



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

FAO

+

New Zealand

Advancing
food security
and resilience



Partnership at a glance

In recent years, New Zealand's strategic support of various FAO normative and technical projects has proven the country's commitment towards food security and agricultural development. This has included contributions towards resilience building and emergency response, particularly in the Asia and the Pacific region, as well as development activities promoting sustainable resource management and food systems.

Through its official development assistance, New Zealand has shown a keen interest in supporting numerous issues pertaining to FAO's areas of work and its ongoing efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The country aims to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a combination of domestic action, international leadership on global policy issues — most notably climate change — and the support of countries through the New Zealand Aid Programme. Its investment priorities, focused on topics such as agricultural development, fishing policy, and disaster preparedness and prevention are enshrined in the Aid Programme's Strategic Plan 2015–2019, which laid a solid foundation for the New Zealand–FAO partnership in recent years.

FAO recognizes New Zealand's expertise and commitment to achieving sustainable economic development with an emphasis on agriculture and renewable energy, providing ample scope for deepened collaboration. New Zealand's recent voluntary contributions to FAO have been directed almost exclusively towards supporting resilience and crisis response in the Philippines. This has included, for example, fostering durable peace and development in North Cotabato and Maguindanao, and restoring the rural livelihoods of farmers, livestock holders and fisherfolk affected by numerous devastating typhoons. These projects have been supported by the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) which, over the past five years (2014–2019), has contributed NZD 12.7 million¹ (USD 8.2 million) towards these emergency and resilience-building efforts in Asia. In 2019, MFAT also provided resources towards a multilateral project to support the implementation of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement.

New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries, meanwhile, has contributed to numerous multidonor projects in support of FAO's normative work, including in the areas of plant health through the International Plant Protection Convention, the livestock sector through the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership, and the Committee on World Food Security's High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition.

In March 2018, New Zealand's Minister of Foreign Affairs signaled a re-energized approach to development assistance in the Pacific. FAO and New Zealand's commitment to the 2030 Agenda, particularly in this region and its Small Island Developing States, will act as a driving force to achieve sustained prosperity and a Zero Hunger world.

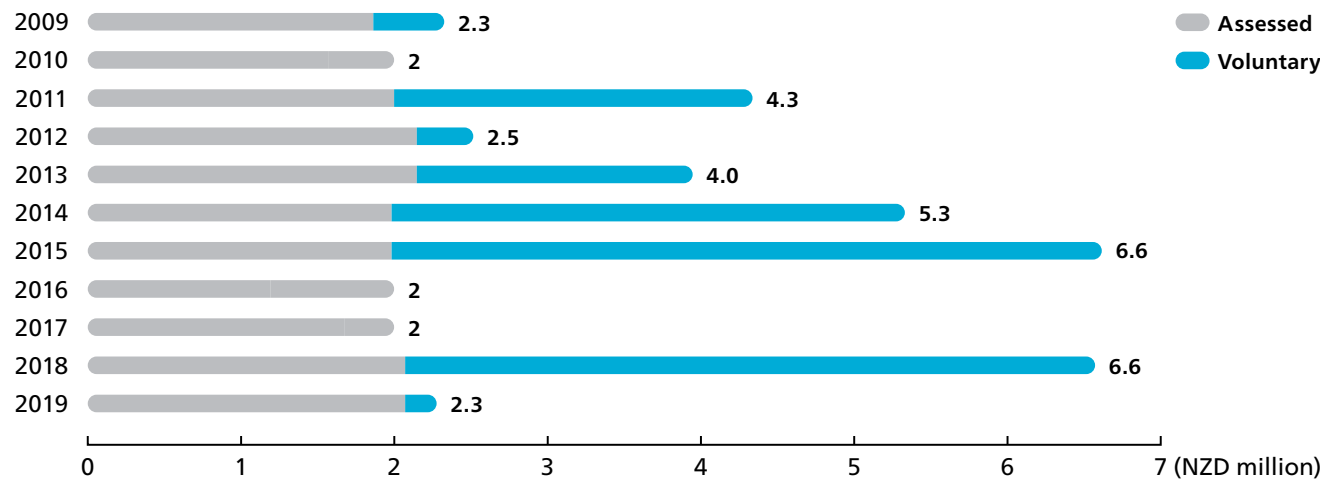
¹Values in New Zealand Dollar (NZD) in this report are based on the exchange rate as of January 1, 2020 (USD 1 = NZD 1.546)

In figures

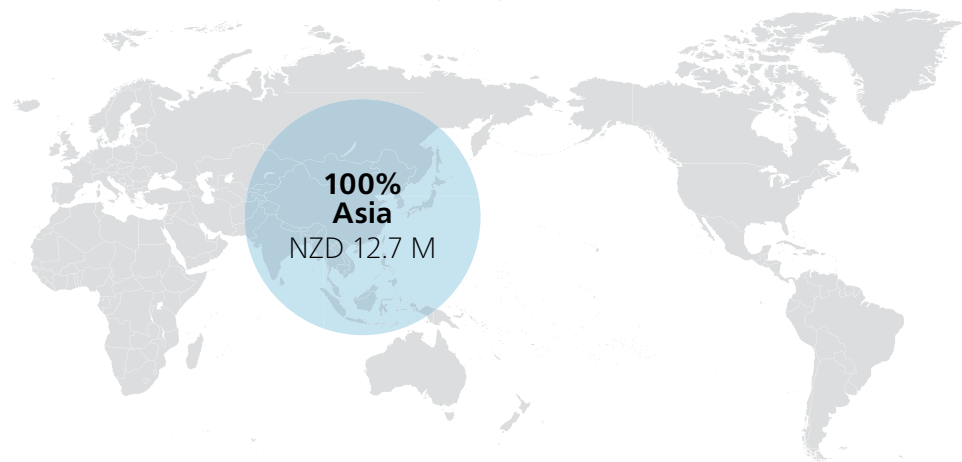
Total contributions² of New Zealand to FAO
(assessed and voluntary³) 2014–2019

NZD 24.8 M (USD 16 M)

Trend of New Zealand’s total contributions (2009–2019)



New Zealand’s contributions by region (2014–2019)³



New Zealand’s contributions by category (2014–2019)³



²As of December 2019 preliminary closure.
³Refers to voluntary contributions based on approvals, excluding those provided to Multilateral/Pooled Trust Funds.

Supporting a more inclusive and resilient Pacific

Restoring agricultural livelihoods in conflict-affected areas

The island of Mindanao is a major contributor to the Philippines' economy and particularly to the agricultural sector due to its vast natural resources. However, long-drawn protracted armed conflicts coupled with climate-change-induced extreme weather events have affected thousands of people resulting in loss of production and rice and corn farming income. Successive natural disasters such as heavy flooding in low-lying areas, droughts and rat infestations have resulted in further losses and threatened the coping abilities and resilience of affected agricultural producers.

With NZD 4.5 million (USD 2.9 million) provided by the Government of New Zealand, the project (running from 2015 to 2018) contributed towards attaining sustainable peace and development in the region through the provision of support to the restoration of agriculture and fisheries-based livelihoods, and by improving resilience against disasters in conflict- and disaster-affected communities of the Cotabato Province.

Smallholder farming, fishing and livestock-holding households received inputs specific to their livelihoods. For example, the project provided rice and corn farmers with seeds and fertilizer, while community-based organizations received small-farm machinery such as hand tractors, corn shellers and rice threshers, as well as carabaos (water buffalos) and ploughs. Additionally, goat raisers received goats and fodder materials, while fishing households received gill nets and drying nets. In each beneficiary municipality, the project also provided the Offices of the Municipal Agriculturists with animal health inputs such as dewormers, vaccines and vitamins. Moreover, the initiative's capacity-building component helped to improve beneficiaries' crop and livestock production, incomes and resilience by conducting trainings on climate-smart agriculture, seed production and certification, improved livestock and poultry management and production practices, disaster risk reduction and management, and product value-addition. Likewise, the initiative assisted 3 488 households, or 17 440 individuals, outside its target areas in Lanao del Sur and Maguindanao, by providing each household one bag of certified rice seeds, one bag of urea or complete fertilizer, a pack of assorted vegetable seeds and one shovel.

Beneficiaries:

18 603 households (93 015 individuals)

Results:

- Agricultural livelihoods of farmers and fisherfolk affected by droughts and floods restored
- Household and community food security ensured through enhanced agricultural productivity and sustainable farming capacities
- Resilience of farming livelihoods against multiple natural and human-made hazards increased

Contribution to the SDGs:



Emergency assistance for increased food security and agricultural production

In September 2018, typhoon Mangkhut caused landslides in the Philippines, affecting the safety and livelihoods of around 5 million people in the northern part of the country. Most of those affected by the typhoon were dependent on farming or fishing as a major source of their livelihoods. In the immediate aftermath of the typhoon, it was critical that affected farmers received appropriate and timely agricultural assistance for urgent planting in the November/December planting season.

In response, New Zealand committed NZD 528 809 (USD 342 050) to support FAO's emergency assistance efforts aimed at restoring agricultural livelihoods in typhoon-affected communities. Through a six-month project conducted between 2018 and 2019, farming households received fertilizer to complement the rice and corn seeds that they concurrently received from the Department of Agriculture. As a result, typhoon-affected farming households were able to improve their food security and nutrition and avoid longer-term dependence on food aid.

As part of its coordination activities, the project conducted a series of planning meetings with counterparts to prioritize areas where interventions were critically needed and to ensure that gaps in the restoration of agricultural livelihoods were sufficiently addressed. Moreover, under its capacity development component, the project trained disaster risk reduction focal persons, report officers, agricultural programme coordination officers, municipal agriculturists and agricultural extension workers on the damage assessment reporting system and the KoBo Toolbox application (an open-source tool for mobile field data collection).

Institutional support in building lasting peace for sustainable development

Mindanao is home to one of the world's longest running insurgencies, which has limited economic development in the area. In 2018, the Government of the Philippines passed the Bangsamoro Organic Law, with the purpose of creating a lasting and sustainable peace through the establishment of a political entity and a basic government structure that protects the rights and interests of all the communities living in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

The interim government — the Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) — intends to achieve economic prosperity in the region wherein farming communities, including indigenous peoples and former combatants, will have equal and equitable access to economic opportunities that will help them through the transition process.

With a contribution of NZD 205 744 (USD 133 082) from the Government of New Zealand in 2019, FAO worked to build the capacity of the BTA to support the sustainable management of agriculture, natural resources, environment and indigenous peoples' affairs. This was achieved through the provision of resource and technical support to the new government, which enabled its agencies and ministries to adequately plan strategic interventions on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, promotion of agriculture-based livelihoods/agribusiness, value chains, and sustainable and resilient agriculture.

Beneficiaries:

3 550 households (17 750 individuals)

Results:

- 355 tonnes of urea fertilizer distributed to 3 550 farming households, resulting in an average yield of 7 tonnes of rice per hectare in Cagayan province (enough to feed 55 512 people) and 6.5 tonnes per hectare in Ilocos Norte Province (enough to feed 52 245 people)
- 23 stakeholders at the municipal level trained on the damage assessment reporting system and the KoBo Toolbox application

Contribution to the SDGs:



Beneficiaries:

BTA, relevant ministries and local government

Results:

- Institutional capacity of BTA and relevant sectoral ministries strengthened
- Bangsamoro Development Plan updated
- Capacity development trainings and consultation workshops conducted
- Coordination meetings and assessments organized to ensure incorporation of agriculture-based livelihoods, and food security and nutrition

Contribution to the SDGs:



Improving rural livelihoods through disaster risk reduction and resilience building for sustainable peace

As the second biggest island in the Philippines, Mindanao largely accounts for the production of high-value commodities such as rubber, pineapple, banana and coffee, among others. However, decades of conflict and natural disasters hampered the region's sustained growth and development. These challenges have resulted in limited access to basic services and economic opportunities, hindering the region's potential and worsening poverty, unemployment, underemployment, and the political situation.

With continued funding from the Government of New Zealand [NZD 4 million (USD 2.6 million)] until 2021, and building upon the accomplishments of an earlier project, FAO is tackling these challenges in Mindanao by contributing to the development of agriculture and agribusiness in selected provinces. The initiative is improving agriculture-based livelihoods, boosting productivity, and enhancing food security and nutrition through the provision of agricultural inputs, training, and technical assistance on improved agriculture and diversified farming systems. The project is also integrating smallholder farmers and farmer organizations, including women and women's groups, into the agricultural value chains, providing them with related skills to link them to markets and market opportunities.

Moreover, the initiative is also working to build the resilience of farming and related livelihoods against multiple hazards through the application of disaster risk reduction tools, principles and approaches that are tailor-fit to specific livelihoods, agro-ecologies and socio-political-institutional contexts.

Beneficiaries:

3 050 smallholder farmers, including indigenous peoples, internally displaced persons and decommissioned combatants

Expected Results:

- Capacities in agricultural production and value-added products built
- Community-based organizations strengthened through the provision of start-up packages and training on enterprise management and marketing
- Knowledge and practice of climate-resilient agriculture increased by incorporating climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction

Contribution to the SDGs:



Promoting sustainable resource management and food systems

Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (FAO LEAP)

Farmers, consumers and other livestock stakeholders are increasingly in need of more information about the environmental performance and sustainability of livestock supply chains. The multi-stakeholder FAO LEAP partnership aims to tackle the urgent need for evidence-based environmental improvement of the livestock sector through the development of harmonized environmental assessment guidelines based on international best practices. By leveraging global expertise, LEAP offers tools that are essential to address the environmental impact of the livestock sector, while improving the efficiency and profitability of livestock supply chains.

Thanks to the support of New Zealand and other resource partners, FAO contributes greatly to the work of the Partnership by hosting the LEAP Secretariat, which coordinates and facilitates the work of the technical advisory groups, and guides and contributes to content development. LEAP's multisector approach accounts for the fact that different countries will require different solutions based on their specific contexts. In addition, LEAP enables the development and road-testing of guidelines across the different groups as an important step to ensure that guidelines are useful for all countries involved in the programme.

Multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable livestock

In many emerging nations, the development of the livestock sector has been largely unbalanced and has often not been accompanied by the necessary adjustments in sector policies, governance and investments. Providing an enabling environment is essential to foster the growth of the livestock sector, and significantly contribute to society's current and future environmental, social, economic and health objectives.

New Zealand has strongly supported global initiatives that promote sustainable livestock development. The country, together with other partners, contributed to a global project between 2011 and 2017 to build a Global Agenda of Action that coordinates collective and individual stakeholder action to make livestock food value chains more sustainable. The initiative ultimately resulted in the provision of a worldwide platform for the interaction of more than 100 institutional partners, enhancing their motivation, capacity and financial resources to produce and share a variety of technical solutions for sustainable livestock globally, regionally and nationally. New Zealand is currently a member of the Public Sector Cluster of the initiative, now under the name of the Global Agenda for Sustainable Livestock.

Moreover, FAO is committed to helping countries meet their obligations to the Paris Agreement and the Koronivia Joint Work on Agriculture decision, by building capacity for national measurement, reporting and verification. These capacity-building initiatives, such as the recently endorsed project "Creating the enabling environment for enhanced climate ambition and climate action through institutional capacity building" — funded by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre and the Global Research Alliance on Agricultural Greenhouse Gases — help countries assess different mitigation action scenarios and access international climate finance to speed progress towards a more resilient and prosperous future.

Beneficiaries:

Farmers, consumers and other livestock stakeholders

Results:

- Comprehensive guidance and methodology developed to understand the environmental performance of livestock supply chains
- FAO LEAP guidelines for broader consensus and increased coherence road tested and applied
- Tools for the adoption and application of LEAP guidelines and the identification of evidence-based improvement options developed

Contribution to the SDGs:



Fostering food security and trade

FAO and New Zealand share a commitment to strive for safe food for all. One of the most tangible ways the Organization contributes to the daily lives of people around the world is in developing and promoting international standards around the production and trade of food. From food labeling to the safe flow of plant products, FAO brokers international guidelines and hosts a myriad of commissions and governing bodies that keep our food safe and our food production sustainable into the future. Facilitating trade, keeping plants and animals healthy and ensuring that benefits are shared by all are essential parts of FAO's mission to strengthen national institutions and global food governance.

Codex Alimentarius

New Zealand is a strong supporter of the Codex Alimentarius, which plays an important role in ensuring the safety, quality and fairness of international food trade by setting international standards, guidelines and codes of practice. The country contributes to the Codex on a voluntary basis and is leading several workstreams on standard development, including a follow-up formula for older infants and young children, front of pack labeling, and committees working by correspondence.

The Codex's broad scope, covering areas such as contaminants, nutrition, food hygiene, food labeling, additives, antimicrobial resistance, and pesticide and veterinary drug residues makes it an essential part of achieving food security and zero hunger. Public concern about food safety, meanwhile, often places the Codex at the centre of global debates.

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

New Zealand is a key partner of the IPPC, actively participating in the Convention's work and providing regular financial support to the Convention's activities aimed at securing coordinated, effective actions to prevent and control the introduction and spread of pests that affect plants and plant products. The Convention, governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures, covers cultivated plants and natural flora. It also extends to vehicles, aircrafts and vessels, containers, storage places, soil, and other objects or materials that can harbour or spread pests. The IPPC encourages collaboration between various national and regional plant protection organizations to implement the rules set out in the agreement.

In particular, New Zealand has provided regular financial support to the IPPC. During the period 2018–2019, the country contributed NZD 309 200 (USD 200 000) to support the IPPC work plan and specific initiatives such as the development of Commodity and Pathways Standards as well as the implementation of the ePhyto solution (Electronic Phytosanitary Certificates).

Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

The CFS has been central to global governance in food and nutrition security since its reform in 2009 and is one of the priorities for collaboration between the United Nations Rome-based agencies.

The CFS constitutes the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for governments and a broad range of other stakeholders to work together in a coordinated manner and in support of country-led processes towards the elimination of hunger and ensuring food security and nutrition for all. New Zealand is regularly taking part in the discussions of different CFS workstreams and is a member of the CFS Bureau for the period 2019–2021. In addition, a member of the country's Permanent Representation was elected Vice Chair of the CFS for the same period.



List of ongoing bilateral projects funded by New Zealand (2014–2019)*

Project symbol	Project title	Total budget (USD)**	Start date	End date
OSRO/PHI/802/NZE	Support to more durable peace and development in North Cotabato and Maguindanao provinces	2 583 000	29/03/18	29/03/21
GCP /GLO/369/MUL	Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance Partnership (LEAP)	1 897 558	01/10/12	31/12/21
GCP /GLO/360/MUL	Building a Global Agenda of Action in support of sustainable livestock sector development	4 802 303	13/12/11	30/09/17
OSRO/PHI/101/NZE	Restoring agricultural livelihoods in conflict-affected areas in the Maguindanao Province of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)	2 755 008	17/06/11	30/09/14
OSRO/PHI/404/NZE	Emergency response to restore the rural livelihoods of farmers affected by typhoon Halyan	2 168 257	25/03/14	15/02/16

*Refers to voluntary contributions based on approvals, excluding those provided to Multilateral/Pooled Trust Funds.

**Subject to change for ongoing projects.

Project symbol	Project title	Total budget (USD)**	Start date	End date
OSRO/PHI/501/NZE	Restoring agricultural livelihoods in conflict-affected areas in the North Cotabato Province, Central Mindanao	2 881 499	24/06/15	31/03/18
OSRO/PHI/804/NZE	Emergency assistance in restoring food security and agricultural production in typhoon Mangkhut affected communities in Northern Philippines	331 500	01/10/18	31/03/19
OSRO/PHI/902/NZE	Support to the new Bangsamoro Transition Authority (BTA) in establishing the BARMM in the Philippines	133 082	19/06/19	31/12/19

*Refers to voluntary contributions based on approvals, excluding those provided to Multilateral/Pooled Trust Funds.

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