Australian ODA assists African people to achieve more equitable access to the benefits of economic growth and saves lives through appropriate and effective humanitarian action.

Strategic direction
In 2017-18, the bulk of Australia’s aid investments in Sub-Saharan Africa are directed to countries where we have strong national interests and are able to leverage results, predominantly in Eastern and Southern Africa.

Australia Awards is our flagship program offering scholarships in support of good governance and capacity building in the agriculture, extractives and public policy sectors, where Australia has expertise and the greatest potential to make a difference. This work contributes towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. Four objectives underpin Australia’s aid program to Sub-Saharan Africa:

- contribute to African leadership and human capacity development in areas of critical skills shortages, specifically extractives, agriculture and public policy;
- enhance agriculture’s contribution to sustainable and inclusive economic growth and food security;
- respond appropriately to humanitarian crises through effective humanitarian partners and support advocacy for effective international humanitarian action; and
- empower women and girls and improve gender equality outcomes.

Program highlights
Australia Awards – Africa, in 2017 supported 459 awards including 144 Masters scholarships, 223 short course awards and 92 Australia Awards fellowships.

Women received 48 per cent of the Australia Awards-Africa Scholarships in 2017-18.

Australia delivered improved agricultural productivity by conducting research into food security and farming techniques that increased crop yields and benefited the livelihoods of African farmers.

Australia’s humanitarian assistance, in 2017-18 in response to protracted crises in Somalia and South Sudan, reached over 1,117,000 vulnerable people with life-saving assistance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country Programs</th>
<th>2016-17 Actual ($m)</th>
<th>2017-18 Estimated Outcome ($m)</th>
<th>2018-19 Budget ($m)**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>17.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>96.7</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>65.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Government Departments</td>
<td>44.0</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total ODA to Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>189.4</td>
<td>137.3</td>
<td>121.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Total Australian ODA</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes $8.2 million humanitarian funding under the bilateral program
** Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

In 2017-18, the Australian NGO Cooperation Program funded Australian NGOs to work with local partners delivering over 79 projects in 28 African countries.

In 2017-18, Australia supported 95 volunteer placements in South Africa, Tanzania, Eswatini (Swaziland) and Lesotho.

Key framework document
Australia’s Aid Investment Plan for Sub-Saharan Africa 2015-16 to 2018-19