

Australian Volunteers Program

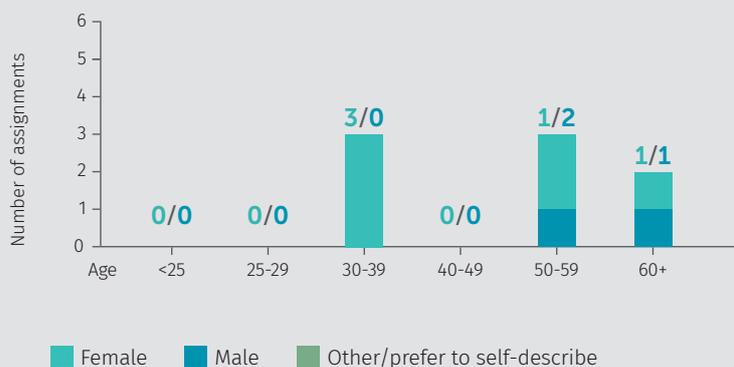
TUVALU

2019-20 at a glance

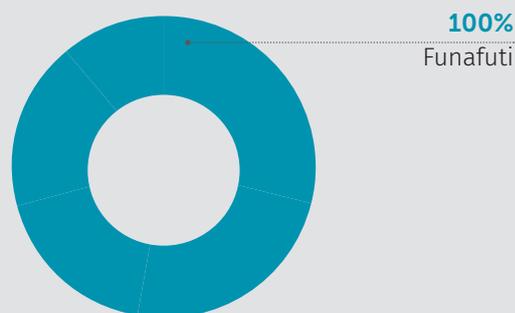
In 2019-20 the Australian Volunteers Program in Tuvalu supported eight volunteer assignments and six partner organisations in Funafuti.*

Gender and age

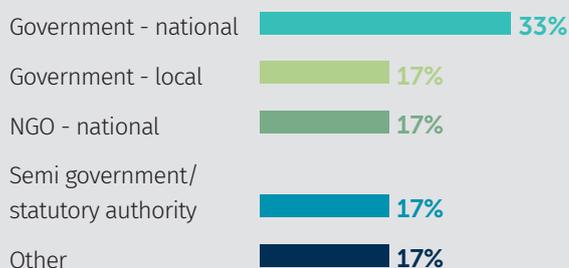
Women 62% Men 38%



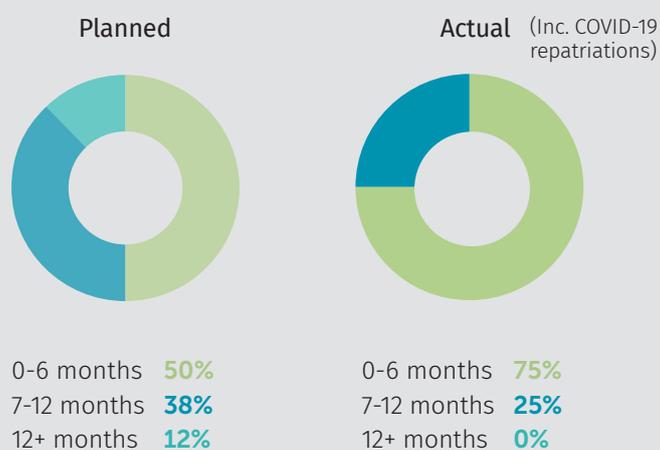
Location of assignments



Most common types of organisations



Duration of assignments



* Graphs relating to the volunteers' and partner organisations' assessment of their progress against objectives have not been included due to a low response for one or both data sets.

In 2019-20 the majority of local organisations that the Australian Volunteers Program supported in Tuvalu were local and national government agencies.

Volunteers supported the delivery of the Australian Government's aid priorities in Tuvalu, including strengthening institutional capacity to influence government policies and stimulate private sector growth; promoting employment opportunities by supporting the development of inter-island marketing of raw products; and supporting initiatives that promote inclusion of people with disabilities, protection of children and the elimination of violence against women and children.

The program worked closely with UNICEF and the Government of Tuvalu to develop a number of child protection support roles.

In partnership with the Australian High Commission, the program also helped celebrate and promote the value of international volunteering through networking events and sharing volunteer stories.

Of the eight assignments undertaken during 2019-20, five commenced during this period and supported one family member was supported to accompany a volunteer.

As part of the program's response to COVID-19, three volunteers and one family member were repatriated from Tuvalu in March, which meant some assignments were not as long as planned.



Australian volunteer Doris Cunningham (right), Finance Mentor at the Tuvalu Association of Non-Government Organisations (TANGO) alongside her counterpart Fuafuaga Tui, Funafuti, Tuvalu.
Photo: Darren James.

Spotlight on the Tuvalu National Private Sector Organisation

The Tuvalu National Private Sector Organisation (TNPSO) is a member-based organisation that represents and promotes the interests of the private sector in Tuvalu. It provides members with training, support and services to assist the development of their businesses, while advocating for the interests of business to the government.

The Department of Business (DoB) develops government policies that support local businesses and the private sector to stimulate economic growth. Working closely with TNPSO and the Department of Trade (DoT), DoB is responsible for registering local businesses and overseas investors conducting business in Tuvalu.

Australian volunteer Peter Hudson volunteered in Tuvalu in 2019 as a Business Development Officer, drawing on his significant experience in corporate government, management and business development to support TNPSO, DoB and DoT across a range of governance and operational activities.

Prior to Peter's assignment, TNPSO's constitution was not being fully implemented and the organisation was limited in its capacity to engage in policy dialogue with government. Peter mentored board members to translate their constitution, strengthen their meeting processes and operations, and finalise the board's strategic plan, including a private sector development plan that is now being implemented.

TNPSO has since increased its membership from 30 to 50 members, is engaging in more stakeholder consultation, and publishing more position papers designed to influence government policy changes.

With Peter's support, TNPSO has been able to increase their fundraising capacity and ability to influence the priorities and policies of donors, regional and international organisations in Tuvalu. TNPSO is now in discussions to secure climate finance funds through the International Finance Corporation, and has secured funds from DFAT Tuvalu Post and Cardno to deliver its activities.

australianvolunteers.com
info@australianvolunteers.com
tuvalu@australianvolunteers.com
#AusVols
@ausvols

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
dfat.gov.au

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