



Australia-Philippines Development Cooperation Program

Total Official Development Assistance estimate 2010-11:
A\$118.1 million (approx Php4.7 billion)

The Australian Government Aid Program is committed to working in partnership with developing countries, especially in the Asia-Pacific region, to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development.

As regional neighbours, Australia and the Philippines share a common objective of maintaining economic growth and stability in South East Asia.

A key area where the Australia-Philippines partnership remains strong is in development cooperation, which spans more than 50 years starting with the Colombo Plan - an initiative launched by Commonwealth countries to help strengthen the economies of South and South East Asia.

Australia's aid program in the Philippines is centred on three focus areas: **basic education, economic growth, and national stability and human security.**

Australian assistance to the Philippines in 2010-11 will focus on:

Basic Education, through support for programs under the Philippine Government's Basic Education Sector Reform Agenda to assist the Philippines to achieve its Millennium Development Goal target for universal primary education, including: school based management; rationalisation of teacher deployments to ensure coverage of remote schools; dissemination of teaching and learning materials; school classroom construction; and improving access to quality education for Filipino girls and boys with disabilities, Muslim and indigenous children and children in disadvantaged and conflict-affected areas, including in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

Economic Growth, through programs that focus on increasing the quality and level of government expenditure on social services and infrastructure, supporting improvements to national level budgeting and public financial management, and improving public sector management of road infrastructure at the provincial level.

National Stability and Human Security, through support for peace building programs focussed at the community level, provision of economic opportunities through small scale infrastructure development and microfinance, and improved delivery of health services. Funding is provided to support efforts to reduce the high maternal mortality rate in the Philippines, improve disaster preparedness and response capability, and strengthen the social protection system through the Philippine Government's Conditional Cash Transfer program.

The Australian Government Aid Program is administered largely by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and also by other agencies such as the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Infrastructure and Transport, Geoscience Australia, the Bureau of Meteorology, the Australian Defence Force and the Australian Federal Police.

Aid investments totalling over Php30 billion (approx A\$770 million) since 1998 are a clear indication of Australia's commitment to assist the Philippines to address its development challenges.

The Philippines aid program has grown significantly over the years to become one of Australia's largest globally. Australia is now one the Philippines' three largest bilateral grant aid donors including Japan and the United States.

ONGOING INITIATIVES

Basic Education

Australia is a major supporter (Php2 billion annually) to the Philippines as it seeks to reform the basic education system and improve education outcomes for Filipino children. Australian aid in the poorer areas of the southern Philippines, including training of 32,000 teachers, has contributed to a 21 per cent improvement in test results. With Australian support, since 2004 over 35,000 children in remote communities now have access to education.

Support to Philippine Basic Education Reforms (SPHERE) Trust Fund

A\$41 million (Php1.64 billion), 2007-2011

Supports the Basic Education Sector Reform Agenda, which aims to improve the quality of schools and teachers, increase community involvement and support for schools, improve the effectiveness of the Department of Education (DepEd) to support schools and teachers, and improve educational outcomes for Filipino children. Administered by the World Bank and implemented by the DepEd.

Strengthening Basic Education in the Visayas (STRIVE)

A\$19.2 million (Php768 million), 2005-2011

Develops, supports and strengthens education management and learning support systems in the Visayas for improved access to quality basic education, within the national Basic Education Sector Reform Agenda.

Education Performance Incentive Partnership (EPIP)

A\$15 million (Php600 million), 2007-2011

Supports more effective allocation of education resources through a performance-based incentives program where DepED and AusAID agree to annual achievement targets: (i) shift to pro-poor allocation mechanism of DepED's Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses to schools, and (ii) the national automation of its Human Resources Information System. Performance grants are directly transferred by AusAID to a DepED designated account on DepED's achievement of agreed performance targets.

Rehabilitation of Classrooms and School Facilities in Typhoon-Affected Areas in Metro Manila
A\$3 million (Php120 million), 2010-2011

Package of assistance provided to DepED to rehabilitation of classrooms and school facilities affected in 160 schools in Metro Manila affected by typhoon Ondoy. This includes replacement of damaged ICT equipment and textbooks.

Economic Growth

Provincial Road Management Facility (PRMF)
A\$100 million (Php4 billion), 2008-2013

Assists the Philippine Government rehabilitate and maintain more than 1000km of provincial roads in up to 10 provinces in Mindanao and the Visayas.

Philippines-Australia Human Resource and Organisational Development Facility (PAHRODF)

A\$60 million (Php2.3 billion), 2010-2015 (www.pahrodf.org.ph)

A flagship program supporting human resource management, capacity building, and organisational development. It provides a range of support to selected Philippine organisations, including Australia Awards scholarships and customised short-term training programs. Since 2005, under the predecessor program, Australia has provided over 500 scholarships and assisted numerous government and non-government organisations with administrative and organisational reform. From 2010 to 2015 the program will deliver each year approximately 80 Australia Awards scholarships and will assist 10 to 12 partner organisations annually.

Philippines-Australia Community Assistance Program (PACAP)
A\$30 million (Php1.2 billion), 2005-2011 (www.pacap.org.ph)

Provides direct assistance to poor communities in the Philippines to empower them to pursue economic growth and achieve better standards of living. PACAP started in 1986 and has benefited millions of Filipinos nationwide.

National Stability and Human Security

Australia is working with the Philippine Government and other donors in efforts to restore and sustain peace and development in Mindanao and improve the delivery of basic and social services in conflict affected areas. With Australian support over 9,000 people in conflict affected communities have benefitted from improved access to water, education and health services, better crop storage facilities and better roads to access markets.

Government of the Philippines-UN Multi-Donor Program/ACT for Peace (www.actforpeace.ph)

A\$34.4 million (Php1.3 billion)

Assists in rebuilding conflict affected communities in Mindanao through livelihood development, peace building and capacity building. Implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in partnership with the Mindanao Economic Development Council, local governments and NGOs.

Mindanao Trust Fund-Reconstruction and Development Program (MTF-RDP)

A\$700,000 (Php28 million)

Managed by the World Bank, the MTF is a pool of resources from several international partners in a single program to support the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) – Philippine Government peace negotiations. MTF-RDP aims to promote effective governance processes and assist economic and social recovery in the Bangsamoro areas of Mindanao.

Supporting Peace in Mindanao (SPIM)

A\$7 million (Php280 million)

SPIM is an overarching program for a range of peace initiatives in Mindanao. Supports the important role of women, youth, media and interfaith groups in peace-building and conflict prevention in Mindanao. It includes support to Mindanao Commission on Women, National Interfaith Dialogue, and Conflict-Resolving Media Course for journalists.

Roll Back Malaria

A\$7.4 million (Php296 million), 2004-2011

Implemented in partnership with the World Health Organization and the Department of Health, since 2007 the project has helped six provinces in the southern Philippines to become malaria free. The project aims to reduce malaria transmission, morbidity and mortality in high incidence provinces of Mindanao by 50 percent.

United Nations Joint Program on Reducing Maternal and Neonatal Mortality

A\$5.7 million (Php228 million), 2009-11

Contributes to the attainment of MDGs 4 and 5 by reducing maternal and newborn mortality. Australian support has funded the training of hundreds of doctors and midwives to provide better basic obstetric and newborn care and health information for mothers in the poorest provinces of the Philippines.

Emergency and Humanitarian Response

A\$14.6 million (Php584 million), 2006-2011

Supports the Philippine Government - with other donor agencies and local and international NGOs - respond to emergencies, and address the impacts of conflicts, crises and disasters on vulnerable populations. Australia has provided a total of A\$14.6 million in relief assistance for food, shelter, health care and clean water since 2006 with A\$11 million in response to the impacts of typhoons Ketsana and Parma in 2009.

Disaster and Climate Risk Management

A\$19.76 million (Php790 million), 2006-2013

Supports the Philippine Government - with other donor agencies and local and international NGOs - in enhancing the capacity of national government agencies, local government units and communities, in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Assistance has included identifying and addressing disaster and climate hazards and risks and increasing the resiliency of vulnerable communities. Australia has provided A\$10.6 million since 2006 and committed an additional A\$9.16 million until 2013 to support the implementation of new policies and disaster and climate risk management activities, including responding to rehabilitation requirements of the Greater Metro Manila Area.

Direct Aid Program (DAP)

Supports projects which directly contribute to the welfare and the income-generating capacity of poor or disadvantaged groups, or enhance the long-term productivity and sustainability of the physical environment. Maximum of PhP 275,000 per project, in partnership with various organisations.

Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)

Supports research initiatives in the Philippines which have made important progress in animal and plant health and productivity, postharvest grain handling and storage, fisheries, land management, forestry, and agricultural systems and economic management studies.

Australian Volunteers

Young Australian men and women volunteer and work abroad to apply their skills and expertise to assist development projects and help strengthen mutual understanding between Australia and its neighbors in the Asia-Pacific Region. **Australian Youth Ambassadors for Development (AYAD)** work for 6 to 12 months on assignments identified by host organisations in developing countries to meet specific needs. Other Australian volunteer groups operating in the Philippines are the **Australian Business Volunteers (ABV)**, and **Volunteering for International Development from Australia (VIDA)**.

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