



Environment and Climate Change

A sustainable development within planetary boundaries

Our surrounding environment is the basis for human life. Changes in the climate and loss of ecosystem services undermine the development in all sectors and hit people in poverty hard. The natural systems need to be managed sustainably so they can support the needs of future generations. In 2015, Sida provided 7.5 billion SEK to initiatives that had environment as the principal or significant objective.



MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

Sida works to contribute to a better environment, limited climate impact, and greater resilience to environmental and climate change. Important areas of work are: Greater resilience to environmental and climate change; Improved institutional capacity for environmental management; Sustainable management and use of biodiversity and ecosystem services; Sustainable cities; Food security and sustainable agriculture; Water and sanitation; Improved access to sustainable energy.

Sida supports initiatives that have environmental or climate change actions as a main objective; supports integration of environment and climate change in other sectors, and engages in dialogue for improved environmental sustainability with partner countries, multilateral institutions and other stakeholders.

In total, Sida provided 1.9 billion SEK in 2015 to contributions that had environment as their main objective, and an additional 5.6 billion SEK to contributions that had environment as a significant (but not the main) objective.

The first figure includes contributions both within the formal sectors of environmental policy and management, biosphere protection and biological diversity, and a number of sectors that are included in the portfolio overviews for food security and agriculture, water and sanitation, and energy. Looking specifically at the sectors environmental policy and management; biosphere protection; and biological diversity, the support amounted to 670 million SEK in 2015. Of these, the largest funds were provided to global, regional Asian and regional African organisations, while

the four largest bilateral contributions were to actors in Serbia, Kenya, Cambodia and Albania.

The second figure includes support to any thematic area, where environment and climate change have been integrated into the operations, including areas within food security and agriculture, water and sanitation, energy, democracy and human rights, education, economic development, health and so on.

Sida's overall environment support may also be studied viewed from the policy areas of the Rio Conventions: climate change, biodiversity and desertification. The total support in 2015 that had climate change action (adaptation and or mitigation) as a main objective was 579 million SEK, while the support to initiatives that had climate change as a significant (but not main) objective was 3.7 billion SEK.

The total support that had sustainable management of biodiversity and ecosystem services as a main objective was 127 million SEK, while the support to initiatives with the same thematic as a significant (but not main) objective was 2.1 billion.

The total support that had combat desertification as a main objective was 19 million SEK, while the support to initiatives that had combat desertification as a significant (but not main) objective was 832 million.

Note that there are overlaps among these figures. The policy areas of environment, climate change, biodiversity and desertification are not mutually exclusive - one initiative can contribute to several of these areas at the same time and these figures should hence not be summarized.



THE GLOBAL GOALS

The Global Goals for Sustainable Development include everyone - and we can all contribute. The goals are interdependent and therefore indivisible. Sida's main contribution is to implement development cooperation, thereby reducing poverty and saving lives. Together we can build a better future where no one is left behind.



Results

DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

Global systems are increasingly transformed by human activities in a way that undermines biodiversity and ecosystem services upon which humans depend. Research shows that the so called planetary boundaries have already been crossed when it comes to climate change; loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services; biogeochemical flows; and land system change. Climate change is increasing with impacts such as sea level rise and extreme weather events. Biodiversity and ecosystem services continue to be lost at an alarming rate. These changes hit people in poverty hard, as they are more exposed and more vulnerable than others. While the challenges are enormous, unprecedented efforts towards a sustainable development are underway within the frames of the historic agreements on Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

SWEDISH SUPPORT

Sida's portfolio on environment and climate change action is extensive, ranging from support to countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, Eastern Europe and Latin America, to support to regional and global organisations. The support contributes to improved environmental sustainability and improved resilience to climate change. It includes support to civil society based organisations, public institutions, multilateral organisations as well as actors stimulating the private sector.

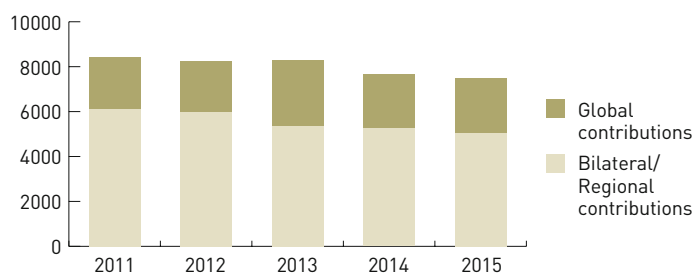
Projects and support

During 2015, efforts to manage risks and prevent disasters in Kenya were increased in collaboration with World Food Programme. By improving risk management capacities of national and local institutions and providing cash transfers, individuals, households and institutions increased their resilience to extreme weather events and food-related crises in the most exposed and vulnerable areas of Kenya.

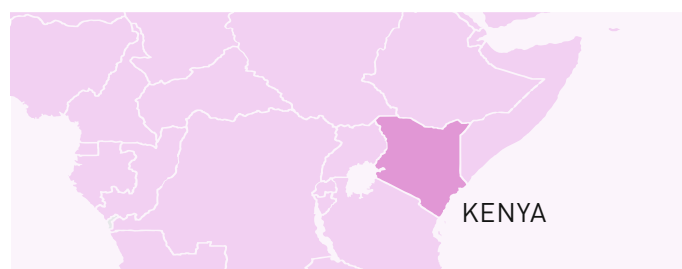
Story of change

By the seasonally fluctuating Tonle Sap lake in Cambodia, extreme drought and hydropower development in the Mekong have increased the pressure on water and fisheries. To manage these resources more sustainably, the community now has fish conservation areas, patrols against illegal fisheries, plants trees to protect embankments, and has increased job diversification. Women have been at the forefront pushing for these changes that have made the community better prepared for future challenges.

SIDA'S DISBURSEMENTS TO CONTRIBUTIONS WITH ENVIRONMENT AS THE PRINCIPAL OR SIGNIFICANT OBJECTIVE 2011–2015, MSEK



The global organisation IIED has developed a **method for tracking climate change adaptation** and measuring development that is now facilitating climate action in 8 low income countries.



"Us women now have jobs on land, which makes it easier for us to send our kids to school."

Mrs Pem Sokun, Cambodia