

A selection of our projects

Digital Development



Through the *Pacific Regional Connectivity Program*, the Pacific is being connected to faster, cheaper and more reliable internet. Fiber-optic cables have been, or will soon be, connected in the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Palau, Samoa and Tonga. In Tonga, this work has increased broadband access from 2% of the population in 2010 to 50% in 2018, and reduced the average retail cost of broadband internet by 97%.

Our support is also helping to connect outer islands to broadband, establish the foundations for digital government services, and strengthen the regulatory environment for the digital economy.

Resilience & Land



Pacific Island countries are at the forefront of climate change and disasters. In partnership with the Pacific Community (SPC), the *Pacific Resilience Program* is helping Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu to build early warning systems, strengthen disaster policies and community resilience, and is providing support for a regional disaster insurance scheme to ensure quick access to finance after a disaster. When disasters do strike, we work with partners and governments to support their short- and long-term recovery.

In Tonga, our support has helped reconstruct critical infrastructure, including more than 30 new school buildings, in the wake of 2018's Tropical Cyclone Gita.

Governance



We are supporting governments across the Pacific to strengthen the management of public finances to ensure the long-term health of government budgets and delivery of public services.

In Solomon Islands, we are helping communities in some of the most remote and isolated parts of the country to build lasting peace through an innovative community policing model.

Agriculture & Food



In Papua New Guinea, we have supported more than 67,000 coffee and cocoa farmers to increase their skills, productivity and access to markets.

In Samoa, where almost 70% of the population works in agriculture, we are supporting farmers to improve livestock and farming practices.

Energy & Extractives



In Solomon Islands, World Bank-supported connections to solar power, together with the *Tina River Hydropower Project* – now under construction – aim to reduce the country's near-total reliance on diesel fuel for power.

The *Tuvalu Energy Sector Development Project* is helping Tuvalu achieve 40% renewable energy usage by the end of 2020.

In the Federated States of Micronesia and Marshall Islands, we are investing in renewable energy through increased solar power, battery storage and grid management equipment.

Trade & Investment



World Bank economic analysis and 'quick response' poverty surveys are helping to target policy responses and assistance to the most vulnerable groups in Pacific countries.

In Tonga, we have supported a new national labor mobility policy that is delivering more opportunities for Tongans to access overseas employment.

In Kiribati, World Bank-supported economic reforms have paved the way for an expansion of preschool education across the country.

In both Samoa and Tonga, we have supported government-led efforts to reduce non-communicable diseases through tobacco and alcohol taxes.

Water & Sanitation



The *South Tarawa Water Supply Project* is providing people on Kiribati's most populated island with better access to a safe, reliable and climate resilient water supply.

We are supporting improved access to clean and reliable water supply services for people in nine provincial towns and 10 rural districts across Papua New Guinea.

Education



The *Tuvalu Learning Project* is supporting early education and literacy by engaging parents and communities, and by strengthening teaching at preschool, primary and secondary levels.

Social & Jobs



In Solomon Islands, more than 15,000 young people have undertaken more than 867,000 days of work and training through the *Rapid Employment Project* and its successor, the *Community Access and Urban Services Enhancement Project*.

Faced with high secondary school drop-out rates, the *Skills and Employment for Tongans Project* is supporting the Tongan government to implement a cash transfer program. It addresses the financial constraints many households face in keeping their children in secondary school.

Transport



The *Pacific Climate Resilient Transport Program* is building resilience in key roads, ports and other transport infrastructure in the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

The *Pacific Aviation Investment Program* has delivered major reconstruction works to airports and runways in Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, with work continuing in each country, as well as Kiribati and Solomon Islands, helping to make air travel safer and more efficient across the Pacific.

In Kiribati, we are supporting the construction of more climate- and disaster-resilient maritime infrastructure, including the construction of a new jetty and passenger terminals, and in Samoa, we are helping to build the critical road link between the airport and the capital.

Environment & Natural Resources



The *Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program* is helping Pacific countries coordinate sustainable management of tuna fisheries to ensure the benefits are maximized for each country's future growth and development. The program also helps countries to sustainably manage their coastal fisheries and critical habitats, and is active in the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu, in addition to supporting the Forum Fisheries Association.

Health



In Marshall Islands, the *Multisectoral Early Childhood Development Project* is investing in maternal and child health, as well as early childhood stimulation and preschool services, with a focus on the first 1,000 days of life.

In Samoa, we are working to improve access to health care in rural areas, particularly focusing on addressing non-communicable diseases.

In Papua New Guinea, the *Emergency Tuberculosis (TB) Project* has ensured patient treatment program drop-out rates on Daru Island – one of the world's major TB hotspots – have reduced from 30% to zero.

Supporting the Pacific's response to COVID-19

We are supporting the Pacific's coronavirus response, with health projects in Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea and Samoa. Funding has also been activated in the Federated States of Micronesia, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu to support preparedness and response efforts. This support is delivering protection for health workers, increased testing capacity and essential supplies.

Economic recovery support is also being delivered throughout FY21, and we have already supported Pacific countries with economic impact research to provide critical insights into how countries are being impacted, and in turn, how best they can respond.

Poverty & Equity



The lack of quality data for – and in – Pacific Island countries remains a critical roadblock to the region's understanding of poverty, welfare and social developments. We are working to modernize statistical data collection in the Pacific, with Kiribati and Tonga acting as 'pilot' countries to help demonstrate improvements in coming years.

Our work in Papua New Guinea & the Pacific Islands





Our mission

The World Bank Group aims to make a real difference in the lives of millions of people by delivering on its twin goals: ending extreme poverty and increasing shared prosperity.

With deep financial resources, combined with global expertise in economic analysis and managing sustainable development, the World Bank is supporting Papua New Guinea and the Pacific Islands to be better connected, enhance resilience and create jobs and opportunities.

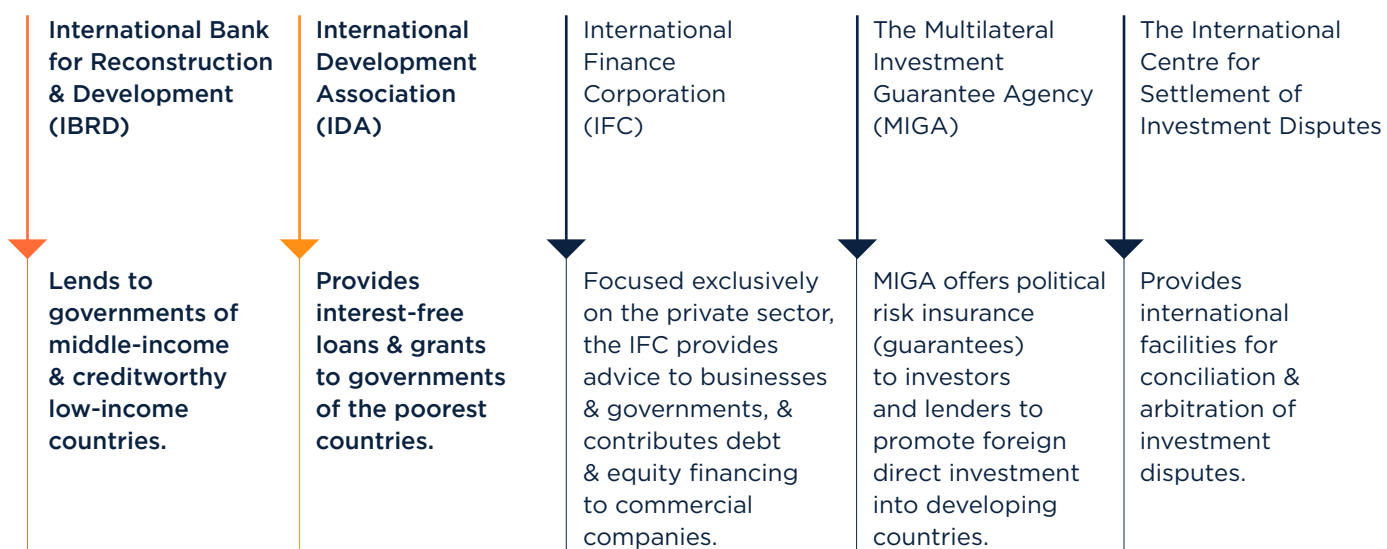
The Pacific Islands & Papua New Guinea

Pacific Island countries have substantial natural resources, they are rich in cultural diversity and are rapidly increasing their trade and digital links with global markets.

However, Pacific countries face unique development challenges: they are physically detached from major markets, have small populations spread across many islands, they are confronting the worst impacts of climate change, and are some of the most vulnerable countries to natural disasters in the world. We are supporting Pacific Island countries to build on their strengths, while managing their vulnerabilities.



The World Bank Group



Where we work



Palau



Regional



Federated States of Micronesia



Papua New Guinea



Solomon Islands



Marshall Islands



Kiribati

Nauru



Tuvalu



Vanuatu



Fiji



Samoa



Tonga

Working in partnership with 12 countries across the region, the World Bank is currently supporting 90 projects across the Pacific Islands and Papua New Guinea, totalling a US\$1.83 billion* commitment through a combination of IBRD and IDA financing and Recipient-Executed Trust Funds.

* based on 30 June 2020 data

