



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.

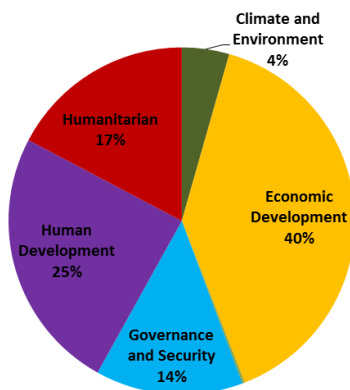
Planned budget for 2018/19

£87.5m

Planned budget for 2019/20

£88m

Sector breakdown of 2018/19 bilateral plans



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

Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund for Burma (LIFT) ¹	£35m
Burma UK Health Partnership Programme	£20.1m
Burma Humanitarian Assistance and Resilience Programme	£20m

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

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

562 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 580,000 people to gain sustainable access to clean water and/or sanitation, and aim to reach a further 237,000 people by 2020. We have helped 52,000 children to access a decent education and aim to support a further 56,000 by 2020.
- **Nutrition:** DFID support has improved nutrition for 562,000 children under 5, women (of childbearing age) and adolescent girls. We have improved the food security of over 1 million people. We will support 110,000 women to use modern methods of family planning by 2020.
- **Humanitarian:** 98,000 people have received humanitarian assistance from the UK, and we aim to reach a further 400,000 people over the coming four years.

Why DFID is investing in Burma

DFID's aim is to help Burma continue on a path to being a better governed, fairer and more peaceful society. Now is not the time to turn our backs on a population which has suffered through decades of military dictatorship. A third of the population lives in conflict-affected areas, many out of the reach of the Burmese state. The peace process is proving to be slow and could regress, leaving many people in continued danger, unable to live safe lives.

¹ LIFT supports community livelihoods, nutrition programmes and work to prevent modern slavery. It is categorized under 'Economic Development' in the 2018/19 pie chart summary.

* Results less than 1 million are rounded to the nearest thousand. Results over 1 million are rounded to the nearest hundred thousand.

Burma is at a decisive moment in its transition from a military dictatorship to a democracy, from decades of conflict to peace, and from a closed to an open and inclusive economy. Successful elections in 2015 led to a partially democratic government. However, the military still holds great power, as seen most strikingly in the violence inflicted on the Rohingya minority in Rakhine State since 2017 which has led to 700,000 people fleeing into neighbouring Bangladesh, and an intense humanitarian crisis in that country.

In light of the Rohingya crisis, we have adapted our portfolio. DFID will place greater emphasis in all our programming on inclusion, social cohesion and equity, targeting those who are persistently left out of economic and social development. We will have a greater focus on the areas and groups affected by conflict which are deliberately disadvantaged. This means a geographical focus on the ethnic/border states. We will provide more support to refugees and displaced people and we will focus our engagement with the Burmese government only on policy reform. We will maintain (whenever possible) a significant focus on Rakhine State across these priorities, working with all communities.

How will the UK respond to opportunities and challenges?

The UK has responded to the human rights violations which have occurred in Rakhine state, and is a leader in the response from the United Nations Security Council. DFID has adapted its programme to focus on the poorest and most vulnerable. We will continue to monitor the human rights situation in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan, as well as other parts of the country where there has been conflict. Our programmes will respond to this complex and changing situation. The UK has been central to producing Principles for Engagement in Rakhine State which have been accepted by the wider international community in Burma.

The UK is also well placed to act as a challenging but constructive partner to the civilian government in Burma. We will not provide financial aid, but we will provide policy support to enable the government to deliver better health and education services, improve livelihoods, and diversify the economy (thereby reducing the influence of the military and other elites). Real improvements in the lives of the poorest in Burma will be one of the most effective demonstrations of the benefits of democracy.

What is being achieved for the UK?

After 50 years of military misrule, the transition to civilian government, although incomplete, is an important opportunity. If the peace process fails and long-running conflicts continue or intensify, then there is a risk that Burma will become a destabilising influence in SE Asia, whose refugee populations require significant global humanitarian funding for years into the future. A peaceful, democratic, inclusive and prosperous Burma is the best outcome for the people of Burma and could offer significant investment and trade opportunities for the UK.

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. DFID's programme is part of a wider UK strategy to support change in Burma. In so doing we will: support Burma through its peace process; help to end the export of opium, trafficked migrants and the spread of drug-resistant malaria; stop human rights abuses; and prevent radicalisation. DFID's long-standing presence in Burma provides good foundations for us to influence and help democratic government 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 efforts to support the peace process, reduce the impact of conflict, fight corruption and seek opportunities for shared prosperity.
- Bilateral programmes managed by DFID Burma are implemented through United Nations agencies (including the 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 funding depending on performance and the political context, maximising 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 United Nations 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.