

Results achieved by sector – Humanitarian assistance

The UK Aid Strategy set strengthening resilience and response to crises as one of the four strategic objectives for the UK aid budget. In response to increasing humanitarian demand, DFID has increased funding on humanitarian assistance by nearly two-and-a-half times in the last five years (from £484 million in 2009 to £1,119 in 2014). Over this period DFID has responded to 32 crises by, among other things, providing shelter in the aftermath of the earthquake in Nepal, supporting the prevention and treatment of Ebola, caring for refugees from Syria, and providing emergency surgery for the victims of war in Somalia.

DFID commitment

The UK government is committed to helping build resilience to crises, and respond effectively when they occur.

By its nature, humanitarian assistance is reactive to unplanned events. Therefore DFID has no specific targets for the amount of humanitarian assistance to be delivered. Instead, DFID focuses on delivering the best possible humanitarian assistance to people in need.

Indicators used to measure progress

- Number of people supported by humanitarian assistance (food aid and cash and voucher transfers) through DFID support.

Results achieved

In 2015–16, DFID had achieved the following:

- Reached 5.1 million people, including 1.6 million women and girls, with humanitarian assistance.

In addition:

- The Syria Crisis Response has helped nearly 1.4 million people find access to clean drinking water sources.
- More than 4 million women and young children have been reached by DFID's nutrition programmes in Ethiopia.
- In Sierra Leone, DFID provided medical support, including specialist treatment centres, medical staff and 500 additional hospital beds, to help people confirmed or suspected to have contracted Ebola.