

Papua New Guinea

Australia's aid partnership with Papua New Guinea (PNG)

Australia will provide [AU\\$680 million in ODA to PNG in 2026–27](#), making it Australia's largest bilateral development partner. Papua New Guinea is our nearest neighbour, just four kilometres from the Torres Strait. Its stability and prosperity are directly tied to Australia's security and regional interests. Our ties are long-standing, shaped by shared history and formalised through the [Comprehensive Strategic and Economic Partnership \(CSEP\)](#). PNG has an estimated [10.6 million people](#) (though census data is unreliable) and a [Gross National Income Per Capita of US\\$2,900 \(2025\)](#).

Development challenges

[PNG ranks 160 out of 193 on the Human Development Index](#), reflecting deep social and economic challenges:

- High rates of maternal and child mortality
- Endemic diseases like TB and malaria
- Limited access to quality education
- Widespread gender-based violence
- Poor rural infrastructure and service delivery

Priority sectors

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

- Economic Infrastructure and Services (30%)
- Governance (29%)
- Health (18%)
- Education (11%)
- Humanitarian (5%)
- Multisector and General Development Support (3%)
- Agriculture, Trade and other Production Sectors (3%)

Project Spotlights

1. [The Goroka Outpost](#)

Delivered by: Femili PNG & FemiliPNG Australia

Objective: to connect survivors of family and sexual violence (FSV) and sorcery accusation related violence (SARV) in the Eastern Highlands to survivor-centred integrated case management services.

2. [WAVE 2– WASH Voices for Empowerment Phase 2](#)

Delivered by: Water for Women & World Vision

Objective: to improve health, gender equality and well-being for people living in South and Middle Fly through climate-resilient inclusive WASH services and systems.

Sources

- [Australia's Official Development Assistance Budget Summary 2026-27 \(DFAT 2026\)](#)
- [Papua New Guinea Development Cooperation Factsheet \(DFAT 2026\)](#)
- [Australia's – Papua New Guinea Development Partnership Plan 2024-2029 \(DFAT 2024\)](#)
- [Papua New Guinea Country Brief \(DFAT 2026\)](#)
- [Papua New Guinea-Australia Comprehensive Strategic and Economic Partnership \(2020\)](#)
- [Human Development Insights \(United Nations Development Programme 2026\)](#)
- [Lowy Institute Pacific Aid Map Papua New Guinea](#)
- [The World Bank In Papua New Guinea \(World Bank 2026\)](#)
- [FemiliPNG Australia](#)
- [Water for Women - Papua New Guinea](#)
- [Oxfam: Our work in Papua New Guinea](#)