

LITHUANIA



0.12% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.12% TOTAL AID/GNI



“Another major challenge ahead is to keep the European Union’s attention on the Eastern Partnership. We cannot allow one-off failures or frustrations to obscure the efforts made in Ukraine, Moldova and the South Caucasus. Lithuania has an exceptional, I would say a historic, role here.”¹

– Gitanas Nausėda,
the President of the Republic of Lithuania

MAIN CHANGES IN 2020

Lithuania’s development cooperation policy reflects the national priorities of its foreign policy by focusing on the Eastern Partnership countries, in particular Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine. In response to the political developments in Belarus in September 2020, the Lithuanian government approved a plan to help the people of its neighbouring country. Lithuania’s support for democracy and human rights has caused tension with the Belarussian authorities.

In 2020, Lithuania’s ODA constituted about €63m (0.12% GNI), up from €60.4m in 2019. Lithuania is committed to increasing ODA to 0.33% of GNI by 2030. However, Lithuania’s bilateral assistance is in decline, amounting to only €10.44 million in 2020.

The key mechanism for implementing ODA is the Development Cooperation and Democracy Promotion Programme of the MFA. In 2020, the pandemic and the deteriorating political situation in Belarus negatively affected the implementation of projects.

Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in its partner countries are ongoing objectives of Lithuanian development cooperation. In 2020, eight gender equality projects were implemented in five countries.

The MFA admits declining public support for aid to developing countries: at the end of 2019, only 27% of Lithuanians believed that this should be a priority for the country’s government. In 2020, Lithuanian NGOs implemented four development education and information projects.

As a follow-up to discussions on changes in the legal framework for development cooperation, the MFA drafted the provisions for a Fund for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid and submitted them for approval to the National Development Cooperation Commission. The chairman would be appointed by the minister for foreign affairs. Administration of the Fund would be handed over to the Central Project Management Agency, and the Fund’s council would include one representative of NGOs, appointed by the National NGO Council.

At EU level, during the negotiations on the new NDICI Lithuania initiated an agreement in principle, which will include essential provisions on compliance with nuclear safety standards in partner countries.

As an observer since 2013, Lithuania has further intensified its involvement in the OECD DAC.

During the negotiations on the Cotonou provisions and the EU’s relations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, Lithuania has consistently advocated that the new agreement should establish procedures for the smooth return and readmission of ACP nationals.

In 2020, Lithuanian public administration bodies were instructed to implement 13 new projects under the EU Twinning Programme. Since 2004, Lithuanian authorities have already participated in 119 twinning projects.

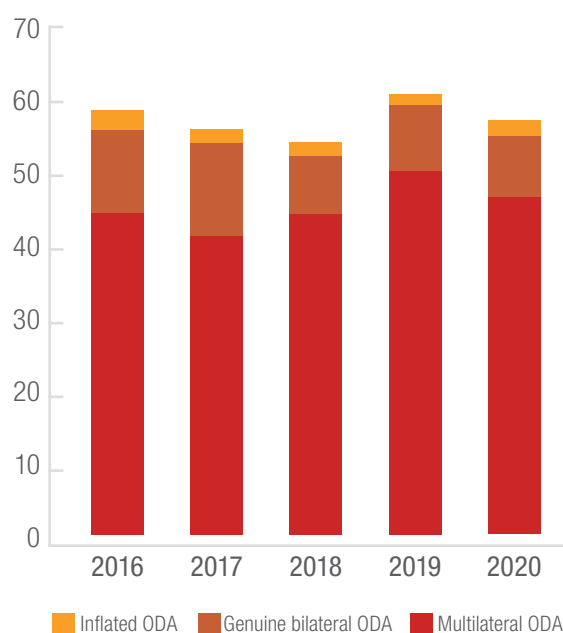
¹ <https://www.lrp.lt/en/activities/state-of-the-nation-address/-/2021/35945>.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LITHUANIAN GOVERNMENT

- Boost the competence of the National Development Cooperation Commission and ensure a balance with the activities and competences of the Fund for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid.
- Draft a meaningful national project for engaging in development cooperation activities with African countries.
- Report scholarships in Lithuania separately from aid flows.
- Publish an annual report on the implementation of the Development Cooperation and Democracy Promotion Programme, including information from other public entities and NGOs.
- In partnership with the Ministry of Education, develop a meaningful national development and global education strategy and raise the level of its funding to 2% of aid flows.

LITHUANIA – 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 | 12.52 | 0.03 | 21.56 |
| 2017 | 8.56 | 0.02 | 15.42 |
| 2018 | 8.83 | 0.02 | 16.47 |
| 2019 | 9.43 | 0.02 | 15.60 |

ODA TO DRM (€ million, constant 2019)

| DRM | ODA for DRM | DRM (% bilateral) | DRM (% total ODA) |
|------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 2016 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2017 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2018 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2019 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

AID MODALITY (€ million, constant 2019)

| Year | Bilateral gross | Grants | Loans | Loans (% of gross bilateral) |
|------|-----------------|--------|-------|------------------------------|
| 2016 | 14.09 | 14.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2017 | 14.31 | 14.31 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2018 | 9.96 | 9.96 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2019 | 10.73 | 10.73 | 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 | 8.50 | 7.28 | 1.22 | 7.01 | 0.22 | 0.05 | 3.02 | 0.70 |
| 2017 | 8.51 | 4.60 | 3.92 | 4.52 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.71 | 0.94 |
| 2018 | 6.57 | 3.64 | 2.93 | 1.47 | 2.02 | 0.15 | 55.43 | 4.14 |
| 2019 | 6.26 | 3.37 | 2.89 | 1.07 | 2.05 | 0.25 | 60.94 | 7.40 |

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 | 13.37 | 0.44 | 0.06 | 0.19 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 5.14 | 1.25 | 0.20 | 0.05 |
| 2017 | 13.85 | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.00 | 0.03 | 0.00 | 3.21 | 0.83 | 0.20 | 0.05 |
| 2018 | 9.39 | 0.21 | 0.05 | 0.30 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.00 | 5.75 | 1.07 | 0.11 | 0.02 |
| 2019 | 9.95 | 0.21 | 0.11 | 0.32 | 0.00 | 0.14 | 0.00 | 7.26 | 1.29 | 1.33 | 0.24 |