

Statistical Release

Provisional UK Official Development Assistance as a proportion of Gross National Income, 2014

The United Kingdom provides development assistance to developing countries and international organisations. This release provides provisional statistics about the amount of Official Development Assistance (ODA) the UK has provided as a proportion of Gross National Income (GNI) in 2014. ODA is the internationally agreed classification of aid and is measured in accordance with international standards agreed by OECD¹. All ODA figures published in this release are reported net of loan repayments.

These expenditure figures are **provisional**. Project level ODA information is currently only available for DFID, with aggregate data provided by other Government Departments. GNI estimates are revised by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) each quarter as more economic data for 2014 becomes available². A final estimate of UK ODA as a proportion of GNI with more detailed breakdowns of spend will be published in October 2015 in 'Statistics on International Development'³. This will be based on estimates of GNI published by the ONS in September 2015.

The UK government made a commitment to invest 0.7 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI) on Official Development Assistance from 2013. The ODA:GNI target of 0.7 per cent was first agreed internationally in 1970 by the United Nations General Assembly. In May 2005, EU member states pledged to meet the 0.7 per cent target by 2015, with a collective EU target milestone of 0.56 per cent by 2010. In the 2004 Spending Review the UK government set an earlier target date, to increase total UK ODA to 0.7 per cent of GNI by 2013. This target for 2013 has been re-endorsed by successive administrations with the 2010 Spending Review including funding to increase ODA to 0.7 per cent from 2013.

¹ See Background Note 1.

² See 'Office for National Statistics, Quarterly National Accounts', available [here](#).

³ Once released the publication will be available on the 'Statistics in DFID' [webpage](#).

Key Points

- Based on the latest National Accounts methodology for estimating GNI (ESA⁴ 2010) the provisional ODA:GNI ratio is 0.67. Based on the methodology that was in use when spending decisions were made (ESA 1995 unadjusted), the provisional ODA:GNI ratio is 0.71⁵.
- Over the past year the amount of ODA spent by the UK Government has increased by 3.0 per cent. This represented an increase of £345 million, up from £11,431 million in 2013 to £11,775 million in 2014⁶.
- ODA can be either bilateral (donor government to developing country) or multilateral (donor government to multilateral organisations such as the UN⁷). Over the past year bilateral ODA has increased by £31 million (0.5 per cent) whilst multilateral aid has increased by £314 million (6.7 per cent).
- In 2014 57.5 per cent of UK ODA was bilateral, down from 59.0 per cent in 2013 while multilateral spend rose from 41.0 per cent to 42.5 per cent of UK ODA.
- In 2014 85.8 per cent of UK ODA was Department for International Development (DFID) expenditure, down from 87.8 per cent in 2013. This decrease was driven by a change in the method used to apportion the EU budget development spending between DFID's and other departments' budgets.
- Over the past year the amount of ODA spent by DFID has increased by 0.7 per cent. This represented an increase of £73 million, up from £10,036 million in 2013 to £10,108 million in 2014.
- Statistics on bilateral ODA by geographic region is currently only available for DFID expenditure⁸. In 2014 Africa received the largest percentage of DFID bilateral ODA expenditure which was specified to a country or region (60.1 per cent), equating to £2,472 million.

⁴ European System of Accounts.

⁵ See the ONS 'Changes to the UK National Accounts and Balance of Payments' [webpage](#).

⁶ Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding.

⁷ Multilateral aid is delivered in the form of core contributions to organisations on the OECD Development Assistance Committee's List of ODA-eligible International Organisations, available [here](#).

⁸ Regional breakdowns are not available yet for all non-DFID expenditure from the provisional data collection. The full breakdown will be released as part of the *Statistics on International Development* publication in October 2015.

The ODA:GNI Ratio

Based on the latest National Accounts methodology for estimating GNI (ESA⁹ 2010) the provisional ODA:GNI ratio for 2014 is 0.67. Based on the National Accounts methodology for GNI that was in use when spending decisions were made (ESA 1995 unadjusted), the provisional ODA:GNI ratio for 2014 is 0.71.

The National Accounts methodology for measuring GNI changed last year. The ONS first released estimates based on ESA 2010 methodology in September 2014. For more detail on this see last year's Statistics on International Development (Section 1)¹⁰ and ONS technical papers¹¹. To smooth transition from ESA 1995 to ESA 2010 the ONS also report GNI on the ESA 1995 adjusted and unadjusted methodologies. ODA:GNI ratios based on these three methodologies are set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1: GNI estimates for 2013 - 2014 and ODA:GNI ratios; current prices, £ millions¹²

	2013			2014		
	GNI (£m)	ODA (£m) ¹³	ODA:GNI ratios (%) ¹⁴	GNI (£m)	ODA (£m)	ODA:GNI ratios (%) ¹⁵
GNI (ESA 1995) <u>unadjusted</u> for (Eurostat) reservations	1,622,166	11,431	0.70	1,669,823	11,775	0.71
GNI (ESA 1995) <u>adjusted</u> for (Eurostat) reservations	1,667,761	11,431	0.69	1,718,633	11,775	0.69
GNI (ESA 2010)	1,700,170	11,431	0.67	1,752,731	11,775	0.67

Government spending plans are agreed during spending reviews. When the 2014 ODA budget was set (in the 2010 spending review) the ESA 1995 unadjusted National Accounts Methodology was the only methodology available for estimating GNI. Based on the ESA 1995 unadjusted methodology, the 0.7 per cent target has been met for 2014, based on the provisional estimates presented in table 1 above. In September 2014, GNI estimates based on the new ESA 2010 methodology for producing National Accounts were published. Based on this methodology, the 0.7 per cent target has not been met for 2014.

⁹ European System of Accounts.

¹⁰ See 'Statistics on International Development' available [here](#).

¹¹ See the ONS 'Changes to the UK National Accounts and Balance of Payments' [webpage](#).

¹² All GNI data on the different methodologies is produced by the ONS, and provisional ODA figures are provided by all ODA spending government departments and quality assured by DFID Statisticians and the OECD. For more information on GNI estimates for 2014 see ONS 'Analysis of GNI on an ESA 95 basis for the calendar year of 2014' [here](#).

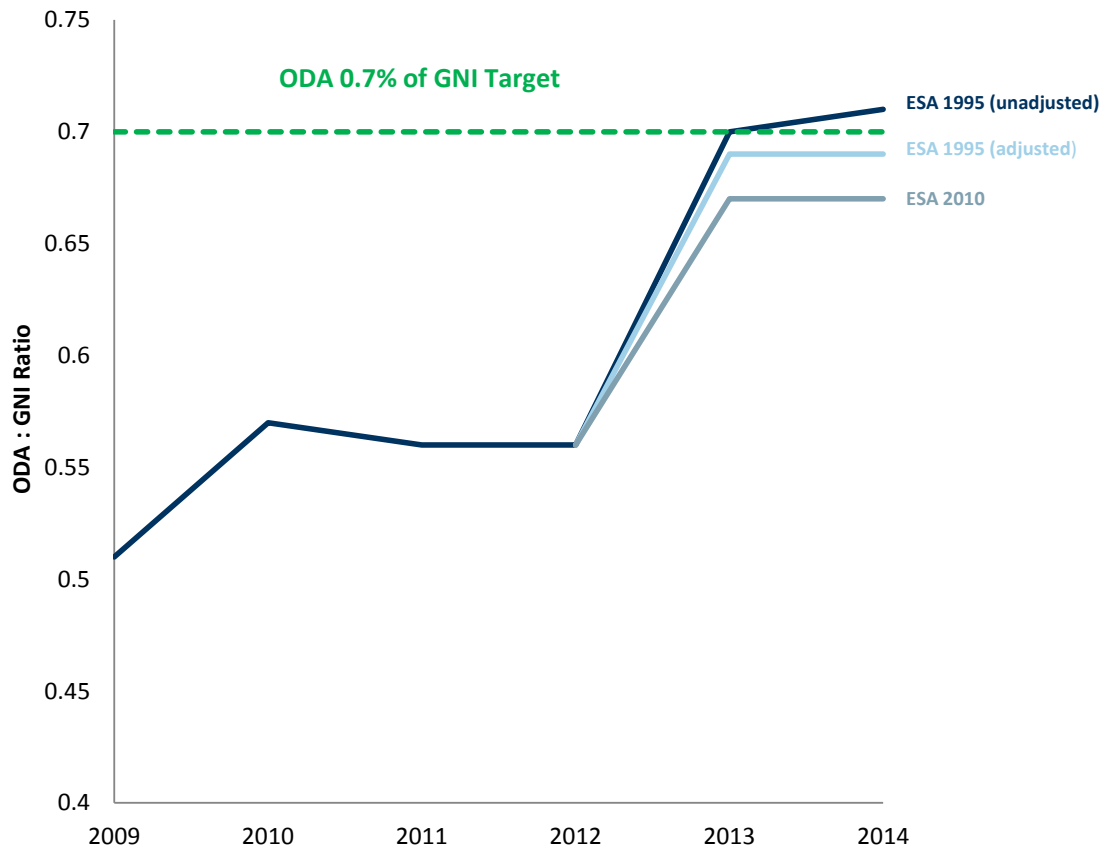
¹³ These figures have been revised (see Background Note 4).

¹⁴ See Footnote 13 above.

¹⁵ The ODA:GNI ratios rounded to 4 decimal places are: ESA 1995 unadjusted 0.7052, ESA 1995 adjusted 0.6851, ESA 2010 0.6718

The UK Government has stated that it will measure the 0.7 per cent ODA:GNI spending targets for 2014 and 2015 using ESA 1995¹⁶. Although, as demonstrated in Figure 1 below, it is also helpful to calculate all three ODA:GNI ratios as they demonstrate the impact of the change in National Accounts methodology on the ODA:GNI ratio.

Figure 1: UK ODA as a Proportion of GNI since 2009 according to Different GNI methodologies¹⁷

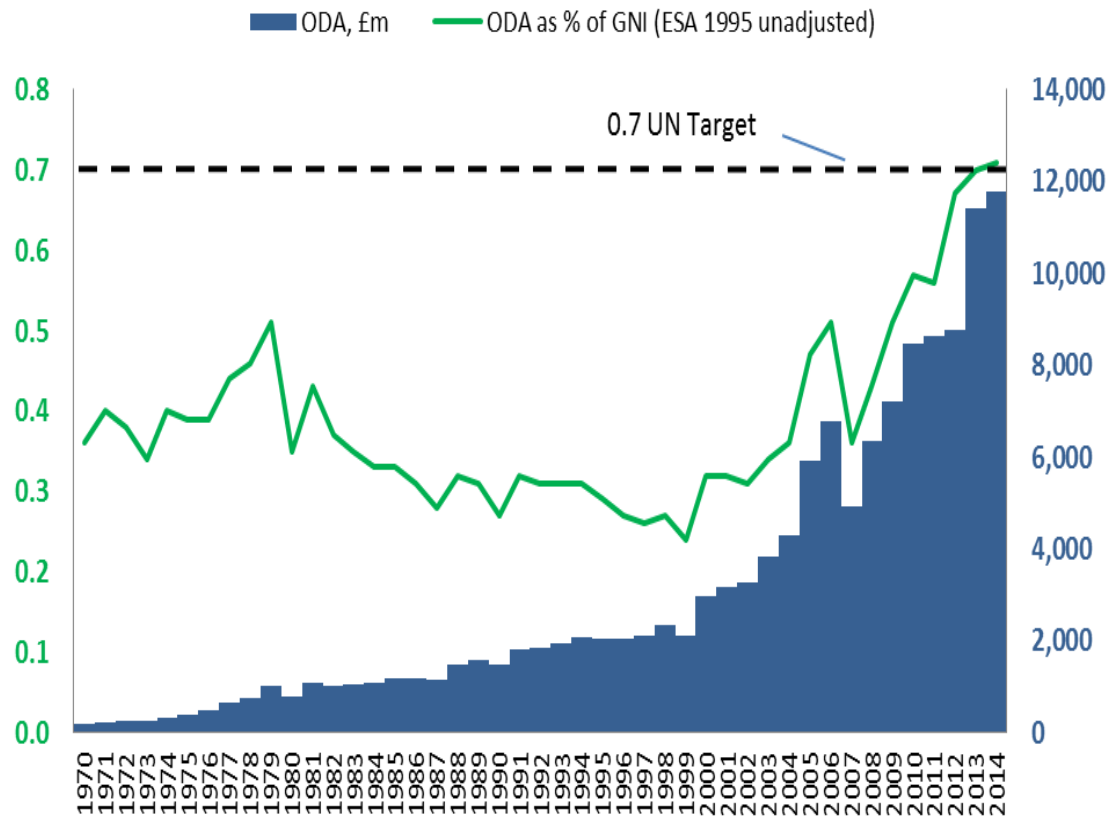


¹⁶ See 'International Development (Official Development Assistance Target) Bill 2015 receives Royal Assent (26 March 2015), available [here](#).

¹⁷ Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'Statistical release provisional UK ODA tables 2014'.

Figure 2 shows the increase in UK ODA since 1970 (when the 0.7 per cent ODA:GNI target was first reported on). There is a steady increase in the level of UK ODA since 1970, with a very large increase in 2013 and an increasing ODA:GNI trajectory since 2007.

Figure 2: UK ODA levels since 1970, £ millions¹⁸



¹⁸ Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'Statistical release provisional UK ODA tables 2014'.

UK Bilateral and Multilateral ODA

There are two main channels of delivery for ODA: bilateral and multilateral. Bilateral ODA is earmarked spend which the donor has control over – this is usually aid going to specific countries, regions or programmes¹⁹. Multilateral ODA is funds from national governments which are pooled with other donors' funding and spent as core aid funding to multilateral organisations. Multilateral core funding is unearmarked, and may be used as the organisation thinks best, so long as it is in line with its mandate and agreed by the governing body – the donor does not have control over what this is spent on.

- Total UK ODA has increased by 3.0 per cent (£345 million) between 2013 and 2014, up from £11,431 million to £11,775 million (Table 2)²⁰.
- Between 2013 and 2014 ODA contributions to multilateral organisations increased by £314 million (6.7 per cent) compared to bilateral ODA which increased by £31 million (0.5 per cent). This increase in multilateral ODA was driven by DFID's core contributions to the World Bank Group.
- In 2014 57.5 per cent of UK ODA was bilateral compared to 59.0 per cent in 2013, while multilateral spend rose from 41.0 per cent to 42.5 per cent of UK ODA.

Table 2: UK Official Development Assistance 2013-2014 £ millions²¹

	2013	2014	Change over the year		Share of Total ODA	
			£, million	%	2013	2014
Total ODA	11,431	11,775	345	3.0 %	-	-
<i>Bilateral ODA</i>	6,745	6,775	31	0.5 %	59.0 %	57.5 %
<i>of which : Bilateral Debt Relief</i>	41	3	-38	-92.2 %	-	-
<i>Multilateral ODA</i>	4,686	5,000	314	6.7 %	41.0 %	42.5 %
Total UK ODA excluding Bilateral Debt Relief	11,389	11,772	383	3.4 %	-	-

¹⁹ Bilateral ODA also includes funding to multilateral organisations for specific programmes / in specific countries – referred to as 'bilateral through a multilateral' in the 'Statistics on International Development' publication.

²⁰ Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding.

²¹ Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding.

UK ODA by Other Official Agencies and Other Sources

- As shown in Figure 3 and Table 3 DFID ODA is estimated at £10,108 million or 85.8 per cent of total ODA in 2014, compared to £10,036 million or 87.8 per cent in 2013²².
- Over the past year the amount of ODA spent by DFID has increased by £73 million. This represented a percentage increase of 0.7 per cent between 2013 and 2014.
- The non-DFID contribution to ODA was £1,667 million in 2014 compared to a contribution of £1,395 million in 2013. This was an increase of £272 million or 19.5 per cent.
- In 2014 the largest non-DFID source of ODA was 'non-DFID EU Attribution' which amounted to £442 million, or 3.8 per cent of UK ODA (see 'Treatment of EU Attribution' below). The Foreign & Commonwealth Office was the largest 'other official agency' ODA contributor, spending £343 million, or 2.9 per cent of UK ODA. This included FCO programme expenditure, British Council ODA expenditure and increased aid-related frontline diplomacy²³.

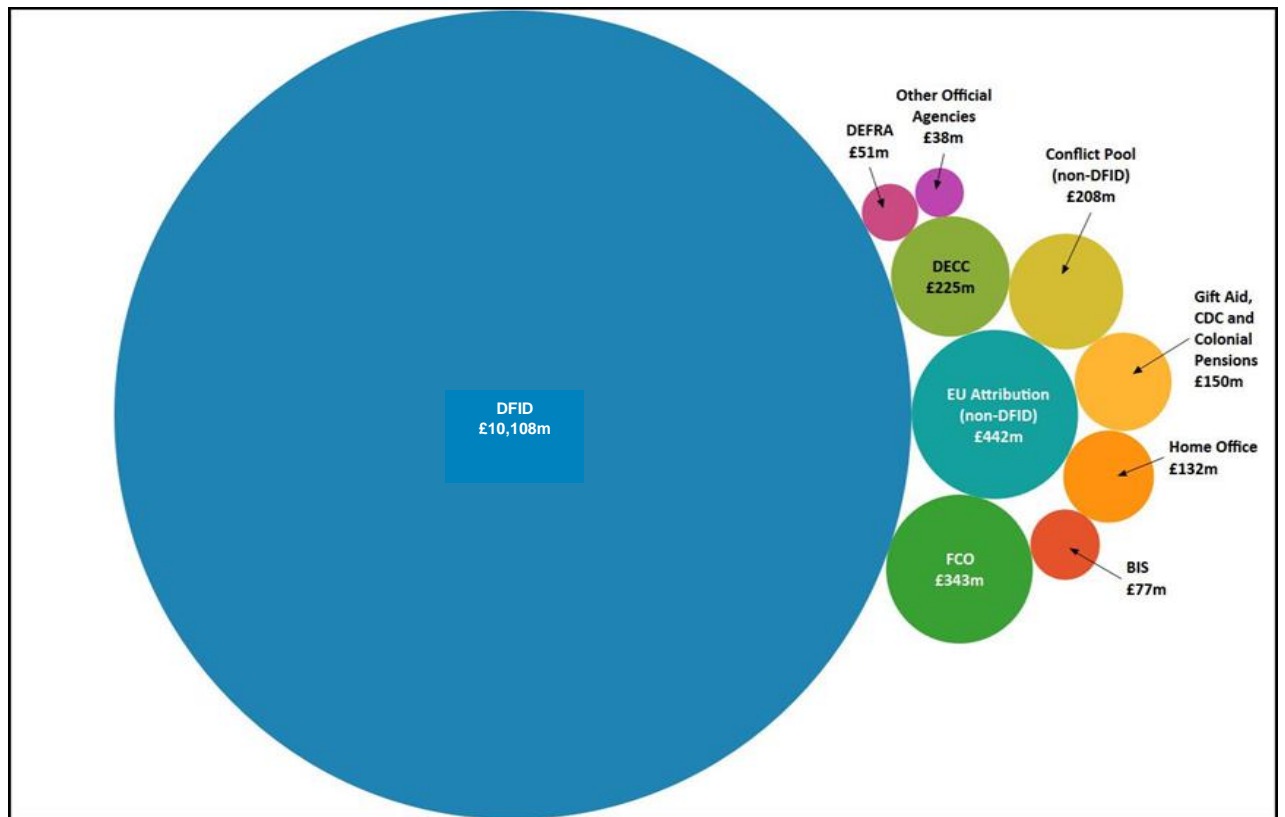
Treatment of EU Attribution: The calculation of the proportion of EU budget development spending that is attributed to DFID's budget has changed (from 2014 onwards). This is an improvement in the methodology to reflect that DFID is not the lead department responsible for the policy areas covered by the 'European Neighbourhood' and the 'Pre-Accession' EU budget instruments. As such the UK share of spending under these instruments will no longer be attributed to DFID's budget. In 2013, 85 per cent of the UK's share of EU budget ODA was attributed to DFID's budget. In 2014, the provisional estimate calculated with the new methodology is 46 per cent. This change does not affect UK financing for the European Union, or the total level of EU ODA that is attributed to the UK. Overall there has been a limited change in the UK share of EU Budget ODA; in 2014 the provisional estimate for EU attributed UK ODA is £816 million compared to £813 million in 2013.

²² This was mainly due to the increase in non-DFID EU Attribution which reduced DFID's share of total ODA.

²³ Further information on FCO ODA expenditure can be found [here](#).

Figure 3 below shows ODA expenditure in 2014 by Official Agencies and other sources.

Figure 3: UK ODA in 2014 by Official Agency and other sources²⁴, £ millions²⁵



²⁴ 'Other Official Agencies' includes: Department of Health, Scottish Government, Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry of Defence, Export Credits Guarantee Department (operational name: UK Export Finance), Department for Culture, Media and Sports & Welsh Government.

²⁵ Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'Statistical release provisional UK ODA tables 2014'.

Table 3: DFID and Non-DFID ODA 2013-2014, £ millions²⁶

	2013 ODA (£m)	2013 share of UK ODA (%)	2014 ODA (£m)	2014 share of UK ODA (%)
UK Official Agencies				
Department for International Development (DFID)	10,036	87.8%	10,108	85.8%
<i>of which : DFID EU Attribution²⁷</i>	689	6.0%	374	3.2%
Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO)	295	2.6%	343	2.9%
Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)	408	3.6%	225	1.9%
Home Office	33	0.3%	132	1.1%
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS)	49	0.4%	77	0.7%
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	40	0.3%	51	0.4%
Scottish Government	11	0.1%	12	0.1%
Department of Health	12	0.1%	11	0.1%
Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	10	0.1%	8	0.1%
Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) ²⁸	30	0.3%	3	0.0%
Ministry of Defence (MoD)	3	0.0%	3	0.0%
Welsh Government	1	0.0%	1	0.0%
Department for Culture, Media and Sports	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Other Sources of UK ODA				
EU Attribution (non - DFID) ²⁹	124	1.2%	442	3.8%
Conflict Pool (non - DFID)	184	2.0%	208	1.8%
Gift Aid	91	1.0%	106	0.9%
CDC Capital Partners PLC	100	1.2%	42	0.4%
Colonial Pensions	2	0.0%	3	0.0%
Total UK Government ODA	11,431	100%	11,775	100%

²⁶ Note that figures may not add to totals exactly due to rounding.

²⁷ In 2014 there was a change in how the UK share of the EU budget on ODA was attributed between DFID and other official agencies. For further information refer to Background Note 4.

²⁸ UK Export Finance is the operating name of the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

²⁹ See footnote 28 above.

DFID Country-Specific Bilateral ODA by Region

Table 4 and Figure 4 show DFID country specific bilateral ODA by region. It is important to note that this does not capture the full UK ODA expenditure in each region as it does not include: expenditure which does not go to a specific country or region; expenditure by other Government departments; and core contributions to multilaterals.

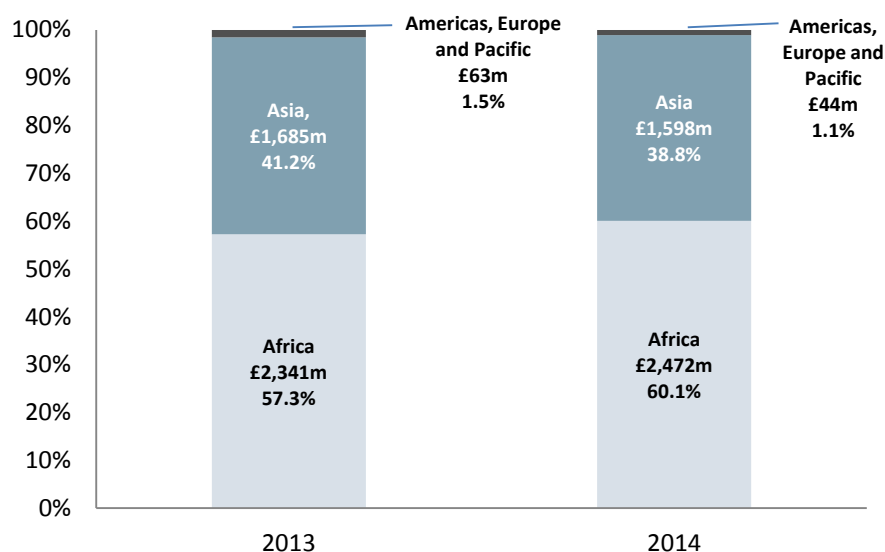
- In 2014 Africa received the largest percentage of DFID country-specific bilateral ODA expenditure which could be assigned to a single region (60.1 per cent), equating to £2,472 million.
- Between 2013 and 2014 the region with the largest increase in DFID country-specific bilateral ODA was Africa, where expenditure increased by £131 million.
- In 2014 Europe received £7 million for ODA-eligible activities benefiting Turkey (£3.9 million) and Ukraine (£2.9 million).

Table 4: DFID's Country-Specific Bilateral ODA by Region 2013-2014, £ millions³⁰

	2013	2014	Change over the year £, million
Total Country-Specific DFID bilateral ODA	4,088	4,114	25
Of which:			
<i>Africa</i>	2,341	2,472	131
<i>Americas</i>	60	34	-26
<i>Asia</i>	1,685	1,598	-87
<i>Europe</i>	0	7	7
<i>Pacific</i>	3	4	1

³⁰ Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding. Analysis of non-country/region specific ODA set out overleaf.

Figure 4: DFID Country-Specific Bilateral ODA by region, 2013 & 2014, £ millions³¹



In the Statistics on International Development publication ODA spend by region is presented for all UK expenditure. Regional breakdowns are not yet available for all non-DFID expenditure.

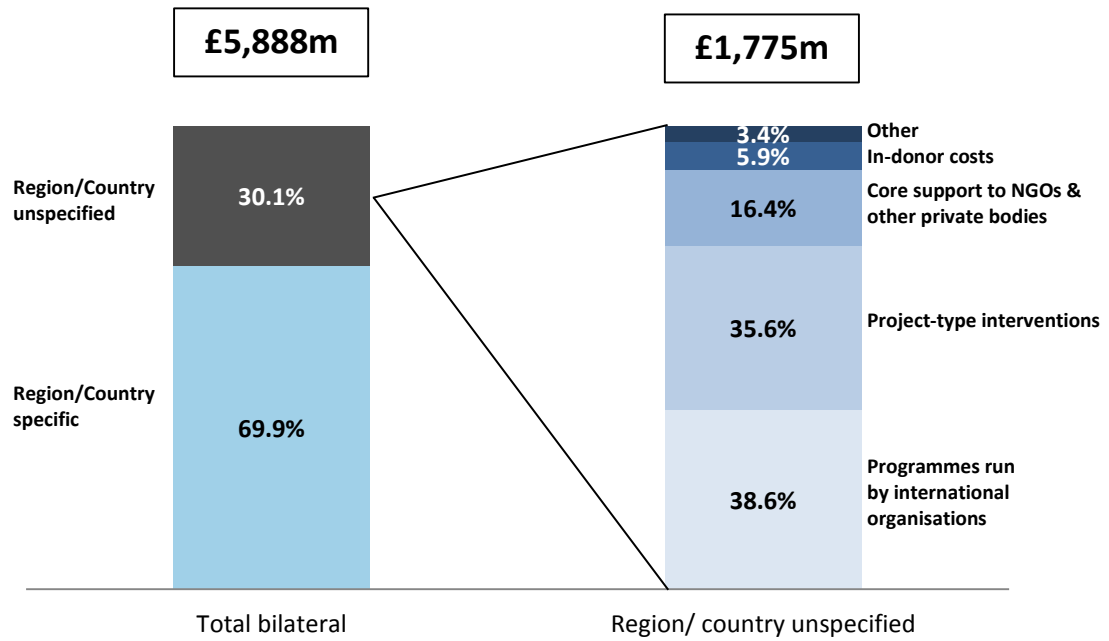
DFID Non-Country Specific Bilateral ODA

DFID bilateral ODA spent on projects which work across a number of countries amounted to £1,775 million. Currently this expenditure cannot be assigned to a specific country.

In 2014 just under one third (30.1 per cent) of bilateral aid (£1,775 million) was made up of spend where there was no single benefitting country or region. Figure 5 overleaf provides a breakdown of this expenditure.

³¹Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'Statistical release provisional UK ODA tables 2014'.

Figure 5: Breakdown of DFID Non-Country Specific Bilateral ODA in 2014, £ millions³²



³²Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding. Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'Statistical release provisional UK ODA tables 2014'.

Background Notes

Definitions & Sources

1. Information on definitions and sources used in this publication can be found in Annexes 2 and 3 respectively of the Statistics on International Development publication available [here](#).

Presentation

2. Throughout this publication whole figures are rounded to the nearest million. Therefore some tables and text may not sum exactly.

Revisions and Changes to the publication

3. The UK ODA figures for 2013 have been revised down slightly since the Statistics on International Development publication in October 2014 due to downwards revisions of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) transaction (£27.5 million) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (£3.8million).

4. The calculation of the proportion of EU budget development spending that is attributed to DFID's budget has changed (from 2014 onwards – see page 7). If the UK's EU Budget Attribution methodology had not changed, DFID's share of the UK's EU ODA-eligible expenditure would have been 85 per cent (£694 million) and the non-DFID share would have been 15 per cent (£122 million). For further details on the EU Attribution methodology change refer to page 7.

5. In 2013 DFID's Chief Statistician undertook a short quality review of DFID's National Statistics outputs. A report detailing the recommendations from this review is available [here](#).

6. ONS publish revisions to GNI estimates as more economic data becomes available. The provisional ODA:GNI ratio is always based on the GNI estimate published in March and the final ratio is based on the September GNI estimate. To enable comparability against international data we do not revise the back series to take into account any further revisions made to GNI estimates.

Timing & Releases

7. Final 2014 ODA data will be available in the 2015 edition of *Statistics on International Development* (SID), which will be available from the DFID website in October 2015. The final publication date for SID will be pre-announced on HMG.GOV.UK's statistical announcements page.

8. Provisional 2014 ODA statistics for all members of the OECD will be published by the OECD DAC in 8th April 2015.

Quality

9. The statistics shown here are provisional.

10. The DAC sets the definitions and classifications for reporting on Official Development Assistance (ODA) internationally. These are laid out in the DAC Statistical Reporting Directives.³³ The statistics shown here are reported in line with these directives. Quality assurance is undertaken by DFID statisticians and by the OECD.

11. DFID spending makes up about 86 per cent of total UK ODA. Data on DFID spending is taken from ARIES – a financial database that records detailed information on DFID’s development projects. Non-DFID ODA (Made up of UK Official Agencies and other sources of UK ODA) accounts for around 14 per cent of UK ODA. Non-DFID ODA is collected in an aggregated form as requested by the OECD. All data is then combined and quality assured by DFID and the OECD.

Uses

12. The primary purpose of the statistics is to provide timely summary statistics on ODA expenditure in the UK. From our consultation with users our Statistics are most commonly used for general background information (71 per cent of question respondents had used it for this); writing briefs, inclusion in reports, research and monitoring.

13. In 2014 DFID carried out a consultation with users of the Statistics on International Development to ensure that it was meeting their needs and continued to be fit for purpose. A summary of results and response of this consultation can be found [here](#). A previous consultation in 2012 can be found [here](#).

National Statistics

14. The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

15. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

16. Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

17. For information on the work of the UK Statistics Authority visit: <http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk>

³³ See OECD, Aid Statistics, Methodology webpage available [here](#).

Contacts

For **media** enquiries please contact the DFID Press Office on 0207 023 0600
For enquiries (**non-media**) about the information contained in this Statistical Release, or for more detailed information, please contact:

Sian Rasdale – Senior Statistics Adviser
DFID
Eaglesham Road
East Kilbride
G75 8EA
Tel: 01355 84 3453

Email: statistics@dfid.gov.uk

For further information on development issues and DFID policies, please contact:

Public Enquiry Point: 0845 300 4100

E-mail: enquiry@dfid.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development>