

Investing in a capability edge



Australia's strategic environment

Australia's region is now in the midst of the most consequential strategic realignment since the Second World War. The *2020 Defence Strategic Update* and *2020 Force Structure Plan* reaffirmed the need to build a more potent, capable and agile defence force, including acquiring capabilities that enable Australia to hold adversary forces and infrastructure at risk further from Australia.

The Australian Government is delivering on a range of high-end capability enhancements within the next 10 years which will ensure the Australian Defence Force is better prepared to support a secure, stable and prosperous region.

Opportunities through AUKUS

The establishment of AUKUS demonstrates the shared commitment of Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States, to protect and promote prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region.

Through AUKUS, we will collaborate with the United Kingdom and United States on a nuclear-powered submarine capability for Australia as well as on cyber capabilities, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies and additional undersea capabilities.

AUKUS will also enable our three countries to better collaborate on defence science, research and education, technology, joint capabilities and industrial bases, building on Australia's existing defence investment.



Increasing our investment in strike capabilities

Throughout the 2020s, Australia will rapidly acquire long-range strike capabilities to enhance the ADF's ability to deliver strike effects across our air, land and maritime domains.

- **Tomahawk Cruise Missiles** will be fielded on our Hobart class destroyers, enabling our maritime assets to strike land targets at greater distances, with better precision.
- Australia will acquire **Long-Range Anti-Ship Missiles (Extended Range) (LRASM)** for the F/A-18F Super Hornet.
- **Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles (Extended Range)** will enable our F/A-18F Super Hornet and in future, our F-35A Lightning II, to hit targets at a range of 900km.
- We are collaborating with the United States to develop **hypersonic missiles** for our air capabilities.
- We will acquire for our Land Forces, **precision strike guided missiles** which are capable of destroying, neutralising and suppressing diverse targets from over 400km.
- We are accelerating \$1 billion for a **sovereign guided weapons manufacturing enterprise** – which will enable us to create our own weapons on Australian soil.



\$64-\$86 billion*

Australia's naval and maritime forces are a vital element of our national defence. They must be able to protect force at range and operate across vast distances. We are investing in a sovereign and continuous naval shipbuilding industry in Australia with new ships and vessels entering service and being sustained to maintain our capability edge.



\$65 billion**

Air combat power is critical to protecting Australia and deployed forces from adversary threats. Australia's air combat investments have delivered a deployable F-35A Lightning II, the most advanced multi-role stealth fighter in the world. We are also investing in hypersonic weapons for our aircraft, greater maritime surveillance and accelerating design and manufacture of remotely piloted and autonomous systems.



\$7 billion**

This investment ensures Australia has access to space, space services and geospatial information. From 2022, Defence is establishing a Space Division to work with the Australian Space Agency and industry to transform the way the ADF operates in space and across the joint force. We will acquire sovereign satellite communications, intelligence and surveillance capabilities which are critical to Australia's warfighting effectiveness.



\$55 billion**

Australia's immediate investment in land combat capabilities will increase the land force's combat power, and give Defence more options to deploy land forces. The ADF is acquiring land Precision Strike Missiles; Self-Propelled Howitzers, and investing in enhanced combat vehicles and battlefield aviation capabilities in order to deploy and operate in high-threat environments.



\$15 billion**

Malicious activity and cyber threats have increased. Defence is funding the rapid expansion of offensive cyber capabilities, information warfare, and artificial intelligence. \$1.35 billion will be invested over the next decade on the Cyber Enhanced Situational Awareness and Response package which will enable us to better identify more cyber threats to protect Australians and keep our critical services safe.

*Planned capability investments over the next decade as set out in the 2020 Force Structure Plan (PBS20-21). Cost-estimates for Australia's nuclear-powered submarines will be determined as part of the 18-month consultation with the UK and the US.

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