

New Zealanders need to trust that their interests are being safeguarded by clear, confident and connected regulation of overseas investment. We must demonstrate that we use our regulatory powers responsibly and strategically taking the long-term horizon into account.

The Overseas Investment Office (OIO)

- Work focuses on New Zealand's economic prosperity and community wellbeing, contributing to more homes and jobs.
- Mitigates risks of overseas investment causing harm to New Zealand.
- Supports decision makers to navigate the complex legislative environment.
- Monitors for non-compliance, and takes enforcement action where needed.

Global economy

Around the globe, countries rely on foreign direct investment as a vital contributor to economic growth.

\$1.4
trillion USD
(approx)*

Global foreign direct investment

Foreign direct investment into New Zealand makes up almost 40% of our economy.

NZTE and MFAT are the primary agencies promoting New Zealand as a trade and investment destination. The Overseas Investment Office operates within a complex landscape spanning international, national and local contexts.

\$108
billion NZD*

Overseas investment consent pathway

\$16
billion NZD*

OIO consent is required for land purchases or business acquisitions over \$100m NZD. Approximately 15% of foreign investment enters the overseas investment consent pathways.

\$92
billion NZD*

Notifiable and unregulated foreign investment

Business assets less than \$100m where a controlling interest is being acquired.

Overseas investment regulatory system

Through regulating investments in sensitive assets, New Zealand gains the benefits of overseas investment, while preventing potentially negative effects.

New Zealand's overseas investment regime operates in accordance with the Overseas Investment Act. For overseas people seeking to invest in New Zealand's sensitive or residential land and significant business investments (over \$100m NZD), the OIO acts as the gateway to foreign ownership.

Authorising environment

The authorising environment defines the OIO's accountability to New Zealand to uphold its interests, which is shaped by social attitudes, trade interests, government priorities, court decisions, etc. It forms the context in which decisions are made, shapes the public response to those decisions and determines the value the OIO is seen to deliver to New Zealand.

Treasury

Treasury sets the public policy and investment direction on foreign investment for New Zealand.

LINZ

LINZ sets the operating environment and operational policy for the OIO.

Ministers

Decisions for investment are at the discretion of the

- Minister of Finance,
- Minister for Land Information,
- Minister of Fisheries.

Overseas Investment Office

Public value

Advisors to investors

Overseas investors often seek advice and guidance on the detailed regulatory requirements. Advisors often initiate engagement with the OIO on behalf of investors. Key advisors include:

- Local and international lawyers
- Investment advisors
- Tax advisers
- Financial advisers
- Consultants (consenting specialists)
- Accountants
- Immigration advisers
- Real estate agents
- Lending institutions

Regulating access to New Zealand's sensitive land, significant business assets, fishing quota and strategically important businesses

The OIO consent applications and notifications process navigates a legal framework to ensure that investments meet New Zealand's regulatory requirements:

- Specific pathways apply
- Legislative tests must be met
- Investment can't be contrary to New Zealand's national interests
- OIO consults as appropriate before formulating recommendations to Ministers

The OIO consults with critical regulators and third parties.

Decisions on overseas investment applications

Conditions are usually imposed on consents, and for some called-in business transactions.

Some decisions are delegated to OIO senior officials. However applications can be called up for a Ministerial decision at any time.

Investment enters NZ

New Zealand's wider regulatory system

The OIO continues to monitor investments to detect non-compliance and takes enforcement action where appropriate. Regulators ensure that investments comply with wider regulatory requirements.

Land and environment interest
Financial
Primary industries
Ministers
Land and environment management
Land use and housing
Intelligence and law enforcement
Borders & trade

If consent is granted, consent holders must comply with New Zealand's wider regulatory system, as well as any conditions imposed on the consent

Unregulated investment enters New Zealand