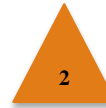


European Development Fund (EDF)





Multilateral Aid Review (MAR) Update 2013 progress rating:



MAR 2011: *Very Good Value for Money for UK Aid*

Progress Assessment	
Summary	Progress on aid allocation and ensuring staff have development expertise. Some progress on gender and a results framework. More progress needed on evaluation and managing for value for money.
Baseline	
<p>The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main instrument for EU aid to African, Caribbean and Pacific countries and the Overseas Countries and Territories. It is managed by the European Commission (EC) but is not part of the EC Budget.</p> <p>The MAR highlighted several strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EDF is critical for progress on the MDGs and poverty reduction. • Financial accountability is strong and well established. • Aid is allocated on a needs and performance basis, based on published criteria. • High levels of budget support with results-based tranches encourage partner countries to look at value for money issues. <p>The MAR also highlighted several weaknesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is little evidence of a uniform approach to gender. • There is no overall results framework in place. • Non-budget support assistance has less of a focus on value for money. <p>DFID's reform priorities for the MAR Update were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen gender mainstreaming in practice and measurement of impact of gender work – assessed under <u>attention to cross-cutting issues (gender)</u>; • Strengthen results-based approach to aid, including by implementing a results framework, and improve the evaluation function – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u> and <u>cost and value consciousness</u>; • Improve ability to recruit and maintain development expertise – assessed under <u>strategic and performance management</u>; • Allocate resources according to needs and performance – assessed under <u>financial resources management</u>; • Release aid on schedule – assessed under <u>financial resources management</u>; • Keep administrative costs under control – assessed under <u>cost and value consciousness</u> 	
Summary of Overall Progress	
<p>A Gender Action Plan has been developed but more attention is needed, particularly by senior management. Some progress is being made on implementing a results framework, which should be ready by mid-2014. This should give more opportunity to manage for value for money. Progress has been made in ensuring that delegations have the right expertise to deliver their programmes. The evaluation function has made less progress than expected. The new aid allocation model will lead to increased</p>	

resources for poor countries and fragile states.

Progress against Reform Priorities			
MAR Reform Component	MAR 2011 Score	Progress Rating	MAR Update Score, if any change
<p>Attention to cross-cutting issues (gender) Around 50% of Gender Action Plan targets have been met but there is evidence of weak management commitment.</p>	2	 Some progress	
<p>Strategic and performance management Implementation of a results framework has started and one should be in place by mid-2014. There have been improvements in human resource management.</p>	2	 Some progress	
<p>Financial resources management A new aid allocation model will lead to increased resources for poor countries and fragile states. The 2012 disbursement to commitment ratio is over 100%.</p>	3	 Reasonable progress	
<p>Cost and value consciousness Improvements have been made to procurement regulations and administrative costs have been kept down. The results framework should provide an opportunity to better manage for value for money.</p>	3	 Some progress	