



CROATIA

“ No overarching strategy to define policy priorities in the sector despite a new law ”

CROSOL

Main trends

Croatia has increased its ODA in 2023 to 0.2% of GNI, in comparison to 0.17% in 2022. This represents a continuation of the existing trend from the past several years of gradual increases in ODA disbursements. Croatia has also adopted new legislative framework: [The Act on International Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid](#). However, it still needs to devise a strategic policy framework with clearly defined ODA priorities. Croatia became an OECD candidate country in 2022, with the expectation of accession in 2025, which could potentially serve as an impetus to intensify its efforts in the field in preparation to becoming a full member of the OECD DAC.

Government's relationship with civil society

The new Act on International Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid adopted in February 2024 aims to enable more dynamic cooperation with development stakeholders that were not included in the implementation of the current Act, in particular CSOs and the private sector. It also specifically lists CSOs as both actors who undertake development cooperation and through whom development projects can be financed. CROSOL has been included in the multi-stakeholder committee for international development cooperation and humanitarian aid and has been invited to provide its inputs during the process of drafting the new law. However, our inputs were not included in the final version.

Reported ODA: EUR 134.2 million
0.20% GNI (↑ from 0.19% in 2022)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 124.2 million
0.19% GNI (↑ from 0.14% in 2022)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 9.9 million
7% of total



The Croatian government should:

- Step up its efforts to create a clear policy direction and priorities in the ODA sector by drafting and adopting the new National Strategy for Development Cooperation. This is urgent as three years have now passed since the expiry of previous Strategy.
- Significantly increase the share of ODA for LDCs.
- Remove the focus on ethnic Croats and Christians from its international development programming and disburse aid in partner countries without discriminating against non-Croats or non-Christians.
- Exclude in-donor refugee costs and funds for security or migration from its ODA figures.