

## Australia in Africa

Australia's presence in Africa is expanding.

The Australian Government has increased diplomatic relations with African countries from 41 in 2007 to all 54 countries today. It has also strengthened relationships with the main regional organisations.

Australia's engagement with Africa is underpinned by growing commercial relations; particularly in the resources sector, with AUD 50 billion in current and prospective investment and over 200 Australian companies involved in 650 projects in 37 countries. Australia's bilateral goods trade with Africa is now AUD 9 billion and has grown 7 per cent annually over the past decade.

With its strong presence, Australia is well-placed to work effectively with African governments to achieve their development priorities. Australia seeks to:

- support African efforts to promote economic growth and prosperity through investment and trade;
- demonstrate a strong and meaningful commitment to capacity building; and
- address peace and security challenges.

In addition, Australia is establishing and strengthening new partnerships with African institutions, including the African Development Bank, the African Union and regional organisations. AusAID also works with other donors to reduce duplication and fragmentation of aid efforts to maximise the effectiveness of Australia's aid program.



An initiative of the Australian Government

**Australian  
AID** 

## Contact us

### AusAID

AusAID contact details for Australian diplomatic posts in Accra, Addis Ababa, Canberra, Harare, Nairobi and Pretoria are available on the 'Contact us' page of the AAPF website.

For information about AusAID, visit [www.usaid.gov.au](http://www.usaid.gov.au)

### AAPF

The AAPF project management office is in Pretoria, South Africa. For general enquiries:

Tel: +27 (0) 12 362 5950

Email: [info@aa-partnerships.org](mailto:info@aa-partnerships.org)



For information on submitting a proposal, funding procedures and the proposal submission form, visit the AAPF website, [www.aa-partnerships.org](http://www.aa-partnerships.org)

# Australia-Africa Partnerships Facility

Australia's partnership and development program in Africa  
[www.aa-partnerships.org](http://www.aa-partnerships.org)



The AAPF is managed by Cardno Emerging Markets (Australia) Pty Ltd on behalf of AusAID

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## About the AAPF

The Australian Government established the Australia-Africa Partnerships Facility (AAPF) to support capacity building efforts of partner governments and institutions in Africa.

AusAID, the Australian Government's international development agency, manages the AAPF in cooperation with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

The AAPF's goal is to develop partnerships between Australia and African countries and institutions that contribute to achieving African development objectives.

To attain this goal, the AAPF seeks to:

- build effective partnerships for the sustainable achievement of African development priorities; and
- build and promote effective working relationships between Australian and African governments and institutions.

## What we do

The AAPF is a demand-driven program that responds to requests from African partner governments and institutions to provide support and funding for targeted activities. The activities we support primarily focus on mining governance, agriculture and food security and public policy – sectors in which Australia has significant experience and expertise.

AAPF activities include training; study tours; secondments and broader professional development assignments; applied research and both short- and long-term advisory support.

A panel of experts, known as the Africa Program Support Group (APSG), provides technical and sector expertise to assist the development of the Facility's activities.



## Where we work

Since its foundation in 2010, 51 of the 54 African countries have participated in AAPF activities. During this time the Facility has focused its support in three main sectors:

### Agriculture and food security

AAPF's focus on agriculture and food security responds to the high priority afforded the sector by African governments and to relevant areas of Australia's acknowledged agricultural expertise. Recently funded activities include capacity building initiatives in agricultural research and extension; biosecurity; bush fire management; meat and dairy technology; Newcastle Disease control; and climate change.



### Mining governance

AAPF support for mining governance takes place within the context of AusAID's Mining for Development (M4D) program. Mining governance is taken as the range of public policies that are needed to help ensure the sustainable development impact of the exploitation of minerals. Areas of support include mining legislation; resource surveys; public financial management of natural resources; environmental and social assessments; and skills assessments and training.



### Public policy

AAPF support for the public policy sector in Africa gives priority to economic governance and reform, although a range of activities are supported including: strengthening parliamentary processes; public financial management; foreign affairs and trade; peace building; counter-piracy; and electoral procedures.



## How we work

The AAPF identifies activities for support via a three-step process:

1. Submitted proposals are assessed by the relevant Australian diplomatic post.
2. Approved proposals are appraised by AusAID, and prepared into viable activity designs with clear objectives, outcomes and monitoring.
3. Fully designed activities are submitted for funding approval by AusAID and DFAT.

## Empowering African women

The Australian Government is committed to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – agreed targets set by the world's nations to reduce poverty by 2015.

Consistent with the MDGs, Australia's aid program in Africa promotes equal opportunities for women and men as participants and beneficiaries of development. Furthermore, AusAID seeks to empower women to participate in the economy, leadership and education.

In 2011-12, about 30 per cent of participants in AAPF activities were women and there has been a steady increase in women's participation over time. The AAPF designs activities that promote gender equality.