

Evaluation at Sida

Annual report 2025



Sida Studies in Evaluation 2026:01

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I. PREFACE

This report provides an overview of Sida's evaluation activities in 2025. It presents what Sida evaluates, the agency's utilization focused approach to evaluation, and the three types of evaluations used – central, decentralised and partner-led evaluations.

In the summer of 2025, the Swedish government requested Sida to strengthen the agency's work with evidence. The task included strengthening independent evaluation at Sida, and put forward the importance of studying long-term effects and impacts of Sida support. Sida was tasked to do rigorous impact evaluation, including randomised control studies. Some of the measures and actions taken by Sida's Evaluation team in response to the government request, including strengthening evidence-based contribution management and strategy implementation, are presented in this report.

Sida defines evaluation quality in terms of use and reliability. In 2025, the work to improve quality in Sida evaluations continued, through support and advice to Sida staff on evaluation matters and in dialogue with Sida's framework evaluation firms. The report features one aspect of quality improvement, which concerns the readability of evaluation reports.

Throughout the year, Sida's Evaluation team also spent time understanding the conditions for and eventual barriers to evaluation in the organisation, documenting areas of concern and needs, and consolidated learnings to strengthen the evaluation function in 2026. For example, we collated the quality and key features of all Sida-funded partner-led evaluations in 2025. The around 130 partner-led evaluations summarised in the report constitute an important source of evidence and learning for Sida.

The previously noted decline in the number of decentralised evaluations continued in 2025. The reason for this decline is unknown, but should be investigated further. All in all, 16 decentralised evaluations on Sida-funded projects and programs covering most thematic priorities were commissioned by Sida staff. The Evaluation team advised on some, but not all, of them.

Finally, Sida continued to evaluate key issues of strategic interest to Sida management and staff. A major, strategic evaluation of Sida's work with democratisation, the first of its kind, was completed and published at the end of the year. The central evaluation on Sida's work with poverty resulted in a number of case studies which studied impact of Sida support in Zambia and South Sudan. Also, a real time evaluation of the implementation of the strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine 2023-2027 was launched in September 2025. It is our hope that these evaluations may provide useful evidence for support and decision-making in Sida's contribution management and strategy implementation.

We hope you enjoy reading the breadth and depth of evaluation at Sida in this 2025 annual report.

Sundbyberg, 30 June 2026

Lena Johansson de Chateau
Chief Evaluator

II. ACRONYMS

AfDB	African Development Bank
AFR100	African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative
APHRC	African Population and Health Research Centre
CPSE	Challenging the Politics of Social Exclusion
CSO	Civil society organisation
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EBA	Swedish Expert Group for Aid Studies
GEWEL	Girls' Education and Women's Empowerment Livelihoods
GWP	Global Water Partnership
INGO	International non-governmental organisation
IPV	Intimate partner violence
ITP	International Training Program
J-PAL	Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab
MCT	Media Council of Tanzania
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
NGO	Non-governmental organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RCT	Randomised controlled trial
RECOFTC	Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific
SALAR	Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions
SRHR	Sexual and reproductive health and rights
SUNREED	Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Economic Development
SWL	Supporting Women's Livelihoods
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	The United Nations Children's Fund
UNMPTF	UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund
UN Women	The United Nations Programme for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WB	World Bank
WHO	World Health Organisation
WILPF	Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

1. WHY, WHAT AND HOW SIDA EVALUATES

Every year, Sida evaluates a selection of projects, programs, portfolios and strategies funded by the agency. Evaluations may be conducted at various moments of implementation and with different evaluation models. Evaluations hold Sida's support functions and partners to account, track progress towards goals, and build the evidence base for decision-making (Figure 1).

Sida's Evaluation team has a mandate to coordinate evaluation at Sida, including proposing and implementing Sida's central evaluation plan, commissioning and managing central evaluations, and providing advice and support to the agency on operational matters. Sida has three types of evaluation models 1) centralised, 2) decentralised and 3) partner-led evaluations¹. Decentralised and partner-led evaluations are commissioned by Sida's operational units and partners respectively to evaluate a single contribution, or a portfolio of contributions. Central evaluations are commissioned by the Sida's Evaluation team, are ambitious in scope, have larger budgets and typically take longer to complete. The central evaluations are also subject to review by the Evaluation team, has an internal steering group, and a reference group staffed by stakeholders at Sida and academic experts.

In 2025, the Evaluation team worked on six central evaluations (see appendix 1). One evaluation of Sida's approach to democratisation in different country contexts was completed and published in 2025. Two further central evaluations, one on Sida's work with poverty and one with conflict perspectives, were published in the first half of 2026. The other four central evaluations were ongoing at the time of publishing this annual report. Embassies and units at Sida published 16 decentralised evaluations with the support of the Evaluation team's advisory service. Lastly, approximately 130 partner-led evaluations were conducted and funded by Sida's contributions in 2025.

Together, these evaluations constitute lessons learned and recommendations for improving the implementation of Sida support. The OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) defines six evaluation criteria: relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability and coherence of contributions.² Typically, evaluation at Sida applies a selection of criteria according to the evaluation questions asked. In line with Sida's utilisation focused approach, the evaluations applied a user perspective and created space for reflection, discussion and learning with the intended users of the evaluation. The contents of this report either summarises, or signposts to, findings from 2025.

Sida's evaluations mainly contribute to operational objective I.7: Developed internal performance monitoring, communication and transparency. Evaluations also contribute to achieving objective I.8: Developed teamwork and learning to support the implementation of the operation.

Figure 1. How evaluations at Sida contribute to Sida's goals

1 Search for and download Centralised and Decentralised Evaluation Publications in Sida's Publication Database. Filter according to evaluation theme, time period or geographic context <https://www.sida.se/en/about-sida/publication>
2 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. (June 2026). Evaluation Criteria. <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/development-co-operation-evaluation-and-effectiveness/evaluation-criteria.html>

Case study: implementing recommendations from a central evaluation of country programme support to United Nations agencies

In 2022, Sida published findings and recommendations from a central evaluation of country programme support (CPS) to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Programme for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). The evaluation generated knowledge on CPS as a funding modality in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Bolivia, Sudan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Liberia. The evaluation found that CPS contributed to effectiveness, agility and resourcing of UN country offices. The modality improved country-level buy-in and ownership. The evaluation presented 10 recommendations for how Sida and UN agencies could improve CPS delivery. Recommendations included, for example, developing guidance for dialogue, introducing adaptive results-based management, and continually assessing CPS progress. A management response group was set up in 2023 to implement the recommendations in 2024 and 2025.

Malin Elisson, senior policy advisor at the Unit for multilateral and partner co-ordination at Sida, coordinated the management response process. The evaluation triggered Sida to take action on reforming the conditions and regulations of CPS support with UN agencies – UN Women, UNICEF and UNFPA – although adjusting to a different policy landscape.

At the end of 2023, Sida established an inter-agency working group to implement the three main recommendations that the evaluation produced – 1) Defining CPS at Sida and at UN agencies, 2) to develop guidance on strategic dialogue and 3) improving the reporting of results, supported by data. The work on agreeing on new definitions and conditions for CPS modalities with the UN completed in 2025.

“Although a lot has changed about Swedish aid and the international context for development since 2022, this evaluation helped us to prioritise key features of country programme support that Sida continues to offer. During 2025, we saw improvements in reporting, and were better able to point out the standards that embassies should expect from agencies when providing country programme support. This evaluation enabled Sida to take forward insights into strategic dialogue with UN agencies and to establish a working process for Sida CPS modalities with a clear, useful guidance for UN agency partners.”, says Malin Elisson.

When considering what Sida's Evaluation team should offer Sida in the future, Malin had some useful learnings:

- Monitor how Sida's evaluations are implemented in the long term. Evaluations should bring about positive changes. Why evaluate otherwise?
- Give Sida's thematic teams opportunities to review early drafts of the evaluation report (several versions, if necessary). If there has been a misunderstanding, it needs to be flagged and acted on!
- My ideal evaluation report would be “short and snappy”, with recommendations that are clearly supported with evidence. Move technical detail to appendices!

We welcome additional suggestions on how the Evaluation team can improve the usability and impact of evaluations at Sida! Please write to our inbox at evaluation@sida.se.

2. ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN EVIDENCE-BASED AID

Sida's evaluation function evolved during 2025, in line with the Swedish government's increased focus on evidence-based aid. Sida has taken steps to strengthen evidence-based contribution management to ensure that external evidence is sufficiently used in assessments of effectiveness and cost-efficiency. During 2025, Sida identified opportunities for improvement in this regard, to systematically apply evidence to decision making processes and to develop principles on when evidence should be an essential prerequisite for a decision. These strategies were summarised by Sida's unit for methods and results and the evaluation team in an assignment to strengthen evidence-based management in the implementation of aid (UD2025/18391).

Strengthening evidence-based aid involves an assessment of how well Sida's previous evaluation activities have delivered actionable and reliable evidence for decision making. In 2025, the Evaluation team identified challenges in terms of number, scope, focus, and impact of previous evaluations. Whereas the number of central evaluations have remained stable over the last decade, the number of decentralised evaluations has decreased during the last years. Most decentralised evaluations are process-oriented and use a theory-based format. Overall, Sida's evaluations also seem to have limited application in contribution management and strategy implementation processes. The quality of the methods and communication of findings from evaluations were at times weak and lacked measurement of long-term effects or cost-effectiveness. More rigorous methods for effect assessment were seldom used.

In line with the government's request, during 2025, Sida's Evaluation team has both commissioned and received results from central evaluations that have successfully measured the effectiveness of interventions. For example, a multi-year real time, developmental evaluation was initiated for the Strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine and is due to be completed during the first half of 2028. Other central evaluations adopted quantitative approaches based on existing survey and registry data. To enhance the quality of decentralised evaluations going forward, Sida partnered with the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), a global research centre dedicated to reducing poverty using evaluation tools grounded in development economics.

With this said, a focus of the Evaluation team going forward will be to apply approaches and use methodologies that generate reliable results on the effectiveness and impact of Sida's work. This will include revising how Sida assesses the relevance and impact of interventions targeting people in poverty and oppression. The following three key improvements are proposed ahead:

- Strengthened use of evidence in strategy management and implementation
- Strengthened the use of evidence in contribution management
- Higher ambitions adopted in monitoring of results and long-term effects

As part of the initiative to strengthen evidence-based aid, the Evaluation team will in 2026 publish an updated evaluation policy to clarify when and how evaluations should be conducted, and what support the Evaluation team can offer to colleagues and partners. This, in collaboration with the Method unit's strategy team, will involve efforts to strengthen the competency of Sida's workforce to monitor results and long-term effects of strategies. The goal is an increased use of evaluation and monitoring findings in decision making and prioritisation within the agency and at embassies. Targeted skills development will be offered to relevant teams to boost the use of evidence in day to day operations. Lastly, managers' responsibilities for quality assurance of evidence use in strategy and contribution management will be clearly defined.

3. INTRODUCING RANDOMISED CONTROLLED TRIALS AT SIDA

In 2025, Sida was tasked by the government with using more rigorous methods to measure the effectiveness of interventions. As part of this, randomised controlled trials (RCTs) were proposed to enable Sida a clear measurement of what works within aid implementation. RCTs enable researchers to control for bias by randomly assigning participants to treatment and control groups. Ethical reviews are thoroughly conducted in the preparation phase to ensure that there is not an unfair distribution of resources between the two groups.

There are advantages and disadvantages to using any evaluation method, and RCTs are no exception. A key advantage of RCTs is their ability to generate clear conclusions on intervention effectiveness. RCTs create a strong basis for generalization for the case or country that has been studied. However, results from an intervention in one country or context cannot be generalised to another country context. Using RCTs should therefore be done with caution since they cannot be expected to solve all empirical problems.

RCTs can be used to generate sound results on how participants respond to many different types of development interventions, from health care interventions to different financial instruments. Limitations to using RCTs is the comparatively large budget required to cover costs associated with randomization, primary data collection, analysis and any complementary qualitative research that may be conducted alongside. RCTs also require a high technical capacity of partners to deliver interventions to treatment groups only, without “contaminating” the control group. Moreover, the method is seldom applicable to ongoing interventions, as the intervention needs to be followed from the start and a control group established from the outset.

With these factors in mind, and with a goal to strengthen Sida’s ability to know what works, Sida will be contributing to the development evidence base by initiating RCTs on interventions that are either starting or being adapted during 2026.

At present, Sida is also co-financing two RCTs originally initiated by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID): one related to tax administration in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and one on how to prevent intimate partner violence (IPV) in Bangladesh. Both are expected to be completed before summer of 2027.

4. EVALUATION TEAM ADVISORY SERVICE

The Evaluation team at Sida provides advice and support on evaluation matters to Sida staff. During 2025, the Evaluation team received 40 requests for advisory support from units and embassies at Sida in the evaluation mailbox. The number of requests for evaluation input has continuously decreased from 131 requests in 2023 to 68 in 2024, which is in line with the decrease in the number of decentralised evaluations published in the last three years.

5. OVERVIEW OF CENTRAL EVALUATIONS AT SIDA IN 2025

All in all, Sida’s Evaluation team coordinated six central evaluations in 2025. All central evaluations were carried out by evaluation consultants commissioned by Sida. One central evaluation was completed in 2025: Sida’s approach to democratisation in different country contexts. A couple of impact case-studies related to the central evaluation of Sida’s work with poverty were also completed and published in 2025. In addition, four central evaluations were ongoing, but not completed, in 2025: evaluation of conflict sensitivity in Sida’s development and humanitarian cooperation, evaluation of the effects and viability of Sida’s

work on climate change adaptation, a real-time evaluation of development cooperation in Ukraine, and a joint Nordic evaluation on multilateral trust funds. Two of these, the evaluation of conflict sensitivity in Sida's development and humanitarian cooperation and the joint Nordic evaluation on multilateral trust funds, were completed in 2026. The following section offers a summary of the key methodological reflections and findings, final or preliminary, from central evaluations that were coordinated by Sida's Evaluation team in 2025.

5.1 Sida's approach to democratisation in different country contexts

In 2019, the Swedish government tasked Sida with reviewing and strengthening its democracy work. After an initial feasibility study carried out in 2020-2021, Sida commissioned a comprehensive evaluation of its diverse approaches to democratisation in 2023. The central evaluation of Sida's approaches to democratisation in different country contexts was published in 2025 (See report 2025:02 in appendix 1). It spans the period 2014-2023 and examines Sida's strategic and operational approaches to democratisation support. The evaluation generated lessons and proposed adaptations in the context of growing authoritarianism.

The evaluation consultants conducted five country studies in Guatemala, Liberia, Moldova, Myanmar, and Tanzania, interviewed almost 200 people, and reviewed a large number of projects, in consultation with an internal steering group and an external reference group.

The evaluation report offers important insights on how Sida has supported democratic development in different country contexts. It also provides valuable reflections on Sida's internal processes and the organisation of its democratisation support, as well as how the agency can better improve to respond to future challenges.

The evaluation highlighted Sida's multifaceted model which combined flexible funding, dialogue, relationship-building, and strategic risk-taking underpinned by long-term, trust-based partnerships and local ownership. Country portfolios often achieved notable results, particularly where support was sustained, locally anchored, and responsive to shifting political dynamics. On the other hand, entrenched power structures, shrinking civic space, and weak state ownership sometimes limited transformational results; often making gains fragile, especially in the context of democratic backsliding. The key recommendations were to strengthen internal learning systems and invest in democratisation expertise to sustain results in a rapidly shifting global landscape.

5.2 Sida's work with poverty

During 2025, the central evaluation of Sida's work with poverty (see report 2026:01k in Appendix 1), initiated in August 2023, continued and was to a large extent concluded. The evaluation examines Sida's work to improve the lives of people living in poverty – one of the agency's core objectives. The first phase focused on collecting evidence on impact through a number of case studies. The evaluation studied four contributions in Zambia and four in South Sudan, along with a broader portfolio analysis for each country.

In Zambia, three of the studies used quantitative methods to assess results. These included approaches such as propensity score matching and difference-in-difference, combining existing data with a new household survey conducted by the evaluation consultants. While common in research, such methods have rarely been applied in Sida evaluations.

These studies showed a mixed picture, as expected. Some components had visible positive impact, while others had no measurable effect or even negative ones. For example, the impact study of the Strengthened Accountability Program, a program for small-scale miners

in Zambia (See report 2025:01c in Appendix 1), found positive impact for the program's core components – such as those related to small-scale mining or the formation of groups. However, components added later – such as goat distribution, training in conservation farming, and efforts to reduce gender based violence – often showed no visible impact.

The impact studies of the programs in South Sudan were constrained by the limited availability of reliable data. To address this, the evaluators combined monitoring data with findings from international research. This approach allowed them to estimate the likely impact of the interventions, based on evidence from similar contexts. However, these estimates rely on the assumption that such findings are applicable to South Sudan and that the delivered output were of sufficient quality – an aspect for which the evaluators lacked direct evidence.

Given these caveats, the evaluators cautiously suggested that several contributions had achieved some positive impacts related to concrete service delivery, such as improvements in maternal and child health. At the same time, however, the goal to build capacity at the state level had not been achieved.

One of the South Sudan studies, the impact study of the Budi Nexus Pilot, South Sudan (See report 2025:01f in Appendix 1), highlighted the value of cross-checking information by comparing unrelated sources. When the evaluators contrasted the accounts of local stakeholders with conflict data for the same areas, the trends in local security exhibited some key differences. This discrepancy could have several explanations, and it was not possible within the scope of the evaluation to resolve all uncertainties. As a result, the findings in this case had to remain inconclusive.

Some key reflections from the poverty evaluation are:

- The importance of employing quantitative methods for evaluating complex programs with several different components. Understanding the causal mechanisms for improving communities' livelihoods was a challenging but important focus of this evaluation.
- The need for baseline data collection at the beginning of a program to facilitate a robust evaluation of changes to poverty outcomes that can be attributed to Sida's contributions over time.

5.3 Conflict sensitivity in Sida's development and humanitarian cooperation

The central evaluation of Sida's work on conflict sensitivity in Sida's development and humanitarian cooperation was carried out between February 2024 and December 2025 (See report 2026:02 in Appendix 1). The purpose of the evaluation was to examine how Sida integrates conflict sensitivity across its strategies and operations, with the purpose of strengthening awareness on how Sida's work may affect peace and conflict dynamics.

The evaluation found that conflict sensitivity is increasingly embedded in Sida's portfolio, but applied unevenly across contexts. Stronger results emerge where analysis is continuous, partner capacity is high, and adaptation is proactive. Weak monitoring systems and inconsistent feedback loops limit learning and the ability to track outcomes or anticipate risks.

The evaluation found credible but localised contributions to cohesion and reduced tensions – but no evidence of systemic peace impacts. There were also examples of recurring risks and short-term negative impacts that risked leading to different types of harm. Unequal participant selection in Iraq and Tanzania risked leading to heightened social tensions and political divisions.

5.4 Effects and viability of Sida's work on climate change adaptation

The purpose of this impact evaluation is to determine to what extent Sida's climate change adaptation aid has been 1) effective when it comes to increasing resilience to climate change, and 2) to what extent the effects have been sustainable. It covers the period 2015-2024 and encompasses an overall portfolio study combined with five in-depth country case studies of countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America. The evaluation is expected to be concluded in March 2027.

5.5 Development cooperation in Ukraine

In 2023, the government of Sweden adopted a Strategy for Sweden's reconstruction and reform cooperation with Ukraine 2023 – 2027. It is Sweden's largest bilateral aid strategy ever, encompassing SEK 9 billion in total from 13 July 2023 to 31 December 2027, of which SEK 8.02 billion is channelled through Sida. It covers five support areas: 1) reconstruction, 2) green transition and sustainable development, 3) inclusive economic development, enterprise and trade, 4) security and stabilisation, and 5) human rights, democracy, the rule of law and gender equality.

The complexity and the rapidly changing and volatile context in Ukraine, as well as the increased Swedish focus on and magnitude of support to Ukraine brought forward a need to follow-up and analyse the implementation of the strategy. For these reasons, Sida launched an ongoing developmental/real-time evaluation in September 2025 of its implementation of the strategy.

The evaluation is carried out by a team of evaluation consultants. The evaluation covers issues related to relevance, coherence, effectiveness and a series of cross-cutting issues including gender equality. The intended use of the evaluation is to provide continuous knowledge and lessons learned in the implementation of the bilateral strategy to help Sida carry out continuous adjustments of its strategy implementation as appropriate. The evaluation will be finalized in April 2028.

5.6 Multilateral trust funds

Together with the Expert Group for Development Assistance Analysis (EBA) and the other Nordic countries' evaluation functions, Sida conducted a joint evaluation of the Nordic countries' contributions to multilateral trust funds. The evaluation was coordinated by Denmark and focuses on donor coordination and results/outcomes of Nordic countries' support.

The evaluation examines the Nordic countries' support to UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund (UNMPTF), the World Bank (WB), and the African Development Bank (AfDB). The evaluation combines a portfolio analysis for the period 2004 – 2023, with a focus on the period 2013 – 2023. It examines the Nordic countries' motives for supporting trust funds, how Nordic donors have collaborated, and whether the cooperation has been successful from the Nordic countries' point of view. The evaluation focuses on the following: 1) trends and relevance of the support; 2) the reasons for initiating, continuing and ending support for funds; 3) the impact of the assistance on the priorities and management of the funds; 4) the effectiveness of the support; 5) the cost-effectiveness of the support; and 6) the lessons learned by the Nordic countries. In addition to data collection through interviews, electronic surveys, previous evaluations and document analysis, case studies in Somalia, Kenya, and Tanzania are included.

The overall conclusion is that support to multilateral trust funds is an effective way to support the multilateral system and to promote the implementation of the Nordic countries' norms, values and policy priorities. This applies in particular to areas such as equality, human rights, environment and climate, as well as promoting global public goods. The evaluation will be published jointly by Sida and EBA in September 2026.

6. OVERVIEW OF DECENTRALISED EVALUATIONS AT SIDA IN 2025

Decentralised evaluations are commissioned by operational units or embassies and are typically process-oriented. The objective is mostly to generate evidence on what activities a contribution delivered, what worked well, and what Sida can do to improve future contributions. The evaluation results meet learning needs and are used as inputs for a strategy process or for accountability processes. 16 decentralised evaluations were published in 2025. All evaluations applied the OECD criteria for considering the relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of specific contributions. However, different criteria were used depending on the context, data available as well as input from partners. In this section we present a summary of the published evaluations, what they achieved, and how they differed to previous years.

Most evaluations published in 2025 were conducted towards the end or after contribution period (ex-post evaluation). Fewer evaluations were conducted at mid-term (6/16). Two evaluations reviewed ongoing activities at Sida, including a collaboration with UN Women Ukraine and support to the professionalisation of midwives and midwifery in Bangladesh.

The number of decentralised evaluations published in 2025 were lower than average over the period 2019-2025 (figure 2), the reason for which is unknown at present. A potential cause is that there was a reprioritisation at Sida's operational teams away from evaluation towards other forms of evidence generation and learning, including helpdesk initiatives or other types of analytics. Another is that there has been an overload in Sida's operations during this time.

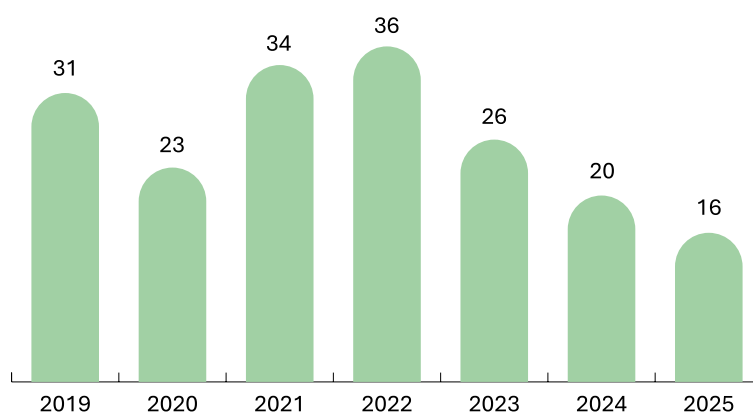


Figure 2. Number of decentralised evaluations published 2019-2025

Evaluations could be broadly summarised under the following thematic priorities 1) Environment and climate, 2) Democracy and human rights, 3) Health, 4) Women and girls’ freedom and autonomy and 5) Education and research (figure 3). Notably, Sida’s decentralised evaluations in 2025 did not target contributions to poverty alleviation or migration. Economic development was explored as part of evaluations covering environment and climate, as explained below.

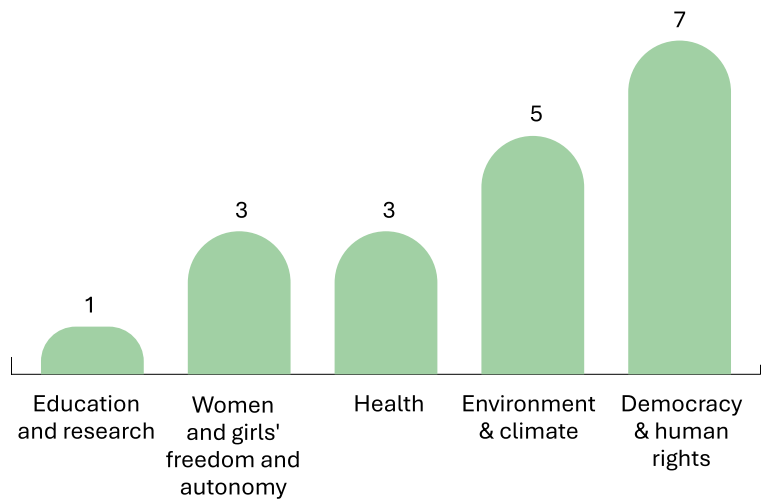


Figure 3. Thematic priorities of evaluations published in 2025
(Several evaluations included more than one thematic priority)

Sida’s evaluations assessed contributions in a range of geographic areas, including Africa (Tanzania, Somalia), Asia (Bangladesh), Europe (Ukraine and Kosovo), Latin America (Colombia) and the Middle East (Afghanistan). Some evaluations covered several geographic contexts through a review of multilateral support or international networks, while others focused on a contribution to one specific country setting (figure 4).

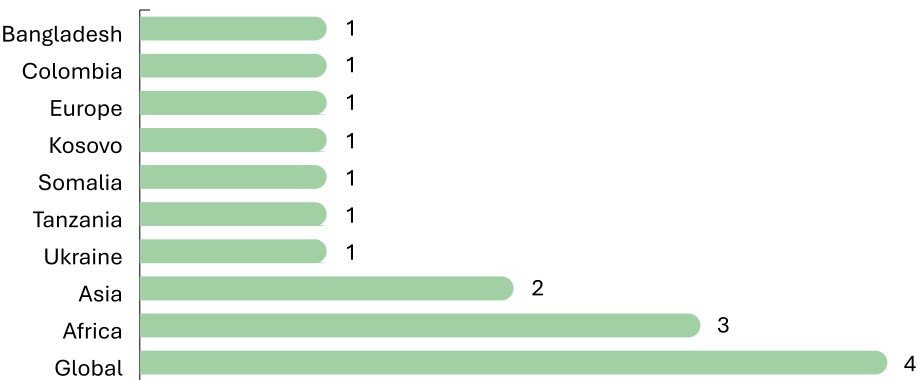


Figure 4. Number of decentralised evaluations published per geographic area (region and country) published in 2025

Evaluations covered a range of intervention sectors, with the most common being Democracy and human rights, Health, Agriculture and forestry, and Conflict, peace and security. Sida also evaluated research institutes, climate change resilience partners and organisations for the promotion of youth political participation.

Implementing organisations involved with Sida's decentralised evaluations in 2025 included several non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and civil society organisation (CSO) partners. NGO examples included the Media Council of Tanzania and multilateral organisations, such as UN Women. Evaluations also reviewed collaborative efforts between partners, such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), universities and government agencies.

Evaluation methods employed in 2025 varied. Most evaluations were process-oriented and employed a mixed methods approach using document reviews, key informant interviews and focus group discussions. Several used a realist-informed enquiry, stories of change or outcome harvesting as an analytical tool for generating insights.

The following section summarises overall learning from decentralised evaluations according to Sida's thematic areas. Many evaluations had two or more thematic priorities, so links are highlighted between thematic areas throughout. Lastly, this section presents the methods, evaluation priorities and evaluation-based recommendations produced by evaluations from 2025. Gaps in thematic coverage of Sida's evaluations were also identified.

6.1 Environment and climate

Five (5/16) evaluations that reviewed Sida's environment and climate contributions were published in 2025. One evaluation reviewed Sida's helpdesk for environment and climate, but was not included in this count as it was focused on the effectiveness and use of Sida's internal technical processes. Together these evaluations represent 31% of all decentralised evaluations, representing an increase from previous years where it stood at around 22% for 2020 and only 10% in 2022. There is a large geographic spread in the evaluations of environment and climate, one had a global focus, and one focused on Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe respectively.

Evaluations reported success in motivating bottom-up initiatives for sustainable resource management, but they raised questions regarding the sustainability of initiatives after their completion. A common thread in these evaluations was that sustainability was strongest where the project aligned with national and regional priorities, and where local and national stakeholders were deeply involved. Environmental and climate contributions were most effective when they worked along the entire chain and across sectors and less so when broad involvement was lacking. Where political and financial will was low, or the project did not manage to create regional or stakeholder cooperation, there was evidence that the contributions were not achieving the intended results (see report 2025:08 in Appendix 2). It also indicates that there is a need to ground environmental contributions in local evidence. This is supported by evaluation findings published by the Swedish Expert Group for Aid Studies (EBA), which found that strengthening capacity of communities to innovate "...in culturally appropriate ways requires a strong local focus supported and enabled by multiple layers of governance".³

The evaluations that were carried out mainly focused on resilience and adaptation to climate change. The sustainable management of natural resources was also a large focus,

³ Colvin, J., Mukute, M., Habib, M. A., Burt, J., Kugele, M. & Wilson, J. (2020), Evaluation of the Swedish Climate Change Initiative, 2009 - 2012, EBA Rapport 2020:02, Expertgruppen för biståndsanalys. <https://eba.se/app/uploads/2020/04/Evaluation-of-the-Swedish-Climate-Change-Initiative-2009-2012-2.pdf>

with sustainable forestry taking centre stage (see reports 2025:08; 2025:09 in Appendix 2). Many combined environmental goals with rural economic development, linking climate contributions to Sida's thematic area of poverty reduction through job creation, trade and education. For instance, sustainable forestry was evaluated in connection with the management of natural resources for rural economies (Ibid.), and the sustainable management of water resources was connected to the need to protect it for agricultural benefits and to combat land degradation to protect rural communities (see report 2025:13 in Appendix 2). Though categorised as an environment and climate contribution, these evaluations heavily focused on rural economic development through sustainable resource use, rather than environmental protection itself being an end-goal.

6.2 Democracy and human rights

Four (4/16) decentralised evaluations were concluded on democracy and human rights in 2025. The number is low considering that this is Sida's largest thematic priority/area with a large number of contributions, and that there is a general lack of applicable evidence to base decisions on. The evaluated programmes were relatively similar in their goals to promote democratisation through information, contacts and advocacy. The four evaluations were also methodologically similar, relying on interviews and focus groups with partners, other organisations and beneficiaries. Information from partners' own systems were often used for the analysis. Data was seldom analysed systematically, even when it was available. The exceptions were reports 2025:12 and 2025:14 (see Appendix 2) which included some basic quantitative analysis.

All evaluations of democratisation programs presented uniformly positive results. This is surprising given how difficult it is to influence the public agenda and that the context for support for democratisation has deteriorated in recent years. This is the case even when they have attempted challenging actions (such as lobbying and advocacy) in difficult or adverse contexts, for example Tanzania (see report 2025:03 in Appendix 2). The recommendations were also similar. All four of the evaluations recommended improvements to the programme's definition of results, follow-up systems, and theories of change. Indeed, the prevalence of such recommendations has been noted in previous annual reports.⁴ It is possible that evaluation consultants' use of methods has informed these recommendations. Many pay close attention to programme theory and similar issues. Others suggested improving communication, documentation of achievements, and clarifying future strategic decisions and avenues for change.

One of the evaluations suggested using scale-backs and down-sizing as "an opportunity for strategic consolidation, institutional strengthening, and smarter use of limited resources" (see report 2025:12, p. 66 in Appendix 2). In the current situation, when a large number of programmes face dramatic cuts, such suggestions and their eventual implementation would be interesting to follow further.

6.3 Health

Three (3/16) evaluations reviewed Sida's contributions to health and health care systems in 2025. Two evaluations had a specific focus on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The third focused on building capacity in the public health sector in disease surveillance and data management in fragile settings. All three interventions had common findings across evaluations covering health care contributions. For example, an evaluation of evi-

⁴ Sida. (2025:01). Annual Report 2023–2024. Sida Studies in Evaluation. https://cdn.sida.se/app/uploads/2025/12/27155524/62823_STUD2025_1_-_Annual_report_2023-2024_Evaluation_at_Sida_webb-1.pdf

dence-based policy engagement on SRHR issues in Africa highlighted the need for stronger partnerships, platforms for engaging decision-makers and improved MEL systems, among other recommendations (see report 2025:10 in Appendix 2). An evaluation of health system strengthening in Somalia similarly found that improved coordination among partners was required, and suggested integrating the private sector actors into future interventions (see report 2025:06 in Appendix 2). Lastly, a narrative review of Sweden's support to the midwifery profession in Bangladesh also identified strong partnerships and national leadership as an important factor to building capacity and influencing maternal health policies (see report 2025:05 in Appendix 2).

6.4 Women's and girls' freedom and autonomy

Three evaluations included an analysis of Sida's contributions to gender equality in 2025 as a primary or secondary focus. An evaluation of "Transformative Approaching to Achieving Gender Equality in Ukraine" (see report 2025:01 in Appendix 2) employed this theme as the primary focus in the context of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. This UN Women program from 2022 to 2026 was evaluated with the aim to provide recommendations for better decision making on types of support, cooperation design and strengthening of transformative work in Ukraine. The report presented recommendations on 1) UN Women's strategic cooperation, 2) Coordination of UN Women, and 3) Sida funded UN Women projects. Examples of recommendations involved broadening communications with other donors by convening steering meetings, analysing the effectiveness of engagement in working groups, and for UN women Ukraine to define their level of ambition with an improved theory of change.

The evaluation of Sida's support to the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) (see report 2025:11 in Appendix 2) included gender equality as a complementary focus alongside 1) democracy and human rights and 2) peaceful societies. This evaluation found that Sida's core support had enabled WILPF to develop organisational policies, a feminist monitoring and evaluation system and to invest in communications. Evaluators listed recommendations for both WILPF and Sida's allocation of funding to maintain efforts with a strong regional approach and with networks of volunteers and youth activists.

6.5 Education and research

Sida's International Training Programs (ITPs) employed for capacity development were evaluated in 2025 (see report 2025:04 in Appendix 2). The evaluation sought to inform decisions on improvements to Sida's portfolio of ITPs and general approach to institutional change. Evaluators found that ITPs encouraged gender-balanced participation, that they used problem-driven iterative adaptation and that most encouraged multi-stakeholder engagement. Some weaknesses were identified in the ability for participants to transfer knowledge and skills to their wider organisations and in the cross-cutting perspectives.

The evaluators developed recommendations for both ITP partners and for Sida, including 1) placing a greater focus on organisations rather than individual participants and 2) creating a stronger hand-over process between cohorts of participants to ensure continuity and knowledge transfer. It was recommended that Sida both develops a theory of change for ITPs and accompanying global indicators, and considers both technical competence and program management capacity when selecting ITP partners.

7. READABILITY OF EVALUATION REPORTS

For an evaluation to be used, the report needs to be accessible and easy to understand. This is especially important for the report's executive summary, as it is this part of the report that most people read. The question then becomes: How well written are the executive summaries of Sida's evaluation reports? A quick glance at past evaluation reports suggests that it varies. Some summaries are clear and easy to follow, while others are quite difficult to read.

To get to the bottom of this, in 2025, Sida's Evaluation team read all executive summaries from evaluations carried out by our framework providers, Niras and Cowater, between 2022 and 2024, and assessed their quality. The method was simple: Reviewers were asked to spend no more than 15 minutes on each summary and then grade how much they understood on a five-point scale. Most summaries were read by more than one reviewer. For evaluation reports published in 2022–2023, reviewers generally agreed, while there was more disagreement for some of the later reports.

Summaries that received one of the two highest grades ("I understood everything" or "I understood most of it, but a couple of sentences were unclear") were considered satisfactory. Those that received any of the three lower grades, indicating that a significant part of the text was hard to understand, were considered unsatisfactory.

Among the evaluation reports published during 2022–2023, about 30% of the executive summaries were graded as unsatisfactory. These results were shared with the framework providers, together with examples of both strong and weak summaries. As a response to this the providers took several measures to improve the language.

Among the reports published in 2024 our assessment is less precise, as different reviewers sometimes gave different grades to the same summary. This makes it difficult to say unambiguously whether the measures taken so far have improved the language.

However, even if we look only at the highest grade each evaluation report received, about 15% of the summaries still fall into the unsatisfactory category for these newer reports. This suggests that there is still, at the very least, room for improvements.

The grading approach can be criticized for being somewhat too subjective, something the diverging grades for 2024 reflects. On the other hand, we would argue that in the cases where even the most positive reader had difficulties in understanding the text there is indeed room for improvement. The improvements initiated by the framework providers will continue, and hopefully we can see positive results in the near future.

8. OVERVIEW OF PARTNER-LED EVALUATIONS

Most evaluations of Sida-funded projects and programmes are managed by Sida's partners. The agency's involvement in partner-led evaluations vary. Sida staff may co-develop the terms of reference for the evaluation and/or approve draft reports, for instance. While Sida's central Evaluation team offers help to programme officers in such discussions, it does not take any responsibility for these evaluations and historically has not assessed the quality or contents of partner-led evaluations. Similarly, there are currently neither instructions on how such evaluations should be performed, nor any system for collecting the published reports.⁵

As part of its response to the government's evidence assignment, Sida's Evaluation team collected 134 partner-led evaluations that took place during 2025. However, this was likely to be an underestimation, as some partner-led evaluations performed during the year may

⁵ In 2020, Sida commissioned a consultancy review of a sample (14) of partner-led evaluations. In order to estimate the universe of reports, the consultants were forced to employ a similar strategy of approaching each unit directly. (See Sida. (2020:02). Meta-study of Partner-led Evaluations 2019: Final Report. <https://cdn.sida.se/publications/files/sida62323en-meta-study-of-partner-led-evaluations-2019.pdf>)

not have been submitted to the Evaluation team. There is a possibility that operational units were unwilling to share negative assessments, which could have introduced a positive bias in the material. However, we can assume that such effects are limited, not least because the number of evaluations collected from 2025 by far exceeded previous estimations of the numbers published annually.⁶

8.1 Coverage

Partner-led evaluations are a potentially useful tool for the follow-up of Sida's contributions. However, evaluation numbers vary significantly between units, possibly reflecting an absence of instructions on when and how instruments should be employed. While many units have not reported any partner-led evaluations for 2025, others had several. Liberia stands out with 15 partner-led evaluations, followed by Bosnia and Herzegovina with eight, Global Climate with seven, and Bangladesh, DRC and Global Social with six studies each.

On the other hand, most partner-led evaluations in 2025 were managed by international actors, either multilateral ones, international NGOs, or Swedish NGOs. Local NGOs account for only 14 of the 134 evaluations received in 2025. Only one partner-led evaluation was performed by a bilateral counterpart. This distribution corresponded relatively well with the relative financial weight of each partner category in Sida's overall portfolio, as can be seen below in table 1. What differences there were may be explained by systematic differences in financial size relative to each partner category, e.g. that the projects undertaken by local NGOs are likely to be smaller than those with Swedish NGOs.

Table 1. Number of evaluations conducted by sector and % of total disbursements 2025

Partner category	Number of partner-led evaluations 2025 (% of total)	% of Sida's total disbursements 2025
Multilateral organisations	39 (31.5)	42.3
Partner government	1 (0.8)	0.4
International NGOs	47 (37.9)	21.4
Swedish NGOs	14 (11.3)	19.2
Swedish government agencies	4 (3.2)	3.4
Local NGOs	14 (11.3)	4.5

Sida had 1446 active contributions (with a financial disbursement) in 2025, meaning that approximately 9% of these were subject to evaluation. A rough calculation based on the average number of contributions per year would suggest that around a third of Sida's contributions are subject to independent evaluation during implementation. There are relatively clear differences in the number of evaluations and methodologies used by sector, as shown in Table 2 on next page.

⁶ For 2019, consultants estimated a total of 75 partner-led evaluations (Ibid.).

Table 2. Type of evaluation methodology by sector 2025

Sector	Number of evaluations	% qualitative-only methods
Humanitarian	5	60
Democracy, human rights, gender quality	53	79
Governance	5	100
Inclusive economic growth (including agriculture)	29	66
Infrastructure	6	67
Environment and climate	7	71
Health/SRHR	5	80
Education, other social	2	100
Multisector	11	73

8.2 Methods applied in evaluation

Of the 134 evaluations made, more than half were final evaluations and somewhat over a third were mid-term reviews or evaluations. Other evaluations – a category that includes impact studies and institutional evaluations for instance – amounted to around 10% of the total.

There was a strong tendency to employ qualitative evaluation methods. Only one evaluation drew exclusively on quantitative methods.⁷ Conversely, 92 employ qualitative methods, primarily in the form of so-called “key informant interviews” or focus group discussions. 31 evaluations employ a mixture of quantitative and qualitative techniques.

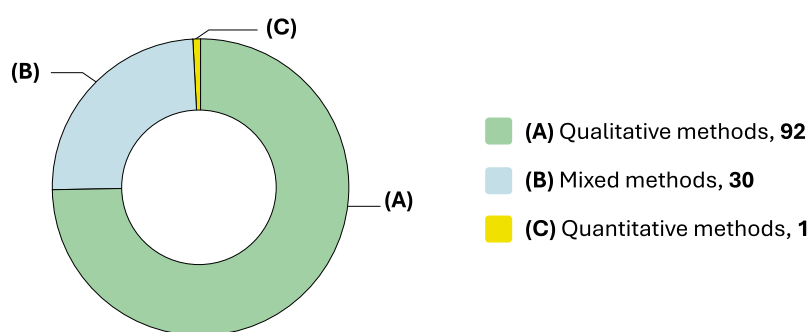


Figure 5. Methods employed in partner-led evaluations 2025

Table 2 above shows that methods employed do not vary significantly by sector. Mixed methods are most commonly used in the humanitarian field, the total number of evaluations in the sector is small (n=5). In comparison, it seems more certain to say that evaluations in the area of democracy/human rights/gender equality (n=53) have a tendency towards the exclusive use of qualitative techniques (only 21% use mixed methods), but even there the differences to most other sectors are small.

Overall, it must be noted that the partner-led evaluations vary considerably in terms of approach and validity of their enquiry (much like central and decentralised evaluations).

⁷ Girls' Education and Women's Empowerment Livelihoods (GEWEL). (2025). Supporting Women's Livelihoods (SWL) Initiative: Impact Evaluation Findings. The World Bank Group. <https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/a1e81e17109a11d8c895988f83cb6e3d-0140022025/related/What-Works-Evidence-for-Scaling-up-with-Impact-Zambia.pdf>

While a considerable amount of them are less than ambitious in terms of material and methods, the category also includes several studies with a methodological execution that bypasses the quality of many of Sida's decentralised and central evaluations.

8.3 Who evaluates?

Close to half (57) of the partner-led evaluations were conducted exclusively by international consultants, while national consultants conducted 40 evaluations. Nine were self-evaluations.

Swedish consultants performed only seven of the partner-led evaluations. Similarly, consultancy firms participating in Sida's framework agreement for evaluations featured in only three of them (one each for Niras, Tana and Cowater). Conversely, international consultants drawn from neighbouring countries carried out nine of the evaluations.

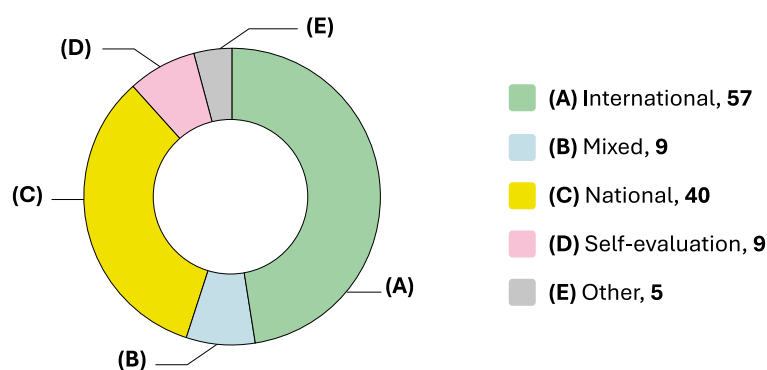


Figure 6. Types of consultants 2025

These differences are to a certain extent driven by the type of the partner responsible for conducting the evaluation, as shown below in table 3. There is a clear tendency for local NGOs, and – to a lesser extent – Swedish NGOs, to employ national consultants.

Table 3. Type of partners conducting evaluations

Partner	International	Mixed	National	Self
Intergovernmental	20 (56 %)	6 (17 %)	6 (17 %)	4 (11 %)
INGO	21 (48 %)	1 (2 %)	18 (41 %)	4 (9 %)
Swedish NGO	6 (43 %)	-	7 (50 %)	1 (7 %)
Local NGO	5 (38 %)	-	8 (62 %)	-
Swedish authority	3 (100 %)	-	-	-

8.4 Findings

Just as is the case in central and decentralised evaluations, there was a strong tendency towards positive findings in partner-led evaluations, as can be seen in figure 7 below. None of the evaluations were critical and only one report presented critical comments. Most findings (86 %) are mainly or solely positive.

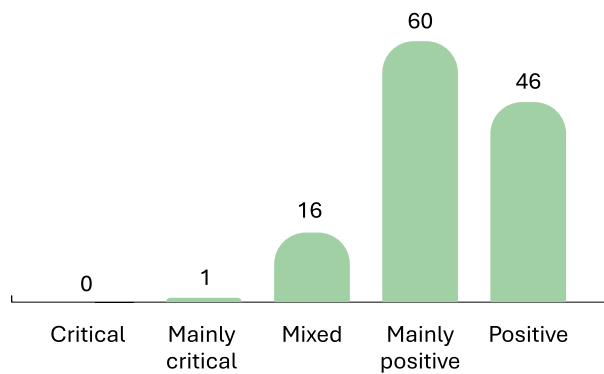


Figure 7. Type of evaluation findings reported in partner-led evaluations 2025

There can be different explanations for this variation. It could be taken as evidence of successful identification of partners and projects, in which case it would be assumed that the above distribution truthfully reflects the quality of Sida’s contributions. Support for such an interpretation could, for instance, be found in appreciative peer reviews of Sida’s work. Another possible explanation would be that Sida and its partners select only highly effective contributions for evaluation, either intentionally or unintentionally (for instance, by prematurely closing unsuccessful contributions).

It could be argued that the prevalent methods in development evaluation create this tendency. As is evident from their names, methods such as “appreciative enquiry”, “outcome harvesting” or “most significant change” may lean towards a strong positive bias by actively trying to identify successes and positive results. Sometimes, this tendency is compounded by evaluators who take a less than critical approach towards the subject at hand, as is sometimes openly acknowledged. In one evaluation published by WILPF the evaluators note, in relation to the evaluated object’s method of work, that “we acknowledge our positive bias toward this approach and the values underpinning it.”⁸

Employing methods that introduce a positive bias to evaluations is not limited to partner-led evaluations. The same methods dominate central and decentralised evaluations, which – as has been noted above – are also largely positive in their valuations.

At the same time, it bears noting that juxtaposition of the evaluation findings with methods only reveals a very slight tendency towards qualitative methods driving more positive findings. Of the evaluations resulting in findings rated as less than “mainly positive” (< 4 on the above scale), 25 per cent used techniques other than purely qualitative ones. This is above the mean for the total population, but could hardly be seen as statistically significant given the small numbers involved.

In conclusion, Sida’s Evaluation team believes that the relationship between methods and the positive leaning of results needs to be further explored. As seen above, the categories employed during the present examination are rather crude. A more fine-grained analysis that considers the overall approach of the evaluation could possibly reveal more.

9. LOOKING FORWARD TO 2026

Understanding Sida's need for evaluation support is a priority for 2026. To achieve this, the Evaluation team invited operational units to respond to a survey to “take the pulse” of Sida's evaluation culture. We received responses on the barriers to conducting and implementing the recommendations from evaluations, as well as actionable feedback on how we can better support implementation and use of evaluations conducted by Sida's embassies and partners. In this section, we present a summary of the key findings. A more detailed report will be published later in 2026.

Profile of survey respondents

Almost half of all individuals working in operational units at Sida responded to the survey after 3.5 weeks, showing strong participation in the survey across Sida. Most respondents have been at Sida for four or more years (82%). Many responses were received from colleagues on missions abroad (38%) and the department for global operations (27%). See figure 8 below for the response from all departments.

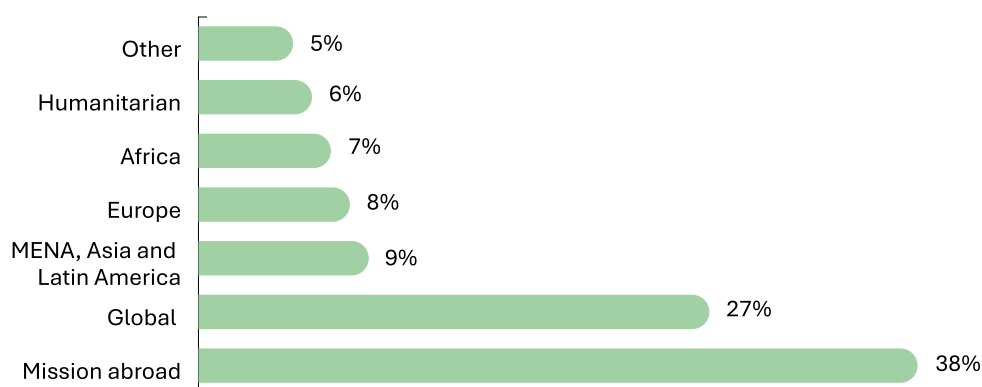


Figure 8. Respondent department

Evaluation knowledge

When it came to knowledge on evaluation, most respondents stated that they were able to understand and explain a theory of change to a “considerable extent” (45%) or “fully” (43%). Most felt fully competent with explaining the difference between terms like “activity” and “output” (62%). However, many respondents had not received guidance or information on how, when and at what cost Sida should evaluate a contribution, portfolio or programme (63%) and some were unaware on where to find guidance on evaluation at Sida using the intranet (42%). Out of those who had used Sida's guidance for evaluation, some felt that it was not useful or had limited use (28%), while most felt that they were useful to a considerable extent (72%).

Access to evaluations reports

All centralised and decentralised evaluations are published in [Sida's publication database](#). However, less than half of the responses to the survey knew where to find Sida's evaluation reports (see figure 9 below). Unsurprisingly, many were unaware of where to find partner-led evaluation reports because they are not routinely collected centrally and not published by Sida. Rather, they are typically shared only with the relevant operational unit at Sida.

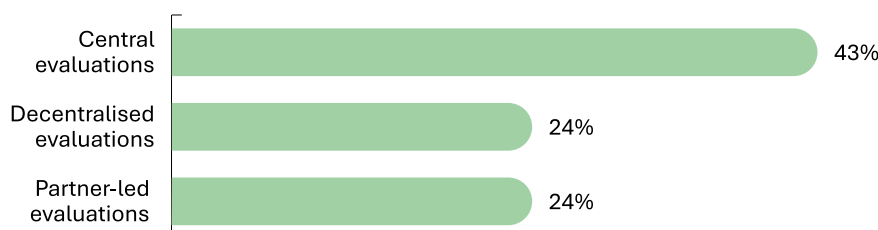


Figure 9. % of respondents that know where to find different evaluation reports

Operational units feedback on decentralised evaluations showed that most agreed that they were easy to understand. Yet, a high number of respondents had either not read a report, felt that they were too long, included trivial conclusions, or are too narrow as shown in figure 10 below.

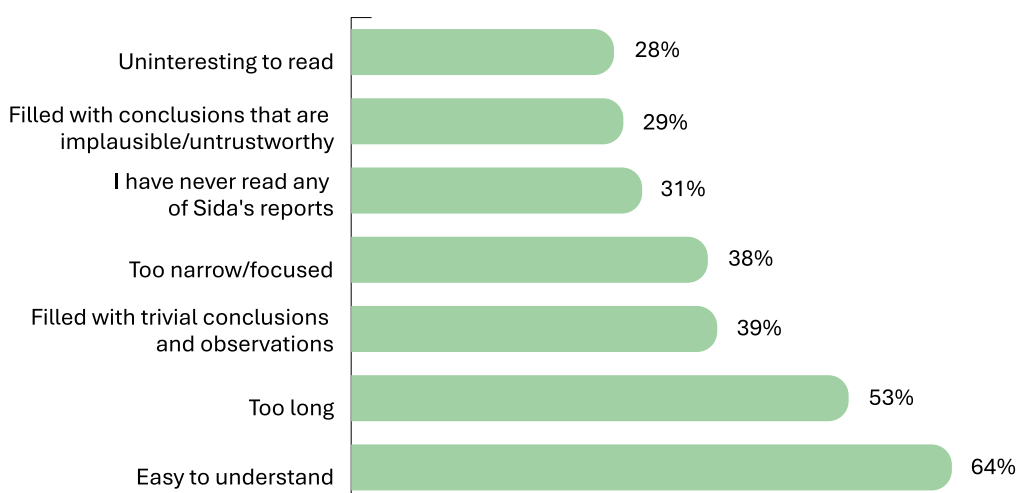


Figure 10. Opinions on Sida's decentralised evaluation reports

Overall, responses showed that many felt it was useful and important to carry out evaluations during or after a contribution, portfolio or programme: 59% of respondents agreed with this. However, fewer responses felt it was useful to consult an evaluation report when planning or implementing a contribution, portfolio or programme: 42% agreed with this. These findings highlight that the process of carrying out the evaluation may be seen as more useful than the findings and recommendations contained in the report.

The Evaluation team continue to develop resources and guidance to support operational teams with strong and robust evaluation methods during 2026. To action the feedback received from this survey, evaluation reports will be published in shorter and more accessible formats. Evaluators will also make efforts to apply findings to Sida's strategic goals.

10. REFERENCE LIST

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11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1a: Sida's central evaluations published in 2025 or in the first half of 2026

Sida Studies in Evaluation	Evaluation Title	Geography (region or country)	Thematic priority
2025: 01a	Impact study of Musika, a Zambian rural project	Zambia	Economic development; Poverty
2025:01b	Impact study of Beyond the Grid for Zambia	Zambia	Economic development; Poverty; Environment and Climate
2025:01c	Impact study of United Nations Joint Program on Social Protection in Zambia	Zambia	Economic development; Poverty
2025:01f	Impact study Health Pooled Fund, South Sudan	South Sudan	Health
2025:02	Central Evaluation of Sida's Approaches to Democratization in Different Country Contexts	Global	Democracy and human rights; peaceful societies; Gender equality
2026:01k	Final Report from the Central Evaluation of Sida's work with Poverty	Global	Poverty, Health, Equality
2026:02	Central Evaluation of Conflict Sensitivity in Sida's Development and Humanitarian Cooperation	Global	Democracy and human rights, economic development, peaceful societies, Humanitarian aid, equality and Environment and Climate

Appendix 1b: Sida's central evaluations that were ongoing in 2025 and will be published in 2026-2028

Evaluation Title	Region (region or country)
Evaluation of the effects and viability of Sida's work on climate change adaptation	Global
Joint Nordic evaluation of contributions to trust funds	Global
Evaluation of development cooperation with Ukraine	Ukraine

Appendix 2: Decentralised evaluations published in 2025

Sida Studies in Evaluation	Evaluation Title	Geography (region or country)	Type of evaluation / document	Thematic priority
2025:01	Evaluation of UN Women Ukraine	Ukraine	Midterm	Gender equality
2025:02	Evaluation of the Swedish Development Cooperation Strategy, Colombia 2021-2025	Colombia	Endterm	Democracy and human rights, Gender equality; Climate and environment
2025:03	End Term evaluation of the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) program support 2018-2024	Tanzania	Endterm	Democracy and human rights
2025:04	Evaluation of Sida's International Training Programs (ITP) as Instruments for Supporting Effective and Inclusive Institutions	Global	Midterm	Education and research, Democracy and human rights, Health
2025:05	Report on Swedish support to the professionalisation of midwives and midwifery in Bangladesh	Bangladesh	N/A	Health
2025:06	Evaluation of Sweden's support to health systems in Somalia through PHAS, SPIDER and WHO	Somalia	Endline	Health
2025:07	Evaluation of Sida's Helpdesk for Environment and Climate Change 2022-2025	Global	N/A	Climate and environment
2025:08	Evaluation of the Impact of the Regional Community Forestry Training Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC) Implementation in the Asia-Pacific Region	Asia	Endline	Climate and environment
2025:09	Mid-Term Evaluation of the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) - Phase I	Africa	Midterm	Climate and environment
2025:10	Evaluation of the APHRC-funded project "Challenging the Politics of Social Exclusion" (CPSE)	Africa	Endline	Health
2025:11	Evaluation of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) core support during 2022-2025	Afghanistan, Colombia, Ukraine	Endline	Democracy and human rights; Peaceful societies; Gender equality
2025:12	Midterm Performance Evaluation of the Programme Participatory Action against Corruption: Towards Transparency and Accountability	Asia	Midterm	Democracy and human rights; Peaceful societies
2025:13a	Vol I - III - Evaluation of the Implementation of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Strategy 2020-2025	Global	Endline	Climate and environment

Sida Studies in Evaluation	Evaluation Title	Geography (region or country)	Type of evaluation / document	Thematic priority
2025:14	End-of-Term Evaluation of Afrobarometer’s regional programme 2023-2025	Africa	Endline	Democracy and human rights
202 5:15	Evaluation of “Expanding Space for Youth’s Political Participation” – GoFor	Europe	Midterm	Democracy and human rights
2025:16	Mid-term Review of Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Economic Development (SUNREED)	Kosovo	Midterm	Climate and environment

Evaluation at Sida

Annual Report 2025

This annual report provides an overview of what and how Sida evaluates. The report summarises the evaluation year 2025 at Sida with regard to the three main types of evaluations – central, decentralised and partner-led evaluations. A number of central evaluations concluded in 2025, which provided evidence for support and decision making for future strategies and contributions.

The report also presents the actions taken by the Evaluation team to strengthen the independence of Sida's evaluation function, the language quality of publications, and to study the long-term effects of Sida's support in line with the government's request to strengthen evidence based decision making.

