



Summary of DFID's work in Pakistan 2011-2016

February, 2015

Why we work in Pakistan

Over 60 million people in Pakistan (1 in 3) live in poverty on around 30p a day. Nearly 1 in 10 of the world's out-of-school children (12 million) live in Pakistan. One in 11 children die before their 5th birthday, and 14,000 women die in childbirth every year.

Entrenched poverty denies opportunities to millions of people, and undermines Pakistan's long-term stability and prosperity. UK aid to Pakistan is an investment in a more prosperous, more stable country that will not only help millions of poor Pakistanis, but will also improve stability and security in Pakistan, the region, and beyond.



Faryal is one of nearly 650,000 girls attending low-cost private schools in Punjab and getting a free education through the Punjab Education Foundation which is supported by UK aid. Photo: Punjab Education Foundation

What we will achieve

Pakistan's education system faces considerable challenges and the country has a booming youth population. In 20 years' time the number of young people will be larger than the entire UK population. Every full year of extra schooling across the population increases economic growth by up to 1 percentage point, as more people with better reading, writing and maths skills enter the workforce. If educated, healthy, and working, these young people offer a vast source of talent and productivity - a huge demographic dividend to unlock Pakistan's potential.

That's why the UK's priorities in Pakistan from 2011 to 2016 are: education; women and children's health; creating jobs and supporting economic growth; strengthening democracy and governance; and building peace and stability in conflict-affected areas. Between 2011 and 2016 UK aid to Pakistan expects to achieve the following results:

- **Education:** *Getting more children into school, staying longer, and learning more.* By 2016, we expect that 7.5 million primary school children will have benefited from UK support. More than 6.3 million children have already benefited. In Punjab province, student participation has increased from about 79% in 2011 to 90% in 2014, equivalent to 1.1m additional children in school.
- **Health:** *Helping to save lives by making childbirth safer, providing contraceptives and immunisation and improving nutrition.* By 2016, we expect to have increased the number of births delivered with the help of nurses, midwives or doctors by 1.12 million. More than 890,000 births have already been supported.
- **Economy:** *Supporting economic reforms through expert advice and helping people with finance and training to increase their economic opportunities.* By 2016, we expect to have

helped 1.53 million people access microfinance loans to enable them to set up a small business and lift themselves out of poverty. 900,000 people have already benefited.



Jehan Iqbal is a silk mill owner in Swat who benefited from a grant to re-start his business which had been destroyed. The UK supports people affected by conflict in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, the Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Balochistan, to restore livelihoods and improve stability. Photo © MDTF Pakistan

- **Democracy, peace and stability:** *Helping Pakistan strengthen its government institutions and increasing accountability to citizens.* We have contributed to an increased voter turnout at the 2013 general election. We continue to work with government to improve delivery of essential services including education and health; improve security and access to justice; and help to rebuild schools and roads in the regions bordering Afghanistan to replace those destroyed by conflict or floods.
- **Humanitarian:** *Providing lifesaving support to people affected by natural disasters or conflict.* The UK has already reached over 3.5 million flood-affected individuals with assistance such as drinking water, food and sanitation. We will continue to provide support when needed.
- **Women and girls:** *They are at the centre of everything UK aid does.* For example, the UK's support has benefited 3 million girls in primary school and helped 500,000 women access financial services. The UK is also supporting women's rights through empowering women to get involved in local politics and strengthening legislation.

Who we will work with and 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 help us secure value for money for every pound spent on development.

We continue to work with the government of Pakistan to strengthen its systems and financial management, so public services are delivered more effectively and ultimately Pakistan will not need to depend on aid. For example, DFID and HM Revenue and Customs are working with Pakistan's Federal Board of Revenue to implement reforms and increase tax collection. Where systems are inadequate, we work through alternative channels, such as international organisations or the private sector. We work as one team across the UK government and collaborate closely with the British Council, other bilateral donors, and international organisations, including the World Bank.

More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Pakistan's Operational Plan, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfid-pakistan-operational-plan-2014>

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