



Australian Volunteers Program at a glance

July 2017- June 2018*

1097 assignments filled by

1002 volunteers

491 commenced new assignments

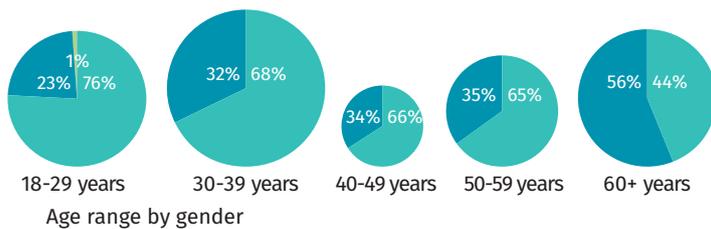
606 continued assignments from previous years

Gender and age

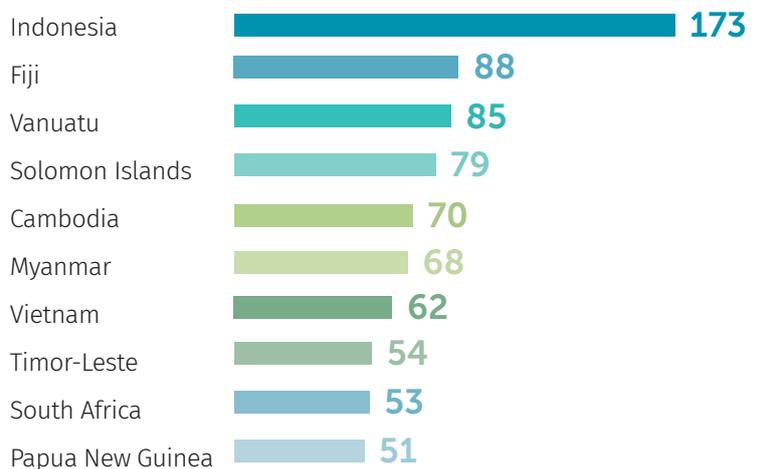
Female 644 (64%)

Male 357 (36%)

Other 1



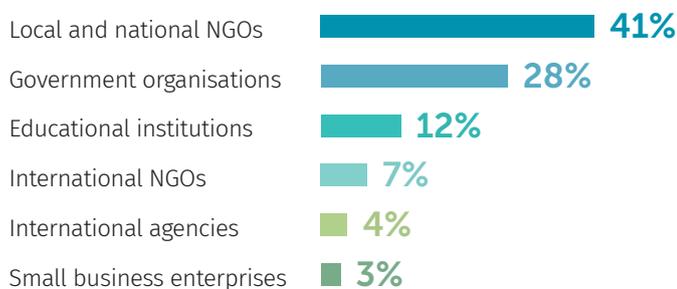
Top ten countries by assignment (out of 26 countries)



Number of partner organisations⁺

695

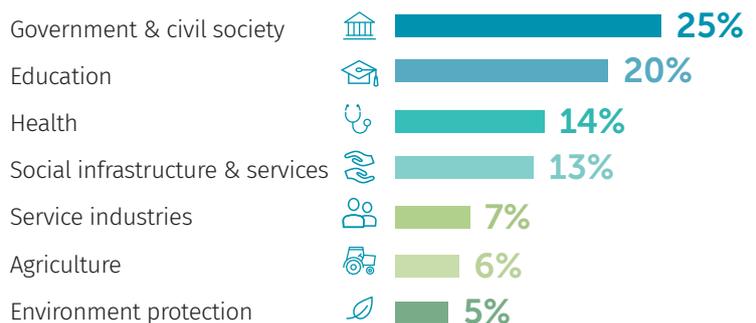
Most common types of partner organisations



Where volunteers went



Most common sectors in which partner organisations work



Total budget

(1 July 2017 - 30 June 2018)

\$37.4M

* The 2017 - 2018 financial year covers two Australian Government volunteering programs:

- » The Australian Volunteers for International Development program, which ended on 31 December 2017; and
- » The Australian Volunteers Program, which commenced on 1 January 2018.

» Global program data is for a twelve month period from July 2017 to June 2018 and country report data is for a six month period from January 2018 to June 2018.

+ The number of partner organisations was revised from the DFAT Annual Report following a quality assurance process.

Australian Volunteers Program July 2017 – June 2018

The Australian Volunteers Program matches skilled Australians with organisations in developing countries to help these organisations to deliver on their own objectives. Over the past 12 months, 1002 Australian volunteers have worked with 695 partner organisations in 26 countries.

The Australian Volunteers Program builds on more than 60 years' of Australian Government investment in international volunteering, replacing the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program which ended on 31 December 2017. The new program retains the core elements of AVID with the aim of enhancing the program's reach, visibility, impact and value for money.

The first six months focused on scaling up operations and preparing for the transition of volunteers and partners from AVID. The second six months included a focus on mobilising the first cohort of over 200 new volunteers, and developing the essential strategic foundations for the next five years of the program.

Over the next five years, the Australian Volunteers Program aims to achieve the following outcomes:

- » Partner organisations are supported by Australia to achieve their own development objectives
- » Australian volunteers gain professionally and personally
- » The public in Australia better appreciate the value of volunteering

Since the commencement of the Australian Volunteers Program¹, 99% of partner organisations reported that they are satisfied with the program. They also reported being effectively supported by volunteers to build staff skills, strengthen systems, and build networks and relationships. In addition to supporting their partner organisations, volunteers reported gaining personal and professional skills, and 96% of volunteers were satisfied with support provided by the program.

While all volunteer assignments include objectives relating to the cross-cutting issues of gender equality, inclusion of people with disabilities, inclusion of marginalised groups, and child protection and safeguarding², some assignments have these issues as their primary focus. For the period January to June 2018:

- » 22% of assignments focused on the empowerment of women and girls
- » 15% focused on working with marginalised groups
- » 14% focused on working with people with disabilities
- » 4% focused on child protection and safeguarding

To ensure strategic alignment with the Australian Government's aid priorities, the program developed 22 Country Program Plans to identify priority sectors and partner organisations in each country (22 plans covering 26 countries³).

The program also developed a comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Framework (MELF). As part of the MELF, the program commissioned two research projects: one on the diversity and inclusion of volunteers and the other on Australians' perceptions of international volunteering. This research provides evidence and baselines and will help guide our efforts in diversity and inclusion, and public diplomacy.

The Australian Volunteers Program is an Australian Government initiative. The program is managed by AVI, in consortium with Cardno Emerging Markets Pty Ltd and the Whitelum Group. It is a five-year program with an estimated total budget of AUD\$190 million.

1. From 1 January – 30 June 2018.

2. All non-government partner organisations are required to have a DFAT compliant child protection policy.

3. North Pacific covers 3 countries (Palau, Republic Marshall Islands, FSM); Southern Africa covers 3 countries (South Africa, eSwatini and Lesotho).

The Australian Volunteers Program is guided by principles that ensure we:



Value volunteering



Support locally-led capacity development



Build strong relationships and partnerships



Evolve best practice and embrace innovation



Enhance diversity and inclusion



Ensure accountability and value learning