

2022-2024



**Improved life perspectives around
the world, increased security in Austria**

Three-Year Programme

on Austrian Development Policy 2022–2024

 **Federal Ministry**
Republic of Austria
Europe, Integration
and Foreign Affairs



Imprint

Three-Year Programme on Austrian Development Policy 2022–2024
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Preface



The world is currently experiencing a variety of crises. War has returned to our continent. The Russian attack on Ukraine accelerates humanitarian crises in Africa and the Middle East. The world's economic outlook is clouded by the threat of stagflation, and the consequences of climate change are depriving more and more people of their livelihoods. In addition, Europe is experiencing the largest migration movement since World War 2. All this at a time when, as a result of the pandemic, we are seeing a regression in global development progress and, for the first time in 20 years, a rise in extreme poverty. Today, 70 million more people are living on less than USD 2.15 a day than a year ago.

Against this backdrop, it is all the more important that we continue our proven development policy and contribute to improved living conditions and greater stability in our priority countries and regions. We provide help where it is most urgently needed, i.e. directly on the ground. I am therefore pleased that funding for bilateral development cooperation and humanitarian aid has risen steadily in recent years and that, for 2022 and 2023, more money has been budgeted for this endeavour than ever before.

The new Three-Year Programme represents a collective national strategy for public development policy actors in Austria for the coming years. It contains a clear commitment to efficient and coherent development cooperation. The present Three-Year Programme consistently pursues the priorities of the government programme. Special focus is placed on the areas of economic cooperation and migration. Reducing poverty, protecting natural resources and promoting peace and security for the people in partner countries will remain the focus of our cooperation in the future.

As a site of the United Nations, Austria has a special role to play in strengthening multilateralism and the joint action of the international community. In addition, as a member of the European Union, Austria is working on the EU's further development and on shaping Europe's relations in the world. In the framework of this cooperation – at the multilateral level as well as in direct contact with our partners in development cooperation – we consistently advocate an international order based on rules, a system that applies the principle of "pacta sunt servanda", a system in which the strength of the law instead of the law of the strongest applies. Austria's development policy will continue to make a significant contribution to this goal in the years to come.

Alexander Schallenberg, LL.M.

Federal Minister for European and International Affairs

1. Austria's Development Policy 2022–2024

Austria's development policy seeks to promote life perspectives in an environment of social and political stability as well as sustainable development in the spirit of the Agenda 2030. It is an integral part of Austria's foreign policy and represents a collective national interest. Agreed upon by the community of nations in 2015, the Agenda 2030 is a global compass for ecological and social security in a world of economic stability. Austria supports it as a supportive part of the community of nations and in the interest of the people's well-being.

A large number of actors contribute to Austria's development policy: The Federal Government, the Parliament, the provinces, cities and municipalities, the social partners, civil society, companies and science. This Three-Year Programme aims at a coherent and accurate development policy for 2022–2024.

In order to effectively and efficiently use the means available for development policy and cooperation, we have defined clear strategic priorities and geographical focus areas. These strategic priorities are based on the demands of the Federal Development Cooperation Act (*EZA-Gesetz*), which mandates principles that apply to the entire federal administration system. The geographical focus areas are based on existing partnerships of the Austrian development cooperation while honouring geographical developments and Austria's foreign policy interests.

This commitment is funded on the basis of the Federal Finance Acts (*Bundesfinanzgesetze*) and the applicable Federal Budgetary Framework Act (*Bundesfinanzrahmengesetz*). The present Three-Year Programme's contributions, programmes and projects are implemented in the framework of these budgetary demands.

1.1 Global Challenges and Trends

Three global challenges will simultaneously shape the activities over the course of the coming years and the term of this Three-Year Programme. The goal of Austria's development policy – as well as Austria's foreign policy as a whole – is to develop additional answers to these challenges and to implement measures that are socially and ecologically sustainable, efficient and humane.

Covid-19 – The medium- and long-term socio-economic and political consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic will only be fully revealed in the coming years. All the more reason, therefore, to take effective action at the bilateral and multilateral levels to ensure that the negative impacts of the crisis – for example, the risk of a food crisis accompanied by an increase in the number of people suffering from hunger worldwide, or the impact on gender equality and the education of children and young people – are mitigated in the best possible way worldwide. Moreover, the pandemic illustrates that efficient measures must systematically take into account the complex relationship between human, animal and environmental health.

Austria will continue to play its part in advancing vaccination worldwide. The ACT Accelerator (Access to Covid-19 Tools Accelerator), including the COVAX initiative, in which Austria is participating, is playing an important role in addressing the pandemic. Sharing Covid-19 shots is an expression of Austria's international solidarity and contributes significantly to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goal on Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3).

Climate change – Climate change and the associated global warming that will affect our and future generations remain the greatest long-term threat to humanity. The United Nations, in particular the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), warns that without significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, the average global temperature will rise by more than 2 degrees Celsius in the 21st century. This will cause permanent damage to flora and fauna, and thus to human habitats. If we do not significantly cut emissions, the natural foundations of life will come under increasing threat. Measures to protect the climate, to combat the causes of climate change as well as adaptation measures are required, as climate change will be one of the central causes of conflicts, poverty, hunger and migration around the world. Austria will therefore strengthen its efforts to mitigate climate change at national, European and international levels. Austria contributes to addressing the consequences of climate change through contributions to the Green Climate Fund and through humanitarian aid.

Migration and refugees – Armed conflicts, human rights violations, environmental crises and the socio-economic effects of the pandemic, especially on the African continent, as well as a lack of economic perspectives or participation in societal and political processes have further exacerbated the reasons for people to flee their countries and migrate. The global number of refugees and internally displaced people has almost doubled to more than 80 million over the course of the last ten years.

The Austrian Federal Government focuses on the topic of migration and refugees and its government programme requires goals relevant to migration to be considered in development cooperation. Among others, Austria's development cooperation contributes to combating the reasons of people fleeing their countries. The development cooperation aims at providing these people with sustainable perspectives and future opportunities by promoting improved political, economic and social conditions on the ground. In line with the emerging humanitarian aid strategy, Austria's humanitarian commitment is also aimed at ensuring the protection and adequate care of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) on the ground. Austria will therefore continue to provide support and assistance in the region, especially in neighbouring countries of crisis regions, in order to enable people to return to their home country after the end of the crisis. Through cooperation with diaspora communities in Austria, synergies and cooperation with the countries of origin are to be established, among other things in the economic sector, as well as through humanitarian and development policy projects.

1.2 UN Sustainability Goals and Strategic Priorities of the Austrian Development Policy

Together with the international community of nations, Austria commits to implementing the joint Agenda 2030 vision and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Sustainable development is intended to allow an environment of social, ecological and political stability while no-one is left behind (following the SDG and Agenda 2030 principle of "Leave No One Behind"). Creating life perspectives for people in regions of the world at particular risk due to poverty, epidemics, climate change, environmental pollution, loss of basic natural resources, natural disasters and armed conflicts, is the declared joint goal. All federal ministries contribute to this in their respective areas of responsibility.

In the light of the global challenges and trends described above, strategic priorities are derived from the objectives of the Development Cooperation Act (*EZA-Gesetz*). Thematic focuses have been defined for each of these priorities. In line with its know-how and partnerships developed over the years, Austria is taking specific measures to implement the priorities and the thematic focus areas derived from them. Equality between women and men is taken into account in all measures. The needs of children and persons with disabilities must also be taken into account.

Priority A Combating poverty by promoting economic and social development

Focus A.1 Eliminating poverty – covering basic needs

- A.1.a Water, energy and food safety
- A.1.b Vocational training and higher education
- A.1.c Health, social security and full employment

Focus A.2 Making the economy sustainable

- A.2.a Sustainable economy and the private sector as a partner in combating poverty
- A.2.b Digitalisation as an opportunity

Priority B Peacekeeping and human security

Focus B.1 Promoting humanitarian aid, development and peace

- B.1.a Humanitarian aid
- B.1.b Development and peace building

Focus B.2 Democratic governance, empowerment of women and inclusive societies

- B.2.a Democratic governance
- B.2.b Empowerment of women and girls
- B.2.c Inclusive societies, empowerment of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups

Priority C Preserving the environment and protecting natural resources

Focus C.1 Combating climate change and its consequences

- C.1.a Combating climate change and promoting decarbonisation
- C.1.b Increasing climate resilience and disaster prevention

Focus C.2 Protecting natural resources

- C.1.a Protecting ecosystems and biodiversity
- C.1.b Sustainable resource management

A detailed list of the strategic priorities, their thematic focus areas and the respective specific measures can be found in Chapter 2 of this Three-Year Programme.

1.3 Principles of the Austrian Development Policy

**Austrian/Austria's development cooperation =
Efforts by all Austrian actors**

**Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) =
Services rendered by the BMEIA and the ADA**

Aid on the ground – Austrian development cooperation funds are used to provide aid on the ground. This aims at contributing to improving quality of life on the ground in the long term. Based on the Austrian development cooperation's strategic priorities, goals are being worked out together with the priority countries. In implementing these goals, Austria pays particular attention to its experience and strengths. Austria commits to ensuring that development cooperation funds and projects have long-term sustainable effects. This includes the long-term promotion of local civil society partners in the sense of a strategic, inclusive, effective and efficient development of the priority countries.

Human rights – In all its development policy and cooperation efforts, Austria pursues a human-rights-based approach. In all its programmes, projects and in political dialogue, the aim is to implement the yardsticks of participation, transparency, accountability and non-discrimination. Gender equality, women's rights, sexual and reproductive health, and ending violence against women are essential principles. That is why gender mainstreaming and gender impact assessments are of central importance in all foreign policy activities.

The Austrian development cooperation is also particularly committed to the rights of women, children, older people, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ persons, particularly disadvantaged groups, minorities and people exposed to multiple forms of discrimination. In this context, access to basic health care and social protection plays a crucial role.

Partnership, responsibility and results-orientation – Austria maintains partnerships characterised by fairness and respect, following the core principles of efficient development cooperation: preserving the partner country's internal responsibility, cooperating with local partner organisations, ownership, results-orientation in the provision of aid, inclusive partnerships as well as accountability and transparency in the implementation of measures.

Prerequisites and conditions – The cooperation strategies of the bilateral development cooperation with the priority countries and regions are based on the Austrian Development Policy's Three-Year Programme as well as the national development plans of the partner countries. Programmes and projects define specific goals, are planned together and implemented as independently as possible.

Important prerequisites for cooperating with partners at the bilateral level and in the framework of the EU include contributions to a positive development in the respective country itself, for instance in the fields of reducing poverty, banning child labour, international labour, social and environmental standards, rule of law, human rights, climate protection as well as cooperation in the course of readmission.

When it comes to matters of migration, a more coordinated, holistic and structured approach will be pursued within the EU framework with partners, taking into account the need to address the root causes of irregular migration and displacement. This approach will maximise synergies and build comprehensive partnerships, paying particular attention to countries of origin and transit. It combines all suitable instruments and the required leverage in the framework of a flexible, incentive-oriented approach with potential [appropriate] changes in the allocation of funds connected to migration, in line with the principles of the tool's programme planning. Thus, Austria aims to implement these principles in the Austrian development policy.

Focus on digitisation – Digitisation changes the lives of people all around the world. Likewise, digitisation will continue to play an ever-increasing role in development cooperation. Austria aims to exploit the positive effects of digitisation to reach the goals of our development cooperation, in particular for poor and marginalised groups of people. This is why it invests in partnerships with start-ups and established companies. However, targeted measures are also needed to ensure that the "digital divide" (disparities in the production, access, use and benefit of digital technologies) does not further exacerbate existing differences between North and South as well as within developing countries.

Austria intends to utilise innovative solutions to promote sustainable, global development – this approach will be a competence feature of the Austrian development policy in 2022–2024. Digitisation provides various opportunities, especially for remote regions in developing countries. These include, among others, access to services (e.g. banking, micro credit organisation), access to education, creating new jobs (e.g. services rendered for international companies), improved health services as well as a more intense participation in public life.

Political coherence and overall interest of the state – Political coherence in the interest of sustainable development is one of the leading principles of the Development Cooperation Act (EZA-Gesetz). It increases the visibility and effectiveness of the Austrian Development Cooperation. The Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA) serves as the coordinating department in this framework. Coordination between several ministries ensures that measures (e.g. in economic, trade, financial, agricultural, security, migration, social, health, education, climate, and environmental policies) promote the achievement of strategic priorities. In this framework, strategically coordinating the federal ministries and their subordinate entities is an essential element. All actors are to act in a complementary way to others with the instruments and means at their disposal. Specific measures on political coherence are to be defined in the framework of coordination between the federal ministries and their implementation is to be initiated.

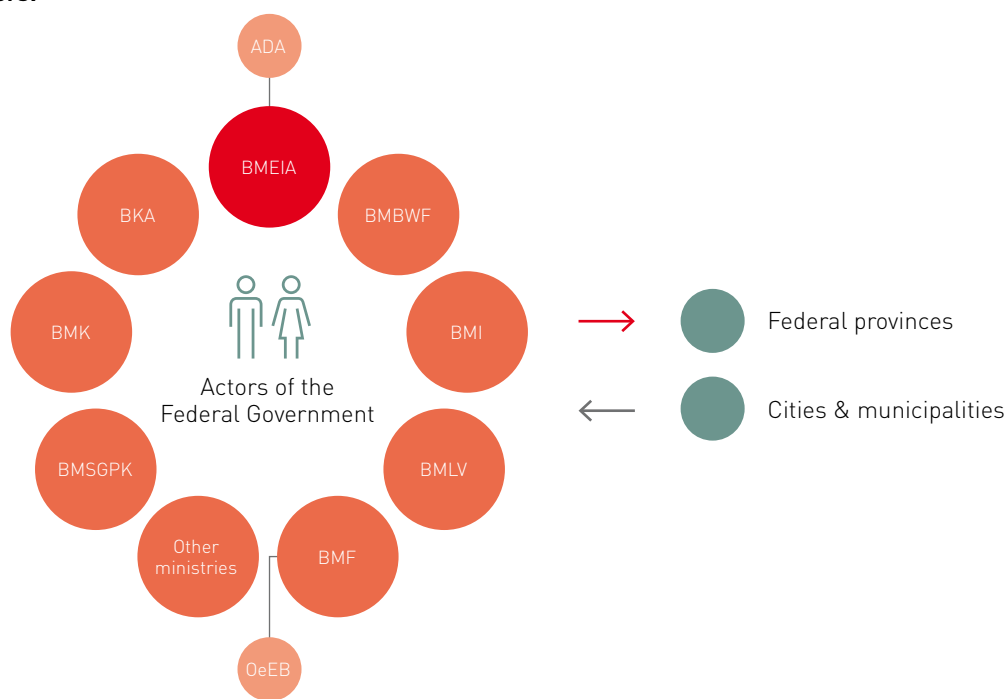
A coherent and whole-of-state approach also requires focus areas and strategic approaches shared between multiple departments. The following strategies relevant to development cooperation take into account the focus areas of the Austrian development policy:

- Overall strategy for Austrian humanitarian aid,
- Strategic Guidelines of the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) for International Financial Institutions (IFIs),
- Strategic Guideline on Environment and Development,
- Strategic Guideline on Security and Development,
- Austrian Security Strategy,
- Foreign Policy Strategy,
- ADA Third-Party Funding Strategy,
- "Financing Our Shared Future" Strategy of the OeEB.

A strong, active and responsible development policy is thus the responsibility of the entire Federal Government, which is committed to making it effective, efficient and transparent.

1.4 Actors in Austria's development cooperation

Public actors:



The following actors are also actively involved in Austria's development cooperation:



The Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, the Federal Ministry of Finance, other federal ministries, the Austrian Development Agency and the Austrian Development Bank play key roles among the numerous Austrian development policy actors.

Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA) – BMEIA is responsible for strategic orientation. Based on Austria's foreign policy priorities, it conceptualises and evaluates the strategic requirements for a coherent, targeted and efficient development policy. At the same time, it serves as a coordinating body assuring that Austrian development cooperation funds and services are used effectively.

Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) – Austria participates in a number of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) that are active both globally and regionally and several special funds, wherein the BMF manages the shares in those. The BMF bases its institutional and programmatic cooperation with development banks, funds and facilities on the BMF's Strategic Guidelines for IFIs and follows the objectives of the Three-Year Programme on Austrian Development Policy. In addition, the BMF supports the granting of concessional funding/soft loans by Oesterreichische Kontrollbank (OeKB) through commercial banks, issues guarantees for export credits and represents Austria in the multilateral creditor forum of the Paris Club.

Other federal ministries – In the framework of a whole-of-government, the Federal Chancellery as well as other ministries such as the Federal Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Ministry of Defence, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, the Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Mobility, Innovation and Technology, the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research as well as the Federal Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection take action in the sense of the SDGs, contributing to achieving the goals of this Three-Year Programme. The SDGs' implementation is jointly coordinated by the Federal Chancellery and the BMEIA.

Austrian Development Agency (ADA) – In its role as the operational unit of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), ADA has been responsible for implementing programmes and projects since 2004 and processes them on behalf of the Federal Government. Thus, ADA supports the BMEIA and other ministries in the operational implementation of their development policy projects. Provinces and municipalities are also invited to cooperate with ADA. Moreover, ADA is a sought-after partner when it comes to implementing third-party funding, for instance from the European Commission. It cooperates with public authorities, civil society institutions, UN organisations and companies. ADA's local offices ensure direct and continuous dialogue on the ground, make sure that activities are matched to local needs and control the use of funds.

Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank (OeEB) – OeEB was founded in 2008 and is a 100% subsidiary of OeKB. On behalf of the Republic of Austria, it serves as a thematically focussed development bank with a regionally flexible approach. In the implementation of its legal mandate, it supports sustainable investment in the private sector in developing countries by funding at near-market conditions and as a fiduciary for the Republic by obtaining shares in companies and funds. At the same time, it offers financial aid for project preparation and support (technical assistance) advice. All its activities serve the overarching goal of making a contribution to reducing poverty in developing and emerging countries by strengthening the private sector.

Provinces and municipalities – Provinces and municipalities ensure the local enshrining of the development cooperation's objectives in Austria.

Civil society organisations – Civil society organisations in Austria and partner countries represent an important pillar in development cooperation and humanitarian aid. They reach the most disadvantaged people, contribute to basic social services, motivate to participate in society politics, assume monitoring functions and promote human rights as well as the rule of law. Development policy education and communication in Austria raises awareness for global contexts and the Agenda 2030. The aim in partner countries is to establish and support inclusive and independent civil societies that advocate for the establishment of human rights and an autonomous life.

1.5 International Cooperation

Balanced development cooperation includes bi- and multilateral cooperations that complement one another and utilise various funding instruments. As a state with high international integration, as a member of the European Union, the United Nations and other international organisations such as the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) or the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Austria attaches particular importance to strong multilateral commitment. The Covid-19 pandemic has once again brought to the fore the importance of a functioning, rules-based, value-oriented multilateralism.

European Union (EU) – The EU is the world's largest donor of development aid. As a member of the EU, Austria contributes its share to combating poverty, promoting sustainable growth, defending human rights and democracy, promoting gender equality, the inclusion of persons with disabilities and the elderly as well as tackling the challenges in the fields of the environment and climate.

Austria participates both financially and in a strategic and controlling function to the EU's development and processes funds provided by the EU's development cooperation. The EU's development cooperation is primarily funded by the newly created Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) 2021–2027. Via the EU's "joint programming", Austria is directly involved in the EU's development policy planning on the ground in the partner countries (especially in ADC's priority countries). This approach contributes to improving the coordination, coherence, efficiency and effectiveness of the donors' activities on the ground and strengthens the EU's development cooperation with the partner countries.

The European Commission and the EU's member states regard development cooperation as well as commerce and visa policy as one of the instruments to ensure effective repatriation from the EU to the countries of origin.

The Covid-19 pandemic and its serious social and economic consequences have led the countries of the EU to move even closer together when it comes to development cooperation. In the framework of the "Team Europe" approach, the European Commission and the EU's member states implement joint development cooperation activities. The effective bundling of existing resources leads to a coordinated, strong and visible presence of the EU and its member states in the partner countries. In the coming years, numerous "Team Europe" initiatives are to be implemented, in which Austria will participate in accordance with the strategic priorities of Austria's development cooperation. Austria is generally committed to increasing its multilateral efforts to promote green, digital, equitable, inclusive and sustainable global reconstruction.

The empowerment of women and girls is an important, inter-departmental priority in the EU's foreign trade efforts. Presented in December 2020, the EU Gender Action Plan, GAP III spanning the years 2021–2025, aimed at gender equality and advancing the role of women in foreign trade, is the political framework for increasing the EU's commitment to establishing a gender-equal world. Austria fully supports this Action Plan.

United Nations (UN) and international organisations – Since Austria joined the UN in 1955, multilateral cooperation and promoting a rules-based international order together with the United Nations have become basic pillars of Austria's foreign policy. Austria contributes to the UN's work in several ways: by providing one of four UN headquarters around the world, by providing troops for UN peace keeping missions without interruption for more than 65 years and by serving as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council three times.

The UN's development system follows the Agenda 2030. The UN Development Programme (UNDP) supports developing countries in achieving their development goals and advocates for their concerns. The UN Development Group (UNDG), to which Austria actively contributes, is responsible for coordinating the operational UN development cooperation.

AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT POLICY 2022–2024

Every two years, the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), in which Austria is represented until 2023, holds its Development Cooperation Forum. There, it addresses the latest international development cooperation trends and progress and promotes coordination between the individual actors. As a key actor in multilateral development cooperation, the UN is supported by Austria in the form of specific funding / the joint implementation of projects.

In the development policy context, Austria works closely with various UN organisations, such as the Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) located in Vienna, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) as well as the Population Fund (UNFPA) and UN Women.

Important partners of Austria are the Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs). In 2014, Vienna served as the host for the second UN LLDC Conference. In order to strengthen the development policy dialogue with LLDCs as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the third UN Landlocked Developing Countries Conference is scheduled to be held in Vienna in late 2023 or 2024.

International Financial Institutions (IFIs) – International Financial Institutions (IFIs) aim to promote sustainable economic and social development and support their member states in combating poverty. To this end, they deploy pooled resources multiplied by leverage in international financial markets to achieve the SDGs by providing loans with near-market terms, concessional loans with long maturities, or grants to developing countries.

This makes IFIs some of the most important actors in development finance. However, they not only provide funding, but also play an important role in creating, implementing and monitoring development programmes and projects. They support developing countries with establishing their capacities, strengthen local implementation structures and spread development policy know-how as well as international environmental and social standards.

IFIs play an important role in global climate protection and in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement, to which Austria has committed together with currently 193 other nations. IFIs have set increasingly ambitious climate targets in recent years and provided an increasing volume of climate funding each year. Through analyses of potentials and requirements, they also provide important information that is essential for identifying effective climate protection measures.

In the framework of its cooperation with IFIs, Austria is committed to ensuring that they continue to play a pioneering role in Paris-compatible investments and international climate finance and increase the share of eligible climate projects. IFIs are already making an essential contribution to achieving Austria's targets for international climate finance.

For example, Austria supports processes of inclusive and sustainable urban development in close cooperation with IFIs. In its cooperation with IFIs as experienced actors in the context of financing and implementing sustainable infrastructure projects, Austria focuses primarily on supporting projects in the fields of sustainable and climate-friendly mobility, energy supply and efficiency, as well as digital solutions in the smart city context and knowledge exchange.

Furthermore, due to their broad international membership and the provision of financial resources, IFIs have a central role to play in addressing global challenges, such as preventing and combating financial and economic crises, supraregional health crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic, migration and refugee movements, climate change, or the increase in armed conflicts as well as the consequences of these global challenges.

International agreements and instruments – Austria's efforts are based on many international agreements. (For details see Annex 2)



1.6 Geographical Focus Areas in Austria's Development Cooperation

Austria's development cooperation is aimed at the following **geographical focus areas**:

- Africa, with a focus on the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in the Sub-Saharan region,
- Neighbouring countries, especially in the Western Balkans and priority countries in the framework of the European Union's Eastern Partnership,
- Crisis regions and fragile states.

In addition, development cooperation is carried out in a non-local manner by combating cross-border challenges with a focus in particular on coping with the Covid-19 pandemic and its socio-economic consequences.

Bilateral development cooperation is implemented through ADA's annual work programme and by other relevant Austrian actors. In order to use the funds provided in the most efficient and targeted way, they are focused on priority countries, regions and themes.

Priority countries are:

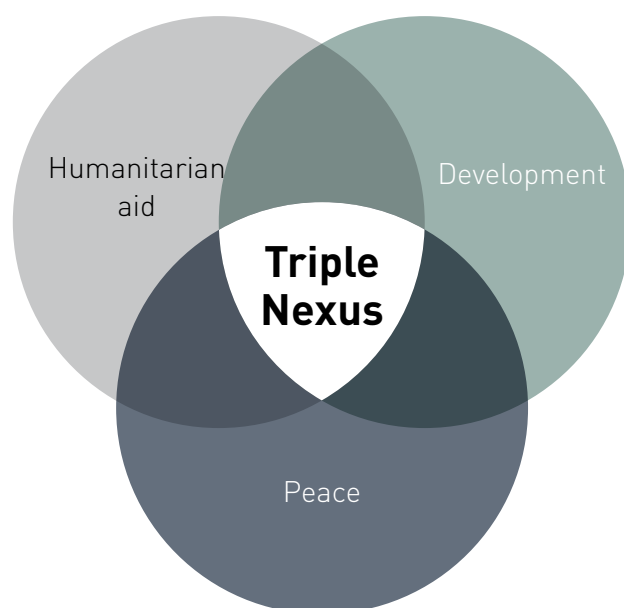
- Burkina Faso, Uganda, Ethiopia and Mozambique,
- Moldova, Armenia and Georgia,
- the crisis region of Palestine,
- Bhutan (until 2023).

Additional **key regions** are the Western Balkans, West Africa/Sahel, East Africa/Horn of Africa and Southern Africa.

Supporting LDCs is a focus in Austria's development cooperation. With Austrian support, one current priority country will succeed in moving up from the group of LDCs to that of Lower Middle Income Countries (LMICs): Bhutan is one of the fastest growing economies in the world according to the World Bank. With it graduating to an LMIC, bilateral development cooperation with Bhutan will be completed at the end of 2023 and the LDC focus will be moved to priority countries and regions in sub-Saharan Africa. Relations between Austria and Bhutan are expected to continue after the completion of the ADC transition strategy currently underway and to be brought to life by other Austrian actors.

Supporting its neighbouring countries is a particular concern for Austria; many Austrian actors are represented on the ground. With its numerous instruments, Austria supports the reforms of the countries in the EU enlargement process through complementary measures. In the framework of the new regional strategy for the Western Balkans region, the network of development cooperation experts is supposed to be expanded to boost the impact and coherence of Austrian activities.

Acute crisis situations and the fragility of states pose a particular challenge and responsibility to the population and thus also to the international community. In these situations, Austrian as well as international action is particularly relevant. In this context, the linking of humanitarian aid with long-term development cooperation and peacekeeping or peacebuilding measures is of particular relevance.



In addition to the geographical focus areas described above, individual ministries, in particular the Federal Ministry of Finance via the IFIs, are also involved in **other countries and regions of the world**, see Annex 3.

2. Priorities, Focuses and Measures in Austria's Development Cooperation 2022–2024

Priorität A Combating poverty by promoting economic and social development

Focus A.1 Eliminating poverty – covering basic needs



Some 10% of the world's population live on less than 1.75 €, i.e. in extreme poverty, not being able to afford the most elemental basic needs (food, water, cooking, heating). This is why eliminating poverty is a fundamental approach to create a better life for all.

Water, energy and food safety are inextricably linked, forming the foundation for meeting basic needs. One of the Austrian development cooperation's declared goals, in line with reducing poverty, is therefore to create maximally efficient and sustainable economic cycles: The supply of water, energy and high-quality food must neither compete with each other nor have serious impacts on existing ecosystems, but must serve the common goal of human development.

Another essential factor in the context of reducing poverty is education. It is a human right and the key to the personal, social and economic development of each and every individual. Education creates greater equality of opportunity and enables people to lift themselves out of poverty. Attending school and completing training increases the chances of finding decent work and thus of earning an income. Access to education must be guaranteed for all population groups, and the associated measures must be designed in such a way as to be inclusive.

Last but not least, education is also a catalyst for development in other sectors: for the empowerment of women and girls as well as persons with disabilities, in the area of peace and security as well as in matters of environmental and climate protection.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

A.1.a Water, energy and food security

Food security – Employing an integrated and systematic approach, Austria advocates for improving the livelihoods (food security and income creation) as well as boosting the capacities and empowerment of all those involved while protecting the environment and considering the effects of climate change (sustainable agriculture and forestry, fair access to and sustainable handling of natural resources as well as for an ecological approach and regional distribution). Not least, the importance of aid to which Austria contributes internationally and on the ground, is further highlighted by the serious worsening of humanitarian crises in the poorest regions of the world as a result of Covid-19.

Among others, Austria pursues the following measures:

- rural governance, inclusive and gender-equal participation and advocacy
- fair, equal access to land and seeds, particularly for marginalised and vulnerable groups, especially women and girls, as well as support of small farm seed systems for food production
- promotion of ecological agriculture
- promotion of agricultural production while preserving biodiversity, protecting ecosystems and avoiding soil degradation
- use of sustainable energy solutions that yield increased agricultural productivity
- sustainable management of natural resources, incl. low resource consumption and low environmental impact while avoiding food loss and waste
- sustainable development of the local economy (e.g. increasing local value creation and regional distribution)
- training, capacity development and empowerment (especially counselling services)
- ensuring balanced and ample nutrition.

Goal: ADC will invest 20% of its project portfolio in agricultural development and food security projects.

Sustainable water supply and community hygiene – Access to clean water is a human right recognised by the UN. Innovative steps are required to ensure sustainable development in the face of increasing water shortages. This is why Austria works bilaterally and in the context of multilateral organisations, among others with public administration bodies, to promote solutions to handling increasing water shortages and creating an appropriate legal framework in developing countries. Moreover, it aims to raise awareness of hygiene measures and water resource management among the population.

The following measures are pursued:

- use of energy-efficient waste water management and water supply solutions, among others renewable energies (e.g. solar-powered pumps, sea water desalination systems run with renewable energy) in rural and urban regions
- technical urban and rural water supply and community hygiene measures
- training local skilled workers as an accompanying measure
- sustainable, integrated and inclusive water resource management and ecologically compatible flood protection
- protection and restoration of ecosystems connected to water (mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, lakes, ground water)
- participatory water use plans with user groups for watersheds, including mediation of international conflicts over water resources
- building coherent and flexible water governance approaches that can mitigate trade-offs between development, economic and environmental interests.

Goal: ADC will invest 20% of its project portfolio in sustainable water supply and community hygiene projects.

Sustainable energy supply and energy efficiency – Access to sustainable, modern and affordable energy solutions is a basic requirement for sustainable development and to achieve the obligations under the Paris Agreement. This is why Austria supports partner countries and regions in establishing capacities, knowledge and technology transfer and the creation of favourable conditions for investment in sustainable energy solutions and technologies as well as energy efficiency.

The following measures are implemented:

- supporting programmes that combine energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources of energy in industry
- supporting the establishment of regional centres for renewable energy and energy efficiency in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean
- improving access to renewable energy solutions (e.g. low-smoke, efficient cooking stoves, solar-powered heating/cooling solutions, solar-powered hot water, decentralised power supply) in rural and urban regions, including cooperation with Austrian companies in said field
- supporting investment in renewable energies, energy efficiency and electric mobility, among others through favourable framework conditions, project development support, matchmaking and market information
- strengthening local private sectors and inter-sectoral cooperation in the partner countries and regions; supporting innovative start-ups in the field of “sustainable energy” in the partner countries
- involving women in the design of the respective political processes and supporting their training to become skilled workers in the energy, water and agriculture industries
- technology transfer, establishing capacities (training and education) and raising awareness
- boosting the role of the Viennese headquarters as the “Energy Hub Vienna” (UNIDO, IAEA, IIASA, SEforAll, OPEC Fund for International Development, REEP, OSCE etc.) to better utilise energy policy synergies in the multilateral area.

Goal: ADC will invest 20% of its project portfolio in sustainable energy supply and energy efficiency projects.

A.1.b Vocational training and higher education

Austrian development cooperation supports the creation and strengthening of modern and inclusive national vocational training offers and systems, taking into account the requirements of students and the labour market in equal measure. Learning in one’s company itself allows practical knowledge to be transferred, while valuable contacts facilitate entry into the workforce. Dual vocational training systems are designed to match the context and prerequisites of the respective national education system. Effective measures in vocational education and training require a holistic view of the education system, including the general education system. Especially when it comes to pursuing equal opportunities, inclusive education systems and societies, early intervention proves highly efficient.

Quality higher education is the basis for creating innovative solutions for local and global challenges. It makes an important contribution to reducing scientific and technological dependencies as well as the north-south divide, allowing for the training of suitable managers for sectors such as the healthcare and justice systems or the economy.

Capacity development in higher education can be achieved, among other things, through partnership-based cooperation projects in research, teaching and in the area of university governance.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

Austria pursues the following measures:

- strengthening the quality of vocational training offers, both on the basis of classroom learning and in dual form and by offering practical, labour market oriented higher education programmes
- modernisation and increased labour market orientation of national vocational training systems, taking into account entrepreneurial competences ("entrepreneurship education"), among others
- increased use of digital innovation in the education sector
- strengthening "green skills" or the "greening of skills" in vocational training (esp. sustainable energy creation and efficiency)
- strengthening access to labour market relevant, inclusive vocational training offers, especially in the other thematic priorities of Austrian development cooperation (e.g. food, water and energy security) based on equal opportunities principles
- providing illiterate or less-skilled people with basic training preparing them for or accompanying vocational training
- supporting people through career counselling, entry into the workforce or further education for already skilled workers
- promoting exchange and sending experts abroad in the framework of (vocational) training
- supporting repatriates with reintegrating, especially through establishing businesses and access to training
- strengthening inter- or transdisciplinary thematic networks and/or dialogue platforms (science/economy/society)
- further development of school partnerships and supporting the system of Austrian schools abroad with vocational training offers relevant to development
- strengthening scientific capacities at individual and institutional level through university cooperation programmes (including artistic training) and educational programmes, always in the framework of the autonomy of Austrian universities
- strengthening scientific capacities through master and PhD grants for students from the ADC priority countries, particularly in the framework of university-level research, teaching and higher education management cooperation
- supporting the countries of the Danube region and the Western Balkans with approaching / being integrated into the European Higher Education and Research Area.

Goal: The ADC will invest approx. 17% of its annual portfolio in education.

The education and science sector requires strong commitment from public and non-public actors. In vocational training and dual training, especially that of companies, the Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO) and Austrian vocational training organisations, in higher education that of universities and universities of applied science. The already existing cooperation and the good collaboration in this area will therefore be expanded.

Flagship Programme – Dual Vocational Training in Serbia by the WKO and the Serbian Chamber of Commerce as well as by the OeAD in cooperation with the Serbian Ministry of Education

The aim of this flagship programme is to introduce a nationwide dual vocational training model in Serbia based on the model of apprenticeship training in German-speaking countries and Austria in particular. It is being implemented

by the WKO and the Serbian Chamber of Commerce with the participation of many vocational training organisations and public authorities.

10 job descriptions taught in dual mode will be introduced until the end of the project. Together, 600 companies and 100 schools will train 4,000 students to become skilled workers, among those will be at least 800 women and at least 200 people from disadvantaged groups.

Complementary to this, the OeAD, on behalf of the BMBWF, supports the Serbian Ministry of Education in boosting the competence of about 150 vocational schools in the cooperation with companies and thus to improve the coordination between the two places of learning that are schools and companies.

A.1.c Health, social security and full employment

Health – Health is indispensable for a dignified life and for overcoming poverty. Likewise, health is a key factor in social and economic development anywhere in the world. In this sense, the WHO's One Health approach is to be systematically considered through effective measures. This was and is made all the more apparent by the challenges and effects of the Covid-19 pandemic as well as climate change. Covid-19 has made public and private healthcare systems around the world reach their limits and has highlighted the necessity of resilient structures in the fields of healthcare, research, prevention and the establishment of crisis management capacities. Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, Austria has been actively advocating to address the health consequences of the pandemic. In addition, Austria is specifically committed to ensuring access to universal health care and infrastructure, sexual health care including family planning and related rights, and information and education (especially for women and girls), as well as to preventing and combating poverty-related diseases.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- promoting and ensuring access to general healthcare and infrastructure for all by creating and sustainably strengthening healthcare systems and medical infrastructure in the partner countries, also in connection with Covid-19
- providing third countries in need with COVID-19 vaccines, both bilaterally through donations and through supporting COVAX AMC (Advanced Market Commitment) and GAVI COVAX facilities
- preventing and combating poverty-related diseases such as tropical diseases (malaria) and HIV/AIDS
- promoting the health of mothers and their children, especially gender-equal or equal nutrition for young children to reduce infant mortality and malnutrition
- promoting sexual and reproductive health and preserving the rights associated therewith;
- promoting a supportive environment so that women and girls can exercise their rights in the area of sexual and reproductive health
- preventing gender-related violence and supporting violence survivors.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

Social protection and inclusive employment – Employment and social protection are among the most effective factors in combating poverty and inequality. However, 53% of the world's population – some 4.1 billion people – lack social protection, and globally, only 26% of all children receive social benefits. Particularly in times of crises and pandemics, social protection systems play an essential role in addressing the social impact on society. This is especially true for women, who globally perform three quarters of all unpaid nursing and care work. Austria provides knowledge and practical experience to strengthen social protection measures and promotes productive employment and decent work on the ground.

The following measures are being pursued:

- strengthening public services and mechanisms for social security
- tackling the social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic
- supporting and promoting safe and healthy working conditions
- combating child labour and strengthening the social infrastructure that assures the rights of children
- promoting sustainable employment through commitment to the international ratification and observance of the ILO core labour standards.

Focus A.2

Making the economy sustainable



Sustainable economic development is the basis for comprehensive and broad social development that benefits as many population groups as possible. At an individual level, this leads to the creation of humane employment and liveable wages – the prerequisites for an autonomous life. At a societal level, it means a structural change towards increased value creation and the generation of tax income for the public sector. In this context, it is primarily important to also promote efficient and transparent tax systems.

Economic development should take place with due regard for corporate responsibility for compliance with human rights, social and environmental standards. In this context, particular attention is paid to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the Decent Work Agenda and the ILO core labour standards. In line with the Agenda 2030, development cooperation activities should contribute to decent work, resource efficiency, low pollution and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Digitisation, innovation, culture and creative industries create green jobs and promote business growth.

A.2.a Sustainable economy and the private sector as a partner in combating poverty

Sustainable economic development that benefits as many population groups as possible, is the basis for combating poverty. The successful development of the private sector creates the prerequisites for an autonomous life for the local population: supplier and sales markets are created, incorporating products and services in local, national and international value creation chains. Moreover, the implementation of the SDGs requires major investment in the developing countries' infrastructure that cannot be funded through public budgets alone. Partnerships with the private sector provide the opportunity to close gaps in funding. In this context, it is essential that the human rights, social and environmental standards are credibly observed.

In line with its expertise and cooperation offers developed over the years, Austria will focus on the following measures:

- supporting well-founded vocational training while increasing the involvement of the private sector (e.g. internships or apprenticeships)
- improving the framework conditions for the development of the local private sector, which is simultaneously intended to boost the involvement of the Austrian private sector in developing countries; in particular, the “market system development” approach will be employed
- improved access to funding, particularly to allow small and medium sized companies as well as entrepreneurs to make long-term investments
- promoting ecologically sustainable competitiveness, environmentally friendly and digital technologies as well as conveying sustainable business practices
- strengthening entrepreneurial responsibility when it comes to involvement in partner countries and observing human rights, social and environmental standards in global supply and value creation chains
- improving companies' family friendliness and strengthening female entrepreneurship.

In order to achieve the best possible effect, all development policy actors from the economic sector have to get involved in line with their expertise, mandate and available instruments. This also means that the activities of the Austrian development cooperation must be better coordinated with the Austrian private economy and foreign trade promotion. Austrian companies can become an important partner in combating poverty thanks to their expertise, products, services and financial strength. In this sense, the Austrian foreign trade strategy includes concrete measures to actively communicate the business opportunity that is “sustainability” to Austrian companies and to strengthen the cooperation between the economy and development. The multiplying effect of Austrian development cooperation funds through their use in multilateral development organisations and banks will also continue to be used in a targeted manner.

Sustainability in the sense of the SDGs is an important element of Austria's foreign trade strategy; the “ReFocus Austria” initiative launched by the federal government together with the WKÖ serves the goal of opening doors in foreign countries to Austrian business interests together with representatives of all federal ministries through the Austrian representative authorities worldwide and promoting the entry of Austrian companies also into difficult markets as well as in the field of development cooperation.

Best Practice – Cameroon: Sustainable roof tile production

In the sense of their commitment to a whole-of-government approach, ADA and OeEB will pursue an increasingly complementary approach in the framework of their instruments between 2022 and 2024. This approach is already being implemented in Cameroon: There, in the framework of an economic partnership, ADA supports the creation of a production facility for roof tiles made from recyclable plastic and sand, contributing to solving the plastic waste problem. In the framework of the African facility, the OeEB has been funding the expansion of the production site since 2020, using funds sourced from the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF).

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

The intended measures are:

- expanding the cooperation between ADA, OeEB and the WKO concerning the development of bankable projects
- strengthening the range of funding instruments for economic involvement in Africa, e.g. through the African-Austrian SME Investment Facility (AAIF) of the BMF implemented via OeEB
- structured all-Austrian offers in response to the increasing demand from partner countries for Austrian know-how in the field of vocational training ("training partnerships with business and educational institutions");
- promoting cooperation between the Federal Ministry of the Interior, the Federal Ministry of Digitalisation and Economy, the ADA, and Austrian foreign trade organisations regarding the creation of local perspectives (education and vocational training, training, labour market access, etc.) in priority regions;
- promotion of inclusive innovations involving local target groups and innovators in partner countries in order to develop local solutions and scale them if successful.

Funding instruments to support activities of Austrian companies in developing and emerging countries –

Using subsidies, the BMF supports the provision of concessional funding ("Soft loan process") for sustainable Austrian projects and project preparation measures for contract partners in partner countries. Besides low interest rates, long terms and interest-free periods, projects thus funded don't have to be financially viable, which is why these projects are mainly found in the public sector, especially in the sectors of healthcare, environment, education, further education, transport, water, waste water and disaster prevention. ADA's business partnerships are aimed at Austrian/EU companies that are looking for long-term involvement in a developing or emerging country, would like to invest and engage in trade with developing countries, thus making a contribution to boost the skills of local workers. Finally, Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank (OeEB) provides funding that allows them to take greater economic risk than commercial banks. OeEB customers can also be private companies in developing and emerging countries and all supported projects are subjected to a comprehensive environmental and social review.

Goal: The OeEB intends to invest at least 40% of its new business in projects relevant to climate protection annually.

A.2.b Digitisation

Digitisation – Digitisation is one of the most important factors for innovation and opens up new perspectives and opportunities for more efficient and cost-effective cooperation in all areas of life. It offers immense opportunities to make the economy and governance more effective and inclusive and to make participation in education and healthcare services more affordable and efficient.

The digital divide and its negative effects on people in developing countries have been especially highlighted during the global Covid-19 pandemic. No or poor access to the Internet makes online home schooling and working from home difficult, often coinciding with negative effects in the fields of healthcare, education, further education, employment, etc. Basic prerequisites need to be created to make sure that the benefits of digitisation also become available to geographically or socially marginalised groups. In this context, the Austrian development cooperation pursues increased cooperation with the private economy and other relevant actors as well as institutions to utilise their know-how, expertise and experience:

The following measures are being pursued:

- supporting education to better utilise digital technology
- reducing the digital gender gap as well as the general digital divide
- access to digital infrastructure (mobile communication networks, Internet access and end user devices)

- promoting affordable, reliable and sustainable energy supply
- supporting an inclusive governmental regulation framework to allow for equal and transparent access to digital platforms
- sustainable production and circular economy for digital end user devices
- promoting data protection and transparent data management in line with data protection regulations (OECD Guidelines on the Protection of Privacy and Transborder Flows of Personal Data, EU General Data Protection Regulation)
- promoting digital solutions in the context of Smart City
- promoting the use of digital options by persons with disabilities, above all for inclusion in education and employment and for active participation in society.

Priority B Peacekeeping and human security

Focus B.1

Promoting humanitarian aid, development and peace



Around the world, crises, armed conflicts and fragile situations are increasing in number and duration, jeopardising global development progress. Without active countermeasures, approx. half of the world's population will live in fragile contexts and be affected by crises and conflicts in 2050. The number of those in need of humanitarian aid has quadrupled from 62 million to 235 million since 2012, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA).

Fragility has various causes: Poverty, social and gender inequality, exclusion and autocratic governance, global health crises or climate change hinder the maintenance of security and hamper development. Peace and human security are basic prerequisites for development and therefore also constitute one of the three main objectives of the Austrian development policy.

The fact that various challenges occur at once in the context of crises and conflicts requires a networked, synergetic interplay of humanitarian aid, long-term development efforts as well as peacebuilding and -keeping measures. Austria commits to promoting coherence by means of the Nexus approach focussing on “humanitarian aid, development, peace” (Triple Nexus).

In all crises, besides immediate humanitarian aid, the topmost priority is to initiate development cooperation measures early on and to utilise the potential for prevention, mediation and conflict solution. This allows for strengthening the resilience of the local population. Of particular concern to Austria are the UNSCR 1325 and follow-up resolutions and active advocating for women at the negotiating table and in peace processes.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

Austria attaches great importance to the role of civil society in shaping political life. Education makes an essential contribution to social cohesion, the reduction of prejudices, social divisions and conflict prevention. Inclusive access to education and the labour market, even in conflict situations, is an ever-growing challenge; especially access to the formal education system for children and young people as internally displaced persons. Arts and culture projects also make an important contribution to peacebuilding, conflict prevention and the rule of law.

B.1.a Humanitarian aid

Covering basic human needs in crises and conflict situations – this includes, above all, providing shelter, food and goods for daily use, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) measures and medical care – is an inherent task of Austrian humanitarian aid.

In order to be able to tackle these tasks most effectively, an overall strategy for Austrian humanitarian aid is currently being worked out.

The humanitarian principles of humanity, independence, neutrality and impartiality are the key guidelines of Austria's humanitarian efforts. On top of that, all Austrian humanitarian aid is aligned with a human rights approach and the “do no harm” principle.

With a focus on innovation, quality and a conscious design of the link between humanitarian aid, development cooperation and peacebuilding, the programme aims to respond to new challenges and strengthen the efficiency and effectiveness of aid.

Humanitarian aid is primarily matched to the requirements and risks of groups most seriously endangered and disadvantaged, including women and girls, persons with disabilities, the elderly, young people and ethnic minorities.

Good coordination and complementarity between humanitarian aid, development cooperation and peacebuilding/-keeping measures increases the sustainable effectiveness of aid measures. The principle of the Agenda for Humanity, which is not only to provide aid in emergencies, but also to eliminate such emergencies, is taken into account.

Austria fulfils its obligations under international humanitarian law and is committed to improving the protection of civilians from and in armed conflicts on a sustainable basis.

The Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA) coordinates humanitarian aid in Austria and manages the resources of the Foreign Disaster Fund (AKF). The AKF fund allocation aims at covering basic human needs of those in need by providing targeted emergency relief. The final decision for all AKF expenditures lies with the Federal Government. The ADA is commissioned with processing the majority of the funds. Other humanitarian aid measures are promoted and implemented by other ministries, the provinces, the ADA and Austrian CSOs.

Providing support to refugees and internally displaced persons and other people in need, securing basic human needs, active participation in social life, equal access to and exercise of rights as well as legitimate governmental institutions are prerequisites for peaceful societies. According to the UNHCR, developing countries receive 86% of all refugees worldwide and 73% of all refugees are taken in by neighbouring countries. This is why Austria increases aid on the ground and has made it one of its goals to create international protection and life perspectives as close as possible to their region of origin by means of sustainable contribution.

In this context, the EU's regional development and protection programmes implemented in cooperation with the UNHCR are key multilateral instruments. These pool existing resources with those of other EU member states, allowing for efficient and effective use.

B.1.b Development and peace building

Fragile contexts are disproportionately affected by armed conflicts and complex crises that, besides human suffering, also significantly jeopardise development goals, at an above-average rate. The Covid-19 crisis additionally exacerbated existing reasons and effects of conflicts such as inequality, social tension and violence. In fragile situations, the operational priority is on promoting social cohesion and human rights. Special attention is given to rule of law, establishment of democratic structures and the crisis-resilience of governmental institutions and conflict prevention to combat the reasons of fragility. In the planning period, the programme will primarily strengthen the civil society and peacebuilding at local, regional and national level.

In the framework of 12 international deployments in 11 countries as well as through capacity development measures in the 4 regions of the crisis belt (Africa, Middle East, Western Balkans and Eastern Europe/Black Sea), the Austrian Armed Forces (ÖBH) contributes to peacebuilding and -keeping efforts. The training of accountable forces within the framework of the European Training Mission in Mali as well as bilateral training in the field of defusing and destroying means of war in Jordan are examples of contributions by the Federal Ministry of National Defence (BMLV)/ÖBH to the SDGs 16 and 17.

Austria's objectives in this field include:

- participating in international missions and advocating for an integrated, conflict-sensitive approach for the foreign policy instruments of the EU and UN (sustained peace approach)
- protecting civil society during armed conflicts by means of active civil-military involvement in the sense of international humanitarian law
- strengthening and promoting local and regional networks and organisations in tackling cross-border security threats such as human trafficking and organised crime
- measures in the areas of mediation, confidence-building and monitoring of peace processes, political dialogue, educational measures and expansion of early warning systems and conflict prevention
 - involvement of women in all stages of conflict resolution as well as in peace processes
 - use of innovative technologies, methods and instruments
 - human rights-compliant transitional justice and reconciliation, development of a democratically controlled security sector, and protection of those who defend human rights
- measures to strengthen social cohesion and trauma processing
- health security to strengthen the resilience of societies in terms of human security.

Goal: 15% of all programmable development cooperation is supposed to be used for peace and security.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

Focus B.2

Democratic governance, empowerment of women and inclusive societies



Sound and democratic governance is one of the central keys to safeguarding the rights of all members of a society – including those who are otherwise discriminated against and excluded. These often include women, children, the elderly, persons with disabilities, minorities and other disadvantaged groups in society. Promoting inclusive societies and a model of governance based on democratic and human rights principles counteracts radicalisation and violent extremism.

Strengthening civil society in partner countries is a key objective of Austrian development policy. The programme seeks to support an independent civil society that advocates for preserving human rights and basic freedoms such as the right to free expression and assembly.

Promoting culture in developing nations also contributes to strengthening self-initiative and self-esteem, including that of women and young people.

B.2.a Democratic governance

Austria supports its partner countries in establishing accountable, transparent, inclusive and efficient institutions at national, regional and local level. The use of digital technologies significantly contributes to this effort (e-governance). Criteria of democratic governance and a collective national response to possible worsening situations in partner countries are defined in an updated version of the ADC's Governance Policy.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- supporting the establishment of democratic structures by strengthening the capacities of parliamentary systems, inclusive institutions and procedures as well as enshrining and strengthening political education for all age groups in the education systems;
- strengthening the capacities of governmental institutions
 - rule of law; improving legal security, transparency, accountability, political participation and anti-corruption efforts
 - fairness: establishing an accessible, human-rights-compatible and democratically controlled justice and security sector;
 - inclusion: strengthening democratic development by empowering vulnerable groups and promoting civil society involvement; securing access to education, strengthening inclusion competence of educational institutions and systems
 - societal cohesion: measures combating societal fragmentation and radicalisation by means of dialogue aimed at social peace, inclusion and education
 - ((post) conflict processing by means of education as well as preventing radicalisation by means of education); measures strengthening the potential of education to promote social cohesion
- strengthening resilience at all levels (decentralisation, promoting knowledge networks, early warning systems, preventative policy planning), including regional levels
- supporting organisations and initiatives that advocate for the implementation of human rights and, in particular, freedom of information, artistic expression and the press

- political dialogue on democratic values and the dangers of autocratic structures with the partner countries, as well as in the framework of the EU and UN
- supporting the inclusive use of digital technologies in accordance with human rights and cyber governance that focuses on people (human centrism).

Goal: In the planning period, at least 15% of the programmable development cooperation will be used to strategically strengthen democratic governance.

B.2.b Empowerment of women and girls

Gender equality is a basic human right. Including women and their gender-specific needs into development processes moreover leads to better development results. Gender equality and the political and economic empowerment of women and girls are therefore basic prerequisites for sustainably reducing poverty, inclusive economic growth and social development. Girls and women with disabilities are particularly disadvantaged due to multiple discrimination. A participative approach can help promote this group of people.

The Covid-19 pandemic has further worsened the societal and economic situation of women and girls; they are disproportionately affected by its social and economic effects. Women are much more often employed in informal and insecure work relationships than men and are therefore more often affected by worsening labour market situations or labour exploitation. This, in turn, increases the poverty rate among women.

For the first time in 25 years, Austria is once again part of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the main global political institution solely dedicated to gender equality and female empowerment. Against this background, the long-standing commitment of the Austrian development cooperation to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will be further strengthened.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- strengthening social, political and economic participation and self-determination, e.g. by means of improved access to education and training options and by enshrining political education in the education systems
- strengthening the role of women in armed conflicts and implementing the UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security and its follow-up resolutions, e.g. by supporting and empowering local women's organisations, for instance in the framework of the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund
- protecting women from all forms of gender-specific violence as well as forced marriage and child marriage, e.g. by supporting national legal system reform and protecting and empowering survivors as well as supporting women's rights organisations that advocate for such topics
- promoting sexual and reproductive health and associated rights, incl. measures combating female genital mutilation, e.g. by raising awareness at a local level, access to healthcare and promoting transformational measures that seek to sustainably change deeply rooted social norms and practices that perpetuate inequality
- strengthening gender-sensitive budgeting, e.g. by developing the capacities of women's organisations within the civil society
- involving men and boys in all areas of gender equality work
- collecting gender and age specific data to better analyse the situation and needs of women and girls
- gender mainstreaming in the framework of bilateral development cooperation as well as active pursuit of an ambitious and systematic implementation of gender mainstreaming in the overall multilateral context.

Goal: The ADC is guided by the specific objective of the EU GAP III, i.e. 85% of all new measures should directly or indirectly serve the objective of gender equality.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

B.2.c Inclusive societies, empowerment of persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups

Persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by poverty, unemployment, lack of access to education and healthcare and require special attention in the context of development policy measures. This also applies to the elderly, children, minorities and other vulnerable groups. According to the WHO, more than one billion people live with some form of disability. This amounts to 15% of the world's population, 80% of those live in developing countries. Women and girls with disabilities are particularly affected by poverty, marginalisation, violence and discrimination. Based on the SDGs, the UN's Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Austrian Development Cooperation Act (*EZA-Gesetz*), Austria implements the measures of the National Action Plan for Persons with Disabilities 2022–2030.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- Promoting self-determination by means of equal participation in public and political life, equal and inclusive access to education/training and the labour market.
- The new measures of the ADC are intended to directly or indirectly serve the goal of implementing inclusion and equal rights for persons with disabilities.
- Active cooperation by all stakeholders in the working group titled “Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in the Austrian development cooperation” as a whole-of-nation platform.

Priority C Preserving the environment and protecting natural resources

Protecting the environment, climate and natural resources must be assured by means of targeted activities, including preventative measures. Environmental and climate protection must be consistently and systematically integrated into all areas of Austrian development cooperation and must be promoted (“mainstreaming”). Preventing negative effects on the environment, biodiversity and the climate are the priorities in the area of environmental and climate protection.

Focus C.1

Combating climate change and its consequences



C.1.a Combating climate change and promoting decarbonisation

The need and urgency to combine international efforts to protect the global climate and adapt to the consequences of climate change are obvious in light of the scientific findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Poor countries – and within them, poor and vulnerable sections of the population – are particularly affected by the effects of climate change.

Austria is taking the following measures in this regard:

- alignment of the Austrian development cooperation with the goals of the Paris Agreement ("Paris alignment") – Awareness raising and capacity development for environmental and climate protection
- climate and energy:
 - Support for measures to reduce emissions (mitigation) and adapt to the effects of climate change (adaptation), especially through nature-based solutions
 - creating access to sustainable energy, reducing energy consumption and promoting energy efficiency as well as renewable energies
 - promoting clean, sustainable energy technologies
 - promoting processes of sustainable and inclusive urban development, especially in cooperation with IFIs (especially sustainable and climate-friendly mobility, energy supply and efficiency, digital Smart City solutions and knowledge exchange)
 - terminating the funding of and subsidies for fossil energy infrastructure and fossil energy
 - increasing the synergies between the Austrian development cooperation and international climate funds.

Goals:

- *By 2024, the ADC will increase the portion of programmable programmes/projects that contribute to preserving the environment and natural resources, to 60%.*
- *The actors in Austria's development cooperation strive to not promote any programmes/projects directly connected to the use of fossil energies using Official Development Assistance/ODA funds.*

C.1.b Increasing climate resilience and disaster prevention

Compared to conflicts and violence, extreme weather events lead to a far greater number of displaced people. However, climate change and environmental disasters are themselves a cause of conflicts, among others in connection with access to and use of natural resources. Besides mitigating its effects, it is also important to strengthen the resilience of the population to the consequences of climate change.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- use and strengthening of synergies between environmental and climate protection, disaster prevention and poverty reduction
- promoting an integrated disaster prevention approach
- use of Austrian know-how in the integration of climate protection, disaster prevention and restoration efforts into national, regional and local development plans, strategies, investment schedules and budgets
- green restoration ("Building forward better and greener") so that current and future disasters can be handled better
- raising awareness and developing capacities for climate protection and disaster prevention in partner countries
- promoting sustainable, multifunctional and climate-resilient agriculture and forestry.

PRIORITIES, FOCUSES AND MEASURES

Focus C.2

Protecting natural resources



C.2.a Protecting ecosystems and biodiversity

The worrying state of the environment and ecosystems presents ever increasing challenges for the international community. Climate change and the biodiversity crisis further exacerbate this situation. All countries, but particularly the Austrian priority countries in the tropical and sub-tropical regions, are affected. An intact and healthy environment is one of the most important prerequisites for sustainable development. Extreme weather events, natural disasters, environmental contamination, excessive exploitation of natural resources, loss of biodiversity and the resulting loss of indispensable ecosystem services as well as climate change can only be tackled in the context of global cooperation and responsibility.

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- using national experiences with including environmental and climate protection in strategies, development and investment plans
- raising awareness and developing capacities for environmental and climate protection
- promoting measures combating land degradation
- contributing to securing land and usage rights as well as sustainable and inclusive, long-term land use planning
- safeguarding protected areas, their networking and promoting innovative incentives for resource preservation
- protecting primary forests and promoting sustainable and climate-resilient forest and timber management.
- Strict application of a precautionary approach when it comes to risk assessment involving genetically modified organisms.

C.2.b Sustainable resource management

In this context, Austria pursues the following measures:

- water and community hygiene:
 - strengthening an integrated approach to water resource management
 - improving water supply and water use efficiency
 - promoting sustainable waste water management and community hygiene
- promoting ecologically adapted, diversified agriculture and organic farming
- promoting "local ownership" and local management of natural resources
- circular economy:
 - promoting resource efficiency and the circular economy
 - contributing to the safe handling, trade and disposal of chemicals
 - promoting sustainable waste management and reducing food loss
 - promoting sustainable production and sustainable consumption and the associated educational measures;
 - responsible handling of natural resources in rural and urban areas.

Goal: All actors in Austria's development cooperation consider environmental and climate protection in their programmes and projects. The funds for the Austrian development cooperation's environmental and climate protection efforts will be increased until 2024.

3. Implementation, Monitoring and Information

Implementation and monitoring – In accordance with Section 28 of the Austrian Development Cooperation Act (EZA-G) the respective ministries are responsible for the implementation of the present Three-Year Programme in their respective areas of responsibility.

Implementation, monitoring and learning experiences in terms of policy coherence are to be discussed by all public stakeholders involved in annual meetings coordinated by the BMEIA. Results of this meeting will be included in the Voluntary National Review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Evaluation has a long tradition in Austria's development cooperation and plays an important role as an instrument for measuring the impact of our work. It provides impetus for a continuous learning process and provides important foundations for continuously improving our contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as well as the goals of the Austrian development policy. Moreover, Austria actively participates in relevant UN and OECD peer review processes, considering the results of international evaluation when implementing its measures.

Development education and communication in Austria – A well informed public aware of the necessity of development cooperation is important for successful, responsible development policy. Development education and communication help strengthen understanding of global contexts and public awareness of issues relevant to development policy and to promote commitment.

By promoting civil society projects in the field of development education and public relations, the aim is to raise awareness and interest in development issues and questions and to clarify the global political, social, economic, ecological and cultural interrelationships and their impact on all areas of society as well as on individuals.

The measures and impacts of the Austrian Development Cooperation and the use of public funds should continue to be made accessible in a transparent manner and development cooperation activities should be communicated to a broad public in a way that is easy to understand.

Funding – Austria commits to gradually increase its official development assistance (ODA) services towards 0.7% of the gross national income (GNI). In the sense of a whole-of-government approach, increased efforts by all federal ministries as well as a gradual increase in ODA funds are required to achieve this goal. Specifically, the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA) will increase its bilateral development cooperation funds by € 12 million between 2023 and 2026 and its humanitarian aid funds as part of the foreign disaster fund by € 20 million for the years 2023–2024. In 2023, the Federal Ministry of Climate Action will raise its funds for international climate finance and for climate and biodiversity measures by € 40 million and by € 60 million for 2024–2026. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture will raise its contributions to the UN's World Food Programme for projects securing global food security by € 20 million annually between 2023 and 2025. In summary, this will increase Austria's ODA budget by € 92 million in 2023 and by € 112 million in 2024.

4. The Matrix of Austria's Development Cooperation

The following matrix illustrates the commitment of governmental actors in Austria's development cooperation on the basis of SDG indicators. It is intended to measure progress in the pursuit of strategic development cooperation goals and to make the work of government departments in this area more comprehensible in line with international recommendations (UN, OECD-DAC).

Launched in 2019, the pilot project is based on indicators from the United Nations SDG indicator list, which ensure international comparability, as well as supplementary indicators that Austrian ministries can additionally collect as part of their development cooperation activities. In the past, the illustration was limited to programmable Official Development Assistance (ODA) services. The new matrix now also features individual Other Official Flows (OOF) to allow for the illustration of a wider range of Austrian development cooperation services.

Thus, the matrix reflects a whole-of-government approach in practice: It can only return results if all reporting entities that provide data for the respective reporting year actively participate. The depicted indicators are to be evaluated for the first time over the coming three years.

The matrix's structure is aligned with the priorities and focuses of Austria's development cooperation presented in greater detail in chapter 2.

THE MATRIX OF AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

GOALS AND MEASURES ACCORDING TO THE AUSTRIAN DEVELOPMENT POLICY'S THREE-YEAR PROGRAMME (Selection of indicators)

PRIORITY A – COMBATING POVERTY BY PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

FOCUS A.1 ELIMINATING POVERTY – COVERING BASIC NEEDS

- Water, energy and food security are interconnected
- Education for all
- Healthcare for all
- Social protection and employment for all

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
1.2.2 Percentage of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions (acc. to national criteria)	– Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	– BMBWF
2.1.1 Number of people with better access to food	– Countries in South-East Europe and the South Caucasus region	– BMEIA
2.a.2 Total official flows (official development assistance plus other official flows) in the agricultural sector	– Crisis regions and fragile states (e.g. with high food insecurity such as Syria, Ethiopia, Burkina Faso)	– BMF
3.8.1 Number of people supplied with basic healthcare services	– other ODA countries	– BMI
4.1.2** Number of people with access to quality-assured education		– BMLRT
4.1.3** Number of measures that are taken in accordance with the EU Strategy for the Danube Region EUSDR (priority area 9) to strengthen high-quality and inclusive education and training systems		– BMSGPK
4.3.2* Number of people that have completed certified vocational training		– ADA
4.3.4** Number of relevant stakeholders reached in the framework of the EUSDR coordination activities in the area of equal access, high-quality general and vocational education		– OeEB
6.1.1 Number of people supplied with clean drinking water		– OeAD
6.2.1 Number of people with appropriate sanitary and hygiene provisions		
7.1.3* Number of households with access to modern energy		
8.5.3* Number of humane workplaces created		

[from: UN SDG indicator list; Indicator* = complementary ADA indicator; Indicator** = new indicator from var. actors; All indicators disaggregated if possible (e.g., by gender, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, etc.)]

THE MATRIX OF AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

FOCUS A.2 MAKING THE ECONOMY SUSTAINABLE

- Private sector as a partner
- Sustainable economy and urban development
- Using digitisation
- Strengthening tax systems

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
2.1.3* Number of households with improved availability of food over the course of the year	– Countries in South-East Europe and the South Caucasus region	– BMEIA – BMF
5.4.1 Time used for unpaid household and care work, by gender, age and location	– Other ODA countries	– BMI – BMK
8.3.2** Number of MSMEs supported through funding		– ADA
9.3.2 Number of small enterprises with a loan or line of credit		– OeEB
9.3.3** Number of small enterprises integrated into value creation chains and markets		
10.b.2** Percentage of portfolio invested in LDCs (in %)		
12.6.2* Number of enterprises that implement resource efficiency and report on it		

PRIORITY B – PEACEKEEPING AND HUMAN SECURITY

FOCUS B.1 PROMOTING HUMANITARIAN AID, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE AS A BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Peace, security and development
- Humanitarian aid

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
5.2.3* Number of cases of violence against women / girls that were reported, investigated and ended in conviction	– Crisis regions and fragile states (especially countries in the large regions of Africa and the Middle East)	– BMEIA – BMI
5.5.3* Total contributions to women's rights organisations aimed at implementing the Agenda on Women, Peace and Security	– Countries in South-Eastern Europe and the South Caucasus region	– BMJ – BMLRT
16.1.4 Percentage of people that feel safe walking their neighbourhood at night	– Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	– BMLV – ADA
16.3.3* Number of people with access to justice and reparation following complaints		
16.6.3** Support with establishing an effective security sector, accountable security institutions and trustworthy armed forces (number of measures taken and people educated/ trained)		
16.a.2** Number of Austrian Armed Forces members deployed in the framework of UN mandated missions in comparison with the total number of troops deployed for international peacekeeping missions by the UN, EU and NATO		
16.a.3** Services rendered by the Federal Ministry of Defence (BMLV) that can be attributed to ODA in the range of establishing capacities of partners countries		

[from: UN SDG indicator list; Indicator* = complementary ADA indicator; Indicator** = new indicator from var. actors; All indicators disaggregated if possible (e.g., by gender, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, etc.)]

THE MATRIX OF AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

FOCUS B.2 DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

– Incorporate all

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
4.5.2* Number of people from disadvantaged groups with access to quality-assured education and diplomas/degrees	– Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	– BMBWF
5.1.1 Gender policies/legal frameworks to promote, enforce and monitor gender equality and non-discrimination	– Countries in South-East Europe and the South Caucasus region	– BMEIA
5.3.1* Number of women between the ages of 20 and 24 who were married or living with a partner before reaching the age of 15 and 18 (number of people reporting a change in attitude as a result of awareness-raising / information / advocacy of early marriage)	– Crisis regions and fragile states	– BMF
5.3.2* Percentage of girls and women aged 15 to 49 who have undergone female genital mutilation / circumcision by age (number of people reporting a change in attitude as a result of surveys / information / advocacy to prevent FGM)	– other ODA countries	– BMI
5.5.4** Number of women in management / leadership roles in funded projects		– BMSGPK
5.5.5** Volume of provided loans that have contributed to the economic empowerment of women		– ADA
5.5.6** Percentage of women employed in funded projects		– OeEB
		– OeAD

[from: UN SDG indicator list; Indicator* = complementary ADA indicator; Indicator** = new indicator from var. actors; All indicators disaggregated if possible (e.g., by gender, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, etc.)]

THE MATRIX OF AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

PRIORITY C – PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

FOCUS C.1 COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

FOCUS C.2 PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

- Combating climate change and its consequences
- Advancing the protection of ecosystems
- Responsible handling of natural resources

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
2.3.2 Average income of small food producers by gender and indigenous status	– Least Developed Countries (LDCs)	– BMEIA
6.5.3* Number of people benefiting from improved IWRM implementation	– Countries in South-East Europe and the South Caucasus region	– BMF
7.a.1 International financial flows to developing countries to promote research and development in the fields of clean energy, renewable energy production, including hybrid systems	– Crisis regions and fragile states	– BMK
9.1.3** Number of people reached with OeEB-funded infrastructure projects, contributing to the creation of high-quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure	– Recipient countries of International Climate Finance	– BMLRT
13.2.2* Number of climate protection / adaptation strategies / plans created and operationalised (national, regional, local level)	– other ODA countries	– ADA
13.2.3** Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions achieved in line with the targets of the respective nationally determined contribution (NDC)		– OeEB
13.a.2** Percentage of climate finance in the overall portfolio of the IBRD (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development – part of the World Bank group)		
13.a.3** Percentage of climate finance in the overall portfolio of the EBRD (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development)		
13.b.2** Percentage of the portfolio that was invested in projects relevant to climate protection (%)		
15.1.3* Preservation of protected areas (ha) and sustainable use of ecosystems and their services		
15.a.1 Official development assistance and public expenditures for the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems		

[from: UN SDG indicator list; Indicator* = complementary ADA indicator; Indicator** = new indicator from var. actors; All indicators disaggregated if possible (e.g., by gender, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, etc.)]

THE MATRIX OF AUSTRIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

INDICATORS RELEVANT ACROSS PRIORITIES

STRENGTHENING GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Increasing the effectiveness of the Austrian development cooperation
- Contributing to the targets of the UN and EU when it comes to increasing development cooperation, with a focus on LDCs
- Supporting exchange and capacity creation between actors

Indicators	Geographical allocation	Actors in ADC
10.b.1 Total resource flows for development by recipient and donating countries and type of flow (e.g. official development assistance, foreign direct investment and other flows)	– Worldwide	– All ministries of the Federal Government
17.2.1* (a) % ODA in GNI (b) % of ODA/GNI to LDCs (c) % of ADC/ADA to LDCs		– ADA
17.3.3** Mobilisation from the private sector (in €)		– OeEB
17.6.1 Number of agreements and programmes for scientific and/or technological cooperation between countries, by type of cooperation		– OeAD
17.9.1 Total funding amount of projects (ADC/ADA) that include capacity development		
17.19.1* Euro value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries		

[from: UN SDG indicator list; Indicator* = complementary ADA indicator; Indicator** = new indicator from var. actors; All indicators disaggregated if possible (e.g., by gender, vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, etc.)]

Annex 1

Instruments and Measures of the Federal Actors in Developing Countries¹, September 2021

PRIORITY A COMBATING POVERTY BY PROMOTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A.1 ELIMINATING POVERTY – COVERING BASIC NEEDS

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – financial contributions to programmes for a specific purpose and basket funding – core funding – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation using partner systems – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – technical assistance or deployments (provision of know-how) – awarding contracts according to Federal Law for Contract Awards (BVerG) – business partnerships (application-oriented) – sector budget support – delegated cooperation e.g. with the EU – multilateral cooperation <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establishing public sector capacities and structures – establishing civil society capacities – higher education and research cooperation – humanitarian aid during crises. <p>Multilateral instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU budget (Heading 6, “Neighbourhood and the World”), in particular Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), and Humanitarian Aid. – UN COVID-19 Response and Recovery Fund (Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office) – COVID-19 Rapid Response Facility (UNDP) – Supplies Partnership (UNFPA) – Global Coalition to End Child Poverty (UNICEF/Save the Children)
BMF	<p>Multilateral funding via IFIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting
OeEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment financing and equity investments covered by federal guarantees

¹ Developing countries are countries in the current OECD/DAC list of ODA recipients

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMLRT (via ADA)	Financial support for food assistance projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – annual budget appropriation for international food assistance projects under the 2013 Food Assistance Convention – provision of food assistance, directly or through appropriate organisations (e.g. WFP), in kind or with other appropriate instruments – project selection in the sense of collective Austrian humanitarian cooperation with BMEIA and ADA
BMSGPK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – Regular expert seminars and study visits, among others in the framework of EU projects or projects run by international organisations – promoting projects run by non-profit organisations aimed at raising standards in the fields of social security, job rehabilitation, persons with disabilities, care, combating poverty, access to healthcare and sustainable strengthening of the local healthcare systems, including preventing and combating diseases resulting from poverty, promotion of sexual and reproductive health and the associated rights, protection from gender-based violence, tackling the health-related and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as in the area of consumer protection – deployment of social attaché(e)s in Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Moldova and the Russian Federation; due to an ongoing MOU in the social sector with Ukraine, also corresponding activities on the ground – multilateral instruments: within the framework of the UN and support of the WHO, primarily through technical know-how; in addition to the regular WHO core contribution, also selective financial support of projects both locally (together with WHO country offices, currently in Moldova and Ukraine) and at the global level (currently in the area of antimicrobial resistance).
BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – protection and support on the ground (e.g. RDPP, UNHCR evacuation mechanisms) – projects aimed at improving the living conditions of refugees, migrants, repatriates and the local population, taking into account local circumstances and creating permanent solutions. – comprehensive individual support with reintegration / a restart for those returning to their country of origin – multilateral instruments: EU budget, especially the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the NDICI (10% for migration) – information campaigns in third countries on protection and perspectives on the ground / presenting alternatives to illegal migration.
BMBWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – exchange/deployment of experts – knowledge transfer – Austrian schools abroad – use of education officers to support educational cooperation with Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine – multilateral instruments: Educational cooperation in the framework of European, international and regional organisations and networks

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Actors	Instruments & measures
BMBWF via OeAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – supporting reforms of the education/training systems by offering policy counselling, establishing institutional and personnel capacities; support with developing suitable legal framework conditions; supporting peer learning at a national level and in exchange with Austrian educational institutions – supporting the development of regional/trans-national cooperation networks for knowledge and know-how transfer and participation of Austrian educational institutions in these networks. Support with the development of relevant instruments to implement educational reforms (curricula, teaching/learning material, guidelines, QA tools etc.). Programming in the focus areas of vocational training and training relevant to the labour market, quality development and good governance in education/training systems, introduction of new teaching/learning approaches, e.g. digitisation, and increasing equal opportunities in education, e.g. introduction of inclusive vocational training – support for bilateral and multilateral higher education cooperation in the form of academic exchanges (of teachers and students) and cooperation measures

A.2 MAKING THE ECONOMY SUSTAINABLE

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – business partnerships (application-oriented) – awarding contracts – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – providing know-how – delegated cooperation, e.g. with the EU <p>Measures::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – developing the private sector <p>Multilateral instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU budget (Heading 6, “Neighbourhood and the World”), in particular Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), and Humanitarian Aid – Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment Fund (UN Women, FAO, IFAD and WFP) – Partnership for Action on Green Economy Trust Fund (PAGE) (UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, ILO, UNITAR.) – COVID-19 Private Sector Global Facility (UNDP, UN Global Compact, International Chamber of Commerce) – Informal Sector Facility (UNDP)
BMF	<p>Multilateral funding via IFIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting

Actors	Instruments & measures
OeEB	<p>Investment financing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – long-term loans to financial intermediaries, companies and project organisations / special purpose vehicles (SPVs) for project funding or Public Private Partnerships (PPPs); covered by federal guarantees from the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF); renewable energy projects and private infrastructure in the transport, information and communications sectors as well as in the supply and waste disposal sector – long-term loans to local banks and other (micro) financial intermediaries for a specific purpose (e.g. energy efficiency projects, supporting micro, small and medium sized companies as well as lines of credit with a focus on gender, etc.) <p>Equity investments (since 2012)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To date, the investments held in trust for the Republic of Austria have been financed almost exclusively from federal funds of the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF); depending on the availability of budgetary funds, continuous expansion of the investment portfolio is also planned for the coming strategy period; a gradual transfer to a revolving system is aimed at through the use and reinvestment of return flows – Creating an SME Investment Facility for Africa (African-Austrian SME Investment Facility – AAIF) on behalf of and with funds from the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF), which will provide venture capital and venture capital-like financing for investments by Austrian SMEs in Africa. <p>Business Advisory Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – to complement the two financing instruments also TA funds in the form of non-repayable subsidies; in order to identify new projects and make identified projects bankable in the preparation stage and to strengthen projects already funded in terms of their development policy effects – TA funds as part of the OeEB's strategic focus areas to evaluate potential markets and identify investment potential (e.g. through studies or expert deployments)
BMK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – bilateral projects as well as knowledge and know-how transfer cooperation – multilateral instruments (e.g. GCF)
BMI	<p>Cooperating with the private economy / private actors in the context of investment and training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – creating permanent solutions for refugees in receiving countries such as location integration including access to education and vocational training and the labour market – comprehensive individual support with reintegration / a restart for those returning to their country of origin – creating perspectives for (potential) migrants and repatriates on the ground (jobs, among others through reintegration projects, employment programmes, combating youth unemployment, education, etc.); the following is to be considered in this context: creating synergies between reintegration and development cooperation projects (linking support at individual and community level) and avoiding uncoordinated parallel structures – establishing cash-based intervention measures – multilateral cooperation such as co-financing / cooperation with other EU member states, especially in the fields of protection and aid on location as well as perspectives on location – multilateral instruments: EU budget, especially the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) and the NDICI (10% for migration).
BMBWF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge transfer and exchange of experts in the fields of vocational training and entrepreneurship education – activities of the Austrian schools abroad in the fields of vocational training and entrepreneurship education

PRIORITY B PEACEKEEPING AND HUMAN SECURITY
B.1 PROMOTING HUMANITARIAN AID, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – financial contributions to programmes for a specific purpose and basket funding – core funding – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – technical assistance or deployments (provision of know-how) – delegated cooperation e.g. with the EU – multilateral cooperation. <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establishing public sector capacities and structures – establishing civil society capacities – supporting organisations and initiatives that advocate for the implementation of human rights and, in particular, freedom of information, artistic expression and the press; – higher education and research cooperation – urgent assistance in crisis situations – Triple Nexus (humanitarian aid – development – peace) <p>Multilateral instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU budget (Heading 6, “Neighbourhood and the World”), in particular Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), and Humanitarian Aid – Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (UN Women) – Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Prevention Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTFO) – Global Programme on Rule of Law & Human Rights (UNDP) – Justice and Security Reform Programme (UNDP) <p>Humanitarian aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – humanitarian measures in crisis situations – increased focus on gender balanced Triple Nexus – civil-military coordination and cooperation abroad – measures to strengthen international law – involvement in mine awareness and mine clearing efforts
BMF	<p>Multilateral funding via IFIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMLV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - involvement of the Austrian Armed Forces in measures of the International Crisis and Conflict Management (ICM). Besides contributions to peacekeeping and humanitarian aid, activities in fields such as Women, Peace and Security, human rights or protection of civilians in armed conflicts - promoting the establishment of security forces that are capable of taking action, trustworthy and responsible in selected partner countries by means of measures in the context of training support and capacity development - long-term need for support in crisis regions and fragile states, if necessary financed through a stabilisation and conflict prevention fund; complementary with the ACF and development cooperation with the aim of financing programmes for conflict stabilisation, prevention and peacebuilding, in particular through capacity development on location, in the regions that are priorities for Austria (funds that can be rapidly accessed in crisis situations)
BMLRT (via ADA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - financial support for food assistance projects: Austrian involvement in the FAC (annual commitment) with the aim of providing reliable international food assistance on the basis of international humanitarian law, incorporated into a whole-of-government strategy
BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - knowledge and know-how transfer - protection and support on location (e.g. UNHCR evacuation mechanisms) - comprehensive individual support with reintegration / a restart for those returning to their country of origin - establishing institutional capacities and know-how transfer in the areas of migration and asylum - multilateral cooperation such as co-financing / cooperation with other EU member states, especially in the fields of protection and aid on location as well as perspectives on location; cooperation with partners in the area of migration projects in third countries - multilateral instruments: EU budget, in particular the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) as well as the Internal Security Fund (ISF); the European Union Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa (EUTF for Africa) and other EU instruments

B.2 DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – financial contributions to programmes for a specific purpose and basket funding – core funding – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation using partner systems – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – technical assistance or deployments (provision of know-how) – awarding contracts – sector budget support – delegated cooperation e.g. with the EU – multilateral cooperation <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establishing public sector capacities and structures – strengthening good governance and rule of law – strengthening a human-rights based approach – establishing civil society capacities – higher education and research cooperation – Gender Twin Track Approach (targeted projects and mainstreaming) <hr/> <p>Multilateral instruments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – EU budget (Heading 6, “Neighbourhood and the World”), in particular Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), and Humanitarian Aid – Fund for Gender Equality (UN Women) – UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UN Women) – Maternal and Newborn Health Thematic Fund (UNFPA) – Spotlight Initiative (EU/UN, MPTF Office) – United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNPRPD) (ILO, OHCHR, UNDESA, UNDP, UNICEF) – Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons (UNODC) – UN Trust Fund in Support of Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse – UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Peoples (OHCHR) – Joint Programme to Eliminate Female Genital Mutilation (UNFPA, UNICEF) – Skills for Girls Programme (UNICEF) <hr/> <p>Humanitarian aid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sexual and gender-based violence, genital mutilation, but also child and forced marriage are among the biggest challenges when it comes to assuring humanitarian protection needs. – Preventing and combating this as well as medical care, but also the equal participation and active involvement of women and girls are among the priorities of any humanitarian intervention

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMF	Multilateral funding via IFIs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting
OeEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment financing and equity investments covered by federal guarantees <p>Promoting equal rights for women and girls in developing countries as a cross-cutting issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Gender Action Plan aimed at structuring all OeEB activities in such a way that discrimination is prevented and that women are economically empowered in a targeted manner; the “Gender Lens Investing” approach calls for integrating a gender analysis into financial analysis to make better investment decisions and support gender equality. – in particular, by providing funding for micro finance institutions, strengthening participation of women in economic life and targeted access to loans for companies led by women
BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – strengthening the role of women in civil society
BMSGPK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – in the framework of know-how transfer and conveying best practice examples from Austria, regular expert seminars and study visits, among others in the framework of EU projects or projects run by international organisations – promoting projects run by non-profit organisations aimed at raising standards in the fields of social security, job rehabilitation, persons with disabilities, care, combating poverty, access to healthcare and sustainable strengthening of the local healthcare systems, including preventing and combating diseases resulting from poverty, promotion of sexual and reproductive health and the associated rights, protection from gender-based violence, tackling the health-related and social effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as in the area of consumer protection – deployment of social attaché(e)s in Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Serbia, Moldova and the Russian Federation; due to an ongoing MOU in the social sector with Ukraine, also corresponding activities on the ground – multilateral instruments: within the framework of the UN and support of the WHO, primarily through technical know-how; in addition to the regular WHO core contribution, also selective financial support of projects both locally (together with WHO country offices, currently in Moldova and Ukraine) and at the global level

ANNEX 1

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMWBF via OeAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – supporting reforms of the education/training systems by offering policy counselling, establishing institutional and personnel capacities; support with developing suitable legal framework conditions; supporting peer learning at a national level and in exchange with Austrian educational institutions – supporting the development of regional/trans-national cooperation networks for knowledge and know-how transfer and participation of Austrian educational institutions in these networks. Support with the development of relevant instruments to implement educational reforms (curricula, teaching/learning material, guidelines, QA tools etc.) – programming in the priority areas of vocational training and training relevant to the labour market, quality development and good governance in education/training systems, introduction of new teaching/learning approaches, e.g. digitisation, and increasing equal opportunities in education, e.g. introduction of inclusive vocational training, better access to vocational qualification for women and girls – support for bilateral and multilateral higher education cooperation in the form of academic exchanges (of teachers and students) and cooperation measures
BMJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – supporting activities promoting rule of law through project participation in South-East Europe at bi- and multilateral level – improving legal security, transparency, accountability and anti-corruption measures – fairness: establishing an accessible, human-rights-compatible and democratically controlled justice and security sector
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer
BMKOES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, in particular International Fund for Cultural Diversity (UNESCO)

PRIORITY C PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES
C.1 COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – financial contributions to programmes for a specific purpose and basket funding – core funding – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation using partner systems – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – technical assistance or deployments (provision of know-how) – awarding contracts – humanitarian aid relevant to the climate – sector budget support – delegated cooperation e.g. with the EU, Green Climate Fund (GCF) – multilateral cooperation <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establishing public sector capacities and structures – strengthening good governance and rule of law – strengthening a human-rights based approach – establishing civil society capacities – higher education and research cooperation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – multilateral instruments
BMF	<p>Multilateral funding via IFIs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting
OeEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment financing and equity investments covered by federal guarantees <p>– besides funding of micro, small and medium sized enterprises and private infrastructure projects in developing and emerging nations, focus in particular on allocation of funding in the fields of renewable energies; this makes OeEB one of the largest climate finance donors in Austria, guaranteeing Austria's contribution to the Paris Agreement, which is supposed to be extended in the future</p> <p>– commitment to a joint statement by 15 European development banks aimed at aligning financing decisions even more closely with the targets of the Paris Agreement – funding of new coal and oil projects is terminated immediately; funding of other fossil fuels such as selective investment in natural gas powered power generation is limited to funding that matches the targets of the Paris Agreement until they are generally excluded in 2030 at the latest; the portfolios of the development banks are scheduled to reach zero emissions in 2050 at the latest.</p>

ANNEX 1

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – bilateral projects as well as knowledge and know-how transfer cooperation – multilateral instruments (e.g. GCF)
BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – multilateral cooperation such as co-financing/cooperation with other EU member states, particularly in the fields of protection and aid on the ground as well as perspectives on the ground
BMBWF via OeAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge transfer and bilateral education cooperation as well as cooperation with regional organisations – education cooperation with partner countries with a focus on sustainability, green skills and greening the skills in vocational training

C.2 PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMEIA, ADA	<p>Bilateral programming according to national / regional strategies</p> <p>Instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – financial contributions to programmes for a specific purpose and basket funding – core funding – competitive funding allocation through published invitation – funding allocation using partner systems – funding allocation based on partner dialogue and partner initiative – technical assistance or deployments (provision of know-how) – awarding contracts – humanitarian aid relevant to the climate – sector budget support – delegated cooperation e.g. with the EU – multilateral cooperation <p>Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – establishing public sector capacities and structures – strengthening good governance and rule of law – strengthening a human-rights based approach – establishing civil society capacities – higher education and research cooperation <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – multilateral instruments

Actors	Instruments & measures
BMF	Multilateral funding via IFIs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment loans at near-market and concessional terms – subsidies – equity investments – guarantees – budgetary aid – institutional cooperation and capacity establishment – knowledge products – technical consulting
OeEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – investment financing and equity investments covered by federal guarantees <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – besides funding of micro, small and medium sized enterprises and private infrastructure projects in developing and emerging nations, focus in particular on allocation of funding in the fields of renewable energies; this makes OeEB the largest climate finance donors in Austria, guaranteeing Austria's contribution to the Paris Agreement, which is supposed to be extended in the future – commitment to a joint statement by 15 European development banks aimed at aligning financing decisions even more closely with the targets of the Paris Agreement – funding of new coal and oil projects is terminated immediately; funding of other fossil fuels such as selective investment in natural gas powered power generation is limited to funding that matches the targets of the Paris Agreement until they are generally excluded in 2030 at the latest; the portfolios of the development banks are scheduled to reach zero emissions in 2050 at the latest
BMK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – bilateral projects as well as knowledge and know-how transfer cooperation – multilateral instruments (e.g. GCF)
BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge and know-how transfer – multilateral cooperation such as co-financing/cooperation with other EU member states, particularly in the fields of protection and aid on location as well as perspectives on location
BMBWF via OeAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – knowledge transfer and bilateral education cooperation as well as cooperation with regional organisations – education cooperation with partner countries with a focus on sustainability, green skills and greening the skills in vocational training

Annex 2

International agreements and instruments

Addis Ababa Declaration on Financing for Development, 2015

According to this declaration, emerging and developing countries are to receive more funding by establishing functioning tax systems and combating corruption, the donor countries underline their commitment to spend 0.7% of their GNI for development cooperation activities. The private economy is to provide additional funds. The EU's development cooperation is supposed to contribute to the implementation of this agreement.

UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development

The Agenda 2030 was passed in September of 2015. Its target is to tackle global and complex challenges in connection with social, economic and environmental matters together.

Accra Agenda for Action, 2008

This agenda puts the effectiveness of development services in a broader development policy context. Human rights, gender equality, environmental protection and aspects of good governance are enshrined as central factors of effective development cooperation. Broad participation of civil societies and parliaments is supposed to improve transparency and accountability. Governmental institutions are supposed to provide public goods such as security, health, social protection, education and an independent justice system.

UN Secretary-General's Report to the General Assembly on a Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, 2020

Topics in this report relevant to development policy include²: Enhancing the performance of digital infrastructure; opening up access to content while at the same time safeguarding personal rights and data protection; improving the inclusion of social groups that were previously disadvantaged in terms of digital access in order to bridge the digital divide; strengthening the ability to provide and use digital services; protecting human rights as well as trust and security in the digital sphere; promoting the use of artificial intelligence in line with human rights; promoting global cooperation.

EU ACP Agreement (Cotonou / follow-up agreement)

With 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific nations and 27 EU member states, this agreement brings together 106 out of 193 UN member states and thus, approx. 1.5 billion people on four continents. It enshrines partnership-based cooperation on the basis of equality, mutual accountability and conditionality in many areas of cooperation, including politics, development cooperation, human rights, rule of law, economy, environmental and climate protection, migration, health, sustainable agriculture.

EU Cybersecurity Strategy, 2020

According to this strategy the EU works with its international UN partners and other relevant forums on pushing international norms and standards that reflect the EU's basic values in the digital space. The EU will continue to strengthen its cyber diplomacy instrument and increase its efforts to establish external cyber capacities in third countries through an EU agenda.

² <https://undocs.org/A/74/821>, p. 16-20

European Green Deal (EGD), 2019

Presented by the European Commission, the EGD aims to make climate protection mainstream in all EU policies. The goal is climate neutrality for the EU by 2050. The EGD is also taken into account in the EU's development cooperation with third countries. Under the instrument for European Union aid for development cooperation outside the EU (NDICI), 30 % of its resources will be used for climate protection during the EU's MFF 2021–2027.

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP ICESCR)

The UN's Social Covenant is among the UN's most important human rights agreements. It defines the economic, social and cultural rights of the individual, which include the right to work, the right to social security and the right to education.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

The main goal of this convention is to eliminate discrimination of women in all areas of life: in working and social life, marriage and family, education and training, in political and public life, healthcare and protection from violence.

New European Consensus on Development, 2017

This consensus represents a joint vision and joint framework of action for the development policy of the EU and its member states on the most important priority topics of the Agenda 2030 which are people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership. Eliminating poverty remains the top priority. The close link between development, peace and security, humanitarian aid, migration, environment and climate is highlighted.

Paris Agreement 2015³

The Paris Agreement is the first legally binding international agreement that commits all parties to action on climate change. The 193 contracting parties⁴ also include the EU and its member states. Its target is to limit global warming to significantly less than 2 °C when compared to pre-industrial values, preferably to 1.5 °C, through nationally defined measures.

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2015

Adopted by 197 states, this disaster prevention framework is supposed to substantially reduce the effects of technical and natural disasters through preventative measures. Climate change is highlighted as a factor increasing risk.

UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (UNCCD), 1994

Briefly referred to as the "Desertification Convention", it represents an international agreement aimed at preventing desertification and soil degradation.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 1993

The Biodiversity Convention is an international environmental agreement and the most important multilateral agreement for the protection of biodiversity.

³ Adopted at the Paris Climate Change Conference (COP21).

⁴ Status: November 2021 5 SDGs 8a, 10a, 17.11.

UNESCO Convention on the Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (UNESCO), 2005⁵

This convention is aimed at counteracting asymmetries in the exchange of cultural goods and services as well as in the mobility of artists and cultural practitioners from the global south as well as allow for fair cultural exchange. Austria has thus committed to treat the global south preferentially .

UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, 2000

For the first time, this resolution considered the particular impact of conflicts on women and the essential and active role of women in all stages of peacebuilding efforts. In addition to increasing women's involvement in political decision-making processes and peace operations, the Resolution also enshrines the protection of women and girls from sexual violence and rape in armed conflicts.

UN Resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security, 2015

This resolution highlights the importance of pursuing youth policy that contribute positive measures of peace consolidation, including social and economic development.

UN Resolution 2282 on Sustainable Peace, 2016

This resolution highlights the importance of national independent leadership responsibility in peace consolidation and the assumption of responsibility for maintaining peace by the government and all other national stakeholders while involving all groups of society.

UN Convention against Corruption, 2003

This Convention deals with preventing, identifying and legally prosecuting corruption as well as the freezing, seizing, and confiscating of proceeds of crime and includes preventive measures against corruption.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), 1989

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines key standards on protecting children around the world, highlighting their worth and well-being.

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), 2006

The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is an international agreement in which the signing countries commit to promoting, protecting and safeguarding the rights of persons with disabilities.

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Geneva and Tunis, 2003 and 2005

At the WSIS, the international community agreed on a common vision of a people-centric, inclusive and development-oriented information society with the aim of reducing the digital divide between rich and poor.

⁵ cf. Art. 12-14, esp. Art. 16

Annex 3

Countries and regions in which the Austrian development assistance is actively involved

Geographic focus areas		Actors	Priority goals
AFRICA (Focus on LDCs in the Sub-Saharan region)	All ministries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Western Africa/Sahel, Eastern Africa/ Horn of Africa, Southern Africa – Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Mozambique, Uganda In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – BMBMLV: Senegal, Ghana, Mali, Kenya – BMBWF: Eastern Africa, South Africa – BMI: Niger, Sudan, Nigeria, Somalia 	BMEIA/ADA BMBWF BMF/OeEB BMI BMK BMLV <i>Federal provinces</i> <i>Civil society</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Combating poverty and inequality – Safeguarding sustainable repatriation – Creating perspectives in partner countries – Contributing to regional stabilisation – Promoting independent crisis and conflict solution competence
NEIGHBOURHOOD	All ministries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Western Balkans – Eastern Neighbourhood (Moldova, Georgia, Armenia) In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – BMBWF: Ukraine – BMSGPK: Ukraine 	BMEIA/ADA BMBWF/OeAD BMDW BMF/OeEB BMGSPK BMI BMJ BMK BMLRT BMLV GBA/ZAMG Parliament <i>Federal provinces</i> <i>Civil society</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supporting the EU expansion process and reform partnerships in the framework of its eastern partnership – Institutional capacity development
CRISIS REGIONS AND FRAGILE STATES	All ministries: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Palestine – Middle East with a focus on Syria and neighbouring countries (Iraq, Lebanon, Jordan) – Countries experiencing humanitarian emergencies (Afghanistan, Pakistan) 	BMEIA/ADA BMF BMI BMLRT BMLV <i>Civil society</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Creating perspectives on location – Supporting resilience, peace & security – Support during humanitarian emergencies – Contributing to regional stabilisation – Developing public structures
GLOBAL ACTION		BMEIA/ADA BMBWF/ZAMG BMF/OeEB BMGSPK BMI BMK BMLV	Solidarity contribution to the solution of global challenges
Other partner countries of Austrian actors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Guatemala and Mexico – Suriname – Nepal, Vietnam, Thailand – Northern Africa (Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco) 	BMBWF/GBA BMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Supporting long-term partnerships – Supporting repatriates and transit countries

List of acronyms

AAIF	African-Austrian SME Investment Facility
ACT	Access to COVID-19 Tools
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
ADC	Austrian Development Cooperation (Österreichische Entwicklungszusammenarbeit)
AKF	Foreign Disaster Fund (Auslandskatastrophenfonds)
AMC	Advance Market Commitment
AMIF	Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund
BA	Federal Chancellery
BMBWF	Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research
BMEIA	Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs
BMF	Federal Ministry of Finance
BMI	Federal Ministry of the Interior
BMK	Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Mobility, Innovation and Technology
BMLRT	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management
BMLV	Federal Ministry of Defence
BMSGPK	Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
BVergG	Austrian Federal Contracts Act (Bundesvergabegesetz)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination for All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
COVAX	COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access
CRPD	Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities
CSW	UN Commission on the Status of Women
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EGD	European Green Deal
EU	European Union
EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
FAC	Food Assistance Convention
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GAP	Gender Action Plan
GBA	Austrian Geological Survey (Geologische Bundesanstalt)
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GNI	Gross national income
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICM	International crisis and conflict management
IDPs	Internally Displaced Persons
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFIs	International financial institutions
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISF	Internal Security Fund
IWRM	Integrated water resource management
LDCs	Least developed countries

LLDCs	Landlocked developing countries
LMICs	Lower middle income countries
MFF	Multiannual Financial Framework
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPTFO	Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NDICI	Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument
ÖBH	Austrian Armed Forces (Österreichisches Bundesheer)
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OeAD	Austrian Agency for Education and Internationalisation (Agentur für Bildung und Internationalisierung)
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OeEB	Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank
OeKB	Oesterreichische Kontrollbank
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OHCR	Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees
OOF	Other Official Flows
OPEC	Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PAGE	Partnership for Action on Green Economy
PPP	Public Private Partnership
QA	Quality Assurance
RDPP	Regional Development and Protection Programme
REEP	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Partnership
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEforALL	Sustainable Energy for All
SME	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
SMEs	Small and medium sized enterprises
SPV	Special Purpose Vehicle
TA	Technical Assistance
UN	United Nations
UN OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCRC	UN Convention on the rights of the child
UNDESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNPRPD	United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
WASH	Water, sanitation and hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organisation
WKÖ	Austrian Chamber of Commerce (Wirtschaftskammer Österreich)
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
ZAMG	Austrian Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics (Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik)