

Scope of Initiative Australia-Pacific Technical College

The *Australia-Pacific Technical College* was announced during the course of 2006-07 and will involve an investment of \$149.5 million over 5 years. The Initiative commenced in 2006-07 and includes additional funding to AusAID of \$28.4 million in 2007-08, \$30.1 million in 2008-09, \$30.1 million in 2009-10 and \$30.4 million in 2010-11.

Australia-Pacific Technical College aims to contribute to the development of a skilled and competitive Pacific workforce through increasing the number of quality skilled graduates. It will provide Australian-standard vocational and technical education to Pacific Islanders in five disciplines:

- Hospitality and tourism;
- Health and community services;
- Automotive;
- Construction and electrical; and
- Manufacturing.

The college will initially comprise a network of training centres in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Vanuatu with a Coordination Office in Fiji and graduate over 3000 students by mid-2011.

In addition, up to \$10 million in 2006-07 for preparatory work, and \$10 million from 2007-08 to 2010-11 for a scholarships programme, will be absorbed within existing aid programme funding.