



Summary of DFID's work in Rwanda 2011-2016

February 2015

Why we work in Rwanda

Rwanda has achieved tremendous progress since the devastating genocide of 1994. By 2020, the Government of Rwanda aims to complete the country's transformation from a poor, post conflict nation to a thriving, middle income, regional trade and investment hub. Rwanda uses aid very well, both in terms of the results it achieves and accounting for its use. The country, however, still faces huge challenges. 45% of Rwanda's people live in poverty. 86% of Rwanda's population still relies on agriculture for a living. Although women are well represented in government (more than half of MPs are women), and girls' attendance at school exceeds that of boys, women are more likely to live in poverty than men.



Public Works beneficiaries of a terracing project in Mugesera Sector during a field visit to the DFID-supported Vision 2020 Umurenge Programme (VUP) in Eastern Province



Girls participating in the 12+ Programme in Rutsiro district in the Western Province of Rwanda. 12+ is an innovative and ambitious mentorship and safe-space programme, which aims to empower vulnerable 10-12 year old girls across Rwanda to become informed decision makers and to have more voice, choice and control over their lives.

What we will achieve

DFID will support four transformations to enable Rwanda's continued transition: i) transition from an agricultural economy to private sector led growth; ii) significantly improved basic services that build capacity, skills and resilience; iii) increased accountability of the state to citizens and empowerment of women, girls and the extreme poor; and iv) transition to more open and inclusive politics.

In the next 3 years UK support will help:

- 723,700 of the poorest people in Rwanda to get a job, or financial support to meet their basic needs;
- 44,200 children to complete basic education and will ensure it's of a quality which enables them to pass their national exam at the age of 14;
- 4.7m land parcels registered as legally owned, allowing owners to be able to invest in it to raise their incomes;
- 1.8 million people to have choice and control over their own development and to hold decision-makers to account.

Who we will work with

To support social and economic transformation, the UK provides targeted financial aid in education and social protection. The government delivers key services to its people, and its systems are strong. We ensure the effectiveness of this financial aid through our sector leadership in education and social protection and our close policy dialogue with the government of Rwanda and other partners. In these sectors, DFID complements financial aid with technical assistance to strengthen capacities and systems and to improve quality.



Participants in a Village Savings and Loans Association meeting, Kirehe District, Eastern Province. This is supported by the UK-funded Access to Finance Rwanda and implemented by CARE.

DFID also provides financial aid to continue to strengthen Rwanda's public financial management system, its audit office, and its statistical systems. We support the government's Climate Change Fund (FONERWA) and its Land Tenure Reform programme. We provide support to the Government's Agriculture strategy through the World Bank's Payment for Results in Agriculture programme.

Over the last 5 years DFID has shifted from an almost exclusive support to government through budget support instruments towards increased support to the private sector and civil society. For instance, we are developing a new multi-donor civil society support programme, designed to strengthen civil society in Rwanda, and to facilitate constructive dialogue between civil society and government. We are also increasing our engagement with the private sector and not for profit companies to promote economic development, regional trade and integration. We are, for example, supporting Trade Mark East Africa and Access to Finance Rwanda, and working with the International Finance Corporation to support an Investment Climate programme in 2014.

How we will work

More than ever, we have a commitment to show that we are achieving value for money in everything we do, with an increased focus on results, transparency and accountability. DFID Rwanda uses a range of funding tools and delivery mechanisms – depending on the value for money and effectiveness in each context – including partnerships with other donors, trust funds, contracted-out management, and pooled funds. DFID also works closely in Rwanda with multilateral organisations – particularly the World Bank – on a wide range of programmes. In all these relationships we continue to look for improved value for money from our investments.

More information

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

<http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfid-rwanda-operational-plan-2014>

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