Challenges and opportunities for local content - a development partner’s perspective

Jeff Whitty, Lead Adviser Infrastructure, New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
Engaging Pacific suppliers

Benefits

- Infrastructure features in many PIC’s economic recovery plans
- Provides local employment
- Encourages local ownership
- Builds local skills
- Projects progress despite travel constraints

Challenges

- Confidence of local supplier’s capabilities and capacity
- Familiarity with international standards and codes
- Financial resources of local suppliers
Honiara Multipurpose Hall

- Eight youth engaged, five male, three female
- Minimum nine month contracts
- Youth provided with:
  - provided insurance, and superannuation fund contributions
  - Personal protective equipment
  - Site safety induction
  - On-the-job training
Tonga Parliament Building

- Encouraged subcontracting of local expertise including
  - Topographic survey and site investigations
  - Pacific themed architectural advisory
  - Community consultation
  - Liaison with local authorities
Thank-you