



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Hackathon: Annual Review Synthesis

Clare Winton-Alam, Ben Lake, Mark Smith

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What is the problem?

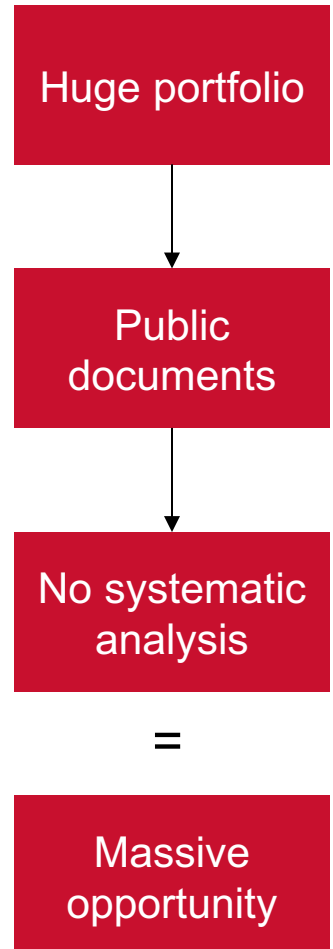
FCDO has a **huge portfolio of international development and policy programmes**, worth over £60bn.

All programmes complete a review of performance every year. These Annual Reviews are **held publicly** on devtracker.com.

There are **tens of thousands** of Annual Review documents in the public domain waiting to be utilised.

There is currently **no systematic analysis** of these documents in order to inform the design of future programmes.

We are therefore **missing a massive opportunity** to maximise the effectiveness of our spend and improve real-world outcomes for some of the world's poorest countries.



How can you help?

We need to find a way to **draw out lessons** from this gold mine of publicly-available data.



This will help us answer questions such as:

- Where have small projects worked well in supporting locally-owned climate mitigation (for example)? How can we replicate these elsewhere and scale them up?
- Which types of programmes have not worked well in supporting girls' education (for example), and why? How can we learn these lessons for the future?

These lessons will be used to **improve future programmes** in the FCDO, maximising our impact on some of the world's most important challenges – climate change mitigation, life-saving humanitarian support, girls' education, and many more.



Background information

- FCDO currently has over 500 programmes being delivered around the world, with a total lifetime value of over £60bn.
- There is also a 'back catalogue' of programmes which have taken place in the past but are now closed.
- All programmes complete an Annual Review every year. These are published and available on devtracker.com and, at the global level, on the [International Aid Transparency Initiative \(IATI\)](https://www.aidtransparency.org/).
- There are tens of thousands of these documents in the public domain. They all have a similar structure and content, within a standardised form split into different sections that have changed very little over time.
- The programmes themselves can vary across a number of dimensions, including:
 - Themes – humanitarian, education, health, climate change etc.
 - Geography – regional programmes run from the UK, bilateral programmes in-country etc.
 - Size – ranging from less than £1m to >£500m.
 - Delivery partners – UN agencies, NGOs, private sector etc.
- Projects within programmes can also vary in all the same dimensions, especially for very large programmes. There is therefore a lot of variety within programmes which could be extremely valuable for drawing lessons regarding different approaches.