



NEW ZEALAND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE
Manatū Aorere

**Minister of Foreign Affairs’
report on the International
Development Cooperation
non-departmental appropriation
within Vote Foreign Affairs 2023–24**



This report is prepared under s19B of the Public Finance Act 1989: Provision of end of year performance information by Ministers.

Cover photo: Women in Kavula, Fiji, propagating vetiver grass to mitigate erosion of river banks. Climate Resilient Islands Programme, implemented by Live and Learn Environmental Education. Credit: Dioscuri 2024

New Zealand's International Development Cooperation (IDC) Programme is funded by a non-departmental appropriation within Vote Foreign Affairs. The Pacific and Development Group of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (hereafter 'the Ministry') manages the IDC Programme, disbursing the funding provided under this appropriation to a range of delivery partners (including New Zealand government agencies, partner governments, non-government organisations, companies, and regional and multilateral organisations).

The non-departmental IDC appropriation for the triennium July 2021–June 2024 was **\$3,012.46 million**. Three-year appropriations allow expenditure to be managed across years, which enables the Ministry to focus on longer term quality and impact. Expenditure for the triennium was **\$3,000.16 million**. A separate departmental appropriation is provided under Vote Foreign Affairs to fund the Ministry's management of the IDC Programme.

This report provides an overview of IDC Programme performance for the 2023–24 financial year. The first section features key achievements for the year, including evaluating delivery against the new climate finance commitment; the Ministry's work with other development partners; strengthening transparency across the IDC Programme; and a summary of findings from IDC Programme evaluations undertaken from 2020–23.

The second section sets out results against each of four major allocations groups within the IDC appropriation:

- Humanitarian
- Multilateral Agencies and Partnerships
- Pacific Development Cooperation
- Global Development Cooperation



Aerial view of a solar panel installation at Pulau Tiga, Maluku Province, Indonesia. The Access to Renewable Energy in Maluku (NZMATES) programme is in its final year and has seen 1,364 people benefit from improvements to renewable energy infrastructure, and 194 people benefit from training and capability building. Credit: TVRI Ambon Station, Maluku

New Zealand's International Development Cooperation Programme

The Ministry has primary responsibility for administering New Zealand's international development cooperation, which it does through New Zealand's International Development Cooperation (IDC) Programme – Ngā Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti¹⁹.

New Zealand delivers international development cooperation funding²⁰, knowledge and skills to help improve sustainable development and reduce poverty in developing countries, with a strong focus on the Pacific. Our humanitarian action saves lives and relieves suffering in natural disasters and protracted crises. We seek coherence across development, diplomatic, security, trade and economic, climate change, and environment objectives to ensure we deliver sustainable progress in developing countries, and advance New Zealand's interests and values. New Zealand's international development cooperation (both policy and financial) is an integral pillar of our foreign policy. It reflects our network of international relationships and commitments, and is an expression of our values.

¹⁹ Ngā Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti can be translated as 'The paddles that bring growth from afar'

²⁰ The OECD Development Assistance Committee (OECD DAC) determines at a high level what can be counted and reported internationally as official development assistance (ODA) – i.e. only support which has as its primary purpose the economic development and welfare of developing countries and which is provided on concessional terms can be counted. New Zealand's support under the International Development Cooperation appropriation is more expansive than ODA as some high income Pacific countries are also eligible for support under New Zealand's IDC.

New Zealand's Policy Statement on International Cooperation for Effective Sustainable Development²¹ (ICESD), the Pacific Reset and subsequent Resilience Approach, and the Ministry's strategic framework articulate the overarching strategic direction for our IDC. They provide the principles for how we allocate and deliver our funding, how we work with partners, and the outcomes that we intend to achieve. We seek effective, inclusive, resilient, and sustained outcomes²², and work in line with international development effectiveness principles.

New Zealand's IDC priorities in 2023–24 were:

- strengthening resilience to wide-ranging security²³ threats
- fostering country ownership and inclusive, locally-led development
- delivering climate action
- supporting regional and multilateral solutions to shared challenges.

²¹ See: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/Aid-Proq-docs/Policy/Policy-Statement-New-Zealands-International-Cooperation-for-Effective-Sustainable-Development-ICESD.pdf>

²² See: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/Aid-Proq-docs/Policy/New-Zealands-International-Development-Principles.pdf>

²³ We use an expanded concept of security inclusive of human security, health security, humanitarian assistance, environmental security, cyber security, and disaster and climate resilience.

Overview of 2023-24

During the past year, New Zealand's IDC efforts, especially in the Pacific, shifted from COVID-19 response to recovery and growth. We continued to provide flexible support, while maintaining our long-term funding commitments where possible. Foreign and domestic policy levers and approaches, as well as strong and trusted relationships, augmented our financial contributions.

Global challenges and responses

Over recent years the context for development cooperation has changed significantly. Poverty reduction was dealt a severe blow by the COVID-19 pandemic and a series of additional shocks during 2020–22, causing years of lost progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals²⁴ (SDGs). Globally around half the SDG targets are moderately or severely off track; and over 30 percent have seen no movement or regressed below the 2015 baseline – including key targets on poverty, hunger and climate. Natural disasters, more frequent extreme weather events, intensifying conflict, greater need for humanitarian responses, and sharpening strategic competition have increased pressures on developing and developed countries. By mid-2023, the consequences of war, conflict and human rights violations had displaced 110 million people, of which 35 million were refugees – the highest figures ever recorded. The UN estimates that over 303 million people require humanitarian assistance in 2024. These challenges have significant implications for peace and security, and prosperity. They have resulted in unprecedented demand for official development assistance (ODA), greater use of ODA for crisis response, and reduced focus on traditional development activities.

The global economy continues to face a number of challenges, particularly with regards to rising inflation, tightening financial conditions, and elevated uncertainty due to war in Ukraine and the Israel/Gaza conflict. These pressures come on top of longer term issues, such as efforts to decarbonise economies.

New Zealand's IDC Programme beyond the Pacific has provided targeted contributions to global responses to these challenges, delivering a range of development and humanitarian interventions, and focusing on the broader Indo-Pacific region. Our response to humanitarian crises and disasters covered 25 countries, and

totalled more than \$83 million – marking two years of significant growth of the humanitarian programme. Core funding to multilateral organisations supported global development and humanitarian outcomes; and we provided targeted support in economic and climate resilience; governance; peace and security; and capability development – particularly to South East Asian Least Developed Countries.

A Pacific focus

Pacific economies are slowly recovering from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic through the return of tourism and resumption of public infrastructure projects. However, they emerge more economically vulnerable, and it will be some years before all Pacific countries return to their pre-COVID levels of output. Labour constraints, higher interest rates, supply chain disruptions, and inflation driven by increased freight costs are all constraining economic recovery of the region.

New Zealand supports a range of programmes aimed at boosting the economic resilience and diversification of Pacific economies, ranging from support for macro-economic and fiscal stability, to direct support for Pacific businesses and for improving the competitiveness of key industries, such as agriculture and tourism. Human development programmes address backlogs in specialist medical care and disruptions to formal education caused by the pandemic, while also focusing on strengthening social resilience and inclusion for the future.

²⁴ The SDGs are a collection of 17 interlinked objectives, adopted by the UN in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Countries have committed to prioritise progress for those who are furthest behind.

New Zealand continues to stand alongside our Pacific whānau, facing these challenges together. We have worked to provide responsive support to help lessen the impact of crises, and continue to honour our commitment to working alongside partners to deliver tangible long-term impact and strengthened resilience with an emphasis on climate change adaptation, peace and stability; economic resilience; and good governance.

Expenditure

Total IDC appropriation expenditure in 2023–24 was \$1.202 billion – a 24 percent increase on 2022–23 expenditure. We delivered 63 percent of our total IDC to the Pacific (\$760 million).

FIGURE 1: PROPORTION OF IDC FUNDING SPENT ON KEY PRIORITIES 2023–24*

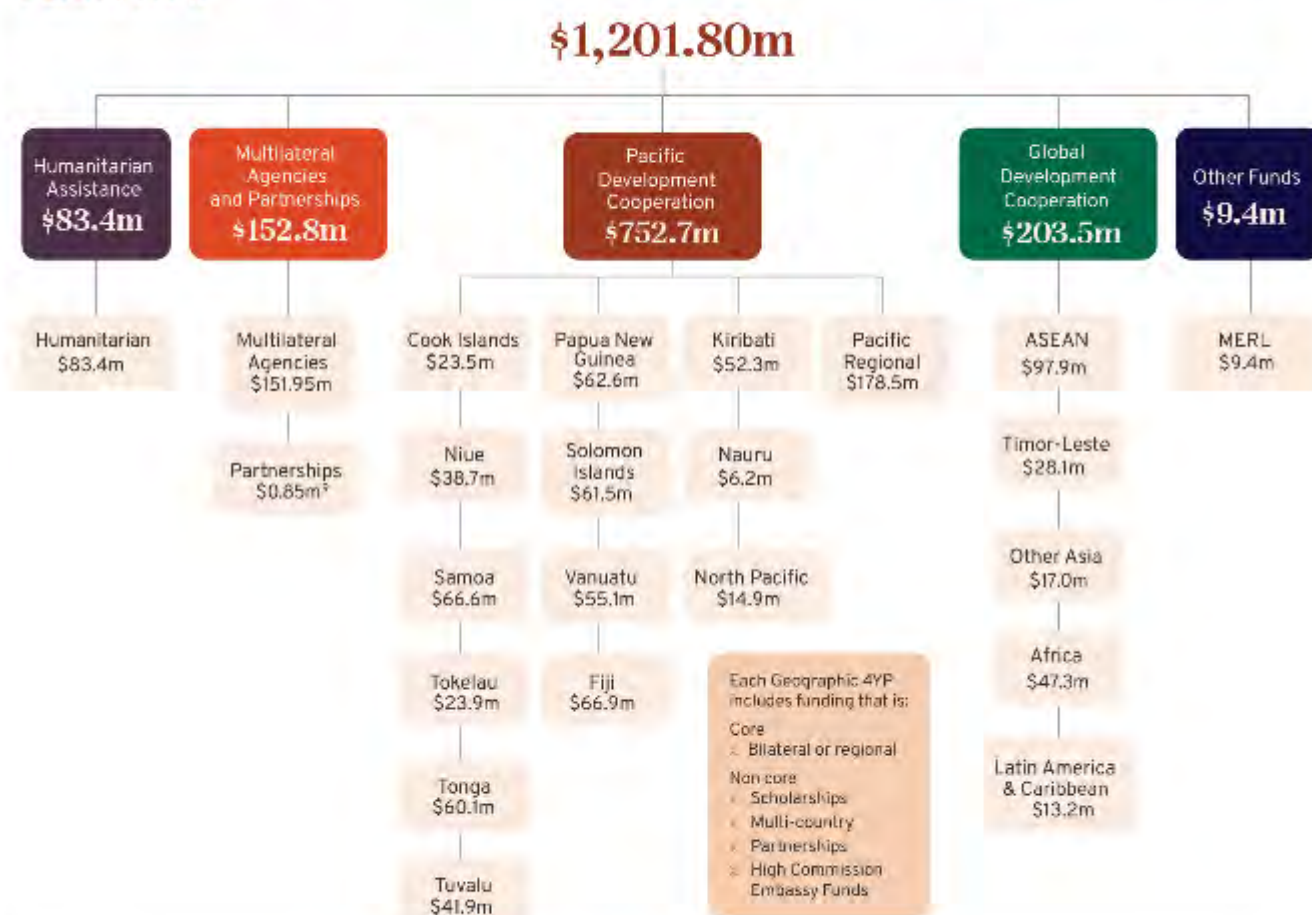


*Note, categories are not mutually exclusive.

⁷Vulnerable countries are defined as those above the median Multidimensional Vulnerability Index score (currently 52.8). The MVI is a new international quantitative benchmark to measure structural vulnerability and the lack of structural resilience across multiple dimensions of sustainable development at the national level. See: <https://www.un.org/ohrlls/mvi>. The MVI does not include data on non-UN Member states i.e. territories. In absence of this data, we have deemed Realm countries (Cook Islands, Niue, and Tokelau) as 'vulnerable' using the previous definition (i.e. population <100,000)

⁸ Aid for Trade is an initiative developed by the World Trade Organisation to promote development assistance to developing countries to improve their ability to reap the benefits of trade liberalisation. New Zealand is a participating donor, with a focus on enabling better outcomes for the Pacific.

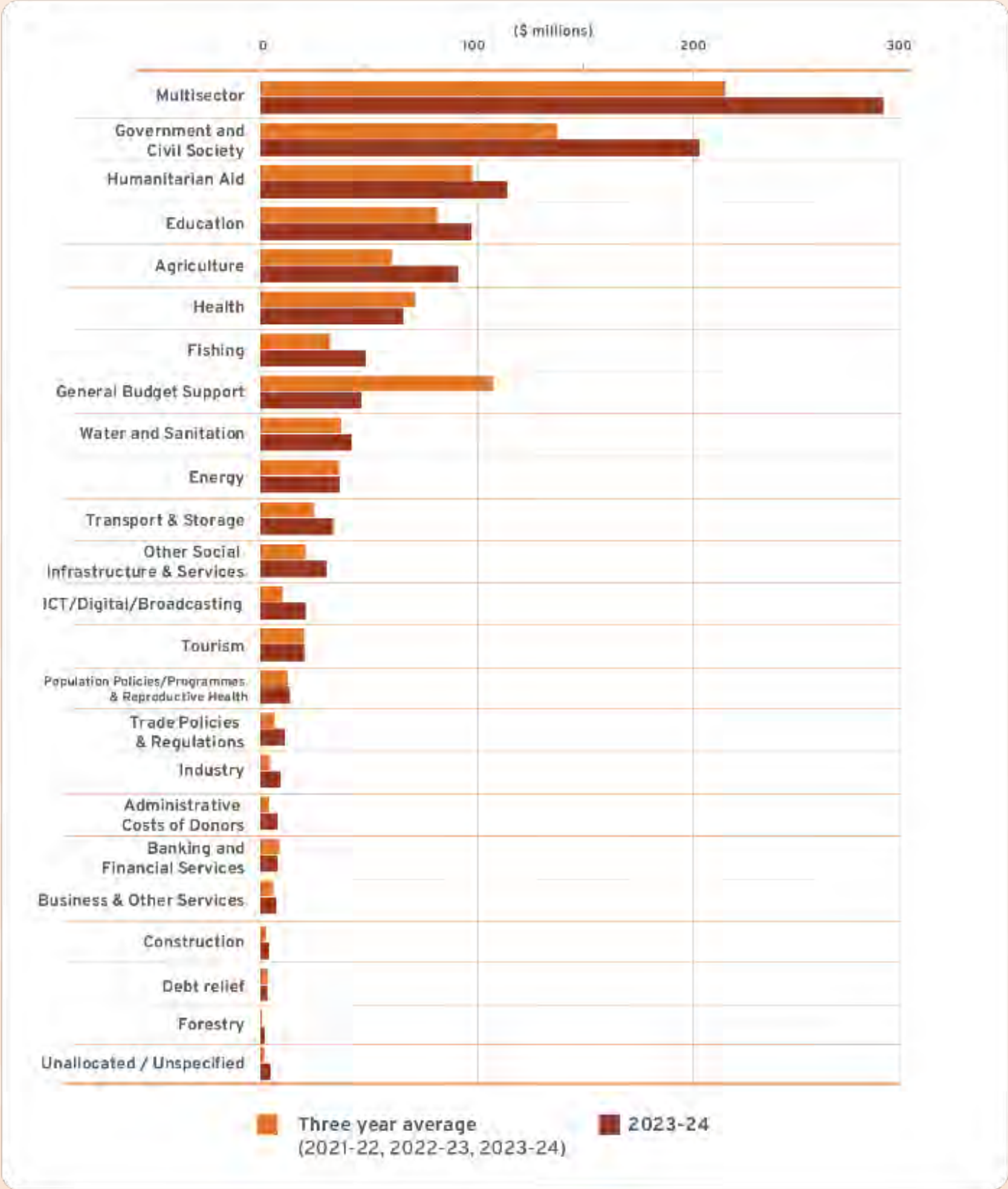
FIGURE 2 : IDC 2023-24 EXPENDITURE BY ALLOCATION GROUP AND FOUR-YEAR PLAN (4YP).



²Note that the total spend for the Partnerships programme was \$61.8 million, most of which is allocated to geographic four-year plans.

FIGURE 3: IDC 2023-24 EXPENDITURE BY SECTOR (COMPARED WITH THREE YEAR AVERAGE OVER 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24)

New Zealand’s total IDC spend for 2023-24 was \$1,201.8 million. Of this, the top three areas of expenditure (by OECD CRS codes) were multi-sector activities (core support to multilateral and regional agencies), government and civil society, and humanitarian aid – together totalling \$287.5 million.



Results at a glance

In the 2023–24 financial year as a direct result of New Zealand's international development cooperation funding:



17,900+

PEOPLE

participated in a **labour mobility initiative**



4,200+

PEOPLE

received training or **capability-building support** in fisheries and oceans'



5,800+

PEOPLE

in the education workforce **received training or capability-building support**

870+

PEOPLE

completed tertiary or vocational scholarships

8,300+

PEOPLE

benefitted from enhanced learning through ICT



192,000+

PEOPLE

benefitted from **sexual and reproductive health services**

2,700+

PEOPLE

in the health workforce **received training for capability-building support**



1,800+

PEOPLE

received training or **capability-building support** in equity and inclusion



79,900+

PEOPLE

directly benefitted from initiatives which aim to increase resilience to climate change and environmental degradation



159,000+

PEOPLE

were provided with essential and **useful humanitarian assistance** following a natural or human-induced disaster



136,000+

PEOPLE

directly benefitted from **improved infrastructure and services**

1,600+

PEOPLE

received training or **capability-building support** in infrastructure



60,000+

PEOPLE

received training or **capability-building support** in peace and security



15,000+

PEOPLE

received training or **capability-building support** in governance



480,000+

PEOPLE

were supported to **improve their livelihoods**



Genetic resources at SPC's Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) Lab. Credit: Neil Palmer (Crop Trust)

Delivering New Zealand's International Climate Finance Commitment 2022–2025

Climate change is the most significant security and development issue facing the Pacific. New Zealand, as a developed country party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, is obliged to mobilise financial resources to assist developing countries' mitigation and adaptation efforts. Building resilience is at the heart of New Zealand's engagement with the Pacific, and access to adequate climate finance is key.

New Zealand's \$1.3 billion funding for climate finance over 2022–25 is four times the size of the previous funding commitment (\$300 million between 2019–22), and includes a target to invest at least 50 percent in adaptation activities, and at least 50 percent within the Pacific. At 30 June 2024, two and a half years into the four year programme, all of the \$1.3 billion commitment has been approved for delivery and \$862.69 million (66.3 percent) has been spent. New Zealand's international climate finance is delivered through the IDC appropriation as grant-based development assistance. This funding is delivered through the Pacific, Global and Multilateral Agencies and Partnerships allocations groups set out in Figure 2.

The Ministry is committed to good practice in managing the climate finance portfolio, including alignment to an overarching climate finance strategy, performance reporting mechanisms, clear management responsibilities, independent quality assurance, and scrutiny across the entire climate finance investment. To date, we have initial information showing our activities are making a difference. However, because of the long-term nature of climate change responses, we wouldn't expect to see full achievement of outcomes until long after the December 2025 commitment end date. In the interim, the Ministry uses various approaches to ensure that New Zealand's climate finance is effectively delivering progress towards the outcomes stated in the International Climate Finance Strategy²⁵ (ICFS).

²⁵ See: <https://www.mfat.govt.nz/assets/Aid/Climate-finance/International-Climate-Finance-Strategy-FINAL-16Aug22-low-res.pdf>

Climate finance decisions are carefully considered based on intended impact

The Ministry's internal governance framework, including robust business casing, helps ensure funding is spent in line with the goals, outcomes and targets set out in the ICFS, as well as ensuring it is aligned to the broader objectives of the IDC Programme. Careful consideration is given to allocating funding according to the ICFS delivery preferences. For example:

- **Partner-led:** 62 percent of approved mitigation activities support partner countries to deliver on priorities outlined in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) or other mitigation plans; and 83 percent of approved adaptation activities support partner countries to deliver on priorities outlined in their National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) or equivalent adaptation plans.
- **Pacific-focus, global impact:** 65.2 percent of approved funding has been allocated to delivery in the Pacific.

Detailed design of initiatives ensures that funding has the intended impact and is a critical element of our partner-led approach. We proactively seek to partner with likeminded donor countries, regional and international institutions, and private sector parties to maximise the effectiveness and impact of climate finance investments. This way of working has helped to build stronger relationships with countries and institutions, particularly in the Pacific, where addressing climate change is a top priority for our partners.

Monitoring and evaluation provides assurance

With the \$1.3 billion commitment now approved for delivery, the Ministry is focused on ensuring climate finance activities are achieving intended results for our partners and communities. The Ministry has a suite of 12 headline indicators to summarise and consider performance of the climate finance portfolio. These indicators show, for example, that in 2023–24 more than 79,900 people directly benefitted from New Zealand's work to increase resilience to climate change and environmental degradation. A Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) framework for the entire climate finance portfolio also includes MERL frameworks for individual initiatives.

An independent assurance programme is under way that will review all aspects of climate finance portfolio planning and delivery. Initial reviews have been completed on the governance framework; the portfolio monitoring and evaluation framework; portfolio reporting functions; modality selection; data quality and information management; and provider selection and partner management. The Ministry will publish recommendations from the 23 reviews and their management responses on its website.

The below case studies provide insights from New Zealand's climate finance portfolio.

Building on proven success

A key consideration in the allocation of climate finance funding is evidence about improving climate outcomes. For example, New Zealand has recently contributed \$6.15 million towards the second phase of the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project (TCAP), which seeks to reduce Tuvalu's vulnerability to coastal hazards associated with climate change and sea level rise. The Ministry's decision to fund this project was informed by the success of TCAP Phase 1, which was funded by Australia and the Green Climate Fund and was successful in reclaiming approximately 7.3 hectares of land in Funafuti, Tuvalu's capital.

Based on this demonstrated impact, along with other key considerations, the Ministry decided to co-fund, with Australia, the United Nations Development Programme to implement Phase 2, that will increase the area of reclaimed land by another 8 hectares and continue efforts to build the capacity of Government departments and civil society organisations in Tuvalu to undertake resilient coastal management.

The Ministry took a similar approach when deciding to contribute to the second replenishment of the Green Climate Fund. This is the world's largest climate fund, mandated to support low-emission, climate-resilient development in developing countries. In 2019, New Zealand pledged \$15 million for 2020–2023. During this period, the Green Climate Fund was found to be one of the most cost-effective ways to disburse climate finance. The successes of the Fund's first phase provided the evidence and incentive to pledge another \$24 million for the Fund's second replenishment.

Improving water security across eight Pacific countries

Climate change is worsening the risk of water scarcity for Pacific communities. The Ministry funded the Pacific Community (SPC) to deliver a water scarcity programme for 2019–2024 in five atoll countries (Cook Islands, Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Tokelau, and Tuvalu) and the three raised limestone island countries (Nauru, Niue, and Tonga), with a focus, where relevant, on outer island communities. The programme objectives include building communities' resilience to the risk of water scarcity as a result of increased:

- access to, and storage of, drinking water
- knowledge and awareness to manage current and future water security risks
- capacity to protect and maintain water resources and infrastructure
- ability to prepare for, and respond to, drought events.



Left: Rairok School water storage, RMI. Credit: SPC

Right: Construction of the school drinking water stations, RMI. Credit: SPC

Each country was supported to develop plans for communities at risk of water scarcity, which were also adapted to respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the La Nina-associated droughts. The implementation of these plans has benefitted over 20,000 people through repair and installation of new rainwater harvesting solutions, groundwater supply, desalination units, water storage and water quality monitoring.

The improved freshwater access, storage and quality are enabling more people to remain in their communities. For example, six schools in Majuro, the capital of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), now have new drinking water stations. Led by the RMI Environmental Protection Authority, this project involves water capture, storage, filtration, and treatment to provide safe drinking water to 2,000 students. The wider community is also benefitting from improved disaster resilience, as the new water infrastructure is integrated into disaster response plans.

Guardians of the region's unique plant resources

The Centre for Pacific Crops and Trees (CePaCT) in Fiji is the Pacific's main plant gene bank, safeguarding over 2,400 key crop and tree species in the face of climate change and the proliferation of pests and diseases. The Centre acts like a bank, with SPC member countries making deposits (for propagation) and withdrawals. Countries can request plants for research and training but also for direct use, to send out to farmers, or to increase plant diversity at a national level. In 2022, New Zealand allocated \$10 million through climate finance to help the Centre scale up its vital work.

Sustainability is key for the Centre, so they also work to enrich the gene pool by combining varieties to create plants that are climate resilient. "We have a lot of requests for varieties that are salt or drought tolerant, as well as those that are tolerant to heat," says Logotonu Meleisea Waqainabete, SPC Program Leader for Genetic Resources.

In recent years, the Centre has collaborated with New Zealand's Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research under the New Zealand-funded Pacific Seeds for Life Programme, testing taro samples for viruses at its Christchurch laboratories. The Centre also carries out genotyping to enable more efficient plant conservation. Molecular technicians from Fiji spent a month at Manaaki Whenua laboratories, working collaboratively to extend their molecular analysis skills. This professional development and collaboration delivers on a key goal of New Zealand's International Climate Finance Strategy – to grow the number and capability of future climate change researchers. The Centre is female-led and has a majority women team, which aligns with another goal of New Zealand climate financing: the promotion of women's leadership in climate change adaptation and governance.

New Zealand's support helps to equip CePaCT with resources to work faster and to a higher standard – for example providing an automatic washer to support the technicians' sterilisation work. It is also supporting the establishment of a cryopreservation laboratory. "Cryopreservation is a method to conserve hard-to-conserve crops like coconuts, but we are also looking at it as our long-term strategy for all collections," says Waqainabete. "It came from a lesson we learned in the COVID lockdowns. With tissue culture you need people monitoring the collections constantly. But, for almost one and a half years, only four or five of us were allowed to come into the Centre, so it was a huge risk to the collections. I thank our partners, like New Zealand, for recognising these strategies that will help us now, but which are also a long-term investment."

"The essence of the New Zealand funding is to make sure we are making an impact in the lives of the people that we send these materials to. Investing in the capacities of the Centre itself will ensure the materials are put to good use."



Construction of Betio Hospital, Kiribati. Credit: Reeves International

Working with other development partners

New Zealand collaborates with other development partners across all of our international development cooperation. With our primary focus on the Pacific, New Zealand works closely with Australia to support Pacific development outcomes. We also coordinate and collaborate with other governments to deliver development cooperation in line with Pacific priorities and development effectiveness principles, and in support of a Pacific-led approach and the regional priorities set out in the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) 2050 *Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent*²⁶.

Development partners bring valuable development resources to the Pacific. New Zealand advocates for development resources to be directed towards the region's priorities in a way that complements, rather than competes with, or duplicates, other development support.

The Ministry aims to coordinate with Australia and other development partners, both in Wellington and through our diplomatic networks. In 2023–24 the Ministry held dedicated Pacific consultations with Australia, the European Union, Indonesia, Japan, and the United States of America. In addition, we held Pacific development talks and exchanges with France, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

New Zealand's strategic goal in the Pacific is *to promote a peaceful, prosperous and resilient region in which our interests and influence are safeguarded*. We work particularly closely with development partner countries to co-finance and deliver development initiatives across the region. Recent examples of successful partnerships include:

- working alongside Australia, France, Germany, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States to support Pacific-led initiatives to bolster Pacific resilience to humanitarian emergencies
- co-financing, with the governments of Australia and Solomon Islands, the design and build of provincial airfields across Solomon Islands
- supporting biodiversity in the Pacific with France and the EU through the Kiwa Initiative
- supporting the Pacific Climate Change Centre in Samoa with Japan and Australia.

²⁶ See: <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/PIFS-2050-Strategy-Blue-Pacific-Continent-WEB-5Aug2022.pdf>

Working with Japan to support Betio Hospital in Kiribati

New Zealand is partnering with Japan on construction of the new Betio Hospital in Kiribati, alongside the Asian Development Bank. The partnership, which aligns with the 2050 Strategy *People-Centred Development* thematic area, is an outcome of the Japan–New Zealand Joint Declaration on Pacific Cooperation and will advance positive health outcomes for i-Kiribati.

New Zealand has designed, and is building, the maternity and child healthcare unit at a cost of \$22 million. Japan's NZ\$1.8 million in funding will provide the fixtures, fittings and equipment needed for the unit to be operational. The Asian Development Bank intends to finance a further phase of development on the site.

When operational, the new Betio Hospital will provide a large range of much needed medical facilities to the Betio Township and nearby localities, and relieve dependency on –and be more climate resilient and energy efficient than – the Tungaru Central Hospital. Construction of the Betio Hospital rebuild is on track for completion by the end of 2024.

Supporting ocean and climate research in the Pacific

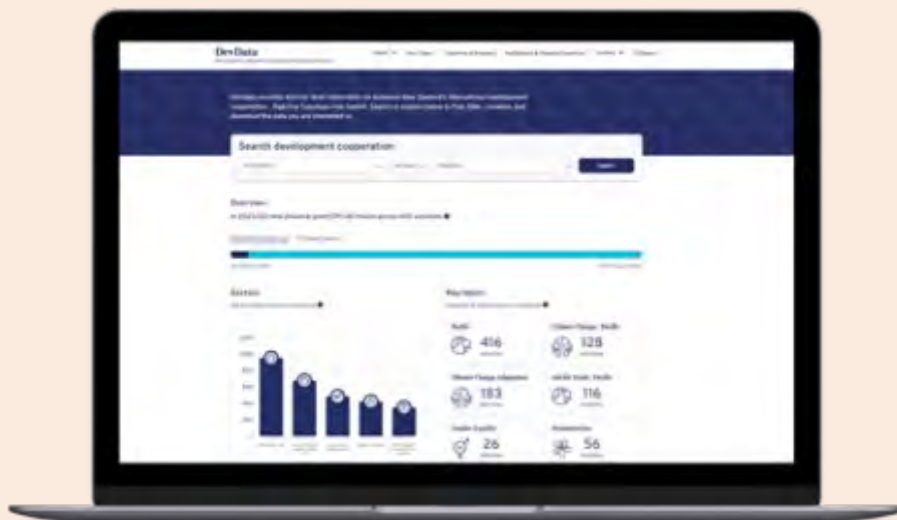
During his visit to Washington DC in April 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs announced that New Zealand would join Australia and the United States of America in funding the construction of an oceans and fisheries research vessel for the Pacific Community (SPC). Once completed, the SPC vessel will deliver vital scientific information to Pacific countries to help them better and more sustainably manage their valuable fisheries resources in the face of climate change.

Ocean warming is forecast to push Pacific tuna populations to the east and south, leading to a potential US\$90 million per annum drop in revenue across the region by 2050. By collaborating with partners on the research vessel, New Zealand can help ensure the region has the scientific knowledge to design, implement and monitor adaptation solutions.

Nature-based solutions for climate resilience

The Pacific has exceptional terrestrial and marine biodiversity. Yet, as a region most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, Pacific countries and territories have limited capacity to address this challenge.

The Kiwa Initiative is a French-led multi-donor programme that aims to strengthen the resilience of ecosystems, economies, and communities in Pacific countries by increasing access to funding for climate change adaptation and nature-based solutions and by providing technical support. New Zealand contributes funding to the Kiwa Initiative, alongside France, the European Union, Canada, and Australia.



Strengthening transparency of the IDC Programme

Ensuring stakeholders can easily find information about New Zealand's IDC Programme is an important focus for the Ministry and a platform for improving development effectiveness and driving accountability. Ongoing efforts are being made to ensure the Ministry is releasing high quality information in a timely and proactive manner.

In March 2024, the Ministry launched a new website – *DevData* (devdata.mfat.govt.nz) – aimed at improving the transparency of New Zealand's international development cooperation activities. The website is interactive, making it easy for users to find and download detailed, up-to-date²⁷ initiative-level information.

The website has information on over 2,400 activities, helping to raise public awareness of the IDC Programme. Between March and June 2024, over 800 users accessed the website, with over 4,000 individual page views. Most users were from New Zealand, followed by the United States and Australia.

The launch of *DevData* is a key milestone in the Ministry's efforts to improve transparency of the IDC Programme, in line with international standards and OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC)²⁸ recommendations. *DevData* supplements information provided in the Ministry's annual report and New Zealand's Development Co-operation Profile²⁹.

Other transparency measures include the monthly release of data according to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standard; a database modernisation project; updates to the Ministry website; and the publication of strategic four-year plans.


²⁷ Data is updated on a monthly basis.

²⁸ See: OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews: New Zealand 2023, OECD Development Co-operation Peer Reviews, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/10883ac5-en>. A DAC recommendation to New Zealand was 'To strengthen accountability to its citizens and those in partner countries, MFAT should dedicate resources and leadership to further improve transparency'.

²⁹ See: *Development Co-operation Profiles – New Zealand* (oecd-ilibrary.org) The New Zealand OECD country profile provides a high level view of allocations across our development cooperation and how we compare against other OECD member countries.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the IDC Programme

33
**PUBLISHED
EVALUATIONS**


26
ACTIVITY


7
STRATEGIC

2 THEMATIC EVALUATIONS COVER:



ENERGY

84 DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES

OVER 25 COUNTRIES

- Pacific (15 countries)
- Africa
- Central America
- the East Caribbean States



AGRICULTURE



Asia
43%



Pacific
39%

93 DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES

26 COUNTRIES

Africa, Asia, Latin America,
and the Pacific.

WHAT WE DID WELL



Using our strong relationships and collaboration to design and deliver activities that meet partner country priorities and align with Ministry values.



Supporting partner country access to high quality technical expertise.



Making progress towards intended outcomes through activities.



Using a wide range of approaches to deliver projects that were fit-for-purpose and appropriate for the country context, partner capability, existing relationships and available resources.



In February 2024, the Ministry commissioned an *independent synthesis of key findings from published activity and strategic evaluations* undertaken across the IDC Programme from 2020–2023.



AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT



Strengthen incorporation of gender equality, disability and social inclusion across programmes and activities.



Increased attention partner country constraints and capacity when designing programmes and activities.



Ensure programmes reach rural areas and outer islands.

MFAT

Y1 → Y4

Improve alignment of programmes and activities to the Ministry's strategic framework and country four-year plans.



Better consider language and cultural differences when delivering programmes and activities across countries.



Strengthen monitoring, evaluation, research, and learning, and incorporate better reporting against outcomes.

EVALUATIONS PROVIDE EVIDENCE that the IDC PROGRAMME HAS DELIVERED RESULTS ACROSS ALL of the MINISTRY'S STRATEGIC GOALS¹:

¹MFAT Statement of Intent 2024-28

A safe, secure and just future



PACIFIC DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

Increased Pacific datasets.

Increased indicators, infographics, dashboards, knowledge products and published reports available.

Improved data sharing and collaboration.



A prosperous and resilient future



SPORTS FOR HEALTH

Increased number of young people in the Pacific playing organised sports.

Changed behaviour of sports organisers and young people towards healthier nutrition.

Enhanced gender empowerment and social cohesion.



A sustainable future



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Increased renewable energy capacity and overall electricity supply.

Improved network efficiency.

Reduced reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Increased investment from other donors.

WATER SECURITY



Country and community water infrastructure plans.

Institutional strengthening.

Data collection and sharing mechanisms.

Regional coordination mechanisms to support Pacific leaders.

Benefits to local trades and manufacturers.

Increased resilience to drought in Tuvalu.



ACCESS TO JUSTICE



Strengthened institutions.

Improved case management.

Reduced backlogs in courts.

Improved legislation resulting in fairer justice in Cook Islands and Niue

Improved human rights for detainees through new correctional facility in Vanuatu.

PUBLIC SECTOR GOVERNANCE



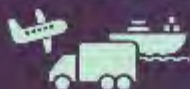
Enhanced capacity and capability to carry out high-quality audits across the Pacific.

Improved capability to regulate financial institutions.

Improved capability to investigate and prosecute financial crime.

Increased compliance with anti-laundersing requirements.

CONNECTIVITY



Strengthened maritime and aviation safety in the Pacific.

Improved shipping reliability.

Improved maritime safety awareness and more people wearing lifejackets.

Improved air safety in Solomon Islands leading to growth in passengers and improved access for humanitarian flights.

Improved public and social amenities through redeveloped Apia waterfront.

QUALITY MEDIA



Improved access and quality of Pasifika TV through move to high-definition feed.

Increased reach of Pasifika TV to more countries.

Increased capability of broadcasters.

Greater production of local and live content.



RESILIENT BUSINESSES AND LIVELIHOODS



Pacific small-medium size businesses working with business advisors reported increased employment and creation of 134 new jobs.

1,000 farmers in Zambia adopted new dairy farming practices, resulting in lower costs of production and improved quality of milk.



OCEAN SCIENCE

Improved regional coordination.

Global visibility for Pacific Ocean acidification science.

Increased evidence-base on ocean acidification.

Grounding science in community knowledge and locally owned responses.



RESTORING ECOSYSTEMS

Increased nutrient exchange between deep sea and terrestrial ecosystems.

Improved soil health.

Raised community awareness and accountability.



FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Improved quality, scope and compliance of fishery monitoring data.

Improved fishery management decisions.

Increased national capacity to support conservation and management of tuna fisheries.





Manaaki scholars attend the opening mihi whakatau of the inaugural Manaaki Scholar Conference. Credit: Smoke Photography Ltd

Scholarships

The Manaaki New Zealand Scholarship Programme (MNZSP) – *from mana to Manaaki* – supports individuals to develop new knowledge and skills that contribute to development outcomes for their communities and countries. In 2023–24, 876 scholars completed their study across all MNZSP programmes. Of those, 174 studied at a tertiary institution (105 female, 69 male); 563 studied on thematic or vocational short-term training scholarships (255 female, 304 male, 4 other); and 139 undertook English Language Training for Officials (75 female, 64 male). Regionally, the largest number of completing scholars came from the Pacific, followed by ASEAN³⁰.

A key achievement during the year was the inaugural MNZSP Scholar Conference, delivered with Education New Zealand. Over 520 tertiary scholars from 54 different countries, studying at institutions across New Zealand, came together under the theme ‘Enduring Connections: Global Partnerships and Sustainable Development.’ The conference helped to develop participants’ leadership skills and strengthen relationships between New Zealand and partner countries. 84 percent of participants reported that the conference increased their skills and knowledge in a way that will help them contribute to their country’s development.

Highlights across the programme include:

- The pilot Pacific Diplomatic Training Programme, which aims to enhance capability of foreign service diplomats and officials to navigate complex foreign policy environments and strengthen collaboration and connections between foreign service organisations and related agencies in the region. Two cohorts, each of around thirty officials from nine Pacific countries, participated in sessions delivered in Wellington, Port Moresby, and Suva.
- A symposium in Thailand for alumni of New Zealand’s English Language Training for Officials programme. This brought 57 officials from ASEAN countries together for professional development and English language practice, representing a key contribution to building strong communities of practice within the region.
- Impact stories from across the MNZSP. For example, in Niue, infrastructure delivery has been reliant on the availability of a single licensed crane operator. Vocational Short-Term Training Scholarships were awarded to two scholars to complete crane operator training. There are now three crane operators licensed to work on construction sites in Niue, which is expected to lead to improvements in the efficiency of infrastructure delivery.

³⁰ Association of Southeast Asian Nations

New Zealand's development and humanitarian programmes in 2023–24

The following pages provide an overview of impact achieved through New Zealand's IDC Programme in 2023–24 from the four major funding allocation groups within the IDC appropriation: Humanitarian, Multilateral Agencies and Partnerships, Pacific Development Cooperation, and Global Development Cooperation.



Graduation ceremony for a provincial Community Safety Team (CST) as part of the Vanuatu Policing Programme. The voluntary CST positions enhance communities' access to justice and provide an opportunity to support women's leadership in Vanuatu. Credit: Alec Hutchinson, New Zealand Police



A World Food Programme-supported hot meals kitchen in Khan Younis, Gaza. Credit: WFP/Ali Jadallah ©

Humanitarian \$83.38 million

Global humanitarian need continued to grow in 2023–24. Conflict, violence, extreme weather impacts and other natural hazards drove significant humanitarian need, including further displacement and suffering, and increased levels of food insecurity. Attacks against aid and medical workers, as well as significant barriers to access, at times impeded humanitarian workers' ability to reach people in need, although our partners continue to deliver vital humanitarian assistance.

During the year, New Zealand disbursed a total of \$67.5 million³¹ in humanitarian assistance in response to humanitarian crises and disasters. We provided support to 25 countries, with \$2.5 million (3 percent) going to responses in the Pacific, \$12.2 million (15 percent) to responses in Southeast Asia, and \$52.8 million (63 percent) to global responses.

Overall, in 2023–24, as a direct result of New Zealand support, **over 159,000³² people were provided with essential humanitarian assistance** following a natural or human-induced disaster in the Pacific. Additionally, New Zealand's contributions to international humanitarian agencies helped them support millions of people in need globally. The maps below show our primary humanitarian responses in the Pacific, Southeast Asia, and in the rest of the world.

New Zealand responded to significant spikes in need in many of the world's largest and most severe conflict-related humanitarian crises. Notable was New Zealand's response to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the West Bank resulting from the Israel–Hamas conflict. Supporting the humanitarian response was a central pillar of New Zealand's response to the conflict and occurred alongside clear and consistent advocacy for protection of civilians; upholding international humanitarian law; safe, rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access; and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza leading to a lasting, sustainable peace.

New Zealand's humanitarian assistance was not only focused on responding to crises. In the Pacific, New Zealand also contributed \$15.9 million to Pacific preparedness initiatives. This included investing in our Pacific partners' relief and deployment capabilities, for example, through contributions to the Pacific Humanitarian Warehousing Programme and Pacific Islands Emergency Management Alliance. The funding supported New Zealand's operational readiness to respond to requests for assistance from our Pacific partners, including New Zealand deployable capabilities held by New Zealand National Emergency

³¹ Per Figure 4, this excludes funding for humanitarian preparedness.

³² Reported figures are an estimate of affected people provided with relief. Calculations are partly based on an estimated average number of people per household (e.g. number of family hygiene kits distributed x 5 people per household). As this figure relates to direct support, we have not included people supported from New Zealand contributions to appeals/response plans from global humanitarian partners.

Management Agency (NEMA), Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ), the New Zealand Medical Assistance Team, New Zealand relief supplies held in Auckland, and early warning information provided by the Meteorological Service of New Zealand. Additionally, \$1.5 million went to the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) Contingency Fund for Emergencies to help them quickly mobilise emergency medical support in response to global health crises.

FIGURE 4: NEW ZEALAND'S HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN 2023-24 BY RESPONSE TYPE

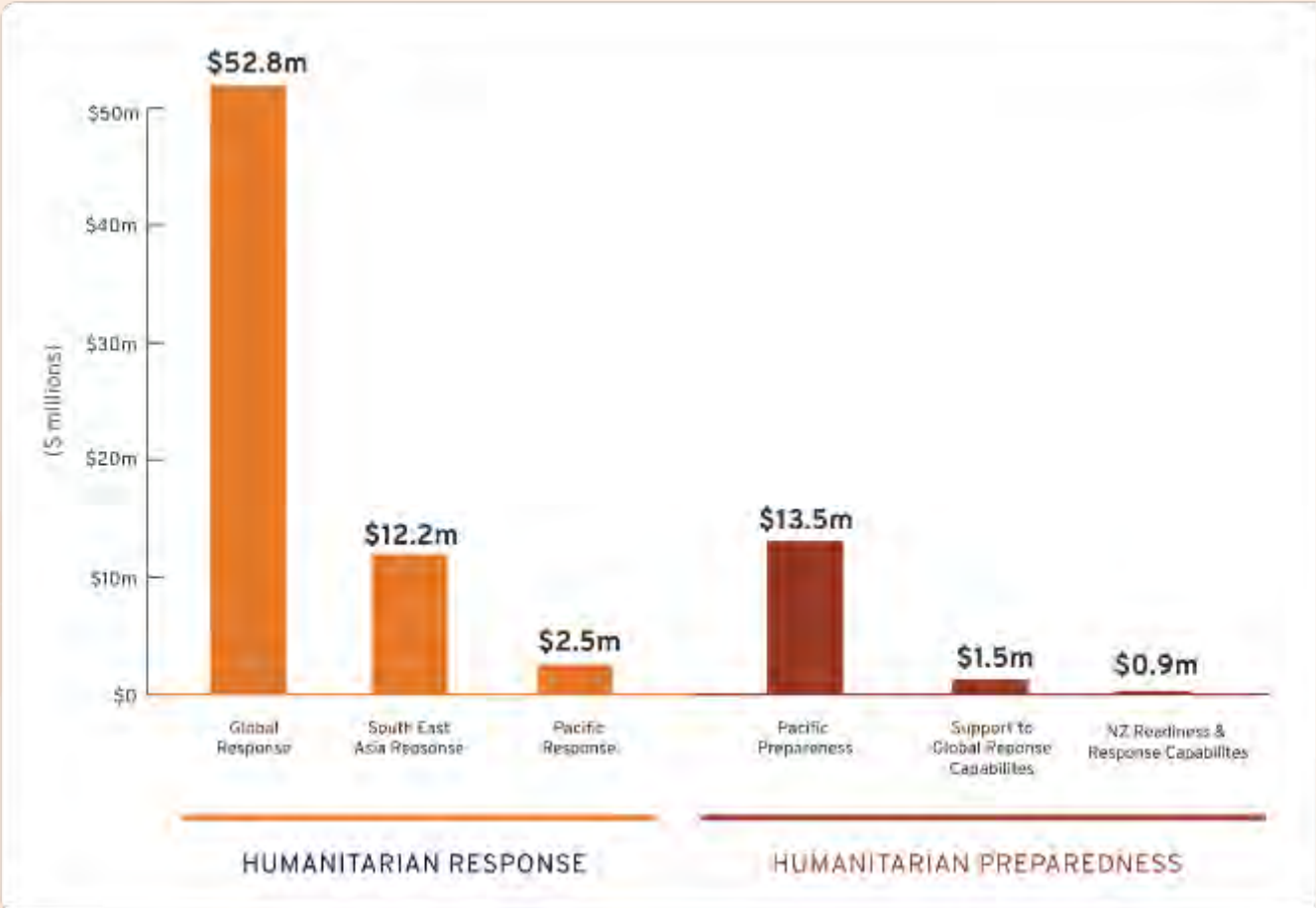


FIGURE 5: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE – PACIFIC & SOUTH EAST ASIA

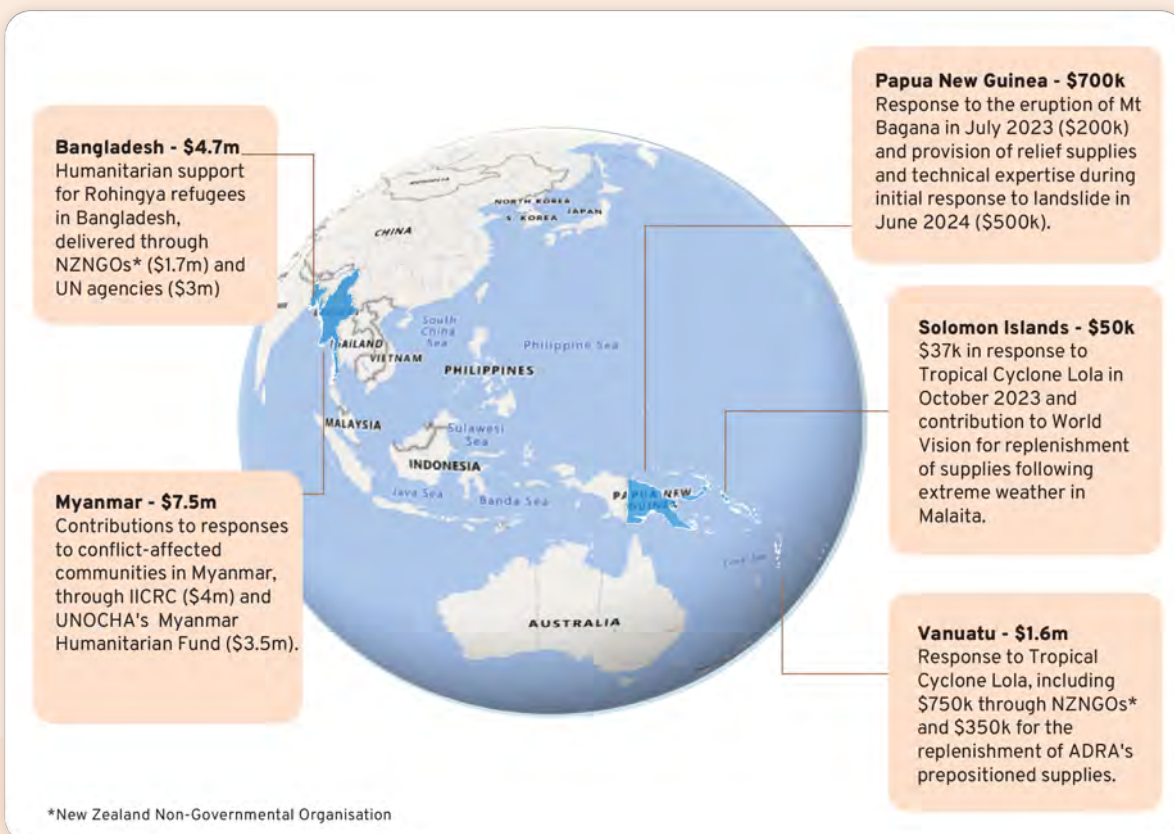
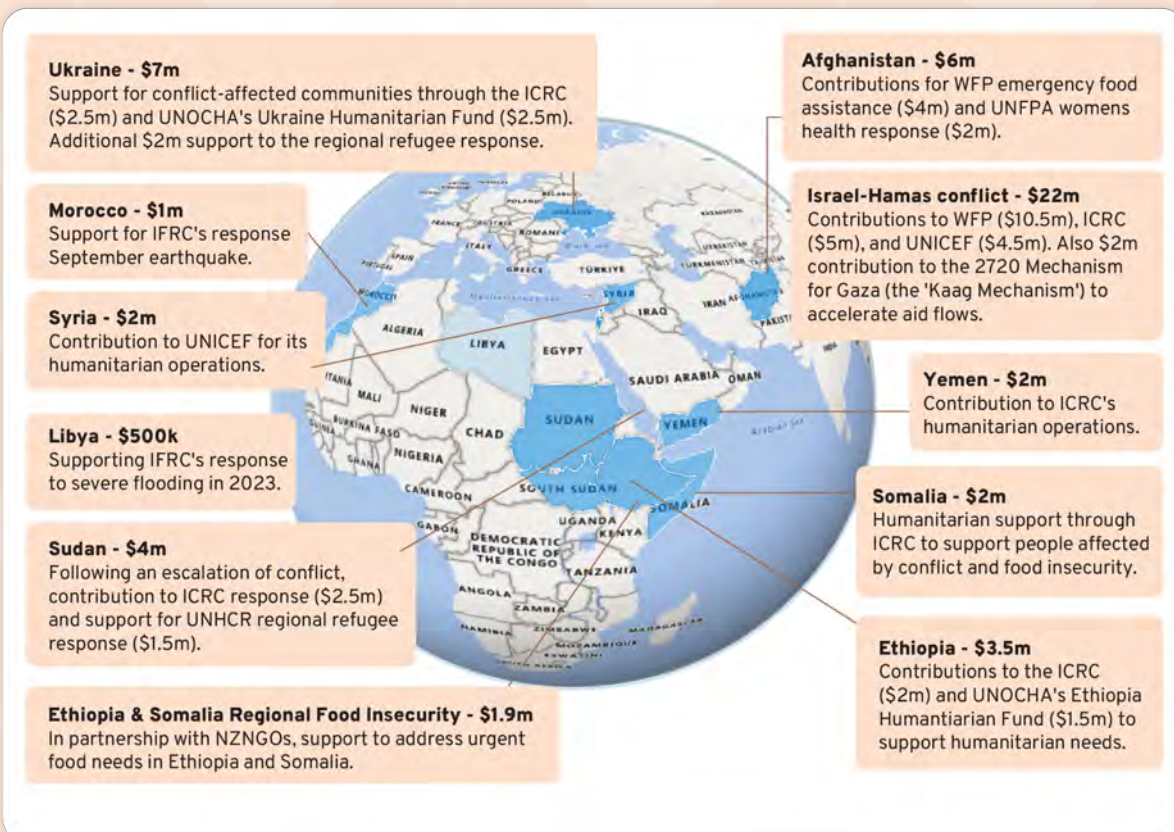


FIGURE 6: HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE – REST OF THE WORLD





Enga Province landslide, Papua New Guinea. Credit: New Zealand Forward Planning Team

Highlights from our humanitarian support

Support to the Enga Province landslide response

New Zealand provided humanitarian assistance to Papua New Guinea after a significant landslide struck in Enga Province on 24 May 2024. While the number of estimated fatalities varied, hundreds are thought to have died. Approximately 7,850 individuals were significantly impacted and over 150 structures were destroyed, while up to 90,000 people living in the Porgera area were isolated as a result of the main roadway being cut off.

Following a request for assistance from the Government of Papua New Guinea, the Ministry led a coordinated New Zealand response. A New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) C-130 transported much needed humanitarian supplies, including mother and infant kits, shelter tool kits, tarpaulins, and family hygiene kits. NZDF also provided logistical support, transporting relief supplies from Port Moresby to the impacted area to help meet the needs of the most adversely impacted people. A team of experts from FENZ deployed to Papua New Guinea and, supported remotely by a team from GNS Science, provided information to the Government of Papua New Guinea to help inform their decisions around the safe management of the landslide site.

The New Zealand response was coordinated with other humanitarian response partners, including Australia, and targeted specific requests to help meet humanitarian needs.

Humanitarian response to the Israel–Hamas Conflict

Following Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel in October 2023, the subsequent Israel–Hamas conflict has led to a severe humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank. Limited access for aid workers, ongoing hostilities and a complex operating environment have constrained the response, and significant threats remain for civilians and responders. As of 30 June 2024, an estimated 38,000 people had died in the conflict (including at least 274 aid workers and around 500 healthcare workers), and around 1.7 million people in Gaza had been displaced (75 percent of its population).

In response to the scale and severity of humanitarian need, New Zealand mobilised \$22 million in assistance during 2023–24. We promptly disbursed an initial \$5 million in mid-October 2023 with further funding tranches announced in November 2023, February, April, and June 2024. Assistance has addressed food insecurity, health, the needs of vulnerable children and protection (including through the promotion of international humanitarian law).

New Zealand's contributions went to the World Food Programme (\$10.5 million), International Committee of the Red Cross (\$5 million), and the United Nations Children's Fund (\$4.5 million). New Zealand also made a \$2 million contribution to the 2720 Mechanism for Gaza, administered by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPs). This was a targeted contribution to help prioritise, accelerate and maximise aid flows into Gaza to help meet urgent needs. The Mechanism is led by the Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator for Gaza pursuant to Security Council Resolution 2720 (2023).

Assisting Vanuatu's response to Tropical Cyclone Lola

In late October 2023, before the official start of the 2023–24 tropical cyclone season, Tropical Cyclone Lola made landfall in Vanuatu.

Following a request for assistance from the Government of Vanuatu, a NZDF P-8 Poseidon conducted an aerial surveillance flight to assess damage and provided images to the Government of Vanuatu to help their response planning. A New Zealand C-130 flight delivered crucial humanitarian supplies including shelter kits, mother and infant kits, water containers, sanitation and hygiene kits, chainsaw kits, and generators. Two personnel from NEMA deployed to assist the Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office with their response plan. Pre-positioned humanitarian relief supplies through New Zealand NGO partner Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) were released, and the Emergency High Commission Fund enabled a swift response by Vanmel Community Association to food security concerns in the Eastern Province. Three New Zealand non-governmental organisations were provided funding under the New Zealand Disaster Response Partnership to help meet the ongoing relief and early recovery needs of those most impacted.



The Save the Children Health Post supported by the New Zealand Disaster Response Partnership while on a monitoring visit to Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Credit: Save the Children Bangladesh

Supporting the humanitarian response in Myanmar and Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

Communities in Myanmar and Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh continued to face significant need in 2023–24. Southeast Asia is the second geographic priority for New Zealand's humanitarian action, following the Pacific. New Zealand has been a regular contributor to humanitarian responses to the protracted Rohingya refugee crises since the serious wave of violence in 2017 that saw hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people driven across the border from Myanmar to Bangladesh.

After six years, almost one million refugees (nearly 80 percent of whom are women and children) live in temporary camps and remain entirely dependent upon humanitarian assistance. New Zealand contributed \$4.7 million to the Rohingya refugee response in 2024, in partnership with the World Food Programme and UN Population Fund, with a particular focus on food security and the needs of women and girls, and to New Zealand NGOs, under the New Zealand Disaster Response Partnership to meet a range of humanitarian needs. Ministry officials engaged with United Nations and NGO partners during a monitoring visit to the refugee camps in 2024 and noted the well-coordinated and effective nature of their responses, despite significant challenges with increasing need and falling total available funding for the response.

Myanmar is experiencing an alarming spike in humanitarian need following surges in conflict since October 2023. Approximately one third of the population (18 million people) now require humanitarian assistance, and more than three million have been internally displaced (up by 50 percent since late 2023). In response to dramatically increasing need, New Zealand contributed \$7.5 million to the Myanmar humanitarian response in 2024. We partnered with the International Committee of the Red Cross which advocates for compliance of international humanitarian law, supports food security, living conditions and the provision of medical assistance, and the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (managed by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) which is supporting delivery of a range of essential humanitarian assistance provided by multilateral actors and non-government organisations.



Child Clubs in Fiji provide a safe space for children to learn, have fun and develop new skills. Credit: Save the Children New Zealand

Multilateral agencies and partnerships

\$152.8 million

Multilateral Agencies

New Zealand invests financially and diplomatically to strengthen international rules and norms that address global problems, such as poverty, conflict, instability, and climate change, and to strengthen human rights. The Ministry engages with multilateral institutions in policy dialogue and as major implementing partners, and provides core, programme, and project funding to help them deliver global development and humanitarian outcomes. The Ministry focuses engagement where it can have the most impact and add the most value, building on New Zealand's robust and long-standing relationships. Partners include multilateral development banks, UN development and humanitarian organisations, non-government organisations and Commonwealth agencies.

The Ministry works to ensure effective, transparent, and collaborative action focused on development (including sustainable and inclusive social and economic development), peace, human rights, and humanitarian challenges, to deliver results. There is particular interest in delivery by these institutions in the Pacific, and in ensuring that they take fully into account the region's unique needs and vulnerabilities.

New Zealand delivered \$151.95 million in funding to multilateral organisations in 2023–24 and participated in the governance mechanisms of agencies funded. The multilateral development system continues to deliver global development and humanitarian outcomes while operating in the context of funding constraints, unprecedented levels of humanitarian need, negative trends on democratic norms and human rights, and reversals in progress toward SDGs. New Zealand is a valued and influential voice advocating for Pacific priorities, an effective and innovative multilateral system, and principles-driven development.

Highlights from New Zealand's multilateral development cooperation

UNICEF helps children with disabilities navigate the climate crisis

UNICEF is working to ensure that the most marginalised and vulnerable children, including those with disabilities, can enjoy rights and have a fair chance to realise their full potential. Disability inclusion – a priority for New Zealand – is a cross-cutting priority in the UNICEF Strategic Plan 2022–2025. UNICEF is working with its partners to:

- support planning and policy on climate action, disaster risk reduction and resilience-building
- remove barriers to children and young people with disabilities in policies, services and programmes, including actions on non-discrimination and universal design
- empower individuals with disabilities to reduce their climate and disaster risk
- support actions explicitly targeting children and young people with disabilities, such as improving access to assistive technologies.

In the first two years of UNICEF's 2022–25 Strategy, it boosted assistive technology provisioning through advocacy, capacity building, screening and identification of needs, and systems strengthening, and reached over 400,000 children with assistive products and supplies, addressing vision, mobility, hearing, incontinence, and digital assistive technology for inclusive education.

Improved coordination in the UN Development System (UNDS) benefits Pacific countries

The UN Secretary General's report³³ presented at the annual meeting on UNDS Reform reflects increasing satisfaction with UN contribution to results that reflect developing countries' national priorities, as well as substantial cost-savings. The UN Pacific Strategy Fund (UNPSF), funded by New Zealand, enabled more people to register and access government services, more rural women to improve their economic and political opportunities, and more babies, children, and adolescents to access health and education services. The UNPSF also enabled New Zealand to contribute valuable insights to broader UNDS Reforms.

The UN Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) *Principles of Dialogue and Engagement* reflects the increasing strength and frequency of UN entities' coordination and collaboration with regional entities. It builds alignment between the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) and the PIF *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific*. Common country assessments and country implementation plans that reflect each Pacific country's priorities and baselines reflect stronger cross-UN planning and will enable more accurate measuring and reporting of UNDS impact.

Advocating for increased access to finance for Pacific countries

The International Development Association (IDA) and Asian Development Fund (ADF) are key vehicles for the World Bank and Asian Development Bank (ADB) to provide concessional support (technical assistance, policy advice, financing) to the Pacific. In 2023–24, World Bank net financial commitments in the Pacific were US\$258 million, and ADB financial commitments (including co-financing) were US\$308 million. The Pacific also benefits from the World Bank's Papua New Guinea and Pacific Islands Umbrella Facility, and the ADB's Pacific Partnership Facility, that provide critical support for World Bank and ADB activities in the Pacific, including project design and implementation.

The World Bank and the ADB have recently introduced policies that recognise the unique challenges facing Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS). In late 2023, ADB introduced softer lending terms for SIDS to support efforts to meet infrastructure needs and scale up investment in climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. The recent Asian Development Fund (ADF14) replenishment included reforms that will increase ADF funding to the Pacific by over 34 percent (2025–28), including increasing grant funding available to address climate change and gender inequality, strengthening the role of vulnerability in funding allocation, and doubling allocation of concessional lending available for the Pacific. New Zealand, Australia and others advocated strongly for these reforms. The ADF14 initiatives build on a series of earlier reforms, including introduction of minimum levels of ADF country allocations, and reclassification of Fiji and the Cook Islands (and the classification of Niue) to be eligible for concessional assistance.

³³ Operational Activities for Development Segment (OAS) report: <https://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?OpenAgent&DS=a/79/72&Lang=E>



Angela, a participant in an agricultural training and savings and loan programme supported by ADRA, has successfully improved the size and productivity of her garden. Credit: ADRA New Zealand

Civil society partnerships

Civil society plays a vital role in achieving sustainable development and resilience in ways that also promote democratic processes, human rights, active citizenship, and a strong sense of community. The IDC Programme supports New Zealand non-government organisations (NGOs) to deliver a range of development outcomes. NGOs, through their local partners, bring strong relationships with local communities, civil society organisations and local authorities to their partnerships with the Ministry. These established networks enable New Zealand's international development cooperation reach to communities and vulnerable and marginalised populations, including in remote and hard to reach places in the Pacific.

In 2023–24, the IDC-funded Partnerships programme worked across 20 countries in the Pacific, South East Asia and other countries, through 29 NGOs and 57 programmes and initiatives. Over the course of the year, NGO partners reported that approximately 190,000 community members were supported in areas including economic resilience, human rights and inclusive development, governance and democracy, climate change, and human development.

Key results reported from New Zealand's partnerships with NGOs

Economic resilience

- In Fiji, over 1,000 farmers from rural communities received agricultural training, and assistance and resources were provided to develop agriculture to a commercial level and support market access. As a result, household income increased, enabling farmers to support children's health and education, invest in farming assets and open savings accounts. *Save the Children New Zealand*
- In Myanmar, support was provided to improve communities' technical capability to access and manage irrigation systems, with 120 additional households gaining access to irrigated water. *ADRA New Zealand*
- In Fiji, 15 survivors of trafficking, exploitation and/or sexual abuse, and 30 vulnerable young women, enrolled in education programmes aimed at building new skills to enable them to pursue new livelihood opportunities. 14 survivors of trafficking, exploitation and/or sexual abuse completed organic gardening training. *TearFund New Zealand*
- In Solomon Islands, Oxfam worked with local partners on women's economic empowerment through financial literacy and small business training, and supported savings and loans groups to improve economic resilience. *Oxfam Aotearoa*

Human development

- In Fiji, school gardens were established in 11 schools and students were educated on nutrition. School kitchens were refurbished, and parents were trained on safe food handling. Surplus vegetables from the school gardens were sold to supplement the lunches with protein or used to purchase school supplies. *Save the Children New Zealand*
- In Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea, a preventative health training package delivered in targeted communities reached 21,789 people. *Leprosy Mission New Zealand*
- In Fiji, 22 women plumbers and 573 youth plumbers in 11 villages and schools were trained in the construction, operation, and maintenance of water and sanitation infrastructure – a key step to improving community access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and health outcomes. *Rotary World Service International New Zealand*
- 135 eye health outreach events took place in Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu. These events included training of eye care clinicians, 14,208 patient consultations and 2,110 treatments provided to patients for diabetic retinopathy. *Fred Hollows Foundation New Zealand*

Equity and inclusion

- In Vanuatu, 210 girls in 19 schools gained access to menstrual hygiene management services through the upgrade of school facilities or the distribution of supplies in response to Tropical Cyclones Judy and Kevin. *UNICEF Aotearoa New Zealand*
- In Laos, six villages were supported to develop action plans that incorporate disability inclusion development to ensure the removal of barriers to, and increase participation of, peoples with disabilities. *CBM New Zealand*
- In Hog Harbour (Vanuatu) and Barema (Papua New Guinea) rainwater harvesting systems were completed, providing tap stands near homes. Women and girls have expressed feeling safer as they no longer have to walk long distances to cart water, shower and do washing, and communities are benefiting from better access to water for drinking and sanitation. *ADRA New Zealand*
- In the Cook Islands, a VSA volunteer developed evidence-based speech therapy programmes and resources to help teachers and parents communicate with non-verbal students. Resources were shared with other schools and families, and training delivered to communities through the Autism Association. *Volunteer Service Abroad*

Climate change, Disaster risk reduction and Environment

- In Samoa, 161 people trained in safe shelter awareness, and went on to participate in Build Back Safer training. They will become champions for resilient housing in their communities. Six climate and disaster resilient evacuation shelters were also completed for use by communities when disasters occur. *Habitat for Humanity New Zealand*
- To mitigate impacts of drought and saltwater intrusion, young people in Kiribati have been trained in backyard gardening to ensure a supply of fresh produce. *Childfund New Zealand*
- In Papua New Guinea, gravity-fed water systems were installed in five Henganofi communities to improve community resilience and access to clean water, benefiting over 4,200 people. *Oxfam Aotearoa*
- In Fiji, a comprehensive network of Caritas disaster preparedness committees has been established, with members drawn from representatives from each community. Representatives received disaster risk reduction training and access to resources, including in the areas of food and water security, risk reduction and relief, and psycho-social support. *Caritas New Zealand*

Enhanced child well-being in the Solomon Islands

The Ministry partners with World Vision in the Pacific and South East Asia to enhance child wellbeing, with a focus on safeguarding children from violence and exploitation, improving nutritional outcomes, and advancing the livelihoods and resilience of households to better meet the needs of children.

As part of this programme, World Vision works with youth groups in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea to build their financial management and agri-business skills, including providing support to put these skills into action. This has allowed young people to be more financially independent while also improving food security for their communities.

In the Solomon Islands, a group of young people from Diula have started a coconut oil milling enterprise, following a year of work repairing a rundown coconut crushing mill. They identified Kokonut Pacific Solomon Islands as a buyer for their virgin coconut oil products and have officially registered with this organisation to ensure ongoing market access.

The group has produced 11 barrels of virgin coconut oil and filled an additional order of 15 barrels that are ready to be shipped. They are

also selling copra cake (a waste product from processed coconut meat) as pig feed.

The young people in Diula are developing other business projects, including selling fresh produce and managing livestock.



Crissna, from Diula youth group, crushing coconut for virgin oil. Credit: World Vision Solomon Islands

Outstanding educational results in Nepal



Khumjung Secondary School in Nepal. Credit: Himalayan Trust

New Zealand has a long-standing partnership with the Himalayan Trust New Zealand to improve teaching and learning outcomes in the Solukhumbu district in Nepal.

The Quality Education in Solukhumbu programme, delivered in partnership with the Himalayan Trust Nepal, works with 108 schools

to improve literacy and wider education outcomes, support teacher training, improve school infrastructure and provide scholarships for students.

Khumjung School started as a two-room 'schoolhouse in the clouds' and was the first classroom in the Khumbu Sir Edmund Hillary built with family and friends in 1961. The Himalayan Trust has supported and equipped the Khumjung school ever since.

In Nepal's 2024 Secondary Education Examination results, Khumjung Secondary School was positioned as the top performing school in Solukhumbu district with a 100 percent examination pass rate.

The Solukhumbu district had a pass rate of 87 percent (compared to the nationwide pass rate of 48 percent), with Solukhumbu being among the top performing rural districts in Nepal.



Brewing happiness in a cup - villagers of Kapolong Village in Banz, Jiwaka Province, Papua New Guinea, savour the experience of crafting their own ground coffee for the first time. The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Plus (PHAMA Plus) Program, supported by Australia and New Zealand, aims to contribute to inclusive economic growth and improved livelihoods for Pacific people. Credit: PHAMA Plus Program

Pacific development cooperation \$752.73 million

New Zealand's home and heart is in the Pacific. Our engagement in the Pacific is partner-led, supporting each country's determination to chart its own development path, with a shared commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals.



North Pacific

TOTAL SPEND: \$14.9m

Under the Managing Water Scarcity programme, drinking water stations were constructed in six schools in the Marshall Islands, improving access to clean water supply for around 2,000 students, and to the wider community as part of disaster response planning.



Nauru

TOTAL SPEND: \$6.2m

Under the Nauru Accountable and Inclusive Governance programme, MPs launched Parliament's first community engagement strategy and official Facebook page, new video conferencing facilities were installed for livestreaming parliament sittings; and civic education events were held with schools and the public to increase public understanding of democracy and elections.



Papua New Guinea

TOTAL SPEND: \$62.6m

43,000 individuals were provided with healthcare or healthcare education through the Mission Aviation Fellowship, including 19,003 children who received immunisations (an increase of 525% on the predicted outcome).



Vanuatu

TOTAL SPEND: \$55.1m

Six new Community Safety Teams were established as part of the Vanuatu Policing Programme, making a total of 10 CSTs across Vanuatu's provinces and enhancing those communities' access to justice. The Southeast Tanna team, with the support of local chiefs, selected two of its female members to be its Team Leaders.



Fiji

TOTAL SPEND: \$66.9m

Empower Pacific delivered psycho-social support for people facing issues such as mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence or financial distress to 1,327 people via a toll-free counselling helpline and a further 617 individuals through hospital-based and community-based counselling.



Tonga

TOTAL SPEND: \$60.1m

Through the Tonga Justice Sector Support Programme, a Youth Diversion Scheme was developed, and Cabinet approved the associated Youth Justice Bill - to be tabled for consideration in Parliament this year. Training on youth was also provided to Magistrates, covering aspects of the Youth Justice Bill, the Youth



Niue

TOTAL SPEND: \$38.7m

Resurfacing of Hanan International Airport completed, extending the life of the runway by 25+ years and supporting increased tourism and greater connectivity for Niuean's. 12 local workers were employed and upskilled through the

Pacific impacts



Solomon Islands

TOTAL SPEND: \$61.5m

Education infrastructure projects including classrooms, student dormitories, ablution blocks, dining hall, kitchens a science laboratory were completed, benefiting 2,419 students.



Kiribati

TOTAL SPEND: \$52.3m

A new curriculum for the Kiribati School of Nursing and Health's Advance Diploma of Nursing was launched, following three years of curriculum development supported by New Zealand. The first cohort graduated in mid-2024.

NORTH PACIFIC RMI

FSM

PALAU

NAURU

PAPUA
NEW
GUINEA

KIRIBATI

SOLOMON ISLANDS

▲ TOKELAU

TUVALU

SAMOA

VANUATU

FIJI

NIUE

NEW
CALEDONIA

TONGA

COOK ISLANDS



Cook Islands

TOTAL SPEND: \$23.5m

Rat eradication completed as part of the Pacific Regional Invasive Species Management Support Service on Palmerston Atoll (Cook Islands) has led to regenerating ecosystems, increased bird populations and improved crop growth for the community.



Samoa

TOTAL SPEND: \$66.6m

The National University of Samoa (NUS) celebrated the launch of its Bachelor of Health Science programme, with an initial cohort of 17 students. The programme will be delivered with New Zealand support, to strengthen Samoa's primary care and allied health workforce.



Tuvalu

TOTAL SPEND: \$41.9m

Through the Tuvalu Fisheries Support Programme, the Tuvalu Fisheries Department trained community Fisheries Officers, constructed a mariculture hatchery and a freezer room, transitioned to an electronic data collection system, and repaired two fisheries vessels.



Tokelau

TOTAL SPEND: \$23.9m

Tokelau continued roll out of NCEA Level 1 and 2. 100% of students gained their 20 literacy and numeracy credits, and 58% of NCEA Level 1* ākonga achieved that qualification (just below the average achievement pass rate of 60.9% in New Zealand).



Landing Tokelau's first international subsea cable onto Atafu, Tokelau's northernmost atoll. The international cable went live in September 2023 across all three atolls, with services operated by Teletok, Tokelau's telecommunications provider. Tokelauan communities now have significantly improved international and inter-atoll internet connectivity at a lower cost, and with greater availability and reliability. Credit: McCann Consulting Ltd, 2022

Supporting Pacific regionalism

A strong regional architecture – owned and supported by all Pacific countries – enables the Pacific region to deliver its own solutions to priority regional challenges and take advantage of strategic opportunities. New Zealand's partnership approach with the Pacific is facilitative and consultative, so we can support our Pacific partners bilaterally, regionally and multilaterally to achieve outcomes that are regionally-owned.

Our strength and success as a region relies on Pacific countries acting together to secure the future of our Blue Pacific Continent. The PIF 2050 Strategy guides how Pacific countries will work together to secure the region's future against the challenges of today, and the coming decades, to achieve a resilient, secure, and prosperous region.

New Zealand is guided by, and will support implementation of, the 2050 Strategy. Key to this support is our role as a member and funder of Pacific regional agencies. These intergovernmental organisations apply their technical and policy capacity, established programmes and relationships, and deep knowledge of the region to support Pacific countries to strengthen their resilience, rebuild from the impacts of COVID-19, and achieve the SDGs.

New Zealand's core funding to these organisations supports them to deliver on their work programmes and strategic priorities in line with the 2050 Strategy. In **2023–24 the IDC Programme provided \$30.5 million** in core contributions to seven Pacific regional agencies. Key achievements from each agency are set out over the page.

Results from Pacific Regional Agencies

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

Coordinator for implementation of Pacific Leaders' decisions, including policy advice on regional economic growth, political governance, and security.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- Worked with Member countries to develop the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent Implementation Plan Phase I* (to 2030), and the Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility – both of which were endorsed at the 52nd PIF Leaders Meeting in November 2023.
- Submitted a written statement to the International Court of Justice on the question of Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change – the first time the Secretariat has participated in a proceeding of the World Court. The PIFS statement focuses on agreed regional collective positions, to date, on the issue of climate change related sea-level rise.

The Pacific Community (SPC)

Scientific and technical services to Pacific countries in agriculture, public health, geosciences, fisheries, statistics, educational assessment, disaster risk reduction, transport, energy, climate change, gender, youth, and human rights.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- Developed foundational infrastructure for Digital Earth Pacific, including decision-ready tools covering all Pacific countries for coastline changes, mangrove ecosystems, and water resources. This will allow for identification of areas for granular exploration, targeted humanitarian assistance following disasters, and tracking the impacts of climate change and disasters.
- SPC's Pacific Community Centre for Ocean Science successfully secured the role as regional coordinating centre for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

University of the South Pacific (USP)

Research institute and the Pacific region's primary provider of tertiary education, including distance and flexible learning.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- Eduniversal Best Masters Ranking 2024 ranked USP's Master of Science in Climate Change programme ninth in the Energy and Natural Resources category for Oceania, and ranked the Master of Business Administration programme fourth in the Executive MBA category in Oceania.
- USP launched the Tupu/Tubu programme which focuses on building teacher capacity to create an enabling, supportive, and inclusive environment for learning that caters to the needs of children in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA)

Advice and services to enable Pacific countries to maximise economic and social benefits from the sustainable management of their tuna fisheries.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- PIF Fisheries Committee Ministers endorsed FFA's *Climate Change Strategy*, that reflects a targeted effort to reduce climate impacts on a key shared resource through regional cooperation. Fisheries Ministers also endorsed the *Principles for FFA Engagement in Regional Tuna Fisheries Project Partnerships with Donors*. These principles for working with donors emphasise the importance of inclusivity, and that the FFA will ensure all SIDS members are treated equally and have equitable access to funds.
- The inaugural Development Partner Symposium brought members and development partners (including New Zealand, the European Union, the United States, Canada, Indonesia, and Japan) together to identify priority areas for strengthened cooperation and coordination of efforts.

Secretariat for the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

Technical and policy assistance on environmental issues, such as climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem management, waste management, and pollution control.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- SPREP's Pacific Meteorological Council commenced delivery of the Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) programme that aims to improve delivery of information to communities by modernising national meteorological services and increasing coordination with national disaster management offices. WRP has developed into an initiative supported by New Zealand, Australia, Japan, the UK, and multi-donor funds, with UN agencies identifying it as the vehicle to deliver the United Nations' Early Warning for All initiative in the region.
- SPREP was chosen as the Oceania Regional Centre for Technical and Scientific Cooperation for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework based on its demonstrated ability to provide technical advice and support, and its experience and expertise in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity and its protocols.

Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO)

Aviation safety and security services to the Pacific.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- PASO and SPREP signed a Memorandum of Cooperation that signifies a standing commitment to foster greater cooperation to advance aviation development and environment protection and sustainability in line with the *2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent*.

Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)

Regional tourism sector umbrella organisation focused on destination marketing and sustainable development, data, and statistics.

Key achievements in 2023–24:

- The Pacific Sustainable Tourism Standards programme launched in October 2023 in Tahiti, with 19 member countries becoming signatories to the Pacific Sustainable Tourism Leaders' Statement of Commitment.
- Under SPTO's Digital Transformation Programme, by December 2023, 10 out of 21 SPTO member countries adopted recommendations for adopting software solutions aimed at enhancing the efficiency of national tourism offices despite limited resources.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE COMMITTEE (FADTC) INQUIRY INTO ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING IN THE SOUTHERN AND PACIFIC OCEANS

The Ministry supported the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee (FADTC) Inquiry into illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the Southern and Pacific Oceans, and the Government's Response to the report. This work, which took place between 2021 and 2024, provides direction to, and strengthens, New Zealand's all-of-government efforts to combat IUU fishing in the region.

IUU fishing is a global and regional threat to fisheries sustainability, ocean ecosystems and endangered marine wildlife, coastal livelihoods, maritime security, food security and economic stability. It undermines sustainable fisheries management and disadvantages legitimate fishing operators. IUU fishing poses a range of threats to New Zealand interests in the Southern and Pacific Oceans and to the stability of economies, societies, and the marine environment in the region.

The Committee's recommendations to enhance capacity-building and regional cooperation in the Pacific, as well as dialogue with Pacific fisheries partners about regional technological needs, span the responsibilities of the Ministry, New Zealand Defence Force and Ministry of Primary Industries.

New Zealand's IDC Programme is supporting much of the Ministry's work in this space. Input into the inquiry has refocused our IDC contribution to the FFA Regional Fisheries Surveillance Centre (RFSC) and consolidated a platform for stronger collaboration with both FFA members and current and potential development partners.

See case study Targeting illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the North Pacific, page 247, on New Zealand's support for the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority's work in ensuring their operations limit the risks of IUU fishing.



Opening ceremony for the new Tonga Pharmaceutical & Medical Facility, that provides improved access to essential medicines across Tonga and enhanced capacity to respond to health crises. The warehouse is strategically located in a flood-free zone with minimal tsunami risk. Funding for the construction of the Facility was included as part of New Zealand's support for Tonga's COVID-19 priorities and response and supported the sector through engagement of local companies for all aspects of the project, including design, construction, and finishing. Credit: Sonya Peters, MFAT

Highlights from New Zealand's development cooperation in the Pacific

Support to strengthen economic resilience helps i-Kiribati prosper

Budget support to Pacific governments has become an increasingly important instrument in the context of a partnership-based approach to development assistance. Compared to traditional modes of development cooperation delivery, it can build greater country ownership, promote better alignment with national development strategies, reduce transaction costs (for both the development partner and the recipient), and enhance development partner coordination. New Zealand has provided long standing economic reform and budget support to Kiribati to strengthen economic resilience through effective and sustainable public financial management.

New Zealand, Australia, the European Union, World Bank, and Asian Development Bank are members of the Government of Kiribati's multi-donor Economic Reform Taskforce (ERT), alongside the government's key economic ministries (Finance, Fisheries, Commerce, and Transport/Communications) and the Cabinet Office. Each year the ERT agrees on priority fiscal and structural reform aims across an agreed set of Policy Action Areas.

The Government of Kiribati achieved good progress on the ERT 2023 Policy Actions, including revising the *Fisheries Act (Amendment 2021)* so that prosecutions are consistent with *Article 73 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*, and updating the *Fisheries (Protection of Bonefish on Kiritimati) Regulations 2008*. Based on this progress, in January 2024, New Zealand disbursed \$2.75 million in budget support to the Government of Kiribati.

Following these changes, there is evidence that fisheries are recovering. Other progress includes steps to computerise the public finance management cycle, increase revenue mobilisation through reforms to tax administration, and create efficiencies in expenditure through strengthening administration of social welfare payments.

In addition to general budget support, New Zealand also assists the Government of Kiribati achieve results in ERT Policy Action areas through targeted projects such as support for state-owned enterprise performance. New Zealand provides co-finance to the Asian Development Bank for public financial management technical assistance specifically in state-owned enterprise reform. New Zealand's technical assistance has been instrumental in supporting improved systems to drive better compliance. In 2023, all Kiribati SOEs submitted financial reports to the government.

Strengthening visibility, voice and representation in agriculture

With support from New Zealand-funded PHAMA Plus³⁴, Road King Farms on Taveuni Island in Fiji has invested in new facilities, which were finished in 2023. The new facilities include workers' accommodation for women staff who process taro for export. About 70 percent of the women working at Road King Farms are from the neighbouring island of Vanua Levu, travelling to Taveuni for work. Previously, these women did not have access to safe and secure accommodation, limiting the time they would stay in Taveuni to work. The accommodation offers convenience, safety, cost-savings, improved wellbeing, and an opportunity for communal living while in Taveuni. This is beneficial for most of the women workers who are away from their families and friends. Road King Farms benefits from the women living on-site while working, as there is less time and energy wasted in commuting, and it ensures a safe and secure workplace for their staff.

These initiatives are expected to lead to increased productivity and efficiency. It will also help Road King Farms to attract and retain skilled workers who may not be able to afford housing in expensive or remote locations in Taveuni and Vanua Levu. The accommodation can be a vital factor in retaining employees, helping them avoid the stress of finding suitable housing, and providing safe accommodation and working conditions.

In the next year PHAMA Plus will further support Road King Farms by carrying out awareness training and supporting them to develop a workplace policy, which will include a gender-based violence component.

Consolidation of the laws of the Cook Islands

In 2023–24, New Zealand completed a project to strengthen the rule of law in the Cook Islands by ensuring legislators, legal practitioners, scholars and the public have easy and free access to the consolidated legislation of the Cook Islands. Jointly delivered by the New Zealand Crown Law Office and Parliamentary Services, the project resulted in the creation of a reliable legislative database, that:

- supports fair and democratic implementation of laws
- promotes transparency and global accessibility of legal resources
- contains the most up-to-date legislation, including amendments and repeals
- is readily available, and free to access, online at <https://cookislandslaws.gov.ck/>.

An audit identified 256 Principal Acts, an estimated 12,200 pages of legislation for conversion, and 21,000 output pages for publication. A custom website was built to provide a comprehensive legal database, and looseleaf and bound volumes of the consolidated legislation were published. The Consolidation of Laws was officially launched and blessed on 24 June 2024 in a ceremony at the Cook Islands Parliament.

³⁴ The Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Program or PHAMA Plus provides practical and targeted assistance to help Pacific countries manage regulatory aspects associated with exporting primary and value-added products.

New Zealand Medical Treatment Scheme demonstrates impact in the Pacific

The New Zealand Medical Treatment Scheme (NZMTS) is one of the Ministry's longest running health programmes, in operation for over 30 years, providing access to specialist and life-saving medical and surgical treatment overseas and in-country, health system capacity support – through workforce development – and the provision of medical equipment. The participating countries are Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Our implementing partner, Pasifika Medical Association Group (PMAG), has successfully delivered the first year of the new phase of the Scheme (\$20 million, 2022–2027). Key achievements in 2023 include:

- Under the *Overseas Referral Scheme (ORS)*, 136 referrals were received and 47 patients were treated (including 14 children). 20 received treatment in New Zealand, 23 in Fiji, and 4 were managed in-country with remote support from specialists overseas.
- *Visiting Medical Specialists (VMS)* helped address a backlog of specialist treatment needs accumulated during the pandemic. 30 medical specialist visits were completed, involving 74 health professionals, across specialities including cardiology, gynaecology, urology, paediatric surgery, and orthopaedics. 976 patients were seen in-country, with 271 receiving surgeries from visiting medical teams. 194 in-country health professionals were trained during these visits.
- Under the *Strengthening Country Capacity (SCC) component*, 57 healthcare professionals attended short-term training overseas, including for endoscopy and emergency medicine. 186 attended in-country training, including Pacific Emergency Nurses training and Pacific Emergency Maternal & Neonatal training.



The Pasifika Medical Association deployed a Paediatric Surgical Team of specialists to Vaiola Hospital in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, providing specialist surgical support under the New Zealand Medical Treatment Scheme. The visiting medical team were based at the hospital for a week, with PMAG President, Dr Kiki Maoate ONZM FRACS, leading the team in

Pacific remitters empowered to choose

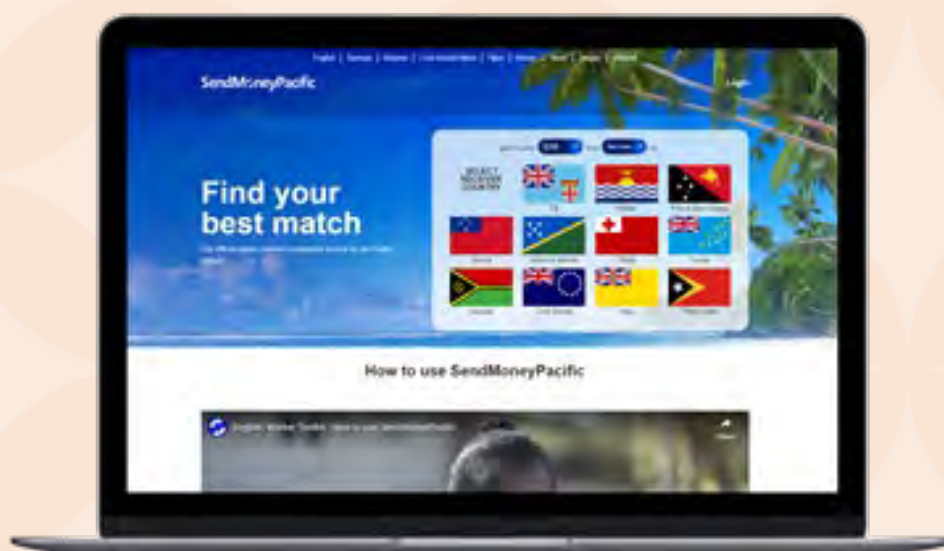
Over the past 20 years, the value of remittances sent to Pacific countries has grown to reach US\$1.16 billion (2022). These remittances make up a significant portion of the national economy in some Pacific countries, with rates as high as 46.5 percent of GDP in Tonga. At the same time, the Pacific remains one of the most expensive remittance corridors in the world. The average cost of sending money to the Pacific is 8.6 percent compared to a global average cost of 6.25 percent. The high cost of formal remittances reduces the amount of money received by Pacific countries and incentivises people to use informal, high-risk channels, such as carrying cash across the border.

In response, New Zealand has partnered with Australia to implement the Empowering Migrants through Pacific Remittances programme, that enables people in Australia and New Zealand sending money to Pacific Island countries to select providers that best suit their needs and maximise the value of remittances sent to Pacific households.

The four year programme ultimately aims to equip those remitting to compare and change providers, creating pressure for a more equitable remittance service market. Initial focus has been on:

- improving digital literacy, including how to use the **SendMoneyPacific** website and app that allows remitters to compare different options for sending money from Australia and New Zealand to 10 Pacific countries and Timor-Leste
- building remittance literacy through in-culture and in-language content and educational videos – including a worker toolkit with dedicated information for Pacific seasonal workers.

As of June 2024, users had performed 71,682 rate comparisons across the SMP app and website. Rate comparison trend data suggests that SMP users are demonstrating increasing remittance literacy and awareness of total costs associated with sending money home. Users are increasingly opting for newer, cost-effective services like Remitly and Wantok Money, indicating a trend towards cost-saving behaviour. This trend underscores the importance of offering transparent pricing information.



<https://sendmoneypacific.org/> Credit: CulturalPulse and SendMoneyPacific



Sylvie Boulekouran, Biosecurity Vanuatu, showing Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle found in traps funded as part of the Pacific Response to Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle. Credit: Tanya Robinson, MFAT

Breakthroughs in Pacific biodiversity response

Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) is a major pest of coconut and oil palm and invasions of a new strain of beetle have been spreading rapidly, centred on Melanesia. The Ministry has led the response to this new threat with an initiative combining biocontrol and biosecurity interventions. The *Pacific Response to Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Programme* is implemented by three main delivery partners (AgResearch, SPC's Land Resources Division and the Solomon Islands Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) and six local government and industry delivery agencies across Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu.

A recent evaluation assessed programme effectiveness and provided valuable input for future direction and funding. While COVID-19 lockdowns and travel restrictions meant that the programme could only partially limit the spread of CRB, it did find success in the commercial oil palm sector, where it helped to dramatically reduce the damage caused by the beetle, contributing to the viability of oil palm plantations.

Programme achievements include:

- Significant breakthroughs, including two novel biocontrol agents – one that will likely be effective for use against most Melanesian beetle populations, and another that offers ongoing management of outbreak populations. Should further testing confirm their efficacy, then this will not only combat current outbreaks of CRB in the Pacific but prevent its further global spread.
- A Papua New Guinea isolated strain has proven effective on the Port Moresby CRB population and will be tested further in before potential field releases in 2024.
- In Vanuatu, palms are showing signs of recovery in areas where the virus was released, with local farmers recognising the change and asking for virus to be introduced nearby.
- Field-tests of strains of a known fungus biocontrol agent is showing infectivity of up to 100 metres from initial inoculation point. A larger scale trial has been conducted in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea to test feasibility for commercial application.
- Partnerships for fieldwork in Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands have magnified reach into coconut growing regions, and enabled local capacity-building, ownership of the outcomes and a more coordinated approach to action plans and budgeting.



Niue Media Workshop Kids Art session. Credit: Big hART

Storytime and Play in Niue

Early Childhood Education (ECE) and indigenous knowledge, culture, and language were declared priorities in the 2023 outcome statement of the Conference for Pacific Education Ministers. ECE has been proven to positively impact academic achievement, health, and productivity over the long term. Oral traditions are an important way of maintaining Pacific cultures, values, and languages and for passing down knowledge, wisdom, and stories. Media plays a pivotal role in supporting and preserving these traditions.

Niue has been involved in the Storytime and Play Children's Media pilot, along with Samoa and Solomon Islands. This media and early childhood education initiative is being implemented by Plan International Australia. It has produced culturally relevant, high-quality, age-appropriate media content that promotes the value of learning through play and storytelling by engaging children and their caregivers in play hubs. The project has captured, archived, and utilised traditional stories based on oral narratives

shared by elders in Vagahau Niue. Stories for the new episodes have been selected to be relevant to Niuean children, such as well-known children's legends, real life experiences, and everyday learning components.

All materials have been developed to complement existing education ministry or department content and include direct inputs from education officials. In all three countries, the first phase produced ten 30-minute radio episodes, and the second and current phase will produce ten TV episodes.

To date, there have been 125,968 website visits to view media stories and access resources. Across the three countries, 385 children and 503 parents and caregivers were reached, and 48 community members were trained to deliver Play Hubs in their communities.



Right: Children's stories showcasing Pacific culture and language were developed with artists, content creators, elders, educators, parents, and caregivers in Niue, Samoa, and Solomon Islands – who are now collaborating to create the first ever local children's TV series in each country. Pacific Storytime and Play App, 2024. Credit: Plan Australia



SIACL Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting crew with their new firefighting protective equipment and upgraded fire engine. Credit: Joe McCarter, MFAT

Solomon Islands aviation sector supported

Solomon Islands' aviation sector is on a steady improvement trajectory, with New Zealand as lead partner for more than a decade. New Zealand's support ensures that airline and domestic airfield operations will be safer, more reliable and contribute to provincial connectivity. Tourism industry and wider economic growth, access to essential services, and more equitable development across provinces are expected in the medium term.

In 2023–24, significant results included:

- Completion of two airstrip upgrades in Taro (Choiseul) and Seghe (Western Province) under the Provincial Airfield Upgrade programme to facilitate landing Dash-8s (Solomon Airlines' largest and fastest domestic aircraft). The construction effort led to the creation of 36 local jobs in small communities.
- Successful transfer of airport ownership from Government of Solomon Islands to a new state-owned enterprise – Solomon Islands Airport Corporation Limited (SIACL), with substantial governance and technical support from New Zealand. SIACL now operates all previously government-owned airfields in Solomon Islands, and is focused on improving asset maintenance, revenue generation and long-term planning.

- Upgrading and repairing two Honiara Airport fire trucks, providing essential protective equipment, and advanced fire rescue training and capacity development for firefighting crews at Honiara, Henderson, and Munda airports. This has significantly improved overall airport safety and operational readiness.
- Updating our bilateral Air Services Agreement with Government of Solomon Islands to an 'open skies' agreement that improves freedom of air services on routes between our countries. Solomon Airlines has already provided additional flights to New Zealand.



Seghe Airfield. Credit: Downer

Women's empowerment in Nauru

Since 2021, New Zealand (alongside Australia) has contributed to the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) *Nauru Accountable and Inclusive Governance Project*, supporting elections, women's political empowerment and participation, and Nauru's Parliament. A key area of support is promoting gender equality through strategic alliances with women's associations and civil society organisations across the Pacific.

Founded in 2018, the Women's Empowerment Nauru Association (WENA), initially operated without a formal status. In 2023, with support from UNDP, WENA formalised its constitution and achieved official registration as a civil society organisation, making it Nauru's first officially registered, women's-led civil society organisation. This status will help strengthen Nauru's engagement in regional forums and women's access to grant funding from international donors. WENA's strategic plan covers areas such as gender-based violence, navigating challenges for women in electoral campaigns and parliamentary roles, and dismantling patriarchal structures.

WENA recently joined hands with the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC) to conduct community awareness and civil society engagement on sexual and gender-based violence and women's rights in Nauru. The partnership between WENA and FWCC strengthens local capacity and nurtures a supportive environment crucial for advancing women's leadership and addressing prevalent issues such as gender-based violence. The collaboration, facilitated by the *Nauru Accountable and Inclusive Governance Project*, has been instrumental in establishing WENA as a key player in promoting women's rights in Nauru, supported by enhanced skills and resources garnered through this partnership.

The training sessions with FWCC attracted both men and women from the community and civil society organisations, demonstrating a keen interest and commitment from the community to engage with issues of gender equality and gender-based violence.



Women's Empowerment Nauru Association during their August 2023 study tour to Fiji. Credit: UNDP



MIMRA Fisheries Officer preparing to board a carrier as part of its 100% inspection Port State Measures target. Credit: @franciscoblaha

Targeting illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing in the North Pacific

Over the last decade Majuro (Republic of the Marshall Islands) has developed into the busiest tuna transshipment port in the world. New Zealand's support to the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) helps them to ensure operations limit the risks of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

As a result of their efforts, in 2023 MIMRA was awarded the 'Stop IUU Fishing' Meritorious Award by the International Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network (iMCSn). The award acknowledges the excellence of systems in place, the work of oceanic division fisheries officers, and the outstanding level of transparency and mutually beneficial collaboration with technology providers. MIMRA's contribution to the fight against IUU was highlighted as:

- leading national and regional anti-IUU activities through Port State Measures best practice
- supporting a rights-based management approach to the world's largest tuna fishery
- ensuring robust, efficient and effective collaboration amongst all other FFA and Parties to the Nauru Agreement member countries
- sustaining regional focus to promote uniform and transparent monitoring, control and surveillance
- using innovative and cutting-edge IT solutions, including electronic monitoring and reporting
- aggregating support from donors and the broader international community
- ensuring the safety of the observers at sea
- committing to gender issues and the elimination of barriers to women in the fishing industry
- promoting regional solutions and effective collaboration
- providing practical and effective training across a wide range of functions
- establishing memoranda of understanding for compliance and catch data sharing with crucial processing countries, and with international technology and transparency partners
- displaying unmatched levels of transparency and open information available on their website³⁵.

During the year MIMRA also ratified the Food and Agriculture Organisation Agreement on Port State Measures to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU Fishing. This is the first binding international agreement specifically targeting IUU fishing.

³⁵ See: <https://www.rmimimra.com>



The Improved Agricultural Livelihoods for Remote Communities in Eastern Indonesia programme delivered by SURFAID works to improve the welfare of local farmers and strengthen food security. Credit: NZ Embassy Jakarta

Global (non-Pacific) development cooperation \$203.51 million

Beyond the Pacific region, our development cooperation boosts New Zealand's role and credibility as a member of the international community. International Development Cooperation initiatives give New Zealand a platform to advocate for what we and our partners care about. We support partners to actively pursue progress towards the SDGs.

New Zealand's development cooperation outside the Pacific region has a primary geographic focus on South East Asia, including Timor-Leste. New Zealand provides targeted support in the areas of economic and climate resilience, governance, peace and security, and knowledge and skills, particularly to the region's Least Developed Countries: Timor-Leste, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar. Our development programme has continued to balance timely crisis support with a focus on long term funding commitments.

In **ASEAN**, we continue to navigate the challenges of delivering effective international development cooperation in the region. Key challenges include uneven economic growth within and between countries, global inflationary pressures, climate change impacts, human capital constraints, and the ongoing threats posed by conflict and violent extremism. In 2023–24, New Zealand provided post-pandemic economic recovery support for an estimated 186,834 people in five countries through vocational training, income generation opportunities, employment on community infrastructure projects, financial support, agricultural goods and training, and business skills training.

We have seen the early results of investment in good governance in the region, launched several large new climate resilience initiatives, and launched three new gender-focused initiatives, including our first ever regional initiative on Women, Peace, and Security. Our ability to deliver impactful development outcomes in the region is contingent on strong partnerships, and we have established new partnerships with international NGOs and expanded our strategic relationships with existing partners, such as The Asia Foundation and the Global Green Growth Institute.

Africa has grappled with recovery from the economic, social and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as widespread drought and food insecurity and an upsurge in violent conflict in several countries. This year saw New Zealand launch significant climate finance investments and pivot towards an increased focus on regional, multi country and multilateral initiatives. We established partnerships with the African Union and their development agency, the World Food Programme (WFP), CGIAR, and World Bank.

In **Latin America and Caribbean**, the impacts of climate change continue to challenge the livelihoods and safety of communities, particularly for Small Island Developing States. Our focus has primarily been on supporting climate-smart agriculture and food security, and renewable energy. Efforts to increase access to affordable, reliable, and clean energy in Eastern Caribbean countries are progressing. Through our technical assistance support over the last four years, we have made a major contribution to geothermal development in the region and our support has helped de-risk, attract, and leverage investments from other financiers.

In the **Middle East**, New Zealand's programmes continue to focus on peace and security, including:

- Funding enabled the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to clear a further 2.5km² in Iraq and render safe 5,379 potentially dangerous objects; and deliver explosive ordnance risk education to 25,601 individuals (3,376 women, 1,417 men, 9,728 girls, 11,080 boys) and 21 training sessions to officials from the governments of Iraq and Yemen on explosive ordnance disposal, explosive hazard first responders, and other topics.
- Contributing to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)'s food security programme in Afghanistan, which focuses particularly on women-led households and people with disabilities. 65,818 females and 429 households headed by people with disabilities benefitted from agricultural support, cash-for-work programmes, and financial support.
- Funding to the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund for efforts to prevent violent extremism among young people in Sri Lanka. 13,146 individuals were reached directly in 2023.



Thanh Giong inclusive playground in Viet Nam, that was renovated to ensure accessibility for children with disabilities. Credit: Ms Pham Thi Phuong Anh

Highlights from New Zealand's development cooperation beyond the Pacific

Social inclusion in ASEAN

New Zealand's IDC Programme across the ASEAN region has a focus on inclusive approaches, targeting marginalised communities, and reducing the development gap within and between countries.

In the Philippines, our water, sanitation, hygiene, and nutrition initiative with UNICEF Philippines focuses on the most vulnerable communities, including remote and impoverished regions in selected municipalities in Surigao del Norte, Dinagat Islands, Southern Leyte, and Bohol. The first phase focused on acute pandemic and natural disaster-related needs, including nutrition support, temporary public health facilities and cash transfers. The second phase is scaling up provision of climate resilient and sustainable water infrastructure and nutrition service delivery. The initiative has reached at least 116,000 children with critical nutrition services, 13,000 with health interventions, over 28,000 individuals with water and sanitation services, and 3,000 households with cash and critical information about accessing services.

In Viet Nam, our work to support people with disabilities through community-based small grants has improved infrastructure to increase accessibility for one hundred people with disabilities. 4,000 people now have access to green community spaces in Ha Noi. An aqua-therapy playground was established for 440 intellectually disabled children in Ho Chi Minh city to build cognitive and skill development through water-based activities. Living spaces for 32 children and young people with disabilities in Hue were renovated to be safe and supportive, and a public playground was upgraded to be accessible for children with disabilities and promote social interaction. In Ha Giang province, 3,000 students from ethnic minority communities received training to gain the skills and knowledge to protect themselves from the risk of trafficking.

In the Papua region in Indonesia, the Improving Access to Legal and Social Services for Women Facing Violence in Papua initiative provided training that enabled 684 people (402 women, 282 men) to increase awareness of violence against women. 718 people (427 women, 291 men) now have access to services to prevent and respond to violence against women.



A farmer from an FtMA-supported FSC Cooperative in Eastern Province, Rwanda, cleaning her maize grain before being linked to market. Credit: WFP/FtMA

Making markets work better for farmers

The Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) is implemented by the World Food Programme in Rwanda and recently expanded into Kenya and Tanzania. It works to increase the productivity and income of smallholder farmers, farming staple crops such as maize and sorghum, and develop commercial viability by providing adequate information, investment, and support at all stages of the process – from seed to market. Using a commercially sustainable model, it delivers agricultural services, inputs, technology and advice through a network of agro-entrepreneurs called Farmer Service Centres (FSCs). During 2023, the network of FSCs:

- expanded to 2,549 across four countries (1005 women-led, 691 youth-led)
- provided support to 618,652 farmers (299,759 women and 133,122 youth)
- aggregated 130,768 tonnes of crops, (US\$46 million value) from these farmers
- delivered productivity enhancing services worth US\$24 million to the farmers
- 982 FSCs were trained in conservation, agriculture, and climate smart agriculture, leading to 1.7 million trees planted (41 percent more than last year).

In Rwanda, conservation agriculture plots achieved a 28 percent increase in maize yields and a 38 percent increase in bean yields. The Rwandan project has promoted strong partnerships between farmers, cooperatives, buyers, and other stakeholders in the agricultural value chain.



FSC Evelyne Awwndo, Kisumu County, a maize, rice and common beans aggregator who provides mechanisation, training on CSA, and input supplies to her supported farmers. In 2022 she received a tractor through the pay as you go initiative from Hello Tractor and continues to support 10 youth with employment through various agricultural services being provided to farmers. Credit: Leonard Odini, FtMA

Building geothermal capacity

Across a strong network of global geothermal activities, New Zealand training support has helped partners across East Africa, Indonesia, and the Caribbean to better understand the technical characteristics of their geothermal resources; to plan and execute safer, more effective, and efficient exploration drilling campaigns; and gain the confidence to interpret results and make decisions as time goes on. This has included:

- **Indonesia:** Accelerating Geothermal Development (Geo-INZ) has enhanced local capacity and decision making through training in policy and regulatory areas, as well as planning workshops to prepare potential sites for geothermal exploration. GeoINZ field visits, training and networking initiatives reached 564 total attendees, including 34 percent women and the Women in Geothermal (WING) programme.
- **Indonesia:** Supporting Geothermal Sector Training (NZSTIGS) has strengthened geothermal industry collaboration, productivity, and overall plant performance through delivery of advanced technical and vocational courses to 145 technicians and operators in the geothermal sector.
- **East Africa:** The New Zealand-Africa Geothermal Facility (AGF) has provided training or capacity-building support to 3,033 East African geothermal professionals (87 trained this year), supporting partners to de-risk geothermal exploration and secure financing for geothermal development. Peer review and quality assurance alongside capability-building initiatives from the AGF have led to seven projects qualifying for approximately USD15.4m in funding (three successful applications this year).
- **Caribbean:** in its first few months of delivery, the New Zealand–Caribbean Renewable Energy Facility (FRENZ) delivered training to 28 people in Dominica and Grenada, helping local partners to gain confidence in disciplines such as water monitoring, geo-chemical sampling, and sustainable environmental management practice throughout geothermal exploration and drilling activities.

Early childhood education in Timor-Leste

In Timor-Leste, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, New Zealand is contributing towards increasing access to, and raising the quality and management of, early childhood education (ECE), through the system-wide HANDS programme. Key aspects include supporting teacher and school management training, strengthening of quality assurance processes, development of learning resources, and ensuring that facilities are of a good standard. New Zealand has been supporting this programme since 2015.

Building up the school inspectorate is a key intervention to raise the quality and accountability of pre-schools. Manuela has been working as a pre-school inspector for 10 years and is responsible for visiting 20 pre-schools around Dili to monitor conditions and teaching, and support teachers to deliver high-quality education in the classroom. Manuela has seen progress over this time.

For example, teachers are now proficient in collecting children's work and presenting it on classroom walls (which encourages a culture of success among pupils), and sending work home with children to show their parents what they have achieved. Formal ECE is a reasonably new concept in many parts of Timor-Leste, and demonstrating the results of children's education is a key driver to encourage attendance.

There have also been positive changes in teaching and classroom management. For example, a new requirement for teachers to arrive at least an hour before class emphasises the importance of classroom preparation, which allows for a better-organised and conducive learning environment and positively impacts on teaching and learning.

Manuela has found the information and support provided through HANDS, including a tablet for recording inspection findings and a motorbike to visit schools outside of Dili, useful in enabling her to do a good job.



Wheat cultivation package distribution, Badakhshan province, Afghanistan. Credit: FAO ©

Providing emergency livelihood assistance

Rural communities in Afghanistan have been struggling with severe food insecurity over recent years due to drought, poor crop yields, and economic hardship. New Zealand has contributed over \$6 million since 2022 to provide food security to rural families in Afghanistan through the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The programme provides:

- season-appropriate crop seeds (such as wheat, kidney beans and mung beans), fertiliser, and technical agriculture training to families in some of the poorest and most remote areas of Afghanistan
- cash-for-work, where community members are paid for working on small-scale, but vital, irrigation infrastructure projects in their local area – this part of the programme targets landless labourers and marginal landowners who cannot grow their own food.
- cash transfers to support vulnerable households (mainly headed by women, people with disabilities, or elderly people), who do not have an adult family member who is able to work on the cash-for-work sites.

In 2023–24, this programme reached 146,566 people in 29,197 households. Each household received 50kg of wheat seeds (which, so far, have produced 25 percent increased yields compared to indigenous seeds, and will produce further viable seeds for up to four more years), plus 50kg each of urea and DAP (phosphorus) fertiliser, as well as technical training on how to make the most of these.

Horticultural science helps Kenyan avocado farmers

The Kenya Avocado Industry Support Programme (KAISP), implemented by the New Zealand Institute for Plant and Food Research, ran for 10 years over two phases, concluding in June 2023. The initial phase focused on partnering with a New Zealand-owned, Kenya-based avocado oil processing company, Olivado EPZ Ltd, to improve the quality of fruit supplied by its farmer network and the volume and quality of its avocado oil.

The second phase expanded the impact of the programme beyond Olivado and its farmer network to the wider avocado industry in Kenya, and had a stronger focus on the production and export of fresh avocados. There was a particular focus on partnering with a wide group of industry stakeholders, transferring knowledge to those partners, communicating the programme's work through the media, and laying the foundations for further increases in production and export quality.

During the 10 years of KAISP, Kenyan avocado exports grew from US\$38 million in 2013 to US\$150 million in 2021, making Kenya the second largest avocado exporter in Africa. There has been significant growth in demand from the European market, as well as from the United Arab Emirates.

Much of the increased production has been in Western Kenya. KAISP partner Olivado has increased its contracted grower supply base from approximately 1,000 in 2013 to 3,500 in 2023, and are forecasting 9,000 suppliers in 2024. These greenfield growers will be starting with disease free nursery plants and applying best practice tree management from the outset, joining the 3,224 farmers already implementing improved practices under KAISP guidance.

Several key programme achievements, which will promote further growth in Kenya's avocado industry over the long term, include increasing the supply of disease-free planting via nurseries, training farmers on pruning, developing tools to improve knowledge about when to harvest and the irrigation needs of avocado trees, and using the media to amplify impact.

FIGURE 7: TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY REGION 2023-24

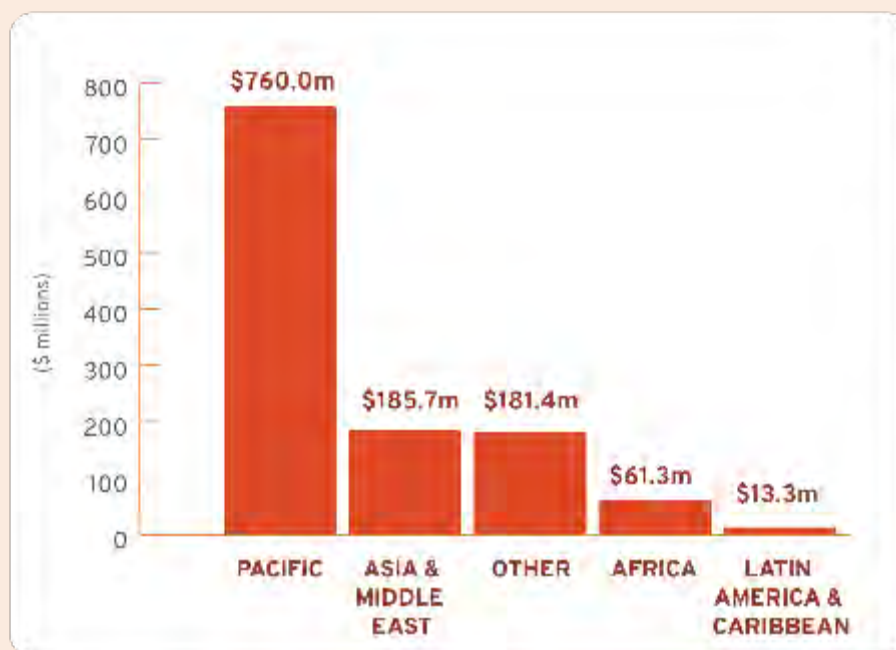


TABLE 1: TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY SUB-REGION AND PACIFIC BILATERAL COUNTRY 2023-24

Region, Sub Region & Pacific Bilateral Country		Expenditure 2023-24 (\$)	% of total IDC
PACIFIC		760,013,151	63%
PACIFIC POLYNESIA		260,790,905	22%
	Cook Islands	24,859,950	2%
	Niue	39,823,291	3%
	Samoa	68,177,024	6%
	Tokelau	24,603,300	2%
	Tonga	60,867,520	5%
	Tuvalu	42,281,331	4%
	Other Polynesia	178,489	0%
PACIFIC MELANESIA		250,166,766	21%
	Papua New Guinea	63,346,088	5%
	Solomon Islands	61,853,339	5%
	Vanuatu	56,824,938	5%
	Fiji	67,791,023	6%
	New Caledonia	351,378	0%
PACIFIC REGIONAL		173,511,249	14%
	Pacific Regional Multi Country	173,511,249	14%
PACIFIC MICRONESIA		75,544,231	6%
	Kiribati	54,119,096	5%
	Nauru	6,170,923	1%
	Other Micronesia	15,254,212	1%
ASIA & MIDDLE EAST		185,742,262	15%
OTHER – MULTILATERAL & WORLDWIDE		181,442,112	15%
AFRICA		61,259,841	5%
LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN		13,341,177	1%
Grand Total		1,201,798,542	100%

International Development Cooperation (MYA)

11/12
MET BUDGET
STANDARD

What we intend to achieve

This appropriation is intended to achieve progress by Pacific Island and developing countries against their sustainable development priorities and against the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.

TABLE 2: ASSESSMENT OF PERFORMANCE

	2023-24		2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION RESULTS	Budget Standard	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Number of Pacific Island countries that remain on track on their economic and public sector reform programme	Maintain or improve trend	8/8 countries assessed as on track (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu)	5/6 countries assessed as on track (Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Solomon Islands)	8/8 countries assessed as on track (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu)	7/8 countries assessed as on track (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, PNG, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu)
Number of people participating in a labour mobility initiative (No., M/F)	Maintain or improve trend	17,911 people (M: 16,214; F: 1,697)	15,792 people (M: 14,357, F: 1,418, Not specified: 17)	14,882 people (M:13,722; F:1,148, not specified: 12)	10,748 people (M: 9,730, F: 1,018)
Number of people directly benefitting from activities that aim to increase resilience to climate change and environmental degradation (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need ³⁶	79,994 people (M: 37,290; F: 38,276; not specified: 4,428)	5,947 people (M: 2,344, F: 2,216, not specified: 1,387)	9,795 people (M:2,538; F:2,256; gender diverse: 5; not specified: 4,996)	7,929 people (M: 2,811, F: 3,191, not specified: 1,927)
Number of people supported to improve their livelihoods (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	480,518 people (M: 24,6297; F: 203,453; gender diverse – 71; not specified – 28,528)	184,255 people (M: 72,459, F: 92,763, Not specified – 19,033)	69,880 people (M: 34,873, F: 32,519, Not specified: 2,488)	124,206 people (M: 50,324, F: 38,177, Not specified: 35,705)
Number of people directly benefitting from improved infrastructure and services (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	136,272 people (M: 48,164; F: 47,910; not specified: 39,526)	64,145 people (M: 9,453, F: 9,491, not specified: 45,201)	45,271 people (M: 3,922, F: 3,903, not specified: 37,447)	100,194 people (M: 15,761, F: 16,800, not specified: 67,633)
Number of people benefitting from sexual and reproductive health services (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	192,424 people (M: 713; F: 96,732; not specified: 94,979)	172,123 people (M: 56,339, F: 115,784)	177,310 people (F: 83,001, not specified: 94,309)	42,155 people (M: 1,766, F: 2,914, not specified: 37,475)

³⁶ Performance measures with the standard 'dependent on need' are output measures designed to aggregate the number of beneficiaries reached through a collection of IDC-funded initiatives every year. In general, where our funding increases, we would expect the number of beneficiaries reached to slowly increase. However, this varies gently from year to year depending on the stage of delivery of individual initiatives. As such, it is not appropriate to assign a specific overall target of 'increasing trend' standard to these aggregated measures, and this could in fact lead to perverse incentives around volume of delivery.

Number of people benefitting from enhanced learning through ICT (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	8,347 people (M: 3,325; F: 4,371; not specified: 651)	12,598 people (M: 5,030; F: 5,434; gender diverse: 39; not specified: 2,095)	8,037 people (M: 1,331; F: 2,470; not specified: 4,236)	1,453 people (M: 33; F: 217; not specified: 1,203)
Number of people receiving training or capability-building support in priority sectors (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	92,325 people (M: 44,404; F: 37,714; gender diverse: 519; not specified: 9,452)	101,536 people (M: 26,480; F: 26,828; gender diverse: 5; not specified: 48,222)	88,441 (M: 31,090, F: 42,495; not specified: 14,856)	101,507 people (M: 44,727; F: 41,362; not specified: 15,418)
Number and percentage of people, who have been awarded scholarships, that complete tertiary or vocational / professional scholarships (No., M/F)	>90% of people who were awarded scholarships	Vocational / professional scholarships: 702/702 or 100% completed (M: 368; F: 330; unspecified: 4) Tertiary scholarships: 174/174 or 100% completed (M: 69, F: 105)	Vocational / professional scholarships: 332/332 or 100% (M: 145, F: 185, unspecified: 2) Tertiary scholarships: 164/201 or 82% (M: 75, F: 89)	Vocational / professional scholarships: 345/399 or 87% (M: 150, F: 194, Other: 1) Tertiary scholarships: 295/303 or 97% (M: 130, F: 165)	Vocational / professional scholarships: 89 or 99% (M: 55; F: 34). Tertiary scholarships: 327 or 94% (M: 153; F: 173, Not specified: 1)
New Zealand responses to natural disasters in the Pacific are launched within mandated timeframes (%)	100%	100% (3/3) • Tropical Cyclone Lola – Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands • East Sepik Earthquake – Papua New Guinea • Enga Landslide – Papua New Guinea	100% (1/1) • Tropical Cyclone Kevin and Judy – Vanuatu.	100% (1/1) • Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano - Tonga	100% (4/4) • Water insecurity Kiribati • Tropical Cyclone Yasa • Tropical Cyclone Ana • Tropical Cyclone Harold
Number of affected people provided with essential and useful assistance following a natural or human induced disaster (No., M/F)	Standard dependent on need	159,652 people (M: 15,360; F: 18,828; not specified: 125,464)	251,633 people (M: 75,934; F: 87,091; not specified: 88,608)	552,135 people (M: 6,258; F: 6,870; not specified: 539,007)	412,348 people
Quality					
Percentage of Activities with effectiveness rated as good or better (MFAT Activity Completion Assessments)	Maintain or improve trend	70%	73%	62%	65%

Financial Performance (figures are GST exclusive)

30/06/23		30/06/24	30/06/24	30/06/24
Actual		Actual	Appropriation	Variance
\$000		\$000	\$000	\$000
971,455	International Development Cooperation (MYA)	1,201,799	1,214,108	12,309

Explanation of significant budget variance

Expenditure for the financial year was 99 percent of budget, and a 24 percent increase on the previous highest expenditure (FY2022/23). The variance will be transferred into the first year of the new triennium, to be used primarily for planned budget support initiatives in the Pacific.

