

# KEY QUESTIONS

## the big six



### How much ODA does Sweden provide?

#### Sweden’s ODA is increasing, tied to its strong economy

Sweden is the largest donor among members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in proportion to the size of its economy: net ODA spending stood at 1.01% of its GNI in 2017, according to OECD DAC preliminary data. This amounted to US\$5.5 billion (in current prices, US\$5.4 billion in 2016 prices). Sweden is committed to spend at least 1% of its GNI on ODA and has exceeded the UN’s 0.7% target since 1975.

Between 2016 and 2017, net ODA went up by 10%, driven by higher level of grants to Africa and to the category of ‘least-developed countries’ (LDCs), and increased contributions to international organizations. A significant peak in funding in 2015 was due to extraordinarily high costs of hosting refugees in Sweden (US\$2.4 billion), and advanced payments to UN organizations and the Green Climate Fund – which also explain a decrease in 2016.

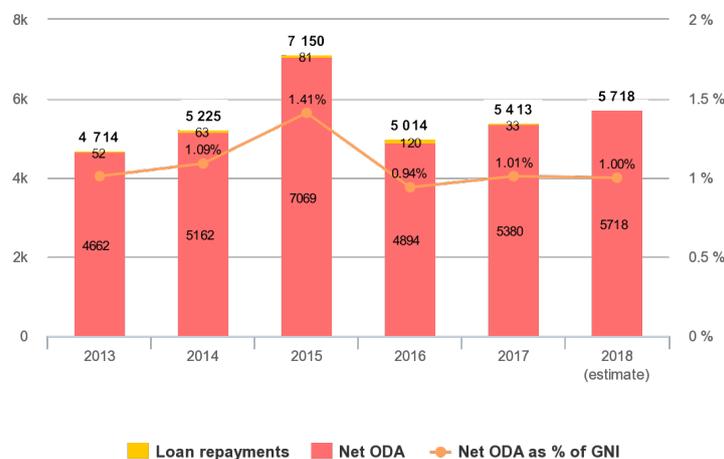
The 2018 budget sets ODA at an all-time high: SEK48.96 billion, or US\$5.7 billion). Looking forward, the ODA budget is set to keep increasing due to Sweden’s growing economy and its 1% ODA/GNI commitment, reaching SEK53.0 billion in 2020. Most increases are currently planned within Sweden’s priority areas: gender equality,

sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR): climate change: environment and marine resources: and humanitarian assistance. General elections on September 9, 2018 were inconclusive, meaning that there may be a reshuffle these increases, which were planned by the Social Democrats and the Greens, previously in government. During the budget debate in Parliament in the fall of 2017, the ‘Moderate party’ (conservative), currently the largest opposition party, expressed concerns about the rate of the increases and the absorption capacity necessary for their implementation. The party does, however, remain committed to the 1% spending target in the medium to long-term.

In 2015, Sweden received a particularly high number of asylum seekers in proportion to its population compared to other European countries (162,877 asylum applications were filed). To cover the costs of hosting refugees in the country, Sweden partly uses funds that fall under its 1% commitment for development funding. From 2015 to 2017, these costs were particularly high. In 2017, they amounted to US\$808 million, remaining stable compared to 2016, when they were at US\$821 million). According to the government’s 2018 budget proposal, they are set at a very low SEK2.8 billion (US\$321 million) and are planned to remain at a low level in the coming years.

### SWEDEN'S GROSS/NET ODA DISBURSEMENTS

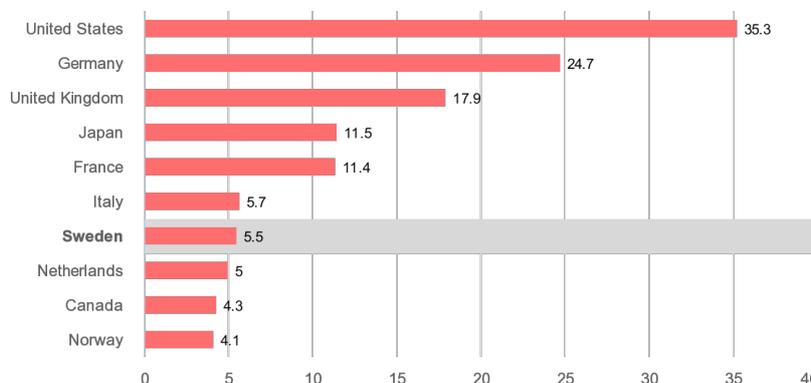
US\$ millions; in 2016 prices



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

### TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

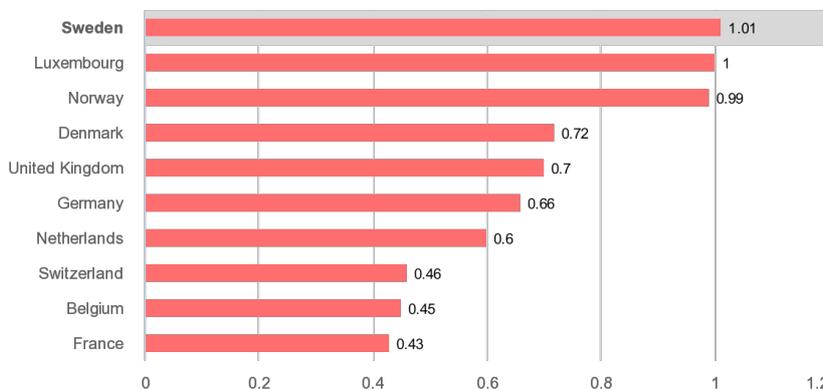
Net ODA Disbursements; US\$ billions; in current prices



OECD DAC preliminary data (April 2018).

### TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2017

Net ODA as a % 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.