

Vanuatu

Australia's aid partnership with Vanuatu

Australia is Vanuatu's largest development, economic, and humanitarian partner, with [A\\$83.3 million in ODA budgeted for 2026-27](#). This partnership supports Vanuatu's development priorities outlined in its [National Sustainable Development Plan \(NSDP\)](#). Australia provides significant support during crises, including a total of [A\\$17 million allocated for relief and reconstruction](#) following the December 2024 earthquake. Vanuatu has a population of approximately 327,000 (2024) and a [Gross National Income Per Capita of US\\$3,890 \(2024\)](#).

Development challenges

Vanuatu ranks [146 out of 193 on the Human Development Index](#) highlighting a need for support overcoming significant development challenges, including:

- Extreme vulnerability to climate disasters
- Economic fragility following climate and COVID-19 disasters
- Limited regional infrastructure and access to critical services
- Childhood malnutrition
- Gender, disability and social inclusion

Priority Sectors

[Australian ODA to Vanuatu by Sector Group, 2026-27 budget estimate:](#)

- Education (27%)
- Governance (22%)
- Economic Infrastructure and Services (20%)
- Health (14%)
- Humanitarian (8%)
- Agriculture, Trade and other Production Sectors (5%)
- Multisector and General Development Support (4%)

Project spotlights

1. [Vanuatu Community-based Climate Resilience Project \(VCCRP\)](#)

Delivered by: Save the Children Australia

Objective: to facilitate one of the Pacific's largest community-based adaptation initiatives to transform how communities in Vanuatu effectively respond to the growing impacts of climate change.

2. [Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change](#)

Delivered by: ActionAid Australia and the Women I TokTok Tugetha (WITTT) network

Objective: to enhance women's leadership in climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, and policy influence.

Sources

- [Australia's Official Development Assistance Budget Summary 2026-27 \(DFAT 2026\)](#)
- [Vanuatu Development Cooperation Factsheet \(DFAT 2026\)](#)
- [Additional Support for Vanuatu Earthquake Recovery \(Senator the Hon Penny Wong 2025\)](#)
- [Vanuatu 2030: National Sustainable Development Plan \(Government of Vanuatu 2016\)](#)
- [Human Development Insights \(United Nations Development Programme 2026\)](#)
- [January 2025 aid news \(Development Policy Centre 2025\)](#)
- [Additional support for Vanuatu earthquake recovery \(Senator the Hon Penny Wong 2025\)](#)
- [Mid Term Review Report: Vanuatu Australia Health Partnership \(VAHP\) \(Specialist Health Service 2023\)](#)
- [Save the Children's Vanuatu Community-based Climate Resilience Project \(VCCRP\)](#)
- [ActionAid's Gender Responsive Alternatives to Climate Change](#)