



Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

EXERCISE COASTWATCHERS PROVIDES ADVANCED MEDICAL TRAINING

18 MARCH 2026

Exercise Coastwatchers continues this week, with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) and the Australian Defence Force (ADF) undertaking an Advanced Medical course.

As part of the exercise, RSIPF and ADF members have been learning and practicing advanced medical skills for use when undertaking police operations.

The participants have been learning how to treat everything from cuts to broken bones, as well as treating people who have been in a vehicle accident.

Importantly, the course also covers how to improvise when officers are a long way from hospital. Participants have practiced how to make medical equipment, like slings, stretchers and bandages, to treat patients and move them to medical care.

These skills are essential for the RSIPF and ADF when working in the field. More than just first aid, the teams are practicing how to keep each other safe and well when working together across the Solomon Islands.

These are key skills which the RSIPF has asked the ADF to provide training on, to ensure the RSIPF can respond to medical issues no matter where in the Solomon Islands they operate.

Exercise Coastwatchers runs from 6 March until 1 April.

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PHOTOS & CAPTIONS



Photo 1: An RSIPF member practices treating injuries in the field.



Photo 2: RSIPF and ADF members prepare to practice CPR.



Photo 3: RSIPF members advanced medical skills on an ‘injured’ member.