

## University of Manchester Q-Step Summer Project 2018:

### Ref: #06 UoMQStep DFID UK Aid Spending Data Quality Improvement Project

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**Organisation name:** Department for International Development (DFID)

**Team/Department:** Finance and Performance Division

**Address:** 22 Whitehall, London. SW1A 2EG

**Provisional title for project:** UK aid spending data quality improvement project

#### Abstract:

DFID publishes statistics on UK aid spending in a National Statistics publication '[Statistics on International Development](#)'. The statistics are based on the reporting standards of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC).

The project aims to quality assure the underlying data of the statistics, in particular the data used to assign the delivery organizations of UK aid spending to the DAC statistical classification, which will in turn improve the accuracy of the published statistics.

#### Data Sources:

- Statistics on International Development;
- OECD DAC classification codes for CRS reporting;
- DFID's Aid Management Platform and ARIES;
- Web-searches.

**Key words:** National Statistics, data quality, analysis, international development.

#### Essential and desirable skills:

**Essential:** Numerate quantitative skills; knowledge of MS Excel and Word; an eye for detail; report writing skills.

**Desirable:** Data presentation skills (charts, visualizations and tables); survey design methodology; experience in working with databases; an interest in International development.

**Where the work will be carried out:** Glasgow, East Kilbride or London, Whitehall

**Preferred selection method:** Interview

**Support and training offered by the organisation:**

The student would work with colleagues based largely in East Kilbride (near Glasgow), but in close collaboration with colleagues in London and possibly with other staff based around the world. The team members will all have other jobs as well, so although they will offer full support and briefing; the student would need to be a self-starter and work fairly independently.

The student would gain exposure to the broader work of DFID, to international development, and the work of DFID and partner organisations. They would also gain an introduction to DFID's statistical work and its use in policy, opportunities for networking with other DFID statisticians and policy officials who use the data, on-the-job training/support in the CRS database (as necessary) and in quantitative analysis and report writing. They may get opportunities to join wider learning initiatives e.g. lunch time seminars and meetings that may be of interest.

**Supporting information:** A DBS or security check will be carried out by DFID prior to take up of the position

**Financial assistance offered by the organisation:** None