



**AUSTRALIA – SAMOA  
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP  
PLAN 2024–2030**

# Section 1: Introduction

## Australia's partnership with Samoa

Australia's partnership with Samoa is grounded in shared values, respect and mutual benefit. Guided by the Australia–Samoa Bilateral Partnership Arrangement<sup>1</sup> – *Ole Fala Folasia I Lo Ta Va (The Map that Guides Us)* – signed by our respective Prime Ministers in March 2023, our partnership encompasses diplomatic, economic, security and development cooperation. It celebrates the interconnectedness of our peoples and cultures, which is based on a long history of personal, community and institutional ties. As Pacific Islands Forum members, Australia and Samoa recognise that our respective national interests are served by a strong and enduring bilateral partnership and a peaceful, stable and prosperous Pacific.

## Purpose of the Development Partnership Plan

Australia's [International Development Policy](#) presents a long-term vision for how the development program will meet the critical needs of our partners, support sustainable development and help lift people out of poverty. Australia seeks relationships based on respect and partnerships that create economic and social value for us all. To achieve this, Australia supports our partners to:

- build effective, accountable states that drive their own development
- enhance state and community resilience to external pressures and shocks
- connect with Australia and regional architecture
- generate collective action on global challenges that impact us and our region.

The Australia – Samoa Development Partnership Plan 2024–2030 (DPP) translates into action the development priorities Australia shares with Samoa. The DPP sets out agreed objectives, how we will work together to deliver shared outcomes, and how progress will be monitored. It also identifies where Australia can add value to Samoa's national development priorities and how Australia will work with other development actors, ensuring the Australian Government contribution to Samoa's development ambitions is well coordinated.

The DPP reflects the full spectrum of Australia's development partnership with Samoa – Australian Government bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as significant regional and global ODA and non-ODA development activities. A commitment to ongoing dialogue and engagement with government and non-government actors in support of a genuine and respectful partnership underpins this DPP. A mid-cycle review of the DPP will be undertaken.

Australia and Samoa have worked together to realign and mature our development partnership, in line with the principles and priorities of the Australia–Samoa Bilateral Partnership Arrangement and the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26.<sup>2</sup> This DPP recognises Samoa's strong national systems and national planning frameworks and commits to working through and within these. Key changes to our development partnership under this DPP include:

- greater support for economic growth and governance, including increasing budget support provided by Australia and delivered through Samoa's national budget processes to at least \$6 million per year
- greater support for democratic institutions, including construction of Samoa's Legislative Assembly Office and collaboration with Samoa's Public Service Commission and Office of the Electoral Commission
- investment in transformational infrastructure, including through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), and aligning with Samoa's National Planning Framework
- longer-term support for a stronger enabling environment for Samoa's civil society organisations
- an enhanced security partnership to address shared regional challenges, including in policing, maritime security, border security and cybersecurity



- integration of climate considerations across all programming and exploration of opportunities for specific climate resilience investments
- tailored labour mobility support to suit Samoa’s settings and ambitions
- a higher ambition for locally led approaches, ensuring support is demand driven, aligns with shared values and recognises Samoa’s preference for use of government systems
- improved coordination across regional, bilateral and non-ODA investments to deliver support that responds to Samoa’s long-term development objectives
- ongoing support to address critical social sector challenges, including cross-sectoral work in health and education, and a commitment to design and deliver new programming focused on gender equality, disability equity and rights, and social inclusion through our Tautua: Human Development for All and Tautai: Governance for Economic Growth partnership programs.

For sectors and issues beyond the scope of our bilateral programming, we continue to leverage the expertise and resourcing available through the Pacific regional development program. Transparent and respectful partnership and locally led development remain the cornerstones of our partnership.

## **Preparing the Development Partnership Plan**

This DPP captures the outcomes of extensive high-level engagement between the governments of Samoa and Australia over recent years to consolidate, better align and mature our development partnership. Extensive consultations during the preparation of the Australia–Samoa Bilateral Partnership Arrangement and the establishment of our major long-term bilateral programs (Tautua, Tautai and our eight-year budget support program) have provided solid foundations for this DPP. The DPP aligns with Samoa’s vision for its development articulated in the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26 and associated sector plans. The goals and regional collective outcomes agreed by our governments in the implementation plan for the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and the Revitalised Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration also informed the DPP.

In preparing this DPP, the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade met with a wide range of stakeholders in Samoa and Australia. Initial consultations were held with the Government of Samoa to ensure our development partnership is locally led, aligned with national development priorities and fit for purpose. Consultations were also held with development partners in Samoa, including other diplomatic missions, United Nations agencies and multilateral banks. Further insights were sought from non-government organisations, civil society organisations and local consultants with subject matter expertise. In Australia, consultations focused on partners across the Australian Government to ensure Australia’s development assistance in Samoa is coordinated and directly responding to Government of Samoa priorities. Consultations comprised formal and informal engagements. Key engagements included the biannual Samoa–Australia development roundtable in December 2023, a development partners coordination workshop facilitated by the Australian High Commission in Samoa in Apia in January 2024, Samoa–Australia Senior Officials Talks in March 2024 and a bilateral roundtable with senior officials from the Samoan Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in August 2024. The final DPP was reviewed and endorsed by Samoa’s Aid Coordination Committee and Cabinet Development Committee in March 2025.

During the consultations, stakeholders emphasised the importance of aligning the DPP with Samoa’s priorities and working through national systems and institutions at government and community levels. Stakeholders encouraged continued investments in governance, infrastructure, security, economic growth and the social sectors, with a focus on the most vulnerable – highlighting the need for our development partnership to remain broad. Continued institutional strengthening to support the Government of Samoa to pursue long-term, transformational outcomes (particularly in health and education) was a reoccurring theme, as was continued respect for Samoa’s aid coordination processes – particularly in relation to regional programming.

## Section 2: Samoa development context and Australian partnership

Samoa is a lower middle-income country and small island developing state of the central south Pacific. It is made up of two large islands, Upolu and Savaii, and several smaller islands and covers 2,934 km<sup>2</sup> of land.<sup>3</sup> Samoa is a Polynesian country, proud of its 3,000-year-old cultural heritage and *fa'a Samoa* way of life. Its population is approximately 202,000,<sup>4</sup> of which around 80 per cent live in rural areas and 38 per cent are under 15 years of age.<sup>5</sup> Samoa's key development challenges include constrained economic growth and vulnerability to environmental and economic shocks. Samoa's main sources of national income are tourism, agriculture, overseas remittances and ODA, and it relies on imports for food security. Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is approximately USD4,890.<sup>6</sup> A 2019 measles epidemic, the COVID-19 pandemic and a domestic political impasse in 2021 put increasing pressure on Samoa, leading to three consecutive years of GDP contraction from 2020.<sup>7</sup>

Despite this, Samoa has demonstrated strength, resilience and leadership in its early recovery. Real GDP growth in the year ending December 2023 reached 10.2 per cent, exceeding Government of Samoa and International Monetary Fund forecasts. Tourism is rebounding strongly following the reopening of international borders in August 2022, with 2023 visitor numbers reaching 97 per cent of 2019 levels.<sup>8</sup>

Samoa's committed leadership, capable public service and robust institutions are well placed to deliver its domestic development priorities, as set out in Samoa's national development planning framework, the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26. The framework places enhanced human development at the heart of the Government of Samoa's agenda, to ensure that people, particularly poor and vulnerable people, are supported to reach their full potential and enjoy better quality of life. Its overarching vision is to foster social harmony, safety and freedom for all. The framework has five key strategic outcomes:

- improved social development
- diversified and sustainable economy
- security and trusted governance
- secured environment and climate change
- structured public works and infrastructure.

With the help of fee-free and compulsory education, enrolment rates in primary and secondary schools in Samoa have risen considerably and stand at 100 per cent and 72 per cent respectively.<sup>9</sup> Enrolment and graduation rates for postsecondary education and training are also steadily increasing, and a wider selection of technical and academic learning opportunities are available. Efforts to support learning pathways for students with disability are continuing, although access to these pathways remains low. Of concern, progress in Samoan and English literacy and numeracy is declining. Only half (51.8 per cent) of children aged seven to 14 can successfully complete foundational reading tasks, and less than a quarter (22.7 per cent) can successfully complete foundational numeracy tasks.<sup>10</sup> A significant decrease in the number of males attending school at senior secondary level, their low achievement scores in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in years 12 and 13, and their substantially lower achievement than females across all levels present challenges for community and social development.<sup>11</sup> Teacher shortages are also an ongoing concern, and are linked to broader workforce shortages.

Samoa tracks well against most health indicators including maternal mortality, child health and life expectancy. However, critical challenges remain in the rise of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Efforts by the Government of Samoa to combat NCDs continue to be hampered by dietary risk factors, including the high cost of nutritious food, with one in four Samoans concerned about access to good quality and diverse foods to support a healthy diet.<sup>12</sup> Obesity is on the rise – nearly one in five (19 per cent) children aged 13 to 15 have obesity.<sup>13</sup> Immunisation coverage is generally high, following the lessons learned during a measles epidemic in 2019, and Samoa's COVID-19 vaccination campaign resulted in lower COVID-19 casualties than other Pacific nations. The Samoan health system suffers from resourcing, capacity and quality constraints, which are further impacted by workforce shortages.

Samoa has taken significant steps to establish a whole-of-life social protection system that prioritises the most vulnerable and encompasses formal and informal measures. In 2023, Samoa launched its first national social protection framework, recognising that social protection measures that prevent and reduce the hardships, inequalities and insecurities faced by the most vulnerable are urgently needed to achieve its development objectives. The framework establishes guiding principles for Samoa's current measures and future ambitions. It draws on international and regional best practice and recognises the inherent and informal role of Samoa's social structures – including its extended families, village communities and church organisations – in providing critical care and support to vulnerable groups. The launch of Samoa's disability benefit scheme in 2023 was a significant milestone in the maturing of Samoa's social safety nets.

Overall progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Samoa is mixed, and much of the data currently available is for pre-COVID-19 years. Following the United Nations' 2023 SDG Summit, the Government of Samoa, with support from the United Nations Samoa country team, is prioritising high-impact work on climate change, sustainable economic growth, gender equality, gender-based violence and NCDs as areas of SDG implementation that require support. Samoa's 2024 voluntary national review (VNR) of SDG implementation highlighted Samoa's progress and achievements in the areas of universal access to primary education; access to clean water, sanitation, electricity and roads; declining maternal mortality rates; and integration of climate resilience and disaster preparedness across sectors. Key challenges highlighted in the VNR include declining literacy and numeracy rates; rising premature deaths from NCDs; increased income inequality; high levels of violence against women and children; and limited availability of relevant data to accurately measure progress against SDGs.

Australia and Samoa's development partnership has solid foundations, built on a long history of people-to-people and institutional links and over 50 years of diplomatic engagement. Australia is Samoa's largest donor and our enduring commitment to Samoa's development is reflected in our establishment of long-term locally led programs designed to directly respond to Samoa's priorities. Australia, New Zealand and Pacific island countries are uniquely placed to share expertise and resources with Samoa, given our decades of experience, comparable systems of government and democratic institutions, cultural ties and growing Samoan diaspora, deep linkages through education and training and academic institutions, and geographic proximity. Australia and New Zealand consult closely on development programming in Samoa to ensure complementarity – we share interests that are important to our region, and place great value in strengthening the regional institutions that support these. Longstanding cooperation in policing and maritime security contributes to an enduring security partnership built on trust and transparency.

## **Climate change**

With 70 per cent of the population living in low-lying coastal areas<sup>14</sup> and over 90 per cent of households engaging with agriculture and fisheries,<sup>15</sup> most Samoan people are at high risk of being significantly affected by climate change. Key climate impacts will include forced relocation of communities and infrastructure, rising sea levels, increased food and water insecurity, reduced agricultural productivity, negative impacts on human health, increased poverty and further marginalisation of vulnerable groups.

Samoa has a strong policy framework for climate and disaster management, although implementation capacity and institutional coordination remain a challenge. Key national planning documents include the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY25/26, the Samoa Climate Change Policy 2020, the National Environment Sector Plan 2017–2021 and the Samoa Energy Sector Plan FY2023/24–FY2027/28. Across all sectors, Samoa seeks to mainstream climate and disaster considerations. Samoa's Second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) (submitted in 2021) outlines Samoa's ambitions to reduce overall greenhouse gas emissions by 26 per cent by 2030 (compared with 2007 levels), with a focus on energy, waste and agriculture – including a target to achieve 70 per cent renewable electricity generation by 2031. Samoa's National Adaptation Programme of Action (published in 2005 and set to be updated in 2025) prioritises urgent needs related to water resources, reforestation, and education and awareness raising.

Australia's current climate and environment-related support to Samoa comprises activities facilitated through Pacific regional programs, integration work across our bilateral partnership investments to mainstream climate considerations, and technical assistance through partnerships with Australian agencies. This support focuses on three key areas: technical assistance and capacity development, community resilience, and climate-smart infrastructure. Over the life of this DPP, we will continue to maximise opportunities to mainstream climate considerations in our education, health, community and governance programming, and to leverage regional resourcing (including through the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)) to support Samoa's international climate advocacy, the Samoan Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and the Samoa Meteorological Service. We commit to exploring further opportunities for climate partnership through flexible climate finance, investment in renewables and support for community-led adaptation efforts, and will be led by Samoa's priorities. In the mid-cycle review of this DPP, we will re-evaluate our approach to climate change.

## **Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)**

Samoa is committed to gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) and has a strong foundation of national policies and strategies. Samoa ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1992 without reservations, the first Pacific island country to do so. Samoa's national gender policy document, the National Policy on Gender Equality and Rights of Women and Girls 2021–31, identifies seven priority areas: economic empowerment, health, education, leadership and decision-making, access to law and justice, infrastructure and the environment.

Samoa ratified the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2016. Its National Policy for Persons with Disabilities 2021–2031 sets out priority programs and activities on disability equity and inclusion. The policy identifies the following as priorities: increased awareness about rights and needs; enhanced independent living and economic development; strengthened provision of support, health services and assistive devices; improved inclusive education; strengthened access to the built environment; and a strengthened enabling environment.

Although Samoa has made substantial progress on GEDSI rights and equity in recent years, challenges remain. Family and gender-based violence, limited sexual and reproductive rights and service access, gendered differences in education outcomes, inequity in economic participation, and women's constrained access to leadership roles in national politics and community governance structures remain barriers to gender equality.

For people with disability, key challenges to achieving equity include limited access to inclusive education, employment opportunities and essential services as well as challenges in the built environment. Each of these is exacerbated by a lack of sustainable funding to organisations of persons with disability.

Inclusion of people with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions continues to be a complex and sensitive issue, but there are several civil society organisations working constructively to support social inclusion. People with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions are not currently recognised in national statistics and have limited access to development resourcing. These communities also face challenges such as higher rates of family, gender-based and sexual violence, limited access to appropriate healthcare and mental health services, and harmful stigma and community attitudes.

In line with Australia's commitments on gender equality and disability equity and rights, we will continue our twin-track approach to supporting GEDSI in Samoa. We will use targeted programming to respond to critical issues and also deliberately mainstream GEDSI to ensure that we are minimising harm and maximising opportunities across the breadth of our partnership. In continuing this approach, we will work closely with the Samoan Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development. Our flagship bilateral partnership programs, Tautua and Tautai, are flexible cross-sectoral programs that engage a broad range of stakeholders in government, academia, the private sector and civil society. These programs are therefore well placed to facilitate targeted investment and transformative mainstreaming of GEDSI across society, supporting inclusive service delivery, governance and economic growth. Building on our strong history of cooperation on sexual and reproductive rights and health,

gender-based violence and women's economic empowerment, we commit to exploring further opportunities for partnership on women's leadership, disability equity and inclusion, and the role of civil society organisations in promoting GEDSI. These will be pursued through new programming within our Tautua and Tautai partnership programs, which will be supported by GEDSI technical experts and designed in partnership with the Government of Samoa and civil society.

## Section 3: Joint objectives of the Australia – Samoa development partnership

The overarching goal for the Australia – Samoa development partnership is a peaceful, stable and prosperous Samoa. This is shown in our development partnership objectives and how we will work together to progress each objective, as summarised in Table 1 and set out in detail later in this section. The objectives reflect the principles and priorities agreed to by Australia and Samoa, as set out in the Australia–Samoa Bilateral Partnership Arrangement, and support the priorities presented in the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26. The objectives also endeavour to translate shared regional priorities, as articulated in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, into bilateral actions. Several priorities cut across these objectives, including GEDSI, climate change and locally led development.

The objectives, outcomes and focus areas capture Australia’s bilateral and regional investments in Samoa from across the Australian Government and through both ODA and non-ODA funding. In addition to development assistance delivered through the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Australia – Samoa development partnership is supported by the Australian Defence Force; Australian Federal Police; Australian Border Force; Australian Government Attorney-General’s Department; Australian Public Service Commission; Bureau of Meteorology; Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water; and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, and others – including state government and parliamentary organisations.

**Table 1: Australia – Samoa development partnership**

**Goal: A peaceful, stable and prosperous Samoa**

Objective	Objective 1 Supporting inclusive and accountable governance and sustainable economic growth	Objective 2 Improving health, education, gender equality and social outcomes for all Samoans	Objective 3 Enhancing national resilience by strengthening climate, disaster and security cooperation across our partnership	Objective 4 Creating inclusive opportunities for Samoans, locally and through linkages with Australia
Outcomes	<p>Outcome 1.1 Samoa’s fiscal resilience to external shocks is strengthened, and sustainable and equitable economic growth is supported</p> <p>Outcome 1.2 Samoa’s democratic governance institutions and accountability to citizens are strengthened</p> <p>Outcome 1.3 Investment in high-quality and resilient infrastructure supports economic activity, delivery of services and stronger institutions of government</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1 Accessible and higher quality essential services (health, education, gender equality and social inclusion) are delivered</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 Samoa is supported to overcome barriers to inclusive communities, with a focus on empowerment and protection of women and girls, people with disability and vulnerable groups</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1 Cooperation on climate and disaster resilience across our partnership is strengthened</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Australia’s support contributes to ongoing stability and security in Samoa, and regionally, including in policing, maritime security, border security and cybersecurity</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1 Positive people-to-people linkages and networks, and institutional partnerships of mutual benefit between Samoa and Australia are developed and maintained</p> <p>Outcome 4.2 Inclusive opportunities for Samoans are provided through scholarships, skills and labour mobility programs that take a circular economy approach, in line with Samoa’s priorities</p>



Focus areas	Objective 1 focus areas	Objective 2 focus areas	Objective 3 focus areas	Objective 4 focus areas
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fiscal resilience and sustainable economic growth</li> <li>Inclusive and accountable governance</li> <li>Enabling infrastructure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inclusive and quality service delivery (health, education and community sectors)</li> <li>Gender equality, disability and social inclusion rights and equity</li> <li>Strengthened civil society</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate resilience, disaster preparedness and humanitarian response</li> <li>Security cooperation (policing, maritime security, border security and cybersecurity)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Skills and scholarships</li> <li>Labour mobility</li> <li>Sports</li> </ul>

### Ways of working

We will work together to progress the objectives set out in Table 1 through:

- respect for Samoa’s sovereignty, processes and policies, including its directive on aid coordination, and working through national systems
- locally led development
- respectful and mutually beneficial partnership and policy dialogue
- transparency and accountability
- twin-track approaches to climate change and GEDSI.

### Objective 1: Supporting inclusive and accountable governance and sustainable economic growth

Objective 1 commits Australia to working in partnership with the Government of Samoa to strengthen economic and democratic governance institutions to improve accountability, ensure fiscal resilience, and promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth including through infrastructure support. Our work under this objective aligns with the following focus area of Australia’s International Development Policy: building effective and accountable states that drive their own development. It also supports the following key strategic outcomes of the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26: diversified and sustainable economy, security and trusted governance, and structured public works and infrastructure.

Our work towards this objective will primarily involve working within Government of Samoa systems, including through the use of budget support and partnering with Government of Samoa ministries as key decision-makers, regulators and implementers. Our primary bilateral investments include our budget support program and Tautai partnership program (both long-term eight-year commitments), and a partnership with the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly to construct Samoa’s Legislative Assembly Office.

Our bilateral budget support commitment of \$50 million (2023–31), which is complemented by additional annual contributions of regional budget support, will provide budget confidence for Samoa and enable fiscal and economic reform. This includes further strengthening debt management, public financial management and payment systems, as well as strengthening labour market and private sector development, and enhancing climate and social resilience. In partnership with New Zealand, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the European Union, we will continue to use the Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM) to facilitate budget support payments that align with priority policy reforms agreed with Samoa. We recognise the importance of aligning budget support commitments with Samoa’s national budget processes and timelines, which will improve policy outcomes through Samoa’s own fiscal governance.

Our Tautai partnership (\$45 million, 2022–30) complements our budget support by providing technical support to Samoa’s institutions of governance, promoting equitable economic growth and supporting improved fiscal efficiency that reduces the country’s vulnerability to debt and external shocks. Tautai will:

- build on its partnerships with central agencies such as the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service Commission to progress national priorities such as workforce planning, leadership skills building, minimum wage policy reform, revenue and tax reforms, and broader economic policy and planning capacity building in key areas of public financial management
- continue its partnership with the Samoa Bureau of Statistics to enhance data generation, management and use to inform decision-making
- continue to provide advisory support to strengthen national-level governance of Samoa’s flagship District Development Project to strengthen the project’s effectiveness, inclusiveness, accountability and transparency
- in partnership with the Office of the Electoral Commission, support the mass voter re-registration initiative, laying the groundwork for a credible 2026 electoral roll and election
- in partnership with the Public Service Commission, continue supporting implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy 2023–2028 across government sectors to strengthen transparency and accountability
- support further twinning arrangements, work exchange programs and peer learning for knowledge sharing and capacity building between Samoan and Australian government institutions, as prioritised by Samoa
- explore opportunities for targeted support for women’s leadership in national politics and local settings to facilitate inclusive governance – this will include collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development, our Tautua partnership program and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) on a women in leadership initiative that will showcase the contribution of historic and contemporary Samoan women leaders at national and local levels.

Our partnership with the Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly to support construction of Samoa’s Legislative Assembly Office follows our previous contribution to the construction of Parliament House (the Maota Fono). The modern, functional, inclusive and climate resilient building will support Samoa’s institutions of government and its parliamentary processes, as well as generating local employment opportunities. The construction of both buildings symbolises our shared commitment to democracy, the rule of law and high standards of governance. It also enhances our close institutional linkages, including through the twinning partnerships between the Samoan and Tasmanian parliaments and our countries’ respective electoral commissions and public service commissions.

Through the AIFFP we will continue to explore Samoa’s emerging infrastructure needs to support economic growth and improved service delivery. This will include delivering a ports masterplan in partnership with the Samoa Ports Authority. Future infrastructure projects in the ports and/or renewable energy sectors could provide transformative economic and environmental benefits. Any AIFFP project agreed between Australia and Samoa would be aligned with Samoa’s national planning framework and governed through existing national governance structures.

Our regional programs will continue to make important contributions to this objective, including in areas that our bilateral program does not cover. The Market Development Facility and the Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Plus Program will build on partnerships with the Government of Samoa and the private sector to improve access to commercial and trade opportunities that deliver sustainable economic development returns – including a stronger focus on enhanced food security. The Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations Plus (PACER Plus) and the Samoa-based PACER Plus Implementation Unit will continue to ensure Samoa is active in and benefits from regional and global trade, which in turn creates new opportunities for economic growth, jobs and higher living standards. The Pacific Media Assistance Scheme will continue working with local media institutions to promote informed and meaningful public discourse and good governance. As noted under Objective 4, the Pacific

Australia Labour Mobility scheme will continue to contribute to Samoa's economic growth by facilitating significant flows of remittances and promoting skills development. Going forward, our development partnership will help to address the social and labour market impacts of the scheme, in line with Samoa's ongoing labour mobility policy reforms.

Partnerships to support democratic institutions, good governance and the rule of law will continue to be a focus of Australian Government investments and institutional partnerships that contribute to this objective. These partnerships will include formal and informal twinning arrangements such as those between the Samoan and Tasmanian parliaments and those between our respective public service commissions, attorney-general's offices, bureaus of statistics, finance ministries and other agencies prioritised by Samoa.

GEDSI and climate considerations are mainstreamed across our work under this objective, including through the following activities.

- Our Tautai partnership – in line with its Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience Strategy – will consider mainstreaming climate considerations across all delivery modalities and focus areas, including in budget planning, decision-making and program delivery. Samoa's Public Service Commission is a key partner in embedding GEDSI policies, tools and training resources across the public service, with the support of the Australian Public Service Commission. Tautai's partnerships with the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development will provide opportunities in gender-responsive budgeting, planning and reporting across government at national and subnational (district) levels. Tautai will also support the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development to implement its mandate that district development programs ensure 20 per cent of their budgets are allocated to gender equality-focused initiatives.
- Budget support through the JPAM will incentivise government and public financial management reforms to deliver Samoa's disability benefit scheme, and incentivise the development and approval of Samoa's national social protection policy framework, national climate and disaster risk management policy, national drought management policy and amendments to Samoa's disaster risk management legislation.
- The contractor for the construction of the Legislative Assembly Office is required to adhere to a GEDSI strategy that promotes equitable opportunities for men, women and people with disability, and ensures the building is accessible for people with disability.

Locally led development principles are also being integrated throughout our work under this objective, including through:

- our increasing use of budget support, which is Samoa's preferred development modality and places the Government of Samoa firmly in control of its own development pathway
- the flexibility of Tautai as a demand-driven program that can respond quickly to government needs and adapt to emerging priorities – the program is also primarily managed by local staff and has established a pool of local technical advisers to draw on for expertise
- our commitment to the Pacific Quality Infrastructure Principles, which were agreed by Pacific Islands Forum leaders in 2023 and prioritise using local labour, developing local talent and supporting local businesses – these principles will be applied throughout the construction of the Legislative Assembly Office.

Other development partners are also supporting Samoa to strengthen its governance institutions and economic resilience. Australia coordinates with New Zealand, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the European Union to deliver budget support through the JPAM and provide wraparound technical assistance that supports policy reform efforts. The World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (to which Australia is a major donor) have expertise and experience delivering major enabling infrastructure projects in Samoa, including in roads, energy, hospitals and aviation. New Zealand continues to be Samoa's leading long-term partner in private sector support, with a focus on the tourism industry.

## **Objective 2: Improving health, education, gender equality and social outcomes for all Samoans**

Objective 2 commits Australia to working in partnership with the Government of Samoa and local civil society organisations to advance human development and support all Samoans to have long, healthy and fulfilling lives. We approach this through programming that targets improved health, education, gender equality and social outcomes for all, with a focus on vulnerable groups including women, people with disability and young people. Our work under this objective aligns with the following focus area of Australia's International Development Policy: enhancing state and community resilience to external pressures and shocks. It also supports the following key strategic outcome of the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26: improved social development.

Our work towards this objective will primarily involve working with the Government of Samoa and local civil society organisations. Our primary bilateral investments include our Tautua partnership program, the Markets for Change program (with UN Women) and the Health System Strengthening Program for Results project (with Samoa's Ministry of Health, the World Bank and New Zealand). Australia and Samoa recognise the ongoing development challenges Samoa's social sectors face and recommit to focusing on well-coordinated investments that prioritise long-term strategic outcomes, rather than short-term initiatives.

Our Tautua partnership (\$40 million, 2021–29) supports the Government of Samoa and the community sector to improve access to, and the quality and inclusiveness of, health and education services, and to improve social outcomes for all Samoans. Tautua is focusing on four critical social issues: reducing the burden of NCDs, improving stagnated learning outcomes, reducing the vulnerability of those whose personal safety and rights to exercise a choice are threatened, and overcoming barriers to inclusive communities. Tautua will continue to respond to government and community priorities. Tautua will:

- in partnership with Samoa's Ministry of Health, help Samoa to strengthen its health policies, including through development of a national cancer policy and improved tobacco controls
- support critical health workforce gaps, including funding a temporary pathologist with concurrent training for a future Samoan pathologist, and making other secondment and attachment arrangements available
- working across sectors, support updates to the health, nutrition and physical education components of the school curriculum to tackle obesity, and support the rollout of a mass media campaign on tobacco and e-cigarette control
- support information and communications technology, data and resource management tools to support health systems, including in district facilities
- in partnership with Samoa's Ministry of Education and Culture, support further teacher training in language, literacy, numeracy and other priorities identified in Samoa's Education Sector Plan 2019–2024
- pilot locally led support and resources for communities and parents to play a stronger role in a child's educational journey, including children with disability – increased engagement in early childhood and primary education will be prioritised, aligned with Samoa's national early childhood development strategic framework and action plan, and Samoa's hosting of the Pacific Early Childhood Development Forum in 2025
- through our flagship bilateral gender program, the Samoa Gender Partnership Program, continue to support local civil society organisations leading critical work on Samoa's key gender equality challenges of family and gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and women's economic empowerment, aligned with the priority areas set out in Samoa's National Policy on Gender Equality – institutional strengthening and core funding for additional civil society organisations, including with local organisations leading work on social inclusion and disability equity rights and inclusion, will be a priority, informed by evaluation processes completed in 2024



- to further support greater social inclusion, coordinate a new phase of bilateral disability support – building on the lessons of the second phase of the Samoa Disability Partnership Program (2019–23) – and work with government to progress its priorities on gender equality and social protection
- support the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development with organisational review processes to ensure it is supported by appropriate enabling processes, resources and planning, as well as supporting the ministry to further align key policies (youth, gender and disability) and commitments under international conventions with the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26.

Working in partnership with the Government of Samoa, the World Bank and New Zealand, our co-financing support for the Health System Strengthening Program for Results project (2022–25) will continue to respond to and control the rising burden of NCDs through improved prevention, early detection and treatment. Community screening for NCDs and school health promotion at the district level will be an ongoing focus.

In partnership with UN Women, the Markets for Change program (2021–26) will continue to improve the climate resilience and accessibility for people with disability of market infrastructure. It will also provide further training for market vendors and continue to support newly established market vendor associations, which are providing powerful leadership opportunities and decision-making powers for women vendors (who make up 90 per cent of market vendor association members).

Following the end-of-program evaluations of our Samoa Education Sector Support Program and the second phase of the Samoa Disability Partnership Program, the Australian Government and the Government of Samoa will work together to consider future bilateral education sector support and bilateral disability equity and rights support.

A suite of regional programs are also making important contributions to this objective, including gender equality and women’s empowerment programming through the Pacific Women Lead program, and a range of regional health programs. Under the guidance of Samoa’s Ministry of Health, Australia’s new regional Partnerships for a Healthy Region initiative will support workforce development, digital health, and disease prevention and control.

For this objective, GEDSI considerations are supported through a twin-track approach (with targeted GEDSI initiatives outlined above) and climate considerations are mainstreamed. Examples of this include:

- Tautua’s provision of targeted climate and GEDSI training to the civil society organisations included in the Samoa Gender Partnership Program
- the involvement of organisations of persons with disability in the initial design of Tautua, subsequent stakeholder workshops and the formulation of Tautua’s GEDSI strategy
- Tautua’s mainstreaming of GEDSI through the civil society organisations it supports – Women in Business Development, for example, employs people with disability as core staff, economically empowering these individuals and incorporating disability perspectives within the organisation
- the development of a climate and disaster risk strategy for the Tautua program to ensure climate and disaster risks are mitigated and opportunities to enhance resilience are maximised
- Tautua’s support of the development of the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience Strategy for the Education Sector, and distribution of climate-related books to primary and secondary schools
- Tautua’s support of the development of an information and communications technology disaster preparedness and response plan with the Ministry of Health.

Locally led development principles are also being integrated throughout our work under this objective, including through:

- the flexibility of Tautua as a demand-driven program that can respond quickly to government needs and adapt to emerging priorities – the program is primarily managed by local staff and has established a pool of local technical advisers to draw on for expertise
- our flagship bilateral gender program, the Samoa Gender Partnership Program, which is supporting and empowering local civil society organisations leading the way on gender equality challenges in Samoa.

Other development partners are also supporting Samoa's human development priorities. In addition to the collaboration with Samoa's Ministry of Health, the World Bank and New Zealand on the Health System Strengthening Program for Results project, we will continue to work in partnership with New Zealand to support Samoa's education sector priorities following the review of our Education Sector Support Program II. Under Samoa's leadership, we coordinate closely with relevant United Nations agencies on shared development challenges. The Embassy of the United States of America in Samoa is also working closely with Samoa's Ministry of Health to advance healthcare accessibility, including through regular community outreach programs that provide medical consultations, screenings, preventive care and emergency medical training.

### **Objective 3: Enhancing national resilience by strengthening climate, disaster and security cooperation across our partnership**

Objective 3 commits Australia to working in partnership with the Government of Samoa to enhance national resilience and support a safe and secure environment and society for all Samoans. Our partnerships under this objective span climate change, the environment, disaster preparedness and humanitarian assistance, policing, defence cooperation, cybersecurity and border management. Under this objective we aim to contribute to Samoa's national resilience and support the delivery of regional climate and security commitments. Objective 3 aligns with the following focus areas of Australia's International Development Policy: enhancing state and community resilience to external pressures and shocks, and generating collective action to global challenges that impact us and our region. It also supports the following key strategic outcomes of the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26: security and trusted governance, and secured environment and climate change.

Australia's current climate programming comprises projects and technical assistance delivered through regional programs, mainstreaming and integration of climate considerations across our major bilateral programs, and twinning arrangements with Australian technical agencies. Policy reforms relating to climate and the environment are also included in budget support arrangements implemented through the JPAM. Our existing climate support targets three key areas: technical assistance and capacity development, community resilience, and climate-smart infrastructure. Some of the key regional climate programs supporting Samoa include:

- the Climate Finance Access Network, which is supporting embedding of a climate finance adviser in the Government of Samoa
- the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific, which is supporting the Samoa Meteorological Service with data collection and climate forecasting tools
- the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, which provides grants to local community organisations that conserve and restore Samoa's environment while enhancing livelihoods
- the Pacific Political Climate Champions Program, which is supporting Samoan delegates to advocate for Pacific priorities at international climate change forums
- the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme, which is working with Samoa's private sector to pilot microinsurance products that will support the recovery of rural households and agribusinesses following adverse weather events
- institutional partnerships with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, which are supporting Samoa's agriculture sector to improve food security and climate resilience
- support to SPREP, which is based in Apia, which Australia is the second largest donor to and which benefits several programs involving Samoa including the Weather Ready Pacific Programme, the Pacific Climate Change Centre, the Pacific Coral Reef Action Plan 2021–2030, Waste Management and Pollution Control, the Pacific Ocean Litter Project and Samoan engagement in international climate change negotiations
- the Pacific Resilience Facility, which, once established, will be the first Pacific-led, Pacific-owned and Pacific-managed community resilience financing facility, providing opportunities for grants to support

climate adaptation, disaster preparedness, nature-based solutions and projects which respond to loss and damage priorities.

Complementing regional programs, Australia and Samoa will continue to explore targeted bilateral climate support that aligns to the priorities articulated in the forthcoming revisions of Samoa's NDC and National Adaptation Programme of Action (being updated in 2025). This could include a future dedicated climate program, climate finance or climate-related infrastructure. Through the AIFFP, Australia is exploring the feasibility of infrastructure projects to support Samoa's target of 70 per cent renewable energy use by 2031, including collaboration with Samoa to refine proposals for smaller-scale off-grid energy projects that can be supported through AIFFP's Renew Pacific initiative. We commit to reviewing our approach to climate change at the midpoint of this DPP to ensure alignment with Samoa's priorities and key climate risks. We will continue to consult with Samoa on its priorities and preferred modalities for climate support, including by participating in Samoa's Climate Resilience Steering Committee.

The increasing risks from climate change, including more frequent and severe disasters, will continue to test Samoa's national resilience. Australia is committed to supporting Government of Samoa partners to prepare for and respond to disasters. Our humanitarian assistance is Pacific led and respects and builds the sovereign capability of Pacific nations. Australia is working with Pacific regional institutions, and Pacific-led local and international partners, to enhance capacity to prepare for and respond to crises through investments such as the Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance and the Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program. Australia stands ready to provide humanitarian support in the event of a significant disaster – whether through funding, supplies or people. Our support is delivered through existing partnerships with non-government organisations and multilaterals (including for sexual and reproductive health emergency services, search and rescue, and other technical assistance), and our logistics and humanitarian stockpile capabilities remain on standby in the region.

The Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Service has longstanding security partnerships with the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Defence Force. The Australian Federal Police will continue to build on 15 years of partnership and continuous presence in Samoa through the Samoa–Australia Police Partnership, which has delivered training to more than 5,000 participants over more than 430 courses. Cooperation between our police forces, including through the Pacific Policing Initiative, will help maintain regional security. Training and technical exchanges with the Australian Federal Police will help Samoa to establish its Police Training Academy and build the capability of its police force. The handover of the Guardian-class patrol boat *Nafanua III* in November 2023 signalled Australia's ongoing commitment to the Pacific Maritime Security Program, which is supported through our permanent Australian Defence Force presence in Samoa. The Pacific Maritime Security Program represents the Australian Government's commitment for another 30 years from 2023 in the region. The program includes delivery of new Guardian-class patrol boats (as well as lifetime maintenance and training), in-country advisers and regionwide integrated aerial surveillance. The program supports Samoa to protect its precious marine resources from illegal fishing, drug smuggling and other maritime threats. An Australian Border Force officer permanently based in Samoa is establishing a close partnership with the Ministry of Customs and Revenue, which presents growing opportunities for cooperation in border protection and customs. Across each of our security partnerships, Australia and Samoa are committed to close coordination and transparency.

We reaffirm our commitment to working together to ensure a peaceful, stable and prosperous region. This includes ongoing cooperation through key regional security organisations such as the Pacific Security College and Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre, and regionally developed and endorsed initiatives including the Pacific Policing Initiative. We also continue to recognise cybersecurity as a challenge for the region. Building on support through the Cyber Safety Pasifika education program and Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting-related support, there are opportunities for deeper partnerships on cybersecurity, particularly given the importance of cybersecurity to economic development and national security. Our cybersecurity partnerships will continue to align with Samoa's national digital transformation strategy.

GEDSI considerations are mainstreamed under this objective and climate considerations are supported through a twin-track approach (with targeted climate interventions outlined above). Examples include:

- the Samoa–Australia Police Partnership’s support for Samoa Police in responding to family and gender-based violence, including implementation of the Samoa Police Domestic and Family Violence Strategy (launched in 2023)
- the Samoa–Australia Police Partnership’s support for designing small-scale renewable energy systems for Samoa’s police stations and its provision of electric bikes to the Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services to support community patrol activities, including in rural areas
- the Australian Border Force will continue facilitating the Pacific Women’s Professional Development Program, which provides opportunities for emerging Samoan and Pacific women Customs Officers to strengthen their leadership skills, build their networks and prepare for future developments in global trade
- our humanitarian assistance deployment capabilities have deployed GEDSI technical experts into Samoan partner organisations to support capacity development – GEDSI considerations have also been central to scoping for the Pacific Warehousing program in Samoa, including partnering with local protection service providers and organisations of persons with disability.

Locally led development principles are also being integrated throughout our work under this objective, including through:

- genuine partnerships focused on building local capacity and mentorship, such as the long-term Samoa–Australia Police Partnership and Pacific Maritime Security Program, and other twinning arrangements
- following of Government of Samoa leadership on the most effective modalities for bilateral climate support, including opportunities for community-level climate adaptation and mitigation.

Other development partners are also supporting Samoa’s national resilience. The Asian Development Bank’s infrastructure projects have a strong climate resilience focus, including upgrades to the national road network in response to climate vulnerability assessments, and construction of the Alaoa multipurpose dam which will generate renewable energy and support flood management in the Vaisigano catchment. The World Bank is investing in natural disaster early warning systems in Savaii and establishing a seismic monitoring operations centre. New Zealand is providing Samoa with flexible climate finance to support implementation of national priorities related to mitigation, adaptation, climate risk and sustainable climate financing. Samoan and Australian police forces work closely with other Pacific police forces – including those in New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Tonga – to deliver training and deployments.

## **Objective 4: Creating inclusive opportunities for Samoans, locally and through linkages with Australia**

Objective 4 commits Australia to working in partnership with the Government of Samoa to provide opportunities for individuals that benefit the individuals themselves, as well as their families, communities and Samoa more broadly. Our work under this objective also aims to ensure that individuals are equipped with skills and capabilities to maximise the benefits of such opportunities, aligned with the workforce needs identified by Samoa, including through its forthcoming National Workforce Plan. This work closely aligns with the following focus areas of Australia’s International Development Policy: enhancing state and community resilience to external pressures and shocks, and connecting with Australian and regional architecture. It also supports the following key strategic outcomes of the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26: improved social development, and diversified and sustainable economy. Objective 4 also celebrates our strong people-to-people linkages including through education and training, sport, and faith-based and community organisations.

Creating opportunities through education, targeted skills training, scholarships, sports pathways and labour mobility are key to delivering this objective. These opportunities are largely delivered through Pacific regional programs.



The Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme enables Samoan workers to gain skills and income from working in priority Australian industries. Australia and Samoa are committed to maximising the benefits of this longstanding labour mobility partnership while addressing challenges related to workforce and social issues in Samoa. Recent enhancements and reforms to the scheme have focused on these challenges and include improved government oversight to enhance worker conditions, greater support for workers through community liaison officers and more opportunities for workers to obtain formal qualifications. Australia will continue to engage with Samoa as it finalises and implements its new domestic labour mobility policy to ensure the program remains mutually beneficial. Australia will also explore further opportunities for targeted support to improve labour mobility outcomes for Samoa through the scheme's dedicated support program, as well as through our Tautua and Tautai programs.

Our Australia Awards Scholarships continue to provide Samoans with opportunities for tertiary study in Australia, the region, and locally. The program will continue to work with Samoa's Public Service Commission to ensure the scholarships on offer align with Samoa's human resources capacity needs, including those articulated in Samoa's National Workforce Plan. In line with Samoa Public Service Commission priorities and the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26, current focus areas include social development (health and education), diversified economy (agriculture and private sector), security and governance, environment and climate change, and public works and infrastructure. The New Colombo Plan will continue to support Australian university students to undertake short- and long-term study, language training and internship opportunities in Samoa, with the aim of lifting Australians' knowledge of and experience in Samoa and the region.

Australia Awards Fellowships will continue to provide short-term opportunities for Samoans to participate in study, research and professional development activities in Australia, subject to a competitive process. Recent fellowships involving Samoan participants cover health (pathology, nursing, midwifery and emergency health) and climate adaptation and resilience.

The Pacific Australia Skills Platform (formerly the Australia Pacific Training Coalition) will continue to promote an inclusive and productive workforce aligned with Samoa's needs and to build strong partnerships with Samoan education and skills institutions.

The PacificAus Sports and Team Up programs are strengthening close regional ties through our shared love of sport at elite and grassroots levels. The programs are using sport to promote gender and disability equity and human development outcomes. Activities will aim to improve the capacity of match officials and increase their access to formal credentials, increase women's participation at all levels and increase Samoa's participation in elite international competitions.

The Australian Volunteers Program supports skilled Australians to volunteer with Government of Samoa agencies and local civil society organisations. Australian volunteers will continue to fill identified workforce gaps and support capability development through transfer of skills and mentoring opportunities.

GEDSI and climate considerations are mainstreamed across our work under this objective, including through:

- our PacificAus Sports and Team Up programs, which are using sport to communicate critical social development messages (including messages related to family and gender-based violence), embed life skills and provide sports opportunities and pathways – with a focus on women and girls and people with disability
- our Australia Awards Scholarships, which provide valuable learning pathways and career opportunities for Samoan women, who make up more than half of awardees
- our skills investment, the Pacific Australia Skills Platform, which will continue to work with local training institutions and organisations of persons with disability to integrate disability considerations across curriculums and improve the accessibility of course offerings

- the Australian Volunteers Program, through which Australia has deployed technical climate specialists into priority areas of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to provide specialist expertise and support capacity development.

Locally led development principles are also being integrated throughout our work under this objective, ensuring our work is focused on growth and opportunities in Samoa and is sensitive to concerns about the impacts of migration and mobility on the domestic workforce. As examples:

- our Australia Awards Scholarship rounds are designed and managed in partnership with Samoa's Public Service Commission to ensure that the scholarships offered meet Samoa's workforce objectives
- the Australia Awards Fellowships program supports Australian organisations to deliver targeted professional training opportunities to senior and midcareer officials and professionals who can advance development outcomes in Samoa's priority areas and increase the institutional capacity of Samoa through their leadership.

There are also opportunities to explore local scholarships and target technical and vocational education and training support towards capacity building of local training institutions – including the National University of Samoa – in line with Samoa's skills and qualifications framework. Exploring opportunities to improve local workforce capability through education and skills pathways will enable us to further embed locally led development practices in our partnership.

Other development partners are also investing in inclusive opportunities for Samoans. New Zealand, Japan, the United States and China have programs covering scholarships, labour mobility, volunteering and other people exchanges. We will encourage alignment and coordination of these programs through regular dialogue with the Government of Samoa and partners.

## Section 4: Delivering our partnership

### Locally led development

In addition to the opportunities identified in Section 3, Australia and Samoa remain committed to embedding locally led development practices throughout our development partnership by:

- aligning our flagship bilateral partnership programs, Tautua and Tautai, to support Samoa's national development priorities as articulated in the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26 and associated sector plans
- using Government of Samoa national systems through the provision of budget support aligned with the multidonor JPAM
- respecting Samoa's aid coordination processes and mechanisms, and working closely with other development partners to improve aid coordination and alignment to Samoa's national priorities
- supporting and strengthening local civil society organisations by building their organisational capacity and capability to deliver and implement programs, and provide services on behalf of government
- using local expertise in program consultation and design, operational management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, technical assistance and advisory services
- continuing to work with local communities on projects that are of priority to them, through our grassroots-level Direct Aid Program small grants program
- ensuring regional programs delivering work in Samoa align activities to Samoa's development priorities and provide transparency and visibility of program activities and funding.

### Consultation

Australia and Samoa commit to continue engaging in regular stakeholder forums to discuss issues, share learnings and update progress related to this DPP. The forums will include formal and informal mechanisms including annual Senior Officials Talks, biannual bilateral development roundtable discussions, monthly aid coordination meetings and Government of Samoa-facilitated sector coordination meetings including the Education Sector Advisory Committee, Health Program Advisory Committee, Community Sector Advisory Committee and Climate Resilience Steering Committee.

The biannual JPAM discussions also provide a valuable forum for development partners to understand any public sector reform efforts that may be underway, in the context of budget support. Tautua and Tautai hold biannual reflection exercises with partners from across the Government of Samoa and civil society organisations to discuss progress and challenges with program implementation and to reset priorities to ensure both programs are responding to and supporting the Government of Samoa's priorities.

A proposed new mechanism for consultation is annual forums with other development partners working in Samoa, non-government organisations and civil society organisations (including women's rights organisations, organisations of persons with disability and organisations supporting social inclusion) to ensure our DPP and programming remain relevant, responsive and coordinated.

### Evaluation and learning

Consultation, evaluation and learning will be used to drive genuine partnership and engagement. Evaluations and reviews of investments will be conducted by the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Table 2) in close consultation with the Government of Samoa and shared with program stakeholders. When feasible, we will conduct joint monitoring visits to program sites to ensure shared learning and informed decision-making. Learning and dissemination activities include presenting evaluation findings to Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade staff in Canberra and to other posts to enable shared learnings. We will also discuss the findings at multidonor steering committee meetings and meetings with individual implementing partners, to ensure that the findings are shared to improve implementation. We will also continue to collaborate closely with development partners and regional organisations working in Samoa through dialogue and information sharing.

A mid-cycle review of the DPP will be undertaken in 2027 to review progress against the objectives, and to adapt the DPP. The review will follow the mid-term reviews of our Tautua and Tautai programs, the conclusion of Samoa’s current national development planning framework (the Pathway for the Development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26) and forthcoming national elections in both Australia (due to be held in 2025) and Samoa (due to be held in 2026).

**Table 2: Consultation, evaluation and learning plan**

Objective	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27
<b>Objective 1</b> Supporting inclusive and accountable governance and sustainable economic growth	Biannual Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM) partner missions (budget support)	Biannual JPAM partner missions (budget support) Mid-term review of Tautai	Biannual JPAM partner missions (budget support) Mid-term review of Australia’s budget support program End-of-program evaluation of construction of Samoa’s Legislative Assembly Office
<b>Objective 2</b> Improving health, education, gender equality and social outcomes for all Samoans	Mid-term review of Tautua End-of-program evaluation of Samoa Education Sector Support Program II Independent evaluation of Samoa Gender Partnership Program Mid-term review of Health System Strengthening Program for Results project (to be led by the World Bank)	End-of-program evaluation of Markets for Change program (to be led by UN Women)	End-of-program evaluation of Health System Strengthening Program for Results project (to be led by the World Bank)
<b>Objective 3<sup>a</sup></b> Enhancing national resilience by strengthening climate, disaster and security cooperation across our partnership	No formal reviews planned	No formal reviews planned	No formal reviews planned
<b>Objective 4<sup>a</sup></b> Creating inclusive opportunities for Samoans, locally and through linkages with Australia	No formal reviews planned	No formal reviews planned	No formal reviews planned



Objective	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27
<b>Cross-program</b>	Annual Senior Officials Talks Biannual bilateral development roundtable	Annual Senior Officials Talks Biannual bilateral development roundtable	Annual Senior Officials Talks Biannual bilateral development roundtable

- a Regional evaluation and learning activities for the regional programs which form our partnerships under Objectives 3 and 4 will be set out in the Australia – Pacific Regional Development Partnership Plan 2025–2029. Evaluation and learning activities associated with programs across the Australian Government will be planned and led by the relevant Australian Government agency.

## Performance and results

The Performance Assessment Framework (PAF) at Table 3 provides a selection of indicators and expected results for the first three years of the DPP. The PAF will be updated periodically including at the mid-cycle review point, at which time indicators and results for the second half of the DPP will be identified.

**Table 3: Performance Assessment Framework**

### Objective 1: Supporting inclusive and accountable governance and sustainable economic growth

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<p><b>Outcome 1.1</b></p> <p>Samoa’s fiscal resilience to external shocks is strengthened, and sustainable and equitable economic growth is supported</p>	<p>1.1.1 Policy and technical advice on economic reform and management (Tier 2)</p>	<p>Strengthened national sector and project planning and monitoring systems through enhanced capacity of the economic planning and policy division of the Ministry of Finance</p> <p>At least 50% of Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM) reform actions across all 3 JPAM pillars are completed including completion of National Digital Identification Regulations to operationalise the <i>National Digital Identification Act 2024</i> and completion of amendments to the <i>Statistics Act 2015</i></p>	<p>2 examples of support to advance economic reform and management such as improved debt and budget management, and enhanced transparency and accountability</p> <p>Pilot activity on tax compliance with small to medium-sized tourism enterprises is established, in collaboration with the Ministry of Customs and Revenue and the Samoa Tourism Authority</p> <p>At least 50% of JPAM reform actions across all 3 JPAM pillars are completed in the reporting period, including completion of the national drought policy and</p>	<p>2 examples of support to advance economic reform and management such as improved debt and budget management, and enhanced transparency and accountability</p> <p>At least 50% of JPAM reform actions across all 3 JPAM pillars are completed in the reporting period including completion of a risk management policy for state-owned enterprises and approval of a new credit registry bill and regulations</p>	<p>SDG1: No poverty</p> <p>SDG8: Decent work and economic growth</p> <p>SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure</p> <p>SDG10: Reduced inequalities</p> <p>SDG17: Partnerships for the goals</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
			amendments to the Codes of Environmental Practice		
<b>Outcome 1.1</b>	1.1.2 Support for Samoa’s private sector organisations stimulates inclusive, broad-based productivity and growth	<p>Improved kava production and compliance with food safety standards</p> <p>Increased number of skilled jobs available for university graduates in Samoa</p> <p>Capacity of the Samoa Chamber of Commerce and Industry is strengthened through the establishment of a business and economic policy research unit, an organisational structure review and a capacity development assessment</p>	Commercial farmers access new export markets	Commercial farmers access new export markets	SDG1, SDG8, SDG9, SDG10, SDG17
<b>Outcome 1.1</b>	1.1.3 Number of women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services (Tier 2)	350 entrepreneurs supported	To be confirmed following evaluation of Samoa Gender Partnership Program	To be confirmed following evaluation of Samoa Gender Partnership Program	SDG8, SDG9, SDG10 SDG5: Gender equality
<b>Outcome 1.2</b> Samoa’s democratic governance institutions and accountability to citizens are strengthened	1.2.1 Number of organisations (government, civil society and private sector) Australia has supported to	Capacities of the Samoa Bureau of Statistics and Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development are strengthened through	Institutional strengthening plan developed for the Samoa Bureau of Statistics	Support the establishment of an independent integrity commission	SDG5, SDG17 SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
	strengthen accountability and/or inclusion (Tier 2)	<p>organisational review processes</p> <p>Evidence informed policymaking strengthened through enumeration of Household Income and Expenditure Survey</p> <p>Mass voter re-registration completed in partnership with the Office of the Electoral Commission</p> <p>District Development Program governance and management arrangements are improved through completion of program operating manual</p> <p>Public Service Commission supported to socialise the National Anti-Corruption Policy and Strategy 2023–2028 across government sectors</p> <p>Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) and climate resilience considerations are mainstreamed across national and sector planning, reporting and tools</p>			

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		<p>GEDSI policy developed for the Public Service Commission</p> <p>40 government officials supported to undertake a Certificate IV in procurement and supply studies, strengthening public sector procurement skills</p> <p>40 government officials and 8 non-government representatives supported to undertake postgraduate program on executive leadership, strengthening governance and leadership capability of the public and private sectors</p>			
<p><b>Outcome 1.2</b></p>	<p>1.2.2 Enabling environment for professional, independent, inclusive and sustainable media is improved</p>	<p>Local media is supported to digitally archive historically significant material</p> <p>Strategic development of the Journalists Association of Samoa is supported</p> <p>Digital skills development opportunities provided to local content makers</p> <p>Local media is supported to produce quality public</p>	<p>Operation of the Journalists Association of Samoa is supported</p> <p>Digital skills development opportunities provided to local content makers</p>	<p>To be confirmed pending future media support programming</p>	<p>SDG16, SDG17</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		interest media content surrounding the 2024 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting			
<b>Outcome 1.3</b> Investment in high-quality and resilient infrastructure supports economic activity, delivery of services and stronger institutions of government	1.3.1 Number of infrastructure projects supported that meet G20 Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investments, or similar internationally agreed standards (Tier 2)	1 project (Legislative Assembly Office)	1 project (Legislative Assembly Office) To be confirmed pending Government of Samoa interest in future Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) project	To be confirmed pending Government of Samoa interest in future AIFFP project	SDG9
<b>Outcome 1.3</b>	1.3.2 Infrastructure project planning, contracting and delivery provides opportunities to stimulate the local economy and promote gender equality and social inclusion	A GEDSI strategy for construction of the Legislative Assembly Office is finalised and agreed by all project stakeholders  Contracting for construction of the Legislative Assembly Office ensures local content and GEDSI considerations are prioritised  AIFFP delivers an updated ports masterplan	A GEDSI strategy for construction of the Legislative Assembly is implemented	To be confirmed pending Government of Samoa interest in future AIFFP project	SDG8, SDG9
<b>Outcome 1.3</b>	1.3.3 Number of local people accessing jobs created by new infrastructure projects,	120 local people accessing jobs created by Legislative Assembly Office project, 5% of whom are female	130 local people accessing jobs created by Legislative Assembly Office project, 10% of whom are female	To be confirmed pending future infrastructure projects	SDG8, SDG9



Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
	disaggregated by gender where possible (Tier 2)				

## Objective 2: Improving health, education, gender equality and social outcomes for all Samoans

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<b>Outcome 2.1</b> Accessible and higher quality essential services (health, education, gender equality and social inclusion) are delivered	2.1.1 Improved health system capacity to provide quality, accessible, affordable health services, with Australian support (Tier 2)	National cancer control policy developed  Standard operating procedures for tobacco control enforcement developed  Regulations for e-cigarettes developed to control health risks associated with vaping  Local pathologist-in-training completed Post-Graduate Diploma in pathology, increasing capacity of local staff to provide quality pathology services  20 Ministry of Health staff completed Post-Graduate Certificate in field epidemiology	National framework for cancer diagnosis, referrals and treatments implemented  Mass media campaign developed for tobacco control and enforcement  Awareness of e-cigarette regulations increased  Pharmacy training course developed in collaboration with the National University of Samoa  10 Ministry of Health staff completed Graduate Diploma in applied epidemiology  100 young people provided with sexual and reproductive health information and services	2 clinical specialists completed a Graduate Diploma in their respective fields  Mass media campaign implemented for tobacco control and enforcement  10 pharmacists (across the public and private sectors) completed pharmacy training  At least 2 Ministry of Health staff commenced a Masters Degree in applied epidemiology  150 young people provided with sexual and reproductive health information and services  1,000 women received family planning services	SDG3: Good health and wellbeing

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		<p>45 young people provided with sexual and reproductive health information and services</p> <p>500 women received family planning services</p> <p>National nutrition guidelines and standards for schools are reviewed</p>	<p>700 women received family planning services</p> <p>Health and physical education curriculums are strengthened in schools to address childhood obesity</p>	<p>Preservice midwifery curriculum is aligned to international standards and used</p>	
<b>Outcome 2.1</b>	2.1.2 Communities are engaged in combating the rise of non-communicable diseases (NCDs)	<p>2 new districts access community-level NCD screening with at least 40% of total adult population screened and at-risk patients managed and referred for treatments</p> <p>School health promotion program implemented for all primary schools from selected 2 districts with students at risk of obesity managed through the health program</p>	<p>2 new districts access community-level NCD screening with at least 40% of total adult population screened and at-risk patients managed and referred for treatments</p> <p>School health promotion program implemented for all primary schools from selected 2 districts with students at risk of obesity managed through the health program</p> <p>Cervical cancer awareness and screening implemented for 2 districts</p>	<p>2 new districts access community-level NCD screening with at least 40% of total adult population screened and at-risk patients managed and referred for treatments</p> <p>School health promotion program implemented for all primary schools from selected 2 districts with students at risk of obesity managed through the health program</p> <p>Cervical cancer awareness and screening implemented for 2 districts</p>	<p>SDG3</p> <p>SDG17: Partnerships for the goals</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1	2.1.3 Contraceptive protection from unplanned pregnancies is made available through Australian support (Tier 2)	300 couple-years of protection made available	350 couple-years of protection made available	400 couple-years of protection made available	SDG3 SDG5: Gender equality
Outcome 2.1	2.1.4 Improved quality of teaching, curriculum, access and learning outcomes	<p>Study on building a resilient education system conducted to inform future actions for the improvement of the education system</p> <p>Community reading initiatives for vulnerable communities developed</p> <p>National University of Samoa human resources and sector capacity building plan developed</p> <p>At least 20 primary school teachers and 20 secondary school teachers completed language literacy training to strengthen delivery of education</p> <p>At least 20 early childhood education teachers, 20 primary school teachers, 20 secondary school teachers and 20 postschool education and training trainers completed assessment</p>	<p>At least 2 recommendations from the review are implemented to improve in-service teacher training</p> <p>At least 20 primary school teachers completed numeracy training to strengthen delivery of education</p> <p>At least 20 education practitioners at each level of education (early childhood education teachers, primary school teachers, secondary school teachers and postschool education and training trainers) completed assessment training to strengthen assessment practices in education</p>	<p>Improved satisfaction among teachers who have undergone the in-service teacher training program</p> <p>At least 20 secondary school teachers completed numeracy training to strengthen delivery of education</p> <p>Trained teachers collaborated to share best practices and support each other in implementing assessment strategies from the training</p>	SDG4: Quality education

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		training to strengthen assessment practices in education			
<b>Outcome 2.1</b>	2.1.5 Social protection systems are strengthened and expanded	Review of the One Government Grant scheme completed  Disability benefit scheme expanded  Opportunities to support further implementation of the National Social Protection Policy Framework 2023 scoped	To be confirmed pending Government of Samoa interest in targeted social protection support	To be confirmed pending Government of Samoa interest in targeted social protection support	SDG1: No poverty  SDG10: Reduced inequalities
<b>Outcome 2.2</b>  Samoa is supported to overcome barriers to inclusive communities, with a focus on empowerment and protection of women and girls, people with disability and vulnerable groups	2.2.1 The community sector is supported to reduce disadvantage and experiences of harm by vulnerable and marginalised groups	Updated Samoa Family Safety Study on family and gender-based violence undertaken, including a cost–benefit analysis to inform interventions  Samoa Gender Partnership Program generates 4 bodies of research that improve evidence and knowledge base on priority gender equality challenges  Child safeguard and due diligence audits are undertaken for partner civil society organisations	Training and awareness sessions on family and gender-based violence developed for selected partners and communities in response to findings of updated Samoa Family Safety Study  Child safeguard and due diligence policies of partner organisations refreshed and developed, and then implemented  New phase of disability rights, equity and inclusion programming implemented; expected results to be confirmed	Training and awareness sessions on family and gender-based violence implemented for selected partners and communities in response to findings of updated Samoa Family Safety Study  Child safeguard and due diligence policies of partner organisations refreshed and developed, and then implemented  New phase of disability rights, equity and inclusion programming implemented; expected results to be confirmed	SDG5, SDG10

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		<p>New phase of disability rights, equity and inclusion programming scoped and established</p> <p>National youth policy delivered, with accompanying targeted youth empowerment initiatives designed</p> <p>Targeted GEDSI and development modules designed with the National University of Samoa</p> <p>Portraits of Samoan women leaders initiative launched in partnership with Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development</p> <p>National Prevention Framework for Ending Gender Based Violence in Samoa delivered</p>	<p>Priority actions identified in the forthcoming national youth policy implemented and monitored</p> <p>Targeted GEDSI and development modules delivered with the National University of Samoa</p>	<p>Priority actions identified in the forthcoming national youth policy implemented and monitored</p>	
<b>Outcome 2.2</b>	2.2.2 Number of services provided to victim/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (Tier 2)	<p>700 services provided to women and girls</p> <p>10 services provided to women and girls with disability</p>	To be confirmed pending evaluation of Samoa Gender Partnership Program	To be confirmed pending evaluation of Samoa Gender Partnership Program	SDG5, SDG10

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<b>Outcome 2.2</b>	2.2.3 Number of organisations of persons with disability receiving capacity building support (Tier 2)	2 organisations	To be confirmed pending design of new phase of disability rights, equity and inclusion programming	To be confirmed pending design of new phase of disability rights, equity and inclusion programming	SDG10, SDG17

**Objective 3: Enhancing national resilience by strengthening climate, disaster and security cooperation across our partnership**

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<b>Outcome 3.1</b> Cooperation on climate and disaster resilience across our partnership is strengthened	3.1.1 Climate and disaster resilience considerations are mainstreamed across bilateral programs	<p>Develop information and communications technology disaster preparedness and response plan with the Ministry of Health</p> <p>Disaster response plans for schools developed and implementation commenced</p> <p>Disaster management plans for marketplaces developed</p>	<p>Legislative Assembly Office delivered with climate resilience features</p> <p>Infrastructure upgrades and training provided to marketplaces to enhance climate and disaster resilience</p> <p>National drought policy completed</p>	Climate and disaster resilience considerations are mainstreamed across bilateral programs	SDG13: Climate action
<b>Outcome 3.1</b>	3.1.2 Engagement on climate change priorities and opportunities is enhanced	Government of Samoa provided with increased visibility of and opportunities to engage with regional climate programs	Government of Samoa provided with increased visibility of and opportunities to engage with regional climate programs	Government of Samoa provided with increased visibility of and opportunities to engage with regional climate programs	SDG13 SDG17: Partnerships for the goals



Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		<p>AIFFP technical mission to scope priorities and opportunities in Samoan renewables sector</p> <p>Pacific Community technical mission to scope design of Samoa-based warehousing facility under the Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program</p> <p>Australia joins Samoa’s Climate Resilience Steering Committee as an observer</p>	<p>Scoping for potential dedicated bilateral climate program undertaken</p> <p>Next phase of the Australia–Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme partnership arrangement designed</p>		
<p><b>Outcome 3.2</b> Australia’s support contributes to ongoing stability and security in Samoa, and regionally, including in policing, maritime security, border security and cybersecurity</p>	<p>3.2.1 Australian support (including through technical assistance, capacity building and data/information sharing) contributes to Samoa’s resilience and ability to manage its maritime domains and resources (Tier 2)</p>	<p>Maritime security support assists the Government of Samoa to deliver a safe and successful Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting</p> <p>Continued support to the Samoa Police, Prisons and Correctional Services ensures the safe and effective management of the <i>Nafanua III</i> and small boat fleet</p> <p>New maritime security monitoring procedures and practices to monitor the Samoa Exclusive Economic Zone are established and maintained and help</p>	<p>Samoa Police, Prisons and Correctional Services supported to instigate Pacific patrolling with other Pacific nations, fostering partnership, information sharing and cooperation</p> <p>Samoa Police, Prisons and Correctional Services supported to attend Fijian fleet review</p> <p>Continued capability support enables Government of Samoa agencies to effectively monitor the Samoan Exclusive Economic Zone</p>	<p>Samoa Police, Prisons and Correctional Services supported to return the <i>Nafanua III</i> to Australia for planned maintenance</p>	<p>SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions SDG17</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		combat illegal maritime activities			
<b>Outcome 3.2</b>	3.2.2 Samoa’s rule of law is advanced through capacity building and data/information sharing	Emergency radio network installed Digital forensics laboratory opened Safer closed-circuit TV network installed	New memorandum of understanding signed for Samoa’s hosting of the Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre		SD16, SDG17
<b>Outcome 3.2</b>	3.3.3 Support to strengthen Samoa’s resilience and ability to manage border security and cybersecurity threats	2 new x-ray facilities provided to Samoa enhance security screening capacities Border fundamentals course delivered for Government of Samoa agencies, increasing understanding of key risks and management approaches Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting cybersecurity scoping report delivered SamCERT supported to manage cybersecurity incident and response monitoring during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting with	Cybersecurity risk assessment of Office of the Electoral Commission information and communications technology systems, policies and procedures completed Border security capacities enhanced through ongoing training and technical assistance provided by Australian Border Force Scoping for cybersecurity support package undertaken, informed by Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting cybersecurity report recommendations	To be confirmed pending future scoping of border and cybersecurity needs	SD16, SDG17

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		<p>support from Cyber RAPID team</p> <p>At least 1 Samoan woman customs officer supported to complete the Pacific Women’s Professional Development Program, an initiative of the Australian Border Force</p>			

**Objective 4: Creating inclusive opportunities for Samoans, locally and through linkages with Australia**

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<p><b>Outcome 4.1</b></p> <p>Positive people-to-people linkages and networks, and institutional partnerships of mutual benefit between Samoa and Australia are developed and maintained</p>	4.1.1 Number of Australian volunteers and New Colombo Plan scholars in Samoa	<p>2 New Colombo Plan scholars</p> <p>5 volunteers</p>	<p>2 New Colombo Plan scholars</p> <p>10 volunteers</p>	<p>3 New Colombo Plan scholars</p> <p>13 volunteers</p>	SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
<p><b>Outcome 4.1</b></p>	4.1.2 Twinning arrangements build leadership capacity across the Government of Samoa	Ongoing twinning arrangement between Samoa’s Public Service Commission and Australian Public Service Commission nurtured and supported by Tautai	<p>Existing twinning relationships are maintained</p> <p>Tautai support for potential twinning arrangements between Ministry of Customs and Revenue and Australian</p>	<p>Existing twinning relationships are maintained</p> <p>New partnership(s) established as requested</p>	<p>SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions</p> <p>SDG17</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
		Tautai support for twinning arrangement between Ministry of Finance and Australian Government Department of Finance is established  New partnership(s) established as requested	Tax Office and Australian Border Force is established		
<b>Outcome 4.2</b> Inclusive opportunities for Samoans are provided through scholarships, skills and labour mobility programs that take a circular economy approach, in line with Samoa’s priorities	4.2.1 Number of people who successfully complete a tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training (Tier 2)	Australia Awards courses: 30 people Australian Online Study Courses: 5 people Work-related training: 100 people Australia Pacific Training Coalition: 1,000 graduates (including 500 females, 500 males and 20 people with disability)	Australia Awards courses: 30 people Australian Online Study Courses: 5 people Work-related training: 100 people Pacific Australia Skills Platform: 1,000 graduates (including 500 females, 500 males and 20 people with disability)	Australia Awards courses: 30 people Australian Online Study Courses: 5 people Work-related training: 100 people Pacific Australia Skills Platform: 1,250 graduates (including 625 females, 625 males and 40 people with disability)	SDG4: Quality education
<b>Outcome 4.2</b>	4.2.2 Number of people mobilised through the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme (disaggregated) (Tier 2)	2,000 people	2,500 people	2,500 people	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth
<b>Outcome 4.2</b>	4.2.3 Evidence of improving capacity (whole-government coordination, governance, budget, human resources, and	Implementation of Samoa’s new Policy for Temporary Labour Migration is supported and opportunities for	To be confirmed pending commencement of new Pacific Australia Labour Mobility support program	To be confirmed pending commencement of new Pacific Australia Labour Mobility support program	SDG17

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
	systems and processes) of labour sending units	<p>additional support are identified</p> <p>Development of a labour mobility reference group, which includes representatives from broader government, industry, community and private sector</p>			
<b>Outcome 4.2</b>	4.3.4 Samoan sporting organisations are supported to provide inclusive opportunities to athletes, and to strengthen relationships and build closer collaborations with Australian sporting organisations	<p>50 Samoan athletes (at least 30% of whom are female) are supported to participate in high-level sporting events, competitions or training in Australia or with Australian teams</p> <p>1,500 Samoans participating in Team Up sports programs</p> <p>New partnerships between Australian and Samoan sporting organisations are established, and existing partnerships are strengthened through reciprocal in-country exchanges</p>	<p>50 Samoan athletes (at least 30% of whom are female) are supported to participate in high-level sporting events, competitions or training in Australia or with Australian teams</p> <p>1,500 Samoans participating in Team Up sports programs</p> <p>New partnerships between Australian and Samoan sporting organisations are established, and existing partnerships are strengthened through reciprocal in-country exchanges</p>	<p>50 Samoan athletes (at least 30% of whom are female) are supported to participate in high-level sporting events, competitions or training in Australia or with Australian teams</p> <p>1,500 Samoans participating in Team Up sports programs</p> <p>New partnerships between Australian and Samoan sporting organisations are established, and existing partnerships are strengthened through reciprocal in-country exchanges</p>	SDG17

## Cross-program

Theme	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Locally led development	Percentage of bilateral investment designs and evaluations that include local participation (Tier 3)	60%	70%	80%	SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
Locally led development	Number of local personnel, sub-contractors and staff engaged (employment created) – Managing Contractors (Tier 3) <sup>a</sup>	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	SDG17
Gender equality	Percentage of all new investments over \$3 million that include gender equality objectives (Tier 3)	80%	80%	80%	SDG5: Gender equality
Disability	Percentage of investments that effectively address disability equity in implementation (Tier 3)	30%	40%	50%	SDG10: Reduced inequalities
Climate change	Percentage of all new development investments that are valued at over \$3 million that have a climate change objective (Tier 3)	50%	55%	60%	SDG13: Climate action

a Targets are not required for this indicator. Actual results are collected centrally and will be published.



## Annex 1: Supporting investments/activities

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 1 (bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as significant regional and global ODA, and significant non-ODA development investments/activities)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Budget support (Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM)) (bilateral)	2022–31	Government of Samoa Ministry of Finance; European Union; New Zealand; Asian Development Bank; World Bank
Tautai: Governance for Economic Growth (bilateral)	2022–30	Government of Samoa Ministry of Finance (lead); Samoa Tourism Authority; Samoa Bureau of Statistics; Government of Samoa Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Labour; Government of Samoa Office of the Electoral Commission; Government of Samoa Public Service Commission; Samoa Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Government of Samoa Ministry of Public Enterprises; Government of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
Legislative Assembly Office construction (bilateral)	2018–26	Government of Samoa Office of the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Market Development Facility (regional)	2017–27	Government of Samoa Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Plus (PHAMA Plus) Program (regional)	2018–26	Government of Samoa Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (Phase 2) (regional program, funded bilaterally)	2022–26	Journalists Association of Samoa; Government of Samoa Ministry of Communications and Information Technology
PACER Plus Implementation Unit (regional)	2019–26	Government of Samoa Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 2 (bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as significant regional and global ODA, and significant non-ODA development investments/activities)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Tautua: Human Development for All (bilateral)	2021–29	Government of Samoa Ministry of Health; Government of Samoa Ministry of Education and Culture; Government of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development; Samoa Victim Support Group; Samoa Family Health Association; Samoa Women's Association of Growers; Women in Business Development

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
<b>Markets for Change</b> (regional program, funded bilaterally)	2021–26	UN Women; Government of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development; Government of Samoa Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; Samoa Land Corporation; Accident Compensation Corporation
<b>Pacific Women Lead (this investment includes a range of sub-activities)</b> (regional)	2020–26	The Pacific Community (SPC)
<b>Health System Strengthening Program for Results</b> (bilateral)	2022–25	Government of Samoa Ministry of Health; World Bank; New Zealand
<b>The Transformative Agenda for Women, Youth and Adolescents in the Pacific Phase II</b> (regional)	2022–28	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Government of Samoa Ministry of Health; Government of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
<b>Partnerships for a Healthy Region (PHR)</b> (regional)	2022–27	Government of Samoa Ministry of Health; National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health (Australian National University); James Cook University; Beyond Essential Systems; Doherty Institute (University of Melbourne); World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Development (University of Technology Sydney); Alfred Health; Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 3 (bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as significant regional and global ODA, and significant non-ODA development investments/activities)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
<b>Australia Pacific Climate Partnership (APCP)</b> (regional)	2018–24	Electric Power Corporation; Government of Samoa Office of the Regulator; Tautua; Tautai
<b>Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) Phase 3</b> (regional)	2022–29	Samoa Meteorological Service
<b>Climate Finance Access Network</b> (regional)	2023–26	Government of Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Community Based Adaptation Programme in Southeast Asia and the Pacific – Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (global)	2022–26	United Nations Development Programme; Government of Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment; Government of Samoa Ministry of Finance; Government of Samoa Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development
UN Capital Development Fund Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP) (regional)	2021–25	UN Capital Development Fund; Samoa Surety Insurance; Government of Samoa Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Kiwa Initiative (regional)	2019–30	SPC; Government of Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) core funding (regional)	2021–25	SPREP
Oceans Assistance in the Pacific (this investment includes a range of sub-activities) (regional)	2018–27	SPREP
Australia Assists (global)	2020–25	Assorted Government of Samoa agencies and civil society organisations
Australian Humanitarian Partnership (regional)	2016–22	Australian non-government organisations
Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Program (regional)	2023–31	SPC; Government of Samoa Disaster Management Office; in-country humanitarian organisations
Australian Red Cross–Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Humanitarian Partnership (global)	2019–24	Samoa Red Cross Society
Australian Medical Assistance Team (AUSMAT) (global)	Ongoing	Government of Samoa Disaster Management Office; Government of Samoa Ministry of Health
Disaster assistance response teams (DART) (global)	Ongoing	Samoa Fire and Emergency Services Authority; Samoa Police
Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance (regional)	2023–27	SPC; Government of Samoa Disaster Management Office

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
<b>Sexual and Reproductive Health Program in Crisis and Post Crisis Situations (SPRINT)</b> (regional)	2021–26	Government of Samoa Ministry of Health; International Planned Parenthood Federation
<b>Samoa–Australia Police Partnership</b> (bilateral)	Ongoing	Australian Federal Police; Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services
<b>Defence Cooperation Program/Pacific Maritime Security Program (PMSP)</b> (regional)	Ongoing	Australian Defence Force; Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services
<b>Pacific Transnational Crime Coordination Centre</b> (regional)	Ongoing	Australian Federal Police; Samoa Police, Prisons and Corrections Services
<b>Pacific Security College</b> (regional)	2019–26	Australian National University

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 4 (bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) as well as significant regional and global ODA, and significant non-ODA development investments/activities)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
<b>Pacific Labour Mobility Support Program</b> (regional)	2024–28	Government of Samoa Ministry of Finance; Government of Samoa Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
<b>Australia Awards Scholarships</b> (global program, funded bilaterally)	Ongoing	Government of Samoa Public Service Commission
<b>Pacific Australia Skills Platform</b> (regional)	2025–to be confirmed	Samoa Qualifications Authority; National University of Samoa; other local technical and vocational education and training providers
<b>PacificAus Sports</b> (regional)	2019–27	Government of Samoa Ministry of Sports and Recreation
<b>Team Up</b> (regional)	2018–28	Government of Samoa Ministry of Sports and Recreation
<b>Australian Volunteers Program</b> (global)	2017–27	Assorted Government of Samoa agencies and civil society organisations

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, *The Australia–Samoa bilateral partnership arrangement*, 2023. <https://www.dfat.gov.au/countries/samoa/australia-samoa-bilateral-partnership-arrangement>
- <sup>2</sup> Ministry of Finance, *Pathway for the development of Samoa FY2021/22–FY2025/26*, 2022. <https://mof.gov.ws/services/economic-policy-planning/national-development-plans-for-samoa/>
- <sup>3</sup> Asian Development Bank, *Asian Development Bank and Samoa: fact sheet*, 2024. <https://www.adb.org/publications/samoa-fact-sheet>
- <sup>4</sup> Pacific Community Statistics for Development Division, *Samoa*, 2024. <https://sdd.spc.int/ws>
- <sup>5</sup> Government of Samoa, *Samoa’s second voluntary national review on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals*, 2020. [https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26429Samoa\\_Samos2ndVNR2020reduced.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26429Samoa_Samos2ndVNR2020reduced.pdf)
- <sup>6</sup> International Monetary Fund, *GDP per capita, current prices*, 2024. <https://www.imf.org/external/datamapper/NGDPDPC@WEO/WSM?zoom=WSM&highlight=WSM>
- <sup>7</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Gross domestic product: June 2023 quarter*, 2023. <https://www.sbs.gov.ws/images/sbs-documents/Finance/GDP/2023/june/GDP%20PRODUCTION%20Report%20-%20June%202023%20Quarter.pdf>
- <sup>8</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Annual migration*, 2024. <https://www.sbs.gov.ws/samoa-migration/>
- <sup>9</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Samoa Demographic and Health – Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2019–20, survey findings report*, 2021. [https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Samoa%202019-20%20DHS-MICS\\_sm.pdf](https://washdata.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Samoa%202019-20%20DHS-MICS_sm.pdf)
- <sup>10</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Samoa Demographic and Health – Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2019–20, survey findings report*.
- <sup>11</sup> Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture, *The Samoa gender achievement gap report*, 2023. [https://www.mesc.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Final-GAG-Report\\_Oct-2023.pdf](https://www.mesc.gov.ws/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Final-GAG-Report_Oct-2023.pdf)
- <sup>12</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Food security and food consumption in Samoa*, 2020. <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/76425e94-b3aa-4c82-80c4-4f66abd50dd9/content>
- <sup>13</sup> United Nations Children’s Fund, *Situation analysis of children in Samoa*, 2017. <https://www.unicef.org/pacificislands/media/1206/file/Situation-Analysis-of-Children-Samoa.pdf>
- <sup>14</sup> World Bank Group, *Samoa*, 2021. <https://climateknowledgeportal.worldbank.org/country/samoa>
- <sup>15</sup> Samoa Bureau of Statistics, *Report on the Samoa Agriculture Census 2019*, 2021. [https://www.sbs.gov.ws/images/sbs-documents/Economics/SAMOA-AGRICULTURE-CENSUS/SAMOA\\_AGRICULTURE\\_CENSUS\\_2019.pdf](https://www.sbs.gov.ws/images/sbs-documents/Economics/SAMOA-AGRICULTURE-CENSUS/SAMOA_AGRICULTURE_CENSUS_2019.pdf)

## Cover photo credits

Top row (from left to right):

- Samoan athletes Faalua Lefulefu and Saelua Leaula posing victorious after a local rugby tournament supported through PacificAus Sports. Our PacificAus Sports initiative continues to make an impact, including providing elite pathways for Samoa’s talented athletes to compete at elite competitions not only locally, but also on the international stage. Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- A 2023 graduate from the Australian Pacific Training Coalition posing together with representatives from the training coalition and the Australian Government in Apia. The training coalition continues to deliver inclusive and relevant technical and vocational training to reflect the needs of Samoa and the wider region’s workplaces. Credit: Tautua partnership.
- Australian Defence together with Samoan sailors at the arrival ceremony for *Nafanua III* in Apia in January 2024. Funded by Australia, the Guardian-class patrol boat forms an essential part of Samoa’s work in securing its maritime borders. Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Bottom row (from left to right):

- Australian Federal Police and Samoa Police at the 2024 Anzac Day dawn service in Apia. Through the Samoa–Australia Police Partnership, we are working together towards our shared aspirations for a safe, secure and prosperous Blue Pacific. Credit: Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.
- The Australian High Commission worked together with the Samoa Farmers Association to support rural and low-income farmers in Samoa to access reliable solar energy. Supported through our Direct Aid Program, these farmers now have improved access to power, which has enhanced their safety as well as productivity. Credit: Tautua partnership.
- Villagers from the island of Manono mounting the Samoa–Australia partnership branding to showcase their new solar lights project. Manono, a small island located between the larger Upolu and Savaii islands, requested support for solar lights as part of their initiative for safer communities. Credit: Tautua partnership.