

Donor updates in brief: Total ODA

The table below presents an overview of trends in total official development assistance (ODA) and developments to watch for 14 major Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) donors. Donors are listed in order of their absolute ODA funding volume for 2020 based on preliminary data from the OECD (expressed in US\$ billions, current prices) and color-coded according to the trend of their compound annual growth rate for ODA between 2018 and 2020. The initial impacts of the COVID-19 crisis can be seen in the data presented here but, given the longevity of the crisis, it will remain an important issue to watch over the coming months and years.

ODA Trend 2018-2020

- rising
- declining

2020 rank ODA ¹ , US\$bn	Donor	ODA growth 2018-2020 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#1 US\$35.5	 UNITED STATES	0 %	With the election of President Joe Biden, ODA funding and the role of global development are expected to be significantly heightened. Biden's FY2022 (July 2022–June 2023) budget request showed an US\$8.6 billion (12%) increase in international affairs funding over FY2021.
#2 US\$28.4	 GERMANY	7 %	Federal elections in September 2021 will likely change the direction and funding of development policy. The current Chancellor and Development Minister will withdraw from politics. In 2022, Germany will assume the G7 Presidency; pandemic preparedness will likely be among its priorities.
#3 US\$18.6	 UNITED KINGDOM	-4 %	From 2021, the UK will provide ODA volumes equivalent to only 0.5% of GNI, rather than 0.7% as the government has maintained since 2013. This will impact programs across its development portfolio. In 2021, the UK will host the G7 Summit in June and COP26 in December.
#4 US\$16.3	 JAPAN	5 %	Japan's ODA policies remained steady following the election of Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga in September 2020. Suga is expected to call a snap election before the next general election deadline of October 2021. His coalition government will likely remain in power.
#5 US\$14.1	 FRANCE	8 %	France committed to increasing its ODA from 0.53% in 2020 to 0.55% of GNI by 2022 and 0.7% by 2025 with two-thirds channeled bilaterally. Given this commitment, the government will have to limit multilateral spending, which has been important to its global response to COVID-19.
#6 US\$6.3	 SWEDEN	4 %	The Swedish government is committed to spending 1% of its GNI on ODA. Based on upward GNI projections in the 2021 Spring Amending Budget, ODA is expected to grow by an average of US\$200 million per year between 2021 and 2024. Elections in 2022 could change that.

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#7 US\$5.4	 NETHERLANDS	-3 %	The projected 8% increase in Dutch ODA to US\$5.7 billion by 2023 may be stalled by the impacts of COVID-19. A new ODA budget will be determined once a new government is in place, following the fourth reelection of Prime Minister Mark Rutte in March 2021.
#8 US\$5.0	 CANADA	4 %	In FY2020/21 (April 2020–March 2021), COVID-19 spurred the largest ever increase in development spending in a single fiscal year, mostly driven by one-off spending. The 2021 budget suggests ODA and the ODA growth rate will return to pre-COVID-19 levels.
#9 US\$4.2	 NORWAY	9 %	General elections in September 2021 will determine the direction of Norway's ODA in the aftermath of COVID-19. It is likely that Norway's commitment to spend 1% of its GNI on ODA will drive increases beyond 2021 as the economy recovers from the pandemic.
#10 US\$4.2	 ITALY	-9 %	Italy's ODA budget for 2021 stands at US\$6.0 billion but beyond 2021, ODA is projected to decrease. In October 2021, Italy is hosting the G20 Summit focusing on the global response to COVID-19, pandemic preparedness, and economic recovery.
#12 US\$3.0	 SPAIN	2 %	Spain's 'Foreign Action Strategy 2021-2024' commits to increasing Spain's ODA to 0.5% of its GNI by 2023. As a result of COVID-19, Spain has reshuffled its development priorities to focus on global health, epidemic preparedness, and global health R&D.
#14 US\$2.6	 AUSTRALIA	-8 %	Australia's ODA remains capped at US\$2.8 billion but "targeted and temporary" COVID-19 commitments will push ODA beyond the cap in FY2020/21 and FY2021/22 (June–July). The government will likely not maintain the higher funding levels beyond FY2021/22.
#16 US\$2.2	 SOUTH KOREA	1 %	South Korea is committed to doubling ODA between 2019 and 2030. The 2021 budget includes a 41% increase from 2020. Political support for South Korea's leadership in multilateral settings has grown because of COVID-19, so its multilateral engagement may increase in coming years.
N/A US\$19.4	 EU INSTITUTIONS	9 %	The EU is collectively committed to providing 0.7% of GNI as ODA by 2030. Of this, the EU aims to focus 0.15%-0.20% of its GNI on "least developed countries" (a subset of low-income countries) and fragile and conflict affected states.

1. 2020 ODA in current prices, US\$ billions. All other US\$ conversions in 2019 constant prices. 2. Compound annual growth rate, 2018-2020.