

# DENMARK



0.71% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.73% TOTAL AID/GNI



*“The new Danish development cooperation strategy is based on human rights and UN conventions, the international framework and the muscle needed to steer the whole world.”*

– Flemming Møller Mortensen, Minister for Development Cooperation, 24 June 2021

## MAIN CHANGES IN 2020

2020 was dominated by COVID-19, but it was also a period of preparation for 2021, which was predicted to be a year of change for Danish development cooperation. Although Denmark did not provide additional ODA for COVID-19 relief, around DKK 1bn was reallocated to pandemic response activities in the spring of 2020, including funding for CSOs.

The Danish social democratic government had a small reshuffle, which meant a new minister for development cooperation, Flemming Møller Mortensen, in the autumn of 2020. This will not have any major consequences for the government’s development cooperation priorities, which remain migration and climate. A look at the two annual finance bills since the government took office shows that these priorities have been reflected in the spending on ODA.

## TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

Denmark launched a new development cooperation and humanitarian strategy in the summer of 2021. It was negotiated between the government and parliament, where it gained broad support. The strategy includes an agreement that Danish ODA will stay, at a minimum, at 0.7% of GNI.

The strategy makes human rights and democracy the foundation for Danish development cooperation, and has two main themes: climate, nature and the environment, and fragility and migration. The strategy states that Denmark has the option of imposing conditionality based on partner countries’ willingness to take their own citizens home.

This strategy will set the course for Danish aid during the four-year period of the strategy, 2021-2025.

### CASE STUDY BOX: CIVIL SOCIETY AND MFA WORKING TOGETHER ON CIVIC SPACE



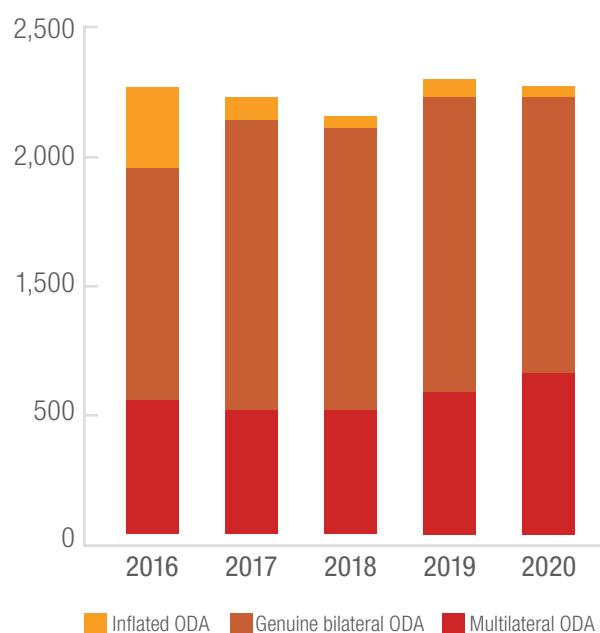
In 2019, the joint two-day international conference ‘Claiming Civic Space Together’ was held by Global Focus and Denmark’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). The conference ended with a common vision of how to protect and enhance civic space globally and with recommendations for civil society, the MFA and the private sector. This was the start of a strong collaboration which has turned Denmark into a leading force on civic space on the world stage. Denmark has taken political stands against governments restricting the space for civil society engagements, has led civic space work at the UN Human Rights Council, has spearheaded campaigns for unmuting civil society at the UN level, and has provided funding for the ‘Claim Your Space’ rapid response mechanism, which financially supports civil society and human rights defenders who are at risk. The strong cooperation between civil society and the MFA in building this policy area together has led to dialogue and a sense of ownership, thereby amplifying Denmark’s work on civic space.

## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DANISH GOVERNMENT

- Do not impose conditionality on ODA based on the return of migrants.
- Increase spending through and to civil society to 25% of ODA, to make Denmark a champion of civic space.
- Ensure that Danish ODA is based on local needs and emphasises inclusion and local ownership.
- Make climate finance additional to ODA flows and targets.

## DENMARK – GENUINE AND INFLATED ODA

(€ million, constant 2019)



## ODA TO LDCS (€ million, constant 2019)

LDC	ODA to LDCs	ODA to LDCS (% GNI)	ODA to LDCS (% total ODA)
2016	619.07	0.21	27.92
2017	649.80	0.22	29.83
2018	582.64	0.20	27.98
2019	700.05	0.22	30.84

## ODA TO DRM (€ million, constant 2019)

DRM	ODA for DRM	DRM (% bilateral)	DRM (% total ODA)
2016	4.74	0.31	0.21
2017	4.16	0.27	0.19
2018	5.99	0.41	0.29
2019	5.97	0.38	0.26

## AID MODALITY (€ million, constant 2019)

Year	Bilateral gross	Grants	Loans	Loans (% of gross bilateral)
2016	1,670.75	1,620.36	50.39	3.02
2017	1,598.08	1,562.89	35.20	2.20
2018	1,497.35	1,497.35	0.00	0.00
2019	1,623.37	1,623.37	0.00	0.00

## ODA TO SUPPORT GENDER EQUALITY (€ million, constant 2019)

Gender focus	Bi allocable	Total Screened	Not Screened	None	Significant	Principal	Significant (% of screened)	Principal (% of screened)
2016	1,137.82	1,028.81	109.01	558.92	436.32	33.56	42.41	3.26
2017	1,349.32	1,252.64	96.68	771.73	390.76	90.15	31.19	7.20
2018	1,302.77	1,259.35	43.42	718.18	446.71	94.46	35.47	7.50
2019	1,440.46	1,404.12	36.34	783.19	520.84	100.09	37.09	7.13

## ODA TO SUPPORT CSOs (€ million, constant 2019)

CSO support	Non-CSO	Donor-CSO-Earmarked	International-CSO-Earmarked	Recipient-CSO-Earmarked	Donor-CSO-Core	International-CSO-Core	Recipient-CSO-Core	Total bilateral CSO support, % bilateral	Total bilateral CSO support, % total ODA	Core bilateral CSO support, % bilateral	Core bilateral CSO support, % total ODA
2016	1,197.29	93.31	17.54	56.11	171.59	11.40	0.17	22.63	15.79	11.84	8.26
2017	1,143.06	148.02	11.73	60.60	153.27	14.15	0.40	25.35	17.82	10.96	7.70
2018	1,072.77	292.19	11.69	44.58	17.00	12.96	1.11	26.13	18.23	2.14	1.49
2019	1,131.97	336.12	26.07	55.30	5.53	14.06	0.95	27.90	19.30	1.31	0.91