

Evaluation of Niue Aid Program Management Response

The independent evaluation of the Niue aid program aimed to determine the impact of Australia's development assistance to Niue under the Delegated Cooperation Agreement (DCA) with New Zealand from 2014 to 2021 and to inform the future direction of Australian aid in Niue.

The evaluation found that Australia's development assistance under the DCA contributed to a range of achievements across the DCA priority areas of education, waste management, economic growth, social cohesion and COVID-19 response. The review highlighted the construction of the new primary school, co-funded by New Zealand, and the funding of a resource recovery centre as key achievements under the DCA. The evaluation found that the achievements under the DCA appear generally sustainable, with strong public ownership of the school in particular. The evaluation recommended waste management and education as potential priority sectors for future development assistance.

Although the evaluation highlighted a lack of formal documentation and reporting produced under the DCA, it found that the DCA represented an appropriate modality for the delivery of Australia's development assistance in Niue in absence of Australian presence, and that its governance and implementation arrangements were generally proportionate. The evaluation recommended that Australia could improve its public communications around its development assistance in Niue.

DFAT will reflect the evaluation findings and recommendations in our future planning for Australian aid initiatives in Niue.