

Czechia



Reported ODA: EUR 529 million
0.17 % GNI (↓ from -29.10% in 2023)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 373 million
0.12 % GNI (↑ from 0.01% in 2023)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 156 million
28.5 % of total

“A year in which attempts to raise the country's symbolic level of ODA over the medium term ultimately resulted in the usual stagnation, paving the way for its eventual collapse.”

FoRS - Czech forum for development cooperation

Main trends

Czechia's ODA dropped from 0.24 % in 2023, to 0.17 % of GNI in 2024, according to preliminary OECD DAC figures (still above its long-term average of 0.13%). **After subtracting the in-donor refugee spending on Ukrainian refugees, the ODA figure further decreased to 0.11 %.** The long-term weak performance with respect to the genuine level of ODA was also addressed by the OECD DAC Peer Review of Czech ODA in 2023. Despite this, the Ministry of Finance is considering severe cuts to annual bilateral ODA plans. With elections in October 2025, the future of meaningful ODA financing remains uncertain.

The capacity of the Czech authorities to focus on development cooperation and humanitarian aid is very limited and in 2024 they continued to be significantly impacted by the humanitarian and stabilisation assistance to Ukraine. Czechia succeeded in obtaining EUR 188 million for activities under the EU Ukraine Facility. The real driver here was Ministry of Finance, which seems somewhat reluctant to promote other development cooperation.

In spite of this, **there have been positive moves toward integrating the humanitarian-development nexus and Disaster Risk Reduction approaches into humanitarian action** The Czech Development Agency is also increasingly active in EU delegated cooperation.

The long-term positive aspect of Czech ODA is that it supports initiatives that promote democratic governance, the rule of law, and human rights in partner countries. This includes providing assistance for electoral processes, strengthening legal systems, and supporting civil society organisations. Development programmes increasingly focus on promoting social inclusion, with a particular emphasis on gender equality, the rights of marginalised groups, and the empowerment of women and youth.

Government's relationship with civil society

The relationship between governmental stakeholders and CSOs is generally cooperative, though it can vary based on specific issues and political contexts. The government often collaborates, or at least provides space for consultations, with CSOs in developing and implementing policies, particularly in areas where these organisations have expertise and/or act as implementers, such as social services, human rights, environmental agendas, education, humanitarian and development assistance. On the other hand, the political context remains extremely fragile and this positive relationship cannot be considered as a given also for the years to come.

Recommendations

- **Stop ODA budget cuts, particularly bilateral cuts, and focus on predictability while also providing space for flexibility** for implementers to react to the rapidly changing contexts.
- **Reflect on increasing needs in the humanitarian field** and ensure that all country strategies and development projects explicitly address poverty and/or inequality.
- **Continue to involve a wide variety of contributors, including CSOs, in development policy debates and implementation.**
- **Focus on effectiveness, good governance; human rights, including gender equality; and protection of the environment and climate.**