly – while also generating a financial return.

The Australian Government defines development finance as capital deployed to achieve a development outcome – either directly or indirectly – while also generating a financial return. This form of finance can be mobilised at scale and is delivered through instruments such as grants, loans, equity, guarantees, and insurance. In certain structures, investment returns can be reinvested, progressively expanding the pool of available development finance.

Reflecting a shift toward using a range of financial mechanisms to advance development outcomes across the Indo-Pacific, Australia has scaled up its use of development finance. These instruments enable Australia to engage effectively with countries across Southeast Asia and the Pacific, each with distinct income levels, capital market maturity and financing needs.

Since the release of the *Development Finance Review*, DFAT has delivered against all its recommendations. This includes establishing the International Development Finance Advisory Committee¹⁹ (IDFAC) in 2024. IDFAC has strengthened oversight of Australia’s development finance portfolio. The committee provides strategic advice to DFAT and other government agencies on performance, gaps, and opportunities as development finance mechanisms continue to scale.

Australia’s development finance portfolio continues to include both ODA-eligible financing and Other Official Flows that promote development, with the total value now approaching \$10 billion (refer to Table 4).

Table 4: Australia’s development finance portfolio (cumulative total) as at 30 June 2025

Mechanism	2023–24 Total value (committed) (\$ billion)	2024–25 Total value (committed) (\$ billion)
International Monetary Agreements (IMA) Act loans (providing budget support to Papua New Guinea and Indonesia)	4.06	4.63
Export Finance Australia investments ²⁰	2.60	2.72
Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific	1.94	2.03
Blended finance portfolio	0.28	0.45
Total (\$ billion)	8.88	9.83

¹⁹ The International Development Finance Advisory Committee is a whole-of-government advisory committee, chaired by DFAT and with representation from the departments of Prime Minister and Cabinet, Treasury and Finance.

²⁰ Support for Telstra’s acquisition of Digicel, Gulf Energy, Vinfast and Lotus Wind Power projects.

Geographic coverage of development finance

Australia's development finance portfolio grew by more than 10 per cent in 2024–25 to \$9.83 billion, up from \$8.88 billion in 2023–24. The portfolio remained focused on the Pacific and Southeast Asia, with nearly all funding directed to these regions:

- approximately 76 per cent to the Pacific
- more than 23 per cent to Southeast Asia.

In the Pacific, Australia provides sovereign financing through grants and concessional loans tailored to the region's fiscal vulnerabilities and debt sustainability concerns. These instruments are often used to underpin reform efforts and provide critical support to governments with limited access to capital.

By contrast, Southeast Asia's more mature capital markets and stronger sovereign borrowing capacity allow for a wider range of private finance opportunities. These are often beyond the scope of traditional grant-based development assistance. Australia's use of blended finance investments contributes to the region's development, offering catalytic funding that complements private and multilateral investment.

These efforts are being guided by [Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040](#). Under this strategy, Southeast Asia Investment Deal Teams were deployed to increase Australian private-sector investment to the region. EFA is also enhancing its financing tools, including the \$2 billion Southeast Asia Investment Financing Facility (SEAIFF). SEAIFF focuses on supporting the region's clean energy transition and infrastructure development.

These efforts are contributing to positive development impacts. A recent example is EFA's \$175 million investment in Singapore's blended-finance program, Financing Asia's Transition Partnership (FAST-P). FAST-P will deploy capital to fund clean energy projects to non-ODA and ODA-eligible countries in the region, contributing to development finance flows and regional net zero goals.

Building on Australia's co-ownership of the Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) through DFAT's blended finance portfolio, EFA's USD100 million investment into a PIDG infrastructure debt fund is also supporting sustainable infrastructure across the Indo-Pacific. The investment demonstrates how Australia's development finance portfolio operates collaboratively. It shows that opportunities for Australian investors on commercial terms can also have positive development outcomes.

Australia's budget support lending under the IMA Act

The IMA Act governs Australia's financial commitments to other countries. The IMA Act enables Australia to provide rapid financial assistance to countries while ensuring Australia's lending is coordinated with multilateral programs and other donor lending.

Well-designed and implemented budget support can be a useful tool for policy engagement and an effective way to achieve agreed policy reforms. Since 2020, budget support loans have become a significant

In the Pacific, Australia provides sovereign financing through grants and concessional loans tailored to the region's fiscal vulnerabilities and debt sustainability concerns.

The AIFFP provides grants, loans, guarantees or a combination of financing to governments and private sector partners in the region to build infrastructure that delivers development and economic benefits.

development finance tool for Australia. The Australian Government's current portfolio under the IMA Act consists of bilateral loans to Indonesia and Papua New Guinea.

Budget support lending to Papua New Guinea

The total value of Australia's budget support lending to Papua New Guinea is \$3.13 billion across five loans provided in each year from 2020 to 2024 (refer to Annex E). As with the 2023 loan, the new loan agreement with Papua New Guinea, signed in 2024, is supporting Papua New Guinea's budget financing shortfall, the delivery of reform actions under its International Monetary Fund (IMF) program.

The IMF program supports Papua New Guinea to address longstanding structural issues, reduce poverty and foster reforms for inclusive and sustainable growth. Consistent with previous loans, the 2024 loan was provided to Papua New Guinea at an interest rate reflecting the Australian Government's cost of borrowing. As at 30 June 2025, the outstanding principal on these loans was \$2.8 billion. Papua New Guinea has met all principal and interest repayments.

Budget support lending to Indonesia

In November 2020, Australia entered into a \$1.5 billion loan agreement with Indonesia. This loan was part of a multilateral action to support Indonesia's COVID-19 response. The loan agreement was led by the ADB and included the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the German state-owned development bank.

The loan was fully disbursed in December 2020. Indonesia has met all principal and interest repayments. As at 30 June 2025, the outstanding principal on the loan was \$1.05 billion.

Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific

Established in 2019, the AIFFP is a \$4.55 billion initiative that funds critical infrastructure across the Pacific and Timor-Leste in sectors such as telecommunications, energy, maritime and transport, and airports and aviation. The AIFFP finances and delivers high-quality and sustainable critical infrastructure that reflects Pacific priorities with a focus on climate mitigation and resilience, local content and GEDSI.

The AIFFP provides grants, loans, guarantees or a combination of financing to governments and private sector partners in the region to deliver infrastructure that drives development and economic benefits. In a region with limited access to capital markets, the range of development finance instruments in the AIFFP's toolkit enables Australia to provide broader support to Pacific partners. It goes beyond traditional ODA funding, helping to meet their larger-scale infrastructure needs.

The AIFFP's sovereign lending is consistent with Australia's international obligations on debt sustainability. It is priced carefully to reflect each country's debt circumstances as assessed by the IMF and World Bank. The AIFFP's ability to provide both grant and concessional loan financing enables it to tailor financing packages to meet each partner's individual needs.

Program performance

From 2019 to mid-2025, the AIFFP committed approximately \$2.03 billion, including approximately \$1.10 billion in lending and guarantees, to deliver 54 critical infrastructure projects across 11 countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu). In 2024–25, the AIFFP committed approximately \$90 million in new project financing.

Up to 30 June 2025, the AIFFP portfolio comprised 28 major projects (refer to Annex E) and 26 small-scale, off-grid renewable energy projects, funded and delivered through the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership (PCIFP) administered by the AIFFP.

The following are examples of progress across the AIFFP portfolio in 2024–25:

- Under the Papua New Guinea Ports Infrastructure Investment Program, contracts were awarded for the Kimbe Port — one of the five projects within the program. In addition, the pilot boat “*Kasali*”, built by Australian company Norman Wright and Sons, was completed and delivered to Papua New Guinea Ports Corporation.
- A 45 km section of the Wau highway was rehabilitated as part of the Connect Papua New Guinea – Roads Repair project.
- Reconstruction of the domestic wharf and key facilities under the Nuku’alofa Port Upgrade project in Tonga achieved key milestones and remained ahead of schedule for completion in late 2025.
- New facilities to enhance Nui Island Boat Harbour in Tuvalu were constructed.
- Four PCIFP off-grid renewable energy projects, which began in 2023–24, were completed. This includes the Accelerating Access to Renewable Energy and Jobs for Remote Papua New Guinea Communities project. In partnership with Sola PayGo and MiBank, this project sold 7,127 affordable solar home systems, reaching more than 52,000 people with no or extremely low access to electricity across five remote and rural regions of Alotau and Kimbe.
- Civil works for the Tuvalu Vaka cable including the beach manhole and front haul works commenced. The cable landed in Funafuti in December 2024.
- Civil works and installation of prefabricated cable landing stations progressed at four landing sites of the East Micronesia Cable System, with cable lay commencing.
- UXO investigation and clearance works were completed for the Nauru Airport Rehabilitation Project including safely clearing and disposing of three unexploded bombs left over from World War 2.

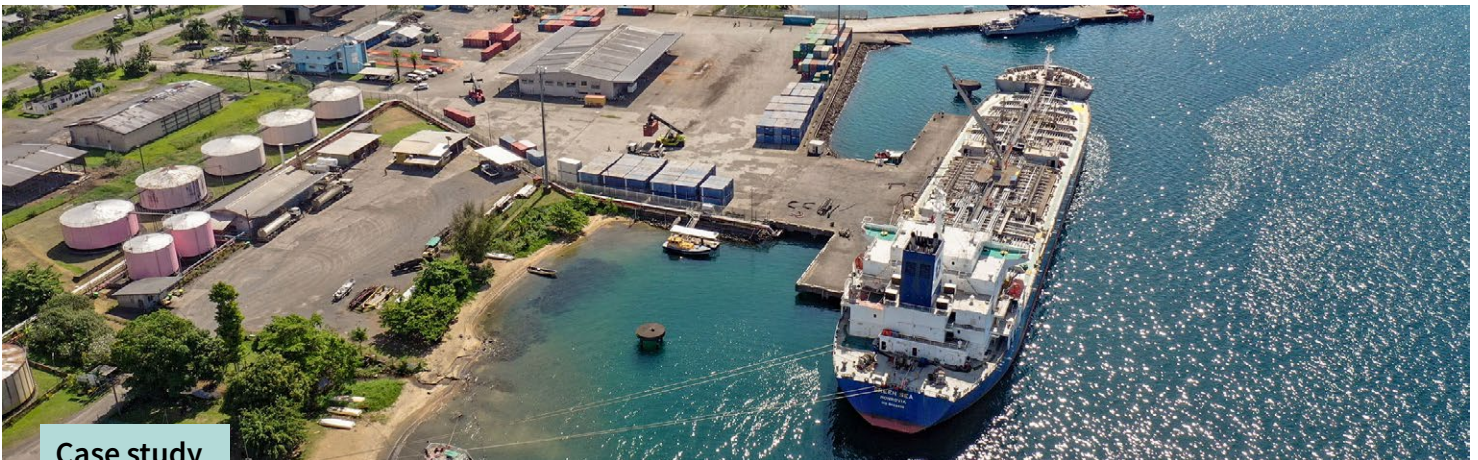
The AIFFP is financing and delivering a range of critical infrastructure assets, from rapid small-scale renewable energy projects to large and complex infrastructure that takes years to design and deliver. Across all projects, the AIFFP is committed to delivering quality infrastructure. It focuses on supporting locally led development, mainstreaming GEDSI and building in climate resilience. All of this requires careful planning and design and ultimately yields additional development dividends across the region.

The AIFFP contributes to Australia’s commitment to support locally led development through its focus on local employment, business engagement and skills development.

Locally led development

The AIFFP contributes to Australia’s commitment to support locally led development through its focus on local employment, business engagement and skills development. This is also known as the AIFFP’s local content approach. In 2024–25, the AIFFP continued to strengthen its approach to local content and outcomes. It sought to optimise local job, procurement and training opportunities in the design, construction and operations of AIFFP-financed infrastructure.

AIFFP-financed tenders are evaluated on their commitment to local content. Also, all the AIFFP works contractors are required to develop a Local Content and Industry Participation Plan to help maximise local engagement. In 2024, the AIFFP project portfolio supported 94 new local jobs in services and works. This brings the total to 791 local jobs supported by the AIFFP’s investments since its establishment.



Case study

Credit: AIFFP

Supporting engagement of local workers in Papua New Guinea’s infrastructure

In Papua New Guinea, the Papua New Guinea Ports Infrastructure Investment Program set a local expenditure target of 30 per cent, with contract packages structured to support bids from local Papua New Guinean contractors. For example, the \$28.6 million PNG Kimbe Port upgrade civil works tender (land-based) was restricted to local contractors and was awarded to Papua New Guinean firm Global Constructions Ltd.

The AIFFP also developed measures to grow the next generation of skilled workers. It provided opportunities for local graduates and trainees to gain experience on projects built to international standards through a mix of contractual obligations, financial incentives and market outreach.

The marine and landside construction works on Kimbe Port are expected to engage at least 20 local trainees and four professional graduates to conduct marine surveys and engineering work. This project has a 30 per cent women’s participation target.

Gender equality, disability equity and social inclusion

The AIFFP takes a mainstreaming approach to promoting GEDSI. All AIFFP projects are required to include a GEDSI analysis that informs project design and implementation by identifying existing GEDSI inequalities, potential risks, and strategies to maximise equitable impacts and opportunities.

As in Australia, women are underrepresented in construction and related industries in the Pacific. This also applies to people living with disability and those in vulnerable situations. The AIFFP identifies opportunities for meaningful engagement by women, people with disability, and those in vulnerable situations, including through their representative organisations, through project design and delivery processes.

Case study

Supporting employment of Papua New Guinean locals in the renewable energy sector

The Accelerating Access to Renewable Energy and Jobs for Remote Papua New Guinea Communities project – delivered under PCIFP in partnership with Sola PayGo and MiBank – is improving energy access for an estimated 22,000 women through the distribution of Solar Home Kits. The project also enables local community members, particularly women, to gain employment supporting renewable energy solutions and local service delivery. In 2024, female MiBank staff and local agents were trained to work with Sola PayGo. Three of the five newly appointed agents managing local dispersal of loan-financed units were women. Women also filled four of the six new Sola PayGo staff positions.



Credit: AIFFP

Climate resilience

The Pacific and Timor-Leste are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Resilient infrastructure is essential to secure regional growth and development. The AIFFP aims to make climate mitigation and resilience key considerations in investment design and implementation.

Through PCIFP, the AIFFP will finance \$350 million of climate infrastructure in the region, including the \$75 million REnew Pacific program (2024-29). REnew Pacific is delivering locally led, inclusive and sustainable projects that provide off-grid, small-scale renewable energy in rural and remote communities across the Pacific and Timor-Leste. As at June 2025, Australia has committed to financing six REnew projects in four countries (Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu). This renewable energy infrastructure builds greater climate resilience. It is helping to reduce the region's reliance on costly diesel-fuelled electricity generation and providing clean, reliable and inclusive access to energy for economic and social development.

Case study

Reaching milestones for renewable energy in Solomon Islands

The solar hub at Takataka Cultural Centre in Solomon Islands' Malaita Province is now installed and energised. Serving a community of more than 4,000, the Takataka Cultural Centre is well on its way to becoming a major solar-powered hub for the area. It provides affordable solar kits for local businesses and households to improve energy access across remote areas of East Are'are. Once complete, the system will power the Takataka Cultural Centre, freezers for cold storage and a charging station for an electric boat. It is also laying the groundwork for a scalable, community-driven solution to energy challenges in other remote communities across Solomon Islands.

This marks a major milestone for the Off-Grid Renewable Energy Partnership between Superfly Limited, Mai-Ma'asina Green Belt, Save the Children Solomon Islands and the Australian Government.



Credit: AIFFP

ADI companies in 2024 reached 28.88 million individuals with improved access to education, health care, financial services, and climate solutions.

Blended finance

Blended finance is the use of catalytic capital from public or philanthropic sources to increase private sector investment in sustainable development. Blended finance approaches help address finance gaps in emerging markets, where the financial returns are more uncertain or have not yet been demonstrated. DFAT blended finance mechanisms must demonstrate additionality. They are expected to catalyse additional private sector investment and deliver development outcomes that would not have been realised without DFAT's investment.

In 2024–25 DFAT's blended finance portfolio made investments mainly through:

- Australian Development Investments (ADI), now fully capitalised at \$250 million
- Australia's co-ownership of PIDG
- the Australian Climate Finance Partnership (ACFP).

DFAT also continued its strategic partnerships supporting the growth of blended finance with Convergence, Australian Sustainable Finance Institute, the Impact Investment Exchange (the issuer of the first-of-its-kind Women's Livelihood Bond series), and 2X Global. DFAT's Investing in Women and KINETIK programs also deployed blended finance investments through ADI.

In November 2024, the Minister for Foreign Affairs announced the \$10 million Indo-Pacific NGO Blended Finance Accelerator. Once operational, the Accelerator will disburse grants to NGO-led projects to design and pilot innovative finance initiatives. This will help boost innovative finance capability and develop a pipeline of opportunities for further investment.

Portfolio performance and development impact

Australia's blended finance portfolio provided \$449 million in capital to investment mechanisms by 30 June 2025, making significant progress toward fully allocating the \$613 million portfolio.

At the end of June 2025, ADI had invested in six funds and had 42 active portfolio companies. ADI companies in 2024:

- reached 28.88 million individuals with improved access to education, health care, financial services, and climate solutions
- enabled 1.46 million microentrepreneurs (87 per cent women) and 3,594 MSMEs to gain access to capital, contributing to sustained income generation and improved livelihoods
- sustained 22,819 jobs, distributing more than \$205 million in salaries.

At the end of June 2025, ACFP (managed by the ADB) successfully completed four blended finance transactions and committed USD47 million in support of projects valued at USD775 million. These projects span sustainable forestry, electric mobility and renewable energy initiatives. Once operational, these projects are expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 750,000 t of CO₂e per year. The ACFP portfolio has produced 183 electric buses, deployed 2,171 new electric vehicle charging locations and battery swapping stations, and placed 8,500 ha of land under sustainable forestry management.

In 2024, PIDG (owned by the governments of Australia, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden and Canada) made USD611 million of commitments with 25 projects reaching financial close. These projects are estimated to provide 5.7 million people with access to new or improved sustainable infrastructure and more than 16,000 new jobs.

Investing in gender equality and women's economic empowerment

Australia is a global leader in development finance that leverages public and private investment to promote gender equality and economic empowerment.

Since its pilot phase in 2020, ADI has mobilised \$107 million in additional private finance for gender-focused investments. ADI continues to prioritise investing in funds with a strong gender focus to help address persistent financing gaps for women-led and women-owned enterprises. As at 2024, 32 per cent of ADI's active portfolio companies are women-owned or women-led and all ADI investee funds and 77 per cent of portfolio companies meet the 2X Criteria.²¹

Building on these efforts, in January 2025, ADI committed USD5.0 million (\$7.7 million) to the Asia Business Builders Fund II – ADI's first investment under its \$21 million Investing in Women window. The investment is a pivotal step toward addressing systemic gender inequalities in Vietnam by empowering women entrepreneurs and supporting small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to integrate gender considerations in their operations, products and services.

DFAT's Investing in Women initiative continues to work with investors and networks to increase investment in businesses benefiting women by deploying gender-focused strategies and products, including through ADI (as reported above). In 2024–25, the program worked with local partners in Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam to develop financial solutions for women-owned or led businesses. It deployed \$3.6 million through the program's Innovation Window.

In Indonesia, Investing in Women partners with Terratai to channel investment into early-stage, women-led nature-based solutions enterprises, including HANDEP, which expands economic opportunities for indigenous Dayak women. HANDEP's rattan supply and weaving model enables women to turn their forest stewardship knowledge into stable livelihoods, directly expanding their economic opportunities by producing furniture and bags. As women lead harvesting, weaving, and quality control, they gain stronger roles in community decision-making and leadership, and help drive sustainable management of more than 30,000 ha of rainforest.

PIDG also continued to increase its focus on gender equality, with 72 per cent of transactions closed contributing to gender equality outcomes. To achieve these results, PIDG screens all projects for positive gender equality outcomes against five domains:

- Company and project governance
- Workforce
- Supply chain
- Consumer market (products and services)
- Community (inspired by the 2X Criteria).

ADI continues to prioritise investing in funds with a strong gender focus to help address persistent financing gaps for women-led and women-owned enterprises.

²¹ 2X Criteria is the global industry standard for assessing and structuring investments that provide women with leadership opportunities, quality employment, finance, enterprise support, and products and services that enhance economic participation and access.

PIDG also identifies evidence-based constraints that women and girls experience in accessing resources and opportunities for improved livelihoods. PIDG then works to remove these barriers where possible, either through technical assistance or by designing the underlying project. The intended impact is for women and girls to overcome discriminatory social norms and barriers, enabling greater financial and social autonomy and greater control over their lives.

Case study

Lending to microentrepreneurs in Vietnam

F88 Business Joint Stock Company is a portfolio company of Lendable, funded by ADI. It is a leading lender for underserved MSMEs and individuals in Vietnam. By the end of 2024, with ADI's support, F88 had helped approximately 4,000 women microentrepreneur borrowers in Vietnam.

As F88 scales, integrating a gender lens approach has become critical to fostering a more equitable and inclusive workplace and improving business performance. F88 is now embedding gender considerations into product design. In 2024, it launched a loan product tailored for women entrepreneurs. The new product simplifies eligibility and targets women aged 20 to 55 who manage microbusinesses, including retail shops, food stalls, and salons.

To further accelerate climate-aligned investing, ADI launched the \$126 million Climate Catalyst Window in 2025, announced by Australia's Minister for Foreign Affairs and former Minister for International Development at COP29 in 2024.

Investing in climate change mitigation and adaptation

Partnering with the region to address climate change was an increasing focus for DFAT's blended finance mechanisms in 2024–25.

In 2024, ADI portfolio companies abated 110,608 t of CO₂e, comparable to removing an estimated 23,405 petrol-powered cars from the road for a year. ADI portfolio companies also added 145.60 MW of new solar capacity, which could power around 145,000 households annually across Southeast Asia. Meanwhile, 62 per cent of PIDG's investments were classified as climate finance commitments, avoiding 143,204 t of CO₂e. Of this, 5,012 t is attributable to DFAT funding.

ACFP also completed two significant climate-mitigation transactions in 2024–25, both in Indonesia. Through a USD15 million concessional loan, ACFP is financing the expansion of a geothermal power project at Muara Laboh in West Sumatra. Also, by providing a USD5 million concessional loan to PT TBS Energi Utama Tbk, ACFP is investing in sustainable transportation, increasing the supply of electric motorcycle and battery swapping stations.

To further accelerate climate-aligned investing, ADI launched the \$126 million Climate Catalyst Window in 2025, announced by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and former Minister for International Development at COP29 in 2024. The new funding window will provide financing for SMEs that contribute to the clean energy transition, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and biodiversity and ecosystems, mainly in Southeast Asia, with investments also in South Asia and the Pacific.

Case study

Expanding water treatment capacity in Vietnam

Construction on AquaOne’s Xuan Mai Water Plant in Hoa Binh, Vietnam commenced in 2024. The project addresses both current and future climate vulnerabilities. It provides a significant supply of clean water from surface water reserves, helping to reduce pressure on overexploited aquifers, prevent land subsidence and mitigate saline intrusion. The project design incorporates protection against a one-in-100-year flood event and complies with local wind-loading standards to mitigate cyclone risk. More than 30 per cent of the AquaOne workforce is female, with 24 per cent in senior leadership positions. The first phase of the water treatment plant will serve 53,000 households through a pipeline network across Hanoi, Luong Son and Hoa Binh.

This project was supported by GuarantCo, a PIDG company. GuarantCo provided a guarantee on the project bond. This is Vietnam’s first-ever verified green project bond in the water sector. It is the country’s longest tenor project bond issuance to date and the first project bond in Vietnam to receive an external credit rating from a local ratings agency.

Investment monitoring results and reviews

Like all other ODA-funded programs, DFAT’s blended finance mechanisms are subject to robust impact and performance measurement. Table 5 outlines the 2024–25 investment monitoring results.

DFAT plans to undertake a follow-on Blended Finance Portfolio Evaluation in 2025–26, in line with recommendations from the Development Finance Review to support greater transparency of Australia’s development financing. The last evaluation was in 2024.

At the end of 2024–25, an impact study of ADI was underway and expected to be completed in late 2025. An evaluation of the Impact Private Sector Partnership was almost completed.

Table 5: Blended finance portfolio investment monitoring results, 2024–25

Program	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality	Disability equity	Climate change
ADI ²²	5	5	5	2	4
ACFP	4	4	4	3	5
Business Partnerships Platform Phase 2 (Impact Private Sector Partnerships)	5	5	5	5	5
Convergence ²³	5	5	6	4	5
Investing in Women	5	5	5	4	n/a ²⁴
Impact Investment Exchange ²⁵	4	4	5	5	n/a
2X Global	n/a ²⁶	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Ratings: 6 (very good), 5 (good), 4 (adequate), 3 (less than adequate), 2 (poor), 1 (very poor).

22 Formerly the Emerging Markets Impact Investment Fund.

23 Funding to an external organisation that also receives funding from other donors.

24 Climate change criteria are only scored for investments with a primary/principal climate change objective.

25 Funding to an external organisation that also receives funding from other donors.

26 IMR was not required due to being below \$3 million in total size.



Credit: DFAT

Chapter 5

Sector performance

Introduction

This chapter reports on the performance of 7 sectors:

- economic infrastructure and services
- agriculture, trade and other production services
- governance
- education
- health
- humanitarian assistance
- multisector and general support.

The attribution of OECD DAC codes to sectors in this report has been defined by DFAT, based on sector reporting approaches used by donors and the OECD. It is consistent with the approach used to determine sectors for reporting in *Australia's Official Development Assistance: Statistical Summary 2024–25*.

Performance ratings for gender equality and disability equity are discussed as part of the relevant Tier 3 indicators in Chapter 1. DFAT introduced climate change as a portfolio for performance reporting in the 2023–24 PADDC report. Performance reporting on climate change draws on ratings against the climate change performance criterion in IMR templates. In 2024–25, it was completed by investments where climate change is a principal objective.

Aggregate FIMR effectiveness and efficiency ratings, and details on relevant investments, are included in the narrative for each sector. These aggregate ratings do not necessarily reflect the overall quality of the sectoral portfolio. There are often few FIMRs completed in a sector, leading to volatility in overall percentage outcomes. Some sectoral groupings, such as multisector and general support, can comprise relatively disparate investments. This can make it challenging to generalise performance trends or lessons.

Figures 2 and 3 show the ODA distribution for the 7 sectors reported on in this chapter.

Figure 2: Australian ODA by sector group as a proportion of total ODA, 2024–25

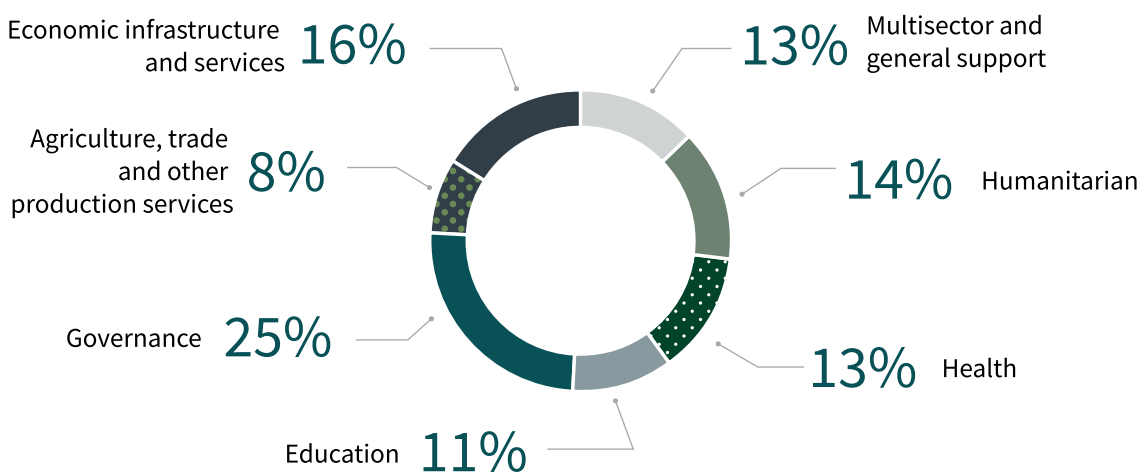
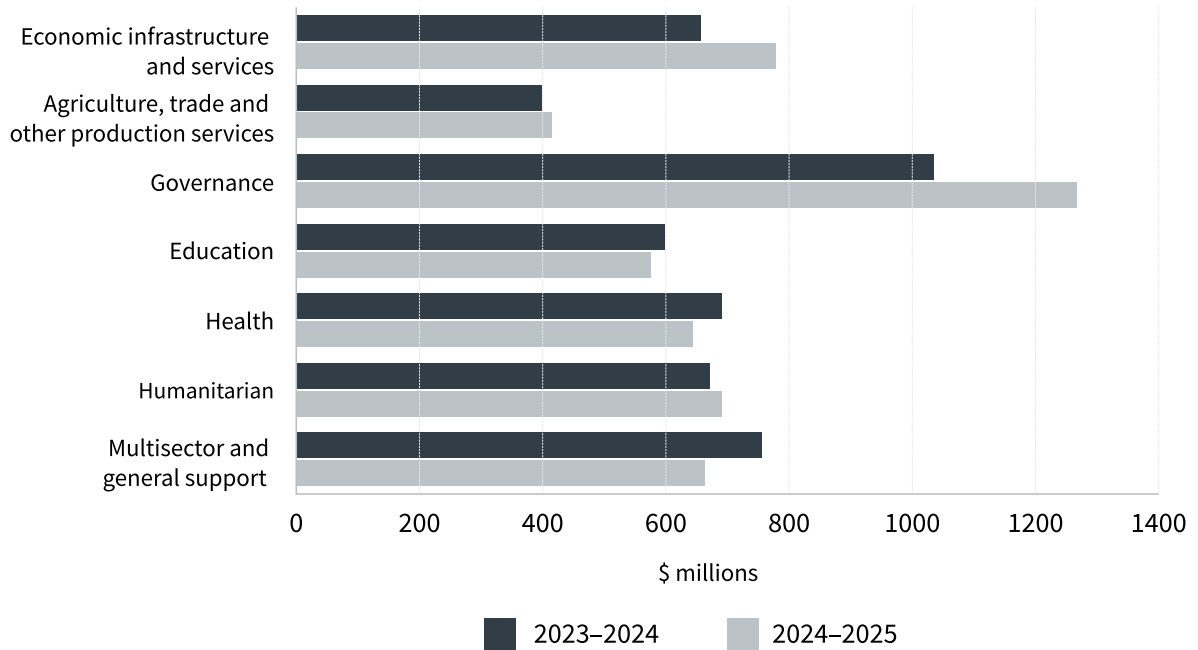


Figure 3: Australian ODA by sector group (\$ millions), 2023–24 and 2024–25



Economic infrastructure and services

Context

■ \$779.3 million total Australian ODA

Australia’s investments in economic infrastructure and services focus on supporting networks, utilities and services that drive economic activity. This includes the production and distribution of energy, equipment or infrastructure for road, rail, water and air transport, banking and financial services, communications, business and other utilities and services.

These investments aim to enhance regional connectivity, connect businesses to markets, and improve public transport, ports and airports. This assistance includes upstream policy and project preparation support, and grants and loans to build physical assets. In 2024–25, Australia supported 2,941²⁷ infrastructure projects that meet internationally agreed quality standards or principles.

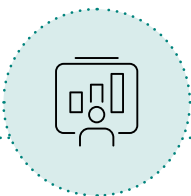
Australia’s investments in this sector align with several SDGs, including Affordable and Clean Energy (SDG7), Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG8), Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (SDG9), and Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG11).

Investment performance

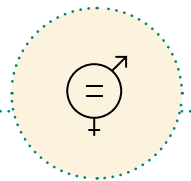
In 2024–25, 45 IMRs and six FIMRs were completed for economic infrastructure and services sector investments.

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 91 per cent. This is slightly higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and the three-year sector average of 90 per cent.

²⁷ The number of infrastructure projects that meet G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investments increased in 2024–25 due to increased delivery of small-scale infrastructure projects by several programs.



91% Effective and efficient IMRs



92% Gender equality



57% Disability equity

- The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 92 per cent, higher than the three-year sector average of 87 per cent and the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate disability equity rating was 57 per cent, slightly lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.
- All completed investments (FIMRs) were assessed as effective and efficient, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall performance outcomes.

Case study

Supporting critical road maintenance in Papua New Guinea

The PNG Transport Sector Support Program Phase 3 supported the Milne Bay Long-Term Maintenance Contract (LTMC), which maintains the 127 km Magi Highway between Goilanai Bridge and Gadaisu.

Phase 3 incorporates joint quality assurance, social safeguards and community-responsive approaches. It subcontracts drainage works to local villagers to reduce disruptions in crop compensation zones. As a whole, the program exemplifies G20-aligned quality infrastructure through strong governance, economic efficiency, environmental resilience and community benefit.

The LTMC model promotes lifecycle cost efficiency and sustainability by bundling rehabilitation and maintenance into a single contract. This ensures cost-effective delivery and sustained road quality across a critical regional network.

The project has directly employed local people through a locally owned company, creating an average of 87 jobs per month (76 men, 11 women), in both skilled and unskilled roles. Local workers are also increasingly exposed to more advanced tasks over time. This locally driven approach strengthens economic resilience, builds capacity and supports long-term development outcomes.

Case study

Increasing climate resilient infrastructure in Timor-Leste

The Partnership for Strengthening Village Development and Municipal Administration (PARTISIPA) supports national and sub-national governments to strengthen policies, systems and skills. This helps the governments to improve the delivery of decentralised services and village-level infrastructure.

PARTISIPA supported Timor-Leste's Ministry of Public Works for the Fibre Reinforced Concrete (FRC) with a demonstration project rollout in Ermera. This led the Minister for Public Works to endorse FRC as a sustainable solution for Timor-Leste's extensive rural road network and to acknowledge its potential to drive rural economic growth.

The Timor-Leste Government will allocate budget from 2026 to expand FRC technology and build the capacity of local contractors for successful implementation. This is a significant commitment toward ensuring connectivity during extreme weather events. It increases climate-resilient infrastructure, reduces vulnerability to climate impacts such as landslides and flooding, and directly supports community resilience.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, four evaluations of programs in the economic, infrastructure, and services sector were completed and published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Evaluation case study

Mid-Term Review of Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program

The Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program (2021–30) aims to improve the quality and accessibility of infrastructure to contribute to broad-based, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth. The program delivers climate-resilient and accessible infrastructure, including markets, roads, and health clinics. It strengthens the capacity of Solomon Islands' Government and local industry to plan, finance, deliver and maintain economic infrastructure assets.

A mid-term review was conducted in 2024 as phase one of the program ended. The review found that the program was progressing well in building institutional and industry capacity. It uncovered evidence of improvements in the policy and regulatory environment and enhanced knowledge and skills within the construction sector. However, the review also noted that priorities had evolved since the Australian Government's endorsement of the program's infrastructure pipeline in 2022. This created an opportunity to refine the program's strategic focus and clarify short- and medium-term investment priorities.

Recommendations from the review have informed the next phase of the program. The infrastructure pipeline has been refocused around broad priorities jointly agreed by Australia and Solomon Islands, providing greater clarity on strategic objectives. This has helped to improve implementation timelines while ensuring the program's key ambition to create local jobs and opportunities remains central.

Australia supports a comprehensive approach to agriculture and food security that targets livelihoods and climate resilience of smallholder farmers.

Agriculture, trade and other production services

Context

■ \$414.6 million total Australian ODA

This sector comprises a range of investments that support agriculture, fishing and forestry, extractive and manufacturing industries, processing of food and other agricultural products, cottage industry and handicrafts, and trade and tourism.

Australia's investments directly support several SDGs including No Poverty (SDG1), Zero Hunger (SDG2), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG12), Climate Action (SDG13), Life below Water (SDG 14) and Life on Land (SDG15). This sector also includes a range of Aid for Trade-related investments. These investments enable developing and least-developed countries to improve their productive capacity and to use trade and investment to underpin their development and economic security goals.

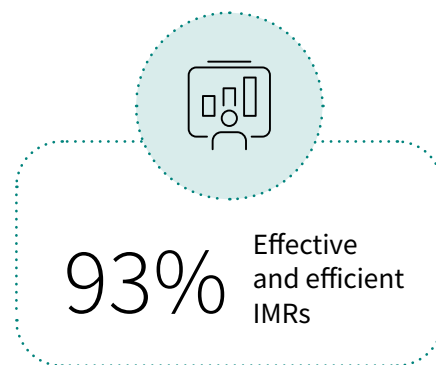
Australia supports a comprehensive approach to agriculture and food security that targets livelihoods and climate resilience of smallholder farmers, while improving agricultural productivity and opening markets. In 2024–25, Australia supported improved food security for 816,319 people and assisted 1,698,178 people to use climate-resilient agriculture practices on their farms.²⁸

Investment performance

In 2024–25, 29 IMRs and 11 FIMRs were completed for the agriculture, trade and other production services sector.

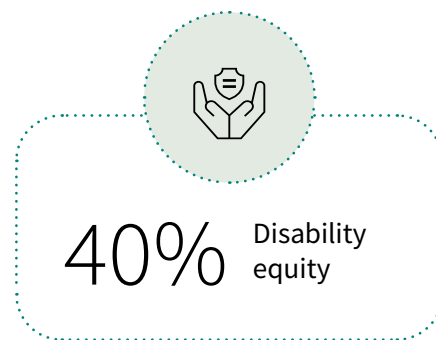
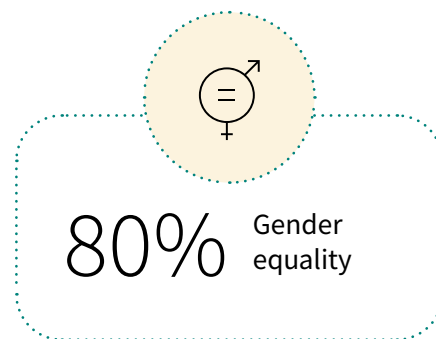
²⁸ The food security figure is lower this year compared to 2023–24 in part due to completion of a large agriculture program in Indonesia. In contrast, the number of people assisted to use climate resilient agriculture practices on their farms has increased substantially this year due to Australia rejoining the GCF

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 93 per cent. This is higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and higher than the three-year sector average of 88 per cent.
- Aggregate gender equality ratings improved from 2023–24, with 80 per cent of investments rated satisfactory for gender equality, higher than the three-year sector average of 74 per cent and slightly lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The improved aggregate outcome is largely due to several investments that were previously rated as unsatisfactory for gender equality, which are now completed. The aggregate disability equity rating was 40 per cent, lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.
- The percentage of completed investments (FIMRs) assessed as effective and efficient was 64 per cent, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall percentage outcomes.



Seven of 11 completed investments were assessed as effective and efficient. Four investments were assessed as not fully meeting end-of-program outcomes and/or not meeting these outcomes efficiently:

- In partnership with the World Bank, the **South Asia Regional Trade Facilitation Program (SARTFP; \$39 million; 2015–2024)** used evidence-based knowledge to understand barriers to trade facilitation, transport connectivity and women’s economic empowerment. This helped to design and implement related activities in the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal subregion. While project activities achieved positive outcomes, the overall SARTFP end-of-program outcomes and monitoring and evaluation framework needed to be more clearly defined to adequately capture program-level results.
- The **Indonesia Australia Red Meat and Cattle Partnership (\$60 million; 2013–2024)** was set up to develop the Indonesian cattle and red meat sectors to improve Indonesia’s long-term investment and trade opportunities with Australia and globally. It aimed to contribute to economic growth and food security in Indonesia. The partnership did contribute to a positive bilateral trade and investment relationship. However, overall effectiveness and efficiency would have been greater with less ambitious outcomes and a higher quality monitoring and evaluation system to report against end-of-program outcomes.
- The **Global Agriculture Food Security Program (GAFSP) Public Sector Window (16 million; 2018–2025)** is a USD2.4 billion trust fund established in 2010. It aimed to scale-up agricultural assistance for small-holder farmers in low-income countries. The public sector window (USD1.9 billion) was implemented through development banks, including World Bank, Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, and the International Fund for Agriculture Development. While the modality was adequate for achieving end-of-program outcomes, project commencement was slow. On average, projects took more than two years to begin implementation after receiving GAFSP approval.
- The **GAFSP Private Sector Pilot (10 million; 2015–2025)** supported innovative financing to increase the commercial potential of small- and medium-sized agribusinesses and farmers under the broader GAFSP program. It sought to bring them into the local, national and



global value chain. The GAFSP private sector window played an important role in the global landscape of financing for agriculture and food security. However, issues with monitoring and evaluation meant timely evidence of progress against outcomes was limited.

Case study

Australian Centre of International Agricultural Research—Supporting rice-farmers to access high-quality export markets

In Vietnam, a public-private partnership funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research and the SunRice Group is transforming Mekong farmers' livelihoods. The initiative supports rice farmers to meet production standards and access high-quality export markets. More than 350 farmers are involved, including 250 women. Across two growing seasons, farmers produced 2,500 t of paddy rice for export. Direct delivery enhanced traceability and ensured compliance with maximum residue standards.

These advancements open doors to export markets that offer premium prices. Beyond higher prices, the project created a mindset shift toward proactive, environmentally responsible production. Farmers now schedule seed sowing, select appropriate seed varieties, and manage transport themselves.

The initiative is led by the University of Queensland, in collaboration with Can Tho University, Cuu Long Rice Research Institute, and An Giang University. The project's success has catalysed sustainable change. Economic incentives motivate farmers to partner with businesses like SunRice beyond the project.

Case study

Strengthening Fiji's National E-commerce Strategy

Australia's commitment to the UN Trade and Development E-Commerce and Digital Economy Programme in the Pacific supported the development and launch of Fiji's National E-commerce Strategy.

The strategy identified short-, medium-, and long-term priorities to modernise Fiji's trade systems, foster innovation, and support a dynamic and competitive economy by leveraging e-commerce and digital trade. It aims to expand regional and global market access for Fijian businesses, especially MSMEs, and enhance export competitiveness through digital trade.

The strategy was developed in partnership with the Fiji Ministry of Trade and the Pacific Digital Economy Programme. It was built on findings from Fiji's National E-commerce Assessment (2020), led by the PIF Secretariat and aligns with the Pacific Regional E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap, endorsed by Pacific Forum Trade Ministers in 2021.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, eight evaluations of programs in the agriculture, trade and other production services sector were completed. Seven were published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Stocktaking, Assessment and Learning Review of the Trade Facilitation Support Program

Between 2021 and 2024, Australia partnered with the World Bank to deliver the Trade Facilitation Support Program (TFSP) – helping developing countries in the Indo-Pacific to improve cross-border trade by aligning their trade practices with the WTO’s Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA). The partnership provided targeted, demand-driven technical assistance, capacity building, and knowledge sharing to help partner countries identify trade bottlenecks, design effective reforms, and implement solutions to improve the predictability, transparency, and efficiency of customs and transit procedures.

An independent review of TFSP found that the program delivered strong results globally. Results included a 12 per cent increase in alignment with the WTO TFA between the 2014–17 and 2018–23 reporting periods, and USD98 million private sector savings from implemented reforms. TFSP helped 58 countries to implement more than 283 TFA measures, making trade faster and more affordable for developing economies.

The review made several recommendations to strengthen future programming, including:

- improving the sustainability of National Trade Facilitation Committees
- enhancing monitoring, evaluation, and reporting systems
- deepening engagement with the private sector
- expanding the use of digital tools.

It also highlighted the need to better integrate GEDSI into program design and delivery.

In response, the World Bank has strengthened the TFSP’s theory of change, refined performance indicators, and improved its monitoring, evaluation and results frameworks. It is actively engaging private sector and industry stakeholders earlier in the reform process and expanding work on emerging technologies.

GEDSI integration is also underway. Australia is supporting partner governments to identify trade barriers faced by women-led businesses and use gender-disaggregated data to inform future activities. Australia is using the review findings to inform its ongoing relationship with the World Bank and to inform the design of a new partnership.

Governance

Context

■ \$1.267 billion total Australian ODA

Australia’s governance investments support partner countries to build effective, accountable states that drive their own development and deliver equitably for all. These investments directly support multiple SDGs, including Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG8); Reduced Inequalities (SDG10); and Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG16).

Australian governance investments are tailored to local contexts. They support local leadership, foster accountable and inclusive governance policies, improve access to basic services, navigate differences peacefully and support businesses to thrive. Australia partners with various public institutions, including:

- parliaments
- audit and law enforcement agencies
- elections administrations
- multilateral, civil society and private sector organisations.

In 2024–25, Australia contributed to improving effective and accountable governance, supporting 12,271 organisations to strengthen accountability or inclusion in their policies or practices, across 73 countries. This

included 9,718 government institutions, 1,478 civil society organisations and 1,075 private organisations.²⁹ Australia also reached more than 165 million people through new or improved social protection programs and supported 35 countries with policy and technical advice on economic reform and management.

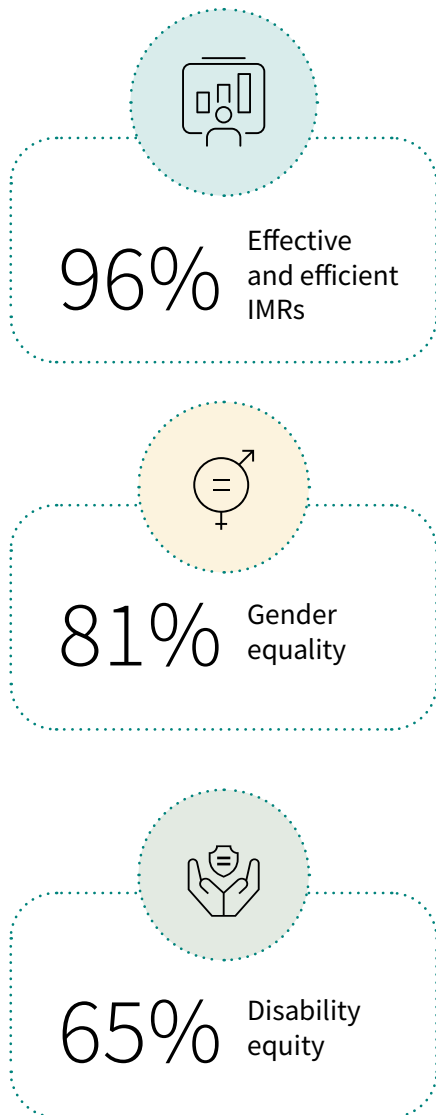
Investment performance

Governance sector investments account for the largest number of investments across all sectors that complete annual investment performance reporting. In 2024–25, 90 IMRs and 18 FIMRs were completed for governance sector investments.

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 96 per cent. This is higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and the three-year governance sector average of 91 per cent.
- The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 81 per cent. This is slightly higher than the three-year sector average of 80 per cent and equal to the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate disability equity rating was 65 per cent, higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.
- The percentage of completed investments (FIMRs) assessed as effective and efficient was 83 per cent, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall percentage outcomes.

Of the 18 completed investments, 15 were assessed as satisfactorily meeting end-of-program outcomes. Three investments were assessed as not meeting end-of-program outcomes or not meeting these outcomes efficiently. One of these investments was in Myanmar where conflict made it difficult to collect data and assess the project’s impact over its life. The other two investments were:

- The **Kiribati Economic Reform Program (\$4.7 million; 2016–25)** supported the Government of Kiribati in implementing its Economic Reform Program to strengthen public financial management and economic governance. While this investment provided significant support for social protection reforms and implementation of the Integrated Financial Management Information System, counterpart resourcing impacted its overall efficiency.
- The **Democratic Resilience Pilot Program (\$9.8 million; 2019–25)** piloted approaches to help strengthen democratic institutions and processes in Indonesia, particularly for youth, women and people with disability. The investment strengthened more than 22 Indonesian institutions and 110 civil society organisations, aiding the broader enabling environment for democratic resilience. Achievement of outcomes was assessed as satisfactory. However, some issues impacted overall efficiency, including the level of DFAT resourcing.



²⁹ This is higher than last year’s figure, principally due to the full implementation of Australia’s support to the Implementation of the Social Accountability Framework Phase 2 (ISAF II) program in Cambodia during the reporting period.

Case study

Supporting policy reforms for high-quality and inclusive service delivery in Cambodia

Australia is supporting the Implementation of the Social Accountability Framework Phase 2 (ISAF II) program. The program aims to enhance Cambodian citizens' understanding of government services and assist local governments in making decisions informed by citizen feedback.

ISAF II supports local governments to improve the quality and inclusivity of education, health and other services by monitoring delivery against national standards. By December 2024, 88 per cent of ISAF-supported service providers were meeting national quality standards (compared to 46 per cent at the program's commencement).

Local authorities are increasingly delivering services aligned with citizen priorities. Citizen satisfaction with public services consequently increased from 72 per cent in 2023 to 81 per cent by December 2024. Further, 93 per cent of targeted local authorities have allocated budget to community-generated activities as at December 2024. This reflects the growing value local government places on citizen engagement.

ISAF II is also contributing to national policy reforms. In April 2025, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Economy and Finance reformed subnational government budget policy to allow greater spending on social and environmental activities. This enabled more responsive budgeting that reflects local priorities and citizen feedback.

ISAF II is a partnership between the Cambodian Government, World Vision International Cambodia and local civil society organisations. Australia supports the program through the Australia-World Bank Partnership for Promoting Inclusion, Sustainability and Equality in Cambodia.

Case study

Strengthening voter registration for Samoa's 2025 election

The Tautai – Governance for Economic Growth program supported Samoa's Office of the Electoral Commission (OEC) to re-register all eligible voters ahead of the planned April 2026 elections. Assistance included funding for ICT equipment for mobile registration booths, technical assistance for a communications campaign with sign language products and staff training on safeguards and disability inclusion.

When Parliament dissolved early on 3 June 2025, elections were brought forward to 29 August. Rolls closed on 4 July. By 10 June, only 60 per cent of voters were registered. With Australian support, this number rose to 87 per cent by the time of registration closure. This surge was managed through the rigorous systems and technological support in place. Australia's contribution helped ensure the OEC was prepared for the accelerated timeframe, protecting the integrity and credibility of Samoa's electoral process.

Case study

Empowering Indonesian youth through Transparency International to advocate for disability-inclusive provisions in critical infrastructure

With Australian support through the Transparency International Indo-Pacific Partnership Program Phase 2, Transparency International Indonesia has advanced disability inclusion in Indonesia's national procurement processes.

Through its three-day Youth Integrity Bootcamp, the chapter mobilised 28 young people from seven provinces, including people with disability. The participants learnt how to monitor procurement practices and advocate for inclusive governance. Training covered procurement stages, corruption risk identification and mitigation, budget management strategies and good practice monitoring for public procurement activities.

Equipped with these skills, participants monitored major national programs, including critical infrastructure projects, and advocated for disability-inclusive provisions. The trained youth also submitted findings and recommendations to Indonesia's National Public Procurement Agency, known as LKPP (Lembaga Kebijakan Pengadaan Barang/Jasa Pemerintah). This led the LKPP to adopt significant accessibility improvements, including guideways, Braille signage, and voice-enabled websites, to ensure that government services are more inclusive. Transparency International Indonesia's continued advocacy also prompted LKPP to reintroduce structured civil society engagement in its 2025 strategic plan, embedding inclusive governance practices into the future.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, 15 evaluations of programs in the governance sector were completed, and 14 were published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Evaluation case study

Review of the Fiji–Australia Institutional Partnerships Program

The Fiji–Australia Institutional Partnerships Program supports Fiji's stability, prosperity, and resilience through strategic partnerships, policy dialogue, and financing. It strengthens peer-to-peer and institutional relationships between Australian and Fijian public sector agencies and helps improve performance across selected institutions.

In 2024, DFAT commissioned an independent strategic review to assess the program's progress, identify areas for improvement in its final year, and inform the design of the next phase. The review found that the program had contributed to stronger systems and policies across areas such as taxation, statistics, electoral processes, media and parliamentary engagement. It also enabled Fijian leaders and officials to address priorities in more informed and timely ways.

Building on these positive findings, the review recommended continuing the program into a new phase, with a focus on deepening Fijian-led priority setting and coordination. A twice-yearly forum will convene all partners to discuss implementation challenges and identify shared concerns across government agencies. To address complex policy issues more proactively, quarterly policy labs will convene experts and stakeholders to collaborate on practical, system-wide solutions. This aims to reduce reliance on reactive technical assistance.

Education

Context

■ \$575.6million total Australian ODA

Australian investments in education directly support SDG4 on Quality Education. They also contribute to the achievement of other SDGs, including Achieve Gender Equality and Empower all Women and Girls (SDG5).

Education provides the skills and knowledge to lead and drive social and economic development, including informed decision-making by citizens. In 2024–25, Australia’s education sector development assistance supported learners in 15 partner countries to achieve minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics and supported 687,851 people to complete a tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training.

Australia is strongly committed to promoting quality, lifelong learning opportunities for all. Evidence-based education and skills investments is becoming more in focus, especially for women and girls and people with disability. Australia is listening and responding to partner government education priorities and the needs of individual schools and communities. Together, DFAT and its partners are working to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes, which are essential foundations for future learning. Australia is also working to enhance education, training and employment pathways for students and workers in the region. This includes expanded access to Australia’s world-class education system through educational policy exchange and institutional partnerships.

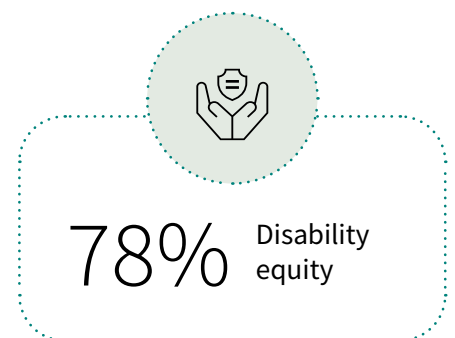
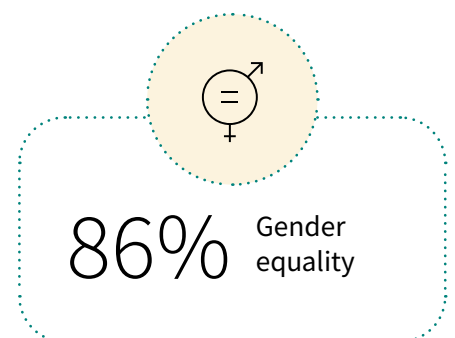
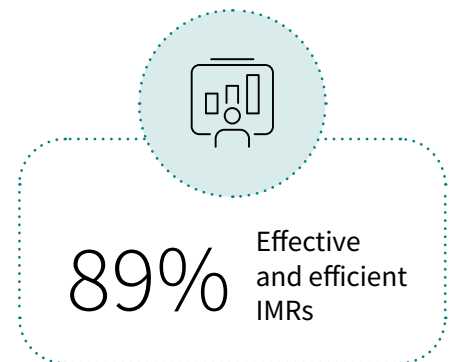
Investment performance

In 2024–25, 46 IMRs and four FIMRs were completed for education sector investments.

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 89 per cent. This is slightly lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and higher than the three-year sector average of 86 per cent.
- The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 86 per cent. This is higher than the three-year sector average of 80 per cent and the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The improved aggregate outcome is largely driven by the completion of two investments that received unsatisfactory gender equality assessments in 2023–24. Three investments improved their gender equality rating from unsatisfactory to satisfactory between 2023–24 and 2024–25. The aggregate disability equity rating was 78 per cent, higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.
- The proportion of completed investments (FIMRs) assessed as effective and efficient was 75 per cent, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall percentage outcomes.

Three of four completed investments were assessed as effective and efficient. One investment was assessed as not meeting end-of-program outcomes and not meeting these outcomes efficiently:

- The **Kiribati Disability Support Program (\$3.2 million; 2019–25)** provided operational funding for the Kiribati School and Centre



for Children with Special Needs (KSCCD). KSCCD enabled annual enrolments of more than 300 children and promoted disability inclusion throughout the education system in Kiribati. At commencement, the investment was less than \$3 million and therefore not required to develop an overall design (in line with DFAT's International Development Programming Guide). The absence of an overall design with clearly articulated end-of-program outcomes and a functional monitoring and evaluation framework limited the extent to which program achievements could be assessed. A significant achievement was the KSCCD's formal registration with the Ministry of Education as an early childhood education provider.

Case study

Supporting gains in literacy and numeracy in Indonesia

In 2024–25, INOVASI contributed to improved student performance in literacy and numeracy across 11 partner districts. It provided technical assistance, teacher training, piloting local innovations, and policy advocacy. Seven of these districts exceeded the national average gain in literacy, and six in numeracy. For example, in Nagekeo District (East Nusa Tenggara province), literacy proficiency rose from 65 per cent (2023) to 79.7 per cent (2025), and numeracy proficiency rose to 74.7 per cent, surpassing the national 70 per cent benchmark.

INOVASI supported literacy efforts and piloted anti-violence school modules in Tarakan District (North Kalimantan province). This resulted in literacy minimum proficiency rates of 79.8 per cent and numeracy of 70.6 per cent.

Case study

Advancing inclusive education through the Spoken Lao Program

The Basic Education Quality and Access in Laos (BEQUAL) Program strengthens the education system in Laos. Currently in Phase 2, it advances national policy reforms in teaching practices, content and continuing professional development. It also promotes inclusive education by addressing issues of inequality and inequity.

Since Phase 1, BEQUAL has co-designed, piloted, and evaluated the Spoken Lao Program (SLP). The SLP provides targeted oral language development to promote inclusive education from school entry. This support has included funding the training of 15,613 educators (48 per cent women), and distributing 184,680 student books and more than 80,000 teaching aids.

Following two pilot phases at increasing geographic scales, a rigorous study and endline evaluation in 2024 confirmed that the SLP had achieved statistically significant learning gains. Included in the gains were students with disability and students with learning difficulties. Based on this evidence, BEQUAL facilitated a national policy dialogue in July 2024. This led to official approval of the SLP approach and materials for nationwide use. In September 2024, the Government of Laos Ministry of Education and Sports adopted SLP as national policy to support Grade 1 students whose home language is not Lao. The ministry now plans to expand the program to Grade 2 with continued BEQUAL support.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, seven evaluations of education sector programs were completed and published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Evaluation case study

Independent Strategic Review – Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement School Partnerships Program in Indonesia (2019–25)

The Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) school partnerships program aims to enhance teacher skills and foster people-to-people relationships and mutual understanding between Australia and Indonesia. Since its launch in 2008, BRIDGE has established 253 school partnerships, contributing to stronger educational and cultural ties between the two countries.

In 2024, an independent strategic review assessed the program’s progress and identified opportunities to strengthen its relevance in a future phase. The review found BRIDGE to be aligned with Indonesia’s education reform agenda and bilateral priorities, and to be valued by senior government officials and educators.

However, it noted that while gender equality efforts had improved, the program’s approach to disability and social inclusion remained underdeveloped. In response, the program engaged GEDSI specialists, both externally and within DFAT, to align the BRIDGE workplan with best practice standards. An initial GEDSI analysis was developed to inform the next phase of the program. These steps are helping to ensure BRIDGE will continue to deliver meaningful, inclusive partnerships that reflect Australia’s development priorities.

Health

Context

■ \$644.0 million total Australian ODA

Health remains a significant focus for Australia’s development program. Australia’s assistance supports governments and communities, particularly in the Pacific and Southeast Asia, to build resilient, equitable and inclusive health systems.

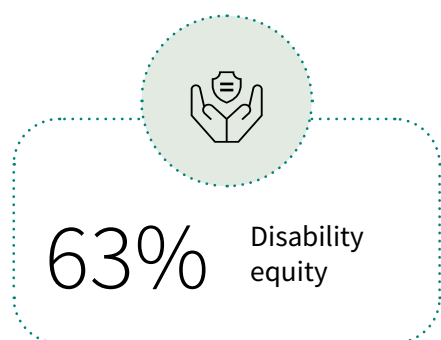
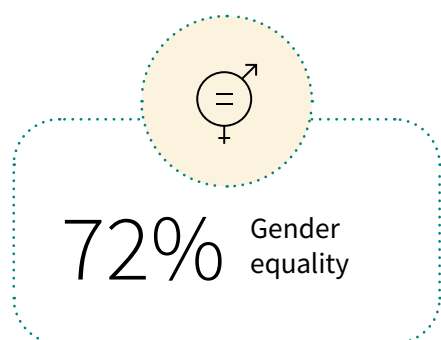
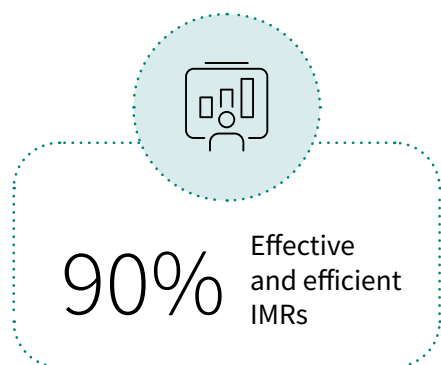
In 2024–25, Australia’s bilateral and regional programs supported 54 countries to improve the capacity of their health systems, with a focus on quality, accessible and affordable health care. This includes sexual and reproductive health services, which are essential to protect the health and wellbeing of women and girls. For example, Australia’s development assistance enabled more people to access effective forms of contraception, providing the equivalent of 2,996,873 couple-years of protection from unplanned pregnancies.

Australia supported 42 countries to better prevent, detect and control communicable diseases. For example, in 2024, Australia supported two Infectious Disease Treatment Centres operated by the International Organisation for Migration and several primary healthcare facilities in the Rohingya refugee camps. These centres treated a large range of diseases, including 7,798 dengue outpatients and 8,588 outpatients with acute watery diarrhea.

Global health partnerships extend Australia’s support even further. For example, in 2024, Global Fund-supported programs in the Indo-Pacific region supported over three million people on antiretroviral therapy for HIV. The program also treated over 5 million people for tuberculosis and distributed 24 million mosquito nets.

Investment performance

In 2024–25, 64 investment monitoring reports (49 IMRs, one HIMR and 14 FIMRs) were completed for health sector investments. This is 16 more monitoring reports than in 2023–24.



- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 90 per cent. This is equal to the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and higher than the three-year sector average of 87 per cent.
- The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 72 per cent. This is close to the three-year sector average of 73 per cent, but lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. Of the 18 investments assessed as less than satisfactory for gender equality, 14 lacked specific gender equality objectives. Of these 14 investments, eight are now complete. The aggregate disability equity rating was 63 per cent, higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 60 per cent.
- The proportion of completed investments (FIMRs) assessed as effective and efficient was 79 per cent, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall percentage outcomes.

Of 14 completed investments, 11 were assessed as effective and efficient. Three investments were assessed as not meeting end-of-program outcomes or not meeting these outcomes efficiently.

- **Micronutrient (\$7.8 million; 2015–24)** aimed to reduce stunting rates in Indonesia by improving maternal and child nutrition and reducing anaemia among women and adolescent girls. Despite challenges such as COVID-19 disruption and broader systemic issues, the program contributed to improvements across three areas: health practices, access to nutrition services, and government systems. For greater effectiveness, it would have been beneficial to conduct a more comprehensive assessment of location-based systemic barriers and to determine how these barriers could affect the achievement of the investment’s end-of-program outcomes.
- **Enable: Expertise, workforce, and support (\$10.8 million, 2018–24)** was a set of projects focused on workforce strengthening. DFAT supported the projects through its Health Security Initiative. This investment encompassed a wide range of activities, partners, countries, reporting and governance mechanisms. Many activities delivered strong results and reinforced critical areas of the workforce, particularly during the first years of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, end-of-program outcomes were unclear and there was a lack of an investment-level MEL framework. This made it difficult to substantiate end-of-program outcomes for the investment.
- The **World Mosquito Program (WMP; \$3.3 million; 2022–24)** received funding for the trial of Wolbachia technology in targeted locations in Indonesia to reduce the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases. The end-of-program outcomes were not met during the

program's duration. However, WMP's infrastructure and some of the WMP-trained personnel have since been reassigned to support an Indonesian Government-led Wolbachia program, thereby contributing to national-level dengue control outcomes.

Case study

Supporting access to medical care in remote outer islands of Kiribati

Through the Kiribati Australia Health Sector Program (KAHSP), the Government of Kiribati Ministry of Health and Medical Services mobilised clinical outreach medical teams to serve remote outer islands. This significantly improved access to essential health services. Prior to this initiative, many communities faced long delays and barriers to accessing quality care due to their isolation.

KAHSP's contribution enabled logistical coordination, provision of medical supplies and strengthened human resource capacity. The outreach teams, comprising doctors, nurses and public health officers, delivered a range of services, including dental, minor surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology, ear/nose/throat, non-communicable disease screening, and health promotion. This approach addressed immediate health needs and supported 26 local nurses with on-site training and mentoring.

A total of 1,703 people were seen, resulting in earlier illness detection, streamlined patient referrals, and greater community trust in the health system. The program also fostered better data collection and strengthened referral linkages between central and peripheral facilities. This success shows how strategic partnerships are key to bridging service delivery gaps, reinforcing system resilience, and bringing health care to even the most remote parts of Kiribati. This integrated outreach approach is now an ongoing activity under KAHSP, promoting health system strengthening.

Case study

Responding to immediate health needs for Nepalese impacted by flooding and landslides in September 2024

In September 2024, heavy, intense rainfall across Nepal triggered widespread flooding and landslides. Damage to housing and other infrastructure hindered access to sexual and reproductive health services for women and girls, who are among the most vulnerable populations during crises.

With the support of Australia's SPRINT program, the Family Planning Association of Nepal organised 25 mobile medical centres. The centres delivered emergency sexual and reproductive health services to 3,000 people affected by the crisis. The response aimed to prevent sexual violence and respond to the needs of survivors, decrease maternal and newborn mortality, reduce the transmission of HIV and sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and prevent unwanted pregnancy. By providing 551 people with access to modern contraceptives, the response provided an estimated 1,426 couple-years of protection and averted an estimated 155 unintended pregnancies.

In addition, the medical teams provided antenatal care to 403 pregnant women and postnatal care to 675 new mothers. A total of 741 services related to gender-based violence were provided, including clinical management of rape, emergency contraceptives, psychosocial counselling and referrals. The medical teams also provided testing and treatment for HIV and other STIs and distributed more than 17,000 condoms.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, nine evaluations of programs in the health sector were completed and eight were published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative Independent Evaluation

DFAT's Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative (VAHSI) was established to support equitable and inclusive access to COVID-19 vaccines, tailored to country needs and supported by Australian technical expertise. Through the initiative, Australia provided 52 million vaccine doses and extensive support to national vaccination campaigns.

In 2024, DFAT commissioned an independent evaluation of VAHSI to assess its effectiveness and inform future health programming. The evaluation found VAHSI was successful in:

- delivering safe, effective and accessible COVID-19 vaccines
- promoting routine immunisation coverage aligned with partner country plans.

The evaluation also identified some gaps in MEL systems and noted that disability inclusion was not consistently embedded across implementation.

The findings have informed the design of DFAT's flagship regional health development program, Partnerships for a Healthy Region initiative. The new program design prioritises inclusive approaches, improved MEL systems, and continued advocacy with partner governments to build on VAHSI's legacy and enhance regional preparedness for future health emergencies.

Australia's humanitarian action is grounded in efforts to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law and to advocate for the safe and effective delivery of assistance.

Humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction

Context

■ \$690.6 million total Australian ODA

In 2024–25, the demand for global humanitarian support continued to outpace the world's capacity to respond. As crises deepened and the gap between needs and funding widened, Australia remained a fast, principled, and reliable humanitarian partner. Australia continued targeting assistance where it was most urgently needed across the region and globally.

The year was marked by unprecedented danger for humanitarian workers, with more than 380 personnel killed, making 2024 the deadliest year on record. In response to this evolving context, the Australian Government released Australia's Humanitarian Policy: Making a Difference for People in Crisis in October 2024.³⁰ The policy sets out Australia's approach to humanitarian action: saving lives, alleviating suffering, and building resilience, with a strong focus on upholding human rights and dignity.

Australia's humanitarian action is grounded in efforts to strengthen compliance with international humanitarian law and to advocate for the safe and effective delivery of assistance. As security conditions deteriorated for humanitarian workers globally, Australia convened the Ministerial Group for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel during the UN General Assembly High-Level Week (UNGA HLW) in September 2024. Australia led the drafting, negotiation and advocacy of a new Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel, launched at UNGA HLW 2025, securing endorsement from more than half of UN Member States and from nine major humanitarian organisations.

During 2024–25, Australia provided emergency assistance to 9,842,105 people affected by conflict and humanitarian crises and delivered more than 110 t of emergency relief supplies to the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Australia sustained a focus on the region, responding to all rapid-onset emergency requests within 48 hours.

³⁰ Australia's Humanitarian Policy: Making a Difference for People in Crisis is available at: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/publications/publications/australias-humanitarian-policy>.

Partnerships with humanitarian organisations remained critical to achieving the objectives of the Humanitarian Policy. Through collaboration with multilateral and NGO partners, Australia supported crisis-affected communities with lifesaving supplies and essential services, including medical care, maternal and child health, food and nutrition, sexual and reproductive health, search and rescue expertise, humanitarian cash transfers, education interventions, and protection services.

Reflecting a commitment to the Indo-Pacific, Australia continued its longstanding support for humanitarian responses in Bangladesh and Myanmar. In Myanmar, the ongoing conflict, combined with the March 2025 earthquake left nearly 22 million people in need of assistance. In Bangladesh, more than 1.1 million Rohingya remain displaced and reliant on humanitarian support. Australia remained steadfast in delivering lifesaving aid to those most vulnerable, including women, girls, and people with disability, helping to stabilise communities and reduce risks of further displacement.

The Humanitarian Policy reaffirms Australia’s commitment to readiness and disaster risk reduction. In 2024–25, Australia strengthened local, national, and regional preparedness, reduced risks, limited development losses, and fostered community resilience in countries vulnerable to climate and disaster-related impacts. This was achieved through investment in:

- early warning systems
- prepositioning and warehousing relief supplies
- regional disaster response coordination
- anticipatory action programming.

Australia also directly supported the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction to accelerate implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–30 and assist regional partners in meeting their commitments.

Australia continued to respond globally to elevated humanitarian needs driven by conflict, climate change, and other crises. This included providing essential assistance in Gaza and addressing the protracted refugee crisis in the Middle East. Partnerships with Australian NGOs and the Australian Red Cross remained central to humanitarian efforts in the Indo-Pacific and worldwide. Through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership and the Australian Red Cross, Australian funding reached communities in Bangladesh, Vietnam, Myanmar, Vanuatu, the Philippines, and Ethiopia. Multi-year partnerships with UN agencies and the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement enabled Australia to pool contributions with other donors, maximising impact through flexible and targeted delivery.

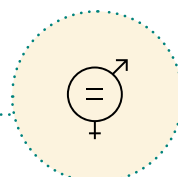
Investment performance

In 2024–25, 18 IMRs, 16 HIMRs and three FIMRs were completed for humanitarian assistance and disaster risk reduction investments.

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 94 per cent. This is higher than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent and the three-year sector average of 92 per cent.
- All (100 per cent) HIMRs were assessed as satisfactorily effective and efficient in providing life-saving assistance to those in need.



94% Effective and efficient IMRs



70% Gender equality



57% Disability equity

- Most investments (94 per cent) were rated satisfactory or higher in the ‘humanitarian protection’ criterion. This criterion captures the extent to which investments protect the safety, dignity and rights of affected populations.

All three FIMRs were assessed as meeting end-of-program outcomes effectively and efficiently:

- Humanitarian Logistics Capability (\$28.7 million; 2017–25)
- Australian Red Cross Humanitarian Partnership Program (\$55.4 million; 2018–25)
- Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (\$13 million; 2020–25).

All humanitarian response investments were assessed as satisfactory or higher against the ‘connectedness’ criterion.

All humanitarian response investments were assessed as satisfactory or higher against the ‘connectedness’ criterion. Connectedness refers to the extent to which investments are delivered in ways that support recovery, resilience, coordination, and long-term development, supporting Australia’s Grand Bargain commitments.

Of these investments, 70 per cent were rated satisfactory or higher for gender equality. This is in line with the three-year sector average of 71 per cent and lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. Further effort is required to reach the 80 per cent target. Stronger performing programs invested in training and capacity building, systematic gender analysis, follow-up activities and supporting women’s participation and leadership. In 2025–26, there will be greater efforts to strengthen gender analysis, data collection and inclusion across humanitarian programs.

The aggregate disability equity rating rose to 57 per cent, an increase of 15 percentage points from 2023–24. This reflects continued systematic attention to disability inclusion across humanitarian investments. High-performing partners delivered staff training on disability equity and rights issues and strengthened partnerships with organisations representing people with disability. Challenges persist in complex operating environments, including collecting disability-disaggregated data, setting appropriate targets, and ensuring inclusion throughout the program cycle.

In 2023–24, DFAT conducted a pilot MPA for selected partners, including the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP). The assessment confirmed WFP as an effective performer, delivering strong results in the Indo-Pacific and representing good value for money. In 2024–25, DFAT completed multilateral performance assessments for 15 organisations (a summary of results is available in Chapter 3).

Case study

Prepositioning emergency assistance in Laos

Australia delivered more than 33 t of pre-positioned humanitarian supplies to Laos via Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) aircraft through Indo-Pacific Endeavour 2024 (IPE24). The provision of relief supplies bolstered the Lao Government's capacity to prepare for and respond to natural disasters and humanitarian emergencies.

In response to severe flooding in northern Laos following Typhoon Yagi in late 2024, supplies were swiftly dispatched to affected communities. The rapid mobilisation ensured essential relief items reached those in need without delay. Australia delivered two RAAF plane loads of supplies within two months, demonstrating sustained support and reinforcing its commitment to regional cooperation.

Shipments included kitchen kits, hygiene kits, blankets, bed nets, and mats. These were crucial for meeting the immediate needs of displaced families. With these supplies, communities felt a renewed sense of safety and dignity, enabling recovery with essential resources at hand.

Australia also supported the replacement of primary school textbooks and backpacks, helping children resume education after the disaster through other programs. This educational support helped to restore normalcy and hope for young learners whose schooling had been disrupted.

Australia's timely and comprehensive assistance through IPE24 addressed urgent humanitarian needs and contributed to long-term recovery and resilience in Laos.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, two evaluations of humanitarian investments were completed and published on the DFAT website with corresponding management responses. Implementing partners continued to engage actively in evaluation and learning processes to inform future program design and refinement. For example, the Australian Humanitarian Partnership conducted a real-time review during a partial activation of its Anticipatory Action Framework in Timor-Leste. This enabled greater flexibility in applying the framework at the community level.

Evaluation case study

Evaluation of the Australian Humanitarian Partnership's Activations on Food Security and Livelihoods in Ethiopia and Kenya

AHP is a partnership between the Australian Government and Australian NGOs that supports partner countries, local organisations, and communities to respond to humanitarian crises. In 2023–24, AHP facilitated rapid and efficient responses to prolonged drought, flooding, conflict and displacement in Ethiopia (by Plan International and Oxfam Australia) and Kenya (by Oxfam Australia). The responses focused on nutrition, livelihoods, food security, protection, and water, sanitation and hygiene.

An independent evaluation in 2024 found these interventions were effective. They delivered positive outcomes in livelihood opportunities, food security, nutrition, community stability, and psychological wellbeing, particularly for vulnerable groups. The evaluation also identified areas for improvement, including the need for:

- tailored approaches for people with disability
- extended implementation periods to address climate change resilience
- greater use of local suppliers to improve efficiency and sustainability.

DFAT and its partners have responded by incorporating these recommendations into subsequent AHP responses in Kenya and Ethiopia. Notably, the Australian Government supported a second phase of the project in Kenya. During the second phase, Oxfam delivered disability-inclusive humanitarian action training for all implementation partners in Kenya. These changes helped to strengthen the inclusiveness, effectiveness and sustainability of AHP's humanitarian response efforts.

Multisector and general development support

Context

■ \$662.8 million total Australian ODA

This sector includes general environment protection, action relating to debt and other multisector activities, including research and scientific institutions. For example, in 2024–25, Australia supported 26 investments totalling more than \$133 million to promote or deliver nature-positive outcomes.



89% Effective and efficient IMRs



84% Gender equality



42% Disability equity

Investment performance

In 2024–25, 28 IMRs and three FIMRs were completed for multisector and general development support investments.

- The proportion of investments rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency (excluding FIMRs) was 89 per cent. This is slightly lower than the whole-of-program outcome of 90 per cent but higher than the three-year sector average of 83 per cent.
- The aggregate investment rating (IMR, HIMR and FIMR) for gender equality was 84 per cent. This is higher than the three-year average of 78 per cent and the whole-of-program outcome of 81 per cent. The aggregate disability equity rating was 42 per cent.
- The proportion of completed investments (FIMRs) assessed as effective and efficient was 33 per cent, noting that the small number of FIMRs each year can lead to volatility in overall percentage outcomes.

One of three completed investments was assessed as effective and efficient. Two investments were assessed as not meeting end-of-program outcomes and not meeting these outcomes efficiently:

- The **Pacific Partnership Facility (\$15 million; 2017–24)** was made through a multi-donor trust fund, operated by the ADB. It supplemented the ADB's Pacific operational budget to fund staffing and operational resources for a significant scale-up of the ADB portfolio in the Pacific through the Asian Development Fund 12. ADB funding to the Pacific increased over the investment's duration, and additional staff were recruited. However, there were issues with the clarity of end-of-program outcome statements. Also, weaknesses in the MEL framework led to challenges in measuring the program's effectiveness.
- The **Pacific Bilateral (multi country) Security Agreement Program (\$4 million; 2020–25)** was a way for Australia to provide targeted bilateral support to partner countries to assist them in meeting their unique security challenges. The program assisted Pacific Island countries in several areas, such as border security capacity building. However, there were shifts away from the original design focus and the outcomes were overly ambitious. Weaknesses in the MEL framework and associated reporting resulted in insufficient evidence to show end-of-program outcomes were met.

Case study

Protecting tribal land custodianship in Solomon Islands

The Community-Led Development, Climate Resilience and Conservation in East Malaita project is a partnership between the Baru Conservation Alliance (BCA) and James Cook University. The program supports four tribal communities in building climate resilience and sustainable ecosystem stewardship and management through the use of both traditional and scientific knowledge.

Nature-based solutions are based on the Kwaio concept of to'oru le'anga – the connection of collective tribal land custodianship, people's connection to tribal land and each other, and traditional knowledge and customs on people's tribal land. This holistic model enables nature-based solutions with tribes on their own land. It centralises the importance of connections to land and environmental solutions informed by local and traditional knowledge.

BCA has mapped the 4,124 ha of land comprising the four BCA tribes and more than 1,000 ha across two neighbouring tribes. This mapping honours tribal boundaries, helps prevent conflict and provides certainty for the nature-based solutions implemented. Using a culturally endorsed process has strengthened BCA's partnerships with two coastal tribes (90 people: 28 males, 62 females). BCA supported the planting of 1,146 trees and 100 mangroves on coastal lands. One BCA tribe (Aifasu) also used this process to draft a management plan and Protected Area Application.

Case study

Nature-based solutions benefiting communities in the Indo-Pacific

WWF-Australia implements the Climate Resilient by Nature (CRxN) program. The program uses equitable nature-based solutions to make Pacific and Southeast Asian communities more socially, economically, and ecologically resilient. A total of 10,355 individuals across 150 communities have directly participated in projects supported by the program. More than 42,000 ha are under conservation or restoration and 152,382 ha are benefiting from better management practices.

Project results reflect the diverse relationships between communities, landscapes and livelihoods in the Indo-Pacific region. In the Pacific, the creation of marine protected areas, managed mangrove protection and agroforestry activities have led to more fish and sharks and improved biodiversity, soil health and productivity. In the Mekong, nature-positive production in wetlands, like floating rice farming, has enhanced sedimentation, water retention and fish catch rates.

The CRxN program continues to support partnerships that strengthen the approaches of governments, businesses and other implementing partners using nature-based solutions. The program has produced 105 knowledge products and conducted 88 learning events since inception. For example, in Vanuatu, the program hosted a national workshop on carbon-funded invasive species management and forest regeneration. The workshop generated support for pilot activities and for consideration of a national initiative to remove invasive species.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, no evaluations of programs in the multisector and general support sectors were completed.

In 2024–25, Australia’s investments have improved adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters for more than 2.8 million people.

Climate change

Australia’s commitment to taking ambitious action on climate change is set out in Australia’s IDP.³¹ In 2024–25, Australia’s investments have improved adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters for more than 2.8 million people. Thirty-five investments valued at over \$508 million contributed to low-emissions development pathways or supported mitigation activities; and 64 investments totalling \$502 million are improving climate change adaptation and disaster resilience.

Investment performance

A new climate change performance criterion was piloted in 2023–24. Investments with a primary climate change objective continued to report against this new criterion in 2024–25. Of the 27 investments with climate change as a primary objective:

- 100 per cent were assessed as satisfactory against the climate change criterion
- 89 per cent were rated satisfactory or higher for effectiveness and efficiency.

Three investments with climate change as a primary objective were not rated satisfactory against the effectiveness and efficiency criteria. This was due to issues with inadequate monitoring and evaluation frameworks, and weak investment governance systems.

From 2025–26, climate change reporting is expected to expand to also include new investments (from 1 July 2024) with a secondary climate change objective as part of DFAT’s IMR process. The criterion will assess the extent to which an investment is supporting partner governments to address climate change, including by assessing how climate analysis informed the investment, the budget/resourcing available for climate change action and how the investment’s MEL systems captured the results of, and learnt from, activities to address climate change.

Case study

Delivering reliable renewable energy to remote islands in Tonga

The Tonga Renewable Energy Project, led by the Government of Tonga and established in 2019, concluded in June 2025. With support from Australia and other donors, the project improved Tonga’s energy security and climate resilience by shifting away from fossil fuels for power generation. The project delivered renewable energy mini grids in nine outer islands and two large battery energy storage systems on the main island of Tongatapu.

Supporting the Government of Tonga’s renewable energy targets, the project has delivered 16,041 MWh of annual carbon-free electricity. Renewable energy now contributes to 27 per cent of the country’s power generation. Diesel use has been reduced by 3.8 million L annually. An estimated 12,480 Mt of annual CO₂ emissions have been avoided. The project is built on 10 years of Australian investment in the electrification of outer islands and renewable energy. At the time of reporting, 99 per cent of the Tongan population has access to reliable energy, with off-grid islands receiving 18 to 24 hours of power daily.

³¹ View Australia’s International Development Policy: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/development/international-development-policy>.

Case study

Supporting energy savings through performance-based grants in Indonesia

The Australia–Indonesia Partnership for Infrastructure investment supports sustainable and inclusive economic growth in Indonesia. It is also known as Kemitraan Indonesia Australia untuk Infrastruktur (KIAT).

In 2024–25, KIAT’s Performance-Based Grant initiative helped improve water utility performance in Indonesia through grants and technical assistance. Nine water utilities implemented energy efficiency measures, including the installation of Variable Speed Drives, optimisation of pump operations, and replacement of inefficient motors. These efforts led to an estimated 901,203 kWh in energy savings, equivalent to 720,962 tCO₂e reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. At the same time, ‘non-revenue’ water usage was reduced by over 10.7 million m³, significantly reducing energy consumption across utilities. Five water utilities developed Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans to guide climate-resilient infrastructure planning. The results of the Performance-Based Grant initiative demonstrate how practical infrastructure investments can deliver measurable climate mitigation and adaptation benefits while strengthening service delivery and utility efficiency.

Evaluation and learning

In 2024–25, no evaluations of programs in the climate change sector were completed.



Credit: DFAT

Annexes

Annex A: Results under the three-tier performance indicator framework 2024–25

This annex presents all 2024–25 results against the three-tier performance indicator framework, as specified in Australia’s International Development PADF. Refer to Chapter 1 for further analysis of these data. In some cases, up-to-date and relevant data for 2024–25 are unavailable. In these instances, data from the most recent year have been used.

Tier 1: Indo-Pacific development context

Indicator	Measure	2024–25 result	Data source
Fragility in the region	Percentage of fragile and conflict affected countries in the region	Pacific 43% SE Asia 18%	https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/fragilityconflictviolence/brief/classification-of-fragile-and-conflict-affected-situations
Gender equality	Regional average of percentage change in the Global Gender Gap Index between 2023–24 and 2024–25	Pacific +0.8% SE Asia +0.2%	https://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF_GGGR_2025.pdf
Political rights and civil liberties	Range of country-level Freedom House Index scores (where 100 represents the most free)	Pacific 61–93 SE Asia 7–72	https://freedomhouse.org/countries/freedom-world/scores
Fiscal sustainability	Number of countries at high risk of debt distress	Pacific 5 at high risk of debt distress SE Asia 1 in debt distress	https://www.imf.org/external/Pubs/ft/dsa/DSAlist.pdf
Governance	Range of country-level scores against government effectiveness indicator (where -2.5 is least effective and +2.5 is most effective)	Pacific –1.33 to 0.61 SE Asia –1.56 to 2.28	https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/worldwide-governance-indicators Please see WGI 2025 Revision: Governance Estimates and Absolute Scores (1996–1994) (Excel) (Stata)
Poverty in the region	Range of country-level percentages of people who lived below the poverty line USD4.20 per person per day (lower-middle-income countries; LIMC); USD8.30 per person per day (upper-middle-income countries; UMIC) ³²	Pacific: USD 4.20 22% to 75.9% USD 8.65 26.7% to 61.3% SE Asia: USD4.20 3.7% to 81.9% USD8.30 9.9% to 95.3%	https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.POV.NAHC/1f4a498/Popular-Indicators
Economic growth in the region	Range of country-level GDP per capita scores (current USD)	Pacific: USD1,934 to USD13,609 SE Asia: USD1,332 to USD90,674	https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD/1f4a498/Popular-Indicators

32 The World Bank updated its international poverty lines in June 2025, and adopted USD3.00 as the extreme poverty line. Poverty data is difficult to update, thus, these numbers include new data for only a few countries. No countries in the Indo-Pacific are considered Low Income Countries, and therefore do not use the USD3.00 per day poverty line. The USD4.20 and USD8.30 poverty rates are used for reporting purposes. These poverty lines capture the monetary aspects of poverty and do not account for the significant multidimensional aspects of poverty, such as access to good nutrition, essential health services and clean water and sanitation.

Indicator	Measure	2024–25 result	Data source
Health	Range of country-level scores against the universal health coverage (UHC) index (where 100 represents the most health service coverage) ³³	Pacific 32 to 75 SE Asia 48 to 88	https://databank.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.NAHC/1ff4a498/Popular-Indicators
Impact of disasters	Number of internal displacements due to disaster	Pacific: 35,220 internal displacements due to 33 reported disaster events SE Asia: 10,614,500 internal displacements due to 706 reported disaster events	https://www.internal-displacement.org/database/displacement-data
Climate change adaptation	Number of countries in the region reducing vulnerability to climate change (Notre Dame Index score; where 100 represents the least climate vulnerability and most adaptation readiness to the negative effects of climate change)	Pacific 9 SE Asia 7	https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings
Climate change mitigation	Number of countries in the region reducing the CO ₂ intensity of their economies (per unit of GDP)	Pacific 7 SE Asia 6	https://www.climatewatchdata.org/ghg-emissions?calculation=PER_GDP&end_year=2020&regions=WORLD&start_year=1990
Regional economic integration	Total regional value of exports and imports (USD)	Pacific: Exports: USD 1.34 billion million Imports: USD 2.45 billion SEA Asia: Exports: USD 2.55 trillion Imports: USD 2.33 trillion	https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NE.EXP.GNFS.CD


³³ A revision to the UHC SCI tracer indicators in 2025 mean that these ranges should not be directly compared with the ranges reported in 2023–24 PADC report.

Tier 2: Australia’s contribution to development

The table below denotes Tier 2 results for 2024–25 for measures set out in the PADF. Where measures are qualitative, the number of countries reported for each measure has been provided, with Tier 2 case studies to be made available on DFAT’s online development transparency portal, [AusDevPortal](#).

Building effective and accountable states


Improved governance

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of organisations Australia has supported in the reporting period to strengthen accountability and/or inclusion, including examples of assistance provided and significant policy change achieved, at the following levels: a. Government institutions, organisations or systems (by type and level) b. Civil society organisations or systems (by type and level) c. Private sector organisations (by type and level)	a. 9,718 government institutions, organisations or systems b. 1,478 civil society organisations or systems c. 1,075 private sector organisations Total: 12,271 ³⁴	



Economic policy reform and management and private sector development

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Countries supported with policy and technical advice on economic reform and management (including examples and results achieved)	35 countries	
Total direct financing to partner governments	\$844 million + in direct financing to partner governments	
Number of market actors in key economic sectors supported to expand market access and/or improve supply chain resilience	538	
Additional private funds leveraged to support sustainable development	\$127 million	

Economic empowerment

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services ³⁵	469,181	



Social protection measures

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of people reached with new or improved social protection programs	165 million people reached through new or improved social protection programs	 


³⁴ This is higher than last year’s figure, principally due to the impact of Australia’s support to the Implementation of the Social Accountability Framework Phase 2 (ISAF II) program, through the Australia–World Bank Partnership for Promoting Inclusion, Sustainability and Equality in Cambodia, during the reporting period.

³⁵ The 2024–25 figure reflects a return to expected levels following a peak in 2023–24, driven by a large-scale financial inclusion initiative that reached over 3 million women micro-entrepreneurs.

Gender equality




Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
ODA funding channelled to Women's Equality Organisations and Institutions	70.3 million to more than 555 organisations	
Number of services provided to victim/survivors of SGBV	231,769 ³⁶	

Disability equity


Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of organisations of persons with disabilities (regional/national/state/local) receiving capacity building support	32 at the regional level 921 at the national level 599 at the sub-national/state level Total: 1,552	

Enhancing state and community resilience

Infrastructure

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of infrastructure projects supported that meet G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investments, or similar internationally agreed standards	2,941 ³⁷	
Number of local people accessing jobs created by infrastructure projects, disaggregated by gender where possible	10,655 people, including 2,122 women ³⁸	
Examples of improved policies and regulations in the infrastructure sector	9 countries supported to improve policies and regulations in the infrastructure sector	

Education

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Proportion of children and young people achieving at least minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics, with Australian support	15 countries supported to improve minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics for children and young people ³⁹	




³⁶ This figure is lower than 2023–24, largely due to 2024–25 being a transition period, with the completion of several investments and new programs commencing.

³⁷ The number of infrastructure projects that meet G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investments increased in 2024–25 due to increased delivery of small-scale infrastructure projects.


³⁸ Indicator 12 is intended to capture paid local jobs created by infrastructure projects. The 2024–25 result for this indicator is lower than the 2023–24 result largely due to a correction in the classification of voluntary labour in community infrastructure development projects previously included in Timor-Leste.

³⁹ Comprehensive and representative proficiency data are not yet available for all countries where Australia provides education support. As data generation and collection improve, we anticipate being able to report on proportion of reading and mathematics proficiency.














Health

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Partner countries improve health system capacity to provide quality, accessible, affordable health services, with Australian support	54 countries	
Contraceptive protection from unplanned pregnancies made available through Australian support	2,996,873 couple-years of protection	
Partner countries have improved ability to anticipate, prevent, detect, and control communicable disease threats, with Australian support (with examples)	42 countries	

Food security

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Australian support for improved food security and climate-resilient agriculture practices via policy, technical advice and/or capacity building	816,319 people with improved food security ⁴⁰ 1,698,178 people assisted to use climate resilient agriculture practices on their farms	



Climate adaptation, mitigation, environment and biodiversity

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of people for whom Australia's investments have improved adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters	2,860,914	   
Number and value of investments that are: a. contributing to low-emissions development pathways or are supporting mitigation activities and b. improving climate change adaptation and disaster resilience	a. 35 investments worth \$508,233,609 b. 64 investments worth \$502,214,786	   
Number and value of investments which are promoting/delivering nature-positive outcomes	26 investments worth \$133,320,109, which are promoting/delivering nature-positive outcomes.	   
Number of people using: a. basic or safely managed drinking water services b. basic or safely managed sanitation services and/or a handwashing facility with soap and water	a. 764,399 b. 1,117,549 ⁴¹	

40 The food security figure is lower this year compared to 2023–24 in part due to completion of a large agriculture program in Indonesia. In contrast, the number of people assisted to use climate resilient agriculture practices on their farms has increased substantially this year due to Australia rejoining the Green Climate Fund (GCF).



41 These are lower than 2023–24 figures, partly due to the completion of a large-scale program in Indonesia and fluctuations in results from Australia's investment via global programs.

Maritime security


Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Australian support (including through technical assistance, capacity building and data/information sharing) contributes to partner countries' resilience and ability to manage their maritime domains and marine resources	37 countries	 

Connecting partners with Australian and regional architecture

Strengthening leadership

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of people who successfully complete a tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training	1,214 completions of an Australia Awards Scholarship 687,851 course/training completions supported through programs other than Australia Awards Scholarships	
Number and percentage of Australia Awards alumni working with Australian organisations on joint projects, partnerships, research, and community initiatives, after completion of an Australia Award scholarship	196 (21 per cent) for Australia Awards Scholarships courses and 224 (22 per cent) for Australia Awards short courses	

Labour mobility



Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of PALM workers and total remittance flows per year per country	30,835 PALM workers on average. It is estimated PALM scheme workers sent home \$542.9 million for 2024–25	

PALM scheme data: total remittances estimates per year per country

Country	2024–25 result	Estimated number of workers in Australia (rounded to nearest 5)
Fiji	\$93.8 million	5,550
Kiribati	\$16.8 million	1,565
Nauru	\$0.8 million	45
Papua New Guinea	\$30.0 million	2,000
Samoa	\$42.8 million	2,675
Solomon Islands	\$97.0 million	4,785
Timor-Leste	\$60.3 million	4,400
Tonga	\$75.6 million	3,365
Tuvalu	\$5.1 million	305
Vanuatu	\$120.6 million	6,150
Total	\$542.9 million	30,835


*Note, remittance figures are based on best available data and are not comparable between countries due to different data sources. Worker numbers are based on monthly averages and rounded to the nearest five workers. Therefore, totals may differ slightly from the sum of individual figures as a result of rounding.

Strengthening regional architecture



Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
ASEAN – Examples of support to ASEAN	Australia supported 79 activities which strengthened ASEAN regional architecture. For example, the \$24 million TRIANGLE in ASEAN promoted safe labour migration in the region. Working with Lao PDR as ASEAN Chair and the ASEAN Secretariat, TRIANGLE supported the drafting of the ASEAN Vientiane Declaration on Skills Mobility, Recognition and Development for Migrant Workers, which was adopted at the October 2024 ASEAN Summit. The Declaration promotes labour migration systems and marks a major step toward advancing skills recognition and enabling middle-skilled migration in the region	
Pacific regional – Examples of support to Pacific regional organisations such as the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), the Pacific Community (SPC), Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Australia supported 95 activities in 16 countries and four territories, which strengthened regional architecture through Pacific regional organisations. For example, Australia’s funding to the PIF Secretariat supported regional consultation on Fiji’s proposal for a Blue Pacific Ocean of Peace. This year, the PIF Leaders meeting in Noro in the Western Province of Solomon Islands declared the Blue Pacific Continent as an Ocean of Peace, a statement of the region’s worldview, where peace, security and development are interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Australia, along with other members of the PIF, will work together to implement this regional commitment	

Generating collective action on global challenges


Multilateral engagement

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Assessment of performance against Australia’s objectives, from periodic multilateral performance assessments	MPAs were completed for 15 different organisations (UN development agencies, MDBs, international humanitarian agencies and global funds). Each category of multilateral organisation was rated adequate or above for the following criteria: overall assessment; results and quality based on mandate of the organisation; governance, transparency, accountability and reform; and value for money	

Trade

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Increased capacity of our partner countries to participate effectively in rules-based trade and economic architecture	64 countries	
Number of countries supported to engage productively with the multilateral trading system	54 countries	

Emergency assistance

Measure	2024–25 result	Relevant SDG
Number of marginalised women, men, girls and boys provided with emergency assistance in conflict and crisis situations	9,842,105	

Tier 3: How we work

Tier 3 data can be found in Table 3 on page 20.

Annex B: Snapshot of 2024–25 Development Partnership Plan reporting

This annex provides a sample of key development results achieved under Development Partnership Plans (DPP). DPPs set out agreed objectives, how Australia will work with partners to deliver shared outcomes, and how progress will be monitored. Each DPP includes a Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) with indicators and expected results. The PAF is updated each year to include actual results achieved and revised indicators where appropriate. Updated PAFs are published on DFAT's website. The sample of results included in this annex and in PAFs are only a fraction of the total results achieved by country and regional programs each year.

Pacific Development Partnership Plans

Australia has DPPs with Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu. It also has a Pacific Regional DPP. DPP objectives reflect the breadth of Australia's engagement as the Pacific's largest and most comprehensive development partner. Areas of focus include economic growth, climate change, regional integration, infrastructure development, governance and institutions, health, service delivery, social inclusion and security.

All DPPs have at least one objective or outcome specifically targeting climate change and GEDSI. Across all country and regional programs, Australia has shown its commitment to Pacific-led, Australian-backed solutions. Australia has consistently elevated Pacific voices and aligned efforts with country and regional priorities and architecture.

Strong progress was made on implementing commitments in Pacific DPPs in 2024–25. These are a sample of key results achieved with Australia's support.

Pacific Regional DPP Objectives

1: A strong and united Pacific family

- Core funding to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat strengthened the region's collective voice and action, including supporting the negotiation and delivery of landmark regional initiatives such as the Blue Pacific Ocean of Peace Declaration and the Pacific Resilience Facility.
- New arrangements in policing (Pacific Policing Initiative), disaster preparedness (Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program) and defence (Pacific Response Group initiative) strengthened security provision within the Pacific family.
- 232,617 people enabled to access opportunities across 15 sports through the sports for development program, Team Up.

2: Action on climate change and disasters

- \$100 million committed to the Pacific Resilience Facility.
- 26 off-grid renewable energy projects set up to power hospitals, remote schools and homes across Solomon Islands, Fiji and Papua New Guinea. This was one of the new investments made in climate mitigation and resilient infrastructure.

3: Sustainable and resilient economic development

- Australian investments are ensuring every Pacific nation will be connected by an undersea cable enabling more reliable and secure digital connectivity to unlock the full potential of the digital economy, with significant milestones achieved on the Tuvalu Vaka and East Micronesia cables as well as the Tonga Hawaiki Cable Branch System.
- Ongoing physical bank secured in Nauru and ANZ's long-term presence guaranteed across nine Pacific countries as a result of Australia's support for banking services.
- Approximately 30,835 workers sent home an estimated \$543 million in remittances in 2024 through the PALM scheme, boosting Pacific economies.

4: Wellbeing, inclusion and equity

- Strengthened regional disease surveillance and control across 13 countries after Australia expanded epidemiological training and improved community-based surveillance and laboratory networks.
- 83,923 crisis services provided to women and children through Australia's flagship Pacific Women Lead program. This includes 443 women and girls with disability. The 2025 midterm review found Pacific Women Lead has laid critical groundwork for a more equitable, Pacific-led, context-responsive approach to gender equality.

- Invested \$16.5 million to help children across the Indo-Pacific with vision, hearing or mobility impairments. This investment will improve access to testing and early interventions, enabling children with disability to participate meaningfully in education.

Papua New Guinea DPP Objectives

1: Building an economic partnership for prosperity

- 26,150 more households have improved access to electricity in Madang, Morobe, and New Ireland provinces.
- Improved public financial management and debt management practices. This includes support for an independent review of the Integrated Financial Management System and to set up an MoU between the Government of Papua New Guinea and BSP bank to facilitate exchange traded fund payments to government suppliers, improving transparency.

2: Promoting improved law, order and governance

- Progressed construction of police barracks and accommodation projects in Mount Hagen, Kokopo and Port Moresby.
- 192 village court officials in West New Britain province and 35 land mediators in Hela province trained with Australia's support. This contributes to improved access to local-level justice systems.
- 38,868 people reached by SGBV prevention partners, including Equal Playing Field and Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation.

3: Investing in people and building resilient communities

- 17,234 women and girls participated in Australian-funded sports for development programs that address barriers preventing women and girls' participation.
- Supported the delivery of essential services for family planning in 9 provinces and immunisation in 15 provinces.

4: Building close friendships and enduring ties

- 465 scholarships awarded for Papua New Guineans to study in Australia and Papua New Guinea, of which, 265 were awarded to women.
- Mobilised 3,962 worker placements since 2019.

Solomon Islands DPP Objectives

1: Inclusive economic growth, infrastructure and job creation

- Completed 47 infrastructure and WASH projects. This includes community infrastructure, upgrades to education, medical and government facilities, and new airfields and transport links, with most delivered by Solomon Islander firms and workers.
- 3,783 Solomon Islanders gained job-ready tertiary or vocational qualifications.

2: Investing in people, communities and links to Australia and the region

- 3,344 services provided to survivors of gender-based violence.
- Delivered 111 community partnerships. The partnerships create practical, locally led benefits, such as solar lighting, rural clinic upgrades, and water tanks

3: Improved stability, security and resilience

- Supported 10 justice and security institutions to better identify, target and combat emerging crime and security issues through technical advisory support, training opportunities or small-scale infrastructure.
- Delivered border security and maritime training and a new digitised Border Management System that strengthens Solomon Islands' ability to manage its maritime domain and border, and collect revenue.
- Climate resilience support reached 32,004 people through 14 investments that are increasing access to renewable energy, building climate-resilient infrastructure and boosting disaster preparedness.

Fiji DPP Objectives

1: Strengthen our people-to-people links

- 52,000 Fijians participated in Team Up sports programs. DFAT's Team Up grassroots sports programs. The program supports all people, including women, girls and people with a disability to participate in sport.
- More than 5,000 Fijians participated in PALM. Workers support their families with earnings and fill key skills gaps on their return to their communities.

2: Deepen our economic relationship

- Supported 10+ economic and fiscal policy reforms, as agreed with the Government of Fiji.
- Supported delivery of a National E-Commerce Strategy, National Sustainable Tourism Framework and new National Action Plan for Women's Economic Empowerment.

3: Enhance our security cooperation

- Vuvale Maritime Essential Services Centre handed over. The centre provides greater protection for local fishing industries and supports natural disaster assistance and rescue capabilities.
- Established a Fijian Computer Emergency Response Team to strengthen cyber security.
- New container examination facilities in place for Fiji Revenue and Customs Service.

4: Cooperate on regional and international issues

- Agreement made for the AIFFP to grant-finance a protection barrier for Nadi International Airport.
- Design complete for a new Climate Adaptation Program to mitigate flooding across Fiji.

5: Enable sustainable human development

- \$3.9 million committed to support Fiji's HIV response.
- Upgraded education and health facilities upgraded in Labasa, Nadi, Lautoka, Nausori, Ba, Levuka and Suva.
- 7,000 survivors of gender-based violence received support services.

Samoa DPP Objectives

1: Supporting inclusive and accountable governance and economic growth.

- Provided budget support, contributing to Samoa's macroeconomic stability, underpinned by a cohesive reform agenda.
- Supported the public sector to deliver major government initiatives, including mass re-registration of the electoral rolls ahead of the 2025 election.

2: Improving health, education, gender equality and social outcomes

- Major policy work supported across multiple sectors, spanning cancer control, tobacco and e-cigarette regulation, teacher training, prevention of violence against women and girls, and youth empowerment.

3: Enhancing national resilience

- New climate partnerships established on community resilience and renewables.
- Long-term security partnerships with Australian Federal Police and Australian Defence Force provided technical and capacity building assistance, maritime security support, emergency radio and CCTV equipment, and logistics support for a Pacific policing deployment. This supported Samoa to host a safe and secure 2024 CHOGM.

4: Creating inclusive opportunities

- Scholarships and sports for development programs facilitated inclusive opportunities for Samoans internationally and at the grassroots level.
- New twinning arrangements established between Australian and Samoan Public Service Commissions and Finance Departments, enhancing institutional integration.

Tonga DPP Objectives

1: Enhancing national resilience

- Partnership established with Tongan NGO MORDI to strengthen disaster resilience and community-led development, with community development plans updated for all 122 of Tonga's rural villages.
- Cooperation in maritime security expanded, with Australia also supporting the development of Tonga's first National Security Policy.

2: Strengthening fiscal stability and accountable governance

- Supported development of a new Public Financial Management (PFM) Bill, national procurement assessment, and updated PFM Reform Roadmap.
- Enhanced collaboration with Tonga's Auditor General, Ministry of Public Enterprises and new Anti-Corruption Commission.
- Provided budget support, contributing to financial stability, governance and capacity building.

3: Enhancing health, gender equality and social outcomes for all Tongans

- Supported nationwide consultation on Tonga's new national gender equality policy and finalisation of a new national disability policy.

Tuvalu DPP Objectives

1: Creating opportunities for all

- Strengthened health care through deployment of clinical specialists.
- Delivered financial literacy training for Tuvaluan women, contributing to gender equality.

2: Connecting Tuvalu with Australia and the region

- Enhanced Tuvalu's connectivity, connecting its first undersea cable (the Tuvalu Vaka Cable).

3: Enhancing resilience

- Enhanced coastal protection and released 8 ha of safe land for infrastructure.
- Advanced economic reform in Tuvalu by assisting the development of a Public Finance Management Reform Roadmap and Tuvalu's first ever citizens budget.

Southeast Asia Development Partnership Plans

Australia has DPPs with Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos. There is also a Southeast Asia Regional DPP.

DPP objectives have a strong focus on economic growth in alignment with Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040, as well as ASEAN engagement, governance and institutions, infrastructure, education, and working with civil society. All DPPs have at least one objective or outcome specifically targeting climate change and GEDSI.

Strong progress was made in implementing commitments in Southeast Asia DPPs in 2024–25. These are a sample of key results achieved with Australia's support.

Southeast Asia Regional DPP Objectives

1: Inclusive regional economic growth and integration

- Supported ASEAN to draft and adopt Roadmaps for Digital Trade Standards and Unique Business Identification Numbers.
- \$15.9 million of Australian capital made available for SMEs that benefit women.
- Established partnerships between Australian agencies and partner governments to support quality infrastructure and policy reform.

2: Enhanced regional and community resilience

- Supported the initial phases of the ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Disease.
- Supported establishment of the Southeast Asia Gender-based Violence Prevention Platform. The platform partners with the UN Joint Programme on Gender-Based Violence Prevention in Southeast Asia to build capacity, evidence and collaborative action to prevent SGBV across the region.
- Trained over 3,000 people in labour migration issues and supported establishment of Thailand's Counter Trafficking in Persons Centre of Excellence.

3: Greater regional action on climate change and energy transition

- Supported drafting of the ASEAN Carbon Neutrality Strategy and its integration into the ASEAN Economic Community Strategic Plan 2026–2030.
- Four new partnerships set up between Australian Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and counterpart institutions to support climate resilient agriculture.
- Provided more than 25,000 people with water security and climate resilience support through climate adaptation plans in 20 Mekong communities.

Indonesia DPP Objectives

1: Equitable and sustainable economic transformation

- Launched the Indonesia-Australia Skills Exchange. This is the first innovative business platform connecting Australian education providers with Indonesian businesses.
- Supported development of 10 Ministry of Finance regulations on fiscal transfers and regional revenue to improve equitable service delivery in Indonesia's remote areas.
- Provided technical assistance for electrical connection to 287,584 poor households, including 88,266 female-headed households.

2: Climate resilient communities

- Funded 38 research projects on climate change across 26 provinces.
- Supported Bappenas (the National Development Planning Agency) to map out existing climate-related policies and regulations.
- Under KINETIK (the Climate, Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Partnership), provided advice on a policy and regulatory reform agenda for equitable energy transition, and progressed climate finance investments.
- Supported improved climate adaptation and resilience capacity in 98 communities.

3: Strong institutions

- Supported peer-to-peer engagement between Indonesian and Australian female judges and funded a landmark survey of nearly 5,000 Indonesian judges. This contributed to the establishment of the Indonesian Women Judges Association in 2024.
- Supported more than 130 civil society organisations to contribute to policy reform, including Indonesia's electoral regulations and National Long-Term Development Plan 2025–2045.

Timor-Leste DPP Objectives

1: Quality services

- Partnered with Timor-Leste to strengthen fiscal sustainability through preparation for the introduction of a Value Added Tax, competition and export legislation reforms, and establishment of a Timor-Leste Fiscal Intelligence System to enhance quality and transparency of the state budget.
- Supported improvement of teaching practices in basic education, from 31 per cent of teachers observed as good or very good in 2021 to 69 per cent in 2025.

- Partnered with Ministry of Health to ensure 80 to 90 per cent of community health centres in targeted municipalities have at least one health provider competent in emergency obstetric and neonatal care.

2: Inclusive and sustainable growth

- Expanded labour mobility and migration opportunities, reaching the milestone of 20,000 worker placements since 2012.
- Supported 60 private sector organisations to strengthen accountability and inclusion, and 22 organisations to expand market access or improve supply chain resilience.
- Trained 2,217 women on coffee tree rehabilitation, strengthening women's roles in coffee production and on-farm decision-making.

3: A sovereign, stable and resilient nation

- Partnered with more than 300 communities to build resilience and preparedness for climate change and disasters.
- Enhanced maritime security and surveillance capability through specialised training for 86 officers and equipment for 10 police posts and two specialist teams.

4: All people thrive and prosper

- Provided essential services to more than 16,800 victim-survivors of SGBV.
- Supported the Association for the Disabled of Timor-Leste's work on its first UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities alternative report, involving 21 disability organisations and 55 people with disability.

Philippines DPP Objectives

1: Enhancing the conditions for stability

- Assisted with the development of the Philippines' Archipelagic Sea Lanes Act and Maritime Zones Act. The assistance helped align Philippine domestic law with international standards, strengthening the Philippines' control and oversight of its maritime domain.
- Supported peacebuilding in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, including through the Bae Mediators Group (35 women peace mediators from a Moro Islamic Liberation Front Camp in Lanao del Norte, established August 2024), which works to resolve community conflicts.

2: Bolstering inclusive and sustainable economic growth

- Supported 203 women entrepreneurs and two women's organisations with financial and/or business development services to promote women's economic empowerment.
- Provided 36 companies with tailored support to strengthen workplace gender equality.
- Provided access to sustainable livelihood opportunities for 572 women entrepreneurs in areas impacted by disasters. The women received equipment and skills training.

3: Increasing institutional and community resilience to social, economic and climate-related shocks.

- Provided humanitarian assistance to 47,601 persons affected by the 2024 multiple tropical cyclones through multipurpose cash grants, relief items and services related to WASH, gender and protection.
- Supported improved climate resilience across the eight most disaster- and climate-vulnerable Philippine provinces and Metro Manila. This included policy development and implementation to enhance preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Supported the development of the Ligtas Pinoy Centers Act (passed in December 2024), which will establish hundreds of safe and inclusive evacuation centres across the Philippines.
- Helped strengthen the Philippine Government's social protection system, including piloting a social protection program for children with disability and rolling out a new disability ID system.

Vietnam DPP Objectives

1: An inclusive, resilient, sustainable and prosperous economy

- Supported the development of legislation in areas such as public investment and semiconductor workforce development.
- Assisted implementation of key policies to facilitate private sector investment.

2: Strengthened human resources

- Contributed to institutional capacity and inclusive governance through the Vietnam Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index. This contribution enabled 63 provincial governments to self-assess and improve governance and service delivery.
- 390 people (141 male and 249 female) completed Australia Awards short courses and short-term training.

3: Strengthened climate resilience, adaptation and emissions reduction

- Supported the design of approximately 2.2 million m² of green building floor space under EDGE (Excellence in Design for Greater Efficiency) standards. Projections show this will save 28,000 MWh of energy, 1.4 million m³ of water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 27,000 t annually.
- 46,101 people (11,520 households) have improved adaptation and resilience to disasters in the Mekong delta.

4: Inclusive and participatory social and economic development

- Trained 1,744 service providers (1,164 female, 579 male, 1 transgender) in social work, health care, law enforcement, and legal aid to deliver high-quality, survivor-centred services, with a focus on marginalised groups.

Cambodia DPP Objectives

1: Stronger institutions and better governance

- Supported the introduction of a new government budget code for environment, sanitation and social services. As a result, 961 communes were allocated more than USD646,000 in funding for related activities.

2: Public services are more inclusive

- Contributed to multi-donor health investments benefitting more than 4.8 million Cambodians. This helped improve the quality of health services in 360 health facilities and expand nutrition services to over 4.4 million women and children.

3: A more resilient, inclusive and sustainable economy

- Supported 28 small and medium enterprises to expand market access and strengthen supply chain resilience, including tailored support to women-led enterprises. This helped the businesses secure export contracts worth more than USD1 million.
- Contributed to the establishment of Cambodia's first green finance facility. The facility has helped generate a pipeline of USD11 million in investment-ready projects across three Cambodian Government ministries.

Myanmar DPP Objectives

1: Support efforts to mitigate conflict and its effects, and protect space for longer-term progress on human rights, rule of law, democratic space, and gender equality and social inclusion

- Supported 102 civil society organisations to strengthen accountability and/or inclusion.
- Provided 2,776 services to victim-survivors of SGBV.

2: Build resilience in vulnerable communities by supporting health, education, livelihood and climate change adaptation needs

- Provided basic education assistance to more than 205,000 students. This included support to more than 700 schools and learning centres in conflict-affected communities.
- Supported ethnic and community-based health clinics to deliver 489,094 patient consultations.

3: Build the leadership and skills of the people of Myanmar, and strengthen our people-to-people links

- 55 Myanmar participants successfully completed an Australian-funded university course in the reporting period.
- 46 Myanmar participants successfully completed an Australian-funded short course or short training activity.

4: Effectively respond to the humanitarian needs of those affected by conflict, disasters and displacement

- Supported humanitarian partners to provide emergency assistance to 993,183 people in conflict and crisis situations.

Laos DPP Objectives

1: Building human capital

- Contributed to improved teaching quality and student engagement, including through the training of 21,499 educators across Lao PDR.
- Supported development of the Lao PDR National Human Resource Development Strategy 2026–2035, including activities supporting people with disability.
- Deployed Australian technology to reduce dengue transmission. This included the on-schedule release of Wolbachia mosquitoes in Vientiane after 94 per cent acceptance in communities.

2: Resilient, inclusive economic growth

- Australia's Partnerships 4 Infrastructure program and the Lao Ministry of Public Works and Transport co-developed an Integrated Multimodal National Transport Strategy that promotes evidence-based decision-making in transport policy and projects.
- Simplified regulations that enabled significant reductions in business start-up and customs clearance times.
- Supported the establishment of the Gender Statistics Division in the Lao Statistics Bureau, embedding gender and social inclusion data into national statistics systems.

3: Climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation

- Strengthened policy frameworks for sustainable carbon markets through support to the Carbon Credit Decree, signed by the Lao Prime Minister in May 2025.
- Convened a national carbon market forum on 26 September 2024.
- Supported development of the Green Hydrogen and Ammonia Roadmap, endorsed February 2025.

South and Central Asia Development Partnership Plans

Australia has DPPs in place with Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, as well as a South Asia Regional DPP. Strong progress was made in implementing commitments under the South and Central Asia DPPs in 2024–25.

These are a sample of key results achieved with Australia's support.

Sri Lanka DPP Objectives

1: Sustainable and inclusive livelihoods and growth

- Launched new investments focused on advancing gender equality and creating lasting and inclusive employment through climate-resilient agriculture, social empowerment and market system development.

2: Empowered people, resilient and cohesive communities

- Supported de-mining through the NGO Mines Advisory Group, resulting in 260,000 m² of land cleared and released for productive use, continuing to help communities access social and economic opportunities.

3: Accountable and equitable governance and institutions

- Supported evidence-based policy development at the subnational level, local government institutional capacity and inclusive approaches to democratic processes. In partnership with The Asia Foundation, a new performance assessment system was introduced for all 341 Local Authorities. This initiative has strengthened evidence-based policy making at the local level, improved institutional capacity within local governments, and supported more inclusive approaches to community development.

Bangladesh DPP Objectives

1: Strengthening the skills and policy and regulatory environment for growth

- Supported a study on decarbonisation in the power sector, leading to Bangladesh revising its Merchant Power Plant Policy. The revisions allow private entities to directly purchase renewable energy from power producers. This reduces Bangladesh's fiscal burden and supports businesses to meet global requirements to use renewable energy.

2: Improved economic and social outcomes, and climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience

- Through local non-government organisation BRAC, provided 19,387 women and girls from extremely poor households with economic assistance and supported 70,873 households in climate vulnerable communities with interventions including asset transfers, skills training, and financial literacy.

3: Effective humanitarian responses for peace, security and stability

- Australia's humanitarian assistance in Bangladesh for Rohingya and host communities supported more than 1 million individuals, including more than 70,000 women and girls, and 12,400 people with disability.

South Asia Regional DPP Objectives

1: Enhance economic growth, regional cooperation and linkages

- Funded feasibility studies and provided technical assistance that helped leverage more than USD3.2 billion in finance for regional infrastructure. This included Bangladesh's first private concession for Patenga Port, attracting USD170 million in foreign direct investment and increasing capacity by 500,000 containers.

2: Contribute to a climate resilient South Asia region

- Collaborated on the Indian Ocean Rim Association's (IORA) Strategic Agenda on Climate Change, which was adopted at the 24th IORA Council of Ministers Meeting in May 2025.
- Improved access to clean water for over 33,000 people.

Beyond the Indo-Pacific Development Partnership Plans

The Australian Government has published an Africa Regional Development Partnership Plan. The following section provides examples of progress with its implementation.

Africa Regional DPP Objectives

1: Increased climate resilience and food security

- Through Digital Earth Africa, supported 22 African countries to access and analyse satellite remote sensing data through training, institutional partnerships, and operational use cases. Digital Earth Africa was established by Geoscience Australia in 2019 and is funded by the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust, and the Australian Government (through DFAT), with major in-kind support from AWS's Sustainability Data Initiative, as well as ESRI and African Implementing Partners. Geoscience Australia is the fiduciary host of the program until March 2028 and is supporting the transition of the program to long-term African ownership through the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe).
- Established the Africa–Australia Partnership for Climate Responsive Agriculture to strengthen climate-resilient agricultural systems and food security across Africa.

2: Support education and health outcomes

- 114 participants completed programs through the Australia Awards, including 52 women and 62 men.

Annex C: Contributions to Australia's development program delivered by other Australian Government departments and agencies

Australia's development program reflects a whole-of-government effort, including delivery by DFAT and other government departments and agencies. Examples of programs delivered by a range of different departments and agencies in 2024–25 have been highlighted throughout this report. This annex provides further information on the contribution made by departments and agencies other than DFAT to Australia's development cooperation.⁴²

Attorney-General's

ODA expenditure: \$3.8 million

The Attorney-General's Department (AGD) and portfolio work to achieve a just and secure society by maintaining and improving Australia's law, justice, security and integrity frameworks. The portfolio also delivers targeted programs that support regional partners to develop their law and justice, and policing sectors. This includes capacity building and technical assistance to strengthen partner governments' legal and policy responses to human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery.

Summary of achievements

The AGD Pacific Law and Justice Program is delivered in partnership with the Australian Federal Police (AFP). The program provides technical assistance on legal policy and law reform, and supports regional partners to develop and implement legislation and policies on policing and criminal law in the Pacific. In 2024–25, the program:

- delivered a six-week intensive Pacific Legal Policy Twinning Program that supported the reform of the conduct and discipline provisions in Solomon Islands' Police Act 2013.
- supported alumni of AGD's Pacific Legal Policy Champions and Twinning programs to deliver the Legal Policy Development Course to counterparts in Samoa (39 officers), Fiji (49), Solomon Islands (40), Papua New Guinea (12), Vanuatu (22) and Nauru (14)

- supported Australia's contribution to the Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network, a regional network of senior Pacific law and justice officials from 19 countries and territories promoting justice and the rule of law. The program provided strategic, administrative, financial and logistical support to activities delivered under the network's strategic plan, which prioritises cybercrime, SGBV, corruption and legislative drafting.

AGD's Indo-Pacific Child Protection Program works with Pacific and Southeast Asian partners to strengthen measures to combat child sexual exploitation and abuse (CSEA). During the reporting period, the program:

- co-delivered the fourth Child Sexual Exploitation Regional Dialogue with the AFP's Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation and the Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement
- organised a regional study tour for senior Indonesian National Police to inform their operational responses to online CSEA
- supported UNICEF to deliver the 2024 ASEAN ICT Forum on Child Online Protection
- partnered with International Justice Mission to deliver an investigative workshop on online CSEA to law enforcement in Malaysia.

During 2024–25, lawyers from the Australian Government Solicitor delivered a range of pro bono legal training and other support in the Asia-Pacific region. Lawyers from the Papua New Guinean Office of the State Solicitor were trained on legal research, legal writing, statutory interpretation, and presentation skills; procurement, contract basics, and complex contract issues; and ICT contracts, leases and agreements for lease, contracting relevant to infrastructure projects, risk management and good governance, and legislative drafting.

Lawyers from various Vanuatu government agencies received training on legal reasoning and analysis, statutory interpretation, and legal writing.

Lawyers from Solomon Islands' Public Solicitor's Office received training on statutory interpretation.

The program also delivered a continuing Legal Education seminar sponsored by the PNG Law Society to over 80 Papua New Guinean lawyers, including from the Office of the State Solicitor, lawyers working at international firms and private practitioners.

⁴² The ODA expenditure figures listed for each government department or agency do not include non-ODA development funding or funding provided through DFAT to other government departments to deliver activities. The description of activities may include reference to activities funded by non-ODA or DFAT funding.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

ODA expenditure: \$117.0 million

The Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) is the Australian Government's specialist agricultural research-for-development agency. ACIAR contributes to Australia's overall development objectives by facilitating and funding international agricultural research partnerships, multilateral and regional research institutions, and capacity development programs. These partnerships and programs aim to increase the productivity and profitability of smallholder farmers, fishers and foresters and improve the livelihoods of rural households. They also support partner countries in the Pacific, Southeast Asia, South Asia and Africa to improve biosecurity, pest and disease control, market access, gender equality, and food and nutrition security.

Summary of achievements

In the Pacific, ACIAR supported the development and adoption of the Regional Research Agenda (RRA). The RRA identifies common forestry and agricultural development challenges in the Pacific, establishes research partnerships, and defines research strategies to address them. The framework brings decision-making, leadership, and planning into an inclusive Pacific-led process. In May 2025, Ministers of Agriculture and Forestry from Pacific island countries and territories endorsed the RRA and the Growing the Pacific 2050 Strategy for Agriculture and Forestry. The strategy will guide research and capacity-development investments over the next decade.

In the Philippines, ACIAR supported research in diverse rubber-based cropping systems. This project demonstrated that intercropping increases farm productivity and improves soil fertility, creating significant returns for smallholder farmers. The project sparked a dialogue on soil policy, leading Australia and the Philippines to sign an MoU to develop a National Soil Health Strategy.

In North and West Africa, ACIAR expanded its agricultural research support, commencing the six-year Africa–Australia Partnership for Climate Responsive Agriculture. The partnership aims to improve access of smallholder farmers to climate-smart innovations and safeguard food production as the impacts of climate change become more severe. For example, the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe) is leading innovation in circular food systems by using Black Soldier Fly (BSF) to convert organic waste into high-protein animal feed.

Teams in Ghana and Nigeria were trained in BSF farming techniques through the partnership. This builds on earlier ACIAR-supported work in East Africa, where smallholder farmers and youth entrepreneurs trained in BSF production are now generating new income streams. The approach is expected to deliver similar benefits for smallholder farmers across West Africa.

In the Pacific, ACIAR facilitated a knowledge exchange between leading scientists from Africa and the Pacific, enabling sharing of expertise on the use of BSF technology to produce high-protein animal feed and organic fertiliser with minimal waste and environmental impact.

Australian Federal Police

ODA expenditure: \$42.7 million

The AFP plays a vital role in promoting security, stability, and resilience across the Pacific region. The AFP collaborates with Pacific partners to understand the challenges they face and to assist in developing solutions. The AFP supports Pacific nations' policing approaches through shared legal and operational frameworks. This includes addressing issues such as transnational crime, human and drug trafficking, cybercrime and gender-based violence.

Summary of achievements

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force and AFP Policing Partnership Program (RAPPP) remained responsive to the priorities of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF). The RAPPP is committed to providing bilateral support to enhance the capability of the RSIPF following the departure of Solomon Islands' International Assistance Force (SIAP) in August 2024 and to support the changing priorities of the RSIPF. This leadership and capability uplift has been essential in maintaining the safety and security of Solomon Islands' community during periods of political instability and large-scale sporting and community events. These uplifts supported the RSIPF to successfully deliver the Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting in September 2025 without additional police from Australia or other policing donors.

The AFP also works closely with regional institutions, including the Pacific Islands Chiefs of Police and the Pacific Transnational Crime Network. The AFP supports information sharing and coordinated responses to emerging threats. By fostering these networks, the AFP helps ensure that Pacific law enforcement agencies are connected, agile and better equipped to respond to regional and global criminal threats.

The Pacific Policing Initiative (PPI) is a Pacific-led and designed initiative and marks an important step in the AFP's ongoing partnership across the Pacific region. The PPI is developing through Pacific police consultation to deliver a true 'by the Pacific, for the Pacific' model. The initiative is founded on three pillars:

- Regional Centres of Excellence
- The Pacific Police Support Group
- The Development and Coordination Hub

Key milestones of the PPI for 2024–25 include:

- the establishment of the Development and Coordination Hub at Pinkenba in Brisbane
- the launch of the first Regional Centre of Excellence in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
- the first contingent of the Pacific Police Support Group to commence training at the Pinkenba Hub.

These achievements reflect a maturing program of Pacific partnerships. They mark the first steps in delivering a sustainable framework for capability uplift, cooperation, and interoperability across Pacific law enforcement.

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

ODA expenditure: 18.8 million

Under the National Biosecurity Strategy and the Pacific Biosecurity Strategy (2022–2027), the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) continues to enhance biosecurity partnerships across the Indo-Pacific region. This work strengthens the biosecurity capacity and capability of Australia's regional biosecurity counterparts.

Summary of achievements

DAFF, through Australia's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Support Program (AASP), continues to lead the harmonising of biosecurity regulatory approaches across the Asia-Pacific region. This work addresses emerging threats to agricultural supply chains and food security by strengthening cooperation and developing consistent biosecurity risk management practices among APEC economies.

For example, DAFF, through AASP, led a project on harmonising biosecurity regulatory approaches across the Asia-Pacific region. A cornerstone of this effort was the 2025 Quarantine Regulators Meeting (QRM), held from 28 April to 2 May 2025 in Manila, Philippines. The QRM brings together international biosecurity agencies to exchange experiences and establish operational solutions to strengthen their management of biosecurity risks. The forum reinforces Australia's reputation as a trusted trading partner in

the Asia-Pacific and builds a stronger international community of biosecurity regulators.

The Office of the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer (OCVO) and the Australian Chief Plant Protection Officer (ACPPPO) manage multiple partnerships and technical programs. These programs strengthen disease surveillance and response, and biosecurity systems in the Indo-Pacific region, engaging the SPC, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Plant Protection Convention, and bilateral partners.

For example, DAFF is supporting Timor-Leste to meet international sanitary and phytosanitary standards to facilitate safe trade in agricultural products. The Timor-Leste Biosecurity Development Program 2023–26 is co-designed and co-delivered between counterparts in Timor-Leste's Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry, ACPPPO and OCVO. The program has improved the consistency of Timor-Leste's biosecurity system by supporting stakeholder collaboration on biosecurity and strengthening technical, operational and institutional capacity.

DAFF's International Plant Health Surveillance Program plays a critical role in pre-border early warning, preparedness and management of exotic and emerging plant pest risks in Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. OCVO manages a similar program of work, focusing on surveillance and preparedness for exotic and emerging animal diseases in Timor-Leste, Papua New Guinea and other Pacific Island countries and territories. For example, through WOAH the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, ACVO has invested in activities across Southeast Asia to improve the control of significant transboundary animal diseases (including rabies prevention projects focused on mass dog vaccination in Timor-Leste and Indonesia) and to further strengthen veterinary and aquatic animal health services to build disease prevention and control capacity.

Furthermore, as part of Australia's ongoing efforts to promote sustainable forest management practices and highlight the role of forests in climate change mitigation and resilience, and as sources of sustainable development, DAFF has contributed to programs and projects that highlight the vital role of forests and actively support their management. DAFF contributed \$100,000 as a sponsor of the Forest Pavilion held at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP30 in Belem, Brazil. This Pavilion brings together international experts in forestry, science, policy and finance to highlight the vital role that forests and forest products play globally.

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

ODA expenditure: \$3.3 million

In 2024–25, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) supported Australia’s international development objectives through investment in environment and climate-related activities.

Summary of achievements

DCCEEW supported the implementation of the Convention on Wetlands, including through targeted investments to strengthen partnerships and facilitate outcomes in the Pacific region.

DCCEEW also contributed to a global partnership supporting developing countries to implement biodiversity strategies aligned with Australia’s international goals. Strategies include helping local communities in Pacific Island countries with their biodiversity practices in agriculture, fisheries, forestry and tourism.

Australia’s voluntary contributions to the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) targeted areas within Australia’s national interest. This includes tackling plastic pollution, emphasising First Nations engagement, and promoting a circular economy. DCCEEW made several other contributions to organisations for the 2024–25 period:

- Contribution of guidance and support via the steering committee of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Accelerator Partnership. The partnership facilitates access to financial and technical support to help developing countries to develop and implement their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.
- Contribution of \$1.6 million to UNEP’s Environment Fund, which supports the delivery of UNEP’s core work providing the science, data, and policy expertise that underpin global efforts to address the triple planetary crisis.
- Voluntary contribution of \$2 million to the UNEP in 2025 to support the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on Plastic Pollution. These funds go to the INC Secretariat to facilitate negotiations for a legally binding global treaty to end plastic pollution.
- Contribution of \$296,000 to the core budget of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The UNCCD is the only legally binding international agreement linking environment and development to sustainable land management.

- Contribution of USD217,000 to the core budget of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES). CITES is an international agreement between governments that aims to ensure that international trade in animals and plants (and products made from them) does not threaten the survival of wild species.
- Contribution of \$120,000 to the SPREP for their undertaking of activities relating to enhancing engagement and implementation of Target 3 (globally protecting and conserving 30 per cent of land and 30 per cent of oceans by 2030) of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in the Pacific, in partnership with the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People Secretariat.

These activities reflect DCCEEW’s ongoing commitment to inclusive, regionally focused, and multilateral approaches to environmental development cooperation.

Defence

ODA expenditure: \$0.5 million

Throughout 2024–25, the Department of Defence continued to deepen its partnerships in the Pacific to foster a region where sovereignty is respected, and collective, Pacific-led security responses are the norm. Defence is prioritising non-ODA investment in the long-standing Defence Cooperation Program, the Pacific Maritime Security Program and the Indo-Pacific Infrastructure Program. These investments build the region’s collective ability to deliver security outcomes for the region and enhance interoperability.

Summary of achievements

Throughout 2024–25 under the Lombrum Joint Initiative, the governments of Papua New Guinea and Australia completed the redevelopment of His Majesty’s Papua New Guinea Naval Base (HMPNGS) Tarangau on Manus Island, Papua New Guinea. Australia’s investment (total value of \$503 million in non-ODA funding) prioritised economic benefits to Manus Island by employing, training and upskilling local workers, as well as supporting local industry by using local material, resources and services wherever possible. At the completion of the project in January 2025, the Lombrum Joint Initiative had generated more than 700 local jobs in Papua New Guinea, including more than 350 jobs in Manus Province.

In 2024–25, the governments of Fiji and Australia completed the Vuvale Maritime Essential Services Centre in Suva, Fiji. The centre is a multi-agency

facility for the Republic of Fiji Navy and other Fiji government services. Australia's investment (total value approximately \$83 million in non-ODA funding) prioritised economic benefits to Fiji's economy by employing and upskilling local workers through local training institutions, as well as supporting local industry by using local resources and services. Over its duration, the program established more than 1,400 local contracts.

Employment and Workplace Relations

ODA expenditure: \$8.6 million

Together with DFAT, the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) manages the PALM scheme. The PALM scheme is Australia's primary temporary migration program for unskilled, low-skilled and semi-skilled workers. DEWR is responsible for the domestic delivery of the PALM scheme. It supports Australian businesses to address workforce shortages in rural and regional Australia. It supports businesses nationally for agriculture and select agriculture-related food product manufacturing sectors where there is demonstrated unmet workforce shortages. The PALM scheme also supports the economic growth of Pacific and Timor-Leste countries.

Summary of achievements

The PALM scheme remains an important temporary migration program providing employment opportunities for workers from Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. It also delivers skills dividends and remittances to sending countries.

The welfare and wellbeing of Pacific and Timor-Leste workers in Australia is a core priority for the Australian Government and Pacific and Timor-Leste partners. All PALM scheme workers have the same workplace entitlements and protections as Australian workers, including fair pay and conditions.

The government has committed AU\$440 million across successive budgets to grow and strengthen the PALM scheme and to better protect and support workers. Worker protections include settings above minimum legislated standards, such as minimum hours, a minimum pay safety net, improved transparency of deductions and accommodation standards, supported by robust monitoring, compliance and assurance oversight.

The government is committed to continuing to strengthen the PALM scheme Approved Employer Deed and Guidelines settings to meet the needs of employers and ensure strong and effective protections for PALM scheme workers.

To support this, the government regularly reviews and updates the PALM scheme guidelines to ensure they remain robust and accurate, and reflect current legislative requirements and operational priorities.

The government is undertaking a Review of the Impact of Key Settings in the PALM scheme Approved Employer Deed and Guidelines introduced in July 2023. Comprehensive consultation was completed late 2025. The government is considering a draft preliminary report.

Addressing risks of exploitation is central to current scheme settings and Australian Public Service program delivery. For example, DEWR commenced a review of the impact of key PALM scheme Deed and Guidelines settings during 2024–25. The review is being undertaken in two phases:

- Phase 1 focuses on the minimum work hours setting
- Phase 2 focuses on eight other key settings – accommodation and transport standards, pay parity, low hours safety net, minimum net pay guarantee, cultural competency, transparency of deductions and worker welfare and wellbeing support.

DEWR finalised phase 1 of the review in December 2024. Findings from both phases of the review, including input from stakeholders, will inform advice to government on the impact of key settings by the end of 2025.

Health, Disability and Ageing

ODA expenditure: \$15.4 million

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA) engages in targeted international activities to support greater global health security, improve regional capabilities, strengthen global health architecture and improve health outcomes globally.

Summary of achievements

Australia strengthens global health architecture through its engagement with multilateral organisations. This includes Australia's assessed contribution to:

- the WHO (\$19.3 million in 2024–25, with 76 per cent of this amount being ODA eligible)
- the International Research Agency for Cancer (\$1.5 million in 2024–25, with 51 per cent being ODA eligible).

This funding contributes to global health research, influences global health reform, and shapes the development of international norms and standards.

DHDA, in partnership with DFAT, provided \$25 million in 2024–25 to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness

Innovations (CEPI) to strengthen global health security. CEPI funds research and develops vaccines for pathogens of epidemic and pandemic potential, and supports access to such vaccines for low and lower-middle-income countries.

In 2024–25, DHDA continued its support for the UN Office on Drugs and Crime Joint Global Programme (JGP), which prioritises essential pain relief and palliative care. Australia’s funding enabled implementation of the JGP in Indonesia, Fiji, and Timor-Leste, supporting national efforts to develop palliative care strategies and strengthen healthcare capacity.

DHDA, through the interim Australian Centre for Disease Control, has led the implementation of the Pacific Climate and Health Resilience Package, a \$2.5 million investment under DFAT’s Partnerships for a Healthy Region Initiative. The package provides support to Pacific countries to build more climate-resilient and equitable health systems through strengthened regional coordination and recognising the leading role the SPC has taken on climate change issues.

The package was established in 2024–25. The year saw engagement across the Australian Government and with Pacific stakeholders on the design of the package and its priorities. Strategic Partnership Frameworks were also finalised with the WHO and SPC to act as key regional delivery partners.

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

ODA expenditure: nil

The Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) is a leader and trusted advisor in the region as Australia’s relevant authority in radiation protection and regulation. ARPANSA provides in-kind support for training, inspection, regulatory and technical operations, and supports engagement in regional and international programs.

ARPANSA is responsible for fulfilling Australia’s radionuclide monitoring commitments under the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). ARPANSA invests significantly in CTBT projects as a coordinator and subject expert. This is vital to ensuring ARPANSA continues to deliver on its commitments to the treaty, while providing additional support and infrastructure to Fiji and Kiribati to do likewise.

Summary of achievements

To support ARPANSA’s CTBT role, in 2019, ARPANSA took responsibility for and now operates International Monitoring System (IMS) stations in Fiji and Kiribati.

The Fiji and Kiribati IMS stations are operated by the Fiji Met Service and a local contract company, respectively. ARPANSA officers have strong connections with local operators, supporting additional training initiatives and capacity building. Kiribati is a particularly challenging operating context due to its remoteness and requirement to run on generator power. Over the past few years, enhancements have stabilised this site, providing the space to plan a complete upgrade to the power infrastructure at the facility.

ARPANSA leveraged its regulatory assessment of the High Flux Australian Reactor decommissioning licence application within the framework of Australia’s nuclear safety legislation. This was presented under the International Atomic Energy Agency Technical Cooperation program to Indonesia. ARPANSA’s risk-informed, performance-based regulatory approach aligned with international standards and was used as model practice. ARPANSA’s evaluation of safety management, radiation protection, waste classification, emergency preparedness, and environmental safeguards provided a reference model for future nuclear decommissioning efforts in Indonesia.

Industry, Science and Resources

ODA expenditure: nil

The Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) works through its divisions such as the National Measurement Institute (NMI), to contribute to international science, innovation, industry and resources cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. This is done through partnerships aimed at boosting collaboration, commercialisation and the use of Australian research and development, which facilitate investment in science and technology, grow innovative and competitive businesses, industries and regions, and support a strong resources sector.

Summary of achievements

Highlights from non-ODA development activities in 2024–25 include the following:

- NMI helped build the metrological capabilities of regional partners through the Asia Pacific Metrology Programme and the Asia Pacific Legal Metrology Forum. These bring together national metrology institutes and legal metrology authorities from the Asia-Pacific to improve regional scientific measurement capabilities and support regional harmonisation of regulatory frameworks.

Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation

ODA expenditure: nil

The Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) is Australia's centre of nuclear excellence. Landmark infrastructure places ANSTO at the forefront of translational nuclear science and technology research and innovation. ANSTO is actively working to address some of the most challenging issues facing the world today in agriculture, human health, the environment, ocean health, advanced materials and critical minerals.

ANSTO contributes to international science, innovation, and technical cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region through partnerships aimed at boosting collaborations, commercialisation, and sharing Australian research and development. These programs facilitate investment in regional growth in nuclear science and technology.

Summary of achievements

Highlights from non-ODA development activities in 2024–25 include the following:

- ANSTO continued to lead a flagship project under the Forum for Nuclear Cooperation in Asia (FNCA) on combating food fraud using nuclear technology. FNCA hosted an in-person workshop in Sydney to share innovative techniques for food authentication and integrity with participants from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and Fiji.
- Through the Regional Cooperative Agreement for Research, Development and Training Related to Nuclear Science and Technology for Asia and the Pacific, ANSTO coordinated the implementation of training programs and technical cooperation activities. The activities supported Indo-Pacific partners in applying nuclear techniques to improve health, agriculture and environmental outcomes.
- ANSTO hosted the annual Subregional Approach to the Pacific Islands (SAPI) workshop in Melbourne in 2025. SAPI brought together 25 officials from 11 Indo-Pacific countries to progress radiation safety frameworks and co-design new regional projects in cancer care, climate-smart agriculture, and water resource management.

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

ODA expenditure: \$4.2 million

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (DITRDCA) provides funding to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and to the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) to support telecommunications and ICT capacity-building projects in the Asia-Pacific.

Summary of achievements

During 2024–25, DITRDCA in cooperation with the ITU and the APT delivered the APT Expert Mission in Samoa – a review of Samoa's National ICT Policy, and funded fellowships for delegates from the Pacific and Southeast Asia to attend the ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference and APT Policy and Regulatory Forum for the Pacific.

DITRDCA, with the ITU and the APT, also continued ITU multi-year capacity-building projects:

- Accelerating digital transformation in Bhutan, Laos and Papua New Guinea by assisting in the development of whole-of-government digital transformation strategies and policies, and e-government platforms and applications.
- Accelerating digital transformation in the Pacific by conducting a study to outline options for a sustainable approach to addressing the telecommunications and ICT development needs of Pacific Small Island Developing States.
- Developing e-waste regulatory framework recommendations for Thailand and Mongolia.

DITRDCA also develops postal services in the Asia-Pacific region. From 2022 to 2025, through the Pacific Postal Development Partnership, DITRDCA and Australia Post contributed to increasing efficiency and security of postal services between Australia and the Pacific, benefiting consumers and businesses.

DITRDCA provided a \$450,000 contribution to Australia Post to target improvements to postal systems, processes, technology and training in the region over three years. This funding was supplemented by Australia Post's expertise and in-kind support, including the provision of equipment to help meet the needs of Pacific postal operators.

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation

ODA expenditure: nil

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's

national science agency. CSIRO works closely with Australian Government departments and agencies, and other government, business, research and local community partners to develop innovative, science-based responses to priority challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.

CSIRO leads a range of ODA programs funded through the appropriations of other Australian Government agencies. Programs are on climate change, health, agriculture, food and water security, the blue economy, plastic waste, and energy transition. CSIRO draws on its non-ODA budget to maintain relationships with key regional institutions and collaborate on regional and international initiatives and events.

CSIRO delivered a number of activities in 2024–25.

- CSIRO’s Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (CSIRO-ACDP) continued working across Southeast Asia and the Pacific, with support from DFAT and DAFF. CSIRO-ACDP worked to strengthen diagnostic and surveillance systems to prevent, detect and respond to animal and human health threats in the region. CSIRO-ACDP receives funding from DFAT through the Partnerships for a Healthy Region initiative. It also receives funding from DAFF to strengthen diagnostic capability and external quality assurance at Ministry of Agriculture and Indonesian Quarantine Authority laboratories for priority diseases in Indonesia, such as foot and mouth disease and lumpy skin disease. DAFF provides funding to CSIRO-ACDP to deliver expert advice and training in laboratory diagnostics, quality management and biorisk management across Southeast Asia and the Pacific.
- The AquaWatch4Lakes: Indonesia technology demonstration project seeks to enhance Indonesia’s water quality monitoring and forecasting capabilities via research in action and co-design. The project, which started in February 2025, is led by CSIRO, funded by DCCEEW, and undertaken in collaboration with key Indonesian partners from BAPPENAS, BRIN and Hasanuddin University. Its goal is to provide access to accurate water quality data that supports decision-making. The AquaWatch4Lakes program supports enhanced monitoring of a key Indonesian lake (Late Tempe, Sulawesi) to improve access to water quality data, support sustainable aquaculture practices and enable better water quality management.
- From 2023 to 2026, CSIRO is working with Live and Learn, WWF–Solomon Islands, ACIAR, the Cawthron Institute, the University of Technology Sydney, and the SPC, in collaboration with Pacific

partners on coastal food systems, to inform innovative mapping of local-level transformations and connect with national governments’ strategies. The project is working in two pilot sites: Abaiang Island in Kiribati, and Sagheraghi in Western Province, Solomon Islands. To date, it has supported communities in developing adaptation pathways which integrate agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture within ‘circular bio-economies’ to meet the values and aspirations of local communities. The project has engaged with in-country partners and donors and is prioritising strategies to be implemented in each location with project seed funds.

- Through the Pacific Agrifood Futures initiative (2023–26), CSIRO is forming strategic regional and country partnerships to integrate climate resilience approaches across land, sea and food value chains. In collaboration with Pacific partners, the Pacific Agrifood Futures pilot activities that support countries to strengthen the resilience of their food systems to climate change through interconnected sub-regional and country-specific research projects. The projects respond to locally identified priorities and co-create knowledge and science. This includes increasing access to contextually relevant knowledge that blends indigenous and traditional knowledge with western scientific knowledge for enhanced climate resilience in Pacific atolls and raised coral islands.

Treasury

ODA expenditure: \$109.9 million

Treasury’s ODA-eligible expenditure supports multilateral development banks (MDBs) that contribute to development outcomes. In 2024–25, Treasury made the first of five payments towards an agreed general capital increase to the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). The purpose of the capital increase is to strengthen the EBRD’s balance sheet, allowing it to provide increased support for Ukraine both in wartime and in reconstruction, and support the EBRD’s priorities in all economies where it operates. For further information on MDBs, please refer to Chapter 3.

Since 2020, budget support loans have become a significant development finance tool for Australia. Treasury’s current portfolio under the IMA Act includes concessional bilateral loans to Papua New Guinea. The loans are intended to support reform actions under Papua New Guinea’s IMF program. The IMF program supports Papua New Guinea to address longstanding structural issues, reduce poverty and foster reforms for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Annex D: Development Evaluation Plan summary outcome

In 2024–25, 46 evaluations were completed and 43 published on the DFAT website with a management response.

Pacific

Country/region	Evaluation
Pacific Regional	Pacific Fiscal Budget Support 2020-2023 Evaluation
Pacific Regional	Partnerships for Social Protection – End-of-Phase Evaluation
Pacific Regional	Team Up mid-term review
Papua New Guinea	Health Sector Improvement Program Trust Account: End of Investment Evaluation
Solomon Islands	Australia Solomon Islands Partnership for Justice Mid-Term Review
Solomon Islands	Mid Term Review of the DFAT Solomon Islands Infrastructure Program
Fiji	Fiji Women's Crisis Centre Mid-Term Evaluation
Fiji	Strategic Review of the Fiji Australia Institutional Partnerships Program
Fiji	Women's Fund Fiji Mid-Term Review
Vanuatu	Vanuatu Education and Skills Design Stage 1 - High Level Modality Review
Tonga	Independent Completion Review of Australia's contribution to the multi-donor Tongan Outer Islands Renewable Energy Project
Tonga	Independent Review: Tonga Health Promotion Foundation's Implementation of responsibilities under the National NCD Strategy
Tonga	Tonga Australia Support Program (TASP) Independent Evaluation
Kiribati	Kiribati Australia Skills for Employment Partnership (KASfEP) Evaluation

Southeast Asia

Country/region	Evaluation
Indonesia	Australia Indonesia Partnership Towards an Inclusive Society (INKLUSI) Midterm Review
Indonesia	Independent Strategic Review – Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) School Partnerships Program in Indonesia (2019-2025)
Indonesia	Mid-Term Review of Indonesia-Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement – Economic Cooperation Program 'Katalis' and Management Response
Philippines	Advancing Multilateral Partnerships for Economic Development Mid Term Review
Philippines	Australia Awards and Alumni Engagement Program - Philippines Final Program Evaluation
Vietnam	Mid-term Review of The Elimination of Violence Against Women and Children in Viet Nam 2021-2025 Programme
Cambodia	Independent Strategic Review - DFAT support to the Identification of Poor Households (IDPoor) in Cambodia Phase 3
Laos	Mid-Term Review of the Basic Education Quality and Access in Lao PDR (Phase 2) Program

Country/region	Evaluation
Laos	The Independent Review of the Laos Australia Institute (LAI) Phase III
ASEAN and Mekong	Evaluating development and diplomacy outcomes through Australian Water Partnership partnerships in the Mekong
ASEAN and Mekong	The Mekong Thought Leadership and Think Tanks Network Program Mid-Term Evaluation
ASEAN and Mekong	TRIANGLE in ASEAN: Safe and Fair Labour Migration - Independent Final Evaluation
Southeast Asia Regional	Partnerships for Infrastructure Mid-Term Review

South and Central Asia

Country/region	Evaluation
Sri Lanka	Independent Evaluation of DFAT's World Bank program 'Eliminating barriers to Inclusive and Sustainable Growth in Sri Lanka'
Sri Lanka	Skills for Inclusive Growth (S4IG) Program Final Evaluation
Nepal	Nepal Subnational Governance Program (SNGP) – Phase II
South and Central Asia Regional	South Asia Water Security Initiative (SAWASI) mid-term review report and management response
South and Central Asia Regional	Australia Awards in South Asia and Mongolia: Mid-Term Review

Beyond the Indo-Pacific

Country/region	Evaluation
Middle East and North Africa	Strategic Review Report: Occupied Palestinian Territories Humanitarian and Development Program (2019-22)

Global

Program	Evaluation
Humanitarian	Mid-Term Evaluation of the Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery
Humanitarian	SPRINT IV Program 2022–2024 Mid-Term Review
Humanitarian	Evaluation of the Australian Humanitarian Partnership's Activations on Food Security and Livelihoods in Ethiopia and Kenya

Sector

Program	Evaluation
Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion	Partnership Evaluation of the DFAT - CBM Australia - Nossal Institute partnership
National and Economic Resilience	External Evaluation of the Standards and Trade Development Facility
National and Economic Resilience	Stocktaking/Assessment & Learning Review of the Trade Facilitation Support Programme
National and Economic Resilience	Mid-Term Review of Australia's APEC Support Program (AASP)
Regional and Global Health	Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative (VAHSI) Evaluation
Regional and Global Health	Evaluation of the Pacific Community (SPC) Public Health Division (PHD) Investments

Program	Evaluation
Regional and Global Health	Evaluation of the Health Security Initiative's Applied Research Program

Annex E: Development finance data

This annex provides data supporting the development finance information presented in Chapter 4.

IMA Act loans

Loan	Loan amount (\$ million)	Estimated loan outstanding amount (\$ million) (as at 30 June 2025)	Entered into	Borrower	Interest rate ⁴³	Term
Loan Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of Indonesia	1,500	1,050.0	November 2020	Government of Indonesia	Australian Government cost of borrowing + margin	15 years
2020 Loan Agreement to the Government of Papua New Guinea	557.5	434.1	November 2020	Government of Papua New Guinea	Australian Government cost of borrowing + margin	15 years
2021 Loan Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of Papua New Guinea	650	555.3	December 2021	Government of Papua New Guinea	Australian Government cost of borrowing + margin	20 years
2022 Loan Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of Papua New Guinea	750	699.7	December 2022	Government of Papua New Guinea	Australian Government cost of borrowing	20 years
2023 Loan Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of Papua New Guinea	600	562.9	December 2023	Government of Papua New Guinea	Australian Government cost of borrowing	20 years
2024 Loan Agreement between the Australian Government and the Government of Papua New Guinea	570	554.5	December 2024	Government of Papua New Guinea	Australian Government cost of borrowing	20 years

⁴³ At the time of drawdown as determined by the daily yield on Australian Government bonds with a 10-year maturity.

Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific announced projects

Projects listed below exclude those that:

- have not yet been announced
- do not yet have signed financing agreements
- are funded under the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership program
- cannot be disclosed due to commercial sensitivities.

Project amounts also exclude certain committed project costs, such as:

- project preparation and feasibility studies
- project administration and monitoring and evaluation costs
- capitalised interest
- goods and services tax.

Given this, the total value of projects listed does not equal the total value committed to 30 June 2025 (\$2.03 billion listed in Table 4).

Where financing agreements are denominated in USD, all figures have been converted to AUD using an exchange rate of AUD 1.00 = USD 0.70. Where financing agreements are denominated in FJD, figures have been converted to AUD using an exchange rate of AUD 1.00 = FJD 1.55.

Fiji Airports – Airport Maintenance and Upgrades

An AIFFP loan enabled essential maintenance and capital works at Nadi International Airport and several outer island airports across Fiji. The loan and guarantee were denominated in FJD. The works included upgrades to air traffic management systems and off-gate aprons to improve capacity for plane parking. The delivery of the project will facilitate improved serviceability, passenger capacity, and safety. It will also enable greater air connectivity for the entire South Pacific.

On 8 May 2024, ANZ refinanced the AIFFP loan and discharged the AIFFP guarantee. The ANZ refinance represents the AIFFP's first fully discharged loan and guarantee.

Sovereign Partner: n/a

Project Partner: Airports Fiji Ltd and ANZ Fiji

Sector: Airports

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
6.5	61.9	–	–	68.4	4.25%	5 years	AIFFP Loan: Interest only, with bullet principal repayment 5 years after date of contract	February 2021	June 2021
							ANZ loan (guaranteed by AIFFP): 2-year interest only period starting from financial close		

East Micronesia Cable System (Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, and Nauru)

The AIFFP is contributing a \$65.0 million grant to a partnership with Japan and the United States to improve internet connectivity in the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati and Nauru via a new submarine cable and supporting infrastructure. The cable will provide faster, higher quality and more reliable internet to more than 100,000 people across Tarawa in Kiribati, Kosrae state in the Federated States of Micronesia and Nauru. While internet access is currently available through satellite connectivity, capacity, speed, cost and reliability fall short of the countries' needs and limit economic and development opportunities. The new cable will help increase the availability of digital government services and enable increased trade and employment opportunities through better access to services, information and worldwide markets.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, Government of the Republic of Kiribati, Government of the Republic of Nauru

Project Partner: BwebwerikiNET Limited of Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia Telecommunications Cable Corporation, Government of Japan, Nauru Fibre Cable Corporation, and United States Government

Sector: Telecommunications

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
–	–	65.0	–	65.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	December 2021	December 2021

Fiji Transport Infrastructure Restoration

An AIFFP loan and grant package is enabling upgrades to more than 1.5 million m² of road surface and nine bridges across Fiji. Climate data are integrated into all the bridge designs, helping to improve resilience to shocks and stresses. As a result, the bridges will have a design life of up to 100 years and can withstand a one-in-100-year rainfall event. Upon completion, the roads and bridges will improve safety and protect against increased travel time and costs.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Republic of Fiji

Project Partner: Fiji Roads Authority

Sector: Transport

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
57.1	–	14.8	–	71.9	SOFR ⁴⁴ + 0.93%	15 years	3 years	August 2022	October 2022

Nauru Airport Rehabilitation

Through a combination of funding from the AIFFP and the DFAT Nauru bilateral program, Australia is funding upgrades to Nauru International Airport. The works include resurfacing of the runway and upgrading critical air traffic control equipment to ensure the airport continues to meet international standards.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Republic of Nauru

Project Partner: Government of the Republic of Nauru

Sector: Airports

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
–	–	39.4	10.0	49.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	February 2022	February 2022

⁴⁴ SOFR is the secured overnight financing rate.

Nui and Niutao Islands Boat Harbour Development

Comprising two separate projects, the AIFFP partnered with the ADB to co-finance the construction of two new boat harbours in Tuvalu's outer islands, Nui and Niutao, bolstering transport connectivity for passengers and cargo throughout Tuvalu. The critical infrastructure will strengthen Tuvalu's resilience to climate change and deliver significant local job opportunities.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Tuvalu

Project Partner: Asian Development Bank

Sector: Maritime

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
-	-	21.4	-	21.4	n/a	n/a	n/a	May 2023	June 2023

Palau Independent Power Producer – Solar Generation and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

An AIFFP funding package enabled the construction of a solar facility and battery storage system at Ngatpang on the island of Babeldaob in Palau. The plant has the capacity to deliver up to 23,000 MW hours per year to the grid network, or up to 20 per cent of Palau's electricity needs. This will help reduce Palau's dependency on imported diesel for power generation and move the country toward greater energy self-sufficiency through renewable sources.

Sovereign Partner: n/a

Project Partner: Palau Public Utilities Corporation, Solar Pacific Pristine Power Inc.

Sector: Energy

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
25.7	-	5.7	-	31.4	4.75%	17 years	2 years interest only	September 2020	December 2020

Palau ECHO Submarine Cable Branch System

Through the AIFFP, Australia has partnered with the Republic of Palau, the United States Government and Government of Japan to finance a second fibre-optic submarine cable system for Palau. The second submarine cable will introduce much-needed redundancy to Palau's international connectivity. The trust built by this redundancy and the digitisation it will underpin will drive innovation and transformation across the economy and society.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Republic of Palau

Project Partner: Belau Submarine Cable Corporation, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, United States Government

Sector: Telecommunications

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
12.6	-	2.2	0.8	15.6	Loan Tranche 1: 1.836% Loan Tranche 2: 2.55%	Loan Tranche 1: 10 years Loan Tranche 2: 19 years	Loan Tranche 1: 5 years after the date of the Loan Agreement Loan Tranche 2: 9 years after the date of the Loan Agreement	May 2020	December 2020

Laitim Hauslain (Power Sector Development Project)

An AIFFP loan and grant package is enabling the expansion of the electricity distribution grid in Papua New Guinea's Morobe and East New Britain provinces. The work covers medium- and low-voltage powerlines, transformers and household meter connections. Through the Laitim Hauslain project, the AIFFP and PNG Power Limited are connecting more than 30,000 households, schools and health clinics to the electricity grid for the first time.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Papua New Guinea

Project Partner: PNG Power Ltd

Sector: Energy

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
73.6	-	18.3	-	91.9	Variable interest rate: SOFR + 1.23%	24 years	5 years	April 2021	March 2022

Papua New Guinea Ports Infrastructure Investment Development

This program comprises five projects in five provinces. The AIFFP provided a loan and grant package to the Government of Papua New Guinea to refurbish, replace and upgrade key port assets across the country in Kimbe, Kavieng, Daru, Oro Bay and Lae ports. The works, as prioritised in Papua New Guinea's 30 Year Ports Infrastructure Master Plan, will increase access to goods, trade, and services for communities and support Papua New Guinea's economic development by improving transport distribution networks.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Papua New Guinea

Project Partner: PNG Ports Corporation Limited

Sector: Maritime

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
521.4	-	100.0	-	621.4	SOFR + 0.8 per cent (~6.3 per cent at present)	24 years	-	November 2021	November 2021

Connect Papua New Guinea - Roads Repair

An AIFFP loan and grant package is facilitating long-term rehabilitation and maintenance of the Wau Highway in Papua New Guinea. Upon completion, the roads will improve safety and increase connectivity to domestic and export markets.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Papua New Guinea

Project Partner: Papua New Guinea Department of Works and Highways

Sector: Transport

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
61.6	-	14.7	-	76.3	SOFR + 1.23%	23 years	6 years	April 2021	March 2022

Sasape Shipyard Redevelopment

The Sasape shipyard was in a state of disrepair, with the tenant, Solomon Islands Shipyard Limited (SISL), leasing the land from Solomon Islands' National Provident Fund. The AIFFP provided SISL with a loan to purchase the land to allow it to restore the shipyard and develop more advanced shipping services. Complementing the AIFFP's financing support, a bilateral grant from DFAT's Solomon Islands bilateral program has supported SISL in upgrading capital works at the shipyard.

Sovereign Partner: n/a (private sector project)

Project Partner: Solomon Islands Shipyard Limited

Sector: Maritime

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
7.0	-	-	2.1	9.1	Bank Bill Swap rate (BBSW) + 4.8%	25 years	2 years	October 2022	May 2023

Tina River Hydropower Transmission System

The Tina River Hydropower Transmission System project, which will be constructed approximately 20 km southeast of Honiara, will be the Solomon Islands Government's first large-scale public-private partnership. It is the largest renewable energy project in the country. AIFFP financing is supporting a transmission system that includes a 22 km transmission line to connect the Tina River hydropower site to the electricity grid in Honiara. Upon completion, the system will enable a cheaper, more reliable electricity supply in Honiara for residential, business, and government customers.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Solomon Islands

Project Partner: Solomon Islands Electricity Authority

Sector: Energy

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
15.1	-	17.3	-	32.4	3.05%	24 years	4 years	March 2020	July 2020

Timor-Leste Airport Facility Development

Through a combination of funding from the AIFFP and the DFAT Timor-Leste bilateral program, a number of auxiliary airport assets will be built and maintained. This will support the construction and maintenance of a quarantine building, access roads, and other infrastructure assets at the Presidente Nicolau Lobato International Airport in Dili.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Timor-Leste

Project Partner: Government of Timor-Leste

Sector: Airports

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
57.1	-	43.7	22.1	122.9	SOFR + 1.23%	25 years	5 years	September 2022	October 2022

Nuku'alofa Port Upgrade

Nuku'alofa Port is vital to Tonga's economic recovery and growth, with approximately 98 per cent of Tonga's imports arriving by sea. An AIFFP grant is supporting the rehabilitation, restoration and upgrading of the port to ensure its resilience to the ongoing impacts of climate change. The AIFFP partnered with the Asian Development Bank and the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga to support the redevelopment, which has supported the creation of more than 80 local jobs.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Kingdom of Tonga

Project Partner: Asian Development Bank

Sector: Maritime

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
-	-	28.6	-	28.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	February 2023	March 2023

Tonga Parliament Development

In November 2019, after Cyclone Gita destroyed Tonga's Parliament House, then-Foreign Minister Payne agreed to contribute funds to the Government of the Kingdom of Tonga toward the reconstruction of Tonga's:

- Parliament House; and
- Office of the Legislative Assembly.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Kingdom of Tonga

Project Partner: Government of New Zealand

Sector: Other

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
-	-	13.0	-	13.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	November 2021	March 2022

Tonga Hawaiki Submarine Cable Branch System

The project involves the construction of a 383 km undersea telecommunications cable from the branching unit on the Hawaiki trunk cable to the existing cable landing station in Vava'u, Tonga. Tonga currently has one international undersea cable, connecting Fiji to Tongatapu, and a domestic cable connecting Tongatapu and Vava'u.

In 2022, the Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai underwater volcano erupted. It caused significant damage to Tonga's undersea cable network and a complete country-wide communications outage until satellite services could be arranged. This significantly hampered humanitarian efforts, and it was several weeks before the international cable was repaired.

The project will provide Tonga with a 'redundancy cable' and enhance the resilience of Tonga's telecommunications network. A more robust network will assist the implementation of Tonga's National E-commerce Strategy and Roadmap and digital transformation goals.

Sovereign Partner: Government of the Kingdom of Tonga

Project Partner: Government of New Zealand, Tonga Cable Ltd

Sector: Telecommunications

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
-	-	35.6	-	35.6	n/a	n/a	n/a	October 2023	October 2023

Tuvalu Vaka Cable

The project will secure Tuvalu its first undersea telecommunications cable. The cable will provide Tuvalu with primary international submarine cable connectivity, enhancing affordability, accessibility, and reliability for Tuvaluans.

Sovereign Partner: Government of Tuvalu

Project Partner: Google, Japan, New Zealand, Taiwan, Tuvalu Telecommunication Corporation, United States

Sector: Telecommunications

Loan (\$ million)	Guarantee (\$ million)	AIFFP Grant (\$ million)	Bilateral grant (\$ million)	Total (\$ million)	Interest rate	Tenor (years)	Grace period	Board review	Government approval
-	-	3.1	50.0	53.1	n/a	n/a	n/a	March 2024	April 2024

Blended finance

Mechanism	Australian Development Investments	Private Infrastructure Development Group ⁴⁵	Australian Climate Finance Partnership	Business Partnerships Platform (Phase 2)
Capital expended into mechanism financial year 2024–25 ⁴⁶ (\$ million)	115.3	33.18	0	2.5
Investment commitments 2024–25 (\$ million)	19.9	21.40	32.27	0 ⁴⁷
Private finance mobilised 2024–25 (\$ million)	28.17	30.40	53.62	3.16
Number of deals 2024–25	2	12	2	0 ⁴⁸
Total investment commitments (\$ million)	49.2	101.97	73.1	17
Total private finance mobilised (\$ million)	181.5	139.25	163.7	21.0
Total mechanism size (\$ million) as of 30 June 2025	250	191 ⁴⁹	140	32.8
Instruments used	Equity, loans, TA ⁵⁰	Guarantees, loans, equity, TA	Equity, loans, TA	Matched grants

⁴⁵ PIDG figures are now reported on a financial year basis (2024–25 for this report). This is a change from previously where figures were reported on a calendar year basis. Figures are attributable to DFAT funding, not the overall size of the PIDG.

⁴⁶ From 2024–25 for consistency purposes capital expended into each mechanism reflects all expenses, including for investment capital, technical assistance and fees etc.

⁴⁷ No new investment commitments in 2024–25, despite ongoing partnerships in implementation stage.

⁴⁸ The program had 17 ongoing partnerships in 2024–25, but no new partnerships.

⁴⁹ This figure is a combination of core funding (\$90.9 million), the Kinetik Fund for Green Infrastructure in Indonesia (\$22.42 million) and the Australia-Vietnam Transition Platform (\$17 million).

⁵⁰ TA is technical assistance.

Mechanism	Australian Development Investments	Private Infrastructure Development Group ⁴⁵	Australian Climate Finance Partnership	Business Partnerships Platform (Phase 2)
Geographic focus	Indo-Pacific	South and Southeast Asia	Southeast Asia and the Pacific	Indo-Pacific
Investments with a climate focus (%)	38	64	100	76
Investments with a gender focus (%)	73	72	100	82

Blended finance—Australian Development Investments (ADI)

Lendable—Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Fintech Credit Fund

The Lendable Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Fintech Credit Fund is one of the few gender lens-oriented private debt funds supporting fintech companies active in Southeast Asia. By integrating gender considerations into its investment strategy, Lendable seeks to expand women’s access to finance, particularly for those facing traditional barriers such as collateral requirements and limited credit histories.

In 2021, Australian Development Investments (ADI) provided first-loss equity to the fund, helping attract private investors into an emerging impact segment. Since then, DFAT has collaborated with Lendable to advance its social risk due diligence and impact management capabilities.

Beyond its investment operations, improving women’s representation in leadership roles within Lendable has also been a priority area for ADI’s gender lens investing (GLI) integration efforts.

<https://lendable.io/>

Sectors: Financials; Information Technology

Geographic focus: Southeast Asia

Portfolio companies: Advance; Amarthia; F88; KoinWorks; Lhoopa; Moladin; ShopUp; Thunes; Validus.

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund
ADI Pilot Window	5.8	5.8 (100%)	Junior Equity	Q3 2021	Private debt	110.3	9	12.9	44%

Ascend Vietnam Ventures—Alpha Fund

Ascend Vietnam Ventures (AVV) is a first-time, early-stage venture capital fund manager backing technology startups with a strong Vietnam nexus, either serving the local market or powered by Vietnamese talent. AVV aims to empower Vietnamese tech entrepreneurs to scale solutions that create positive social impact.

The AV Alpha Fund aims to invest in approximately 25 seed-stage companies, with initial ticket sizes ranging from USD 0.5–USD2 million. The fund targets sectors such as fintech, healthtech, and edtech, and complements capital with strategic and operational support. By leveraging its network and technology expertise, AVV provides founders with guidance, market insights, and hands-on support, positioning itself as a long-term partner.

<https://avv.co/>

Sectors: Fintech, edtech, health tech, digital platform services

Geographic focus: Vietnam

Sector: BlokID; ByteRover; Fastrak AI; Good Story Time; Bootloader; Cerebry; Foodmap; Mandu; Medscore Holdings (previously EasyGop); Moneta; Persona; Qode; Mfast; Obello; PowerTrade; Solano; Superfine; Techcoop; Virtual Internships

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund
ADI Pilot Window	5.2	3.1 (59%)	Pari Passu	Q1 2022	Seed / Venture Capital	58	19	57.7	47%

SWEEF Capital—Southeast Women’s Economic Empowerment Fund

SWEEF Capital is an independent impact investment firm based in Southeast Asia, led by women and dedicated to empowering the region’s potential through strategic investments. The firm invests equity and quasi-equity into growth-stage companies that exhibit scalable solutions aimed at improving lives, particularly focusing on diversity and inclusion and aligned to several of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

SWEEF was the first women-owned gender transformative private equity firm in Southeast Asia with a dual climate focus, targeting women-owned businesses and supporting diversity and inclusion as value creation. SWEEF has been an important partner in allowing DFAT to be a market leader in gender lens investment. All SMEs with technical assistance funding from ADI will undertake a Gender return-on-investment assessment developed by SWEEF Capital through the support of DFAT.

<https://sweefcapital.com/>

Sectors: Healthcare, education, food products and services, business services and climate resilience

Geographic focus: Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam

Sector: Teky; USM Healthcare; Vilo

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund
ADI Pilot Window	6.1	2.4 (40%)	Pari Passu	Q4 2022	Growth equity	43.5	3	36.2	100%

Clime Capital—Southeast Asia Clean Energy Fund II

The Southeast Asian Clean Energy Facility II (SEACEF II) provides early-stage capital to clean energy projects (floating solar, early-stage wind development and exploration, advance storage integration) and scalable businesses (electric mobility, energy efficiency, rooftop solar), with a focus on proven technologies in Indonesia, Vietnam, the Philippines (core) and opportunistically in Thailand and Malaysia. The group takes a hands-on approach to value creation pre- and post-investment.

ADI provided first loss equity to SEACEF II in 2023 and engaged extensively to improve their fund offering, helping de-risk the investment and mobilise more than \$70 million in private investment at first and second close. ADI is working with the team to make them one of the best-in-market climate funds to incorporate a gender lens investing approach.

Clime Capital Management identifies and creates investment opportunities that contribute towards alleviating climate change risk, alleviating infrastructure gaps, and building sustainable economies and societies. Drawing on a deep understanding of global energy markets, clean energy technologies, and a multi-disciplinary approach to investment origin and management, their on-the-ground teams comprise of experienced investment, project development, and engineering professionals.

<https://www.climecap.com/>

Sectors: Energy

Geographic focus: Southeast Asia

Sector: Ampotech; Mober Technology; Stride; Hijau; Nami; Upgrade; Xurya

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund	Avoided emissions (tCO ₂ e) ⁵¹
ADI Pilot Window	4.5	2.4 1.0 (22%)	Junior equity	Q4 2023	Green; Seed / Early Stage Capital	176.5	7	74.6	29%	63.4

SBK Tech Ventures—Tech Emerge Fund I

SBK Tech Ventures is an early-stage venture Capital fund focused on investing in technology start-ups in Bangladesh and emerging South Asia. ADI has agreed, alongside other Limited Partners, to a voluntary liquidation of SBK's fund.

Sectors: Technology

Geographic focus: Bangladesh

Sector: Arogga; Jatri

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund
ADI Pilot Window	3.1	1.2 (40%)	Pari Passu	Q1 2024	Seed / Venture Capital	8.3	2	0	50%

Asia Business Builders – Fund II

Asia Business Builders II (ABB) is a private equity fund dedicated to investing in women-led SMEs across Vietnam that align with Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) principles and the 2X gender lens investing criteria. ABB will focus on high-growth sectors such as education, health, urbanisation, food and nutrition, aligning with Vietnam's domestic consumption-driven growth trajectory. The Fund will prioritise women's leadership, ownership, and workforce participation to create a transformative impact for women and communities across Vietnam. ABB is run by a gender balanced team that aims to drive strong financial returns by working with SMEs on value creation initiatives to help businesses scale.

<https://asiabusinessbuilders.com/>

Sectors: Edtech, food and nutrition, health and urbanisation

Geographic focus: Vietnam

Portfolio companies: King Pharma, Kyna English

⁵¹ Avoided emissions data was reported by five companies in the SEACEF II portfolio. ADI's financed share of avoided emissions was calculated using primary company data and ADI's proportional direct equity ownership in portfolio companies through the funds. Avoided emissions refer to greenhouse gases (GHGs) prevented from being emitted due to a product or service substituting for or displacing higher-emission alternatives (for example electric vehicles, rooftop solar). Avoided emissions are reported in metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (tCO₂e). Avoided emissions data is for the 2024 calendar year. Further information on ADI financed avoided emissions can be found at [ADI 2024 Performance Report.pdf](#)

ADI investment window	ADI commitment amount (\$ million)	Amount invested to date (\$ million)	Commitment type	ADI commitment date	Fund strategy	Overall fund size	No. of active companies in the Fund	Private capital mobilised (\$ million)	Women owned/led companies in the Fund
ADI Pilot Window	7.7	2.7 (34%)	Pari Passu	Q4 2024	Growth Equity	70	2	0	50%

Blended finance—Australian Climate Finance Partnership (ACFP)

Muara Laboh Geothermal Power Project Stage 2

ACFP provided a USD15 million concessional loan to finance the 83 MW expansion of the Muara Laboh Geothermal Power Project in West Sumatra Indonesia. ACFP's concessional loan catalysed financing from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and a set of commercial banks under guarantee from Nippon Export and Investment Insurance. The financing package will fund PT Supreme Energy Muara Laboh's construction, operation, and maintenance of the new geothermal capacity, which will operate in conjunction with the existing project financed by the ADB. Once completed, the capacity of the project (stage 1 and stage 2 combined) is expected to reach 168.7 MW.

Geothermal projects provide valuable base load renewable energy but are inherently riskier than solar and wind projects. ACFP's concessional loan will help to mitigate some of the risks commonly associated with geothermal projects, such as initial drilling, plant completion and operation and maintenance. ADB is supporting the project with a loan of USD38.8 million from its ordinary capital resources. When completed the project is expected to reduce emissions by over 400,000 tCO₂e per annum.

Sectors: Energy / Renewable energy generation—geothermal

Geographic focus: Indonesia

Borrower: PT Supreme Energy Muara Laboh

ACFP financing (USD million)	ADB financing (USD million)	Signed date	Estimated emissions reduction (tCO ₂ ep.a.) ⁵²	ADB gender rating	Estimated private finance mobilised (USD million)
15	38.8	Dec 2024	>400,000	Effective gender mainstreaming	30.7

Sustainable Transportation in Indonesia

ACFP's concessional loan to PT TBS Energi Utama Tbk (TBS) promotes sustainable transportation in Indonesia by increasing the supply of electric motorcycles and installing a network of battery swapping stations. ACFP provided a USD5 million concessional loan alongside parallel loans of USD5 million each from ADB and DBS Indonesia.

Indonesia has the largest automotive market in Southeast Asia and ACFP's concessional loan will help to grow Indonesia's nascent electric vehicle market. E-motorcycles currently account for only 1% of motorcycle sales annually. The project is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 100,000 tCO₂e per annum.

Sectors: Electric vehicles

Geographic focus: Indonesia

Borrower: PT TBS Energi Utama Tbk

ACFP financing (USD million)	ADB financing (USD million)	Signed date	Estimated emissions reduction (tCO ₂ ep.a.) ⁵³	ADB gender rating	Estimated private finance mobilised (USD million)
5	5	Dec 2024	>100,000	Effective gender mainstream	2.5

⁵² Represents the net annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions once the plant has been commissioned.

⁵³ Represents net annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the use of battery swapping network.

Regional Sustainable Forestry Fund

ACFP invested USD7 million in New Forest's Tropical Asia Forest Fund 2 (TAFF2). TAFF2 invests in sustainably managed commercial forestry companies to scale-up their operations and reduce logging in natural tropical forests in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. TAFF2 also finances carbon projects and nature-based solutions such as afforestation, reforestation, peatland restoration and avoided deforestation. ACFP invested equity into TAFF2's concessional tranche where investors accept higher financial risk in exchange for higher sustainable development impact. Access to concessional blended finance is important for sustainable forestry companies, who often struggle to obtain traditional bank finance especially in emerging markets due to market, political and natural resource risks. ADB provided financing alongside ACFP in the form of a USD3.5 million equity investment in TAFF2's senior tranche which targets a commercial rate of return as well as social and environmental impact.

As at 31 December 2025, TAFF2 had invested in projects in Laos People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Vietnam and the Solomon Islands. From TAFF2's investments to date, 85 km² of land is under sustainable forestry management and over 30 km² is under conservation or restoration.

Sectors: Sustainable forestry and carbon reduction

Geographic focus: Regional (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Solomon Islands, Thailand Viet Nam)

Borrower / company: New Forests Tropical Asia Forest Fund 2

ACFP financing (USD million)	ADB financing (USD million)	Signed date	Estimated emissions reduction (tCO ₂ ep.a.) ⁵⁴	ADB gender rating	Estimated private finance mobilised (USD million)
7	3.5	March 2022	2.0 million	Effective gender mainstreaming	67.7

Vietnam Electric Mobility Green Loan Project

ACFP provided a USD20 million concessional loan to the VinFast Trading and Production Joint Stock Company (VinFast) to support the manufacture of Vietnam's first fully-electric public transport bus fleet and first national electric vehicle charging network. ACFP's loan was part of a \$135 million blended financing package designed to help offset project risks associated with the high upfront costs of e-bus manufacturing and the roll out of an electric vehicle charging network prior to the widespread adoption of EVs. Export Finance Australia and ADB also participated in the financing package, providing USD30 million and USD20 million loans respectively. Since signing, VinFast has produced over 180 electric busses and installed more than 2,000 electric vehicle charging locations in Vietnam.

Sectors: Sustainable transport

Geographic focus: Vietnam

Borrower: VinFast Trading and Production Joint Stock Company

ACFP financing (USD million)	ADB financing (USD million)	Signed date	Estimated emissions reduction (tCO ₂ ep.a.) ⁵⁵	ADB gender rating	Estimated private finance mobilised (USD million)
20	20	October 2022	1.3 million	Some gender elements	11.6

⁵⁴ Represents the number of carbon credits validated and verified over the fund term by an external certification body (1 carbon credit = 1 tCO₂e).

⁵⁵ Represents scope 3 emissions of the borrower, i.e., reduction in greenhouse gas emissions over the tenor of the financing, derived from the number of VinFast e-buses sold and in operation and electricity delivered through the VinFast charging network.

Acronyms

AANZFTA	ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement
ACFP	Australian Climate Finance Partnership
ACIAR	Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADI	Australian Development Investments
AFP	Australian Federal Police
AGD	Attorney-General's Department
AHP	Australian Humanitarian Partnership
AIFFP	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific
ANCP	Australian Non-Government Organisation Cooperation Program
ANSTO	Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
ARC	Australian Red Cross
ARPANSA	Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CEPI	Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations
CERF	Central Emergency Response Fund
CHOGM	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DEWR	Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DHDA	Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
DISR	Department of Industry, Science and Resources
DITRDCA	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts
DPP	Development Partnership Plans
EFA	Export Finance Australia
FIMR	Final investment monitoring report
GEDSI	Gender equality, disability and social inclusion
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HIMR	Humanitarian investment monitoring report
IATI	International Aid Transparency Initiative
IDEARS	International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy
IDP	International Development Policy
IGES	International Gender Equality Strategy

IMA	International Monetary Agreements
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMR	Investment monitoring report
HIMR	Humanitarian investment monitoring report
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
MCF	Multilateral Climate Funds
MDB	Multilateral development bank
MEL	Monitoring, evaluation and learning
MPA	Multilateral Performance Assessments
NMI	National Measurement Institute
OCHA	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD DAC	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Development Assistance Committee
PADF	Performance and Delivery Framework
PALM	Pacific Australia Labour Mobility
PCIFP	Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnerships
PIDG	Private Infrastructure Development Group
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
VAHSI	Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative
WBG	World Bank Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organization for Animal Health
WTO	World Trade Organization

