

Portfolio Overview

Sida's support to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) 2013

In 2013, Sida contributed to 11 projects and programmes through FAO, with a total disbursed amount of 153 MSEK. FAO is the seventh largest multilateral recipient organization in terms of Sida's Multi-Bi disbursements. The agriculture and forestry sector accounted for approximately half of the support to FAO in 2013.

Overview

José Graziano da Silva started his work as Director General for FAO in 2012. He continued with the reform process and a new strategic framework was endorsed by the members at the FAO Conference 2013. The total annual budget of FAO is approximately 120 billion USD, of which nearly 60 percent is voluntary extra budget support, and the rest is assessed contributions (member state fees). The Government of Sweden's contribution to FAO's regular budget in 2013 was 35 MSEK, of which 51 percent counts as official development assistance (ODA). Thus, Sweden was the fifth biggest extra budgetary bilateral donor to FAO.

The reduction of the number of contributions between 2011 and 2012 is mainly due to the introduction of a multi-country agreement for the humanitarian support (table 1).

Geographical and Thematic Distribution

Sida had an ongoing, four-year (2010–2014) agreement with FAO at the global level, to a total of 131 MSEK, of which MSEK 35 was disbursed in 2013. The programme supported the three FAO Strategic Objectives; (1) Sustainable management of land, water and genetic resources and improved responses to global environmental challenges affecting food and agriculture; (2) Enabling environment for markets to improve livelihoods and rural development; and (3) Sustainable management and use of fisheries and aquaculture resources.

FAO is a key partner to Sida in providing humanitarian assistance, especially regarding food security. In 2012, Sida agreed with FAO on a two-year support to the humanitarian department with a total of 93 MSEK allocated to Somalia, Syria, Chad, Niger, Ethiopia, North Korea, and regional programmes in Africa. 57 MSEK of the agreed amount was disbursed in 2013

Definition of Multilateral and Multi-Bi Support (Core and non-Core Contributions)

Contributions from Sida to FAO for programmes and projects are often entitled "Multi-Bi" (multilateral bilateral) support or earmarked, non-core contributions. These should be distinguished from non-earmarked contributions to the organisation's regular budget, usually called core support or assessed contributions ("membership fees") and also labelled "multilateral aid". The latter type of support is processed and decided upon by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) but disbursed by Sida, or other Government Offices. In the case of FAO, the core support is disbursed by the Ministry of Rural Affairs.

and reflects Sida's ambition to be more predictable and programmatic as a donor, even in the emergency context. 37 percent of the support was disbursed to countries in Africa, where 61 percent of the population live in rural settings. Sida also supports FAO through the financing of one Swedish Junior Professional Officer (JPO) in Tanzania.

TABLE 1: SIDA'S ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS TO FAO 2008–2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of contributions	28	21	19	11	8
Total Amount (MSEK)	170	166	156	156	153

CHART 1: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO FAO BY SECTOR 2009–2013 (MSEK)

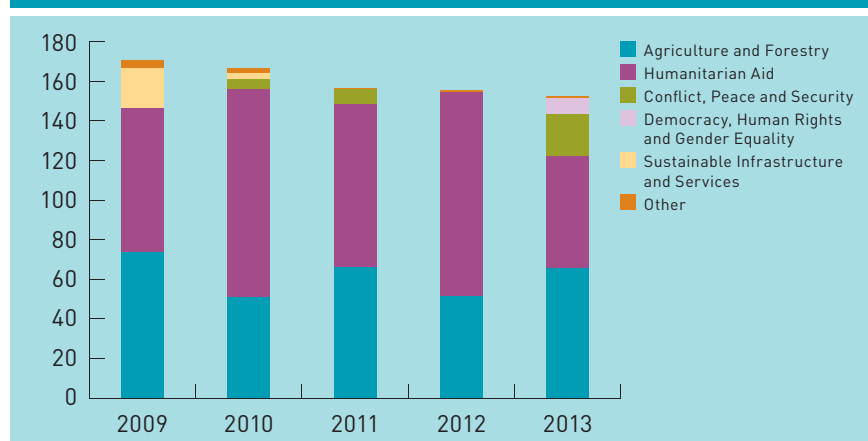
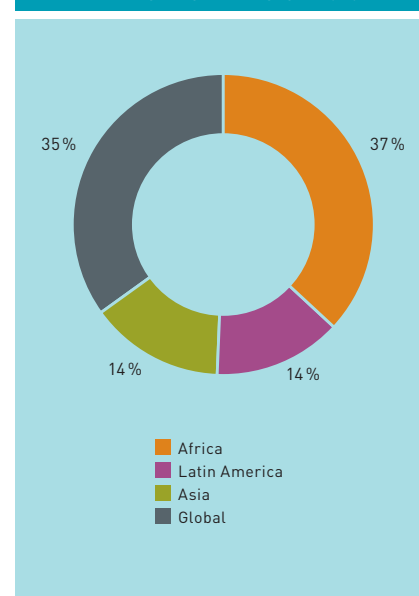


CHART 2: SIDA'S SUPPORT TO FAO BY REGION 2013



FAO's mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. Achieving food security for all is its main task. FAO's mandate covers agriculture, rural development, forestry and fisheries. As a specialised agency of the United Nations, FAO is a normative, knowledge-based organization.

Swedish priorities for FAO include the on-going modernisation and streamlining of FAO's organization and work modalities, and enhanced capacity in order for it to (1) serve as a centre of excellence; (2) monitor the global natural resources for

agriculture, fisheries and forests in an ecosystem perspective; (3) propose relevant political improvements in the management of natural resources; and (4) provide a forum for intergovernmental cooperation and negotiation in order to promote food supply for present and future generations. FAO is at present in the middle of a major reorganization process following an external independent evaluation. Together with a new way of programming of the FAO core activities, the reorganization is expected to pave the way for more programmatic extra-budgetary cooperation.

Results

Global Trends

- 30 percent of the earth's land is used for crops and pastures, and 70 percent of all abstracted freshwater is directed towards irrigation to produce the food that people and livestock need for a stable food supply.
- Worldwide, capture fisheries and aquaculture provide a source of income and livelihood for 55 million people through direct employment; overall there are more than 220 million jobs in the global fish industry.
- About 60 percent of child labourers worldwide are engaged in the agriculture sector, which includes farming, fishing, aquaculture, forestry and livestock.
- About 870 million worldwide are undernourished, of which 852 million live in developing countries. Undernourishment remains high in absolute terms; the prevalence of undernourishment has fallen by 36 percent against the 1990–1992 benchmark set by the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). If current trends continue, developing countries as a group could be close to achieving the goal of halving the percentage of people suffering from chronic hunger by 2015.

Programmes and Projects

- Sida funding has allowed FAO to develop Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA). The concept addresses the interlinked challenges of food security, productivity efficiency, incomes, environmental sustainability and emerging climate change adaptation and mitigation priorities. FAO is a technical partner to the African CSA Alliance, led by NEPAD, reaching out to 6 million farmers to assist their transition to CSA.

- On youth employment and entrepreneurship, a Junior Farmer Field and Life Schools (JFFLS) methodology has been used to train both young producers and agro technical officers from local government authorities and Producers Organizations in Malawi and Tanzania (including Zanzibar Archipelago). Overall assessments on youth employment activities undertaken in the countries have measured a 60 percent increase of income in beneficiaries households derived by the activities in 2013. Youth businesses have been assessed as creating further temporary jobs for other local youth with a proven spill over effect of 1:20 (each youth trained, re-trained 20 other youth in his/her local district).
- In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sida's humanitarian funding has helped improve the food security and reduce the exposure to risks of vulnerable livestock owners by limiting the spread of small ruminants' pest. The provision of vaccines, cold chain equipment and training for veterinary service agents and community leaders, resulted in the vaccination of 1.02 million small ruminants, i.e. goats and sheep, during 2013.
- In eastern Chad, Sida's humanitarian support has promoted the stabilization of returnee and resident households; improved the food security situation by increased crop and vegetable production; and enhanced access to income-generating activities. The distribution of 150 tonnes of cereal seed to 7 500 beneficiaries in 2013 produced 4 374 tonnes of cereal. Approximately 52.8 million CFAF (African Financial Community Franc) was generated by 281 beneficiary households thanks to increased vegetable production.

People First –

Results at the Individual Level

FAO received funds from Sida for the implementation of a programme on rural employment and decent work for the promotion of equitable and sustainable livelihoods under conditions of climate change in Malawi and Tanzania (2011–2013). The programme included components promoting child labour prevention and reduction in agriculture as well as general promoting of decent employment for rural youth and adults. Adam Athumani is a 19 years old agro entrepreneur and youth leader from the village of Mam-pando in Singida region in Tanzania. After he attended a two weeks training organized by FAO on agricultural skills, production and agribusiness, Adam, went back to his village and managed to mobilize 150 young men and women and to secure 300 acres of land from the Regional Commissioner while applying for credit from the local cooperative. As Adam puts it in his own words: "Agro business needs patience and good planning, youth can benefit a lot from it, if they work as a group. This can be easily done if there is a cooperative assisting rural youth in their access to land and markets and would be very simple to attract young people in the agriculture sector if the government recognizes youth efforts and wishes to be part of commercial agriculture". This example demonstrates that when all actors involved in the model are well coordinated and share the same overall objectives, the spill-over effect could have major potential in youth employment creation and as such lower the national under employment rates.