

**EVALUATION DEPARTMENT**

**FORWARD WORK  
PROGRAMME 2009/10**

**AND LIST OF EVALUATION  
TOPICS PROPOSED FOR 2010/12**

# PREFACE

## By the Chair of the Independent Advisory Committee on Development Impact

When the Independent Advisory Committee on Development Impact (IACDI) was established in 2007 it was given the specific task of deciding which topics should be covered by DFID's independent evaluations - a significant change from the previous approach, and a recognition that independence in selection of evaluation topics is an important dimension of evaluation independence. In approving the work programme for 2008/9 shortly after the committee was established we made it clear that we would make some larger changes in the process of selection for the following years. We decided to build on past practice in selecting topics in three key ways:

- we felt that selection of topics would benefit from a process of external consultation to help identify priorities and spot gaps in the evidence base. We decided to invite views from a wide range of external partners - Parliament, the UK public, DFID's partners here and overseas, and independent experts.
- we felt a longer time frame would be useful, so we have agreed a list of topics to be evaluated over a three year period, as well as evaluation topics for the current year, with some flexibility to allow evaluations to start as opportunities present themselves.
- we reviewed the selection criteria and process used by DFID's evaluation department in proposing topics for evaluation. As a committee we have been concerned to strike a balance between direct evaluations of development impact and evaluations of DFID processes, and between evaluations conducted jointly with other donors and those focusing only on DFID's policy and programming. We also have sought to build in some evaluation of DFID's work on "policy coherence" – that is looking at the effects (positive and negative) on development of other UK policies, alongside development aid.

The work programme for 2009/10 and topic list for 2010–2012 reflect this new approach and benefit from constructive contributions from a wide range of external stakeholders, including through a web consultation and workshops. For example:

- The UK Parliament's International Development Committee advised that evaluation of the impact of budget support should be included in the work programme, and we have reflected this suggestion. The UK led the largest ever multi-donor evaluation of budget support only two years ago,

covering some \$5bn of budget support. We recognise that impact is less well evaluated and we have agreed that in the coming year DFID will engage with joint work which is already underway led by the European Commission and the Netherlands, and will then keep this issue under review over the three year period.

- It was also suggested that there should be periodic evaluations of DFID's overall development effectiveness and – a related point – that there should be a stronger focus on evaluating value for money. We intend to keep this under review as progress is made with DFID senior management's on-going initiatives to improve the results and accountability focus in DFID's performance monitoring. Initially, we have asked the head of evaluation to use his annual reports to focus on what the other evaluations are telling us about DFID's development effectiveness. The three year topic list indicates that Evaluation Department hope to be able to initiate a series of annual Development Effectiveness Reviews, starting in 2011/12.

While setting clear priorities, IACDI has also been concerned to build in a certain amount of flexibility for DFID's Evaluation Department to work wherever possible with partners on country-led and joint evaluations. The UK rightly attaches great importance to the Paris Declaration commitments on development effectiveness and working in partnership, which will help to use evaluation resources efficiently, and reduce burdens on developing countries while helping to develop their own evaluation capacity.

IACDI is grateful to the many people who have contributed their views, from outside and inside DFID, and in particular to the officials in DFID's Evaluation Department for their work in developing the planned evaluations set out in this document.

**David Peretz, IACDI Chair**

## DFID Evaluation Department (EvD):

### FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 09/10 AND LIST OF EVALUATION TOPICS PROPOSED FOR 10/12

1. This is a summary of the **2009/10 forward work programme for DFID's Evaluation Department ("EvD")**. In addition **Annex 2 sets out a list of evaluation topics proposed for the period 2010/12**. More information is available from Lynn Quinn, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8EA, [l-quinn@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:l-quinn@dfid.gov.uk)

2. Evaluations are a vital tool for DFID's accountability and lesson learning. They form part of DFID's wider work on '[managing for results](#)' which includes monitoring, audit and research. EvD's main responsibility is to manage independent evaluations of DFID's work. It also provides support to other DFID departments and to key partners to help them build evaluation capacity.

3. This year marks a new departure for DFID evaluation. Following recommendations by the [Independent Advisory Committee on Development Effectiveness \(IACDI\)](#), created in late 2007, EvD has:

- Moved from an annual to a three-year rolling workplan
- Consulted widely on potential topics for evaluation (paragraph 4)
- Sought for a balance between different types of evaluations (paragraph 7)
- Drafted a new **Evaluation Policy** for DFID (see box).
- Taken on new responsibilities for supporting DFID to deliver on the new policy, as reflected in this workplan (paragraphs 20-30)

#### IMPLEMENTING DFID'S NEW EVALUATION POLICY

DFID's Secretary of State has just approved a new Evaluation Policy for DFID: 'Building the Evidence to Reduce Poverty' (add link here when available).

The policy has four pillars:

- Strengthening independence;
- New partnerships for evaluation;
- A culture of learning
- Driving up quality.

The policy sets out some key principles for DFID's evaluation, including:

- planning evaluation in from the beginning of interventions
- following Paris Declaration principles, particularly in promoting leadership of evaluations by country partners
- transparency and publication
- evaluating interventions against standard evaluation criteria. These include relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability, 'coverage' (distribution and equity) 'coherence' (how UK and other policies and programmes, such as trade and conflict, affected the development objectives) and coordination with others.

The policy also sets out a stronger mandate for EvD. Some headlines are:

- The Management Board will annually meet to consider an annual report from the Head of EvD
- EvD will publish protocols for carrying out evaluations, to ensure (among other things) independence, ethics, transparency, gender equity, and consultation of the views of people affected by DFID's interventions,
- EvD has a new role in regularly assessing the quality of decentralised monitoring reviews and evaluations.

## EVALUATION STUDIES

### Decision-making process

4. Consultation on potential topics for DFID evaluation over the next three years took place from Dec 08 to March 09. Consultation took three main forms:

- An e-consultation, through DFID and IACDI websites and via international evaluation and development networks
- Discussion events in London, including an expert round table
- Consultation with a selection of partners round the world, organised through DFID's country offices.

More information on the consultation, and the views received, is on the IACDI website <http://iacdi.independent.gov.uk>

5. Potential topics for evaluation were scored against a set of criteria agreed with IACDI (**Annex 1**). Views from the public consultation were taken into account as part of this. The resulting list of topics which EvD hopes to evaluate over the next three years is given in **Annex 2**.

### The 09/10 study programme

6. The main **elements of this year's evaluation study programme** include: Country Programme Evaluations; evaluations of central DFID/HMG policies; and other thematic and sector studies. In 09/10, EvD will also manage a 'baseline study' for the Evaluation Policy to collect information on 'decentralised evaluations' commissioned by country offices and other DFID departments with their development partners.

7. EvD, following IACDI recommendations, seeks to maintain a balance between different types of evaluations. This annual plan includes seven studies that are relatively quick and 'light-touch' and nine that are in-depth, of which six aim to look at development impact. 14 studies are DFID-focused while nine are joint. (Not all studies are counted above, as some are still being scoped.)

8. EvD is moving towards doing **more evaluation work jointly** with international partners, in accordance with the new

Evaluation Policy and our commitments to the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Joint evaluations are sometimes criticised for being insufficiently challenging and not holding individual donors to account. We are working with partners to develop evaluation designs which overcome this.

9. It is important to leave some **flexibility** in our annual workplans to be able to fit in with other partners. This includes taking opportunities which may arise to join in with new evaluation topics led by others which are of interest to DFID.

10. In 09/10, we are planning to undertake **Country Programme Evaluations in China, Mozambique South Africa and Yemen** as well as a **synthesis** of lessons drawn from recent **Country Programme Evaluations undertaken in fragile states** and other studies. EvD's country programmes team is also working to roll out a new strategy for country programme evaluations, including joint donor evaluations and evaluations managed with and by partner countries. EvD's Country Programmes Team are providing technical support to a Tanzania-led review of the Tanzanian Joint [donor] Assistance Strategy.

11. On the thematic side, agreed and ongoing evaluation work led by DFID includes studies on **social exclusion, public sector governance reform** and a review of DFID's **Project Completion Reports**, as well as setting up an M&E framework for DFID's **aid for trade policy**. DFID is also contributing to evaluations led by other international partners on the topics of: **public financial management, anti-corruption, the Education Fast Track Initiative** and the development effects of the **Paris Declaration**.

12. New areas of work being investigated in 09/10 are **agriculture** and **humanitarian policy**. Scoping papers are being developed for each topic following which a decision will be taken on whether / how to proceed with evaluation. DFID is seeking donor partners to tackle some topics jointly, and this may take some time. EvD will also carry out a baseline study for the new Evaluation Policy as a basis for setting targets for improvements.

13. More information on EvD's ongoing and proposed studies is given in **Table 1** below.

## After study topics are approved...

14. Choosing a topic is only the first step in designing evaluations. During the **approach phase** for each evaluation, EvD study leaders work with key stakeholders inside and outside DFID to:

- map out realistic boundaries for the evaluation. For example, should an evaluation of DFID 'aid for trade' look only at support to trade negotiations and other work with a strict "trade" label, or go beyond this to look at UK support to customs, roads etc?
- consult stakeholders to identify and prioritise key evaluation questions,
- look at available data and decide whether/to what depth the questions proposed can be answered
- look for opportunities for joint work with other partners,
- where appropriate, integrate cross-cutting questions - such as the effectiveness of DFID's policy influencing - in the design,
- and decide on the final scope, depth, methods and approach.

15. This year, we will also be working to incorporate commitments from the new Evaluation Policy into our evaluation designs, including better consultation of stakeholders as well as IACDI's recommendations on improving independence and quality.

16. The results of the scoping phase are collected together in a published 'approach paper' which summarises the analysis and sets out the final agreed set of evaluation questions and an outline of the methods to be used.

## OTHER AREAS OF EvD WORK

### Impact evaluations

17. EvD, together with DFID's Central Research Department, also provides substantial support to **Impact Evaluations** (a specific type of rigorous research-based evaluation). DFID's policy is to support joint country-led impact evaluation planned within a wider international research effort wherever possible (see Evaluation Policy). The head of EvD is the current chair of the international [Network of Networks on Impact Evaluation \(NONIE\)](#). EvD was a founder member of the [International Initiative on Impact Evaluation](#)

[\(3ie\)](#), and we also support several World Bank initiatives on impact evaluation, in particular we co-fund the [Spanish-World Bank Trust Fund for Impact Evaluation](#) of human development. Please see links to each website above for the list of impact evaluation studies being planned or underway.

### Support to IACDI

18. EvD provides the **Secretariat for IACDI**, supporting its work programme, producing position papers on relevant issues and maintaining its website. Minutes of IACDI meetings and the chair's annual letter to the Secretary of State are published. More information on IACDI is available on <http://iacdi.independent.gov.uk/>

### Strengthening our work with other UK Government Departments ('Whitehall')

19. The new Evaluation Policy highlights the importance of evaluating '**policy coherence**' – that is the effect of other policies and programmes which affect development, such as trade, conflict, AIDS and climate change, alongside development aid. **DFID works with other government departments** to achieve our goals, so evaluations may need to involve more than one department. In 2009, EvD will work to agree **protocols for evaluation** which clarify roles, responsibilities, procedures and communications for managing evaluations covering the work of other government departments. We will work with FCO and MoD to develop plans for the evaluation of conflict prevention activities.

### Support to international development evaluation

20. We are developing our support for **evaluation of DFID's work with international partners**, including multilaterals, global funds and civil society organisations. We are recruiting an international partnerships adviser who will help us implement the recommendations of the Evaluation Policy in this area. We also support a 'Seconded National Expert' in the European Commission's evaluation department.

21. In 2009/10 we will continue to collaborate with international development assistance evaluation networks, for example the **OECD-**

**Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Evaluation network, the European Union and 'Nordic Plus' evaluation groups.** The Head of EvD is the Chair of the DAC Evaluation Network in 2009. The main objective is to develop and manage a programme of joint donor evaluations. We also lead a DAC task team to ensure evaluations support the new aid context of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action.

### **Capacity building in evaluation**

22. We are continuing to increase our support for **capacity building in evaluation** both inside and outside DFID. Developing both DFID staff and partner country capacity for M&E is vital for DFID's accountability for results. In 2009 EvD is recruiting a capacity development adviser and we will develop a specific strategy for support to this area. We are supporting international and developing country evaluation associations and international training in evaluation, including a new World Bank-led programme of regional evaluation centres.

### **Support to and quality assurance of decentralised evaluations in DFID**

23. EvD provides support to DFID's **Quality Assurance Processes for DFID projects and programmes**. The Head of EvD uses his position as an observer on three top-level DFID management committees to feed in evaluation results and ensure that evaluation is considered. These are: the **Investment Committee**, which is responsible for ensuring the value for money of DFID's investments, as well as the **Development Committee** which approves new policy, and the **Country Peer Review Committee** which looks at new Country Assistance Plans.

24. EvD already does regular **reviews of Project Completion Reports**, and under the new policy EvD will also take on a new role of providing regular assessments of the quality of DFID's decentralised monitoring reviews and evaluations. EvD also manages a **helpdesk** to provide comments on evaluation plans for new DFID projects above £7.5m. Options to strengthen support arrangements for decentralised evaluations will be explored in 2009/10.

25. Under the new Policy, EvD will develop and maintain a **central database on decentralised evaluations** managed by DFID offices and our partners or covering DFID work. We are working with DFID's central Knowledge Information and Management team to decide on the most efficient way of managing this, also avoiding duplication of the work of the [OECD-DAC evaluation resource centre](#).

26. EvD is also continuing to work with other parts of DFID on DFID's wider [Results Action Plan](#). For example, following a recent evaluation we led on Citizens' Voice and Accountability which identified a lack of good indicators for measuring progress in this area, EvD is supporting a follow-up study and seminar on improving indicators. Another current area of support is the International Monitoring and Evaluation Reference Group for HIV and AIDS, which EvD supports jointly with DFID's AIDS and Reproductive Health team. This brings together all the main international agencies working to tackle AIDS to agree on indicators and approaches to evaluation.

### **Strengthening EvD to deliver the new Evaluation Policy**

27. Other areas of EvD work this year will focus on our new role in implementing the Evaluation Policy. These include:

- a) Strengthening the **quality and independence of our evaluations** through revised quality standards, guidelines and protocols including establishing an independent quality assurance panel. This reflects recommendations on improving independence and quality made by the [Independent Advisory Committee on Development Effectiveness \(IACDI\)](#). In 2009, the Committee is undertaking a review of the quality of DFID's evaluations, which is expected to generate recommendations for further improvements.
- b) **Reviewing EvD's structure** and evaluation management systems.
- c) Developing an 'Evaluation **Competency Framework**' to guide our Learning and Development Strategy and support DFID's recent

recognition of Evaluation as a distinct Specialism, managed by the Head of EVD.

- d) Strengthening **follow-up** of evaluations. EvD uses a 'recommendations tracker' which includes the response of DFID's operational departments to recommendations, and records follow-up actions. From 2009/10, compliance will be tracked by DFID's Internal Audit Department. DFID reports annually to IACDI on the actions taken, and the adequacy of follow up is one of the issues covered in the annual letter from the Chair of IACDI to the Secretary of State. All EvD's evaluations are published on the DFID website (<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Media-Room/Publications/Evaluation-studies/>)
- e) Updating our strategies for **communications** and **knowledge and information management**.
- f) Building **gender** skills and awareness in EVD and ensuring that gender is fully considered in our evaluations.

### The Annual Report

28. Following a recommendation by IACDI, the Head of Evaluation now publishes an annual report each autumn. Here is a [link to the most recent one](#). It covers EvD's key evaluation findings and synthesises what these tell us about DFID effectiveness. From 2009/10 the report will also cover DFID's decentralised evaluations. The findings of the report are discussed by DFID's Management Board as well as IACDI.

### TO READERS: HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

29. EvD often involves **external partners** in steering groups for our evaluations. Individuals are normally chosen to represent particular institutions, for example UK NGO consortia such as BOND, BOAG, the UK Aid Effectiveness Network and more specialist groups such as the AIDS Consortium and the Gender Action Network. Joint evaluations may involve wider groups of international partners. EvD also frequently consults the public on individual evaluations we are running, including asking for comments on draft documents. **For more information, or if you want to know how you can input your views into a particular evaluation**, please check our website or contact Lynn Quinn, Communications Officer, EvD, see contact address in paragraph 1 above.

**TABLE 1. PLANNED EVALUATION STUDIES 09/10**

Evaluation topic	Details	Planned reports (09/10)
<b>A. Country Programme Evaluations (CPEs)</b>		
Country programme Evaluations	<p><b>Underway.</b> This is a rolling programme of country studies, now in its fifth year. These evaluations will contribute to and inform DFID's Country Plans, as well as meeting DFID accountability requirements.</p> <p>Annual synthesis reports pull together thematic lessons; this year the synthesis will focus on Fragile States.</p> <p>Until now, most CPEs have been light-touch and DFID-focused. The CPE team is looking at new ways of working in future, following the new DFID Evaluation Policy. In 09/10, they will pilot a number of additional approaches including an in-depth sectoral evaluation and beneficiary analysis. They will use this to inform the developing CPE methodology for subsequent years.</p>	<p><b>Yemen</b> (Aug 09),</p> <p><b>Mozambique</b> (Sep 09) and</p> <p><b>South Africa</b> (Oct 09),</p> <p><b>China</b> (Feb 10),</p> <p><b>Synthesis of DFID country programme experience in States</b> (Sep 09)</p>
<b>B. Evaluation of DFID Policies</b>		
Social exclusion policy stocktake	<p><b>Underway.</b> Social Exclusion is a key constraint to progress against the Millennium Development Goals and to poverty reduction. This stocktake is looking at DFID's practice in this area, following the 2005 social exclusion policy and making recommendations for improvements.</p> <p>Light touch, paving the way for a deeper evaluation.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID Social Exclusion Policy</a></p>	Final report, Sept 09.
Aid for Trade policy M&E framework study	<p><b>Approach paper underway.</b> Evaluation of the <b>UK's Aid for Trade (AfT)</b> work (2007-13): Preliminary work is being conducted in late 2008/09 and 09/10 to develop an evaluation framework for this area of work. This will be carried out in close consultation with other donors, including work being led by the OECD-Development Assistance Committee.</p> <p>A complex piece of work which will look at how to measure the links between high-level policy work and development impact.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">UK's Aid for Trade Strategy</a></p>	Approach paper June 09. Evaluation framework Oct 09.
DFID's Humanitarian Policy	<p><b>New area of work.</b> Policy launched in 2006. Approximately £400 million spent annually. Critical links to work in fragile states. Evaluation of policy commitments (including events, institutions, and reform processes). We are looking into the possibility of doing part of this study with other</p>	Approach paper Aug 09.  A decision on how to proceed should follow the

Evaluation topic	Details	Planned reports (09/10)
	<p>donors.</p> <p>Approach paper – depth of study being scoped.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's Humanitarian Policy</a></p>	<p>approach paper.</p>
<b>C. Other sectors and themes</b>		
<i>Development effectiveness</i>		
<p>Paris Declaration evaluation (joint OECD-DAC).</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> Participation in Phase 2 of the <b>Joint Evaluation of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness</b>. This will evaluate outcomes from implementation of the Paris Declaration commitments, and seek to understand the Paris Declaration's impact on development. An Approach Paper is currently under development, and is likely to propose 15-20 country studies as the main focus. Some supplementary studies may also be commissioned, including aid transaction costs, global funds, and civil society's aid and development effectiveness. An in-depth study trying to track links between high-level commitments and development impact.</p>	<p><b>Phase II:</b></p> <p>Approach paper April 09;</p> <p>2010 country and supplementary studies;</p> <p>Mid 2011: Final report series.</p>
<p>General Budget Support: impact on growth, poverty and service delivery.</p>	<p>DFID is participating in a programme of work led by the European Commission to build on previous Budget Support evaluations, and specifically look at impact on growth and poverty reduction. DFID will continue to engage with this study as the evaluation toolkit is developed, sharing the workload with another donor.</p> <p>This study aims to investigate development impact. Initial findings are that this is methodologically difficult. Pilot studies are planned to develop methodology in 09/10.</p>	<p>Products and timing to be agreed by the Evaluation Management Group</p>
<p>Anti-corruption – joint, led by Norway</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> Norway is leading this joint 6-donor study, which will focus on in-country approaches to tackling corruption. It includes a DFID Portfolio Review feeding into the study.</p> <p>This in-depth study will try to trace the relevance and effectiveness of anti-corruption work in 5 countries.</p>	<p>Main report by March 10</p> <p>(Literature Review published January 09)</p>
<p>Public Financial Management (joint, led by Denmark and Sweden)</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> Public financial management (PFM) concerns the taxing, spending and debt management of government, which in turn influences resource allocation and income distribution. The objectives of the evaluation are to examine how donors can effectively contribute to the successful strengthening of PFM in our partner countries. Two year programme of work, including country case studies in Africa and Asia. An approach paper will develop the specific focus of the evaluation, through</p>	<p>Approach paper by August 09.</p> <p>Main evaluation begins end 2010.</p> <p>(Literature Review (published Feb 09)</p>

Evaluation topic	Details	Planned reports (09/10)
	<p>consultation with partners (countries and donor agencies, and regional development banks).</p> <p>This study is classified as 'in-depth', aiming to evaluate reform processes to outcome and impact level, but methodology and scope are still under consideration.</p>	
<i>Governance, social development conflict and humanitarian</i>		
<p>Public sector governance reform (PSGR) – joint with OECD-DAC partners, led by DFID</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> Governance reform in partner countries is a major area of spending and a key commitment in the White Paper. This stock take will assess the extent to which investments made through donor funded PSGR programmes have built state capability, accountability and responsiveness in delivering services and creating the enabling environment for economic growth.</p> <p>The study is still being scoped.</p>	<p>Approach paper for a joint evaluation of country with other donors (Sep 09)</p>
<p>Conflict Prevention and Peacebuilding (CPPB): piloting new evaluation guidance (joint DAC)</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> Conflict prevention and peacebuilding programmes are fundamental to DFID's work in fragile and conflict states. However evaluating the effectiveness of such programmes is difficult, and two DAC networks (conflict and evaluation) have joined to produce draft guidance on this. The guidance is being piloted using ongoing donor evaluations. DFID Evaluation Department will support our country offices and Conflict ,Humanitarian Affairs and Security Dept to join two joint evaluations in 2009: DRC (led by Belgium) and Southern Sudan (led by Netherlands) The CPPB evaluation guidance is also being piloted in CPEs and other DFID evaluations and reviews where possible.</p> <p>The DRC and Southern Sudan evaluations are planned to be in-depth (within data limitations in conflict areas).</p>	<p>Lessons from evaluations will feed into revised DAC guidance in 2010</p>
<p>DFID's support to agriculture and food security</p>	<p><b>Committed 2008/9, approach paper underway.</b> An approach paper is in preparation to identify the main evaluation questions and potential partners for an evaluation, probably in 2010/11. Policy coherence will be an important issue to cover.</p> <p>Link: DFID's <a href="#">Agriculture Policy</a> This topic is still being scoped.</p>	<p>Approach paper Aug 09</p>
<i>Human development</i>		
<p>Education Fast Track Initiative (joint)</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> FTI is a joint donor initiative hosted within the World Bank, to which DFID contributes (c. £50m pa). This mid-term evaluation covers an important potential means of scaling up DFID funding. DFID is a leading member of the steering</p>	<p>First phase report, May 2009.  Final report January 2010.</p>

Evaluation topic	Details	Planned reports (09/10)
	<p>group.</p> <p>This study is fairly in-depth within the limitations of the data; it will make recommendations for evaluating impact in 3 years time.</p>	
<i>DFID's international partnerships</i>		
<p>Effectiveness of the UK/other donors' contribution to IDA: the World Bank's International Development Association.</p> <p>Proposed evaluation to be led by France.</p>	<p><b>New proposal by France: to be scoped and a decision made on whether to join.</b> DFID has channelled £2.134 billion through IDA from 2008-10.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to join a proposed evaluation led by France to consider how effective our partnership with IDA has been in meeting French/UK aims, and how effective France and the UK have been in influencing the Bank's priorities. This will draw on other evaluations of IDA's work, in particular those from the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group (IEG), and will not attempt to replicate these.</p> <p>This topic will be scoped in 2009/10, including discussions with the World Bank's Independent Evaluation Group, and DFID will make a decision on whether to join this evaluation.</p> <p>Link: DFID support to <a href="#">World Bank International Development Association</a></p>	<p>Decision on whether to join evaluation by September 09.</p>
<p>Effectiveness of DFID's work with civil society:</p>	<p><b>New proposal: to be scoped.</b> A public commitment to evaluate this area was given, following an NAO review of DFID's work with civil society in 2006. This evaluation also requires further scoping but will probably be DFID-focused.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's work with Civil Society</a></p>	<p>Approach paper March 2010 (subject to recruitment of adviser)</p>
<i>DFID's capability</i>		
<p>Project Completion Report review</p>	<p><b>Underway.</b> EvD regularly reviews DFID's Project Completion Reports; the previous review was undertaken in 2005. This study will analyse performance trends over the period 2005-2008, review and validate project scoring and draw out lessons.</p> <p>This is a light-touch, DFID focused study.</p>	<p>Report, July 09</p>
<p>Baseline study for DFID's Evaluation Policy</p>	<p><b>Committed.</b> This study is essential to decide whether and what targets are realistic to set for DFID's evaluation, and in particular the Policy Implementation Plan. It will take a focused look at review and evaluation practice across DFID.</p> <p>This is a light-touch, DFID focused study.</p>	<p>Report, Dec 09</p>

<b>Evaluation topic</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Planned reports (09/10)</b>
Measuring DFID's influence	<b>New proposal.</b> This short study, drawing on previous work by DFID and other organisations, will feed into a How To Note to help DFID staff build in measurement of influencing into their work programmes. This is the first study in a longer stream of work on measuring DFID's influence, which will address both DFID's effectiveness in influencing others and the quality of DFID's advice.	Report, Nov 08
<b>D. Flexible funding</b>		
	Based on previous recommendations, some flexible funding and staff time has been set aside to support new evaluation topics which arise during the year, to respond to demand and any opportunities to join evaluations proposed by other donors on topics of interest to DFID.	To be decided

## Annex 1 Criteria for selecting thematic topics for evaluation

We used the following criteria, agreed with IACDI, to prioritise topics on the shortlist for evaluation:

1. covers progress against key DFID performance targets (accountability against DFID's Departmental Strategic Objectives and Public Service Agreement targets);
2. covers important **published DFID policies and external commitments**;
3. an area of **high recent DFID expenditure**;
4. an important area for **lesson-learning**, for example areas of work due to be scaled up. This includes the need to be **timely**, feeding into key decisions, DFID policy cycles and/or international events (for example, DAC or UN summits, global campaigns)/
5. responds to demand for evaluation from **significant outside stakeholders** (eg, civil society groups in the UK or internationally; parliamentary committee enquiries; the NAO);
6. designed in a way to fit with **Paris Declaration principles** (joint /country-led);
7. **adds value** to other high priority existing or planned work including those priorities shared internationally by key partners. Normally this means that some years will have elapsed since the theme / sector was last evaluated by DFID or externally.
8. feasible, '**evaluable**' and fits with the **balance of work** in EvD's programme;

## Annex 2. LIST OF EVALUATION TOPICS PROPOSED FOR 2010-12

This is the final list of priority topics chosen following the external consultation, in addition to those listed in Table 1 (some of which will continue beyond 2009/10)

Most of these topics have **flexible timing**, as we will be looking to work with other international partners on joint evaluations. The exception is where evaluations relate to specific DFID policies, when they will be timed to feed the policy cycle (dates as listed).

EVALUATION TOPIC	PROJECTED TIMING
<b>1. COUNTRY PROGRAMME EVALUATIONS</b>	
As stated in the Country Programme Evaluation Strategy paper, the CPE team will use 09/10 to take forward analytical work to inform the programme for subsequent years. This will include a comprehensive mapping of opportunities for joint evaluations (with other donor agencies, country governments, through Joint Assistance Strategy reviews etc) alongside mapping of DFID country office planning cycles etc. These and other sources of information will be used to inform our decisions about countries for 10/11, 11/12 and indicatively for subsequent years.	To be confirmed
<b>2. DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS</b>	
<i>This covers different approaches and "aid instruments" such as general budget support, employed by DFID and our partners</i>	
<b>General / Sector Budget Support: impact on growth, poverty and service delivery.</b>  1) <b>General Budget Support:</b> see 09/10 workplan  2) <b>General and Sector Budget Support / Sector Wide Approaches</b> will be covered where appropriate under CPEs and specific themes such as education, agriculture and health.	2009/10 - 2010/11  Timing as specified under sector evaluations
<b>Capacity Development interventions / Use of Technical Co-operation:</b>  DFID is interested in studying co-ordination and alignment of capacity development and technical cooperation within an institutional development perspective. If this topic is not covered adequately within the Evaluation of the Paris Declaration, then DFID will seek opportunities to do a joint donor study.	2010/11 or 2011/12

EVALUATION TOPIC	PROJECTED TIMING
<b>3. GOVERNANCE, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN</b>	
<p><b>Social Exclusion – Effectiveness of DFID/donor policy and programming in addressing equity and the needs of socially excluded groups.</b> A stock-take of DFID's Social Exclusion Policy is currently underway. Initial findings indicate that an in-depth evaluation would strengthen policy, highlight best practice and strengthen systems for accountability. Timing and focus for a full evaluation will be proposed after the stock-take has concluded (July 2009). We will be looking for donor partners.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID Social Exclusion Policy</a></p>	Timing flexible
<p><b>DFID's Gender Equality Action Plan (GEAP, 2007-10):</b> This is a major corporate priority that potentially should influence major elements of DFID corporate and financing priorities. Evaluation to assess how DFID has responded to the Gender Equity Action Plan and the outcomes for poor men and women, boys and girls. This may involve some joint evaluation work with other donors.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's Gender Equality Action Plan</a></p>	2010/11
<p><b>DFID's Humanitarian Policy:</b> Policy launched in 2006. Approximately £400 million spent annually. Over 20 partner organisations have direct or indirect links to humanitarian agenda. Critical links to work in fragile states. Strong need to ensure policy coherence with climate change and other risk reduction strategies. Evaluation of policy commitments (including events, institutions, and reform processes). Approach paper in preparation 09/10. We are looking into the possibility of doing part of this study with other donors.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's Humanitarian Policy</a></p>	2009/10
<p><b>Social Protection:</b> Stock take / synthesis to assess evidence of the effectiveness of DFID's/other donors social protection programmes, building on previous work on social transfers (2008) and impact evaluations of several large programmes currently underway.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">Donors' approaches to social protection</a></p>	2010/11
<p><b>Interventions in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Situations:</b> Evaluation of the effectiveness of UK/other donor interventions in these difficult environments, following a portfolio review of DFID spending in this area (2008) and NAO study (2008). We will be looking for partners for a joint study.</p>	2011/12

EVALUATION TOPIC	PROJECTED TIMING
<p><b>Joint HMG Evaluation of conflict prevention and peacebuilding (CPPB):</b> Evaluation of an area of strong public and parliamentary interest – cross-Whitehall priority, led by FCO.</p>	Timing flexible
<b>4. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (HEALTH AND EDUCATION)</b>	
<p>Interim evaluation of <b>DFID's HIV/AIDS strategy</b> (2008/12)</p> <p>Commitment to this evaluation is set out in the HIV/AIDS strategy and has been made to the International Development Committee. <i>Committed.</i></p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's HIV/AIDS Strategy</a></p>	2011/12. Scoping and identification of questions will start by 2010/11
<p>Evaluation of the implementation of <i>Working Together for Better Health, DFID's 2007 health strategy</i>: A high-profile area with high expenditure.</p> <p>This area still requires further scoping. It is likely that specific themes under the strategy (e.g. maternal and child health and nutrition) will be selected for joint donor evaluation with particular respect to child and long term health outcomes.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's 2007 Health Strategy</a></p>	Timing flexible.
<p><b><i>From Commitment to Action: Education (2005) and Keeping our Promises: Delivering Education for All (2006).</i></b> Prime Ministerial priority and major financial commitment (£8.5bn over 10 years).</p> <p>An education portfolio review has recently been completed, an NAO review is scheduled for 2009, and evaluation of the 'Education For All Fast Track Initiative' due for completion in late-2009. Therefore, this limited synthesis evaluation would draw on results of these to focus on what lessons can be learnt for DFID policy and programming and decide what additional evaluation work (if any) is needed. To ensure the Evaluation of gender commitments, the 2005 strategy <b><i>Girls Education: Towards a Better Education for All</i></b> (DFID strategy 2005) would also be included. Timing: flexible, from 2010/11.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">Education (2005)</a></p> <p>Link: <a href="#">Keeping our Promises (2006)</a></p> <p>Link: <a href="#">Towards a Better Education for All</a></p>	2010/12

<p><b>5. GROWTH, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE</b></p>	
<p>Evaluation of the <b>UK's Aid for Trade (AfT)</b> work (2007-13): Preliminary work is being conducted in 09/10 to develop an evaluation framework for this area of work. This is expected to lead onto an evaluation which may partly be carried out with the OECD-Development Assistance Committee and/or other donors such as the EC who are very involved in this area of work.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">UK's Aid for Trade Policy</a></p>	<p>Timing flexible – probably 2012/13</p>
<p>Evaluation of DFID's <b>policy on agriculture and food security</b>. An approach paper is in preparation (expected August 09) to identify the main evaluation questions and potential donor partners. This may lead to a joint evaluation – DFID will look for potential partners including the Global Donor Platform on agriculture.</p> <p>Link: DFID's <a href="#">Agriculture Policy</a></p>	<p>Timing flexible</p>
<p><b>Evaluation of work on Climate Change:</b> Climate Change is a ministerial priority, and high on the public agenda. UK work in this area is led by DEFRA. The evaluation should also incorporate lessons from DFID's disaster risk reduction work. Proposed joint evaluation, possibly cross-Whitehall. (Topic requires considerable further scoping to determine partners and approaches.)</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">Climate Facts</a></p>	<p>Timing flexible</p>
<p><b>Water and Sanitation:</b> An important area of DFID's work, with a new policy launched in 2008. Proposed joint thematic evaluation, which should cover questions relating to DFID's policy commitments.</p> <p>Link: DFID's <a href="#">Water and Sanitation Policy</a></p>	<p>Timing flexible, from 2011</p>
<p><b>6. DFID'S PARTNERSHIPS</b></p>	
<p><b>Coherence of bilateral donor work with multilateral donors and global funds:</b> This topic is vital for DFID but requires considerable further scoping. A possible joint donor evaluation is under consideration within the OECD-DAC.</p>	<p>Timing: flexible.</p>

<p>Effectiveness of DFID's work with <b>civil society</b>: A public commitment to evaluate this area was given, following an NAO review of DFID's work with civil society in 2006. This evaluation will be scoped in 2009/10 for a probable start in 2010/11. It will probably be DFID-focused.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's work with Civil Society</a></p>	2010/11
<b>7. DFID'S CAPABILITY</b>	
<p><b>Development Effectiveness Review for DFID.</b> The annual report of the Head of Evaluation currently summarises what EvD has learned regarding DFID's development effectiveness. From 2011/12 we hope to introduce an annual DER, focusing on different themes each year.</p>	2011/12 onwards, annually
<p>Evaluation of <b>DFID's Research Strategy (2008/13)</b>: A high spending area. An evaluation will draw on monitoring data being collated by the Central Research Department.</p> <p>Link: <a href="#">DFID's Research Strategy</a></p>	Timing flexible, possibly a mid term evaluation in 2011/12.
<p><b>Evaluation of DFID's policy influence with country and international partners:</b> DFID is putting an increasing proportion of its staff resources into influencing the policy and programming of others. This topic will be approached by including it as a study area in other EvD evaluations over the next few years, wherever possible. A synthesis of lessons from these studies will be produced when there is a sufficient stock of reliable data; probably not before 2011/12. If required, more specific studies may be commissioned.</p> <p>As an essential first step, DFID needs to build up its toolkits and methods for measuring influence, and integrate their use into the beginning of its policy dialogue processes. EvD will build on previous work in DFID and FCO to produce a short synthesis of methods which can be developed into a 'How-To Note'.</p> <p>Any study of influencing needs to look at the quality of DFID's policy advice as well as how well it was received.</p>	Synthesis- 2011/12
<p><b>Baseline study of DFID's decentralised evaluation work</b></p> <p>This study is essential to decide whether and what targets are realistic to set for DFID's evaluation and in particular the Policy Implementation Plan.</p>	2009/10

## **PAST EVALUATION DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS January 2008 – June 2009**

### **Country Programme Evaluations**

Synthesis of Regional Programme Evaluation

Synthesis of Country Programme evaluations 2006/07

Evaluation of DFID's regional programmes – Western Balkans

Evaluation of DFID Country Programme – Sierra Leone

Evaluation of DFID Country Programme - Zambia

Evaluation of DFID Country Programmes – CASC (Central Asia, South Caucasus & Moldova)

Evaluation of DFID Country Programmes - Pakistan

Evaluation of DFID Country Programme - West Bengal

Evaluation of DFID Country Programme – Indonesia

Evaluation of DFID Country Programme – Synthesis of 2005-06 Evaluations

### **Thematic Studies**

Citizens' Voice and accountability Evaluation – Mozambique Country Study

Evaluation of the Paris Declaration: DFID donor case study

DFID Engagement in Fragile Situations: Preliminary Lessons in Donor Experience – Literature Review

DFID Engagement in Fragile Situations: Portfolio Review - Synthesis Report

DFID Engagement in Fragile Situations: Case Studies

DFID Engagement in Fragile Situations: Analysis of Funding & Activities – Quantitative Mapping

Public Financial Management Reform Literature Review

Review of DFID Private Sector Infrastructure Investment Facilities

### **Other**

Independent Evaluation in DFID: Annual Report 2007/08

### **Joint Studies**

The applicability of the Paris Declaration in Fragile & Conflict-affected situations – Thematic Study

Paris Declaration Thematic Study of Support to Statistical Capacity Building

Evaluation of Citizens Voice & Accountability – Synthesis report

Citizens' Voice & Accountability: Literature Review and Briefing paper

Anti Corruption Approaches – Literature review

Evaluation of the Implementation of the Paris Declaration – Synthesis Report

Uganda Poverty Eradication Action Plan

Joint Evaluation of Total ODA in Bangladesh

### **Working Papers**

Methodological review of CPEs

Review of evidence and evidence Gaps on the Effectiveness and impacts of DFID-supported Pilot Social Transfers schemes

Identifying Existing and Planned Baseline Information and Evaluation Plans in Connection with DFID's Social Protection White Paper 2 Commitments and Social Transfers Action Plan

Monitoring Policy Dialogue: Lessons from a pilot

Core Analysis Framework and Indicators

Core Analysis Transfers: DFID and the Politics of Influencing

Private Sector Infrastructure Investment Evaluation: Literature Review and assessment of evidence base

Evaluating DFID'S Policy on Tackling Social Exclusion: Baseline, Framework & Indicators

DFID, the Department for International Development: leading the British government's fight against world poverty.

One in five people in the world today, over 1 billion people, live in poverty on less than one dollar a day. In an increasingly interdependent world, many problems – like conflict, crime, pollution, and diseases such as HIV and AIDS – are caused or made worse by poverty. DFID supports long-term programmes to help eliminate the underlying causes of poverty. DFID also responds to emergencies, both natural and man-made. DFID's work aims to reduce poverty and disease and increase the number of children in school, as part of the internationally agreed UN 'Millennium Development Goals'.

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