



China's Expanding Influence in the Pacific

(U) This infographic provides an insight to China's expanding influence in the Pacific. China is strategically expanding its presence in the Pacific Islands through extensive infrastructure projects – ports, airports, and communication networks – disguised as civilian developments. This network, built largely by Chinese state-owned companies, stretches over 3,000 miles and raises concerns about potential military applications and a challenge to U.S. influence in the region.

Dual-Use Infrastructure: These projects are part of China's Belt and Road Initiative and are designed for both civilian and military purposes, potentially hindering U.S. operations and aiding a possible invasion of Taiwan.

Strategic Locations: The network focuses on islands historically important for wartime strategy, including locations near Australia and American Samoa.

Growing Network: The report identifies at least 50 active "strategic nodes" representing a \$3.55 billion investment.

Regional Implications: This expansion aims to reshape power dynamics, potentially drawing U.S. allies away from their security partnerships and isolating the United States.

Recent Activity: China has demonstrated increased military activity in the region, including missile tests and naval exercises.

Limited Pushback: There has been little resistance from regional powers like Australia and New Zealand.

A Few Highlighted Dual-use Infrastructure financed by China in the South Pacific

● Seaports ● Airports ● Information and Communication Technology

Chuuk Airport Project (FM) - China Railway Group (since 2004) \$4.99 million Chinese government grant

Port of Darwin (AU) - Shandong Landbridge (since 2015) \$506 million on 99-year lease

Port of Newcastle (AU) - China Merchants Port Holding (since 2018) \$478 million for 50% stake on 50-year lease

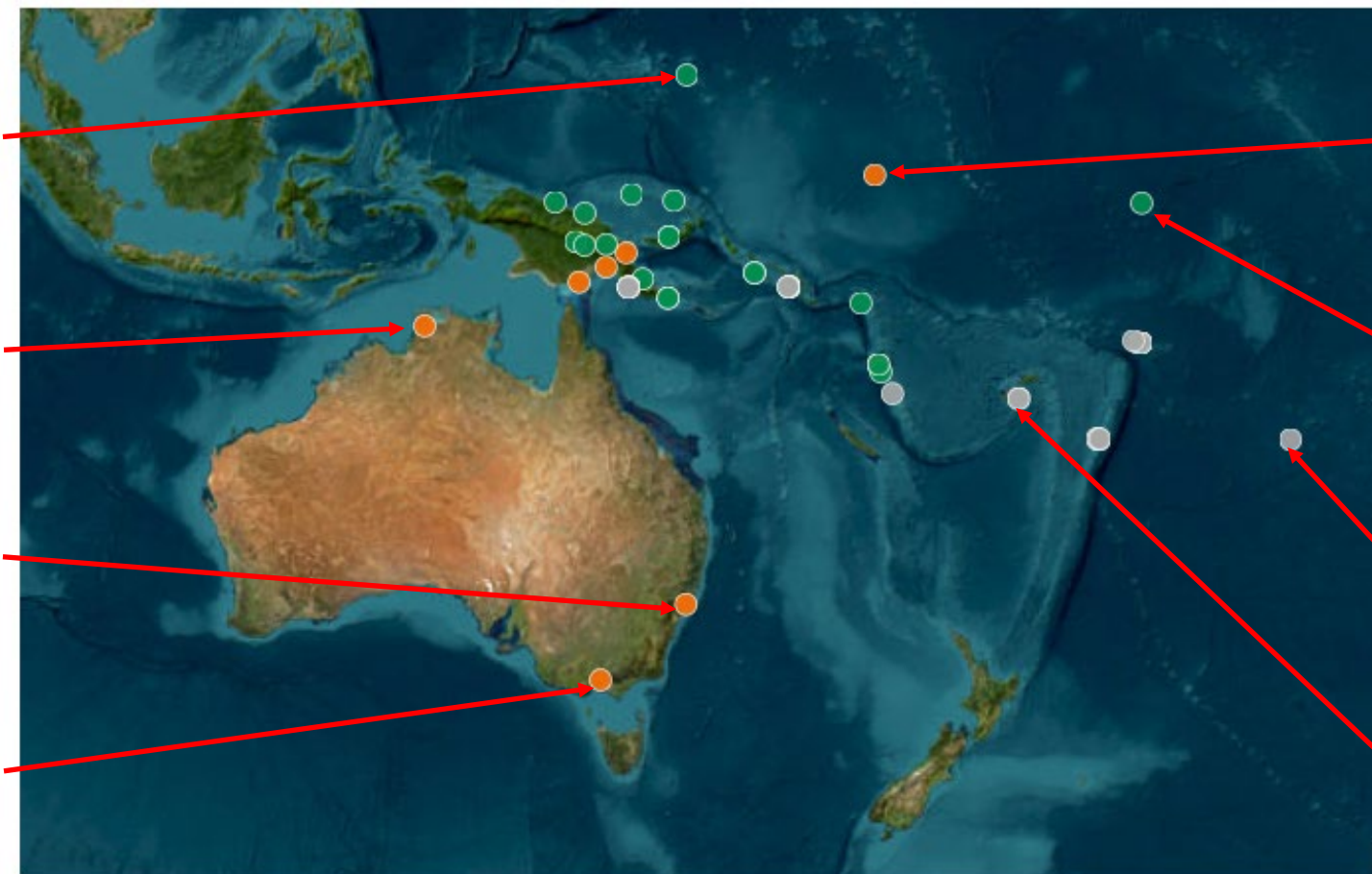
Port of Melbourne (AU) - China Investment Corporation (since 2016) \$900 million for 20% stake on 50-year lease

Aiwo Port Project (NR) - China harbor Engineering Company (since 2019) \$97.9 million total project cost

Canton Airport Project (KI) - (since 2021) Undisclosed Chinese Government Grant

4.5 Mobile Network (CK) - Huawei Technologies (Since 2017)

10G Passive Optic Network (FJ) - Huawei Technologies (since 2019)



Australia – AU; Micronesia – FM; Mairi – NR; Kiribati – KI; Cook Island – CK; Fiji – FJ
To see additional infrastructure financed by China, [click here](#) for the article

While China maintains its intentions are peaceful and focused on development, the U.S. views the initiative as advancing China's political agenda. The U.S. is seeking to offer alternative infrastructure investments that prioritize transparency and security.