

MAKING USE OF DIVERSE SKILLS

NZAID’s contestable funds support work that may be beyond the scope of NZAID’s programmes. Organisations, agencies, and individuals submit proposals to one of the contestable funds for an activity that addresses development needs of another country or region.

FUND	2008/09 FUNDING (\$)
NZ Government Agencies Fund	5,421,437
Asia Development Assistance Fund	2,181,616
TOTAL	7,603,053

NEW ZEALAND STATE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS FUND

Primarily focused on the public sector; the goal for the New Zealand State Sector Development Partnerships Fund (DPF) is to contribute to prosperity, stability and poverty reduction in partner countries by improving the conditions for broad-based sustainable economic development. The DPF offers New Zealand government departments and agencies, Crown entities, Crown research institutes, and local government the opportunity to access funding to undertake activities within their specific fields in a developing country.

The DPF was previously known as the Government Agencies Fund (GAF). The fund

was relaunched in August 2009 following a review, which has made the fund available to more agencies and is more tightly focused on supporting sustainable economic development in Pacific island countries. Activities awarded funding through GAF have been transferred to the DPF.

NZAID’s DPF has a whole-of-government approach to international development. This approach pulls together the very best New Zealand has to offer with promising results in the 2008/09 year.

NZAID’s DPF manager, Ginny Chapman, says “The Fund has supported a good cross-section of New Zealand agencies to engage with their Pacific and Asian counterparts. This has enabled real economic, security, police, health, education and environment issues to be addressed.”



Q CASE STUDY

SAMOA SPORTS SUPPORT PROJECT

A three-year sports project in Samoa, funded through the DPF was completed in June 2009. The purpose of the Samoa Sports Support Project (SSSP) between Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC) and Samoa's Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture (MESC) was to design and implement a sports system to strengthen the Samoan sports sector with the associated social, community, and health benefits that brings. The health benefits are particularly important. Samoa is a country with alarmingly high obesity rates; the World Health Organization estimates 67.5 percent of the population to be obese (rising to 75 percent in urban areas).

Increasing access to and participation in sports is a positive way to address this.

The project has seen the delivery of sports equipment, sports development workshops for teachers, coaches and sports officials in New Zealand and Samoa, training in sports first aid, and training in sports fitness and nutrition.

MESC staff were also given project management and research training.

Sports equipment was purchased to allow increased student participation in sport and recreation.

Previously many schools and sports bodies have

improvised their equipment, for example making their own hurdles and shotputs for athletics.

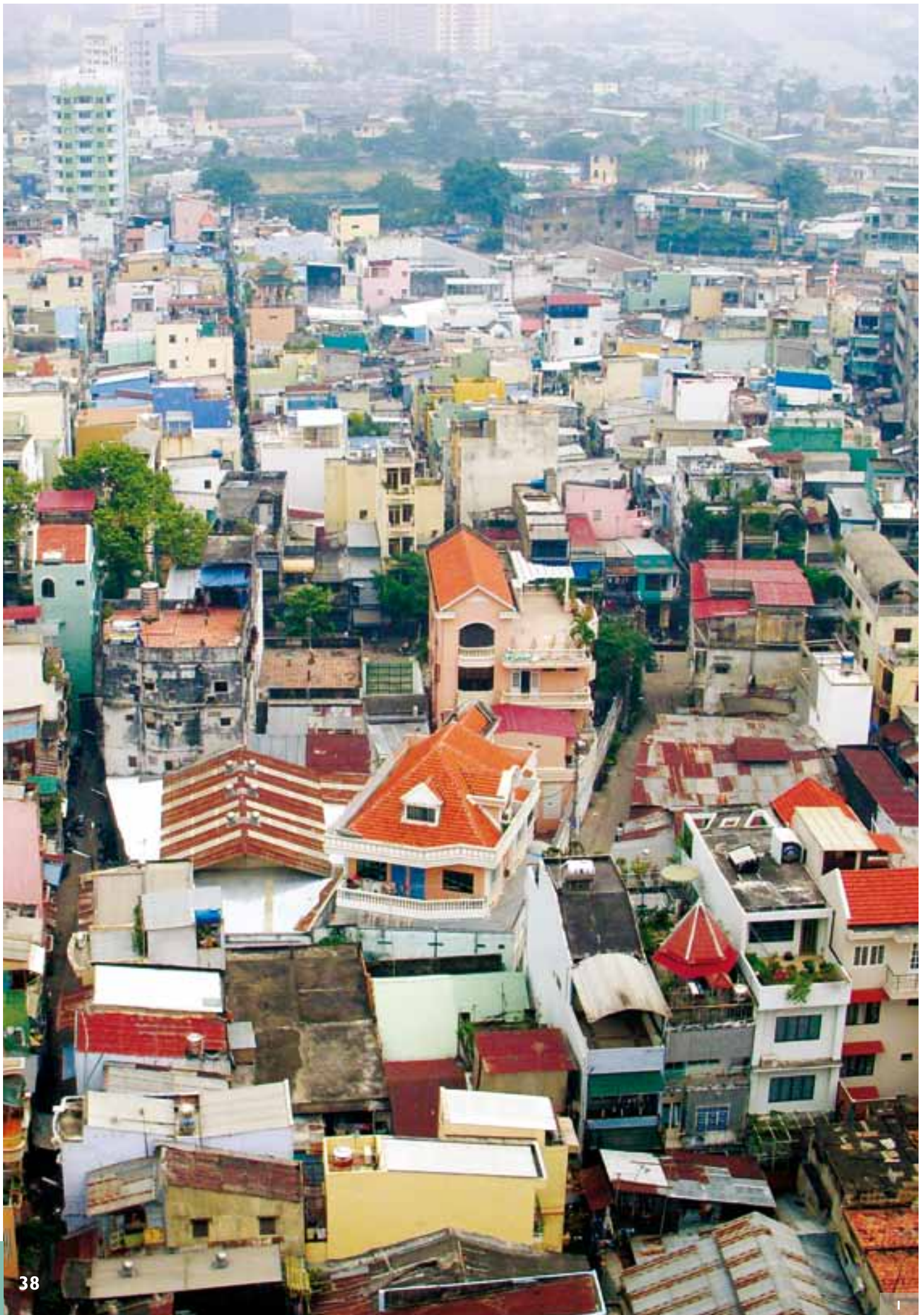
In secondary schools, the quality of coaching has improved as a result of the SSSP. Feedback from school principals show improved attitudes and techniques in coaching.

Through SSSP workshops, the relationships between MESC staff, teachers, coaches, and national sports bodies (for example the Samoan Netball Association) have been strengthened. This allows for a more coordinated approach to sports participation in Samoa.

Although the SSSP has focused on schools and up-skilling teachers and coaches, most of these people are also active coaching club teams and volunteering in their communities. The techniques and information learnt through the SSSP workshops are being shared.

Several competitions are being re-established by coaches motivated by the SSSP. The primary school inter-school athletics competition is being held after an eight-year hiatus. Participation rates in competitions have also increased, as many rural schools have been encouraged through the SSSP to take part. Selected sports developed as part of the project (netball, athletics and touch rugby) have also noted more people playing, helping to contribute to healthier lifestyles and a healthier Samoa.

- 1 A fitness and nutrition workshop in Samoa.
- 2 A sports workshop at a Samoan primary school.



ASIA DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FACILITY – PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Asia Development Assistance Facility - Partnerships for Sustainable Development (ADAF-PSD) is part of NZAID's programme in the Asia region. The goal of ADAF-PSD is to contribute to poverty reduction in Asia, with efforts focused on achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Recognising that the New Zealand private sector and Crown entities such as Crown research institutes and universities often have the networks and expertise to respond effectively to development priorities in the Asia region, ADAF-PSD provides funding to enable them to share vital knowledge, skills and innovative approaches that will contribute to development activities and to their in-country partners' capability and self-reliance.

ADAF-PSD is currently being reviewed in order to inform decision-making on its future direction.

Q CASE STUDY

MINIMISING THE IMPACT OF EARTHQUAKES AND TSUNAMI IN VIET NAM

Viet Nam's long coast line and low lying regions make it vulnerable to tsunami from the South China Sea, in particular from the Philippines. Natural hazard events like earthquakes and tsunami, although infrequent, leave developing communities particularly vulnerable to poverty. Viet Nam's earthquake activity is lower than New Zealand's, however its cities are densely populated, and the building design and city infrastructure standards vary greatly. A moderate sized earthquake centred near a heavily populated area has the potential to cause widespread damage and loss of life.


GNS Science, a Crown research institute, has recently completed a two-year, \$600,000 project with its partner organisation in Viet Nam, the Institute of Geophysics (IGP) that aims to minimise the impact of earthquakes and tsunami in Viet Nam.

Two major initiatives were undertaken as part of the project. Firstly, scientists from the two organisations completed a pilot tsunami risk assessment of Nha Trang City, a coastal tourist destination that is one of many areas vulnerable to tsunami.

Secondly, GNS Science advised on the design and initiation of a national earthquake

monitoring network and operations centre in Viet Nam, based on the New Zealand GeoNet project, which is recognised as a world-leading project. Installation of the network in Viet Nam will occur over the next five years.

Scientists from IGP have learnt a wide range of skills and techniques to be self-reliant in tsunami hazard assessment. Workshops were held on issues such as how to study local, regional and distant faults; how to assess coastal and offshore landslides and volcanoes; how to get population data from census records; how to assess the vulnerability of residential and industrial buildings; and how to use all of this information to make regional and national-scale tsunami hazard and risk assessments.

GNS Science hopes to build on the relationship established with the IGP and has indicated that a number of areas in Viet Nam would benefit from more detailed study, including the 1,600km-long Red River Fault, a major fault line that passes the capital city of Hanoi. The fault line is difficult to study as it runs through dense jungle and mountainous terrain. It presents an unknown earthquake risk to the eight million inhabitants of Hanoi. 

| Heavily populated urban areas are at risk from earthquakes in Viet Nam.