

Portfolio overview

Sida's support to OHCHR 2010*

In 2010, the financial support given to Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) by Sida amounted to MSEK 61, 5 (disbursed), placing Sweden as the fourth largest donor to OHCHR in 2010. MSEK 23 of that amount was provided as non-earmarked general support, the remainder being earmarked for specific countries/regions. Africa is the region that received the largest contributions, followed by Latin America. Eight contributions were on-going, all but one in the Human rights and democratic governance sector. Sida's cooperation and financial support has gradually moved away from earmarking towards a programme-based approach, and this shift is accompanied by an intensified dialogue with the Office serving as a strategic tool for Sweden to exert influence on OHCHR policies and priorities. The dialogue is coordinated with a group of six other donors. In the case of OHCHR, no support is disbursed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

The amount of support to OHCHR almost doubled between 2005 and 2010 (Table 1). The number of contributions has been increasing over the period with the exception of 2007.

Table 1: Sida annual disbursements 2005–2010

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
No. of contributions	4	4	2	10	8	8
Total amount (MSEK)	32.2	44.2	41.8	54.3	59.1	61.5

Contributions from Sida in support to United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR's) programmes are often entitled "multibi" (multi-bilateral aid). These should be distinguished from non-earmarked or core contributions to the regular budget of multilateral institutions, which are called "multilateral aid". In general, core support is disbursed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs or another ministry. In the case of OHCHR a corresponding general support is included in Sida's disbursements.

* The statistics refer to all contributions up until 31 dec 2010. Returning funds have been excluded.

Sida's Support to OHCHR by Region

Non-earmarked support to the Office accounts for 37 percent of disbursements each year and is labeled as global contributions (Table 2). In addition, Sida supports OHCHR country programmes in some countries. Large-scale support goes to the OHCHR offices in Colombia, and Guatemala in Latin America, Uganda in Africa and Cambodia in Asia. OHCHR supports human rights advisors to UN country teams are supported in Kenya and Uganda. In Democratic Republic of Congo the support goes to a specific project to combat impunity for sexual violence.

Sida's Support to OHCHR by Sector

Regarding the sectorial distribution of disbursements between 2005 and 2010, almost all disbursements are within the Human rights and democratic governance sector. In 2010 Sweden was financing three Swedish

Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) working for OHCHR. The aim of the JPO programme is to increase the number of qualified Swedish staff at multilateral organizations in areas of strategic relevance to Sweden. A second objective is to build a well-trained Swedish resource base for international development cooperation.

Table 2: Sida annual disbursements 2005–2010 by region (percentage of total amount per year)

Region/year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Africa	0	15	0	14	8	33
Latin America	37	27	0	31	32	26
Asia	1	8	0	5	7	4
Global	62	50	100	50	53	37
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

OHCHR's mandate and strategic priorities

The OHCHR is the principal United Nations office mandated to promote and protect human rights for all, lead global human rights efforts, and speak out objectively in the face of human rights violations worldwide. OHCHR has been given the task of mainstreaming human rights within the UN system, which means injecting a human rights perspective into all UN programmes. The OHCHR is a department of the UN Secretariat.

Strategic priorities include greater country engagement, working closely with partners at the country and local levels; a stronger leadership role for the High Commissioner; and closer partnerships with civil society and UN agencies. On the whole, Sweden concurs with OHCHR priorities but would like to have more funds and administrative support allocated to work with the Treaty

bodies and the Special Procedures, and also to gender the work in order for gender to be mainstreamed in all parts of OHCHR's work.

Sweden's cooperation with the Office is carried out in accordance with the Paris Principles. This means that a programme-based approach applies, Sweden's financial support is support for the Strategic Management Plan as a whole, and the cooperation is aligned with OHCHR's systems and harmonised with other donors. There is a joint annual review with the Office in which seven donors, including Sweden, participate. Sida and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs work closely together in the collaboration with OHCHR.

For more information about the portfolio and Sida's overall relations with OHCHR please contact focal point charlotta.bredberg@sida.se, helena.lagerlöf@sida.se

