

UK NON-HUMANITARIAN AID IN RESPONSE TO THE SYRIA CONFLICT

01 December 2015

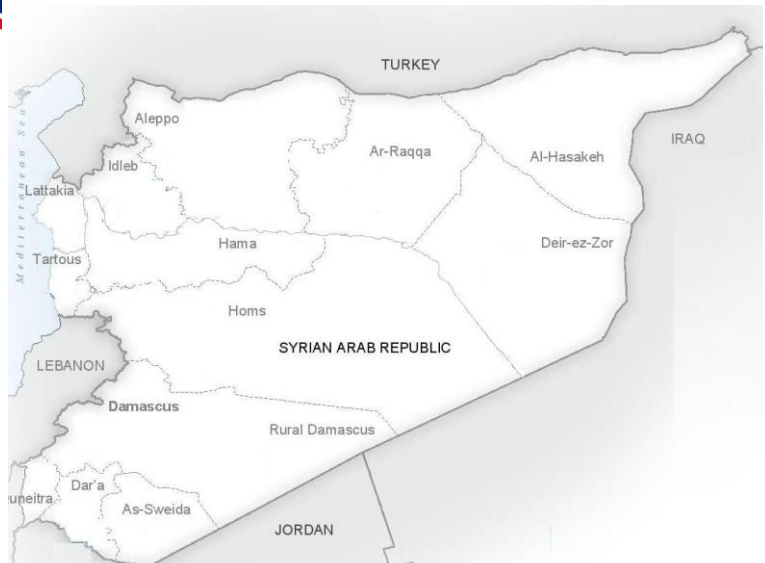
Over £100 million



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 **£67m** of support to the Syrian opposition
- more than **£3m** to support the elimination of Assad's chemical weapons, and
- more than **£29m** to reduce the impacts of the conflict on the region

All figures shown are approximate funding envelopes [since 2012](#).



Search and Rescue: £15m

To date, there are over 2700 volunteers in 110 civil defence stations across Syria, trained and equipped with help from UK funding to carry out search & rescue, fire-fighting and First Aid. The "White Helmets" as they are more commonly known have **saved over 30,000 lives** since March 2013. A number of the UK trained 25 man teams are now delivering training for new civil defenders across Syria including a growing number of **women**.



Moderate voices, Civil Society and Human Rights: £12m



We have supported work with moderate Syrian voices, local councils and civil society groups within Syria to increase community engagement in addressing local conflicts. This support also extends to **Track II political dialogue** and **peace building work** outside of Syria between different representatives of the Syrian community. Furthermore, religious and community leaders from the Sunni, Allawite, Christian, Druze, Armenian and Kurdish communities have also been trained in active citizenship and dialogue skills to help reduce community tensions. For the third consecutive year, this includes peace education, interfaith coexistence and reconciliation training inside refugee camps.

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

Chemical Weapons: £3.1m



The UK has contributed towards the work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to eliminate Syria's chemical weapons stocks, including armoured vehicles to protect inspectors on the ground and also part-funded the destruction of Chemical Weapons.

Governance and service delivery: £15.1m

We are working with local and provincial councils, the Syrian Interim Government and civil society to improve and sustain the **delivery of basic services to meet needs** in opposition and besieged areas. This is being done through bilateral and multi-donor funding instruments, the latter through the Syrian Recovery Trust Fund.

With our support, communities receive a range of assistance to sustain and increase agricultural production, provide education and health services, carry out local level infrastructure repair as well as build capacity of local councils.

Successes so far have included **restoring water supplies, repairing roads, establishing projects for solid waste management and saving significant parts of wheat harvests.**

Assistance Coordination Unit: £5.6m



We are supporting the National Coalition's Assistance Coordination Unit (ACU) to improve its capacity to **identify needs and deliver services to civilians inside Syria**. This includes the provision of technical advisory support and assistance with running costs. As part of building delivery capacity, we provided over **£3m of equipment** to the ACU to supply to Local Councils. This included solar powered generators, water purification kits and search & rescue equipment.

Syrian National Coalition: £3.8m



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 offered **dedicated negotiation and communications support** to the Coalition to help ensure the best possible outcome for Syrians.

Moderate armed opposition: £4.4m



The UK has delivered **life-saving equipment** to the Moderate Armed Opposition (MAO) in Syria, including communications, medical and logistics equipment. In addition, we have provided equipment to protect against chemical weapons (CW) attacks, including 5000 escape hoods, nerve agent pre-treatment tablets and CW detector paper. We have also funded **Law of Armed Conflict training** to help commanders train their fighters to understand their responsibilities and obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law.

Security and Justice: £8.2m

We are working with other international donors to establish and build up the Free Syrian Police (FSP), a moderate police force in opposition-controlled areas in Syria. We are providing training, technical assistance, maintenance funds and basic equipment. The programme supports the **development of greater community oversight** and monitoring of the police to help ensure they are responsive to local needs in providing **basic rule of law**, building community resilience to counter the threat from extremist groups. This work has already helped establish some 80 police stations in opposition-controlled areas of Syria.

Media activists: £5.3m



More than **300 Syrian journalists and activists** have received training in order to help **develop an independent Syrian media**. Reports and stories on issues including women's rights, human rights and civic education are reaching an ever-larger audience through radio, the distribution of magazines and regional television stations.

UK funded projects are helping establish a **network of independent media outlets** across Syria, whose work has included sending out messages about personal safety after the regime's chemical weapons attack in Ghouta and, more recently, active reporting produced by civil society groups and the likes of the "White Helmets" across Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Impact on the wider Region: £29.3m

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.

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.