



# DFID's Anti-Corruption Strategy for Zimbabwe

January 2013

## Introduction

1. Corruption can broadly be defined as the abuse of entrusted power for private gain. The word can cover a whole range of abuses. On one level it can refer to the risk of taxpayers' money in DFID programmes being fraudulently spent or stolen. On another level it can refer to corruption within a country and its institutions, with the negative impact that this has on development prospects. DFID sets the highest standards for the manner in which its own money is spent. Through its development programmes, DFID also works to reduce the prevalence of corruption in each of its partner countries.
2. In November 2011, the **Independent Commission on Aid Impact** (ICAI) reviewed DFID's approach to tackling corruption. It found that DFID had a good awareness of the fraud risks and seeks to safeguard UK funds through appropriate choices of funding channels and programme design, and often played a leading role within the donor community on anti-corruption work. It did however recommend that in any country assessed as having a high risk of corruption, DFID should develop an explicit anti-corruption strategy. As part of its response, DFID is producing anti-corruption strategies for each of its main partner countries. This strategy sets out how DFID will (a) safeguard UK taxpayers' money and (b) support efforts in Zimbabwe to reduce corruption and its impact on development over the next three years.
3. The UK Government is committed to **transparency, results and value for money**. To make it easier for taxpayers and citizens in its partner countries to 'follow the money', DFID now publishes details of all its new programmes and of all transactions over £500 on the DFID website (<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>).

## Protecting UK Aid funds in Zimbabwe

4. The prevalence of corruption in Zimbabwe has increased over the last decade. According to the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index (CPI)<sup>3</sup>, Zimbabwe's score declined from 3.0 out of 10 in 2000 to 2.2 in 2011. Over the same period, Zimbabwe's CPI ranking has fallen from 65<sup>th</sup> out of 90 countries to 154<sup>th</sup> out of 183 countries. Similarly, the World Bank's Control of Corruption Index<sup>4</sup> ranks Zimbabwe in the 5.2 percentile, down from 15.1 in 2000.

<sup>1</sup> Transparency International Corruption perception Index 2011 <http://cpi.transparency.org/cpi2011/results/>

<sup>2</sup> Worldwide Governance Indicators <http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi>

5. DFID Zimbabwe's budget is £276 million between 2012/13 and 2014/15. DFID uses a range of channels and partners based on thorough analysis of the most effective means of delivering results. Our implementing partners (and approximate percentage of funding presently channeled through each) include:
- Multilateral organisations such as the UN and the African Development Bank (48%). The types of activities supported by these organisations include child protection, cash transfers, procurement of anti-retrovirals, infrastructure, and delivery of agricultural inputs and food security programmes.
  - Commercial service providers (32%) support such activities as procurement of health commodities such as drugs and contraceptives, and broader programme delivery, monitoring and evaluation. These are experts contracted following rigorous and transparent international competitive tendering. They provide dedicated specialist expertise – local and international - that would otherwise be unavailable to either the Government of Zimbabwe or DFID.
  - International and national non-governmental organisations. These organisations support the Government to deliver basic services and communities to improve livelihoods, manage local resources and demand better governance (15%).
6. DFID has a range of standard **controls and measures in place to protect UK aid**. These include rigorous risk assessments and monitoring requirements for all projects and programmes. Regular internal and external audits add a further level of assurance that money is spent on the purposes for which it is intended. DFID is continually strengthening its risk management procedures, and has recently brought in additional measures including: more detailed fraud and corruption risk assessments in programmes; enhanced pre-funding 'due diligence' checks on partners; and specialised training for staff. Where there is suspicion of corruption and fraud DFID will always follow up; and if fraud or corruption is uncovered DFID will always take action and work to recover UK taxpayers' money.

In Zimbabwe, DFID will continue to ensure integrity and value for money through the above, and in areas such as:

- Assessing the relative risks of fraud and corruption across the office's existing programmes, to focus staff resources where risk management is needed most.
- More structured and scaled up monitoring and evaluation of programmes. This will include a greater focus on beneficiary monitoring, monitoring by third parties, compliance monitoring visits by DFID staff to selected partners and regular field monitoring visits, a continuous DFID review process to assess the vulnerability of programmes to corruption and fraud, and advice on prevention.
- Working closely with other donors that are co-funding programmes to ensure integrated management of financial risk.

## Supporting efforts to reduce corruption in Zimbabwe

7. Over the next three years, DFID will support Zimbabwe in tackling corruption through:
- Strengthening DFID's analysis of the risks of corruption in Zimbabwe and the opportunities to address it.
  - Supporting public sector policies and systems particularly in the key sectors where DFID works (health, education, water and sanitation). This will include specific issues of illegal charging for public services and risks associated with the procurement of goods and services.

- Improving financial and human resource management of the public sector. DFID currently provides support to the Ministry of Finance to strengthen the budget cycle, including state procurement functions and debt management.
- Dialogue with the Government of Zimbabwe on a future Government Public Financial Management programme to improve the use of public funds.
- Supplying the Auditor General and State Procurement Board with equipment and training.
- Supporting Zimbabwe's Public Accounts Committee.
- Support improved access to and quality of independent media. DFID will continue to support civil society to focus and articulate public demand for transparency, accountability and integrity in Zimbabwean society.
- Supporting Zimbabweans to monitor and provide feedback on service delivery, for example through community scorecards in the health sector.

## More information

On the country programme is available on the DFID website at: [www.dfid.gov.uk/Zimbabwe](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Zimbabwe)

Media enquiries: [pressoffice@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@dfid.gov.uk)

Follow us in Twitter and Facebook.

*DFID Zimbabwe, British Embassy, 3 Norfolk Road, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe*

---

© Crown copyright 2013

Copyright in the typographical arrangement and design rests with the Crown. This publication (excluding the logo) may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium, provided that it is reproduced accurately and not used in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright with the title and source of the publication specified.

Published by the Department for International Development 2013.