

# Perceptions of New Zealand



A valued, consistent, and relied-upon partner in Timor-Leste's history and independence forming the foundation for a mutually respectful and genuinely close development partnership.



An 'honest broker' whose Foreign Policy and Aid objectives focus on Timor-Leste's development without vested interests beyond successful outcomes for Timor-Leste.



'Scandinavia' of the southern hemisphere - a 'right-sized' role model of a small country with a strong economy, effective governance, good race relations, and good public administration;



NZ's aid programme is highly regarded by Government and other development partners for being well focused and relevant to the challenges in Timor-Leste – a significant change from 10 years ago when the program was seen as being dissipated.

## What we've achieved

### Knowledge, Skills and Training

**Scholarships and Training:** "A skilled workforce and strengthened public sector". NZ\$3.2M/year, 18% of ODA to Timor-Leste over 6 years has resulted in the following outcomes.



**60 Timor-Leste citizens** granted New Zealand academic scholarships, teaching new and essential skills.



**160 Timorese public servants** received short-term professional and English language training, Strengthened has to address pervasive professional capacity constraints.

**Support to early childhood education:** "Improved quality, access and gender equity of learning outcomes for children 3-5 years old". NZ\$4.2M/year, 23% of ODA to Timor-Leste over six years. Interventions integrated with the T-L Government, with strong NZ expertise, and contributing to systemic change:



Support the Ministry of Education to service all **338 public pre-schools** in Timor-Leste reaching approx. 20,000 children, - 16.7 per cent of Timorese children ages 3-5.



Support UNICEF to pilot **123 community-run, alternative pre-schools** in Ermera and Viqueque.



Provide quality learning media for **115,000 children** 3 to 7 years enrolled in pre and primary schools, in partnership with CARE.

### FUTURE SNAPSHOT



"New Zealand is the best placed donor to support Government and civil society to collaborate on an effective model for alternative and formal pre-schools, and to nurture the transition of young children into Grades 1 and 2. Traction, reputation and Government commitment all seem robust and, if maintained, would result in the ongoing enhancement and deepening of this engagement during the next triennium."

# Security and Justice

**“Safety, security and access to justice for the people of Timor-Leste”**. 19 per cent of ODA to Timor-Leste over the last six years. Currently NZ\$3.6 million per annum. Community policing initiatives delivering a locally relevant and sustainable policing model and close relationship with NZ Police:



Implemented standard operating procedures for community policing in Timor-Leste, and embedded community orientation within the TL National Police Strategic Plan (2014 – 2018);



Helped establish a police presence in all 452 suco across Timor-Leste; and



Established 13 Municipal Security Councils (MSCs), associated Women's Security Meetings (WSMs), and 123 Community Policing Councils (CPCs) to resolve local issues.

## FUTURE SNAPSHOT



New Zealand's support is appreciated and effective in advancing Community Policing. Conditional on evidence of ongoing community policing adoption in the *Timor-Leste Community Policing Programme*, support should continue through the coming triennium.

The community policing presence and active community groups provide opportunity to promote disaster preparedness and response at suco and municipal levels. New Zealand should consider enhancing this element of the programme, particularly as Timor-Leste continues to devolve Government services.

# Economic Diversification

**“Investments in agriculture, tourism and small business development create jobs, improve people's livelihoods, and build overall economic resilience and diversification”**.

NZ\$5M/year, 31% of ODA to Timor-Leste over 6 years has contributed to:

## New Zealand's most significant investments in economic diversification:



Improve arabica coffee productivity within the high-altitude coffee belt for 15,000 households (50% of the industry), and diversify economic farming options at lower altitudes, including cocoa and other cash crops



Identify the economic potential of the undeveloped Tourism sector and improve Tourism policy



Establish and strengthen hatcheries for fresh and brackish water fish. Pilot community based aquaculture production.



Build Dili-based livestock and vegetable value chains including effective abattoir services and fresh produce for supermarkets.

## FUTURE SNAPSHOT



Support for Economic Diversification is essential, but NZ investments are dissipated. NZ needs to tighten its logic and its focus in this sector. Already there is momentum to increase funding to emerging opportunities in tourism, and to the needs associated with ASEAN and WTO accession.

Prospective accession to ASEAN and the WTO will likely provide modest economic benefits and opportunities to align systems with international standards and upgrade the Timor-Leste's human resource development.