



Australia — Philippines Transport Cooperation

- Australia and the Philippines have a strong relationship across the transport sector which focuses on the key areas of transport safety and security, transport planning and international transport cooperation.
- Since 2005, expenditure on transport security cooperation projects with the Philippines has been approximately AUD \$5.45 million (approx Php 218 million). For financial year 2010-2011ⁱ planned expenditure is AUD \$0.158 million (approx Php 6.32 million).
- Education, training and capacity building are major priorities for Australia's transport safety and security engagement with the Philippines. Areas of assistance have included the Philippines-Australia Port Security Capacity Building Project, completed June 2009, workshops on Inter-agency Border Strengthening during 2007-2009; sponsored attendance at international seminars and training and Australian Leadership Awards – Fellowships (training and secondments) in Australia
- During FY 2011/12 Australia will continue assisting the Philippines in areas of maritime and aviation safety and security, including the Philippines Aviation Security Training Assistance (PASTA) Program; the APEC Aviation Security Capacity Building Project 2010-2012; and the Pilot APEC Maritime Partnerships Project 2010-2012.
- In March 2009, Australia and the Philippines concluded negotiations on a new Air Services Agreement, creating greater opportunities for flights to and from our two countries through increased seating capacity and new routes. The Agreement will have an economic benefit to both Australia and the Philippines as our bilateral aviation relationship develops and expands.
- Australia has also been assisting the Philippines in the area of surface (road) transport. In April 2008, Australia co-hosted a Mass Passenger Surface Transport Security Seminar in Manila. The aim of the seminar was to discuss and promote best practices security for mass passenger surface transport systems. Assistance has also been provided in the areas of national transport planning and the issue of truck overloading in cooperation with the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) and has included the preparation of a National Transport Policy Framework; a review of the institutional and legislative framework to combat truck overloading and a pilot project for managing truck overloading.
- Australia looks forward to continuing to work closely with the Philippines on transport matters into the future, not only through the provision of capacity building assistance but also as a partner in various forums such as APEC, ASEAN Regional Forum, the International Maritime Organization and International Civil Aviation Organization. We value this strong relationship and appreciate the ongoing cooperative efforts to enhance international transport security policies and implementation.

ⁱ The Australian financial year is used for all accounting, taxation and budgeting purposes, and runs from July 1 to June 31 of the next year.