

Summary of DFID's work in Burundi 2011-2012

May 2011

Why we work in Burundi?

Burundi emerged in 2005 from a 12 year civil war that killed 300,000 people and left the country devastated. It has one of the lowest recorded GDP per capita in the world, at \$150 in 2008, and 81% of the population live below the poverty line. The country ranks 166th out of 169 countries in the United Nations Human Development Index. Burundi is off-track to meet most Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Although significant progress has been made following the President's declaration of free primary education and healthcare for pregnant mothers and under-fives, challenges remain in improving the quality of these services.

Landlocked, with limited infrastructure and 95% of the workforce in agriculture, Burundi's growth will depend heavily on the success of its integration into the regional East African Community (EAC). Successful integration has the potential to open export markets and increase inward investment, as well as reduce the cost of trade and improve transport links. The Bilateral Aid Review determined that the area where DFID can make the biggest long-term difference in Burundi is in supporting its integration into the EAC.



Children in Gitega receiving new school books provided by DFID at the start of the school year.



An order being checked by the central pharmacy before dispatch to a clinic in Makamba. DFID funds both medicines and improvements to the distribution system.

What we will achieve

By March 2012 we will ensure:

- 68,000 more children are in primary education, 51% of whom will be girls
- 450,000 extra textbooks are in schools
- 220,000 Burundians (55% of whom will be women) are better able to hold decision-makers in education to account
- 2,000 more women have better access to justice services
- Improved drug distribution, ensuring that none of the 263 health facilities run out of essential drugs
- A new Revenue Authority is set up, enabling Government to collect £230 million of revenue in 2011, an increase of £35 million from 2010

Who we will work with

The DFID programme in Burundi supports the Government of Burundi to deliver social services and enhance its integration into the East Africa Community. Working in partnership with Government and other organisations is therefore essential to the success of everything we do.

75% of UK bilateral development funds for Burundi will be delivered through joint funding with other donors. Approximately a third of funds will be provided directly to the Government of Burundi through closely monitored programmes. This will be complemented by contracting technical experts in education, health and public finance, who through sharing their own knowledge and skills, will focus on supporting the Government to increase the capacity of its staffing and operations.



Transparency at work – an official from the Government of Burundi presenting information on the amount of aid received from donors

DFID provides only 3.6% of aid to Burundi. The largest donors are the World Bank and EU Delegation. The Bilateral Aid Review concluded that from 2012, DFID support will focus exclusively on Burundi's integration into the East African Community (EAC). We believe regional integration will be the most important contributing factor to Burundi's medium-term growth, through creating a platform for the private sector in Burundi to thrive. This work is managed by TradeMark East Africa (TMEA), an agency created by DFID to manage donor funds for this purpose. TMEA has established an office in Bujumbura, and the small DFID office will therefore close. DFID will continue to provide support from Rwanda and regionally from Nairobi.

How we will work

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

In Burundi we will work closely with donor and Government partners to improve the quality and efficiency of aid – we will focus especially on the multi-donor programmes to which we contribute, and on our increasing contributions to regional integration. We will be open and transparent about UK aid spent in Burundi and will work closely with the relevant Government of Burundi institutions and the international community to ensure that:

- All DFID funding is accurately reported in a timely way to the Government of Burundi
- The availability and usefulness of information on donor funding to the public is improved
- Donor funding and government budgeting and planning processes are better coordinated and more closely linked

More information

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

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