

# Summary of DFID's work in Nepal 2011-2015

April 2011

## Why we work in Nepal

Four years on from a ten year civil war, Nepal remains highly vulnerable. The conflict was fuelled by high levels of poverty and exclusion, a situation that remains largely unchanged. Nepal is the 15th poorest country in the world with chronic poverty entrenched by a complex set of interrelated factors including gender, caste, ethnicity, age, religion, disability, language, and geography. The majority of the population, over 55%, live under the international poverty line of \$1.25/day and are extremely vulnerable to economic, health, social and climatic shocks. Progress on the peace process remains stalled and the country is far from a lasting political agreement on key issues. In particular, a new constitution needs to be drafted and elections held.



*"Now with the income, I send my children - two sons and a daughter - to school. We have meat for meals more often, and I have given my leaking house a tin roof. And more importantly, I have found my voice in society."*

Tanka Maya Magrati (a Dalit woman), Rural Access Programme, Chair of Road Building Group

## What we will achieve

- Create 230,000 jobs, 50% of them for women
- Build 532 km and maintain 3,700 km of road
- Reduce climate vulnerability of three million poor people, of which 1.65 million will be women
- Lift 570,000 people out of poverty through the forestry programme, of which 313,500 will be women
- Avert 108,200 unintended pregnancies
- Ensure 110,000 people benefit from safe latrines, partly through our support to the Gurkha Welfare Scheme

## What's our approach?

The UK's Operational Plan for Nepal takes an integrated approach. It recognises that to reduce poverty and vulnerability we need to promote political agreement and stability. Equally, unless our programmes help poor, vulnerable and excluded citizens on the ground, a return to conflict will be more likely.

## What's our commitment?

By 2014/15, we will have increased our annual aid to Nepal by 91% (£331 million over four years 2011-2015) We will:

- Support the peace process, help strengthen governance and improve security and access to justice
- Help poor and excluded people benefit from economic growth
- Help deliver better health and education services
- Adapt to the effects of climate change
- Reduce risk from disasters, including earthquakes
- Improve the lives of women and girls



## Who we will work with

The UK remains a long-standing friend of Nepal. We will provide support and technical expertise in key areas, working closely with the Government, civil society, the private sector and development partners to support the peace process and reduce poverty. The UK's investments in Nepal are designed so that DFID funds are channelled through the Government, or through partners. As well as working closely with the Government of Nepal, we also work closely with civil society organisations which play a vital role in service delivery and advocacy for the poor and vulnerable.

*"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." Sangita Chaudhary, a beneficiary of DFID-supported health programme*

## How we will work

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.

- **Value for money** To ensure this, DFID Nepal will put in place a comprehensive Value for Money Strategy which will tackle corruption risks and monitor and improve the value for money of our entire country programme.
- **Transparency** DFID regards transparency as fundamental to improving its accountability to both UK and Nepali citizens. We will publish clear, concise information about our programmes; support civil society and non government organisations to be more transparent; and promote greater accountability of the Government to its citizens and support improved financial management systems and financial reporting.
- **Working with women and girls.** Improving the opportunities for girls helps prevent the passing of poverty from one generation to the next, as the better educated girls are, the later they marry and the greater control they have over their lives. Separate results targets are set out for women and girls, such as lifting 313,500 women out of poverty through our forestry programme. We will also focus on reducing violence against women and girls.

## More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Nepal's Operational Plan, please visit: [www.dfid.gov.uk/nepal](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/nepal)

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