

KEY QUESTIONS

the big six



How much ODA does South Korea provide?

South Korea is a small yet growing donor; government plans to increase ODA to 0.2% of GNI by 2020

The Republic of Korea (referred to as South Korea in this profile) was the 15th-largest donor country in 2017. It spent US\$2.2 billion in net ODA in 2017 (in current prices). This corresponds to 0.14% of South Korea’s gross national income (GNI), a decrease from 0.16% in 2016. This ranks South Korea 26th in terms of ODA as a share of GNI.

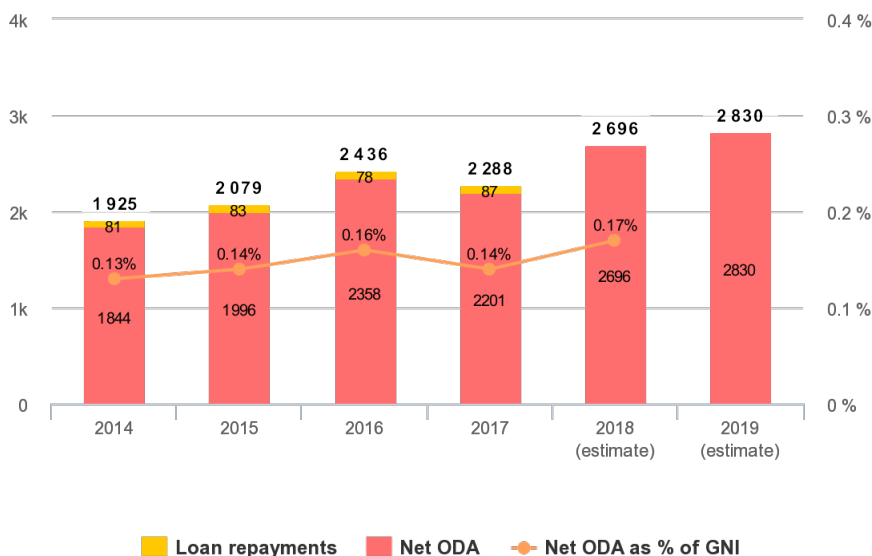
South Korea was an ODA recipient until 1995 and became a member of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in 2010. Since then, it has increased its ODA volume steadily: ODA rose by 18% between 2015 and 2016. In 2017, however, ODA decreased by 7%. According to OECD data, this decrease is mainly due to lower core contributions to multilateral organizations in 2017 compared to 2016.

In 2018, the total ODA budget increased to KRW3 trillion (US\$2.7 billion), or 0.17% of GNI, and in 2019 is set to increase further to KRW3.2 trillion (US\$2.8 billion). The government’s ‘Strategic Plan for International Development Cooperation for 2016-2020’ plans for ODA to increase gradually to 0.2% by 2020.

In 2017, South Korea reported that 11% of its bilateral ODA (US\$167 million) targeted gender equality and women’s empowerment as either a significant or principal goal of the development activity. This is below the DAC average of 39%.

SOUTH KOREA'S GROSS/NET ODA DISBURSEMENTS

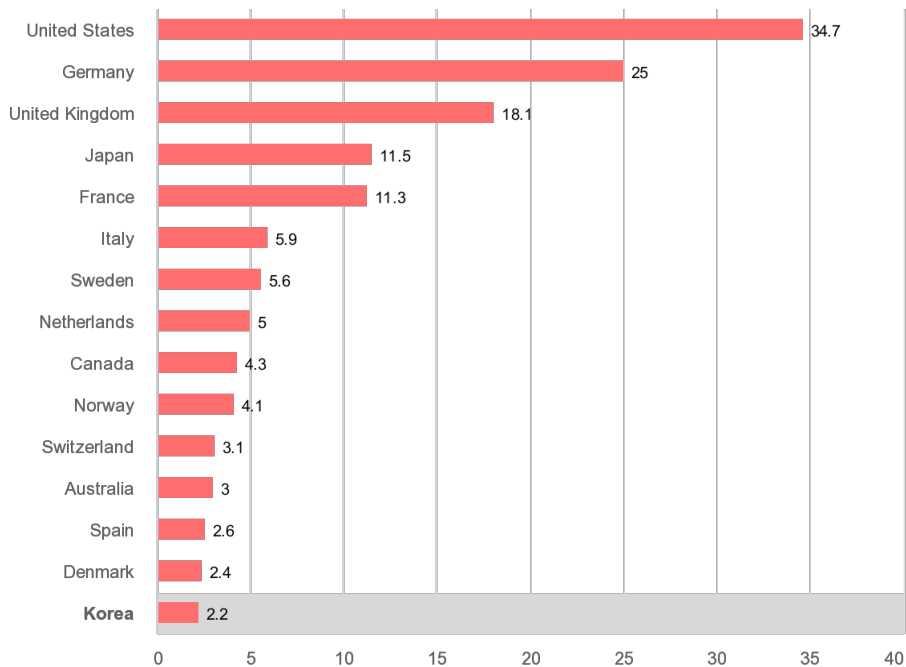
US\$ millions; in 2017 prices



OECD DAC1 table. ODA estimates for 2018 and 2019 are based on government data.

TOP 15 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

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



TOP 26 DAC DONORS COUNTRIES, 2017

Net ODA as % of GNI

