

DFID Management Response to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:

DFID's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Programming in Sudan February 2013

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/ Reject	Action already taken	Action to be taken	Target date
<p>Recommendation 1: DFID should produce a detailed strategy and results framework for transition from emergency WASH programming in Darfur towards more sustainable investments in infrastructure</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<p>DFID in Sudan has produced a paper outlining options for moving to longer term more sustainable support to the water sector in Darfur.</p>	<p>1. DFID in Sudan will develop a new Business Case for support to the water sector in Darfur. This will include a transition strategy and results framework.</p>	<p>September 2013</p>
<p>Recommendation 2: DFID funding through the Sudan UN-CHF should be phased out, in favour of multiannual grants direct to delivery partners for sustainable interventions.</p>	<p>Reject</p>	<p>Since early 2012, DFID has been working on new multi-year programmes which will provide more sustainable solutions.</p> <p>The Sudan Humanitarian and Resilience Programme (SHARP), recently approved by the Secretary of State, proposes a reduction in funding to the CHF by at least 50% over the next 3 years. In the event of a major new humanitarian emergency however, we may need to put additional money into the CHF and will make slower progress towards this objective. SHARP will provide multi-year funding to UN and NGO partners for sustainable interventions.</p> <p>As a result of SHARP and other programmes in the East and Darfur, the overall amount of funding we provide to the CHF will reduce. The CHF will however continue to play a vital role in supporting emergency lifesaving interventions.</p>		

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<p>Recommendation 3: DFID should ensure that lessons from the Darfur Urban Water Supply (DUWS) project are integrated into business cases for future water programmes in Sudan and elsewhere.</p>	Accept	<p>DFID in Sudan has already acted on the lessons of DUWS by reprogramming 13% of the budget to activities which build the capacity of institutions to manage the project.</p> <p>The East Water project was approved by the Secretary of State in December 2012. It will provide multi-annual grants to partners for the design and implementation of water projects in three states and incorporates lessons learnt from DUWS, as well a wider DFID review of the water sector in Darfur.</p>	<p>2. DFID in Sudan will develop a procurement plan for the East Water business case.</p>	June 2013
<p>Recommendation 4: At the corporate level DFID should ensure that its WASH policy framework prioritise early planning for transition from emergency assistance through early recovery to development programming in the context in protracted and chronic crises.</p>	Accept	<p>We do not agree that a linear process of humanitarian to recovery to development programming is a realistic approach in protracted environments. We do think however that new approaches are needed for delivering basic services, including WASH, in such contexts. DFID has commissioned research on the lessons from using pooled funds to support service delivery in fragile and conflict-affected settings.</p> <p>Work is already on-going to review the performance of humanitarian financing instruments in chronic and protracted crises.</p>	<p>3. Based on the outcome of the pooled funds research, DFID will review, and if necessary, develop new financing instruments for delivering basic services in protracted and chronic contexts. A policy note and operational guidance will be available by June 2013.</p> <p>4. DFID will produce guidance on multi-year approaches to humanitarian planning to improve the effectiveness of its work in protracted crises.</p>	<p>June 2013</p> <p>September 2013</p>