

DFID Management Response to the Independent Commission for Aid Impact recommendations on:

Evaluation of DFID's Support for Health and Education in India

ICAI Recommendation	Accept/ Partially Accept /Reject	Action already taken	Action to be taken	Target date
<p>Recommendation 1: Beginning with its work in Bihar in education and health, DFID should clearly identify and monitor what are the particular benefits provided by UK aid in order to focus its activities where it adds most value.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID has published an Operational Plan (2011-2015) which focuses its activities in India on: the poorest states; action for women and girls; and strengthening the private sector's role in development. The plan is monitored twice yearly and updated annually. The OP results framework measures a significantly wider range of indicators than the 8 'headline' results in the Operational Plan. • Annual reviews already assess in detail the qualitative and quantitative benefits of individual programmes. Findings from these inform DFID's future programming. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DFID will use the Annual Review reporting format to capture more systematically the results of the knowledge it shares, policy it helps generate and relationships it develops in India. 2. DFID and the World Bank will commission a 10 year review of their engagement in basic education in India, assessing the particular results, strengths and weaknesses of development partners' funding, policy advocacy and technical support activities. 3. DFID will commission a value for money assessment of health sector support in India which will further examine the impact of our financial and technical assistance. 	<p>On-going, from June 2012 with progress review during Operational Plan (OP) stock take of March 2013</p> <p>Commissioned by September 2012, to report by September 2013</p> <p>Commissioned by July 2012, to report by January 2013</p>

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<p>Recommendation 2: DFID should clarify its forward strategy in Bihar to enable delivery partners to plan sustainable programmes for the future.</p>	Accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFID held development partnership talks with Government of Bihar on 13 October 2011, at which the forward strategy under DFID's Operational Plan 2011-2015 was discussed in detail. Delivery partners were present at this meeting. 	<p>4. A strategy to succeed the current Operational Plan (2011-15) will be announced in due course.</p>	<p>July 2012 onwards with progress reviewed at OP stock take of March 2013</p>
<p>Recommendation 3: DFID should increase even further the contribution it makes through technical assistance in India, which transfers skills and knowledge, because this is where it adds most value.</p>	Accept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DFID has increased the level of technical assistance in its portfolio over time, in order to reflect the changing need for technical and financial support. In secondary education, the technical cooperation component of DFID's forthcoming support constitutes 25% of total programme spend, compared to 10% under support for elementary education. Similarly, for our health sector programme in Bihar, technical assistance constitutes 17% of funds, compared to 5% under previous health programmes in other states. 	<p>5. DFID programmes under design in India will emphasise the transfer of knowledge and know-how through technical assistance, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A collaboration with the UK Open University and Indian partners reaching 1 million teacher with improved learning materials. A pilot conditional cash transfer supporting 240,000 disadvantaged girls to go to secondary school in Odisha, offering a potential lessons for national action. A new Strategic Health Partnership with the national Ministry of Health, developing knowledge in such areas 	<p>In design from July 2012 onwards</p> <p>Progress reviewed at OP stock take of March 2013</p> <p>Progress reviewed at OP stocktake of March 2013</p> <p>Progress reviewed at OP stock take</p>

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			<p>as public private partnerships and primary health care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new technical assistance project boosting NGO and government performance in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene emphasising community led approaches in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha • Expansion of support for investment climate reforms in Bihar 	<p>of March 2013</p> <p>Progress reviewed at OP stock take of March 2013</p> <p>Progress reviewed at OP stock take of March 2013</p>
<p>Recommendation 4; DFID's planned anti-corruption strategy should include strengthening ties with local law enforcement bodies and establishing a whistle-blower hotline.</p>	<p>Accept</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFID has robust financial controls in place in its programmes in India, as ICAI noted. • Development of the DFID anti-corruption strategy for India is already underway. • We have discussed with Serious and Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) officials based in New Delhi how best to strengthen ties with local law enforcement bodies. 	<p>6. The DFID anti-corruption and counter fraud strategy for India is in development and will be complete by November 2012. As part of this, we will renew risk assessments and mitigation measures across the India portfolio.</p> <p>7. DFID in India will advertise the current fraud hotline more widely through country office communication sites. DFID will enhance the profile of whistleblowing further and with more country context appropriate advertising.</p>	<p>Nov 2012</p> <p>From July 2012 with progress reviewed at OP stock take of March 2013</p>

