Australian Government

Scope of Initiative Delivering Better Health

The *Delivering Better Health* initiative aims, over four years, to contribute to global health goals of reducing by three quarters the maternal mortality ratio; reducing by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five; and beginning to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases in selected areas. Key components of this initiative are strengthening health systems, addressing priority health needs of women and children, and tackling diseases in the Pacific.

The *Delivering Better Health* initiative will invest an additional \$530.8 million over 4 years including \$55.2 million in 2007-08, \$78.5 million in 2008-09, \$172.0 million in 2009-10 and \$225.1 million in 2010-11.

As part of this investment, AusAID will undertake a range of activities to address priorities identified in key partner countries or through key partner organisations. Major activities planned include:

Indonesia	 Support to improve maternal and neonatal health in Eastern Indonesia. Support to improve national level health systems, including health financing, workforce performance.
Philippines	 Support to scale up existing proven programs to improve women's and children's health, including through training of birth attendants, immunisation and child growth monitoring activities.
East Timor	 Support to strengthen health service delivery, with a focus on improving reproductive health, reducing infant and child mortality rates.
Mekong Region	 In Cambodia support will focus on health systems strengthening. This will include broadening access to maternal and child health services for the poor. In Vietnam support will improve health systems in areas such as health financing.
South Asia Region	 In Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal support will improve maternal, neonatal and child health. Activities will include strengthening national level health systems, improving child health and nutrition, and increasing access to essential maternal services.
Pacific and PNG	 In the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and PNG enhanced support will focus on reversing the spread of malaria. In Pacific Island countries support will be provided to reduce the economic and social burden of non-communicable diseases. In the Pacific support will improve regional institutional capacity for health workforce training and regional cooperation over health related goods and services, including health workforce mobility and planning.
Global	• The <i>Delivering Better Health</i> budget measure will also put in place arrangements to support a significantly scaled up health program. These will focus on engaging a broader range of domestic and international partners, improving the evidence base, enhancing AusAID's ability to access and manage expertise and knowledge, and using performance payments to drive improvements in health service delivery.
Partnerships	 In addition to working closely with partner governments, AusAID will work with key multilateral partners, including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNICEF, World Health Organisation, UK Department for International Development, as well as regional organisations with a health focus in the implementation of this Initiative.

AusAID will monitor the effectiveness of the activities under the *Delivering Better Health* initiative through an Annual State of the Health Sector Report with findings to be included in the Annual Review of Development Effectiveness.