



IN BRIEF...

Increased Cooperation with Moldova

In 2004 the Swedish government approved the second country strategy for Moldova which more than doubled the contribution to the development cooperation between the two countries. The development cooperation is focusing on areas where the Moldovan side has committed itself to reform and where there is capacity to implement change.

General approach and methods

Sweden's development cooperation is chiefly taking the form of capacity building. In connection with this, grants may be considered for investments and purchasing of equipment. The involvement of local experts and NGOs is encouraged as well as exchange of experience with other transition countries through so called three-party cooperation.

To achieve greater impact the development cooperation is concentrated on a limited number of areas. These are:

- Democratic Governance
- Prevention of social exclusion and promotion of public health
- Pro-poor economic growth

Before new initiatives are started, discussions are held with Moldovan counterparts on the reforms and measures needed for effective implementation.

As far as possible, programmes involve both the policy level and pilot projects. Increased participation of civil society is promoted.

Budget support can be considered provided that Moldova meets the requirements set out in the Swedish Government's guidelines for such support.

The perspectives of gender equality and sustainable development are mainstreamed in all the cooperation. Gender equality is also promoted through special programmes.

Combating poverty

The Development Cooperation is designed and assessed on the basis of how it affects conditions for combating poverty. Sweden supports measures that promote the participation of poor people in the reform process in Moldova as well as their possibilities of influencing this process. Where appropriate, measures should be in harmony with Moldova's Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (EGPRSP)

Important issues

The following issues are taken into account when projects are designed and implemented:

- Closer links to European cooperation structures and their shared values, including support for the EU European Neighbourhood Policy
- Integration of Transnistria
- Prevention of corruption
- Problems related to the extensive migration

Coordination with other donors

Among the EU countries Sida is the largest bilateral donor. Sida coordinates actions with donors that share the same objectives for development cooperation and are active in the same sectors as Sweden.

Parallel financing and co-financing of other donors' projects can be considered when this leads to added value.

Facts and figures about the development cooperation

Sweden's bilateral support to Moldova started in 1996 and reached the amount of 220 million SEK (€25 million) between 1996 and 2004. It covered four areas: democratic governance (18 per cent), social services sector (31 per cent), private sector development (35 per cent) and economic reforms (16 per cent).

According to a results analysis commissioned by Sida in 2003 the development cooperation has largely been relevant and efficient.

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Halving poverty by 2015 is one of the greatest challenges of our time, requiring cooperation and sustainability. The partner countries are responsible for their own development. Sida provides resources and develops knowledge and expertise, making the world a richer place.



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