



FACT SHEET

# Upgrading ports across Papua New Guinea

**Project Name:** Papua New Guinea Ports Infrastructure Investment Program

**AIFFP INVESTMENT**

**LOAN:** AUD621.4 million  
**GRANT:** AUD100 million

**PARTNERS**

Government of Papua New Guinea  
Papua New Guinea Ports Corporation Ltd

**CONSTRUCTION**

2025 onwards

**COMPLETION**

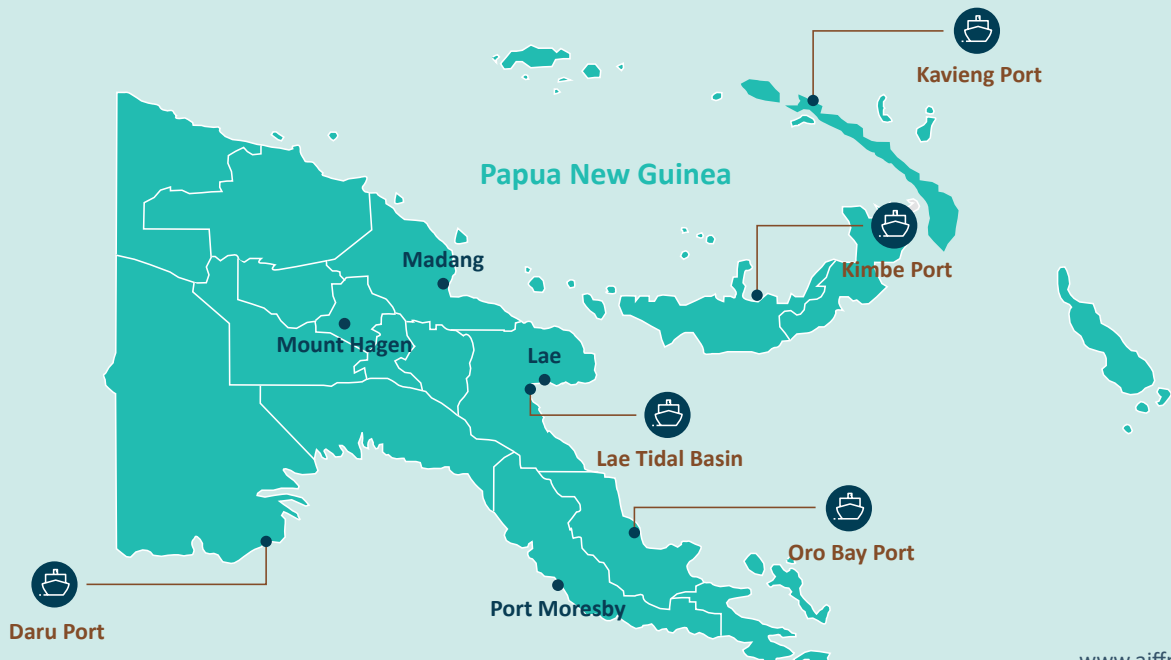
2029

## About the project

Australia, through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), has provided a loan and grant package to the Government of Papua New Guinea to upgrade and replace key port assets across the country. The works include improvements to four coastal wharves as well as Lae Tidal Basin which will serve as a trans-shipment hub for the Pacific region as prioritised in Papua New Guinea’s 30 Year Ports Infrastructure Master Plan. Ports are a key component of Papua New Guinea’s infrastructure, with more than

90 per cent of internationally traded goods in Papua New Guinea being transported via sea. The project will increase access to goods, trade and services for communities as well as support Papua New Guinea’s economic development through the improvement of transport distribution networks, with the Lae Tidal Basin expected to be able to accommodate container ships that operate major trade routes.

## Map





## Infrastructure highlights

In partnership with governments and private sector firms in the Pacific, the AIFFP facilitates the delivery of high quality, resilient infrastructure. This project's anticipated infrastructure footprint will include:



### UPGRADES

4 PORTS AND 1 BASIN



### 50+ YEAR

DESIGN LIFE



### 5

PILOT BOATS



### INLAND

LOGISTICS PLATFORM



### CYBER SECURITY

UPGRADES

## Impact at a glance

Across all its projects, the AIFFP prioritises lasting development and economic outcomes for people and communities. Its approach is guided by five impact areas: local content; climate resilience; social and environmental safeguards; gender equality, disability and social inclusion; and quality and integrity.

The project aims to repair and expand port infrastructure in support of Papua New Guinea's economy, with increased movement of people and goods and international and domestic trade. Its impact to date includes:

### GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

With **gender action plans** in place, or in development, for each of the ports, Papua New Guinea Ports Corporation Ltd, and the AIFFP are proactively working to embed **opportunities for women** including through empowerment initiatives. Gender action plans vary according to circumstances and context at each port site, but typically include provisions for **improved occupational health** and **safety and trafficking policies** that prioritise the safety of female staff and contractors, targets for women's employment and participation, and the mitigation of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment risks.

### CLIMATE RESILIENCE

The port upgrades are designed to be **climate resilient** with a **design life of at least 50 years**. Provision has been made for sea level rises and storm events, with the Oro Port upgrades adopting a raised container yard to account for rising sea levels. Modelling for impacts of physical climate and geo-technical hazards by Australia Pacific Climate Partnership and Geoscience Australia have also been integrated into design solutions at each port location. Such measures will ensure minimal disruption to Papua New Guineans' livelihoods in the event of extreme weather.

### SAFEGUARDS AND LOCAL CONTENT

The project is **supporting jobs for Papua New Guineans** via local construction companies and supply chains, with a minimum target of **30 percent project expenditure** on local jobs, goods and services. Contractors are also expected to provide work experience and mentoring to graduate engineers and other young professionals and tradespeople from the local area. Upgrades to Kimbe Port, the first port in development, have been structured to support Papua New Guinean contractor involvement, with the landside investments tendered to national contractors.

In order to **minimise displacement for communities** living near project sites, Papua New Guinea Ports Corporation Ltd have taken steps such as design variations following consultation with communities.

