



Department
for International
Development

Operational Plan 2011-2016

DFID Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Updated December 2014

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Introduction

In 2013 the UK became the first G7 country to meet the United Nations target of spending 0.7% of gross national income on international development. The Department for International Development (DFID) uses that investment to help countries to lift themselves out of poverty and leave poverty behind. Operational plans set out to the public how we plan to deliver results across policy areas and for every country we work in. These plans clearly explain why, and how, DFID is targeting its resources and what we expect to achieve; covering the period up until March 2016.

DFID is focused on spending in the right ways, on the right things, in the right places. The portfolio of our projects is already shifting to deliver a more coherent, focused and ambitious approach to economic development. We are helping to build strong and investable business environments in developing countries and improving access to finance for entrepreneurs.

Improving the prospects for girls and women in developing countries is a priority. Investing in girls and women is the smart thing to do, as well as the right thing to do. By unleashing their potential, we see returns for girls and women themselves, their families and communities, and for their economies and countries. No country can successfully develop if it leaves half its population behind.

Life-saving humanitarian assistance remains one of DFID's most fundamental responsibilities. When disaster strikes or conflict erupts we are first on the ground to support the most vulnerable people. We are also increasing our efforts to help those countries that are at higher risk of natural disasters to become more resilient in the first place.

DFID continues to drive value for money in everything we do on behalf of the British taxpayer. We have improved our procurement and programme management, increased our internal audit oversight and we are ensuring that staff have the skills to deliver the Department's priorities.

On the international stage we are working hard to agree a new set of global development goals to replace the Millennium Development Goals when they expire next year. We are determined to secure a clear and inspiring set of goals for the post 2015 development framework that leave no one behind.

Increasingly we will take new and innovative approaches and we will work with new partners. This will include businesses who are increasingly major development players. During the Secretary of State's time as co-chair of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, DFID played a key role in encouraging different development actors to work together and use internationally agreed principles for aid and development effectiveness.

As our operational plans set out, our approach to international development is ambitious and innovative. We are determined to ensure that every pound DFID spends has the biggest possible impact on the ground. Ultimately by investing in developing countries, we can end aid dependency for good and build a better, more prosperous world for us all.

Context

DRC remains at the bottom of the UN Human Development Index, only Niger has poorer HDI statistics. DRC also continues to be significantly off target to meet the Millennium Development Goals. Despite this, DRC has the potential to become an economic player and have a positive role in supporting peace and development, with vast mineral wealth and opportunities for generating hydropower. Decades of conflict and corruption have left DRC chronically unstable, lacking infrastructure and social services, and falling far short of its economic potential. Notwithstanding steady economic growth over the past decade, per capita GDP remains at just 43% of what it was in 1980 and around 60% of the population live on less than \$1.25 per day. Seven out of 10 people in rural areas do not have access to safe drinking water. Almost 1 in 3 children under 5 are severely malnourished and only 63% of girls and boys aged 6-11 regularly attend primary school.

The state is unable to either provide security, or ensure protection for the whole population: violent conflict and instability continues in the east, where the largest UN mission in the world is attempting to provide some measure of civilian protection. Instability in DRC has already led to Africa's first major inter-state war and continues to pose a threat to the region. The consequence of this wide-scale instability is that the country continues to face one of the most complex and chronic humanitarian crises in the world. There are an estimated 2.6m displaced people in DRC alone. Continued violence in 2013 threatened both national and regional peace, but saw progress with the defeat of the M23 rebels in November 2013 and gradual efforts to tackle other armed groups, paving the way for a renewed effort on stabilisation and conflict resolution.

DRC is one of the worst places in the world to be born a girl: girls and women are systematically disadvantaged, and the global gender equality index ranks DRC 147 out of 152 countries, this limits their ability to participate as equal members of society. DRC has one of the highest adolescent fertility rates in the world, (23% higher than the Sub-Saharan average), and an estimated 540 of every 100,000 live births results in maternal death. Over three quarters of Congolese women report being physically or sexually abused by their partner. This is overlaid by horrendous incidents of sexual violence in conflict-affected areas. Girls and women lack access to basic services; this is compounded by harmful practices such as early marriage. An estimated 25% of women aged 15-19 are married or in a civil law union; 135 of every 1,000 births are to adolescent mothers.

Poverty in DRC does not result from a lack of economic potential, but primarily because of an acute governance crisis: structures at various levels are often unable and at times unwilling, to finance or provide basic services. Where services do exist, they are primarily financed by international donors and provided by the UN and international and national civil society.

Politics remains defined by ethnic division underpinned by entrenched systems of patronage: corruption is widespread and instrumental in managing services provided by the public sector. Sustaining real progress on poverty reduction is dependent on changing the nature of the relationship between the state and the citizen. Close to 19m people voted in the country's second democratic presidential and parliamentary elections in 2011. However, accusations of mismanagement and human rights abuses undermined the credibility of the electoral process and result in the eyes of many Congolese and international observers.

The scale of the challenge in DRC is enormous: Both conflict and corruption mean that DRC remains a challenging environment for development programming but the costs of failing to address the needs of the population are great. Independent assessments and evaluations show that, with other donors and development partners, our programmes are making a difference to the lives of millions of people. Our programme is the major component of an overall framework of action by the UK government to support the government of DRC and its people to move away from conflict and insecurity.

Vision

We aim to address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable and poorest people in DRC now, while working with the government of DRC to enable it to provide and finance basic services in the long-term. Our programmes are designed to align to the DRC's national and provincial priorities and invest in building state capacity to respond better to the needs of its citizens. They are increasingly focused on delivering in 6 of DRC's 11 provinces, with the aim of achieving better value for money and reducing risk through more effective monitoring, better provincial relationships and creating synergies between our programmes. To achieve this vision we make investments in six principle areas:

Strengthening the rule of law and tackling the root causes of conflict. We contribute to UK government's objectives by helping stabilise DRC and the wider region through multilateral contributions to UN Peace Keepers (MONUSCO) and European Union Security instruments. Our programmes also contribute by: supporting efforts to improve political governance and promote a more progressive issue based political culture; security sector reform, with a particular focus on community policing, to build safer communities and improve accountability; mining sector reforms aimed at breaking the link between the illicit exploitation of natural resources that fuels conflict, to provide long-term benefits to global security; and developing sustainable infrastructure that supports job creation.

Deliver 2.3m life-saving humanitarian interventions per year. UK aid is designed to save lives and alleviate suffering, while strengthening resilience and building systems that lead to an overall reduction of humanitarian need, allowing investments to be made in a more sustainable way. We have enhanced our approach to address the root causes of conflict, while continuing to respond to the humanitarian needs that it generates.

Deliver equitable, inclusive and quality services in the health, education and water and sanitation sectors. We are supporting the transformation of the state's ability to resource and deliver services. These investments save lives and can transform governance structures by empowering people to participate in decisions that affect their lives and strengthen the state-citizen relationship. We are focused on changing systemic and structural discrimination that girls and women face to help them become equal members of Congolese society.

Stimulate economic development. We are contributing towards developing a healthy private sector through investments aimed at: improving the business environment by introducing reforms to increase access to finance; creating jobs and promoting opportunities for entrepreneurs (especially women) and young people who might otherwise seek a living through violence; and constructing essential infrastructure to increase access to markets. We aim to make the mining sector more transparent and accountable given its potential to be an engine for growth and public revenue generation. In addition, we will test approaches to, and build the evidence base on economic empowerment for adolescent girls. We are supporting work to increase the overall level of understanding of DRC's political economy to identify ways of tackling the root causes of poverty, inequality and fragility. This underpins our work in support of improving public financial management including tackling corruption

Promote an open society through empowerment and accountability. We are supporting the development of more accountable, equitable and stable institutions and empowerment of citizens giving them real choices about the decisions that affect their country, ensuring they have the power to decide on local priorities and are able to hold decision makers and service providers to account. This includes a strong focus on addressing structural barriers and socio-cultural norms that prevent girls and women from having voice, choice and control over decisions that affect them, for example through police reform and community-driven development programmes.

Underpinning our programme are efforts to **transform the way the international community works in DRC**, to generate a more coherent approach among donors, and between donors and government, to increase the effectiveness of international aid. This includes continuing in our role as co-chair of the Donor Coordination Group that consists of around 20 bilateral and multilateral donors that are committed to working together. This broad framework aims to support the aspirations of a nation to become stable, able to meet the needs of its people and to realise its potential as an economic powerhouse.

Results 2011/12-2015/16

Pillar/Strategic	Indicator	Baseline	Progress towards results (including year)	Expected (end year included)
Wealth creation/ infrastructure	Kilometres of roads rebuilt	0	548 (2014)	1,130km (2016)
Wealth creation/ business environment	Cumulative Aggregate Net Attributable Income Change (NAIC) among poor producers and entrepreneurs	0	<i>New Indicator</i>	Ranging between lower and upper limits of £6,800,000 - £10,200,000 (2016)
Governance/ elections	Number of people who register to vote (of which % women)	26,000,000 (52%)	31 million (52%) (2011)	31 million (52%) (2011)
	Number of people vote in elections	18,000,000 (2006)	18.9 million (2011)	22 million (2011)
Governance/ accountability	Number of people supported to have choice and control over their own development and to hold decision-makers to account in 1,025 communities	0 (2010)	1.7 million (2014)	1.7 million (2014)
MDGs - health/ malaria	Number of insecticide treated bed nets distributed (number of people Reached)	0 (2010)	4,674,018 (7,011,027) (2014)	9 million (at least 13.5 million) (2016)
MDGs - health/ reproductive health	Number of births delivered with the help of nurses, midwives or doctors	0 (2010)	398,570 (2014)	750,000 (2016)
MDGs - WatSan/ rural water	Number of people with sustainable access to clean drinking water sources (number of girls and women)	411,225 (2011)	1,372,591 (2014)	1.8 million (at least 920,000) (2016)
	Number of people with sustainable access to an improved sanitation facility (number of girls and women)	381,852 (2011)	1,185,269 (2014)	1.5 million (at least 760,000) (2016)
	Number of people reached with access to improved hygiene (number of girls and women)	377,656 (2011)	1,185,871 (2014)	1.5 million (at least 760,000) (2016)

Headline Results

We are on track to deliver the majority of our target results by end of March 2016, including results for malaria and water and sanitation. We have exceeded our targets for voter registration, and have revised upwards our target for the number of births delivered with the help of nurses, midwives or doctors from almost 400,000 to 750,000. Progress on road building has been slower than expected; we have consolidated our efforts behind those projects making the most progress and reduced our target figure accordingly (from 1,700 km to 1,035 km by end of March 2016).

During the design of our education programme, we identified an opportunity to more fully align with GoDRC's agenda and to design and implement the programme in tandem with USAID. We will therefore fall short of our target of children enrolled in school within the period of this Operational Plan, but expect our joint and aligned approach to be more sustainable by the end of the programme.

Design of our new Private Sector Development Programme, suggested a revised target focusing on improvements in the incomes of entrepreneurs that is more meaningful.

Evidence supporting results

Our results commitments are underpinned by the following:

Scaling-up current or previous programmes that have proven effective: programmes that builds on earlier programmes delivering road building, water and sanitation improvements, access to healthcare, distribution of bed nets, humanitarian response, and core elements of community recovery, where we have experience of what works.

Using international experience of what works and adapting for DRC: programmes that support primary education, reproductive health, the business environment, accountability elements in the community recovery programme, public finance management, civic education, and media design. This evidence has been assessed for its transferability to DRC and expected results have been estimated by adjusting international evidence to accommodate differences and their likely implications. Continued stability in the political environment is important, but subject to this, the results are considered achievable.

Pursuing innovative approaches: programmes on stabilisation, and police and mining sector reform. There is either limited international evidence on these types of approaches, or limited transferability to DRC, which means the evidence, is weak. However, international evidence indicates that progress in these areas is critical to achieve meaningful transformation of the institutions of state. Political will and stability are extremely important and these results will be the most challenging to achieve. We will ensure robust approaches to monitoring and evaluation are embedded in these programmes, including independent impact evaluation where appropriate, contributing to global evidence.

We also aim to achieve value for money

Value for money of our programme is one of the key factors used in determining priority areas and our level of investment. Despite high transport and logistics costs, the scale of need and response offers the opportunity to exploit some economies of scale in procurement. The programme has been designed to ensure synergies between programmes can maximise value for money. This includes concentrating our programmes in six of DRC's 11 provinces. To improve communication with implementing partners and authorities, and to facilitate better monitoring of our programmes, we plan to establish Risk Management Offices to cover each of these provinces. The shape and form of the office will depend on the provincial context and breadth of UK interests.

Multiplier effects between programmes, e.g. building roads to improve access to border posts that have simpler trade procedures, will make the value for money of the package stronger. Our new approach to stabilisation in the east aims to ensure that previous and current investments are better protected from conflict. Our support to high level reforms, e.g. in the area of public finance management, will create a better enabling environment for other parts of the programme, e.g. planning in education with a view to reducing fees. Value for money from our programme will also be maximised by leveraging contributions from others where possible.

Delivery and Resources

The 2014 OP update includes details of the budget allocations for the financial year 15/16. In-country allocations have been determined based on the current context (including progress and continuing or emerging needs), and lessons learned (including on what works best in terms of results delivery and programme performance).

We do not channel aid through government of DRC systems: All funds are instead channelled through civil society organisations, private sector providers and multilateral agencies that have demonstrably robust financial management systems. However we view the government as a key partner for coordination and policy dialogue, aim to align our programmes to national and provincial priorities, and work with government at an operational level. There has been incremental progress, under challenging conditions, in strengthening donor-government relations. Recent efforts to agree common priority areas for engagement with the government are positive.

Our programmes are delivered through a range of partners: chosen to reflect programme objectives and risks to ensure effective management. Our partners include multilaterals, civil society and private sector companies. We proactively manage these partnerships and act swiftly to improve performance when needed, and seek feedback on our own performance. We also address issues highlighted by mandated annual and project completion reviews, and proactively use these as opportunities for lesson learning.

Stabilisation in the east: we have invested in multilateral stabilisation efforts in eastern DRC under the UN-led International Strategy for the Support to Security and Stabilisation (I4S) through its support for infrastructure, including the construction and rehabilitation of roads. DFID continues to make significant investments in community recovery and development, health, police reform, and continues to support humanitarian response. Our Peace and Stability programme is designed to address the root causes and drivers of conflict as a core element of our engagement framework in the east. To ensure close management and oversight we have established our first Risk Management Office in DRC in the east.

Aid Coordination: we are fully engaged in efforts to improve aid coordination in DRC as chair of the Donor group's Executive Committee for 2 years running and as donor representative of the International Contact Group on the Great Lakes. DFID also leads donor coordination in a number of sectors. Further, with the largest peacekeeping mission in DRC – MONUSCO - we are closely engaged in improving the effectiveness of the peacekeeping mission, particularly on protection of civilians and stabilisation. We are heavily engaged in issues around humanitarian coordination, in particular with the Humanitarian Country Team around implementation of the Common Humanitarian Fund and remain engaged with the performance of the cluster system in DRC.

Girls and women: we ensure the priorities of girls and women are prominent in all key programmes by: systematically taking account of gender inequalities and of the different roles of men and women; designing programmes to address the disadvantages faced by girls and women; working with men and women to change discriminatory practices, such as favouring boys' access to school; and ensuring results are disaggregated by gender where possible. Ensuring this focus requires systematic engagement on integrating girls' and women's priorities in the design and implementation of our programme, and piloting new initiatives to support girls' and women's economic empowerment. We are also addressing structural barriers and socio-cultural norms that prevent girls and women from having voice, choice and control over decisions that affect them, for example through police reform and community-driven development programmes.

We regularly update our conflict analysis to inform current and future interventions and ensure our programme is in line with fragile states principles, particularly the commitment to do no harm. The analysis is used to monitor conflict dynamics in DRC on an annual basis and complement our risk management and external environment monitoring work.

We are structured into four programme teams: Governance and Security; Human Development, Conflict and Humanitarian; and Economic Development. The office is supported by cross-cutting advisers, responsible for improving performance on results, risk, financial management, value for money and transparency. Working on programme we employ 74 staff, 28 of whom are UK Civil Servants.

We pioneered a shared approach to running our estate with the FCO. In line with the UK government's move to consolidate estates management under the FCO, the approximately 20-23 staff in our Corporate Services Team will transfer to the FCO.

Planned Programme Spend

Pillar/Strategic	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		2015/16 (provisional*)
	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	
Wealth Creation	6,668	11,050	3,447	7,649	3,774	7,721	11,040	5,540	
Climate change	7	2,550	0	1,597	0	1,680	10	0	
Governance and security	42,175	4,438	37,351	1,080	37,837	1,350	32,490	0	
Education	2,488	0	37	0	69	0	90,000	0	
Reproductive, maternal and new-born health	2,176	0	2,481	0	4,189	947	26,121	6790	
Malaria	10,111	0	2,639	0	7,572	0	13,869	0	
HIV/AIDS	2,235	850	2,481	350	2,003	924	0	0	
Other health	24,355	0	23,809	0	20,825	3,315	0	0	

WASH	5,500	0	4,327	0	17,934	608	27,840	3710	
Poverty, hunger and vulnerability	243	0	98	0	18	0	230	0	
Humanitarian	27,593	0	48,081	0	50,215	0	20,960	0	
Other MDG's	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Global partnerships	127	0	85	0	1,050	0	0	0	
Sub-total	123,800	18,800	124,800	10,600	145,600	16,500	133,530	17,020	
Total	142,600		135,500		162,100		150,000		149,000

*Expenditure figures for 2015/16 are indicative. DFID works in a variety of challenging environments, including fragile and conflict affected areas. Humanitarian work is often reactive and can be scaled up or down. An element of flexibility within funding allocations is necessary to ensure that we can balance the need for long term planning alongside the ability to respond where necessary to changing requirements

Planned Operating Costs

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16 (provisional*)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Frontline Delivery Costs – Pay	2,159	3,034	2,986	3,422	
Frontline Delivery Costs – Non Pay	1,814	1,614	1,363	2,078	
Administrative costs - Pay	469	513	507	599	
Administrative costs – Non Pay	272	199	203	171	
Total	4,714	5,360	5,059	6,270	5,878

*Expenditure figures for 2015/16 are indicative. DFID works in a variety of challenging environments, including fragile and conflict affected areas. Humanitarian work is often reactive and can be scaled up or down. An element of flexibility within funding allocations is necessary to ensure that we can balance the need for long term planning alongside the ability to respond where necessary to changing requirements

To deliver the planned scale-up envisaged by this Country Operational Plan, DFID DRC has been required to take on additional staff and provide office facilities and accommodation. However within this we have looked for proportionally reducing operating costs and achieving efficiency savings. These include for example sharing staff with other country offices facing similar challenges and opportunities; joint-team working with the FCO where issues permit; bulk purchase of items at lower cost.

Delivering Value for Money

The operating environment within DRC is such that delivery costs can appear higher than in other countries on the continent. Systemic issues that raise unit costs include:

- **Working outside government systems (due to fiduciary risks)** mean administration and management overheads are higher
- **No manufacturing base, goods needs to be brought into the country**
- **Weak infrastructure and logistics, exacerbated by the scale of the country** mean transport costs are higher
- **Security constraints** affect the security of people and assets adding to implementation costs
- **Challenging environment** both to work and live makes attracting and retaining programme staff is expensive
- **Lack of reliable national data** means we need to invest in data systems to be able to monitor both results and cost effectiveness.

Economies of scale to some extent offsets the impact of these factors on average unit costs, therefore the programme can still deliver excellent value for money.

Our response to ensure vfm continues to include:

Making value for money a key consideration in project design and appraisal: undertaking cost benefit/effectiveness analysis and developing a series of metrics for all interventions, and set appropriate benchmarks (within and outside of DRC) for each intervention to test and challenge assumptions.

Establishing monitoring and evaluation systems that capture and report on: value for money information; performance against the metrics (reviewing how they evolve against estimates and comparators); and findings to be fed back into implementation and into a database to inform future work.

Making continuous improvements: ensure we have correct systems, procedures and practices to improve financial management, including forecasting.

Managing fiduciary risks associated with increasing programme and administrative expenditure, including through spot checks.

Taking a commercial approach in managing administrative and programme resource, strengthening our procurement and improving the management of contracts and other financial arrangements with service providers.

Ensuring appropriate capacity within our own teams and that of our implementing partners including on analysing and monitoring vfm for continuous improvement.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring

Our Results Framework provides both an overview of programme implementation and reports against the DFID Business Plan. It has indicators and targets to track how we are delivering against poverty reduction, fostering positive state-citizen relations and supporting peace. Our Monitoring, Operational Research and Evaluation Strategy supports teams develop results, logframes and monitoring and evaluation systems. It also supports logframe reviews and data quality assessments to ensure that our commitments are measured and reported. Annual reviews enable us to appraise commitments and delivery through monitoring and evaluation, to identify where and how we can support partners

Evaluation

Independent impact evaluations of a number of programmes are being conducted to systematically and objectively assess them against the intended aims and objectives. A range of methods are being used to provide evidence on whether a programme has had a positive effect on people's lives and whether outcomes are attributable to our programme. These evaluations are being quality assured and delivered through DFID-issued contracts to independent teams (e.g. police reform, and regional trade) or through contracts issued by the lead implementing partner (e.g. community-led recovery, rural water and sanitation, and roads) and once finalised, published. Some programmes include a proportion of spend on evaluation and monitoring systems of between 3-5%. A comprehensive impact evaluation has already been conducted on community-led recovery in the east, and more are planned in other sectors (e.g. WASH, malaria, cash transfers and the effects of abolishing user fees on uptake of health services).

Building capacity of partners

Through a range of training we continue to strengthen capacity for teams to monitor results, and generate and use evidence. This includes training on logframes, research and evaluation ethics and the broader DFID results agenda. We continue to make links to existing institutions where possible, and encourage greater demand for high quality information when making decisions about spending to embed evaluation in the long-term. A donor monitoring and evaluation network initiative was launched in 2013. We continue to work with partners to provide advice, support and technical assistance to help them develop robust systems for monitoring and evaluating outcomes and performance quality, ensuring they can respond to our demands for more and better quality evidence.

The absence of reliable data and weak information management systems in DRC means we are often reliant on partners to supply information about results, effectiveness and performance. Beyond programme specific activities, we are supportive of wider efforts to develop the Congolese statistical and poverty monitoring systems. Starting from the principle that we should be using data that corresponds with, and supports the development of national information systems, we use, to the extent possible, government data as the basis for monitoring and evaluating our programme. However, national capacity levels vary, so other data sources are used to validate and triangulate data. We work with partners and the government to strengthen their data systems where possible.

We lobbied successfully for DRC to be one of the first pilot countries under the DFID-World Bank Statistics for Results Facility and engage with this process in-country through the Statistics Thematic Group. Our programmes provide other opportunities to strengthen how the government uses information, including the health programme that include an information systems strengthening component, and the mining sector reform programme that supports the National Statistics Institute in undertaking a household income and consumption survey.

Transparency

Transparency: is a key priority for the UK government, which is reflected in the UK Aid Transparency Guarantee that commits DFID to publishing comprehensive, accessible, comparable, accurate and timely information about new projects and policies. We are using this to:

- Improve the effectiveness of aid in reducing poverty and improving development outcomes
- Create pressure to improve and demonstrate value for money
- Give people the power to hold donors and partner governments to account
- Ensure UK taxpayers can better see where aid money is spent
- Help improve coordination of aid among donors
- Help developing country governments know what aid they will receive so it is easier for them to plan budgets.

We take a three-pronged approach to achieving this:

- **Publishing high quality information:** we provide information on UK aid commitments to the government of DRC via it's 'Aid Management Platform' and continue to encourage development of this system to improve ease of access and broaden availability to a wider audience. We publish all key documents including Business Cases, reviews (Annual and Project Completion) and Contracts on the Development Tracker [link]. To strengthen the accessibility of this documentation for a Francophone audience, a summary of each project is also published in French.
- **Working with our delivery partners to enhance transparency:** we continue to work with our partners to develop a shared understanding of our responsibilities under the Transparency Guarantee. We will work with new and existing partners to increase understanding of our requirements, keeping them updated with our transparency commitments and ensure they know how they affect them. We continue to encourage partners to aim for similar standards of aid transparency and accountability and are exploring with our partners ways of ensuring information is made available in local languages. Given literacy rates are low, this requires finding alternatives to the written word, which may include the use of drama and inclusion of programme information in public meetings. We continue to encourage partners to find ways to allow people to provide them with feedback. Some of our programmes already have built-in community accountability mechanisms and we will explore the possibilities of extending this. Each programme
- **Support to civil society:** the intention of the Transparency Guarantee is to support recipient country's citizens in holding their own government to account. We continue to use our programme to strengthen civil society to provide greater opportunities for people to voice their priorities and demand more accountability from their government.

Annex A: Changes to Operational Plan

Page Number	Change made to operational Plan	Reason for change
Cover	Timeframe change to standard format	SoS approval in 2011 to extend DRC's OP by one additional year
Multiple including annexes	Text changes to reflect what is happening (we are) rather than plan (we will)	Focus on delivery and updating context
Context	Status of conflict	Update showing some positive progress
Context	% women married	Revised figures from UN official (global reporting); previous figures from DFID funded research.
Vision	Text on not funding GoDRC directly moved	Sits best under delivery and resources, cuts out repetition
Results table	Wealth creation indicators changed	More meaningful target, more sustainable for beneficiaries
Results table	Target figures revised down for roads and up for assisted delivery. Removed education results as O 2 Results tables merged	Down: ProRoutes (roads) performing poorly, and engagement ended. Education results will time taken and won't be delivered within this OP due to time lag in dataUp: Positive progress of ASSP/health programme.
Results progress	Narrative added	Progress reflected
Results progress table	Deleted as merged with other results table	Improve coherence of document
Delivery and Resources	Survey deleted	Improved partnerships and regular comms, means we/partners no longer need survey
Transparency	Text updated	Documentation now in French
Annex B	Human Rights Assessment	Added

Annex B: Human Rights Assessment

DFID recognises that the realisation of all human rights underpins sustainable development. Through its development programmes, DFID aims to support civil society and governments to build open economies and open societies in which citizens have freedom, dignity, choice and control over their lives, and institutions are accountable, inclusive and responsive.

Human rights context

Economic and social rights: DRC remains second to bottom of the UN Human Development Index at 186 out of 187 countries (2014). DRC is unlikely to meet any of the MDGs (1-2-3- Survey 2014). 63% of the population live in poverty. Seven out of 10 people in rural areas do not have access to safe drinking water. Almost one in three children under five are severely malnourished and only 63% of girls and boys aged 6-11 regularly attend primary school. Maternal mortality is 540 deaths per 100,000 and adolescent fertility is 135 births per 1,000 women aged 15-19 (Human Development Index 2014).

Non-discrimination: DRC ranks 147 out of 152 in the Gender Inequality index (2014). Only 10.7% of adult women can access secondary education compared to 36.2% for men. Women have little power to influence decision making. Only 9.4% of parliamentarians are women with 6 out of 37 at ministerial level. The legal age of marriage is 15 for girls and 18 for boys and prevalence of early and child marriage is high with 25% of girls aged 15-19 married or in union (MICS 2010). Violence against girls and women is pervasive. 71% of Congolese women have suffered from spousal or partner abuse in their lifetime (DHS 2007). Female Genital Mutilation is criminalised but the practice is not widespread, estimated at 5% by the WHO (2010). Same sex marriage is illegal and discrimination against LGBT people remains strong. DRC is one of the world's most challenging places to live for people with disabilities, estimated at up to 10% of the population. DRC has not yet signed or ratified the 2006 UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and there is no law covering people living with disabilities (Handicap International, 2014).

Civil and political rights: Freedom House (2014) classes DRC as 'not free'. Harassment of journalists, political activists and civil society organisations is relatively common. The 2011 elections highlighted this, with reports of politically motivated arrests and detentions and curtailment in freedom of expression (UN Report on Elections Violence, 2013). The UN's Joint Human Rights Office has investigated and found evidence of extra-judicial killings and forced disappearances by the police during 'Operation Likofi' in Kinshasa 2013/2014 (UN Report, Oct 2014).

Universal periodic review: The 2014 UPR noted progress and greater commitment by the government to fight impunity. 190 recommendations were accepted, 38 rejected and one put under consideration. DRC remains on the list of human rights countries of concern for the UK (FCO Annual Report 2014).

Direction of travel

Economic and Social rights: No significant improvements are expected over the short term, although incremental improvements in some indicators are now visible (years of schooling has doubled since 2000 (HDI 2014) and gross enrolment increased from 92.7% (2010/11) to 98.4% (2011/12). Percentage budget allocations have increased in the health sector from 3.5% to 6.9% and in education from 6.7% to 7.8% from 2011 to 2014 (DFID calculations).

Non-Discrimination: Protection exists in various statutory forms (i.e. Sexual Violence Act) some of which are currently under revision (Family Code, Draft Bill on Parity Law) which is a positive sign. However, these statutory laws co-exist alongside discriminatory socio-cultural norms that often obstruct, misinterpret or mask them. This makes change slow.

Civil and political rights: There have been little improvement in civil and political rights and we may see a further deterioration with elections due to take place over the next two years, based on evidence of previous elections and the slow progress of sub-national level elections. Serious abuses continue to be committed with relative impunity. There have been some small gains in trying to address impunity since 2009 with individual army and police personnel being held to account but reforms in the security and justice sectors remain slow.

UK Approach and focus: The British Embassy (Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and DFID) in Kinshasa is working with other partners to increase the international community's understanding of the human rights situation and to co-ordinate monitoring of and lobbying on human rights issues. We also work with the UK Missions to the UN and the Human Rights Council to ensure a sustained focus on the human rights situation in the DRC.

Economic and Social Rights: Our health, education, water and sanitation, and humanitarian programmes improve access to basic services for some of the poorest communities in the DRC, including in areas affected by conflict. Through our Tuungane programme, we are helping communities to be more involved in decisions affecting their development and to ensure that vulnerable and traditionally marginalised groups, including women and people with disabilities, benefit from development. For example, in education, we support the construction of schools and latrines ensuring accessibility to the disabled.

Gender and Discrimination: We ensure that the needs of girls and women are at the centre of all programmes. We expect to reach at least 12,000 victims of sexual and gender-based violence with medical, psychological and economic support and DRC is a focus country for the UK's Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative. We have a new programme focusing specifically on the economic empowerment of adolescent girls.

Civil and political Rights: We support improved security sector accountability and police reform, including efforts to strengthen respect for human rights through police oversight mechanisms and community policing. We do not provide any support to elements of the police recently alleged to have committed human rights violations. The MoU we have with the government has enabled us to initiate dialogue with the Ministry of Interior to urgently press for action against alleged human rights violators. We are also supporting a database of all human rights violations committed by army and police officers as part of wider efforts to address impunity and promote improvements in the security sector. More broadly, following the Joint Analysis of Conflict and Stability, we have developed a new programme (Peace and Stability in the Eastern DRC) that focuses on breaking the cycles of conflict.

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