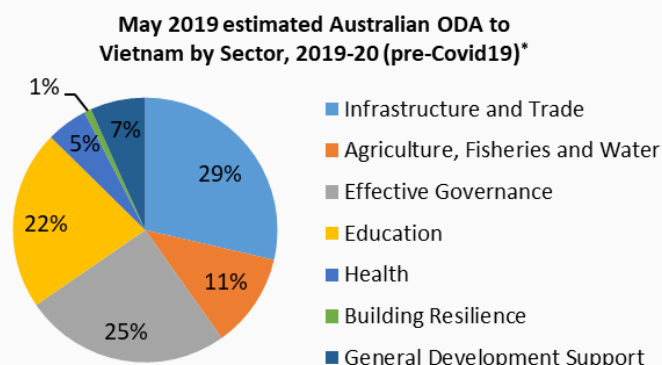




2019-20 VIETNAM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Program Budget	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Country	58.4
Regional	7.5
Global	8.2
Other Government Departments	4.1
Total ODA to Vietnam	78.2

* Actual expenditure is expected to be available in December 2020



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

COVID-19 Development Response

- Vietnam's initial response to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic was swift and decisive. By mid-2020, Vietnam had recorded few cases relative to the population. Yet, while the immediate impacts of COVID-19 have been well managed, Vietnam will face economic and social consequences. Australia has pivoted our development assistance to respond to the evolving impacts of COVID-19.
- To help manage the impacts of COVID-19, Australia provided Vietnam with technical and advisory support on economic stimulus and recovery on infrastructure, trade, childcare planning and protection for vulnerable groups.
- Australia supported UNDP to expand the work of the Vietnam Provincial Government and Public Administration Performance Index (PAPI), which allows for surveys and rapid assessments to identify socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerable groups and enable consultations with provincial administrations about emergency responses.
- Australia is providing ongoing support to partners in the tourism and agriculture sectors (especially women and ethnic minority communities) to adapt to market shocks through diversification, innovation, introduction to new target markets and improved digital literacy.
- Australia is providing technical expertise to Vietnamese logistics businesses and VET colleges to upskill Vietnam's logistics workforce, which will help strengthen Vietnamese supply chains and their resilience.
- Australia funded three UN Agencies – UNFPA, UN Women and UNICEF – to focus on urgent and immediate responses to the reported increase in violence against women and children, triggered by social isolation and economic impacts of COVID-19.
- Australia supported Australian alumni adapt and respond to COVID-19 through delivering coaching on mental health, business recovery, preventing and responding to gender-based violence and utilisation of online technology for people with disability.

Other program highlights

- Australia contributed to reducing business regulations in Vietnam, including through recommendations to streamline business registration and construction permit processes adopted by the government. This reduced the average time to register a business from 17 to eight days, and the time to receive a construction permit from 166 to 62 days.

- Our support for the transport sector continued to accelerate Vietnam's project development practices to help facilitate more investment into infrastructure to stimulate economic growth. This included work on two detailed designs which will unlock over \$250 million to improve roads in remote northern mountainous and central highland regions.
- Supporting the successful revision of Vietnam's Labour Code, Australia worked with the World Bank to provide key advice on how to improve gender equality, including reforms for closing gender wage gaps and occupational segregation, and an analysis of the projected GDP gains by equalising the retirement age for men and women.
- Australia supported 31,314 women to acquire new knowledge and skills in agriculture, processing, tourism and business management.
- Australia's human resource development supported 3,312 Vietnamese strengthen their individual practices, drive organisational change and strengthen Australia-Vietnam linkages across a wide range of priority development sectors. Through our support, Australian experts contributed to strengthened management, curriculum and teaching practices in Vietnamese universities and VET colleges.
- Australia Awards Scholarships provided 50 scholars with postgraduate study opportunities and 1,375 alumni participated in engagement activities, while 13,163 people directly benefited from 34 alumni grant projects across Vietnam.
- Australia continued to strengthen Vietnam's innovation system, including through competitive grants to eight promising innovation projects and building commercialisation capacity in six institutions.



PROGRESS AGAINST 2019-20 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

TITLE OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK INDICATOR/BENCHMARK	BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AGAINST INDICATOR/BENCHMARK
Objective 1: Enabling and engaging the private sector for development	1.1 Number of new transport projects brought to market that include detailed consideration of social, environmental and engineering issues (one design completed; another 25% complete)	Aus4Transport accelerated Vietnam's project development practices to help facilitate more investment into infrastructure to stimulate economic growth. Two detailed designs (both over 50% complete at end of FY 2019/20), incorporate detailed consideration of social, environmental and engineering issues, which will unlock over \$250 million to improve roads in remote Northern mountainous and central highland regions.
	1.2 Number of beneficiaries with access to new or improved climate smart products or services (180,000 beneficiaries, cumulative)	In 2019, through the establishment of an e-portal and online database, the Vietnam Climate Innovation Centre benefitted 175,047 people.
	1.3 Number of new and strengthened partnerships on science, technology and innovation (30)	In the first 18 months of <i>Aus4Innovation</i> , CSIRO created or renewed 7 MOUs with Vietnamese institutions; 3 Partnership Grants began implementation and involved 17 partners (including 3 Australian universities). The <i>Science Commercialisation PLUS</i> training-of-trainers pilot delivered a capacity building program to 20 individuals from 6 universities and government agencies.
Objective 2: Assisting the development and employment of a highly skilled workforce	2.1 Percentage of Australia Award Scholarship (AAS) recipients, Australia Award Short Course (AASC) participants and other non-scholarship <i>Aus4Skills</i> participants demonstrating positive contributions to priority areas (95%)	741 out of a total of 750 Aus4Skills participants (including AAS alumni), equivalent to 99% of surveyed participants, provided 2,244 credible examples of development contributions to their direct personal or workplace practices; policy development; and peer knowledge transfer.
	2.2 Number of new or improved policies, practices or performance standards implemented by partner organisations (160)	Through Aus4Skills, 181 new or improved policies, practices or performance standards were implemented on an ongoing basis by partner organisations, representing demonstrable organisational change.
	2.3 Number of new or improved Australian linkages created by Australia Award Scholarship and Australia Award Short Course recipients (800)	301 AAS alumni and 316 AASC recipients have provided 906 credible examples of new or improved Vietnam-Australian linkages, including 10 new linkages between Vietnamese and Australian organisations.
Objective 3: Promoting women's economic empowerment, including ethnic minorities	3.1 Number of women with increased incomes through improved economic engagement (12,117)	Data collection has been delayed to the end of 2020 due to COVID-19 impacts.
	3.2 Number of firms actively implementing gender equality roadmap (5)	Four new members of the Vietnam Business Coalition for Women's Empowerment completed the Economic Dividends for Gender Equality (EDGE) certification meeting global standards for workplace gender equality.
	3.3 Number of instances where DFAT support contributed to the interests of women (including ethnic minority women) being incorporated into Government of Vietnam's policies, programs and services (21 policy dialogues)	In 2019/20, our programs supported women's participation in 44 policy dialogues between government and businesses. Further, Australia supported high-level consultations with business, provincial governments and civil society on the development of Vietnam's next 10 year gender equality strategy (2021-2030).

ANNEX A: PROGRAM QUALITY

Investment Monitoring Report ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	year on year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality
Vietnam Climate Innovation Centre	\$4.65m 2013-20	2019 AQC	4	3	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
SO1: Human Resource Development Facility (Aus4Skills)	\$40m 2013-20	2019 AQC	5	4	5
		2020 AQC	5	5	6
Australia World Bank Partnership Phase 2 (ABP2)	\$25m 2013-20	2019 AQC	5	5	5
		2020 AQC	5	5	5
Aus4Equality	\$39.6m 2013-20	2019 AQC	4	4	5
		2020 AQC	4	5	5
Aus4Innovation	\$10m 2018-22	2019 AQC			
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
Aus4Transport	\$30.5m 2013-20	2019 AQC	3	3	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
Aus4Reform	\$9.7m 2013-20	2019 AQC	5	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4

Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

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

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

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

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

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