



Sida's Support to United Nations Organisations

In 2025, Sida disbursed SEK 6.3 billion to United Nations (UN) organisations. The support to the UN constituted 28 per cent of Sida's overall portfolio, representing a decline in both share and volume.

SIDA'S PARTNERSHIPS WITH UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATIONS

UN organisations have a critical role in supporting countries implementing Agenda 2030, humanitarian assistance, and programmes supported by Sida. They also have an important role in advocacy and as a convening power with regard to normative work on human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Sida's support to the UN constitutes the second second largest partner category after civil society organisations. In 2025, Sida's support to UN organisations amounted to SEK 6.3 billion in comparison to 7.9 billion in 2024. Sida's support to the UN in 2025 accounted for 66 per cent of the total multilateral support.

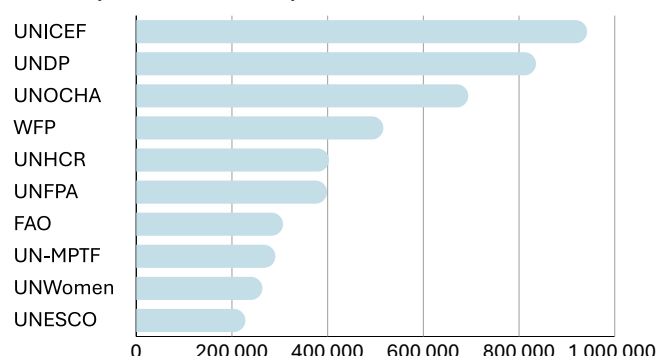
FINANCIAL SUPPORT THROUGH THE UN

Unicef is Sida's largest UN recipient of the Sida portfolio, followed by UNDP. In 2025, Sida disbursed in total SEK 992 million to UNICEF of which humanitarian assistance amounted to SEK 488 million. Sida's support to UNICEF benefited numerous countries, the top three being Ethiopia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Bangladesh. Sweden also supported UNICEF thematically through support to Climate and WASH, Child Protection, Education and Social Protection. For more information about UNICEF, see [unicef.org](https://www.unicef.org).

In 2025, Sida disbursed close to SEK 812 million to the UNDP. A major part of Sida's cooperation with the UNDP focuses on strengthening institutional capacities and processes for democratic governance as a means to contribute to sustainable development and peace. About half of Sida's contributions to the UNDP are directed towards peace, justice, and strong institutions (SDG 16). Both UNDP and Sida have engagement in countries affected by conflict where progress on poverty reduction is lagging behind. The largest recipient of Sida funded the UNDP support is Ukraine, followed by Moldova and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. For more information about UNDP, see [undp.org](https://www.undp.org). Contributions through UNDP hosted Multi-Partner Trust Funds are accounted for separately.

Humanitarian aid is the largest thematic area for Sida's support to the UN. The UN organisations that received the largest amounts of humanitarian support from Sida in 2025 were UN-OCHA, WFP and UNHCR.

FIGURE 1: TOP 10 UN RECIPIENTS OF SUPPORT FROM SIDA IN 2025 (THOUSANDS SEK)



GEOGRAPHICAL AND THEMATIC DISTRIBUTION

The largest share of the support through UN organisations is within the appropriations for Humanitarian Assistance, Africa and Sustainable Development. The sectors (as classified by OECD-DAC) receiving most multi-bi support through the UN are:

1. Emergency response
2. Government and civil society
3. Population policies/Programmes and reproductive health

The countries that received the largest amounts of Sida support through UN organisations (both developmental and humanitarian) in 2025 are included in Figure 3 on the next page.

In addition, the support for UN global programmes target multiple countries across regions. The unique global mandates of UN organisations enable them to serve as platforms for global policy-making and advocacy, while also providing expertise and concrete support for the implementation of global policies and norms at the country level while facilitating the coordination of inter-

national community development efforts. Through global programmes, Sida reaches vulnerable and marginalised people, also in countries where Sweden does not have bilateral development cooperation strategies.

FIGURE 2: FUNDING TO UN ORGANISATIONS – TOP 10 SECTORS IN 2025 (IN THOUSANDS SEK)

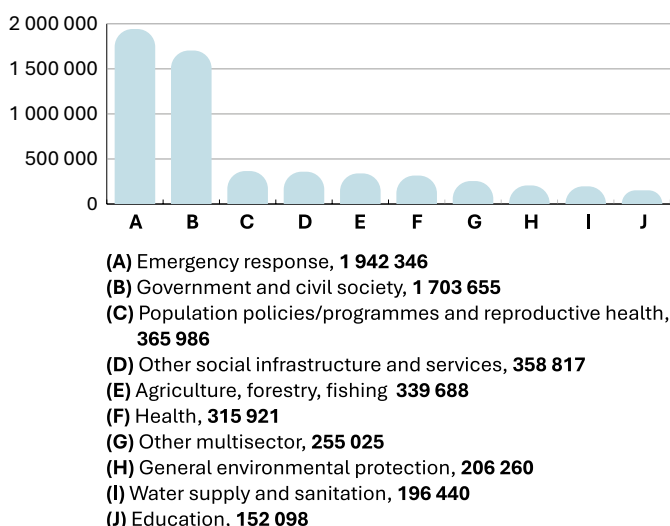


FIGURE 3: FUNDING TO UN ORGANISATIONS – TOP COUNTRIES IN 2025 (IN THOUSANDS SEK)

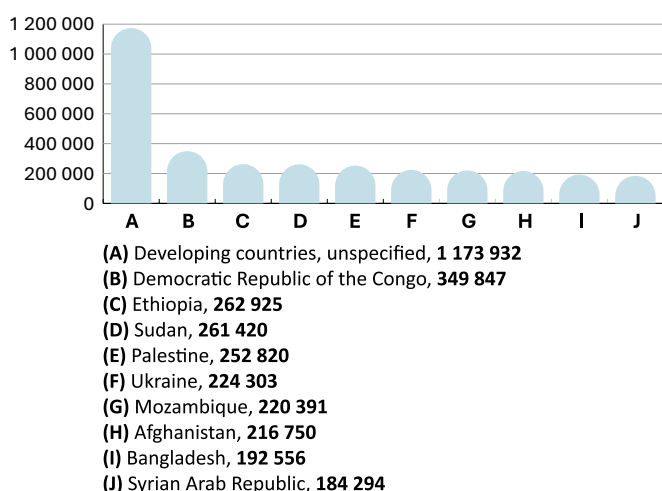
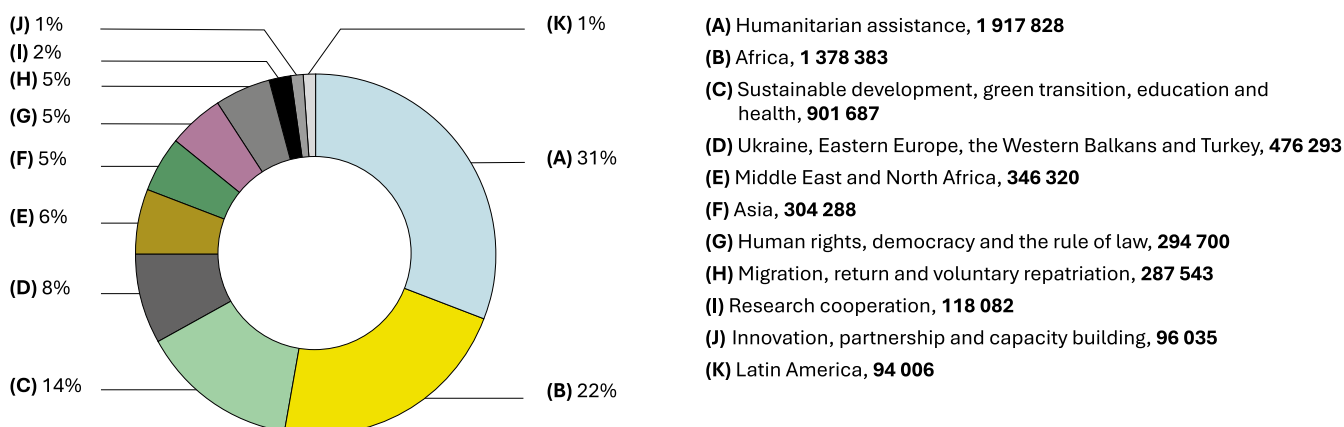


FIGURE 4: FUNDING TO UN ORGANISATIONS PER APPROPRIATION IN 2025



TYPE OF AID

Sida uses a mix of financing modalities in its support to the UN system. **In 2025, 74 per cent of Sida's support was provided as programme support, 24 per cent as project support and 1.3 per cent as expert support, according to the OECD-DAC coding.**

Approximately three-quarters of Sida's funding to UN agencies is categorised as programme support which is flexible, multi-year funding provided in line with development effectiveness principles and the UN Funding Compact commitments. The predictability and flexibility of these funding arrangements enable the UN system to respond quickly to sudden changes in the operating environment. Contributions in this category include UN Joint Initiatives involving several UN agencies working together, as well as broad programmes with a sectoral, thematic or geographical focus that receive funding from multiple donors in pooled financing arrangements.

Sida's share of project support increased by six per cent compared with 2024. While tightly earmarked funding can be critical for supporting well-defined thematic or geographical result areas, it may risk lacking sustainability and effectiveness.

Sida finances Swedish technical experts in the UN system through secondments at different levels of seniority, ranging from UN Youth Volunteers and Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) to mid-career and senior secondments.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) supports the UN system through core funding¹, which allows UN organisations to implement strategic plans, country programmes and humanitarian appeals in a timely and effective manner. To enable this, predictability and flexibility in funding are essential. The Swedish Government provides multi-year core support to some of the largest UN agencies as well as flexible earmarked funding, thereby fulfilling its commitments under the UN Funding Compact.

¹ Core support handled by the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and other line ministries is not included in the statistics presented in this overview.

UN entities receiving financial support from Sida 2023-2025 (in thousand SEK)²

Agreement Partner	2023	2024	2025
UNICEF – United Nations Children’s Fund	1 386 777	1 136 509	942 178
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme	1 120 967	1 161 663	835 456
UNOCHA – United Nations Office of Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs	579 959	722 000	694 000
WFP – World Food Programme	712 468	674 556	516 463
UNHCR – United Nations Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	319 909	359 049	402 906
UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund	473 313	556 286	398 744
FAO – Food and Agricultural Organisation	395 682	261 611	306 771
UN-MPTFO – UN Multi Partner Trust Fund Office	525 200	549 089	290 778
WHO – World Health Organisation – core voluntary contributions account	317 945	89 500	152 399
ILO – International Labour Organisation	193 433	203 959	150 639
UN – United Nations*	176 145	171 119	140 231
UNHABITAT – United Nations Human Settlement Programme	44 034	79 866	84 803
UNIDO – United Nations Industrial Development Organisation	49 939	128 036	72 500
WTO ITC – World Trade Organisation – International Trade Centre	38 495	35 000	38 176
UNDRR – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	95 000	55 000	35 000
UN – United Nations agency, fund or commission	65 573	67 445	33 107
UNU -United Nations University (including Endowment Fund)			20 000
IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development	9 694	10 000	19 627
UNV – United Nations Volunteers	-1 843	9 310	19 348
UNCDF – United Nations Capital Development Fund	66 450	187 514	18 865
UNDEF – United Nations Democracy Fund	30 000	30 000	15 000
UNODC – United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	12 031	17 400	6 696
United Nations Institute for Training and Research			-15
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS			-733
UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme	8 175	4 927	-3 234

² Note that agreed amounts to partners may differ from the total disbursed amounts due to modality issues, e.g. joint programmes.

UN80 Initiative: All workstreams and packages “under one roof”

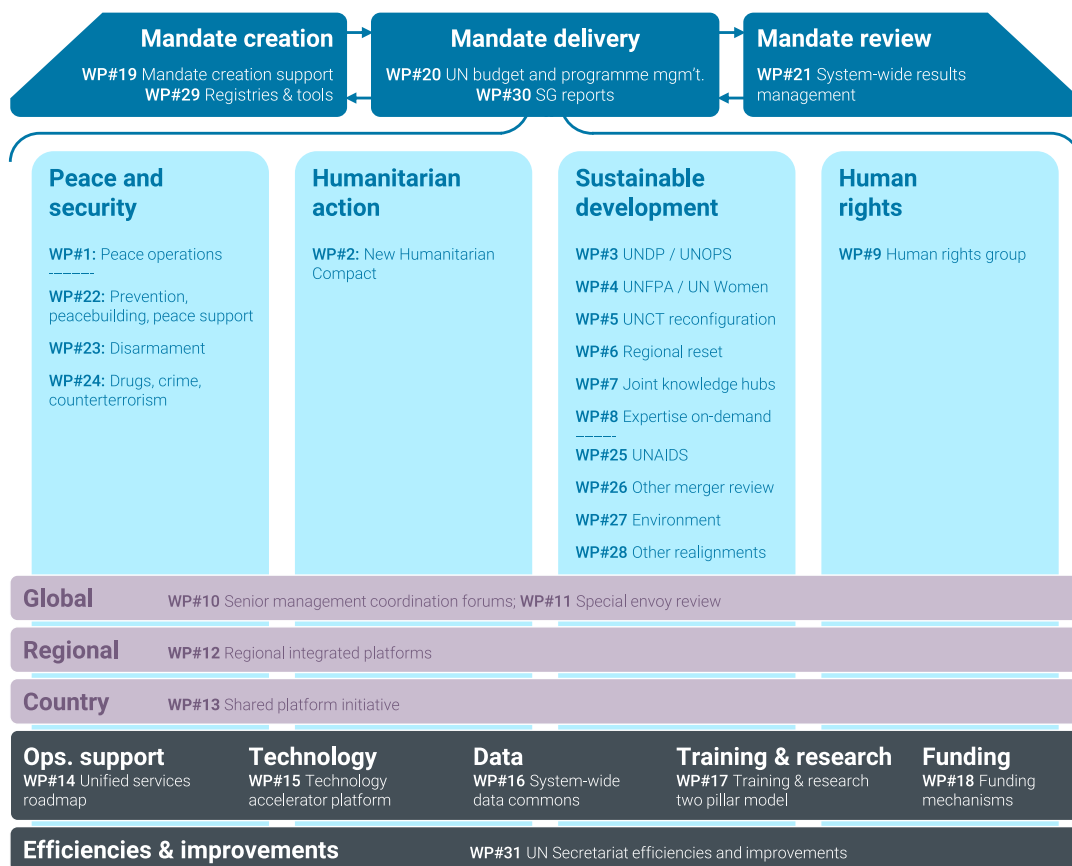
WS2: Improvements in mandate lifecycle management
Workstream 2, SG actions only

WS3: Programmatic and structural shifts within pillars
Workstream 3

WS3: Shifts in cross-pillar approaches

WS3: Shifts in UN system-wide enablers

WS1: UN Secretariat enablers Workstream 1



UN80 INITIATIVE

The UN80 initiative is guided by the UN Secretary-General’s report Shifting Paradigms – United to Deliver. It has an integrated action plan with three workstreams covering 87 actions across 31 work packages “under one roof”. The reforms aim to streamline operations, strengthen mandate delivery through digital and accountability tools, and realign structures and programmes across the pillars of peace and security, humanitarian action, sustainable development and human rights.

Sweden and the Nordic countries focus particularly on Workstream 3, supporting measures to reset regional capacities and reconfigure UN Country Teams to enhance coherence and cost effectiveness. Sweden and the Nordics also support broader institutional reforms captured in Work Packages 4 (UNFPA/UN Women potential merger) and 9 (Human Rights Group). Together, these efforts reflect Sweden’s commitment to a more integrated, efficient and rights-driven UN system.

THE HUMANITARIAN RESET

Alongside the UN80 initiative, the international humanitarian system is undergoing reform through the Humanitarian Reset, led by the UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs / Emergency Relief Coordinator. The Reset aims to make the system faster, lighter and more accountable by refocusing efforts on the most urgent needs, streamlining coordination, and shifting power and resources closer to crisis-affected communities. Within UN80, humanitarian issues are primarily addressed in Workstream 3 through the New Humanitarian Compact, which develops shared systems, integrated supply chains and common services across major UN humanitarian agencies (OCHA, Unicef, WFP, UNHCR och IOM). While the UN80 initiative focuses on technical efficiencies and coherence within the UN pillars, the Reset pursues broader, sector-wide reforms involving actors beyond the UN.