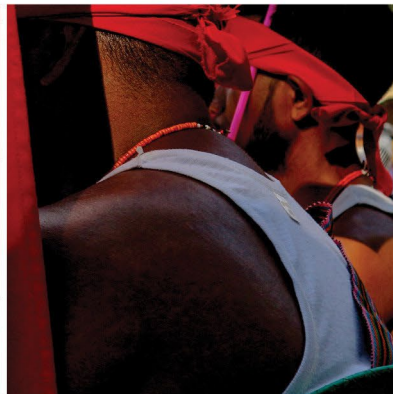




Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



AUSTRALIA – TIMOR-LESTE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2025–2030

Section 1: Introduction

Australia's partnership with Timor-Leste

Australia and Timor-Leste's partnership is profoundly important to both countries. We are located 650 km apart and the stability, security, resilience and prosperity of our countries is deeply interconnected. When Timor-Leste took the courageous step of voting for independence in 1999 and asked the international community for help, Australia answered. Following Timor-Leste's independence, Australia quickly became Timor-Leste's largest development and security partner. Our countries have strong people-to-people connections and expansive cooperation programs. Our growing partnership is based on mutual respect, shared interests, and a continuous cycle of engagement and consultation.

The development of a new Australia – Timor-Leste Development Partnership Plan comes at an opportune time with Timor-Leste's IX Constitutional Government still in the early stages of its five-year term. Australia is flexible and responsive in supporting Timor-Leste's priorities to build human capital, improve basic services and increase economic resilience. This has already included helping Timor-Leste to recover from COVID-19 impacts and investing in sectors including municipal services, rural infrastructure and roads, governance, agriculture and health. Australia is also supporting Timor-Leste's regional integration, including its full accession to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

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 – Timor-Leste Development Partnership Plan 2025–2030 (DPP) translates into action the development priorities that Australia and Timor-Leste share. 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 Timor-Leste's national development priorities and how Australia will work with other development actors, ensuring the Australian Government contribution to Timor-Leste's development ambitions is well coordinated.

The DPP reflects the full spectrum of Australia's development support – 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.

Key changes to Australia's development partnership with Timor-Leste under this DPP include:

- scaling up support for Timor-Leste's blue economy
- expanding labour mobility and migration opportunities
- investing in private sector development and enhancing support for community resilience

- ending support for Timor-Leste’s social protection cash transfer program, at Timor-Leste’s request
- integrating climate considerations across the full breadth of programming
- intensifying efforts to promote gender equality and disability-inclusive development
- embedding the perspectives of First Nations peoples in our development engagement.

Beyond these, we will remain engaged across a range of other sectors in support of Timor-Leste’s priorities. As programs end, we will work with the Government of Timor-Leste to identify opportunities to streamline, consolidate or end our support for programs where appropriate. Our broad development cooperation reflects our enduring commitment as close neighbours, the strength of Timor-Leste’s development agenda and our intent, as reflected in this DPP, to make our strong relationship even stronger.

Preparing the Development Partnership Plan

The DPP is informed by extensive consultations with diverse stakeholders in Timor-Leste and Australia. It draws on meetings with more than 90 representatives from across the Government of Timor-Leste and considers the views of the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste, Government of Timor-Leste ministers and officials from 16 Government of Timor-Leste agencies. We held workshops in Timor-Leste with more than 170 representatives from local organisations, including representatives from non-government organisations and civil society organisations, community leaders, young leaders, academics, bilateral and multilateral development partners, implementing partners and private sector partners.

The consultation meetings and workshops involved a mix of targeted and broader groupings of representatives, focusing on cross-cutting issues – locally led development, climate change and gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI) – as well as priority sectors for Australia’s support (including health and education, community resilience and economic growth). We also sought feedback on development modalities and how Australia should deliver its development program.

The analysis underpinning the DPP was further shaped by a stakeholder survey conducted by the Australian think tank Development Intelligence Lab, and consultations with Australian Government agencies, civil society organisations and development partners. Consistent with our approach of working across government, other Australian Government departments and agencies working in Timor-Leste – namely the Department of Defence, the Australian Federal Police, the Department of Home Affairs and the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) – also contributed to the development of the DPP.

Section 2: Timor-Leste development context and Australian partnership

Timor-Leste is a young and vibrant country. Since independence in 2002, Timor-Leste has emerged as a strong and stable democracy, making steady progress on human and economic development. Freedom of press and public access to information supports lively public debate and Timor-Leste has an open and liberal economy.

Timor-Leste's natural beauty, distinct cultural traditions and proximity to large and growing economies present ample opportunities for growth. Sixty-five per cent of the population are under the age of 30, and harnessing the energy and dynamism of a young population presents big opportunities for Timor-Leste's economic future.¹ A growing, well-educated middle class is shaping public debate and the country's development trajectory.

Australia and Timor-Leste are close partners and neighbours. Our common interest in a peaceful, stable and prosperous region is reinforced by our geography and connects us now and into the future. Our economic partnership is growing, with more than 50 Australian-related businesses operating in Timor-Leste, covering financial services, oil and gas, shipping, trade, manufacturing and services. We have a strong foundation to strengthen economic and business links to support Timor-Leste's development and regional integration, aligned with *Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040*.²

As neighbours in an integrated region, our people-to-people links continue to expand. Timor-Leste's first undersea internet cable will connect to a private Australian telecommunication network in Darwin. Through the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme, a total of more than 13,000 workers have had the chance to work, save money and build skills in Australia since the program began. Australia is proud to have hosted more than 350 talented Timorese emerging leaders to study in Australia through the Australia Awards program. Many of the alumni network are now in leadership positions in government, the private sector and the community.

Australia is Timor-Leste's largest development partner, providing \$123 million in ODA funding in 2024–25. We are working alongside the Government of Timor-Leste to support human and economic development. The Government of Timor-Leste has a clear agenda, including engaging economically with the region to create jobs in Timor-Leste, extending the reach and the quality of essential services, especially in remote areas, and protecting the land and maritime environment. Our ongoing development program is firmly aligned with these important priorities and the Timor-Leste Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030.

Our defence and security partnership is longstanding and broad, with our shared stake in regional stability fostering strong defence and policing collaborations. Through our Defence Cooperation Program, we have partnered with Timor-Leste in its development of a capable and responsive Timor-Leste Defence Force and Ministry of Defence, contributing to the country's security and stability. As Timor-Leste's largest policing partner, we are committed to supporting Timor-Leste's efforts to maintain law and order and build police force capability following a community policing model. Veterans from our two countries have close and enduring ties.

We recognise that conflict-affected states face additional challenges to development. As a post-conflict state in the early stages of nation building, Timor-Leste highly values the principles guiding international engagement under the g7+ grouping and the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States. As a champion of these principles, Australia supports Timor-Leste's commitment to country-owned, country-led development. We will continue our efforts to strengthen social cohesion as a joint priority.

Our development program is only one part of the partnership between our countries, which includes business ties, people-to-people links, and defence and police cooperation.

Human capital

Timor-Leste has made strong progress since emerging from conflict, but the effects of decades of trauma remain. The Timor-Leste human capital review, published in 2023, indicates a range of risks to human capital.³ Australia is partnering with Timor-Leste to mitigate the lifelong impacts of poor childhood nutrition and health and incomplete education, which if left unaddressed will affect Timor-Leste's long-term prospects.

Malnutrition rates remain high, with 47 per cent of children under 5 years experiencing stunting, which in turn impacts educational and health outcomes and adult productivity.⁴ Maternal mortality is high and 19 per cent of women of reproductive age are underweight.⁵ Many health facilities lack the amenities and staff needed to deliver basic or specialised health care. Health centres are spread unevenly across the country, and use of health services is low.

While access to education is improving, the quality of education is a work in progress. Enrolment rates in early childhood and secondary education are low, particularly in remote regions. Students are not learning at the intended rate, resulting in high rates of grade repetition and school dropouts. School attendance for children with disability is much lower than that for their peers without disability; 72 per cent of children with disability do not attend school.⁶ Although literacy levels have improved over the past decade, only 68 per cent of adults can read and write.⁷

Timor-Leste's youth bulge presents complex social challenges. Twenty per cent of Timorese aged 15–24 years are not attending school or working, and 50 per cent of young people in rural areas are illiterate. There is a window to engage young people and create a more productive workforce, including through providing better quality education and health services.

Economy

Timor-Leste's economy is dominated by the petrochemical sector, which accounts for the vast majority of gross domestic product (GDP).⁸ Remittances, agriculture and tourism are other important sectors. At 2.9 per cent, the official unemployment rate is low, but it does not reflect the full reality of the labour market.⁹ Forty-two per cent of the population in Timor-Leste currently lives below the national poverty line.¹⁰

Government spending is equivalent to around 90 per cent of GDP.¹¹ Until December 2023, 90 per cent of Timor-Leste's government revenue was derived from oil and gas. This revenue has reduced with the depletion of the Bayu-Undan oil and gas field.¹² The Greater Sunrise oil and gas field has the potential to contribute significant future returns for Timor-Leste's economy.

The agriculture sector is vital for Timor-Leste's economic growth and resilience. Agriculture has contributed an average of 23 per cent of Timor-Leste's total non-oil GDP for more than a decade.¹³ The sector employs around 38 per cent of Timor-Leste's labour force, making it the country's largest employment sector.¹⁴ Agricultural production is, however, declining, with production of coffee (Timor-Leste's major crop export) falling between 2010 and 2020. Areas cultivated for coffee declined by 48 per cent over this period, with a longer-term decline in international coffee prices contributing to farmers' abandonment of their farms.¹⁵

Diversifying the economy is a key priority for Timor-Leste's government and Timor-Leste's blue and green economies are growing in importance. Timor-Leste's deep connection to the ocean and the richness of its marine biodiversity underpin its determination to conserve this natural heritage. Tourism has the potential to become a significant source of revenue, given Timor-Leste's untouched coastal, marine, mountain and forest environments and its cultural and heritage assets. However, issues of connectivity, flight prices, operating costs, human capital and infrastructure currently limit growth in the sector. Timor-Leste remains one of the least visited countries in the world, with an average of 75,000 visitors arriving on a tourist or business visa annually (before the COVID-19 pandemic).¹⁶

Bilateral, regional and global engagement

ASEAN membership is a vital part of Timor-Leste's future and its aspirations for regional integration. In 2022, ASEAN leaders agreed in principle to admit Timor-Leste as ASEAN's 11th member, dependent on Timor-Leste's progress against an agreed roadmap.

Timor-Leste acceded to the WTO in 2024. WTO accession is pivotal for Timor-Leste's economic reforms, boosting trade liberalisation and access to international markets.

Timor-Leste works closely with various development partners across many sectors, including other bilateral partners, development banks and United Nations agencies. At the sector level, formal and informal mechanisms are in place to coordinate development partners' support. High-level coordination mechanisms, led by the Government of Timor-Leste, are improving, and development partners are committed to coordinating and aligning their support with government priorities. The priorities of other partners and consideration of where and how Australia is best placed to engage have informed this DPP.

Climate change

Timor-Leste's vulnerability to climate change and disaster risk is among the highest of all Asian economies. Climate-related hazards include floods, drought, cyclones and dramatic changes in marine conditions. These are expected to worsen, causing serious challenges for most of the population, who rely on subsistence farming for their livelihoods. Impacts will affect key productive sectors, communities and livelihoods. Systemic action is needed to prevent climate change from increasing inequality and causing significant setbacks to development in Timor-Leste.

With negligible greenhouse gas emissions, Timor-Leste is largely focusing on climate change adaptation rather than mitigation. It has committed to numerous actions, including actions related to the blue economy and to renewable energy targets. We will ensure our support aligns with Timor-Leste's National Adaptation Plan and Nationally Determined Contribution.

As a first step to enhancing Australia's support for building Timor-Leste's climate resilience, we will elevate the integration of climate change considerations in our existing investments. All new investments will consider targeted climate support, including climate risk and management strategies. This will be informed by robust climate change and disaster risk scenarios for Timor-Leste.

We will enhance support for community climate resilience, focusing on water security and community preparedness. We will ensure our work to support climate resilience also strengthens gender equality and social inclusion.

These processes will ensure we achieve our obligations under Australia's International Development Policy that 80 per cent of all new investments valued at more than \$3 million will have a climate change objective by 2028–2029.

Gender equality, disability and social inclusion (GEDSI)

Women's political activism and rights advocacy has deep roots in Timor-Leste's civil society. The status of women has continued to improve since Timor-Leste achieved independence because of steps such as legislating electoral quotas to ensure representation of women in parliament. However, high levels of gender inequality still impact negatively on political, economic and social life, including very high rates of gender-based violence and restricted sexual and reproductive health rights. Almost one-third of women and girls aged 15–19 years report experiencing physical violence in the previous year.¹⁷ Women face greater barriers to employment than men, and are paid less

for the same work. They are overrepresented in the informal sector and are more likely to be in casual or unstable employment than men.

People with disability in Timor-Leste face discrimination, stigma and exclusion, with limited access to education, employment, health services and public facilities. They experience a higher rate of poverty and poorer social outcomes than others. Children with disability face barriers to accessing education, negatively affecting employment and livelihood as they age. Negative outcomes are particularly acute for Timorese girls and women with disability; only 10.5 per cent are literate compared with 20.5 per cent of boys and men with disability.¹⁸ Timor-Leste does, however, have a politically engaged disability movement, which is progressing participation of people with disability in all aspects of life.

Timor-Leste does not criminalise same-sex relations, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, asexual and identity-diverse (LGBTQIA+) organisations are allowed to operate. However, there are no non-discrimination laws based on sexual orientation or gender identity, and violence towards LGBTQIA+ people is prevalent. Same-sex marriage and adoption by same-sex couples are not permitted.

Timor-Leste and Australia share a commitment to ensuring all people can participate equally in society. To support this, we will take a more targeted approach to advancing GEDSI inclusion in Timor-Leste.

We will ensure that we achieve our obligations under Australia's International Development Policy that 80 per cent of investments address gender equality effectively, and all new investments over \$3 million include gender equality objectives.

First Nations

This DPP reflects Australia's commitment to respecting the perspectives of First Nations people and embedding these perspectives in our development engagement. Timor-Leste and Australia's shared history and cultural connections provide a foundation for partnerships that reflect the rich diversity, traditions, deep skills and expertise of both communities. By embedding First Nations knowledge and practices in our international development efforts, we commit to fostering more inclusive, sustainable and culturally sensitive programs that benefit both our countries.

In line with this commitment, we will support initiatives that encourage meaningful engagement between First Nations peoples and Timor-Leste people and communities. We will support initiatives that promote local ownership and leadership, ensure cultural safety, facilitate cultural exchanges and leverage Indigenous knowledge and practices to address contemporary challenges. Our approach is based on mutual respect and shared learning, ensuring that development efforts empower communities and encourage inclusive participation.

Section 3: Joint objectives of the Australia – Timor-Leste development partnership

The overarching goal for the Australia – Timor-Leste development partnership is to foster a peaceful, stable and prosperous Timor-Leste. 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.

Australia will balance long-term investments with new and emerging priorities of the Government of Timor-Leste. We will be flexible and responsive. Our approach to program planning and delivery will be underpinned by the principles of universal access, quality and accountability. In health and education, we will continue our significant investments in government systems, recognising the importance of sustainable human development for a productive nation. In line with government priorities, we will scale up our support in targeted areas to support economic diversification, such as growing Timor-Leste’s blue and green economies and private sector.

Australia’s support to Timor-Leste recognises the shared interests of our governments and the breadth of Timor-Leste’s development needs. Over the coming years, we will look for ways to improve impact, focus our efforts on sectors aligned with key government priorities and Australia’s comparative advantage, and deepen our engagement with partners. We will simplify our development investments and align our support with other development partners to minimise duplication and avoid overburdening the government.

We will re-examine programs, sectors and modalities as investments end. We will streamline the number of separate investments and areas of thematic and sectoral engagement as we design the next phase of our development program. We will explore all development modalities to achieve the best development outcomes, including implementing partner arrangements, grants, co-financing arrangements and budget support.

We will support country-owned and country-led development, and the upskilling of Timorese people. When providing technical assistance, we will primarily employ Timorese people for advisory positions, supported by a small number of international advisers only. We will look for opportunities to integrate a First Nations approach.

We will invest in the core skills our staff require to deliver an effective and high-quality international development program, including program design, monitoring and evaluation, procurement and transparency. We will appoint a Senior Responsible Officer to instil a stronger performance-based culture across our investments and drive improved quality, effectiveness and efficiency.

The framework below outlines objectives and outcomes in four key pillars. There are clear linkages across them. A mid-cycle review of the DPP will be undertaken in 2028 to review progress and adjust as required.

Table 1: Australia – Timor-Leste development partnership

Goal: A peaceful, stable and prosperous Timor-Leste

Objective	Objective 1 Quality services	Objective 2 Inclusive and sustainable economic growth	Objective 3 A sovereign, stable and resilient nation	Objective 4 All people thrive and prosper
Outcomes	<p>Outcome 1.1 Strengthened public financial management</p> <p>Outcome 1.2 Improved delivery of inclusive and quality essential health and education services</p> <p>Outcome 1.3 Increased citizen voice and engagement with decision-making processes</p>	<p>Outcome 2.1 A growing agriculture and tourism sector, improvements to the business enabling environment and increased economic integration</p> <p>Outcome 2.2 Increased opportunities for upskilling the workforce and for labour mobility opportunities in Australia</p> <p>Outcome 2.3 Improved connectivity and opportunities for increased productivity</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1 Targeted communities can better prepare for, adapt to and recover from pressures, shocks and the impacts of climate change</p> <p>Outcome 3.2 Increased engagement and influence in regional and global architecture</p> <p>Outcome 3.3 Increased skills, capabilities and professionalism of police and military forces</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1 Increased diversity in leadership in government and community</p> <p>Outcome 4.2 Effective prevention of and response to violence against women, children and people with disability and improved access to services</p> <p>Outcome 4.3 Improved government ability to deliver on its equality and inclusion frameworks</p>
Focus areas	<p>Objective 1 focus areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public financial management • Civil society • Health • Basic and inclusive education 	<p>Objective 2 focus areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure and connectivity • Private sector development (agriculture and tourism) • Labour mobility • Skills development • Scholarships • Women’s economic empowerment 	<p>Objective 3 focus areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster preparedness and community resilience • Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) • World Trade Organization (WTO) • Cybersecurity • Border security • Biosecurity • Police and defence cooperation 	<p>Objective 4 focus areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of and response to violence against women, children, and people with disability • Disability equity • Police cooperation • Civil society

Ways of working

We understand *how* we work is as important as *what* we do. Through this DPP, Australia commits to being the best partner we can be, and to supporting Timor-Leste's sovereignty, agency and fundamental right to decide its own future. We will engage respectfully. We will listen to, and respond to, Timor-Leste's interests and priorities.

We will work together to progress the objectives set out in Table 1 through the following four principles.

Principle 1 – Strengthened institutions

- Support the Government of Timor-Leste to improve service delivery and advance enabling reforms.
- Support a thriving public sector and civil society.

Principle 2 – Locally led development

- Work in partnership with the Government of Timor-Leste and local actors to align Australian investments with local development strategies, policies and programs.
- Support and strengthen Timor-Leste organisations and communities to drive the development agenda and lead and set priorities.
- Engage local expertise as much as possible.

Principle 3 – Program quality and accountability

- Deliver high-quality, effective programs that are responsive to Timor-Leste's needs, transparent and accountable, and informed by evidence, monitoring, evaluation and learning.
- Invest in the skills, opportunities and careers of our Timorese staff.

Principle 4 – Effective partnerships

- Grow labour market and migration pathways.
- Strengthen trade and business ties between Australia and Timor-Leste.
- Build on our connections with the United Nations, multilateral institutions, private sector and non-government actors, such as academic institutions, the media and civil society.

Objective 1: Quality services

A healthy, educated workforce is critical to Timor-Leste's future productivity and growth. Australia's investments under this objective focus on supporting the Government of Timor-Leste to deliver essential services, including for the most vulnerable, through efficient budget allocation, improved service quality and strong oversight. We will support engaging communities and young people in service monitoring, further strengthening performance.

Australia is supporting essential services through our broader public financial management program, noting the importance of sustainable budget management in a challenging fiscal environment. We are working in partnership with the Government of Timor-Leste Ministry of Finance, key line ministries and other development partners to strengthen the systems that underpin good public financial management, including planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting. We will support the Government of Timor-Leste to implement a public financial management reform strategy to inform targeted and inclusive budget allocations across sectors. We will provide more support for budget preparation and management, accounting and reporting, and debt management. Recognising the critical role municipal administrations play in service delivery, we will continue supporting sub-national governments to strengthen their planning, budgeting and coordination processes.

Through our current and future investments, we will help the Government of Timor-Leste to adapt public financial management, sector planning and delivery systems to the impacts of climate change.

We will partner with government, civil society organisations and other development partners to promote transparent and effective governance, identifying opportunities to enhance social accountability, diverse leadership and engagement with young people. This will be complemented by our partnership with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC), through ABC International Development, to build local media capability and produce quality journalism. Recognising the critical role civil society organisations play in locally led development, advocating for reforms and improving universal access to essential services, we will provide more targeted support to civil society organisations.

We will continue our longstanding support to the education and health sectors, with a focus on strengthening government systems to improve the accessibility and quality of services and promoting long-term and sustainable improvement. Our current health and education investments end in 2026. We will work with the Government of Timor-Leste to design successor programs that promote equitable access to services with targeted attention to climate resilient solutions. We will engage with young people to ensure access to services that meet their needs. We will use our global and regional networks to address local needs and complement our bilateral efforts. We will expand our work with organisations of persons with disability, supporting their engagement with relevant government counterparts to improve access to, and the appropriateness and quality of, services for people with disability.

In education, we will focus on improving student learning outcomes in basic education, and will align our support with the Government of Timor-Leste's broader education reform agenda and support for quality education. We will provide more support for inclusive education, including improving teaching for children with disability. We will support improved public financial management and budget allocation in education and help improve coordination across sectors and between development partners.

In health, we will support strengthening national-, municipal- and facility-level systems to improve access to, and the quality of, essential services, such as maternal and child health, nutrition and reproductive health services. We will help to improve the range and quality of specialist services available, including through remote support models, to improve diagnosis and reduce referrals to specialists overseas. We will trial new approaches in performance-based financing that complement the Government of Timor-Leste's efforts to improve quality of care at the community level. We will be flexible, responding to health emergencies when requested and supporting opportunities for innovation and best practice.

Objective 2: Inclusive and sustainable economic growth

Growing and diversifying the economy is crucial for Timor-Leste's sustainable development. A stronger economy will provide ongoing revenue to fund government services and jobs for Timorese citizens, including a growing population of young people. Australia is well placed to support private sector development and improved access to international and regional organisations to promote trade, and skills and labour mobility opportunities. We will provide ongoing support for the blue economy, aligning with Timor-Leste's commitment to grow this important sector.

Australia will launch a new, multiyear flagship private sector development initiative to work with the Government of Timor-Leste and the private sector to deliver activities in agriculture and tourism with a focus on opportunities for young people. We will invest in values-based private sector growth in agriculture to strengthen the domestic market and encourage niche high-value exports. This will be complemented by research being done through ACIAR to improve agricultural productivity and profitability. For tourism, the program will support policies, products and services that strengthen Timor-Leste's regional brand, and create sustainable jobs and income. We will work with Austrade to strengthen trade and investment opportunities between Australia and Timor-Leste, in line with *Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2040*.

We will foster shared learning with First Nations businesses and approaches to inclusive private sector development. We will support inclusion of, and expansion of economic opportunities for, women, young people and people with disability, including a focus on supporting women's economic empowerment.

To encourage greater domestic and international private sector investment, Australia will continue to strengthen the business enabling environment and will support Timor-Leste to benefit from its WTO membership and access to international markets. This will be complemented by our biosecurity support, which is focused on helping Timor-Leste meet WTO and ASEAN requirements in the agriculture and health sectors, as well as on preparing for and responding to key biosecurity threats facing Timor-Leste.

To strengthen skills and employment for Timor-Leste's growing population of young people, Australia will work with the Government of Timor-Leste to increase participation in the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme, particularly in semiskilled roles, and to strengthen returned worker contributions to the economy. Our support will help to improve English language proficiency and financial literacy. We will build in-demand technical and vocational skills to increase employment opportunities in Timor-Leste and Australia, including for young people, through new regional programs focused on technical and vocational skill development and labour mobility, the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme support program and Pacific Skills.

Australia will continue to prioritise Australia Awards scholarships and courses, including for women and people with disability. These provide a means of fostering people-to-people links, as well as equipping emerging leaders with academic, professional and leadership skills and networks.

Addressing Timor-Leste's infrastructure deficit is central to its economic productivity and growth. Australia is supporting Timor-Leste to build infrastructure that will increase connectivity, create local jobs and private sector growth and support climate change adaptation. We will continue our partnership with the aviation sector, supporting the redevelopment of Dili's international airport and working closely with the Civil Aviation Authority and Air Navigation Administration to strengthen their systems and air navigation services. With Australian support, Timor-Leste's first submarine internet cable will transform the digital sector. Australia will continue to support cable delivery, as well as digitalisation of government and private sector services. We will look to partner with the Government of Timor-Leste on new infrastructure projects, including in the renewable energy sector.

Objective 3: A sovereign, stable and resilient nation

Security and stability are essential for human and economic development. Timor-Leste is a stable and secure nation. Still, strengthening the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all citizens without discrimination requires continual attention. Our investments under this objective recognise the importance of building resilience in human security and state security, and the importance of professional and accountable defence and security institutions. It is in our shared interest to foster close security cooperation and build community resilience, and we will further consolidate our policing and defence partnerships.

We will continue our longstanding support for the Polícia Nacional Timor-Leste (PNTL), which is central to maintaining Timor-Leste's internal security. In line with PNTL's strategic plan for 2023–2030, we are prioritising embedding community policing practices to deter and disrupt crime and disorder, and better equip the PNTL to respond to security contingencies.

Our defence partnership remains strong. Through the Defence Cooperation Program, Australia will continue to partner with the Timor-Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL) and Ministry of Defence on a range of shared priorities, including maritime security, English language skills, peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. We will proactively support Timor-Leste's Women, Peace and Security Agenda through our policy dialogue, and defence and policing cooperation.

Timor-Leste's is an essential voice in multilateral forums both regionally and globally. Australia is supporting Timor-Leste to meet its requirements for ASEAN accession through technical and advisory support for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and other relevant agencies. This includes new English language training for ASEAN accession which will build the capacity of Timorese officials engaging with ASEAN mechanisms. The Australian Bureau of Statistics is supporting Timor-Leste to meet its economic statistical requirements for ASEAN.

Engaging young people is critical to Timor-Leste's ongoing stability and security. We will continue to work with young people on issues relevant to them and the future of their country, including creating economic opportunities and ensuring young people's voices are represented in public life.

Climate change also poses risks to national resilience, threatening agricultural productivity and access to water, and increasing the severity and frequency of extreme weather events. We will respond to this through enhanced support for community resilience, preparedness and adaptation. We are integrating climate considerations into the design of new programs across our partnership, and aiming to engage those most vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

As Timor-Leste's closest humanitarian partner, we are focusing on disaster readiness and preparation, and anticipation of strategic shocks. We will develop a new response framework to better coordinate Australian defence, policing and humanitarian efforts to address the needs of diverse groups. We will strengthen bilateral support for Timor-Leste to build sovereign institutional capacity to lead and coordinate during crises. We will provide humanitarian assistance at the request of the Government of Timor-Leste.

Strong border management is critical to Timor-Leste's territorial integrity. Through the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs' International Capacity Building Program, we will continue to share knowledge and build migration management capacity, as well as partner in countering and deterring people smuggling and human trafficking. This will strengthen our immigration and border security relationship.

Objective 4: All people thrive and prosper

We are focusing more on efforts to improve gender equality and disability equity, consistent with Timor-Leste's strong commitment to democracy and human rights. This DPP recognises that diverse leadership is essential for good governance and service delivery at all levels and for ensuring an economic inclusion agenda meets the needs of women, children, and people with disability. We will pay particular attention to the role of young people in development and social cohesion. We will work towards gender equality and disability equity and inclusion through targeted standalone programs and by including this objective within all major investments.

We will continue to prioritise our longstanding Ending Violence against Women and Children program, which takes lifecycle and intersectional approaches to preventing and responding to violence against women, children, and people with disability.

We will continue to support implementation and monitoring of the Maubisse Declaration, the Government of Timor-Leste's primary policy framework for empowering rural women, including rural women with disability.

We will increase our targeted support for disability equity and inclusion. We will focus primarily on supporting organisations of persons with disability and supporting the Government of Timor-Leste to implement the *Disability National Action Plan*. Our disability work will closely align with, but go beyond, our health and education support.

Through our major investments, we will increase support to women's civil society organisations, and organisations of persons with disability. This recognises their critical role promoting equality and inclusion in Timorese society. We will establish targeted initiatives to support the leadership of women and people with disability.

Timorese young people play a central role in the country's development, democracy and social cohesion. We will work with youth-focused civil society organisations to increase the voice and participation of young Timorese in community and decision-making processes.

Through our support for reform of public financial management, we will partner with the Government of Timor-Leste to implement key equality and inclusion commitments through targeted and inclusive budget allocations in priority sectors. Our partnerships in the health and education sectors will have an increased focus on inclusion for people with disability.

We will invest in a more ambitious economic inclusion agenda, which supports women, young people and people with disability through both mainstreamed and targeted elements. We will support women's entrepreneurship and engagement in the private sector. We will ensure our labour mobility, skills and scholarship programs facilitate participation, leadership and engagement for women, people from regional areas and people with disability.

We will pursue connections between regional and bilateral programs to improve equality and inclusion. These connections include those available through the Southeast Asia Gender-based Violence Prevention Platform, the WTO and ASEAN.

We recognise that supporting climate resilience and gender equality and disability equity and inclusion are mutually reinforcing. We will ensure our support for gender equality and disability equity and inclusion recognises the risks of climate change.

Section 4: Delivering our partnership

Locally led development

Australia's commitment to locally led development is consistent with the value Timor-Leste places on country-owned and country-led development and the principles guiding international engagement outlined by the g7+ in the New Deal for Engagement in Fragile States.¹⁹ Our approach is to work with the Government of Timor-Leste to support its priorities, programs and policies through high-quality technical advice.

In strengthening local engagement, we commit to:

- being frank and clear in open dialogue with our partners about the parameters of locally led development so there is confidence about how decisions are made
- aligning our investment choices with government policy and priorities as much as possible and ensuring our investments meet the needs of affected communities
- using local systems and processes and local partners and staff whenever possible
- engaging early in the concept and design stage to consider how we can maximise locally led development
- ensuring local leaders and actors have agency and opportunities for decision-making input into the framing, design, delivery and accountability of our programs
- canvassing a diverse range of local opinions and motivations to ensure that processes and programs are inclusive.

Consultation

We will use existing governance mechanisms, including high-level development forums, sector-specific governance arrangements and various bilateral high-level talks to provide updates on our progress on the DPP.

We will hold an annual forum to discuss implementation of the DPP, share learning and update on our progress. This will provide a mechanism for assessing the performance of Australia's overarching development program. When appropriate, outcomes from the DPP forum will be reported through the annual Timor-Leste–Australia Senior Officials Meeting.

Evaluation and learning

We will regularly evaluate key investments, thematic areas and priority sectors to promote continuous improvement and ensure our approaches are fit-for-purpose. We will use analytical work supported by our programs, such as the annual Tatoli! public perceptions survey, and information from government, universities, research institutions, think tanks and other development partners to support policy and program decisions.

Several investments will reach their midpoint or end during the second year of the DPP. We will conduct reviews and analyses to generate evidence to support decision-making for new investments, including when we need to adapt our approach. These will be done in consultation with government and non-government partners.

The list of evaluations in Table 2 will be updated as the planning and design process progresses.

Table 2: Consultation, evaluation and learning plan

Objective	2024–25	2025–26	2026–27
Objective 1 Quality services	Mid-term review of Parseria ba Prosperidade Inklusivu (Partnership for Inclusive Prosperity) (PROSIVU) (also relevant to Objective 2)	Final evaluation of Partnership for Human Development (PHD)	Not yet planned
Objective 2 Inclusive and sustainable economic growth	Mid-term review of Partnership to Strengthen Village Development and Municipal Administration (PARTISIPA) Impact assessment of Market Development Facility (MDF) Evaluation of Australia Awards in Timor-Leste	Impact evaluation of To'os Ba Moris Diak (Farming for Prosperity) (TOMAK) Phase 2	Not yet planned
Objective 3 A sovereign, stable and resilient nation	No formal reviews planned	Mid-term review of Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP)	Not yet planned
Objective 4 All people thrive and prosper	Mid-term review of Nabilan (ending violence against women and children) program	End-of-program evaluation of Nabilan (ending violence against women and children) program	Not yet planned

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: Quality services

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.1 Strengthened public financial management	1.1.1 Number of organisations supported in the reporting period to strengthen accountability and/or inclusion, including assistance provided and significant policy change achieved, at the following levels: government institutions, organisations or systems; civil society organisations or systems; and private sector organisations (Tier 2)	108 organisations supported in the reporting period to strengthen accountability	Number of organisations supported to strengthen accountability is maintained or increased	No target available, as this will be contingent on future programming	SDG5: Gender equality SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Outcome 1.1	1.1.2 Evidence of strengthened public financial management because of policy change and process improvements	Instances of better budget execution by municipal regional health services and instances of evidence-based planning and resource	Instances of better budget execution by municipal regional health services and instances of evidence-based planning and resource	Improved policy settings for financial forecasting and management	SDG5, SDG16

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
	(planning and execution focus)	<p>mobilisation for maternal and child health and nutrition activities (Partnership for Human Development (PHD))</p> <p>Evidence of strengthened annual planning and budgeting processes in target ministries to deliver on their mandates and support subnational development</p> <p>Accountable budget execution demonstrated through 10 public consultations</p> <p>Finance Ministry publishes annually citizen budget</p> <p>Support for Nabilan’s gender-based violence service delivery partners to advocate for increased funding from the Government of Timor-Leste and to increase access for people with disability</p>	<p>mobilisation for maternal and child health and nutrition activities (PHD)</p> <p>Evidence of strengthened annual planning and budgeting processes in target ministries to deliver on their mandates and support subnational development</p> <p>Enlarged scope of public consultations to include at least 1 economic and 1 social group</p> <p>Finance Ministry publishes annually citizen budget</p> <p>Continued support for Nabilan’s gender-based violence service delivery partners to advocate for increased funding from the Government of Timor-Leste and to increase access for people with disability</p>	<p>Evidence of strengthened annual planning and budgeting processes in target ministries to deliver on their mandates and support subnational development</p> <p>Consultations across all municipalities and 3 non-government groups</p> <p>Finance Ministry publishes annually citizen budget</p> <p>Continued support for Nabilan’s gender-based violence service delivery partners to advocate for increased funding from the Government of Timor-Leste and increase access for people with disability</p>	

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.1	1.1.3 Countries supported with policy and technical advice on economic reform and management (including examples and results achieved) (Tier 2)	<p>Support the Government of Timor-Leste’s value-added tax (VAT) implementation plan, including VAT policy design and establishing the legal framework</p> <p>Labour market policy support including through development of key labour market surveys that will inform decision-making</p> <p>Enhanced support for the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry’s extension policy</p>	<p>Support implementation of VAT including through development of standard operating procedures</p> <p>Support implementation of policy recommendations based on key labour market reports</p> <p>Enhanced support for the implementation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry’s extension policy</p>	No target available, as this will be contingent on future programming	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG16

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.2 Improved delivery of inclusive and quality essential health and education services	1.2.1 Partner countries improve health system capacity to provide quality, accessible, affordable health services, with Australian support (Tier 2)	Examples of improved health system capacity including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Institute of Public Health of Timor-Leste training strategy finalised and approved and includes a guideline for a quality assurance framework increased use of mSupply for status and quantification of essential medical supplies 	Support for standardising core training modules Increased use of mSupply software for status and quantification of essential medical supplies	Support for development of a learning management system Consistent use of mSupply software for status and quantification of essential medical supplies	SDG3: Good health and wellbeing
Outcome 1.2	1.2.2 Evidence of improvements in the quality of teaching practices	Increase in the percentage of teachers demonstrating quality teaching practices	Continued increase in the percentage of teachers demonstrating quality teaching practices	No target available, as this will be contingent on future programming	SDG4: Quality education
Outcome 1.2	1.2.3 Evidence of disability-inclusive service delivery	Increased teacher capacity to use inclusive pedagogical interventions	Evidence of inclusive pedagogical interventions being used	No target available, as this will be contingent on future programming	SDG10: Reduced inequalities

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 1.2	1.2.4 Number and percentage of community health centres that have at least 1 health provider competent in emergency obstetric and neonatal care	Dili: 5 out of 5 (100%) community health centres Ermera: 5 out of 7 (71%) community health centres Special Administrative Region of Oe-Cússe Ambeno (RAEOA): 5 out of 5 (100%) community health centres	Dili: 5 out of 5 (100%) community health centres Ermera: 7 out of 7 (100%) community health centres RAEOA: 5 out of 5 (100%) community health centres	Community health centres maintain competence in emergency obstetric and neonatal care	SDG3
Outcome 1.3 Increased citizen voice and engagement with decision-making processes	1.3.1 Number of partnerships with civil society organisations engaged in policy and decision-making processes with Government of Timor-Leste	15 partnerships with civil society organisations engaged in policy and decision-making processes with Government of Timor-Leste	Maintain or increase year-on-year	Maintain or increase year-on-year	SDG16
Outcome 1.3	1.3.2 Number of community members participating in National Program for Village Development (Programa Nasionál Dezenvolvimentu Suku (PNDS)) projects including to support infrastructure planning and construction and Water Management Groups (Grupu Maneja Fasilidade (GMFs))	475 community members participating in PNDS village governance committees to support infrastructure planning and construction 686 community members participating in GMFs	475 community members participating in PNDS village governance committees to support infrastructure planning and construction	New PNDS village governance committees are elected GMF participation numbers as captured in project mid-term review Youth voice and engagement with decision-making embedded in new program designs	SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure SDG16

Objective 2: Inclusive and sustainable economic growth

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1 A growing agriculture and tourism sector, improvements to the business enabling environment and increased economic integration	2.1.1 Increased capacity of our partner countries to participate effectively in rules-based trade and economic architecture (Tier 2)	Support establishment of a national World Trade Organization (WTO) secretariat and implementation of the Legislative Action Plan	Support Timor-Leste to meet the WTO’s post-accession requirements to enable its compliance with WTO standards	By 2027, Timor-Leste has a comprehensive trade policy document, and the document is compliant with WTO commitments	SDG8: Decent work and economic growth SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
Outcome 2.1	2.1.2 Number of market actors in key economic sectors supported to expand market access and/or improve supply chain resilience (Tier 2)	26 market actors	Partnerships with private sector actors are maintained and consolidated as support transitions to the new design	Partnerships with private sector actors are maintained and consolidated as support transitions to the new design	SDG2: Zero hunger SDG8
Outcome 2.1	2.1.3 Net additional income earned by beneficiaries that is attributable to private sector intervention	\$336,700	\$336,700	No target available, as this will be contingent on future programming	SDG8
Outcome 2.1	2.1.4 Value of additional market transactions (increased economic transactions triggered by economic intervention) (this captures the additional sales revenue generated by businesses that our work has supported)	\$942,760	\$942,760	\$942,760	SDG8

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.1	2.1.5 Total number of disadvantaged or economically marginalised working adults (smallholder farms, firms and workers) benefiting from private sector interventions	1,400	1,500	Private sector interventions continue to benefit disadvantaged or economically marginalised working adults after Australia’s support ends	SDG9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
Outcome 2.1	2.1.6 Number of women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services (Tier 2)	Numbers to be reported each year depending on market development program intervention opportunities	Numbers to be reported each year depending on market development program intervention opportunities	Numbers to be reported each year depending on market development program intervention opportunities	SDG5: Gender equality SDG8
Outcome 2.2 Increased opportunities for upskilling the workforce and for labour mobility opportunities in Australia	2.2.1 Number of people who successfully complete a tertiary or technical/vocational course or work-related training (Tier 2)	13 Australia Awards scholarship recipients complete tertiary qualifications 250 Australia Pacific Training Coalition participants complete technical and vocational education and training	15 Australia Awards scholarship recipients complete tertiary qualifications	20 Australia Awards scholarship recipients complete tertiary qualifications	SDG8
Outcome 2.2	2.2.2 Number of Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme workers (Tier 2)	5,000 workers	5,000 workers	5,000 workers	SDG8
Outcome 2.2	2.2.3 Number of Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme workers recruited into semiskilled roles	500 workers	700 workers	1,000 workers	SDG8

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.2	2.2.4 Proportion of returning Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme workers engaged in reintegration activities	30%	40%	50%	SDG8
Outcome 2.3 Improved connectivity and opportunities for increased productivity	2.3.1 Improvement of internet speed, data transfer efficiency/volumes and telecommunications services	Completion of the Timor-Leste South Submarine Cable and assistance in preparing the cable for service 100 Gbit/s or 10 Gbit/s wholesale service provision	Timor-Leste South Submarine Cable ready for service	Technical assistance for upgrades to the terrestrial fibre-optic distribution network in Timor-Leste and hardline connections	SDG4: Quality education SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities SDG8, SDG9
Outcome 2.3	2.3.2 Improvement in electricity generation efficiency with operation of new medium- and small-scale photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems and reduction of CO ₂ -e greenhouse gas emissions	Provision of technical assistance for the design and detailed engineering of the Government of Timor-Leste Atauro Island photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems	Atauro Island solar farm designed and approved and tender documents complete	Construction of the Atauro Island solar farm (photovoltaic and battery energy storage systems) complete	SDG7: Affordable and clean energy SDG9

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 2.3	2.3.3 Redevelopment of Dili’s international airport (Presidente Nicolau Lobato International Airport) to comply with International Civil Aviation Organization international safety standards, and improve airport efficiency, passenger and freight capacity, and operability at night and under low visibility conditions	Engagement of a project management supervisory consultant Engagement of the design and build construction firm Project ‘early works’ civil components under way	Roads, parking areas, access ramps and major civil package components under way	Facility buildings, fuel farm and other major works under construction	SDG7, SDG8, SDG9, SDG11
Outcome 2.3	2.3.4 Improvement in management of national and subnational road networks	Evidence of a clear interministerial roadmap on the decentralisation and management of subnational road functions and resources	Implementation of a clear interministerial roadmap on the decentralisation and management of subnational road functions and resources	Implementation of a clear interministerial roadmap on the decentralisation and management of subnational road functions and resources	SDG9, SDG11

Objective 3: A sovereign, stable and resilient nation

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
<p>Outcome 3.1 Targeted communities can better prepare for, adapt to and recover from pressures, shocks and the impacts of climate change</p>	<p>3.1.1 Increased household resilience (using composite indicators: food security; increased production; livestock and/or monetary savings; improved business and/or farming skills; crop diversification)</p>	<p>30% of target households experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in the previous 12 months</p> <p>8.65% of target households experienced severe food insecurity in the previous 12 months</p> <p>Production/productivity increases by 20%</p> <p>82% of households have livestock and/or monetary savings</p> <p>34.7% of women, 38.4% of men, 39.7% of people with disability and 41.5% of young people use good sales and marketing practices</p> <p>Diversified crop cultivation: averaging 13.9 crops per farmer across regions</p>	<p>26% of target households experienced moderate or severe food insecurity in the previous 12 months</p> <p>7.6% of target households experienced severe food insecurity in the previous 12 months</p> <p>Production/productivity increases by 20%</p> <p>86% of households have livestock and/or monetary savings</p> <p>38.2% of women, 42.2% of men, 43.7% of people with disability and 45.7% of young people use good sales and marketing practices</p> <p>Diversified crop cultivation consistent at 13.9 crops per farmer across regions</p>	<p>Moderate or severe food insecurity experienced by target households in the past 12 months maintains downward trend</p> <p>Severe food insecurity experienced in target households in the past 12 months maintains downward trend</p> <p>Production/productivity increases by 20%</p> <p>The percentage of households with livestock and/or monetary savings continues to increase</p> <p>The percentage of women, men, people with disability and young people using good sales and marketing practices continues to increase</p> <p>Diversified crop cultivation consistent at 13.9 crops per farmer across regions</p>	<p>SDG1: No poverty</p> <p>SDG2: Zero hunger</p>

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.1	3.1.2 Improved capacity in disaster preparedness and response	Number of communities supported through Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) and Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) partners to respond to disasters Evidence of support for disaster preparedness and climate resilience initiatives across portfolios	Number of communities supported through AHP and ANCP partners to respond to disasters Evidence of support for disaster preparedness and climate resilience initiatives across portfolios	New climate resilience program designed	SDG13: Climate action
Outcome 3.1	3.1.3 Number of people for whom investments have improved adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters (Tier 2)	2,000 people 10% of target farmers are adopting climate-smart agricultural practices	2,000 people 15% of target farmers are adopting climate-smart agricultural practices	New climate resilience program designed	SDG13
Outcome 3.1	3.1.4 Support contributes to improved access to resilient community infrastructure	Results will not be available until 2025–26	Evidence that community infrastructure meets criteria related to climate risk management	Evidence that community infrastructure meets criteria related to climate risk management	SDG11, SDG13
Outcome 3.2 Increased engagement and influence in regional and global architecture	3.2.1 Examples of support to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) (Tier 2)	Integrate the ASEAN national implementation plan into Government of Timor-Leste action plans and support a system that tracks progress against the ASEAN implementation roadmap	Support the Government of Timor-Leste to implement the ASEAN accession roadmap activities	Support the Government of Timor-Leste to implement the ASEAN accession roadmap activities	SDG17: Partnerships for the goals

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 3.3 Increased skills, capabilities and professionalism of police and military forces	3.3.1 Support (including through technical assistance, capacity building and data/information sharing) contributes to partner countries’ resilience and ability to manage their maritime domains and marine resources (Tier 2)	Review of priority and alignment of Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP) maritime advisory support against the current state of the Polícia Nacional Timor-Leste (PNTL) Maritime Police Unit	Ongoing security cooperation as determined by review	Ongoing security cooperation as determined by review	SDG11: Sustainable cities and communities SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Outcome 3.3	3.3.2 New and improved community policing practices adopted by PNTL that are attributable to Australia’s support	Review of national community policing policy and practices and assessment of implementation of the PNTL community policing action plan	Increased TLPDP adviser activity at national and subnational level for community policing initiatives	Continued national support for community policing	SDG5: Gender equality SDG16
Outcome 3.3	3.3.3 Increased access to justice for women and vulnerable persons in the community. Support and development of diversity within the PNTL	Continued support of PNTL Gender Strategy (led by UN Women) Women in leadership, gender (including sexual harassment) and disability awareness training conducted for PNTL	Gender and disability awareness training integrated into core PNTL training	Mainstreaming of gender diversity and equity, with continued focus on disability awareness	SDG5

Objective 4: All people thrive and prosper

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 4.1 Increased diversity in leadership in government and community	4.1.1 Percentage representation of women and people with disability in public administration roles	35%	Maintain or increase year-on-year	Maintain or increase year-on-year; new targets may be set based on new program designs	SDG5: Gender equality SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Outcome 4.1	4.1.2 Support for women and people with disability to take leadership roles in government, the private sector or civil society organisations	The Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s governance, private sector and community resilience programs support women and people with disability to take leadership roles Feminist leadership network program (Bin-Alin Hakbi’it Malu (Sisters Empowering Each Other)) demonstrates effective support to feminist leaders	New private sector, governance and community resilience program designs include strategies for increasing the number of women and people with disability in leadership roles Continued support for feminist leadership network program	Implementation of new programs that embed support for women and people with disability in leadership roles Continued support for feminist leadership network program	SDG5, SDG16
Outcome 4.2: Effective prevention of, and response to violence against women, children and people with disability and improved access to services	4.2.1 Number of services provided to victim/survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (Tier 2)	11,500 services	12,300 services	The number of services provided continues to increase at a rate above 5% annually	SDG5

Outcome	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Outcome 4.2	4.2.2 Number of people reached by activities to prevent violence against women and children	Maintain or increase year-on-year	Maintain or increase year-on-year	Maintain or increase year-on-year	SDG5
Outcome 4.3: Improved government ability to deliver on its equality and inclusion frameworks	4.3.1 Percentage of State Budget allocated to gender	25%	25%	25%	SDG5, SDG16
Outcome 4.3	4.3.2 Government implementation of its equality and inclusion frameworks because of support provided	Line ministries (Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education) demonstrate an increased will and capacity to implement the <i>Disability National Action Plan</i> and Maubisse Declaration ^a as a result of support Approval of the third Maubisse Declaration and development of comprehensive guidelines and a monitoring and evaluation system	5% of committed institutions will fund programs and projects related to the third Maubisse Declaration Support for implementation of guidelines and monitoring and evaluation system New program designs in governance and service delivery include effective strategies for supporting line ministries to implement the <i>Disability National Action Plan</i> and the third Maubisse Declaration	30% of committed institutions will have active programs and projects related to the third Maubisse Declaration Continued support for implementation of guidelines and monitoring and evaluation system Governance and service delivery programs support ministries to implement the <i>Disability National Action Plan</i> and the third Maubisse Declaration	SDG5, SDG16

a The Maubisse Declaration commits the Government of Timor-Leste to work on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against rural women to promote their full contribution in the economic development of the country. The third Maubisse Declaration has been launched by Timor-Leste’s IX Constitutional Government.

Cross-program

Theme	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Gender equality	Percentage of all development investments that address gender equality effectively (Tier 3)	80%	80%	80%	SDG5: Gender equality
Locally led development	Effective co-led program governance mechanisms across the development program	In key sector areas, there are annual steering committee and program management meetings co-led by the Government of Timor-Leste	In key sector areas, there are annual steering committee and program management meetings co-led by the Government of Timor-Leste	In key sector areas, there are annual steering committee and program management meetings co-led by the Government of Timor-Leste	SDG16: Peace, justice and strong institutions
Locally led development	Number of local personnel, sub-contractors and staff engaged (employment created) – Managing Contractors (Tier 3)	Maintain current levels of local personnel, contractors and staff engaged by managing contractors Dili Post locally led development guidance for managing contractors completed	Increase in levels of local personnel, contractors and staff engaged by managing contractors as outlined in locally led development guidance	Increase in levels of local personnel, contractors and staff engaged by managing contractors as outlined in locally led development guidance	SDG16 SDG17: Partnerships for the goals
Locally led development	Number and dollar value of local contracts and grants (local supply chains) – Managing Contractors (Tier 3)	Maintain or increase current number and value of local contracts and grants managed by managing contractors	Maintain or increase current number and value of local contracts and grants managed by managing contractors	Maintain or increase current number and value of local contracts and grants managed by managing contractors	SDG16, SDG17
Locally led development	Percentage of bilateral investment designs and evaluations that include local participation	80%	80%	80% or higher	SDG16, SDG17

Theme	Indicator	Expected results 2024–25	Expected results 2025–26	Expected results 2026–27	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Disability equity	Percentage of investments that effectively address disability equity in implementation (Tier 3) ^b	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	Results collected centrally	SDG10: Reduced inequalities
Disability equity	Number of organisations of persons with disability (regional/national/state/local) receiving capacity building support (Tier 2)	Effective capacity building support is provided to umbrella organisations of people with disability (Ra'és Hadomi Timor Oan and Asosiasaun Defisiensiia Timor-Leste)	Networks of organisations of people with disability are increasingly advocating for priorities that are important to them	Advocacy by networks of organisations of people with disability is impacting policy decisions	SDG10
Climate change	Number and value of investments that are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contributing to low-emissions development pathways or are supporting mitigation activities improving climate change adaptation and disaster resilience (Tier 2) 	25 partnerships \$145,000	25 partnerships \$145,000	25 partnerships \$145,000	SDG13: Climate action
First Nations	First Nations perspectives are embedded into development programming and policy (Tier 3)	First Nations perspectives are considered and included in concept notes for new programs	New program designs incorporate First Nations perspectives	New programs have First Nations perspectives embedded in implementation	SDG3: Good health and wellbeing SDG8: Decent work and economic growth

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

Annex 1: Supporting investments/activities in Timor-Leste

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 1 – Quality services (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
Parseria ba Prosperidade Inklusivu (Partnership for Inclusive Prosperity) (PROSIVU) Pillar 2 (sustainable public finances) and Pillar 3 (better public administration) (bilateral)	2021–2026	Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; National Institute of Statistics Timor-Leste; Civil Aviation Authority; Asia Foundation; World Bank
Australia Timor-Leste Partnership for Human Development (PHD) (bilateral)	2016–2026	Ministry of Health; Ministry of Education; municipal administrations; Marie Stopes Timor-Leste; United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA); Maluk Timor; United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); organisations of persons with disability
Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security (regional)	2022–2028	Various health partners
Vaccine Access and Health Security Initiative (regional)	2023–2024	UNICEF; World Health Organization; World Vision
Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) ^a (global)	Ongoing	Government agencies; municipal administrations; civil society; local communities; organisations of persons with disability
Australian Volunteers Program ^a (global)	Ongoing	Government agencies; civil society; private sector

a This investment contributes to all objectives.

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 2 – Inclusive and sustainable economic growth (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
Parseria ba Prosperidade Inklusivu (Partnership for Inclusive Prosperity) (PROSIVU) Pillar 1 (stronger, more inclusive economic growth) (bilateral)	2021–2026	Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; National Institute of Statistics Timor-Leste; Civil Aviation Authority; The Asia Foundation; World Bank
Partnership to Strengthen Village Development and Municipal Administration (PARTISIPA) (bilateral)	2021–2026	Ministry of State Administration; Ministry of Public Works; municipal administrations; civil society; organisations of persons with disability

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP) (regional)	2022–2028	Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Transportation and Communications; Ministry of Planning and Strategic Investment
To'os Ba Moris Diak (Farming for Prosperity) (TOMAK) (bilateral)	2022–2026	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry; National Institute of Public Health of Timor-Leste; Secretary of State for Equality; Ministry of Health; municipal administrations; civil society; private sector
Timor-Leste Biosecurity Development Program (bilateral)	2022–2026	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry
Market Development Facility (MDF) (regional)	2022–2027	Private sector
Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) (regional)	2021–2025	Secretary of State for Vocational Training and Employment; training providers
Pacific Labour Facility (regional)	2021–2024	Secretary of State for Vocational Training and Employment
Australia Awards (global)	2022–2026	Government; civil society; private sector
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) (global)	Ongoing	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry; private sector; local communities

Australian Government supporting investments/activities for Objective 3 – A sovereign, stable and resilient nation (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
Australian Humanitarian Partnership (regional)	2024–2026	Ministry of Interior (Civil Protection Authority); Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Forestry; Ministry of Public Works; civil society; organisations of persons with disability
International Capacity Building Program (global)	Ongoing	Ministry of Interior
Timor-Leste Police Development Program (TLPDP) (bilateral)	2024–2029	Ministry of Interior; Polícia Nacional de Timor-Leste (PNTL)

Name of investment/activity	Duration	Key partners
Defence Cooperation Program (global)	Ongoing	Ministry of Defence; Timor-Leste Defence Force (F-FDTL)

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

Name of investment/activity ^b	Duration	Key partners
Nabilan (ending violence against women and children) (bilateral)	2022–2026	Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion; Secretary of State for Equality; The Asia Foundation; civil society; organisations of persons with disability

b All programs listed in this annex contribute to Objective 4.

Endnotes

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- ³ K Andrews, L Bosch, J Teixeira, I Meidina and S Nagpal, *Seizing opportunities of a lifetime – the Timor-Leste human capital review*, 2023. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/099111023030033634/P17270600ae5090cc08f04015bdcf72d550>
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- ⁶ United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD), *Situational analysis of the rights of persons with disabilities: Timor-Leste*, 2023. https://unprpd.org/situational_analysis/
- ⁷ Andrews, Bosch, Teixeira, Meidina and Nagpal, *Seizing opportunities of a lifetime – the Timor-Leste human capital review*.
- ⁸ P Novak, *Timor-Leste's uncertain future*, 29 November 2023. <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/publications/timor-leste-s-uncertain-future>
- ⁹ Timor-Leste National Institute of Statistics, *Timor-Leste Population and Housing Census 2022 main report*.
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- ¹¹ World Bank, *Macro poverty outlook for Timor-Leste: April 2024*, 2024. <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099408004042438946/idu16f0c85e710c3314917187871c66c82983d01>
- ¹² G Neves, *Timor-Leste's petroleum revenues: the challenges of managing 'easy money'*, 2022. <https://th.boell.org/en/2022/03/21/timor-leste-petroleum-fund>
- ¹³ Timor-Leste National Institute of Statistics, *Agricultural GDP: patterns and trends*, 2024. https://inetl-ip.gov.tl/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Agricultural-GDP-Report-Monash-INETL_22Feb2024.pdf
- ¹⁴ AA Rezza and YM Pakpahan, *Timor-Leste economic report: ways to harvest prosperity*, 2023. <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099082423184080415/p17968900c0be2080af39081ae63bb6cf9>
- ¹⁵ Rezza and Pakpahan, *Timor-Leste economic report: ways to harvest prosperity*.
- ¹⁶ World Bank Group, *International tourism, number of arrivals – Timor-Leste*. <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/ST.INT.ARVL?locations=TL>
- ¹⁷ UNICEF, *Child protection and child participation*. <https://www.unicef.org/timorleste/child-protection-and-child-participation>
- ¹⁸ General Directorate of Statistics, UNICEF and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), *Timor-Leste Population and Housing Census 2015 analytical report on education*, 2018. <https://timor-leste.unfpa.org/en/publications/timor-leste-population-and-housing-census-2015-analytical-report-education>
- ¹⁹ International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding, *A new deal for engagement in fragile states*. <https://www.g7plus.org/new-deal-implementation/>

Cover photo credits

Top row (from left to right):

- Partnership for Human Development (PHD): A student at Escola Básica Filial on International Literacy Day.
Credit: PHD
- To'os Ba Moris Diak (Farming for Prosperity) (TOMAK) program: A youth group from Baucau received agricultural inputs to support and improve their agriculture activity.
Credit: TOMAK
- Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP): Loading Timor-Leste South Submarine Cable materials onto the ship *ILE D' AIX* to start the main cable lay between Timor-Leste and Australia.
Credit: VOCUS Group

Bottom row (from left to right):

- Partnership for Human Development (PHD): Nutrition growth monitoring, community health centre, Gleno, Ermera Municipality.
Credit: PHD
- Partnership to Strengthen Village Development and Municipal Administration (PARTISIPA): Dancers welcoming the Ambassador of Australia and Minister of State Administration to the official signing of the agreement on the PARTISIPA program.
Credit: PARTISIPA
- Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC): Vocational skills training for people with disability.
Credit: APTC