

Annex L

Annual performance of selected Pacific Regional programs at the Country level

North Pacific Regional Program - 2013

Pacific Regional Program ODA attributed to bilateral program

	2013/14 (Actual)	2014/15 (Plan)
Federated States of Micronesia	A\$2,340,059	A\$2,540,760
Republic of Palau	A\$2,361,379	A\$2,505,366
Republic of the Marshall Islands	A\$2,519,197	A\$2,513,647
Total	A\$7,220,635	A\$7,559,773

This Annex outlines the country-level results of selected investments of the Pacific Regional Aid Program for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of Palau (Palau), and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), which make up the North Pacific. All information included in this annex is drawn from internal and external reporting produced by DFAT and our implementing partners on investments managed by the Pacific Regional aid program. This information should not be treated as comprehensive.

Contributions to North Pacific Country Program Outcomes

Federated States of Micronesia

Outcome 1 – Tax reform

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) supports an in-country advisor in FSM to support the day-to-day work of revenue administration and assist with tax reform. FSM has also received legislative drafting assistance for implementation of a modern revenue policy.
- › As part of its Pacific Investment Climate Rapid Response Project, which aims to provide targeted quick solutions to identified investment climate constraints, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) provided briefing to the Government of FSM on FSM's position on the Doing Business indicators, and potential areas for reform of FSM's investment climate.

Outcome 2 – Environmental management

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has supported the development and application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) guidelines in FSM. These guidelines aim to promote sustainable land management and 'climate proofing' measures, while providing guidance for stakeholders undertaking economic development activities.

Outcome 3 – Overseas Development Assistance coordination

DFAT Pacific Regional Program investments in FSM do not focus on Overseas Development Assistance coordination.

Republic of Palau

Outcome 1 – Improved education workforce

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Secretariat for the Pacific Board of Educational Assessment (SPBEA) provides training to participants from Palau in educational assessment (10 participants in FY2012-13).

Outcome 2 – Improved health sector workforce

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Strengthening Specialised Clinical Services in Pacific Project (SSCSiP) contributed to strengthened human resources planning for Specialised Clinical Services in Palau by providing support for recruitment of vacant clinical positions.
- › The Secretariat for the Pacific Community's (SPC)'s Public Health Division provides training to participants from Palau on the topic of non-communicable diseases (58 participants in FY2012-13).

Outcome 3 – Removal of unexploded ordnance in Palau

DFAT Pacific Regional Program investments in Palau do not focus on removal of unexploded ordnance.

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Outcome 1 – Energy

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Economic Development Division (EDD) of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) partnered with the Government of RMI to prepare a paper on options for bulk fuel purchasing for countries in the Central Pacific Shipping Commission (CPSC). EDD has also supported participation of utility personnel from RMI in training on photovoltaic standards and grid stability modelling, as part of their efforts to improve access to affordable, sustainable energy services.

Outcome 2 – Water

Examples of contributions to this objective from the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has supported RMI's assessment of and recovery from the prolonged dry season, which ended in July 2013 having affected agriculture and drinking water supplies. SPC provided technical assistance with ground water assessments, and supported rehabilitation efforts, including advice on testing water sources for contamination, and awareness on adverse public health effects of drinking from contaminated water sources. SPC is also supporting drinking water security through improvements in water capture and storage.

Regional Services that complement the North Pacific Program

Examples of contributions to the Fiji Bilateral Program from Regional Institutions and Regional Services supported by the DFAT Pacific Regional Program include:

- › The Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) is working to support both FSM and RMI to evaluate and explore issues they face relating to social security and pension reform. It will continue to work with FSM, Palau and RMI to develop modern tax policy frameworks and effective supporting legislation.
- › Pacific Regional core funding to University of the South Pacific (USP) supported 109.0 equivalent full-time students (EFTS) from RMI in 2013.

- › Pacific Regional core funding to the Australia Pacific Technical College (APTC) in 2013 supported 18 enrolments (6 per cent women) and 5 graduations (40 per cent women) in the North Pacific (17 enrolments and 5 graduates from RMI; and 1 enrolment from Palau)
- › The Royal Australian College of Surgeons' (RACS') Pacific Islands Program (PIP) supported a paediatrician and a surgeon to visit FSM to deliver services and undertake mentoring.
- › The UNICEF Multi-country program is promoting the enforcement of child-friendly procedures through technical support to police agencies in FSM, Palau and RMI with completion of standard operating procedures on policing issues related to child protection and development of a training package for generalist operational police and child protection.
- › Following their participation in the Pacific Women's Parliamentarian Partnership's Program Forum of Pacific and Australian Women Members of Parliament in 2013, two Senators from Palau were inspired to establish a new NGO, the Centre for Women's Empowerment Belau, which aims to increase women's political representation.
- › On the request of the RMI government, the Pacific Islands Centre for Public Administration (PICPA) delivered training and provided advisory services on public financial management in RMI in 2013.
- › The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) undertook a joint mission to RMI to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Internal Affairs for the final consultation on the RMI National Disability Policy.
- › The Pacific Assistance Media Scheme (PACMAS) is working with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) to support the national broadcasters of Palau and RMI to improve their capacity to provide quality and timely information to enable communities to prepare and respond to natural disasters.

Case study: Medium-term fiscal planning in FSM, Palau and RMI

Fiscal planning in many developing countries tends to focus on a 1-2 year timeframe. A medium-term fiscal planning framework provides policy makers with a longer-term perspective along with a deeper appreciation of the need to manage the uncertainty around macroeconomic and fiscal projections. This is of particular importance in FSM, Palau and RMI, where Compact grants are set to expire in 10 years. The Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC), recognising that having fiscal adjustment plans in place will lead to a smoother transition once the Compact grants expire, is assisting FSM, Palau and RMI in implementing medium-term fiscal plans, including canvassing options for sovereign wealth funds. Such funds would have the capacity to preserve macroeconomic stability, while promoting intergenerational equity.
