

International Development Committee

The ‘In Development’ process

Fourth Report of Session 2024–25

HC 333

International Development Committee

The International Development Committee is appointed by the House of Commons to examine the expenditure, administration, and policy of the Department for International Development and its associated public bodies.

Current membership

[Sarah Champion](#) (Labour; Rotherham) (Chair)

[Monica Harding](#) (Liberal Democrat; Esher and Walton)

[Laura Kyrke-Smith](#) (Labour; Aylesbury)

[Noah Law](#) (Labour; St Austell and Newquay)

[Alice Macdonald](#) (Labour; Norwich North)

[Brian Mathew](#) (Liberal Democrat; Melksham and Devizes)

[David Mundell](#) (Conservative; Dumfriesshire, Clydesdale and Tweeddale)

[James Naish](#) (Labour; Rushcliffe)

[David Reed](#) (Conservative; Exmouth and Exeter East)

[Sam Rushworth](#) (Labour; Bishop Auckland)

[David Taylor](#) (Labour; Hemel Hempstead)

The following Member was a Member of the Committee during this inquiry:

[Gordon McKee](#) (Labour; Glasgow South)

Powers

The Committee is one of the departmental select committees, the powers of which are set out in House of Commons Standing Orders, principally in SO No. 152. These are available on the internet via www.parliament.uk.

Publication

This Report, together with formal minutes relating to the report, was Ordered by the House of Commons, on 11 March 2025, to be printed. It was published on 20 March 2025 by authority of the House of Commons.

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1 The ‘In Development’ process and next steps

The process

1. In November 2024, we launched the In Development process, inviting the public to suggest potential inquiries for our future work programme.¹ The aim of the initiative was to provide an opportunity for the international development community and the public to bring topics deserving greater parliamentary scrutiny to the attention of the newly formed Committee. We encouraged people, in the UK and overseas, who are under-represented in international development debates, such as those with direct experience of aid, vulnerable groups or inter-disciplinary researchers, to submit proposals. The Initiative was led by the Thematic Research Lead of the International Affairs and National Security Hub at the House of Commons.
2. We asked contributors to set out in 500 words or in a short video, the nature of the issue that might be explored, why it deserved attention, and how Government policy in the area could be developed or improved. We are very appreciative of the high numbers of people who responded to our call, including from individuals and organisations that had never engaged with the Committee.
3. We received 134 submissions. 113 have been published on the Committee’s website.² When we received submissions that were clear duplicates, or when an individual or an organisation submitted more than one proposal, only the first submission received has been published.
4. The breadth and quality of submissions were impressive. Topics ranged from the meaning of locally led development to understanding public opinion on overseas aid. Some particularly innovative proposals asked important questions on the place of the blue economy in development strategies, on how science and technology can support UK efforts in international development, and on how to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and

1 See International Development Committee, [In Development: call for evidence](#), opened 5 December 2024.

2 See International Development Committee, [In Development: written evidence](#).

Local Communities. The Committee has been inspired by the brilliant ideas shared and is confident that this initiative will meaningfully shape its future work programme throughout this Parliament.

Outcomes

5. The issue of gender equality and women's rights in international development featured prominently in the submissions.³ The Committee agrees that gender equality and women empowerment is central to tackling global development challenges. The 30th anniversary of the landmark Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action offers a timely opportunity to scrutinise UK's leadership in this area.
6. We have decided to launch a new inquiry on the UK Government's commitment to the 'Women, Peace, and Security Agenda' that aims to reduce the impact of conflict on women and girls and to promote their inclusion in peacebuilding. This decision was inspired by the submission made by Professor Toni Haastrup of the University of Manchester.⁴ The Committee launched the inquiry on 7 March 2025. We encourage all those who have brought this area of policy scrutiny to the attention of the Committee to submit written evidence.⁵
7. In addition, we will make a systematic effort to incorporate cross-cutting considerations into our inquiries whenever relevant, including in relation to the needs of vulnerable communities such as children, older adults, marginalised groups, and individuals with disabilities, and also in relation to the impacts of climate change.
8. We have also noted that multiple submissions have the potential to inform two on-going inquiries, namely on the FCDO's approach to value for money,⁶ including submissions on new metrics for evaluating aid impact, and on the FCDO's approach to displaced people,⁷ including submissions on climate-induced migrations.
9. We are grateful to all those who submitted ideas to us and who engaged with this process. We encourage all those who put forward an inquiry proposal as part of the In Development Inquiry to make submissions to any

3 This includes, for instance, [IND0021](#), [IND0033](#), [IND0034](#), [IND0035](#), [IND0044](#), [IND0056](#), [IND0064](#), [IND0065](#), [IND0073](#), [IND0080](#), [IND0084](#).

4 [INCO063](#).

5 See International Development Committee, [Women, peace and security](#), opened 7 March 2025.

6 See International Development Committee, [The FCDO's approach to value for money](#), opened 13 November 2024.

7 See International Development Committee, [The FCDO's approach to displaced people](#), opened 9 December 2024.

relevant inquiries in the future. We also intend to incorporate the ideas contained in them in our work where possible and are likely to return to the submissions throughout the life of this Parliament. The Independent Commission for Aid Impact that scrutinises UK aid spending has also been made aware of the published written evidence for their future work programme.

Formal minutes

Tuesday 11 March 2025

Members present:

Rt Hon David Mundell, in the Chair

Monica Harding

Noah Law

Brian Mathew

David Reed

Sam Rushworth

David Taylor

The ‘In Development’ process

Draft Report (*The ‘In Development’ process*), proposed by the Chair, brought up and read.

Ordered, That the draft Report be read a second time, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraphs 1 to 9 read and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Report be the Fourth Report of the Committee to the House.

Ordered, That the Chair make the Report to the House.

Adjournment

[Adjourned till Tuesday 25 March at 1.30 p.m.]

Published written evidence

The following written evidence was received and can be viewed on the [inquiry publications page](#) of the Committee's website.

IND numbers are generated by the evidence processing system and so may not be complete.

- | | | |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 1 | A Decolonial Approach to Aid Effectiveness Zulfia Abawe (Lecturer, University of South Wales) | IND0007 |
| 2 | Abouelfetouh, Prof. Dr. Alaa (Professor of Microbiology and Immunology , Faculty of Pharmacy, Alexandria University and Alamein International University) | IND0099 |
| 3 | Action for Global Health Network; and We are a network of more than 50 UK and LMIC-based organisations working on the achievement of health equity globally. | IND0115 |
| 4 | Adler, Dr Claudia Milena (Lecturer in Humanitarian Affairs, The University of York); Puthoopparambil, Dr Soorej Joesph (Senior lecturer in Migration and Global health and Programme Director – Master's programme in Global Health, Uppsala University); and Jayawickrama, Professor Janaka (Professor of Social Anthropology Department of History Director Research Centre for Health and Wellbeing, Shanghai University) | IND0020 |
| 5 | African Foundation for Democracy & GK Partners | IND0131 |
| 6 | Age International | IND0098 |
| 7 | Anonymised | IND0023 |
| 8 | Anonymised | IND0014 |
| 9 | Anti-slavery International | IND0116 |
| 10 | Atal, Dr Maha Rafi (Adam Smith Senior Lecturer in Political Economy, University of Glasgow); Reinsberg, Professor Bernhard (Professor of International Political Economy and Development, University of Glasgow); Bayer, Professor Patrick (Professor of Political Economy, University of Glasgow); and Uribe, Dr Evelyn Navarrete (Research Associate, University of Glasgow) | IND0102 |

11	Avoka, Dr Cephas (DrPH Student, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)	<u>IND0010</u>
12	BRAC	<u>IND0036</u>
13	Bernard, Dr David (Research Fellow, Open Philanthropy)	<u>IND0032</u>
14	Blakemore, Sarah (CEO, Keeping Children Safe)	<u>IND0096</u>
15	Bond	<u>IND0086</u>
16	Bond Disability & Development Group; Bond Sustainable Development Goals Group; and Bond Child Rights Group	<u>IND0041</u>
17	British Medical Association	<u>IND0069</u>
18	British Red Cross	<u>IND0026</u>
19	CAFOD	<u>IND0123</u>
20	CARE International UK	<u>IND0035</u>
21	Centre for the Study of Corruption, University of Sussex	<u>IND0074</u>
22	Christian Aid	<u>IND0120</u>
23	Climate Action Network UK (CAN-UK)	<u>IND0119</u>
24	Concern Worldwide UK	<u>IND0089</u>
25	Conciliation Resources - on behalf of the Bond Conflict Policy Group	<u>IND0037</u>
26	Corporate Justice Coalition; ABColombia; ActionAid UK; Anti-slavery International; Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland; Friends of the Earth Scotland; Environmental Justice Foundation; The Circle; UNISON; and Water Witness International	<u>IND0117</u>
27	Council on Geostrategy	<u>IND0022</u>
28	Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STePP) at University College London (UCL)	<u>IND0046</u>
29	Development Education Research Centre	<u>IND0112</u>
30	Development Engagement Lab	<u>IND0126</u>
31	Egbetokun, Dr Abiodun (Senior Lecturer, De Montfort University)	<u>IND0092</u>
32	Equal Right; UBI Lab Network; Basic Income Earth Network - BIEN; Project Deep; Cool Earth; Queen's University Belfast; University of Wageningen; FEASTA; DRC Climate Change Network; and Centre for Child Development and Research Malawi	<u>IND0068</u>
33	Fleury, Dr Saphia (Researcher, University of Hull)	<u>IND0018</u>

34	Fluidion	IND0087
35	Forest Peoples Programme	IND0088
36	Frontline AIDS	IND0103
37	GRAVIS	IND0050
38	Gender and Development Network	IND0080
39	Germond-Duret, Dr Celine (Lecturer in Environmental Politics and Policy, Lancaster University, UK)	IND0077
40	Gilbert, Dr Paul (Reader in Development, Justice & Inequality, University of Sussex); Mawdsley, Professor Emma (Professor of Human Geography, University of Cambridge); Sklair, Dr Jessica (Lecturer and Institute for the Humanities & Social Sciences Fellow, Queen Mary University of London); Russon, Dr Jo-Anna (Senior research Fellow in Education, University of Nottingham); Whitty, Dr Brendan (Lecturer in Non-Profit Management, University of St Andrews); Taylor, Dr Olivia (Lecturer in Geography, University of Sussex); and Phelan, Dr Sarah-Jane (Post-Doctoral Research Associate, University of Cambridge & University of Sussex)	IND0076
41	GiveDirectly	IND0025
42	Global Alliance for the Rights of Older People	IND0106
43	Global Nation	IND0070
44	Global Public Investment Network	IND0121
45	Goodhind, William	IND0071
46	Haastруп, Professor Toni (Professor & Chair in Global Politics, University of Manchester)	IND0063
47	Happier Lives Institute	IND0100
48	Hassan, Dr Oz (Reader in National Security, Deputy Head of Department, Politics and International Studies, The University of Warwick)	IND0062
49	HelpAge Tanzania	IND0057
50	Henry Jackson Society	IND0021
51	Human Rights Watch	IND0134
52	Humanity & Inclusion UK	IND0039
53	Institute for Global Health and Development, Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	IND0104
54	International Centre for Tax and Development	IND0054

55	Interventions, Investigating Socioeconomic Support (Reader in Tuberculosis and Social Medicine and Honorary Consultant Physician in Infectious Diseases and General Internal Medicine, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Liverpool, United Kingdom)	IND0009
56	Kenny, Charles (Senior Fellow, Center for Global Development)	IND0011
57	Kleine, Professor Dorothea (Director, Institute for Global Sustainable Development, University of Sheffield)	IND0064
58	Li, Dr. Jie Sheng (Research Analyst, Self)	IND0002
59	Lui, Dr Alison (Reader in Law, Liverpool John Moores University)	IND0024
60	Mackinder, Dr Sophie (Senior Lecturer in Global Social Policy and International Development, University of York); Richardson, Dr Dominic (Executive Director, Learning for Well-being Foundation); Harris, Dr David (Senior Research Fellow, Columbia University, New York); and Hudson, Professor John (Professor of Social Policy, University of York)	IND0129
61	Mandal, Dr Anandadeep (Associate Professor, University of Birmingham)	IND0005
62	MSI Reproductive Choices,; UK SRHR Network; International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF); Ipas; and Frontline AIDS	IND0097
63	Malawi Network of Older Persons' Organizations (MANEPO)	IND0044
64	Mansour, Dr Wesam (Health Systems Researcher, ReBUILD for Resilience - Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine)	IND0084
65	Maxwell, Dr Clare (Reader in Maternal and Infant Health, Liverpool John Moores University)	IND0073
66	Mercy Corps	IND0015
67	Minority Rights Group; and Clear Global	IND0072
68	Mogaji, Dr Emmanuel (Associate Professor of Marketing , Keele University)	IND0003
69	Muslim Charities Forum	IND0132
70	National Oceanography Centre	IND0029
71	Neal, Prof Sarah (Professor in Global Health, University of Southampton)	IND0033
72	Norwegian Refugee Council	IND0091
73	OKUP (okup.ent@gmail.com); and CAFOD	IND0124

74	Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI)	<u>IND0127</u>
75	Peace Brigades International UK; Amnesty International UK; and Scottish Human Rights Defenders Fellowship	<u>IND0095</u>
76	Plaut, Mr Martin (Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Commonwealth Studies)	<u>IND0001</u>
77	Popoola, Bukola (Lecturer, Ajayi Crowther University Faculty of Natural Sciences, Department of Microbiology and Biotechnology)	<u>IND0016</u>
78	Positive Money UK	<u>IND0107</u>
79	Rahimi, Dr Roya (Reader in Marketing and Leisure Management , University of Wolverhampton)	<u>IND0017</u>
80	Raven, Dr Joanna	<u>IND0093</u>
81	Restless Development	<u>IND0065</u>
82	Results UK	<u>IND0027</u>
83	Riaz, Ayesha (Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Greenwich)	<u>IND0059</u>
84	Riggirozzi, Prof Pia (Professor of Global Politics , University of Southmpton)	<u>IND0034</u>
85	Right To Play	<u>IND0031</u>
86	Rose, Dr Jo (Senior Lecturer in International Humanitarian Affairs and Sustainable Development, University of York); and Adler, Dr Claudia Milena (Lecturer in International Humanitarian Affairs, University of York)	<u>IND0078</u>
87	Royal College of Nursing	<u>IND0079</u>
88	STOPAIDS, Just Treatment & the International Treatment Preparedness Coalition (ITPC)	<u>IND0133</u>
89	STOPAIDS; Frontline AIDS; and Tackle	<u>IND0130</u>
90	Save the Children UK	<u>IND0042</u>
91	Scotland's International Development Alliance	<u>IND0101</u>
92	Scott, Professor Martin (Professor of Media and Global Development, University of East Anglia); Girling, Dr David (Associate Professor in Media and Global Development, University of East Anglia); and Stavinoha, Dr Ludek (Associate Professor in Media and Global Development, University of East Anglia)	<u>IND0004</u>
93	Shabaka	<u>IND0085</u>
94	Small International Development Charities Network (SIDCN)	<u>IND0067</u>

95	Taylor, Ms Gloria Oluwakemi (PhD student , Redeemer's University Ede. Osun state. Nigeria)	<u>IND0008</u>
96	Tekkatho Foundation	<u>IND0045</u>
97	The Fairtrade Foundation	<u>IND0081</u>
98	The United Kingdom Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK)	<u>IND0038</u>
99	Toros, Professor Harmonie (Professor in Politics and International Relations, University of Reading)	<u>IND0056</u>
100	Transform Trade	<u>IND0040</u>
101	UCL Social Research Institute, University College London; Institute on Statelessness and Inclusion; and Imkaan Welfare Organisation	<u>IND0114</u>
102	UKCVFamily	<u>IND0052</u>
103	UNISON	<u>IND0090</u>
104	University of Bristol, UK; Southern Voice; Institute for Development Studies; University of Cape Town; and University of South Africa	<u>IND0108</u>
105	University of Cumbria	<u>IND0058</u>
106	Urban Institute, University of Sheffield; Sheffield Hallam University and Mekelle University (Ethiopia); Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia); Mzuzu University (Malawi); Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (Mozambique); and Centre for Research on Governance and Development (Mozambique)	<u>IND0028</u>
107	VSO	<u>IND0030</u>
108	Ventrella, Dr Matilde (Senior lecturer , Liverpool John Moores University)	<u>IND0012</u>
109	WACI Health (co-lead of Inclusive Global Health Institutions Project); and STOPAIDS (co-lead of Inclusive Global Health Institutions Project)	<u>IND0122</u>
110	Warwick Interdisciplinary Research Centre for International Development (University of Warwick); and Humanitarian Action Group	<u>IND0075</u>
111	WaterAid	<u>IND0109</u>
112	World Vision UK	<u>IND0019</u>
113	Yeates, Professor Nicola (Professor of Social Policy , The Open University)	<u>IND0094</u>

List of Reports from the Committee during the current Parliament

All publications from the Committee are available on the [publications page](#) of the Committee's website.

Session 2024–25

Number	Title	Reference
3rd	The Government's efforts to achieve SDG2: Zero Hunger	HC 515
2nd	Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territory	HC 373
1st	Appointment of the Chief Commissioner of the Independent Commission for Aid Impact	HC 448
2nd Special	The UK Small Island Developing States Strategy: Government Response	HC 597
1st Special	FCDO and disability-inclusive development: Government Response	HC 568