

This memorandum of understanding is agreed on the 6th day of May 2021

Between

High Commissioner Jon Philp

Representing the Australian High Commission, Port Moresby

And

Governor Taboi Awi Yoto

Representing the Western Provincial Government

Commitment

Australia shares strong ties with Papua New Guinea through our people to people links, common history, and deep cultural bonds. As our closest neighbour sharing a border, Western province has a unique place in the PNG-Australia partnership.

The Australian High Commission and the Western Provincial Government have a long history of working together, particularly in protecting and maintaining the Torres Strait.

The *Comprehensive Strategic and Economic Partnership* agreed by Papua New Guinea and Australia frames our deeper engagement in Western Province. We remain committed to exploring how we can expand our partnership going forward. This will include progressing a jointly agreed Western Province Strategy to support Australia's whole of government long-term engagement, aligned with the *Western Province Development Plan 'A New Way Forward'*.

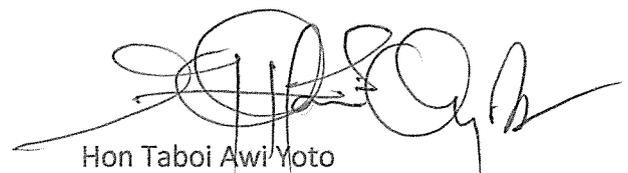
The Australian High Commission is committed to supporting the Western Provincial Government as it responds to the COVID-19 pandemic. We remain committed to supporting improvements to health, sustainable economic development, and infrastructure. Attachment A lists commitments between the two parties, and may be amended as additional commitments are made.

The Australian High Commission is honoured to continue building a strong and long-lasting partnership with the Western Provincial Government.

Signatures



HE Jon Philp
Australian High Commissioner



Hon Taboi Awi Yoto
Governor of Western

Australia's Support to Western Province

Health support – PGK 26 million

Working with the Provincial Health Authority to strengthen COVID-19 prevention and treatment and support vaccine rollout. Strengthening the Provincial Health Authority to deliver essential services including childhood immunisation (PGK2 million per annum), HIV treatment and to deliver a TB program to reduce the spread of drug-resistant TB (PGK24 million per annum).

Maritime infrastructure – PGK 9 million

Australia has committed PGK9 million to repair the barge ramp, causeway and implement a range of maintenance activities at Daru Port. This will help facilitate to movement of goods and people in and out of the area.

Electrification – PGK 3 million

Committed PGK3 million to replace PNG Power's diesel generators to stabilise the Daru electricity grid. This will restore 1MW of reliable power.

Daru Hospital Upgrades – PGK 6.5 million

Australia has been implementing PGK6.5 million of priority upgrades at Daru General Hospital over the past six months. This includes bulk waste removal, improving WASH facilities, toilets and power supply, and constructing a new pathology laboratory.

Bosset Sub-Health Centre – PGK 10 million

Through the Incentive Fund, Australia has provided PGK9.87 million grant to upgrade the health centre at Bosset. The project, which is being delivered in partnership with Catholic Health Services Kiunga, was the first ever by the Incentive Fund in Western Province.

Agriculture and Food Security – PGK 3.8 million

Through the Incentive Fund, we have also just commenced a PGK3.8 million food security and commercial rice production project in partnership with the Ok Tedi Development Foundation. The project aligns with the Western Province Master Plan for Agriculture and will help support the province's vision for improved food security and productivity.

Portable Health Clinics – PGK 1.2 million

Australia delivered two portable health clinics to Daru and Kiunga as part of the COVID19 response in 2020 (PGK1.2 million). These clinics have been installed in Daru and Kiunga and are providing additional facilities at these hospitals, including for COVID-19 testing.

Mabudawan Health Centre – PGK 19 million

Mabudawan Health Centre (construction funded by DFAT in partnership with ADB at a cost of around PGK17 million) was opened in October 2020 with support from Australia and is providing a high quality service to residents of Mabudawan Village and surrounds, averaging over 600 occasions of service per month. . Australia is constructing a new jetty at the Health Centre to improve patient access and consistent delivery of medical supplies and equipment at an estimated cost of PGK2 million.

Proposed Radio Transmitter Upgrade - TBA

Australia is scoping options to expand radio communications across Western Province through the installation of a new medium wave radio transmitter. The proposed support has the potential to enhance the dissemination of reliable information in Western, particularly for health messaging (including vaccine roll-out), and communications for the 2022 elections.

South Fly Resilience Plan - PGK 26 million

The Ranger Program in partnership with World Vision will support improved food and water security to promote sustainable economic development in up to 40 wards in South Fly (PGK26 million until 2022).

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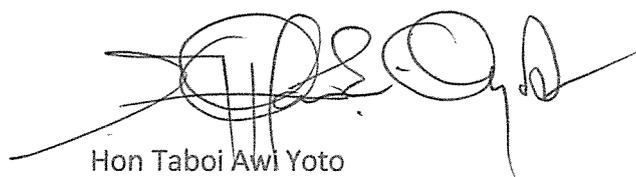
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