



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.

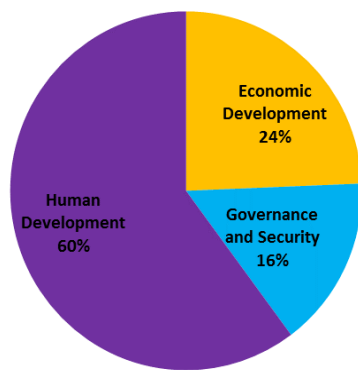
Planned Budget for 2017/18

£107m

Planned Budget for 2018/19

£98m

Sector breakdown of 2017/18 bilateral plans



Top 3 planned spending programmes in 2017/18 (as at June 2017)

Saving Lives in Sierra Leone 2016	£42.2m
Maintaining Resilient Zero for Ebola in Sierra Leone	£9.7m
Sierra Leone Secondary Education	£9.5m

Contribution to the Global Goals and other government commitments (achieved as at March 2017)*

380 thousand children supported to gain a decent education

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

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

48 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, we 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 3 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, training midwives, providing lifesaving medicines, and upgrading health facilities with better water, sanitation and electricity. We are building classrooms and helping teachers to deliver a decent education. 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 Sierra Leone can fund more of its own development, reducing its reliance on UK aid.

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

Why DFID is investing in Sierra Leone

More than half of the population in Sierra Leone live on less than \$1.25 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?

The UK is investing in Sierra Leone's Presidential post-Ebola Recovery Plan to help rebuild the country. 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, including supporting elections, 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 Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
- We provide limited funds to the government of Sierra Leone directly which are closely monitored to ensure they deliver results and value and money.
- DFID channels 49% of our budget through multilateral organisations, choosing the agencies with the right expertise, a good track record and that offer the best value for money.
- 23% is delivered through private sector contractors, such as UK engineering firms whose expertise is helping replace Freetown's worn-out water infrastructure, and through providing specialist expertise to government, such as helping the tax authority or the Anti-Corruption Commission.
- 20% is through civil society organisations to provide essential services such as health and water. These organisations are based in the communities they serve, giving them a strong understanding of local needs.