

Thematic Evaluation of the UK's Influence on Development Leaders, 2014-2024

Technical Appendix

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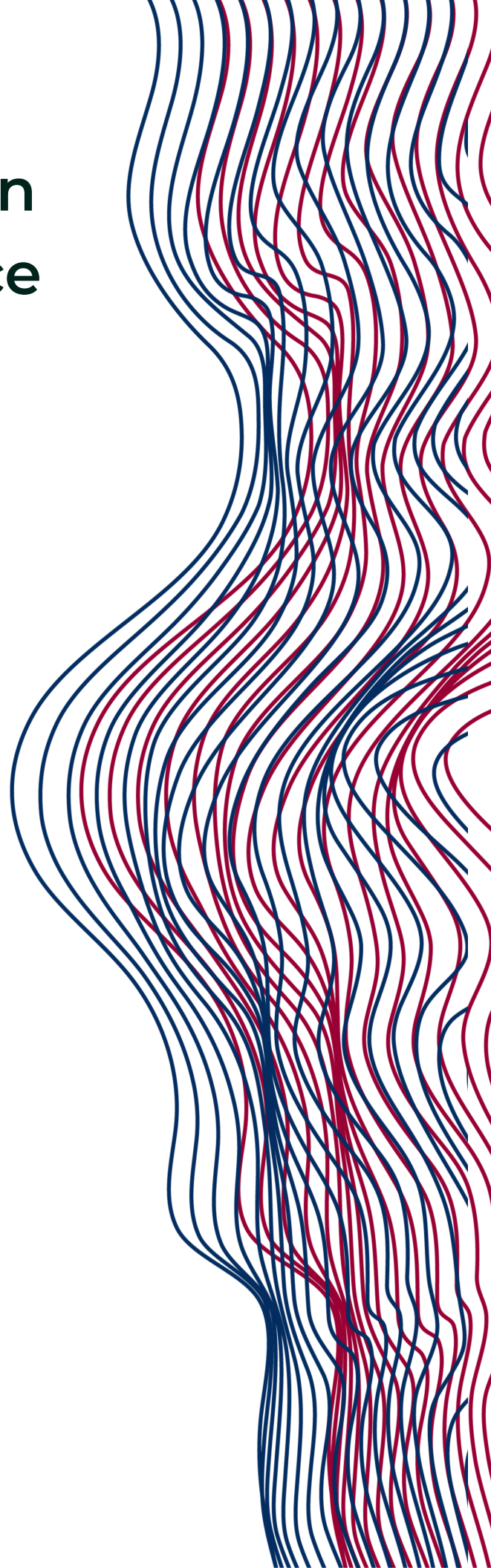


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Appendix A. Listening to Leaders Survey Method

Creating the sampling frame

The sampling frame is derived from AidData's Institutional Position Maps (IPM) which identify the relevant organization types and key positions at the mid- and senior-level under each of the six stakeholder groups¹ defined as part of the population of interest.

The research team first identified a list of ideal-type organizations for the six stakeholder groups across all countries that discharge functions relevant to our question of interest. Then customized IPMs for each country surveyed are created to identify functionally equivalent country-specific institutions and positions. Subsequently, the research team searches for the names, titles, and contact information for individuals who held mid- and senior-level positions identified in the IPMs at a given period of time. Those contacts are identified using publicly available resources, such as organizational websites and directories, international conference records, Who's Who International, and public profiles on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. In order to maintain a balanced sampling frame we employ a quota system to find an ideal number of contacts for each institution type in the IPM.

Developing and testing the questionnaire

The LTL survey is fielded once every three years capturing leader perceptions, priorities, and experience over time on a series of topics. While the core set of questions remains consistent over waves, the questionnaire is adapted for each wave to capture the most salient and timely issues pressing decision makers in the development policy space. The design and evaluation of these questions was guided by best practices in survey methodology set out by scholars such as Weisberg (2005)², Dillman et al. (2009)³, and Groves et al. (2009)⁴.

Additionally, AidData consults with a cross-section of international development scholars and practitioners, survey experts, and core funding partners to set priorities regarding the most promising and impactful lines of inquiry and structuring of questions. This visibility and input into the design of the survey helps ensure that LTL asks the most timely, salient questions to gather responses useful in shaping future development policy and practice

¹ These stakeholder groups are: (i) officials from host government agencies; (ii) representative of development partners operating in-country; (iii) leaders of civil society organizations and non-governmental agencies; (iv) leaders of private sectors companies; (v) independents experts from universities, think tanks, and media; and (vi) national-level parliamentarians (included only in the 2020 wave).

² Weisberg, H.F. (2005). *The Total Survey Error Approach: A Guide to the New Science of Survey Research*. University of Chicago Press.

³ Dillman, D.A., Smyth, J.D., and L.M.Christian. (2009). *Internet, mail, and mixed-mode surveys: The tailored design method* (3rd ed). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

⁴ Groves, R.M., Floyd, J.F., Couper, M.P., Lepkowski, J.M., Singer, E., and R. Tourangeau. (2009). *Survey Methodology* (2nd edition). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley

Core survey-based measures of UK performance over time

The survey analysis will largely focus on a core subset of questions related to the perceived footprint, performance, and attractiveness of development partners that were included in all four survey waves which allow for assessment of the UK’s performance over more than a decade (2014-2024), across geographies, and against comparators (Table 2). These responses provide a baseline of the UK’s strengths, weaknesses, and positioning relative to other development partners in three areas: (i) its footprint among leaders who reported receiving its advice and assistance; (ii) its influence in shaping leaders’ policy priorities; and (iii) helpfulness in implementing policy reforms. These results will then provide a foundation for a deeper assessment to explore and explain variability in these perceptions by country-, respondent-, and donor-level characteristics.

Each of these perception-based measures is calculated on the basis of responses to the 2014, 2017, 2020, and 2024 *Listening to Leaders* surveys, as defined below:

- Footprint = % of leaders in low- and middle-income countries who reported receiving advice of assistance from a bilateral aid agency or multilateral organization
- Influence = % of leaders in low- and middle-income countries who said a development partner was “quite” or “very” influential in shaping domestic policy priorities
- Helpfulness = % of leaders in low- and middle-income countries who said a development partner was “quite” or “very” helpful in implementing policy changes

Table A1. Core Questions from Listening to Leader for Analysis, Availability by Wave

	LtL 2014 (W1)	LtL 2017 (W2)	LtL 2020 (W3)	LtL 2024 (W4)
Footprint	x ⁵	x	x	x
Influence	x	x	x	x
Helpfulness	x	x	x	x
What made the organization influential		x	x	x
What best describes the influence			x	
What made the organization helpful		x	x	x
What do you value in a partner			x	x

⁵ There is a somewhat similar question but with different phrasing.

Fielding the survey

Each of the four waves of the survey were administered in compliance with the standards set out by the William & Mary Institutional Review Board's Protection of Human Subjects Committee (PHSC). Survey recipients received a tailored email invitation to participate that included a unique link to the online questionnaire. Over the course of a given wave administration period, survey recipients received up to three different automated electronic reminders. Survey participants could take the survey in one of six different languages: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, and Arabic.

Weighting scheme

Given imperfect information about the representativeness of our sample vis-à-vis the sampling frame (i.e., the population of interest), we use a weighting scheme to mitigate the potential for bias in our results. The non-response weights are constructed through the following steps. First we estimate the probability of survey response using a logistic regression. For all members of our sampling frame, we have information on a series of demographic characteristics (e.g. gender, country, stakeholder group, etc.). We use a series of these predictors to estimate the probability of survey response for each member of the sampling frame.

Response rates across waves

Table A2. Response rates

	2014 (W1)	2017 (W2)	2020 (W3)	2024 (W4)
Response rate	15.5%	7.4%	8.1%	6.6%

Survey composition across waves

Table A3. Stakeholder composition of participants

	2014 (W1)	2017 (W2)	2020 (W3)	2024 (W4)
Host Government	2,400 (50.51%)	1,473 (44.6%)	2959 (43.47%)	1329 (40.89%)
Parliaments (only 2020 wave)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	360 (5.29%)	0 (0%)
Development Partner	1,469 (21.82%)	516 (15.6%)	889 (13.06%)	413 (12.70%)
NGO/CSO	737 (10.95%)	701 (21.2%)	1287 (18.91%)	784 (24.12%)
Private Sector	318 (4.72%)	179 (5.4%)	374 (5.49%)	179 (5.51%)
Experts (Universities/Think Tanks/Media)	807 (11.99%)	345 (10.4%)	672 (9.87%)	527 (16.22%)
Others	0 (0%)	89 (2.7%)	266 (3.91%)	18 (0.55%)

Table A4. Regional composition of participants

	2014 (W1)	2017 (W2)	2020 (W3)	2024 (W4)
East Asia and Pacific	926 (13.76%)	498 (14.8%)	910 (13.37%)	520 (16.00%)
Europe and Central Asia	1,177 (17.49%)	777 (21.0%)	1184 (17.39%)	544 (16.74%)
Latin America and the Caribbean	955 (14.19%)	454 (13.2%)	1341 (19.7%)	686 (21.11%)
Middle East and North Africa	792 (11.77%)	270 (7.8%)	454 (6.67%)	144 (4.43%)
South Asia	586 (8.71%)	357 (10.6%)	612 (8.99%)	198 (6.09%)
Sub-Saharan Africa	2,259 (33.56%)	1,112 (32.7%)	2297 (33.74%)	1115 (34.31%)
Other	36 (0.53%)	0 (0%)	9 (0.13%)	43(1.33%)

Further breakdown of the composition of participants is available in the individual Technical Appendices for each wave of the survey.

Appendix B. Listening to Leaders Survey Questionnaire (2024)

Thank you for your interest in the 2024 Listening to Leaders Survey. Conducted once every three years, the Listening to Leaders survey asks leaders from over 145 countries about their most pressing priorities, the performance of development priorities, progress, and how bilateral aid agencies and multilateral organizations provide financing, advice, and other support to advance development in your country. We are inviting you to participate in this study because we believe you are knowledgeable about the design and implementation of development-oriented government policies and programs between 2020 and 2024.

Your participation will help us ensure that our findings accurately represent the diverse opinions and observations of those with experience in policy development and implementation. Independent researchers from AidData, a research lab at the College of William and Mary, will use the results from this survey to undertake independent analysis of how domestic and international organizations can more effectively support the development priorities of policymakers and practitioners in low-income and middle-income countries.

This questionnaire is unique. We are seeking your individual observations and opinions based upon your own experiences. We are not seeking the official positions of any institutions with which you have been affiliated.

Please complete as many questions as you can and feel free to express your views openly and honestly. We ask that you focus, be precise in your responses, and take your time. We encourage you to answer as many questions as you can. However, when filling out the questionnaire, if you do not feel comfortable answering a particular question for any reason, you are welcome to select the “prefer not to say” response or skip to move on. The survey should take you about 30 minutes to complete.

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary. All of your responses will be kept strictly confidential. They will only be used in a statistical summary and will never be associated with your name. We do not believe that there are any risks to participating in this survey. Every individual who chooses to participate in the survey will be granted access to findings from this survey.

If you have questions or need assistance in any way, please send an email to our research team (surveys@aiddata.wm.edu). If you have concerns or dissatisfactions with this research study, please contact Dr. Jennifer Stevens, chair of the WM Protection of Human Subject Committee (PHSC). Local telephone: (757)221-2176. Toll free line: 1-888-905-0149. Email address: jastev@wm.edu. If you would like to learn more about this study, please visit our website at www.aiddata.org/ltl-2024.

Introduction:

We would like to start by asking a few questions about your professional background.

1. Which country or territory did you work in for the longest time between 2020 and 2024?
2. Which type of organization in [country] did you work with for the longest time between 2020 and 2024?
 - Government Agency, Ministry or Office
 - Parliament of [country]
 - Development Partner
 - Non-Governmental Organization or Civil Society Organization
 - Private Sector
 - University, Think Tank or Media
 - I did not work for one of these types of organizations between 2020 and 2024
3. Please select the years in which you worked for this type of organization:
 - 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2023
 - 2024
4. Reflecting on your experience in [country], which area of policymaking are you most familiar with?
 - Agriculture, Fishing, and Forestry
 - Economic Policy
 - Education
 - Energy and Mining
 - Environment and Natural Resource Management
 - Finance
 - Health
 - Human Development and Gender
 - Industry, Trade and Services
 - Information and Communications Technologies
 - Labor Market Policy and Programs
 - Nutrition and Food Security
 - Private Sector Development
 - Good Governance and Rule of Law
 - Public Sector Management
 - Rural Development
 - Social Development and Protection
 - Trade

- Transportation
- Urban Development
- Water, Sewerage and Waste Management
- Foreign Policy
- Other (Please indicate): _____

Module 1: Priorities and Progress

The next few questions are about your views on the development progress of [country] during the 2020-2024 period and future development priorities and policies. We are interested in your perceptions, which may be based on your knowledge and/or experience.

5. Based on your experience, what are the most important issues for advancing the development of [country]? (You may select up to six issues)
 - No poverty: End poverty in all its forms everywhere
 - Zero hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
 - Good health and well-being: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
 - Quality education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
 - Gender equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
 - Clean water and sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
 - Affordable and clean energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
 - Decent work and economic growth: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full productive employment, and decent work for all
 - Industry, innovation, and infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation
 - Reduced inequalities: Reduce inequality within and among countries
 - Sustainable cities and communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable
 - Responsible consumption and production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
 - Climate action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
 - Life below water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development

- Life on land: protect, Restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and biodiversity loss
 - Peace, justice, and strong institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions for all
 - Don't know / Not sure
 - None of these
6. Are you aware of the "sustainable development goals" or "global goals" signed by 193 leaders at the United Nations in 2015?
- Yes
 - No
 - Don't know / Not sure
7. A. Please indicate the degree to which you think that the "sustainable development goals" are influential in determining priorities in [country]?
- Very influential
 - Quite influential
 - Only slightly influential
 - Not at all influential
 - Don't know / Not sure
- B. Thinking about the role of the sustainable development goals in policy and planning in [country], please select any of the statements that you agree with from the following list.
- The national strategy references the sustainable development goals but does not contain any specific performance targets.
 - The national strategy includes specific performance targets to achieve the sustainable development goals.
 - The national budget includes specific allocations of domestic resources to achieve the sustainable development goals.
 - The national statistics organization monitors performance against the sustainable development goals.
 - The government publicly reports on the country's performance against the sustainable development goals.
 - I don't believe the government incorporates the Sustainable Development Goals in their planning

8. A. Please drag and drop each of the statements below into the "Agree", "Disagree", "Neither agree nor disagree", and "Don't know / Not sure" boxes. You can only place up to three statements in the "Agree" and "Disagree" boxes.
- [Country] has an open and accountable government (i.e., the government is transparent and/or answerable to its citizens).
 - [Country] generates enough jobs to keep the workforce productively employed.
 - [Country] consistently delivers basic public services to all of its citizens (e.g., health, education, infrastructure).
 - The development policies of [country] are inclusive of all social groups.
 - [Country] has a stable macroeconomic environment that can foster sustainable economic growth.
 - [Country] has a favorable business environment for the private sector.
 - The citizens of [country] enjoy basic physical security (i.e., there are low levels of unrest, violence or crime).
9. You disagreed with the following statements. Please select the option that is closest to your view.
- The national plans of [country] do not identify this as a priority area for reforms
 - This is a priority but [Country] is not willing or not able to generate or allocate sufficient financial resources for reforms in this area
 - This is a priority for [Country], financing is available, but reforms in this area have not been implemented well

Module 2: Partner Performance

Please think about a single policy initiative on which you worked most directly in the organization you worked with most between 2019 and 2023. For the purposes of this survey, we define a policy initiative as organizational action designed to solve a particular problem.

Please take a moment to think about all of the foreign or international organizations that provided your organization with advice or assistance to support this initiative. After you have thought of as many organizations as you can, click "Next" to continue to the next section of the survey questionnaire.

10. A. Of the following international organizations, development banks, and private foundations which, if any, provided "the Government of [Country]" / "your team" with advice or assistance to support this initiative? Please select all that apply.
- Inter-governmental organizations, multilateral development banks and private foundations:
 - i. African Development Bank (AfDB)

- ii. Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)
- iii. Arab Monetary Fund (AMF)
- iv. Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- v. Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)
- vi. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- vii. Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)
- viii. Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI)
- ix. Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean / Andean Development Corporation (CAF)
- x. European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)
- xi. European Union
- xii. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- xiii. Ford Foundation
- xiv. Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI Alliance)
- xv. Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- xvi. Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- xvii. Green Climate Fund (GCF)
- xviii. Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
- xix. International Finance Corporation (IFC)
- xx. International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- xxi. International Labor Organization (ILO)
- xxii. International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- xxiii. Islamic Development Bank (ISDB)
- xxiv. Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
- xxv. OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)
- xxvi. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- xxvii. United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
- xxviii. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- xxix. United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)
- xxx. United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- xxxi. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- xxxii. World Bank
- xxxiii. William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- xxxiv. World Food Programme (WFP)
- xxxv. World Health Organization (WHO)
- xxxvi. Other
- xxxvii. I do not recall the names of any inter-governmental organizations or multilateral development banks.

B. Of the following foreign embassies and bilateral agencies, which, if any, provided "the Government of [Country]" / "your team" with advice or assistance to support this initiative?

Please select all that apply.

- o Foreign embassies and bilateral agencies:
 - i. Australia - Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (including the former AusAID and Australian Aid)
 - ii. Australia - Australian High Commission / Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Australia
 - iii. Austria - Austrian Development Agency
 - iv. Austria - Austrian Representative Office
 - v. Austria - Embassy of Austria
 - vi. Belgium - Belgian Development Agency (BTC)
 - vii. Belgium - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Belgium
 - viii. Brazil - Brazilian Cooperation Agency (ABC)
 - ix. Brazil - Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES)
 - x. Brazil - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Brazil
 - xi. Canada - Canada Representative Office
 - xii. Canada - Canadian High Commission
 - xiii. Canada - Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
 - xiv. Canada - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Canada
 - xv. China - China Development Bank (CDB)
 - xvi. China - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of China
 - xvii. China - Export-Import Bank of China (China Exim Bank)
 - xviii. Denmark - Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Including Danida)
 - xix. Denmark - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Denmark
 - xx. Denmark - Representation Office of Denmark
 - xxi. Finland - Embassy of Finland
 - xxii. France - Agence Française de Développement (AFD)
 - xxiii. France - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of France
 - xxiv. Germany - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Germany
 - xxv. Germany - Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
 - xxvi. Germany - Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW)
 - xxvii. Germany - Representative Office of Germany
 - xxviii. India - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of India
 - xxix. India - Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank)
 - xxx. Ireland - Irish Aid
 - xxxi. Ireland - Embassy of Ireland
 - xxxii. Israel - Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV)
 - xxxiii. Italy - Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

- xxxiv. Japan - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Japan
- xxxv. Japan - Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC)
- xxxvi. Japan - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- xxxvii. Japan - Representative Office of Japan
- xxxviii. Kuwait - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Kuwait
- xxxix. Kuwait - Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development
 - xl. Libya - Embassy of Libya
 - xli. Luxembourg - Embassy of Luxembourg
 - xl.ii. Luxembourg - Luxembourg Development Cooperation Agency (LuxDev)
 - xl.iii. Mexico - Mexican Agency of International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID)
 - xl.iiii. Netherlands - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (including The Netherlands Development Cooperation)
 - xl.v. Netherlands - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of the Netherlands
 - xl.vi. New Zealand - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of New Zealand
 - xl.vii. New Zealand - New Zealand High Commission
 - xl.viii. New Zealand - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (including NZAID)
 - xl.ix. Norway - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Norway
 - l. Norway - Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (including NORAD)
 - li. Norway - Representative Office of Norway
 - lii. Portugal - Embassy of Portugal
 - liii. Portugal - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Including Camões and the former IPAD)
 - liv. Qatar - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Qatar
 - lv. Russia - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Russia
 - lvi. Saudi Arabia - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Saudi Arabia
 - lvii. Saudi Arabia - Saudi Fund for Development (SFD)
 - lviii. South Africa - Embassy of South Africa
 - lix. South Korea - Embassy of South Korea
 - lx. South Korea - Korea International Co-operation Agency (KOICA)
 - lxi. Spain - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Spain
 - lxii. Spain - Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)
 - lxiii. Sweden - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Sweden
 - lxiv. Sweden - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
 - lxv. Switzerland - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of the Swiss Confederation
 - lxvi. Switzerland - Representative Office of the Swiss Confederation
 - lxvii. Switzerland - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDA)
 - lxviii. Taiwan - Embassy of Taiwan
 - lxix. Taiwan - International Cooperation and Development Fund (TaiwanICDF)
 - lxx. Turkey - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Turkey

- lxxi. Turkey - Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency
- lxxii. United Arab Emirates - Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD)
- lxxiii. United Arab Emirates - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of the United Arab Emirates
- lxxiv. United Kingdom - British High Commission
- lxxv. United Kingdom - Department for International Development (DFID)
- lxxvi. United Kingdom - Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO)
- lxxvii. United Kingdom - Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO)
- lxxviii. United Kingdom - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of the United Kingdom
- lxxix. United States - Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC)
- lxxx. United States - U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- lxxxi. United States - U.S. Embassy (or Consulate-General)
- lxxxii. Venezuela - Banco de Desarrollo Económico y Social de Venezuela (BANDES)
- lxxxiii. Venezuela - Embassy (or Consulate-General) of Venezuela
- lxxxiv. Venezuela - PetroCaribe Development Fund
- lxxxv. Other
- lxxxvi. I do not recall the names of any foreign embassies or bilateral agencies

11. You indicated that the foreign and international organizations below provided "the Government of [Country]" / "your team" with advice or assistance. How influential were they on "the Government of [Country]" / "your team" decision to pursue this initiative? For the purposes of this survey, we define influential as the power to change or affect the policy agenda.

- Not at all influential
- Only slightly influential
- Quite influential
- Very influential
- Don't know/ Not sure
- Prefer not to say

12. In your opinion, what made [[random piping of an organization rated "very" or "quite" influential]] influential? For the purposes of this survey, we define influential as the power to change or affect the policy agenda. (You may select up to three statements)

- It respected the government's authority over final decisions.
- It was seen by the government as unbiased and trustworthy.
- It was the appropriate institution to provide advice for this problem.
- It provided the government with significant financial or material resources.
- It provided the government with access to international experts.
- It worked closely with a significant number of government staff and officials.

- It provided the government with high-quality advice or assistance.
- It had the support of one or more high-level champions in the government.
- It provided advice or assistance at a time when there was opportunity for change.
- It provided evidence that an initiative was needed to address this problem.
- It provided evidence on the results of this initiative.
- It worked closely with other groups outside of the government in [Country].
- It provided advice or assistance aligned with the government's national development strategy.
- It was heavily involved in existing policy and programmatic discussions in [Country].
- It had broad support from citizens in [Country].
- Another reason (Please describe): _____
- Don't know / Not sure
- None of these

13. In general, do you think that the influence from the donors listed below is positive or negative in [country]?

- Very negative
- Somewhat negative
- Somewhat positive
- Very positive
- Don't know/ not sure

14. In your opinion, how helpful were each of the following organizations to the implementation of this initiative? For the purposes of this survey, we define helpful as being of assistance in implementing policy changes. (You may select up to three statements.)

- Not at all helpful
- Only slightly helpful
- Quite helpful
- Very helpful
- Don't know/ Not sure

15. In your opinion, what made [[random piping of an organization rated "very" or "quite" influential]] helpful? For the purposes of this survey, we define helpful as being of assistance in implementing policy changes. (You may select up to three statements)

- It worked in close collaboration with its government counterparts.
- It provided implementers with significant discretion and flexibility.
- It exercised careful management of the resources it used.
- It translated broad policy guidance into specific implementation strategies.
- It helped build support among local stakeholders and communities.

- It identified practical approaches for overcoming barriers to success.
- It provided valuable information for use in monitoring and evaluation.
- It minimized the administrative burden associated with implementation activities.
- It aligned its implementation activities with those of other organizations.
- It supplied implementers with much needed financial or material resources.
- It provided implementers with access to highly qualified international experts.
- It helped implementers make course corrections during implementation.
- Another reason (Please describe): _____
- Don't know / Not sure
- None of these

16. What do you value the most in a partner organization?

- The organization prioritizes long-term planning instead of adopting short-term approaches (i.e., long-term vision)
- The organization is trustworthy (i.e., can be relied upon to offer sound advice or useful support)
- The organization is willing to adapt its strategies to be responsive to the needs of my country (i.e., adaptable)
- The organization adheres to international commitments or standards (e.g., principles of effective development cooperation)
- The organization is well-endowed with financial resources that it is willing to disburse to in-country partners

17. You identified long-term vision as a valuable attribute in a partner organization. In your opinion, which of the following contributes to this? (You may select up to three statements)

- Coordinating approaches and/or projects with other actors in a particular sector or region
- Conducting feasibility assessments before implementing projects to assess the environmental impacts and ensure long-term financial sustainability
- Prioritizing the project or program's long-term impacts beyond the life of the project itself
- Focusing on building institutional capacity and systems to ensure sustainability
- Ensuring all financial flows are recorded in the country's budget
- Planning a transition that enables the country to continue projects and programs after the organization has ended the partnership

18. You identified trustworthiness as a valuable attribute in a partner organization. In your opinion, which of the following contributes to this? (You may select up to three statements)

- A good reputation internationally (i.e., it has credibility)

- Providing financial and non-financial assistance when we need it the most
- Being straightforward and honest (i.e., the organization is not afraid to speak the truth)
- Organization staff tries to develop trust through long-term relationships with domestic stakeholders
- Being responsive and communicating regularly on the progress of projects/programs
- Following through on commitments made in a timely manner
- Transparency of motives and decision-making process

19. You identified adaptability as a valuable attribute in a partner organization. In your opinion, which of the following contributes to this? (You may select up to three statements)

- Adapting financing modalities to the needs of my country
- Willing to adapt approaches and strategies following consultation/dialogue with domestic stakeholders
- Convening stakeholders to co-create solutions
- Adapting projects to socio-cultural / political environment to make them more relevant to the local context
- Willing to change their approach in the face of economic or political shocks and natural disasters
- Willingness to align projects and/or programs with the country's national strategy

Module 3a: Partnership Preferences - ESGs

20. Reflecting on the potential costs and benefits, which of the following requirements would you prioritize to ensure that a given project achieves the best development outcomes in [country]? Please rank the choices from 1 (highest priority) to 9 (lowest priority)

- Prepare a plan to assess and mitigate the likelihood of negative environmental effects from the project
- Report on compliance with established international environmental standards
- Pay a penalty if the project breaches an environmental protection law or standard
- Prepare a plan to assess and resettle community members displaced by the project
- Report on implementation of plans to resettle community members displaced by the project
- Pay a penalty if the project breaches a social protection law or standard
- Select project implementers using a competitive bidding process
- Disclose financial statements that are independently audited and comply with international accounting standards
- Pay a penalty if the project breaches an anti-corruption law or standard

Demographics

21. Thinking of your career so far, how many years of professional experience do you have?
- 0-5 years
 - 6-10 years
 - 11-15 years
 - 16 years or more
22. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
- Primary
 - Secondary
 - Technical/Vocational
 - University/College
 - Postgraduate
23. Are you a citizen of [country]?
- Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to say
24. Are you willing to participate in a future survey or interview? We would like to learn from your updated perspectives on developments in [country] and elsewhere.
- Yes, you can contact me at the same email address
 - Yes, you can contact me at the following email address: _____
 - No

Module 3b: Partnership Preferences - Earmarking

The decision to choose among aid projects from international donor organizations involves several trade-offs. We want to understand how these decisions are made and your preferences. Please read the descriptions of two hypothetical aid projects below offered by a multilateral development agency (for example, like the UN or the World Bank). You will then be asked for your reactions to these two projects.

Feature	Project 1/Project 2
Earmarking	The funds can only be used for a specific sector The funds can only be used for a specific project The funds can be used without restriction to particular sectors or projects
Project budget	Large for your country Average for your country Small for your country
Type of support	Funds are paid directly into the government's budget Funds are paid to the government for a specific project Funds are paid to a civil society organization for a specific project

Conditionality (3)	Money is conditional on the government maintaining a favorable macroeconomic environment Money is conditional on the government protecting rule of law and good governance No political or economic conditions are attached
Country systems (2)	Donor works through the government's procurement and financial management systems Donor works through its own procurement and financial management systems
Stakeholder consultation (3)	The project is based on consultations with people living in project region The project is based on consultations with civil society organizations The project is based on consultations with the government

25. For each of the two projects, please indicate on a scale from 1 (low) to 5 (high) how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	1 (strongly disagree)	2 (somewhat disagree)	3 (Neither agree nor disagree)	4 (somewhat agree)	5 (strongly agree)
Project 1 will have positive impact on development in [country]					
Project 2 will have positive impact on development in [country]					
Project 1 will be aligned with the development priorities of [country]					
Project 2 will be aligned with the development priorities of [country]					

There are many different factors that countries may consider when choosing a development partner. We are interested in understanding how these decisions are made and your preferences. Please read the two descriptions of hypothetical multilateral donor organizations (for example, like the UN or World Bank). Please read the donor organization descriptions carefully and answer the questions listed below.

26. Profile 2: International Organizations

Feature	Donor Organization 1
Board	<p>Your country's government has a seat in the governing body and all members have equal voting power</p> <p>Your country's government has a seat in governing body but fewer votes than powerful member states</p> <p>Your country's government is not represented in governing body</p>
Consultations	<p>Donor consults with affected people when making decisions on aid in your country</p> <p>Donor consults with civil society when making decisions on aid in your country</p> <p>Donor does not consult local stakeholders</p>
Transparency	<p>Donor makes information on projects publicly available</p> <p>Donor does not make information on projects publicly available</p>
Staff	<p>The head of the organization comes from your country</p> <p>Many staff members come from your country</p> <p>Few staff members come from your country</p>
Accountability	<p>Donor must investigate complaints about the violation of people's rights in project implementation</p> <p>Donor does not need to investigate complaints about the violation of people's rights in project implementation</p>
Allocation rules	<p>Decisions on how much money your country can receive are based on the same rules for all countries</p> <p>Decisions on how much money your country can receive are not based on the same rules for all countries</p>

27. For each of the two International Organizations, please indicate on a scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 7 (strongly agree) how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	1 (strongly disagree)	2 (somewhat disagree)	3 (Neither agree nor disagree)	4 (somewhat agree)	5 (strongly agree)
I have confidence that donor organization 1 will positively impact development in [country]					
I have confidence that donor organization 2 will positively impact development in [country]					
I have confidence that donor organization 1 will be responsive to the interests of [country]					
I have confidence that donor organization 2 will be responsive to the interests of [country]					
I have confidence that donor organization 1 will make decisions in the appropriate way					
I have confidence that donor organization 2 will make decisions in the appropriate way					

28. You previously identified that you had received advice or assistance from one or more multilateral development organizations. For the donors listed below, do you have confidence that they are responsive to the preferences and needs of stakeholders in [country] ?

	Not at all (1)	Only slightly (2)	Quite (3)	Very (4)	Don't know/not sure (5)	Prefer not to say (6)
[Multilat Choice #1]						
[Multilat Choice #2]						

29. For the donors listed below, do you have confidence that they make decisions in the appropriate way?

	Not at all (1)	Only slightly (2)	Quite (3)	Very (4)	Don't know/not sure (5)	Prefer not to say (6)
[Multilat Choice #1]						
[Multilat Choice #2]						

30. Please read the following policy description and indicate the extent to which you support or oppose this policy.

- A. A **development policy** that secures a sustainable future for the planet, tackles the root causes of injustice, and promotes human rights, equal opportunities, and representation for all people in social, political and economic life – regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, etc.
 - B. An **inclusive development policy** that secures a sustainable future for the planet, tackles the root causes of injustice, and promotes human rights, equal opportunities, and representation for all people in social, political and economic life – regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, etc.
 - C. A **gender-inclusive development policy** that secures a sustainable future for the planet, tackles the root causes of injustice, and promotes human rights, equal opportunities, and representation for all people in social, political and economic life – regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability, etc.
- Strongly support
 - Support
 - Neither support nor oppose
 - Oppose
 - Strongly oppose
 - Don't know / Not sure

31. Please indicate the three words you most associate with **inclusive**. (Please select up to three options)

32. Please indicate the three words you most associate with **equity**.

33. Please indicate the three words you most associate with **empowerment**.

- Solidarity
- Power-sharing
- Justice
- Modern
- Fairness
- Radical
- Antiquated
- Divisive
- Elitist
- Sexist
- None of the above (fixed)
- Don't know (fixed)

34. Thinking about government spending in [country], **and efforts to improve the lives of women and girls in particular**, please indicate what you think are the three most important.

- **Education** – helping people to attend school or get skills and training
- **Health and family planning** – access to hospitals, treating diseases, providing vaccinations, contraception, and other family services
- **Water** – access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
- **Government and civil society** – improving government accountability, addressing corruption, and ensuring peace and security and the rule of law
- **Welfare** – providing housing and benefits to people unable to work due to sickness, injury, old age, or children
- **Infrastructure and energy** – providing roads, telecommunications, and energy services
- **Agriculture and food security** – growing food and other crops, making sure people have access to enough food
- **Economic growth** – creating and accessing jobs, access to financing
- **Environmental protection** – addressing climate change, pollution, and protecting animals and their habitats
- **Disaster relief** – helping in emergencies and urgent humanitarian crises
- **Migration and refugee flows** – protection of refugees and support for safe and responsible migration

35. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Generally speaking...

- ...tackling gender inequality is the right thing to do
- ...ending discrimination against women and girls is necessary to ending global poverty
- ...having specific targets for tackling poverty among women and girls would do little to help to reduce global poverty overall
- ...international development partners shouldn't impose their values about gender equality in [country]
-more should be done to tackle gender inequality faced by minority groups

36. How much should the government in [country] do to promote gender equality, at home and worldwide?

- The Government should do a lot more
- The Government should do a bit more
- The Government is doing the right amount
- The Government is doing a bit too much
- The Government is doing far too much
- Don't know

37. How much should international actors do to promote gender equality in [country]?

- They should do a lot more
- They should do a bit more
- They are doing the right amount
- They are doing a bit too much
- They are doing far too much
- Don't know

38. What type of role do you think international actors are best positioned to play in promoting gender equality in [country]? Please select up to three options.

- Provide financial support (e.g., grants, loans)
- Provide capacity building or training to local staff (e.g., providing relevant knowledge or skills)
- Provide advice or inputs on the design of programs and/or policies
- Provide advice or inputs on implementation of programs and/or policies
- Mobilize coalitions of support from domestic actors to exert pressure on the government or other relevant parties
- Mobilize coalitions of support from international actors to exert pressure on the government or other relevant parties
- Raise awareness of the issue
- None: This is a domestic problem and domestic actors need to solve it
- Other (please specify) _____

39. If a development partner is committed to a feminist foreign and development policy, how would this influence your decision on cooperating with this country?

- Decrease a lot
- Decrease somewhat
- Decrease slightly
- Neither increase nor decrease
- Increase slightly
- Increase somewhat
- Increase a lot

Appendix C. FCDO Internal Stakeholder Interview Questionnaire

Interview Questions

Sub-Topic #1: Strategic Positioning

1. [Role]: Could you briefly describe your current role at FCDO and how long you have worked for the UK government?
2. [Aims] In your own words, what do you think are the primary aims or goals of the UK's overseas development assistance?
 - *Probe: How do you see UK assistance advancing broader national security or foreign policy interests (i.e., economic, security, geopolitical)?*
 - *Probe: To what extent do you think these aims have held steady or evolved over time? Why do you think that is?*
 - *Probe: How would you compare the UK's aims or goals for its development assistance efforts with other bilateral donors? What is similar or different?*
3. [Positioning]: How well positioned is the UK to employ its tools of economic and development assistance in ways that increase the likelihood of advancing its aims and interests?
 - *Probe: What are some of the key advantages that set the UK up for success? What are the key constraints or pain points that the UK must overcome?*
 - *Probe: As the number of bilateral suppliers of development finance has grown over the last 60+ years, how has this changed the landscape and how the UK approaches its development assistance?*
4. [Priorities]: Given limited resources, how would you articulate current UK economic and development assistance priorities?
 - *Probe: Are there geographic regions the FCDO is more focused on? If yes, which—and why?*
 - *Probe: Are there specific country groups (other than regional) that you think are prioritized by the FCDO? If yes, which—and why? (e.g., Income, fragility, commonwealth)*
 - *Probe: When working in a country, does FCDO primarily work with a specific stakeholder group? If yes, which—and why? (e.g., Civil Society, Media, country's government, development partners)*

- *Probe: Are there specific sectors FCDO prioritizes to work on with a country? If so, which—and why?*
5. [Consensus]: To what extent do you think there is consensus in London and in your embassies overseas over these priorities? How have these priorities evolved over time?
 6. [People]: Which departments (teams/units) are most critical to influencing these priorities?

Sub-Topic 2: Relationships with Global South Counterparts

7. [Perception]: Based on your experience, how would you say that leaders in low- and middle-income countries perceive the UK's development assistance?
 - *Probe: To what extent do you think these perceptions have held steady or evolved over time? Why do you think that is?*
8. [Engagement]: How would you describe the strengths and weaknesses in how the UK interacts with leaders to deliver development assistance in counterpart countries?
 - *Probe: Do you see the way that the UK engages with counterparts having changed over the last few years? In what ways?*
9. [Influence]: How influential would you say the UK is seen to be in shaping domestic policy priorities in your counterpart countries? Why do you say that?
 - *Probe: Are there some types of countries or stakeholders with which you think the UK is more or less influential than others? Why do you think that is?*
 - *Probe: To what extent do you think these perceptions have held steady or evolved over time? Why do you think that is?*
10. [Helpfulness]: How helpful would you say that the UK is seen to be in supporting counterpart countries in implementing development policies and programs?
 - *Probe: Are there some types of countries or stakeholders with which you think the UK is more or less helpful than others? Why do you think that is?*
 - *Probe: To what extent do you think these perceptions have held steady or evolved over time? Why do you think that is?*
11. [Other Topics]: Is there anything we missed that you'd like to tell us about? What are important questions we should be asking?
12. [Other Resources]: Are there any resources we should read? (Any additional people we should be speaking to?)

Thank you very much for your time and for sharing your thoughts and impressions with us! ...

Appendix D. Regression Analysis

The regression analysis performed aims to investigate the statistical significance of partial correlations between certain country characteristics, development financing, and influence/helpfulness at the individual level as measured by the Listening to Leaders surveys.

There are two sets of models, those that investigate UK influence/helpfulness and those that investigate influence/helpfulness across all the selected “comparator” partners. The dependent variable for the UK models is the individual-level binary variable that measures whether the respondent considered the UK influential/helpful or not. The models control for wave-effects and for development financing from both the UK and “other” donors separately—measured as total ODA plus OOF commitments in constant USD.^{6 7} The dependent variable for the “all donors” models is the binary measure of influence/helpfulness across each individual-donor pair for all selected donors.⁸ These models control for wave-effects and for development financing from each donor evaluated—again measured as total ODA plus OOF commitments in constant USD.

All regressions are probits. Each set of models has seven specifications, controlling for the following country-characteristics, one at a time: no added country characteristic, former British colony, regime type, fragility, small island developing state (SIDS), income, and region. We opt for testing the country characteristics one at a time due to (i) collinearity between country characteristics and (ii) the fact that we do not aim to identify all the determinants of influence/helpfulness, but rather identify partial correlations between specific characteristics and perceived influence/helpfulness. Moreover, we focus on the marginal effects of development financing because that is the only variable that changes over time.

These modelling choices reflect the descriptive intent of the quantitative component which is designed to surface associations rather than to establish causal relationships or identify a best-fit model. While the models are multivariate—controlling for wave effects and development finance throughout—the decision to include one country characteristic at a time is deliberate as it allows for clean estimation of partial correlations between each characteristic and perceived influence/helpfulness, without the complications introduced by simultaneously adjusting for a fuller set of country-level controls. A more comprehensive specification would be a valuable avenue for further research, as would systematic testing of interaction effects and alternative model specifications; however, such an exercise falls outside the scope of this evaluation. The regression outputs should therefore be interpreted as descriptive associations that inform and complement the wider mixed-methods analysis.

⁶ The “other” development assistance aggregates aid from 13 donors, the list of 15 presented in Table 1 of the main report minus the UK and China (which does not report comprehensively to the OECD-DAC system).

⁷ We also test the UK models using development finance measures in per capita terms.

⁸ Here 14 donors are considered, excluding China but including the UK, see Tables A5, A6, A11, and A12..

Table A1. UK Influence Probit Models - commitments in millions USD (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: UK influence (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
UK commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0032*** (0.0005)	0.0030*** (0.0005)	0.0034*** (0.0005)
Other donors commitments (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000* (0.0000)	-0.0000* (0.0000)	-0.0000** (0.0000)
Former British colony		0.1531** (0.0584)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			0.0482 (0.0599)
(Intercept)	0.1251** (0.0442)	0.0996+ (0.0521)	0.1478** (0.0572)
Num.Obs.	2674	2368	2313
AIC	3078.5	2739.0	2669.3
BIC	3113.9	2779.4	2709.6
Log.Lik.	-1533.267	-1362.482	-1327.670
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A2. UK Influence Probit Models - commitments (Models 4-7)

	<i>Dependent variable: UK influence (0/1)</i>			
	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
UK commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0032*** (0.0005)	0.0030*** (0.0005)	0.0027*** (0.0005)	0.0021*** (0.0005)
Other donors commitments (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000* (0.0000)	-0.0000** (0.0000)	-0.0000+ (0.0000)	-0.0000 (0.0000)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.1272* (0.0606)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.1491 (0.0987)			
SIDS		-0.3343** (0.1070)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0934 (0.0695)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.1436+ (0.0818)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.4547+ (0.2589)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.1715+ (0.1023)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.4015*** (0.1114)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.1561 (0.1275)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				0.1835 (0.1238)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.2339** (0.0895)
(Intercept)	0.0888+ (0.0512)	0.1671*** (0.0463)	0.2219** (0.0684)	0.0358 (0.0844)
Num.Obs.	2674	2674	2674	2674
AIC	3067.7	3065.6	3078.3	3032.7
BIC	3114.8	3106.8	3131.3	3097.5
Log.Lik.	-1525.844	-1525.788	-1530.144	-1505.368
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A3. UK Influence Probit Models - commitments per capita (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: UK influence (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
UK commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	0.0677*** (0.0111)	0.0678*** (0.0122)	0.0755*** (0.0126)
Other donors commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0002 (0.0003)
Former British colony		0.1924*** (0.0570)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			0.0244 (0.0606)
(Intercept)	0.0861* (0.0426)	0.0246 (0.0506)	0.1123* (0.0546)
Num.Obs.	2674	2368	2313
AIC	3080.3	2732.8	2664.8
BIC	3115.7	2773.1	2705.0
Log.Lik.	-1534.172	-1359.377	-1325.404
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A4. UK Influence Probit Models - commitments per capita (Models 4-7)

Dependent variable: UK influence (0/1)

	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
UK commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	0.0738*** (0.0121)	0.0644*** (0.0111)	0.0578*** (0.0123)	0.0523*** (0.0115)
Other donors commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0001 (0.0001)	0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0001 (0.0001)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.2203*** (0.0580)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.1250 (0.0966)			
SIDS		-0.4009*** (0.1102)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0444 (0.0719)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.1750* (0.0811)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.4640+ (0.2590)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.1413 (0.1016)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.4140*** (0.1117)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.2225+ (0.1307)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				0.2827* (0.1156)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.2430** (0.0889)
(Intercept)	-0.0082 (0.0507)	0.1018* (0.0431)	0.1689* (0.0727)	-0.0085 (0.0814)
Num.Obs.	2674	2674	2674	2674
AIC	3057.4	3063.6	3077.1	3022.0
BIC	3104.6	3104.9	3130.1	3086.8
Log.Lik.	-1520.721	-1524.824	-1529.538	-1500.000
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A5. All donors Influence Probit Models - commitments (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: all donors influence (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
All donors commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0003*** (0.0000)	0.0003*** (0.0000)	0.0003*** (0.0000)
Former British colony		-0.0092 (0.0175)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			-0.0015 (0.0174)
(Intercept)	0.1486*** (0.0120)	0.1553*** (0.0139)	0.1504*** (0.0147)
Num.Obs.	29977	26649	25805
AIC	33778.0	30112.2	29276.0
BIC	33819.6	30161.4	29324.9
Log.Lik.	-16884.006	-15050.104	-14631.996
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A6. All donors Influence Probit Models - commitments (Models 4-7)

Dependent variable: all donors influence (0/1)

	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
All donors commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0003*** (0.0000)	0.0003*** (0.0000)	0.0003*** (0.0000)	0.0004*** (0.0000)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.1187*** (0.0170)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.0222 (0.0265)			
SIDS		0.0891*** (0.0258)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0708*** (0.0197)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.1269*** (0.0219)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.1942+ (0.1030)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.1219*** (0.0306)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.2163*** (0.0311)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.1606*** (0.0348)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				-0.2617*** (0.0346)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.0711** (0.0238)
(Intercept)	0.1003*** (0.0148)	0.1380*** (0.0124)	0.2154*** (0.0179)	0.1475*** (0.0227)
Num.Obs.	29977	29977	29977	29977
AIC	33714.7	33775.4	33743.5	33512.4
BIC	33772.9	33825.3	33809.9	33595.5
Log.Lik.	-16850.363	-16881.724	-16863.732	-16746.201
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A7. UK Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: UK helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
UK commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0023*** (0.0006)	0.0025*** (0.0006)	0.0032*** (0.0006)
Other donors commitments (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000 (0.0000)	-0.0000 (0.0000)	-0.0000 (0.0000)
Former British colony		0.2938*** (0.0716)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			0.0692 (0.0739)
(Intercept)	0.4996*** (0.0601)	0.3988*** (0.0698)	0.4832*** (0.0753)
Num.Obs.	2115	1883	1840
AIC	1973.9	1733.5	1717.4
BIC	2007.8	1772.3	1756.0
Log.Lik.	-980.935	-859.766	-851.700
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A8. UK Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments (Models 4-7)

Dependent variable: UK helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
UK commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0027*** (0.0007)	0.0023*** (0.0006)	0.0016* (0.0006)	0.0015* (0.0006)
Other donors commitments (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000 (0.0000)	-0.0000 (0.0000)	0.0000 (0.0000)	0.0000 (0.0000)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.1498* (0.0748)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.3070** (0.1165)			
SIDS		-0.0182 (0.1385)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.1032 (0.0842)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.2112* (0.1001)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.5588+ (0.3239)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.0669 (0.1271)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.1928 (0.1392)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.2405 (0.1583)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				0.0009 (0.1475)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.2653* (0.1120)
(Intercept)	0.4643*** (0.0684)	0.5016*** (0.0619)	0.6227*** (0.0858)	0.3759*** (0.1091)
Num.Obs.	2115	2115	2115	2115
AIC	1958.3	1975.6	1972.4	1954.2
BIC	2003.5	2015.2	2023.3	2016.5
Log.Lik.	-971.126	-980.807	-977.194	-966.122
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A9. UK Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments per capita (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: UK helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
UK commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	0.0421*** (0.0124)	0.0468*** (0.0140)	0.0549*** (0.0146)
Other donors commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0005 (0.0003)
Former British colony		0.3291*** (0.0700)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			0.0400 (0.0748)
(Intercept)	0.5334*** (0.0572)	0.3821*** (0.0679)	0.5537*** (0.0710)
Num.Obs.	2115	1883	1840
AIC	1976.0	1731.1	1716.8
BIC	2009.9	1769.9	1755.4
Log.Lik.	-981.984	-858.569	-851.406
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A10. UK Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments per capita (Models 4-7)

Dependent variable: UK helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
UK commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	0.0546*** (0.0141)	0.0415*** (0.0124)	0.0300* (0.0132)	0.0318* (0.0129)
Other donors commitments per capita (ODA+OOF)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	-0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0000 (0.0001)	0.0001 (0.0001)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.2382*** (0.0717)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.2471* (0.1128)			
SIDS		-0.0994 (0.1425)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0758 (0.0863)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.2537** (0.0978)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.6225+ (0.3237)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.0121 (0.1262)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.2116 (0.1395)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.2765+ (0.1620)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				0.1420 (0.1383)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.2685* (0.1104)
(Intercept)	0.4297*** (0.0686)	0.5360*** (0.0573)	0.6480*** (0.0882)	0.4157*** (0.1054)
Num.Obs.	2115	2115	2115	2115
AIC	1955.3	1976.6	1971.9	1953.8
BIC	2000.6	2016.2	2022.8	2016.1
Log.Lik.	-969.664	-981.283	-976.927	-965.920
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A11. All donors Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments (Models 1-3)

Dependent variable: all donors helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3
All donors commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0001** (0.0000)	0.0001** (0.0000)	0.0001** (0.0000)
Former British colony		-0.0049 (0.0210)	
Democracy (ref: Autocracy)			0.0253 (0.0209)
(Intercept)	0.6863*** (0.0161)	0.6977*** (0.0183)	0.6846*** (0.0192)
Num.Obs.	24959	22256	21523
AIC	22222.0	19720.4	19177.3
BIC	22262.7	19768.5	19225.1
Log.Lik.	-11106.023	-9854.206	-9582.627
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Table A12. All donors Helpfulness Probit Models - commitments (Models 4-7)

Dependent variable: all donors helpfulness (0/1)

	Model 4	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7
All donors commitments (ODA+OOF, USD, deflated)	0.0001** (0.0000)	0.0001** (0.0000)	0.0001** (0.0000)	0.0001*** (0.0000)
Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	0.0948*** (0.0205)			
Extremely Fragile (ref: Not Fragile)	-0.1369*** (0.0310)			
SIDS		0.0430 (0.0310)		
Income: LMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0490* (0.0236)	
Income: UMIC (ref: LIC)			-0.0963*** (0.0265)	
Income: HIC (ref: LIC)			-0.2805* (0.1243)	
Region: ECA (ref: EAP)				0.0388 (0.0368)
Region: LAC (ref: EAP)				-0.1993*** (0.0374)
Region: MENA (ref: EAP)				-0.1625*** (0.0421)
Region: SA (ref: EAP)				-0.2587*** (0.0402)
Region: SSA (ref: EAP)				0.0367 (0.0286)
(Intercept)	0.6625*** (0.0193)	0.6813*** (0.0165)	0.7337*** (0.0225)	0.7074*** (0.0282)
Num.Obs.	24959	24959	24959	24959
AIC	22177.6	22223.2	22211.0	22089.5
BIC	22234.5	22272.0	22276.0	22170.8
Log.Lik.	-11081.815	-11105.621	-11097.478	-11034.758
FE	Wave	Wave	Wave	Wave

+ p < 0.1, * p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.001

Appendix E. Additional figures

Figure E1: Comparison in perceived influence of development partners across waves

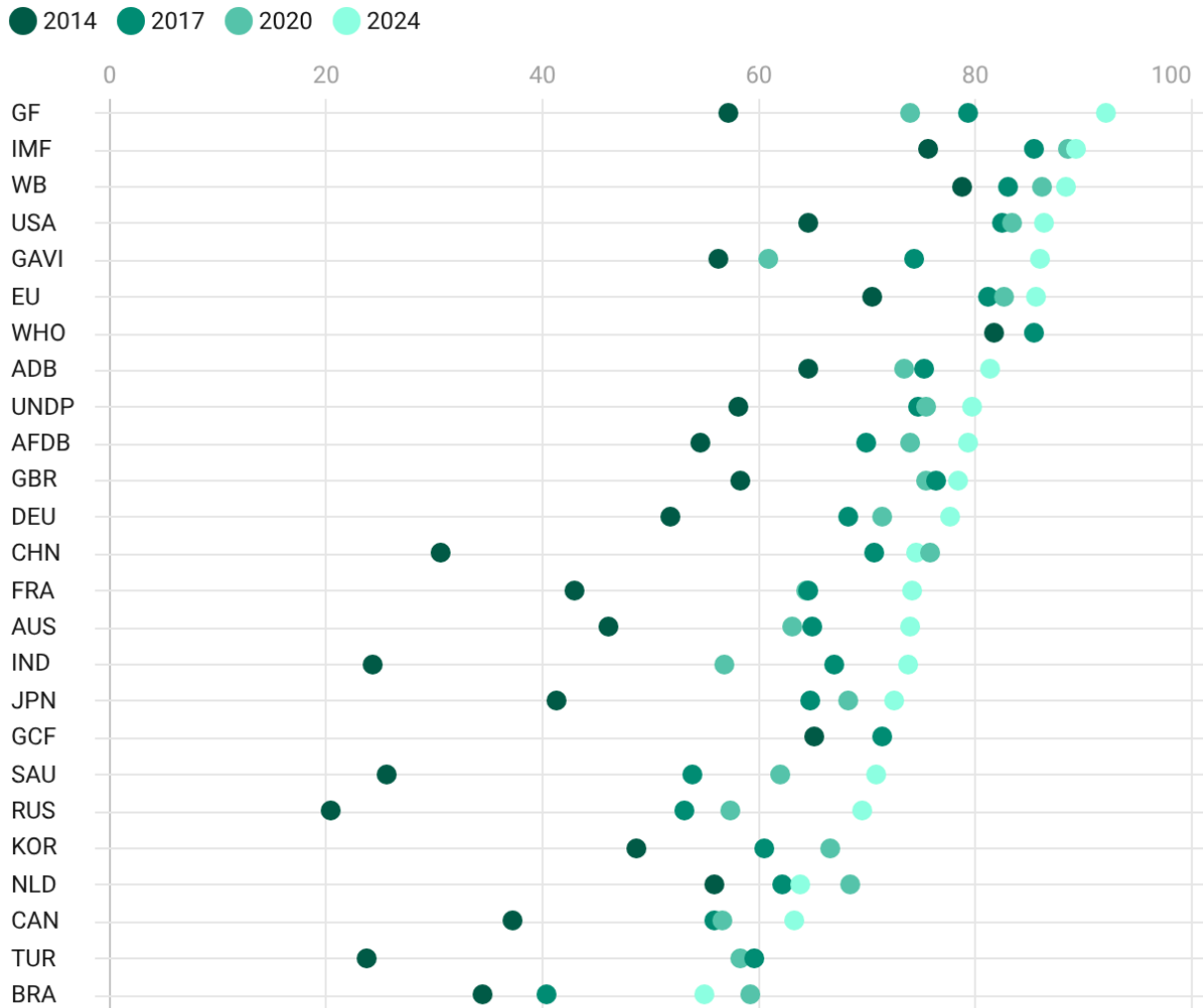
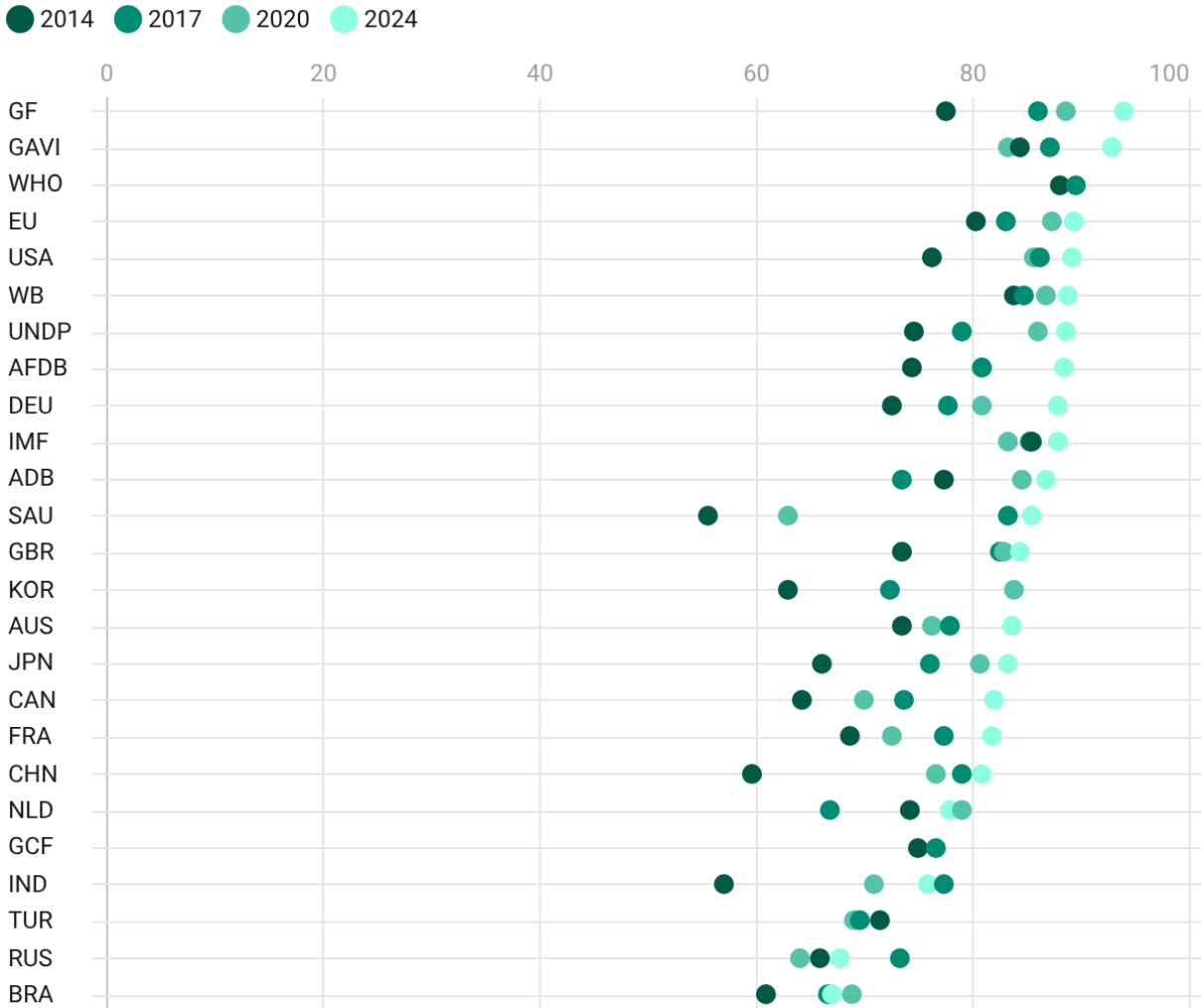


Figure E2: Comparison in perceived helpfulness of development partners across waves



Appendix E. SDG financing

Table E1. SDG financing in 2021 for 15 selected comparators (in 2021 USD millions)

Donor	AfDB	AUS	CAN	FRA	DEU	IMF	JPN	KOR	SAU	GBR	USA	WB
SDG1	72	132	120	633	1145	0	1288	23	6	256	670	7068
SDG2	207	184	522	735	2476	0	855	220	423	705	6313	2334
SDG3	0	655	1192	1089	2312	0	1821	456	247	1317	7951	4912
SDG4	42	292	218	1373	3474	0	601	205	328	784	1000	2305
SDG5	0	110	397	188	159	0	48	30	2	183	278	173
SDG6	384	57	30	640	800	0	744	112	80	141	967	1980
SDG7	532	5	109	704	1719	0	1737	141	408	538	889	3265
SDG8	388	167	115	1334	3155	0	492	2134	2	1963	2778	7345
SDG9	246	105	50	716	849	0	2445	148	113	462	137	3584
SDG10	0	12	6	32	163	0	13	2	0	70	199	35
SDG11	333	77	29	862	510	0	4751	225	105	199	375	4275
SDG12	0	1	6	6	82	0	0	0	0	7	33	3
SDG13	0	42	334	326	431	0	3	15	0	156	18	347
SDG14	0	2	12	10	39	0	60	2	0	8	4	29
SDG15	2	1	29	346	1002	0	115	18	4	156	188	374
SDG16	73	339	254	869	2705	0	407	189	34	907	3613	3344
SDG16	20	12	51	266	140	318	33	36	0	141	109	505
Non-SDG	36	486	963	2876	6851	3988	2961	281	5176	2977	14272	852

Appendix F. Qualitative Analysis – Interview Recruitment

Introduction

AidData has extensive experience conducting surveys and interviews with policymakers in low- and middle-income countries using standardized and comparable methodologies. For this interview series, the objective was to elicit perspectives from individuals with substantial engagement with the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) in order to assess perceptions of the organization across a range of thematic areas. This technical appendix outlines the study methodology, including the construction of the sampling frame, questionnaire development, and interview implementation procedures.

Creating the Sampling Frame

We define the population of interest for this interview series as: those individuals who are familiar with the implementation of FCDO policies and FCDO funded projects in Indonesia, Jamaica, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, and Yemen. The sampling frame was drawn from lists of individuals recommended by FCDO posts in each case-study country in an effort to maintain a consistent level of familiarity with FCDO's partnerships. These individuals were selected across five stakeholder groups that had partnered with the UK government: FCDO project implementers, host government counterparts, in-country private sector partners, in-country civil society organizations, and representatives of the diplomatic community from other countries working in the country of interest. A quota system was used to ensure that there was sufficient representation of individuals across the different stakeholder groups. While some individuals could reasonably be classified under multiple stakeholder categories, each respondent was assigned to a single group based on the original identification by the FCDO post.

It is relevant to note that having the contact list provided by FCDO increase the likelihood of participation but also introduced the possibility of potential positive bias. In order to mitigate that bias, AidData highlighted both in the written communication as well as in the interviews themselves that it is an independent lab and that FCDO would not have access to the content of individual interviews.

Implementing the Interview Series

To increase the probability of participation, FCDO staff in-country who had existing professional relationships with potential respondents were asked to pre-notify individuals included in the sampling frame about the forthcoming interview request. To AidData's knowledge, that contact was done inconsistently throughout the sampling frame, some participants reported having received pre-notification, while others reported not having received notifications. The pre-notification was

intended to enhance the credibility of outreach by independent researchers and increase the likelihood of participation. Following pre-notification, AidData contacted potential respondents directly to reintroduce the project and propose a range of available interview dates and times. Follow-up communications were conducted as needed, with up to five attempts made to schedule an interview.

Participation in the study was voluntary, and interviewees were able to decline participation or withdraw at any stage of the interview process. AidData established a target of 23 completed interviews per country to ensure cross-country comparability. There were two exceptions to this target. In Jamaica, an election period delayed initial recruitment, followed by a Category 5 hurricane that curtailed data collection efforts. In Yemen, FCDO does not engage with civil society organizations, resulting in a reduced interview target of 18 respondents. In addition, some individuals initially agreed to participate but did not complete scheduling for an interview or did not attend scheduled sessions and declined to reschedule. As a result, response rates varied across countries.

Table F1. Interviews per country

	Outreach	Interview Scheduled	Interview Complete
Jamaica	27	14/23	11/23
Indonesia	41	23/23	23/23
Nigeria	47	25/23	20/23
Pakistan	59	26/23	20/23
Sierra Leone	35	20/23	19/23
Yemen	26	17/18	16/18

Appendix G. Phase 2 Qualitative Analysis Interview Script

This appendix provides the primary questionnaire that was posed to Phase 2 interviewees across the 6 countries, as well as a crosswalk of the various questions with the OECD DAC Evaluation Criteria (Table G1).

Baselining Questions

1. [Exposure]: In what ways have you or your organization worked with the UK government (FCDO) on development programs in the past and why? How familiar are you with the UK's development assistance on a scale of 1 (not at all familiar) to 5 (very familiar)?
 - a. *Probe: Which other governments, multilaterals or philanthropies have you or your organization worked with on development programs?*
2. [Mandate]: What do you think the primary aims or goals for the UK's development assistance are, in your own words?
 - a. *Probe: To what extent do you think these aims have held steady or evolved over time? Why?*
 - b. *Probe: How would you compare the UK's aims or goals for its development assistance efforts with <insert name of countries identified in Qn1>? What is similar or different?*
3. [Priorities]: In your experience, how would you describe the UK's economic and development assistance priorities? [Additional explanatory text - where the UK focuses its resources and attention]
 - a. *Probe: Specific stakeholder groups—why?*
 - b. *Probe: Specific sectors—why?*
 - c. *Probe: Specific geographic sub-regions—why?*
4. [Development Challenges]: What do you consider to be the most pressing development challenges that your country is facing? [Additional explanatory text - the problems you most want to solve]
5. [Relevance]: In your view, how well aligned is the UK's development assistance to address the needs and priorities you identified?

Past Performance

6. [Perception]: How would you say that the UK's development assistance is perceived in <insert country name>? Why do you think that is?
 - a. *Probe: Do you think these perceptions have held steady or evolved over time?*
7. [Advantages]: What do you think the UK does best relative to other development partners? Why?
 - a. *Probe: Has this changed over the last few years? In what ways?*
 - b. *Probe: Quantity or quality of specific types of assistance (e.g., financing, international expertise, knowledge work)?*
 - c. *Probe: Ease of doing business (e.g., speed of delivery, low burden policies and procedures)?*

d. *Probe: Convening power and influence with other stakeholders (e.g., other development partners, government and non-government actors)?*

8. [Disadvantages]: What do you think the UK does least well relative to other partners? Why?

a. *Probe: Has this changed over the last few years? In what ways?*

9. [Influence]: How influential would you say the UK is seen to be in shaping domestic policy priorities in your country? Why do you say that?

a. *Probe: Is the UK more influential with some types of stakeholders than others?*

b. *Probe: Can you describe an example of a case where the UK was influential in shaping a particular policy priority? What do you think made the UK influential in this case?*

c. *Probe: Is there anything the UK could do differently to have been more influential?*

10. [Helpfulness]: How helpful would you say that the UK is seen to be in supporting your country in implementing development policies and programs? Why do you say that?

a. *Probe: Are there some types of stakeholders with which you think the UK is more or less helpful than others? Why do you think that is?*

b. *Probe: Can you describe an example of a case where the UK was helpful in implementing a particular development policy or program? What do you think made the UK helpful in this case?*

c. *Probe: Is there anything the UK could do differently to have been more helpful?*

11. [Trust]: To what degree do you view the UK as a trustworthy development partner? Why do you say that? [Additional explanatory text: Can be relied upon to be honest and transparent in its dealings and follow-through on its commitments]

Future Cooperation

12. [Lateral Learning]: What do other countries do well in engaging with <insert country name>, that the UK doesn't do so well? [Additional explanatory text: This could be things the UK could start doing, stop doing, or do differently]

13. [Alignment]: In what geographies and sectors would you recommend that the UK focus its future economic and development assistance efforts to increase its relevance in <insert country name>?

14. [Responsiveness]: To what extent do you think the UK has been responsive to priorities and concerns in <insert country name>?

a. *Probe: How could the UK be more responsive?*

15. [Access] In your view, how easy is it to access UK financing and expertise when you want it?

b. *Probe: How could the UK improve access to these resources moving forward?*

16. [Other Topics/Resources]: Is there anything we missed that you'd like to tell us about? Other important questions we should be asking? Additional people we should be speaking to?

Table G1. Crosswalking interview questions with OECD DAC Evaluation Criteria

Q #	Q Label	DAC Crit.	Criterion Name	Rationale
2	Mandate	R4	Coherence	Respondents' understanding of the UK's stated aims/goals, which is needed to judge whether perceived performance aligns with the mandate.
3	Priorities	R4	Coherence	Respondents describe UK priorities – provides the benchmark against which performance alignment (coherence) is assessed.
4	Development Challenges	R1	Relevance	Surfaces country needs and priorities – essential to evaluate how well UK assistance aligns with local challenges.
5	Relevance	R1	Relevance	Directly asks about the alignment of UK assistance to identified country needs/priorities.
6	Perception	R2	Effectiveness	Captures overall perceptions of UK assistance (presence, influence, helpfulness), which is central to effectiveness.
7	Advantages	R2	Effectiveness	Identifies areas where UK outperforms other partners: comparative effectiveness.
8	Disadvantages	R2	Effectiveness	Identifies areas where UK underperforms relative to others: comparative effectiveness.
9	Influence	R2	Effectiveness	Measures perceived influence on domestic policy priorities, and identifies relevant factors.
10	Helpfulness	R2	Effectiveness	Perceived helpfulness in implementation, and reasons behind perceived performance.
11	Trust	R2	Effectiveness	Affects partner effectiveness and is a dimension of perceived performance.
12	Lateral Learning	R2	Effectiveness	Compares UK approaches to others and identifies what UK could improve to be more effective in engagement.
13	Alignment (Future Focus)	R1(primary), R5 (secondary)	Relevance, Sustainability	Seeks recommendations on sectors/geographies to increase relevance – future alignment to local priorities.
14	Responsiveness	R1 (primary), R5 (secondary)	Relevance, Sustainability	Tests how well the UK responds to country priorities/concerns – relevance in practice.
15	Access	R3	Efficiency	Probes ease of accessing UK financing/expertise – transaction costs and responsiveness relate to efficiency of inputs and processes.

Appendix H. Use and Influence Plan

FCDO Use and Influence Plan
Thematic Evaluation of UK Influence on Development Leaders
Version #1 | July 2024

Audiences and Use Cases

The primary target audiences (and associated use cases) for this study are internal to the FCDO. Illustrative, though non-exhaustive, examples include:

- FCDO HQ-based personnel with responsibilities for UK official development assistance may use this study to inform strategic decision-making on multilateral replenishments, cooperation with multilateral partners, and other spending decisions relevant to UK aid efforts
- FCDO personnel based in geographic departments or embassy posts may use this study to inform annual and multi-year planning, business case development, benchmarking against peer donors, and other strategic planning in their respective areas of focus.
- FCDO HQ-based personnel with responsibilities for UK global competitiveness and geopolitical influence may use this study to assess areas of relative strength, weakness, and opportunities to reposition resources and partnerships for greater influence.
- FCDO personnel tasked with long-term strategic thinking for the agency may use the study to understand trends over time and potential levers of UK influence
- Other data- and evidence-focused personnel across the FCDO (e.g., statisticians, economists, evaluators) may be interested in learning from the methods and applications of the study to directly inform their work but also for potential replicability in other areas

In addition to the above, there are several secondary target audiences that can also benefit from this evaluation. Illustrative, though non-exhaustive, examples include:

- Senior officials in other UK cabinet agencies that may want to understand how best to optimize partnerships with FCDO to improve UK global competitiveness;
- UK parliament officials with an oversight function for FCDO that may want to understand how UK assistance is positioned in absolute and relative terms externally;
- Respected UK-based institutes/centers conducting academic or policy research related to: (1) UK bilateral and multilateral assistance to low- and middle-income countries; and/or (2) international relations between the UK and low- and middle-income countries;

- Leaders of large or influential UK-based civil society organizations and private sector companies interested in UK official development assistance or global competitiveness;
- Representatives from central and local government ministries in low- and middle-income countries tasked with managing: (1) external financing for development projects and programs; (2) national development and economic growth strategies, priorities, and targets; (3) design and delivery of development projects and programs in particular sectors; and/or (4) relations with foreign powers including the UK, among other topics;
- Respected institutes/centers in counterpart low- and middle-income countries conducting academic or policy research related to: (1) external bilateral and multilateral assistance; and/or (2) international relations between the UK and low- and middle-income countries;
- Leaders of large or influential counterpart civil society organizations and private sector companies in low- and middle-income countries interested in official development assistance or global competitiveness
- Key Evaluation Outputs and Supplemental Activities for Use and Influence

There are three key outputs for which the evaluation supplier will seek to promote use and influence:

- **Report:** A final public-facing evaluation report surfacing qualitative and quantitative insights about the UK's perceived footprint and performance over roughly a decade (2014-2024) and in relation to a cohort of benchmark organizations. The report will also examine country- and respondent-level drivers of UK performance, along with deep-dive country case studies.
- **Summary (public-facing):** A 2-page summary ("evaluation digest") of the finalized evaluation report using the FCDO's template for publication via the FCDO's website.
- **Dataset (for FCDO internal use only):** An anonymized, respondent-level, dataset on elite perceptions of UK presence, influence, and helpfulness relative to other donors over the last decade in low- and middle-income countries across four survey waves (2014, 2017, 2020, 2024). This data will include respondent demographics such as stakeholder group, policy domain of expertise, sector, country, geographic region, etc. The anonymized dataset will include survey responses for the countries where there was one or more respondents who reported receiving advice or assistance from the UK, including their assessments of other selected donors and regardless of whether they worked with the UK. Since this is proprietary information collected by the evaluation supplier, the raw dataset would be provided for internal use by the supplier and the UK in support of the evaluation and restricted from public disclosure.

In addition to these key outputs a number of supplemental activities will ensure the proper dissemination of the evaluation results, such as:

- 40. To maximize long-term and broad-based uptake of the research, the evaluation report and summary will be published in both pdf and HTML versions for better search engine optimization. Methods will be transparently documented in the evaluation report to enhance credibility and facilitate future research on the subject.
- 41. A powerpoint slide deck will be developed and virtual closed door briefings will be organized (as there is interest) for high priority UK-based government officials, journalists, and think tanks to discuss the research findings.
- 42. AidData will leverage its website aiddata.org, in-house First Tranche blog, email listservs, and accounts on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, etc to promote the report, summary, and other communications collateral such as blogs, newsletters, and social media posts in coordination with FCDO counterparts to reach the target audiences.
- 43. AidData will coordinate with the FCDO to utilize agency-specific communications channels such as the “Monthly Evaluation Spotlight” and “The Rest is Evaluation.”
- 44. Presentation at FCDO’s internal Methods Seminars (spotlight on methods used for a technical audience) and Policy Findings Seminars (actionable insights for a policy-oriented audience).

Target Audience	Communications Channels						
	Final Evaluation Report	Evaluation Digest	Anonymized Dataset	Blogs & Social Media	Closed Door Briefings	Monthly Evaluation Spotlight	Seminars
FCDO (internal)	X	X	X		X	X	X
Other UK Cabinet & Parliament Officials	X	X			X		
Media	X	X		X	X		
NGO/CSO	X	X		X			
Private sector	X	X		X			
Think tanks/ Academia	X	X		X	X		

Appendix I. Risk Mitigation Measure

Context

The following risk mitigation plan was provided to FCDO in July 2024 to ensure that the limitations and potential risk factors inherent in the design of this evaluation were identified and accounted for.

Risks and mitigation measures

At a higher level, there are three overarching critical assumptions to the success of this project. The first assumption is that AidData can collect quantitative and qualitative data of sufficient relevance and granularity to credibly analyze variation in the UK's performance and influence as perceived by developing country leaders. The associated risks are that data will be unavailable, of uneven quality or granularity. The second assumption is that AidData will be able to secure access to relevant financing and administrative data about FCDO's overseas posts, staffing, and funding across countries and sectors, to the extent this information is available. However, it is possible that AidData will have to rely on publicly available information and/or incomplete data if it is not able to gain access to internal systems due to security concerns and decentralized records management at the FCDO. A third assumption is that AidData will be able to produce the evaluation report and underlying datasets on time and within budget. The risk is that the research design and co-creation process with FCDO could create delays or reduce quality in the compressed timeframe.

AidData will mitigate the first risk through: (i) using previously collected data from four past *Listening to Leaders* survey waves which have already been completed; (ii) using methods successfully employed in producing similar evaluations for other donors; (iii) doing some preliminary scoping to ensure that there is minimum viable quantitative data coverage for the UK over time and across the core indicators to support a range of possible descriptive and determinants analysis. The FCDO and AidData will also utilize the breakpoint between phase 1 and phase 2 to confirm viability of proceeding with additional qualitative analysis and the final evaluation report.

AidData will mitigate the second risk in the following ways: (i) the quantitative analysis can proceed without this data by focusing more on other donor, country, and respondent-level characteristics; (ii) understanding the role of staffing overseas could become more of an emphasis within the qualitative country case studies using a combination of desk research and incorporating interviews with FCDO at the relevant posts to compensate for the lack of quantitative data on these measures.

AidData will mitigate the third risk by employing best practices from previous projects: (i) getting early agreement around a clear analytical roadmap and workplan that identifies relative priorities for the analysis, differentiating between 'must haves' and 'nice to haves' depending upon time available; (ii) determining clear expectations and processes for review and sign-off on the end products; and (iii)

maintaining close communication with FCDO to quickly surface aspects of the research process taking longer than expected, make course corrections, and adjudicate priorities, etc.

A more detailed list of illustrative risks and mitigation measures, at each phase of the evaluation, is provided in Table K1.

Table I1: Illustrative risks and mitigation measures

Risk	Mitigation measure
Phase 1: Quantitative Evaluation	
Delayed data collection and analysis	Use of already collected survey data in hand; use of methods and data tested in previous evaluations; close coordination with FCDO on analysis priorities
Limited or no access to FCDO internal data	Use of publicly available data from trusted third-party sources or through transparent and replicable web-scraping techniques employed previously
Provision of reports in time	Close coordination and ensuring alignment of priorities between AidData and FCDO (distinction between must haves and nice to haves)
Phase 2: Qualitative Evaluation	
Availability of Key Informants	Outreach sufficiently in advance of a possible travel of the interviewing team will minimize availability risks
Accessibility of Key Informants	Contact information can be derived from survey participants who agree to be contacted again, limiting additional concerns about accessibility; if contact persons are in hard to reach remote areas, interviews via phone or video conference may substitute in person interaction. Additionally, if timing to schedule a large number of interview proves to be a concern we may consider using Focus groups instead of or in combination with key informant interviews to reduce the amount of time needed
Varying Quality of Interviews/Focus Groups due to differing Interviewer Skill	To minimize quality concerns and avoid additional resource allocation towards training local interviewers, we will use a semi-structured interview format and AidData staff will conduct the interviews
Data Volumes	Large volumes of qualitative data need to be analyzed in a structured and traceable manner to avoid intransparent results, we may utilize student research assistants and text analysis tools to support coding the qualitative data
Privacy Concerns of Participants	Participants will give informed consent to their responses being used for this analysis and appropriate steps will be taken to de-identify individuals in the final report if that is deemed necessary

