



# POLAND

**“ Will the political shift bring ambitious changes in Polish development cooperation policy and implementation? ”**

Grupa Zagranica

## Main trends

Total spending on development cooperation in 2023 was almost PLN 10.9 billion. Similarly to last year, Poland's ODA marginally exceeded the spending target of 0.33% ODA/GNI, accounting for 0.34% of GNI. In 2022 this figure was much higher at 0.51%.

However, the costs of hosting refugees in Poland (51% of total ODA in 2023) and multilateral cooperation, such as contributions to the EU budget, payments to the European Development Fund and various UN agencies (34% of total ODA in 2023) amount to a huge part of Polish ODA.

A very small percentage of ODA relates to strictly project-based activities in partner countries. Even less, only about 0.6% of ODA, is allocated to projects through Polish CSOs.

## Government's relationship with civil society

At the end of 2023, there was a change of the government in Poland and the new Foreign Minister affirmed the role of development and humanitarian organisations. Exceptionally, the Polish responsibility for tackling global challenges was highlighted, which we take as a good sign of future improvements.

In December 2023 the OECD DAC published the [Peer Review of Polish development cooperation](#). A number of recommendations included in the report are consistent with longstanding civil society requests. One significant development in 2024 was the announcement of the funding call in the area of global education and the conduct of the grant procedure in a transparent manner.

Reported ODA: EUR 2104.8 million  
**0.34% GNI** (↓ from 0.53% in 2022)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 1383.7 million  
**0.22% GNI** (↑ from 0.18% in 2022)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 721.2 million  
**34% of total**



## The Polish government should:

- Set clear targets to build ODA volume over the next six years and commit to this in budget planning.
- Better reflect the importance of civil society in policy making and implementation of projects financed from public funds in the field of development cooperation and global education.
- Transition from modular projects to multi-year cooperation agreements with CSOs, funding long-term programmes in development cooperation and humanitarian assistance in order to foster more substantial and sustainable projects.
- Provide institutional support to CSOs, including support to the CSO sector in accessing funds from the EU budget and other institutional donors.
- Develop strategy documents for 1) each priority partner country and 2) global education, based on consultation with partner country stakeholders and social partners.