



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND
PAPUA NEW GUINEA ON FURTHER BILATERAL COOPERATION ON HEALTH,
EDUCATION AND LAW AND ORDER**

Update as at 4 May 2017

- The Joint Understanding (JU) was signed by Prime Minister O'Neill and former Prime Minister Rudd on 19 July 2013.
- Under the JU, Australia committed \$420 million of assistance to:
 - (i) fund 50% of the redevelopment of Lae ANGAU Hospital and contribute to the costs of senior management personnel;
 - (ii) deploy an additional 50 Australian Police in Port Moresby and Lae;
 - (iii) rehabilitate essential infrastructure at the University of PNG and support twinning and exchange with Australian institutions;
 - (iv) scope and design the Lower Courts complex in Port Moresby;
 - (v) scope and design the Madang-Ramu Highway; and
 - (vi) recruit senior positions in the Royal PNG Constabulary, and National Departments of Health and Education.
- The JU Joint Implementation Framework was signed by the Australian High Commissioner and the PNG Chief Secretary on 10 January 2014.
 - The Joint Understanding Consultative Committee has met five times.

**Australia to fund 50% of the redevelopment of Lae ANGAU Hospital and
contribute to the costs of senior management personnel**

- It was agreed at the Ministerial Forum in March 2016 that Australia should proceed with some elements of the redevelopment using its funding, whilst continuing to explore options for PNG co-funding in accordance with the terms of the JU.
- The Master Plan for the Lae ANGAU Hospital was finalised in June 2015.
- In July 2015, a new CEO of ANGAU Hospital commenced following an international recruitment process which was undertaken in conjunction with the PNG Departments of Personnel Management and Health.
 - Australia is funding the non-salary component of the CEO position.

- The first phase of redevelopment works commenced in September 2015. These works, valued at approximately K25 million, were designed to improve service delivery and prepare for the commencement of major works at the hospital.
 - The first phase included the construction of a new operating theatre, 20-bed ward and stand-alone dental clinic.
- Australia also undertook K25 million in infrastructure upgrades to increase student capacity at the Lae School of Nursing, which is located at ANGAU Hospital.
 - This work was completed in early 2017.
- A consultant to oversee major redevelopment works at ANGAU Hospital commenced work in January 2017.
 - The next phase of redevelopment works is progressing as planned.

Additional 50 Australian Police in Port Moresby and Lae

- All 50 Australian Federal Police (AFP) were deployed before the end of 2013 in Port Moresby and Lae under a Memorandum of Understanding for deployment signed by the AFP and Royal PNG Constabulary Commissioners (RPNGC).
 - The PNG-Australia Ministerial Forum in December 2014 agreed to a re-shaping of the deployment to increase its focus on the professionalism of the RPNGC, combating family and sexual violence, major event security and increased training in Australia.

Rehabilitation of essential infrastructure at University of PNG (UPNG) and support for twinning and exchange with Australian institutions

- Australia has agreed to fund a package of major infrastructure upgrades at UPNG.
 - Construction of the Student Services Building and new Lecture Theatre are underway and will be completed in late 2017.
- Australia has also funded infrastructure and maintenance upgrades including security lighting upgrades to key campus pathways and ICT upgrades to the Main Lecture Theatre.
- Arrangements for twinning and exchange programs with Australian tertiary institutions have been finalised.
 - In April 2015, UPNG agreed a twinning MoU with James Cook University (JCU) for support to improve teaching and learning services.
 - JCU have commenced delivery of the Graduate Certificate of Education (Academic Practice) to selected UPNG academics.

Scoping and Design of the Lower Courts Complex in Port Moresby

- The scoping and design of the Lower Court Complex (Magisterial Services), including a masterplan and architectural designs has been finalised.

Scoping and Design Study of the Madang – Ramu Highway

- The scoping and design study of the Ramu Highway is being managed by the Australian-funded PNG-Australia Transport Sector Support Program (TSSP).
 - The PNG Department of Works (DoW) approved the approach for the scoping and design study tender in March 2014.
 - Following an international competitive tender process, the contract for the scoping and design study was awarded to the Ramu Gateway Joint Venture in November 2014.
- The scoping study has been finalised and the design phase of this study has commenced.

Recruitment of senior positions in PNG Police, Correctional Services and National Departments of Health and Education

- The Government of PNG has not yet identified the positions for which it wishes to utilise Australian assistance. Any positions to be filled will be identified through the Joint Understanding Consultative Committee.