

FACT SHEET

Enhancing boat harbours across Tuvalu

Project Name: Nui and Niutao Islands Boat Harbour Development

AIFFP INVESTMENT

GRANT: AUD21.4 million

PARTNERS

Government of Tuvalu
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

CONSTRUCTION

2023 onwards

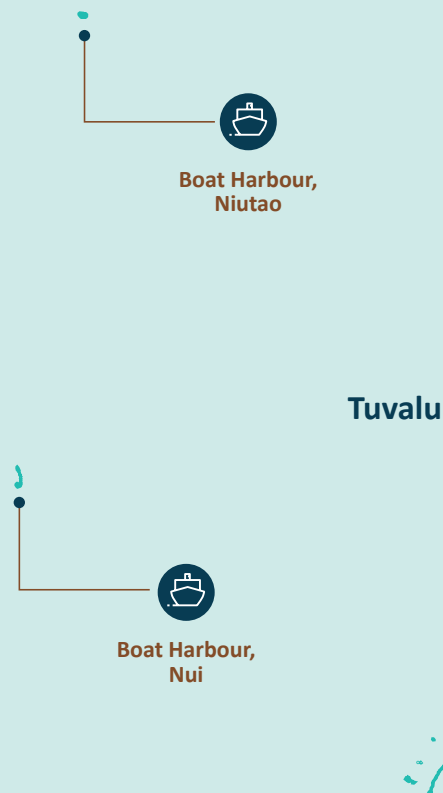
COMPLETION

2026

About the project

Australia, through the Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP), has provided a grant package to the Government of Tuvalu alongside support from the Asian Development Bank for the construction of work boat harbours on two outer islands. The works include new wharf facilities and supporting landside infrastructure at Niutao and Nui islands, with the design and construction of the harbours considering climate change mitigation and adaptations measures. Many island communities in Tuvalu are dependent on shipping for food and for access to essential services and supplies. The project increases the availability and reliability of transport options for Nui and Niutao communities. Villages and households in more remote communities will have improved access to markets and services, schools and health services. In addition, the project includes support to the Government of Tuvalu to improve maritime safety and operational practices at the two harbours.

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:



2 WHARVES CONSTRUCTED

EACH WITH A NAVIGATION CHANNEL,
BOAT RAMP, PASSENGER
TERMINAL AND CARGO SHED



SAFETY UPGRADES


INCLUDING 24-HOUR SOLAR
LIGHTING, GUARD RAILS AND
SIGNAGE ON JETTIES

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 enhance crucial domestic connectivity for both passengers and cargo traveling between Tuvalu's capital and outer islands. Its impact to date includes:

GENDER EQUALITY, DISABILITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION




With a gender action plan in place, new facilities will give women and children **safer access to transport**. The AIFFP, in collaboration with the ADB as co-financier are implementing and monitoring the **gender action plan**, which outlines key gender objectives for the project. Passenger terminals will include separate toilets for men and women, **priority seating** for people with disability, and facilities for canteens and handicraft outlets. Employment quotas for women have been agreed to ensure **inclusive economic opportunities**, with a target of **10 per cent of female workers to be hired** by the contractor during construction phase. The project will ensure **equal pay** for equal work between male and female workers, with all construction workers to receive training prior to, and during, construction on sexual and reproductive health, gender sensitivity, gender-based violence, and diversity and inclusion.

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

As Tuvalu is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to the impacts of climate change, the design and construction of the harbours and landside facilities are designed to be **climate-resilient**. **Allowances have been made** for sea level rises, cyclones, coastal erosion and changes in longshore sand movement, ensuring **minimal disruption to Tuvaluans' livelihoods** in the event of an emergency.



LOCAL CONTENT



In line with the AIFFP's approach to local content, the project is contributing significantly to **local employment**, creating opportunities for local workers and companies. In the second half of 2023, an **average of 19 per cent** of the project's workforce **were Tuvaluan** with **23 per cent of labour hours performed by Tuvaluans**. To identify Tuvaluan workers, the main works contractor worked with government and community leaders to select candidates with suitable skills and availability. The project is also providing opportunities for Pacific-based workers and suppliers to provide goods and services, delivering economic benefits across the region more broadly. An **additional on average 50 per cent of labour** was performed by Pacific expatriates, with Fijian companies engaged to supply materials to the project such as precast concrete. To **build the skills** of the project's workforce, the head contractor **delivered 5,761 training hours** over a six-month period, constituting on average **35 per cent of total labour hours**. This includes the training of loader and lighter operators in concrete pump operation, concrete batch plant operation, facilities management and general construction upskilling. All personnel on site have received **white card certification**.



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