

29 August 2023

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OIA 28736

Tēnā koe G Smith

I refer to your email of 17 July 2023 in which you request the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 1. a summary of all projects funded, projected cost, payments made and expected completion dates.*
- 2. a copy of MFATs procedure/policy around managing corruption, conflicts of interest and bribery for these projects.*
- 3. A list of all audits and assessments of funded projects undertaken so far.*

On 14 August 2023, the timeframes for responding to your request were extended by an additional 20 working days because responding to your request necessitated the review of a large quantity of information, (section 15A(1)(a) of the OIA refers).

Please note that data released in this response is correct as at 21 July 2023 and contains activities that are subject to ongoing review, which may have data corrections in the future. However, this date also means that more recent information than that provided in the previously referred request is included.

The information relevant to your request is attached.

We have withheld some information under section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the OIA, to protect constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials.

Information relevant to part 1 and 3 of your request is located on pages 1-84.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (the Ministry) uses a weighted expenditure method to calculate how much spending on an activity is counted towards climate funding:

- If an activity is tagged as 'Principal' to Climate Change Adaptation or Mitigation then 100% of expenditure is counted.
- Activities tagged 'Significant' to only Climate Change Adaptation or Mitigation are counted as 30% of expenditure.
- Activities tagged 'Significant' to Climate Change Adaptation or Mitigation, as well as 'Principal' to Disaster Risk Reduction, are counted as 50% of expenditure.

Please note, regarding "ACT-0100295 - Provincial Airfield Upgrades", the 2023 weighted expenditure for this activity is a negative figure. This is due to the internal financial approach taken to account for the co-funding contribution to Provincial Airfield Upgrades, by the Government of Australia.

Activity Monitoring Assessments (AMA) and Activity Completion Assessments (ACA) are internal reports prepared by the Ministry's Activity Managers. In addition, each year the Ministry's Audit and Risk Division undertakes a Quality Management Review of a number of Development Programme Activities.

Regarding part 2 of your request, the Ministry does not have a procedure/policy around managing corruption, conflicts of interest and bribery, which are specific to climate change projects. The following procedures/policies are relevant to all development projects and activities:

- *MFAT statement on conflicts of interest*
- *Fraud Prevention and response Policy*

These documents are located on pages 85-92 of the information being released to you.

Some programmes (such as the Climate Change Programme) undertake structured independent evaluations. The climate portfolio overall is subject to independent oversight, such as:

- the OECD Development Assistance Committee review published in May 2023: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/media-and-resources/oecd-development-assistance-committee-peer-review-on-aotearoa-new-zealand-international-development-cooperation-launched-today/?m=801378#search:T0VDRCBEQUM
- The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet's Implementation Unit stocktake in 2022: www.dpmc.govt.nz/publications/proactive-release-implementation-unit-2022-assignments-final-progress-report
- A comprehensive independent assurance programme for 2022-2026: www.mfat.govt.nz/en/aid-and-development/climate-change-support/our-support-for-climate-action/making-a-difference/assurance/?m=553410#search:Y2xpbWF0ZSBwb3J0Zm9saW8gcGVyZm9ybWFuY2UgZGFzaGJvYXJk

Please note that it is our policy to proactively release our responses to official information requests where possible. Therefore, our response to your request (with your personal information removed) may be published on the Ministry website: [Official Information Act responses | New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade \(mfat.govt.nz\)](https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/official-information-act-responses)

If you have any questions about this decision, you can contact us by email at: DM-ESD@mfat.govt.nz. You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision by contacting www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Corbett
for Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Trade