

Official Agency Narratives for 2025

Non-FCDO Government Department or other provider of UK ODA	Main ODA funded activity in 2025
BBC World Service	BBC World Service contributes to the BBC's international news mission by providing trusted, accurate, impartial, and independent information and analysis to audiences around the globe. The BBC World Service aims through journalism to contribute to accountability and good governance and improve the welfare and economic development of citizens in developing countries.
Colonial Pensions administered by FCDO	Pension payments made to ex-members of the UK Overseas Civil Service who were employed directly by developing country governments.
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)	The International Cultural Heritage Protection (ICHP) Programme is the Department for Culture Media and Sport's ODA programme to protect cultural heritage at risk from conflict and the impacts of climate change. Through a portfolio of delivery partners, the ICHP Programme has four key outcomes: • Communities are more prosperous and societies more open due to cultural heritage preservation • The destruction and trafficking of cultural property is reduced • A comprehensive knowledge and evidence base is developed to demonstrate how to protect and respond to the impact of climate change, conflict and instability on cultural heritage • Activity helps demonstrate that the UK is a 'force for good' in the world. In 2025, the programme supported the following programmes: • The Cultural Protection Fund (British Council) • Climate Change Urgency Grants (Arts Humanities Research Council) • Culture in Crisis Programme (British Council) • Heritage Crime Taskforce Ukraine (Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe) • Heritage Emergency Fund (UNESCO) • Fund for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (UNESCO) • Illicit Trafficking Capacity Building (United Nations Office for Drugs and Crime) • Cultural Property Protection training in the event of Armed Conflict (UNESCO) • Ukraine Prosecutorial Support for Cultural Heritage Investigations (Blue Shield International) • Support for the development and strengthening of the Blue Shield • Ukraine 100 Year Partnership Heritage Protection project (Historic England) Grant recipient organisations via the Cultural Protection Fund include: • International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) • TransforMedia • The American Academic Institute in Iraq (TAARI) • University of Exeter • Book Bunk Trust • Likikiri Collective • Asociacion RehabiMed • The Khalidi Library – Khalidi Waqf • University of St. Andrews • Essanoor Associates • Faiz Foundation Trust • NED University of Engineering and Technology • Numaish-Karachi • MartimEA Research • Laajverd

	• Archive Nepal • Sampada Samrakshyan Samaj Nepal (ICOMOS Nepal) • National Indigenous Women's Federation • Sakiya – Research and Experimental Development • National Museums of Kenya • Dessie Museum (Ethiopia) • Varendra Research Museum (Bangladesh) • Institute of African and Asian Studies (IAAS) Archive of Sudanese Intangible Cultural Heritage • Museum of Babylon • McMillan Memorial Library (Nairobi) • Khalikdina Hall and Library (Karachi) • Dar Jacir House (Occupied Palestinian Territories) • Great Omari Mosque Library (Gaza) • Ethnographic Museum in Khartoum (Sudan) Countries and sectors supported The International Cultural Heritage Protection Programme funded projects supporting the cultural heritage sectors in countries across the Middle East, North Africa, East Africa and South Asia. The UNESCO project supported Latin American countries, which is the first time the ICHP programme has supported projects in this region. All countries supported; • Afghanistan • Bangladesh • Eastern Africa, regional • Egypt • Ethiopia • Iraq • Kenya • Lebanon • Libya • Middle East, regional • Nepal • Pakistan • Sudan • Syrian Arab Republic • Tanzania • Uganda • Palestine In contributing to the cultural heritage sectors, CPF projects have also provided economic benefit more widely to the geographies in which they operate, acting as a means for local employment, providing skills development and increasing tourism to a number of sites. More information on the ICHP Programme: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/dcmss-international-cultural-heritage-protection-programme
Department for Education (DfE)	DfE's ODA primarily covers support of asylum seeker children in the first 12 months after they make a claim for asylum in the UK. This support relates to the provision of publicly-funded education services for asylum seekers of compulsory school age. Since 2022, the figures have also included estimates of support provided to children arriving from Afghanistan and Ukraine.
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)	<u>Main activities</u> 1. Provision of grant-based Official Development Assistance to help deliver the UK's International Climate Finance (ICF) commitments. UK ICF aims to support climate change mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in ODA-eligible countries. DESNZ ICF is focussed on:

	2. Support for multilateral climate funds, international partnerships and trust funds to mobilise and leverage public and private climate finance. 3. Technical assistance, policy advice and capacity building to support energy transition, forest and land-use monitoring, emissions reduction, and climate governance. 4. Support for innovation, research, monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV), and evidence generation to inform climate policy and investment decisions. 5. Delivery of results-based and programme-level support aligned with countries' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. <u>Organisations supported</u> 1. Multilateral climate funds and other climate relevant trust funds delivered through Multilateral Development Banks (including the Climate Investment Funds and associated programmes such as the Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme). 2. International funds and facilities supporting climate mitigation and resilience, including the Mitigation Action Facility. 3. International organisations and secretariats, including the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). 4. Delivery partners, technical assistance providers and research organisations supporting programme implementation including the Climate Ambition Support Alliance (CASA). 5. Partner country governments and public institutions in ODA-eligible countries. <u>Countries and sectors supported</u> 1. DESNZ ICF has prioritised large-scale emission mitigation programmes in middle-income countries (MICs), and in forest-rich countries that play a critical role as major carbon sinks, reflecting where the potential for emissions abatement is highest. 2. Energy sector (including clean energy transition, energy policy and regulation). 3. Forestry, land use and nature-based solutions, including national forest monitoring systems and REDD+. 4. Climate mitigation across energy, industry and transport sectors. 5. Climate resilience, loss and damage, and climate finance systems supporting adaptation and recovery. <u>Major projects supported in 2025</u> In 2025, DESNZ International Climate Finance focused on delivering large-scale climate mitigation, resilience and systems change through established international programmes. The six programmes with the highest levels of expenditure were: • The <u>Mitigation Action Facility (MAF)</u>. That helps help finance measures that tackle and shift challenging sectors within a country's climate mitigation action plans. • <u>Accelerating Innovation Monitoring for Forests (AIM4Forests)</u>. That supports countries to strengthen and institutionalise national forest monitoring systems • <u>The Energy Sector Management Assistance Programme (ESMAP)</u>. That provides technical assistance and analytical support to governments to shape energy policy and accelerate clean energy transitions. • , <u>The Fund for Responding to Loss & Damage (FRLD)</u>. That supports responses to the adverse impacts of climate change, including climate-related emergencies, recovery, reconstruction and resilience building. • <u>Scaling Climate Action by Lowering Emissions (SCALE)</u>. That supports large, jurisdictional-scale, nature-based emission reductions programming in ODA-eligible countries. • <u>The NDC Partnership (NDCP)</u>. That helps turn countries' climate targets under the Paris Agreement, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), into specific strategies and measures. • <u>The Clean Energy Innovation Facility (CEIF)</u>. That that supports clean energy research, development & demonstration (RD&D) to help improve the performance of innovative technologies, and to accelerate the clean energy transition
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Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Defra's Official Development Assistance (ODA) portfolio focuses on tackling biodiversity loss, climate change and poverty in developing countries. Defra's programming is focused on three main areas : (1) protecting and restoring ecosystems and species, including a focused marine portfolio; (2) advancing science, innovation and technology; and (3) integrating nature into decision-making and leveraging finance for nature. Defra continually reviews its ODA programming priorities to ensure best fit and ability to be agile and respond to emerging priorities. 1. Protecting and Restoring Ecosystems and Species, on land and at sea Defra's bilateral Biodiverse Landscapes Fund supports landscape-scale conservation and sustainable development. We also contribute to multilateral trust funds such as the Global Fund for Coral Reefs, PROBLUE, and BIOFIN, which scale impact in marine protection, biodiversity finance, and ecosystem restoration. Demand-led challenge funds including Darwin, Darwin Plus, and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund work with local and national stakeholders to deliver targeted interventions that address biodiversity loss, species decline and poverty. The Blue Planet Fund helps developing countries protect marine ecosystems, adapt to climate change, reduce pollution, and promote sustainable seafood production across South and Southeast Asia, West and East Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific. 2. Advancing Science, Innovation and Technology To support evidence-based decision-making and innovation in nature-based solutions, Defra funds long-term research and technical assistance programmes. The Global Centre on Biodiversity for Climate supports international research partnerships that explore natural solutions for climate change and poverty, generating the evidence needed to inform policy and practice. Defra also supports work on Animal Health Systems Strengthening, which provides technical assistance to help developing countries strengthen capacity in their management of animal health systems to establish resilient sustainable development. 3. Integrating Nature into Decision-Making and Leverage Finance for Nature Defra works with multilateral organisations such as the World Bank and UNDP to support high-impact initiatives. These include strengthening approaches for measuring and valuing natural capital through the Global Program on Sustainability, mobilising blue finance through PROBLUE, and supporting partner countries to reform policies and build markets for positive nature outcomes. In addition, Defra funds a range of Multilateral Environmental Agreements supporting objectives including mitigating climate change, sustainable use of natural resources, sustainable development, addressing environmental pollution, waste management, and conservation including through MEAs such as the Montreal Protocol and the Convention on Biological Diversity.
Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC)	Main activities The Department of Health and Social Care's (DHSC) expenditure on Official Development Assistance (ODA) delivered a targeted set of high-ambition programmes to reduce the impact of devastating health threats on some of the poorest people in the world. The Global Health Security and Strategy (GHSS) portfolio of activities strengthens the ability of developing countries to prepare, prevent, detect and respond to the threat of infectious diseases of epidemic and pandemic potential and antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The Global Health Research (GHR) portfolio deploys the expertise and independent research commissioning of the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) to fund high quality, impactful applied research on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and health systems, strengthen research capacity of individuals and to build low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) resilience to global health threats. The GHSS and GHR programmes are complemented by a further two programmes: the Global Health Workforce Programme (GHWP), which works towards building capacity in the health workforce of LMICs, and a project which supports the implementation of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in LMICs.

	In 2025, a portion of DHSC ODA funded the first twelve months of asylum seekers' healthcare costs following their arrival in the UK. These healthcare costs relate to asylum seekers and individuals within the Afghanistan Citizens Resettlement, the Ukraine Support, and the Gaza Medevac Schemes. Organisations supported (not including UK Government institutions) Africa Health Research Institute American University of Beirut Boston University Bournemouth University BRAC University Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) Curatio International Foundation Elrha European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) Global Antibiotic Research and Development Partnership (GARDP) Global Health Partnerships (GHP) Imperial College London Institute for Clinical Effectiveness and Health Policy Instituto Nacional de Saude International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh International Development Research Centre (IDRC) International Health Economics Association Ishrat Husain Pakistan Institute of Living and Learning (PILL) Keele University King's College London Lao Tropical and Public Health Institute Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine London School of Economics and Political Science London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine LVCT Health Makerere University School of Public Health Malaria Consortium Manchester Metropolitan University Newcastle University Northumbria University Pancasila University Queen Mary University of London Queen's University of Belfast Roehampton University Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene Sangath Sitaram Bharta Institute of Science and Research South Centre Swansea University The Aurum Institute The Child Health Research Foundation (CHRF) - Bangladesh The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) The Wellcome Trust The World Bank The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia Universidade Eduardo Mondlane Universiti Malaya University College London University of Aberdeen University of Birmingham University of Bristol University of Cambridge
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	safe and effective vaccines licensed for emergency use within 100 days of an epidemic threat being identified. Six new National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Global Research Professorships were awarded to outstanding academics to conduct applied health research for the direct and primary benefit of people in LMICs. The six projects, each addressing a different locally identified challenge, are working across Southern and Eastern Africa. The NIHR Research on Interventions for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) Programme supported eight new research partnerships in 2025, seven of which focus on research to develop and evaluate interventions for the early detection and management of metabolic risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke, and the other on targeted research to prevent, treat and manage multiple long-term conditions in LMICs. The projects focus on diverse challenges across countries in sub-Saharan Africa. South and South-East Asia, and the Caribbean region. Global Health Workforce Programme (GHWP): Supporting African governments to optimise, build and strengthen their health workforce. Having a resilient health workforce is vital for universal health coverage, global health security and health equality. GHWP has established over 58 health partnerships in Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Somaliland and Malawi. Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) 2030: Supporting LMICs to reduce smoking-related deaths. The FCTC 2030 aims to support LMIC governments to deliver tobacco control policies via a continuous policy support, high level political engagement, helping governments quantify the economic impact, producing evidence, knowledge sharing across countries, and providing funding for dedicated resource. At least 15 countries are receiving support, more details are outlined here: FCTC 2030 Major projects supported in 2025 The GHSS and GHR portfolios achieved numerous successes, including informing best practices in managing disease outbreaks, reducing the threat of AMR, and supporting equitable partnerships in areas such as non-communicable diseases (including mental health) and health policy and systems research. Notably, the GHSS portfolio supported the first new antibiotic for drug-resistant gonorrhoea in 30 years to achieve FDA approval and funded a quarter of all vaccine candidates entering clinical development for specific diseases impacting the poorest countries since 2016. In part thanks to DHSC-funded data on antimicrobial resistance (AMR), the UN committed to reducing deaths on AMR by 10% by 2030. The NIHR-funded ENHANCE project developed a digital app supporting the WHO's Thinking Healthy Programme to scale up care for perinatal depression across South Asia. A large, randomised trial found outcomes at least as effective as standard care, published in Nature Medicine (April 2025). In addition, the NIHR Global Health Research Development Awards programme funded 12 organisations in Bangladesh, India, Lebanon, Mexico Mozambique, the Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Uganda. Through this programme, NIHR supports researchers to progress to larger awards and be better positioned to generate a high-quality internationally competitive proposal for research funding addressing needs identified in LMICs.
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT)	DSIT's ODA focuses on improving people's lives by maximising the potential of science and technology and is primarily delivered through its International Science Partnership Fund (ISPF). ISPF is designed to encourage research and innovation in the UK's international relationships, supporting researchers and innovators to work with peers around the world on the major themes of resilient planet, health, tech and talent, which significantly impact low and middle income countries. The closure of DSIT's previously managed Newton Fund and Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) was announced in 2022, with existing projects continuing to completion in line with agreed timelines. The Newton Fund supported bilateral and regional research and innovation partnerships between the UK and selected middle income countries, to address specific global development challenges and build science and innovation capacity. GCRF provided dedicated funding to research focussed on addressing global challenges which most significantly impact upon developing countries.

	For each Fund, the ODA partnerships where/are delivered by a consortium of the UK's leading research and innovation bodies, including UK Research and Innovation, National Academies, the Met Office, British Council and Higher Education Funding Bodies across Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and England.
Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	DWP ODA spend is predominantly comprised of in-donor refugee costs (IDRC). In the calendar year 2025, IDRC represented 90% of ODA spend, and covered five schemes: 1. Afghanistan Citizen Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) 2. Homes for Ukraine 3. Ukraine Family Scheme 4. Ukraine Extension Scheme 5. Gaza Medical Evacuation Scheme The remaining 10% of ODA spend was formed by membership payments to the International Labour Organisation (ILO); 60% of the total ILO annual payment is counted towards DWP ODA spend as agreed with the FCDO.
Gift Aid	The portion of Gift Aid claimed by UK based international development charities that is then used on ODA-eligible activities. To understand more about ODA-eligible Gift Aid, please see methodology note.
HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)	Main activities Child benefit Assistance for Afghan and Ukrainian Refugees Programmes: providing help and support to Afghanistan and Ukrainian families with children fleeing conflict to the UK. Accelerate Trade Facilitation: partnership between HMRC, the World Customs Organization and the United Nations Conference and Trade and Development working with developing countries to support implementation of the World Trade Facilitation Agreement. Capacity Building Unit: providing peer to peer capacity building support to partner tax administrations and providing support for the implementation of the set of new OECD tax rules. Organisations supported ODA Countries Revenue Authorities, UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS), Afghan Citizens resettlement Scheme (ACRS), Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) Homes for Ukraine and the Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme Countries and sectors supported Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Cambodia, Dominica, Ecuador, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Honduras, Iraq, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, São Tomé e Príncipe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, Zambia, Zimbabwe
HM Treasury (HMT)	HMT ODA relates to development-related administrative costs, and countering money laundering and illicit finance.
Home Office (HO)	Main activities In-donor spend on support to asylum seekers and the resettlement of vulnerable people. This is linked to support and shelter for up to 12 months.

	Upstream work to build capacity and capability in ODA recipient countries, improving security, protecting children and tackling modern slavery. Organisations supported UNICEF, IOM Countries and sectors supported Developing countries unspecified Refugees/asylum seekers in donor countries Ending violence against women and girls Social Protection Human rights Facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG)	Homes for Ukraine scheme providing safe accommodation and support for those fleeing Russia's war in Ukraine. Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (publishing.service.gov.uk)
Ministry of Defence (MoD)	MoD ODA spend includes training in human rights, rule of law, international humanitarian law and protection of civilians in conflict.
Office for National Statistics	ONS' activities include peer to peer partnerships and other forms of technical assistance aimed at strengthening national statistical offices. This statistical capacity building work supports key FCDO countries by providing more and better data, which underpins open societies whilst better informing delivery of sustainable development goals, improving lives and informing citizens and policy makers in all sectors, including economic development, health, the environment and demography.
Other In-donor Refugee Costs	The geography covered in departments' estimated spend on IDRC is usually UK wide, however, for the majority of DfE's and all of DHSC's ODA, estimated spend only reports costs administered in England as Education and Health is devolved for Scotland and Wales. Therefore, where data is unavailable for Devolved Governments and to avoid undercounting the true UK in-donor refugee spend, Health and Education estimated costs for each scheme are imputed using the same methodology and unit costs per person in England as Scotland and Wales. This is then multiplied by the estimated proportion of ODA-eligible individuals administered in the relevant regions. This information is provided by the Home Office. This information is provided by the Home Office. Estimates for IDRC in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are combined and recorded as 'Other in-donor refugee costs' in the published data in SID reports. These costs are not specifically assigned to the Devolved Governments.
Scottish Government (SG)	The Scottish Government continued to deliver programmes across the key thematic areas of health, inclusive education and equalities as well as work to respond to humanitarian crises around the world and promote global citizenship domestically. Information on the Scottish Government's overseas development expenditure is now published on the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) platform, strengthening transparency and accountability. On health, 2025 saw the launch of a new Health Partnership Programme. Building on over two decades of partnership working, the programme brings together institutional health partnerships between Scotland and Malawi, Rwanda and Zambia. Backed by £3 million of Scottish Government investment over the next three years and delivered in partnership with Global Health Partnerships, the programme reflects Scotland's broader commitment to tackling health inequalities and supporting sustainable, locally-led change. Scotland continues its investment in programmes to reduce premature mortality from severe noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) by providing integrated care and services in Malawi, Zambia and Rwanda. This includes delivery of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Package of Essential NCD Interventions (PEN) programme and support through the pooled UN Health4Life Fund.

	In Education, through the second-year Realising Inclusive and Safer Education (RISE) project, Link Education International and partners, working with Ministries of Education in Malawi, Zambia and Rwanda, identified and assessed over 5,000 children with disabilities and additional support needs, established referral pathways to specialist services, and strengthened inclusive education through teacher training, resources and awareness raising. Furthermore, the GIRLS project, led by Oxfam and partners, provided scholarships and educational support to over 3,000 girls to improve attendance, retention and progression to TVET and tertiary education. We also supported the World Bank Inclusive Education Policy Academy and Pakistan scholarships benefiting 188 university and 1,700 secondary students. Our commitment to advancing equality is delivered through our twin-track approach: mainstreaming equality within ODA spend and dedicated multi-year equalities-focused programmes. The Women and Girls Fund, launched in 2024, was designed by women- and girl-led organisations (WGLOs), and released new grants this year in Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia, bringing the total number of grants awarded to WGLOs via this programme to 29. We also continue to support the Peer-to-Peer Police Partnership programme with Police Scotland and the police services in Malawi and Zambia. Celebrating 10 years of partnership this year, the current programme works to tackle gender-based violence and strengthen child protection. For the period 2025-26, the partnership supported the training of 302 police officers. In 2025–26, the Scottish Government contributed to the global response to humanitarian emergencies. This included support delivered through the Humanitarian Emergency Fund to organisations providing life-saving assistance in response to climate shocks, natural disasters, and conflict in Malawi; Afghanistan; Sudan and neighbouring countries; the Democratic Republic of Congo; and Myanmar. Additional support was announced by the First Minister in September 2025 to respond to the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Palestine. The International Development Fund continued to co-fund global citizenship programmes. This cross-government approach reflects our commitment to policy coherence for sustainable development and good global citizenship across our work. Finally, the Scottish Government's Climate Justice Fund helps support the most vulnerable communities facing the worst impacts of climate change. This is based on our recognition that people in the Global South are least responsible for causing the global climate emergency but are impacted first and most severely by it. In 2025, this included the Climate Just Communities Programme which delivered its remaining £8 million of funding throughout Malawi, Rwanda, and Zambia, and the world-first Non-Economic Loss and Damage Programme which delivered its remaining £2 million throughout the Bay of Bengal, Pacific, Andean Highlands and East Africa.
UK Integrated Security Fund (ISF) Previously the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF)	The UK Integrated Security Fund (UKISF) is a unique cross-government fund that tackles the greatest threats to UK national security arising from instability overseas. Its ability to blend ODA and non-ODA is unique across HMG and amongst international donors. The UKISF continues to support the delivery of the Government's top national security priorities linked to conflict and instability, state threats, transnational threats, and women, peace and security in more than 80 countries and territories. For more details on the UKISF please see the latest annual report.
Welsh Government	The Welsh Government supports the Wales and Africa programme, which aims to help deliver the Sustainable Development Goals. It also provides small grants to organisations based in Wales to promote development awareness.