

# Summary of DFID's work in Uganda 2011-2015

Updated May 2012

## Why we work in Uganda

Uganda has transformed from a failed state to a fast growing economy in the past 20 years. Since 2005, economic growth in Uganda has averaged 7.2% annually and inward investment has doubled. Less than a quarter of the population now live below the national poverty line, down from a third in 2006. Uganda is on track to meet the Millennium Development Goals on hunger, gender equality, HIV/AIDS treatment and access to safe water. Future revenues from oil offer good prospects for economic growth, although much depends on how the windfall from oil is managed and invested.

Growth, however, has not benefitted everyone. Over seven and a half million people still live in absolute poverty. In the north, where until very recently there was prolonged conflict, poverty levels are twice that of the rest of the country. Only one in three girls completes four years of secondary education. Every day, 16 women die from pregnancy or childbirth and over 90,000 children die each year before reaching their first birthday. Wasteful use of public resources and widespread corruption remain a major concern.

Improving the quality of essential services, supporting recovery in northern Uganda, improving maternal and reproductive health, driving growth through job creation, financial services and trade, and improving government accountability and transparency are key priorities for DFID in the next four years. This will help Uganda achieve its National Development Plan objectives and eventually graduate from aid in the medium term.



A farmer in North Eastern Uganda building a traditional silo to store his harvest. DFID is pioneering new ways to build food security, helping over 75,000 households move away from reliance on emergency food aid in Karamoja.



Baby being given anti-retroviral therapy at birth to avoid mother to child infection. 680,000 women in Uganda are estimated to be living with HIV/AIDS and 149,600 children are infected. In 2009/10, UK aid and partners' support included distribution of seven million condoms and testing and counseling for 182,000 people.

## What we will achieve

The UK's programme in Uganda will help the country move towards being a prosperous, stable democracy, able to manage revenues from oil production for the benefit of all Ugandans, and where the most vulnerable people have greater opportunities. By 2015, with UK support:

- 143,000 more women will give birth under the care of a skilled birth attendant;
- 431,000 more women will have access to modern family planning;
- Over 100,000 school drop-outs will return to school, including 66,000 girls;
- 600,000 of the poorest people will be given the means to lift themselves out of chronic poverty;
- Over 75,000 households in north eastern Uganda will move away from reliance on emergency food aid;
- Four million more men and women will have secure and more appropriate ways of saving, transferring and borrowing money.

## Who we will work with

Tackling poverty and achieving the Millennium Development Goals for all Ugandans requires strong leadership from the Government of Uganda and its partners.

We will continue to fund activities directly through the Government of Uganda's budget, but over the next four years as Uganda's domestic revenues rise, we will reduce the level of UK funds provided this way. Instead, we will work more closely with a range of partners, including civil society organisations helping to increase government's accountability to Ugandan citizens for the delivery and quality of public services.

We will work with the private sector, to help generate economic growth through financial services and regional trade, and to improve access to private health services on which over half of Ugandans already rely. We will also work through multilateral agencies such as UNICEF and the World Bank which have a proven track record for delivering results. We will continue to collaborate closely with other like-minded bilateral donors and coordinate joint programmes with other international agencies like USAID and the Delegation of the European Union.



A Ugandan woman is now better able to decide how many children to have and when to have them. In 2010/11, UK aid helped over 160,000 additional women to start using modern methods of family planning.

## How we will work

More than ever, we have a duty to show that we are achieving value for money from our investments. In Uganda, we have put in place a comprehensive value for money strategy and action plan, which will help to guard against corruption, as well as ensure that we have the correct procedures in place to manage procurement and contracts to optimise the value of every pound spent in Uganda. We will drive continuous improvement in financial management within our programmes.

To deliver on our commitments on transparency we will:

- Publish clear, concise information about our programmes on the DFID website;
- Support civil society and non-government organisations to be more transparent
- Encourage greater accountability from Government;
- Continue collaboration with other development partners on local donor transparency and accountability initiatives.

## More information

For a more detailed breakdown of Uganda's Operational Plan, please visit: [www.dfid.gov.uk/Uganda](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Uganda)

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