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**PAPUA NEW GUINEA (PNG)**

- Strategic purpose of our defence relationship with PNG:
  - Assist the PNG Defence Force (PNGDF) to be a capable and professional regional security partner, ably supported by the PNG Department of Defence.
  - Help develop the PNGDF's capacity to secure its borders, contribute to United Nations (UN) and multilateral peacekeeping missions, and cooperate with the ADF in areas such as disaster relief.
  - Contribute to maintaining stability and cohesion in our near region.
- Provide assistance through the Defence Cooperation Program, with a PNG DCP budget for 2013-14 of over \$25 million. This is Australia's largest DCP with any country.
- 27 in-line officers, ADF and civilian advisers and liaison officers provide in-country support to the Defence Cooperation Program.
- Recent and planned activities:
  - The Governments of PNG and Australia signed a Defence Cooperation Arrangement on 10 May 2013 to guide deeper practical cooperation under an enhanced DCP.
  - Through the DCP, Australia has contracted two helicopters for use by the PNGDF to manage election logistics challenges and to assist in reinvigorating the PNGDF's long-term aviation capability.
  - Operation RENDER SAFE, a multinational explosive ordnance disposal activity led by the ADF, will occur in Torokina, Bougainville in late 2014 at the request of the Autonomous Bougainville Government.
  - Exercise OLGETA WARRIOR, our major annual bilateral exercise with the PNGDF (comprising of infantry, engineering, planning, rotary wing and logistics components), occurred between September and October 2013.
  - Australia will continue to provide training and force preparation assistance to support PNG's participation in African Union/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).
  - In Financial Years 2013-14, Project Halivim Poroman is enhancing PNGDF standards of living through the rehabilitation of HMPNGS Tarangau, Manus.

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