Australia is contributing to greater prosperity in Cambodia and reducing poverty in the region by supporting inclusive economic growth.

**Strategic direction**

Australia is the fifth largest donor to Cambodia and has a strong reputation for delivering effective aid. We work with the Cambodian Government, private sector and other actors to reduce poverty and address the constraints to economic growth.

Australian support to Cambodia works to increase economic growth through key programs well aligned to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During 2015-18, our investments will prioritise:

- improving access to essential infrastructure (SDG 9);
- increasing agricultural productivity and farmer incomes (SDG 2); and
- better health and education (SDG 3 and SDG 4).

We will also focus on inclusive participation, improved governance, women’s empowerment (SDG 5) and support for people living with disabilities (SGD 10).

**Program highlights**

- We supported 11 water and 14 energy companies to bring piped, treated water and reliable electricity to rural communities, benefiting over 212,000 Cambodians.
- We rehabilitated flood damaged roads and drainage infrastructure. This enhanced resilience to flooding and provided employment for unskilled labourers, 32 per cent of whom were women.
- We completed seven new irrigation schemes which will provide smallholder farmers (8,368 households) with reliable, affordable water throughout the seasons and climatic changes.
- We successfully transitioned management and implementation of the Health Equity Fund, which subsidises health care for the poorest 20 per cent of the Cambodian population, from external donors to Government of Cambodia.
- We supported over 12,000 people (5,311 women) with a disability to vote in the 2017 commune elections, and disability services for 26,447 people (6,590 female), surpassing our goal by more than 40 per cent.

**Key framework document**

Australia’s Aid Investment Plan for Cambodia 2015 to 2018