



Financing social protection in the Pacific and Timor-Leste

Easy read version

P4SP
Partnerships for
Social Protection

**Australian
Aid** 



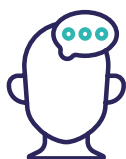
We will provide instructions on how to read this document. [To skip ahead, go to page 5.](#)



The information on this page is called a **blog**.



A **blog** is information that is on the internet.



It includes the ideas and thoughts of the person who wrote the information.



This blog is called **Financing Social Protection in the Pacific and Timor-Leste**.



You can also read this blog at this website
<https://p4sp.org/resources/financing-social-protection-in-the-pacific-and-timor-leste/>



Charles Knox-Vydmanov and Jesse Doyle wrote this blog.

How to read this blog



This blog is written in an easy to read way.



There will be some hard words.

We will write the hard words in **bold**.



We will explain what they mean.



You can ask someone to help you to read this blog.



When you see the words ‘we’, ‘our’, or ‘us’ it means **Partnerships for Social Protection**.

We also use the short name **P4SP**.



P4SP is a project by the Australian **government**.



Government means a group of people who make up the rules that everyone must follow.



P4SP makes social protection systems stronger in the **Pacific**.



Pacific means people who live on an **island** in the Pacific ocean.

An **island** is when there is water all the way around the land.

How are the Pacific and Timor-Leste spending money on social protection?



Social protection means things that the government gives a person to



- have money to buy things like food



- do things like see a doctor



- recover when something that is not planned happens, like losing your job or being in a flood.



Social protection also helps to protect you as you get older.



We did some **research** about social protection in Pacific countries.

Research is a way to find out about something.



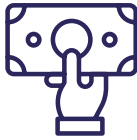
We wrote a report.

The report is called **Investing in social protection in good times and bad: An assessment of social protection financing in the Pacific and Timor-Leste**.



You can read the report at this website:

<https://p4sp.org/resources/investing-in-social-protection-for-good-times-and-bad-an-assessment-of-social-protection-financing-in-the-pacific-and-timor-leste/>



The report is about how countries in the Pacific spend money on social protection.



In the report we looked at **14** countries.

Many countries in the Pacific give social protection to



- all old people



- people with disabilities.

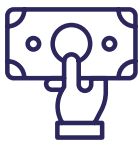


Some Pacific countries are trying new ways to give money to people who have children.



Some countries who do this are

- Marshall Islands
- Papua New Guinea
- Timor-Leste
- Tonga.



Many Pacific countries are spending more money on social protection now.



Some countries are spending **2** times more money than they were in 2013.



Kiribati has **increased** their spending the most.



Increase means to do more of something.

Kiribati started to



- give people more money if they are not working



- give more money to older people.



Fiji spent **3** times more money on social protection in the last **10** years.



We know that social protection can help to lower **poverty**.



Poverty means not having enough money for basic things like food, water to drink, or a safe place to live.

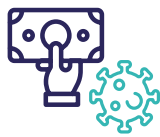
Social protection has made poverty lower for



- children in the Cook Islands



- older people in Kiribati.



Pacific countries spent more money on social protection when COVID-19 was happening.



Fiji and Timor-Leste used their social protection systems to give people extra money.



Some countries received **development assistance**.



Development assistance means that one country gives money to another country to help them make life better for the people who live there.



More development assistance was given during COVID-19.



This helped a lot in

- Fiji
- Marshall Islands
- Palau
- Tonga
- Tuvalu.



Development assistance became less after COVID-19.



Some Pacific countries are still getting development assistance after COVID-19 because research shows that social protection helps people in good and bad times.

Social protection also helped to make less **inflation** in some Pacific countries.



Inflation means that the things you buy get more expensive and you cannot buy as much with the same money.

Fiji was one country that did this.



Fiji gave more money during COVID-19 to help people pay for things to live.



Some other Pacific countries did not have enough money to give good social protection to people.

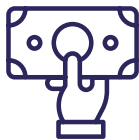


We can learn a lot about how social protection might happen in the future.



Each country is different.

Each country will need to decide



- how much money they can spend on social protection



- how they will pay for social protection.

Some ways that governments can pay for social protection are



- use their own money



- spend more money on social protection and less money on other things



- ask people and businesses to pay more **tax**

Tax is money that people must pay to the government.



- use money that other countries give them



- borrow money from other countries or banks.



When governments have decided where money will come from, they can help more people.

They might



- give people more money



- help more people



- make new social protection programs for different people.

Over time Pacific countries will



- decide how to pay for social protection



- decide who gets help



- decide how much help to give



- give help in new ways.



Pacific countries can also try new ways
in the future.



This will make sure more people have
better lives.



How to talk to us

Would you like to learn more?

Do you have any questions?

You can contact us at:



Email: info@p4sp.org