

Summary of DFID's work in Zimbabwe 2011-2015

Updated May 2012

Why we work in Zimbabwe

After years of misgovernment, the economy in Zimbabwe was brought to its knees and development indicators fell dramatically. The establishment of the Inclusive Government in 2009 began the process of recovery, but access to basic services is still limited: 20% of Zimbabweans need support to meet their basic food requirements;; 1.6 million people in Zimbabwe are living with HIV/AIDS; 84 of every 1,000 children die before reaching their fifth birthday; 960 mothers out of every 100,000 die from complications in childbirth and 80% of Zimbabweans do not have formal jobs.

Zimbabwe's Inclusive Government, with the support of donors, has managed to restore a degree of economic stability and basic service provision, but real transformation and sustained development progress is only likely following political change.

The three key challenges in the next four years are to support the state to be more accountable to its citizens; to create jobs for poor Zimbabweans and to support the Government to deliver basic services to its citizens, with a focus on health, education and water and sanitation. Through our programmes we will transform the lives of girls and women, including piloting new approaches to reduce violence against them.



"Conservation farming has taught me to help yourself and not just wait for others to help you."
Moddie Ndhlovu, 62 – lead farmer communal farm project through the Protracted Relief Programme.



"I never went to school before because my family couldn't afford the fees. I can now read and write."
Simbrashe Chitima, 8 – student

What we will achieve by 2015

- 125,000 new jobs created; 83,000 for women
- 80,000 people (57,000 women) provided with improved access to finance
- An additional 100,000 households provided with enough food to eat
- Over 2 million more people provided with access to clean water and over 1 million more people with access to improved sanitation
- Ensure all children in primary school in Zimbabwe have a core set of textbooks
- Nearly 35,000 births delivered with the help of a nurse, doctor or midwife

Who we will work with

The UK has a longstanding relationship with Zimbabwe. We work closely with those in the Inclusive Government who are committed to reform, civil society and the private sector. DFID will continue to work with other aid donors to Zimbabwe (such as the EU and the US), both through pooled funding and multi-donor programmes and by coordinating development policy. DFID will work particularly closely with the International Financial Institutions to provide appropriate policy and technical support for Zimbabwe, both to ensure sound economic management now and to lay the foundations for a sustainable solution to Zimbabwe's debt problem.



"My family depends on my livestock. I'll be able to pay for school fees and buy clothes and better food."
Mhanqwa Mleva, 56 – Goat farmer, Tsholotsho

In light of the political context, all UK resources are currently directed through donor partners (e.g. UN), civil society organisations or the private sector. None of the funds provided by the UK are channelled through the Government of Zimbabwe.

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.

In Zimbabwe, DFID will embed a strong focus on value for money, monitoring and evaluation, ensuring all feedback is effectively incorporated. We will dedicate specific staff resources to improving value for money within our programme e.g. through more rigorous procurement approaches. We will harness financial strategies and tools to ensure we drive continued improvement in financial management and to maintain high standards.

We are fully committed to transparency and will meet the standards set out in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), and encourage partners in civil society, multilateral organisations and other donors to do the same. We will also use our influence to encourage the Government of Zimbabwe to become more transparent and accountable to their own citizens about their budgets and the aid which they receive.

More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Zimbabwe's Operational Plan, please visit www.dfid.gov.uk/zimbabwe

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