

**THE UK GOVERNMENT'S
PROGRAMME OF WORK
TO FIGHT POVERTY IN
PAKISTAN**



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GETTING RID OF POVERTY WILL MAKE FOR A BETTER WORLD FOR EVERYBODY

WHAT IS DEVELOPMENT?

International development is about helping people fight poverty. This means people in rich and poor countries working together to settle conflicts, increase opportunities for trade, tackle climate change, improve people's health and their chances to get an education.

It means helping governments in developing countries put their own plans into action. It means agreeing debt relief, working with international institutions that co-ordinate support, and working with non-government organisations and charities to give communities a chance to find their own ways out of poverty.

WHY IS THE UK GOVERNMENT INVOLVED?

Getting rid of poverty will make for a better world for everybody. Nearly a billion people, one in six of the world's population, live in extreme poverty. This means they live on less than \$1 a day. Ten million children die before their fifth birthday, most of them from preventable diseases. More than 113 million children in developing countries do not go to school.

In a world of growing wealth, such levels of human suffering and wasted potential are not only morally wrong, they are also against our own interests.

We are closer to people in developing countries than ever before. We trade more and more with people in poor countries, and many of the problems which affect us - conflict, international crime, refugees, the trade in illegal drugs and the spread of diseases - are caused or made worse by poverty in developing countries.

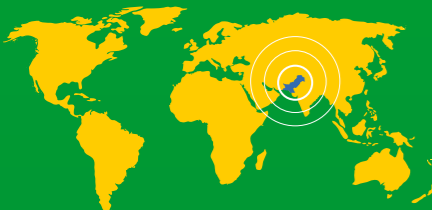
In the last 10 years Britain has more than trebled its spending on aid to nearly £7 billion a year. We are now the fourth largest donor in the world.

WHAT IS DFID?

DFID, the Department for International Development, is the part of the UK Government that manages Britain's aid to poor countries and works to get rid of extreme poverty.

We are working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals - a set of targets agreed by the United Nations to halve global poverty by 2015.

With 64 offices overseas, DFID staff work in some of the most difficult places in the world to protect the vulnerable and help countries recover from conflict. We work with organisations like the United Nations, European Union and the World Bank to find international solutions to international problems. We give money and other help to governments in developing countries to support their own action plans to reduce the number of people living in poverty. And we fund charities, including the British Red Cross, VSO and Oxfam, to work directly with communities.



WHY WE ARE WORKING IN PAKISTAN

Pakistan is located at the geographical crossroads of South and Central Asia – bordering Afghanistan, Iran, India, China and the Arabian Sea. Out of a population of 160 million, 36 million people live in poverty.

In recent years, Pakistan has made progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals, thanks to strong economic growth of 7% a year. But the poverty challenge remains substantial. One in ten children die before their fifth birthday and half of the adult population is still unable to read or write. Increasing levels of insecurity and conflict, particularly in the border areas, are serious problems.

The UK wants to help Pakistan achieve its vision of becoming a stable, economically and socially developed country. This is important for the people of Pakistan and also for wider regional and global peace and prosperity. We have been helping to tackle poverty in Pakistan for many years and we are working hard to make sure our new programme builds on what has been achieved so far. Recent successful elections and a new government offer a real opportunity to make future progress.

RECENT ELECTIONS AND A NEW GOVERNMENT OFFER A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE FUTURE PROGRESS

KEY FACTS

Size:

796,096 Km²

Population:

160 million

- half of the adult population is illiterate (including two thirds of women)
- only 56% of primary school aged children are enrolled in school
- 4 million young people are entering the labour market each year

Average life expectancy:

65 years (79 in the UK)

- 1 in 10 children die before their 5th birthday
- 2 out of 5 children are malnourished

Average annual income per head:

£543

(£22,000 in the UK)

- 36 million people live below the national poverty line
- 15,000 women die each year due to complications in pregnancy and childbirth
- 260,000 people develop TB each year
- 70,000 people died in the 2005 earthquake and 3.5 million were affected in the North West Frontier Province and Pakistan Administered Kashmir

**1 IN 4
PEOPLE
IN PAKISTAN
LIVE IN
POVERTY**



Photo: Kashif



WE HAVE HELPED SAVE THE LIVES OF OVER 200,000 CHILDREN AND HELPED STOP 800,000 CHILDREN FROM BECOMING MALNOURISHED



Photo: Jenny Matthews / Panos



WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED

THE GOOD NEWS

Positive progress has been made towards many of the Millennium Development Goals in Pakistan since 2000. Based on this, the target of halving the amount of income poverty by 2015 can be achieved. In recent years we have:

- helped to: save 200,000 children's lives; stop 800,000 children from becoming malnourished; and increase the percentage of children being immunised from 53% to 76%
- helped to: prevent 15,000 mothers' deaths; prevent 2.4 million TB and 450,000 malaria cases; and helped polio cases to drop from 5,000 to 32 a year
- helped provide access to clean drinking water for 1.1 million people in the north west of Pakistan
- provided £53 million in emergency relief after the 2005 earthquake and we have since provided £49 million for reconstruction that has helped rebuild 250,000 houses
- raised the incomes of 300,000 poor women and their families by over 50% by working with local partners
- helped make the electoral system for the 2008 elections stronger and increased the participation of socially excluded groups

BUT...

...there's still a lot of work to do. Making sure poor people benefit from economic growth and improving access to healthcare and education continue to be big challenges.

EMERGENCY AID HELPED PROVIDE RELIEF FOR 3.5 MILLION PEOPLE AFTER THE 2005 EARTHQUAKE



Photo: DFID Pakistan

HOW WE ARE WORKING IN PAKISTAN

The UK is committed to helping Pakistan meet its poverty targets. The 2006 UK/Pakistan Development Partnership Arrangement is a ten-year joint vision of how we will work together. The agreement is based on a shared resolve to reduce poverty, address corruption, respect international human rights obligations and improve coordination between donors.

We are doubling our assistance to Pakistan to £480 million during 2008-2011 and by the end of this period it will be our second largest programme worldwide. We have developed a plan that will:

GIVE PEOPLE ACCESS TO BETTER HEALTH AND EDUCATION:

- we will put more money into education to get more children into school, improve teaching, and provide the skills young people need to get jobs.
- we are already the lead donor on health in Pakistan, and are committed to doing more, including on mother and child health and combating the spread of TB and polio.

MAKE GOVERNMENT MORE EFFECTIVE:

- we will help build government systems to ensure basic services are delivered efficiently and effectively. And we will help build a strong civil society to promote rights and help ensure poor people receive the services they need.

MAKE GROWTH WORK FOR EVERYONE:

- we will make sure that growth benefits poor people and takes account of international commitments to address climate change. We will help more poor people get access to the finance they need to set up businesses. And we will continue to support completion of reconstruction in those parts of the country devastated by the 2005 earthquake.

ENSURE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WORKS BETTER TOGETHER:

- we need the international community to work effectively together to make the greatest impact. We will work closely with others to make sure aid gets to where it is needed most quickly and efficiently. We will also help to improve the effectiveness of the United Nations in Pakistan.

We will work with the national government as well as in Pakistan's three poorest provinces - North West Frontier Province, Punjab and Balochistan. We will also extend our support to those parts of the country bordering Afghanistan where levels of insecurity are high and our aid is desperately needed.

**HALF OF THE ADULT
POPULATION CANNOT
READ OR WRITE –
INCLUDING TWO THIRDS
OF WOMEN**



Photo: DFID Pakistan



HOW DO WE KNOW IT WILL WORK?

Throughout 2007 DFID consulted widely within Pakistan and the UK about what to include in the next phase of our programme. We had discussions with government ministries, civil society, the private sector and members of Pakistan origin communities in the UK. Evaluation of DFID's programmes has shown where our support has had the greatest impact.

The evidence shows that in areas such as health, providing finance for poor people's businesses and helping to make government more effective we have a good track record on which we should build. It also demonstrates that by providing direct financial support for the government's budget we have helped to increase the Government of Pakistan's overall spending on poverty reduction - by 90% over the last 3 years.

But the consultation and evaluation also made it clear that we need to help address other pressing priorities. We need to help improve access to education and raise basic standards in both primary and

secondary schools, as well as invest in vocational skills. We also need to address poverty in the border areas where lack of opportunities increases the potential for exclusion and conflict. And we need to do more to help build a stronger civil society that is able to make sure that government is working effectively on behalf of all citizens.

Our 50-strong Pakistani and international team based in Islamabad has the resources and expertise to help the government and people of Pakistan to tackle some of the underlying causes of poverty in the country.

DFID'S DIRECT FINANCIAL SUPPORT HAS HELPED INCREASE SPENDING ON POVERTY REDUCTION BY 90%

WE HAVE HELPED 300,000 POOR WOMEN INCREASE THEIR INCOMES BY OVER 50%



Photo: Kashf



WHAT WILL CHANGE?

Our vision reflects the UK's commitment to meeting the global targets to reduce poverty – the Millennium Development Goals – by 2015. Achieving our targets in Pakistan will mean that:

PEOPLE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO BETTER HEALTH AND EDUCATION BY 2013:

- 5 million more children will be able to attend primary school
- 500,000 young people will benefit from technical and vocational education
- the lives of 350,000 more children and 30,000 pregnant women will be saved
- 2.5 million fewer children will be malnourished
- 8 million cases of TB will be prevented

GOVERNMENT WILL BE MORE EFFECTIVE:

- better standards for managing resources across national government and in provinces to make sure services are well delivered
- 30 million people will be reached by our work with civil society to strengthen awareness of rights, hold government to account and improve services for the poor

GROWTH WILL WORK FOR EVERYONE BY 2013:

- 5 million more people will have access to financial services to set up small businesses or protect their livelihoods
- up to 20 million poor people living in rural areas of Punjab will benefit from a range of programmes to improve their incomes
- Pakistan's government will be better able to plan for the economic and social impact of climate change

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL WORK BETTER TOGETHER, LEADING TO:

- a reformed and more effective United Nations system in Pakistan
- better division of labour and co-ordination between donors to respond to national priorities for poverty reduction

5 MILLION MORE CHILDREN WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND PRIMARY SCHOOL



MORE INFORMATION

WHAT CAN I DO?

Get informed:

Visit our website, read our publications and check aid agency websites.

Spread the word:

Get people talking, start discussions with your friends.

If you're at school:

Why not look into a school linking project?

Buy fairly-traded goods:

To help people in developing countries work their own way out of poverty.

Protect the environment:

Climate change presents a serious threat to development.

Give money:

To charities working to reduce poverty.

Give your time:

To an organisation like VSO.

And, during a disaster, give money, volunteer if you have specialist skills, or help raise funds.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

This booklet forms part of a series to explain DFID's work around the world. For more detailed information about DFID's work visit:

www.dfid.gov.uk

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