

Denmark

Reported ODA: EUR 2930 million
0.71 % GNI (↑ from 2.20% in 2023)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 2600 million
0.63 % GNI (↓ from -0.02% in 2023)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 330 million
11.05 % of total



“High percentage – high responsibility”

Globalt Fokus

Main trends

Denmark has an ongoing commitment to reaching the 0.7% target of GNI. In 2024, Danish ODA reached a remarkably high level, increasing by DKK 2,870.90 million (EUR 384.50 million) compared to 2023, resulting in a total of DKK 23,988.7 million (EUR 3.21 billion). **However, this is not a result of heightened ambition but due to a failure in meeting the 0.7 % target in 2022 and an unpredicted rise in GNI resulting in high regulatory compensation.**

In 2024, Danish ODA had four priorities: 1) climate diplomacy and green development cooperation; 2) Africa and equal partnerships with global south partners; 3) Ukraine and neighbour countries and; 4) irregular migration. **These express the recent trends in Danish ODA of increased focus on global climate action, linking ODA to migration, and a geographical focus on Africa and EU neighbour countries, particularly Ukraine.** In 2024 a new spending target of 35% on green initiatives and climate change was introduced, increasing from 30% in 2023.

In 2024, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lars Løkke Rasmussen, was also named Minister of Development, signalling the **increased integration of development policy and foreign affairs, trade and security policy.** This trend is also apparent in the new **Development Policy Strategy launched in June 2025.** The strategy holds onto core development priorities such as collaboration with civil society, localisation and human rights. However, it also stresses the importance of linking development cooperation to economic diplomacy and using aid to mobilise private funds, which has been facilitated by the re-launch of the Danish development finance institution as Impact Fund Denmark.

The increased integration of development policy with other policy areas, emphasis on leveraging private sector funds and allocating ODA to climate action have led to civil society calls for continued focus on allocating **ODA to poverty eradication and to LDCs**.

Government's relationship with civil society

Denmark has a strong tradition of consulting stakeholders, including civil society, in policy processes both at the political level and with relevant government officials. This is the case both now and in the past. **While there is always room for improvement, there is generally good collaboration between the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CSOs**, with the Ministry inviting civil society partners to meetings on relevant political processes and events.

An example from 2024 is the development of a Danish plan for increased cooperation with Africa. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs invited civil society to input, resulting in a policy paper with recommendations building on four round table conversations with civil society actors from Denmark and Africa and employees from the Ministry. The new development policy strategy from June 2025 includes different types of consultations such as written, roundtables and conferences with civil society and other stakeholders.

Recommendations

- Support a strong international framework for responsible loans and debt management to ensure that mobilising private funds does not contribute to worsening the current debt crisis.
- Continue to ensure that Danish ODA reaches the 0.7% target every year.
- Ensure that aid is given according to the assessment of needs in partner countries and that local partners including civil society are involved in project design and implementation.
- Ensure that aid is devoted to poverty eradication and the principle of Leaving No One Behind, and that 0.15%-0.2% of aid is allocated to the LDCs in line with the global commitment.

Explore the recent [Danish development cooperation strategy \(in Danish\)](#) for further insights.