



Summary of DFID's work in Zimbabwe 2011-2016

February 2015

Why we work in Zimbabwe?

In the 1980s and 1990s Zimbabwe made strong progress in the areas covered by the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, a series of economic, political, and humanitarian crises in the 2000s stalled, or in some cases reversed, many of those gains in this landlocked country of 13 million people in southern Africa.



Women wait to be screened for cervical cancer as part of DFID's Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme, partnered with Population Services International (PSI) and United Nations Population Fund. Photo:UNFPA

The need in Zimbabwe remains great: 22.5% of the population live in extreme poverty; 33% of girls experience sexual violence before the age of 18; 10 women die daily from causes linked to pregnancy and childbirth; 786,000 children of school going age are out of school; and socio-economic and political rights that exist on paper are all too often not upheld.

ZANU-PF led by President Mugabe won an outright majority in the July 2013 elections. The UK government welcomed the peaceful nature of the elections while raising grave concerns over how they were run.

DFID works to deliver a more democratic, stable and prosperous Zimbabwe, focusing on helping the country's poorest people. Key priorities are:

- i) Providing the infrastructure, assets, finance, skills and access to markets needed for people to earn enough money to meet their basic needs.
- ii) Improving access to health, water and sanitation, and education.
- iii) Helping to strengthen democracy and improve the way the economy and public finances are managed by the government of Zimbabwe (GoZ) to support both economic development and poverty reduction.

No UK aid goes directly through GoZ systems. UK aid is instead channelled through multilateral institutions such as United Nations Agencies, international Non-Governmental Organisations and the private sector. The UK has the largest bilateral aid programme in Zimbabwe. In 2015-16 we are strengthening our work on girls and women, and increasing economic opportunities for the poorest.



Sinikiwe Mhlanga from Natene Village
"We are very happy we have water, thanks to DFID and the UK taxpayer".

What we will achieve by 2016

- 108,000 people with access to economic opportunities created
- At least 279,000 people benefit from food security programmes.
- An additional 410,000 children supported to complete primary school.
- Access to clean water for 1.5 million people, and access to improved sanitation for 500,000.
- The number of women dying from causes linked to childbirth reduced by one third.



Mr Jumo the Head Teacher at Mnondo school "We are grateful to DFID for the funding we receive"

Who we will work with

DFID works with the GoZ in a range of sectors, and also uses its technical expertise and strong partnerships with other development organisations to deliver an effective aid programme to the benefit of the poorest people of Zimbabwe. As stated above no UK aid goes directly through GoZ systems. UK aid is instead channelled through multilateral institutions such as United Nations Agencies, most notably the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as international Non-Governmental Organisations and the private sector.

How we will work

We work to ensure that we are achieving value for money in everything that we do and that all of our partners follow suit. Results, transparency and accountability will remain our watchwords and we are determined to get value for money for every hard-earned pound from the UK taxpayer that is spent on development in Zimbabwe. We will also reduce our operating costs through increased efficiencies.

In Zimbabwe, DFID has a strong focus on monitoring and evaluation, ensuring that all programmes are monitored regularly and thoroughly and that feedback is assessed and acted on when necessary. We will dedicate specific staff resources to improving value for money within our programme e.g. through more rigorous procurement approaches. We will harness financial strategies and tools to ensure we drive continued improvement in financial management and to maintain high standards.

We are fully committed to transparency and will meet the standards set out in the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), and encourage partners in civil society, multilateral organisations and other donors to do the same.

More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Zimbabwe's Operational Plan, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/zimbabwe-operational-plan-2014>

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