Leaving no one behind: Poland’s approach and priorities

Poland is planning to include a special principle of leaving no one behind in its forthcoming 2021-2025 Multiannual Development Co-operation Programme.

Polish development co-operation addresses leaving no one behind at present through its focus on the principle of non-discrimination of vulnerable groups in least developed and middle-income countries. It targets vulnerable or excluded people in some of its partner countries through support for social policy and services for people with disabilities, victims of domestic violence, children in foster care, and conflict affected populations.

For Poland, the principle to leave no one behind means ensuring that no country is left behind including middle-income countries and other more advanced developing countries where development co-operation policies can target poor people and vulnerable groups. Poland believes that the concept of leaving no one behind needs to be clarified to guide programming and projects and to develop the right instruments.

Financial flows from Poland to developing countries

![Figure 35.1. Net resource flows to developing countries, 2006-16, Poland](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933795654)

![Figure 35.2. Net ODA: Trends in volume and as a share of GNI, 2006-17, Poland](http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933795673)

Poland’s performance against commitments for effective development co-operation

| Table 35.1. Results of the 2016 Global Partnership monitoring round (updated), Poland |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Poland                                         | Alignment and ownership by partner country (%) | Predictability (%) | Transparency |
|                                                | Use of country-led results frameworks | Funding recorded in countries' national budgets | Funding through countries’ systems | Untied ODA | Annual predictability | Medium-term predictability | Retrospective statistics (OECD CRS) | Information for forecasting (OECD FSS) | Publishing to IATI |
| 2016                                           | - | - | - | 34.5 | - | - | Good | Good | - |
| Baseline                                       | 33.6 | 34.5 | - | - | - | - | Good | Needs improvement | - |
| Trend                                          | 33.6 | 34.5 | - | - | - | - | Good | Needs improvement | - |

Note: Please refer to Annex B for details on the indicators. Data on untied ODA, retrospective statistics and publishing to the IATI have been updated according to the latest information available.
Poland’s official development assistance

In 2017, Poland provided USD 674 million in net ODA (preliminary data), which represented 0.13% of gross national income (GNI) and a 4% decrease in real terms from 2016, due to cuts in its bilateral aid loans. Scaling up its official development assistance (ODA) to deliver on its international commitment to achieve an ODA to GNI ratio of 0.33% by 2030 will be challenging without a plan. In 2017, in-donor refugee costs were USD 6 million and represented 0.9% of Poland’s total net ODA (the same share as in 2016).

Poland’s share of untied ODA (excluding administrative costs and in-donor refugee costs) was 34.5% in 2016 (up from 33.6% in 2015), compared to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) average of 81.2%. The grant element of total ODA was 97.6% in 2016. Loans amounted to 11.2% of gross ODA.

Poland delivered 25.3% of ODA bilaterally in 2016. It channelled 74.7% of its ODA to multilateral organisations in 2016. Its multilateral aid consisted mainly of mandatory assessed contributions to the European Union and other international organisations. In addition, it channelled 17% of its bilateral ODA to specific projects implemented by multilateral organisations (multi-bi/non-core contributions).

In 2016, 63.3% of bilateral ODA was programmed with partner countries. Poland’s share of country programmable aid was higher than the DAC country average (46.8%) in 2016 and project-type interventions made up 89% of this aid.

In 2016, USD 14.3 million of bilateral ODA was channelled to and through civil society organisations (CSOs). Poland’s ODA to and through CSOs decreased between 2015 and 2016 as a share of bilateral aid (from 12.2% to 8.2%).

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**Figure 35.3. ODA composition in 2010-16 and distribution of multilateral ODA in 2016, Poland**

**Figure 35.4. Composition of bilateral ODA, 2016, gross disbursements, Poland**

**Figure 35.5. Gross bilateral ODA disbursements to and through CSOs by type of CSO, 2013-16, Poland**
In 2016, bilateral ODA primarily focused on sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Europe. USD 80.4 million was allocated to sub-Saharan Africa and USD 64.6 million to Eastern Europe.

Figure 35.6. Share of bilateral ODA by region, 2016, gross disbursements, Poland

Note: Six per cent of bilateral ODA allocated was unspecified by region in 2016. This share is not represented on the map.

In 2016, 88.7% of bilateral ODA went to Poland’s top 10 recipients. Poland divides its geographical priorities into two groups: Eastern Partnership countries and selected countries of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Seven of its ten priority countries are among its top 10 recipients. Its support to fragile contexts reached USD 93.3 million in 2016 (53% of gross bilateral ODA). Support to fragile contexts consisted mainly of project-type interventions (90%), above the 65% DAC average in those contexts.

Figure 35.7. Bilateral ODA to top recipients, 2016, gross disbursements, Poland

In 2016, 42% of bilateral ODA was allocated to least developed countries (LDCs), amounting to USD 73.3 million. This is an increase from 2015, when the share was 36.2%, and is higher than the 2016 DAC average of 21.9%. The LDCs received the highest share of bilateral ODA in 2016.

At 0.04% of GNI in 2016, total ODA to the LDCs was below the UN target of 0.15% of GNI.

In 2016, 33.2% of bilateral ODA was allocated to social infrastructure and services, reaching USD 58.4 million, with a strong focus on education (USD 38.6 million) and government and civil society (USD 14.2 million). USD 74 million went to production sectors, mainly to agriculture (USD 72.7 million). Humanitarian aid amounted to USD 31.9 million. In 2016, Poland committed USD 75.5 million (52.3% of bilateral allocable aid) to promote aid for trade and to improve developing countries’ trade performance and integration into the world economy.
USD 3.7 million of bilateral ODA supported gender equality. In 2016, 2.6% of Poland's bilateral allocable aid had gender equality and women's empowerment as a principal or significant objective, compared with the DAC country average of 36.5%. Sectors where Poland has a gender focus are population and reproductive health and water and sanitation.

USD 3.1 million of bilateral ODA supported the environment. In 2016, 2.2% of Poland's bilateral allocable aid supported the environment and 1.7% (USD 2.4 million) focused on climate change, compared with the respective DAC country averages of 33% and 25.7%.

Note to reader: Annex B provides “Methodological notes on the profiles of Development Assistance Committee members”.

Figure 35.9. Share of gross bilateral ODA by sector, 2015-16, commitments, Poland

Figure 35.10. Share of bilateral allocable ODA in support of gender equality by sector, 2016, commitments, Poland

Figure 35.11. Bilateral allocable ODA in support of global and local environment objectives, 2013-16, commitments, Poland