



Australian High Commission
Papua New Guinea



**Highlights of Australia's development assistance
to the Autonomous Region of Bougainville –
July 2012 to June 2014**



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The document should be attributed as: Commonwealth of Australia, Australian High Commission, Port Moresby, *Highlights of Australia's development assistance to the Autonomous Region of Bougainville – July 2012 to June 2014*

Contact

Inquiries about this document should be directed to:

Australian High Commission
Godwit Road, Waigani NCD
Port Moresby
Papua New Guinea

Phone: +675 325 9333

Fax: +675 325 9183

Published by the Australian High Commission, Port Moresby, August 2014.
Artwork by Great Impressions
Printed by Elect Printing Pty Ltd

Cover image: Resealed section of road near Arawa, Bougainville, 22 February 2014

Highlights of Australia's development assistance to Bougainville over the past two years in the following essential areas: Health, Education, Law and Justice, Transport infrastructure, and Governance.

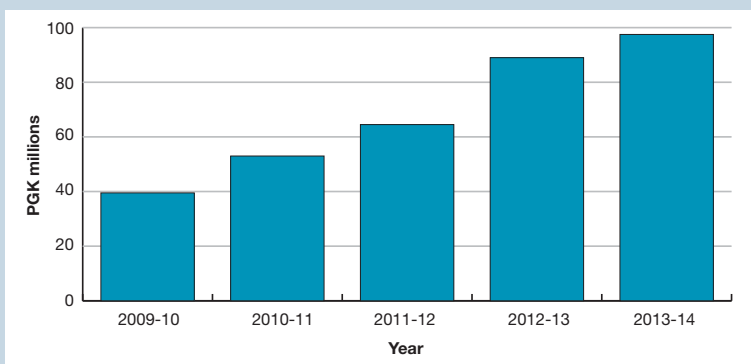
Australia has been increasing its assistance to Bougainville in support of the Bougainville Peace Agreement (BPA), to which Australia is a witness. In 2013-14, Australia provided nearly PGK100 million in assistance.

The bulk of Australia's assistance to Bougainville has been provided through our national programs in health, education, transport infrastructure, and law and justice. Support in these sectors is aimed at improving service delivery across Bougainville.

Australia also gives Bougainville special consideration due to its post-conflict status, providing additional advisory support through the Provincial and Local level Governments Program and targeted assistance through the Governance and Implementation Fund, to help implement autonomy and public sector reform, support economic development and improve governance.

Australia is also keen to increase its support in the area of economic development, expanding on the work already underway through the aid program.

The figure below illustrates the level to which our assistance has increased over the past five years.



Health

In 2012 and 2013, Australia provided medical kits containing essential medical supplies from quality-assured organisations, improving the availability of medicines across the region.

Australia provided medical kits to

- Buka General Hospital;
- 32 health centres; and
- 162 aid posts,

plus cold chain equipment to five health facilities with poor immunisation coverage.

Australia built three new clinics in Buka, Arawa and Buin, and conducted a scoping study of the Buka General Hospital's infrastructure needs to inform the future redevelopment of hospital facilities.



Left: Arawa STI Clinic, October 2013 | Right: Buin STI Clinic, 21 February 2014

Australia supports CARE International’s Komuniti Tingim AIDS Youth Project, which works with young people, communities, leaders and service-providers to reduce HIV transmission and improve sexual and reproductive health among the young men and women of Bougainville.

In 2013, Australia provided six health scholarships for students currently living and working in Bougainville. These included four Midwifery Awards and two Community Health Worker Training Awards. Australia is providing a technical adviser to the ABG Department of Health.



Sipatako Aid Post, Panguna

Education

Between 2012 and 2014, Australia built a double classroom, teacher's house, office and an ablution block in 20 primary schools across Bougainville.

This support has improved the learning environment in the selected schools, reduced class sizes and improved health and hygiene.

As a result of Australia's investment in education infrastructure in Bougainville, up to 1,600 students have access to a better learning environment and improved health and hygiene facilities.

In 2012 and 2013, Australia supported the roll-out of the PNG Government's Tuition Fee Free Education Policy, which directly benefited more than 50,000 Bougainvillean children and their families.



Left: Tinputz Primary School, 22 February 2014 | Right: Asitavi Primary School, 20 February 2014



Koromira Primary School, 21 February 2014

The table below shows beneficiary schools

North Bougainville	Central Bougainville	South Bougainville
Lemanmanu, Hahela, Ubuko, Kunua, Sohano, laun, Tekoknih	Koromira, Sipatako, Peter Lahis (Arawa urban), Tupukas, Wakunai, Asitavi, Kongara	Tabago, Iruh, Ugubakogu, Laguai, Tonu

Law and justice

Australia has invested in restoring Bougainville's law and justice sector.

In the last two years, Australia has provided significant support for infrastructure rehabilitation, including:

- construction of dormitories at the Bougainville Police Service (BPS) Training Centre in Buka
- construction of police accommodation in Buka, Wakunai, Tinputz, Arawa and Buin for more than 100 BPS officers;
- refurbishment and additions to the Buka and Wakunai police stations, including the opening of Family and Sexual Violence Unit, police Q-Store and cell block;
- construction of a law and justice sector training centre in Arawa;
- construction of a court house in Buin;
- construction of community justice centres in Tinputz, Wakunai and Torokina; and
- construction of a family violence safe house for women in Buin, and a market upgrade in Buka.



Court House in Buin, 20 February 2014

Australia's investment in the construction of courts and community justice centres has contributed to increased court circuits, which are now operating in five different locations. (In 2009, the national court circuted only Buka and Arawa.)

Australia funds three long-term advisors focused on:

- training and human resources;
- service delivery facilitation; and
- planning, budgeting and reporting (with a focus on supporting agencies to understand, access and track their own budgets).

Training has been provided to the BPS in a range of areas, including:

- family sexual violence;
- ethics training;
- prosecution mentoring; and
- basic computer training.



Left: Computer training at the BPS Training Centre | Right: Eight person dormitory at the BPS Training Centre

Transport infrastructure

Australia maintains around 425 kilometres of Bougainville's 600 kilometre main road network.

This includes the coastal trunk road between Kokopau and Buin, and key sections of the western route from Panguna to Buin.

In addition to improving access to basic services, Australia's road maintenance program is helping to expand market opportunities and increase local incomes from the export of primary produce, such as cocoa.

Moreover, trunk road rehabilitation and maintenance have created, and continue to create, employment opportunities for many Bougainvilleans.



Resealed section of road near Arawa, 22 February 2014

Capital investment encouraged through Australia's assistance has helped to build up and sustain a local contractor base. And the participation of paid community road teams, to clear vegetation from roadsides and maintain drainage systems, has increased employment along the length of the road, particularly for women.

In 2012 and 2013, Australia funded two major resealing projects around Arawa. The first was a five kilometre section between Arawa and Tunuru, the second a 14.4 kilometre stretch between Morgan Junction and the Arakawau River bridge.

About 80 per cent of Bougainville's population, schools and health facilities are within seven kilometres of the roads Australia maintains, ensuring that our support has a wide impact.

Australia maintains hundreds of kilometres of gravel road. This allows us to spread our assistance more widely, meaning greater numbers of Bougainvilleans benefit.



Gravel road near Kangu Wharf Buin, 30 April 2014

Governance

The Governance and Implementation Fund (GIF) is a joint Australian and New Zealand initiative aimed at building the capacity of the ABG in a number of strategic areas:

- **autonomy and awareness of the BPA;**
- **governance;**
- **economic development; and**
- **human capital investment.**

In the last year, Australia funded long term and short-term advisers in Bougainville in key areas of governance, including:

- policy development;
- legislative drafting;
- procurement and contracts;
- planning, budget and finance;
- weapons disposal;
- human resources; and
- taxation and revenue.



Koromira High School Science Laboratory



Left: Refurbished BPS accommodation in Arawa | Right: Staff at work in the refurbished Human Resources Division

Through advisory services and non advisory technical assistance, Australia is strengthening the governance and administrative capacities of the ABG.

Highlights of the GIF's 2013 and 2014 work plans include:

- technical and advisory support for the draw-down of Public Service powers and establishment of the Bougainville Public Service;
- roll-out of shared email and internet access to ABG departments, facilitating better communication and data storage refurbishment of the Department of Human Resources office;
- ongoing support to the Program Management Unit to manage GIF and other development projects in Bougainville more effectively, including projects under the Special Intervention Fund;
- completion of over 60 infrastructure projects, including a high school science laboratory in Koromira, nurses' accommodation in Buka, school infrastructure at Sipai, Kawetsia, and Torokina, and health facilities at Koromira, Sipatoko and the Beikut correctional facility.

Highlights of Australia's planned assistance in the next 12 months July 2014 to June 2015


In Health, Australia will build health infrastructure in partnership with the Asian Development Bank's *Rural and Primary Health Services Delivery Project*, including the construction of two new community health posts in central and south Bougainville.

In Education, Australia will construct further classrooms, teacher houses and ablution blocks across Bougainville. This will improve access to education and assist in growing school communities by providing houses for new teachers.

In Law and Justice, Australia will continue to provide training support and mentoring to the BPS and other law and justice agencies. More funding for infrastructure will be given, building on the significant infrastructure support we have provided over the last two years.

In Transport, Australia will continue to repair and maintain hundreds of kilometres of Bougainville's main road network, and look to seal another section of road in Central Bougainville. We will also turn our attention more to South Bougainville, with additional funding earmarked for maintenance of the region's roads.

Australia will expand its efforts to help the ABG and PNG Government to implement the **Bougainville Peace Agreement**. In doing so, we will be providing increased advisory support in a range of key areas including: planning and delivery of infrastructure; human resources; public financial management; organisational management and planning; policy making; legal advice and drafting; peace building; communications; law and justice; and health.

The top of the page features a blue header with a faint, light-colored world map. The map shows the continents in a lighter shade of blue against a darker blue background.

The **Governance and Implementation Fund** will be expanded and pursue a number of high profile projects. Examples include the roll-out of shared email and internet access across the ABG, facilitating better communication and data storage; support to the Division of Human Resources to recruit new public servants to fill the many vacancies across the public service; expansion of the GIF's adult literacy program; and delivery of key infrastructure projects, including Council of Elders facilities in Panguna, Tinputz and Kunua, a state house complex in Arawa and refurbishment of the Office of the Chief Secretary.

Australia will build on its support for **Economic Development** in Bougainville. Creating an environment conducive to economic growth in Bougainville will require Australia's support in health, education, law and justice, and transport infrastructure to continue. A healthier, better educated, safer and more accessible Bougainville will provide solid foundations for growth. Australia will also provide more direct support for economic development in the year ahead. For example, Australia will support ABG efforts to increase internal revenue and support the ABG to improve the capacity of the divisions of agriculture and commerce to manage public investment. Australia will also explore other opportunities for support in close consultation with the ABG, including in the agriculture sector.

