

VSA STRATEGIC INTENT 2011–2015

OUR VISION

Whakaawetia te rerekētanga – tātou o Aotearoa e kaha ana ki te whakarerekē i ngā āhuatanga o te ao

Inspiring change – New Zealanders making a positive difference in the world

OUR PURPOSE

VSA works alongside people in the Pacific, Asia and Africa, contributing the skills and energy of New Zealanders to achieve locally identified, locally relevant and locally delivered development.

OUR VALUES VSA focuses on people-centred development. We give great importance to manaakitanga which means we value:

- respectful partnerships
- working and learning together
- cross-cultural understanding
- the spirit of volunteering.

VSA AND TE TIRITI O WAITANGI

VSA's values and our strategic focus reflect our commitment to bringing the spirit of the Treaty to the philosophy and values of our international development programme.

OUR GOALS

DEVELOPMENT Our development work aims to support sustainable development and improve the quality of life in developing countries. We will work with local people to:

- establish and develop productive enterprises that generate income and provide employment
- improve the management and governance of public services so that they function effectively for their intended communities
- strengthen civil society organisations that provide community development and social services for vulnerable members of society.

VOLUNTEERING At VSA we recruit ordinary New Zealanders to become exceptional volunteers. We will:

- provide opportunities for more New Zealanders to share their skills through international volunteering.

PARTNERSHIP Partnership is central to delivering VSA's vision and purpose. We will:

- increase the number of our in-country partners and continue to strengthen those relationships
- develop partnerships at home to provide innovative volunteering opportunities to more New Zealanders.

GROWING SUPPORT Our organisation relies on the continual and growing support of New Zealanders. We will:

- build our reputation as New Zealand's leading international volunteer development agency
- develop a culture of giving and build a stronger and broader support base.



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TARGET FOR SUCCESS

Between 2011 and 2015, 500 volunteers will work with 250+ partners and improve the lives of over 500,000 people.

HOW WE WILL FOCUS OUR WORK

Between 2011 and 2015 we will:

- ➔ focus our work on New Zealand's neighbours in the wider Pacific
- ➔ diversify the options for volunteering to allow a wider range of New Zealanders to share their skills with communities striving for change
- ➔ broker connections between our in-country partners and people and organisations in New Zealand
- ➔ secure a greater number of short-term assignments by working in partnership with New Zealand businesses and organisations
- ➔ make new audiences aware of VSA's work
- ➔ diversify and increase our income sources so that we can plan future programmes on the basis of anticipated income.

HOW WE WORK

- ➔ VSA responds to our partners' needs and what they want to achieve. This approach drives our success. It is development that is locally identified, locally relevant and locally delivered within the context of local and national development plans. Our aim is always to help develop self-reliant communities.
- ➔ At the core of VSA's work is people-centred development. To achieve this VSA builds effective relationships, explores how to add value through partnerships, and then connects people so they can work together to increase the capability of communities to pursue their development goals.
- ➔ Our work is informed by empirical evidence and aims to contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Our approach delivers outcomes that are consistent with, and support, our government's overseas development assistance programmes through working in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

