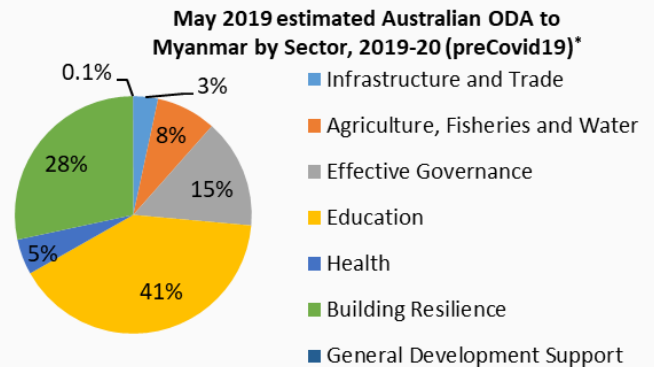




2019-20 MYANMAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

Program Budget	2019-20 Budget Estimate (\$m)*
Bilateral	42.1
Regional	8.8
Global	29.5
Other Government Departments	3.5
Total Australian ODA to Myanmar	84.0

*Actual expenditure is expected to be available in December 2020



* Due to rounding the total percentage may not add up to 100 per cent

COVID-19 Development Response

- As part of our health response, Australia provided \$500,000 in essential COVID-19 medical supplies and \$2 million (in FY19/20) to improve Myanmar's capacity to respond to infectious diseases, including initiatives to strengthen laboratories through CSIRO and the Mérieux Foundation, and to improve capacity in health emergency operations in partnership with Population Services International and the Australian Red Cross.
- With Australian support, humanitarian partners responded to COVID-19 while sustaining life-saving support to conflict affected communities, including in Rakhine State. They improved water, sanitation and hygiene and supported vulnerable women and girls, including by delivering over 24,000 dignity kits (16,000 kits to those in Internally Displaced People (IDP) camps).
- Peace partners also utilised Australian assistance to pivot to support the COVID-19 response. Community grants ensured health assistance reached conflict areas, responded to gender based violence and led anti-'misinformation' awareness campaigns. Australia also increased funding to Myanmar's first violence against women prevalence survey.
- As a lead partner in education, we supported Myanmar to shape its COVID-19 response to address the increase in existing inequalities and help keep children learning, including in IDP camps and conflicted-affected areas. Australia increased funding to the Livelihoods and Food Security Fund

(LIFT) to strengthen social protection systems. LIFT provided cash transfers to over 400,000 rural households, with a focus on the elderly, and pregnant and breastfeeding mothers country-wide.

- We assisted Myanmar to support the private sector and deliver its COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan through increased analysis and data capacity, monitoring of the impacts, and management of fiscal responses.

Other program highlights

- Australia's assistance in 2019-20 focused on improving the lives of people in Myanmar through education, livelihoods, economic and democratic governance efforts and peacebuilding. We emphasised supporting the most vulnerable, including conflict affected communities and women and girls. We supported government to deliver inclusive services and policy reforms.
- Our \$27.8 million humanitarian program assisted over 391,000 people in conflict-affected communities across Myanmar, including Rohingya in Rakhine State and people on the Thai-Myanmar border. Australia's partners delivered protection, shelter, food, water, sanitation, healthcare, education and gender-based violence services despite active conflict and significant restrictions to access.
- We supported delivery of inclusive, quality education across all states and regions and contributed to systems and policy reform. We financed School Improvement Funds and 58,722 students received stipends allowing them to stay in

school, including in Rakhine State. By delivering through and strengthening Ministry of Education systems, our education investments built the capacity, efficiency, resilience and transparency of government education provision.

- Our engagement with government was complemented by support to over 350,000 students (over half female) in the monastic and ethnic education systems. This investment improved curriculum quality and facilitated dialogue between the government and ethnic organisations.
- Our governance program helped Myanmar prepare for its second democratic election. With UNDP, we contributed to the strengthening of institutions, including those with a focus on human rights. Our program supported evidence-based policy development and improved legal protections.
- Australia provided support through the World Bank Group to the Government of Myanmar to progress key economic reforms, including for the private sector. The government became more transparent, accountable and effective in public financial management, evidenced by an increase in budget allocations to health and education and improvements in tax administration.
- Our livelihoods support through LIFT continued to achieve results at scale. More than 12.3 million people received LIFT support with an increased focus in 2019-20 on vulnerable groups, including conflict-affected and displaced communities. LIFT's collaboration with the private sector continued to be catalytic. LIFT's investment of \$17 million leveraged around \$280 million in private sector co-financing into Myanmar's microfinance sector, resulting in loans for 2.7 million people, 91 per cent of whom were women.
- Despite slow progress in the formal peace process and worsening conflict, our peace support program contributed to incremental but important steps towards peace and stability. The Australian supported Joint Peace Fund played a role in deescalating conflicts and overcoming deadlocks to restart political dialogues. Our partners collectively played a role in lifting the participation of women in the peace process.



PROGRESS AGAINST 2019-20 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK INDICATOR/BENCHMARK	BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AGAINST INDICATOR/BENCHMARK
Enhancing human development	Reduced drop outs and repetition of disadvantaged students	In the 2019/20 school year, 58,722* students (M30,983/F27,739) in 55 townships (including two in Rakhine) received stipends to support their ongoing education.
	Strengthened policy formulation and oversight	Support to the Ministry of Education (MoE) to revise and implement Departmental Annual Implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation Plans. Strengthened MoE's existing Education Quality Improvement System platform. MoE data collection systems improved to contribute to evidence-based decision making. A mid-term review was completed for the Myanmar National Education Strategic Plan.
Promoting peace and stability	People in need receive effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance	Our humanitarian assistance enabled partners to respond flexibly to emerging needs reaching 391,887* vulnerable women, men, girls and boys with life-saving assistance.
	Women are effectively engaged in peace negotiations and dialogue	While the formal peace process was delayed, women and women's advocacy groups were supported to participate in ongoing informal consultations and civil society action. Ethnic organisations were supported to develop gender policy; Women's League of Burma and the Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process were supported to secure commitment from government, ethnic armed groups and political parties to meet targets for women's leadership throughout the peace architecture.
Promoting inclusive economic growth	Contribute to an improved business environment	From 2018 to 2019, Myanmar increased its ranking from 171 to 165 in the World Bank's <i>Doing Business</i> Index.
	Increased incomes of rural households	Due to COVID-19, the household survey has been delayed and therefore the data is not available to report against this indicator.

* denotes figures attributable to Australian ODA

ANNEX A: PROGRAM QUALITY

Investment Monitoring Report ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Year on year	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality
Burma Investment Climate and Private Sector	\$21.2m 2015-21	2019 AQC	4	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
Decentralizing Funding to Schools Project	\$84m 2014-21	2019 AQC	5	5	4
		2020 AQC	5	5	4
Livelihoods and Food Security Fund	\$47m 2009-24	2019 AQC	5	5	4
		2020 AQC	5	5	4
Myanmar-Australia Peace Support Program	\$24.56m 2016-22	2019 ACQ	3	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
Myanmar Education Consortium (MEC) Phase II	\$10m 2017-20	2019 AQC	3	2	2
		2020 AQC	4	4	3
Myanmar Education Quality Improvement Program	\$19.88m 2016-21	2019 AQC	4	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	3	4
Strengthening Pre-Service Teacher Education (STEM) Phase II	\$2.94m 2018-20	2019 AQC	4	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	4
Supporting Reform, Improving Governance	\$36.42m 2014-22	2019 AQC	4	4	4
		2020 AQC	4	4	3

Humanitarian Investment Monitoring Report ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality	Relevance	Monitoring and Evaluation	Connectedness	Protection
Safety, Humanitarian and Women's Empowerment (SHWE)	\$65.5m 2016-20	4	4	4	5	4	4	5

Final Investment Monitoring Report ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Gender equality	Relevance	Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability
CARE SPARC	\$25.4m 2015-19	4	4	3	5	4	3

Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas. 5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.

4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.

2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas. 1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major area.