

# Department For International Development - UK

## **Mandate:**

The Department for International Development is a United Kingdom government department responsible for administering overseas aid. The goal of the department is "to promote sustainable development and eliminate world poverty".

## **Graduation Lessons Learned:**

1. Cash-based programmes have a very high and positive impact on poverty reduction, and enable choice and dignity of beneficiaries, while they are good value for money. Therefore, DFID supports cash-based interventions across different sectors.
2. Evidence also shows that just giving cash to people doesn't solve all problems, but is most effective in conjunction with skills training and awareness raising, e.g. to improve nutrition outcomes.
3. Cash-based interventions might be able to learn from different graduation models how to enhance impact.

**Scale:** DFID has a global focus and works with a wide range of partners, including national governments, county governments, multilateral organisations, NGOs and civil society. The organisation has more than 3000 staff worldwide.

**Budget:** The UK is committed to spend 0.7% of GDP on development aid. This was approx. £12bn in 2017/2018.

DFID works globally, but in Kenya main partner is the Government of Kenya. Programmes are being implemented across most counties in Kenya, though with a focus on arid and semi-arid counties.

**HQ:** Yes, DFID has a Kenya office, based in Nairobi.

**Initiation:** The UK has a longstanding diplomatic relationship with the Government of Kenya since its independence.

**Graduation work:** DFID supported two of the four cash transfer programmes (Orphans and Vulnerable Children –OVC and Hunger and Safety Net Programme-HSNP) all of which are under National Safety Net Programme (NSNP) - the GoK vehicle for delivering social protection support to the most vulnerable and poorest households.

Since 2006, DFID has supported cash transfer in the OVC programme for 40,000 households, till July 2017, when GoK took over full funding of the caseload.

DFID has been instrumental in designing and establishing the Hunger Safety Net Programme to increase resilience of households in northern Kenya to drought, and since 2007 has supported the programme with a total of £164m, reaching more than 100,000 households.

DFID also provides technical support under a team of consultants to harmonise implementation arrangements across NSNP, as well as to ensure consistency with GoK's National Social Protection Policy. In addition, DFID has also funded different approaches to

foster graduation out of poverty, including a BRAC-model in Marsabit and livestock insurance among others. This has so far taken place at pilot scale.

**Future plans:** Moving forward, DFID's long-term strategic direction is to think about how to best support government systems to sustainably transition out of aid. Here, graduation might play an important role when thinking about how to get people of safety nets and into a productive and sustainable livelihood.