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 2018/19
£110m

Planned budget for 2019/20
£120m

Sector breakdown of 2018/19 bilateral plans

Top 3 planned spending programmes in 2018/19 (as at 9 May 2018)

- Jordan Compact Economic Opportunities Programme £46m
- Jordan Compact Education Programme: Transforming life chances of a generation of children through education £22.1m
- Jordan Humanitarian Cash Programme Strengthening Health, Protection and Assistance for Syrian Refugees and vulnerable Jordanians £13.2m

Contribution to the Global Goals and other government commitments (achieved as at March 2018)*

- 211 thousand children supported to gain a decent education
- 220 thousand people with sustainable access to clean water and/or sanitation
- 1 thousand children under 5, women and adolescent girls reached through nutrition related interventions

Headline deliverables

- **Humanitarian assistance**: We will continue to provide humanitarian support to the most vulnerable Syrian and Palestinian refugees. We are challenging United Nations agencies to reform and ensure they deliver effectively for the world’s most vulnerable and provide value for money for the UK tax payer.
- **Basic services**: We are helping over 200,000 Jordanian and Syrian refugee children gain quality education in 2018/19, contributing to the goal that every Syrian and Jordanian child has access to quality education.
- **Economic development**: We are helping Jordan to increase private sector-led growth, job creation and trade and are supporting infrastructure development in municipalities that are hosting refugees. In particular, we are supporting Jordan to deliver their Compact commitment to create up to 200,000 job opportunities for Syrian refugees and more for Jordanian workers.

Why DFID is investing in Jordan

Jordan is on the frontline of multiple crises, including the continuing Syria conflict which is now in its eighth year and has created one of the world’s largest humanitarian crises. A series of economic shocks – including the Global Financial Crisis, the Arab Spring and the Syria conflict – means that Jordan’s economy is suffering from slowing growth, high debt and 18% unemployment, which is at a 25-year high. In addition, there are 662,000 registered Syrian refugees in Jordan, which is putting significant pressure on vital services and...
The UK will continue to help Jordan meet its Compact pledge (agreed at the 2016 ‘Supporting Syria and the Region’ conference in London), to get every child into education and to create 200,000 jobs for Syrian refugees. In April 2018, DFID committed to provide £110 million of UK aid funding for 2018/19 and to double its funding for economic resilience and reform, in line with Jordan's Vision 2025. The new package of support is part of the UK’s long term partnership with Jordan, which was agreed by the Prime Minister and King Abdullah in November 2017, and will support Jordan’s ambitious plans to reform the country.

How will the UK respond to opportunities and challenges?

The new partnership will shore up Jordan’s economic sustainability in support of Jordan’s own ambitious reform plans. Over the next year, UK aid will help create jobs, boost productivity and increase economic resilience. We will help construct critical infrastructure, benefitting millions of people, such as at a landfill site in Amman that is already under construction and will benefit 4 million people in the local area.

The UK will support formal and non-formal education in Jordan with the aim of all children regardless of nationality receiving quality education. We have already reached over 130,000 Syrian children in formal education and improved reading and math skills for 175,000 early grade Jordanian and Syrian students. UK grants have mobilised a $200m concessional loan to Jordan to kick-start education reform.

We will support public and private partnerships to train and benefit 10,000 Jordanians and refugees; and give lifesaving support to 60,000 of the most vulnerable refugees and Jordanians, including healthcare and rehabilitation for people with disabilities. The UK will also host an international conference with Jordan in London in 2018 to showcase Jordan’s economic reform plans, its aspiration to build a thriving private sector, and to mobilise support from international investors and donors.

What is being achieved for the UK?

By 2020 UK aid will help Jordan to be more secure, resilient and economically and politically sustainable. We see Jordan as an effective long term partner in tackling regional instability, providing a safe, stable haven for refugees to remain in their region and countering extremism and terrorism. Conflict and instability in Jordan would lead to serious humanitarian, political, economic and security consequences for the region and the UK's national interests, especially on extremism and migration. UK aid is helping Syrian refugees stay in Jordan, as opposed to risking dangerous journeys to Europe or elsewhere. It is providing them with an opportunity to live in dignity and increasingly provide for themselves until they can safely return home.

Partners

- We are supporting the government of Jordan’s Response Plan by providing funding to UN agencies and non-governmental organisations who deliver services to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian host communities.

- We are working with the Ministry of Education to provide education to all children, regardless of nationality in schools. We also support informal and ‘catch-up’ education for Syrian refugee children through UNICEF, the most cost-effective provider. We are working with USAID, an experienced donor in the sector, to support quality learning.

- Our approach to working with Jordan is based on their demonstrated commitment to delivery of the ‘Jordan Compact’. Funding to the Ministry of Education is provided on a Payment by Results basis.

- We are working with the Islamic Development Bank to support women to gain employment through the Arab Women’s Enterprise Fund in Jordan, and working with the British Council and other partners to support higher education for Syrian refugees across the region.

- We are working with the World Bank and other International Financial Institutions to facilitate large scale concessional lending to Jordan. These organisations operate on a wide scale and have expertise in job creation and encouraging private sector investment in industries that will employ Syrian refugees and Jordanians.

- Our support to Palestinian refugees in Jordan is delivered through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, a programme managed by DFID’s Occupied Palestinian Territories team.