

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.

2020 rank ODA ¹ , US\$bn	Donor	ODA growth 2018-2020 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#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.

Donor updates in brief: Gender equality

The table below presents an overview of trends in official development assistance (ODA) for advancing gender equality and developments to watch in 2021 and beyond from 14 major Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) donors. Donors are listed in order of their gender-related ODA funding volume (including principal and significant funding) for 2019 based on data from the OECD (expressed in US\$ millions, 2019 prices) and color-coded according to the trend of their compound annual growth rate for gender-related ODA between 2017 and 2019. This year's Generation Equality Forum is putting gender at the center of global policy discussions; its outcomes will be interesting to watch in the months ahead.

ODA Trend 2017-2019

- rising
- declining

2019 rank ODA ¹ , US\$m	Donor	ODA growth 2017-2019 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#1 US\$7,051	 UNITED KINGDOM	12 %	The UK sees itself as a leader on gender equality, though recent ODA cuts will impact gender-related funding. The UK is expected to push gender equality as an important component of the G7 "build back better" agenda at the G7 Summit in June 2021.
#2 US\$6,991	 GERMANY	7 %	Gender equality is a cross-cutting principle of Germany's development cooperation but with the upcoming federal election and the ongoing 'BMZ 2030' reform process, it is difficult to anticipate the outlook for gender equality funding and policy beyond September 2021.
#3 US\$6,803	 UNITED STATES	1 %	The US is a major funder of gender-related projects, particularly in women's economic empowerment. President Joe Biden has already repealed the Global Gag Rule and will restore funding to UNFPA for major projects in sexual and reproductive health and rights.
#4 US\$6,066	 EU INSTITUTIONS	3 %	The EU have been increasing their policy emphasis on gender equality. The EU's latest Gender Action Plan (GAP III, covering 2021–2025) sets a goal for 85% of all new actions related to external relations to contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment by 2025.
#5 US\$4,185	 JAPAN	13 %	Japan aims to achieve gender mainstreaming by ensuring equal participation and leadership of women through its development projects. Japan's share of gender-related bilateral allocable ODA is expected to continue a moderate upward trend but remain below the DAC average.
#6 US\$2,585	 SWEDEN	7 %	Sweden is a long-standing leader on gender equality. Given its commitment to gender mainstreaming, Sweden's funding for gender equality will likely increase in the years ahead, in line with its projected ODA growth; however, elections in 2022 could shift the outlook.

2019 rank ODA ¹ , US\$m	Donor	ODA growth 2017-2019 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#7 US\$2,193	 CANADA	6 %	Canada's gender-related funding has grown significantly since it launched its Feminist International Assistance Policy in 2017. Growth is expected to continue in the years ahead. Canada remains a vocal supporter of gender equality in the response to and recovery from COVID-19.
#8 US\$1,833	 NETHERLANDS	14 %	The Netherlands champions gender equality, especially sexual and reproductive health and rights. Given the success of Development Minister Sigrid Kaag (a strong gender advocate) and her D66 party in the 2021 elections, gender equality will likely remain a key Dutch priority.
#9 US\$1,674	 FRANCE	26 %	Since 2019, France has been committed to 'feminist diplomacy'. In June 2021, France is co-hosting the Generation Equality Forum with Mexico. It will sit on the leadership team of the Action Coalition for Bodily Autonomy and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.
#10 US\$1,078	 NORWAY	18 %	Gender equality is a priority for Norway. The government attributes its lower gender-related ODA relative to other DAC donors on its stricter interpretation of the policy marker. It recently introduced a target of 50% of projects targeting gender equality, making funding increases likely.
#12 US\$786	 AUSTRALIA	-14 %	Australia's FY2021/22 (July 2021–June 2022) budget reiterates the government's commitment to gender equality, particularly elevating "women's voices and leadership in the COVID-19 response and recovery". The new 'Pacific Women Lead' program will be central to this goal.
#13 US\$390	 ITALY	-4 %	Gender equality plays a prominent role as cross-cutting theme in Italy's Programming Guidelines 2019-2021 and is a priority of Italy's 2021 G20 presidency; however, Italy's ODA targeting gender equality objectives remains moderate.
#15 US\$302	 SPAIN	0 %	Spain is increasingly prioritizing gender equality. In 2021, Spain introduced a 'Feminist Foreign Policy Guide' and aims to mainstream gender in 85% of its ODA. At the Generation Equality Forum, Spain is co-leading of the Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights.
#16 US\$226	 SOUTH KOREA	18 %	South Korea's gender-related funding as a proportion of its bilateral allocable ODA has been relatively constant since 2016, however total funding to gender equality has increased in line with South Korea's rising ODA. This growth will likely continue in 2021.

1. 2019 ODA in 2019 prices, US\$ million. All other US\$ conversions in 2019 constant prices. 2. Compound annual growth rate, 2017-2019.

Donor updates in brief: Climate

The table below presents an overview of trends in official development assistance (ODA) that contributed to climate objectives and developments to watch in 2021 and beyond from 14 major Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) donors. Donors are listed in order of their ODA funding volume for climate (marked with the Rio Markers for mitigation and adaptation, principal and significant funding) in 2019 based on data from the OECD (expressed in US\$ millions, 2019 prices) and color-coded according to the trend of their compound annual growth rate for climate-related ODA between 2017 and 2019. COP26 in November 2021 represents a crucial moment during which countries will update their plans for tackling climate change.

ODA Trend 2017-2019

- rising
- declining

2019 rank ODA ¹ , US\$m	Donor	ODA growth 2017-2019 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#1 US\$8,251	 GERMANY	9 %	'BMZ 2030' strategy defines climate as one of five future core topics of German development cooperation. Germany puts a strong focus on the expansion of renewable energies in low-income countries, primarily on the African continent.
#2 US\$6,289	 Japan	-8 %	In October 2020, Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga announced his aim to make Japan carbon neutral by 2050. Key questions remain on the plan to reach this milestone, particularly given Japan's continued reliance on coal-fired power plants, which it has also financed abroad through ODA.
#3 US\$5,625	 EU INSTITUTIONS	-0 %	To strengthen climate action, the European Commission has proposed integrating climate action across all EU programs and using at least 25% of the budget outlined in the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) 2021-2027 to further climate objectives.
#4 US\$4,730	 FRANCE	7 %	Climate change is a longstanding priority for France. The French Development Agency (AFD) will host the 'Finance in Common Summit' in November of 2021, which aims to mobilize 400 public development banks to launch a new coalition in support of collective action for climate.
#5 US\$2,030	 UNITED KINGDOM	14 %	Climate change remains an area of focus for the UK. Climate change may be protected from overall ODA cuts since climate finance has been ringfenced at US\$14.8 billion from 2021 to 2025. The UK will host the UN Climate Summit, COP26, in November 2021.
#6 US\$1,276	 NETHERLANDS	30 %	The Netherlands dovetails climate measures with all preexisting and future development initiatives. In its 2021 development budget, the Netherlands announced it will double spending on fighting climate change, specifically fighting deforestation and land degradation.

2019 rank ODA ¹ , US\$m	Donor	ODA growth 2017-2019 ²	What to watch in the second half of 2021 and beyond
#7 US\$1,027	 SOUTH KOREA	108 %	After hosting the Partnering for Green Growth & the Global Goals (P4G) Summit in May 2021 — a stepping stone to the COP26 climate conference in November 2021 — South Korea will continue to accelerate international efforts to combat the climate crisis and meet the SDGs.
#8 US\$931	 UNITED STATES	-9 %	President Joe Biden has indicated that climate is a top issue. The US has rejoined the Paris Agreement and will aim to reduce emissions by 50-52% by 2030 compared to 2005 levels. The US will double public climate finance to low-income countries by 2024.
#9 US\$694	 SWEDEN	17 %	Climate change is a priority in Sweden's development cooperation. Its focus on synergies between climate adaptation, sustainable use of natural resources, and disaster risk reduction drives its investment in climate-smart agriculture, including forestry and fishing.
#10 US\$532	 CANADA	17 %	Canada is expected to renew its climate finance pledges in the lead-up to COP26, though the 2021 budget does not reveal exact allocations. So far in 2021, the largest programming approvals made by Global Affairs Canada have been for multilateral climate finance.
#12 US\$516	 AUSTRALIA	25 %	Australia's ODA for climate will likely increase in the years ahead, with US\$1.0 billion in climate finance pledged for 2020-2025. Overall climate allocations are not given in the FY2021/22 budget but it shows funding for Indo-Pacific 'Climate partnerships' will double compared to FY2020/21.
#13 US\$488	 NORWAY	-11 %	Fighting climate change is a cross-cutting issue and one of five priority areas for Norway. Funding will likely increase going forward as Norway has significantly stepped up its pledges to key multilaterals, including the Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility.
#15 US\$236	 ITALY	-10 %	Climate change is named a priority in Italy's 2019-2021 Programming Guidelines and as part of its G20 presidency. In November 2021, Italy will support the UK around COP26 by hosting several preparatory events. Still, Italy's climate-related ODA contributions remain moderate.
#16 US\$96	 SPAIN	4 %	Climate action is a strategic objective in Spain's 'Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation 2018-2021'. It aims to support middle- and low-income countries to reduce emissions, use renewable energies, protect biodiversity, and improve waste management.

1. 2019 ODA in 2019 prices, US\$ millions. All other US\$ conversions in 2019 constant prices. 2. Compound annual growth rate, 2017-2019.