



ESTIMATED BUDGET AUSTRALIAN ODA 2019-20	\$33.7 MILLION
POPULATION	635 MILLION (2017)

Australia's ASEAN and Mekong Program supports ASEAN to encourage economic growth and trade in the ten ASEAN Member States and respond to cross-border, regional challenges such as combatting human trafficking and improving management of the Mekong's water resources.

Strategic direction

In line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, Australia's ASEAN and Mekong Program focuses on:

- **Inclusive economic growth:** by removing barriers to economic cooperation, promoting financial inclusion, enabling private sector growth and assisting sustainable management of regional water resources.
- **Human security:** by strengthening regional responses to trafficking and the exploitation of migrant workers, and promoting safe labour migration.

Program highlights

- Commenced **ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking program** (\$80 million; 2018-28) that aims to ensure ASEAN countries have effective justice systems that provide just punishment of traffickers and protects the rights of victims.
- Supporting the establishment of the **ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline** - a rolling priority pipeline of potential ASEAN regional infrastructure projects and identifying potential sources of funding (SDG9).
- Supported seminal research through the Mekong River Commission Council Study, published in 2018, in support of **sustainable regional and national water planning** (SDG6).
- Supported development of an **ASEAN Sustainable Urbanisation Strategy** (launched in 2018), under ASEAN's connectivity agenda, to help the region's rapidly-growing cities address common challenges (SDG11).
- Provided increased access to **financial services** to over 510,000 people in 2018.
- Supported development of the ASEAN Enabling Masterplan 2025: **Mainstreaming the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (launched in 2018), providing a framework to integrate disability across ASEAN (SDG10).

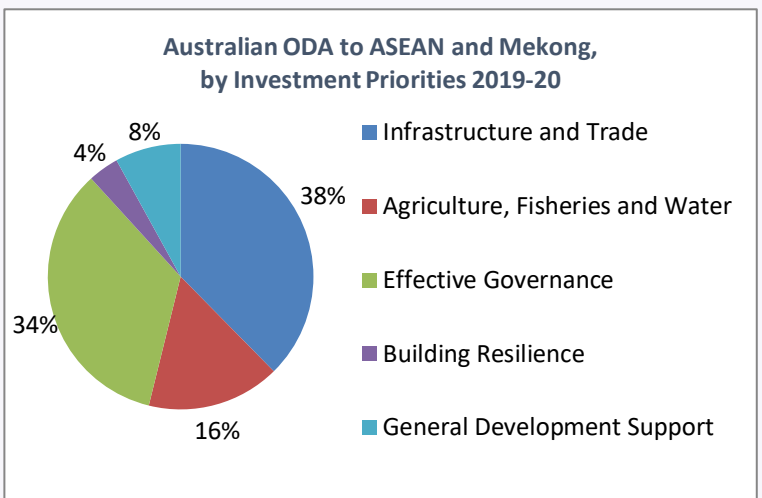
ASEAN and Mekong

Development cooperation fact sheet:
October 2019



Investment Priority	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	Actual	Estimated Outcome	Budget Estimate
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Infrastructure and Trade	13.1	12.1	12.7
Agriculture, Fisheries and Water	4.8	5.5	5.5
Effective Governance	14.2	12.8	11.6
Education	-	-	-
Health	-	-	-
Building Resilience	0.1	1.2	1.3
General Development Support	0.7	2.1	2.7
Total	32.9	33.7	33.7

**Due to rounding, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.*



For more details:

- [Overview of Australia's ASEAN and Mekong Program](#)
- [Aid Investment Plan: South-East Asia Regional Economic Growth And Human Security Program 2015-16 to 2018-19](#)
- [ASEAN and Mekong Aid Program Performance Report 2018-19](#)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

