

UK aid: Changing lives, delivering results



The future of UK aid

To change lives and deliver results, we will:

Secure schooling for 11 million children – more than we educate in the UK but at 2.5% of the cost

Help vaccinate more children against preventable diseases than there are people in the whole of England

Provide access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation to more people than there are in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

Save the lives of 50,000 women in pregnancy and childbirth

Stop 250,000 newborn babies dying needlessly

Support 13 countries to hold freer and fairer elections

Help 10 million more women get access to modern family planning

Provide 50 million people with the means to help work their way out of poverty

Stop 10 million more children going hungry

Help halve malaria deaths in 10 of the worst affected countries

Help millions of poor people protect their livelihoods from the impact of climate change

We will make UK aid work better by focusing on:

Results and impact – getting value for money from every pound of aid we spend

Unstable and conflict affected countries – helping to build stability, remove the barriers to development and make the world a safer place

Investing in girls and women – in every area of our work, from education to mother and child health

The private sector – encouraging more private investment in poor countries to generate growth, jobs, trade and prosperity for all

Fewer countries – concentrating our efforts where the need is greatest and we can have most impact, and stopping aid to countries that are becoming richer like China and Russia

Being transparent and accountable – publishing everything we spend and being independently monitored and evaluated in everything we do

Innovation – always being willing to try new approaches, like results-based aid where money is only handed over once clear results have been achieved

Working with fewer international organisations – putting more resources behind the most effective agencies to deliver better results on the ground

Climate change – supporting countries to avoid or reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions and making sure our aid addresses the impacts of a changing climate for the poorest people who will be hit first and hit hardest

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Foreword

When this Coalition was formed, we made a commitment that even in these difficult economic times we would keep our promises and increase aid to help the world's poorest people. We are proud to stand by that commitment.



Combating poverty, disaster and conflict is in the best traditions of our country. Whether it was the campaign to abolish slavery in the 19th century, the fight against fascism in the 20th century, or campaigns like Live 8 and Make Poverty History in the 21st, the UK has a proud history of showing compassion to those who are suffering beyond our borders.

And this aid commitment is not just morally right – it is also firmly in our national interest. We live in an increasingly interconnected world, where problems in faraway places can reverberate back home. Aid is vitally important to tackling the root causes of those global problems – disease, drugs, terrorism, climate change – that threaten our own future.

A solid aid commitment is important to our standing in the world too. How we respond to floods, earthquakes, conflicts and disease says a lot about us as a country – about whether we want to look inwards or outwards, play a small role or a significant one. In an age when, sadly, these threats are still so prevalent, and at a time when other countries are not keeping their aid pledges, we want the UK to stand tall and proud – and to shine as a beacon for helping others all over the world.

So increasing UK aid is not just the compassionate thing to do, it is also the sensible thing to do. But in these tough times we are also acutely aware of the duty we have to the taxpayer, to ensure that every penny of this budget is well spent. That's why as soon as we came into government we commissioned root and branch reviews of where our aid goes and how it works. As a result we are making five big changes.

First, aid will be more focused. By pulling out of countries such as Russia and China which no longer require our help, we can invest more where the need is greatest. And by ending funding to international organisations which clearly aren't delivering, we can give more aid to those that do.

Second, we will be concentrating more of our efforts into tackling the causes of poverty as well as its symptoms. For instance,

1 million

In Ethiopia Britain will prevent
1 million people going hungry
every year

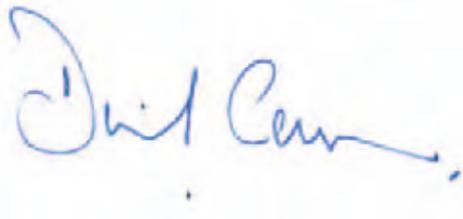
we are bringing in a clearer focus on conflict prevention – putting almost a third of our aid into unstable states, supporting freer and fairer elections, giving people a voice and helping their governments to build essential services and maintain law and order.

Third, we will be more hard-headed about making every penny count. Instead of sending money off in the hope it will do some good, we'll be asking for real evidence that it really is doing good, from hard numbers on how many families have been lifted out of poverty to data on how health outcomes are improving.

Fourth, aid will be more transparent, with a new UK Aid Transparency Guarantee so that taxpayers can see exactly where their money is going and what it is achieving.

Fifth, we will be more practical in terms of the difference we want to make. Over the next four years, UK taxpayers' money will vaccinate over 55 million children against preventable diseases, provide 50 million people with the means to help work their way out of poverty, secure schooling for 11 million children, save the lives of 50,000 women in pregnancy and childbirth and so much more.

Taken together these changes represent a new approach to UK aid. We believe everyone in the UK should be proud of our commitment to the world's poorest, and of what it says about our country. Together we are helping to forge a better life for millions of people – and a safer, more prosperous world for us all.




Introduction

Since the turn of the millennium, the world has been united by the goal of ending extreme poverty.

Agreements to cancel debt and increase aid, together with strong economic growth across Asia, have helped half a billion people lift themselves out of poverty, put tens of millions more children into school, and saved the lives of almost six million children through immunisation.

I wish more people across Britain had the opportunity to see for themselves the difference that our aid makes. Last year I stayed as the guest of a family in rural Ethiopia. I saw them working hard, but earning less than 50 pence a day.



The children had nothing but the clothes in which they stood.

But in the past two years, thanks in part to British aid, that family has gained access to

clean drinking water, decent sanitation and basic healthcare. Six of the eight children now go to school, and can look forward to a better future. The other two will join them shortly.

Aid spent well has the power to transform lives. But the scale of the challenge ahead remains sobering. Around the world today, for the want of the most basic necessities, we see a generation unable to meet its potential.

Each morning, some 69 million children do not have the chance to go to school.

Every year, more than a million children lose their mothers, because not enough women get proper care during pregnancy and childbirth.

In sub-Saharan Africa, one child in seven does not live to see their fifth birthday. The greatest cause of death among those children is not AIDS or malaria, but dirty water.

Even in these tough economic times, this Coalition Government will not balance the books on the backs of the world's poorest people – instead we will provide 0.7 % of our Gross National Income as aid from 2013.

Yet we know that to make real progress in the fight against poverty, good intentions will not be enough. That is why we are pioneering a new approach to development, based on the understanding that aid is a means to an end, not an end in itself.

We will focus our effort where the need is greatest, not only saving but transforming millions of lives by providing access to food, clean drinking water, basic healthcare and education.

We will do more to tackle the causes of poverty and insecurity in some of the world's most unstable places.



Talking points

We are pioneering a new approach to development, based on the understanding that aid is a means to an end, not an end in itself.

Andrew Mitchell, International Development Secretary

We will invest more in girls and women – who, in turn, will invest in their families and communities.

We will do more to provide people with opportunities to work, trade and save – so they can lift themselves out of poverty and no longer rely on aid.

When disaster strikes – whether flood, earthquake, tsunami or drought – we will save lives and help people to rebuild their shattered communities. Lord Ashdown is leading a separate, independent review to ensure we are equipped to deal with the disasters and emergencies of the future.

Above all, our new approach to development will be defined by our determination to deliver the greatest possible return on investment, both for the world's poorest people and for the British taxpayer.

This document sets out the results that we expect from that investment. But because we work in uncertain environments, where circumstances can change quickly, our plans may need to change. That is why this is not the end of our conversation with the British public, but the beginning of a new era of openness and accountability in British aid.

We will publish detailed information about all our aid programmes under our new UK Aid Transparency Guarantee – so that anyone, anywhere, can hold us to account for the work we do. The new Independent Commission for Aid Impact will scrutinise our work and report directly to Parliament.

I am confident that our aid will deliver value for money. For the price of a cup of coffee, we can help vaccinate ten children against polio. For as little as 40 pence a week, we can educate a child in Ethiopia.

In a world where problems increasingly cross borders, aid is an investment in our economy, our safety, our health and our future. It is also the right thing to do.

Two centuries ago, the great campaigner William Wilberforce said of the slave trade: “you may choose to look the other way, but you can never again say you did not know”.

Today, none of us can say that we do not know the depths of poverty in which a billion of our global neighbours live. Britain will not look away. Instead we will strive to ensure that our aid changes lives and delivers results for all of us.

What we will work on

Getting the right results from our aid

Helping people prosper

We can help people beat poverty for themselves if we give them the chance to work, trade and save

We will...

- Provide more than 50 million people with the means to help work their way out of poverty
- Help up to half of the countries in Africa benefit from freer trade
- Secure the right to land and property for more than six million people

More growth, less poverty

We know economic growth is the most effective way of raising incomes and permanently lifting people out of poverty. With the right conditions for growth and investment, we can help create jobs, markets and opportunities for people so that they no longer have to rely on international help. We have seen this in China and Brazil, two countries which have recently graduated from UK aid.

The private sector is the engine of growth – creating jobs, increasing trade, providing goods and services to the poor and generating tax revenue to fund services such as health and education.

But as well as making money, poor people need a means to manage it. With basic financial services, more people can invest in their future.

What we will do

Create jobs and help businesses

We will promote the conditions for stronger, long term economic growth across the countries we work in. We will also help to improve access to regional and international trade and create the right conditions for the private sector to flourish. Already we have supported the building of a one-stop border post that has cut the time it takes for a truck to cross from Zimbabwe to Zambia by half, lowering the costs of doing business. We will support the creation of four more posts along this route by 2015.

We will also make it easier for people to open and run businesses so they can invest

more and create new jobs. And we are helping people build the skills they need to fill these jobs. In Afghanistan, we will provide 45,000 young





Talking points

The main objective of aid is to abolish the need for aid. That is why DFID is rightly focused on long term development and wealth creation – to help unlock the great potential of Africa, its youth, natural resources, land and markets.

Dr Mo Ibrahim, Leading African businessman and governance campaigner

people with vocational training in skills such as plumbing, electrics and metalwork. We will also implement the African Free Trade Initiative which aims to integrate 26 national markets in Africa, bringing the benefits of free trade to 58% of its population.

Help people access basic financial services

More than two billion poor people are cut off from financial services, such as bank accounts, loans and money transfers. Yet these services can mean the difference between surviving and thriving. That is why we will help more than 50 million people to access savings, credit and insurance, allowing families to cope better with a crisis and to make small investments which will increase their income. For example, we will support mobile phone banking in countries like Bangladesh and Malawi so that women can access bank accounts using their handsets even when they can't leave their children or their fields.

30 million

We will give 30 million people better access to their money by helping to introduce mobile phone banking and bank cards with fingerprint identification

Make farming more productive

Three out of four of the poorest people in the world live in rural areas and depend on farming. As well as boosting economic growth, investment in agriculture means the poorest countries are able to feed their people. We will help develop new farming techniques to provide food for growing populations. Take Malawi – by providing 400,000 farmers with high yielding seeds we will help to boost their output significantly, catapulting them from a reliance on handouts to a self-sufficient future. More widely, Britain is helping well over three million people improve their food security and increase their incomes.

Give people the right to their land

Millions of people around the world do not formally own the land on which they live and work. Many more lack basic rights over the buildings and tools they rely on to make a living. At best, this makes it difficult to plan and save for the future. At worst, it means the poorest are at risk of losing their land or property. The genocide in Rwanda left a legacy of land disputes as people returned to their villages and homes. We are helping to map boundaries through aerial photography so communities can agree land ownership amongst themselves. This will help give at least 6.4 million people the paper deeds to their land, half of whom will be women.

Help countries graduate from aid

Our aim is to help poor countries reach the point where they no longer require our support and can meet the needs of their own people with their own resources. In Ghana, we're working with the government

to secure maximum benefit for their citizens from their oil reserves. We believe that Ghana will be transformed, and within a few years will no longer require aid from the UK.

On the ground

Name: Anthony

Country: Kenya

Profile: Enterprising bean farmer

The story so far

Anthony's green bean business in Kenya has a bright future. He is one of hundreds of farmers getting investment, training and expert help from supermarket chain Waitrose through an innovative programme funded by the British taxpayer.

The scheme awards grants to UK businesses to encourage investment in African supply chains. This helps to reduce poverty in Africa by improving the income of the rural poor.

Waitrose and other suppliers are teaching local Kenyan farmers about sustainable agriculture and how to improve their crop yields. This gives Anthony and farmers like him the chance to benefit from international markets which want to source environmentally sustainable fruit and vegetables for UK shop shelves.

What happens next?

Anthony sums up the difference the UK aid programme is making: "With the support we are getting and the new demonstration farm that has been set up nearby, we are confident that we will make it," he says. "There is no other industry here. But farming for export and for the local market will help us. There are not so many chances in life so when you get one you must take it firmly with both hands."

Feeding the world and helping the poorest

With enough food to eat and a little financial help, millions more people could break out of poverty

We will...

- Help more than six million of the world's poorest people to escape extreme poverty
- Stop ten million more children going hungry
- Ensure another four million people have enough food throughout the year

The challenges we face

Around 1.4 billion people live below the poverty line. In sub-Saharan Africa alone, over half of the population live on less than £1 a day.

If we are to break the cycle of poverty, we need to address the most pressing need of all – hunger. Today, one in six people will go hungry. Every six seconds, a child dies through lack of food.

Hunger and malnutrition rob children of their life chances – making them much more likely to become ill, limiting brain development and stunting growth. But by making a small investment to ensure children are properly fed in their first three years, we can transform their lives.

We must also remove the barriers that condemn the poorest to staying poor. Even in some countries which are getting richer

and where we have helped services to expand, millions of people remain trapped in extreme poverty. They are the families who are not reached by schools and clinics. They are the farmers who cannot risk trying out new techniques. And they are the breadwinners who cannot afford to start their own business.

£1 a week

£1 a week can mean the difference between a child in Kenya staying in school or having to go out to work to get food

What we will do

Tackle malnutrition before it is too late

We will significantly increase our activity and impact on nutrition. We will reach ten million children under five years old through our nutrition programmes. In some countries this will mean directing money to families whose children are most at risk, so they can afford a better diet. In others, we will help to deliver vitamins and minerals, and support mothers to breastfeed.



Talking points

The world is undergoing a food crisis – supplies are scarce and prices continue to escalate. But 60% of the world's remaining uncultivated arable land is in Africa, so it is vital that Britain invests in the African farmer and their land. It is ironic that Africa can now help feed the world.

Sir Bob Geldof

We will help poor families to grow enough food by increasing their access to seeds, tools and training in farming. For example, in Bangladesh vegetable patches provide a vital source of nutrition and income, and a bit of agricultural know-how can mean the difference between a failed and healthy crop. That's why we are supporting an innovative scheme in which local women travel from village to village with a laptop and mobile phones giving them internet access on the go. With a world of knowledge a click away, they can help local communities find out how to get the most from their land and support their families. This groundbreaking programme will help up to half a million people grow the food they need.

Make a little go a long way

We are determined that our aid to the poorest countries will make a difference to those who are hardest to reach. Very small sums of money transferred directly to the poorest people can help them to make a real difference to their lives.

For as little as £7 a month – less than the price of a cinema ticket in the UK – the poorest people can start to lift themselves out of poverty. In Ghana, 100,000 people in greatest need, mostly women, are benefiting from regular cash transfers. They use the payment they get every three months to meet their essential needs – buying food and clothes for their families, sending their

children to school, and taking part in small-scale trading. By 2015 we will reach another 250,000 people through these payments, making a little go a long way.

Work together to prevent food shortages

The Karamoja region in northern Uganda suffers from chronic food shortages and every year more than one million people rely on emergency food aid. But by working with communities and providing them with better farming facilities, irrigation systems and new roads we will ensure over 440,000 people have more than enough food in the future. This means that they no longer have to rely on handouts.

We will work with our partners to help reduce the impact of high food prices around the world and prevent food shortages before they take hold. We will also work with governments, charities, the United Nations and the business sector to make the worldwide response to malnutrition much more coordinated, targeted and hard hitting.



On the ground

Name: Ronaldo, Alvin and Cliff

Country: Kenya

Profile: A family's first step forward

The story so far

Ronaldo, Alvin and Cliff are three brothers who are used to looking out for themselves. Their father died from AIDS. And their mother never came home after she went to the countryside, looking for food. Their neighbours help out where they can, but in Kenya's Korogocho slum, no one has much to spare.

Despite the challenges, the three teenagers get by thanks to the small amount of cash they collect from the local post office every two months. They make the £8 they each receive go a long way. Ronaldo, 17, knows their priorities: "First we pay our debts as we've had to borrow money from friends for food and medicine. Then we have a meal." The vital income also means his younger brothers can go to primary school, rather than get jobs to help support the family.

What happens next?

The UK Government will continue to support 33,750 households across Kenya for five years, and the money is also matched locally by Kenya's own taxpayers. Putting cash directly into the hands of the poor in this way helps to save money. The alternative of providing food aid directly means paying additional transport costs. This money allows people to make decisions about what they need most, so that it's put to the best possible use. It might not be food to eat straight away, but a goat they can milk and sell.

Changing children's lives through learning

Harnessing the transformative power of quality education

By 2014 we will...

- Support nine million children in primary school
- Support two million children in secondary school, of which 700,000 will be girls
- Train more than 190,000 teachers and improve the quality of education and children's learning

The best investment

Education is fundamental to everything we do. It is the key to beating poverty and the greatest investment we can make for global prosperity and the future of our world.

Education transforms countries and societies – an extra year of quality schooling lifts a country's annual economic growth by 1%.

Yet over 69 million children are out of primary school across the world. Many more fail to complete this level of schooling to get basic skills, progress to secondary school, and move into good jobs.

11 million

We will secure schooling for 11 million children – more than we educate in the UK but at 2.5% of the cost

We also know that getting girls into school begins a chain reaction of further benefits. Educated women have better maternal health, fewer and healthier children and increased economic opportunities. They are

also more likely to send their own children to school – creating a virtuous circle of opportunity and prosperity.

What we will do

Reach more children

We will focus on poor countries where most children are out of school. We will concentrate especially on unstable and conflict affected states where over half of out-of-school primary aged children live. In Pakistan, more than seven million are deprived of their primary education. We will start a generation of change by supporting more than two million children in primary school in 2014. And in Bangladesh, UK aid will help two million children to get an education, including many who dropped out of school to earn money to support their families.

Keep girls in school

We will help girls stay in school beyond primary level to ensure they get the full benefits from education which will transform their lives and opportunities. For example, in Ghana, we will provide 60,000 grants for girls' education, support

school-based counsellors to tackle sexual harassment and abuse of girls, and increase the number of female teachers.

Some of the barriers to girls' education are very basic needs – an adolescent girl does not want to share the same lavatories with boys – so having separate latrines helps girls to stay in education for longer. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, we will get at least 180,000 more girls into school over the next four years, simply by investing in decent sanitation.

Focus on quality and learning

It's not just about getting children into school. It's also about making sure they are well taught and that what they learn improves their lives and economic opportunities. We will ensure children learn more by improving the quality of their teachers. In Ethiopia, UK aid will provide teacher training alongside textbooks and school grants which will be managed locally so that parents and teachers can decide what their children need most.

We will also work to make sure that every child is getting the best from their education through careful assessment of learning.



For example, in Rwanda, UK aid will help monitor students' reading and maths ability at an early age and will provide additional funds as more pupils pass their exams. At a global level, we will work through the World Bank and the Education for All – Fast Track Initiative to improve the quality of education systems and train teachers across poor countries.

Giving poor parents more say

We want to give poor families more choice over their children's schooling – so it's closer to home, better quality and more affordable. In Pakistan, we will work to increase the



Talking points

The UK's support for schooling is vital – especially for girls. Without an education, those girls will continue to be at greater risk of disease, forced marriage, early childbirth – and so the cycle of poverty continues.

Anthony Lake, UNICEF Executive Director

range of options for parents – expanding access to low cost, local schools for the poorest children. We will encourage better partnerships between government and the not-for-profit and private sectors to increase access to education for the poorest and raise overall standards.

We will also give families and communities more say over their children's education. In Ethiopia, we will support parent-teacher associations to get involved in the planning

and performance monitoring of the school. And in Tanzania, we will support an annual survey that provides parents with feedback on their children's reading, writing and maths. This means parents can demand better education for their children.

Name: Habibah

Country: Nigeria

Profile: Young committed teacher

The story so far

When Habibah went to primary school she was one of only seven girls who attended. This is a common problem in Nigeria. Around eight million children of primary school age are out of school – most of them girls.

UK aid is now supporting a scholarship scheme which allows Habibah to train to be a teacher and encourage more girls to go to school.

She's looking forward to taking her new found teaching skills back to her village: "I grew up in Nagopita and attended the primary school there. Now, because of the scholarship, I can show girls in my village the happiness of education."

What happens next?

In Nigeria, by 2015, we will get 500,000 more girls into school and receiving an improved education. We will help girls to participate by giving 60,000 families the money which girls would earn if they were at work, along with 5,000 scholarships to encourage more women to go into teaching.

On the ground

Saving lives and preventing disease

We can end the needless deaths of millions of children and mothers

We will...

- Help immunise more than 55 million children against preventable diseases
- Save the lives of at least 50,000 women in pregnancy and childbirth and 250,000 newborn babies
- Enable at least ten million more women to use modern methods of family planning by 2015
- Help halve malaria deaths in ten of the worst affected countries

Living longer, healthier lives

Every year around eight million children under five die needlessly. Malnutrition, HIV and AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases all contribute to this unacceptable total.

Malaria causes around 780,000 deaths each year and more than 33 million people are living with HIV – with the world's poorest suffering the most.

Complications during pregnancy and childbirth claim the lives of a thousand girls and women every day in some of the poorest countries around the world – that's a woman dying every 90 seconds, roughly the time it takes to read this page. In the minutes and hours surrounding childbirth women and babies are at the greatest risk. Yet each year 50 million women give birth without skilled care or support.

Good health is a basic starting point for people who are trying to pull themselves out of poverty. Building healthcare systems is

essential to saving lives and allows a little aid to make a long term difference.

What we will do

Create quality healthcare

We will help millions more people live longer and healthier lives by training more doctors and nurses and providing more and better medicines. We will support countries to develop the necessary institutions and resources, backed by the funding to ensure good quality healthcare is available to those people who need it most, when they need it. For example, in Mozambique we will support the government to double the number of doctors nationwide by 2015.

Give choice to women

Globally, 215 million women who want to delay or avoid a pregnancy have no access to an effective method of family planning. We will help at least ten million more of these women get access to modern methods of family planning by 2015. In Ethiopia, we are helping to provide more than half a million sets of contraceptive implants. We are also supporting training for more



Talking points

The UK is investing in women and children's health which is a smart economic strategy. Healthy children are more likely to attend and finish school, which greatly increases their chances of a productive future, that will build on itself for generations.

Melinda Gates, Co-Chair of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

than 600 health workers to deliver family planning services and counselling to hard to reach communities.

Ensure safe pregnancies and births

Over the next four years we will double the number of maternal, newborn and children's lives saved by UK aid and will support at least two million women to deliver their babies safely with skilled midwives, nurses and doctors. The maternal health services that pregnant girls and women need are often too expensive or too far away for them to access. We will work hard to break down these barriers and will ensure that vital interventions and healthcare are available to the women and newborns who need them most.



In Madhya Pradesh, one of the poorest states in India, a fleet of specially equipped vehicles is reaching women in the most remote areas. The specialised ambulance service, known as the Janani Express, takes pregnant women to hospital round the clock so they can give birth safely. Through simple and effective projects like this we will help half a million mothers give birth more safely in India.

Provide HIV prevention, treatment, care and support

We will focus our support for the prevention and treatment of AIDS on countries most affected by the epidemic and those people who are most at risk. We will work with partners to make safe and affordable medicines available. And we will work through organisations like the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, which have a strong track record of delivering results and saving lives. Through our contribution to the Global Fund we will provide 37,000 HIV-positive women with treatment which prevents transmission of the virus to their babies and 268,000 people with treatment for AIDS.

Tackle malaria

We will help halve malaria deaths in ten of the worst affected countries by 2015. This is a key priority. We will achieve this goal by increasing the number of bednets used by

women and children and by improving the diagnosis and treatment of malaria. And we will support the development of innovative ways to tackle malaria so that even more lives will be saved in the future.

Provide access to lifesaving vaccines and prevent diseases

Through the GAVI Alliance we will help immunise more than 55 million children. And we will also support global efforts to halve tuberculosis deaths by 2015. We will fund research and development into more effective treatment and vaccines to combat tuberculosis.

Help eradicate polio

We will also help to vaccinate 90 million children fully against polio by doubling our

10 children

For the price of a cup of coffee we will help vaccinate ten children in the developing world against polio

support to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative over the next two years. Polio cases have been reduced by 99% in the last 20 years and the disease is close to being wiped out, yet it is still crippling and killing children in more than a dozen countries. As Prime Minister David Cameron recently said: "We are so close to delivering a polio-free world for all our children. Let's finish the job and eradicate polio once and for all."

On the ground

Name: Sangita

Country: Nepal

Profile: Proud new mum

The story so far

Like most mothers to be, Sangita was nervous about giving birth: "I was scared to have my baby at home so I came to the health post. It's all worked very well and I feel safe here."

She was given free care at a newly built health centre in a remote, rural area of Nepal. Like many other mums, she received money to cover her travel costs which, in hard to reach areas, can be a considerable burden on poor families.

What happens next?

In Nepal, women are 30 times more likely to die during childbirth than women in the UK. With the help of UK aid, the Nepalese Government is ensuring more than a million mothers like Sangita are able to give birth in a safe environment with a trained midwife.

Providing clean water and sanitation

Getting safe water and sanitation where it counts

We will...

- Give 15 million people access to clean drinking water
- Improve access to sanitation for 25 million people
- Improve hygiene for 15 million to help stop people getting sick

Safe water saves lives

Diarrhoea kills 4,000 children every day around the world. In Africa, it is the leading killer of children under five years old, causing more deaths than AIDS, malaria and measles combined. But there are very simple solutions to this problem – clean drinking water, hygienic latrines and effective hand washing. Helping people meet these basic needs could prevent around 2.4 million unnecessary deaths every year and ensure that millions of people are able to live happier, healthier lives.

We know what works best and investing in sanitation, hygiene promotion and safe water are some of the most cost effective ways of achieving real results in health. We urgently need more progress in sanitation. In sub-Saharan Africa for instance, one in three people do not have access to any form

More access

We will provide access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation to more people than there are in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

of sanitation – be it a tap or a toilet. That is why we will give 15 million people access to clean drinking water and improve access to sanitation for 25 million people.

What we will do

Tackle the biggest killer of children

In Nigeria alone, 200,000 children died from diarrhoea in 2008. We will ensure 5.5 million people there have better access to the facilities they need and can wash their hands – proven to be the most effective way

Talking points

Clean water to drink and improved sanitation are essential for human development. With them, lives are saved, stability thrives, more children go to school – especially girls – and millions more are able to escape poverty.

Barbara Frost, Chief Executive, WaterAid





to prevent disease. Getting rid of human waste safely can reduce diarrhoea by more than a third.

Get clean water to where it's needed most

People in rural areas are five times more likely to be without clean drinking water compared to those who live in the city. For those in the countryside, this means a lot of sick people suffering from diarrhoeal illnesses and a lot of productive time lost as they are unable to work. That's why we will target our help towards rural areas ensuring that, in Tanzania alone, an additional 1.3 million people can gain access to safe drinking water. In Orissa, one of the poorest states in India, we have helped bring clean water and sanitation to more than 300,000 tribal people by building wells, laying pipes to remote villages and setting up water taps.

Focus on girls and women

Women are twice as likely to fetch water than men. It's often a tough, time-consuming task with girls as young as five years old having to haul water for long distances. But we will get clean water closer to the homes of another six million girls, mums and families in the Democratic Republic of Congo by building standpipes and pumps.

South Asia has the largest number of people on the planet who continue to have to go the lavatory in the open. This puts girls and women in danger of being assaulted. In Nepal, we will make sure around 60,000 girls and women will benefit from access to safe lavatories by 2015.

On the ground

Name: Makia

Country: Ethiopia

Profile: Hopeful healthy schoolgirl

The story so far

Makia's day starts early, in the half-light of an Ethiopian highland dawn. Together with her brothers and sisters, she helps to collect water for her family before she goes to school. But thanks to a new water point, supported by UK aid, a journey that used to take two hours now takes just ten minutes.

Bringing water closer to ten-year-old Makia and her family has changed their lives, and their prospects for the future. They are sick less often, because the water they drink is cleaner. And the children can now go to school because they no longer spend hours travelling to and from the nearest water supply.

Half of Ethiopia's population of 80 million have to walk for up to two and a half miles every day to reach water that is often not even clean.

What happens next?

We have helped 2.4 million people get access to water through this programme. Next year we will ensure that 800,000 more people in Ethiopia will benefit by providing wells and boreholes, and giving communities the skills they need to maintain them.

Making countries safer, fairer and free from conflict

Stable, well-run nations lie at the heart of prosperity and real progress

We will...

- Focus 30% of our aid on war torn and unstable countries by 2014
- Support freer and fairer elections in 13 countries with more than 300 million voters
- Help ten million women to access justice through the courts, police and legal assistance
- Support 40 million people to hold authorities to account

The biggest brakes on progress

Effective policing, a legal system that can be trusted, local services and the right to vote are among the key building blocks of any stable and prosperous society. Without them, it is difficult for a country to educate its children, grow its economy or build a healthcare system. By supporting more governments to put them in place, we can help them meet their people's needs. In the long term this means we are spending now to save later, as countries reach a point where they can stand on their own two feet.

Nearly a quarter of the world's poorest people live in countries where conflict and violence put the brakes on any possible progress. These nations are "falling behind and often falling apart," as economist Paul Collier puts it.

Conflict and poverty go hand in hand. When trapped in a warzone, parents cannot risk their lives to go to work. Children are taken out of schools that are in danger of

being attacked. And mothers will not go to the local clinic when it is unsafe to travel. As long as people fear for their lives and homes, we cannot begin to beat poverty.

However, we must do more than help to end the violence – we must also deal with the aftermath of conflict and help prevent it starting in the first place. We can do this by supporting governments to build essential services, maintain law and order, and give their people a chance to say what they need.



What we will do

Counter conflict

Currently, 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by conflict and violence. By 2014, 30% of UK aid will be spent in unstable states. We will help address the causes of conflict, strengthen security and justice, lay the foundations for growth and improve access to basic services. This is not only right but also directly in our national interest.

Give people a voice

When it comes to improving the way countries, towns and villages are run, we will help people to influence decisions that affect them. We will support more people to hold their governments and local authorities to account, through parliaments, the justice system, the media, and civil society organisations, such as community groups and local charities.

60 million

Britain has helped to give more than 60 million people in Nigeria the chance to vote in their elections this year

For example, in the Democratic Republic of Congo we will work with more than one and a half million people across rural communities. We will support them to elect local committees and hold public debates within their village to discuss what matters to them. Time and again, the top priorities people pick out are education, water and health. So far 1,800 classrooms, 660 water points and 200 birthing centres have been built as a result.

Support freer and fairer elections

We will work to ensure that citizens and communities can take control of their own development and hold their governments to account. We will help make elections more free and fair in 13 countries with more than 300 million voters.

For example, in Nigeria we are helping more women candidates to run for this year's election. For the first time, three women are standing for state governor. We will support women who want to get into politics by giving them the skills to write manifestos and plan effective campaigns. And we have helped 80 million people in Bangladesh, half of them women, to obtain photo identity cards. These cards allow them to vote and help reduce the risk of electoral fraud.



Talking points

In breaking out of the conflict trap, security and development go hand in hand.

Professor Paul Collier, Oxford University

Help governments work better

We will support countries to manage their money more effectively, so they get more for what they spend. We will help them to raise revenues through tax, so that they will have more resources to meet the needs of their people. Over time, this means they will become less dependent on aid.

In the Occupied Palestinian Territories we are helping the Palestinian Authority to find more effective ways to collect tax. We will support them to develop self-assessment forms, much like our own, and a new computer system that keeps track of everyone's contributions. With these in place, the Palestinian Authority will be able to raise an extra one pound to match every pound we spend on aid.

Deliver security and justice

People need to feel safe in their homes and know that they can go about their daily business free from violence and crime. For this to happen they need a police service that is not corrupt or abusive, an army that will play a positive role in preventing conflict and a legal system that can be trusted to resolve disputes fairly.

In Bangladesh, we will support eight million women with legal help to resolve disputes over issues such as dowries, land and inheritance. And in Sierra Leone, we are supporting the development of legislation to protect women from violence.



Name: Saifundin

Country: Afghanistan

Profile: Active community leader

The story so far

To build peace in Afghanistan, people need to see progress on the ground and feel they have a stake in their own future. That's what the National Solidarity Programme – part funded by UK aid – is all about.

It provides local communities with the funds to build essential facilities, like roads, schools, health clinics and water systems. The innovative approach offers support to those in even the most unstable areas of the country that are hardest to reach.

The programme puts the Afghan people at the heart of decision making. Each community elects leaders to a local council. They then

decide what the priorities are for their community.

Local engineer, Saifundin, has seen this in action: "Since the National Solidarity Programme started it has brought unity and brotherhood to the people and any kind of discord and injustice has disappeared. Now if there is a problem, people sit down and talk about it."

What happens next?

The programme, which extends to every province across Afghanistan, has seen the creation of 26,000 new local councils elected by their communities. Over the next five years, an additional 10,300 communities will benefit from our help.

Combating climate change

Helping poor people fight and deal with climate change

We will...

- Help millions of poor people protect their lives and livelihoods from the impacts of climate change
- Support poor countries to develop in ways that avoid or reduce harmful emissions of greenhouse gases
- Help millions of poor people secure clean energy
- Give more protection to the world's forests and the 1.2 billion people who depend on them

Responding to a changing climate

The world's poorest people will be hit first and hit hardest by climate change. Droughts, floods and famines are already taking their toll.

In Bangladesh, rising sea levels and increased flooding are forcing people from their homes. Climate change is likely to increase the frequency of extreme weather events and put vulnerable people at further risk.

grow economically and so tackle poverty, while at the same time reducing carbon emissions and the impacts of climate change.

Forests play a vital role. Deforestation takes away access to fuel, food and a living from the 1.2 billion poor people who depend on them. Cutting down trees also contributes 17% to global carbon emissions.

Taking action on climate change is in Britain's interest too. We cannot have food security, water security, energy security – or any form of national security – without climate security.

15 million

In Bangladesh we will help protect 15 million people against the effects of climate change and natural disasters

What we will do

Deal with the impacts

We will help people to protect their lives, livelihoods, homes and land from the impacts of climate change. We will, for example, help to protect 15 million vulnerable Bangladeshis by building embankments and shelters, promoting climate resilient crops, raising homes above flood levels and giving greater access to safe drinking water.

Yet because of climate change, the world has a real chance to take a new approach to solving global problems and seizing global opportunities. Low carbon development creates a win-win situation – countries can



Talking points

The UK is showing leadership in tackling the two great challenges of the 21st century, managing climate change and overcoming poverty. If we fail on one, we will fail on the other. The commitment to overseas aid and to the International Climate Fund are critical to the global credibility and influence of the UK in a rapidly-changing world.

Professor Lord Nick Stern, London School of Economics

Support greener growth

We will work on new public-private partnerships – securing up to £3 of private investment for every £1 of public money spent. This will help harness private finance to tackle climate change – creating new jobs, new sources of energy and new technologies. We will support the development of low carbon and renewable energy to help countries grow while improving their energy efficiency and reducing emissions.

Tackle deforestation

We will reduce carbon emissions from loss of forests by supporting countries to manage their forests better and tackle illegal logging. We will help people who depend on forests for a living to secure rights to the land they live on, and rights over the things they need.



In Nepal, we are helping more than one in ten people to make a living from forests, for example by helping local entrepreneurs to produce and sell juice from local flowers. Other families are building their own businesses, making bio-bricks – a sustainable fuel they can use and sell. We are also helping to prevent soil erosion and flooding in the region. With our support, the average household income in these communities has increased by 60% over the last five years.

Work for a global deal on climate change

We are committed to a global deal which tackles climate change and supports poor people in vulnerable countries to deal with its consequences. We will also support the poorest countries to participate more in the international negotiations. Developed countries should take the lead in cutting their own emissions and help poor countries, which have contributed the least to climate change.

Work together across government

We will work with other government departments to identify the top priorities for Britain's response to climate change. Through the International Climate Fund we will make sure we focus our aid to tackle climate change effectively. These priorities will be agreed by Summer 2011.

On the ground

Name: Mostafa

Country: Bangladesh

Profile: Rice farmer with a future

The story so far

When Mohammad saw his neighbour's fields in Rangpur District in north-western Bangladesh, he couldn't believe his eyes. A 15 day flood had covered the land and he wasn't expecting his friend's latest rice crop to survive.

"I saw Mostafa's field flooded, and then I saw the rice recover," he recalls. "I was surprised – it was like magic."

Before the flood hit, Mostafa had started trialling a new type of rice known as 'scuba' rice. The rice was developed by the International Rice Research Institute, which receives funding from the British taxpayer. It is flood resistant and can breathe underwater for up to two weeks, recovering once the waters subside.

Mostafa's farm used to suffer heavy losses because of flooding and Mostafa couldn't do anything to protect his crops. But now, UK aid supported scuba rice will help him provide food for his family, even when water submerges their land.

What happens next?

Across Bangladesh, scuba seeds could help produce an additional one million tonnes of rice per year, making sure the country has enough food with more left over to export. And there are even bigger plans ahead. Over the next ten years, the aim is to increase production of scuba rice by 50% across Africa and South Asia, helping around 18 million more households like Mostafa's.

How we will work

The themes that guide our approach

Smarter, open, well-spent aid

We want every single pound of the aid budget to make a difference and we need the eyes of the world looking at our work to make sure that it does. Ultimately, our aim is to speed up progress on reducing extreme poverty, help countries to support their own people and move away from a future that is dependent on international support.

Vitamin rich

By developing a new breed of vitamin-rich sweet potato we will help prevent the deaths of tens of thousands of children around the world

Value for money

More than ever, in the current financial climate, we have a duty to show that we are achieving value for money in everything we do. Results, transparency and accountability will be our watchwords and we are determined to get value for money for every hard-earned taxpayer pound spent on development.

Well-spent aid can achieve miracles. Aid has already helped eradicate smallpox and brought polio to the edge of extinction. Last year alone the UK brought food to 13 million people on the brink of famine, vaccinated four million children against measles and provided clean water to two and a half million people.

We will support charities, international organisations and other governments that have shown a clear ability to deliver the results we all want to see. We expect all our partners to work hard to prove to UK taxpayers that they will make a real difference to the lives of the poorest and deliver real value for money.

Independent evaluation

We have already taken the first steps to put our efforts under the spotlight. The UK Government has set up the Independent Commission for Aid Impact (ICAI) to evaluate our work and report directly to Parliament. This new independent body led by Graham Ward – former President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales – is responsible for the scrutiny of UK aid, focusing on delivery of value for money for the UK taxpayer, maximising the impact for recipients and ensuring effectiveness of Britain's aid budget.

The Commission will publish transparent, impartial and objective reports. It will provide strong evidence-based feedback into government decision-making, to ensure that its recommendations lead to change. These recommendations will play a vital role in championing the use of evidence from independent evaluations, reviews, and investigations, to allow the UK to spend aid on what works best.

Transparency

This Government is committed to showing taxpayers how every pound is spent. Aid is no exception. That way, everyone can get a clear picture of what we deliver and make sure we use the money wisely. By opening up what we do, it also means we get better feedback from the people we are trying to help. It reduces waste and the opportunities for fraud and corruption. And it helps us understand what works – and what doesn't.

We have introduced the UK Aid Transparency Guarantee which explains what information we will make available and gives people the chance to have their say on our work. We are taking the lead on transparency on the global stage, pressing our partners to do more. We will expect any organisation which receives aid money from us to become more transparent. And we are the first country in the world to publish information about our aid in line with internationally agreed standards, as set out by the International Aid Transparency Initiative.



Innovative approaches to aid

We are introducing a series of groundbreaking approaches to accelerate progress on our key development goals and eliminate waste.

The new, innovative schemes will educate more children, improve healthcare and help the private sector to push forward development. To help us cut back on red tape, we will make more use of cash transfers – providing aid directly to those most in need so they can spend it on pressing priorities first. Studies have shown this leads to people paying for food, education and healthcare.

Among the new schemes are results-based aid programmes – a way to make sure a real difference has been made before any money is handed over. Take Ethiopia, where we want to increase the number of girls who get an education. As it stands, only 40% of the 1.5 million children in secondary school there are girls.

By offering local schools a financial reward for every extra girl that completes secondary education, we will help redress the balance. The approach is simple – no extra girl completing secondary education, no funding. Payments are made only once the results have been independently checked.

The incentive also means schools will encourage girls to stay on for longer. Evidence shows that an extra year in secondary school boosts a girl's eventual

wage by up to 25%. This in turn helps to pull her whole family out of poverty.

We will carefully and independently evaluate schemes like this, allowing us to build evidence about which types of approach are most effective. And we will be open to new ideas, willing to trial innovative and creative ways to make real breakthroughs.



Where we will work

The outcome of our Bilateral Aid Review

What is the Bilateral Aid Review?

The Bilateral Aid Review was commissioned in May 2010 to take a comprehensive and ambitious look at the countries in which we work through our direct country and regional programmes. It focused on the best ways for the UK to tackle extreme poverty, ensuring that we make the greatest impact with every pound we spend.

Each of our country teams was asked to develop a “results offer” which set out what they could achieve over the next four years. These offers were underpinned by evidence, analysis of value for money and a focus on girls and women. They were reviewed internally and scrutinised by a panel of independent experts. Ministers then considered which results each country team should prioritise. A summary of our country programmes, as well as a full technical report about the review, are available from our website at www.dfid.gov.uk/barmar

This completely new approach, based on needs and evidence on the ground, will mean we achieve better results through properly targeted aid and that we are more accountable to the British taxpayer.

Key outcomes: refocused aid, significant impacts

The review provides us with a fresh plan to help achieve real progress and deliver real results. It has refocused the aid programme in fewer countries so that we can target our support where it will make the biggest difference and where the need is greatest. As a result, we will focus on programmes where the British Government is well placed to make a significant impact.

A number of countries that no longer require our help will be able to graduate out of an aid relationship with the UK. In other cases, we feel our international partners are better placed to make the breakthroughs needed.



Talking points

For some countries aid is a vital safety net that saves lives every day. UK taxpayers' money should be spent helping the poorest people in the poorest countries, with every penny making a real difference by giving families the chance of a better future.

Andrew Mitchell, International Development Secretary

Our bilateral programmes in the following countries will come to an end:

Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cameroon, Cambodia, China, Gambia, Indonesia, Iraq, Kosovo, Lesotho, Moldova, Niger, Russia, Serbia and Vietnam.

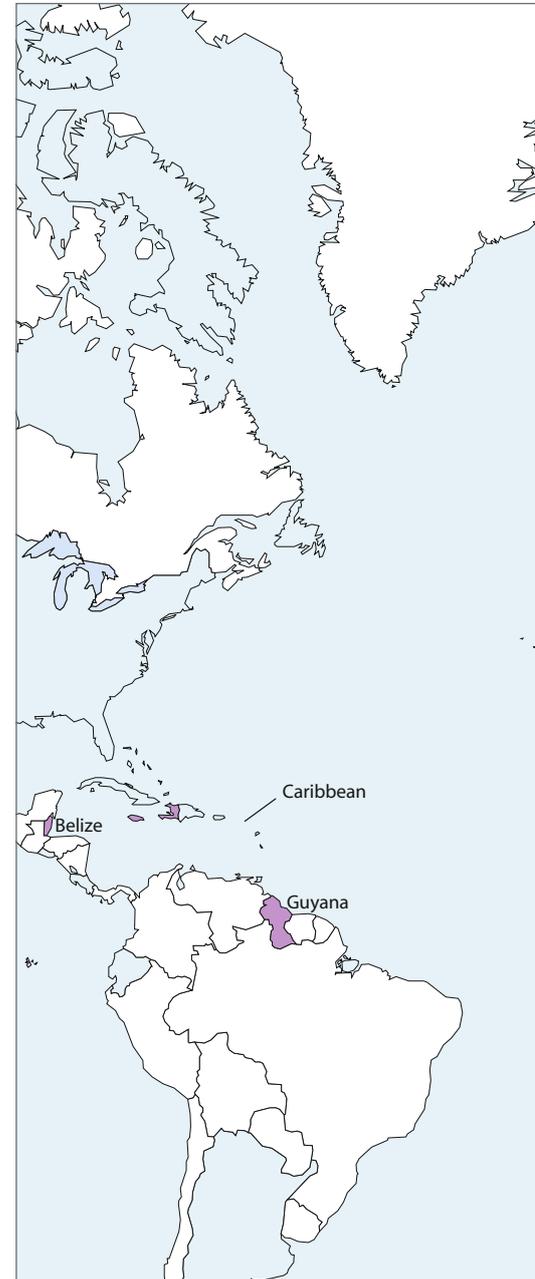
Some will close immediately, others will close over the next five years as the countries graduate from UK aid.

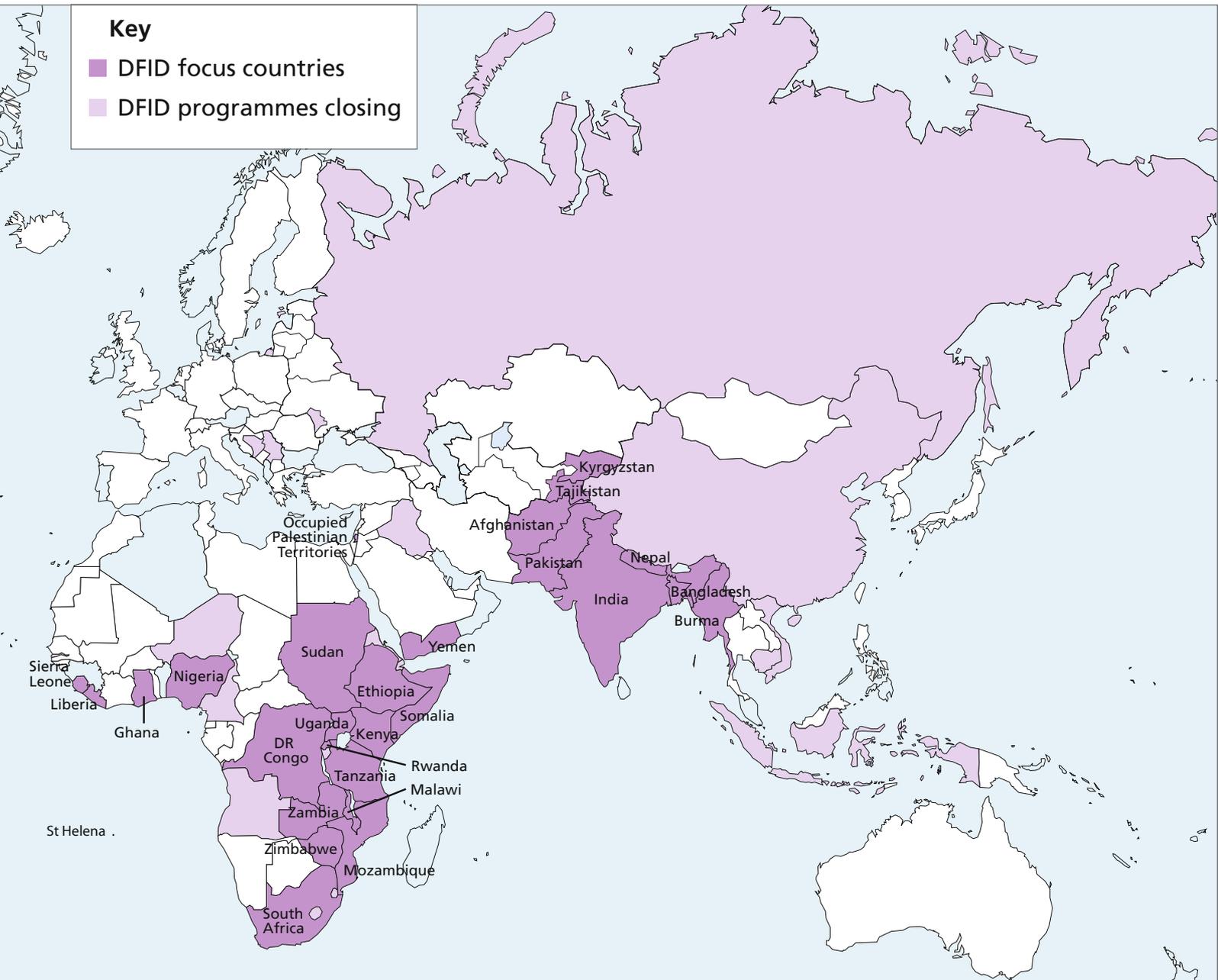
This will allow us to concentrate our resources and impact in 27 countries:

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Nigeria, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Pakistan, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

We will also have three regional programmes in Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, and development relationships with three aid dependent Overseas Territories – St Helena, the Pitcairn Islands and Montserrat. And we will continue to work flexibly as and where necessary, including with the international community, to provide humanitarian assistance where it is needed.

Detailed operational plans that set out how results will be delivered have been developed for each country. These plans will be made public from Spring 2011.





This radical refocusing of our aid will allow us to:

- **Concentrate our efforts where the need is greatest:** the 27 countries account for three quarters of global maternal mortality and nearly three quarters of global malaria deaths.
- **Tackle poverty and insecurity in unstable or conflict affected states:** our role is crucial to the lives of people in these countries who suffer the double curse of poverty and violence. Helping these societies to recover from and avoid future conflict is not only right but also directly in the UK's national interest.
- **Focus on the most vulnerable people:** especially girls and women who suffer disproportionately from the effects of poverty.

- **Re-emphasise the importance of the Commonwealth:** Britain has major historical links and we are proud of our development partnerships across this vibrant and varied network.
- **Increase our work in sectors that make a real difference to people's lives:** meeting basic needs like healthcare, immunisation, water, sanitation, hygiene and education is vital in the battle against poverty.
- **And crucially, it will help stimulate wealth creation and trade:** economic growth, enterprise, jobs and business opportunities offer sustainable and dignified approaches to tackling global poverty.

The Bilateral Aid Review allows us to concentrate on what we do best in priority countries. But this is only part of the picture. On top of this, we will work with our international partners, such as the United Nations and the World Bank, to reach millions more of the world's poorest people.



Who we will work with

The outcome of our Multilateral Aid Review

What is the Multilateral Aid Review?

Our Multilateral Aid Review took a long, hard look at 43 of the global development agencies we work with, such as the United Nations, the European Union and the World Bank. We cannot hope to solve the problems of all poor countries on our own – especially in war torn regions – which is why working through these international organisations is a vital part of the UK's fight against poverty.

Between them they address all aspects of development – everything from peacekeeping and responding to humanitarian disasters to delivering large transport projects and major immunisation programmes.

More than 40% of the UK's aid programme is channelled through organisations like these, so it is crucial that they deliver the best value for money.

Our review demanded to see the impact each agency has on the ground. It asked how rigorous its cost control processes are and probed what strategic value the organisation

adds to the UK's fight against poverty. We collected evidence from these global agencies and civil society. We also collected information from published reports and carried out ten field visits. A full technical report on the process and outcomes is available from our website at www.dfid.gov.uk/barmar

Key outcomes: delivering on our priorities

This assessment allows us to put more money behind strong performing international organisations which are critical to delivering the UK's development priorities. It has also allowed us to identify the organisations that have serious weaknesses.

UNICEF, the GAVI Alliance for vaccinations and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria were some of those assessed as very good and they provide some of the greatest value per pound there is. We will channel more money through the best rated organisations, allowing the British public to transform the lives of hundreds of millions of people.



Talking points

The United Nations is central to eradicating global poverty. That's why we strive to be effective in delivering real results for the most vulnerable people in the world.

Ban Ki-moon, United Nations Secretary General

The evidence we have collected has also allowed us to make some tough calls. We will stop DFID core funding to four organisations that were rated as providing poor value for money. These include the International Labour Organisation, the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, UN-HABITAT and the UN Industrial Development Organisation – agencies through which our core funding will not make a significant difference on the ground, and whose work overlaps with more effective institutions.

Organisations assessed as having serious weaknesses will be placed in “special measures”, including the International Organisation for Migration, the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the development programmes of the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNESCO. Whilst poor performers, these agencies carry out specific

development or humanitarian roles that are not well covered by other international players. We are demanding an urgent improvement in performance and will monitor their progress closely. We will review progress within two years and DFID’s core funding may be ceased if improvements are not made.

Agencies that were rated as adequate will be urged to reform and future core funding will depend on the progress they make and the performance they deliver over the next two years.

These organisations are big players on the world stage. Quite simply their size, reach and expertise allow them to deliver global solutions to global problems, building on the results we will be seeking directly through our country programmes.



The British public can be reassured that UK aid is making the biggest impact possible through our work with these agencies. We can be proud that our support is contributing to ambitious goals, for example:

- **The World Bank** will provide 36 million people with improved water sources. It will build over 37,000 kilometres of road, vaccinate more than 100 million children, recruit or train over one million teachers and provide access to health and nutrition services to over 15 million people.
- **The GAVI Alliance** will immunise 240 million children, saving more than four million lives.
- **UNICEF** will supply millions of vitamin A capsules every year to help reduce the number of malnourished children, boosting their immune system and warding off blindness.
- **The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria** will distribute 110 million bednets to beat malaria, provide 4.4 million HIV-positive people with the medicines to live longer lives and ensure that 610,000 women every year have access to drugs that prevent the disease being passed to their children. They will provide 3.9 million tuberculosis treatments every year.
- **The African Development Bank** aims to provide 57.6 million people with improved access to transport, 29.3 million people with a new or improved electricity connection and 2.9 million people with new or improved access to water and sanitation.
- **The Asian Development Bank** plans to connect over 440,000 new households to electricity, assist 2.5 million people with microfinance, give 222 million people access to new or improved roads and provide 4.8 million new households with a water supply.
- **The European Commission** will assist 50 million people to cope with volatile food prices, give access to safe water to 14.5 million people, provide 6.7 million people with individual or collective energy services, support millions of children not yet in school and carry out 40 election observations.



Amanda Rose / DFID

A new way forward

Putting aid to the best possible use

We have set out the results which we aim to achieve by 2015.

We believe we can make real progress on some of the greatest challenges the world is facing – on the health of mothers and babies, on malaria and other preventable diseases, on education for children, on the daily struggle of life in countries hit by conflict.

Helping the world's poorest people is not only the right thing to do, it also makes sense for us here in Britain. Development makes a real difference to problems which might otherwise arrive on our streets, such as drugs, extremism and disease.

Our new approach will mean we focus more of our efforts on unstable countries, getting help to some of the hardest to reach people. We will not be afraid to try new, innovative ways of tackling extreme poverty to make real breakthroughs in these challenging environments.

We have introduced greater transparency of aid, and where necessary we are encouraging our partners to improve too. We welcome greater scrutiny of our work, to make it better and because UK taxpayers deserve to know what their aid is spent on.

Aid is not an end in itself. We will work to see more countries standing on their own two feet, graduating from UK aid and enjoying long term economic growth. By creating more jobs, business opportunities and trade we will give people the chance to lift themselves out of poverty and get on the path to prosperity.

As we look forward to making our aid work better, we will not ignore the ever-present threat of catastrophes like those which recently struck Pakistan and Haiti, or the humanitarian consequences of instability of the sort we now see in parts of North Africa and the Middle East. We will soon be announcing the results of the Humanitarian Emergency Response Review. This independent review, led by Lord Ashdown, has looked at how the UK can build on its strengths in responding to humanitarian needs, making sure future disaster responses can be better prepared and coordinated.

This is by no means the end of the process. Our root and branch reviews of how and where we will work have been rigorous, thorough and professional. Together, they will direct the UK's aid investment to the best possible use – determined not by top down targets set in Whitehall, but by the results which are achievable on the ground.

UK taxpayers demand that we get the best results for their money – it must be well-spent and reach the people who need it most. We will relentlessly scrutinise what we do and who we work with. We will focus on countries where we can transform the most lives. We will not turn our backs on the poorest people of the world. But we will ensure every pound of UK aid counts, changing lives and delivering results for us all.

**The Department for International Development:
leading the UK Government's fight against world poverty.**

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