



# Summary of DFID's work in India 2011-2015

February 2013

## Why we work in India

India is a growing global power and a key partner for the UK. Prime Minister Cameron and Prime Minister Singh have agreed to renew and deepen the partnership between the UK and India.

India became a middle income country in 2008 and its poverty headcount (400 million in 2010) is falling fast. India has made tremendous progress in recent years and its rapidly growing economy and poverty reduction programmes have lifted millions of people out of poverty. However, today, India is still home to one third of the world's people living below \$1.25 (80 pence) a day and the average income is one third of China's. There is a significant disparity between India's states. Eight states in India are home to 65% of India's poor. Poverty reduction in these states remains critical to global success in meeting the MDGs.

As India's economy grows, poverty reduces and India has ever greater prominence in world affairs, our development partnership with India is evolving. In a statement to Parliament on 9 November 2012, the Secretary of State for International Development announced that we have agreed with India to move to a new development relationship. From now on, the UK will approve no new financial grant aid to India. Nevertheless, we will responsibly complete by 2015 all our commitments to on-going projects. All new programmes will be either technical assistance or private sector initiatives financed using returnable capital. Between 2011-15, we will:



**Ride to school:** As many girls as boys in India attend lower primary school. But when poverty forces families to choose who goes to secondary school, it's usually the boys. In the next four years, DFID will help disadvantaged young women - especially *dalit* and tribal girls - get their chance of a secondary education. We will help build more local secondary schools, train teachers and get help directly to girls to cover the costs of going to school.



Between 2011-15, we will:

- **Focus on the poorest people in India's low income states.** UK assistance will benefit the poorest people in three poor states, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa, building on the deep, productive partnerships we have built over the last decade.

**Business for development:** Poor people often do not have the skills or finances to take advantage of jobs or economic opportunities that are available. Our new Private Sector programmes will help poor people, especially women, benefit from jobs, skills and access to finance in the low income states. We will help women to increase their incomes, improve their social status, and manage their household finances and business ventures better.

- **Put women and girls at the heart of our work.** The UK will invest in: girls' education; access to finance, skills and low carbon energy; safe birth, children by choice and reducing violence against women; children's health and nutrition; and sanitation.
- **Expand the private sector's potential to combat poverty.** To support growth in the low income states, the UK will develop programmes of pro-poor private investment with Indian institutions in areas like small and medium enterprises, agri-business, energy, infrastructure and financial services that directly benefit poor people in low income states.
- **Deepen our engagement with India on global issues where there may be benefits for poor people elsewhere:** such as growth and trade, climate change, resource scarcity, health and disease control and development effectiveness. The UK's global and regional programmes complement our bilateral programme and work in partnership with India on global issues of mutual interest.



**Safe arrival for newborns:** Rekha Rawat, a health worker in a small village in the state of Madhya Pradesh helps pregnant women to get to hospitals and deliver safely. 'It can be hard to mobilise women to use these services,' says Rekha. 'It makes me particularly satisfied when I can persuade them (to take up services) and they see the benefits for themselves.'

## What we will achieve

- Help 3 million people (2.1 million of them women) gain access to credit, insurance and savings and help them work their way out of poverty.
- Help over 300,000 mothers deliver babies more safely with the help of nurses, midwives or doctors.
- Reach 3.4 million pregnant women and children under five with nutrition programmes.
- Provide 2.8 million people access to improved sanitation facilities.
- Help fight climate change by providing 1.5 million people with low carbon energy (e.g. fuel efficient stoves and solar lanterns).
- Support over 700,000 children (296,000 of them girls) to enrol in secondary school.
- Help 16 million more people (9.3 million of them women) to understand and claim their rights and entitlements.

## Who we will work with

DFID delivers its programmes in India in partnership with the Government of India, state governments and increasingly with the private sector, civil society organisations, think tanks and other donors. We also work closely with other UK Government Departments to contribute to wider priorities on trade, climate change, infrastructure, research, education and skills.

## How we will work

More than ever, we have a duty to show that we are achieving value for money in every pound spent on development. **Results, transparency and accountability** will be our watchwords. We work with government, civil society and private sector partners to maximise the impact and results we achieve through our programmes. We will meet all the commitments of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), including publishing more information on our projects and increasing opportunities for people affected by our programmes to tell us about their experiences. We have worked with partners over the last decade to innovate and expand new approaches to accountability. We will expand innovative initiatives on accountability and will work with partners to encourage them to adopt transparency standards in line with IATI.

### More information

For a more detailed breakdown of India's Operational Plan please visit: [www.dfid.gov.uk/India](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/India) or contact: DFID India, B-28, Tara Crescent, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi – 110016 © Crown copyright 2011. Copyright in the typographical arrangement and design rests with the Crown. This publication (excluding the logo) may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium, provided that it is reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright with the title and source of the publication specified. Published by the Department for International Development 2013.