Australian Government

Australian Aid



Dr Jason Mitchell, Chair of Fiji's National HIV Outbreak and Cluster Response Taskforce

Australian Support for Pacific HIV Action

Australian Support for Pacific HIV Action (ASPHA) is a $48 million, six-year initiative backing Pacific-led action to reduce HIV transmission, respond to outbreaks, tackle stigma and discrimination, and help people living with HIV to access the services and support they need.

The initiative was announced by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon Penny Wong, on 27 November 2025.

Through ASPHA, the Australian Government provides practical support for national HIV responses, complementing government and community leadership and drawing on Pacific, Australian and multilateral expertise. Support is delivered through three streams: a national systems stream led by ASHM, a community stream led by Health Equity Matters, and a commodities stream delivered by the United Nations Development Programme.

Why it matters

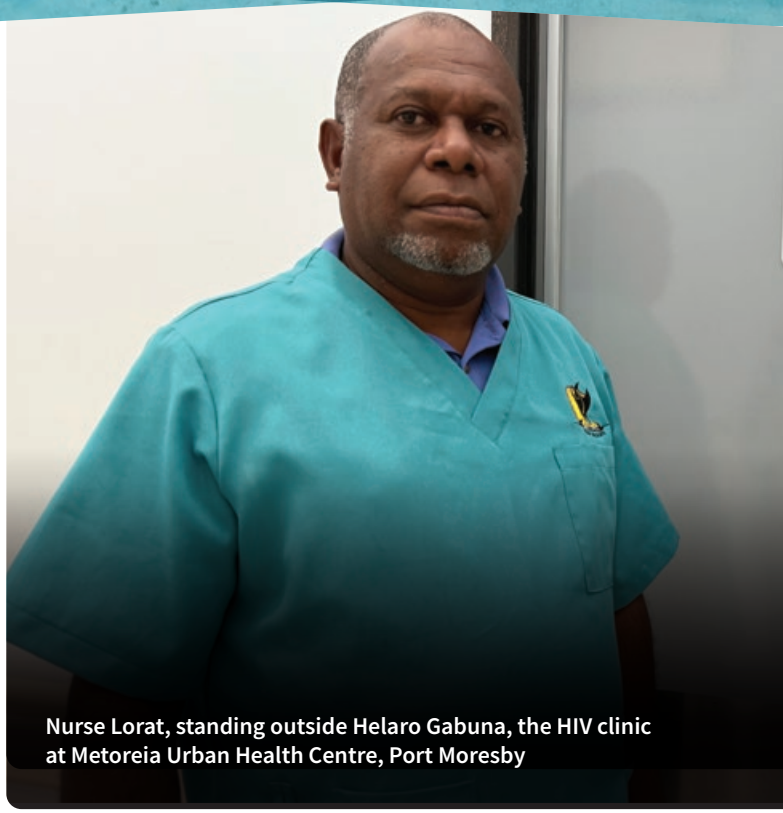
HIV and co-infections affect lives, health systems, communities and economies across the region.

Strong, resilient and locally led health systems are essential to prevent, detect and respond to HIV and other public health threats. Investing in preparedness now strengthens the region's capacity to respond effectively to future health challenges.

$48
million initiative
(2025–2031)
to reduce HIV
transmission



Dr Dashika Balak (left), MHMS Fiji, Priyansha Chand, ASHM at Pacific HIV Symposium, Nadi, Fiji



Nurse Lorat, standing outside Helaro Gabuna, the HIV clinic at Metoreia Urban Health Centre, Port Moresby

What ASPHA may support

Subject to priorities identified by Pacific governments, ASPHA may support:

- HIV prevention, including information, education and communication activities, outreach and access to prevention tools
- Prevention of mother-to-child transmission
- HIV testing and diagnosis
- Treatment, care and support for people living with HIV
- Reducing stigma, discrimination and other barriers to HIV services
- Strengthening health systems, governance and leadership.

Across these areas, ASPHA will promote gender equality, disability and social inclusion, and work with communities disproportionately affected by HIV, so that their lived experience and expertise help to shape responsive support.

How support is provided

Support is responsive to country priorities, needs and context and is designed to strengthen national capability and preparedness.

For example, in Fiji, ASPHA supports implementation of the Ministry of Health and Medical Services' National HIV Outbreak Response Plan 2026-2031, including community-led responses and access to essential HIV medicines, diagnostic tests and other health commodities.

In other Pacific countries, Australia has supported rapid assessments of national HIV and tuberculosis programs. These have helped to identify gaps and priorities in planning and service delivery, and can inform Australia's future co-investment in Pacific-led national responses.

Australia's broader support

ASPHA complements Australia's broader efforts to strengthen Pacific health systems and tackle HIV in the region, including increased HIV development assistance to Papua New Guinea.

It also aligns with Australia's $266 million pledge to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria for 2026-2028, and builds on regional health investments through Partnerships for a Healthy Region.

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