

NEW ZEALAND ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN 2008-11

New Zealand Development Assistance

New Zealand has a strong past track record in aid to Afghanistan, identifying solid niche opportunities fully in accord with Afghan priorities, and spending up to and beyond, its committed level of funding. Spending up to the end of June 2008 will total NZ\$16 million over the previous three years, NZ\$1 million more than was pledged at London.

The bulk of this expenditure is devoted to Bamyan Province. This focus is deliberate and aimed at complementing New Zealand security and stabilisation assistance through the Provincial Reconstruction Team in Bamyan, which New Zealand leads. New Zealand assistance to Bamyan is disbursed to or through local partners active on the ground. Most important of these is the Aga Khan Foundation. New Zealand aid in Bamyan assists sustainable rural livelihoods, human rights, education, health and capacity development of local government and civil society organisations, with a particular focus on women's access and participation. New Zealand also supports, through the aid programme, police training and mentoring in Bamyan.

Bamyan today is one of the most peaceful, best-governed provinces of Afghanistan. Good progress is being made with agricultural development, and education and health show significant improvement, especially for women and children. Since 2005, there have been significant increases in school enrolments, in the number of women teachers, and in women university entrants.

The national elements in our assistance – to the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and to the National Solidarity Programme (via the national Ministry for Rural Development and Reconstruction and tagged “for Bamyan”) – address priority sectors that are currently lagging behind (e.g. implementation of the Action Plan for Peace Reconciliation and Justice, which is currently stalled; and rural development). New Zealand has also contributed in the past to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, to the Counter-Narcotics Trust Fund, and to UN election support programmes. The small quantum of New Zealand's development assistance means its impact would be lost if channelled for the most part through national GoA programmes. However, agencies funded by NZAID work closely with the provincial government in Bamyan; to build implementation capacity in preparation for the time when the government development budget reaches the province.

New Zealand is looking to step up its aid to Afghanistan, with funding in the pipeline totalling \$21 million over the next 3 years. The bulk of this funding provides for the continuation of existing programmes but a significant addition will be support for eco-tourism development in Bamyan (this also strengthens the sustainable rural livelihoods component of New Zealand assistance). New Zealand will ensure that these programmes meet ANDS goals and objectives and are harmonised with national programmes whatever their state of implementation.

New Zealand Security Assistance

New Zealand has expressed a strong commitment to restoring peace and security in Afghanistan: the PRT is the centrepiece of this commitment. New Zealand deployments, which total 154 personnel (includes the latest force protection additions), include the 132-strong Provincial Reconstruction Team in Bamyan operating under the NATO-led ISAF, officers in ISAF HQ, one military liaison officer at the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), three New Zealand Police operating under EUPOL to assist with training and mentoring of Afghan National Police and two non-commissioned officers (NCOs) working with the UK to provide command and leadership training to the Afghan National Army (ANA). New Zealand assistance to date, both military and development, totals more than \$160 million.

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NZ Development Assistance	Expended*	Committed			Total committed 2008- 2011
		07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11
Sustainable livelihoods/ women's literacy - UNFAO	750,000	750,000	750,000tbc	750,000	2,250,000
livelihoods (health and education as constituent elements of livelihoods with focus on women and children) - Aga Khan Foundation	1,500,000	1,750,000	1,750,000	2,000,000	5,500,000
eco-tourism/ livelihoods - Aga Khan Foundation		800,000	800,000	800,000	2,400,000
Bamyan University	50,000	700,000			700,000
AIHRC – Human Rights Commission	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	2,400,000
NSP – National Solidarity Programme	600,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	2,400,000
NZP – NZ Police training/ mentoring	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	2,400,000
NZ PRT – aid facilitation	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,000,000
Total					NZ\$21,000,000