DFID Department for International Development

Operational Plan 2011-2015

DFID Africa Regional Programme

April 2011

This plan will be refreshed annually. It should be read in conjunction with the South Africa Operational Plan

Contents:

Introduction

The UK Government is determined to help reduce the inequalities of opportunity we see around the world today. We believe that promoting global prosperity is both a moral duty and in the UK's national interest. Aid is only ever a means to an end, never an end in itself. It is wealth creation and sustainable growth that will help people to lift themselves out of poverty.

In May 2010, the International Development Secretary, Andrew Mitchell, commissioned the Bilateral Aid Review (BAR) to take a comprehensive and ambitious look at the countries in which the Department for International Development (DFID) works through our direct country and regional programmes. The review focussed on the best ways for the UK to tackle extreme poverty, ensuring that we make the greatest impact with every pound we spend. In parallel, through the Multilateral Aid Review (MAR), DFID assessed how effective the international organisations we fund are at tackling poverty.

On the 1st March 2011, the key outcomes of the reviews were announced, including the results that UK aid will deliver for the world's poorest people over the next four years. The Bilateral Aid Review has refocused the aid programme in fewer countries so that we can target our support where it will make the biggest difference and where the need is greatest. The Multilateral Aid Review findings enable us to put more money behind effective international organisations which are critical to delivering the UK's development priorities. In addition the independent Humanitarian Emergency Response Review looked at how the UK can build on its strengths in responding impartially to humanitarian needs and help ensure future disaster responses can be better prepared and coordinated.

DFID is committed to being a global leader on transparency. In the current financial climate, we have a particular duty to show that we are achieving value for every pound of UK taxpayers' money that we spend on development. Results, transparency and accountability are our watchwords and guide everything we do. DFID regards transparency as fundamental to improving its accountability to UK citizens and to improving accountability to citizens in the countries in which it works. Transparency will also help us achieve more value for money in the programmes we deliver and will improve the effectiveness of aid in reducing poverty.

The UK Aid Transparency Guarantee commits DFID to making our aid fully transparent to citizens in both the UK and developing countries. As part of this commitment we are publishing Operational Plans for country programmes. The Operational Plans set out the vision, priorities and results that will be delivered in each of our country programmes.

We will concentrate our efforts on supporting achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), creating wealth in poor countries, improving their governance and security and tackling climate change. The prize, in doing so, is huge: a better life for millions of people, and a safer, more prosperous world.

1) Context

Sub-Saharan Africa has 12% of the world's population but is home to just under a third of the world's poor. Its economy has a combined Gross National Income only 9% larger than the Netherlands. Africa needs economic growth to reduce poverty, but its economic and political geography presents some significant challenges that will never be overcome through working at country level alone.

Africa's economy and political geography is highly fragmented. Sub-Saharan Africa has 48 countries with the highest density of small countries in the developing world – more than 20 countries have a population of less than 5 million people. 30% of the population lives in landlocked countries. These landlocked countries are reliant on their neighbours for access to global and regional markets and growth opportunities. A fragmented geography means many countries have small markets which limits the benefits from competition and makes efficient infrastructure provision more difficult. It also limits individual countries' ability to invest in important areas such as research, responses to climate change, expertise and benefits from economies of scale such as in drug procurement. The costs and benefits of investments to enable access to markets and efficient power supply are not evenly distributed between countries. The fragmented nature of Africa's geography also means that many of Africa's natural resources such as water and forests that are so important for the continent's development and poor people's livelihoods are shared and can only be managed through trans boundary co-operation.

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for just 2% of world trade. Costly trade policies (African trade tariffs are amongst the highest in the world), poor power, road, rail and port infrastructure, inefficient border procedures and low labour and trucking productivity have discouraged trade, private investment and private sector growth. Trade between African countries remains very low at just 12% of the continent's exports and imports.

Weak governance, undiversified poorly managed natural resource economies and a high density of small countries makes Africa more vulnerable to conflict and to external shocks, such as commodity price volatility and climate variability and change. **Climate change** threatens African development as more frequent floods and drought could reduce agricultural yields and potentially change patterns of disease.

Africa has some of the **worst indicators for health, food security and education** which affect women and girls in particular. The maternal health MDG is most off track in Sub-Saharan Africa and the region accounts for 88% of global malarial deaths. The burden of HIV and AIDS in southern Africa is exceptional with 40% of the global total population living with HIV/AIDS; young women have more than twice the infection rates in some areas relative to boys. 40% of pregnancies are unwanted and unsafe abortions contribute to 15% of maternal deaths in the region. **Humanitarian aid** will remain necessary to respond to needs arising from natural disasters, conflict and chronic food insecurity. For example, in 2009 there were an estimated 11 million people displaced from their homes in Africa due to these types of crises, around 43% of the world's total displaced population.

However, there is much to be optimistic about. Poverty rates are falling. 6 of the 10 of the worlds fastest growing economies in the last ten years were in sub-Saharan Africa. Indeed Africa's recent growth overall is so solid that the region is just one of two where GDP rose during the recession of 2009. The key reasons behind Africa's growth surge include government moves to end armed conflict, improve macroeconomic conditions and adopt reforms to create a better business climate. Africa is also benefiting from soaring global demand for commodities and significant Chinese investment. Labour productivity is also improving after years of stagnation. Regional Economic Communities, customs unions and free trade zones as are beginning to form and function across the continent. Looking further ahead, half of Africa's population will live in cities by 2050 with its labour force set to expand to over 1.1 billion people of working age by 2040, more than India or China.

Sub-Saharan Africa needs to integrate its economies and open up intra regional trade and improve access to global markets capitalizing on the efficiencies of regional planning, infrastructure and negotiating power. Given its regional challenges, Africa, more than other regions, needs a well functioning political and economic architecture above the level of the country to address common risks (such as climate change), represent its interests in international negotiations, arbitrate disputes, and diffuse internal conflicts. **This regional integration is already starting in Africa and is led by Africans. It is new, faces many difficulties but is likely to be the only way for many African countries to compete effectively and benefit from growth in the regional and global economies.**

2) Vision

To reduce poverty Africa needs to **create jobs through private investment**. While these can be fostered in many ways, regional integration and trade expansion is critical to sustained investment and spreading the benefits of the resulting economic growth widely. Regional co-operation is also the most efficient way to manage scarce shared resources and factors of production such as water, energy and forests. Regional co-operation and analysis are also necessary to cost effectively deal with health, climate change and education challenges, tackle food insecurity, promote better governance, negotiate deals on global issues and to arbitrate and police costly disputes and conflict within the region.

Regional co-operation in any area of the world takes longer (much of DFID's investment to 2015 will not see full returns until later), has higher upfront costs and greater commercial and strategic risks than national projects. The economic benefits and opportunities are often unevenly distributed between co-operating countries. However, the direct and indirect benefits of such investment potentially yield huge economic and social dividends although often beyond domestic political time horizons. **Political commitment and accountability** are critical to success whether it be in striking trade, energy, water or climate deals or reducing maternal mortality rates and maintaining regional stability.

The African Union (AU) was created in 2002 to strengthen regional co-operation. There is commitment to create an African Economic Community by 2028 and three of the principal regional economic communities (COMESA, SADC and EAC) have formed **a tripartite agreement covering 26 countries** to foster progressive co-operation and strategic investment towards a free trade area. DFID's regional programme will support the Coalition Government's commitment to an African Free Trade Area and progressive regional integration. We will work with the AU, the Tripartite and other regional institutions to:

Reduce the costs of trade and production through:

- Trade policy and regulatory reform (including at crucial border crossing points)
- Leveraging investment in regional transport and energy infrastructure
- Improvements in agricultural markets, financial services and cross border trade

Strengthen governance, accountability and conflict prevention through:

- Improving election monitoring and feedback of citizens' views on country governance to their policy makers across Africa
- Improving budgetary and financial management
- Supporting conflict prevention and AU peace keeping and stability interventions

Improve health and education services, particularly for women and girls through:

- Improved access to affordable medicines at lower cost through regionally negotiated price reductions, regional procurement and market development and regionally harmonised drug registration.
- Scaling up provision of comprehensive services to prevent death and complications from unwanted pregnancies.
- Improving education policy through regional co-operation

Support adaptation to and mitigation of climate change through:

- Developing adaptation responses, particularly regional co-operation on water and forests
- Trialing and scaling up low carbon development opportunities for poor communities
- Supporting African negotiators to get a better deal for the region during global climate talks
- Improving the evidence base and understanding of climate change

Ensure that DFID responds to humanitarian crises in Africa in a timely manner to international norms and standards

We are working closely with other UK government departments and other agencies including the World Bank, African Development Bank and EC engaged in significant regional programming with the AU and the Regional Economic Communities. We have set clear criteria for regional funding; Africa Regional will not be supporting projects that should be led by bi-lateral country programmes or multi-country programmes where there is no strong regional element.

3) Results

Headline results

Pillar/ Strategic Priority	Indicator	Baseline (2010 unless stated)	Expected Results (by 2015 unless stated)
Wealth Creation	Number of border crossings in Tripartite area which cut average crossing time by 50% or more	1	10
Wealth Creation	Number of additional people benefiting directly from improved cross border trade	0	4 million (50% women and girls)
Health	Number of unsafe abortions averted	0	900,000 (100% women and girls)
Health	Ratio of consumer prices (public and private) of essential medicines in Southern African Development Community (SADC) against international standards	2.2 (public) 3.8 (private) for lowest price generic medicines (2010) (based on limited data)	1 (for both public and private)
Climate Change*	Number of additional people directly benefitting from improved management of shared water basins.	0	15 million (50% women and girls)
Climate Change*	Increased number of households with supplies of affordable low carbon energy.	0	300,000 households with direct access to improved, low carbon energy.
Governance	Average performance scores for IMF programme improving financial management in east African countries (AFRITACs)	2.9 'good' (2009)	3.5 'excellent'
Humanitarian	Number of additional people assisted through food security interventions	0	1 million (50% women and girls)

*DFID climate change programming is subject to the strategy and allocations of the UK's cross-Government International Climate Fund (ICF). ICF priorities are to be agreed by summer 2011.

3) Results (continued)

Evidence supporting results

The evidence for economic integration, improvements in agricultural productivity and trade development in Africa is strong and steadily improving, although there are very few reviews and evaluations of large scale regional integration programming relating to trade facilitation in Africa to substantiate detailed implementation strategies, partly due to the newness of regional approaches. There is very strong evidence of the effectiveness of individual interventions for maternal health. There is also good historical evidence from around the world that no country has effected major falls in maternal mortality without a political focus and effective monitoring of deaths. Our approach to humanitarian programming is supported by strong evidence of what works in a number of sectors (for example nutrition, water and sanitation and food security) with clear industry standards and principles established, both for complex chronic emergencies and fast onset natural disaster settings

There is less evidence on how to sustainably deliver health services in resource poor environments and around important issues such as accountability and how to maintain a political and cultural focus on maternal deaths. In the absence of strong information systems, much of the health data in Africa is modelled (e.g. maternal death figures and malaria case/death figures), using peer-reviewed models judged to be robust by international experts. The technical, economic and political economy evidence supporting the rationale for work in protection and Disaster Risk Reduction is strong although it is acknowledged that results-based practice guidance for applying lessons at scale in poor governance environments is relatively weaker than in project settings or work in developed economies.

The evidence base for the specific impact of regional institutions and regional governance interventions on governance and wider development outcomes at the country level exists, but needs to be strengthened. There is very clear evidence of the potential impact of climate change in Africa and the economic benefits of action to adapt and mitigate its effects. However, given the relative lack of applied climate science for Africa, the absence of a global deal to set ceilings on global emissions of green house gases and the paucity of reviews of adaption and mitigation programmes, the evidence underlying some investments is weak. There are limited studies on the impact of implementing combination approaches for HIV prevention, hence a need for better evaluation of programmes in the region. Overall, the quality and availability of pharmaceutical market information in Southern Africa is poor. There is a lack of transparency and routine systems are not in place to collect and share key market information

Value for Money (VfM) rationale

Regional economic integration potentially offers very good returns on investment in trade and regulatory reform, regional transport and electricity infrastructure, and in freeing up agricultural markets. Cutting inland transit times in Africa by 1 day boosts exports by 7% on average. Internal Rates of Return (IRR) on cross border energy trading are as high as 120% for the Southern Africa Power Pool and typically 20-30% for other power pools. Rates of return on DFID regional integration programmes are good ranging between 25% and 65% for different east African programmes. These compare well with other implementing agencies. Value for money evidence on regional governance programming is weak, although the economic case for avoidance of conflict and improved regional institutions is well founded. We will be working to strengthen evidence in this area.

The strategic case for investment in climate change adaptation and mitigation has been well argued; investment in regional programmes is potentially highly cost effective. For example, $250m held in an African regional risk pool could save African countries up to $1 billion in cash over 20 years. DFID's interventions in humanitarian programming are cost efficient. For example, in 2009/10 DFID invested £10 million into addressing Severe Acute Malnutrition through humanitarian programming. Preliminary calculations show a cost per head of $170 compared to a global average of $200 per head.

Taking a regional approach to some aspects of health programming, such as medicine procurement, will lead to significant cost savings. In the Southern African Development Community (SADC), for instance, DFID interventions will directly save more than £550 million through making medicines more affordable. The South African Government alone could save more than £450 million over the next two years through more effective tendering for antiretroviral medicines.

4) Delivery and Resources

Africa Regional is a new programme formed in January 2011. The merger of 4 previously separate teams to work together on regional issues offers an exciting opportunity to capitalise on significant existing sectoral expertise and experience and identify new opportunities for cross discipline and cross sector innovation, learning and relationships to have greater impact. It also offers the opportunity to allocate activity, staff and budgets to where they'll have greatest impact and value for money as well as manage the department in a way which maximises use of human resources by increasing flexibility across teams. We will deliver our programme through four teams (Wealth Creation; Climate Change; Health Education and Humanitarian; and Governance and Security) with team members based in the UK and Africa. A small team for leadership, co-ordination, corporate and results management will also be created.

While our programme is focused with clear objectives, the complex nature of regional working requires close working relationships and agreements with African Governments and institutions and a wide range of specialist partners and diplomatic missions. We will continue to work closely with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), the Ministry of Defence (MoD), the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) and the Cabinet Office to support the implementation of our programme. We will ensure our work on climate change is developed under the supervision of the International Climate Fund Board.

The principal mechanisms for delivery of our Wealth Creation programme objectives will be through programme agreements with the Tripartite of Regional Economic Communities (EAC, COMESA, SADC), the African Union, the African Development Bank, Trade Mark Southern Africa and Trade Mark East Africa. We will be working closely with a number of private sector companies and representative institutions as well as maintaining our co-ordination with the EC and bi-lateral donors. We will also maintain our working relationships and in some cases fund:

- International Financial Institutions including the World Bank, European Investment Bank, Development Bank of Southern Africa and the International Monetary Fund
- UN agencies such as UNAIDs, WHO, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP and the Global Fund
- Specialist Trusts and global institutions such as the ICRC, FinMark Trust, EU infrastructure Trust Fund, the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa and the African Water Facility
- Non Governmental Organisations working in health, humanitarian, climate change, governance programmes and research and advocacy organisations such as the Overseas Development Institute and Afrobarometer.

All our programmes will be subject to appraisal through the Business Case proposal including economic and value for money considerations in line with normal procedures. The department will ensure that recommendations for the Multilateral Aid Review are considered in funding arrangements.

The department will work closely with DFID offices in Africa and establish and maintain staff networks throughout the Africa Division to ensure that research and knowledge are effectively shared. We will identify areas of synergy and mutual interest across the teams in the Regional Programme. Such areas for cross team working may include improving linkages between agriculture, food security, nutrition and health programmes or the better articulation of our climate change work on low carbon economic growth with that on energy infrastructure for wealth creation.

The results from the 2010 ‘People Survey’ were broadly in line with those of DFID as a whole. We will prioritise effective management of change, better articulation of objectives in annual work plans and a more effective learning and development strategy. We will also undertake updated awareness training on sensitive data handling and the Civil Service Code.

The department will also develop a quality assurance system for the programme that will monitor progress on key performance and risk issues including corruption, political engagement and value for money for the new Africa Regional department as well as ensure we meet the highest standards for publishing information under DFID’s transparency commitments and other corporate priorities.

4) Delivery and Resources (continued)

Programme Spend

Pillar/Strategic priority	2010/11		2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15		TOTAL	
	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resourc e £'000	Capital £'000	Resourc e £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000	Resource £'000	Capital £'000
Wealth Creation	50,246	10,000	46,045	12,155	38,650	30,000	39,050	20,000	46,250	20,000	169,995	82,155
Climate Change	17,160		47,400	0	49,900	0	71,850	0	63,950	0	233,100	0
Governance and Security	12,247		15,500	0	16,000	0	20,000	0	22,000	0	73,500	0
Education	2,000		500	0	500	0	500	0	500	0	2,000	0
Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn Health	9,907		9,200	0	12,000	0	13,500	0	14,700	0	49,400	0
Malaria			300	0	2,200	0	4,500	0	5,000	0	12,000	0
HIV/AIDS	6,869		100	0	1,600	0	4,500	0	4,500	0	10,700	0
Other Health	2,983		3,800	0	4,150	0	4,100	0	3,100	0	15,150	0
Water and Sanitation				0		0		0		0	0	0
Poverty, Hunger and Vulnerability				0		0		0			0	0
Humanitarian	40,000		45,000	0	40,000	0	40,000	0	40,000	0	165,000	0
Other DG's M			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Global Partnerships			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	141,412	10,000	167,845	12,155	165,000	30,000	198,000	20,000	200,000	20,000	730,845	82,155

4) Delivery and Resources (continued)

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Frontline staff costs - Pay	214.00	2,035	2,265	2,334	2,334	8,968
Frontline staff costs - Non Pay	324.00	721	659	590	590	2,560
Administrative Costs - Pay	2,240.00	252	265	265	265	1,047
Administrative Costs - Non Pay	323.00	225	173	137	104	639
Total	3,101.00	3,233	3,362	3,326	3,293	13,214

4) Delivery and Resources (continued)

Efficiency savings

Delivering Programme Efficiencies

Category	Details	Residual cost in the SR period £'000
Strategic Reprioritisation		
Further examples of Programme efficiency		

	2011/12		2012/13		2013/14		2014/15	
Administrative Cost Savings Initiative	PAY £'000	Non Pay £'000	PAY £'000	Non Pay £'000	PAY £'000	Non Pay £'000	PAY £'000	Non Pay £'000
Reduction in Consultancy Payments		17		20		18		17
Reduction in Travel		17		19		18		16
Reduction in Training		0		0		0		0
Reduction in Estates & Property Costs		0		0		0		0
Reduction in costs as a result of Office Restructuring		0		0		0		0
Other Reductions		0		0		0		0
Total	0	34	0	39	0	36	0	33

5) Delivering Value for Money (VfM)

Regional integration agreements and programmes are complex to negotiate, implement and maintain and generally, they take longer to implement and imply higher levels of commercial, strategic and technical risks than domestic or bi-lateral investments. Programmes and agreements to support the capital, governance and regulatory reforms required for success involve a large number of governments, agencies, financiers and institutions.

The economic case for regional integration and co-operation is well founded. In any number of sectors, the results offer good returns on investment. However, there is relatively little evidence available to determine the most cost effective and efficient strategies to pursue. This is primarily because of the long 'results chains' between initial investment and point of delivery, relative paucity of data on regional development and issues in Africa, difficulties identifying the counterfactual to the investment and the wide ranging political economy developments or events that shape agreements.

The Africa Regional Department will develop a Value for Money Strategy during the financial year 2011/12 to consolidate and augment application of cost effective and efficient management of the regional programmes. The principle elements of the Strategy will include:

- Ensuring that more analysis of the distribution of benefits and costs between countries for regional public goods (such as infrastructure for trade corridors) is undertaken during the Business Case appraisal process
- Working with other teams to develop and use appropriate indicators and milestones to monitor value for money considerations more effectively throughout the project cycle
- Given the specific difficulties of rigorous evaluation of regional programmes, such as Aid for Trade projects, we will develop procedures for regular review and development of the assumptions underlying our value for money calculations.
- Work with our partners and other funding agencies to ensure that value for money considerations are embedded and monitored more rigorously during implementation of programmes, most particularly in procurement. Our work on infrastructure will be a particular focus for this work.
- Develop our approach to evaluation and audit to establish the most cost effective and efficient strategies to reach objectives
- Improvements in measuring the value for money in elements of policy work and diplomacy that are less amenable to quantification than other elements of the programme, such as investments in capital or institutions.

We will develop programme management team skills across the department through training and coaching on value for money assessment and its integration into the Business Case model. We will be establishing a central management team, to include a results and evaluation adviser (most probably a statistician), to support technical work in this area.

We will ensure we continue to have the correct systems, procedures and practices in place to drive continued improvement in financial management.

6) Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring
Formal reviews of progress against detailed operational results tables will take place every six months. Each programme will have a monitoring framework to track progress and where possible routine programme review teams will incorporate staff not directly involved with implementation so that that an element of peer review is included in all scheduled annual and project completion monitoring reports. We will work closely with DFID country office and UK based departments both to avoid duplication but also to maximise synergies and opportunities for learning and support

We will continue to improve regional monitoring systems and their links to country level and private sector monitoring systems. For example the Africa Regional Department is working institutions in the public and private sectors to develop their capability to better monitor maternal and neonatal health data (better recording of deaths) and the burden of disease for malaria (cases and deaths). We will continue to work with our partners in the private, public, banking and not-for profit sectors to strengthen their focus on monitoring of outputs and outcomes. Given the importance of the DFID business plan objectives on trade, we will develop, with our partners, specific monitoring plans for the Tripartite Vision and Strategy and for programmes which are critical to delivery of objectives articulated in these plans. This may include monitoring plans for the agreed Trade Corridors (such as the North-South Corridor), and for the Trade Mark East Africa and Trade Mark Southern Africa Programmes.

Evaluation
External review and evaluation is already a core component of many of Africa Regional's projects. Examples of projects to include evaluations include our regional maternal health programme and the Regional Agricultural Markets Programme. We will undertake a thematic evaluation of our democratic governance work to inform future funding decisions. Timing of evaluations or external reviews is important. Some regional programmes or strategies may take 8-10 years to fully implement. Where lessons need to be applied in follow on programmes or phases, it may be more appropriate to emphasise the rigour and depth of independent mid-term reviews or evaluations, rather than ex-post studies. There are technical, data and attribution challenges in evaluating regional programmes in water shed co-operation agreements, Aid for Trade projects and regional public goods such as cross border infrastructure, for example. Given the large number of steps between financing and their impact in many regional programmes, as well as the number of implementing and funding agencies involved, the department will need to develop greater 'in house' technical expertise on evaluation.

Building capacity of partners
We are already working with a number of partners to improve focus on results and monitoring and evaluation, including a number of partner Governments. For example, we are working with the EU Infrastructure Trust Fund and International Monetary Fund's AFRITAC programmes on improving results focus and management. However, these activities need to be better tracked and monitored across the portfolio with clearer timelines for implementation of reforms in some cases.

Africa Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy
Africa Regional Programme will develop a Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy during the financial year 2011/12, in cooperation with Evaluation Department. Given the complexities of monitoring and evaluation at regional scales and the relatively little work in this area internationally, the department will recruit a Results and Evaluation Adviser. We will look to develop evaluation expertise further, possibly through accreditation of one or more staff members to the Evaluation Cadre during the plan period.

7) Transparency

Transparency is one of the top priorities for the UK Government. We will meet our commitments under the UK Aid Transparency Guarantee:

We will publish comprehensive details of our work on the DFID website

- In line with DFID standards we will publish detailed information of all new programmes on the DFID website and all spend over £500. Routine project reviews will also be published.
- For those projects with significant spending in French or Portuguese speaking countries we will ensure relevant project documentation is translated.
- All documents which are scheduled for publication will be signed off by a member of the Africa Regional Programme senior management team for quality assurance; they will also ensure that published information is in plain English and technical terms and language are minimised, where appropriate and practical.

We will develop management functions to ensure timely responses to requests for information

- We will develop a management system within the new Africa Regional Programme to respond to requests for information from MPs, members of the public and partners in line with DFID standards

We will encourage our partners to promote transparency in their work and integrate it into our programming

- The Africa Regional Programme already supports increased transparency and access to data sets within our programmes, such as Afro-barometer. We will consolidate and expand this work to ensure that professional surveys of African citizens' views are brought to decision makers' and the public's attention in a timely and focused manner.
- We will explore further opportunities to promote access to information through our programmes on climate change, health, wealth creation and governance, particularly by asking partners to improve the quality and quantity of information about their activities available on their websites.
- Where possible we will promote other mechanisms, such as humanitarian transparency initiatives like the Humanitarian Information Service in Chad where information on programme activities is made publically available. In a conflict zone such services can provide a vital mechanism for beneficiaries to hold donors, government and aid agencies to account.