

Sida's Portfolio within Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security 2010

Sida's disbursements to agriculture, forestry, rural development and food security amounted to SEK 668 million in 2010, amounting to a mere 4,3% of Sida's total disbursements (support to research programmes is not included). Disbursements are falling compared to the previous year, dropping 11% in 2008, 5% in 2009, and 20% in 2010. The sharp decline in disbursements from 2009 to 2010 is mainly depending on government decisions to phase out support to certain countries and to give priority to other sectors, not including agriculture and rural development, in Eastern Europe.

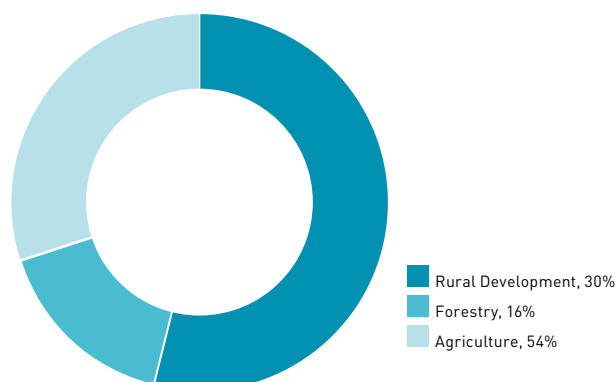
Main areas of support

Agriculture.

Sida's contributions include support to agricultural policy and administration, technology development and agricultural extension services, land policy reforms and land administration, processing and commercialization, training and livestock/veterinary services as well as climate change, the links to agriculture resilience and environment. Support is provided both in the form of thematically and geographically delimited projects or as broad sector programme support. Almost 80% of investment within agriculture is dedicated to the first 3 areas; agricultural policy and administration, technology development and agricultural extension services.

An example of a small but strategic contribution is the support to the Africa Union Agriculture-based Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Framework through a project aimed at increasing knowledge on the use of conservation agriculture with trees (CAWT) methods in Africa. The project will investigate the extent of such practices, the policy and institutional factors affecting adoption of such methods, and will also facilitate a process aimed at developing a regional mechanism for increased adoption of CAWT. The project is implemented by the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF) in collaboration with the African Conservation Tillage Network (ACT).

Chart 1. Disbursement per main sector, 2010, %



Forestry.

Sida's support to forestry¹ focuses on sustainable forestry production and policy, administration, management and training as well as climate change and environment. Support has increased in recent years. Since 2008, the proportion has grown from 7% to 16% of disbursements. In 2010, 65% of disbursements were aimed at forestry policy and administration. Sida is supporting the GEDEFOR "Programme de gestion décentralisée des forêts" in 2 administrative regions in Mali with SEK 19,5 million 2009–2013. This is aimed at improving livelihoods – and capacity for adaptation to climate change through forest conservation and restoration and degraded land rehabilitation for the benefit of poor rural populations. The current project with government and other donors will lead to a future sector-wide programme. A prerequisite for this programme is the transfer of competence to local communes, women and men, in natural resources.

Rural development.

Rural development activities aim to stimulate economic growth in rural areas through increased and diversified production and strengthened capacities and rights of local populations through decentralisation of power and resources. The support encompasses land administration and management, economic diversification within agriculture and forestry-based ventures, social services and decentralization.

A good example of rural development programmes is the so called Chia Se programme in Vietnam. Chia Se (2003-2009) has been a special and innovative programme and has demonstrated that poor people can effectively plan, implement and supervise the use of development funds under the Government system and achieve broad based rural development. Decentralisation of the planning

¹ Forestry components that are part of bigger agricultural or rural development programmes are not included in the financial statistics on forestry

and management of capacity building funds to the commune level has achieved good results and a second phase was supported 2009–2011. The total budget for the Chia Se programme was agreed at SEK 356.5 million, with SEK 310 million financed by Sida and SEK 46.5 million (15%) as GoV funding. Chia Se 2 was supported with an additional SEK 75 million and report that all 330 village and commune development plans are completed and being implemented. In 46 communes and 2 provinces the Chia Se experiences have been adopted with yearly socio-economic development plans for 2011.

Sida disbursements

More than one third of disbursements from Sida were destined for countries with which Sweden has long-term development cooperation. Another third is shared between global and regional programmes, with global programmes increasing in importance. Still a large portion of disbursements (13%) are destined for countries with which Swedish development cooperation is to be phased out.

Sida's support to agriculture, forestry and food security is distributed among three main areas: agriculture (54% of the disbursements in 2010), rural development² (30%) and forestry (16%).

² The used classification defines integrated rural development projects as regional development planning and the implementation thereof, including natural reserve management, land management, land use planning, land settlement as well as functional integration of rural and urban areas. The area includes also support to fisheries and economic diversification and agricultural trade.

Chart 2: Disbursement total 2007–2010, Million SEK

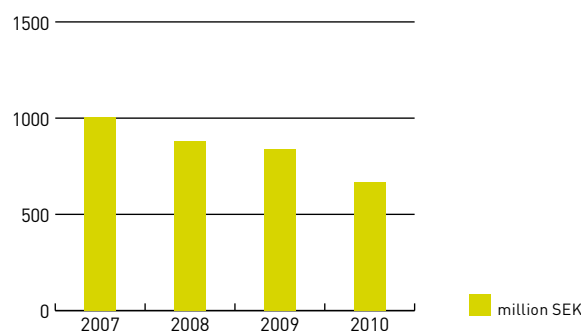
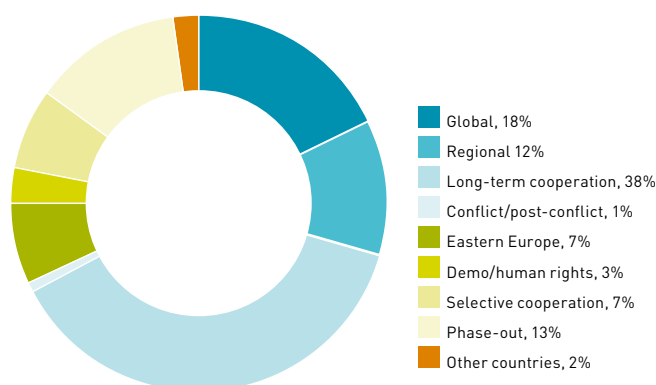


Chart 3: Disbursement per country category Million SEK



Highlights

The World Bank's World Development Report 2008 'Agriculture for Development' marked a comeback of sorts for agriculture as a focus area for development cooperation after years of relative neglect. However, this has not yet been reflected in Sida disbursements. Over a billion people are now estimated to be undernourished — the majority of them women and children in rural areas. Developing sustainable smallholder-based agriculture and rural development are fundamental for achieving improved food security. It is also necessary to counter climate change and its effects on agriculture.

Sida continues to participate actively in the Global Donor Platform for Rural Development (GDPRD) and implement the set of Joint Principles for effective assistance in agriculture and rural development. GDPRD is also promoting programme-based and sector-wide approaches in agriculture and rural development.

During discussions at the Copenhagen Conference on Climate Change on how to respond to CC in Africa, it was concluded that scaling up Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in particular through increased adoption of Conservation Agriculture (CA) was the most feasible short term response. Sida is investing in regional knowledge development in Africa.

Negotiations are on-going on how tropical forests will be included in global efforts to mitigate climate change as part of a new post-2012 climate regime under the UN framework convention on climate change. One achievement was when the Cancun Agreement was reached 2010, including REDD+ (Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation) and other things. Sida is following the process closely.

An evaluation was carried out in 2010 of gender aware approaches in Swedish supported agricultural programmes. The report concludes that none of the studied programmes had gender equity as a leading goal and did thus not prepare a gender mainstreaming strategy. Nonetheless, the evaluation indicates that the studied programmes did achieve significant benefits for women farmers with a positive impact on their livelihoods. Especially interesting is the household approach piloted in Zambia, resulting in empowered women and men – and improved gender relations as well as improved livelihoods.

Sida/Department for Policy Support

Address: SE-105 25 Stockholm, Sweden.
Phone: +46 (0)8-698 50 00. www.sida.se sida@sida.se