

Annex K

Annual performance of selected Pacific Regional programs at the Country level

Papua New Guinea Regional Program - 2013

Pacific Regional Program ODA attributed to bilateral program

	2013/14 (Actual)	2014/15 (Plan)
Papua New Guinea	A\$11,512,119	A\$12,591,371

This Annex outlines the country-level results of selected investments of the Pacific Regional Aid Program for Papua New Guinea (PNG). 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 Papua New Guinea Country Program Outcomes

Outcome 1 – improved access to quality education

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

- › Pacific Regional core funding to the Australia Pacific Technical College (APTC) supported 462 enrolments (24 per cent women) and 164 graduates (30 per cent women) from Papua New Guinea in 2013.
- › The Pacific Sports Program (PSP) has supported the establishment of the PNG Rugby League in Schools program, which focuses on using rugby league as a tool to support specific primary school-level education outcomes in PNG.
- › As part of its Pacific Benchmarking Education for Results (PaBER) project, the Secretariat of the Pacific Board for Educational Assessment (SPBEA) undertook a benchmarking analysis of literacy and numeracy in PNG. Pacific Islands Literacy and Numerical Assessment (PILNA) data for PNG has been analysed, the report completed and a PNG baseline for literacy and numeracy established.

Outcome 2 – improved health and HIV/AIDS outcomes

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

- › The Pacific Regional Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Capacity Building Facility assisted the PNG Family Health Association in acquiring a vehicle, and Community Based Distributors training was delivered as part of the facility's outreach program.

Outcome 3 – improved transport services to facilitate social and economic development

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

- › Core funding to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's (SPC's) Economic Development Division (EDD) supported PNG to maintain compliance with international transport safety and security by assisting with a compliance audit in 2013. EDD also supported training for PNG citizens in maritime security auditing.

Outcome 4 – improved law and justice

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

- › The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) delivers training in human rights (8 participants from PNG were trained in 2012-13).
- › The Centre for Democratic Institutions provided support to women candidates during local-level government elections in PNG in June 2013, which resulted in the development of campaign handbooks produced in English and Tok Pisin to inform citizens about election laws and procedures. This activity was complemented by policy dialogue by DFAT with the PNG government on broader strategies for increasing women's political representation.

Regional Services that complement the Papua New Guinea Bilateral Program

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

- › PNG is receiving extensive technical assistance from the Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC), notably in the areas of macroeconomic statistics, public financial management reforms and macroeconomic forecasting. In 2013 PFTAC assisted PNG in developing a financial programming framework which attempts to help staff maintain consistency across sectors in monitoring and projection activities in light of the large natural resource sector, which adds complexity.
- › The International Finance Corporation (IFC) assisted PNG in launching the PNG Investment Promotion Authority's online business registry. The online registry covers approximately 100,000 entities and allows online registration, maintenance of details and free-of-charge public online searching. The registry is expected to contribute to an improved investment climate by reducing the barriers to business registration.
- › The Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) provided training to PNG's Assembly of Disabled Persons in July 2014 to strengthen their financial systems to align with the PDF reporting structure.
- › The International Finance Corporation (IFC), through its Access to Finance Program, supported BSP Rural to provide basic banking services to the unbanked population in rural PNG through electronic banking products, such as EFTPOS terminals and mobile phones that are linked to a bank account and a debit card. As of June 2013, BSP Rural had reached 104,393 unbanked customers, 40 rural branches, and 176 retail agents.

Case study: Access to banking services for low-income and rural people

The most recent data from the UNDP estimates that 80 per cent of Pacific Islanders are unbanked. PNG is one of the most difficult operating environments in the Pacific to provide access to banking services due to extremely low levels of infrastructure. The Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP) has been working in Papua New Guinea to increase access by low income and rural people to quality and affordable financial services. The program aimed to extend financial services to 100,000 people by the end of 2011, a target that was reached ahead of the deadline. By 2014, an additional 172,334 previously unbanked people in PNG had access to financial services.
