

November 2004

NEW ZEALAND'S AID IN AFRICA

New Zealand's aid

- ¥ Total annual aid budget is \$260 million
- ¥ Assistance to the Pacific totals \$122 million
- ¥ \$20 million to Africa, including bilateral and multilateral support and emergency disaster relief
- ¥ South, Southern and East Africa are targeted
- ¥ Goal is to eliminate poverty through equitable and sustainable development.

NZAID in Africa

- ¥ \$1.65 million annual bilateral programme with South Africa
- ¥ Focus on South Africa's two least developed provinces, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal
- ¥ \$3.57 million annual regional programme with the 10 countries of Southern and East Africa
- ¥ Primary geographic focus for the regional programme is on Zimbabwe, Zambia and Mozambique
- ¥ Focus also on Tanzania and Kenya
- ¥ The countries have been selected on the basis of development need.

Poverty in Africa

- ¥ Nearly half of Africa's 800 million people live on less than US\$1/day (classified as extreme poverty)
- ¥ Living in extreme poverty:
 - 63.7% of Zambians
 - 37.9% of Mozambicans
 - 36% of Zimbabweans
 - 23% of Kenyans
 - 19.9% of Tanzanians
 - 7.1% of South Africans

Aid Minister Marian Hobbs

We have historic relationships with the countries of Southern and East Africa so it is logical that we focus our aid efforts on the countries we know well. The need is great in Africa — made worse by the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS.

The impact of HIV/AIDS

Africa is in the grip of a devastating HIV/AIDS pandemic with infection rates in different countries ranging between 13 and 35 percent of the total adult populations.

The UN Envoy for Humanitarian Need in Southern Africa, James Morris, has warned that the combination of HIV/AIDS and its impact on agriculture threatens a new, deep-seated food crisis in Southern Africa.

The region is caught in a vicious cycle. HIV/AIDS is killing the very people who would be planting and harvesting food crops and it is food insecurity and poverty that fuels the ongoing HIV/AIDS crisis.

There are short-term and longer-term issues to be addressed including food security, prevention, treatment, palliative care and special attention to the needs of children.

Not only are children infected by HIV/AIDS — they are left orphaned.

The ravages of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on the social fabric of South Africa, Southern Africa and East Africa underpin NZAID's work in the region.

In South Africa NZAID supports community-based partnerships which increase awareness of the disease and provide support within communities. It is also extending this assistance to a provincial and national level to maximise impact.



Loxey community salvaging and reusing concrete from Loxey Primary School renovations, South Africa.

africa fact sheet

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Africa – snapshot

- ¥ Population of 800 million
- ¥ The highest birthrate of any continent, the population is forecast to reach 2 billion by 2050
- ¥ Is the fastest growing region on earth
- ¥ Faces severe water and food shortages
- ¥ There is an HIV/AIDS pandemic
- ¥ Countries are characterised by debt and trade imbalances
- ¥ Average economic growth of 3%
- ¥ More than 3000 unique ethnic groups are recognised with more than 1000 languages spoken
- ¥ Low life expectancy. In Zambia it is 32.7 years and in South Africa is 48.8 years.



Water is one of Africa's precious commodities.

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Supporting UNICEF in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe's current crisis has had a direct impact on communities, families and children. Coping mechanisms have been severely stretched and there has been a dramatic decline in school enrolment rates.

Compounding this is HIV/AIDS and the fact that when children are not attending school it is difficult to monitor their health and welfare.

UNICEF has designed a programme to strengthen life skills education and community participation in primary schools. It is a two year project targeting the orphaned and vulnerable children of Bulilima and Mangwe in Zimbabwe's arid southwest.

NZAID supports this programme which aims to break a devastating cycle for orphaned children of poverty and HIV/AIDS. It improves their access to school and the quality of their education, taking in life and livelihood skills and psycho-social support.

Direct assistance for rural education in KwaZulu Natal's Port Shepstone District

Rural KwaZulu Natal is South Africa's most populous province. For the province's Department of Education vast distances and millions of school age children present enormous challenges as it attempts to provide quality and effective education for all.

Making the challenge even more trying is a lack of facilities and HIV/AIDS.

As in the Pacific, NZAID has formed a strategic partnership with the KwaZulu National Department of Education providing support to implement its rural strategic plan in the Port Shepstone District.

The programme aims to improve teaching and learning within rural schools by developing school-cluster models supported by education centres and satellite centres. Access to services, resources and training will also be improved.