

Our Common Challenge

Global lives

Never before have people from so many countries been connected in so many ways. We depend on one another. Our futures are tied together.

Big challenges

Our world faces the most profound challenges in a generation.

- 1.4 billion people live in poverty and the global downturn means many are at risk of staying poor.
- Too many people are trapped in poverty and endangered by war and instability.
- Climate change, mostly caused by developed countries like the UK, threatens the lives of poor people and ourselves.

Shared problems

Problems faced by poor countries affect all of us, including the UK:

- **Prosperity.** Britain's fastest growing export markets are in poor countries. The economic downturn, weak financial regulation and unfair trade affect us all.
- **Security.** Weak government and social exclusion can be a source of conflict, and threaten peace and security around the world.
- **Climate.** Climate change will force many people to leave their homes. The UK summer floods in 2007 cost the country around £3 billion.

Our Common Promises

Big issues need tackling

We remain committed to saving lives, tackling diseases and getting children into school.

But that alone is not enough.

We need to tackle unsustainable growth, conflict and climate change now to protect and build on the progress we have made towards eliminating world poverty.

Our **common prosperity**. We will support the poorest countries and people through the economic downturn. We will help them build back stronger economies and livelihoods, and better tax systems, so they can grow and trade their way out of poverty.

Our **common security**. We will focus on building peace and effective states in fragile and war torn countries where a third of the world's poor live.

Our **common climate**. We will seek and support an ambitious global agreement to tackle climate change. We will help poor countries to cope with its impacts and develop cleaner, low-carbon technologies.

Development works

Development changes lives

The UK government helps lift three million people out of poverty each year. British people can be proud that our collective effort has helped:

- 40 million more children go to school
- 3 million get life-preserving HIV and AIDS drugs
- 400 million people lift themselves from poverty in the last 10 years

We are introducing a new logo 'UKaid' to show you how the UK government is investing in development to improve peoples' lives.

Find out more at www.dfid.gov.uk



We make the following pledges to the world's poorest and the British public

We will:

- ✓ **Maintain our commitment to people in poverty**
- ✓ **Work to make sure every pound of UK aid is spent well**
- ✓ **Work for sustained, fair and green growth**
- ✓ **Help make people safe and secure**
- ✓ **Increase our investment in international organisations and continue to lead reforms with real impact**
- ✓ **Commit to helping vulnerable countries adapt to climate change and develop in a low carbon way**
- ✓ **Reinforce our partnerships with charities, faith groups, trade unions, businesses and others**
- ✓ **Meet our aid target of 0.7% of UK income by 2013**

A ray of light

Cover: Kamla is from a drought affected region in India. She is the first woman trained as a solar engineer in Rajasthan.

Find out more about Kamla and what DFID is doing to improve the lives of people in poor countries at www.dfid.gov.uk/commonfuture



Our Common Future

Development is good for all of us

In a world that is so interdependent, working to end poverty is the best investment we can make in our common future.

Our vision is a fair, safe and sustainable world for all people.

Where we share problems, we must share solutions.

Our shared opportunity

Our **common prosperity** depends on growth, but it has to be shared and sustainable.

Our **common security** depends on peaceful countries with effective governments emerging around the world.

Our **common climate** needs global action to protect our world now and for future generations.

It's up to all of us

In our interdependent world, we all have a part to play to make this world a better place for everyone.

What can you do?

If everyone does their bit, we can achieve the goal of ending global poverty.

Join us now and make your promise.

Make your promise online and find out more about the UK government's new White Paper, *Eliminating World Poverty: Building our Common Future* at: www.dfid.gov.uk/commonfuture

I will:

- Shop ethically
- Support campaigns for a fairer world
- Give money to organisations fighting poverty and providing humanitarian aid
- Let decision makers, friends and neighbours know I care about global justice
- Calculate my carbon footprint (<http://actonco2.direct.gov.uk>) and reduce the energy I use
- Volunteer in my local community or in a poor country
- Encourage my school to have a link with a school in a poor country
- Keep informed about what is happening in our interdependent world
- Inspire others to take action
- Other _____

For more information about the UK Department for International Development (DFID), please call our public enquiry point on 0845 300 4100 or go to www.dfid.gov.uk

DFID Department for International Development

UKaid
from the Department for International Development



Building our Common Future

Global action by the UK government to help make a fair, safe and sustainable world