



# IRELAND

## “Increases are not enough to keep pace with needs”

By Dóchas

### Main trends

Ireland's ODA budget must remain focused on Least Developed Countries and countries worst affected by climate change and conflict. It is crucial that Ireland's ODA is concentrated on the following four inter-related areas: addressing conflict and responding to humanitarian need; addressing hunger and building sustainable food systems (SFS); tackling the climate emergency; and reaching the furthest behind first. To achieve this, we must first and foremost fund and support civil society organisations, especially those that are locally based and/or led by women, who can deliver effective, community-led solutions and are on the frontline of response.

Ireland should fulfil its commitments to fund humanitarian and development budgets, and account for any costs incurred in responding to refugees in Ireland as additional expenditure. This will ensure that Ireland can continue to extend the hand of welcome to those seeking refuge without having a negative impact on overseas aid programmes and contributions. We strongly believe that the Irish Government must do both.

### The Irish government should:

- Make real and tangible progress to its longstanding commitment of spending 0.7% of GNI on ODA by increasing the ODA budget in 2024 by EUR 305 m.
- Urgently scale up Ireland's humanitarian funding to conflict-affected and fragile states, recognising that funding must be underpinned by policies that contribute to removing the root causes of crises.
- Show leadership through global initiatives to tackle hunger and deepen cooperation across all its departments to achieve goals on hunger and SFS.

Reported ODA: EUR 2198 million

**0.64%** GNI (↑ from 0.30% in 2021)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 1076 million

**0.31%** GNI (↑ from 0.29% in 2021)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 1122 million

**51.1%** of total



- Act on climate change on all levels, including delivering on the EUR 225 m per year of climate finance committed at a minimum, with a view to rapidly increasing this allocation in response to the real needs of low-income countries and in line with Ireland's fair share of climate finance, while also demonstrating that it is reaching people and communities in the global south who need it most.
- Ensure that, as part of Ireland's commitment to implementing the SDGs, both domestically and overseas, the SDGs are hardwired into the planning and budgetary processes across the state; this is an important political signal in itself, but one that can also allow for more effective monitoring of progress towards the goals and ensure we are truly leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first.