

Portfolio overview

Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio overview

Minister(s) and portfolio responsibilities

The Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio has five ministers:

- Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Minister for Trade and Tourism, Special Minister of State
- The Hon Pat Conroy MP, Minister for International Development and the Pacific, Minister for Defence Industry and Capability Delivery
- Senator the Hon Tim Ayres, Assistant Minister for Trade, Assistant Minister for a Future Made in Australia
- The Hon Tim Watts MP, Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs

The portfolio consists of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT, ‘the department’), the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade), the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), the Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS), Tourism Australia and Export Finance Australia (EFA).

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

DFAT works to promote and protect Australia’s interests overseas in support of our security and prosperity. To achieve this purpose, DFAT provides a global diplomatic and influencing capability, leads international strategic policy advice, deepens economic engagement, and delivers international development and humanitarian assistance. To protect the welfare of Australians abroad, DFAT delivers travel advice and consular and passport services. DFAT leads whole-of-government efforts across an international network of 115 DFAT managed posts, to make Australia stronger, safer and more prosperous, including ensuring a secure Australian Government presence overseas.

Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)

Austrade’s purpose is to deliver quality trade and investment services to businesses and policy advice to government to grow Australia’s prosperity, including leading on national tourism policy. To achieve this purpose, Austrade supports Australian businesses to expand through trade facilitation and program support; facilitates high-quality international investment; conducts global marketing and promotion to create brand awareness and generate demand for Australian goods and services; leads visitor economy policy development and official tourism statistics; uses Austrade’s global and commercial insights to inform Australian Government policy considerations; and provides consular and passport services on behalf of the Australian Government in 11 overseas locations.

Austrade also administers the legislated Export Market Development Grants program to assist Australian businesses promote and diversify their exports.

Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS)

Through ASIS, the portfolio will continue to enhance the Government's understanding of the overseas environment affecting Australia's vital interests and take appropriate action, consistent with applicable legislation, to protect identified interests.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

ACIAR supports Australia's national interests by investing in collaborative research and capacity-building partnerships to improve the livelihoods and resilience of smallholder farming, fishing and forestry communities in the Indo-Pacific region. To achieve this, ACIAR partners bilaterally and multilaterally with governments and institutions to grow food more efficiently, increase food system resilience, improve human nutrition, empower women and girls, reduce poverty, and manage natural resources sustainably to adapt to increasing climate variability. These partnerships optimise economic, social and environmental benefits for partner countries, and contribute to the development of our international and Australian partner institutions' research, policy and leadership capacities.

Tourism Australia

Tourism Australia is Australia's national tourism marketing organisation. It works to promote Australia internationally as a compelling tourism destination for leisure and business events travel. Through its marketing to global consumers in key markets and industry support activities, Tourism Australia seeks to grow demand and foster a competitive and sustainable Australian tourism industry.

Export Finance Australia (EFA)

EFA (legally constituted as the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation) is Australia's export credit agency. EFA provides commercial finance for Australian export trade and overseas infrastructure development that delivers benefits to Australia. From small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to large corporates, foreign Governments and infrastructure projects, EFA helps Australian businesses take on the world. In doing so, EFA finance supports Australia's economic security and regional resilience. EFA works closely with banks and other financial institutions to encourage and catalyse private market financing, and partners with DFAT and Austrade in the delivery of these services.

EFA administers the Australian Government's National Interest Account (NIA), which currently includes the Southeast Asia Investment Financing Facility, the Critical Minerals Facility, the Defence Export Facility and lending for the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific. As part of the Australian Government's Future Made in Australia agenda, EFA can also finance major domestic projects, aligned with the National Interest Framework, on the NIA. EFA also provides support to other Commonwealth entities, including Housing Australia and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility.

For information on resourcing across the portfolio, please refer to Part 1: Agency Financial Resourcing in the *Budget Paper No. 4: Agency Resourcing*.

Figure 1: Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio structure and outcomes

Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator the Hon Penny Wong	
Minister for Trade and Tourism Special Minister of State Senator the Hon Don Farrell	
Minister for International Development and the Pacific Minister for Defence Industry and Capability Delivery The Hon Pat Conroy MP	
Assistant Minister for Trade Assistant Minister for a Future Made in Australia Senator the Hon Tim Ayres	Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs The Hon Tim Watts MP
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Secretary, Ms Jan Adams AO PSM	
Outcome 1: The advancement of Australia's international strategic, security and economic interests including through bilateral, regional and multilateral engagement on Australian Government foreign, trade and international development policy priorities.	
Outcome 2: The protection and welfare of Australians abroad and access to secure international travel documentation through timely and responsive travel advice and consular and passport services in Australia and overseas.	
Outcome 3: A secure Australian Government presence overseas through the provision of security services and information and communications technology infrastructure, and the management of the Commonwealth's overseas property estate.	
Australian Trade and Investment Commission Chief Executive Officer, Dr Paul Grimes PSM	
Outcome 1: To contribute to Australia's economic prosperity by supporting Australian exporters to expand internationally, attracting productive international investment, and growing the visitor economy.	
Outcome 2: The protection and welfare of Australians abroad through timely and responsive consular and passport services in specific locations overseas.	
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research Chief Executive Officer, Professor Wendy Umberger	Australian Secret Intelligence Service Director-General, Ms Kerri Hartland
Outcome 1: To achieve more productive and sustainable agricultural systems for the benefit of developing countries and Australia, through international agricultural research and training partnerships.	Outcome 1: Enhanced understanding for the Government of the overseas environment affecting Australia's interests through the provision of covert intelligence services about the capabilities, intentions or activities of people or organisations outside Australia.
Tourism Australia Chair, Ms Penny Fowler Managing Director, Ms Phillipa Harrison	Export Finance Australia Chair, Ms Debra Hazelton Managing Director and CEO, Mr John Hopkins
Outcome 1: Grow demand and foster a competitive and sustainable Australian tourism industry through partnership marketing to targeted global consumers in key markets.	Purpose: To support Australian export trade and overseas investment and infrastructure development that delivers benefits to Australia.