

2022-23 PACIFIC REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORTING

PROGRESS AGAINST COVID-19 DEVELOPMENT RESPONSE PLAN RESULTS INDICATORS

Health Security

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
<p>Number of partner countries where Australia has contributed to strengthened health systems including preparedness for health emergencies (with examples) [Target: fourteen]</p>	<p>In 2022-23 Australia contributed to strengthened health systems in 15 Pacific countries.</p> <p>Our regional health investments supported specialised clinical services, research, service delivery, treatment and prevention of communicable and non-communicable diseases, health workforce improvement, basic healthcare, and health information systems.</p> <p>Australia’s support to the Pacific Community’s (SPC) strengthened strategic direction and policy development by convening technical and development partners in Directors of Clinical Services and Pacific Heads of Health meetings.</p> <p>Our support to Fiji National University enabled knowledge sharing and evidence gathering on policy issues in the Pacific through the launch of the Pacific Health Observatory data repository.</p>
<p>Evidence that partner countries have improved responses to health security threats</p>	<p>Through the Stronger Systems for Health Security program, Australia supported Fiji to strengthen health systems and integrate water management to address the “Three Plagues”: typhoid, dengue and leptospirosis.</p> <p>Research programs in Papua New Guinea (PNG) supported stronger surveillance and rapid containment of resistant vector borne pathogens, and development of evidence-based policy and practice.</p> <p>Australia’s support enabled the Fiji National University to design and commence the first COVID-19 vaccination impact research in the Pacific to guide ongoing vaccination strategies.</p> <p>Australia worked with the United Nations Children's Fund to assist partner governments in Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu increase demand for COVID-19 vaccinations in target populations through public information campaigns.</p>

<p>Number of new or improved therapeutics, diagnostics, vaccines and additional equipment to which Australia has contributed that are accessible in partner countries</p>	<p>Australia continued supporting immunisation by delivering over 224,100 adult and paediatric COVID-19 vaccine doses to Fiji, 60,000 doses to Papua New Guinea, and 2,200 adult and paediatric doses to Tonga</p> <p>In 2022 new technology and training to assess HIV treatment effectiveness was introduced to two laboratories in PNG, with three laboratory and health workers using this technology to test children aged six weeks to 10 years. This generated results for 198 children who previously did not had access to viral load testing and helped to ensure young children are not left behind in PNG’s HIV response.</p>
<p>Contraceptive protection from unplanned pregnancies made available through Australian support</p>	<p>Australia supported the delivery of 205,152 Couple Years of Protection¹ against unwanted pregnancies through UNFPA, Marie Stopes International, and the International Planned Parenthood Federation across 15 Pacific countries.</p>

Stability

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
<p>Examples of partnering with regional organisations, particularly to support regional COVID-19 measures ²</p>	<p>In 2022-23, Australia continued its partnership with SPC to strengthen COVID-19 responses and other disease outbreaks and support 10 Pacific countries in COVID-19 and routine immunisation.</p> <p>Australia provides annual core funding to the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Secretariat. The Secretariat convened the 2022 Forum Economic Ministers Meeting to provide economic policy support to the 18 PIF members to strengthen members’ resilience efforts to recover from the impacts of COVID-19.</p> <p>Our partnership with the University of the South Pacific continued to strengthen the University which delivered tertiary education services to over 30,000 students and supported Pacific TAFE to expand its course delivery across the Pacific.</p>
<p>Number of people reached with new or improved social protection programs [Target: 150,000]</p>	<p>Target was exceeded in 2020-21 (185,000 people reached). In 2022--23, an additional 62,098 people were assisted.</p> <p>Australia provided budget support to four countries in 2022-23 (Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, and Timor-Leste) that leveraged system-wide policy reforms on social protection. To support this, Australia mobilised technical assistance: in Kiribati, we supported the establishment of a new Social Protection Unit improving payment processes and enabling government to directly reach 62,098 beneficiaries (more than 50 per cent of the population) through cash transfers.</p>

¹ Couple years of protection (CYPs) is the estimated protection from pregnancy provided by contraceptive methods during a one-year period, based upon the volume of all contraceptives sold or distributed free of charge to clients during that period.

² The PAF measures “Examples of partnering with regional organisations to support regional COVID-19 measures”. In the 2023 Progress Report, the word “ ‘particularly’ to support” has been added to reflect the broadening of partnership activities in 2022-23 and the decrease in COVID-19 focus.



<p>Number of services provided to women and girl survivors of violence, such as counselling³.</p>	<p>In 2022-23, 56,269 services were provided to women and girl survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in nine Pacific countries through bilateral and regional programs.</p> <p>Pacific regional programming focused on supporting partner governments in strengthening policy and service provision to SGBV. Through Australian partner funding, UN Women and SPC brought together 150 government and civil society organisation delegates from 12 countries to discuss best practice for providing services to survivors of violence, including GBV related health care, policing for safety, and cross-cutting issues of disabilities and diverse sexualities, the role of the women’s rights movement and access to justice.</p>
<p>Climate change and disaster resilience is integrated into all relevant regional investments</p>	<p>The Australia Pacific Climate Partnership ensures Australian development investments are climate informed, for example through technical advice on solar options for partners in Fiji to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build energy security for transport of goods.</p> <p>In 2022, Australia established the Pacific Climate Infrastructure Financing Partnership under the Australia Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP). All AIFFP projects have a focus on improving climate resilience.</p> <p>Australia partnered with the Pacific Disability Forum to support research on the impact of climate change on people with disabilities in three Pacific countries, helping members become more visible advocates.</p> <p>In 2023 Australia became the first formal partner to strengthen early warning systems in the Pacific through its commitment to support the Pacific-led Weather Ready Pacific initiative.</p>

³ The PAF measures “Number of women and girls survivors of violence receiving services such as counselling [target: 40,000]”. For consistency with Tier 2 reporting in 2022 and 2023, the indicator has been amended to “Number of services provided to women and girl survivors of violence, such as counselling”. No target was set for the amended indicator.



<p>Countries Australia has supported in the last 12 months with policy and technical advice on building capacity for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • security • climate change and disaster resilience • maritime boundaries • fisheries • food security • gender equity • education, or • media⁴ <p>(including examples of assistance provided and results achieved) [Target: fourteen]</p>	<p>17 countries supported:</p> <p>The Australia Pacific Security College continues to partner with national officials from the Pacific to strengthen national security policy development. Milestones included the Cook Islands’ National Security Policy launch during the Australian Public Service Commission-supported National Security Strategies Workshop in June 2023.</p> <p>An Australia-led pilot provided real-time, integrated, and cost-effective information to enhance Pacific maritime domain awareness. Commercially available satellite radio data provides the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency and its members information needed to protect their resources and sovereignty, and combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.</p> <p>The Pacific Media Assistance Scheme is supporting higherquality media across the region. Media training activities included parliamentary reporting, investigative journalism and election education workshops enabled over 370 participants to become more proactive in accurate, timely communication, and issues related to misinformation.</p> <p>In 2022, Pacific Women Lead (PWL) supported the Women’s Environment and Development Organisation to deliver capacity building for Pacific women climate change negotiators and supported 13 Pacific women participate in the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference.</p> <p>Australia supported the 7th Pacific Regional Disability Conference, enabling broad and inclusive regional consensus on priorities for disability inclusion and equity, which are now informing implementation planning for the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.</p>
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⁴ Education was added to the list of sectors being measured in the 2022 Progress Report.

Economic Recovery

Key Results Indicators	Progress/Result
Countries receiving AIFFP financing includes inclusive local jobs creation [Target: six]	<p>Australia has now agreed to finance 14 critical infrastructure projects in nine countries through the AIFFP, with a total value of over \$1.25 billion, including approximately \$900 million in loan agreements.</p> <p>The AIFFP encourages local labour involvement in all nine countries where capital works are being completed. AIFFP is the first sovereign lender in PNG to support a state-owned enterprise to establish local content planning obligations. This includes a mandatory minimum target of 30 per cent local expenditure to support local jobs and skill acquisition. For the Fiji Transport Infrastructure Restoration Project, all road renewal contractors are locally registered and employ a majority of local Fijian workers.</p>
Examples of support for changing labour market needs, Pacific workers in Australia and skill development activities	<p>The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme has grown rapidly, reaching the Australian government’s target of 35,000 workers in Australia by December 2022 (six months early), and increasing to more than 39,000⁵ workers by June 2023. The number of women participating more than doubled from 2021 (1,294) to 2022 (2,887).</p> <p>PALM is delivering training that better meets the needs of workers and employers, including industry-specific worker preparation and work/life skills training and qualifications. An ‘Aged Care Expansion program’ upskills workers and increased the number of qualified aged care workers participating in the scheme.</p> <p>In 2022-23, the Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) developed country skills strategies. Priority training sectors for Australia’s labour market include aged care (Fiji) and meat works (Tuvalu). In 2022, 5,592 training qualifications and courses were completed across the Pacific and Timor-Leste to support workers’ skills development.</p>
Examples of partnering with the private sector and other regional partners to ensure supply lines are open	<p>In 2022-23 Australia supported the Australia-North Pacific Connector (Aus-NPC) flight, linking Australia with the Federates States of Mirconesia, Kiribati, Nauru and the Republic of Marshall Islands. This created market access opportunities and strengthened supply chains in the North Pacific by increasing tourism and trade and connectivity for passengers to access services including education and health. Through our support, the Aus-NPC has transported over 8,600 passengers and 145 tonnes of cargo across all sectors.</p>


⁵ Including Timor-Leste



<p>Countries Australia has supported in the last 12 months with policy and technical advice on stimulus measures and longer-term fiscal and economic recovery initiatives (including examples of assistance provided and results achieved) [Target: fourteen]</p>	<p>Supported 17 countries:</p> <p>In 2022-23, the Fiscal and Budget Support Package provided \$200.5 million in budget support to reduce fiscal pressures on government budgets and enable ongoing critical health and education services amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding contributed to Pacific countries experiencing no debt default in 2022, and no increase of the level of debt distress (as assessed by the International Monetary Fund) compared with 2021.</p> <p>In 2022-23, Australia also fostered payments and trade reform across the Pacific by supporting a Regional Trade Facilitation Strategy that provided a framework to support the World Trade Organisation Trade Facilitation Agreement alignment and Pacer Plus implementation.</p>
<p>Increased capacity and influence of women and girls to contribute to local, national and regional economic growth, stability and security</p>	<p>PWL assisted 1,437 women to access financial literacy training and financial services. Australia supported partners to deliver 193 activities with a primary focus on women’s economic empowerment including finance and business-related trainings, market opportunities created for women to sell their products, and women supported to access financial services.</p> <p>We supported economic empowerment program workshops through UNDP in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, with 2,130 women from rural and peri-urban and urban centres participating. This resulted in a marked increase in women participation in small and micro-enterprises in the three countries and upskilling on business and digital literacy such as mobile or internet banking.</p>

Annex 1: Investment Performance ratings

Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender Equality
AIFFP Program Implementation Support Investment duration: 2022-26; Budget: \$30.5m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Connect PNG Roads - PNG – Transport Investment duration: 2020-28; Budget: \$23.2m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Fiji Transport Infrastructure Restoration Investment duration: 2021-25; Budget: \$15.6m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Papua New Guinea Ports Project Investment duration: 2021-28; Budget: \$111.4m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Tina River Transmission - Solomon Islands – Energy Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$18.2m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Submarine Cable - Palau - Telecommunications Investment duration: 2020-23; Budget: \$2.2m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
AIFFP: Submarine Cable - Timor-Leste - Telecommunications Investment duration: 2019-24; Budget: \$7.9m	2023	5	5	5
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Access to Agricultural Markets for Pacific Products Phase 2 Investment duration: 2019-25; Budget: \$5.2m	2023	5	4	4
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Australia Pacific Climate Partnership Investment duration: 2018-26; Budget: \$119.8m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	4	4	5
Australia Pacific Partnerships Platform AusP3 - Smaller Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$9.1m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	5	4	4
Australia Pacific Security College Establishment Investment duration: 2019-26; Budget: \$32.6m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	3	4	4
Australia Pacific Training Coalition (Stage 3) Investment duration: 2017-26; Budget: \$252.6m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	4	3	3
DFAT-Education Quality and Assessment Program Investment duration: 2017-26; Budget: \$28.4m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	5	5	4
Enhanced Anti-Corruption Efforts in the Pacific Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$6.9m	2023	5	5	4
	2022	5	5	5
Enhancing Donor Coordination and Effectiveness Investment duration: 2013-26; Budget: \$3.1m	2023	4	5	2
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A



Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender Equality
Fisheries Development Assistance in the Pacific Investment duration: 2010-26; Budget: \$149.7m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	4	4	4
Government of Australia-Pacific Island Forum Secretariat Investment duration: 2014-26; Budget: \$110.2m	2023	4	4	4
	2022	4	4	4
Ocean Assistance in the Pacific Investment duration: 2018-26; Budget: \$18.6m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	4	4	4
PACER Plus Implementation Unit Investment duration: 2019-26; Budget: \$22.1m	2023	3	4	3
	2022	5	4	4
PACER Plus Support Investment duration: 2007-24; Budget: \$20.7m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	5	4	4
Pacific Aviation Support Investment duration: 2022-23; Budget: \$11.5m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pacific Bilateral (Multi Country) Security Agreement Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$3.9m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pacific Community (SPC) and Government of Australia Investment duration: 2021-2026; Budget: \$72.2m	2023	5	5	4
	2022	5	5	4
Pacific Institutional Linkages Investment duration: 2019-23; Budget: \$3.1m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	4	4	4
Pacific Labour Mobility and Remittances Investment duration: 2017-23; Budget: \$104.7m	2023	5	4	4
	2022	5	4	4
Pacific Partnership Facility - Asian Development Bank Investment duration: 2017-23; Budget: \$15.0m	2023	3	4	2
	2022	3	4	2
Pacific Partnership II with IFC Investment duration: 2017-23; Budget: \$17.7m	2023	4	3	3
	2022	4	3	4
Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative (PSDI) Phase Investment duration: 2019-24; Budget: \$12.1m	2023	5	4	5
	2022	5	4	5
Pacific Public Administration Governance Initiative Investment duration: 2014-24; Budget: \$24.8m	2023	5	5	3
	2022	5	5	3
Pacific Recovery Economic Support (PRES) Investment duration: 2021-32; Budget: \$9.0m	2023	4	4	3
	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A

Pacific Regional Health Investment	2023	4	4	3
Investment duration: 2021-28; Budget: \$30.5m	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) Phase 4	2023	4	4	4
Investment duration: 2021-24; Budget: \$6.1m	2022	4	4	4
Pacific Regional Market Access (PHAMA Plus)	2023	4	4	4
Investment duration: 2018-26; Budget: \$53.5m	2022	5	4	4
Pacific Research Program – Phase 2	2023	4	4	3
Investment duration: 2022-26; Budget \$20.2m	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pacific Women Lead	2023	4	4	5
Investment duration: 2020-26; Budget: \$103.0m	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Partnerships for Social Protection (P4SP)	2023	5	5	5
Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$20.0m	2022	5	4	5
Reducing the Cost of Remittances to the Pacific 2020 to	2023	4	4	3
Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$3.4m	2022	4	5	4
Response Package – Direct Financing	2023	4	5	4
Investment duration: 2020-23; Budget: \$274.3m	2022	4	5	4
SPC Human Rights and Social Development Support (HRSD)	2023	3	3	4
Investment duration: 2022-26; Budget: \$7.7m	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Support for Pacific Statistics	2023	5	4	4
Investment duration: 2022-28; Budget: \$9.7m	2022	N/A	N/A	N/A
Support for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional	2023	4	4	4
Investment duration: 2022-26; Budget: \$32.5m	2022	4	4	3
Support to Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy	2023	5	4	4
Investment duration: 2014-22; Budget: \$17.1m	2022	4	4	4
Sustainable Pacific Air Connectivity Program	2023	4	4	3
Investment duration: 2020-23; Budget: \$27.2m	2022	4	5	3
United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) Pacific	2023	4	4	3
Investment duration: 2020-25; Budget: \$9.7m	2022	4	4	4
United Nations Development Program Pacific Sub Regional	2023	4	4	4
Investment duration: 2006-26; Budget: \$43.2m	2022	5	5	4
University of the South Pacific Partnership	2023	4	4	4
Investment duration: 2010-25; Budget: \$186.1m	2022	4	4	4

World Bank Pacific Facility 4 Investment duration: 2013-22; Budget: \$63.9 m	2023	5	4	3
	2022	5	4	4
World Bank Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands Umbrella Investment duration: 2021-31; Budget: \$55.7m	2023	5	4	3
	2022	5	4	4

Final Investment Performance ratings

Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender Equality
Pacific Connect Investment duration: 2019-23; Budget: \$4.1m	2023 FIMR	2	2	2
	2022 IMR	4	4	5
Pacific Research Program Investment duration: 2017-22; Budget: \$25.2m	2023 FIMR	4	4	3
	2022 IMR	5	4	4
Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Investment duration: 2012-22; Budget: \$139.5m	2023 FIMR	5	4	5
	2022 IMR	5	5	5
Pacific Regional Health Strategy Investment duration: 2013-29; Budget: \$48.8m	2023 FIMR	4	4	3
	2022 IMR	4	4	3
Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) Phase 3 Investment duration: 2017-22; Budget: \$12.9m	2023 FIMR	5	5	5
	2022 IMR	4	5	4

Humanitarian Investment Performance Ratings

Investment Details	Year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender
COVID-19 Pacific and Timor-Leste Preparedness and Recovery NGO Partnership Investment duration: 2020-22; Budget: \$25.0m	2023 HIMR	4	4	4
	2022 HIMR	4	4	4

Definitions of rating scale

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas.

5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.

4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.

2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas.

1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major areas.