

## **THE DFID KNOWLEDGE & RESEARCH PROGRAMME**

GREENBAUM, DAVID. British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham, NG12 5GG, United Kingdom

As part the UK Government's provision of overseas aid, the Department for International Development (DFID) supports a programme of applied research and development under its Knowledge & Research programme. The topics cover a range of engineering sectors, including Geoscience and Water & Sanitation, the overall aim of which is to develop solutions that contribute towards economic growth and poverty alleviation in the developing world. The Geoscience sector aims to: (1) promote environmentally sensitive mineral resource development; (2) improve geological, geochemical and geotechnical hazard avoidance strategies in development planning; (3) improve the understanding of the engineering properties of geological materials in developing countries and develop new engineering and environmental applications for their use; and (4) develop strategies and systems for maintaining and improving national geoscience information services. The Water & Sanitation sector covers a range of themes directed at helping the poor meet their basic needs of safe water for drinking, for food production and improved sanitation. Specifically, it seeks to: (1) improve the assessment, development and management of water resources; (2) combat degradation and increase protection of water resources, water quality and aquatic eco-systems; and (3) raise the well-being of the rural and urban poor through cost-effective improved water supply and sanitation. The paper will provide an overview of the research undertaken under the programme, highlighting various projects led by the British Geological Survey.