

20 Highlights of Lithuanian Development Cooperation

Two decades of Partnerships for Progress





MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA



LTAID
Lithuanian Development
Cooperation



**Dear partners,
Dear friends,**

The eternal quest for freedom inspired Lithuania to break free from the soviet empire. Many democracies and civic initiatives helped us grow and steered our way to EU, NATO and rules-based community. Now, it's our turn to help others.

Lithuania provides asylum to thousands of political activists, journalists, human rights' defenders, who are persecuted by dictators in Moscow and Minsk. Vilnius has become a home away from home to thousands of Ukrainians forced out by Russia's brutal war.

For two decades we have been sharing our transformation experience with our partners through Lithuanian development cooperation.

From powerful rock music festivals "BeTogether", convening thousands of freedom-loving people on both sides of the Lithuanian-Belarusian border, to tailor-made expert workshops on tackling disinformation and hybrid threats. By supporting the voice of civil society, we strengthen respect for human rights, fundamental values, prosperity and sustainable progress.

A major part of our development efforts has been directed towards democracy promotion, the rule of law and good governance in our partner countries. Particularly those, seeking accession to the European Union. With our experts sharing know-how in public sector reforms, Lithuania is among the top 5 most successful and active EU countries in the Twinning programme.

Fast pace of technology advancement has also shaped our development cooperation – we assist our partners with green, digital, and innovative solutions.

COVID-19 pandemics sent shockwaves through the world, profoundly impacting every aspect of our daily lives across the globe. In response to the global health crisis, Lithuania donated COVID-19 vaccines, personal protective equipment and sent medic teams to assist the countries in need.

Russia's atrocious full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, inflicted even more devastating and far-reaching consequences. Knowing well that freedom is not for granted, Lithuania has mobilised unprecedented support to Ukraine, whole-heartedly backed by the people, government, public institutions, and business. With this massive support Lithuania now ranks as one of the top three largest supporters of Ukraine worldwide in terms of the percentage of its GDP.

Lithuania was also one of the first countries to launch and implement restoration projects in the regions of Ukraine mostly affected by the war, thus turning destruction into an opportunity for Ukraine to rebuild better. We will continue standing strong together with Ukraine and will assist it on the path towards restoration and EU membership.

As we move forward, we commit to strengthen partnerships with our time-tested friends – Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, people of Belarus, and look for new avenues of cooperation with other partners across the globe. We will keep working with the EU and its member states as Team Europe contributing to the success of the Global Gateway strategy.

Lithuania's story proves that quest for freedom knows no borders, and the spirit of solidarity can help overcome even the biggest challenges. Thus, let us keep working jointly in the spirit of "stronger together"!

Gabrielius Landsbergis

Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Lithuania





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01

Setting the Course: Policy Vision and Strategic Guidelines

The foundations of Lithuanian development cooperation were laid in 2003 with the establishment of the “Guidelines for Lithuanian Development and Assistance Policy for 2003-2005” and the initiation of our first projects with partner countries.

Following reestablishment of independence and successful implementation of public sector and market economy reforms, Lithuania embarked on a journey to share its transitional experiences with partner countries through development cooperation.

Aligned with the United Nations Millennium Goals, Lithuania emerged as a hub for promotion of democracy, universal human rights, core values, and principles. Our efforts were dedicated to fostering better life and prosperity for society in our neighbouring regions.



The "Strategic Guidelines of Lithuanian Development Cooperation for 2022-2025", which were endorsed in December 2021, underline the paramount importance of strong partnerships for peace and democracy.

Emphasizing the role of the partner countries, international community, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders in the development process, the guidelines outline the thematic and geographic priorities.

Lithuania's primary focus remains on supporting the EU Eastern Partnership countries, which include Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the people of Belarus – in their efforts to implement democratic reforms, improve governance, enhance economic development, and strengthen ties with the EU.

In response to the global challenges, climate change, digital transformation, and the emergence of innovative solutions within the green economy and renewable energy, as well as addressing migration challenges, Lithuania is determined to fortify its development partnerships with other nations in the Middle East, Central Asia, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Lithuania contributes to the fulfilment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in partner countries through strengthening education, gender equality, clean energy, climate action, rule of law and justice, strong institutions and partnerships for sustainable development.

We also place significance on development cooperation in digitalization, countering disinformation and hybrid threats, empowering women and girls, combating corruption, and supporting good governance in partner countries.



02

Building Back Better Ukraine: Lithuania's Commitment to the Restoration

As Russia summoned its full-scale military invasion in Ukraine in February 2022, Lithuania stood up to support Ukraine in its fight for freedom and territorial integrity.

With the government, grassroots, and business initiatives, Lithuania's humanitarian, financial and military assistance for Ukraine has crossed the mark of 1 billion EUR, ranking the country as one of the three largest contributors worldwide in terms of the percentage of its GDP.

As a sign of solidarity with Ukraine, Lithuanians have sent thousands of tonnes of humanitarian aid to the affected regions and opened their homes to war refugees – by hosting nearly 80 thousand of Ukrainians, helping them to integrate, find jobs or continue education in Lithuania.

Recognizing that the needs of Ukraine go beyond immediate relief, Lithuania was one of the first countries to launch and implement restoration projects, aiming to turn the destruction of war into an opportunity to rebuild better, more beautiful and stronger Ukraine.

In 2023, on the 24th of August, Ukraine's Independence Day, a heavily damaged kindergarten in Irpine emerged anew from the ruins left by Russian aggression. Thanks to the joint efforts of Lithuanian, Ukrainian and Taiwanese partners, the kindergarten was rebuilt in just 8 months.

Equipped with modern facilities, forming a cheerful environment for learning and growth, the kindergarten is set to accommodate 400 children and employ 45 staff members.

Lithuania sees Ukraine's education sector recovery as a priority. In 2021, Lithuania had already reconstructed a school in Avdiivka. Furthermore, the reconstruction of the lyceum in Borodyanka, supported by the Fund for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid, is on track to be completed by the end of 2023.



Moving forward, Lithuania is committed to working together with Ukraine and other global partners in its long-term recovery and reconstruction.

“Future School for Ukraine” initiative, launched by the Lithuanian Government, will deliver a practical solution for rebuilding Ukraine’s educational infrastructure. This initiative will entail the creation of an adaptable, standardised school building design that will be accessible to all communities in Ukraine.



The technical design would not only save time and reduce costs for the reconstruction but also create the best and most innovative future school design featuring integrated advanced technologies and smart systems.

03

Promoting Democracy: Lithuania's Commitment to Strong and Resilient Civil Society

Lithuania has consistently taken an active role in supporting civil society, which is at the cornerstone of any strong democracy. By empowering civil society organizations, we invest in the essential foundations of accountability, transparency, and social engagement.

Civil society organisations play a pivotal role in advocating for the protection of human rights, the rule of law, and the promotion of good governance.

Lithuania's development projects have provided training, resources, and technical expertise to partner countries local organizations, enabling them to better engage with their communities, advocate for social change, and monitor human rights. By doing so, we foster an environment where the voices of citizens can be heard, and their concerns addressed.

Lithuania has emerged as a central hub for democratic initiatives within the EU Eastern Partnership countries. Through various civil society forums and initiatives, we are dedicated to amplifying the influence and impact of non-governmental organizations.

By providing technical expertise, funding, and networking opportunities, Lithuania contributes to the capacity-building of Belarusian civil society organisations, opposing authoritarian regime and suppression of freedoms.

These actions have helped Belarusian activists and civil society organizations to continue their advocacy in exile and maintain their steadfast commitment to democratic values, even in the face of adversity. Their resilience and determination signify an enduring spirit of those who believe in a more open, free, and just Belarus. Together, we remain committed to empowering those who work tirelessly and strive for a democratic future of their nation.




04

Paving the Way to EU Accession for our Partners

One of the key objectives of Lithuanian development cooperation is to equip partner countries with the knowledge and capabilities essential for establishing robust administrative structures, upholding good governance and the rule of law.

Strengthening the administrative capacities of the countries institutions, seeking EU membership, is a top priority for us. The harmonisation of the legal frameworks of partner countries with EU standards serves a dual purpose – it not only streamlines their accession process but also leads to the establishment of a more efficient, transparent, and accountable system.



Through targeted training, technical assistance, and knowledge sharing, Lithuania has empowered its partner countries with the skills and expertise necessary for the legislative, judiciary and public administration reforms.

Lithuania's initiatives also focus on anti-corruption, fostering of institutional environment conducive to business growth, economic development and social well-being in partner countries.

Sharing the expertise in establishment of a diplomatic service model, including economic diplomacy, eurointegration process, strategic communication, and management of hybrid threats is one of examples of development cooperation projects initiated by Lithuania in close cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova.

The trainings, study visits carried out during the project in Vilnius, Brussels and Chisinau, strengthened the competencies of Moldova's officials responsible for eurointegration and assisted in preparing for accession negotiations with the European Union.



The enlargement policy of the EU is a powerful tool to foster societal transformation and initiate positive changes through accession-driven democratic and economic reforms. Lithuania's partnership with Moldova underscores its commitment to support the country on its path towards EU integration and the advancement of democratic values and economic progress.

05

Twinning and TAIEX: Sharing Best Practices in Development

EU Twinning programme serves as a valuable platform for member states to share their expertise and best practices with partner countries, promoting the alignment of institutions and policies with EU standards and values.


This collaborative approach helps strengthen governance, enhance administrative capacity, and facilitate sustainable reforms in partner countries, fostering political stability and economic growth.

Lithuania's know-how and transitional experience in public administration as well as institution building, is relevant and appreciated in the EU Eastern Partnership and EU Pre-Accession countries, including Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and Azerbaijan where the majority of EU Twinning projects carried out by Lithuania, have been implemented.

EU Twinning projects have covered diverse areas. Notable domains of involvement include public sector reform, the rule of law, justice, anti-corruption efforts, customs, border control, environmental protection, agriculture, food safety, and more.

Over the years, Lithuania has distinguished itself in the EU Twinning programme, successfully implementing a total of 136 projects between 2004 and 2023. In recent years, Lithuania has consistently ranked among the top five EU countries in terms of implemented projects.

In the year 2021, Lithuania achieved the second-highest participation rate in Twinning projects across all EU members.



In addition to Twinning projects, Lithuania has been a proactive participant in the EU TAIEX programme. Lithuanian experts have taken part in over 200 TAIEX events, encompassing seminars, workshops, and fact-finding missions. These engagements have primarily unfolded in the EU Eastern Partnership countries and the Western Balkans, facilitating cooperation and the exchange of knowledge in crucial areas such as justice and home affairs, internal markets, agriculture, food safety, environment, transport, communications, digitisation, migration, and security.



With more than 100 experts from various Lithuanian institutions registered in the TAIEX database of experts, Lithuania continues to make a substantial impact in promoting institutional capacity building and forging closer bonds with partner nations. These collaborative efforts reflect Lithuania's commitment to sharing expertise and fostering development and progress in these vital areas.

06

Countering Disinformation: Our Success Story and Best Practices

In an era where disinformation and hybrid attacks pose a substantial threat to democratic values and public trust, Lithuania has been at the forefront of developing effective, innovative strategies and mechanisms to detect and counteract the spread of false information.

By sharing its best practices, providing training, and collaborating on awareness campaigns, fostering media literacy, critical thinking, and fact-checking, Lithuania assists in strengthening the resilience of partner countries exposed to disinformation.

The goal of Lithuania's efforts is to empower the society to distinguish between accurate information and falsehoods, thereby strengthening the overall resilience to disinformation. This commitment aligns with the broader mission of safeguarding democratic values and public trust in an increasingly complex information landscape.



„Some of the most successful practices that Lithuania shared with Moldova include developing the government's StratCom capacity, community and common mechanism for the prevention of hybrid threats. Lithuanian experts presented their know-how cultivating civic initiatives such as the Lithuanian Elves, public information campaigns on topics of fighting fake news and cyber-security. Moldova's newly established Centre for Strategic communication should take stock of Lithuania's experience while developing the culture of resilience to hostile foreign disinformation and hybrid threats.“

-Valeriu Paşa, Head of WatchDog.MD.



07

Quality Education for All: A Cornerstone of Human Development

Learning should be fun, safe and accessible to all the children, as well as other people regardless their age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

Education is not only a cornerstone of human development, but also a catalyst for progress and empowerment. Lithuania consistently supports communities, especially in the conflict-affected regions, by providing educational opportunities.

Back in 2007-2012 we supported the construction of more than 20 schools in Ghor province in Afghanistan, where previously children attended open field classes and had very limited educational resources. Lithuania's support led to the creation of new facilities equipped with essential amenities like electricity and water systems, computers, and educational materials.

Improving access to quality education is a fundamental driver of societal recovery, stability and well-being. Considering the needs of the survivors of the Yazidi genocide perpetrated by the Islamic State in Iraq, Lithuania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs financed the construction of a school in Iraq's Sinjar region for the Yazidi community in 2022.

Lithuania's commitment to fostering positive change extends to its educational initiatives, which are designed to nurture a new generation of leaders equipped with the essential skills to initiate and implement transformative improvements in their home countries. One of such initiatives, the "Middle East Scholars Program", enabled young people from Iraq, Afghanistan and Syria to pursue higher education in Lithuania at LCC International University in Klaipėda.



"The Master of Arts Programme at LCC university in Klaipėda has equipped me with the most recent and effective pedagogical strategies. These tools have enhanced my own skills and enabled to provide better support to my students".

- David Al Odeesh, English teacher in Iraq.

The European Humanities University (EHU), operating in exile in Vilnius, is the only Belarusian university upholding and granting academic freedom for its students, faculty members, and staff.

Lithuania has been a steadfast supporter of EHU since its relocation to Vilnius in 2006, extending financial assistance, offering facilities, and providing free visas to students and educators.

With the combined efforts of international donors and the vibrant EHU community, the university has gained international recognition. EHU offers high-quality undergraduate and graduate education, providing opportunities for a new generation of Belarusians and youth from other countries to learn in a democratic and open environment.



08

Empowering Women and Girls: Gender Equality through Promotion of Digital Skills and entrepreneurship

Lithuania's commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment contributes to equitable and inclusive societies in partner countries.

Our activities focus on empowering women and girls through access to education, vocational training, social services and ending violence against women.

In close cooperation with local civil society organisations Lithuania extends its support to initiatives that empower women and pave the way for their active engagement within their communities and beyond.

Our initiatives have helped women to acquire digital skills in South Africa, Ivory Coast, Vietnam, Mongolia, financial literacy in Nepal and India, entrepreneurship know-how in Palestine, enhance training in marketing and on-line trade in Armenia.



Lithuania has supported initiatives aimed at promoting science, technology, engineering, and maths among girls in Azerbaijan, further illustrating our commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment.

"This training awakened my creativity as I learnt from different experts how to brand and package my product in a way that has never crossed my mind. Now I know more about digital marketing techniques for my business."

– Tujan Mushasha, owner of "Tujan Arts", embroidery-on-wood products company in Palestine.



09

Sustainable Energy Solutions: Promoting Access to Renewable Resources

Lithuania's development cooperation in the field of climate change contributes to a greener and more sustainable future for all. Since 2011,

Lithuania has actively engaged in bilateral development cooperation in renewable energy area. The Climate Change Programme, administered by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania, is a significant component of Lithuania's efforts to support renewable energy in developing countries.

Our initiatives often involve the supply of solar energy to schools, hospitals and other public institutions, simultaneously promoting climate adaptation by enhancing local communities' self-sufficiency and resilience in the face of future hazards. Importantly, these projects are implemented in close cooperation with public and private entities reflecting the shared commitment of both Lithuanian government institutions and the business sector.

Lithuania's dedication to climate-related development cooperation has steadily grown over the years, with an emphasis on doubling climate finance to developing countries starting in 2018.



This underscores Lithuania's commitment to addressing climate change and promoting renewable energy in partner countries like Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Mali and Nigeria, where Lithuania has installed solar power plants.

10

Tackling Environment Pollution: Lithuania's Green Initiatives

Promoting environmental awareness and education is an integral part of Lithuania's green initiatives.

Development projects often include public outreach programs, workshops, and educational campaigns to foster a sense of responsibility toward the environment, especially in the field of waste management.

By providing guidance on the setup of recycling infrastructure and educating communities on the importance of proper waste disposal, Lithuania's development projects encourage a culture of sustainability.

One of Lithuania's success stories – a deposit-refund system has enabled us to collect and recycle up to 90 % of plastic, metal, and glass beverage packaging in Lithuania. We are sharing our knowledge and experience to help partner countries Armenia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Palestine achieve equally significant results and enhance the circular economy.

99 % consumers in Lithuania believe that the deposit-refund system is necessary.



11

Innovating for Progress: Sharing Expertise in Digitalization

Lithuania is harnessing the potential of digital technology and innovation to engage in initiatives aimed at advancing digitalization across various sectors.

These projects encompass a diverse array of activities, including capacity building, knowledge exchange, the promotion of digital entrepreneurship, and feasibility studies spanning areas such as education, artificial intelligence, postal services, and more.

In Palestine, Lithuania's efforts have been concentrated on equipping students with practical skills in developing AI solutions and fostering the application of innovative digital and data-driven technologies. This initiative aims to empower the younger generation with the tools and knowledge to drive technological innovation.

Collaboration between Lithuanian companies and young Nigerian ICT specialists, as part of the “Digital Explorers” project, has enabled the nurturing of entrepreneurial skills, the creation of job opportunities, and the expansion of partnerships within the ICT sector. This collaborative effort not only benefits Nigeria but extends its positive impact to other countries as well.

Lithuanian experts from the “NRD Companies”, a global IT and consulting group work with the Postal Corporation of Kenya to develop digital solutions that enhance the efficiency and sustainability of service delivery, especially in rural areas. These initiatives exemplify Lithuania’s commitment to leveraging digital technology to drive progress and innovation in various domains, both at home and abroad.



12

Fighting Pandemics: Lithuania's Response to Global Health Crisis

The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 sent shockwaves through the world, profoundly impacting every aspect of daily life.

This global health crisis led to significant disruptions, from healthcare systems grappling with a surge in cases to economic uncertainties and widespread social restrictions. The pandemic underscored the need for international collaboration and the importance of timely, coordinated responses to safeguard public health and mitigate the impact of virus.

In response to the global health crisis, Lithuania stepped up with a commitment to help partner countries to combat the pandemic.

Lithuania donated COVID-19 vaccines, personal protective equipment and related infection prevention and control supplies and sent medic teams to support other nations in their fight against the virus. These contributions reflected Lithuania's solidarity with the international community as well as shared responsibility for the well-being of people worldwide.



13

Aid in Times of Crisis: Lithuania's Humanitarian Efforts

In response to humanitarian crises worldwide, inflicted by the natural disasters or violent conflicts, Lithuania provides life-saving assistance to crisis-affected communities.

This support includes sending humanitarian aid, medical supplies, rescue teams or financial contributions to regions facing emergencies.

Lithuania's humanitarian efforts underscore the country's belief in the importance of global cooperation and the obligation to stand by those experiencing hardship. Through these actions, Lithuania has made a significant impact in alleviating suffering and fostering hope in times of crisis.

A substantial share of Lithuania's humanitarian aid budget is dedicated to various multilateral mechanisms and organisations, having access on the ground to people in remote and hard to reach, devastated regions.

Through contributions to the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNICEF, World Food Program and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Lithuania has been providing emergency and humanitarian aid to Ukraine, people of Afghanistan, Libya, Mali, Morocco, Syria, Somali, Sudan, Yemen, Nagorno-Karabakh region, Rohingya and others.

In 2022, humanitarian aid provided by Lithuania amounted to a record high 41 million EUR out of which over 35 million EUR was dedicated to Ukraine. Lithuanian government and municipal authorities have been providing in-kind aid to Ukraine, such as food, generators, medicine and medical supplies, ambulances and other emergency items.



14

Making a Difference: Lithuania's Assistance in Health Care Sector

Life-saving support is paramount in development cooperation. Lithuania's doctors and healthcare specialists have been actively involved in numerous impactful initiatives since the beginning of Lithuanian development cooperation.

Lithuania assisted Afghan people by carrying out vaccination campaigns, renovating Chagcharan hospital, providing pharmaceuticals and improving doctors' qualifications (2007-2012).

In Georgia, modern methods and appliances for eyesight treatment were provided to doctors to safeguard premature babies from blindness. The Centre for the Prevention of Blindness for premature babies was established in Tbilisi (2011). Lithuanian medics conducted training sessions for doctors in Batumi leaving a long-lasting impact on the local healthcare landscape (2012).

Amidst the devastating repercussions of Russia's war against Ukraine, Lithuania has been providing assistance to rehabilitation and psychosocial services in Ukraine since 2014. Lithuanian experts developed a training program for school psychologists and social workers in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, taught children effective trauma-coping techniques and self-help skills to improve their emotional well-being and resilience.

With a distinct focus on Ukraine's veterans, Lithuania is dedicated to contributing further to their recovery and reintegration. These efforts are aimed to pave the way for a brighter and more resilient future for those who have sacrificed so much, defending the freedom of Ukraine and Europe.



15

Lithuania's Commitment to Global Development through the OECD Development Assistance Committee

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) plays a pivotal role in the development cooperation, contributing its expertise and resources to address global challenges and promote sustainable development.

In 2022, Lithuania joined OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC), which we see as an essential platform for cooperation between donors, sharing good practises and building international standards, as well as ensuring transparency through data collection and peer review mechanisms.

Lithuania has been actively engaged in OECD's response to brutal russia's war against Ukraine. OECD Ukraine office, initiated and financed by Poland and Lithuania, plays an important role in Ukraine's reconstruction and recovery.

Lithuania's membership in DAC reflects our commitment to actively shape global development policies and contribute to the collective efforts of the international community addressing development challenges.

This collaborative approach underscores Lithuania's commitment to aiding Ukraine in the face of significant challenges and contributes to the broader international efforts to promote peace, stability, and recovery in the region.



16

The Power of Collaboration: Lithuania's Civil Society Engagement

Lithuania places great emphasis on enhancing engagement with civil society and non-governmental organizations, enabling them to act as independent development and humanitarian actors and implementing partners.

The National Non-Governmental Development Cooperation Organisations' Platform (Lithuanian NGDO Platform), a collaborative network of 22 organizations, serves as an important partner for the Lithuanian government in shaping, monitoring, and advocating for more effective development policy, strengthening NGO networking and partnerships.

Numerous Lithuanian civil society organizations also contribute to development cooperation through initiatives, projects and share of good practices in digitalisation, fight against disinformation, education, public awareness campaigns and other partnership areas.

Lithuanian civil society organisations were at the forefront of mobilising humanitarian aid and welcoming nearly 80 thousand Ukrainian war refugees in the wake of russia's full scale invasion in 2022.

Lithuania's section of the Red Cross and Caritas, public initiatives as "The Food Bank" and "Stronger Together", and many others have played an instrumental role in coordinating humanitarian assistance to Ukraine, showcasing the potential of collaboration between the government and civil society in responding to crises.



17

Strengthening Alliances: Lithuania's Multilateral Cooperation

Lithuania has consistently strengthened its collaboration with a wide range of international organizations and institutions at the multilateral level to support global efforts aimed at assisting developing countries.

As a member of the European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), as well as other international bodies, Lithuania actively participates in international development activities focused on poverty reduction, enhancing the resilience of partner countries, promoting democratic values, and providing humanitarian assistance.

A significant portion of Lithuania's multilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) is directed towards contributions to the EU budget, which is allocated for the implementation of development cooperation initiatives. The second-largest multilateral contribution goes to the European Development Fund (EDF).

Lithuania provides multilateral support through the UN, including funding for various UN agencies and peacekeeping missions. The World Bank is another vital international institution in the context of development cooperation.

The Ministry of Finance plays a role in capitalizing Lithuania's share in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and the International Development Association (IDA).



Through these multilateral partnerships and contributions, Lithuania actively participates in the global efforts to address development challenges and support the well-being and development of communities in need. This reflects Lithuania's commitment to international cooperation and its role in promoting positive change on the global stage.

18

Committed and responsible partner: Internal reforms for effective cooperation

Clear rules of procedures and flexible funding opportunities pave the way for a more effective development cooperation.

In 2021, Lithuania has reformed its financing and programming tools and established the Fund for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (referred to as “the Fund”). It plays a crucial role in enabling Lithuania to provide flexible multiannual funding and mobilize different sources of financing, both from public and private providers.

One of the major advantages of the Fund is its flexibility, which allows implementing multiannual projects on larger scale with potential of greater impact.

Projects financed by the Fund are selected and allocated through calls for applications or direct financing. Priority is given to co-financing projects of international donors and options that encourage partnerships and synergies with other financial resources and mechanisms, such as loans and guarantees provided by financial institutions.



Lithuania actively examines innovative financing solutions to attract private finance. In 2022, Lithuanian Government approved the decision to consolidate national development institutions under one National Promotional Institution – INVEGA. The reform continued in 2023 and followed the best practices of other OECD members, creating influential stand-alone and politically independent body. In 2023 INVEGA has been given a mandate to carry out development cooperation financing activities and received the EU pillar assessment, which will allow INVEGA to participate in various EU instruments and initiatives.

INVEGA stands ready to provide financial services to the private sector, enabling the implementation of development projects, as well as to participate in the distribution of financial support from international financial institutions.

19

CPMA: Navigating Development Cooperation initiatives

The Central Project Management Agency (CPMA) of Lithuania, established in 2003, has evolved into a key implementing partner in Lithuanian development cooperation.

In 2017, the agency expanded its role by taking on project management functions related to bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) activities, working closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This step was taken to enhance the efficiency and quality of bilateral ODA projects, marking a significant move towards CPMA's transformation into a full-fledged development cooperation agency.

The agency collaborates with institutions from other EU member states and participates in numerous EU and Lithuania-financed programs, such as the EU Twinning program and EU delegated cooperation. CPMA's role as a Twinning Competence Center involves training and methodological support for Lithuanian and EU member state institutions engaged in Twinning projects, making Lithuania a prominent player in this instrument .



CPMA's positive pillar assessment by the European Commission signifies its competence in the EU development cooperation programs. It reflects CPMA's commitment to transparency, accountability, and effective project management, ensuring that development cooperation activities are carried out in a manner that aligns with the highest standards and best practices in the field.

20

Growth of Lithuanian Development Cooperation in Facts and Figures

Lithuania is gradually aligning its development cooperation allocations to its international commitments.

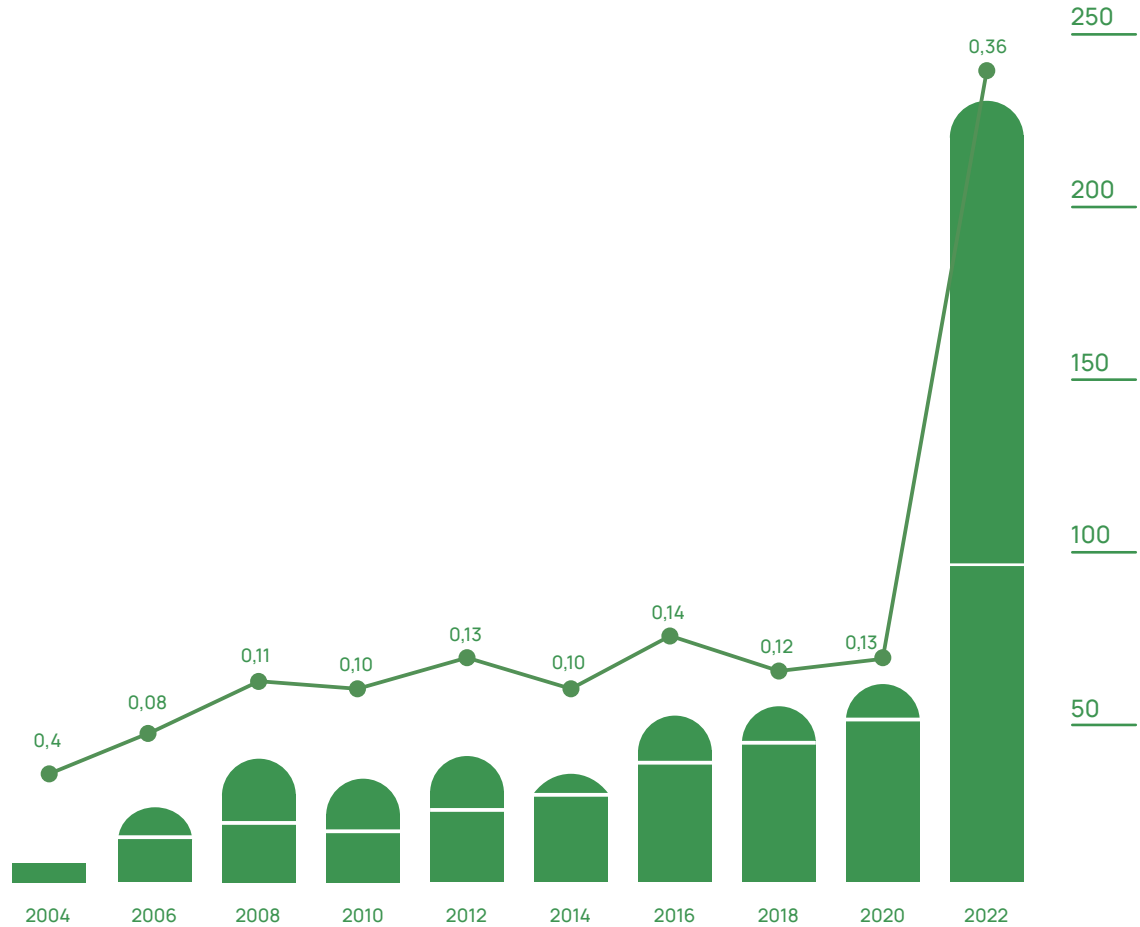
ODA levels have been increasing constantly – funding for development cooperation in real terms doubled since 2014 (from EUR 34.6 million to EUR 73.05 million in 2021). At the same period, the share of ODA to Gross national income (GNI) remained relatively stable, mainly due to the swift growth of GNI.

In 2022, Lithuania's ODA tripled compared to 2021, amounting to EUR 231.31 million, or 0.36% of GNI. This figure led to achieving Lithuania's international commitment to allocate 0.33% of GNI annually in official aid by 2030. Until 2021, Lithuania's bilateral aid accounted for up to one-fifth of total aid.

Meanwhile, in 2022, significant additional funding going to Ukraine and state and municipal spending on Ukrainian refugees in Lithuania increased the bilateral aid figures up to 58%.



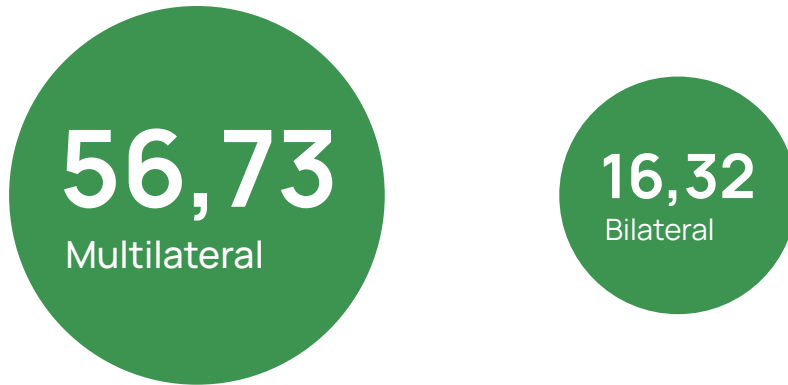
Official Development Assistance In 2004-2022 (million EUR)



Lithuanian ODA per capita 2004-2022 (EUR)



Official Development Assistance in 2021 (million EUR)



Official Development Assistance in 2022 (million EUR)

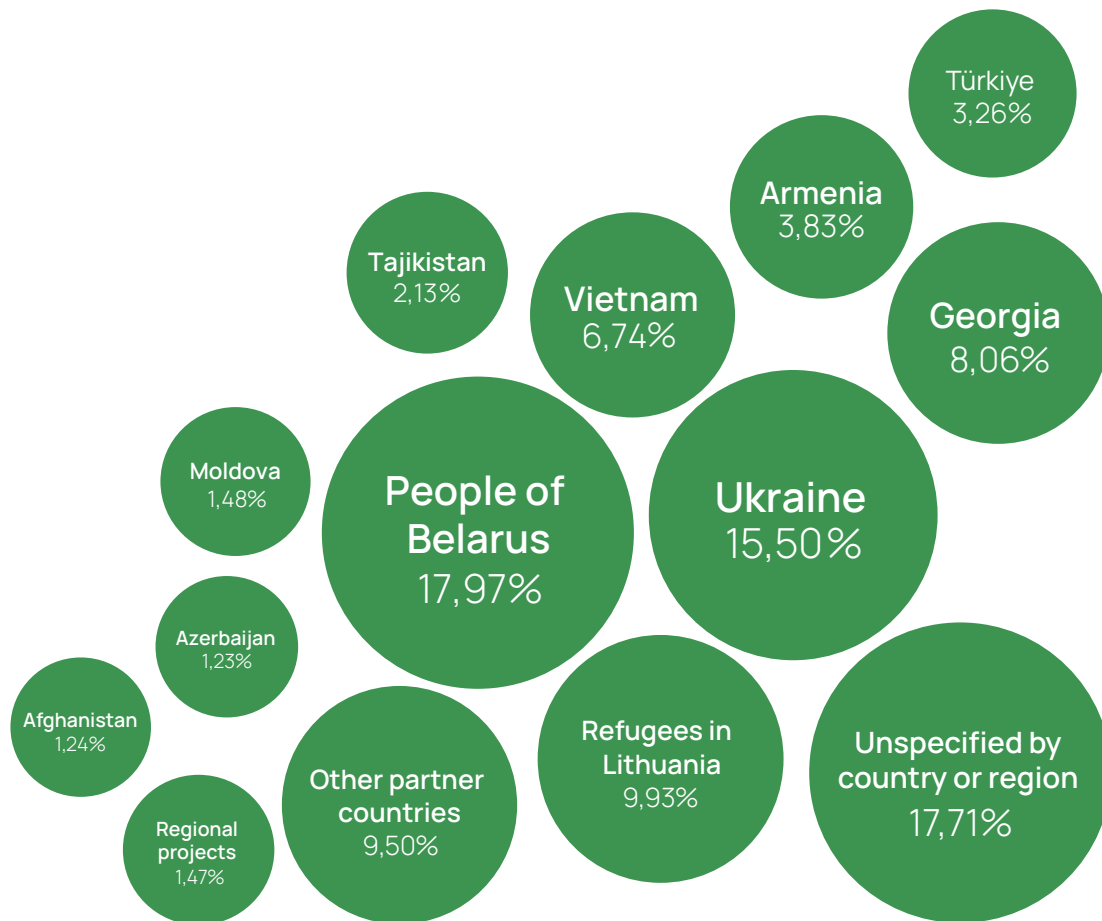
97,56

Multilateral

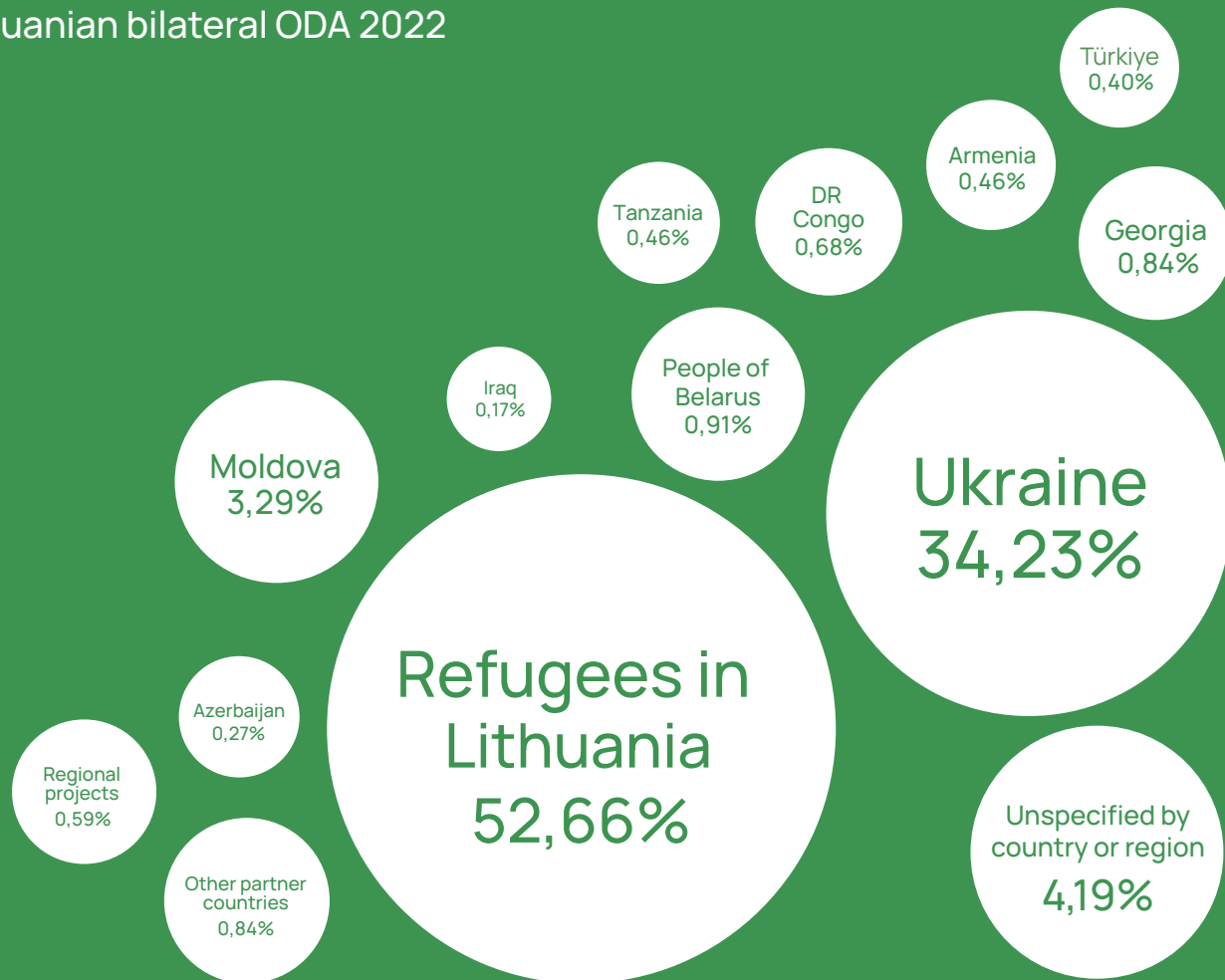
133,75

Bilateral

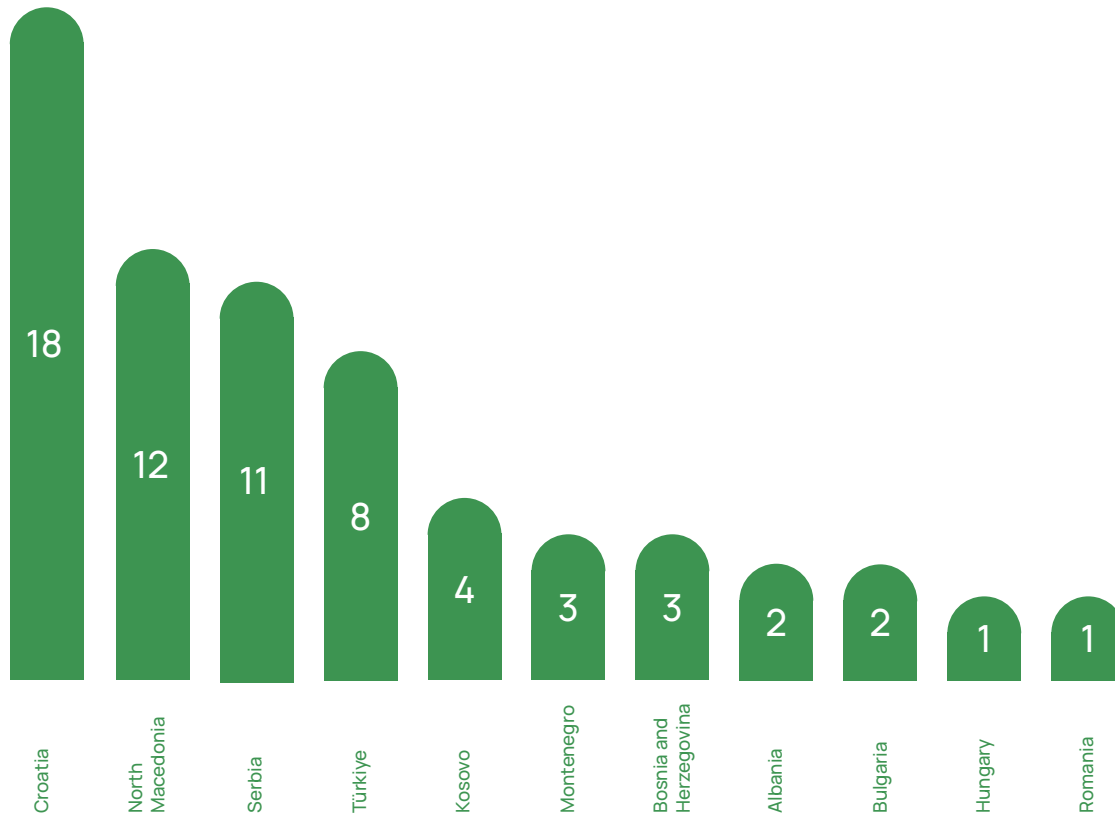
Lithuanian bilateral ODA 2021



Lithuanian bilateral ODA 2022



EU Twinning projects implemented by Lithuania 2004-2022



EU Twinning projects implemented by Lithuania 2004-2022

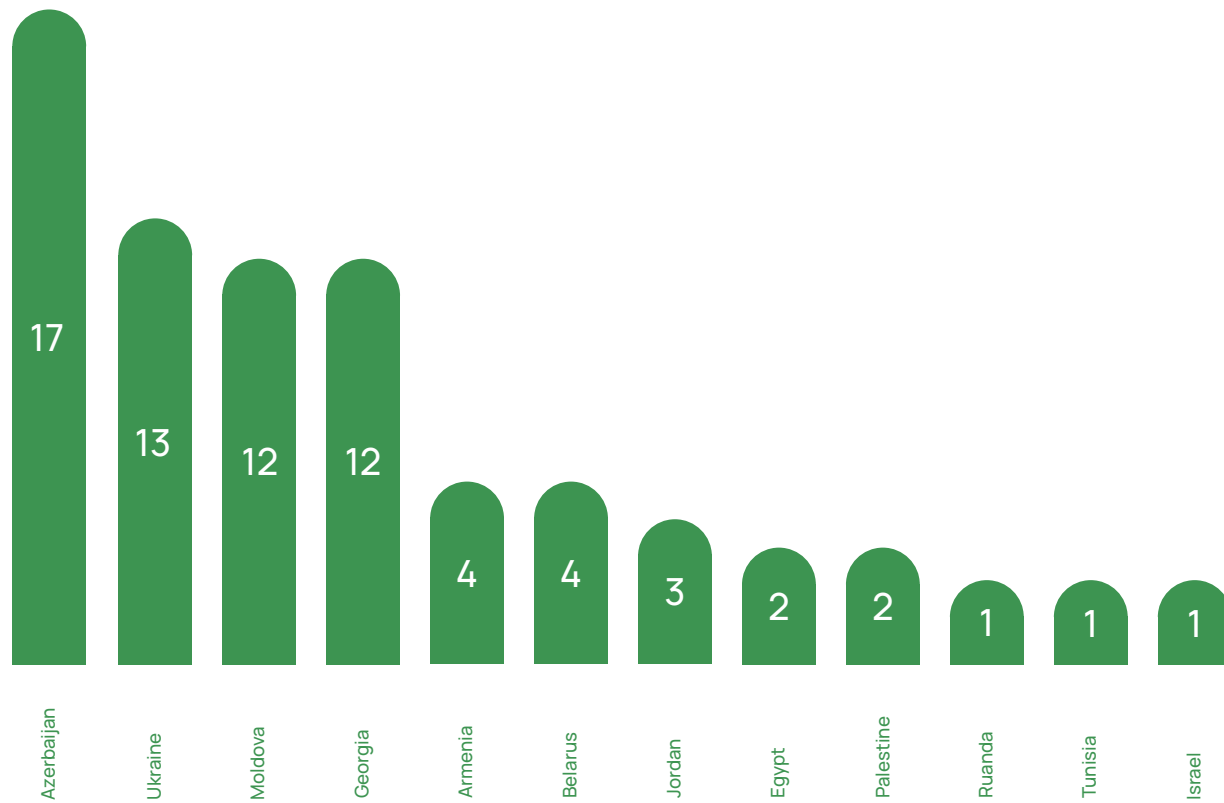


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