

0.87% GENUINE AID/GNI

0.92% TOTAL AID/GNI

SWEDEN



To alleviate the humanitarian consequences of war and to resolve conflicts in the long term, regional and international cooperation is required. Development assistance must to an increased extent prevent and manage the effects of climate change. Sweden's development cooperation continues to focus on democracy and our work to strengthen women's and girls' rights. The pandemic has plunged an additional 70 million people into extreme poverty. Swedish development assistance will correspond to one per cent of gross national income."

Magdalena Andersson, Prime Minister,
government declaration, November 2021.

MAIN CHANGES IN 2021

Sweden was engaged in the EU's and other multilateral responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Another focus was to double Sweden's climate finance before 2025. Sweden's ODA was 0.92% of GNI, lower than parliament's 1% target. However, the national aid budget corresponded to 1%. Some of this was reported in 2020 (when Sweden hit 1.14%) due to rules requiring loan credits to be reported in full the first year (in this case a multi-year Green Climate Fund core support).

In November 2021, after a government split, the post of minister for development was filled by a Social Democrat for the first time in 16 years. Thematic priorities remained similar to the previous minister's: climate, democracy, gender equality plus sustainable economic development.

TRENDS AND PROJECTIONS FOR 2022 AND BEYOND

In the new year, the Ministry of the Interior implied that aid conditionality was part of a new migration policy package to promote returns and readmissions. However, there was no substantial proposal behind the press release. Russia's war against Ukraine made more humanitarian aid a priority. In response to the arrival of refugees in Sweden, the government made Sweden's biggest ever aid budget cut of almost EUR 1 billion. Since then, the government has restored almost half of the budget cut, but Sweden is the EU Member State which made the largest cuts to its



CASE STUDY

A regional strategy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Southern Africa. Building on Sweden's feminist foreign policy, the SRHR strategy was recently renewed with increased funding, in dialogue with relevant actors in the region including civil society. The strategy influenced a TEI on SRHR in Sub-Saharan Africa.

2022 annual aid budget. Even climate finance was severely affected, which led to criticism ahead of the Stockholm+50 environmental summit.

Before the national elections in September, the commitment to international development cooperation and 1% of GNI was shared by six of eight political parties. The government that was formed following the elections will determine the influence of the two parties (right and extreme-right) who want to cut ODA.

Sweden has well-established support for civil society, through a dedicated strategy as well as country and thematic strategies. In the 2022 budget cuts, the civil society budget line was among the hardest hit at first, but was mostly restored after advocacy by CSOs. Swedish CSOs report a loss of trust from local partners towards Sweden.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT

- The government should continue to meet the target of 1% ODA/GNI and plan to phase out the reporting of in-donor refugee costs entirely in the future.
- While the reporting of in-donor costs persists, the government should conduct a public inquiry into ways of applying them, which safeguards assigned funds and minimises the loss of development focus, effectiveness or trust in Sweden's international partnerships.

- Take the opportunity of Sweden's 2023 EU presidency to put more political focus on ODA commitments and targets, the importance of development cooperation and public financing of sustainable development, for example in the LDC5 Summit in Doha, the Financing for Development agenda, and the Paris agreement on climate change.

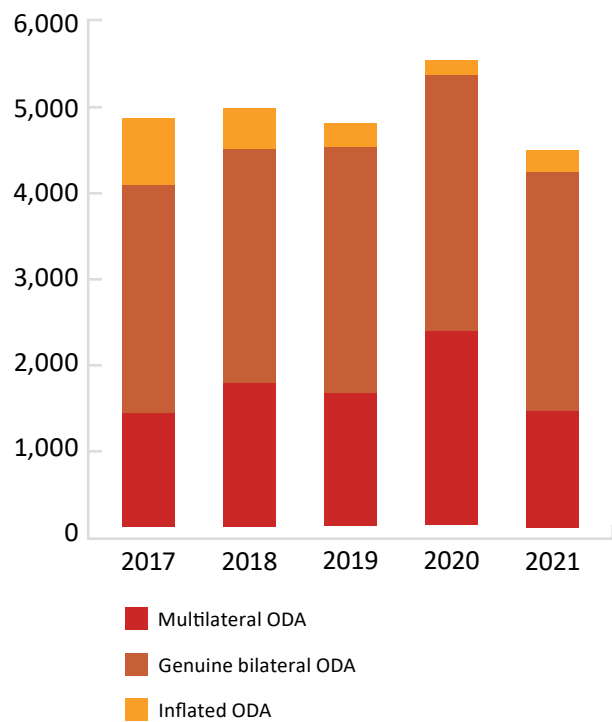
ODA TO LDCS (€ million, constant 2020)

	ODA to LDCs	%GNI	% ODA
2017	1485.4	0.3	30.4
2018	1584.8	0.3	31.7
2019	1622.7	0.3	33.5
2020	1726.8	0.4	31.0

AID MODALITY (€ million, constant 2020)

	Bilateral (gross)	Grants	Loans	Loans (% of gross bilateral)
2017	3423.5	3382.5	41.1	1.2
2018	3291.4	3233.9	57.5	1.7
2019	3299.2	3240.1	59.1	1.8
2020	3175.0	3098.8	76.2	2.4

SWEDEN – GENUINE AND INFLATED ODA (€ million, constant 2020)



ODA TO CLIMATE FINANCE (€ million, constant 2020)

	ODA for mitigation	ODA for adaptation	Total climate finance	Adaptation finance as % of climate finance	Climate finance as % of ODA
2017	221.6	283.8	505.4	56.2	10.4
2018	251.9	340.6	592.6	57.5	11.9
2019	283.5	360.8	644.3	56.0	13.3
2020	220.8	273.4	494.2	55.3	8.9

ODA TO SUPPORT GENDER EQUALITY (€ million, constant 2020)

	Bilateral allocable	Total screened	Not screened	None	Significant	Principal	Significant (% of screened)	Principal (% of screened)
2017	2498.2	2438.9	59.3	336.0	1634.8	468.2	67.0	19.2
2018	2649.8	2585.9	63.9	376.4	1690.2	519.3	65.4	20.1
2019	2837.2	2837.2	0.0	428.9	1908.4	499.8	67.3	17.6
2020	2823.3	2678.5	144.8	469.2	1769.0	440.2	66.0	16.4

ODA TO SUPPORT CSOs (€ million, constant 2020)

	Non-CSO	CSO Earmarked	CSO Core funding	Total bilateral CSO support (% bilateral)	Total bilateral CSO support (% ODA)	Core bilateral CSO support (% bilateral)	Core bilateral CSO support (% ODA)
2017	2529.5	664.5	164.8	24.7	17.0	4.9	3.4
2018	2333.5	707.6	153.5	27.0	17.2	4.8	3.1
2019	2260.1	815.4	155.4	30.0	20.0	4.8	3.2
2020	2168.9	805.9	160.1	30.8	17.3	5.1	2.9