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Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

12,000 LABOUR MOBILITY DEPLOYMENTS TO AUSTRALIA UNDER PALM SCHEME

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Solomon Islands has reached a significant milestone in its participation in the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) Scheme, with over 12,000 labour mobility deployments supported.

The deployees have worked in sectors including meat processing, agriculture, horticulture and aged care.

According to Australian data, Solomon Islanders sent home SBD580 million in remittances in calendar year 2025. Remittances are used to support workers' families and communities in Solomon Islands, including housing and education costs.

Australian High Commissioner Jeff Roach said the PALM Scheme was a strong demonstration of the two-way partnership between Australia and Solomon Islands.

"We know Solomon Islands benefits from the flow of remittances under the PALM scheme, but Australia is also grateful for the important contribution Solomon Islanders are making to our economy,' High Commissioner Roach said.

"It's tough work in these industries, and nobody should doubt the determination and resilience of Solomon Islanders who are spending long periods away from home to provide for their families and communities.

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"Each one of these 12,000 deployments represents a sacrifice as well as an opportunity, which is why Australia provides extensive support for workers under PALM and is committed to protecting their rights at work."

The 12,000 PALM deployments form part of the 36,000 jobs in Solomon Islands and for Solomon Islanders that Australia has created since 2021, according to the Australian High Commission. After setting a record in 2025, remittance flows are expected to continue to grow in future.

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PHOTOS:



Caption 1: Australian High Commissioner Jeff Roach and outgoing PALM workers attending a pre-departure briefing before mobilisation to work in Australia.

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Caption 2: A group of PALM workers from Solomon Islands enjoying the break room at a large meatworks employer in Australia.



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Caption 3: Solomon Islanders working in Australia under the PALM scheme are employed in a range of sectors including meatworks, agriculture and aged care.



Caption 4: Solomon Islands PALM workers have a strong reputation among Australian employers under the PALM scheme