

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?**

**At the UN's Millennium Summit in 2000 Australia agreed to join the campaign to halve global poverty by 2015.**

**The key international framework to achieve this was the Millennium Development Goals, addressing Aid, Trade & Debt Relief.**

**The recommended financial contribution for wealthy nations to the MDGs was 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI).**

**Australia currently gives 0.35% of GNI in Aid. Much of this has strings attached.**

**At current rates, Australia will by 2010 rank 18<sup>th</sup> of 22 wealthy nations in terms of the percentage of GNI given in Aid.**

**Although two-thirds of the world's poor live in Asia, more than 50% of Australia's country-allocated aid is directed towards the Pacific, where only 0.4% of the region's poor live.**

**Less than 20% of Australia's aid budget is currently directed towards basic health, education and water and sanitation, while funding for law, justice and governance programs remains around 33%.**

**Australia's aid budget has risen every year since 2002, but remains a significantly smaller proportion of our GNI than in the 1980s (eg. 0.47% in 1984).**