Australia has provided more than $1.4 billion in ODA to Afghanistan since 2001. Important gains have been made, but three decades of war mean Afghanistan faces ongoing development, security and financial challenges. It remains one of the most difficult environments in which we undertake development cooperation.

**Strategic direction**

Australia’s development cooperation is helping Afghanistan become a more prosperous, secure and self-reliant nation. Australia provides at least 50 per cent of development assistance as ‘on-budget’ support through multilateral trust funds, and at least 80 per cent of our assistance aligns with Afghanistan’s National Priority Programs. The Australian development cooperation program has three strategic objectives:

- A more peaceful, inclusive and responsive Afghan state;
- Security conditions for economic recovery are strengthened; and
- The lives of vulnerable Afghans are improved through targeted Australian support.

**Program highlights**

- Since 2011, Australia has supported basic education for almost 40,000 students (80 per cent girls) in some of the country’s most remote regions (SDG4).

For more details:

Aid Investment Plan Afghanistan 2015-16 to 2017-18