

2018

The year in review – Swedish development cooperation and Sida's activities



Peaceful and inclusive societies

WHAT?

Poverty is increasingly concentrated in countries affected by conflict, and Sida's aid correspondingly targets these areas to an increasing extent. Armed conflict causes human suffering, generates poverty and results in vast numbers of people whose humanitarian needs are not met. Peace and security are essential for the achievement of the Global Goals, in which Sida's interventions are instrumental in providing more extensive participation in peace processes, stronger capacity for preventing armed conflict, transitional justice and protection of civilians in armed conflicts. Of equal importance to targeted support for peace and security is the integration of a conflict-based perspective throughout Sida's activities both in order to prevent conflict and to take every opportunity to support peace.

HOW?

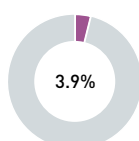
Sida's support ranges from strengthening local capacity to manage conflicts to supporting preventive capacity in regional and global organisations. Communities affected by conflict are changeable, and peacebuilding is a long-term process. That is why we need to combine a long-term approach with flexibility and possibilities for reprioritisation. Affording the civil society a stronger voice during peace negotiations is a way of reinforcing the emergence of peaceful and inclusive societies, for example in Colombia, Syria and Myanmar. In Somalia and Mali, for example, support is granted to reconciliation and conflict resolution, helping transform local conflicts into peaceful partnerships with increased stability and security as a result.

EXAMPLE



In areas affected by conflict, more than **11,300 child soldiers** have been able to **reunite with their families**.

In Syria, more than **5,000 adolescents and young adults** have been involved in peace dialogue between different groups.



SEK 977 million

Share of total funds disbursed based on the central sectors for peaceful and inclusive societies.

Inclusive economic development

WHAT?

The majority of development aid in the area of inclusive economic development targets agriculture, private sector development and social security systems. One of the tasks is to influence global processes and support actions that strengthen the ability of poor people to participate in, and contribute to, economic development. The backdrop to this is that economic growth, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, has not adequately benefited poor people and that world trade is not sufficiently inclusive. The least developed countries remain marginalised and represent less than 1% of total world trade. Increased trade tariffs further hamper their integration.

HOW?

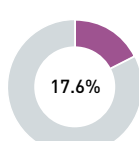
In many countries growth is driven by the extraction of natural resources, which rarely contributes to employment or growth in other sectors. One consequence of this is that growth does not benefit the poor. That is why Sida supports an inclusive structural transformation towards higher productivity and employment, particularly in the agricultural sector. This requires support for reforms such as the abolition of trade restrictions between the countries of East Africa, financial support for medium-sized companies in Somalia and support to enable small businesses and female entrepreneurs to reach the international markets. Sida also contributes to improvements in the form of social dialogue as well as decent wages and working conditions in line with the Global Deal initiative.

EXAMPLE



In Zambia, Sida has helped ensure that around **124,000 small farmers** have been given **access to markets** for the sale of their products.

Through the Trade Facilitation Support Programme, Swedish support has resulted in **62 reforms** for more efficient trading procedures in **32 countries**.



SEK 4,391 million

Share of total funds disbursed based on the central sectors for inclusive economic development.

Migration and development

WHAT?

According to the United Nations, more than 250 million people are international migrants and about 68.5 million people are refugees. Of these, approximately 40 million are so-called internally displaced persons. A large proportion of Sida's total aid contributes directly or indirectly to reducing the root causes of involuntary migration. Within the context of our humanitarian aid, support is provided for protection and lifesaving assistance for refugees. The objective of long-term development aid is to contribute to strengthening the positive development effects of migration, while at the same time counteracting the risks that may emerge when people migrate or are forced to flee. However, only a few of Sida's interventions directly focus on migration-related development objectives.

HOW?

We primarily have an integrated approach to migration where it is relevant for strategy implementation and to achieve the Global Goals for Sustainable Development. In bilateral cooperation, the focus is on creating synergies to meet humanitarian needs and assist communities that welcome migrants. Supporting migrants as actors, in particular with job creation interventions, has a positive impact on economic development. We also work to safeguard the rights of migrants and refugees, regardless of legal status and reasons for migration. More specifically, this involves support for safe, orderly and regulated migration, as well as preventing exploitation of migrants, including human trafficking.

EXAMPLE



The Somali diaspora in Sweden has, with the support of Sida, created **jobs for adolescents and women** in their home country via 69 small and medium-sized businesses.

In Bangladesh, **support for sexual and reproductive health** was extended to include the Rohingya refugees from Myanmar (Burma).

The large proportion of migration-related interventions remains integrated and is reported in other sectors.

Equal health

WHAT?

Sida has three overall priorities within the field of health support: sexual and reproductive health and rights, children and maternal health, and interventions to strengthen the healthcare system. Overall, global health has seen significant improvements in recent years, but successes are unevenly distributed, and the poorest countries are lagging behind. The global maternal mortality rate is over 300,000 deaths annually, and every day approximately 15,000 children under the age of five die, the vast majority during the first months of life. With increasing income and changing lifestyle habits, healthcare systems in poor countries must now cope with both traditional infectious diseases and an increasing proportion of non-communicable diseases.

HOW?

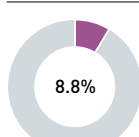
Sida's work includes a combination of support for healthcare services, efforts to increase capacity and advocacy work. Sida has provided long-term support for organisations that work to increase access to safe abortions, a crucial factor in saving lives and reducing global maternal mortality. Within the same context, more than 300,000 young people in Uganda have visited youth clinics for contraceptives or to test for sexually transmitted diseases or other counselling. The majority of health aid involves different methods of strengthening the healthcare systems in cooperating countries. Cooperation with national health authorities may involve reinforcing primary care, training healthcare personnel and reforming funding.

EXAMPLE



In Somalia, Sida's assistance has provided **5.2 million women and children** with access to medicines and vaccinations and almost **19,000 mothers** with access to safe childbirth.

In Bolivia, more than **10,000 students** have taken classes in menstrual health to increase knowledge and improve attitudes towards issues relating to menstruation.



SEK 2,209 million

Share of total funds disbursed based on the central sectors for equal health.

Education and research

WHAT?

Education is a human right. Swedish development aid supports the entire educational process from pre-school and elementary school to vocational training, higher education and research. Access to quality education is often crucial for other aid-related efforts, for example in the areas of gender equality, peacebuilding, health, democratic development and the environment and climate. Moreover, a country's ability to drive its own development depends on its ability to take on and contribute to the production of knowledge in all these areas. From a global perspective, it is the sub-Saharan countries that face the greatest challenges in terms of education and research.

HOW?

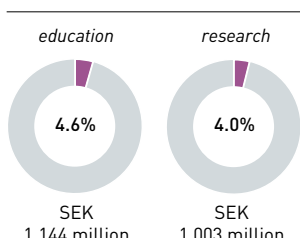
Low quality education systems are an obstacle to the economic development of a country, as companies find it difficult to recruit the necessary skills. Sida therefore supports vocational training as an integral part of the education system. The right of girls to education is a priority issue in which sexual education can help strengthen gender equality and where efforts in other social sectors, such as water and sanitation, also provide more opportunities for girls to complete an education. In order to reinforce research within the education systems, Sida provides core support to universities and distributes research funding via national and regional research councils. Sida also supports research of importance for development in international research organisations.

EXAMPLE



Cambodia has increased access to education at all levels and **increased the education budget by 112%** between 2013 and 2017.

Over the past year, postgraduate study programmes supported by Sida have produced about **450 doctoral graduates**.



SEK 1,144 million

SEK 1,003 million

Share of total funds disbursed based on the central sectors for education and research.

Humanitarian aid

WHAT?

Today, more than 130 million people in the world need humanitarian aid. Sida supports humanitarian activities in more than 30 crises, where there are extensive needs primarily due to war but also natural disasters. The aid is targeted to around 25 organisations that account for over 200 interventions. Today, there are four notable trends within humanitarian aid; violations of international humanitarian law, limited humanitarian access, increased humanitarian needs combined with limited resources, and a growing number of permanent crises caused by armed conflicts where political solutions are lacking.

HOW?

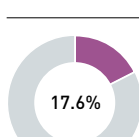
In order to increase the effectiveness of the humanitarian system, practically all of Sida's humanitarian funding targets interventions coordinated by the United Nations. Sida also works to increase synergies between humanitarian interventions and development efforts. One example is aid to Sudan, where Sida, with humanitarian aid and complementary aid funds from the long-term bilateral strategy, has carried out interventions against both extreme malnutrition and the very cause of the crisis from the outset. We make sure to pay funds as early as possible to ensure fast and effective support and make it easier for our partners to plan their activities.

EXAMPLE



With our Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), we can make a decision on **humanitarian interventions within 24 hours**.

Sida has contributed to **the protection and support of hundreds of thousands of refugees**, including the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.



SEK 4,391 million

Share of total funds disbursed based on the central sectors for humanitarian aid.

Sida's activities in 2018

In recent decades, significant progress has been made worldwide. Income poverty has been vastly reduced, and many more people now have access to healthcare and education. In other areas, however, the challenges continue to grow. **Since 2010, the number of people in need of humanitarian aid has increased from 30 to approximately 135 million.** An increasing proportion of people live in fragile states or in conflict environments, and we can see how **climate change in the form of natural disasters and changing weather patterns destroy income opportunities for millions of poor people around the world.** Another worrying development is the declining democratic space in many parts of the world, which prevents people from overcoming poverty and oppression.

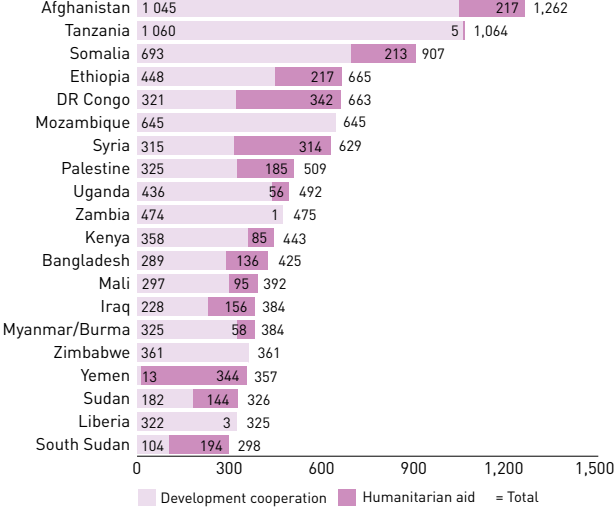
Sida always works on the basis of the poor man's perspective on development, and how the rights of such people are to be met. Within the framework of long-term partnerships, Sida builds capacity and local ownership in our cooperating countries. We mobilise commitment and enable solutions to create the conditions that allow the poorest and most vulnerable people to shape their lives and futures. At the same time, our activities aim to contribute to Agenda 2030 – the international community's joint response to the planet's challenges and our joint roadmap to a sustainable future. **In this leaflet, you can read about Swedish development cooperation and how Sida's activities contribute to the universal right to and opportunity for a life of dignity.**

Sida is the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and is responsible for bilateral development cooperation, reform cooperation in Eastern Europe and humanitarian aid. In total, the Agency represents about half of the Swedish budget for international development aid.

Bilateral development cooperation is long-term support for individual countries, while humanitarian aid is emergency aid to save lives and alleviate distress.

Each country is responsible for its development. **Sida mediates resources and develops knowledge and skills** that make a difference for people living in poverty and oppression.

Bilateral development cooperation via Sida, according to the 20 largest beneficiary countries, including humanitarian aid (SEK million)

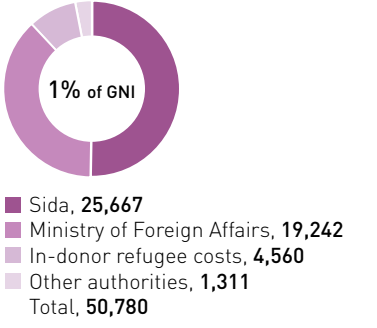


Sweden allocates approximately 1% of gross national income (GNI) to reduce poverty in the world. **In 2018, total development aid paid by Sweden amounted to approximately SEK 51 billion.**

Sweden is thus one of few countries that fulfils the UN recommendation of 0.7% for development aid.

The government directs the focus on development cooperation via strategies, and implements the multilateral core support through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This core support comprises numerous aid donor countries cooperating on common objectives, with resources channelled via major multilateral organisations, such as the UN.

Distribution of Swedish development aid 2018 (SEK million)



Sweden's total core support to multilateral organisations (SEK million)



Human rights, democracy and the principles of the rule of law

WHAT?

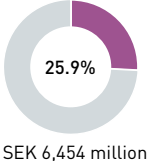
Democratic participation, support for civil society and human rights are the main tenants in this field, which also involves a well-functioning civil service, the principles of the rule of law, freedom of expression and respect for the equal value and rights of all. This field forms a part of all strategies for Swedish development cooperation. The democratisation process has stagnated in most African countries, while numerous elections are held. In Asia, there is a tendency for rapid economic growth at the cost of human rights, and many authoritarian regimes in the MENA region restrict political freedom and political participation, especially for women.

HOW?

One challenge is the shrinking democratic space in many countries. In order to counteract this, we support political institutions and the development of democratic governance. In Asia, we work regionally to form links between human rights and democracy and the environment and climate. By contributing to the education of local female politicians in Georgia, we are able to reinforce the country's democratic development. In Africa, Sida makes contributions to regional elections to boost democratisation processes that have stagnated, and in Guatemala we cooperate with civil society to strengthen its ability to influence legislation. Another important area is support for independent media in promoting and attempting to sustain access to a free and secure Internet.

EXAMPLE

 In Somalia, over **22,000 legal cases** have been handled and a formal legal system has been established with support from Sida. In Zimbabwe, parliamentary support has contributed to a **ban on child marriage**.



Share of total funds disbursement on the basis of the sectors for human rights, democracy and the principles of the rule of law.

Global gender equality

WHAT?

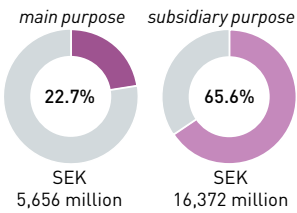
Gender equality and autonomy for women and girls are a priority in Sweden. Sustainable and peaceful societies require gender equality. It is therefore important to reinforce women's participation in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, to promote sustainable peace and to contribute to increased security in fragile countries. Sida integrates gender equality in its development cooperation and humanitarian aid, and also has targeted interventions in all the main areas for gender equality; i.e. economic autonomy and working conditions for women, women's political participation and influence, sexual and reproductive health and rights, education for women and girls, gender-based violence and women, peace and security.

HOW?

Sida has a gender equality perspective that permeates everything we do, and we are in dialogue with our partners on a global, national and local level. We prioritise support for areas where conservative values, social norms and discriminatory legislation restrict development. We support women's own economic development and support so-called "headwind issues" that involve sexual and reproductive health and rights and other rights issues. Other areas include working for women's political participation and actively promoting interventions to combat female genital mutilation. Gender-based violence is widely prevalent in Sida's cooperating countries. We prevent girls and women from being exposed to gender-based violence and we work with groups of men and adolescents.

EXAMPLE

 **335,000 vulnerable girls and women** in Myanmar have received **treatment after gender-based violence** and now have access to sexual and reproductive health and rights. In Ethiopia, our work has helped **reduce the number of female genital mutilations**.



Share of total funds disbursement based on the policy marker for global gender equality.

Environmental and climate-related sustainable development

WHAT?

The environment and climate perspective is fully integrated throughout Sida's activities, but can also be the main purpose of targeted aid interventions. Sida supports, for example, interventions in areas such as water and sanitation, water resources and marine resources. We also contribute to sustainable energy systems as well as environmentally sustainable agriculture and forestry and land use issues. One clear global trend is the increasing number and strength of weather-related disasters caused by the ongoing climate change. We can also see a sustained increase in famine in large parts of the world, as a result of major challenges in the agricultural sector.

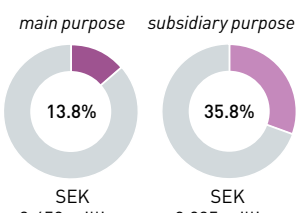
HOW?

Sida actively works to ensure that efforts with the environment as the main purpose are based on a perspective focusing on poverty and rights and that such efforts shall involve women. A major part of our development aid is directed towards small-scale agriculture, which accounts for about 80% of global food production. We support, for example, the work of Ethiopian women's organisations to boost adaptation by local households to climate change. Another example is our support for efforts to strengthen the climate-related management of water resources in rural Guatemala. In Zambia, our support for Power Africa, which plans to double access to electricity in Africa, has helped to ensure that approximately 350,000 people have been connected to solar power systems.

EXAMPLE

 Sida has been instrumental in **boosting the potential for cooperating countries to take part in climate negotiations**. We have also helped improve the capacity of local authorities to access climate financing.

7,000 families in Guatemala have received support to cope with drought.



Share of total funds disbursement based on the policy marker for environmental and climate-related sustainable development.

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Do you want to know more about Swedish development cooperation?

More information from Sida can be found at www.sida.se and www.openaid.se.

For information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, go to p3a.www.ud.se.