

PORTUGAL*



0.13% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.18% TOTAL AID/GNI



“Prioritising human development is also geopolitical.”

– Francisco André, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation at the DEVE Committee (European Parliament) on 21 January 2021

MAIN CHANGES IN 2020

In 2020 Portugal's ODA increased only slightly, by just 4.1%. Even though the outbreak of the pandemic made this an exceptional period, ODA-eligible actions stagnated at 0.18% GNI. With less than a decade left, the overall ODA levels are far lower than what is needed to meet Portugal's ODA spending commitments by 2030. Despite continued pressure from civil society, the Portuguese government has still not put forward any plan for reversing the situation.

As has been mentioned in previous years, Portugal seems focused on closely integrating its development policies within the framework of its broader foreign policy goals. The programme of the Portuguese Presidency of the EU Council, presented in late 2020, explicitly acknowledged this by stating that Portugal would work to “encourage a European model of development cooperation that is more strategic and better aligned with the Union's external policy priorities”. Although this is not new, the instrumentalisation of development policies to fulfil economic purposes has been increasingly evident.

TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

For Portuguese development policy 2021 is an extremely important year, as the DAC/OECD Peer Review will be followed by the drafting of the new 2021-2030 Portuguese Cooperation Strategy, which is expected to clarify Portugal's goals and to renew commitments that in recent years have been neglected.

The hope is that 2021 will finally be the year in which the slight increase in ODA levels, after successive drops, will be strengthened and consolidated. Bearing in mind the importance of global solidarity in tackling the ongoing crisis, civil society hopes that the state budget (on which preliminary discussions have already started) will be an ambitious tool, allocating sufficient funding to meet Portugal's commitments.



CASE STUDY BOX:

In response to the impacts of the pandemic, Portugal chose human development as one of the priorities for the Council Presidency between January and June 2021. For civil society, this very positive step opened the door to important discussions about the future of the EU's global approach; even if it does stem from a geopolitical vision of development cooperation, there is certainly room to give EU policies a more human dimension. The Portuguese Platform hopes that, in the national context, this will result in development policies moving closer to adopting a more genuine human development approach that is not used to pursue other types of goals.

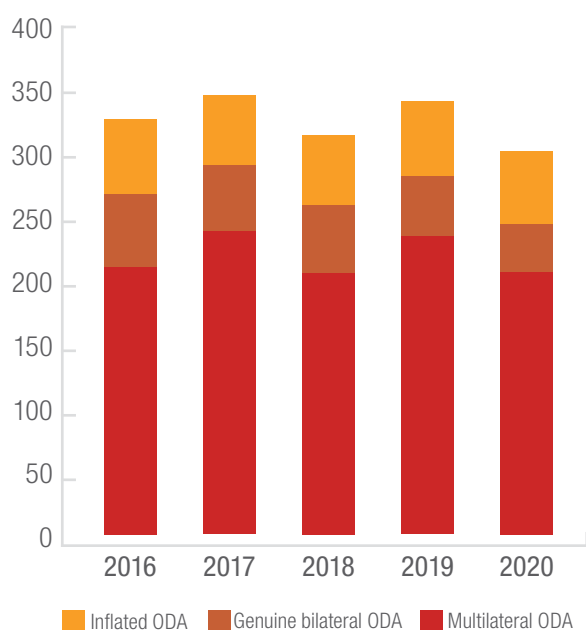
RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT

- Portugal must consolidate the slight increase in ODA levels registered in 2020 and must schedule a steady increase in the funds channelled annually until the 0.7% commitment is met.
- The definition of the new Portuguese Cooperation Strategy must be ambitious, able to unequivocally renew Portugal's international commitments and be based on an inclusive process of co-construction that involves all stakeholders from different sectors and partner countries, including civil society.
- The new Portuguese Cooperation Strategy must be approved by the parliament, and it must contain an Action Plan that outlines a clear roadmap for its implementation and establishes the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating results.
- Portugal must take advantage of the opportunity for clarification offered by the drafting of the new Strategy to bring its cooperation policy closer to the basic principles of sustainable development and people's needs, preventing it from being instrumentalised by priorities such as supporting Portugal's own economic growth.

* ODA amounts featured in this section for Portugal have been directly sourced by the National Platform from the Portuguese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

PORTUGAL – 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	96.34	0.05	29.19
2017	116.32	0.06	33.50
2018	113.70	0.06	35.88
2019	106.65	0.05	31.28

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	167.43	121.99	45.45	27.14
2017	151.97	127.54	24.43	16.07
2018	153.26	131.96	21.31	13.90
2019	158.68	155.07	3.61	2.27

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	125.21	125.21	0.00	91.77	32.27	1.17	25.77	0.93
2017	105.74	105.74	0.00	73.54	30.58	1.62	28.92	1.53
2018	102.81	102.81	0.00	72.90	28.33	1.57	27.56	1.53
2019	95.83	95.83	0.00	62.14	31.94	1.75	33.33	1.82

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	106.69	9.38	0.00	3.84	0.02	0.10	0.00	11.11	4.04	0.10	0.03
2017	92.92	7.69	0.07	3.64	0.02	0.12	0.00	11.04	3.32	0.13	0.04
2018	97.18	6.58	0.13	3.86	0.01	0.04	0.00	9.86	3.35	0.05	0.02
2019	92.29	8.81	0.18	3.60	0.02	0.17	0.00	12.15	3.75	0.18	0.05