



# BHUTAN

Development cooperation  
fact sheet: April 2019



ESTIMATED AUSTRALIAN ODA 2019-20*	\$6.4 MILLION
GROSS NATIONAL INCOME PER CAPITA	US\$2,660 (2017)
POPULATION	807,610 (2017)

Australia is supporting Bhutan to meet its sustainable development challenges by helping to build human resources and institutional capacity in this young democracy.

## Strategic direction

Australia is a modest but highly regarded donor to Bhutan. **Education** remains the central pillar of the bilateral development cooperation program.

The overall goal of Australian development cooperation with Bhutan is to build the capacity of individuals and institutions, underpinned by gender equality principles. Strategic objectives to support this goal include:

- building **human capacity** through the provision of Australia Award scholarships and fellowships; long-term assistance to enhance tertiary education through Bhutan's Royal Institute of Management; technical and vocational education and training sector (TVET); and
- Supporting **gender equality and women's empowerment** through advocacy and institutional strengthening with Bhutanese NGO RENEW and International Planned Parenthood Federation.

## Program highlights

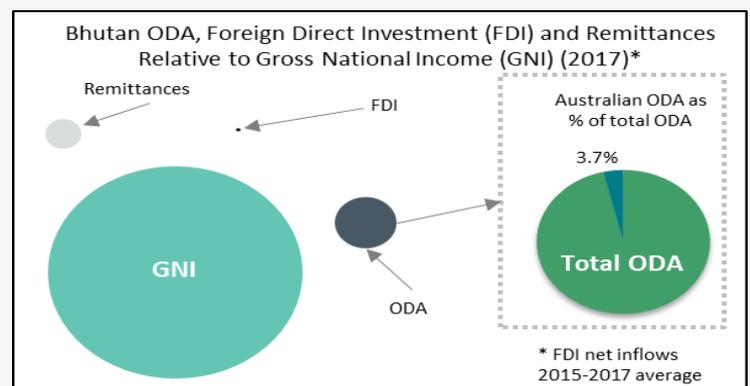
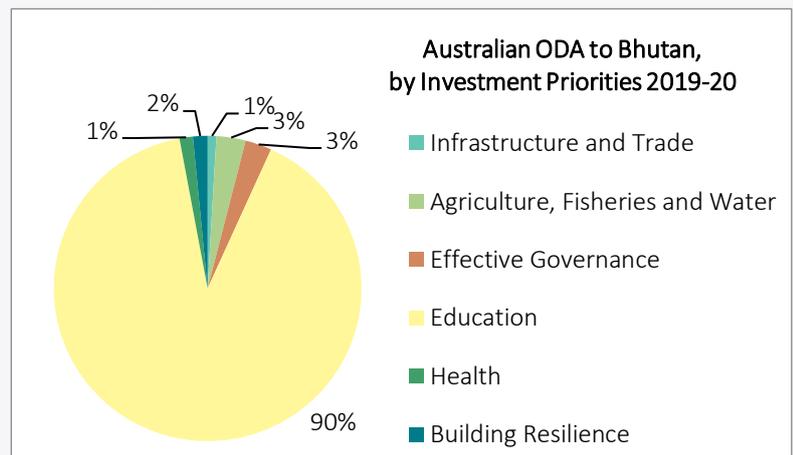
- Australia, through the **Australia Awards program**, has trained senior civil servants in Bhutan, helping to strengthen public sector leadership. In 2019, we are offering 14 long-term Australia Awards scholarships and 35 short course placements in education, governance, infrastructure and natural resource management.
- To help address youth unemployment and trade skill shortages, we will commence a two-year project in 2019 to build capacity in Bhutan's **TVET sector**, led by Australia's TAFE Directors Australia.
- Australia's support for the **Royal Institution of Management** has resulted in the establishment of masters and PhD level courses in business administration, public administration and management.

## For more details:

[Overview of Australia's development cooperation program to Bhutan](#)

Australian ODA	2017-18 Actual (\$m)	2018-19 Estimated Outcome (\$m)	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Country Programs	2.3	2.1	2.1
Regional	3.9	4.0	3.4
Global	1.3	1.0	0.9
Other Government Departments	-	-	-
<b>Total Australian ODA to Bhutan</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>6.4</b>
<b>% of Total Australian ODA</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>	<b>0.2%</b>

\*Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

