**UK aid supporting the fight against coronavirus in the Middle East**

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The United Kingdom is working together with countries across the Middle East to tackle coronavirus and protect the most vulnerable, UK Minister for the Middle East James Cleverly said today (22 May) as Muslims around the world celebrate Eid al Fitr, marking the end of Ramadan.

Communities across the Middle East are in need of humanitarian assistance, particularly those affected by ongoing conflict in Syria and Yemen, and in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

The UK has to date dedicated £764 million to the global fight against coronavirus. To support the most vulnerable communities in the region in this crisis, UK aid in recent months includes £24 million to help people in Syria and £11.1 million the UK allocated earlier this month to help Iraq, Lebanon and the Occupied Palestinian Territories to tackle the virus.

“No one country can respond to the devastating impact of this invisible killer, which means the UK’s long-standing partnership with the Middle East is now even more important. We are grateful for the work by regional leaders to combat coronavirus,” said Minister for the Middle East, James Cleverly.