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| Media/Source | : RTE.ie |
| Date | : 3 September |
| Title | : Aid agencies to highlight impact of cuts |

Aid agencies to highlight impact of cuts

Thursday, 3 September 2009 13:26

The impact that the reduction in overseas development aid is having on the work of Irish agencies is on the agenda at a meeting of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs.

[*Watch the Committee live*](#)

Justin Kilcullen of Trócaire has called on the Government to preserve the overseas aid budget from any further cuts.

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He said cuts to date had forced them to close offices and reduce staff levels overseas. They will make 27 people redundant in Ireland in the coming months.

Earlier this year, the total overseas budget was decreased from €891m to €796m.

There has also been a fall in donations to charities.

Representatives from agencies such as Trócaire, Concern and Dóchas are outlining the consequences the decrease in aid has had for their operations throughout the developing world.

Dóchas' Hans Zomer said the Government needs to keep its commitments.