



The Swedish Partnership with the EU

The Member States of the EU, together with the EU Commission, contribute more than half of the world's aid volume and are thereby the largest donor in the world. Under EUs current strategy period 2014–2020, the EU Commission will distribute approximately EUR 80 billion of the aid budget to thematic and geographic programmes in 150 countries.



THE SWEDISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE EU

Sweden contributes annually around SEK 3 billion to EUs development cooperation budget. That is about 3% of EUs total aid budget. Sweden supports EU development cooperation and humanitarian assistance through both its annual fee and by separate contributions to the European Development Fund (EDF).

Additionally, Sweden allocates SEK 28 million to EUs regional fund for Syria (the Madad Fund) and SEK 28 million to EUs Joint Donor Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF, the Valletta Fund).

JUNIOR PROFESSIONALS IN EU DELEGATIONS (JPD) AND NATIONAL EXPERTS PROGRAMMES

The JPD programme funded by Sida and introduced in 2014, has continued to grow and further develop. Sida's programme for National Experts has also increased. The programmes contribute to the Swedish resource base in the field of EU development cooperation and provide expertise to EU institutions. The JPD programme also provides an opportunity for young Swedish professionals to start a career in the EU. In 2017, nine young Swedes under the JPD programme and eight National Experts were working in EU Commission and Delegations were financed by these programmes.

EU POLICY AND FUNDING

The development cooperation of the EU has undergone considerable change since the Lisbon Treaty was adopted in 2009 and starting from 2014, a stronger focus is placed on

poverty eradication, being the primary objective of EU Development Policy. The result is that 75% of the support now is directed to the world's poorest countries and countries severely affected by natural disasters and armed conflicts.

EUs aid consists of geographic as well as thematic financial instruments. The Development Coordination Instrument (DCI) is the largest thematic instrument with a total budget of EUR 23 billion. DCI includes the thematic programme, Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC), which supports areas such as environment/climate, human security, strengthening the civil society and support to human rights and democracy.

The geographic instruments are used for support to countries and regions. The geographic instruments include EUs programme for support to countries in EUs neighbourhood (Eastern Europe and MENA) called the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) and the programme for EUs accession countries (Western Balkans and Turkey) called the Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA). The European Development Fund (EDF) is focused on 79 countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific region. In 2000, the countries of these regions signed an agreement with the EU, the Cotonou Agreement for partnership on aid and trade. The agreement is valid until 2020 and discussions on what kind of arrangement will supersede it has already been initiated. The EDF is financed by contributions from EUs Member States and handled by the EU Commission, but is not part of the regular EU budget.

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.



Cooperation

EU MANDATE AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The European Commission, through DG DEVCO, is responsible for formulating European Union development policy and sectoral policies in order to reduce poverty in the world, to ensure sustainable economic, social and environmental development and to promote democracy, the rule of law, good governance and the respect of human rights, notably through external aid. It fosters coordination between the European Union and its Member States in the area of development cooperation and ensures the external representation of the European Union in this field.

IMPROVED EU COORDINATION

The policy for EU development cooperation is defined in the European Consensus on Development signed by the EU and its Member States in June 2017, the operational guidance (An Agenda for Change) and the policy platform Policy Coherence for Development (PCD).

The overarching goals for EU development cooperation are decreased poverty, promotion of democracy/human rights and sustainable development. The purpose is also to increase the benefit of aid through improved coordination between EU Member States and the EU itself.

JOINT PROGRAMMING

A central initiative to achieve an impact on EU development politics, is the EU Joint Programming initiative. It envisages that the point of departure for EU Member States representatives (Embassies) and EU Delegations in partner countries is a joint analysis on development challenges in the country. This analysis is the basis for development of overall EU strategy and a results framework, within which there is an agreed division of labour between Embassies and the Delegation. The aim is to harmonise a joint EU strategy with strategy cycles of the partner countries. For Sweden, this means that today there are joint strategies with the EU in 22 countries to improve coordination and aid effectiveness. The vision is that Sweden, through participation in the EU collaboration, can have greater impact of Swedish priorities, thereby achieving a more effectively contribution to the goals in the 2030 Agenda.

SWEDISH PARTICIPATION

Sweden participates, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Sida, in multiple EU committees and expert groups and is a driver for policy development in CODEV (Working Party on Development Cooperation). Sida prioritizes participation in groups that coincide with Swedish thematic priorities.

Since 2015, Sida is a member of the "Practitioners Network", a network based in Brussels, consisting of aid agencies from EU Member States. The purpose of the network is to improve aid effectiveness and cooperation between Member States and the EU.

SWEDEN AND EU COOPERATION

The ambition to increase effectiveness of EU aid indicates that the implementation of EU aid to a large extent has to be delegated to Member States accredited aid authorities. This is to improve the use of knowledge and the expertise that is present in Member States. Sida is working with delegated EU aid through delegation agreements in Asia, Eastern Europe and Africa; both EU funds delegated to Sida in Transfer Agreements and by EU delegating funds to Sida through Delegation Agreements.

Examples

1. Delegation from Sida to the EU – Marine Partnership

The Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEU-MP) Program covers the period 2017–2023 and has a total budget of about EUR 45 million. Sida will contribute EUR 10 million from the Swedish regional development cooperation strategy for Asia and the Pacific. The delegated agreement with the European Commission, will be managed by the EU Delegation in Suva, Fiji. PEUMP is a program with a multi-sectoral approach that in partnership with local and regional actors addresses the cross-border environmental and climate challenges facing coastal and large-scale fisheries Pacific region.

2. Delegation to Sida from the EU – Cambodia

In 2016, the Director-General decided that Sida would receive EUR 7 million from the EU Commission to implement the Partnership for Accountability and Transparency Program in Cambodia, 2016–2019. The delegation to Sida complements the support given by the European Commission to the implementation of Cambodia's reform of the public financial system and has taken place within the framework of EU programming in Cambodia. In addition to the EU contribution, Sweden is contributing SEK 32 million in aid for actors and areas that are not sufficiently included in previous support for the reform, and are not automatically achieved through EU sector budget support.