



Sida's support to the World Bank Group in 2024

In 2024, Sida disbursed SEK 1.7 billion to the World Bank Group (WBG). Sida's financial support is mainly directed through a number of trust funds and financial intermediary funds. These funds have a global, regional or country focus with either a specific thematic or geographical aim.



WORLD BANK GROUP

THE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WORLD BANK GROUP

The World Bank Group (WBG) is one of the world's largest sources of funding and knowledge for developing countries. Sida supports the WBG's mission and twin goals: to end extreme poverty and to promote shared prosperity on a livable planet.

Sweden's cooperation with the WBG is guided by the Government's new overarching policy, Development assistance for a new era – freedom, empowerment and sustainable growth focusing on a long-term perspective, transparency and effectiveness for Swedish development assistance to be able to better tackle multiple global challenges. The capacity of multilateral development banks, and the lever effect that they can enable, can contribute to comprehensive systemic changes and structural reforms.

Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs, contributes funds to the International Development Association (IDA), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Finance Cooperation (IFC). These contributions can be defined as 'core support' to the WBG, which finance concessional loans and grants to developing countries.

SIDA'S SUPPORT TO THE WORLD BANK GROUP

Sida's support to the WBG is channeled through trust funds (TFs) and financial intermediary funds (FIFs) promoting global public goods through e.g. addressing global challenges as well as piloting innovations that may later be brought to scale, at global, regional and country level. The trust funds should complement the World Bank's longer-term lending instruments, as well as providing grants to countries confronting crises and shocks, including in fragile, conflict-affected countries, and vulnerable regions or when natural hazards strike.

At Sida, selection of implementing partners and decisions on financial contributions are decentralized and guided by bilateral, regional or global strategies for development cooperation. These strategies are decided by the Government of Sweden. Sida's contributions to trust funds are often comingled with contributions from other donors in multi-donor trust funds or umbrella trust funds and complement funding from IDA, IBRD and IFC to WBG country programmes.

The financial support from Sida is usually flexible or unearmarked, which allows Sida, in dialogue with the WBG and its partners, to influence strategic planning of programmes under the trust funds.

Financial intermediary funds (FIFs) are different from trust funds in that these funds are hosted entities within the WBG and have their own board and governance structure. The WBG's role is to provide financial intermediary services as trustee of the FIFs. Sida's largest contributions to a FIF are to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Sida is also financing secondments of Swedish senior experts and Junior Professional Officers to the WBG providing expertise in areas of mutual priority as well as developing and strengthening the Swedish resource base.

EVOLVING THE WORLD BANK GROUP

In 2022, the WBG started an internal reform process called Evolving the WBG. The purpose is to become a "better and bigger" bank, finding ways to better address the development challenges of today, including extreme poverty and inequality, but also global challenges such as climate change, pandemics, and increased number of conflicts and violence.

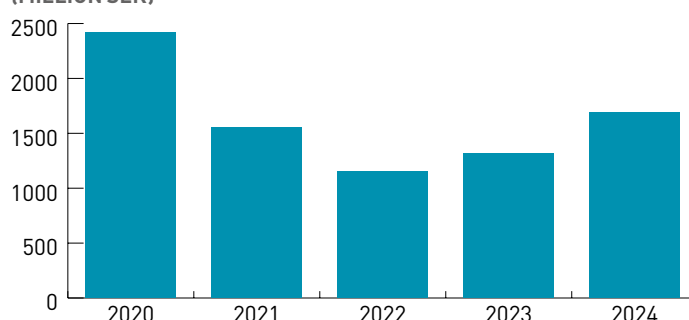
Main areas within the evolution process are (i) a new vision – to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet; (ii) sharpened operational solutions anchored in a new WBG 'playbook' with focus on country engagement and becoming a One World Bank Group; (iii) a new Knowledge Compact, placing knowledge front and center of the WBG's work; (iv) an outcome oriented Scorecard linked to the SDGs, and; (v) a new financial model to increase the WBG's financing capacity to meet development needs.

Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Finance have the overall responsibility to represent Sweden in this reform process, while Sida contributes with its expertise.

FINANCIAL OUTCOME

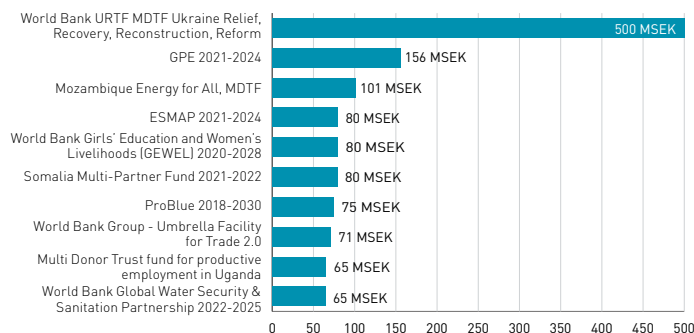
In 2024, Sida disbursed a total of SEK 1.7 billion to the WBG (Figure 1), making the WBG Sida's second largest partner.

FIGURE 1: SIDA'S ANNUAL DISBURSEMENT TO WBG 2020-2024 (MILLION SEK)



This is an increase compared to 2023 when the total disbursement was SEK 1.3 billion. The increase is mainly explained by Sida's increasing contribution to the Ukraine Relief, Recovery, Reconstruction, Reform Trust Fund. Sida's ten largest contributions to WBG trust funds and FIFs can be found in Figure 2.

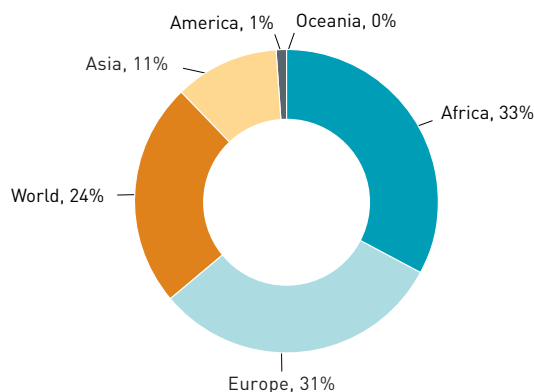
FIGURE 2: TOP 10 WBG TRUST FUNDS AND FIFs RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM SIDA IN 2024 (MILLION SEK)



GEOGRAPHICAL AND THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION

The largest shares of Sida's support are directed to WBG programmes in Africa, Europe and through global thematic programmes (Figure 3). The biggest recipient countries are Ukraine, Mozambique, Zambia and Somalia. For thematic support, the main sectors (as defined by the OECD-DAC) are reconstruction relief and rehabilitation, energy, social protection, education and agriculture, forestry and fishing.

FIGURE 3: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO THE WBG BY REGION 2024



HIGH LEVEL STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

Sida participates at the IMF/WBG Annual and Spring Meetings and contributes to high-level dialogue, bilateral meetings or events, focusing on Swedish development priorities such as environment and climate, private capital mobilization, gender equality and the WBG's efforts to work in fragile and conflict-affected contexts.

Every other year Sweden holds bilateral high-level strategic consultations with the WBG. The purpose is to strengthen Sweden's dialogue and cooperation with the WBG. The last consultations resulted in a joint recognition of the strong and strategic bilateral partnership between Sweden and the WBG.

The parties agreed on continued joint efforts to accelerate a just transition to low-carbon growth and phase out of fossil fuels through country-owned reforms and climate diplomacy.

THE WORLD BANK GROUP'S INSTITUTIONS

The WBG has 189 member countries, staff from more than 170 countries, and offices in over 130 locations.

The five institutions that form the WBG are the following:

1. International Development Association (IDA)
2. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
3. International Finance Corporation (IFC)
4. Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
5. International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

<https://www.worldbank.org/>

PROGRAMMES RECEIVING FUNDING FROM SIDA

The Human Rights Trust Fund (HRTF), operating since 2008, is a World Bank knowledge and learning initiative on human rights designed to enhance the understanding and application of human rights in WB operations and analyses. Sida is the biggest contributor to HRTF, other donors include Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, and the United Kingdom. The HRTF is a relatively small fund with an assessed large impact. It supports units and teams across the WB – at national, regional, and global level – to build their capacity in integrating human rights into operational and/or analytical work. Activities span over sectors such as infrastructure; governance; fragility, conflict, violence and forced displacement; social inclusion; research and evaluation.

The HRTF has financed analytical work on: human rights in the digital world to ensure that project design for digital infrastructure mitigates potential human rights impact ("Cybersecurity and Human Rights" World Bank 2023); anti-corruption and human rights that analysed the overlaps between these agendas; data collection aiming at understanding and addressing barriers to access to justice for LGBTI people in the Western Balkans and to enhance knowledge of the determinants and the cost of discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, [Barriers to LGBTI People Accessing Justice in Serbia | Social Analysis \(worldbank.org\)](#). The HRTF has also financed research on embedding the rights of women with disabilities in WB operations which has generated critical data on legal frameworks to inform policy engagement globally by assessing gender and disability laws and policies worldwide, [Women with Disabilities \(worldbank.org\)](#) and the [toolkit](#). The fund has also facilitated the publication [Integrating-HR-into-development-WEB.pdf \(worldbank.org.\)](#)



**HUMAN RIGHTS
INCLUSION
EMPOWERMENT**

More information about HRTF can be found at: [Human Rights, Inclusion and Empowerment \(worldbank.org\)](#)

For more information about the portfolio and Sida's cooperation with the World Bank Group, please contact: Petter Meirik petter.meirik@sida.se or Maria Liungman, maria.liungman@sida.se

