

AVI

inviting change



Annual Report
2016-17

AVI

inviting change

OUR PRESIDENT

Ms Sam Mostyn AM

OUR BOARD

Ms Kathy Townsend (Chair)

Lyma Nguyen

Dean Tillotson

Martine Letts

Wendy Tyrrell

Ms Jennifer Johnston

Ms Jenny McGregor

Mr Greg Thompson

Dr Peter Wilkins

PHOTOS:

Front cover portrait

Caption: Australian volunteer Shelomi Doyle with Port Moresby (POM) Nature Park employee Kula Oka in the park's glass house.

POM Nature Park has almost 11,000 orchids in their collection.

Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI

Page 4 and 5:

Caption: Community members Norn Phorn, Un Phan and She Horn during a community workshop run by Australian volunteers in Battambang, Cambodia.

Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI





About us

AVI is an Australian not-for-profit organisation committed to achieving social and economic development outcomes across the world.

We invite change and facilitate change by bringing people together to share their skills, knowledge and experience.

We combine our extensive cross-sector networks with proven approaches that successfully contribute to change for communities in our region and beyond.

AVI support and collaboratively design locally driven initiatives that result in positive outcomes and lasting relationships between Australians and international peers.

Our aim is threefold

- To provide the world-class support and scale needed to drive multi-generational change that significantly improves peoples' lives and creates life-changing experiences.
- To respond to the social and economic aspirations of communities by realising development opportunities through mutual learning and knowledge exchange.
- To enhance cross-cultural understanding and engage Australians to embrace new experiences that will have an ongoing positive impact both at home and abroad.

What we value

- Locally driven change: we know that better development outcomes result when local communities, governments and organisations identify the challenges and drive the solutions.
- Mutual value: we've been seeing the value flow in every direction for more than 66 years between people, communities, organisations, and with our government and corporate partners.
- High-quality experiences: we want Australians and individuals in every country to report positively about the work that they do, the people they meet and the places they encounter.
- Responsive service provision: the care and support of people throughout the entire process as they live and work together in different places is critical to development outcomes.
- Innovative partnerships: AVI's approach seizes opportunities to work collaboratively and achieve outcomes that no one partner could achieve on their own.



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR - Kathy Townsend and CEO - Paul Bird

AVI had another successful year in 2016/17 doing what we do best; running a range of high quality programs which facilitate both sustainable development outcomes for our partners and life-changing experiences for our volunteers.



This year, AVI supported 627 Australians in 12 countries, including 507 volunteers as a partner in the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). We managed 27 projects in partnership with Macquarie University, the University of Melbourne and Victoria University, with 82 students participating in community development activities in India, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Fiji.

Other projects included 11 international mentors for DFAT under the Professional Learning and Mentoring Program in Timor-Leste, and two volunteers under the Solomon Islands Graduate Internship and Supervision Support Program. All 627 volunteers received security and cultural awareness training. More than 225 senior members of AVID volunteer host organisations received child protection policy training, with interactive workshops held in South Africa, Tanzania, Indonesia, PNG, Myanmar and Solomon islands, including 23 AVID overseas Country Office staff. This included targeted training to AVI's new overseas office-based 'child protection focal points' which has expanded our in-country child protection support to volunteers and their host organisations. Focal points provided child protection training to more than 60 staff from individual host organisations in PNG, Tanzania and South Africa. Indonesian office staff provided child protection training to more than 100 government school teachers and principals in West Sumatra province.



This year, we began a partnership with DFAT and Intrepid Group to design and trial a sustainable tourism hub in Myanmar. We were also part of Plan International's consortium to develop disaster preparedness capacity with Pacific organisations under DFAT's Australian Humanitarian Partnerships program.

Earlier this year, AVI had the opportunity to tender for DFAT's new Australian Volunteer program, starting in January 2018, through a consortium with Cardno and The Whitelum Group. We were thrilled to be selected by DFAT as the sole provider with our consortium partners. In July 2017, we began establishing the new program, which will run for the next five years. We look forward to a close collaboration in delivering a world-leading international volunteering program.

Over the last 66 years, AVI has placed more than 12,000 Australians with 3,000 partners to help build the capacity of businesses, government, health, education and community organisations in 89 developing countries.

AVI has maintained its core ethos that volunteers live and work with their colleagues and so over time build the mutual respect and trust needed to be effective change agents and achieve outstanding development outcomes. Through these relationships with local people and organisations, outsiders can support change which is relevant and adapted to a local context, political climate and available opportunities. This approach distinguishes AVI from most other development organisations in that it seeks to facilitate the development process rather than drive it. In AVI's experience, the most effective and sustainable change is locally-owned and led.

AVI's volunteers undergo their own development enhancing their professional skills and personal competencies, including resilience, self-awareness, empathy and international orientation. The team has changed considerably this year and we particularly thank those who, having done so much, have moved on. We also welcome those new to the organisation and look forward to their contribution to ensuring the important work of our organisation thrives.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the passionate, skilled and committed AVI board, management and staff, together with the highly talented Australians and courageous partner organisations who are our reason to be. It is a privilege to serve you all.



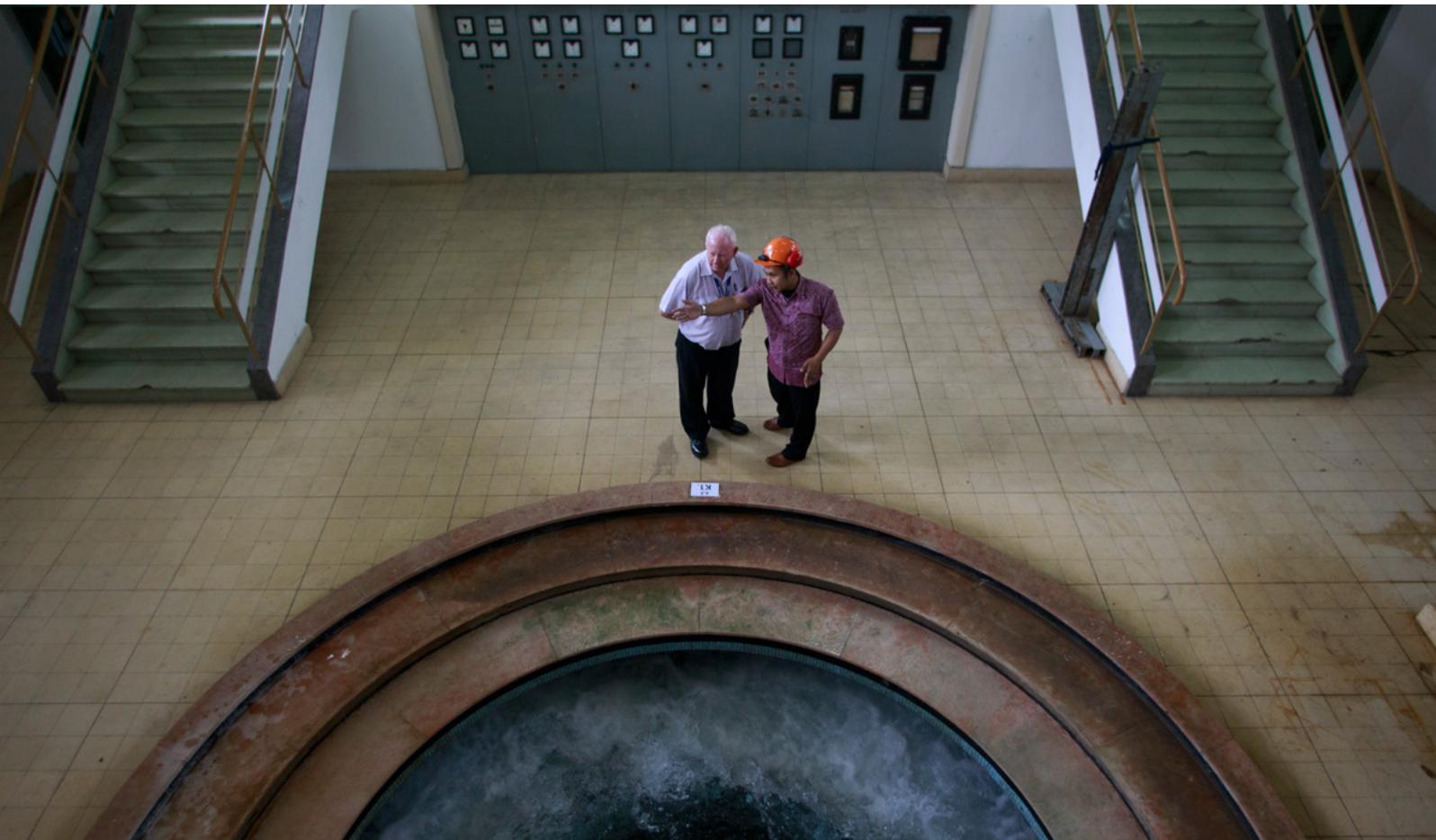
Australian volunteer Stephanie Fitzpatrick discusses a prosthetic leg with PUSPADI Bali employee I Made Gunung in Bali, Indonesia. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI



Australian volunteer Rosanne Skalicky-Klein, an emergency physician, examines a patient at Yangon General Hospital in Myanmar. Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI



Australian volunteer Sophia Dickinson, who is a media development officer, talks with Mitra Wacana Women's Resource Centre employees Imelda Zuhaida and Sugeng Widodo at the organisation's office in Jogjakarta, Indonesia.
Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI



Australian volunteer John Cartwright visits a water purification plant in Bandung, Indonesia with Abun Gunawan, an employee at Perusahaan Daerah Air Minum (PDAM) the local drinking water company.
Photo: Harjono Djoyobisono/AVI

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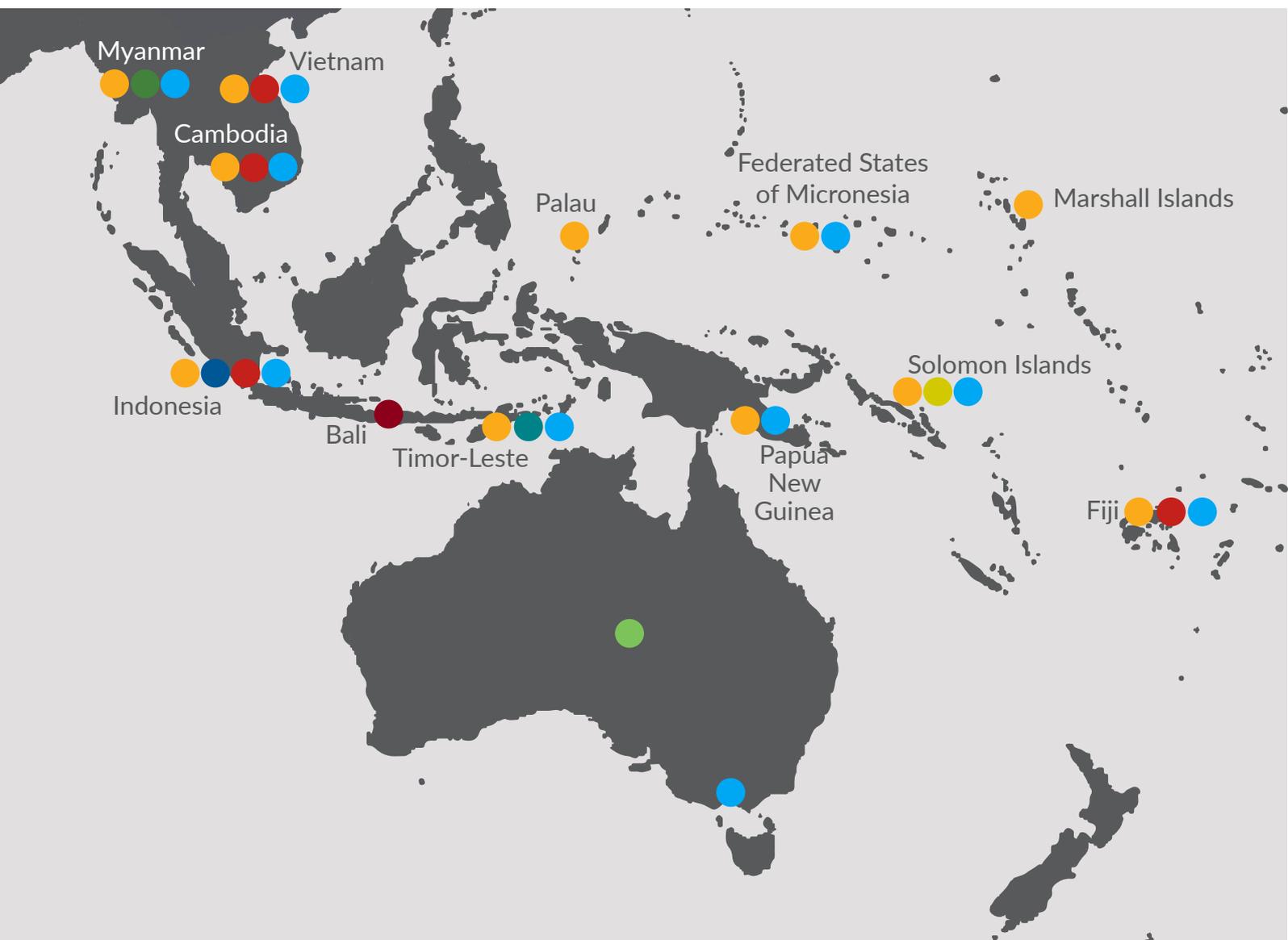
Where we worked

2016-17

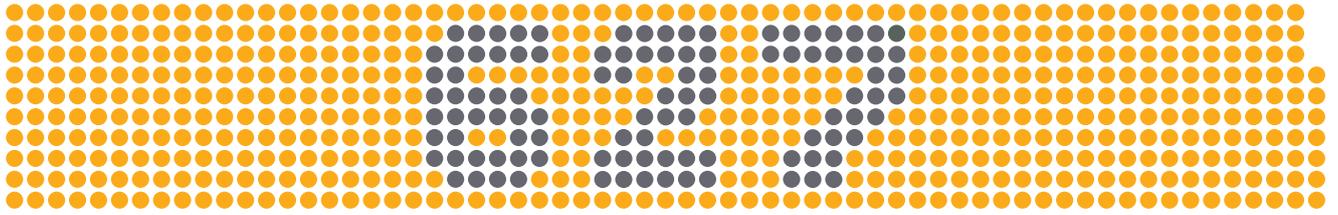


LEGEND

- AVID** – The Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program is an Australian Government initiative. Skilled Australians contribute to this aid program through volunteering.
- Melbourne University** – The University of Melbourne's Community Volunteering for Change - Global subject gives students practical experience in developing countries.
- Macquarie University** – Macquarie University's Professional and Community Engagement (PACE) initiative involves staff, students and alumni in transformative international experiences.
- Oodnadatta** – The Aboriginal volunteer program invites Indigenous Australians to share their experience and culture to create positive change with the community of Oodnadatta in South Australia.
- Classic Wallabies Exchange** – The Classic Wallabies' Exchange, a part of the AVID program in partnership with EIDOS Institute, offers Indigenous Australians the opportunity to volunteer in a community in South Africa.
- PLMP** – The Professional Learning and Mentoring Program is an Australian Government, DFAT-funded program supporting the Timor-Leste Ministry of Education's Curriculum Reform Program. Between March 2016 and April 2017, AVI identified, mobilised and managed 11 international mentors to support this program.
- Victoria University** – The College of Sport and Exercise Science at Victoria University works in partnership with AVI so that students can take their second or third-year placement with the Bali Sports Foundation (BSF) in Bali, Indonesia.
- SIGISSP** – The Solomon Islands Graduate Internship and Supervision Support Program provides medical specialist personnel and Australian volunteers to the Solomon Islands Ministry of Health and Medical Services. They supervise the large numbers of foreign-trained medical graduates returning to Solomon Islands to begin their medical careers.
- STH and BPP** – The Sustainable Tourism Hub (STH) project is a joint initiative between the Intrepid Group and AVI, funded under DFAT's Business Partnership Platform (BPP) in Myanmar. The organisations combine their skills and experience to support responsible tourism and provide a platform for the tourism industry, the corporate sector and interested individuals.
- AVI staff** – AVI staff members worked from 12 countries to provide world-class support to program participants.



In 2016-2017, AVI managed



international
volunteers



who shared their skills, knowledge & experience

I N S I X T E E N C O U N T R I E S

The volunteers
worked to support
locally driven

economic, social
& environmental
change with

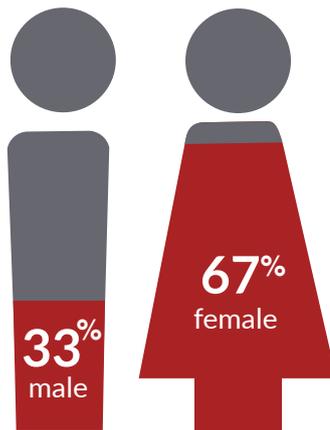
337
partner
organisations

42
AVI
staff
worked
out of
12
countries

4%



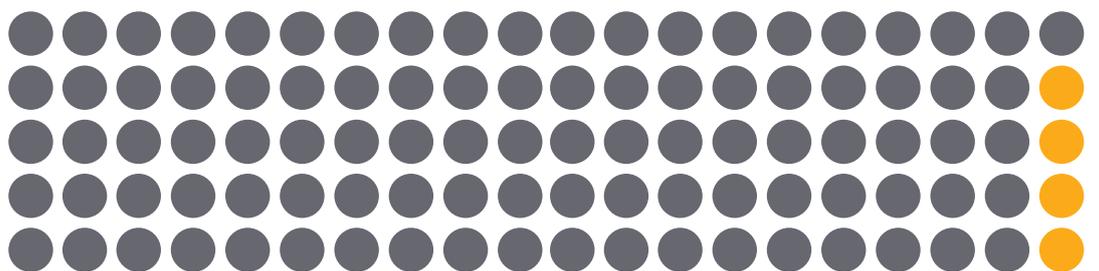
of volunteers were
Aboriginal or
Torres Strait
Islander peoples



39
years
old

was the
average
volunteer
age

96%
of volunteers
successfully
completed
their assignment
with AVI's support*



*excluding volunteers who returned due to unexpected circumstances such as family or health issues.

“Our volunteers are our champions. They break down barriers for us, they encourage us and are there to make a difference. I guess we get to see our own ability through their eyes, and they get to see their own commitment and passion through our eyes.”



Joshko Wakaniyasi,
Executive Director,
Spinal Injury
Association of Fiji

“Change is about improving people’s lives in positive ways ... you empower them to be able to take charge of their own development and live with dignity in their own environment..”



Eileen Tugum,
Staff Member, WaterAid,
Papua New Guinea

“Change to me is not something that you wait to happen - it is something you create.”



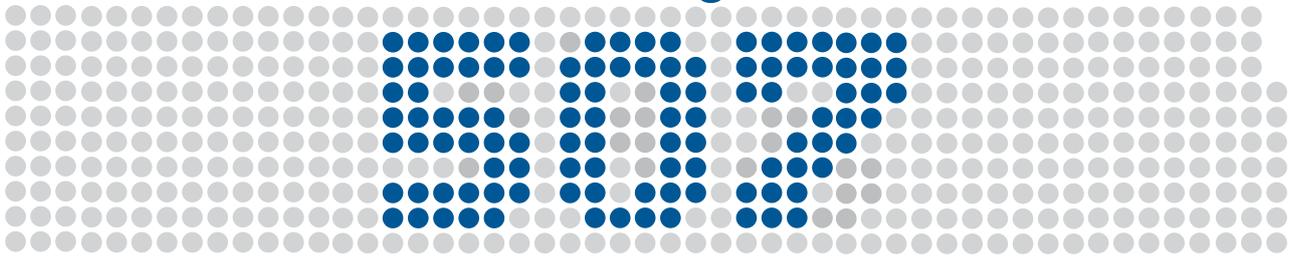
Htet Oo Linn,
UMFCCI,
Myanmar.

During 2016-17 AVI recruited and deployed skilled Australians from a range of sectors, just some of these included:

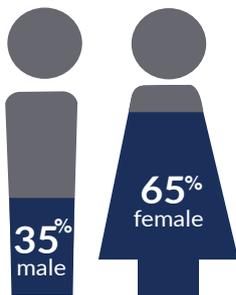


AVI is proud to be a delivery partner of the Australian Development (AVID) program.

AVI managed



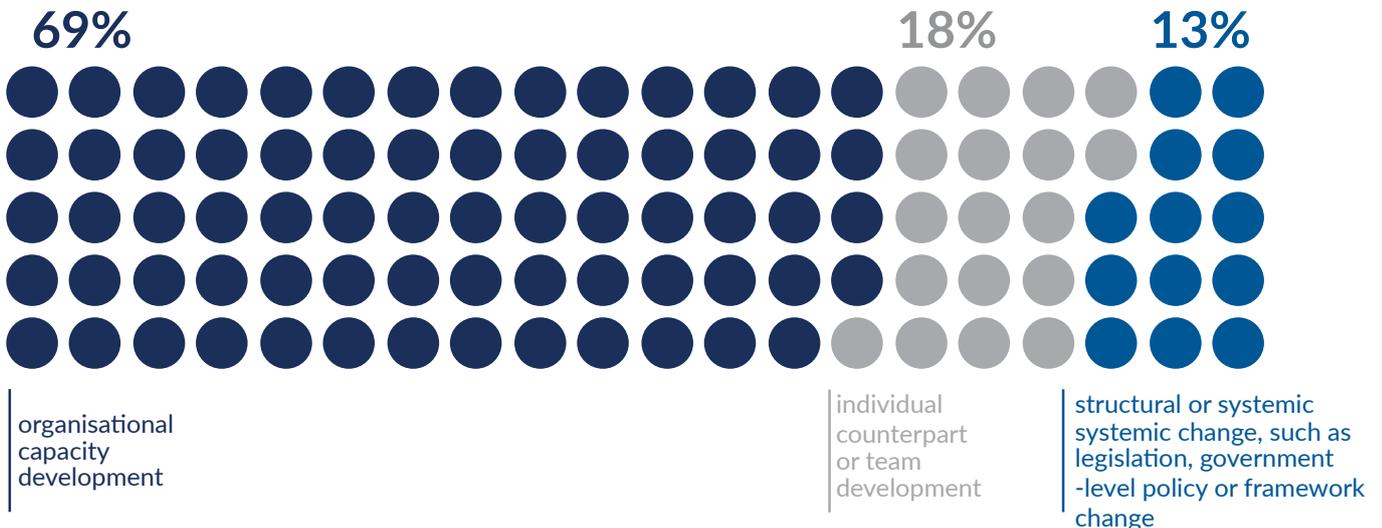
AVID participants



3.35%

of volunteers were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples

Of all AVID assignments in 2016-17, volunteer contributions were made to:



18%

assignments that had significant private sector engagement

96%

of volunteers successfully completed their assignments*

*excluding volunteers who returned due to unexpected circumstances such as family or health issues.

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FEEDBACK & E-COPY

We welcome feedback on this report and on our operations and conduct generally.

To lodge feedback, please contact tpearce@avi.org.au

Complaints relating to a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct can be made to ACFID. See www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct/complaints for details.

Should you wish to receive an electronic copy of this annual report please contact: tpearce@avi.org.au with "Annual Report – electronic copy" contained in the subject line.

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