

A little about us

Oxfam New Zealand is a member of Oxfam International, a growing family of organisations dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and injustice. We share a vision of a fairer, safer world where all people can enjoy a life of hope and opportunity.

Oxfam started in England in 1942 as the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief, a wartime campaign against starvation and homelessness. This sowed the seeds for a worldwide humanitarian, development and campaigning movement. Today Oxfam is working in more than 100 countries worldwide.

Oxfam NZ was formed in 1991, and is recognised internationally for its work in the Pacific and East Asia, its focus on practical solutions to the emerging crisis in water and sanitation and its campaigning for human rights. Most of Oxfam NZ's funds come from generous donations from New Zealanders like you, supplemented by NZ government funds for specific projects.



You've just made a difference to someone's life

Thank you for deciding to make a regular donation to Oxfam.

Your generosity means we can commit to long-term change. When we have reliable funds we can make commitments to communities for the long term – not only during emergency crises – so we can tackle the causes of poverty, not just the symptoms.

Your gift will help bring change to many communities around the world. Working together, people are growing more food, educating their children, enjoying better health and seizing opportunities to improve their standard of living. These communities also need your help to challenge the policies and structures that keep them poor. This is the most effective way to help them help themselves, not only for tomorrow but for generations to come. The people you are helping don't want to live on handouts. They want to lead dignified and independent lives. That is just what your regular gift will help achieve.



Want to do more?

Oxfam believes change starts at home – and we offer you many ways to positively make a difference. Everyone can help to create a world without poverty.

Shop ethically Buy Fairtrade products and directly support better trading conditions for producers and workers. Look for the Fairtrade logo in stores and ask others to stock fairly-traded products.

Get fit while fundraising Walk 100kms in 36 hours, or cycle the back roads of Asia ... Oxfam's Trailwalker and Global Challenges are both great ways to make new friends, have the adventure of a lifetime and at the same time support Oxfam's vital work with poor communities around the world.

Campaign for change Get involved in our campaigns. Oxfam aims to increase public awareness of the issues surrounding poverty and injustice and to involve members of the New Zealand public to take action. Everyone can play a part in creating a fairer, safer world.

Volunteer with Oxfam We welcome your involvement: volunteer at events around the country; join a regional committee in your area; or get involved as a volunteer or intern at our Auckland or Wellington offices.

News online Sign up to our monthly e-newsletter and get all the latest news on campaigns and events in your area.



Contact Us

For more information about what you can do:

Visit our website: www.oxfam.org.nz

Call us toll-free: 0800 400 666

Email us: oxfam@oxfam.org.nz

Mail us: PO Box 68357, Auckland 1032, New Zealand.



What we do

Oxfam is about helping people to help themselves, their families and their communities. Your donations are channelled into a wide range of projects that aim to help those people and communities that are most in need. We focus our efforts on whole communities, not just individuals and on tackling causes, not just alleviating the symptoms. We work in partnership with local organisations, using the skills of local people who are responsible for maintaining a project's success. Here are some examples of our work:

Delivering emergency relief

Oxfam is there when needed most. Our emergency response is coordinated internationally, meaning we can respond immediately.

In any emergency, our primary goal is to reduce the incidence of death or sickness. But Oxfam is still there long after the TV cameras and journalists have gone – the hard work doesn't end. Typically, after an emergency, the risk of dying from water-borne diseases are as great as from the initial crisis itself. That is why Oxfam has a focus on providing clean water and sanitation to give long-term support to those in need.

Campaigning for women's rights

APIK, the Indonesian Women's Association for Justice, has been working in direct partnership with Oxfam NZ since 2001. APIK's main goal is to fight for women's rights in West Nusa Tenggara Province of Indonesia. Campaigning for women's rights against practices such as polygamy, abandoned wives and children, the lack of joint heritage for women, and physical violence are core to APIK's work.



HIV/Aids awareness

A partnership between Oxfam NZ and Wan Smolbag Theatre in Vanuatu, has been developed since 2000 with the successful launching of its radio drama, Family Blong Serah. The radio drama is aimed at developing the potential of the youth of Vanuatu in a hugely popular soap opera to protect themselves from HIV and lifestyle diseases. Through talking about these issues they have significantly increased understanding of how HIV is transmitted, changed sexual practices and saved lives.



Providing safe, clean water

In Tanzania around 70 per cent of the rural population do not have access to clean, safe water. Those responsible for fetching water for their families, mainly women and children, spend many hours every day carrying heavy loads of contaminated water. They have no alternative. Oxfam is working to help communities who desperately need clean water now. We don't dig wells for people but we support local people to dig wells for themselves. We use locally sourced materials and spare parts and draw on local skills and knowledge. This approach to our work means that the communities can sustain the projects themselves after our funding is completed.



Frequently asked questions



Will my money get there?

Oxfam NZ provides essential funds to local organisations working directly with communities. We work closely with these partners who are accountable to us. They report back to us regularly and together we evaluate the results of their progress. We report to you on our spending in regular reports and in our annual report.



Where does my money go?

In total, 83 cents from every dollar goes directly to work on our programmes. Just 5 per cent is spent on administration, with a further 12 per cent used to increase funds and public awareness through marketing, fundraising and public relations.



Is Oxfam a religious or political organisation?

No. Oxfam works with all people regardless of race religion or political affiliation.

Ensuring an education for all

Education is essential for many communities to achieve long-term development, yet in the remote Lai Cai Province of Vietnam, most children do not have access to schooling. Oxfam is working in partnership with local communities to build and furnish schools and provide child-centred teacher training. The importance of educating girls as well as boys in the area is now becoming evident and gender perceptions are changing. Children are now being given the opportunity to break the cycle of poverty passed to them by their parents.



Bringing peace

The women in a poverty-stricken area called Kup in Papua New Guinea have unbelievable courage. They formed when their friendship was torn apart by fighting between their clans. They started peace building by physically walking onto battlefields where the men were fighting and used traditional ways to resolve conflict through ceremonies such as the symbolic breaking of sugarcane. This group of women has now been joined by men and youth from the community to bring the development that is so important to maintain peace and help reduce poverty in a country where one in 10 children do not reach the age of five.

