



Environment and Climate Change

Towards environmental sustainability and resilience

Well-functioning ecosystems and a stable climate is the foundation for 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 2019, Sida contributed with 12.2 billion SEK to initiatives that had environment as the principal or significant objective.



MAIN AREAS OF SUPPORT

Environment and climate change is one of five perspectives that must be mainstreamed and integrated in all Sida's operations. Therefore, efforts to contribute to a better environment, limit climate change impacts and increase resilience to environmental and climate change permeates all of Sida's work. This is done through integration of environment and climate change in all sectors and in dialogue with partner countries, multilateral institutions and other stakeholders. Sida's support to environment and climate change is focused on the following main areas: increased 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; integrated water resource management and sanitation; and improved access to sustainable energy.

In total, Sida provided almost 4 billion SEK in 2019 to contributions with environment as the main objective, and an additional 8.2 billion SEK to contributions with environment as a significant (but not main) objective. Contributions with environment as the main objective include both the traditional environmental programmes and several sectors related to food security and agriculture, water and sanitation, and energy. The largest contributions with environment as main objective was disbursed through the global strategy

(1 338 million SEK), followed by regional African and regional Asian. The four largest bilateral contributions were allocated to actors in Mozambique, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Mali and Kenya. Looking specifically at some sectors, disbursements to environmental policy and management amounted to 1 162 million SEK, disbursements to biological diversity to 130 million SEK, and biosphere protection to 72.7 million SEK.

Sida's overall environment support can also be measured through the policy markers of the Rio Conventions. The Rio Convention markers on climate change, biodiversity and desertification are outcomes of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992.¹ The sum of disbursements in 2019 that had climate change action (adaptation or mitigation²) as a main objective was 2.8 billion SEK, while the support to programmes/projects that had climate change as a significant (but not main) objective was approximately 5.1 billion. Sida's biodiversity-related support in 2019 was approximately 3.6 billion SEK.

- 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

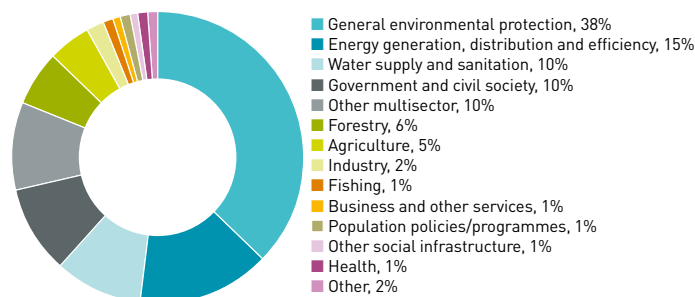
The challenges related to environment and climate are enormous and multifaceted. The challenges have a significant impact on the ability of people to lift themselves out of poverty as people in poverty are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change. During 2019, the awareness of the impact of climate change on development became even more profound. At the same time, important steps were taken to ensure that countries live up to their commitments under the Paris agreement as the process of the National Determined Contribution (NDC) were initiated. Several reports were released that highlighted the situation for both the world's biodiversity and the climate change challenges. These were the IPBES report on the state of the world's biodiversity and the IPCC reports on the Ocean and Cryosphere and Special report on Climate Change and Land. Other topics that have received increased attention include the impact of loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services on the lives of locals and indigenous peoples; migration and climate change; and issues related to human rights and environment/climate change.

SIDA'S 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 regional and global organisations. The support contributes to improved environmental sustainability and improved resilience to climate change and disaster risk reduction. It includes support to civil society-based organisations, public institutions, research organisations, multilateral organisations as well as actors from the private sector. Two examples showing the broad range of partnerships of Sida's support is:

- Sida's work to strengthen sustainable use of marine resources includes support to PROBLUE a World Bank Trust Fund, that funds healthy and productive oceans. Sida also support the work of FAO and World Fish on small scale fisheries as well as UNDP Ocean Innovation Challenge which supports innovative project ideas regarding marine pollution/plastics.
- To minimise food loss Sida supports the World Resources Institute (WRI) who partners with Food Loss and Waste Coalition Indonesia. The purpose is to aid corporate partners to handle and limit food waste through improvements in storage, transport and distribution. Globally WRI has initiated a corporate network where almost two thirds of the 50 largest food producers in the world has committed to limit food waste in accordance with SDG 12.3.

SIDA'S DISBURSEMENT TO CONTRIBUTIONS WITH ENVIRONMENT AS THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE 2019 PER MAIN SECTOR



Sida supports two environmental Civil Society Organisations in the Republic of Moldova: EcoVisio, a grass root organization working with environmental education, activism and social innovation and EcoContact, an organization of environmental lawyers providing policy support and enhancing public participation in environment-related decision making. In 2019, the support to EcoVisio was increased to support the "Hai, Moldova" (Let's do it, Moldova) a nation-wide campaign to collect electronic waste and promote education on waste management in schools.

STORY OF CHANGE

Tackling Plastic Waste Dumped in Indonesian Communities

A tsunami of discarded plastic has been flooding Indonesia from the global North since China halted waste imports in 2018. With support from Sida, IPEN (International Pollutants Elimination Network), a global environmental health network comprising 550 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in 122 countries, revealed how plastic waste

was poisoning local food chains and threatening public health. The IPEN team with Indonesian NGO partners Ecoton and Nexus3 sampled eggs laid by chickens that forage in the plastic waste scrap piles in Tropado, a community where plastic waste was burned as fuel in tofu factories. Burning the plastic waste releases high levels of the most toxic substance on earth, dioxin, which is linked to cancer and reproductive harm. Dioxin was measured at levels exceeding the European Food Safety Authority tolerable daily intake for chlorinated dioxins by 70-fold.

Results from the report include the local government's prohibition of burning plastic scrap for fuel in factories. In addition, the national government has committed to new regulations and enforcement to end importation and dumping of plastic waste in Indonesia.



International plastic waste dumped and piled up in Indonesia's rural communities. Photo: Yuyun Ismawati/Nexus3