



Australia Awards

Australia Awards Short Course Sustainable Tourism Management Indonesia, Fiji and Solomon Islands



The participants of the Australia Awards Short Course on Sustainable Tourism Management, a course focusing on improving the enabling environment to achieve a sustainable tourism industry.

The Australia Awards Indonesia Short Course in Sustainable Tourism Management aimed to strengthen connections across the tourism sectors of Indonesia, Australia, Fiji and the Solomon Islands. Led and designed by Professor Sarah Gardiner, Professor Noel Scott and Professor Bill Carter, the course brought together participants from Indonesia, Fiji and the Solomon Islands, all who share a strong interest in sustainable blue and green economies.

The program created opportunities for participants to exchange expertise, experience and best practice in sustainable tourism while exploring future regional collaboration. The course focused on environmental and cultural heritage protection, responsible consumption in tourism, and the investments required to make tourism more sustainable. Participants examined ways to balance development priorities with environmental challenges and gained a deeper understanding of tourism's contribution to economic growth and employment. Building on the success of nine earlier short courses delivered from 2016 to 2025, this course further strengthened regional partnerships and long-term cooperation in sustainable tourism management.

Course schedule:

- Online pre-course workshop
16 September 2025
- In-Australia course
18 – 2 November 2025
- Online post-course workshop
19 February 2026





Participants at Kuranda Sky Rail in Cairns, Australia.

Site visits

Site visits formed a central component of the learning experience, providing Participants with a balanced representation of the Queensland tourism industry. Site visits included:

- Binna Burra Lodge
- Tourism Port Douglas
- Temple of Hou Wang
- Jellies Research facility Sea world

Participants' Award Projects

Participants designed and implemented Award Projects to apply course learnings in their work. These projects were continuously reviewed and discussed with their group mentor throughout the course. Examples of projects are:

- Enhancing Indonesia's Integrated Tourism Master Plan (ITMP) through a Sustainability Screening Approach
- Technical Guidelines for Tourism Villages that Implement Inclusivity
- Strengthening Flagship SMEs through Digital Branding in Les Village, North Bali



Participants on a site visit to Temple of Hou Wang in Cairns, Australia.

Pre-course workshop

The pre-course was delivered as an online workshop that introduced the foundational principles of sustainable tourism management. It explored key concepts as well as current tourism trends in Indonesia, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands. Participants also took part in a workshop on Award Project development, focused on maximising outcomes and designing high-impact projects.

Post-course workshop

The online post course workshop was held online on 19 February 2026. The workshop was designed to consolidate learning from the in-Australia course. The participants presented their implemented Award Projects at the workshop and gave peer-to-peer feedback. The participants also explored future collaboration at the workshop.

"My experience in Australia through the Australia Awards program was truly inspiring. I learned how collaboration, sustainability, and innovation can transform tourism into a force for good. Seeing how destinations like Cairns balance growth with environmental care motivated me to apply similar approaches in Indonesia. This experience strengthened my commitment to developing Labuan Bajo and Flores as models of responsible and inclusive tourism for the future."

Anonymous Participant

"My experience in Australia through the Australian Awards program was life-changing. It expanded my understanding of sustainability from both academic and practical lenses and strengthened my sense of purpose as a tourism leader. The course not only enhanced my professional skills but also connected me with a community of passionate changemakers across the Asia-Pacific."

Anonymous Participant

For further information about the program, please contact:

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