

# Our Development Cooperation with Solomon Islands



New Zealand's primary objective is to help Solomon Islands' government build resilience, social cohesion, stability and economic growth to contribute to prosperity and security in the Pacific Region.

New Zealand's long term objectives are to help Solomon Islands' government: achieve a stable, resilient and socially cohesive society; develop an economy that enables prosperity and more equitable distribution of benefits; and deliver for all citizens and engage constructively in the region

This includes strengthening economic governance, and incentivising reforms with general budget support. We are a long-term partner in the education sector, focused on systemic change to lift education outcomes. We are looking to reduce the costs of transport and energy, and increase connectivity to support more equitable economic growth. We are helping develop tourism, fisheries and other sustainable growth opportunities that provide alternative revenue sources to logging.

On top of this, New Zealand is working with the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force to improve community safety and re-establish community trust in the police, and we are working with young people to improve their access to services, training and opportunities.

## Recent achievements

- ✦ New Zealand has contributed NZD\$31.7 million towards transport infrastructure in the Western Province of Solomon Islands since 2010. New Zealand's largest infrastructure investment in the region sees safer and more regular flights to the Western Province and improved connectivity within the province, which is crucial to the development of tourism.
- ✦ We have been the lead donor in the education sector since 2004. Education is a key enabler to economic growth and stability and is a cornerstone programme of New Zealand's development assistance to Solomon Islands. In part as a result of our long-standing
- ✦ partnership with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), Solomon Islands has seen a 30% increase in literacy rates.
- ✦ We have supported the Solomon Islands Inland Revenue Division (SIIRD) since 2005, which has helped to significantly increase tax revenue; domestic revenues collected as a percentage of GDP more than doubled from 10.4% to 23% between 2003 and 2019. This increase has provided vital funding to the Solomon Islands Government as it has sought to restore fiscal and financial stability.

## Current development priorities

We are partnering with the Solomon Islands Government to support:

- ✕ a state that delivers for all citizens and engages constructively in the region
- ✕ a Solomon Islands that is a stable, resilient and socially cohesive nation and
- ✕ an economy that enables prosperity and more equitable distribution of benefits.

## What we're working on now

- ✕ Support to the Ministry of Finance and Treasury to strengthen public financial management and economic governance.

- ✕ Partnership between New Zealand Police and Royal Solomon Islands Police Force to improve community policing and re-establish community trust in the police.
- ✕ Partnership with the Honiara City Council to increase youth engagement and upgrade facilities for youth in Honiara.
- ✕ Support to Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources to ensure sustainable fisheries.
- ✕ Minimise threat of Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle on palm oil and coconut industries.
- ✕ Support for Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development to improve literacy and numeracy, and school management and leadership.
- ✕ Support Ministry of Communications and Aviation to improve airport infrastructure and airport management, complemented by supporting opportunities to grow tourism.



2018-2021  
Development  
funding

(NZD)  
Our planned  
aid  
expenditure