ODA is the largest resource flow to developing countries from the Netherlands, followed by FDI. While ODA has been above 0.7% of national income since 1975, recent policy led aid volumes to drop. Bilateral aid appears to prioritise countries with large numbers of poor people and above-average poverty rates.

- Almost half of overall aid and two-thirds of bilateral aid is not allocated to a specific region.
- Almost all aid is provided as grants; the share given to support GPGs and NNGOs is three times the DAC average.
- More than a quarter of aid is non-transferred, mostly administrative and in-donor refugee costs.

**Resource flows from the Netherlands to developing countries**

**ODA has fallen since 2008; FDI has fluctuated considerably**

US$ billions, 2000–2011

**How much ODA does the Netherlands give?**

**ODA has steadily increased since the 1960s, peaking in the late 2000s**

US$ billions, 1960–2012

**While ODA as a share of national income has been flat since the mid-1990s, it has dipped since 2009**

% of GNI, 1960–2012

**ODA has been above 0.7% of GNI since 1975**


Note: Data on remittances before 2010 is unavailable. Data on private development assistance is available only for 2011.
Where does aid from the Netherlands go?

Over a quarter of overall aid from the Netherlands goes to sub-Saharan Africa, but almost half has no specified region. The Netherlands gives bilateral aid to 91 countries, fewer than most other DAC donors. Almost all bilateral aid goes to countries with a large number of poor people, while almost two-thirds goes to countries with above-average rates of poverty. The largest recipient of bilateral aid was Afghanistan. Most African recipients receive high proportions of bilateral aid as cash grants, while Indonesia and Bangladesh receive mostly technical cooperation and mixed project aid. Commodities and food aid accounts for almost of a fifth of bilateral ODA to Ethiopia.

Cash grants dominate aid to most major recipients, but technical cooperation and mixed project aid are the majority for Indonesia and Bangladesh

87% of aid goes to countries with more than 1 million poor people, while 63% goes to countries with above-average poverty rates
What is in the ODA bundle from the Netherlands?

The share of bilateral ODA from the Netherlands given as support to GPGs and NGOs is three times higher than the DAC average. The share that is not transferred is also around a fifth higher than for other donors. The Netherlands gives virtually no aid as loans. Some 42% of aid sits outside of 13 main sectors (classified as ‘other’), and over 50% of this is in-donor refugee costs and 35% is administrative costs. The largest identifiable sector is governance and security, accounting for about 12% of bilateral ODA.

Support to GPGs and NGOs is three times the DAC average

Almost no ODA is provided as loans and equity

58% of ‘other’ aid is in-donor refugee costs, 35% is administrative costs

Bilateral aid to water and sanitation, banking and business, governance and security, health and education has increased since 2002


One third of ‘other’ aid is support to GPGs and NGOs, while in most other major sectors mixed project aid and grants are more prevalent

Gross bilateral ODA by aid type, % of total, 2011

The Netherlands is second only to the UK in bilateral ODA to support GPGs and NGOs

What does the aid bundle look like for each sector?
The Netherlands is the fourth largest bilateral DAC donor to banking and business and the fifth largest to water and sanitation.

DAC donors ranked in descending order of ODA funding to each sector, US$ billions, 2011

Almost all bilateral comes from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; similar shares are delivered by both governments and NGOs.

Gross ODA by source, type of flow and channel of delivery, US$ billions, 2011

Note: Data is from the DAC (ODA and other official flows data), the World Bank (remittances, GNI and poverty), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (FDI) and Development Initiatives (private development assistance and development finance institutions). All data in US$ is in 2011 prices except the 2012 figure in the title area, which is in current (2012) prices. Some overlaps of international flows have been taken into account; see Methodology. 'Other' aid includes multi-sector ODA, administrative costs, support for refugees in the donor country and unallocated or unspecified ODA. DAC is the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. EITI is the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. FDI is foreign direct investment. GNI is gross national income. GPGs are global public goods. IATI is the International Aid Transparency Initiative. IMF is the International Monetary Fund. NGOs are Northern non-governmental organisations. ODA is official development assistance (aid). OGP is the Open Government Partnership.

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs 4.5
Netherlands Investment Bank for Developing Countries 0.01
Core bilateral from government 2.0

Core contributions to multilateral ODA 2.0
Gross bilateral ODA 4.6

TOTAL GROSS ODA 6.6

CORE 0.7
EARMARKED 0.001
CORE 0.5
EARMARKED 0.4
CORE 0.1
EARMARKED 0.05
CORE 0.6
EARMARKED 0.5
CORE 0.2
EARMARKED 0.04

MULTILATERALS
European Union 0.7
World Bank/IMF 0.8
Regional development banks 0.1
UN agencies 1.0
Other multilateral 0.2

GOVERNMENTS 1.7
PUBLIC–PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS 0.1
NGOs 1.5
OTHER 0.4