



Department
for International
Development



STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Provisional UK Aid spend 2018



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About this release

This publication provides provisional statistics about the amount of Official Development Assistance (ODA) the UK provided in 2018, including UK ODA as a percentage of Gross National Income (GNI) (the ODA:GNI ratio) and various other breakdowns of ODA spend. ODA¹ is the internationally-agreed classification of foreign aid financing and is measured in accordance with international standards.

Key Definition: Official Development Assistance

Official Development Assistance (ODA) is produced according to standardised definitions and methodologies controlled by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). ODA is defined as resource flows to developing countries and multilateral development institutions, which are provided by official agencies (e.g. the UK Government) or their executive agencies, where each transaction meets the following tests:

- Administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective; and
- Concessional (i.e. grants and soft loans²)

The spend figures in this publication are **provisional** and based on summary data with limited sector and geography breakdowns. Figures for 2018 are presented on a grant equivalent basis, which is the new standard for reporting headline ODA figures and primarily affects the value of loans in ODA³. GNI estimates are compiled by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and are revised each quarter as more economic data becomes available⁴. A final estimate of UK ODA, the ODA:GNI ratio and more detailed breakdowns of spend will be published in autumn 2019 in 'Statistics on International Development' (SID)⁵. More information about the UK government's approach to aid spending is set out in the UK Aid Strategy⁶.

The ODA:GNI commitment of 0.7 per cent was first agreed internationally in 1970 by the United Nations General Assembly. The UK government made a commitment to invest 0.7 per cent of GNI on ODA from 2013. In 2015 the International Development (Official Development Assistance Target) Act placed the commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GNI on ODA in UK law from 2015 and in each subsequent calendar year.

¹ All ODA figures in this release are reported net of loan and other repayments

² Concessional character in the ODA statistics is described in Section 6.1

³ Section 6.2 gives more details

⁴ See "[Office for National Statistics, Quarterly National Accounts](#)".

⁵ Once released the publication will be available on the 'Statistics at DFID' [webpage](#).

⁶ [UK aid: tackling global challenges in the national interest](#)

Key Points

- The provisional ODA:GNI ratio for 2018 is 0.70 per cent.
- In 2018 the amount of ODA provided by the UK Government was £14,546 million. This represented an increase in the headline of £487 million, up from £14,059 million in 2017.
- ODA can be bilateral (where the donor has earmarked spend for a specified country, activity, project or programme) or multilateral (where funds from national governments are pooled with other donors' funding and disbursed as part of the core budget of the multilateral organisation for ODA eligible activity). In 2018 UK bilateral ODA was £9,242 million while UK multilateral ODA was £5,304 million.
- In 2018, 63.5 per cent of UK ODA was bilateral; 36.5 per cent was core multilateral contributions – this percentage split is broadly like that reported in 2017⁷.
- The Department for International Development provided 74.9 per cent of total UK ODA in 2018, up from 71.9 per cent in 2017. The share of other UK ODA contributors (this includes other Government Departments and non-departmental contributors) was 25.1 per cent, down from 28.1 per cent in 2017.
- Statistics on bilateral ODA by geographic region are currently only available for DFID spend. As a percentage of DFID's bilateral country or region-specific spending, Africa received the largest share (57.5 per cent) in 2018, representing £2,385 million. Africa's share fell marginally compared with 2017, when Africa received £2,594 million (it was 58.6 per cent).

⁷ See [Statistics on International Development: Final UK aid spend 2017](#)

1. The ODA:GNI Ratio

The ODA:GNI ratio presents UK Official Development Assistance (ODA) spend against UK Gross National Income (GNI).

Table 1 shows that in 2018:

- The ODA:GNI ratio is 0.70 per cent. The commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GNI on ODA has been met.
- UK ODA was £14,546 million, an increase of £487 million (3.5 per cent) on 2017.

Table 1: UK GNI Estimates, total UK ODA and ODA:GNI Ratios; Current Prices (£ millions) 2017 and 2018

<i>millions</i>					
2017			2018 ¹		
GNI	ODA	ODA:GNI ratio (%)	GNI	ODA ¹	ODA:GNI ratio (%)
2,011,674	14,059	0.70%	2,091,074	14,546	0.70%

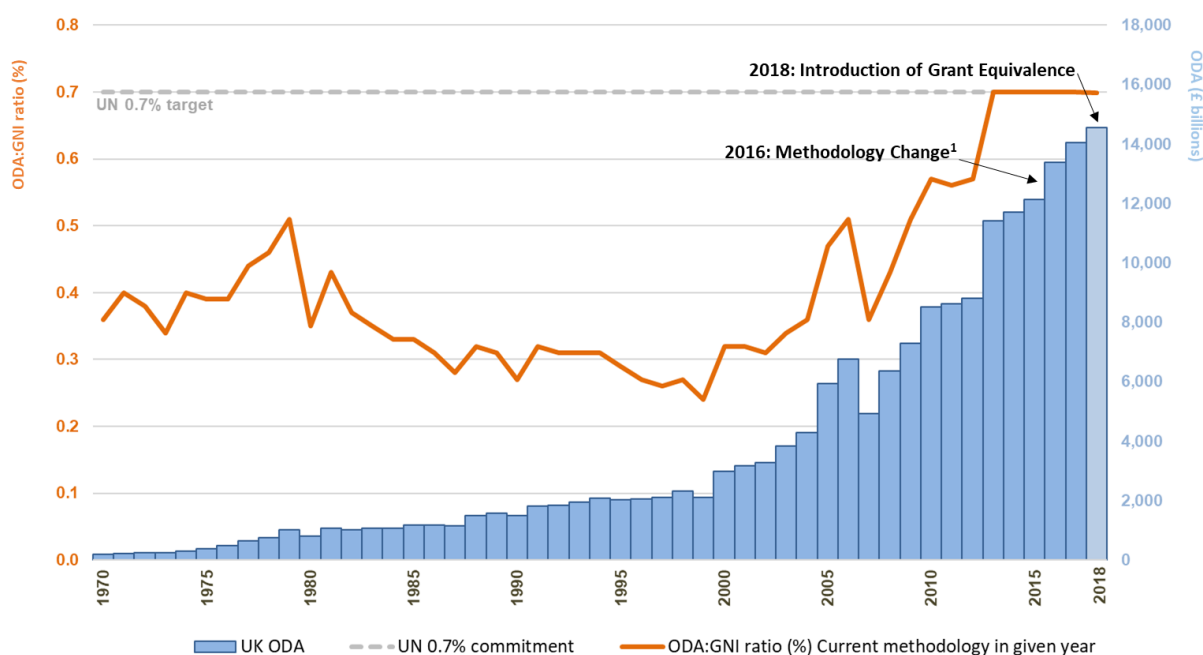
1. Measured on a grant equivalent basis. See section 6.2 for more information

Figure 1 shows the trend in UK ODA since 1970. Overall there has been a steady increase in the level of UK ODA since 1970, with a spike in 2005 and 2006 which was driven by high levels of debt relief⁸, and then a steep increase in 2013 when the UK Government first met the 0.7 per cent ODA:GNI commitment.

The jump in the level of ODA in 2016 reflects ONS's switch to the European System of Accounts (ESA) 2010 methodology for measuring GNI and the consequent need to increase UK ODA to meet the 0.7 per cent ODA commitment. In 2018, ODA is measured on a grant equivalent basis for the first time, which affects loans. See section 6.2 for more information.

⁸ See commitments made by the UK and other donors at the 2005 G8 Summit in Gleneagles: <http://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/RP07-51/RP07-51.pdf>

Figure 1: UK ODA Levels between 1970 and 2018^{1, 2}



1. For the years 2013-2015 (transition years) the ESA 1995 GNI was used to calculate the ODA:GNI ratio. For more information on the different GNI measures used to calculate the ratio see figure 17 in the background note on the [Statistics on International Development: 2017 publication](#).

2. Underlying data for this graph can be found in the accompanying excel file 'SID Provisional UK aid spend 2018 - accompanying tables'. The bar for 2018 is a lighter colour to represent that this figure is provisional and measured on a grant equivalent basis.

2. 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 ODA going to specified countries, regions or programmes. Bilateral ODA also includes funding to multilateral organisations for specified programmes or in specified countries; this is referred to as 'bilateral ODA through a multilateral organisation'.

Multilateral ODA describes funds from national governments which are pooled with other donors' funding and disbursed as part of the core budget of the multilateral organisation for ODA eligible activities. Core contributions will fluctuate from year to year in part due to the payment schedules of the receiving multilateral organisation.

Table 2 shows that in 2018:

- £9,242 million of UK ODA spend was delivered through bilateral channels. This represents 63.5 per cent of total UK ODA.
- £1,265 million of bilateral ODA spend was for humanitarian assistance (8.7 per cent of total UK ODA). This represents a reduction (£178 million) in humanitarian

spend compared with 2017 when UK aid responded to drought across East Africa⁹

- £5,304 million were core contributions to multilaterals (36.5 per cent of total UK ODA). This compares to £5,256 million (37.6 per cent) in 2017. The fall in share was mainly due to less use of UK funding by the International Monetary Fund in 2018 compared with 2017.

Table 2: UK Official Development Assistance 2017-2018¹

	2017		2018 ¹		Change since 2017	
	£m	% total ODA	£m	% total ODA	£m	%
Total Bilateral ODA	8,803	62.4%	9,242	63.5%	439	5.0%
<i>of which: Humanitarian Assistance</i>	1,443	10.1%	1,265	8.7%	-178	-12.3%
Total Multilateral ODA	5,256	37.6%	5,304	36.5%	48	0.9%
TOTAL ODA	14,059	100.0%	14,546	100.0%	487	3.5%

1. ODA in 2018 is measured on a grant equivalent basis. See section 6.2 for more information.

3. Breakdown of UK ODA by government departments, cross-government funds and non-department sources

Table 3 shows the contribution of government departments and other contributors of UK ODA in 2018 and changes in ODA spend from 2017. The analysis presented in the table is based on summary provisional returns from government departments, and more detailed spending data will be published in Statistics on International Development published this autumn.

The overall amount of ODA spend is determined by the size of GNI, however shifts in the percentage shares of departments and other ODA contributors depend on their spending in the given year.

Largest Contributors of UK ODA

- DFID spent £10,896 million (74.9 per cent of total UK ODA) in 2018.
- ODA spent by departments other than DFID and other contributors of UK ODA was £3,650 million (25.1 per cent of total UK ODA). While departments other than

⁹ Summary of the UK's support to the [East African Crisis](#)

DFID spend increased in 2018 by £378 million, the reduced use of UK funding by the IMF – Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust fund in 2018 led to an overall fall in the non-DFID share of total UK ODA.

- In 2018, the largest government department shares of ODA (excluding DFID) were: The Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) (5.8 per cent of ODA); the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (4.4 per cent)¹⁰, the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (4.2 per cent); and the Home Office (2.3 per cent).
- The largest non-departmental sources were non-DFID EU¹¹ attribution (3.2 per cent of UK ODA) and ODA eligible Gift Aid (1.0 per cent of UK ODA). Non-DFID EU contributions include ODA eligible spend in peace, security, democracy, human rights and civil society.

Main changes in ODA between 2017 and 2018

- Department of Health and Social Care spent £195 million in 2018, which was almost double the amount of ODA they spent in 2017 (£101 million). This primarily reflects increased funding to develop new vaccines for diseases with epidemic potential and health research for the main benefit of patients and the public in low- and middle-income countries.
- BEIS, which tackles climate change and supports research in developing countries, spent £849 million of ODA in 2018 – an increase of £84 million on 2017.
- HM Treasury provided a contribution to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in 2018, which drove the increase in its ODA spend.
- The IMF-PRGT used £26 million (grant equivalent); or £83 million (in cash flow terms) of UK funding in 2018, compared with £726 million (cash flow) in 2017.

¹⁰ For more detail on FCO spending please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/official-development-assistance-oda--2>

¹¹ See [background note](#)

Table 3: UK ODA Contributors 2017-2018; ordered by 2018 ODA

	2017		2018		Change since 2017	
	£m	% UK ODA	£m	% UK ODA	£m	%
Department for International Development²	10,104	71.9%	10,896	74.9%	792	7.8%
<i>Of which:</i>						
EU Attribution	439	3.1%	457	3.1%	18	4.1%
Total non-DFID²	3,955	28.1%	3,650	25.1%	-305	-7.7%
<i>Of which:</i>						
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy	765	5.4%	849	5.8%	84	11.0%
Foreign & Commonwealth Office	627	4.5%	633	4.4%	6	1.0%
Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) ³	555	3.9%	609	4.2%	54	9.7%
Home Office	333	2.4%	329	2.3%	-4	-1.1%
Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) ⁴	101	0.7%	195	1.3%	94	92.6%
Prosperity Cross- Government Fund ⁵	46	0.3%	95	0.7%	49	106.3%
HM Treasury ⁶	1	0.0%	83	0.6%	82	8242.7%
Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs	67	0.5%	69	0.5%	2	2.8%
Department for Work and Pensions	31	0.2%	26	0.2%	-5	-17.5%
Cabinet Office	3	0.0%	21	0.1%	18	606.3%
Department for Education (DfE) ⁴	24	0.2%	20	0.1%	-4	-15.2%
HM Revenue and Customs	14	0.1%	11	0.1%	-3	-23.1%
Department for Culture, Media and Sports	4	0.0%	9	0.1%	5	133.9%
Ministry of Defence	6	0.0%	5	0.0%	-1	-16.8%
Export Credits Guarantee Department ⁷	3	0.0%	4	0.0%	1	17.8%
Office for National Statistics ⁸	~	0.0%	~	0.0%	~	20.0%
<i>Other contributors of UK ODA</i>						
EU Attribution (non - DFID)	445	3.2%	468	3.2%	23	5.1%
Gift Aid	164	1.2%	148	1.0%	-16	-9.5%
BBC World Service	25	0.2%	27	0.2%	2	9.2%
IMF Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) ²	726	5.2%	26	0.2%	-700	-96.4%
Scottish Government ⁹	14	0.1%	14	0.1%	0	1.6%
Other In-Donor Refugee Costs ^{4,10}	z	z	6	0.0%	z	z
Colonial Pensions administered by DFID	2	0.0%	2	0.0%	0	-24.5%
Welsh Government	1	0.0%	1	0.0%	0	11.6%
Total UK ODA²	14,059	100.0%	14,546	100.0%	487	3.5%

1. Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding.

2. Some figures in 2018 are affected by the change to the grant equivalent methodology. See section 6.2 for more details.

3. CSSF includes a contribution of £27.5 million for peacekeeping activities carried out by the EU, as it is the fund responsible for the spend. This is not counted in EU Attribution (non-DFID) to avoid double counting. The overall contribution to the EU development budget is £952 million, including the CSSF contribution. See Section 6.3 for information on the CSSF.

4. Figures in 2018 reflect a methodology review – see Section 6.2 for more information.

5. See Section 6.3 for information on the Prosperity Fund.

6. The figure for 2018 includes a core contribution to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. For 2017, only ODA-eligible admin costs were counted.

7. Debt Relief from ECGD.

8. ONS ODA for 2017 was £224,999 and in 2018 it was £270,104.

9. Scottish Government record their ODA by financial year.

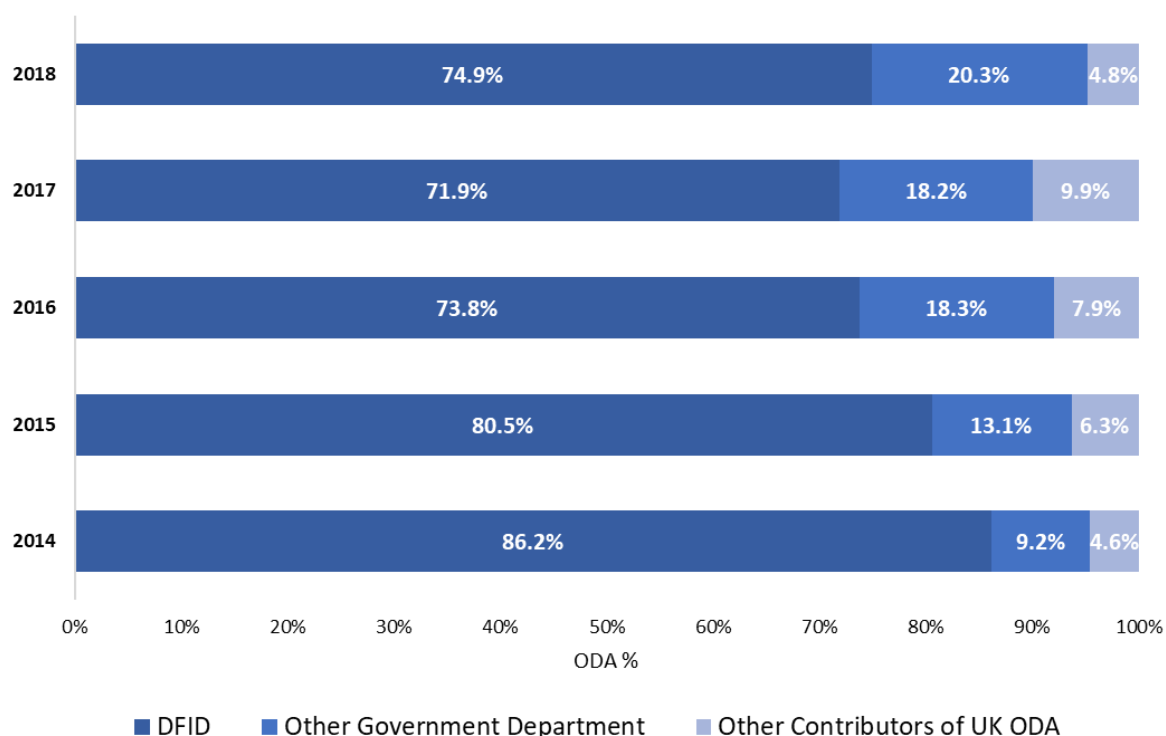
10. This includes ODA eligible health and education support to asylum seekers not located in England. In previous years the total UK cost for ODA eligible health and education support was attributed to DHSC and DfE

"z" comparison is not applicable, "0" is null and "~" is less than half the smallest unit displayed.

Trend in departmental and other contributors' share of UK ODA

As a percentage of total UK ODA, DFID's share has fallen since 2014, which is in line with the approach set out in the UK Aid Strategy, which states "to respond to the changing world, more aid will be administered by other government departments, drawing on their complementary skills". However, in 2018 there was a reverse of this trend as DFID's share increased to 74.9 per cent of UK ODA to meet the 0.7% commitment (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Proportion of UK ODA accounted for by DFID, Other Government Departments and Other contributors of ODA: 2014 to 2018¹



1. Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding.

4. DFID Region-Specific Bilateral ODA

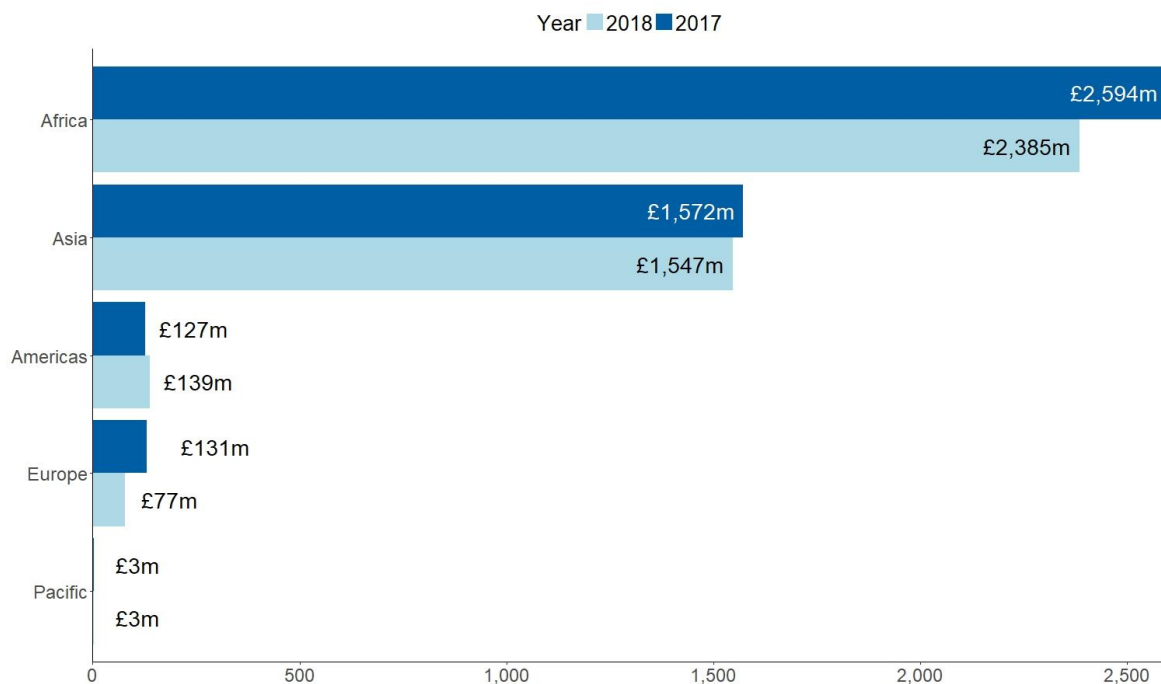
Figure 3 presents the breakdown of DFID's region-specific bilateral ODA. These figures represent only part of the picture on UK ODA spend for each region because similar data from government departments other than DFID and other contributors of UK ODA is not available with this provisional release. Also, core contributions to multilateral organisations, or spend that is not assigned to a specific country or region is not included.

- In 2018, DFID region-specific bilateral ODA was £4,150 million compared to £4,427 million in 2017, a reduction of £276 million. This fall reflects more spend

through centrally funded programmes in 2018 that benefit multiple countries or multiple regions.

- In 2018, Africa received £2,385 million of DFID bilateral ODA, a £209 million decrease compared to 2017 when the region received £2,594 million. The biggest reduction was in Somalia, reversing successive increases in 2016 and 2017 in response to humanitarian crisis¹².
- Africa remained the largest recipient of DFID bilateral ODA in 2018, representing 57.5 per cent of the total.
- In 2018, Asia received £1,547 million of bilateral ODA from DFID – a fall of £25 million compared to 2017 primarily driven by a decrease in spending in Pakistan.
- DFID bilateral spend in Europe fell from £131 million in 2017 to £77 million in 2018. This reflects a reduction in spend to Turkey, which previously experienced an increase due to the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis.

Figure 3: DFID’s Region-Specific Bilateral ODA 2017-2018¹³



ODA spend by region will be presented for all UK expenditure in the ‘Statistics on International Development’ publication that will be published later in the year.

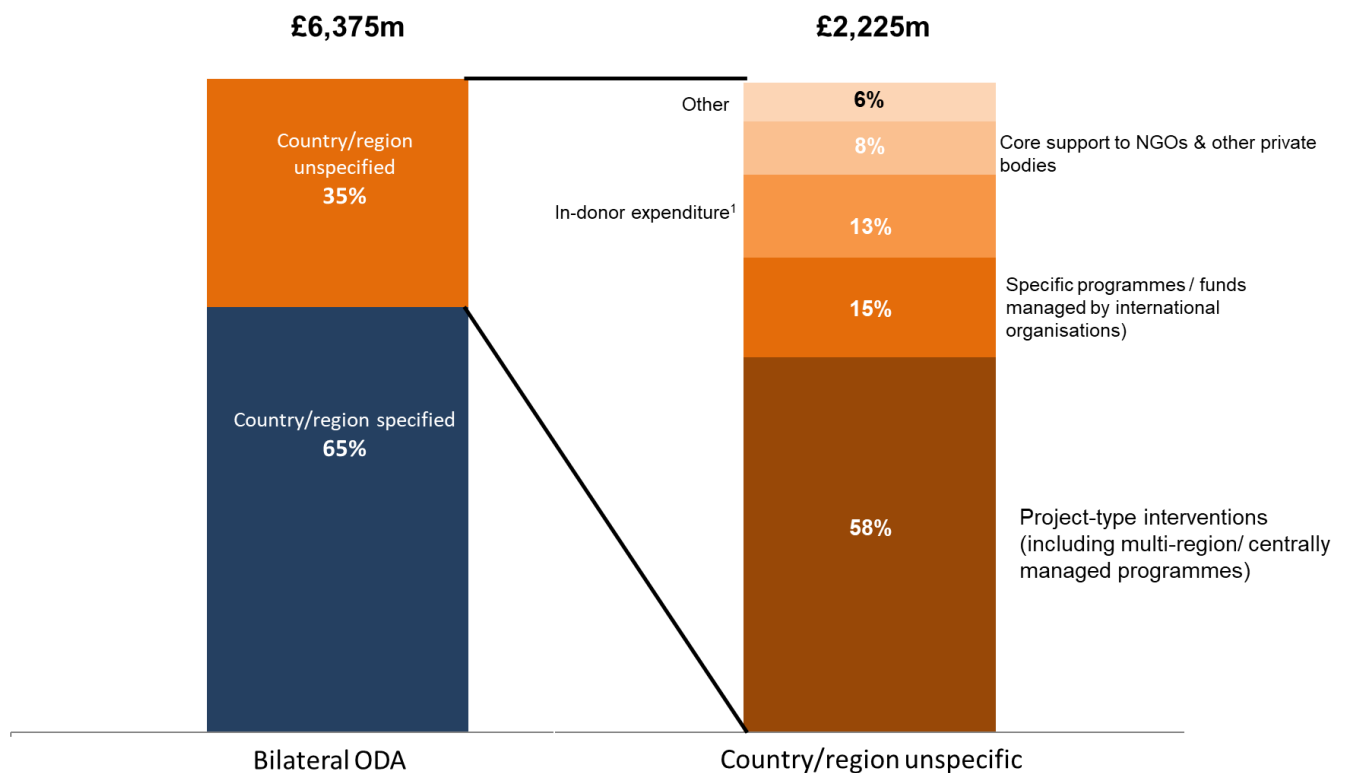
¹² <https://www.gov.uk/world/organisations/dfid-somalia>

¹³ Figures may not sum to totals due to rounding. Analysis of non-country/region specific ODA set out in section 6.

5. DFID Non-Region-Specific Bilateral ODA

Bilateral ODA spend by DFID on projects which were not assigned to any single recipient country or region amounted to £2,225 million in 2018, this accounts for 34.9 per cent of DFID's total bilateral ODA expenditure. This consists of, for example, centrally-funded research and other global public goods or programmes that develop policies that benefit several developing countries and cannot be meaningfully recorded to a single benefitting country or region. Figure 4 provides a breakdown of this expenditure.

Figure 4: Breakdown of DFID's Non-Region Specific Bilateral ODA in 2018²



¹ Donor expenditure relates to ODA-eligible activities conducted within countries that donate aid, including the United Kingdom. ODA spend in the UK to support development work overseas or refugees within the UK are both examples of in-donor expenditure.

² Numbers may not sum due to rounding

6. Background Notes

6.1 Definitions and Sources

1. Information on the main definitions and sources used in this publication can be found in [Annexes 2 and 3](#) respectively of the Statistics on International Development publication.
2. In Official Development Assistance (ODA) statistics, grants are wholly concessional by definition and have a grant element of 100%. For loans to qualify, this implies a grant element of at least:
 - 45 per cent for bilateral loans to the official sector of Least Developed Countries and other Low Income Countries (calculated at a discount rate of 9 per cent);
 - 15 per cent for bilateral loans to the official sector of Lower Middle Income Countries (calculated at a discount rate of 7 per cent);
 - 10 per cent for bilateral loans to the official sector of Upper Middle Income Countries (calculated at a discount rate of 6 per cent);
 - 10 per cent for loans to multilateral institutions (calculated at a discount rate of 5 per cent for global institutions and multilateral development banks, and 6 per cent for other organisations, including the sub-regional organisations).

6.2 Revisions and Changes to the Publication

3. The revisions process is set out in [DFID's Revisions Policy](#).
4. As announced in a previous edition of Statistics on International Development (SID)¹⁴, this publication presents ODA for 2018 on a grant equivalent basis – the new standard for reporting ODA spend figures. The grant equivalent methodology affects how the value of loans spent by departments and other contributors are scored as ODA, which is different from the cash flow methodology used to calculate ODA in previous years. More information on this change can be found in an explanatory note *ODA grant equivalent – short technical note* found [here](#) and in the [OECD reporting directives for ODA](#).
5. This publication also implements the findings of a recent review of the in-donor refugee costs methodology, which were reported in SID¹⁴ and aligns the costs reported in 2018 with the clarifications agreed by the OECD Development Assistance Committee in 2017. Among the changes that are implemented is an appropriate allocation of costs to the devolved governments of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to reflect their policy responsibility. These costs were previously reported by the Department of Health and Social Care and Department for Education in 2017.

6.3 ODA spending and reporting

6. The UK commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of GNI on ODA is measured based on ODA spending and GNI estimates published by the Office for National Statistics in the year following the target year. During the spending year, DFID and HMT monitor ODA spending and the latest information on GNI to help ensure the 0.7 per cent commitment is met.

¹⁴ [Statistics on International Development: Final UK aid spend 2017](#)

7. UK ODA spend includes DFID spend, non-DFID departmental spend and other sources of ODA (such as EU attribution and Gift Aid). DFID and HMT monitor spend by other departments and funds during the year and estimate the likely contribution from non-departmental sources of ODA. DFID and HMT monitor movements in GNI during the year using GNI forecasts published by the independent Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR). While DFID manages its own spending on ODA, DFID has no control over GNI nor the spending by other government departments and other sources of ODA. After final decisions on DFID ODA spending are made the GNI estimate can still shift due to later economic data for the year becoming available and methodological changes introduced by ONS to improve GNI measurement. The amount of ODA spent by other government departments and ODA contributions from non-departmental sources can also be subject to change.

8. DFID is responsible for collating data and reporting spend on ODA to the Organisation of Economic Development and Co-operation (OECD), including the 0.7 per cent ODA:GNI ratio.

9. This publication uses an estimate of GNI for 2018 published by ONS in March and provisional ODA spend information to calculate a provisional estimate of the ODA:GNI ratio. Between the spring and the autumn, the ODA spending of DFID and other government departments are finalised. Other government departments will provide project-level details that allow the ODA spend to be quality assured. The ONS will release further updates of GNI for 2018. The final ODA data and an updated GNI estimate for 2018 are then used to calculate the final ODA:GNI ratio in the autumn publication, and to report to the OECD.

ODA:GNI Ratio

10. The ONS publish revisions to GNI estimates as more economic data becomes available. To enable comparability against international data we do not revise the back series to take into account any further revisions made to GNI estimates.

11. The recent changes on how we have reported the ODA:GNI ratio in previous editions of SID were described in the [Statistics on International Development: 2017](#) publication.

12. Over the coming months ONS will introduce a new framework to produce future gross domestic product estimates, which could have an impact on GNI estimates published later this year¹⁵.

Cross-Government funds

13. The Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) provides development and security support to countries which are at risk of conflict or instability. It's the only cross-government fund which uses both ODA spend and non-ODA spend to deliver and support security, defence, peacekeeping, peace-building and stability activity, under the strategic direction of the National Security Council (NSC). Only the ODA-eligible spending from the CSSF is reported in this publication. Details of departmental ODA spending from the CSSF will be published in Statistics on International Development this autumn.

14. The cross-government Prosperity Fund was introduced in 2016, replacing the FCO Prosperity Fund. The new fund, which is accountable to a cross-government board,

¹⁵ ONS: Gross domestic product quality and methodology information:
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/grossdomesticproductgdp/methodologies/grossdomesticproductgdpqmi>

promotes economic reform and development in recipient countries and contributes to poverty reduction in ODA-eligible countries. For more information please see their website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cross-government-prosperity-fund-programme/cross-government-prosperity-fund-update> and Statistics on International Development, which will be published this autumn.

EU attribution

15. The estimate for the UK's share of the EU ODA budget in 2018 is £952 million compared to £911 million in 2017. EU attribution fluctuates from year to year because the EU works on a seven year programming cycle and so EU disbursements in a given year can vary. The estimate in 2017 and 2018 is based on published data from the European Commission on the UK's share of development expenditure.

16. To avoid double counting, Table 3 reports £27.5 million of the EU attribution figure for the UK's contribution to EU peacekeeping under the CSSF, as the fund responsible for this spending. This does not affect the overall EU attribution figure.

6.4 Future developments

17. In May the Office for Statistics Regulation will carry out a compliance check of Statistics on International Development. The check will assess the extent to which the publication aligns with the Code of Practice for Statistics. We will keep users informed of any recommendations and developments because of this check.

6.5 Timing and Releases

18. Final 2018 ODA data will be available in the 2019 edition of *Statistics on International Development: Final UK Aid Spend 2018*, which will be available from the DFID website or from the National Statistics publication hub in autumn 2019. The final publication date for SID will be pre-announced [on the online timetable](#).

19. Provisional 2018 ODA statistics for all members of the OECD will also be published by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in April 2019, final data is normally published by the OECD in December.

6.6 Quality

20. Data for this publication comes from the following sources: i) DFID's ARIES database that records financial transactions relating to DFID payments and receipts. It also includes information on the dates of transactions, where the transactions took place and in which sector. This information is primarily inputted by spending teams in DFID country offices and central departments, with some quality assurance carried out at input and centrally to ensure that spend is in line with OECD definitions of ODA ii) Other Government Departments and contributors have similar databases to record ODA transaction data – although some accounting systems are unable to provide calendar year information (see paragraph 23)

21. As the data in the publication is largely based on administrative data it is not subject to sampling error. However, these provisional statistics may change between now and the final release in autumn 2019 as the data is further audited and assured as part of the closing of accounts and statistical quality assurance processes.

22. The DAC sets the definitions and classifications for reporting on ODA internationally. These are laid out in the DAC Statistical Reporting Directives.¹⁶ The statistics shown here are reported in line with these directives and are subjected to a quality assurance process as described in [Annex 4](#) of Statistics on International Development.

23. The figure presented for the Welsh Assembly Government and Scottish Government represents their estimated spend for the financial year 2018/19 and are used as a proxy for their calendar year 2018 spend. The Welsh Assembly Government and Scottish Government are currently reviewing their reporting procedures with a view to being able to report calendar year figures going forward.

6.7 Related Statistics and Publications

24. [DFID's Annual Report](#) provides information on DFID's results achieved, spending, performance and efficiency.

25. The [OECD statistics](#) provide ODA breakdowns for DAC donors (including multilaterals). This source is useful when carrying out international comparisons. Figures for DAC donor's provisional 2018 ODA will be published in early April.

6.8 Uses and users

26. The main purpose of these statistics is to provide timely summary statistics on ODA expenditure by the UK government. They are published prior to the release of provisional ODA statistics by the OECD DAC for all OECD members.

27. Based on user feedback, these statistics are used for a variety of purposes: preparing material for briefs; PQs and public correspondence; inclusion in reports and reviews and providing data for research and monitoring. Our users represent the government, civil society and non-government organisations, students and academia and the media.

28. We are always keen to enhance the value of these statistics and welcome your on-going feedback either via our [Statistics User Group](#) or via email statistics@dfid.gov.uk

6.9 National Statistics

29. The Office for Statistics Regulation (part of the United Kingdom Statistics Authority) designated these statistics as National Statistics in March 2016, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Statistics](#). Designation means the statistics carry the National Statistics label and conform to the standards summarised below.

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

¹⁶ See OECD, Aid Statistics, Methodology webpage available here: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/>

NATIONAL STATISTICS STATUS

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.



All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the *Code of Practice for Official Statistics*. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the Authority's regulatory arm.

The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is a producer's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics, and to improve its statistics on a continuous basis. If a producer becomes concerned about whether its statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, it should discuss its concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

Contacts

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