As our nearest neighbour and close regional partner, a stable and prosperous PNG is in Australia’s national interest.

Strategic direction

Australia’s development partnership with PNG focuses on inclusive economic growth, with targeted investments in private sector-led growth, health and education. We are working together to strengthen governance in line with PNG’s own policy priorities. The development partnership has three strategic objectives: promoting effective governance; enabling economic growth; and enhancing human development. Gender equality is a cross-cutting issue for all programs. Australia’s work contributes to PNG’s progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals.

Program highlights

- Providing $5 million in humanitarian assistance to support PNG’s recovery from the devastating earthquakes in February and March 2018.
- Increasing the Government of PNG’s tax revenue by PGK315 million through a project with the PNG Internal Revenue Commission.
- Supporting the maintenance and reconstruction of 1,981 kilometres of roads in 2017.
- Co-funded the Coral Sea Cable System, which will have a transformative impact on internet connectivity in PNG which currently has some of the highest internet prices, and poorest connectivity, in the world.

Key framework documents

- Aid Investment Plan Papua New Guinea: 2015-16 to 2017-18
- PNG-Australia Aid Partnership Arrangement 2016-17 (extended to the Ministerial Forum in 2019)
- Joint Understanding between Australia and Papua New Guinea on further bilateral cooperation on health, education and law and order.