



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**



# **AID PROGRAM PERFORMANCE REPORT SUMMARY 2018-19**

**Samoa**

September 2019



# SAMOA AID PROGRAM PERFORMANCE INFORMATION 2018-19

## SUMMARY

This report summarises the performance of Australia's aid program in Samoa from July 2018 to June 2019 against the three strategic priorities outlined in the Samoa Aid Investment Plan (AIP) 2015-2019.

- **Enabling economic growth:** strengthening the resilience of critical economic infrastructure in Samoa; improving the regulatory environment for business and international trade; and supporting Samoa to pursue reforms which stimulate economic growth.
- **Progressing health and education outcomes:** improving the quality of education and health systems; supporting more young people to complete secondary education and vocational training; providing targeted scholarships for Samoans to study in Australia and the region; and reducing violence against women and girls.
- **Strengthening governance:** supporting improved local policing through the Samoa Australia Police Partnership; supporting the public sector to operate and deliver services more effectively and efficiently and helping create the environment for private sector-led economic growth; increasing opportunities for women to engage in political participation and other leadership roles; supporting civil society and private sector initiatives to address Samoa's development challenges; and building a quality and accessible Parliament House to meet the 21st century needs of Samoa's Parliament.

The AIP also commits Australia to address gender equality, inclusion of people with disability and climate change resilience across all investments. Over the past year, the bilateral development program and the partnerships and quality outcomes that it has produced, have been a strong foundation from which to progress Australia's Step-up in the Pacific.

Development of a new Aid Investment Plan (AIP) 2019-2022 is underway, which will build on lessons learnt from the AIP 2015 – 2019 and our engagement more broadly.

Australia is Samoa's largest bilateral aid donor. Other significant donors include New Zealand, China and Japan. In 2018-19, Australia's total official development assistance (ODA) expenditure was \$34 million, equivalent to approximately eight per cent of Samoa's national budget.

Good progress was made in 2018-19 under the objectives Enable Economic Growth and Strengthen Governance. An accessible, climate-resilient Parliament House opened in March 2019 and construction was completed on a new Government of Samoa Radio 2AP tower, used for critical communication messaging during emergencies and disasters. The bilateral program supported improvements in digital connectivity (with an increased focus on cyber security threats); and the completion of a Government of Samoa procurement manual reflecting new Ministry of Finance Instructions.

A number of projects managed through the Samoa Governance Support Program contributed to improved labour policies, tax arrangements, infrastructure management and the development of a national security policy. Australia, with UNDP and UN Women, launched a new program to support Samoan women to have stronger voices in decision making processes.

The Samoa Fiscal Resilience Program continued to support the Government of Samoa's capabilities in moving forward their economic reform agenda. Guided by the mutually agreed Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM), and leveraging their technical expertise the World Bank, Australia, the ADB and New Zealand continued to provide direct budget support to the Government of Samoa to incentivise reforms.

The design for a new Australian education program was expected in the reporting period, but this was delayed to ensure the investment's coherence and alignment with the Samoan government's education sector plan that is yet to be released. A new health program design was also planned for 2018-19, but was delayed due to the impact of the integration of the National Health Service in the Ministry of Health in

February 2019. Progress was rated amber under the Progressing Health and Education outcomes objective based on the achievement of mutually agreed outcomes that prepare Samoa for its renewed focus on primary health care going forward.

Despite political economy challenges in the health sector, Australia supported sustained progress in bio-medical maintenance and pharmaceutical procurement, and increased access to sexual and reproductive health services in the most isolated communities.

Australia's investment in education continued to increase access for children with disabilities. The education sector has also recognised the need to increase vocational options to provide better opportunities for students locally and overseas and the Australia Pacific Training Coalition is working closely with relevant partners to support a consolidated approach to tertiary and vocational education and training in Samoa. In 2018-19, Australia awarded 56 new Australia Awards scholarships.

## EXPENDITURE

Spending by Other Government Departments temporarily increased due to engagement around the Pacific Games. Total ODA to Samoa as a percentage of total Australian ODA decreased from 0.9 to 0.8 per cent.

**Table 1 Total ODA Expenditure in FY 2018-19**

Objective	A\$ million	% of total ODA
Objective 1: Enable economic growth	6.9	20%
Objective 2: Progress health and education outcomes	11.4	33%
Objective 3: Strengthen governance	5.6	16%
Sub-Total Bilateral	23.6	70%
Regional and Global	7.2	21%
Other Government Departments	3.1	9%
Total ODA Expenditure	34.0	100%

## PERFORMANCE TOWARDS AIP OBJECTIVES

**Table 2 Rating of the Program's Progress towards Australia's Aid Objectives**

Objective	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Objective 1: Enable economic growth	Green	Green
Objective 2: Progress health and education outcomes	Green	Amber
Objective 3: Strengthen governance	Amber	Green

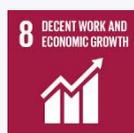
Note:

■ Green. Progress is as expected at this stage of implementation and it is likely that the objective will be achieved. Standard program management practices are sufficient.

■ Amber. Progress is somewhat less than expected at this stage of implementation and restorative action will be necessary if the objective is to be achieved. Close performance monitoring is recommended.

■ Red. Progress is significantly less than expected at this stage of implementation and the objective is not likely to be met given available resources and priorities. Recasting the objective may be required.

## OBJECTIVE 1: ENABLING ECONOMIC GROWTH



Australia's support for the construction of the Tui-Samoa submarine cable (with ADB and World Bank), and the associated legislative reform processes, has significantly improved Samoa's digital connectivity, contributing to economic growth. The wholesale price of internet bandwidth is 90 per cent lower than in 2015, significant increases in the volume of data usage occurred in 2018 -19, and mobile operators are aiming to reach universal 3G coverage by the end of 2019.

With Samoa's increased capacity and interest in cyber issues, Australia supported the Government of Samoa with strategic planning in the ICT sector, as well as developing a Cyber Security Policy. A number of Australian-funded assessments recommended measures to strengthen Samoa's cyber security. Australia is working with Samoa to establish a Computer Emergency Response Team to monitor and coordinate responses to cyber threats in 2019-20.

The construction of roads and bridges through the Emergency Roads Access Project financed with the World Bank continued in 2018-19, but delays led to the extension of the project for an additional year. Construction began on the Maliolio Bridge, which will ensure continued access to rural communities in Savai'i during severe flooding. Construction also began on a bailey bridge at Lotosamasoni, which will facilitate traffic flows from eastern Apia into the central business district and through to the industrial area. The bridge has accessible pedestrian access. Both the Maliolio and Lotosamasoni bridges are expected to be completed as planned in the first half of 2019-20 and have been designed to be resilient to projected climate change impacts.

In collaboration with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Australia supported the redevelopment of the National Radio 2AP broadcasting facility, including the construction of a new transmission tower. Radio 2AP is the official source of disaster information for Samoa and is the main means of communication with rural communities during disasters. The tower, which was modified to ensure resilience to climate change and natural disasters, is expected to be fully operational early in 2019-20.

The Samoa Fiscal Resilience Program continued to support the Government of Samoa's capabilities in economic reform. Guided by the Joint Policy Action Matrix (JPAM), Australia, the World Bank, the ADB and New Zealand continued to provide direct budget support and technical expertise to the Government of Samoa to incentivise reforms. Australia disbursed a total of AUD3m in early 2019. JPAM targets met in the reporting period included the completion and Cabinet endorsement of the Samoa Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy 2018; updated Community Integrated Management Plans that reinforce the climate resilience of districts; completion of the National Disaster Management Plan 2017-2020; and strengthening of the Money Laundering Prevention Act. JPAM contributed to debt management reforms through a target linked to Samoa's Medium-Term Debt Strategy, which has contributed to a reduction in Samoa's external debt.

A rating of green is given for this objective overall as two of four benchmarks, linked to economic growth and the larger proportion of our investment, were achieved in 2018- 19. Substantial progress was made on economic inclusion and economic infrastructure; however, the ambitious benchmarks were not met in the reporting period.

## OBJECTIVE 2: PROGRESS HEALTH AND EDUCATION OUTCOMES



Australia's Samoa Health Program seeks to improve the health of Samoans so that they can lead longer and more productive lives.

The Samoan National Health Service was integrated into the Ministry of Health in February 2019. The impact of the integration contributed to a delay in the design and mobilisation of a new program in primary healthcare, which meant the performance benchmark "Improved NCD services at district health centres" was not achieved.

Despite this setback, standalone health activities continued successfully in 2018-19. Australia provided priority advisers to the Ministry of Health: a bio-medical engineer for the provision of safe equipment and mentoring of the biomedical team; an epidemiologist for public health surveillance data and analysis; and a pharmaceutical procurement adviser for strengthening procurement reforms including improving efficiencies for medicine purchase. Visiting doctors commented on the improved quality of the equipment managed by the biomedical team. Under the ongoing Strategic Partnership Program between the Queensland Department of Health and the Samoan Ministry of Health, training was provided to Samoan health officials responsible for managing service providers. As a result of the training, health officials have trialled two service agreements (with Samoa Cancer Society and Samoa AIDS Foundation), introducing greater accountability into the Ministry of Health's funding of NGOs.

Under the Impact Project: Improving Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), implemented by the Samoa Family Health Association, a SRHR clinic was established on the larger but more remote island of Savai'i and the SRHR clinic at Moto'otua, a central location opposite the national hospital, was refurbished. The impact on service delivery of the (re)opening of these two health clinics will be confirmed through the mid-term evaluation in 2019-20. The mobile van provided in 2017-18 increased sexual and reproductive health outreach services to rural communities from negligible to over 10,000 people in 2018-19.

In 2018-19, a design was completed for the second phase of Australia's disability program: the Samoa Disability Partnership Program (SDPP). The design of the new SDPP looks to address issues and gaps in the disability sector whilst progressing achievements from phase one, which included achieving the benchmark for 600 mobility devices provided to people with disabilities. At the end of phase one of the Disability Program, 1,367 Samoans (47.5 per cent women) were provided with 1,889 mobility devices. This exceeded the target of 1,080 clients. A new focus of the SDPP is a coordinated hearing service at the newly established Ear Nose and Throat Unit at the National Hospital to be managed by Samoa's Ministry of Health.

Sustainability remains a challenge for the Ministry of Health in ensuring operations of the Mobility Device Clinic and quality of the devices remain at a high standard for people with disabilities. To address sustainability, the bio-medical division at the national hospital, mentored by an Australian-funded advisor, is taking on the assessment of mobility devices to identify maintenance issues for repair.

The Samoa Education Sector Support Program seeks to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Samoa's education system, measured against the Samoan Government's own targets in its Education Sector Plan 2013-2018 (ESP). Australia provided performance based payments linked to nine mutually agreed indicators, drawn from the 35 indicators in the ESP.

The 2017 and 2018 independent verifications of the ESP results showed an improved 55 per cent achievement against the nine indicators used by Australia and New Zealand to trigger financial



disbursements to Samoa. As a result, a total of AUD 5.4 million was disbursed to the Education Sector from financial year 2017-18 to 2018-19, which makes up the total DFAT financial contribution of AUD **10 million** within 4 years. More broadly, the ESP's 2017-18 annual review found that challenges remained in the education sector and that the Samoan Government's ambitious targets remain difficult to achieve.

The Samoan Government is now developing its next education sector plan and Australia is strongly encouraging the adoption of more realistic indicators. A new Australian education program design, planned for 2018-19, was delayed until the release of the new education sector plan, to ensure coherence and alignment with Samoan Government priorities.

There were positive developments in the area of inclusive education, including on the identification of children with disabilities that are enrolled in mainstream government schools: 258 enrolled in Primary Schools and 12 students in Secondary Schools, nearly double the number reported in the previous survey.

Australia also provides a Strategic Planning Adviser to the education sector and an Education Technical Assistance Facility to enhance coordination and the achievement of ESP outcomes. The focus has expanded from improving numeracy and literacy levels to include ICT and information systems development, a national TVET strategy, and research and capacity building for staff.

In 2018-19 an additional 56 Samoans (27 women) received an Australia Awards scholarship for tertiary studies in Australia and the region. The scholarships were awarded through a tripartite agreement with the Governments of Samoa and New Zealand to address Samoa's prioritised skills shortages while also promoting people to people links with Australia.

Solid progress was made across many performance benchmarks under this objective, with full achievement against the provision of mobility devices and partial achievement of most other benchmarks. One benchmark, improved NCD services at district health centres, was not achieved, as planned new programs in primary healthcare were not implemented during the reporting period, due to delays related to the ongoing restructure of the health sector. The overall mixed results against benchmarks leads to an amber rating.

### OBJECTIVE 3: STRENGTHEN GOVERNANCE



The new Samoan Parliament House, funded by the Australian and Samoan governments, was opened and the Legislative Assembly began sittings in March 2019. The building is climate resilient and meets universal design principles for accessibility. The project has been used as a case study by other stakeholders as a model of good practice in the region, using expert advice to influence design. The national disabled person's organisation (NOLA) provided assessments to improve general accessibility inside the building and the surrounding area. A group of climate scientists and practitioners involved in the development of the project published an academic paper to highlight how the project identified critical climate change risks and subsequently suggested climate adaptation measures including the planting of mangroves to be integrated into the building design.

Through the Samoa Governance Support Program (SGSP), Australia worked with the Government of Samoa to review and develop a number of critical plans, programs and strategies, all now Cabinet endorsed and in the implementation stage. These included the development of Samoa's first National Security Policy and



Implementation Strategy. Special Investigation training was undertaken with the Samoan Audit Office and Ombudsman's Office which enabled each to respond more effectively to public complaints, strengthening government accountability. The Samoa Auditor General won the International Association of Certified Fraud Examiners 2018 Outstanding Achievement in Community Outreach Service Award. Australia also provided support for whole-of-government procurement reform which included revisions made to the Ministry of Finance Instructions, and a trial of the new procurement contract framework for medicines.

The Civil Society Support Program (CSSP) awarded funding to seven local NGOs to implement capacity building training within communities on gender-based violence, child protection, disaster risk reduction and agricultural growth, and eight community based organisations received funding to implement small scale gender-focused development initiatives which will be implemented in 2018-19. Technical support provided to CSSP contributed to the completion of the CSSP Operational Manual, a Communications Strategy and a Civil Society Capacity Development Strategy.

A gender adviser was engaged through Pacific Women to support Post and the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSO) for 2018-19. Gender mainstreaming training was delivered by the gender adviser to public servants from various government agencies, facilitated by the Public Service Commission and the Ministry of Women, Community and social Development (MWCSO).

Given implementation challenges associated with the previous bilateral gender program (Samoan Women Shaping Development), Australia is reflecting on lessons learned and exploring ways to build capacity in MWCSO with the aim of recommencing funding gender programs through this Ministry. To assist Post in progressing a new gender program design, a gender analysis was undertaken with the support of Pacific Women.

Activities under the Women in Leadership in Samoa (WILS) program, funded by Australia, UNDP and UN Women, began in August 2018, following some delays due to staff turnover and delayed receipt of funds from UN Regional to UN Samoa Office. Research commenced on women's leadership, which will provide valuable data, including to measure the impact of the WILS program. Due to lack of baseline data and implementation delays, the benchmark of increased number of women in leadership positions was not met during the reporting period. However, with a number of activities implemented in 2018-19, the benchmark is expected to be met in 2019-20.

Activities to end gender based violence were supported under the bilateral and regional development programs and through the Australian Federal Police partnership with the Samoa Police Service. An Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW) media campaign was rolled-out on national television, in Samoan and English, promoting "Safe Families, Safe Samoa". Related merchandise including t-shirts and mugs were distributed to sustain the message. Through UN Women, the regional Pacific Partnerships for EVAW began developing an Interagency Essential Services Guide for Samoa, compiling services available, and relevant providers and partners in EVAW.

The two Australian Federal Police officers deployed to Samoa under the Samoa Australia Police Partnership (SAPP), continued to provide capacity building support to the Samoa Police Service (SPS) to improve the effectiveness of, and community confidence in, the SPS. In 2018-19 SAPP provided continued mentoring and guidance on the establishment of the Samoa Sex Offenders Register and funded the purchase of equipment in order for the SPS to comply with the Sex Offender's Registration Act 2017. The SPS and SAPP undertook a range of command and control and response activities to prepare for the Pacific Games held in Apia in July 2019. The Games ran smoothly with no major incidents.

SAPP continues to support SPS Women Advisory Network (WAN) activities including mentoring and guidance. The SAPP sponsored scholarship scheme has supported a number of SPS members to undertake tertiary and college education, with positive results in their studies and in the workplace.



This objective is rated as green as two of the three benchmarks were met, with partial achievement against the third.

## REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PROGRAMS

In addition to Australia's bilateral development cooperation, activities benefiting Samoa were delivered under a number of regional and global programs, including, but not limited to, the programs detailed below.

As part of the **Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER) Plus Readiness Package**, Australia, through the Oceanic Customs Organisation (OCO), assisted Samoa to adopt the latest international customs nomenclature HS2017. Through the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Australia helped Samoa develop a regionally integrated online trade portal, which, in addition to providing advice on tariff rates under PACER Plus, comprehensively documents import and export procedures. Activities under the Readiness Package will enable Samoa to reap early benefits from PACER Plus when it enters into force.

The **Private Sector Development Initiative (PSDI)** continued to support reforms to help support the business environment in Samoa. In 2018-19, PSDI developed and piloted sector value-chain financing products to assist in the full use of the personal properties securities registry. A taro value-chain product was piloted in Upolu, while cocoa value-chain product will be developed and piloted in Savai'i. PSDI also strengthened the policy framework for Development Bank of Samoa, contributing to management strategies on major non-performing loans.

Under the **Pacific Financial Inclusion Program**, The Innovation Lab, with the National Bank of Samoa and in partnership with Digicel, launched its first product—Ezibank—in last quarter of 2018. This was the first time a mobile network operator and bank partnered to launch a product after completing the technical integration of their systems. Customers are now able to view their bank account balances on their mobile phones, transfer funds from their account to phone and transfer funds from their Digicel mobile money account to their account.

Under the **Business Partnerships Platform**, a partnership between Fairtrade Australia New Zealand, Krissy Co, the Savai'i Coconut Farmers Association and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is helping to address unmet demand for organic coconut cream and boost Samoa's participation in global markets. In 2018-19, Krissy Co increased its supplier base for Fairtrade, organic certified coconuts from 69 to 111 farmers through increased membership in the Savai'i Coconut Farmers Association. Members of the Savai'i coconut farmers association have seen an average 55 per cent increase in their annual incomes from coconut farming.

During 2018-2019, 18 new **Australian Volunteers** commenced assignments in Samoa, alongside 12 ongoing Volunteers. Volunteer assignments focused on support to the education, health and governance sectors, improving the regulatory environment for Samoan businesses, and on increasing women's and people with disabilities' financial literacy and economic opportunities. In 2018-19, the program supported four volunteer placements in the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC)'s Inclusive Education Unit, to assist MESC colleagues on the implementation plan (2017-20) of the *Inclusive Education Policy for Students Living with Disability 2014*.

Through the **Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security (CHS)**, technical assistance to strengthen Infection Prevention and Control in key health care facilities was provided to Tupua Tamasese Mea'ole Hospital in Apia, providing an infection prevention and control assessment and options for re-modelling to improve infection prevention and control.

In 2018-19 Samoa benefited from a number of **regional climate change investments**. The Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific Phase 2 (COSPPac2) supported climate and ocean monitoring and prediction services in Samoa, including for sea level changes. The Climate Change Finance Readiness for the Pacific



project supported climate finance awareness workshops and undertook a mapping of private sector opportunities for engagement in climate finance in Samoa. The Regional Management of Climate Change Information in the Pacific (iCLIM) project, is working in partnership with the Samoan Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) to identify areas where the project could add value to MNRE's existing Data Knowledge Information Facility, develop a business case for engagement and an information and knowledge management framework.

In 2018-19, 95 Samoans graduated from the **Australia Pacific Training Coalition** (formerly the Australia Pacific Technical Collage, APTC) with technical and vocational qualifications in a range of areas including metal fabrication, plumbing, education support, hospitality, commercial cookery, electro-technology, light vehicle maintenance, tourism and training and assessment. Now in its third phase (began 1 July 2018), the program is shifting its focus to developing partnerships to strengthen national TVET providers and systems, increasing co-investment and linking graduates with labour mobility opportunities in the region. To support this, APTC has developed strong partnerships with the National University of Samoa, Samoa Water and the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture. These partnerships will increase the quality and relevance of TVET qualifications and strengthen employment outcomes for students.



## MUTUAL OBLIGATIONS

Australia and Samoa continued to deliver against agreed mutual obligations as outlined in Australia's Aid Investment Plan for Samoa and the Australia-Samoa Aid Partnership Arrangement 2016-2019.

In 2018-19 the Government of Samoa:

- implemented national development plans and coordinated development partner assistance, including through regular sectoral working groups;
- continued to improve government procurement and financial systems; and
- maintained budget expenditure on education, health and infrastructure maintenance.

In 2018-19 the Australian Government:

- continued to deliver timely, effective and predictable development assistance in line with the Government of Samoa's Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2016-20;
- continued to be transparent in the allocation of funding under the Partnership; and
- delivered assistance through Samoa's government systems where it made sense to do so.

An update of an assessment of Samoa's national systems was conducted in 2018. The update provided several recommendations to improve performance and concluded that it was appropriate for Australia to continue to utilise Samoan Government systems for disbursement of development funding. Implementation of some of the recommendations has commenced and the remainder will be implemented over the next reporting period. Discussions will be held later in 2019 between Australian and Samoan government officials to agree new mutual obligations, potentially as part of a broader strategic partnership agreement covering all aspects of our relationship. This partnership will incorporate Step-up activities, which complement our bilateral development program.

## PROGRAM QUALITY

Aid Quality Check ratings across most initiatives in Australia's development assistance to Samoa remained the same or slightly improved compared with last year. However, designs scheduled for supporting the education and health sectors were impacted by government delays in setting strategy and in engagement with donors. The Health program will be reviewed during 2019-20 and findings will be used in the design of future support and to improve existing activities.

The Gender Adviser, supported through Pacific Women, worked with program managers to improve analysis of progress towards gender equality and empowerment of women and girls during this year's Aid Quality Check process. Ratings for gender equality improved in many programs (Health, Government Support and Women in Leadership) but declined for education and governance, taking into account both AQC and FAQC scores. The Samoa program has dropped from a rating of 90 per cent to 78 per cent of investments satisfactorily addressing gender equality, not quite achieving the 80 per cent target. We will ensure new designs to be finalised during 2019-20 integrate gender concerns effectively.

Measures have been put in place through the Terms of Reference for the new education program design to strengthen the focus on gender equality and social inclusion for education support. Lessons learned from the Governance program (captured in the FAQC) have been incorporated into the subsequent Samoa Governance Support Program, including the need for an overarching framework against which facility proposals can be assessed and outcomes measured, and the requirement for gender to be effectively considered and incorporated into proposals.

An evaluation of the **Cyclone Evan Response and Recovery Program** was undertaken in 2018-19. Under the program, Australia helped Samoa restore education and health services affected by Cyclone Evan in late 2012. Australia rebuilt two hospitals and seven school buildings and repaired five rural health clinics and 36 schools. The evaluation found qualitative evidence of better service delivery in health and education due to



improved infrastructure. However, there was a missed opportunity to address broader infrastructure needs in both sectors as recovery efforts focused on rehabilitating damaged infrastructure. Also, whilst the needs of vulnerable groups were considered, it was limited to physical accessibility. An adequate analysis of gender and disability issues would have ensured a more comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of vulnerable groups beyond physical access during the recovery process.

## MANAGEMENT ACTIONS

Following an assessment of Australian development assistance to Samoa, the following management responses have been identified to address challenges and risks associated with the program in 2019-20:

- During partnership discussions scheduled for 2019 – 2020, develop mutually agreed development priorities and obligations with the Government of Samoa, aligned with Samoa’s Strategy for Development (SDS) and Samoa 2040, as well as Australia’s White Paper and Pacific Step-up priorities.
- As agreed with the Ministry of Finance, use DFAT procurement systems for the construction of the Parliamentary Complex Phase 2 to satisfy the Samoan Government’s requirement for the Legislative Assembly Office to be completed within a tight timeframe.
- Provide long-term procurement expertise to support the Samoan Government to implement procurement reforms, as outlined in its new procurement manual and consistent with the recommendations of the ANS.
- Complete a design for a new investment in education that focuses on strengthening learning outcomes through improved teacher quality, and effectively addresses gender equality and disability inclusive education. In cooperation with APTC, the new design will incorporate a focus on vocational training to provide skills required to gain employment in Samoa and access labour mobility opportunities.
- To mitigate the political economy challenges in the health sector, Australia will work with other development partners and NGOs to progress outcomes agreed with the Ministry of Health. This will include technical advisers, service delivery programs and a continuation of the strategic partnership between the Samoa Ministry of Health and Queensland’s Department of Health with a renewed focus on strengthening primary health at community level.
- To mitigate previous investment failures DFAT shifted to a new modality of working with the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) on the Women in Leadership Samoa program, through UNDP and UN Women, to achieve gender outcomes in Samoa. As part of a new gender design, DFAT will develop a plan to build the capacity of MWCSD with the aim of recommencing funding to achieve women’s empowerment and gender equality outcomes through this Ministry. Support for mainstreaming gender by MWCSD will continue in the new gender program.
- As the only donor in the disability sector, DFAT will continue to work with the health and education sectors to mainstream and embed previous achievements in Inclusive Education and the Mobility Device Centre.

## ANNEX A - PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING MANAGEMENT RESPONSES

Management responses identified in 2017-18 APPR	Rating	Progress made in 2018-19
DFAT will engage a gender adviser to support post and provide capacity building for staff and improve gender mainstreaming of DFAT sector programs.	Achieved	A Gender adviser was engaged through Pacific Women to support Post and the Ministry of Women, Community and Social Development (MWCSD) for 2018-19. The adviser assisted program managers with the narration and rating of gender for Aid Quality Checks. A gender analysis was also completed to assist Post, with the support of Pacific Women, in progressing a new gender program design for Samoa. Gender mainstreaming training was delivered by the gender adviser to public servants from various government agencies, facilitated by the Public Service Commission and the MWCSD.
DFAT will develop a design brief for the construction of the new Legislative Assembly Office (part of the Parliamentary complex) which builds on the lessons learned from the construction of the Parliament House and supports government systems without burdening those systems.	Achieved	The design brief was developed. Based on lessons learned from the construction of Parliament House, procurement will be undertaken through Australian systems because of the tight time frame required.
DFAT will explore ways to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Women and Community Development to implement development programs in the future which can achieve results and represent value for money.	Partly achieved	Ongoing. DFAT is exploring pilot programmes to build capacity. Meanwhile gender programs have been funded through other channels. The disability programme is continuing through the Ministry of Women, with careful monitoring of expenditure and performance.
DFAT will work together with development partners to strengthen the capacity of the health sector to design and implement an integrated, patient centred primary health care program.	Partly achieved	Design work was delayed during the merger of the Samoan National Health Service and the Ministry of Health in February 2019. Initial plans are in place with relevant partners e.g. WHO, UNICEF and WB to move forward.
DFAT will explore ways to strengthen technical and vocational education in Samoa to ensure that more Samoans are able to take advantage of the opportunities available through the Pacific Labour Scheme.	Partly achieved	DFAT is working with the Government of Samoa on a National TVET Strategy, and with APTC to maximise support to the TVET sector. Early successes with uptake onto the Pacific Labour Scheme – with 21 Samoan workers (2 women and 19 men) participating in the scheme at 30 June 2019

### Note:

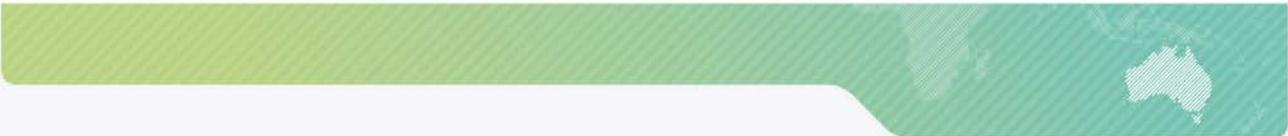
- Achieved. Significant progress has been made in addressing the issue
- Partly achieved. Some progress has been made in addressing the issue, but the issue has not been resolved
- Not achieved. Progress in addressing the issue has been significantly below expectations

## ANNEX B – PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

### 1. Progress towards Performance Benchmarks in 2018-19

Aid objective	Performance Benchmark	Rating	Progress in 2018-19
Enable economic growth	Economic reform priorities progressed to strengthen environment for economic growth: a) Achievement of all prior actions under the Joint Policy Action Matrix triggers the release of budget support.	Achieved	Government of Samoa officials and development partners are generally satisfied that sufficient reforms are occurring. The debt management reforms have contributed to a reduction in Samoa's external debt through the development of a Medium Term Debt Strategy.
Enable economic growth	Economic reform priorities progressed to strengthen environment for economic growth: b) Contribution of Australian funded technical assistance (including to progress economic reform priorities) is mutually assessed as being effective.	Achieved	The success of the Samoa Governance Support Program which supplies Australian funded technical expertise at the request of the Government of Samoa is evidenced by the increasing number of requests made to the SGSP and by feedback provided to the JPAM delegation by several Ministries including the Ministry of Finance.
Enable economic growth	Improved economic infrastructure: Malilolo Bridge constructed in accordance with climate resilient design.	Partly achieved	Progress delayed. Expected completion date Dec 2019
Enable economic growth	Increased economic opportunities for women and people with disabilities: Minimum 200 women and people with disabilities supported to establish businesses.	Partly achieved	Over the 4 years of the Samoa Disability Program Phase 1, 22 small businesses were established by people with disabilities with 39 beneficiaries from those projects. Over the 2.5 years of the Small Business Incubator program 41 women were supported to establish a business. The program was terminated in 2018 at the time funding was allocated away from MWSCD. Economic empowerment will continue to be a priority in the new gender program under design in 2019-20.
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the education system: Full or partial achievement against nine key performance indicators triggers payment on results.	Partially Achieved	Partial achievement of the nine KPIs was independently verified. The verification report noted partial achievement of KPIs for literacy and numeracy for Year 4 & 6, completion rate for Primary Schools (Year 1 – 8) and participation of students with disabilities in mainstream government schools. No disbursements were made for the following unachieved KPIs – #3: Percentage of PSET graduates finding employment within 6 months and #5: Transition rate from Year 13 to formal Post-Secondary Education and Training (PSET). Meanwhile, full payment was made for 3 KPIs: #7 – Teachers meeting performance standards, #8 – Schools meeting minimum service standards related to literacy and numeracy and #9 – number of accredited courses provided by PSET providers

Aid objective	Performance Benchmark	Rating	Progress in 2018-19
Progress health and education outcomes	Provide targeted scholarships with priority on education and health: Reintegration packages in place for returning targeted education and health graduates.	Partly achieved	Scholarships provided included education and health but the Public Service Commission insists on a spread of sectors to be covered. No reintegration packages in place. A review of the scholarship program and the Tripartite Agreement between the government of Samoa and New Zealand is proposed to inform the performance of the program going forward.
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the health system: a) Improved NCD services at district health centres.	Not Achieved	Progress to improve primary health care was delayed due to the merger of the Ministry of Health and National Health Service, official from February 2019. World Bank design of the National NCD Management Program has not been finalised despite ongoing missions to Samoa. Activities focused on preparing the sector for the time when MoH is ready to refocus on the provision of primary health care. These included advances in biomedical procurement and epidemiology, as well as the development of relationships with providers of primary health in remote areas through the Strategic Partnership with Queensland Health.
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the health system: b) 600 mobility devices provided to people with disabilities.	Achieved	Over the 4 years a total of 1,367 clients received 1,889 mobility devices.
Progress health and education outcomes	Reduce violence against women and girls: Best practice initiatives to prevent violence implemented. Improved coordinated multi-sectoral approach to address all forms of VAW.	Partly achieved	<p>Activities to end gender based violence were supported under the bilateral and regional development programs and through the Australian Federal Police (AFP) partnership with the Samoa Police Service. An Ending Violence Against Women (EVAW) campaign was rolled-out on national television, promoting "Safe Families, Safe Samoa". Through UN Women, the regional Pacific Partnerships for EVAW began developing an Interagency Essential Services Guide for Samoa, compiling services available, and relevant providers and partners in EVAW. Bilaterally, EVAWG program implementation was affected by cancellation of the Samoan Women Shaping Development Program. A case officer was placed in the Ministry of Justice Alcohol and Drugs Court funded under SWSDP but resigned in February 2019.</p> <p>CSSP currently supports two NGOs working within EVAWG/GBV space. Under the Samoa Australia Police Partnership (SAPP), AFP provided continued mentoring and guidance on the establishment of the Samoa Sex Offenders Register and funded the purchase of equipment in order for the Samoa Police Service to comply with the Sex Offender's Registration Act 2017.</p>
Strengthen governance	Strengthened public sector, including Samoa's Police Service, civil society and private sector: Assessment of National Systems recommendations implemented.	Achieved	The Assessment of National Systems was completed in May 2019 (final sign off was delayed by staffing shortages in Canberra). DFAT is working with the Ministry of Finance to implement the recommendations.



Aid objective	Performance Benchmark	Rating	Progress in 2018-19
Strengthen governance	Built a quality and accessible parliament house: New parliament house completed, incorporating accessible design standards and climate resilient features.	Achieved	Complete
Strengthen governance	Increased leadership opportunities for women: Increased number of women in leadership positions.	Partially achieved	WILs program implementation was delayed due to staff turnover and delayed receipt of funds from UN Regional to UN Samoa Office. While there is no measurable data at this point to determine increase of women in leadership positions there have been several quality training and workshop activities preparing women at all levels to take advantage of opportunities to participate in decision making processes AFP supports women's leadership in the Samoa Police service through mentoring and scholarships.

Note:

- Achieved. Significant progress has been made and the performance benchmark was achieved
- Partly achieved. Some progress has been made towards achieving the performance benchmark, but progress was less than anticipated.
- Not achieved. Progress towards the performance benchmark has been significantly below expectations

## 2. Performance Benchmarks for 2019-20

Aid objective	Performance Benchmark	2018-19	2019-20
Enable economic growth	Improved economic infrastructure	<i>Maliolio Bridge constructed in accordance with climate resilient design</i>	<i>Maliolio Bridge constructed in accordance with climate resilient design (expected December 2019), plus modular bridge(s) installed at the request of the Samoan Government at sites vulnerable to flooding.</i>
Enable economic growth	Economic reform priorities progressed to strengthen environment for economic growth	-	<i>Establish a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) and a long term capacity development partnership between Samoan Government and CERT Australia.  Cabinet approval of Disaster Risk Financing strategy.</i>
Enable economic growth	Increased economic opportunities for women and people with disabilities	<i>Minimum 200 women and people with disability supported to establish businesses.</i>	<i>Minimum 50 people with disability supported to establish businesses.  Minimum 20 women trained or mentored to fulfil management roles in public and private enterprises.</i>
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the health system	<i>Improved services at district health centres.</i>	<i>5% increase in the number of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services provided through quality assured Samoa Family Health Association static clinics  2% increase in the number of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services provided through Samoa Family Health Association quality assured outreach</i>
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the health system	-	<i>Procure an Inventory Logistics Management System for the Pharmacy Warehouse assisted by Procurement Adviser to improve efficiencies for procuring and managing essential medicine stocks.</i>
Progress health and education outcomes	Improved quality of the education system through the Education Sector Support Program	-	<i>Complete the design of the new Education Sector Support Program (jointly with NZ)</i>

Aid objective	Performance Benchmark	2018-19	2019-20
			<i>Pilot vocational secondary school model commenced.</i>
Progress health and education outcomes	Reduce violence against women and girls	<i>Best practice initiatives to prevent violence implemented. Improved coordinated multi-sectoral approach to address all forms of VAW.</i>	<i>Gender design including initiatives focused on ending violence against women finalised in consultation with the relevant agencies led by MWCSO.</i>
Strengthen governance	Strengthened public sector, including Samoa's Police Service, civil society and private sector.	<i>Assessment of National Systems recommendations implemented.</i>	<i>Training provided on the new Procurement manual to staff from all Ministries and relevant private sector representatives. Mutually agreed JPAM triggers achieved for 2019 -20.</i>
Strengthen governance	Increasing leadership opportunities for women	<i>Increased number of women in leadership positions</i>	<i>Leadership training provided to women in village councils and private sector.</i>

## ANNEX C - EVALUATION PLANNING

### 1 LIST OF EVALUATIONS COMPLETED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD

Investment number and name (if applicable)	Name of evaluation	Date completed	Date Evaluation report Uploaded into AidWorks	Date Management response uploaded into AidWorks	Published on website
INK306 Samoa Education Sector Support Program	Independent Verification Report 2018	3/4/2018	11/4/2018	9 May 2019	-
INK887 Samoa Cyclone Evan Response and Recovery Program	Tropical Cyclone Evan Recovery and Rehabilitation Programme (TCRRP) and Tourism Cyclone Recovery Programme (TCRP) Evaluation Report	1/10/2018	27/3/2019	-	26/10/18 NZ MFAT
65556/1 Management and Administration Support of the Strategic Partnership Program (SPP)	End of Program Evaluation	6/12/2018	20/3/2019	-	-

### 2 LIST OF PROGRAM PRIORITISED EVALUATIONS PLANNED FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

Evaluation title	Investment number and name (if applicable)	Date – planned commencement (month/year)	Date – planned completion (month/year)	Purpose of evaluation	Evaluation type
Final Program Review	INH315 Samoa Power sector Expansion Program	April 2019	September 2019 (delayed from June 2019)	To inform possible future investments in the power sector.	Partner led (ADB)
Final Program Review	INK604 Samoa Parliament Complex Redevelopment	August 2019	October 2019	To inform Phase 2	DFAT led
Mid-term Review	14A377 KRA2: Health System Strengthening (in INL257 Samoa Health Program)	August 2019	November 2019	Mid-term review of program that supports sexual and reproductive health,	DFAT led

## ANNEX D - AID QUALITY CHECK RATINGS

### 1 AQC RATINGS

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	year on year	Relevance	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability	Gender equality	Risks and Safeguards
Samoa Education Sector Support Program	\$17.2m	2019 AQC	-	4	4	-	-	3	-
	2011-20	2018 AQC	5	4	5	4	5	4	-
Samoa Parliament Complex Redevelopment	\$13.3m	2019 AQC	-	5	4	-	-	4	-
	2012-20	2018 AQC	4	4	4	4	4	4	-
Samoa Economic Infrastructure Program	\$18.8m	2019 AQC	-	4	4	-	-	4	-
	2012-19	2018 AQC	4	4	4	4	4	4	-
Samoa Health Program	\$9.3m	2019 AQC	-	3	4	-	-	5	-
	2013-22	2018 AQC	5	4	4	4	4	4	-
Samoa Power Sector Expansion Program	\$15m	2019 AQC	-	5	5	-	-	4	-
	2007-18	2018 AQC	5	5	5	4	4	4	-
Samoa Governance Support Program	\$9m	2019 AQC	-	4	5	-	-	5	-
	2018-21	2018 AQC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-
Women in Leadership in Samoa	\$3.5m	2019 AQC	-	4	4	-	-	5	-
	2018-22	2018 AQC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-

## 2 FAQC RATINGS

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Overall rating	Relevance	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability	Gender equality	Risks and Safeguards
Samoa Governance Program	\$7.4m 2015-19	3	3	3	4	2	4	2	5
Samoa Disability Program	\$5.2m 2012-19	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	-
Samoa Cyclone Evan Response and Recovery Program	\$8.1m 2012-18	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	-

### Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all areas. 5 = Good; satisfies criteria in almost all areas.

4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area.

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria and/or fails in at least one major area.

2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas. 1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major area.