

Election Scorecard: Aid and Development

Do your candidates score 4/4?

Giving overseas development assistance is in New Zealand's interests and will help build a world where everybody enjoys peace, equality and prosperity. The most recent official survey (2007) confirms that 76 per cent of the New Zealand public support giving overseas development assistance and 63 per cent believe it should be given solely to help those in need.

New Zealand Aid and Development Dialogues (NZADDs) has created this Four-Point Scorecard to help you rate your local candidates and political parties in the upcoming New Zealand general election. Do your local candidates or their parties score 4/4?

To do so they should be committed to a New Zealand aid programme that:

1.	Helps the most needy and meets NZ's international obligations The NZ Government is a partner in the global effort to eliminate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals. NZ's aid programme must focus on assisting the poorest people and countries in our region. 71 per cent of the New Zealand public believe that the NZ aid programme should focus on the people who most need aid.	
2.	Builds genuine partnerships with countries, communities and organisations To be <u>effective</u> , our aid programme needs to 'walk the talk' of being consultative, participatory and inclusive. It needs to involve meaningfully both recipient communities and the organisations and individuals in NZ who care about international development.	
3.	Is professional, accountable and adopts global best practice to plan and deliver aid A quality NZ aid programme needs to employ people with experience, skills and knowledge in international aid and development. NZ's aid efforts must be informed by global evidence about what works to increase poor people's opportunities. The NZ Government can be a leader in researching what works and what doesn't work to improve development in the Pacific.	
4.	Is transparent in where and how NZ aid money is spent, and openly reports the effects of this aid New Zealanders deserve to know how their tax dollars are spent. The aid programme needs to make basic information publicly available, including about where and how New Zealand gives aid, and the results of this expenditure. The NZ Government has voluntarily signed up to the Initiative and this commitment should continue to be honoured by Government.	

If you care about international aid and development then be sure to vote for a party or candidate that scores 4/4!

For further information and resources see the NZADDS website: www.nzadds.org.nz

