



**Craig Whittaker MP**

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## **Internally Displaced People**

Thank you for contacting me about improving the situation of internally displaced people.

I know that the Government recognises the importance of the issues you raise. The Department for International Development estimates there are 38 million internally displaced people who have been forced to leave their homes globally.

I am encouraged that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has confirmed that the UK, alongside its partners, is committed to the UN process to develop both a Global Compact on Migration and a Global Compact on Refugees and to work towards their successful delivery.

There are many examples of the difference that the UK is making to the lives of people displaced by war and disaster throughout the world. Through the Humanitarian and Resilience Building in South Sudan programme, the DfID is providing £443 million in humanitarian aid between 2015 and 2020 to support the provision of food, emergency shelter, and nutrition and health services, responding to famine and severe food insecurity.

In the DRC, UK bilateral aid is supporting 25,800 children with lifesaving assistance. The Government is also spending £175 million for humanitarian support over five years (2017-2022) for the DRC. This will support a further 220,000 children nationally under the age of 5 with vital nutrition.

In one of its biggest interventions, the UK Government is at the forefront of providing aid and assistance to the people whose lives have been shattered by the war in Syria

In the longer term, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office works diplomatically to seek the end to conflicts in war zones and to achieve credible political settlements in war torn countries to facilitate the return of internally displaced people safely. A key objective of foreign and development policy is to seek to prevent conflicts from starting in the first place and this we work on with our allies and partners around the world.

There is always more that can be done, of course, and the Government is committed to working with all those who seek to identify and address the situations in which people are displaced with all the suffering that entails.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP