

What is DFID's 10% Commitment?

In a speech on humanitarian reform in December 2004, then Secretary of State Hilary Benn committed DFID to giving a higher priority to disaster risk reduction. This included a commitment that DFID would allocate approximately 10% of the funding it provides in response to each natural disaster to prepare for and mitigate the impact of future disasters, where this can be done effectively and the initial response is over £500,000. This is in addition to ongoing support DFID provides to disaster risk reduction programmes, through multilateral partners and civil society of approximately £8m per year.

How much have we committed?

So far DFID has committed the following amounts:

- £7.5m following the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami;
- £5.4m following the 2005 Pakistan earthquake;
- £500k following the 2006 Yogyakarta (Indonesia) earthquake;
- £4.5m following 2008 Cyclone Nargis in Burma;
- £355k following the 2008 China earthquake; and
- 600k following the 2008 hurricane season in Haiti.

Where is DFID 10% money being used?

Some examples:

Disease Early Warning System in Pakistan

DFID has provided £1.8m over 3 years to the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Disease Early Warning System (DEWS) in Pakistan. After major natural disasters people are particularly vulnerable to epidemics of diseases due to poor living conditions. DEWS is used to track the occurrence of epidemic-prone diseases and to provide an appropriate response. As a result major outbreaks and epidemics have been avoided. WHO is working to ensure that DEWS covers the entire country, helping Pakistan to detect and quickly respond to outbreaks and epidemics wherever they occur, not just in disaster zones, and prevent them from becoming widespread.

Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into Legislation in Indonesia

DFID is providing funding of £4.5m over 3 years to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for a joint initiative between the National Development Planning Agency in Indonesia and UNDP to support Disaster Risk Reduction as part of the development planning process. The Government of Indonesia adopted a law on disaster management in April 2007 as a result of lobbying by civil society organisations, parliamentarians and UN agencies. The law mandated the establishment of the Disaster Management National Agency which has begun conducting risk assessments

at the national level and establishing early warning systems in some of the most disaster prone areas in the country.

Early recovery and building resilience in Haiti

DFID is providing £2.25m over 6 months to a joint UNDP/International Organisation for Migration/Food and Agriculture Organisation programme of which approximately two-thirds is to promote early recovery needs in Haiti following the 2008 hurricane season. Activities such as river bank reinforcement, distribution of seeds, planting materials and tools, hillside protection and rehabilitation of irrigation schemes will be carried out. These activities will help build the resilience of vulnerable communities to potential future tropical storms.

Developing a National Action Plan in Burma

DFID is providing £130k over 6 months to the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre to provide support in developing and implementing the National DRR Programme and Action Plan in Burma. With strengthened institutions and capacity at both national and sub-national level the programme will begin to implement activities in selected hazard prone areas to reduce the impact of natural disasters. These will include enhanced early warning systems and education to build a culture of safety and resilience.

Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction in Burma

DFID is providing £600k over 6 months to a joint UNDP/UNHABITAT project to increase community-level disaster preparedness. More specifically this will include establishing and training community groups in search and rescue, first aid, early warning dissemination and evacuation. The project will also train community facilitators and local artisans in integrating disaster risk reduction methods when rebuilding human settlements.

Tsunami Early Warning System in the Indian Ocean

DFID is providing £1.5m over 2 years to the Indian Ocean Consortium through the UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction for an Indian Ocean Early Warning System. This programme has helped governments to prepare national action plans for tsunami early warning systems and is now at a stage where it is helping governments to revise and implement these plans. 26 out of 28 of the Indian Ocean rim countries are actively involved. The programme is also improving coordination, information exchange and learning between countries for tsunami and related hazards.

Community Resilience in the Zambezi Valley, Mozambique

DFID is providing £1.2m over 3 years to Save the Children to enhance the resilience of communities living in the Zambezi Valley, Mozambique to the impact of floods and to develop resilient livelihoods options. Save the Children is making small community grants available to help communities

generate income through short-term economic activities ranging from fishing, poultry and marketing. The project is also carrying out research on flood plain management in the Zambezi valley, including disaster preparedness and mitigation with a view to lesson learning and application to government planning.

Emergency planning training materials in China

Following the earthquake in Sichuan Province in China, DFID is providing funds for a post-disaster technical assistance facility. This includes funding for a partnership between the UK's Emergency Planning College and the China National School of Administration (CNSA). The partnership will work together with senior personnel of Sichuan Province, who have recently been through the earthquake experience, in adapting the UK DRR and emergency planning training materials to the Chinese context and field testing in Mianyang, one of the worst affected parts of the province. Once developed in Sichuan, the materials will be incorporated into national training curricula by CNSA and rolled out across the whole of China.

Climate Change National Adaptation Programmes

DFID has provided £250k to Asia National Adaptation Planning Capacity through the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change/UN Institute for Training and Research. This programme provided training to country teams in vulnerability and adaptation assessments in the areas of coastal resources, water resources, agriculture and health. It also helped selected countries in Asia to develop National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) which set out priority actions for adaptation to climate change.