New Zealand
HRI 2010 ranking: 3rd

Policy framework
New Zealand’s humanitarian assistance is managed by NZAID, a semi-autonomous department within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Responsible for implementing aid programmes and developing humanitarian policy, NZAID focuses on preparedness, response and recovery in the Pacific region. NZAID defines its overarching humanitarian policy in conjunction with the International Development Advisory Committee (IDAC) and based on consultations with the Council for International Development, the umbrella organisation for New Zealand NGOs. NZAID currently operates under the Five-Year Strategy 2004/5 – 2009/10. Its decision to respond to humanitarian emergencies depends on the scale and human impact of the crisis, other resources available, and whether assistance has been requested. In the Asia-Pacific Region, NZAID works in partnership with national and international NGOs registered in New Zealand or their implementing partners via the Humanitarian Response Fund, which in 2009 replaced the Humanitarian Action Fund. In crises beyond its region, NZAID channels its assistance through UN agencies and the Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement, also contributing to their core funding. New Zealand’s 2009 ODA represented 0.29% of its GNI, a slight decrease from the previous year due to the financial crisis. Humanitarian assistance comprised 12.17% of its ODA and 0.027% of its GNI.

Performance
New Zealand is ranked 3rd in the HRI 2010. Based on the patterns of its scores, New Zealand is classified as a Group 1 donor. Donors in this group tend to do better overall in Pillar 3 (Working with humanitarian partners), Pillar 4 (Protection and international law), and Pillar 5 (Learning and accountability). Other donors in the group include Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

In Pillar 1 (Responding to needs), New Zealand scored above the OECD/DAC average and the Group 1 average. In Pillar 2 (Prevention, risk reduction and recovery), the country scored close to the OECD/DAC and Group 1 averages. It differs somewhat from its group in that its lowest average scores were in Pillar 3, a pillar in which Group 1 donors tend to do well. It received scores close to the OECD/DAC average and below its group average. New Zealand received its second-highest score in Pillar 4, well above the OECD/DAC average and close to its group average. New Zealand received its highest average score in Pillar 5 where it was the second best-scoring donor, well above the OECD/DAC and Group 1 averages.

HRI 2010 scores by pillar

Aid distribution by type of organisation

* Distribution of donor funding to these sectors include flows inside and outside an appeal that had been reported to OCHA/FTS. This is compared to the “distribution of needs” based on the 2009 UN appeal budget allocation.
Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.
New Zealand was best compared to its OECD/DAC peers in the indicators on Funding for accountability initiatives, Funding and commissioning evaluations, Un-earmarked funding, Facilitating humanitarian access and Funding for reconstruction and prevention. It scores were amongst the lowest for the indicators on Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals, Funding to NGOs, Beneficiary participation in programming, Beneficiary participation in monitoring and evaluation and Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms.

Recommendations:
Although disaster risk reduction is a priority for New Zealand, it received one of its lowest scores in Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms. New Zealand allocated 0.9% of its ODA to these mechanisms, whereas the Group 1 average is 1.60%, and the optimal value for all donors is an allocation of 3.5% of ODA.

- New Zealand should look into ways to increase its support of risk mitigation mechanisms.

New Zealand provided only 3% of its funding to NGOs, compared to the Group 1 average of 15%.

- New Zealand should consider finding ways to increase its support to NGOs.

New Zealand’s partners consider it a good donor in terms of Advocacy toward local authorities, Facilitating access and Promotion of international humanitarian law. However, it receives a low score in the related quantitative indicators. New Zealand channeled only 0.0021% of every billion dollars of its GDP to the ICRC, compared to the Group 1 average of 0.011%.

- New Zealand should look into ways to increase its support of the ICRC and promotion of IHL.

New Zealand is perceived in the field as particularly weak in supporting beneficiary participation (it received two of its lowest scores in Beneficiary participation in programming and Beneficiary participation in monitoring and evaluation).

- New Zealand should engage in dialogue with its partners to discuss their perceptions regarding it support for beneficiary participation.

For more detailed information, please see www.daraint.org.