**DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION**

**POLICY GUIDELINES**

**FOR 2016-2020**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Riga, 2016

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# Abbreviations Used

|  |  |
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| MoD | Ministry of Defence |
| UN | United Nations Organization  |
| ACP | African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States  |
| MoFA | Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| CRS++ | OECD DAC Official Development Assistance Reporting System |
| EDF | European Development Fund  |
| MoE | Ministry of Economics |
| EU  | European Union |
| MoF | Ministry of Finance |
| GENE | Global Education Network Europe |
| SDGs | UN Sustainable Development Goals |
| MoI | Ministry of the Interior |
| MoES | Ministry of Education and Science |
| MoC | Ministry of Culture |
| CSR | Corporate Social Responsibility |
| LPDC | Association “Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation” |
| LDCs | Least Developed Countries |
| LLDCs | Landlocked Developing Countries |
| MoW | Ministry of Welfare |
| LALRG | Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments |
| NDP2020 | National Development Plan of Latvia for 2014-2020  |
| GNI | Gross National Income |
| CSOs | Civil Society Organisations |
| ODA | Official Development Assistance |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| OECD DAC | OECD Development Assistance Committee |
| WBG | World Bank Group |
| CSCC | Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre |
| PCSD | Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development |
| IDA | WBG International Development Association (IDA) |
| MoT | Ministry of Transport |
| MDGs | UN Millennium Development Goals |
| MoJ | Ministry of Justice |
| MEPRD | Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development |
| SC | State Chancellery |
| MoH | Ministry of Health |
| MoA | Ministry of Agriculture |

# Explanation of Concepts and Terms Used

**Activity programme –** an aggregate of several international assistance activities with a joint goal.

**Instrument of approval –** procedure by which the allocation of funding for the implementation of an activity of international assistance is approved or by which an implementing entity of a development cooperation project or a civilian expert is selected.

**Development goals –** the planned impact which contributes to physical, financial, institutional, social, environmental development, or provides other benefits for the society, community or groups of persons via single or several development interventions.

**Development cooperation –** provision of assistance to developing countries in order to promote long-term social and economic development of such countries and their societies. [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Development cooperation project –** a non-commercial activity or set of activities with defined implementation results, implementers, and term of execution.

**Developing country** – countries and territories that are included in the OECD DAC List of Official Development Aid Recipients (DAC List of ODA Recipients*[[2]](#footnote-2)*). This list is subdivided in the following categories: least developed countries; other low income countries; lower middle income countries; upper middle income countries. [[3]](#footnote-3)

**Multilateral assistance –** provision of assistance to recipient countries by making financial contributions to international organisations. International organisations use the funding received according to their priorities or the priorities laid down by the donor country.

**Decentralised cooperation –** development cooperation with the objective to promote the development of local communities implemented at the local or regional level upon the cooperation of players of the local and regional level, for example, local governments, representatives of the civil society.

**2030 Agenda** – the Sustainable Development Goals adopted at the UN level in 2015 which the UN member states undertake to achieve by 2030. The main task of the Sustainable Development Goals is to eradicate poverty in the world and promote sustainable development in its three dimensions **–** economic, social, and environmental.

**Effectiveness –** the extent to which the goal of development cooperation activity has been achieved or is planned to be achieved, taking into account its relative importance.

**Global education** – active learning process which, based on the principles of solidarity, equality, inclusion, and cooperation, raises the public awareness of development processes in the world and facilitates participation of individuals and organisations in addressing of current local and global issues.

**Grant –** a payment to the implementer of a development cooperation project for the implementation of a project which has been submitted thereby to a grant project tender and which has been approved for funding by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Humanitarian aid** – aid the objective of which is to save human lives, to relieve their suffering, and to provide protection in crisis situations in developing countries arisen as a result of human-caused conflicts or under the influence of natural disasters or climate changes.

**Sustainable development –** development that meets the needs of today without endangering the ability to meet the needs of future generations. Sustainable development is characterised by three interrelated dimensions – economic, social, and environmental.

**Consultative Council** – Consultative Council for Development Cooperation Policy issues is an advisory body established to strengthen the bilateral development cooperation of Latvia, to raise the public awareness of the development cooperation policy, and to provide support for its implementation, and also to promote active participation of Latvia in the shaping and implementation of the European Union (hereinafter – the EU) and global development cooperation policy.

**Joint (trilateral or multilateral) international assistance (development cooperation) activity –** a development cooperation project or a programme of activities in which separate activities of the project or programme are implemented by two or several funders one of which is representing the Republic of Latvia.

**Joint programming**  – joint action of the EU and its Member States in the sector of development cooperation according to the development strategy of the partner country. Joint programming is based on effective distribution of tasks, including by determining the sector in which each donor will operate, and indicative granting of multiannual funding. The process is promoted by the European Commission (hereinafter – the EC) and the European External Action Service (hereinafter – the EEAS). The joint strategy is developed at the level of partner countries by a EU delegation and employees of Member States in this country in order to ensure the best possible action according to the needs. Such approach allows close cooperation with the government of partner countries, the civil society, private sector, and other stakeholders.

**Corporate social responsibility –** the responsibility of entrepreneurs for their impact on the society. Enterprises may become socially responsible by following the law, as well as by integrating social, environmental, ethical, consumer and human rights issues in their strategy and entrepreneurship.

**Official Development Assistance –** resource flows to countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA Recipients and to multilateral agencies which i) are undertaken by institutions of a public person, including the State and local governments, or their subordinate institutions, and where ii) each transaction a) is carried out with the main objective of promoting economic development and welfare of developing countries, and it b) essentially is a concession and includes at least 25 % of the elements of the grant (calculated based on a 10 % discount rate).

**Policy coherence for sustainable development** – the analytical concept of policy implementation in order to systematically include the economic, social, environmental, governance dimension of sustainable development in all stages of policy development and to ensure that such action policies are mutually supportive and at least do not harm the welfare and sustainable development of future generations and societies of other countries. The EU particularly emphasises the impact assessment of migration, security, environmental, trade, and food harmlessness policies on developing countries in the context of developing countries.

**Efficiency –** measurement of how economically the resources (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted into results.

**Recipient country (partner country) –** a country receiving international assistance.

**International mission**  – an activity in the implementation of which a civil expert participates and which is implemented upon an invitation of international organisations to participate in a mission led thereby or upon a bilateral or multilateral agreement of the countries.

**International assistance activity –** development cooperation project, voluntary contribution, or international mission.

**Least developed countries** – a group of 48 countries which according to the UN are the least developed, taking into account their weak human resources and institutional capacity, fragile economy, and lack of national financial resources.

# SUMMARY

The Development Cooperation Policy Guidelines for 2016-2020 (hereinafter – the Guidelines) are a policy planning document which determines the objective, results, priority sectors, fundamental principles, and priority countries of the development cooperation policy bilaterally and multilaterally implemented by the public administration of Latvia and at the same time the course of action and tasks for the achievement of the policy objective. The Guidelines provide an opportunity for the stakeholders involved in development cooperation to plan their activities according to the national development cooperation policy of Latvia. Furthermore, the Guidelines outline the principles of the humanitarian aid actions.

The previous Development Cooperation Policy Guidelines were in effect from 2011 until 2015. In this period of time the geopolitical context and global challenges have significantly changed the social, economic, and political reality of the world. Regardless of significant achievements in poverty reduction in the world, the number of riots, crises and disasters of food security caused by climate change, and new pandemics keeps increasing, and also there is an increase in political instability, social inequality, instability of the financial and capital markets, and migration flows. All of these global challenges have an increasing impact on the economic growth, security, and welfare of inhabitants of Latvia.

There are more than 60 million people in the world – refugees and internally displaced persons who have been forced to become migrants due to conflicts, violence and violations of human rights. This is the largest number of persons displaced since the Second World War. The fundamental causes of migration are addressed with development cooperation policy instruments by improving the skills and employment of inhabitants, promoting stability and development of institutions, opportunities for young persons, strengthening education and the civil society. Also, in strengthening the capacity of the public administration to combat corruption, non-traditional security threats, illegal financial flows and criminal groups, development cooperation contributes to addressing of peace and security issues and eradication of terrorism.

The Guidelines strengthen the role of Latvia as a bilateral donor, thus implementing the external policy interests of Latvia. The main directions and priorities of the foreign policy of Latvia are determined in the annual report of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Saeima on the activities carried out and planned in the foreign policy of the State.

The Guidelines are implemented in accordance with the National Development Plan for 2014-2020 (hereinafter – the NDP2020), the State Defence Concept, the State Security Concept, and also deepen the objectives and principles laid down in the Development Cooperation Policy Guidelines of Latvia for 2011-2015.

The Guidelines include the international commitments of Latvia as a donor country, particularly the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (hereinafter – the 2030 Agenda), Addis Ababa Action Agenda on the Financing for Development, decisions and recommendations of the EU and OECD. The strengthening of the development cooperation policy is also closely related to the realisation of the interests of Latvia in international security formats.

**The objective of the development cooperation policy of Latvia is to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in developing countries, particularly in priority partner countries of Latvia, by promoting sustainable development and eradication of poverty, rule of law, and good governance.**

In line with the development cooperation Latvia makes voluntary contributions to international organisations for the funding of humanitarian aid with the objective of saving human lives and providing assistance to the victims of human-caused conflicts, natural disasters, or impact of climate changes in developing countries according to the international principles for the provision of humanitarian aid. Taking into account the increasing number of protracted crises and conflicts, it is important to strengthen the humanitarian and development nexus.

Latvia undertakes to continue gradual increase of ODA up to 0.17 % of GNI in the time period from 2016 to 2020, striving to achieve 0.33 % from GNI until 2030 which is the time frame for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In order to ensure effective provision of assistance, Latvia provides aid to the LDCs via multilateral development cooperation instruments. Taking into account that until 2015 the amount of bilateral ODA of Latvia has formed on average 10 % of the total ODA amount in order to ensure stability, peace, and security for the foreign policy of Latvia in priority regions, it is particularly important to increase the funding for the bilateral development cooperation.

In implementing development cooperation both bilaterally and multilaterally Latvia is guided by the following principles – the main responsibility of partner countries over their national development; co-ordination and partnership; sustainability of results and predictability of aid; transparency and policy coherence for sustainable development. One of the principles is the implementation of horizontal issues – good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, gender equality, and environmental sustainability – in all activities of development cooperation.

The main development cooperation sectors of Latvia in all formats of development cooperation are the development and capacity building of public administration, the development of entrepreneurship and strengthening of export capacity, management and reforms of national security bodies, promotion of democratic participation, development of the civil society, and education.

In bilateral development cooperation Latvia particularly emphasises the aid to the EU Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries based on the foreign policy priorities of Latvia, requests of partner countries, comparative advantages of Latvian expertise and donor coordination principles for effective provision of aid. These Guidelines determine the main sectors of activities of the bilateral development cooperation funding managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (hereinafter – the MoFA).

In the Guidelines for the time period 2016‑2020 the following courses of action are determined for the achievement of the development cooperation policy objective:

1. to provide maximum support for the sustainable development of the EU Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries using instruments of the bilateral development cooperation funding managed by the MoFA;
2. to strengthen the implementation of the development cooperation priorities of Latvia within the scope of multilateral cooperation, particularly within the scope of the EU, UN, World Bank group, and OECD, thus promoting the coherence of the development cooperation policy of Latvia in all formats;
3. to strengthen the competence, coordination and sustainable activities of the developers and implementers of the development cooperation policy of Latvia;
4. to strengthen the transparency of the development cooperation of Latvia and its conformity with the international reporting standards;
5. to raise the public awareness of the importance of development cooperation, participation, and support for the implementation of the policy;
6. to implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach of Latvia for the support of sustainable development of partner countries.

For the implementation of the Guidelines the MoFA draws up the Development Cooperation Policy Plans which include measures for the achievement of the objective laid down in the Guidelines, the performance results, and their result-based indicators. In planning the development cooperation implemented by Latvia, where possible, synergies with security, humanitarian aid, trade, and migration policies and instruments of such policies are promoted.

Special attention was paid to involvement of public representatives and experts in the process of drafting the Guidelines. During the time period from 29 December 2015 to 29 January 2016 the MoFA invited residents of Latvia to fill in a questionnaire regarding subsequent priorities of the development cooperation policy of Latvia. The results of the survey were published on the website of the MoFA. Furthermore, before drafting the Guidelines the MoFA organised thematic meetings of expert working groups regarding the process of selecting the priorities and effectiveness of assistance, efficiency, reporting mechanisms, coordination of the development cooperation policy and strengthening of the capacity of project implementers; policy coherence for development/climate changes; involvement of the private sector; raising public awareness, and global education. The following associations and institutions responded to the invitation of the MoFA to join working groups – “Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation” (hereinafter – the LPDC), “Latvian Rural Forum”, “Education Initiative Centre”, “Latvian Green Movement”, “*Homo ecos*”, resource centre for women “Marta”, “Humana People to People in Latvia”, “Education Development Centre”, “Green Liberty” , Latvian Association of University Lecturers for Cooperation in Education, “Civitta Latvija” Ltd., “CPM Consulting” Ltd., Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (hereinafter – the LALRG), Latvian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Faculty of Social Sciences and the Practice and Global Partnership Centre of the Faculty of Education, Psychology and Art of the University of Latvia, UNESCO Latvian National Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Welfare, Food and Veterinary Service, State Chancellery, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (hereinafter – the MEPRD), Ministry of Agriculture, etc.

The opinions expressed alongside with the regular consultations with the civil society organisations, particularly LPDC, with social partners, and also the private and the academic sector were taken into account upon drafting the wording of the Guidelines. During the process of drafting the Guidelines consultations with experts of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (hereinafter – the OECD DAC) took place. During the time period from 17 May to 31 May 2016 the draft Guidelines were released for public consultation. On 7 July 2016 consultation on the draft Guidelines was organised within the scope of the expanded format of the Consultative Council, and before the meeting the participants were invited to submit written proposals. In total comments from 16 institutions were received: from associations LPDC, “Latvian Green Movement”, Latvian Association of University Lecturers for Cooperation in Education, “Green Liberty” –, from the LALRG, “CPM Consulting” Ltd., Practice and Global Partnership Centre of the Faculty of Education, Psychology and Art of the University of Latvia, UNESCO Latvian National Commission, Ministry of Economics, Ministry of Welfare, Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre, Food and Veterinary Service, Social Integration Fund, Ministry of Justice, State Chancellery, the MEPRD, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture.

All proposals received were evaluated and taken into account completely or as a result of compromise after discussions in the Consultative Council and also bilateral consultations. The following aspects were emphasised as particularly important for the development cooperation – closer coordination and strengthening of synergies of bilateral development cooperation (implemented by the MoFA and line ministries), support for the existing geographical priorities, need to promote the cooperation of different stakeholders (CSOs, public administration, private sector), and also to ensure support for development cooperation activities in long-term, as well as for the involvement of local governments in development cooperation. It is equally important to promote the involvement of project implementers of Latvia in large-scale projects, particularly in EuropeAid and Twinning projects. In global education issues attention was paid to a greater linkage with the responsible line ministries. During the discussions several specific ideas regarding the activities which could be included in future Development Cooperation Policy Plans, for example, the updating of expert list, strengthening of evaluation systems, were put forward. These proposals are included in Annex 2 to the Guidelines as indicative activities which will be important to achieve the objective defined in the Guidelines until 2020.

# Objective of the Development Cooperation Policy

The objective of the development cooperation policy of Latvia is to contribute to implementation of the 2030 Agenda in countries, particularly in priority partner countries of Latvia, by promoting sustainable development and eradication of poverty, rule of law, and good governance.

In line with the development cooperation Latvia makes voluntary contributions to international organisations for the funding of humanitarian aid with the objective of saving human lives and providing assistance to the victims of human-caused conflicts, natural disasters, or impact of climate changes in developing countries according to the international principles for the provision of humanitarian aid.

Taking into account the increasing number of protracted crises and conflicts in the world and increasing migration flows, it is important to strengthen the humanitarian and development nexus. In order to promote the addressing of causes for conflicts and radicalisation of the society, Latvia, to the extent possible, implements the objectives of the development cooperation policy according to the objectives of security, migration, and trade policies and promotes synergies between different instruments of such policies.

Latvia undertakes to continue gradual increase of ODA up to 0.17 % of GNI in the time period from 2016 to 2020, striving to achieve 0.33 % from GNI until 2030 which is the time frame for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In order to ensure effective provision of assistance, Latvia provides aid to the LDCs via multilateral development cooperation instruments. Taking into account that until 2015 the amount of bilateral ODA of Latvia has formed on average 10 % of the total ODA amount in order to ensure stability, peace, and security for the foreign policy of Latvia in priority regions, it is particularly important to increase the funding for the bilateral development cooperation.

# Linkage with International Planning Documents, Planning Documents of the EU and Latvia

The development cooperation policy of Latvia is based on the UN 2030 Agenda which was approved on 25 September 2015 and the 17 sustainable development goals (hereinafter – the SDGs) included therein (complete text of these goals can be seen in Annex 1).

The Guidelines have been created according to the planning documents in the field of development cooperation adopted at the European level. The European Consensus on Development, 2006, adopted by the EU Council, the European Parliament, and the European Commission (hereinafter – the EC) in 2005 prescribes the action of the EC and EU Member States in the field of development cooperation. The Agenda for Change approved by the EU Council Conclusions in 2012 prescribes that the EU aid must be mainly directed for two priorities: 1) good governance, including human rights and democracy, and 2) inclusive and sustainable growth. The Agenda for Change also prescribes the focusing of the EU aid on a lesser number of sectors, provision of assistance to the least developed countries, joint programming of aid, and raising of private funding for the development goals.

The funding commitments of the development cooperation of Latvia arise from the funding commitments approved within the scope of the EU.[[4]](#footnote-4) According to these commitments the EU and its Member States must dedicate in total 0.7 % from the GNI, including by directing 0.15-0.20 % from the GNI to LDCs, to development cooperation by 2030. These funding objectives of the EU arise from the Addis Ababa Action Agenda adopted by the UN in July 2015.

Accordingly by 2030 Latvia must strive to dedicate 0.33 % from the GNI to development cooperation and also to direct 0.15-0.20 % from the ODA/GNI to LDCs.

New substantive elements are anticipated in the EU development cooperation policy, and its mechanisms for implementation and reporting may change in order to reflect the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. After entry into effect of these documents the changes necessary in the development cooperation policy of Latvia will be reflected in the development cooperation policy plans of Latvia drafted by the MoFA.

In planning the support to partner countries, Latvia will continue to take into account the principles of sustainable development, adaptation to and mitigation of climate change according to the Paris Agreement of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change adopted in 2015 (hereinafter – the Paris Agreement).

Latvia plans its development cooperation policy in close connection with the EU Council Conclusions in the field of development cooperation, including the role and involvement of the private sector, [[5]](#footnote-5)local and regional governments**[[6]](#footnote-6)** in development cooperation, and the importance of gender equality issues.[[7]](#footnote-7)

The Guidelines have been drawn up and will be implemented on the basis of the OECD DAC Recommendations, guidelines, and good practice compendia,[[8]](#footnote-8) OECD recommendations and declarations on inclusion of environmental and climate issues in development cooperation,[[9]](#footnote-9) on policy coherence for development,[[10]](#footnote-10) and the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005).

The development cooperation policy as one of priority fields of the foreign policy of Latvia is reflected in the annual report of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Saeima on the actions carried out and planned in the foreign policy of the State.

The Guidelines are implemented according to the medium-term development planning document “National Development Plan of Latvia for 2014-2020” and its priority “Human Securitability”[[11]](#footnote-11) which lays down the following action – tender for development cooperation and global education projects and co-funding of projects for CSOs.

The Guidelines are implemented according to Paragraph 37 of the State Defence Concept (2012) which determines the resolution of Latvia to share the experience accumulated in democracy, Euro-Atlantic integration, reforms of security and defence sector in order to strengthen international security.

The Guidelines also provide a contribution to implementation of the State Security Concept (2015), strengthening the external dimension of national security of Latvia. Strengthening of stability, territorial integrity, democracy, and European values of Eastern partnership countries, particularly Ukraine, is the priority of bilateral development cooperation of Latvia. Similarly the Guidelines, particularly in multilateral formats and via contributions to international organisations, justify the contribution of Latvia to promoting the stability of the Middle Eastern region, addressing the migration issues, and reducing the threat of terrorism.

# Policy Results and Performance-based Indicators Thereof

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| 1. **Latvia promotes good governance, inclusive economic growth and security in priority regions according to the needs of partner countries[[12]](#footnote-12)**
 |
| **Performance-based indicator** | **2015****(base)** | **2016**  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| * 1. % of the bilateral ODA managed by the MoFA which has been utilised for the development and capacity building of public administration, including for anti-corruption
 | 62 % |  |  |  |  | 65 % |
| * 1. % of the bilateral ODA managed by the MoFA which supports the development of entrepreneurship and strengthens export capacity
 | 14 % |  |  |  |  | 18 % |
| * 1. % of the bilateral ODA managed by the MoFA the main objective of which is gender equality
 | 0 % |  |  |  |  | 8 % |
| * 1. % of the bilateral ODA managed by the MoFA the main objective of which is to support the strengthening of the justice and interior system, including customs and border structures
 | 6 % |  |  |  |  | 10 % |
| * 1. Ratio of the funding of other donors raised for the development cooperation projects implemented by Latvia and the ODA managed by the MoFA (excluding administrative costs and global education), %
 | 425 % |  |  |  |  | 500 % |
| * 1. Co-funding granted by the MoFA to the EuropeAid development cooperation and global education projects implemented by the civil society organisations and local governments of Latvia, % from the total amount of the project funding
 | 5 % |  |  |  |  | 10 % |
| * 1. % of the bilateral ODA managed by the MoFA in which the civil society of the partner country is involved
 | 76 % |  |  |  |  | 80 % |
| Linkage: the 2030 Agenda; Addis Ababa Action Agenda (2015); Busan Declaration (2011); Accra Agenda for Action (2008); Paris Declaration (2005); Rome Declaration (2003); development assistance principles, provisions, and guidelines adopted within the scope of the OECD DAC, particularly OECD Principles for Evaluation of Development Assistance (1991); OECD Quality Standards for Development Evaluation (2010); OECD DAC Recommendation on Anti-Corruption Proposals for Bilateral Aid Procurement (1996); Council Conclusion on Gender in Development (2015); EU Agenda for Change (2011); State Defence Concept; Paris Agreement (2015); OECD Reference Guide on Evaluation of External Experts; European Consensus on Development (2006); EU Gender Action Plan (2015); Council Conclusions on a stronger role of the private sector in development cooperation: An action oriented perspective (2014); Council Conclusions on local authorities in development (2013); EU Strategy on Aid for Trade: Enhancing EU support for trade-related needs in developing countries (2007). |

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| 1. **In fulfilling international commitments, Latvia strives to increase the amount of ODA funding up to 0.33 % from GNI by 2030**
 |
| **Performance-based indicator** | **2015 (base)** | **2016**  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| * 1. ODA amount from GNI
 | 0.09 % | 0.09 % | 0.1 % | 0.12 % | 0.14 % | 0.17 % |
| * 1. Bilateral development cooperation funding of Latvia, thousands of euros
 | 0.566  | 0.592  | 1.092 | 1.592 | 2.092 | 2.592 |
| Linkage: the 2030 Agenda; Addis Ababa Action Agenda (2015); Council Conclusions on a New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015 (2015); Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development (2002); Doha Declaration (2008); Busan Declaration (2011); Accra Agenda for Action (2008); Paris Declaration (2005); Rome Declaration (2003); UN Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (Istanbul Consensus 2011); European Consensus on Development (2006); European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid (2007); OECD DAC Recommendation on Anti-Corruption Proposals for Bilateral Aid Procurement (1996). |

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| 1. **Increasing support of the Latvian society for the implementation of the development cooperation policy**
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| **Performance-based indicator** | **2015 (base)** | **2016**  | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2020** |
| * 1. Percentage of the society which considers that it is important to help developing countries
 | 67 % |  |  |  |  | 73 % |
| * 1. Percentage of the society which is informed about the Sustainable Development Goals
 | 34 % |  |  |  |  | 40 % |
| Linkage: the National Development Plan for 2014-2020; Education Development Guidelines 2014-2020; Regulations regarding State pre-school education guidelines (2012); Regulations Regarding the State Standard in Basic Education, the Subjects of Study Standards in Basic Education and Model Basic Educational Programmes (2014); Regulations Regarding the State General Secondary Education Standard, Subject Standards and Sample Education programmes (2013); Guidelines on National Identity, Civil Society and Integration Policy 2012-2018.  |

# Development Cooperation Priorities of Latvia

Development cooperation is implemented in multilateral and bilateral formats. Multilateral format includes activities and contributions of Latvia to international institutions, initiatives, and trust funds. Based on the total contributions made and the importance of organisations in development cooperation, the EU, UN, World Bank group, and OECD are the multilateral formats of particular importance to Latvia. Latvia is actively involved in the policy development of such international organisations. For its part, the bilateral format includes the budget item “Development Cooperation Projects and International Assistance” of the MoFA and the funding dedicated by other public institutions for the bilateral development cooperation, and also the development and humanitarian aid provided by Latvia on an ad hoc basis. Regardless of the laid down priority sectors, Latvia implements the development cooperation according to the fundamental principles defined in Section 5.

## (Bilateral and Multilateral) Priority Sectors of Development Cooperation of Latvia

It is important for Latvia to act in a coordinated manner in bilateral and multilateral development cooperation, by promoting involvement and coordinated action of all stakeholders, including the protection of the interests of Latvia and partner countries in all formats. Therefore, on the basis of existing activities of the public administration institutions, the Guidelines determine the development cooperation policy priorities of Latvia at large (in bilateral and multilateral format), particularly emphasising the following sectors[[13]](#footnote-13):

1. Development and strengthening of capacity of public administration, including combating corruption; support for the development and administrative management of public administration action policy (including the development of public services, access thereto, and e-governance solutions); support for decentralisation process and strengthening of local/regional administration; support for the financial management of public administration; support for the strengthening of judicial and interior system (including management and reforms of customs and border structures);
2. Development of entrepreneurship and strengthening of export capacity, including support for the introduction of trade-related legal framework in practice; strengthening the assistance services for entrepreneurs and capacity of institutions; development of small and medium-sized enterprises;
3. Prevention and solving of conflicts, peace and security , including management and reforms of State security structures in order to improve democratic administration and civil supervision, and participation in international peace-keeping, civil and election observation missions;
4. Promotion of democratic participation and development of the civil society, including strengthening the freedom of speech and information; promotion of gender equality and opportunities for women;
5. Education, including the development and administrative management of education policy, support for the improvement of education quality, including conformity with the requirements of the labour market, and monitoring, particularly in the field of vocational training.
6. Raising public awareness of development cooperation.

## Priority Partner Countries and Sectors of Latvia in the Bilateral Development Cooperation of the MoFA

The EU Eastern Partnership and Central Asia regions have been determined as a priority in the development cooperation policy of Latvia. Likewise the countries in which the military contingent of Latvia or civil experts dispatched by the State[[14]](#footnote-14) are located are determined as a priority for the implementation of activities, providing an opportunity to strengthen the development and security nexus. In order to promote the effectiveness of bilaterally provided aid, within the scope of the budget programme “Development Cooperation Projects and International Assistance” of the MoFA particular attention is paid to a limited number of countries, based on requests of partner countries, foreign policy priorities of Latvia, the highest added value of the aid provided by Latvia, and visibility of results. According to the situation analysis at the time when the Guidelines were approved, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine were determined as priority countries in the Eastern Partnership region and Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan – in Central Asia.

In order to promote effective use of the aid of Latvia and coordinated action with other donors, not more than three sectors of involvement are laid down for each priority partner country of Latvia within the scope of the bilateral funding managed by the MoFA. These sectors have been selected on the basis of consultations with partner countries and in compliance with the national strategies of such countries, the expertise of Latvia as the implementer of development cooperation and comparative advantages in relation to other donors, and also taking into account the current activities of donors in the particular sector (particularly the joint EU development cooperation programming process and the opinion provided by embassies of Latvia).

In the provision of technical assistance bilaterally and through the EU initiatives, Latvia supports partner countries, for example, by ensuring corresponding learning opportunities to citizens of such countries and also by offering its consultants and experts.

Taking into account that development cooperation is being planned and provided in a changing political, economic, and social environment, the MoFA, when developing the Development Cooperation Policy Plans for the Implementation of the Guidelines, specifies priority countries and the sectors of involvement therein, if necessary.

Priority Sectors in the Eastern Partnership Countries

Georgia

* Development and strengthening of capacity of public administration – combating corruption; support for the development and administrative management of public administration policy; promotion of democratic participation in decision-making; strengthening of judicial and interior system, particularly the management and reforms of border security structures;
* Support for the development of entrepreneurship, development of small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in the field of agriculture, including acquisition of funding.

Moldova

* Development and strengthening of capacity of public administration – support for the development and administrative management of public administration policy; promotion of democratic participation in decision-making, management and reforms of border security structures;
* Support for the decentralisation process and strengthening of local/regional administration;
* Support for the development of entrepreneurship and strengthening of export capacity.

Ukraine

* Development and strengthening of capacity of public administration – combating corruption; support for the development and administrative management of public administration policy; promotion of democratic participation in decision-making;
* Support for the decentralisation process and strengthening of local/regional administration;
* Support for the strengthening of export capacity and introduction of trade-related legal framework in practice in the field of agriculture.

In the EU Eastern Partnership countries – Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, development cooperation is based on the transfer of best practice of Latvia in the implementation of EU standards. In the Eastern Partnership countries priorities are the strengthening of territorial integrity of these countries and promotion of integration of the society.

Priority Sectors in Central Asia Countries (Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)

* Support for the strengthening of judicial and interior system, particularly management and reforms of border security structures.
* Development and strengthening of capacity of public administration – support for the development and administrative management of public administration policy; combating corruption.
* Development of agriculture, including support for the ministries of agriculture, agricultural reforms, and development of entrepreneurship.
* Promotion of democratic participation and development of the civil society, including promotion of gender equality and opportunities for women.
* Education, including the development and administrative management of education policy, support for the improvement of education quality, including conformity with the requirements of the labour market, and monitoring, particularly in the field of vocational training.

# Fundamental Principles of the Development Cooperation Policy

In order to ensure the sustainability of the results of development cooperation, achievement of policy objectives and fulfilment of international commitments, the development cooperation policy of Latvia is implemented according to the following fundamental principles arising from planning, implementation and evaluation practices of international development cooperation, particularly for the 2030 Agenda, Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, decisions and recommendations of the EU and OECD.

Main responsibility of partner countries for their national development.Latvia is guided by the principle that the main responsibility for the internal development processes of the State lies with the partner countries themselves. Accordingly Latvia provides aid in a comprehensive manner, based on the needs of the partner country and the priorities laid down in its national development strategy. Latvia undertakes to involve the institutions of the partner country as much as possible, to use the existing systems of partner countries and to comply with their regulatory enactments and commitments, including by promoting the implementation of activities through the embassies of Latvia. Latvia pays special attention to the provision of technical cooperation for the strengthening of the knowledge and capacity of partner country representatives in order to promote the ability of countries themselves to plan and implement their national development.

Horizontal principles of development cooperation Latvia emphasises the implementation and promotion of human rights as the leading horizontal principle for the planning and implementation of the development cooperation policy, including by implementing human rights based approach. In the development cooperation and in foreign policy Latvia emphasises in general the integration of democracy, good governance, gender equality, environmental sustainability and climate issues. These horizontal principles are implemented through all activities funded by Latvia regardless of the sector.

Partnership and cooperation. It is important to ensure coordinated action of all stakeholders by working in partnership for sustainable development at all levels. Latvia particularly emphasises the importance of the EU joint development cooperation planning processes and triangular cooperation, as well as the principles for the sustainable development of global partnership included in the 2030 Agenda and Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Latvia also recognises the added value from activities jointly implemented by several stakeholders – public and private sector, civil society experts, local governments, and researchers, etc. Latvia emphasises the need to promote the catalytic role of official development assistance (ODA) by attracting other financial resources, particularly private funding and resources of philanthropists. Latvia notes the role of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation and its principles in the implementation of quality development cooperation.

Sustainability of results and predictability of aid. The aid provided must be predictable, creating long-term cooperation at different levels. Aid of Latvia is provided for the achievement of a specific objective, by evaluating where the needs are the greatest, the contribution and visibility of Latvia is the most sustainable. Long-term multiplicative impact and also the sustainability of results is evaluated in planning and implementation of projects.

Transparency. Latvia distributes the funding for development cooperation in accordance with the national laws and regulations,[[15]](#footnote-15) OECD DAC principles, by taking into account the 2011 Busan Agreement, and the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda. Latvia strives to achieve that all implementers of the development cooperation policy and stakeholders of the policy sectors related thereto act transparently and inform the society about the results and mutual benefits of development cooperation. The MoFA publishes decisions, evaluation of activities, and statistics, and also divides the funding and performs evaluation thereof according to specific public and transparent criteria. Corruption is not permissible in the development cooperation projects financed by Latvia, and the position of Latvia in general is that the funding for development cooperation is granted and utilised responsibly, openly, and honestly according to the principles of good governance.

Policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD), the Development cooperation policy is only one part of the means for implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It is necessary to ensure coherence in planning of national and sectoral policy of Latvia with the 2030 Agenda. For the provision of sustainable development in partner countries Latvia particularly emphasises responsible and co-ordinated implementation of the security, migration and trade policies. In order to ensure policy coherence, involvement of decision-makers and responsible line ministries and their understanding of the development cooperation and importance of corresponding sectoral policy for sustainable development.

Fundamental principles for provision of humanitarian aid

In providing humanitarian aid Latvia is guided by the principles for the provision of good humanitarian aid defined in the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid (2007)[[16]](#footnote-16) – humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence. Humanitarian aid is provided on the basis of an appropriate assessment of needs and according to the needs of the country which has suffered in a disaster or conflict, by following the gender equality principles in provision of aid.

Latvia is moving towards the most effective and operational approach to the provision of humanitarian aid. It is planned to direct the funding, as much as possible, to national and local organisations[[17]](#footnote-17), in situations when it is not possible – using international organisations in order to provide assistance to human beings in crisis as close as possible according to the principles for provision of humanitarian aid. In individual cases financial aid is provided directly to the recipient countries.

Latvia emphasises the need to strengthen the link between the instruments of humanitarian aid and development cooperation, ensuring transition from crisis situations to planning of sustainable development.

# Courses of Action and Tasks for the Achievement of Policy Objectives

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **To provide support for sustainable development of the EU Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries via the funding instruments of bilateral development cooperation managed by the MoFA**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | To ensure the linkage of activities funded by bilateral development cooperation of Latvia with activities and funding of other donors, by expanding the sustainability and visibility of the aid provided by Latvia | Permanently | MoFA | Line ministries[[18]](#footnote-18) | 1.5, 1.7, 2.1, 2.2 |
| 2. | To ensure the implementation of activities with involvement of different stakeholders (public administration, civil society, private sector, etc.) | Permanently  | MoFA | Line ministries | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2 |
| 3. | To promote the involvement of Latvian experts in civil, advisory and other missions in developing countries | Permanently | MoFA | Line ministries | 1.1, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2 |
| 4. | To implement grant project tenders according to the needs of partner countries, by dedicating 50 % of the resources of the grant project tender to the projects implemented by the CSOs sector | Permanently  | MoFA |  | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.2 |

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| 1. **To strengthen the implementation of the development cooperation priorities of Latvia within the scope of multilateral cooperation, particularly within the scope of the EU, UN, WBG, and OECD, thus promoting the coherence of the development cooperation policy of Latvia in all formats**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | To increase the involvement of public administration institutions of Latvia and CSOs in formulation of the position of Latvia regarding current issues of the international development cooperation policy agenda, particularly the sectors referred to in Section 4.1 | Permanently | MoFA | CSOs, line ministries | 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2 |
| 2. | To ensure inclusion of the priorities referred to in Section 4 of Latvia in the EU development cooperation policy, including in the joint programming process and implementation of activities in priority partner countries of Latvia | Permanently | MoFA | MEPRD | 1.5, 2.1, 2.2  |
| 3. | To ensure the involvement of Latvia in its priority issues in the 2nd Committee of the UN General Assembly (macro-economic and sustainable development issues), including regarding issues of gender equality, rule of law, and good governance, information society, development cooperation with the Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries, strengthening of the UN Development System according to the 2030 Agenda. | Permanently | MoFA | CSCC, MEPRD | 2.1, 2.2 |
| 4. | To ensure the participation of Latvia in meetings of the OECD DAC working groups and full takeover of the corresponding standards in order to become a DAC member  | Permanently  | MoFA |  | 2.1, 2.2 |
| 5. | To implement a joint and comprehensive approach to the use of multilateral development cooperation instruments, including with the International Development Association of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the WBG according to the development cooperation priorities of Latvia. | Permanently | MoF, MoFA  | Line ministries | 1.5, 2.1, 2.2  |
| 6. | To strengthen the involvement of Latvia in humanitarian aid processes and activities according to the international standards and needs of partner countries, by ensuring a comprehensive and coordinated approach of Latvia to addressing crises in different formats and levels  | Permanently | MoFA, MoI | Corresponding CSOs, MoD | 2.1, 2.2 |

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| 1. **To strengthen the sustainability and also the competence and coordination of the activities of developers and implementers of the development cooperation policy of Latvia**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | To ensure coherence of bilateral development cooperation activities of Latvia (MoFA and sectoral ministries) according to the development cooperation policy priorities of Latvia defined in Section 4  | Permanently | MoFA | Line ministries | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2 |
| 2. | To strengthen the competence of project developers of Latvia, their mutual cooperation and improvement of the quality of operation, particularly the ability participate in EuropeAid, Twinning and other large-scale multiannual projects, including as leading partners | Permanently  | MoFA, MoF | Line ministries, CSOs | 1.5, 1.7, 2.1, 2.2 |
| 3. | To involve the private sector in the achieving of the development cooperation goals, including by promoting involvement of entrepreneurs in project tenders of international financial institutions (for example, the European Investment Bank) in developing countries and by developing new national funding mechanisms to the extent possible | Permanently | MoF, MoFA, MoE | Line ministries, ECL | 1.5, 2.1, 2.2  |
| 4. | To strengthen the competency of the Consultative Council in the achievement of development cooperation goals | Permanently  | MoFA | Line ministries, CSOs | 1.5, 2.2, 3.2 |
| 5. | To ensure the capacity and competence of the MoFA, including diplomatic representations of Latvia, to ensure the planning, implementation, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of development cooperation policy of Latvia in a transparent, qualitative and responsible manner, including by providing the necessary informative and political support to the implementers of development cooperation activities of Latvia  | Permanently | MoFA |  | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2 |

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| 1. **To strengthen the transparency and conformity of the development cooperation of Latvia with the international reporting standards**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | To improve the assessment of the needs of partner countries, by determining the priorities and aid instruments of Latvia in a transparent manner based on the results | Permanently  | MoFA | Line ministries | 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 2.2 |
| 2. | To introduce multiannual (at least 2-3 years) programming approach in the implementation and planning of development cooperation activities in order to ensure the predictability of the funding and also the effectiveness and efficiency of its utilisation in long-term, as well as the flexibility in re-distribution of the funding when necessary | Permanently | MoFA | Line ministries | 1.5, 2.1, 2.2  |
| 3. | When providing aid of Latvia, to systematically evaluate, prevent, and manage risks in all stages of assistance provision, particularly regarding corruption | Permanently  | MoFA | Line ministries | 2.1, 2.2 |
| 4. | To ensure permanent and transparent monitoring of development cooperation policy projects and evaluation of the impact of results | Permanently  | MoFA | Line ministries | 2.1, 2.2  |
| 5. | To ensure complete transition of Latvia to the OECD CRS++ reporting system | 2019 | MoFA | Line ministries | 2.1, 2.2 |

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| 1. **To raise the public awareness of the importance of development cooperation, participation, and support for the implementation of the policy**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | To integrate the aspects of sustainable development and global education in education among all age groups | Permanently  | MoES, MoC,  | MoFA, UNESCO Latvian National Commission, CSOs | 1.7, 3.1, 3.2  |
| 2. | To ensure public access to the most current data and information regarding the development cooperation policy (bilateral and multilateral) of Latvia, its results, implementers and their experience, by cooperating with other donors, CSOs, and academic sector | Permanently | MoFA | Line ministries, CSOs | 1.7, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2  |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **To implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach of Latvia to promote sustainable development in the world**
 |
| **No.** | **Task** | **Deadline (year)** | **Responsible institution** | **Co-responsible institutions** | **Linkage with the policy result and result-based indicator** |
| 1. | During the medium-term evaluation process of the NDP to examine the result-based indicators of the 2030 Agenda related to development cooperation and to provide recommendations regarding their inclusion in the NDP2020 and the next planning period | 2017 | MoFA | Line ministries, CSCC  | 3.1, 3.2  |
| 2. | To strengthen the links between the development cooperation and economic policy of Latvia and its implementation instruments, particularly by promoting the implementation of the principles of corporate social responsibility in partner countries | Permanently | MoFA | MoE, CSOs | 1.2, 1.5, 1.7  |
| 3. | To strengthen the coherence of the development cooperation and security policy and implementation instruments thereof, particularly in the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia regions | Permanently | MoFA, MoD, MoI |  | 1.1, 1.5, 2.2, 3.1 |
| 4. | To ensure the consolidation of national coordination mechanisms between the line ministries and all stakeholders for the implementation of policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD) in Latvia |  | CSCC, MoFA  | Line ministries | 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.1 |

# Indicative Assessment of the Impact on the State and Local Government Budget

Summary on the funding necessary for the implementation of the tasks included in the Guidelines

EUR

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Task  | Planned funding | Necessary additional funding |
| 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
| **Funding in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | **500,000** | **1,000,000** | **1,500,000** | **2,000,000** |
| **Law on the Medium-Term Budget Framework, in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | **500,000** | **1,000,000** | **1,500,000** | **2,000,000** |
| including\*: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| implementation of the core functions of the State | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **For information**  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Division by budget departments |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **Course of action 1 – to provide support for sustainable development of the EU Eastern Partnership and Central Asian countries via the funding instruments of bilateral development cooperation managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs** |
| **Funding in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | **500,000** | **1,000,000** | **1,500,000** | **2,000,000** |
| **Law on the Medium-Term Budget Framework, in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | **500,000** | **1,000,000** | **1,500,000** | **2,000,000** |
| including\*: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| implementation of the core functions of the State | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **For information** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Division by budget departments |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **Task 1** – to ensure the linkage of activities funded by bilateral development cooperation of Latvia with activities and funding of other donors, by expanding the sustainability and visibility of the aid provided by Latvia  |
| **Funding in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **Law on the Medium-Term Budget Framework, in total** | **451,400** | **463,813** | **463,813** | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| including\*: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| implementation of the core functions of the State | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **For information** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Division by budget departments |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Ministry of Foreign Affairs | 451,400 | 463,813 | 463,813 | 500,000 | 1,000,000 | 1,500,000 | 2,000,000 |
| **Task 2** – to ensure the implementation of activities with involvement of different stakeholders (public administration, civil society, private sector, etc.)  |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 3 –** to promote the involvement of Latvian experts in civil, advisory and other missions in developing countries  |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 4** – to implement grant project tenders according to the needs of partner countries, by dedicating 50 % of the resources of the grant project tender to the projects implemented by the CSOs |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Course of action 2 - 2. To strengthen the implementation of the development cooperation priorities of Latvia within the scope of multilateral cooperation, particularly within the scope of the EU, UN, WBG, and OECD, thus promoting the coherence of the development cooperation policy of Latvia in all formats** |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 1** – to actively co-operate with public administration institutions of Latvia and CSOs in formulation of positions of Latvia on the current issues of the international development cooperation policy agenda |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 2** – to ensure inclusion of the priorities of Latvia in the EU development cooperation policy, including in the joint programming process and implementation of activities in priority partner countries of Latvia |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 3** – to ensure the involvement of Latvia in its priority issues in the 2nd Committee of the UN General Assembly (macro-economic and sustainable development issues), including regarding issues of gender equality, rule of law, and good governance, information society, development cooperation with the Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries, strengthening of the UN Development System according to the 2030 Agenda. |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 4** – to ensure the participation of Latvia in meetings of the OECD DAC working groups and full takeover of the corresponding standards in order to become a DAC member |
| **Funding in total**  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 5** – to implement a joint and comprehensive approach to the use of multilateral development cooperation instruments, including with the International Development Association of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development of the WBG according to the development cooperation priorities of Latvia. |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 6** – to strengthen the involvement of Latvia in humanitarian aid processes and activities according to the international standards and needs of partner countries, by ensuring a comprehensive and coordinated approach of Latvia to addressing crises in different formats and levels |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Course of action 3 - 3. To strengthen the sustainability and also the competence and coordination of the activities of developers and implementers of the development cooperation policy of Latvia**  |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 1** – to ensure coherence of bilateral development cooperation of Latvia (MoFA and line ministries)  |
| **Funding** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 2 –** to strengthen the competence of project developers of Latvia, their mutual cooperation and improvement of the quality of operation, particularly the ability to participate in EuropeAid, Twinning and other large-scale multiannual projects, including as leading partners |
| **Funding** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 3** – to involve the private sector in the achieving of the development cooperation goals, including by promoting involvement of entrepreneurs in project tenders of international financial institutions (for example, the European Investment Bank) in developing countries and by developing new national funding mechanisms to the extent possible |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 4** – to strengthen the competency of the Consultative Council in the achievement of development cooperation goals |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 5**   to ensure the capacity and competence of the MoFA, including diplomatic representations of Latvia, to ensure the planning, implementation, coordination, monitoring, and evaluation of development cooperation policy of Latvia in a transparent, qualitative and responsible manner, including by providing the necessary informative and political support to the implementers of development cooperation activities of Latvia |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Course of action 4 – to strengthen the transparency and conformity of the development cooperation of Latvia with the international reporting standards** |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 1** – to improve the assessment of the needs of partner countries, by determining the priorities and aid instruments of Latvia in a transparent manner based on the results |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 2** – to introduce a multiannual programming approach in order to ensure the predictability of funding and effectiveness of its utilisation in long-term, and also the flexibility in re-division of funding when necessary |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 3** – when providing aid of Latvia, to systematically evaluate, prevent, and manage risks in all stages of assistance provision, particularly regarding the corruption |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 4** – to ensure permanent and transparent monitoring of development cooperation policy projects and evaluation of the impact of results |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 5** – to ensure complete transition of Latvia to the OECD CRS++ reporting system |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Course of action 5 - to raise the public awareness of the importance of development cooperation, participation, and support for the implementation of policy** |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 1 –** to integrate the aspects of sustainable development and global education in education among all age groups |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 2** – to ensure public access to the most current data and information regarding the development cooperation policy (bilateral and multilateral) of Latvia, its results, implementers and their experience, by cooperating with other donors, CSOs, and academic sector |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Course of action 6 – to implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach of Latvia to promote sustainable development in the world** |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 1 –** during the medium-term evaluation process of the NDP to examine the result-based indicators of the 2030 Agenda related to development cooperation and to provide recommendations regarding their inclusion in the NDP2020 and the next planning period |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 2** – to strengthen the links between the development cooperation and economic policy of Latvia particularly by promoting the implementation of the principles of corporate social responsibility in partner countries |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 3** – to strengthen the coherence of the development cooperation and security policy instruments, particularly in the Eastern Partnership and Central Asia region |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Task 4** – to ensure the consolidation of national coordination mechanisms between the line ministries and all stakeholders for the implementation of policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD) in Latvia |
| **Funding in total** | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Acting for the Minister for Foreign Affairs –

Minister for the Interior R. Kozlovskis

Visa: acting for the State Secretary –

Deputy State Secretary, administrative director A. Vanaga

16 August 2016, 12:00

7897

Madara Siliņa

Third Secretary of the Development Cooperation Policy Division

of the Economic Relations and Development Cooperation Policy Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tel. 67016420, fax 67828121

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1. In accordance with the International Assistance Law (2008). At the same time in practice Latvia applies a set of definitions of international organisations, particularly OECD. The role of development cooperation is to promote the opportunities for developing countries to participate in global economy and to strengthen the ability of people of such countries to pull themselves out of poverty and to fully participate in the society. In the implementation of development cooperation sustainable development must be promoted in all three of its dimensions – social, economic, and environmental. The planned impact of development cooperation is physical, institutional, social, environmental or other positive contribution to the society, community or a group of persons of the partner country via single or several development cooperation instruments. Development cooperation instruments strengthen the ability of the country or territory to use their human, financial, and natural resources capital in a sustainable, effective, and efficient manner. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. This list is regularly updated and available on the website: http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. UN maintains and regularly updates the list of least developed countries (http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/ldc/ldc\_list.pdf). Together with the least developed countries the ODA recipients are subdivided in the following groups based on the GNI per capita of these countries: other low-income countries (GNI per capita is less than or equal to USD 1,045 ), lower middle-income countries (USD 1,046-4,125 per capita), and upper middle income-countries (USD 4,126-12,745 per capita). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. In accordance with the EU Council Conclusions on a New Global Partnership for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development after 2015. (26 May 2015) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. The EU Council Conclusions on a stronger role of the private sector in development cooperation of 12 December 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The EU Council Conclusions on local authorities in development of 22 July 2013 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. The EU Council Conclusions on the Gender Action Plan 2016-2020 of 26 October 2015. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. For example, guidelines of the OECD DAC peer reviews, including Peer Review Manual 2015-2016 (2014); OECD DAC Recommendation on Anti-Corruption Proposals for Bilateral Aid Procurement (1996); OECD Development Strategy (2012). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Recommendation of the OECD Council concerning an Environmental Checklist for Possible Use by High-Level Decision-Makers in Bilateral and Multilateral Development Assistance Institutions (1989); Recommendation of the Council on Measures Required to Facilitate the Environmental Assessment of Development Assistance Projects and Programmes (1986); Recommendation of the Council on Environmental Assessment of Development Assistance Projects and Programmes; Declaration on Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Development Co-operation (2006). [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Recommendation of the Council on Good Institutional Practices in Promoting Policy Coherence for Development (2010); Declaration on Policy Cohesion for Development (2008). [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. Paragraph 339 of the NDP2020 and justification document of the indicative financial framework of the priorities, courses of action and tasks of the NDP2020. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. The performance-based indicators determined in this section in percentage are not cumulative and do not form a sum of 100 % in total because they comprise performance-based indicators on sectors, cooperation methods and sources of funding. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. The sectors have been named on the basis of the list of codes of target fields of the OECD DAC (Creditor Reporting System or CRS++) [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. Based on 2016 – Afghanistan, Georgia, Iraq, Mali, and Ukraine. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Development cooperation of Latvia is planned and implemented in accordance with the Development Planning System Law, the International Assistance Law, and the Procedures for Receipt and Provision of Humanitarian Aid, Procedures for Implementation of Grant Project Tenders, Procedures for Implementation of Delegated Cooperation, By-laws of the Consultative Council for Development Cooperation Policy, Regulations Regarding Maximum Remuneration, Daily Allowance for a Person Involved in Implementation of the Development Cooperation Project, and Amount of Hotel (Accommodation) Expenses. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. The report jointly approved by the Council, Commission and Parliament in 2007, European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, which outlines the actions of the EU in the field of humanitarian aid according to the principles which have been jointly defined by the donor countries, CSOs, UN agencies, International Red Cross, Red Crescent in provision of humanitarian aid in 2003. [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. According to the results of the World Humanitarian Summit the UN member states are invited to increase the funding to national and local organisations in situations of humanitarian crises. [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Hereinafter the public administration institutions which implement the development cooperation activities from the funds of the State consolidated joint budget according to the ODA definition. [↑](#footnote-ref-18)