

SLOVAKIA



0.12% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.14% TOTAL AID/GNI



“Development cooperation is a core business of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and if it has not been, then it should become so.”

– Ingrid Brockova, State Secretary,
at a meeting with civil society, April 2020.

MAIN CHANGES IN 2020

In 2020, Slovakia contributed €118m to ODA (0.14% of GNI). The increase from 0.11% in 2019 was mainly caused by a disproportionately large amount of inflated aid (€17.4m, or 15% of total ODA).

The COVID-19 pandemic and decisions taken by the government and the foreign ministry led to most of the systemic plans (for processes, strategic documents, capacity and funding) being postponed or cancelled.

The call for proposals under the framework partnership agreement was cancelled, and other calls were issued in a way that reduced predictability and transparency.

Slovakia redirected €10m as a response to COVID-19. This was not new money and, needless to say, it will be missed elsewhere. Overall, COVID-19 made Slovak ODA more instrumentalised and exposed shortfalls in its capacity.

TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2021 AND BEYOND

If the development cooperation budget continues to increase at the same rate as in the past 10 years, Slovakia will not meet its international commitment of 0.33% of GNI until 2130. There is no plan for increasing ODA for 2021 and beyond.

Thanks to the pandemic, further delays are expected to affect various strategic processes and goals such as the adoption of the humanitarian strategy, the national strategy for global education, the implementation of framework partnership agreements, and the deployment of new development diplomats.



CASE STUDY BOX:

The Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation emerged successful from the EU pillar assessment and can now administer EU grants. The creation of new partnerships with the EU or international organisations can, if carefully selected and properly implemented, act as an important stimulus to the Slovak system not only financially, but also in the transfer of knowledge and innovation.

The COVID-19 humanitarian call for proposals was processed within 10 days, compared to the usual time of 60–90 days. This may be an important proof of concept to be considered during the revision of the humanitarian strategy, and may help improve the project cycle of humanitarian aid.

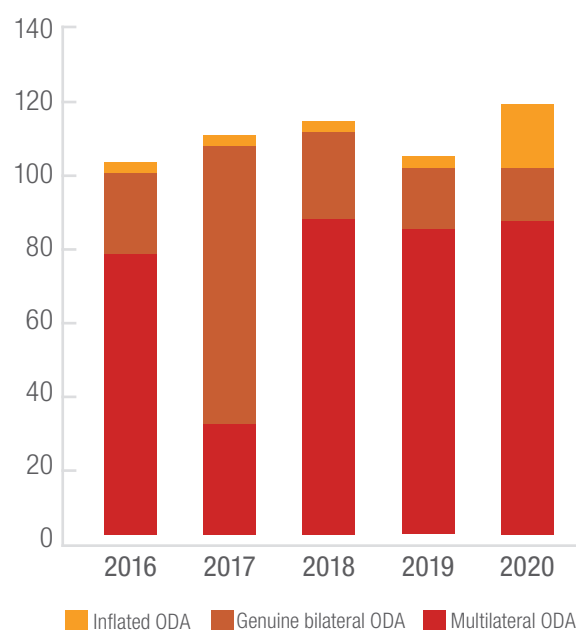
RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SLOVAK GOVERNMENT

- Create a realistic and binding plan for increasing the budget of the Slovak Republic for development cooperation, in order to fulfil its international commitment to reach 0.33% GNI by 2030.
- Fundamentally rethink its internal redistribution of the total budget for ODA, with an emphasis on the revision of bilateral aid.
- Promote a systematic, long-term focus on a smaller number of partner countries and sectors in order to increase effectiveness. Focus on a people-centred approach, and on leaving no one behind.
- Build the monitoring and evaluation system, form strategic partnerships with selected partner countries and international organisations, and develop its national capacity over the long term.
- To prepare a realistic and ambitious strategic focus, identify Slovakia's comparative advantage, develop a humanitarian aid strategy, a strategy for partnership with the private sector, a multilateral development cooperation strategy and a national strategy for global education, and design a government scholarship programme.

- Create a road map that would break down the commitments of the Slovak Republic arising from the Government Manifesto and the recommendations of the DAC-OECD peer review into an operational plan: one with milestones, and a timeline, with an emphasis on transparency, predictability, effectiveness and participation by civil society.
- To improve the predictability and flexibility of funding, strengthen the partnerships with civil society and introduce framework partnership agreements/strategic partnerships, and increase the ownership of and funding for global/development education.

SLOVAKIA – 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	17.00	0.02	16.52
2017	16.67	0.02	15.16
2018	17.29	0.02	15.22
2019	18.56	0.02	17.95

ODA TO DRM (€ million, constant 2019)

DRM	ODA for DRM	DRM (% bilateral)	DRM (% total ODA)
2016	0.04	0.18	0.04
2017	0.08	0.25	0.07
2018	0.02	0.07	0.02
2019	0.00	0.02	0.00

AID MODALITY (€ million, constant 2019)

Year	Bilateral gross	Grants	Loans	Loans (% of gross bilateral)
2016	24.97	24.97	0.00	0.00
2017	32.70	32.70	0.00	0.00
2018	26.69	26.69	0.00	0.00
2019	19.23	19.23	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	21.55	20.84	0.72	13.18	7.40	0.26	35.50	1.25
2017	28.65	27.43	1.23	15.92	11.34	0.17	41.33	0.61
2018	23.97	23.97	0.00	11.69	12.28	0.01	51.22	0.03
2019	16.39	16.39	0.00	10.50	5.68	0.21	34.67	1.29

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	18.88	5.21	0.00	0.20	0.14	0.20	0.34	24.41	5.92	2.72	0.66
2017	26.08	4.26	1.10	0.28	0.01	0.94	0.01	20.17	5.99	2.93	0.87
2018	23.59	2.87	0.07	0.02	0.00	0.13	0.00	11.58	2.72	0.48	0.11
2019	14.59	2.85	1.39	0.18	0.00	0.21	0.00	24.12	4.48	1.10	0.20