Integration of the New Zealand Aid Programme

Pre 2012/13 NZ Aid Programme

2012/13 International Development Group
MFAT

2015/16 Capability Review

2016/17 Pacific & Development Group
MFAT
Our evolving Programme evaluation framework

- 2015
- 2016
- 2016/17
- 2017/18
- 2018/19

- Bilateral aid investment
- Includes TCAF and better understanding of environment
- Then one Ministry – includes wider policy settings
- Where to now?
Our approach

• How can we develop an integrated evaluation approach/es that focuses on foreign, trade, security, cultural and development policies, programming and investment decisions?

  ❖ Seeks to better understand the relationship/s between different policy settings, how they currently work or don’t in the complex & integrated world NZ operates in

  ❖ Creates an opportunity for discussion amongst MFAT stakeholders, partners & key stakeholders

• Requires an understanding & appreciation of policy coherence - how development can help promote other non-aid policy objectives & vice versa

• Utilisation-focused that adds value to MFAT, partner countries and key stakeholders
Initial findings

- By examining different policy settings (how they are working or not) we gain a better understanding of NZ’s unique role in the Pacific and elsewhere in the world.
- Operating very differently in different countries where NZ invests in.
- NZ aid investment is building sound relationships with partner governments.
- Strong reputation & political capital and how we better can use it to achieve NZ’s mission.
- Solid experience of working across different policy settings with an iterative and emerging capacity to influence different policy environments.
- Post needs flexible funding tools - to negotiate & manage a nested suite of evolving opportunities.
Some early insights

• External evaluation teams need an understanding of development & of the political, socio, economic & cultural contexts

• Lack of understanding within & across MFAT
  - Evaluation - its nature, scope and scale and value it can add
  - Aid Programme teams see it is about aid & its contribution to sustainable economic development; they are ‘new’ to foreign policy
  - Foreign-policy are new to evaluation & development

• Clear communication & managing expectations are key for ER team

• Negotiating deliverables for different audiences throughout the evaluation

• There is “Something about David”
What next?

• New country strategies with four year plans & M&E frameworks that reflect foreign and development objectives
• Refreshed programme evaluation framework with key evaluative questions
• Development & foreign policy workshops
• Refreshing ER Programme - 2018+
• Working with Australia and Canada