

Summary of DFID's work in South Africa 2011-2015

May 2011

Why we work in South Africa

Just two decades ago, South Africa was emerging from apartheid, and in economic and political disarray. Since then, the trajectory has been positive. Economic growth has picked up and people's lives have improved.

But South Africa remains one of the most unequal countries in the world with almost a quarter of the country's population - 11 million people - living below the national poverty line. Creating higher levels of growth and more jobs will be key challenges to addressing this inequality.

South Africa also has 5.7 million people living with HIV - the highest number in the world. Three million of these are women over 15 years of age and 280,000 are children. This causes immense suffering, increases neonatal, child and maternal deaths, and impacts on economic growth.

As with other countries around the world, the poorest people in South Africa will suffer first and most from the effects of climate change. But South Africa is also the 11th highest emitter of carbon. South Africa will have a significant part to play in helping reach a global deal to tackle climate change as they host the next major climate change conference in late 2011.



"I am passionate about caring for these children and the money I earn in the crèche means I can feed my family too". Gladys Ngoma – employed through a Community Works Programme funded by UKaid.



UKaid is helping South African 'bush tea' (rooibos) farmers adapt to the changing climate which is impacting tea production. By monitoring weather patterns, farmers are able to develop adaptation strategies to keep up tea production.

What we will achieve

In the next four years, UK support will help:

- Create 300,000 new jobs – half of them for women
- 40,000 more small businesses get loans
- 156,000 more women access ante-natal care
- Prevent 400 maternal deaths every year
- Support a successful global climate change conference in late 2011, with benefits for South Africa and the world

Who we will work with

The UK is a long-standing friend of South Africa. We work closely with Government, civil society and the private sector.

Despite its high levels of poverty, South Africa is a major economy and our role is not one of large-scale financial support to service delivery. Instead, we work with the South African government, civil society and business to innovate and pilot new ways of working – helping translate the country's own resources into better lives for poor people.

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 South Africa, we are putting in place a value for money plan which will ensure we:

- Continually drive for value for money and strong delivery of results across all of our work
- Work with the South African Government to improve value for money across its systems, building on its existing initiatives on public sector performance management
- Systematically assess the efficiency of non-government partners – encouraging them to improve the value for money of joint programmes
- Share more services with the British High Commission in South Africa, generating significant savings

We are also committed to being transparent about how UK aid is spent in South Africa and what we achieve. Actions we are taking to improve transparency include:

- Publishing clear, concise information about our programmes on the DFID website
- Helping develop monitoring and evaluation systems within the Government of South Africa, supporting their efforts to become more transparent and accountable to citizens

More information

For a more detailed breakdown of South Africa's Operational Plan, please visit: www.dfid.gov.uk/southafrica

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" My future is bright because I am healthy now that I am on treatment and my baby's future is also bright. Once I tested and I was counselled it opened my mind. My whole outlook has changed." A new mother benefitting from UKaid support to tackling HIV.

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