



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.

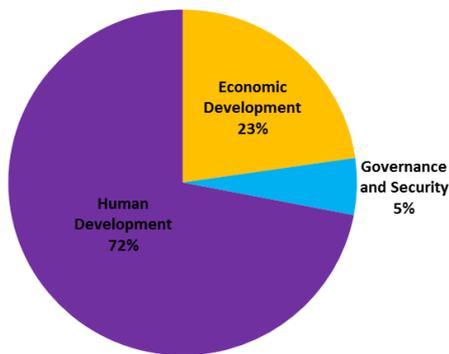
Planned budget for 2018/19

£88.4m

Planned budget for 2019/20

£80m

Sector breakdown of 2018/19 bilateral plans



Top 3 planned spending bilateral programmes in 2018/19 (as at 9<sup>th</sup> May 2018)

Saving Lives in Sierra Leone 2016 £27.2m

Rehabilitation of Freetown's Water Supply System £15.5m

Leh Wi Learn - Sierra Leone Secondary Education Improvement Programme £12.9m

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

463 thousand children supported to gain a decent education

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

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

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

Headline deliverables

- **Tackling global health threats:** The UK led the international response when the Ebola outbreak overwhelmed Sierra Leone. By deploying 2,000 military personnel, NHS staff and civil servants we helped end the epidemic, saved thousands of lives in Sierra Leone, and stopped Ebola from spreading to the UK. With our help, Sierra Leone is now ready to contain future outbreaks before they grow into epidemics, protecting people in the UK as well as in Sierra Leone. That includes training community health workers so they can spot potential new cases, helping set up rapid response teams across the country, and working with Public Health England to establish three laboratories.
- **Basic services:** Our assistance helps poor people access vital services: health, education and water. DFID support is strengthening the health system to reduce the very high number of women and young children who die each year. We are training midwives, providing lifesaving medicines, and upgrading health facilities with better water, sanitation and electricity. We have built classrooms and are helping teachers to deliver a decent education with new lesson plans. We are expanding access to clean water and sanitation to around 700,000 people for whom it is not currently within reach.
- **Economic development:** We are helping businesses to create more jobs, including by investing in electricity and roads. Economic growth will enable the government to raise more of its own tax, so

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

Sierra Leone can fund more of its own development, reducing its reliance on UK aid.

### **Why DFID is investing in Sierra Leone**

More than half of the population in Sierra Leone live on less than \$1.90 a day, and Sierra Leone is one of the riskiest places for women to give birth and for young children to live. Few young people leave school with a good education. Electricity reaches only around 10% of the population and opportunities to earn income are very limited for the 100,000 young people entering the job market each year.

Since the UK helped to end Sierra Leone's 1992 civil war, the country has restored democratic governance, peace and stability. But when Ebola struck in 2014, the UK had to provide large scale support for a second time. Ensuring we do not have to intervene a third time is a key objective of the UK's investment in Sierra Leone. That will require Sierra Leone to be able to better tackle crises itself, to deliver better public services so that it has a healthy, better educated workforce, to take action to encourage more businesses and investment to create jobs, and to address corruption and a lack of accountability in public life.

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

Sierra Leone delivered fair, credible and peaceful elections in March 2018. DFID will support the ambition of the new government to make the critical reforms necessary to reduce poverty and drive prosperity. This focuses on achieving priority results that will improve people's lives: better health services; more access to clean water and to electricity; and better education.

We are also investing in building stability, boosting economic development and jobs, reducing bribery, raising revenue, and strengthening accountability and transparency.

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

Our support means Sierra Leone can better respond to outbreaks of deadly diseases like Ebola, stopping its spread to the UK. By helping Sierra Leone to develop, we help them increase their own tax revenues and reduce their reliance on the UK and others who provide aid. Our aid in Sierra Leone secures a strong relationship with one of our most reliable allies in Africa. Sierra Leone has been supportive of UK positions in international discussions and supports our efforts to increase the return of foreign national offenders.

### **Partners**

- DFID works with other UK Government departments in Sierra Leone, most notably the High Commission, to achieve key political, economic and social objectives. DFID is also drawing on the expertise of the Bank of England to strengthen the quality of Sierra Leone's central bank, and Public Health England to improve global health security.
- Overall, the UK Government will invest more than £130 million in Sierra Leone in 2018/19. Of this, 68% (£90.8m) is bilateral support, largely provided by DFID (£88.4 million). It also includes the Ministry of Defence-led International Security Advisory Team, part of the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund. This will deepen our efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the security sector to maintain Sierra Leone's stability.
- A further 20% (around £26 million) is delivered through DFID's core contributions to multilateral partners.
- 12% (around £15.5 million) will be delivered through programmes managed centrally in DFID.
- In addition, Sierra Leone remains a priority country for the CDC, which has invested £162 million in the last three years alone.