

Annex I

Annual performance of selected Pacific Regional programs at the Country level

Tonga Regional Program - 2013

Pacific Regional Program ODA attributed to bilateral program

	2013/14 (Actual)	2014/15 (Plan)
Tonga	A\$6,189,224	A\$6,481,265

This Annex outlines the country-level results of selected investments of the Pacific Regional Aid Program for Tonga. 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 Tonga Country Program Objectives

Objective 1 – More efficient and effective public sector

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

- › Tonga is receiving extensive technical assistance from the Pacific Financial Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) to strengthen tax administration, macroeconomic analysis and forecasting, as well as building bank supervision capacity. PFTAC also supported the modernisation of a comprehensive revenue policy and legislation framework, including for Tonga's natural resources. These achievements contributed to broader-based and more efficient revenue systems.
- › The Pacific Islands Centre for Public Administration (PICPA) ran training courses in Tonga on public sector auditing, public sector basic accounting, project management and change management. Tonga was also the recipient of advisory services and workshops for heads of civil service training institutions.
- › The Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) ran five training workshops in the Pacific, which aimed to build and sustain on public auditing capacity and were attended by four participants from Tonga.

Objective 2 – Improved health

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

- › The Australian Sports Outreach Program (ASOP) in Tonga won a World Health Organization best practice award in July 2013 for its contribution to improving the physical activity of women in order to reduce the prevalence of obesity and the incidence of non-communicable diseases. Kau Mai Tonga Netipolo (Come on Tonga, Let's Play Netball) provides an opportunity for women aged 15 to 45 to participate in netball on a regular basis. The Ministry of Internal Affairs, in collaboration with the Tonga Netball Association, is also increasing the number of village-based physical activity options for women. Preliminary results from a national media campaign reveal that more than 90 per cent of women were aware of the campaign. More than 370 netball teams—about 3,000 women—registered for the first Kau Mai Tonga tournament. This is up from just 27 teams the previous year, before the campaign was launched.

- › The Pacific Island Program implemented by the Royal Australian College of Surgeons ran eight in-country workshops and three surgical visits to Tonga, aiming to increase the capacity of Tongan clinicians to diagnose and undertake medical procedures independently.
- › Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is assisting Tonga to address the prevalence of diabetes and other non-communicable diseases (NCDs). In 2013, SPC conducted diabetes training for 35 community nurses and health extension officers over three days, and trained Tonga's first dedicated NCD nurses.

Objective 3 – Improved technical and vocational skills

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

- › Pacific Regional core funding to the Australia Pacific Technical College (APTC) in 2013 supported 65 enrolments (46 per cent women) and 22 graduates (32 per cent women) from Tonga.

Objective 4 – Development of infrastructure to improve the everyday lives of the people

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

- › Through Energising the Pacific, the Pacific Regional Infrastructure Facility (PRIF) is supporting the Government of Tonga to prepare the Tonga Energy Roadmap 2010-2020. This support will help identify options for the Government of Tonga to increase the proportion of its grid-based electricity supply from renewable energy sources. The government is using the Roadmap to coordinate Donor Support and make better use of limited resources.

Regional Services that complement the Tonga Bilateral Program

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

- › The Pacific Financial Inclusion Program (PFIP) contributed to financial inclusiveness in Tonga. As part of this initiative, in 2014, Westpac Bank launched branchless banking/mobile money pilots. Low-cost international remittances to mobile wallets were also introduced in 2013-14. PFIP also successfully completed a partnership with Westpac to implement Financial Literacy training. Participants were taught basic budgeting and money management, and at the same time, Westpac opened and administered savings accounts for each participant.
- › The Tonga Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TCCI) provides a private sector voice at the national-level and continues to provide alternative approaches to driving and engineering economic growth. PLP provided support for TCCI's core funding, facilitation and hosting of public-private dialogues, and support to emerging business leaders through the youth in business program for secondary and tertiary school. TCCI now hosts an annual dialogue between government and the private sector. Among other things, TCCI is regularly approached to provide technical advice on national economic development issues.
- › In 2014, the Pacific Media Assistance Scheme (PACMAS) delivered a total of 14 national and regional workshops in the areas of Media Strengthening and Pacific Communication Broadcast Technicians. Out of 184 participants in these workshops, Tonga had the fourth-highest number of participants of any PICT. PACMAS is also working with SPREP to support Tonga's national broadcaster to improve its capacity to provide quality and timely information to enable communities to prepare and respond to natural disasters.
- › The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has assisted the Petani Village Women's Group on Eua to develop a community garden as a measure to address food security issues through

sustainable agriculture and land management technologies. While produce is currently being grown for domestic use, the group plans to use the garden to generate income in future.

- › The Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Initiative supported a Parliamentary Officer from Tonga to undertake a placement at the Australian Parliamentary Library in Canberra, during which time she developed a research paper on the viability of temporary special measures for the Tongan Parliament. The paper was presented at the Pacific Island Political Studies Association Conference in Tahiti in July 2014.
- › The Pacific Risk Resilience Program (PRRP) supported 17 Tropical Cyclone Ian-affected and isolated communities (11 on Vava'u and 6 on Ha'apai) with nurseries, tools, seeds/seedlings and training on seed sowing and vegetable production under the TC Ian Response/Recovery plan. The support was provided in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Forests and Fisheries (MAFFF), the NGO 'Mainstreaming of Rural Development Trust Innovation' (MORDI) and NZ Rotary. PRRP also supported the integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management (CCDRM) in community level planning in Tonga with substantive engagement of local & sector level government representatives. The review of 14 Community Development Plans (CDPs) to integrate CCDRM on Eua Island was led by Town & District Officers with support from MAFFF senior staff and Eua Island Parliamentary Representatives.
- › The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) Program is supporting the **upgrading of MAFFF's Nuku'alofa export facility**. An Expression of Interest (EOI) was completed in 2013/14 for the design and project management of the required infrastructure improvements to the Nuku'alofa export processing facility with the construction, purchase and installation of the required equipment expected to be completed into 2014/15. The PHAMA Program also assisted Tongan trade via improvements to a high temperature forced air treatment facility in Tonga (and subsequent New Zealand accreditation); an audit of a Tongan horticultural exporter against ethical production standards of Coles supermarket; and trial shipments of fresh taro from Tonga to Australia following program support to open this new market.

Case study: Tonga National Leadership Development Forum

The Pacific Leadership Program (PLP) supports a coalition of eminent Tongans in the Tonga National Leadership Development Forum (TNLDF). This group identified that within Tonga's hierarchical society holding elected leaders to account was culturally difficult, thereby creating an obstacle for the emerging democracy. To address this, TNLDF held public consultations on a Leadership Code which provided a non-threatening opportunity for members of the community to articulate their expectations of leaders. The TNLDF brought Tongan MPs back to their own constituencies for the consultations which enabled the public to exercise leadership themselves by asking questions of their MPs. An outcome has been that some MPs have adopted more transparent and consultative processes around how they spend their constituency allocations. Previously, constituents did not know how the allocations were spent and felt culturally constrained in asking questions. The Leadership Code that has been developed by the TNLDF defines the role and responsibilities of leaders, and provides a basis for the population to hold their leaders to account.
