

Summary of DFID's work in Ethiopia 2011-2015

Updated June 2012

Why we work in Ethiopia

Home to over 80 million people, Ethiopia is Africa's second most populated country. Progress in tackling poverty in Ethiopia will be vital if the world is to meet the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

At the heart of an unstable region, a secure, stable and prosperous Ethiopia is critical to wider UK interests. Poverty and instability in the Horn of Africa are among the root causes of migration to Europe and contribute to an environment in which fundamentalism can prosper.



Beneficiaries of the DFID-supported Productive Safety Net programme that provides cash or food for work for eight million people, and builds infrastructure.

Ethiopia has made real progress in tackling poverty in recent years, with substantial support from the UK and others. In the last five years, Ethiopia has: reduced child mortality by a quarter; put four million more children in primary school; and put in place an innovative cash and food for work scheme to protect almost eight million poor people from needing humanitarian food aid.

Despite recent progress, Ethiopia remains one of the world's poorest countries, with around 25 million people living in extreme poverty. Population growth, instability and climate change threaten Ethiopia's aim of meeting the MDGs. The depth and frequency of humanitarian crises have increased over the last five years. The Government of Ethiopia's approach to political governance also presents challenges to sustainable development.



Through the nationwide Protection of Basic Services Programme, DFID has supported the recruitments and training of 32,000 community health workers who provide basic care.

What we will achieve by 2015

- 1.2 million people each year helped to get enough food to avoid hunger
- Two million children in school by 2015, almost half of whom will be girls
- 7.5 million people provided with basic healthcare
- 1.4 million people given access to safe drinking water
- Two million couples provided with access to family planning
- One million children protected from getting malaria

Who we will work with

We will help Ethiopia to continue its impressive progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, partnering with the Ethiopian Government and other international agencies to support proven, nationwide programmes.

We will work to improve the impact of these programmes by increasing their accountability to the Ethiopian public, and through innovation – for example with a pilot of results-based aid in education, which will see the UK provide more aid to the Government of Ethiopia for each additional girl and boy that sits and passes their grade 10 examinations at school.



We will help get two million children into school, almost half of them girls, through our support for the nationwide Protection of Basic Services Programme, and General Education Quality Improvement Programme.

To promote wealth creation and respond to climate change, we will develop new partnerships with the private sector and non-governmental organisations. Acting on compelling evidence of the transformational contribution that women and girls can make to development, we will work with the Nike Foundation and others to improve the lives and prospects of adolescent girls across Ethiopia.

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.

Delivering results in Ethiopia offers excellent value for money. It costs just £20 a year to educate a child at primary level. We work hard with our partners to find better ways of delivering aid – for example, the cash and food for work programme that prevents eight million people from hunger costs half as much as providing emergency humanitarian assistance.

As part of the UK aid Transparency Guarantee, we will publish detailed information about new projects and policies in a way that is comprehensive, accessible, comparable, and accurate.

More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Ethiopia's operational plan, please visit: www.dfid.gov.uk/ethiopia

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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