

AUSTRALIAN AID TO MANUS PROVINCE

 Australia has invested approximately \$65 million in Manus Province in a range of sectors including infrastructure, health, education, law and justice and economic development. Details of major projects are outlined below.

Infrastructure

- Australia has supported the redevelopment of the Lorengau market. The redevelopment, which was completed in 2015, includes:
 - an increase in the number of stalls (from 480 to 740) and provision for 8 small shops
 - new female toilet and refurbished existing female and male toilets
 - realigned and painted perimeter fence
 - lighting, including security lighting
 - refurbished police outpost
 - children's playground
 - landscaping
 - upgrades to the Manus Provincial Technical Services Division office.
- Australia is funding a road and bridge upgrade on the Momote Lorengau
 Road in partnership with the PNG Department of Works and the Manus
 Provincial Administration. Following an international tender process, the
 contract was won by Shamrock Civil Pty Ltd. Works are expected to be
 completed by the end of 2016.
- The scope of the works on roads and bridges includes the following:

Momote to Lorengau Road

- earthworks for enhancement of flood resilience
- construction of retaining wall and seawalls
- repair, rehabilitation or reconstruction/replacement as necessary of road pavement and drainage structures, and a reseal of the full 26km of road from Momote to Lorengau
- installation of road signage
- line marking

Lorengau Market Square road and drainage

- earthworks to establish adequate grades for storm-water flows across paved areas
- repair, rehabilitation or reconstruction/replacement as necessary of road pavement and drainage structures
- pavement sealing/resealing
- installation of road signage
- line marking

Loniu Bridge and Nuwok Bridges

- installation of new high strength bolts, nuts and washers to replace corroded ones, as determined by a survey of the bridge steelwork and engineering calculations
- replacement or repainting of steel posts, rails and baseplates on the bridge as necessary
- application of a new coating to better protect the bridges against
 Manus's marine environment
- upgrading of pedestrian access making crossings easier and safer for people with disabilities and all pedestrians
- installation of new traffic barriers and approach guardrails

Health

- Australia funded a masterplan for the Lorengau Hospital, and is contributing
 to its implementation by supporting the construction of 12 new staff
 houses. Construction is in progress and is scheduled to be completed in
 2017.
- Australia supported the construction of a fully equipped sexually transmitted infection clinic at Lorengau Hospital. This was opened by the National Department of Health in 2015.
- Australia has also renovated the dental clinic and ablution blocks at Lorengau Hospital. A range of medical and dental equipment was also provided, including:
 - a new digital dental X-ray device a first for a PNG public dental clinic that replaces the need for film processing
 - a machine to test blood samples quickly
 - an incubator for premature infants or infants in intensive care.
- Australia has also supported the distribution of medical supply kits to 62 aid posts, 12 health centres and the Lorengau Hospital, and the distribution of emergency obstetric care medical kits to all 12 health centres and the Lorengau Hospital.

Education

- Australia has provided school kits (comprising a double classroom, an administration office, teacher house and ablution block) to 20 schools sites in Manus:
 - Bipi, M'buke, Baso, N'dilou, N'yada, Harangan, Lau, Pateku, Metyih,
 Mouklen, N'drehet, Lundret, Likum, Metepong, Nohang, Waratalai,
 Andra, Lomoei, Aua and Wuvulu.
- Local communities participated in the construction of the schools, and a team of water and sanitation experts worked with the school communities.
- Australia has also built new ablution toilets, refurbished existing ablution blocks and provided new additional water tanks at the Lombrum Naval Base Primary School.
- Manusians also benefit from the **Australia Awards** program:
 - six people living and working in Manus have been awarded an Australia
 Award for study in Australia since 2015
 - thirty four people have been awarded Australian Awards scholarships for study in PNG in the fields of midwifery, nursing and community health work
 - four people from the Manus Provincial Administration were awarded Australia Awards fellowships to study a Certificate IV in Project Management in 2015.
- Australia has supported the establishment of a PNG-Australia Alumni
 Association (PNGAAA) chapter in Manus. The chapter was launched in
 Manus by the PNGAAA President and Australian Deputy High Commissioner
 with the Manus Provincial Administrator in 2015. There are currently 34
 registered members.
- Australia has also supported the delivery of 28,107 primary school textbooks, 1,456 secondary school textbooks and school fee subsidies for elementary schools, benefitting more than 5,000 children in over 110 schools.

Law and justice

- Australian is funding the reconstruction of the Manus Provincial Police Headquarters.
- The construction of an interim building to house police during the construction of the permanent building has been completed.

 A tender for the construction of the permanent station was awarded to Fletcher Morobe in June 2016. Following a ground breaking ceremony on 1 August 2016, construction of the permanent station has commenced and is expected to take 14 months.

Economic and community development

- Australia is working with the Manus Provincial Government on youth activities, in line with its Youth Policy. Activities focus on sport, income generation for at risk youth, vulnerable women and children, climate change adaptation as well as upgrades to the Manus Training Centre.
- Australia has funded a series of workshops in Manus since 2014 to support
 the development of business skills. The workshops, delivered in
 partnership with the Internal Revenue Commission, National Development
 Bank, Institute of Banking and Business Management, Nationwide Microbank
 and Queensland TAFE, have assisted approximately 750 participants from
 across Manus to develop businesses in a range of industries including IT,
 hospitality, food retail and fuel distribution.
- Australia is also providing support to strengthen financial institutions and services in the province, through the provision of a management information system to the Manus Savings and Loans Society, and financial literacy training for members of the village banks and communities.
- Australia is also strengthening the capacity of communities in Manus to adapt to climate change and improving community capacity to sustainably manage forestry, marine and natural resources. This includes:
 - exploring opportunities for seaweed, fish and atoll farming
 - training communities to protect and manage mangroves as a buffer against rising sea levels
 - increasing awareness on climate change induced risk and related adaptation measures.
- Australia has provided recording and editing equipment for Radio Manus, including laptop computers, portable recording devices and headphones.
 Radio Manus will use the equipment to provide training in radio production techniques and live presentation.