



# Scope of Initiative

## Investing in Pacific Public Sector Capacity

As announced in the 2008-09 Budget, the Australian Government will commence a significant new package of initiatives laying the foundation for implementing its long-term commitment to increase Australia's international development assistance to 0.5 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI) by 2015-16.

The *Investing in Pacific Public Sector Capacity* initiative aims to lift standards of public sector governance in the Pacific and thereby improve the delivery of basic services. The initiative will invest \$107 million over 4 years. This will include \$6.1 million in 2008-09, \$27.7 million in 2009-10, \$34.1 million in 2010-11 and \$38.6 million in 2011-12.

As part of this investment, the Australian Government will undertake a range of capacity building activities to address priorities identified in key partner countries or by key partner organisations in the Pacific. Activities under the initiative include:

### **Workforce Development**

- Developing a comprehensive three-tiered system of training and development for Pacific public servants at the junior, middle management and senior leadership levels.

### **Partnerships**

- Establishing strong partnerships between governments and tertiary institutions that contribute to effective public service;
- Supporting priority tertiary institutions to act as regional hubs of quality research, training and education, with a focus on improving Pacific governance and teaching standards; and
- Expanding twinning, mentoring and other formal arrangements, including between government departments, institutes of public administration and public service commissions.

### **Public Sector Reform**

- Identifying and taking advantage of new opportunities to support partner governments to plan, prioritise and implement longer term public sector reforms that enhance institutional performance and the quality of service delivery.



**Research**

- Developing a 'State of Service' Report to provide basic data on the public sector in the Pacific and inform progression of activities; and
- Developing a series of reviews to identify opportunities to improve the effectiveness of current tertiary and public sector partnerships.

AusAID will work with the Asian Development Bank and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community in the delivery of the *Investing in Pacific Public Sector Capacity* initiative, particularly in research, but also to incorporate lessons learned from previous public sector initiatives. AusAID will also work with NZAID to implement this initiative.