



POLAND

“ The support for refugees from Ukraine has completely changed Poland's ODA ”

By Grupa Zagranica

Main trends

The year 2022 brought a huge increase of more than 250% in Polish ODA. This gave Poland first place among donors with the largest percentage increase in ODA funds. Total spending on development assistance in 2022 was almost EUR 3 billion, representing an increase of EUR 2.1 billion. Polish ODA accounted for 0.51% of Gross National Income in the previous year, compared to an average of 0.14-0.15% ODA/GNI over the last 10 years.

EUR 1.9 billion however was spent on In-Direct Refugee Costs (mostly from Ukraine) accounting for 65% of Poland's total development assistance. In previous years, the cost of supporting refugees in Poland accounted for less than 1% of aid spending. Excluding In-Direct Refugee Costs, our ratio would be just 0.18% of ODA/GNI. This is still more than in recent years, but not enough to meet international commitment to spend 0.33% of GNI for ODA.

Government's relationship with civil society

The year 2022 was the second year of the implementation of the [2021-2030 development cooperation strategy](#). We are in the middle of the third year, and still the MFA has not started implementing a number of commitments, including developing tools for capacity-building/institutional support for CSOs or developing country strategies for priority countries or for global education.

Moreover, current cooperation with social partners needs significant improvements. Every year we see delays in announcing calls for proposals and processing agreements with selected grantees. In 2022, the global education call was cancelled,

Reported ODA: EUR 2958 million
0.51% GNI (↑ from 0.15% in 2021)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 935 million
0.16% GNI (↑ from 0.13% in 2021)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 2023 million
68.4% of total



in 2023 it still has not been announced. There is a lack of an efficient and responsive system for public consultations (with CSOs) on those matters.

The Polish government should:

- Increase the volume of genuine ODA/reflect on the huge share of IDRC and student costs in current ODA statistics.
- Increase the participation (financial and competence) of CSOs in the implementation of publicly funded projects in the field of development cooperation.
- Introduce transition from modular projects to multi-year cooperation agreements with CSOs, funding long-term programmes in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance.
- Provide institutional support to NGOs (core funding), including support to the NGO sector in accessing funds from the EU budget and other institutional donors.
- Develop thematic/geographic strategy documents for key development cooperation areas (strategies for major recipients of Polish ODA, global education), including broad consultation with social partners.