#### **DFID BURMA**

The Department for International Development (DFID) leads the UK's global efforts to end extreme poverty, deliver the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs) and tackle a wide range of global development challenges. The UK's focus and international leadership on economic development is a vital part of Global Britain - harnessing the potential of new trade relationships, creating jobs and channelling investment to the world's poorest countries. Throughout history, sustained, job-creating growth has played the greatest role in lifting huge numbers of people out of grinding poverty. This is what developing countries want and is what the international system needs to help deliver. Whilst there is an urgent need for traditional aid in many parts of the world, ultimately economic development is how we will achieve the Global Goals and help countries move beyond the need for aid.

Planned Budget for 2017/18	£94m
Planned Budget for 2018/19	£100m
Sector breakdown of 2017/18 bilateral plans  Climate and Environment	Top 3 planned spending programmes in 2017/18 (as at June 2017)
4%	Livelihoods and Food Security Trust £21.5m Fund for Burma
Human Development 28%  Economic Development 33%	Three Millennium Development Goal Fund for Addressing Maternal and Child Health Needs of Poor and Vulnerable Women, Children and for People with HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria
Governance and Security 13%	Burma Humanitarian Assistance and £18.9m Resilience Programme

Contribution to the Global Goals and other government commitments (achieved as at March 2017)\*

617 thousand people with sustainable access to clean water and/or sanitation

438 thousand children under 5, women and adolescent girls reached through nutrition related interventions

30 thousand additional women and girls using modern methods of family planning

#### Headline deliverables

- Basic services: We have helped 617,000 people to gain sustainable access to clean water and/ or sanitation, and aim to reach a further 570,000 people by 2020. We have helped 49,000 children to access a decent education and aim to support a further 100,000 by 2020.
- **Nutrition:** DFID support has improved nutrition for 438,000 children under 5, women (of childbearing age) and adolescent girls, and we aim to reach a further 540,000 people over the next four years. We will support 80,000 women to use modern methods of family planning by 2020.
- **Humanitarian:** 200,000 people have received humanitarian assistance from the UK, and we aim to reach a 400,000 people over the coming four years.

### Why DFID is investing in Burma

Burma is at a pivotal moment; as an ally with historical ties in an important and fast-growing region, maintaining Burma's stability and encouraging prosperity matters to the UK. Burma is amongst the poorest countries in Asia and one of the most vulnerable to disasters. DFID's aim is to help Burma continue on a path to being a better governed, fairer and more peaceful society, through working with the government towards increased wealth and better public services shared by all of its people. With effective leadership, Burma can capitalise on its enviable location between China, India and South East Asia, and progress towards a future of widely shared prosperity and stability for its 52 million people. Our advice to policy makers and companies aims to cut red tape and encourage growth in job-rich and productive sectors. DFID programmes have already brought affordable loans to 2 million women, and will reach another 3

<sup>\*</sup> Results less than 1 million are rounded to the nearest thousand. Results over 1 million are rounded to the nearest hundred thousand.

million women by 2020.

The recent upsurge of violence in Rakhine and northeast Burma shows that the civilian government's relationship with the military remains precarious. A third of the population lives in conflict-affected areas, many out of the reach of the Burmese state. The peace process will inevitably be slow and could regress – leaving many people in continued danger, unable to live safe lives. The UK is one of the most significant diplomatic and development partners encouraging progress on the so-called 'triple transition', from authoritarian government to democracy; from conflict to peace; and from a closed to an open economy.

## How will the UK respond to opportunities and challenges?

The UK is uniquely well placed to act as a constructive partner to the Burmese government, providing challenge when necessary. DFID's programme is part of a wider UK strategy for Burma to become a stable, prosperous, democratic, and like-minded ally that champions human rights, plays a positive role in the world, and that supports UK interests and bilateral trade.

Our objectives include building Burma into a stable ally and trade partner for the UK through supporting negotiations towards peace and a new political settlement, helping to deliver credible elections and fostering inclusive growth, investment and trade. We also aim to end poverty and vulnerability by helping to build stronger public and private systems for health and education, reaching women and children with improved nutrition, water and sanitation, and providing humanitarian assistance to those in need. We will help to stem radicalisation and the outflow of narcotics, trafficked people and drug-resistant disease. We press the government to end discrimination in Rakhine State, support individuals to migrate safely and stop modern slavery and are a lead funder of programmes that address drug resistant malaria.

#### What is being achieved for the UK?

After 50 years of military misrule, the transition to civilian government is an opportunity to support Burma as a friendly democratic ally. In the future, with one of the fastest growing economies and large oil and gas reserves, Burma could offer significant investment and trade opportunities for the UK, although long-running ethnic conflicts, anti-Muslim and other inter-communal violence threaten this goal.

It is in the UK national interest to reduce poverty outside of our borders; to support our partners to become self-sustaining, effective states; and to help encourage a reduction in ethnic conflict. In so doing, we will support Burma to end the export of opium, trafficked migrants and drug-resistant malaria, stop human rights abuses, and prevent radicalisation. DFID's long-standing presence in Burma, the country's historic ties with the UK, and the UK Government's enduring support for Aung San Suu Kyi, provide good foundations for us to influence and help her government to succeed.

# Partners

- We work with other UK government departments including the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the
  Department for International Trade and the Ministry of Defence to achieve the UK's objectives in
  Burma. These include supporting efforts to reduce the impact of landmines on people in conflictaffected areas, fighting corruption and seeking opportunities for shared prosperity.
- Bilateral programmes managed by DFID Burma are implemented through UN agencies (including UN Development Programme, UNICEF, World Health Organisation, World Food Programme), development banks (World Bank Group, Asia Development Bank), local and international Non-Governmental Organisations, and commercial partners. All of our aid is provided through agreements with delivery partners that allow us to cut or amend financial disbursements depending on performance, so as to maximise value for money for the taxpayer.
- We support selected multilateral organisations through Multi-Donor Trust Funds, designed in such a
  way to allow us to reduce or stop payments and to encourage more investment by international
  development banks and other donors alongside DFID money. These include the Three Millennium
  Development Goals Fund for Health, the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund and the Joint
  Peace Fund, which is set up under UN trusteeship to support the peace process and the
  implementation of peace agreements.
- We aim to maximise the impact of every pound that we spend on poor peoples' lives by working
  closely with implementing partners to improve their value for money and by building the evidence base
  in Burma across the various sectors in which we work.