



PARTNERSHIPS FOR RECOVERY STABILITY

Development results delivered by Australia: 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

During 2021-22, Australia supported countries across the region to roll out social protection programs focused on early childhood to improve nutrition, health, education and poverty outcomes. In the Pacific, Australia's support to strengthen social protection systems has helped reduce hardship, build resilience, drive inclusive economic recovery, and respond to the rising food and commodity price crisis. Over the last 12 months Australia's support has helped 53 countries to improve food security and 41 countries to strengthen their governance systems, including via support for education. These efforts help support ongoing stability in our region.



Social Protection Measures

People reached with new or improved social protection programs including remote communities

157.9 million

In Cambodia, Australia's support to develop a national poverty database enabled the rapid roll out of a large scale, unconditional cash transfer (a first in Cambodia) to more than 2.7 million Cambodians living in poverty during the COVID-19 pandemic. This has helped to reduce the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on Cambodia's most vulnerable.



Improved Governance

Australia has supported 41 countries in the last 12 months to strengthen their governance systems



Pacific island countries

Working with partners to build resilient maritime boundaries in the Blue Pacific

Australia worked closely with the Pacific Community to help address the complex issues associated with climate change impacts on Pacific states' maritime zones. This project finalised an assessment to identify critical baselines for establishing maritime boundaries in the Pacific. This will inform additional in-depth assessments of climate change impacts and will also assist consideration and implementation of appropriate solutions and policy responses.



Pacific

Strengthening access to justice for women and children

The Australian Attorney-General's Department, working through the Pacific Islands Law Officers' Network, has strengthened access to justice for women and child survivors of sexual and gender-based violence by drafting model provisions with accompanying explanatory text, for special measures to be used in court for vulnerable witnesses. Through regional webinars showcasing their use, this has encouraged Pacific prosecutors to increase efforts to better support vulnerable witnesses and advance Pacific law reform.



Vanuatu

Improved access to justice and policing for women and girls

Australia has strengthened the skills of more than 700 policing and justice officials in Vanuatu by building capacity in key areas including leadership, crime prevention and family protection legislation. This has increased the reach of the Vanuatu Police Force and is improving access to justice and policing services for women, children, youth, and vulnerable groups.



Food Security

Australia has supported 53 countries in the last 12 months with policy, technical advice and support to build food security capacity.



Timor-Leste, PNG

Supporting our neighbours manage the outbreak of African Swine Fever

Australia's support to Timor-Leste and PNG to respond and recover from biosecurity threats such as African Swine Fever (ASF) has been critical to maintaining regional food security and economic resilience. Australia's support has contained ASF in Timor-Leste (70 percent of households have pigs) and enhanced the government's ability to quickly respond to animal disease outbreaks, through the establishment of a new diagnostics laboratory.



Philippines

Improving small holder farmer practises and incomes

Australia, via the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, increased food security and enhanced the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in conflict vulnerable areas of Mindanao through building farmer and service provider capacity, diversified farming and market opportunities. This has contributed to an increase in farmer incomes of up to 80 per cent and improvement in trust and cooperation between previously disparate Christian, Muslim and Indigenous Peoples communities.



Indonesia

Reforming the fertiliser market – a key agricultural input for farmers

Australia supported improved fertiliser practices and quality in Indonesia - one of the world's largest consumers of fertiliser. Australia helped to improve efficiency in the fertiliser market by tackling supply constraints which impact crop productivity and incomes at the farm level. Improved practices via a state and commercial partnership have benefited over 70,000 smallholder farmers who have seen at least a 30 percent increase in incomes.



Violence Against Women

Number of services provided to women and girl survivors of violence such as counselling

212,688*

* Note, this indicator has been updated since 2020-21 to reflect 'No. of services provided', in line with recommended practices relating to women and girl survivors of violence.



School enrolments

The number of boys and girls enrolled in school

1,000,253

Australia, through Save the Children, helped to build a more resilient education system and support ongoing schooling in Tonga. Australia supported students' home learning when Tonga went into its first protracted COVID-19 lockdown in early 2022 while still suffering from the aftermath of a devastating tsunami. Thanks to Australia, 20,279 students and their caregivers accessed remote learning resources during lockdown and 362 teachers developed new skills to support them.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR RECOVERY

HEALTH SECURITY

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Australia continued to play a critical role in health security for our region by delivering 109.2 million new or improved medical products such as therapeutics, diagnostics, vaccines and additional equipment to partner countries. We worked closely with partner countries to prevent and build capacity to respond to outbreaks of COVID-19 while maintaining essential services, including routine immunisation, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and chronic disease prevention and care. For example, Australia assisted many countries in the Pacific to effectively respond to their first COVID-19 outbreaks by providing technical expertise and health worker training, assisting with vaccination certification and testing, and supporting cold chain infrastructure. Australia provided access to safe and effective vaccines, providing over 39 million COVID-19 vaccine doses to countries in the Pacific and Southeast Asia in 2021-22 through Australia's regional Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative (\$87.8 million in 2021-22) and commitments to the Quad Vaccine Partnership (\$100 million in 2021-22).



Medical Products

Therapeutics (COVID-19)	24,909
Therapeutics (Non-COVID-19)	40,850
Diagnostics (COVID-19)	1,093,861
Diagnostics (Non-COVID-19)	35,865
Vaccines (COVID-19)	56,362,950
Vaccines (Non-COVID-19)	10,000
Additional Equipment (COVID-19)	51,646,677
Additional Equipment (Non-COVID-19)	25,277

TOTAL: Number of new or improved therapeutics, diagnostics, vaccines and additional equipment to which Australia has contributed that are accessible in partner countries in 2021-22

109,240,388



Immunisation

Primary vaccination courses against COVID-19	28,181,475*
GAVI-supported child immunisation programs	1,766,400
Other ad hoc campaigns	376,826

* this represents two COVID-19 vaccine doses per person



Emergency Assistance

Vulnerable women, men, girls and boys provided with emergency assistance in conflict and crisis situations

23.31 million



Myanmar Emergency Support Provides Basic Needs

Australia supported conflict- and crisis-affected communities in Myanmar to meet their basic food, health, education, and water and sanitation needs. Through our humanitarian partners, Australia provided almost 20,000 people with emergency shelter and almost 80,000 people with healthcare. Around 30,000 children were provided with basic education and almost 115,000 people received food assistance. Integration of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), and health services helped to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission among vulnerable communities.



Health Systems and Preparedness

Australia has supported 49 countries to strengthen health systems including preparedness for health emergencies



Vanuatu

Strengthening public health responses

In 2021, Australia supported Vanuatu's Ministry of Health to develop and launch the Vanuatu Outbreak Alert System (VOAS), a critical surveillance and communications tool to guide transparent and evidence-based public health policy responses. The Vanuatu Government used the VOAS to respond to a nationwide COVID-19 outbreak that commenced in March 2022.



Philippines

Improved Medical Waste Management

Australia helped the Philippine Department of Health to improve its medical waste management practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19 through support for the development of the department's COVID-19 waste management guide, which is now being used in Philippine healthcare facilities throughout the country.



Indonesia

Improving health system preparedness

Australia, via the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, supported Indonesia's Ministry of Health to increase Indonesia's preparedness to respond to health threats via the development of an Indonesia prototype whole genomic sequencing (WGS) analytical tool. The tool has accelerated Indonesia's ability to sequence pathogens and improved tracking infectious disease variants. It has potential to strengthen Indonesia's national health response systems.



Kiribati

Strengthening Kiribati's management of communicable disease

Australia supported Kiribati's Ministry of Health and Medical Services to improve management of priority communicable diseases, including tuberculosis, leprosy and hepatitis, despite the impact of COVID-19 on health systems. Health software improvements allowed more people to be reached with vital health information, and resolved shortages caused by pandemic-induced supply chain disruptions through sourcing and delivering emergency pharmaceutical supplies.



Sexual and Reproductive Health

Contraceptive protection from unplanned pregnancies made available through Australian support (Couple Years of Protection)

3.03 million



Infectious Disease Outbreak

Australia has assisted 40 countries improve responses to health security threats



Vietnam

Strengthening Infectious Disease Management

Australia's work with the University of Sydney and the Woolcock Institute is helping stop the spread of antimicrobial resistant infectious diseases in Vietnam. Australia supported the production of new guidelines for treating infectious diseases within community-level hospitals in Vietnam and modelling the Omicron wave in Vietnam, which informed management of the COVID-19 response in Vietnam's two largest cities.



Timor-Leste

Improving Diagnosis and Response

Australia, through the Menzies School of Health Research, worked with the Ministry of Health in Timor-Leste to strengthen laboratory capacity to respond to infectious diseases, including COVID-19. Australia's support in establishing infectious disease laboratory diagnostic capabilities including for COVID-19 in all 13 municipalities helped the Timorese to process up to 2,000 tests per day at the peak of the second wave of COVID-19 transmission, which started in August 2021.



Papua New Guinea

Improved Health Emergency Response and Preparedness

Australia, through the World Health Organisation, improved the health emergency preparedness and response capacities of PNG. Australia supported training in field epidemiology with graduates deployed in rapid response teams to investigate COVID-19 cases. These graduates also played key roles in provincial emergency response operations, ongoing disease surveillance and reporting. The structures and systems established for COVID-19 surveillance have been expanded to monitor other diseases in several provinces.



PNG Australia Transition to Health

Australia, via Marie Stopes Papua New Guinea (MSPNG) and local NGO, Susu Mamas, exceeded its sexual and reproductive health targets despite disruptions to the health sector caused by outbreaks of COVID-19. It delivered family planning services for 31,218 people (almost double from 2020); and increased its antenatal care (providing support for 1920 pregnant women) and maternal and child health outreach visits.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR RECOVERY

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

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Australia provided economic support to the Pacific and Timor-Leste during 2021-22 amidst significant fiscal and economic challenges. This support ensured essential services, including health, education and social protection continued, and vital transport corridors stayed open. Australia's grants and loans played a key role in addressing countries' budgetary needs and financing critical infrastructure. Australia's budget support to Fiji helped the government maintain spending on social protection and support economic reforms. In Papua New Guinea, Australia's support helped the government to fund the salaries of health workers and the operational costs of primary schools. Australia continued to support the Mekong subregion through the \$232 million Mekong–Australia Partnership. This helped boost the subregion's economic resilience by advancing social and environmental safeguards in infrastructure projects through the Mekong Safeguards Program.



Economic Empowerment

Female entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services

222,391



Economic Policy Support

Australia has supported 28 countries with policy and technical advice for longer-term economic recovery.



Cambodia

Responding to Socio-economic Impacts of COVID-19

Australia, through UNDP, provided technical assistance and analysis to assess the impacts of COVID-19 and inform Cambodia's COVID-19 cash transfers. Australian-funded modelling found cash transfers contributed to GDP growth in 2021 by 0.45%, to a reduction of unemployment of 0.62%, and a reduction in the poverty rate of 3.4%.



Vanuatu

Rebuilding Vanuatu's Tourism Sector

Australia supported the Vanuatu Tourism Office to prepare for Vanuatu's tourism restart following the opening of its international borders on 1 July 2022. Australia supported the design and implementation of a 'Brand Vanuatu' marketing campaign to promote Vanuatu to prospective tourists. Australia is also supporting the drafting of the Vanuatu National Investment Policy to strengthen foreign investment settings.



Solomon Islands

Improving Government Revenue Collection

Australia's support to Solomon Islands has created a new revenue database and improved customs processing. These improvements have enhanced efficiencies and contributed to recovery of SBD\$1.5 (approximately \$180,000) million in additional Government revenue in just three months. These savings are helping with efforts to offset declines in other revenue sources.



Supply Chain Support

Australia has partnered with 389 private sector and other partners to ensure supply chains are open.



Pacific and Timor-Leste

Keeping Vital Aviation Routes Open

Australia's Pacific Flights Program (PFP) enabled the delivery of essential personnel and COVID-19 medical and humanitarian supplies by ensuring critical air connectivity between Australia and eight Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste. Australia's partnership with seven different airlines assured the viability of more than 360 flights, moving more than 23,000 passengers and 3,200 tonnes of cargo.



Pacific

Trading in Critical Medical Supplies

Australia, via the ADB's Trade and Supply Chain Finance Program (TSCFP), supported the ongoing trade of critical medical supplies (test kits, masks, ventilators and pandemic-fighting products). The TSCFP facilitated the funding of up to 40 per cent of Sri Lanka's COVID-19 vaccines during 2021. The TSCFP worked with 296 private sector businesses during 2021-22.



Vanuatu

Expansion of Online Trade Portal

Australia supported the ongoing expansion of Vanuatu's online trade facilitation portal - the first of its kind in the Pacific. The portal is making trade faster, easier, and more reliable by digitising paper-based processes. This has eased the barriers to doing business in Vanuatu by streamlining processes for importers and exporters, helping to keep supply chains open in support of local business.



Budget Support

Total grant budget support for Pacific Island Countries and Timor-Leste

\$297.9 million

Direct budget support helped to ensure governments could maintain their own health care, social services, education and social protection, including food security, during the pandemic by allocating finances where they were most needed.



Australian budget support % of domestic revenue

Country	%
PNG	1.2%
Solomon Islands	7.4%
Fiji	6.8%
Vanuatu	5.3%
Samoa	6.9%
Tonga	15.7%
Kiribati	0.9%
Nauru	3.5%
Tuvalu	6.3%
Timor-Leste	3.7%