The UK Government is working closely with a range of actors, including the Syrian National Coalition, NGOs, civil society, journalists and human rights activists, to support the Syrian people in their efforts to protect themselves against Assad’s brutality, find a political solution to the conflict and prepare to rebuild their country in the post-Assad era. Our efforts since 2012 include providing:

- more than £20m of support to the Syrian opposition
- more than £2m to support the elimination of Assad’s chemical weapons, and
- more than £16m to reduce the impacts of the conflict on the region

All figures shown are approximate funding envelopes.

Syrian National Coalition: £2m

We are helping the National Coalition to build its capacity as an institution, to meet the needs of Syrians and to represent their interests.

We have provided embedded advisers, training and logistical support to the National Coalition’s Secretariat and Media Centre in Istanbul and to its international offices in Washington and New York.

In the run-up to the Geneva II negotiations and during the political process, we continue to offer dedicated negotiation and communications support to the Coalition to help ensure the best possible outcome for Syrians.

Security and Justice: £2.1m

We are working with other international donors to provide training, technical assistance, maintenance funds and basic equipment to the Free Syrian Police (FSP) operating in opposition-controlled areas. One of the goals of this programme is to build community resilience to counter the threat from extremist groups. The programme involves strengthening community oversight and monitoring of the police to help ensure they are responsive to local needs.

Over £45 million

The UK has prepared a £1m package of life-saving equipment for the Supreme Military Council (SMC), including communications, medical and logistics equipment to be delivered once we and the SMC are satisfied the conditions on the ground allow the SMC to take safe delivery of this.

To date, we have provided equipment to protect against chemical weapons, including 5000 escape hoods, nerve-agent pre-treatment tablets and CW detector paper. We have also funded Law of Armed Conflict training to help SMC staff officers train fighters to understand their responsibilities and obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

Supreme Military Council: £1.5m

Civil Society and Human Rights: £6.6m

Local Councils: £2.8m

Assistance Coordination Unit: £4.3m
Local councils across Syria have been provided with £750k of equipment, including power generators and water purification kits. A substantial programme of further support aimed at improving local delivery of basic services is being developed following a successful pilot project.

As part of wider media training projects, we have trained local council media officers in journalism, video & photography techniques, media handling & press office skills, and provided media equipment to 12 local council media offices inside Syria.

Search and Rescue: £2.5m

To date, twelve 25-man civil defence teams from towns in Idlib province have received UK-funded training and equipment to carry out fire-fighting and search & rescue to help save lives. Over the next six months, additional teams across Northern Syria will be trained thanks to UK support.

Chemical Weapons: £2.4m

The UK has provided an initial contribution of £2.4m to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to eliminate Syria’s chemical weapons stocks. This includes the provision of armoured vehicles to protect inspectors on the ground.

Impact on the wider Region: £16.5m

The UK is providing a major package of equipment and training to the Lebanese Armed Forces to help them better manage the security of the border with Syria. The Jordanian Armed Forces have also taken delivery of a UK equipment package to help manage the increasing number of refugees crossing their border.

Media activists: £5.3m

Syrian human rights activists are being given the training and tools necessary to promote accountability, the collection of forensic and other evidence of human rights abuses including of sexual violence for future use in criminal proceedings.

We have supported work with local councils and civil society groups within Syria to increase community engagement in addressing local conflicts.

Religious and community leaders from the Sunni, Alawite, Christian, Druze, Armenian and Kurdish communities are being trained in active citizenship and dialogue skills to help reduce community tensions.

UK-funded projects are also building the capacity of civil society, media, local councils and a range of other key stakeholders to support transitional justice and good governance.

Peace-building projects within Lebanon and Jordan are working to improve relations between communities, particularly those affected by the influx of refugees. In partnership with local government, local police forces, civil society groups, local and Syrian community leaders, projects are working to reduce tensions and the potential for community level conflict and ensuring youth participation.

In Lebanon, a mine action survey addressing demarcation and Mine Risk education needs for locals and Syrian refugees has been carried out with UK support.