

SECURING NEW ZEALAND'S FUTURE



**BUDGET
2026**

Rt Hon Winston Peters Minister of Foreign Affairs

28 May 2026

Aid and foreign affairs boost in challenging times

Budget 2026 boosts New Zealand's aid programme in our region and safeguards our offshore diplomatic network at a time of acute global challenge, Foreign Minister Winston Peters says.

“New Zealand faces the most adverse and contested geostrategic environment of the past 80 years, and we must pursue a highly active and effective foreign policy to defend and advance New Zealanders' interests here at home,” Mr Peters says.

“For that reason, the Government will provide additional funding to safeguard New Zealand's frontline diplomatic and trade network; provide additional development and humanitarian assistance in the Pacific and Indo-Pacific; and host the 2027 Pacific Islands Forum.”

Over the four-year forecast period, Budget 2026 provides:

- \$145.3 million to ensure a resilient, safe and secure offshore diplomatic network for New Zealand;
- \$109.8 million to increase New Zealand's development and humanitarian assistance in the Pacific and Indo-Pacific regions; and
- \$20 million to host the Pacific Islands Forum in New Zealand in 2027.

Media contact: John Tulloch +64 21 868 943