

Beyond international education and diplomacy

Shaping regional engagement for Australia

The New Colombo Plan
experience

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Australian story



- Continental landmass
- Population distribution
- Long way from *anywhere*
- Anglo, Euro, US influence
- Culturally *immature*
- Mono lingual & unilateral
- Strong mobility platform

New Colombo Plan



“The New Colombo Plan is a signature initiative of the Australian Government which aims to lift knowledge of the Indo Pacific in Australia by supporting Australian undergraduates to study and undertake internships in the region.”

New Colombo Plan activity



- 31,000 alumni by 2018*
- \$51m AUD senate estimates budget*
- DFAT Secretariat structure
- Dept. of Education administration
- 40 Universities public and private
- Post regional engagement

The New Colombo Plan story



- Foreign Minister and Colombo Plan legacy
- Regional engagement and investment in youth
- Stakeholder engagement and Menzies Research Centre
- Policy delivered prior to election

New Colombo Plan activity



- Alumni Ambassadors program
- Business Champions program
- Internship and business portal
- NCP Patron Governor General
- DFAT Secretary Chair of Reference Group
- Foreign Minister as Champion

New Colombo Plan outcomes



- Systemic and horizontal service delivery across universities
- Influencing change through language
- Built into government policy
- Beyond the student experience
- Uptake across diplomatic posts and peak bodies
- Corporate engagement

The New Colombo Plan

Thank you

Trevor Goddard

Menzies Research Centre New Colombo Plan Steering Committee

Dept. Foreign Affairs and Trade NCP Reference Group

IEAA Board and National Executive member (Treasurer)

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