education and training sector, when the government (Govt of Australia, 2018):

- commissioned a review of the National Vocational and Education Training Regulator Act (2011);
- established a Skilling Australians Fund to support apprentices and trainees; and
- launched the Vocational Education and Training Student Loans programme in January 2017, which offers loans to trainees in areas with skills shortages, in particular.

The mechanisms through which institutions can provide advice to government have changed since 2015. A National Science and Technology Council was announced in 2018 to replace the Commonwealth Science Council, formed in 2014, which itself had supplanted the Prime Minister’s Science, Engineering and Innovation Council. As a result, ISA’s own mandate has become unclear.

Figure 26.6: Number of IP5 patents granted to inventors from Southeast Asia and Oceania, 2015–2019

Note: IP5 refers to the US Patent and Trademark Office, European Patent Office, Japanese Patent Office, Korean Intellectual Property Office and State Intellectual Property Office of the People’s Republic of China. Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, Niue, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Tuvalu received no IP5 patents during the period under study. Palau and the Solomon Islands received one patent each during the period under study, in 2017 and 2015, respectively. For other countries not featured here, the numbers were: Marshall Islands (21), Kiribati (9), Cook Islands (6), Fiji (7) and Vanuatu (4).

Source: PATSTAT, data treatment by Science-Metrix

UNESCO SCIENCE REPORT (2021)