



# Environment and Climate Change

Towards environmental sustainability and resilience

Well-functioning ecosystems and a stable climate is the foundation for development and all human life. Sustainable management of the earth's resources is therefore a prerequisite for reduced poverty and sustainable societies – for current and future generations. In 2018, Sida contributed with 12.4 billion SEK to initiatives that had environment as the principal or significant objective. This is an increase of approximately 3 billion SEK from the previous year.



## MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

The environment and climate change perspective is one of the perspectives that must be permeated and integrated in all Sida's operations. Sida works to contribute to a better environment, limited climate impact, and greater resilience to environmental and climate change. Sida works with integration of environment and climate change in all sectors, and engages in dialogue for improved environmental sustainability with partner countries, multilateral institutions and other stakeholders. Sida's support to environment and climate change focuses on the following main areas: 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; and improved access to sustainable energy.

In total, Sida provided approximately 3.5 billion SEK to contributions with environment as a main objective, and an additional 8.9 billion SEK to contributions with environment as a significant (but not main) objective in 2018. The first figure includes contributions both within the formal sectors of environmental diversity, and a number of sectors related to food security and agriculture, water and sanitation, and energy. The largest funds with environment as a main objective were provided to global, regional

African and regional Asian organisations, while the four largest bilateral contributions were to actors in Ethiopia, Mali, Kenya and Bangladesh. Looking specifically at the sectors environmental policy and management, biological diversity, and biosphere protection, the support amounted to 1.2 billion SEK in 2018.

Sida's overall environment support may also be considered from the policy perspective of the Rio Conventions. The Rio Conventions on climate change, biodiversity and desertification are the products of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.<sup>1</sup> The total support in 2018 that had climate change action (adaptation or mitigation<sup>2</sup>) as a main objective amounted to 1.9 billion SEK, while the support to initiatives that had climate change as a significant (but not main) objective was approximately 6.1 billion. Sida's biodiversity-related support in 2018 amounted to approximately 3 billion SEK. Almost 19 per cent of these contributions have biodiversity as the main objective while 81 per cent have biodiversity as a significant objective.

- 1 The three conventions include the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).
- 2 According to the IPCC, adaptation refers to the process of adjustment to actual or expected climate and its effects while mitigation involves human interventions to reduce the sources or enhance the sinks of greenhouse gases.

## 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

The challenges related to environment and climate are enormous and multifaceted. In addition, current challenges have a significant impact on the ability of people to lift themselves out of poverty as people in poverty are more exposed and more vulnerable than others. During 2018, the impact of climate change on development became even more acute. At the same time, important steps were taken during the 24<sup>th</sup> United Nations climate change conference to ensure that countries live up to their commitments under the Paris agreement. Other issues that have received increased attention include the relationship between pollution, climate change and health; the impact of loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services on the lives of locals and indigenous peoples; low-carbon and climate-resilient growth; migration and climate change; and issues related to human rights and environment/climate change. The challenges and possibilities of the efficiency of funds in urban contexts is also something that is receiving more attention.



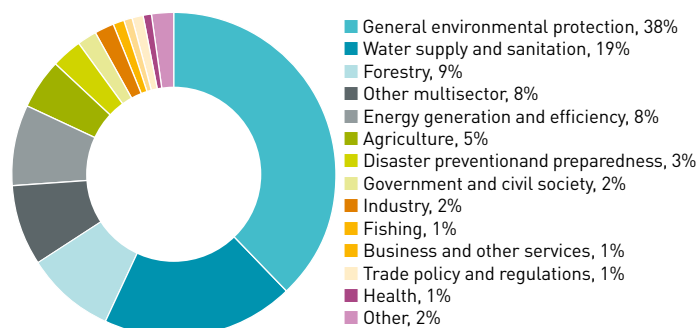
At the regional level, Sida supports the network **Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)**, that has members in 27 countries in Asia and the Pacific region. The advocacy work by APWLD **has contributed to women's voices to be heard and their rights to be included in several processes related to climate change, including in climate negotiations.**

### SWEDISH SUPPORT

Sida's portfolio on environment and climate change action is extensive, ranging from support to countries in Africa, Asia, 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, research organisations, multilateral organisations as well as actors from the private sector.

Sida continues to strengthen its work relating to sustainable use of oceans and marine resources. Sida's ocean-related support has contributed to reduced emissions into the Baltic Sea, in accordance with international conventions. In Ethiopia, four initiatives have together generated several million plants one season, several hundred hectares of land have been rehabilitated and 1,700 people have taken part in activities to increase awareness of forest management (commercialization and conservation).

### SIDA'S DISBURSEMENT TO CONTRIBUTIONS WITH ENVIRONMENT AS THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE 2018 PER MAIN SECTOR



Source: OECD DAC

### STORY OF CHANGE

Poaching and changes of the seabed have placed significant strain on the fish stock in the Russian river Varzuga. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) works with support from Sida to strengthen the national fishery protection programme by building an institute for training locals to assist state inspectors and law enforcement agencies. The project has also enabled investment in equipment for poaching raids. To deal with the so-called Kuzomen sands (sand carried by the wind to the river, changing its shape and making it shallow), volunteers plant trees along the river, creating a protective strip along the river shore. The aim

of these initiatives is to release pressure on fish species, such as the wild Atlantic salmon, and promote sustainable use of natural resources.



"It is very important to attract local people; it will give them not only work, but also an understanding that they are preserving their native wealth and participating in the management of their own resources."

**Valery Irkashev, chairman of the Murmansk Salmon Foundation. On the picture: Svetlana Polyantseva, Volunteer of the Kuzomen sands camp. Photo: WWF**