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NAME

New Zealand Agency for International Development - Nga Hoe Tuputupu-mai-tawhiti

FUNCTION

NZAID is a semi-autonomous agency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). It was 'WYUHx'cb '%> i `m&\$&`hc`UXa]b]ghyf`5chYUfcU`BYk`'NYU`UbX@j`cZUWU`UjX"

LOCATION

Wellington, Aotearoa NZ

VISION

Toward a safe and just world.

MISSION

Eliminating poverty through effective development partnerships, particularly in our own bY][\Vci f\ccX`cZ h\Y`DUWUW

ROLE

NZAID is a semi-autonomous agency of MFAT, which means it has its own budget and management arrangements tailored to its **core business** (see below).

RESPONSIBILITIES

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STAFFING

NZAID has 120 full-time staff positions in Wellington and some 80 full-time positions posted overseas.

AID EXPENDITURE

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FOCUS

Poverty elimination is the central focus of NZAID's work.

1 Key NZ Measures/Statistics, October 2007 www.nzaid.govt.nz/library/publications/corporate/keymeasures.html





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WHAT IS NZAID'S CORE BUSINESS?

- to work with developing country partners, aid donors (agencies who give money for aid), development agencies and the community in Aotearoa NZ;
- to offer advice on policies which work to eliminate poverty in developing countries, particularly in the Pacific;
- to create and oversee development programmes and projects and administer aid funds fairly.

WHAT DOES NZAID DO?

NZAID consults with development partners to put programmes into place, as well as working with other donors in the Pacific, like Australia. It also supports non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and participates in international bodies (like the United Nations, the Asian Development Bank and the Pacific Islands Forum) on development assistance issues.

HOW IS THE FOCUS ACHIEVED?

NZAID aims to improve the well being of, and opportunities for, people who experience poverty. It does so by working with individuals, their governments and communities; and through projects and programmes, such as training teachers and building roads. On a global scale, NZAID works within the international community to lessen vulnerability to poverty.

WHERE ON THE GLOBE IS NZAID'S STRATEGIC FOCUS?

NZAID mainly works with the developing countries of the Pacific. In the event of a humanitarian emergency or natural disaster, NZAID is likely to work with specialist agencies that have the most appropriate expertise, mechanisms and relationships to provide immediate targeted assistance to those in greatest need (like the Red Cross helping with Tsunami or cyclone disaster relief).

WHAT IS NZAID'S PRIORITY?

NZAID supports projects and programmes that have poverty elimination as their focus.

NZAID prioritises education, the environment, gender, governance, and human rights in helping project partners to meet their needs.

WHY DOES AOTEAROA/NZ GIVE AID?

Development assistance is an integral part of Aotearoa NZ's foreign affairs programme, alongside defence and trade. Governments provide aid for a variety of reasons. Humanitarian issues are important as aid can contribute to the alleviation of poverty and to good governance in recipient countries. By providing aid to regional countries, Aotearoa NZ is able to increase security in the Pacific, as well as exerting some control over exploitation of the regional environment; like marine resources in the Pacific. Improving the economy of the region in which we live also leads to positive benefits for the donor country. The government of Aotearoa NZ acknowledges their role within the global community and their responsibility for alleviating poverty and promoting social justice.

WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF AOTEAROA NZ AND AID AND DEVELOPMENT?

Aotearoa NZ's development programme began with the Commonwealth initiative known as the **Colombo Plan**. This occurred in the 1950s whereby developed countries within the

Commonwealth agreed to provide assistance to less developed countries within Asia. Initial aid programmes were influenced and driven by the international politics of the **Cold War**.

