

# KEY QUESTIONS

## the big six



### How much ODA does the Netherlands provide?

**In absolute terms, ODA is projected to rise during current legislative term; in relative terms however, ODA/GNI levels will nonetheless further decrease**

In 2017, the Netherlands was the eighth-largest donor country (in absolute amounts) among members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the OECD, spending US\$5.0 billion on net ODA (in current prices, US\$4.8 billion in 2016 prices). This is a 3% decrease in real terms from 2016 spending level, when ODA stood at US\$5.0 billion (2016 prices). In relative terms, Dutch ODA stood at 0.60% of GNI in 2017 (seventh-largest DAC donor According to OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018), costs of hosting refugees reported as ODA almost doubled between 2016 and 2017, going from US\$434 million to US\$813 million. Despite this rise, ODA decreased nonetheless, due to a drop in the Netherlands' core contributions to multilateral organizations and the previous government's decision to cut overall funding for development cooperation. Dutch ODA of GNI stood at 0.6% in 2017 (seventh-largest DAC donor in relative terms).

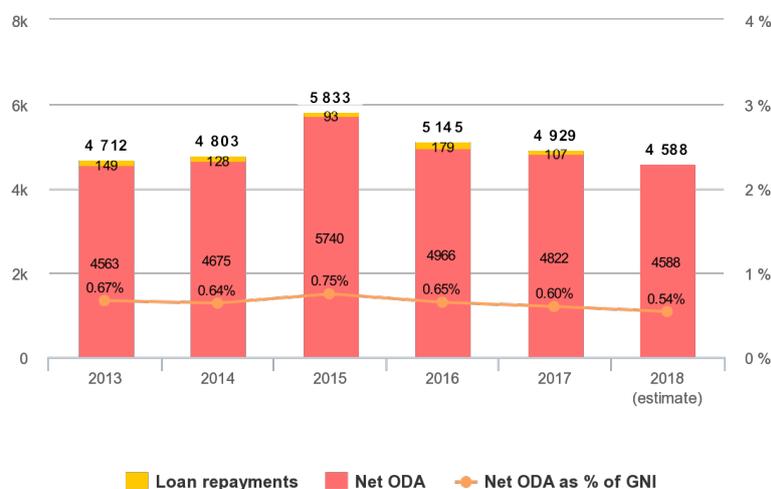
The new government, in office since October 2017, committed to compensating for the cuts made by the last government, and to gradually increase development fund-

ing over the coming four years. According to the coalition agreement, this will be done through an additional €1 billion (US\$1.1 billion), equal to 22% of 2016's net ODA, that will be added to the budget over the 2019-2022 period (according to the coalition agreement), and through the reinjection of €1.2 billion that had been frontloaded to cover costs of hosting refugees in the Netherlands (see below). In 2018, the ODA budget is set at US\$5.1 billion, and at US\$5.2 in 2019. Despite these budget increases, ODA as a share of GNI is expected to further decrease to 0.59% in 2018, 0.57% in 2019 and ultimately to 0.54% at the end of the legislative period in 2021.

Since 2014, the Netherlands has received a high number of asylum seekers. It takes some of the costs incurred to host refugees from the ODA budget, which has reduced funding available for global development. These costs have been heavily fluctuating over the past five years: they went from US\$315 million in 2013 to US\$1.3 billion in 2015, before dropping to US\$538 million in 2016 and increasing again to US\$813 million in 2017, when they accounted for 17% of the Netherlands' net ODA. In 2016 and 2017, €1.2 billion (US\$1.3 billion) was drawn from future ODA budgets by the former government to cover these costs. The government has committed in its coalition

### THE NETHERLANDS' GROSS/NET ODA DISBURSEMENTS

US\$ millions; in 2016 prices



OECD DAC. ODA for 2017 based on OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018). ODA estimates for 2018 are based on government data.

<sup>1</sup> The government of the Netherlands reported different amounts of ODA-reportable costs of hosting refugees to the OECD Creditor Reporting system (CRS; US\$538 million for 2016) and the OECD DAC1 table (US\$434 million). For consistency reasons, we use the number stated in the CRS throughout this profile.

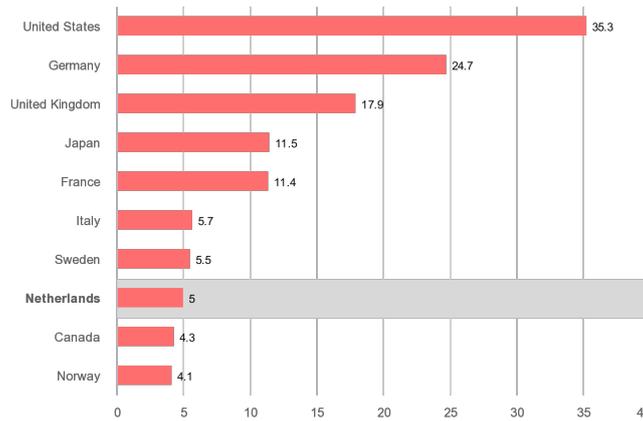
agreement to reinject this €1.2 billion.

The government is committed to stepping up its support to climate financing, aiming to spend €400 million (US\$442 million) of ODA resources in 2018 on climate-relevant expenditures in developing countries. Climate fi-

ancing will be increased by €20 million in 2019 and €40 million annually from 2020 onwards. According to current predictions, climate financing within the development budget will rise to €480 million annually by the end of this government's term of office (2021).

TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

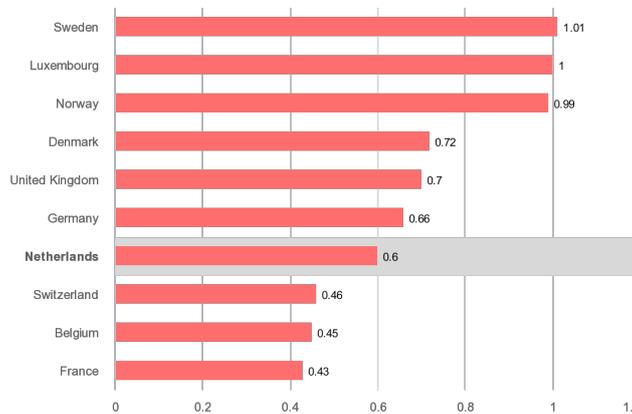
Net ODA Disbursements; US\$ billions; in current prices



OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018).

TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

Net ODA as % of GNI



OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018).

**Further information: 2016 prices**

To compare ODA levels in any given year with ODA levels provided in other years, figures need to be adjusted to account for inflation and exchange rate fluctuations. The OECD provides data that accounts for these fluctuations. In this profile, and unless indicated otherwise, figures are stated using 2016 prices.