

# REPORT



## POLISH DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION 2020-2021



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Republic of Poland



Polish aid

# POLISH DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION – 2020-2021

## Table of Contents

Foreword by Minister Paweł Jabłoński .....	3
Map of <i>Polish aid</i> projects in 2020 .....	6
Map of <i>Polish aid</i> projects in 2021 .....	7
1. Development cooperation system.....	8
1.1. What are development cooperation and Polish aid?.....	8
1.2. <i>Polish aid</i> priorities in terms of geography and issues addressed .....	10
1.3. Polish development cooperation: Legal and institutional framework.....	11
1.4. Policy Coherence for Development.....	14
2. Multilateral development cooperation .....	16
2.1. Cooperation with international organisations .....	16
2.2. Coordination of bilateral assistance – Twinning and TAIEX .....	19
2.3. Engaging the private sector to achieve the goals of development cooperation – Polish Challenge Fund .....	21
3. Bilateral development cooperation .....	23
3.1. Calls for proposals announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs.....	25
3.2. Projects launched by Polish diplomatic missions .....	27
3.3. <i>Solidarity with Belarus</i> – support for Belarusian society.....	30
3.4. Activities carried out by Solidarity Fund PL.....	31
3.5. Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration .....	35
3.6. Scholarship projects.....	36
3.7. Projects implemented by government administration bodies .....	39
3.8. Polish development assistance in priority countries.....	42
3.8.1. Eastern Partnership.....	42
3.8.1.1. Ukraine .....	42

3.8.1.2.	Belarus.....	45
3.8.1.3.	Georgia.....	47
3.8.1.4.	Moldova .....	50
3.8.2.	Africa .....	53
3.8.2.1.	Senegal.....	53
3.8.2.2.	Uganda .....	56
3.8.2.3.	Tanzania .....	58
3.8.2.4.	Kenya.....	62
3.8.2.5.	Ethiopia .....	65
3.8.3.	Middle East.....	68
3.8.3.1.	Lebanon.....	68
3.8.3.2.	Palestine.....	72
3.8.4.	Other (Myanmar) .....	77
4.	Humanitarian aid .....	79
4.1.	Examples of humanitarian projects.....	79
4.2.	Humanitarian action in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic.....	84
4.2.1.	Humanitarian convoys.....	84
4.2.2.	Vaccine solidarity in the face of COVID-19.....	86
5.	Education and information activities.....	88
5.1.	Global education.....	88
5.2.	Information activities.....	92
6.	Evaluation.....	94
7.	Glossary of abbreviations .....	97
8.	Financial Annex 2020 .....	99
9.	Financial Annex 2021 .....	100

# Foreword by Minister Paweł Jabłoński

Dear Readers,

I present to you the report *Polish Development Cooperation – 2020-2021*. The delivery of Polish development cooperation tasks during this period was significantly different from that of previous years. This change was due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No country was prepared for these circumstances, unprecedented in recent decades. It became necessary to take measures that, on the one hand, limited the development of the pandemic and, on the other, helped to minimise its negative impact on health and the economy. The fight against the pandemic became a major global challenge that had to be addressed by the entire international community.

Due to the changing needs in *Polish aid*

priority countries and the travel restrictions caused by the progression of the pandemic, planned activities had to be modified and adapted to the prevailing conditions.

Instead of the traditional annual *Polish Humanitarian Aid* grant procedure, the competition *Polish humanitarian and development aid 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic* was announced. Its framework provided funding for initiatives aimed directly at combating the effects of the pandemic. Additionally, project activities already launched were modified and adapted, especially in terms of the sanitary rigour in the area concerned. In addition to responding to humanitarian emergencies, such as the explosion in the port of Beirut or the flooding in Sudan, teams of Polish doctors, nurses and paramedics of the Polish Centre for International Aid were also deployed to Italy, the USA, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Ethiopia. Important support was also provided by humanitarian aid convoys, which brought personal protective equipment, medical supplies and SARS-CoV-2 virus tests to Belarus, Ukraine,



**Paweł Jabłoński**

**National Coordinator  
of Development Cooperation**

Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and the Western Balkans, among others.

The distribution of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines was a response to the pandemic that continued over time, and Poland willingly shared its resources with the countries in need as a gesture of solidarity. The first vaccine shipments took place in August 2021. By the end of 2021, Poland donated a total of 10,907,160 doses of vaccines to 18 countries.

In response to the dramatic deterioration of the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and liberties after the 2020 presidential election in Belarus, Poland announced the *Solidarity with Belarus* assistance package offering comprehensive social, business and economic support to the Belarusian society.

In 2020 and 2021, activities involving Polish entrepreneurs in the implementation of development policy goals continued under the grant programme entitled *Polish Challenge Fund (PCF)*, implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The PCF is a tool that allows the transfer of Polish know-how, technology and innovative solutions to *Polish aid* partner countries.

Implemented in 2020, the special edition of the grant competition entitled *Polish Challenge Fund - Boost Solution* aimed to counteract the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

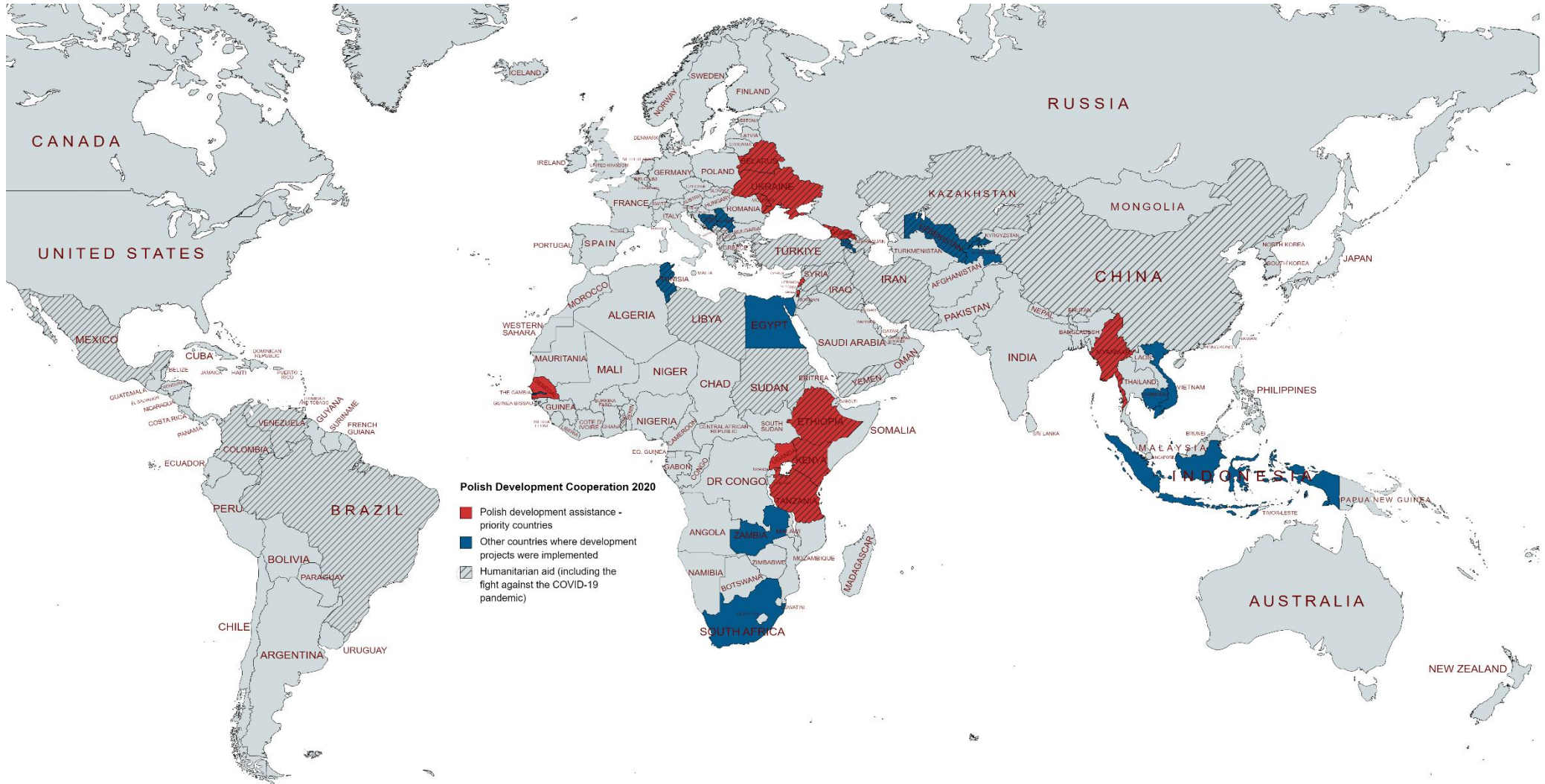
The projects implemented by Polish diplomatic missions are implemented both in the priority countries of *Polish aid* and in other developing countries as well as those in need of support (in 2020 they were: Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Georgia, Indonesia, Jordan, Cambodia, Kenya, Lebanon, North Macedonia, Mexico, Myanmar, Moldova, Palestine, South Africa, Senegal, Serbia, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia, while in 2021 the recipients were: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Cambodia, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, North Macedonia, Madagascar, Morocco, Myanmar, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia). The projects included support for education, business development, environmental protection, health and public safety.

The COVID-19 pandemic took everyone by surprise, and overcoming its economic and social consequences depends to a large extent on international solidarity and cooperation. Poland

continues its development and humanitarian activities, which are an important element of Polish foreign policy and a tool for the implementation of Polish international commitments.

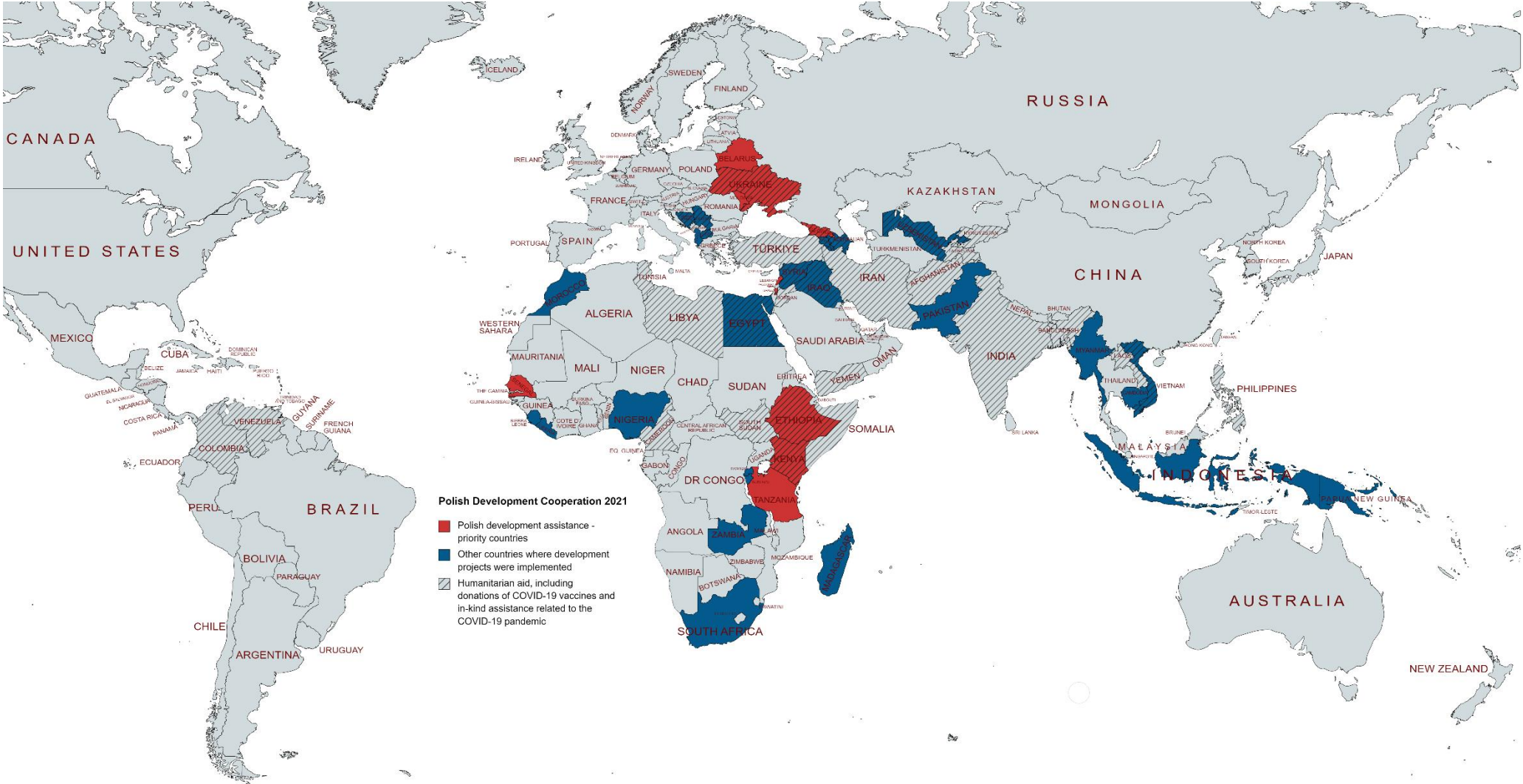
In recent years, the performance of Polish development cooperation tasks required adaptation to new unexpected challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and later Russia's military aggression against Ukraine. As an exception, the Polish development cooperation 2020-2021 report was drawn up in a changed format covering two years of the pandemic and published at a later date. The report for 2022 will be prepared in the traditional form of an annual report immediately after necessary data, in particular financial one, is collected.

# Map of Polish aid projects in 2020



Created with mapchart.net

# Map of Polish aid projects in 2021



Created with mapchart.net



# 1. Development cooperation system

## 1.1. What are development cooperation and Polish aid?

Development cooperation is part of foreign policy, which involves supporting the development of less developed countries (**development assistance**) and providing assistance in situations of natural disasters or conflicts (**humanitarian aid**). Development cooperation also includes educational activities aimed at raising awareness and understanding of global issues and interdependencies between countries called **global education**.

**Polish aid** refers to all actions carried out in these areas by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with government administration bodies, social organisations and local entities in partner countries, as well as activities at the fora of international organisations of which Poland is a member.

Development assistance may be implemented as **bilateral aid** (i.e. for a specific partner country) by providing donations and loans for specific projects, scholarships for citizens of beneficiary countries, debt reduction or preferential loans, and as **multilateral aid** – through contributions to international institutions supporting development worldwide, such as specialised UN agencies

Development cooperation is an expression of Poland's solidarity with partner countries. It also fulfils the commitments arising from our membership in international organisations: the European Union, the United Nations or the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

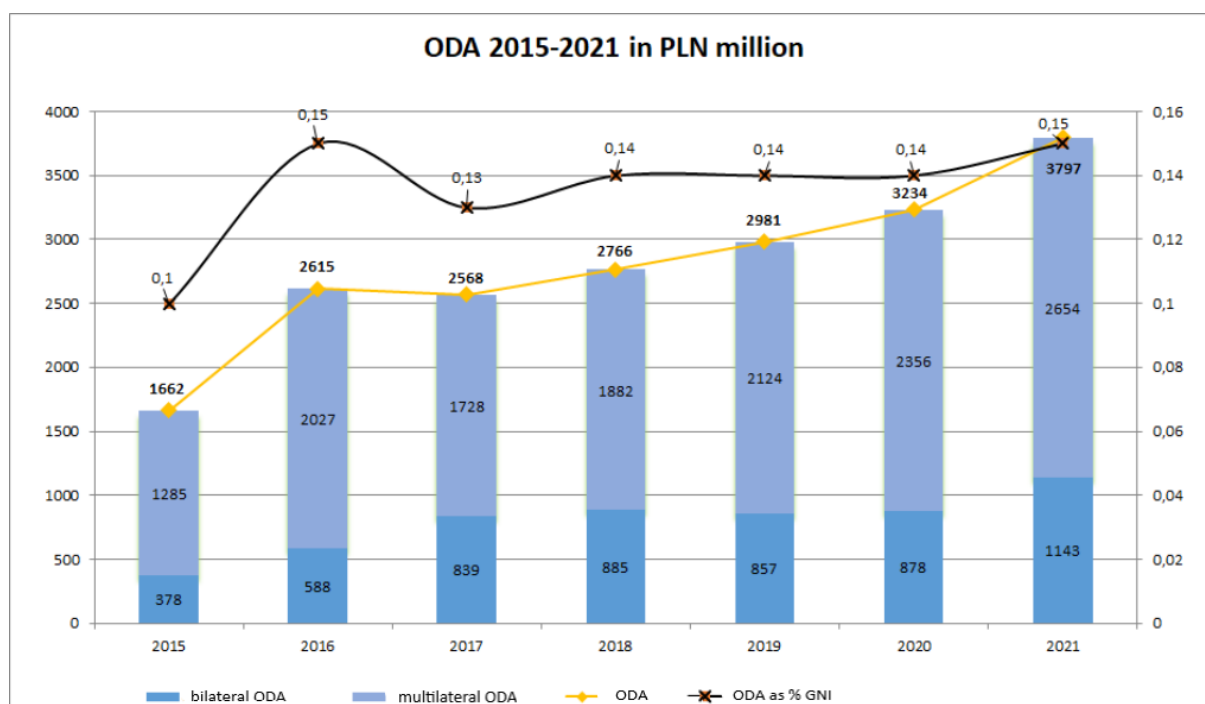
Development cooperation is also a collective global effort to implement **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), adopted in the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations. At the New York summit of 25-27 September 2015, the leaders of the UN member states, by signing a document entitled *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, pledged to take action to improve life in the world in five areas: People, Planet, Peace, Prosperity, Partnership. The implementation of the SDGs is to contribute globally to the improvement of life and well-being in the world in a number of aspects, which include, inter alia, reducing poverty in all its forms, ensuring access to education, providing access to food and clean water, equalising opportunities for states and

social groups, respecting human rights, maintaining peace and stability in the world, protecting the environment, mitigating climate change and increasing access to sustainable energy sources.

Financial resources, allocated by institutions in donor countries to developing countries to support their economic development and welfare, and transferred to multilateral specialised institutions working for this purpose, are classified as **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**.

In 2020, Poland's Official Development Assistance reached over PLN 3.23 billion. Almost PLN 2.36 billion, or 73% of the total funds, was allocated to multilateral cooperation, i.e. contributions to the general budgets of international organisations operating in the development sphere. Over PLN 878 million (27%) was contributed to bilateral aid. The ratio of ODA to Gross National Income (GNI) in Poland was 0.14%.

In 2021 Poland's Official Development Assistance amounted to almost PLN 3.8 billion. Of this, more than 2.65 billion PLN (i.e. 70% of the total funds) was allocated to multilateral cooperation, in the form of contributions to the general budgets of international organisations active in the development sphere. Over PLN 1.14 billion (30%) was contributed to bilateral aid. The ratio of ODA to Gross National Income in Poland was 0.15%.



## 1.2. Polish aid priorities in terms of geography and issues addressed

In 2020, *Polish aid* focused on support for good governance, democracy and human rights, human capital, entrepreneurship and the private sector, sustainable agriculture and rural development, and environmental protection.

In 2020, *Polish aid* activities were directed to twelve priority countries located on different continents:

- four European countries covered by the Eastern Partnership initiative (Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine);
- five African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda);
- three countries in Asia and the Middle East (Lebanon, Myanmar, Palestine).

2021 was the first year of the new *Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme 2021-2030 – Solidarity for Development (2021-2030 Programme)*.

In line with the priority issues identified in the *2021-2030 Programme*, namely:

- peace, justice and strong institutions
- equal opportunities
  - education
  - decent jobs
  - entrepreneurship
  - reduction of inequalities
  - sustainable cities
- health
- climate and natural resources
  - clean water and sanitation
  - forests and biodiversity
  - renewable energy sources

Poland has been implementing the goals set by the United Nations (UN) in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, and in particular the objectives of eight of these goals: Goal 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions, 4. Quality education, 8. Decent work and economic

growth, 10. Reduced inequalities 3. Good health and wellbeing 6. Clean water and sanitation, 11. Sustainable cities and communities and 13. Climate action.

The aid activities were focused on these issues. The priority issues were complemented by two cross-cutting priorities: climate protection and equal opportunities for women and men.

In 2021, *Polish aid* activities were targeted at ten priority countries:

- four European countries covered by the Eastern Partnership initiative (Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine);
- four African countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania);
- Two countries located in the Middle East (Lebanon, Palestine).

### **1.3. Polish development cooperation: Legal and institutional framework**

The legal foundation for planning Polish involvement in development cooperation is the Development Cooperation Act of 16 September 2011 (Journal of Laws, 2021, item 1425). In addition, the implementation of *Polish aid* activities was based on the following documents:

- in 2020, the *2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme*, adopted by the Council of Ministers by the resolution of 6 October 2015 and the *2020 Development Cooperation Plan* prepared on the basis of the Programme;
- in 2020, the *2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme*, adopted by the Council of Ministers by the resolution of 19 January 2021 and the *2021 Development Cooperation Plan* prepared on the basis of the Programme.

Under the *Development Cooperation Act*, the **Development Cooperation Programme Council**, an advisory and consultative body, operates at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). In 2020, two meetings of the third-term Council were held – on 16 July and 17 December. At the December meeting, the Council gave a positive opinion on the draft of the *Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme for 2021-2030. Solidarity for Development*. Also in 2021, two meetings of the third-term Council were held – on 18 March and 1 December. At the December meeting, the Council gave a positive opinion on the draft of the *Multiannual Development Cooperation Plan for 2022*.

The implementation of development cooperation tasks involves a number of public administration bodies, in particular the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (MNiSW) and, as of 2021, the Ministry of Education and Science.

In the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the tasks assigned to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the scope of development cooperation are implemented by the **Development Cooperation Department** (DCD). In 2020, DCD developed the *Programme of Cooperation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs with non-governmental organisations and entities listed in Article 3(3) of the Act on public benefit activity and voluntary activities for the years 2021-2025*.

### ODA expenditure of government entities in 2020-2021

2020	
Institution	Amount
Ministry of Finance	PLN 1,874.06 million
Ministry of Foreign Affairs – including humanitarian convoys coordinated by FSM for the amount of PLN 55,795,585	PLN 751.18 million
Ministry of Science and Higher Education and Ministry of National Education <sup>1</sup>	PLN 487.33 million
Ministry of the Interior and Administration	PLN 33.59 million
Ministry of Climate and Environment	PLN 20.75 million
Ministry of Culture and National Heritage	PLN 13.88 million

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<sup>1</sup> Data for 2020 were reported in 2021 by the Ministry of Education and Science, which was created on 1 January 2021 as a result of the merger of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the Ministry of National Education. The data referred to the activities of both the Ministry of Science and Higher Education and the Ministry of Education in 2020.

Ministry of Economic Development, Labour and Technology	PLN 13 million
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	PLN 12.77 million
Ministry of Health	PLN 12.40 million
Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland	PLN 9.92 million
National Bank of Poland	PLN 1.65 million
Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy	PLN 1.52 million
Ministry of State Assets	PLN 0.73 million
Ministry of National Defence	PLN 0.72 million
Ministry of Infrastructure	PLN 89 thousand
Office of Electronic Communications	PLN 38.7 thousand

<b>2021</b>	
<b>Institution</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ministry of Finance	PLN 2,240.05 million
Ministry of Foreign Affairs – including additional humanitarian aid coordinated by FSM for PLN 17,237,090	PLN 874,42 million
Ministry of Education and Science	PLN 523.70 million
Ministry of the Interior and Administration	PLN 73.31 million
Ministry of Climate and Environment	PLN 18.98 million
Ministry of Culture and National Heritage	PLN 17.72 million
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	PLN 15.01 million

Ministry of Health	PLN 12.58 million
Ministry of Family and Social Policy	PLN 8.04 million
Ministry of Economic Development and Technology	PLN 6.24 million
Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland	PLN 2.51 million
Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy	PLN 1.92 million
National Bank of Poland	PLN 1.41 million
Ministry of Sport and Tourism	PLN 0.74 million
Ministry of National Defence	PLN 0.21 million
Ministry of State Assets	PLN 0.18 million
Office of Competition and Consumer Protection	PLN 0.13 million
Ministry of Infrastructure	PLN 0.09 million
Office of Electronic Communications	PLN 4.5 thousand

## 1.4. Policy Coherence for Development

Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) is based on the Lisbon Treaty (Article 208) and is part of a broader process carried out within the framework of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), namely the coherence of sustainable development policies, which is considered to be a key component in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The purpose of the Policy Coherence for Development is to draw up and implement country-specific policies in such a way as to avoid actions that have a negative impact on global development and on the development opportunities of other countries (including

developing countries). At the same time, countries should strive to align the objectives of their national goals with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In the period 2020-2021, PCD continued to address the existing priority areas, i.e. the fight against illicit financial flows in terms of tax evasion and money laundering (leading institution: Ministry of Finance) and the dissemination and implementation of corporate social responsibility standards (leading institution: Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy).

The implementation of the first priority area involved, among other things, Poland's participation in OECD initiatives: *Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS), Exchange of Information on Request (EOIR)*, and also the implementation of the *Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) for financial accounts* standard. In the second priority area, activities that deserve attention are those concerning the implementation of global supply chains<sup>2</sup>.

New priority areas that have been addressed by public institutions were added in 2021: combating the illegal trade in endangered plant and animal species (leading institution: Ministry of Climate and Environment), sustainable cities and communities, and climate (including the environment and seas) – these are horizontal areas, coordinated by the MFA in cooperation with other government departments.

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<sup>2</sup> The global supply chain is a network of connections between raw material suppliers, manufacturers and distributors. It encompasses all activities involved in the flow of goods and services from supplier to customer.



## 2. Multilateral development cooperation

### 2.1. Cooperation with international organisations

Multilateral cooperation is the most important part of Polish development assistance. The European Union is the main channel for the transfer of multilateral assistance. In addition, these activities are carried out through other international organisations, primarily the institutions of the UN (United Nations) system, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Poland co-creates the **development policy of the European Union**, doing this for example by the participation of its representatives in the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC), operating in the format of development cooperation ministers, and active participation in the work of Council working groups.

Between 2020 and 2021, the Working Party on Development Cooperation (CODEV) produced Council conclusions to guide EU development policies, including conclusions on the response of *Team Europe*<sup>3</sup> to the COVID-19 pandemic and conclusions on the importance of water in the EU's external initiatives. During the work on the Council's conclusions, Poland pushed for the inclusion of Polish foreign policy priorities, including programme priorities of *Polish aid*, as well as for the use in the relevant documents of wording that is in line with the EU Treaties.

In 2020, work was in progress within the European Union on a draft regulation establishing the **Neighbourhood, Development and International Co-operation Instrument – Global Europe** (NDICI-GE), intended to replace a number of existing instruments financing external activities of the EU. During the negotiations, Poland paid particular attention to the following issues: the need to give priority to the countries covered by the EU Neighbourhood Policy, the need to cooperate with all developing countries (including those with a medium level of

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<sup>3</sup> Team Europe – an initiative of the European Union, representing a collective approach and bringing together the development activities of the EU, Member States and their relevant financial institutions and implementing agencies, as well as European financial institutions to combat the effects of COVID-19 in developing countries.

development), taking into account the knowledge and experience of all Member States in the implementation of EU aid programmes. In 2021, Poland continued its participation in the activities of the NDICI-GE committee aimed at the implementation of regional and thematic programmes under the instrument.

Poland is involved in the financing of the **European Development Fund (EDF)**, through which the European Union supports cooperation for the development of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACP). EDF is an instrument financed by direct contributions from Member States and is not part of the EU budget. Poland's contribution to the 11th edition of EDF in the period 2014-2020 amounted to a total of EUR 612.36 million (2.1% of the EDF budget). In 2020 Poland contributed EUR 92 million to EDF. Under the new 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, this instrument has been integrated into the EU budget as part of the new Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument. In 2021 Poland contributed to EDF the sum of EUR 79.79 million.

Due to the expiry of the **EU-ACP Partnership Agreement** (known as the Cotonou Agreement), Poland has been actively involved in the period 2020-2021 in consultations on the content of the new agreement. The new so-called Post-Cotonou Agreement is intended to cover three main areas of cooperation, i.e. the political, economic, and trade and development assistance dimensions, and it is to consist of a base document and three separate protocols for each region (Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific). In the negotiation process, Poland advocated for provisions that reflected Poland's foreign policy priorities, e.g. on issues relating to migration or the protection of exclusive competences of the state. Due to the lengthy negotiation process, it became necessary to introduce transitional measures and extend the previous agreement until June 2023.

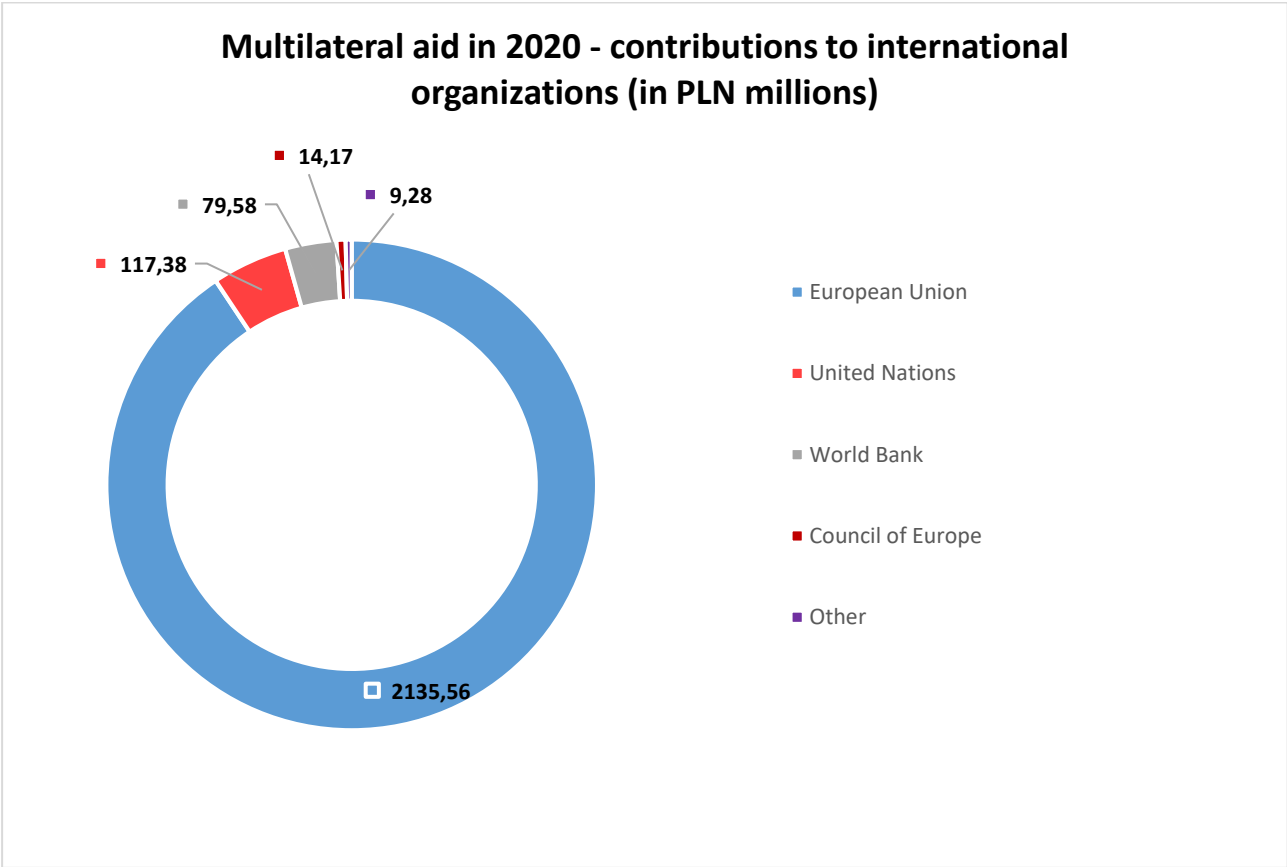
Between 2020 and 2021, Poland continued its cooperation with **multilateral development banks**, most notably the **World Bank Group (WBG)**, the **European Investment Bank (EIB)** and the **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**, both through regular membership contributions and participation in trust funds. The aim of this cooperation is to stimulate development investments in the partner countries of *Polish aid*. In the Eastern Partnership, this objective was supported by Poland's participation in the E5P Fund (Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Trust Fund) and the Eastern Partnership Technical

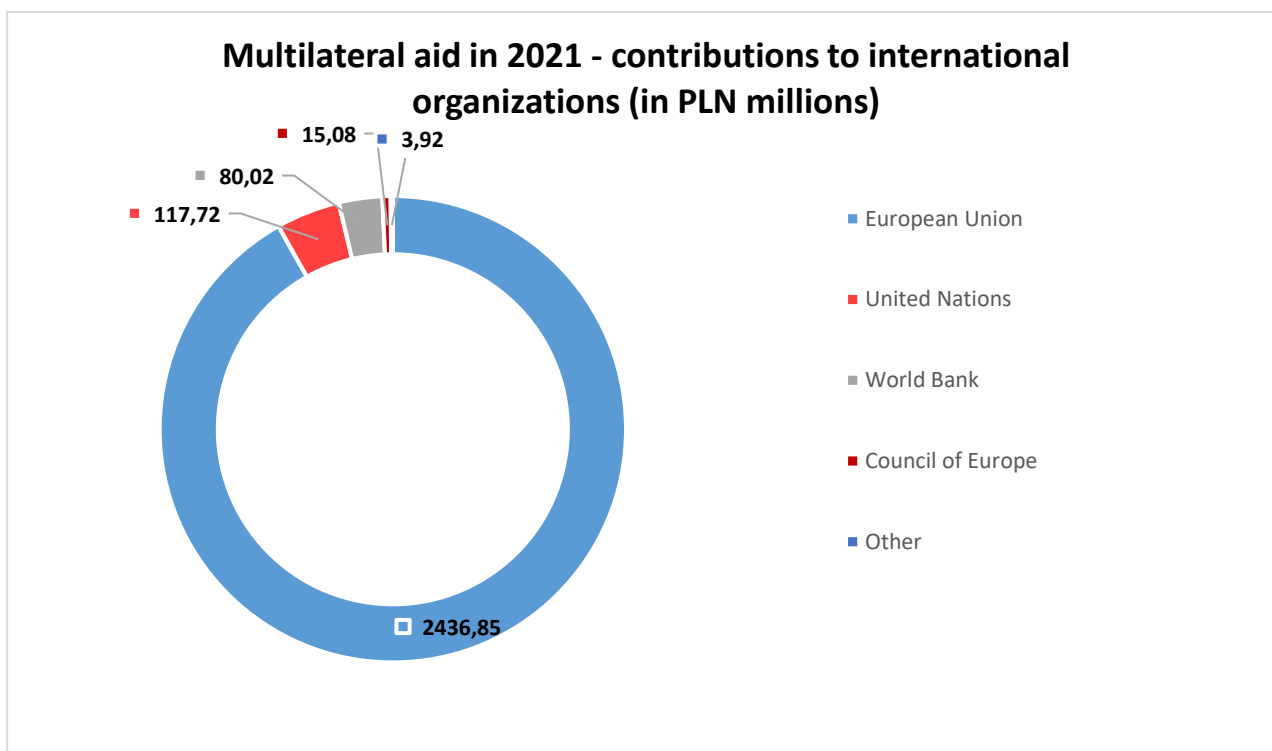
Assistance Trust Fund (EPTATF), thus supporting EIB and EBRD investments in infrastructure for transport, environment and energy in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine.

As a result of the EUR 50 million contribution made in 2017 to the European Investment Bank's **Economic Resilience Initiative** (ERI), Poland participated in shaping EIB investment projects in the period 2020-2021. They were designed to deal with the migration crisis and to promote sustainable economic growth and social cohesion in the countries neighbouring the EU in the south and in the Western Balkans.

In accordance with the objectives of Polish foreign policy and the thematic priorities of Polish development cooperation, in 2017 Poland continued to support agencies, funds and institutions that were implementing programmes based on respect for democracy, human rights and good governance and were operating in the *Polish aid* priority countries.

**Multilateral contributions** to the general budgets of international organisations allowed the geographical scope of *Polish aid* to be completed and support to be channelled to countries classified as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and enabled engagement in regions characterised by low level of security.





## 2.2. Coordination of bilateral assistance – Twinning and TAIEX

Polish public administration actively makes use of EU development cooperation programmes to support the countries neighbouring the EU in reforming their public sector and, in particular, in building a modern administration based on Polish standards and experience, doing so through the so-called Twinning and TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) models of cooperation.



The beneficiaries of Twinning and TAIEX are primarily countries benefiting from the European Commission's financial instruments: the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) – mainly the Balkan countries, and the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) –

mainly the Eastern Partnership countries, as well as some Middle Eastern and North African countries. In addition, the Twinning and TAIEX programmes are gradually extending their impact area to include other countries in Africa and Asia.

Assistance provided by Polish entities via Twinning and TAIEX instruments is not classified as Polish Official Development Assistance (ODA). Thus, by using funds other than the state budget, the state administration is contributing to political and economic stability and strengthening partnership relations with beneficiary countries, which is an important objective of Polish foreign policy.

In 2020, Polish public institutions were awarded 8 twinning projects with a total budget of EUR 11.35 million. This was the best result in 10 years. The projects were implemented in the following countries:

1. Belarus – Ministry of Finance – National Tax Administration (customs policy);
2. Bosnia and Herzegovina – Chief Inspectorate of Plant Protection and Seed Control (phytosanitary issues);
3. Georgia – Ministry of Infrastructure (rail transport);
4. Georgia – Central Office of Weights and Measures (metrology and standardisation – project finally not implemented);
5. Moldova – Central Office of Geodesy and Cartography (geodesy and cartography);
6. Moldova – Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture (agricultural development and food safety);
7. Ukraine – National Bank of Poland (reforms of the Central Bank of Ukraine);
8. Ukraine – National Inspection of Plant Protection and Seed Control (control over genetically modified food – GMO).

In 2020 Polish experts participated in approximately 100 expert missions carried out under TAIEX, mainly assisting in administration reforms in the countries of the Eastern Partnership and the Western Balkans.

In 2021, Polish public institutions were awarded 5 twinning projects with a total budget of EUR 7.5 million. Projects in countries where Poland has not provided such assistance so far, i.e. Jordan and Morocco, deserve special attention.

Polish institutions won twinning competitions in the following countries:

1. Georgia – Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy, General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways (road safety);
2. Jordan – Supreme Audit Office (audit of public funds);
3. Morocco – Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (protection of consumer rights);
4. Serbia – Office of Competition and Consumer Protection (protection of consumer rights);
5. Serbia – Agency for Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture (reform of agricultural product markets).

In 2021 Polish experts were involved in about 80 mini-projects carried out under TAIEX, mainly in the Eastern Partnership and Balkan countries.

In 2020 and 2021 Poland was among the EU countries that used this form of development cooperation most actively.

### 2.3. Engaging the private sector to achieve the goals of development cooperation – Polish Challenge Fund



To develop the involvement of Polish entrepreneurs in the pursuit of development policy goals, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched in 2019 a pilot grant programme in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) called the ***Polish Challenge Fund (PCF)***. The PCF is a tool for engaging the private sector with a view to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Its purpose is to enable the transfer of

Polish know-how, technologies and innovative solutions in the area of green technologies and information and communication technologies (ICT) to the partner countries of *Polish aid*. The implementation of the first phase of the project took place in Ukraine and Belarus until the end of April 2021. Two calls for competitions were launched in 2020, with 5 initiatives worth USD 196,770 (March edition) and 5 more initiatives worth USD 191,700 (June edition) being co-financed. The latter entitled ***Polish Challenge Fund – Boost Solution***

was aimed at counteracting the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The projects were completed by April 2021.

Thanks to the success of the PCF pilot programme, it was decided that the cooperation with UNDP would continue. As of 1 May 2021, the **Polish-UNDP Partnership (PUP): Innovative Solutions for the SDGs** was launched. The funds remaining from the previous edition were transferred to the PUP budget and supplemented Poland's contribution made in May 2021. The total amount to be utilised under the new programme amounted to USD 605,390.



The main objective of the PUP, which was signed on 29 April 2021, was to transfer Polish experience and innovative solutions regarding the Sustainable Development Goals to the partner countries. The Project Board has selected the following priority countries: Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Initially, the implementation period of the PUP was scheduled from May 2021 to September 2022<sup>4</sup>. The two main components

of PUP cooperation are PCF and *Knowledge Management (KM)*.

Despite the ongoing pandemic and a number of restrictions imposed in the region, the PCF project was carried out efficiently thanks to the launch of two successive calls for proposals in June and October 2021, which resulted in the award of a total of 11 new initiatives, including four implementations in Ukraine, four in Georgia and three in Moldova. Awards in both competitions totalled USD 427,879.

The second component of the project, *Knowledge Management*, focuses on accumulating experiences and sharing them with a wider group, based on a developed data collection system (from applicants to end-users) and the launch of the [www.polishchallengefund.org](http://www.polishchallengefund.org) website.



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<sup>4</sup> In June 2022, the contract was extended to 31 August 2023.

### 3. Bilateral development cooperation

Bilateral development cooperation involves development and humanitarian assistance provided directly to a specific partner country. Most often, this cooperation involves projects and tasks carried out by Polish non-governmental organisations, central administration bodies, local government units or diplomatic missions.

In 2020, Polish bilateral development assistance was mainly addressed to 12 priority countries listed in the *2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme* – Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Lebanon, Myanmar and Palestine. At the same time, bilateral aid was also targeted to other ODA recipients included on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of developing countries.

In 2021, more than half of bilateral aid funds, worth PLN 587 million, were allocated to projects in the Eastern Partnership countries. Poland's support was provided primarily in the area of good governance (including in the implementation of Association Agreements with the EU), social policy and strengthening the local private sector and entrepreneurship development.

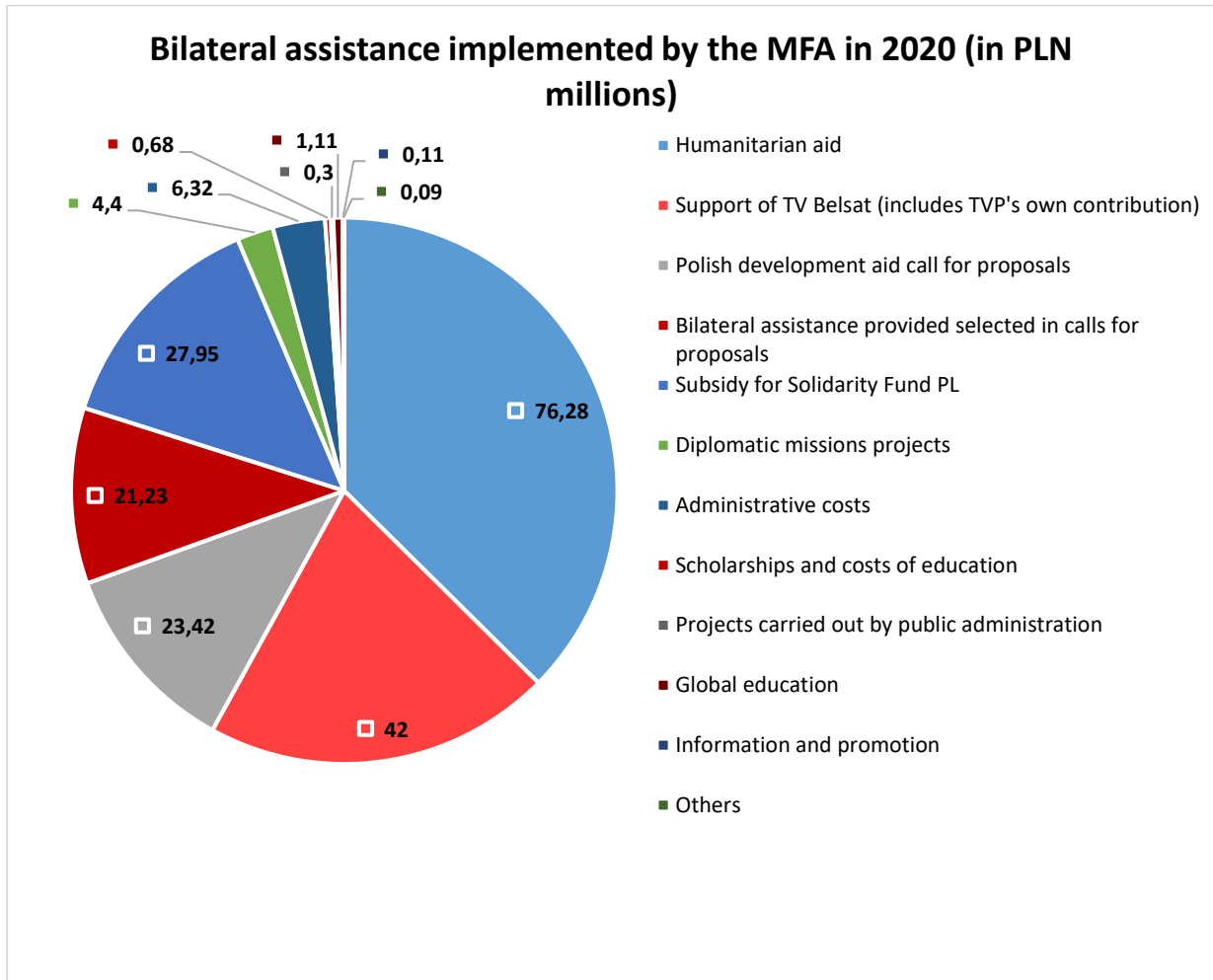
Initiatives implemented in Africa and the Middle East addressed medical care (including specialised care), emergency medical services, and access to education (including vocational education). In addition, they supported vulnerable people at risk of exclusion, by facilitating their access to social services and professional activation. In Palestine, efforts to build emergency rescue skills were continued, while in Kenya, they strengthened the development of fire services.

In the period 2020-2021, the most important **instruments of bilateral development cooperation** financed or co-financed from the special purpose reserve of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were:

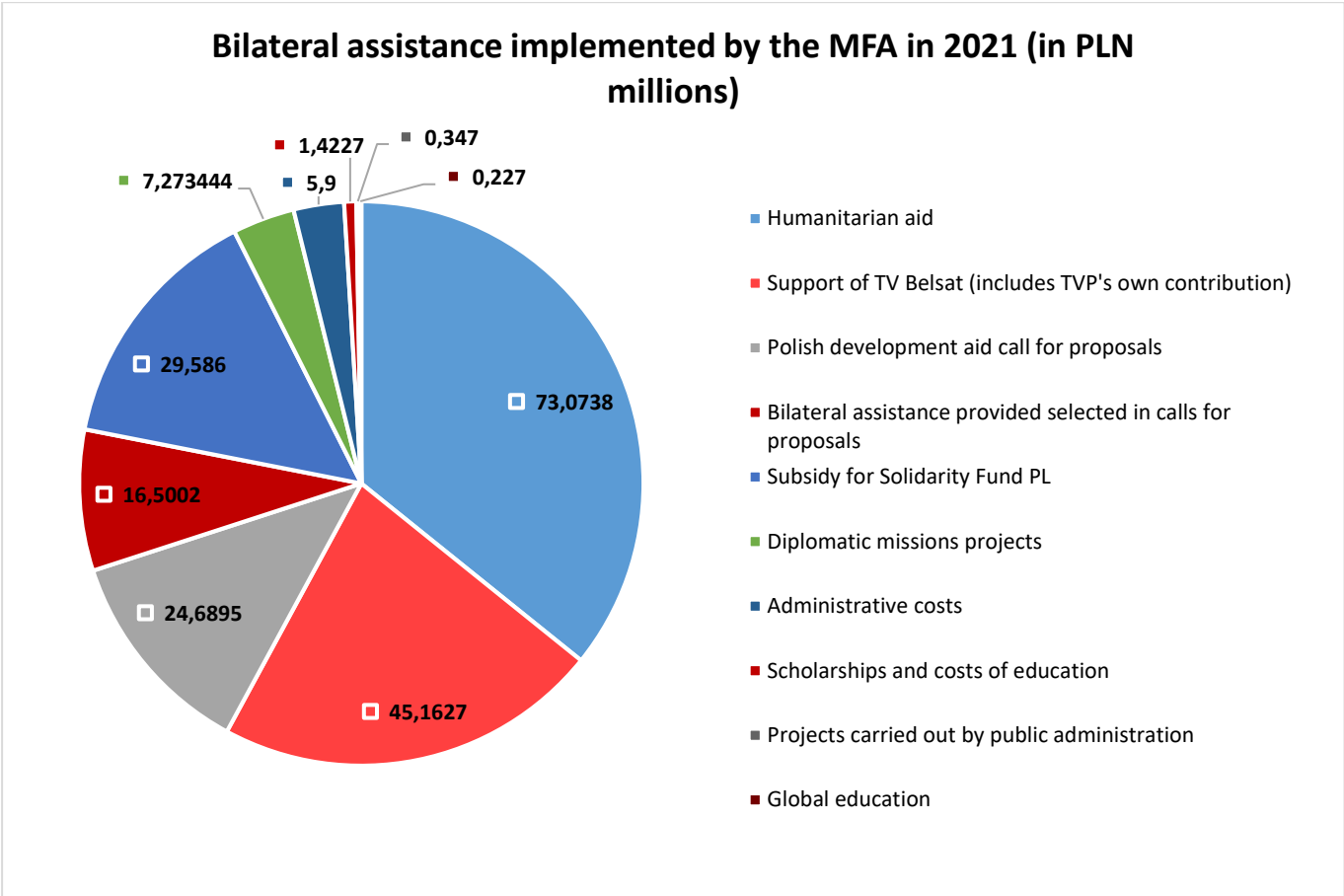
- calls for proposals submitted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- projects implemented by Polish diplomatic missions;
- activities carried out through Solidarity Fund PL;
- scholarship programmes;



- projects implemented by government administration bodies;
- Eastern Partnership's Academy of Public Administration;
- bilateral assistance provided through a multilateral channel<sup>5</sup>.



<sup>5</sup> These are earmarked contributions to international organisations, which, according to the OECD DAC statistical methodology, are part of bilateral aid as they are targeted at specific geographical or thematic areas rather than being paid into the general budget of the organisation, which characterises multilateral aid.



**3.1. Calls for proposals announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs annually announces calls for proposals for aid projects aimed at the populations of countries covered by Polish development cooperation, including primarily the priority countries.

The rules of the grant procedure are defined each time in the competition regulations, which specify the recipient countries, the objectives and priorities of the actions to be undertaken, the criteria for evaluating the proposals, and also the principles for their evaluation.

Proposals may be submitted by non-governmental organisations, local governments, public and non-public higher education institutions, research institutes and the Polish Academy of Sciences and its organisational units. It is required that the applicant should have a local partner in the partner country with whom the project will be implemented.

In 2020, due to the situation in the country and globally in the world, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, by the decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

- the *Polish Development Assistance 2020* call for proposals was terminated without selecting proposals for funding;
- a dedicated ***Polish humanitarian and development aid call for proposals in response to the COVID-19 pandemic*** was announced. Targeted grants were awarded for the implementation of 9 projects for a total of PLN 6,738,587 (of which PLN 6,697,227 were spent);
- the ***Global Education 2020*** call for proposals was closed without selecting a bid for funding. Due to the pandemic situation and restrictions on movement and the sanitary regime, it was not possible to carry out the activities as planned (the objective was to organise in Poland 5 educational events on the idea of SDGs with the use of an interactive education and information stand).

In 2021, by the decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, grants for the implementation of 50 projects were awarded in the ***Polish Development Assistance 2021*** call for proposals. The total value of grants awarded in 2021 was PLN 24,835,741. Among them, 13 were two-year projects, planned to be implemented in 2021-2022, while 12 were three-year projects to be implemented in 2021-2023.

In the ***Humanitarian Aid 2021*** call for proposals, grants were awarded for the implementation of 10 projects for a total of PLN 9,422,877. These projects were continued in 2022.

A call for proposals entitled ***Provision of own contributions for the implementation of humanitarian projects in the Middle East and Africa, financed from sources other than the RP 2021 budget***, was also announced, resulting in 3 projects receiving funding for a total of PLN 425,641.

A call for proposals the ***Global Education 2021 – funding for projects that are part of an undertaking co-financed from sources other than the Polish budget*** was also held. Grants were awarded to 5 projects. The total value of grants awarded in 2021 was PLN 228,660. Four of these projects were continued in 2022.

### **3.2. Projects launched by Polish diplomatic missions**

Projects implemented by Polish diplomatic missions are carried out both in *Polish aid* priority countries, as well as in other developing countries or those in need of support.

In 2020, these countries were: Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Georgia, Indonesia, Jordan, Cambodia, Kenya, Lebanon, North Macedonia, Mexico, Myanmar, Moldova, Palestine, South Africa, Senegal, Serbia, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia, while in 2021 the recipients were: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Greece, Georgia, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Cambodia, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, North Macedonia, Madagascar, Morocco, Myanmar, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Syria, Tanzania, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam and Zambia.

Initiatives are prepared jointly with local partners, i.e. NGOs, faith-based centres, public service institutions and administration at central and local levels. Their aim is to meet the specific needs of the local population.

In 2020, Polish foreign missions completed 88 projects (including 52 in Africa, the Middle East, Asia and the Western Balkans; 36 in the Eastern Partnership countries), for a total of over PLN 6.9 million. By comparison, in 2021 there were 101 projects (including 27 in Africa, 26 each in the Eastern Partnership countries and the Middle East, 9 each in Asia and the Balkans, 3 in Oceania, and 1 in South America), for a total of almost PLN 8 million.

Development initiatives were aimed at strengthening health systems, supporting people with disabilities, migrants, the homeless and victims of violence and trafficking, and were delivered, among others, in the areas of job market activation and education. Measures have been taken to strengthen crisis management systems and improve access of local communities to municipal and social services. Initiatives to develop and increase access to education were continued at all education levels. Specialised training and research were conducted, and entrepreneurship and activation in the job market were promoted, especially among women and young people starting out in employment. Measures designed to protect the environment, preserve the biodiversity of ecosystems and support the

development of green technologies were taken. In regions particularly affected by drought, Polish missions implemented projects that ensured permanent access to drinking water.

Humanitarian projects, developed in response to the pandemic crisis, supported the fight against the pandemic and played a part in mitigating its socio-economic impacts. Medical equipment, personal protective equipment and disinfectant fluids were delivered to health care facilities, along with hygiene packages for the civilian population.

**Example project: *Equal educational opportunities for children suffering from autism in Cambodia***

**Project value: PLN 93,485.**

The project was implemented in 2020 in cooperation with the Cambodian non-governmental organisation Hands of Hope Community. It was a continuation of the activities initiated by the Polish Embassy in Bangkok in 2019. It provided support for the social inclusion and education of people on the autism spectrum. It was prepared in response to the very difficult situation of children on the autism spectrum in



*Photo: Chan Sarin/ Hands of Hope Community*

Cambodia. Paediatricians cannot diagnose it, often ignore the problem or incorrectly recognise it (as a mental impairment). Many families with autistic children also live unaware of the problem. Educational facilities are not adapted to the needs of such children, and the children face discrimination in schools.

The Polish initiative has become part of the activities of other local and international donors (UNICEF) and the activities of the Ministry of Education of Cambodia. 5 public primary schools, attended by pupils suffering from the autism spectrum and other forms of disability, were selected to participate in the project. In each school, there are currently about 200 pupils, of whom about 25% are children with disabilities.

Thanks to *Polish aid* (depending on the needs of the specific institution), classrooms were renovated and equipped with specialised furniture and floor mats, classrooms and school

surroundings were adapted to the needs of children with disabilities, the façade of the building was renovated, sanitary infrastructure was renovated and adapted, wheelchair ramps were built and inclusive playgrounds were constructed. In addition to improving the infrastructure, the project aimed to encourage greater integration among pupils, with the help of the purchased educational and training materials. As a result, the situation of about 350 children suffering from autism spectrum disorders and other forms of disability has been significantly improved.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the scope of activities was also extended to include the education of children, their families and teachers on hygiene principles, and schools were equipped with antibacterial and disinfectant products.

**Example project: *Sisters' Land 2 – after-school daycare facilities for girls and boys in Mtae***

**Project value: PLN 29,999**

In the Usambara Mountains in Tanzania, many girls do not enjoy appropriate conditions for self-education and doing homework. After returning from school, even very young children are involved in household duties and care for younger siblings. As a result school attendance is much lower among girls than boys. Girls who are unprepared for lessons often do not turn up at school for fear of punishment or out of shame.

Low attendance is influenced by the lack of access to books, teaching aids or parents' lack of involvement in the educational process. Under the 2021 project carried out by the Polish Embassy in Dar es Salaam, buildings designated as after-school day care facilities in the



*Photo: Michał Dzikowski*

village of Mtae were renovated, furnished, outfitted with a library, and provided with school aids (textbooks, school supplies, etc.). These activities resulted in positive outcomes,

including an increase in the number of children attending the after-school facility (approximately 300 children per day). A real space was created for children was created for learning, knowledge sharing and having discussions. In addition, a refreshment corner (hot drinks, healthy snacks) provides energy for learning and concentration. Indirectly, the project strengthens the position of women in the Mtae region – through better education and preparation for employment, young women have become more informed as both mothers and members of the local community.

### **3.3. *Solidarity with Belarus – support for Belarusian society***

In 2020, Belarus witnessed one of greatest social mobilisations in its history. After the presidential election held on 9 August, thousands of people all over the country took to the streets to protest against electoral fraud. They demanded a change of the political system, free elections and respect for human rights. The authorities responded to the protests with brutality by using violence and repression at a much greater scale than before. Many journalists, opposition and social activists were imprisoned or forced to flee abroad. As a result, the situation concerning the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and liberties in Belarus deteriorated dramatically.

Since the very beginning, Poland has voiced its support for Belarusian society. Back in August 2020, a comprehensive support package for the Belarusian society was announced, covering three short- and medium-term dimensions: social – the *Solidarity with Belarus* aid package worth PLN 50 million; business – *Poland. Business Harbour* programme designed for Belarusian entrepreneurs who want to immediately relocate their business to Poland; economic – the medium-term *Economic Plan for a Democratic Belarus* consisting in preparing a comprehensive plan of support for the systemic transformation of Belarus.

Both the scale of announced support and the need for urgent delivery of aid to the beneficiaries posed a great challenge. The support was granted to the affected individuals and their families, university students and scientists, non-governmental organisations, independent media and journalists. An important part of the support was facilitating border

crossings and providing assistance in accessing Poland's labour market. The implementation of planned activities required the cooperation and involvement of many institutions. A condition of the implementation was ensuring security of involved individuals. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic was an additional difficulty.

As part of the *Solidarity with Belarus* aid package, a few dozen assistance initiatives were financed, concerning the respect for human rights and providing access to objective information. Dedicated scholarship programmes were launched: the *Solidarity with Belarus* scholarship programme and a new edition of the Konstanty Kalinowski scholarship programme aimed at providing Belarusian university students with scholarship assistance and exempting them from tuition fees while studying at Polish higher education institutions. Aid initiatives addressed to the Belarusian society were also undertaken in cooperation with specialised international organisations. Enhanced support was also offered to the managers of the Belsat TV media project, a foreign-language channel of the Polish Television run by Belarusian journalists, addressed to viewers from Belarus and aimed at increasing access to independent information.

Assistance provided in 2020 under the *Solidarity with Belarus* support package was continued in subsequent years. Supporting the Belarusians in their efforts to guarantee fundamental rights and liberties in Belarus remains a goal of our projects.

### **3.4. Activities carried out by Solidarity Fund PL**



**Fundacja Solidarności  
Międzynarodowej**

Solidarity Fund PL (FSM) is a foundation of the State Treasury under the honorary auspices of the President of the Republic of Poland. It carries out development cooperation

activities for other countries. FSM supports democracy, and this includes the local level, in countries undergoing systemic transformation, by providing assistance in the democratic transition to societies, and by supporting respect for human rights worldwide. The Fund's main area of activity are the Eastern Partnership countries, especially Ukraine, Belarus, Georgia and Moldova. The Fund also serves as a Polish contact point for international



election observation missions within the OSCE. In situations where it is required, it also carries out humanitarian activities.

Between 2020 and 2021, the Fund executed tasks falling within the scope of Polish development cooperation by implementing the *Support for Democracy* Programme. For its implementation, the Fund received a grant for the amount of almost PLN 58 million (in 2020, PLN 28 million and in 2021, PLN 29.73 million). The Fund also benefited from the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in raising funding from other donors, i.e. the UK Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), thus strengthening the impact of Polish development cooperation. The Fund carried out activities for the people of Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Armenia.

The Fund, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, the State Fire Service, the Material Reserves Agency – and as of 23 February 2021 the Government Agency for Strategic Reserves, and other state bodies and state-owned companies, organised humanitarian aid convoys to respond to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and to combat its effects.

### **Actions for the benefit of Belarusian society**

In 2020, alongside efforts to combat the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, support was provided for civil society projects, increased access to independent information, and for activities aimed at observing the presidential election campaign and monitoring violations related to the campaign and the electoral process. Within the *Solidarity with Belarus* package, announced in August 2020, the Fund has implemented several dozen of new projects, targeting mainly persons persecuted by the regime. The Fund also provided additional support to radio stations targeting the Belarusian audience and completed the first phase of establishing a base for Belarusian independent communities.

Freedom of expression was an important area of engagement in 2021. Support to those forced to emigrate for political reasons was also continued. In 2021, the Fund provided support to organisations defending human rights, those who have been persecuted, independent educational institutions, civil society organisations, pro-democracy groups, as well as independent media.

## **Actions for Ukraine**

In 2020, the Kyiv office of the Solidarity Fund PL 4 projects concerning the reform of social services in local governments (*hromadas*) and vocational education reform. Among the activities undertaken were the creation of a local labour market information system, the preparation of action plans for the development of vocational education and designing its financing model. As a result of the cooperation, a programme document on the introduction of vocational counselling into the Ukrainian mainstream school system (*Vocational Orientation in the New Ukrainian School*), was prepared as part of the *New Ukrainian School* programme.

In 2021, the Fund continued to support the Ukrainian authorities in the implementation of three major reforms related to the decentralisation process – the reform of social services, professional education, and civil protection and security. Support was provided through advice at the legislation level, provision of know-how and the implementation of specific solutions at the local level, in cooperation with partner local governments (*hromadas*). The Fund has concluded two memoranda of cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and the State Civil Service Agency of Ukraine. In addition, the Fund carried out two pilot projects: one on quality management through the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework in the public sector of Ukraine, and the other on improving the psychological support system for veterans of military operations in the Donbas and their families.

## **Actions for Moldova**

As part of the COVID-19 Crisis Fund set up by the office of the FSM in Chisinau in May 2020, 38 oxygen concentrators were delivered to about 30 hospitals across Moldova, including in hospitals in Transnistria. Protective equipment, including masks, coveralls and disinfectant liquids, as well as small medical equipment distributed to local medical facilities, local governments and NGOs, were procured from local businesses.

In 2021, the Fund continued to promote the LEADER approach<sup>6</sup> in the rural development programme and also in the urban revitalisation and development programme. Both processes have entered the institutionalisation stage, meaning that state institutions and social partners are taking responsibility for the implementation of a specific development approach and tool. In addition to these two programmes, the Chisinau office continued its efforts to strengthen trust between local communities from both banks of the Dniester. The Fund has invariably promoted the idea of development based on local resources, with the people who live in the territory at the centre. In practice, the activities achieved their objective by involving entire local communities, authorities and organisations, as a way to improve the living conditions of the population and, in the long term, to encourage Moldovans to stay in the country, thus solving the problem of depopulation, one of the country's key problems.

### **Actions for Georgia**

Poland has consistently supported the decentralisation process, which allows the residents to have greater involvement in the life of their local governments and to decide on issues important to their local communities. As part of it, in 2020, the Tbilisi office of the Solidarity Fund PL carried out a project aimed at mobilising the citizens and building Georgian local self-governance, for example by launching a digital resource centre – a tool for effective communication between the residents and the local authority.

In 2021, the Fund's activities focused on building trust between the authorities and residents and on developing energy-efficient solutions for local administration.

### **Actions for Armenia**

In 2021, the Fund started the implementation of pilot projects in Armenia. Their aim was to support people affected by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and to provide legal education to young people and motivate them to work for changes in the judicial system.

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<sup>6</sup> Under the LEADER approach, local people are the best experts in guiding the development of their territory.

### 3.5. Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration

The Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration (EPAPA) Programme is organised by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in collaboration with President Lech Kaczyński National School of Public Administration and financed with Polish development cooperation funds. The aim of the programme is to train a professional cadre of civil servants providing the expert resource necessary in order to implement reforms in Eastern Partnership states. During the first years of the Academy's operation (2011–2012), the training was organised jointly for civil servants from all EaP partner states. Since 2013, training sessions have also been held for participants from individual countries, with topics dedicated to the reforms carried out and also related to the international agreements concluded.

In 2020, the EPAPA programme was delivered in a formula of weekly training modules including lectures and workshops taught by experienced experts and practitioners. Due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic, all training was organised remotely.



Source: National School of Public Administration

One 'national' module was arranged (for participants from one country) and a local partner took an active part in the organisation. In the pilot training on the effectiveness of public policies, the National School of Public Administration invited its counterpart from Kutaisi, i.e. the Zurab Zhvania School of Public Administration. Other modules concerned the implementation of the provisions of Association Agreements/DCFTA for representatives of the government administration of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, environmental protection and counter-corruption measures, and were carried out for representatives of the administration of all EaP countries.

**In 2021**, the EPAPA programme was delivered in the format of four weekly training modules including lectures and workshops, taught by experienced experts and practitioners. The modules dealt with issues of counter-corruption measures in public administration, association agreements with the EU, probation and electronic probation in the justice system (for participants from Armenia only), and human resource management in the civil services of EaP countries.

The attendants in the Academy's 2021 programme were civil servants (middle and senior level) from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, with no participation of Belarusian public administration representatives. Due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic, all training was organised remotely. In addition to the training classes, a virtual visit to the Warsaw Rising Museum and a session on the functioning of the civil services during a pandemic were organised. The anniversary conference to mark 10 years of the programme was also held.

### **3.6. Scholarship projects**

Poland helps young people from developing countries by offering scholarships and exemptions from tuition costs. Foreign students at Polish universities have the opportunity to acquire education, knowledge and skills in the domains important for the socio-economic development of their countries of origin. Time spent in Poland is also conducive to becoming acquainted with Polish culture, language and customs, and to making contacts that can be helpful in career development. The alumni can become involved in building academic, social and economic relations between Poland and partner countries.

The proportion of foreigners who study in our country is increasing every year. In 2020 nearly 85 thousand foreign students, and in 2021 more than 89 thousand foreign students were educated in Poland. Among them, the largest group were citizens of developing countries, especially Ukraine and Belarus. They are encouraged to come to Poland by, among other things, a wide range of scholarships, including those offered under programmes co-financed from funds earmarked for development cooperation. For many foreign students, respect for human rights and freedoms is an important value provided by Polish universities and the academic community.

Support for foreign students is also one of the components underpinning the process of internationalisation of Polish education. Activities in this area fall within the competence of the Ministry of Education and Science. In their implementation, an important role is played by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange and Polish universities.

### **Ignacy Łukasiewicz Scholarship Programme**



The Ignacy Łukasiewicz Scholarship Programme was established in 2015 and merged with the Stefan Banach Programme in 2020. The aim of the programme was to support the socio-economic growth of developing countries by improving the education and professional qualifications of their citizens. It allowed students to undertake graduate studies in the areas of science, natural sciences, technology, agriculture, forestry and veterinary sciences.

*Photo: National Agency for Academic Exchange*

In 2020, the programme's offer was primarily addressed to about a dozen priority countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The open call for applications conducted online by the National Agency for Academic Exchange attracted more than 2,300 applications. Candidates from Nigeria, Ethiopia and Indonesia received the largest number of scholarship placements.

The stay of the scholarship holders in Poland started with a one-year course preparing them for studies at one of the four teaching institutions, such as Polish Language Studies for Foreigners at the University of Łódź, the International Training Centre of the Kraków University of Technology, the School of Polish Language and Culture at the University of Silesia in Katowice, the Centre for Polish Language and Culture at the University of Natural Sciences and Humanities in Siedlce. In 2020, 302 scholarships were awarded under the programme.

### **Stefan Banach Scholarship Programme**

The Stefan Banach Scholarship Programme was established in 2013. Its objective is to support the socio-economic growth of developing countries by improving the education and professional qualifications of their citizens.

In 2020, the programme allowed students to undertake graduate studies in the areas of science, natural sciences, technology, agriculture, forestry and veterinary sciences.

Scholarships for bachelor's degree studies were also offered.

In 2019, the programme was primarily addressed to the Eastern Partnership countries and the countries in Central Asia. Due to the Polish presidency of the Berlin Process, citizens of the Western Balkan countries were also allowed to apply for scholarships from the academic year 2019/2020. Scholarship holders were also able to participate in a one-year preparatory course for studying in Poland.

The recruitment of candidates for the programme was conducted by the National Agency for Academic Exchange. New scholarship holders most often chose to study at the Warsaw University of Technology, the Jagiellonian University and the Cracow University of Technology. The most popular fields of study are architecture, computer science, biochemistry and electronics. In 2020, a total of 227 scholarships were awarded under the programme.

In 2021, the programme was extended to include an offer available under the Ignacy Łukasiewicz Scholarship Programme. The possibility of undertaking master's studies in Poland in the field of science, natural sciences, technical sciences, agriculture, forestry and veterinary sciences has been made available to students from 36 countries: Angola, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Colombia, Ethiopia, Georgia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam. In addition, students from European, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia countries had the opportunity to study also in the field of humanities and social sciences, with the exception of philology studies of their native language. Scholarship holders were also able to participate in a one-year preparatory course for studying in Poland. The recruitment of candidates was carried out by the National Agency for Academic Exchange. Applications to participate were submitted by 2.5 thousand foreign students and in 2021, 464 students were enrolled in the programme.

### **Scholarship programs under the *Solidarity with Belarus* initiative**

Given the situation in Belarus after the presidential election there, Poland announced a package of assistance for the Belarussian society *Solidarity with Belarus*. One of its elements was assistance for students and scientists who were deprived of the possibility to continue their studies and work in their country. Due to the political situation there, Poland offered them, among other things, scholarship assistance, free studies and preparatory courses for starting studies at Polish universities. Under the *Solidarity with Belarus* scheme, two initiatives were co-financed: the scholarship programme, *Solidarity with students*, implemented by the National Agency for Academic Exchange in cooperation with the Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland, and the Konstanty Kalinowski Scholarship Programme implemented by the Centre for East European Studies at the University of Warsaw. By the end of 2020, assistance was provided to a total of more than 1,200 beneficiaries.

In 2021, support for students and researchers from Belarus who, due to the political developments, were unable to pursue studies and work in their home country continued. In Poland, they were offered assistance in the form of, e.g., scholarships, free studies and preparatory courses to enable them to enrol at Polish universities. In 2021 under the Konstanty Kalinowski Scholarship Programme, run by the Centre for East European Studies at the University of Warsaw, scholarships were awarded to nearly 700 beneficiaries. They had the opportunity to obtain European-level education thanks to the freedom of scientific research existing in a democratic state.

### **3.7. Projects implemented by government administration bodies**

Projects implemented by Polish government administration bodies support reforms and institutional capacity building in the countries regarded as Polish development cooperation priority targets. These projects are most often carried out jointly with the counterparts of Polish ministries, thus allowing the introduction of systemic solutions and long-term and sustainable changes.

Between 2020 and 2021, Polish government administration bodies and their subordinate units implemented 33 projects co-financed from the MFA's special purpose reserve to a total



of PLN 13,658,740, including 2 projects in Armenia, 9 in Georgia, 5 in Moldova, 13 in Ukraine and 4 in Lebanon.

**Example project: *Supporting public administration in Moldova in sustainable urban development through effective implementation of urban development programmes and projects***

**Project value: PLN 217,180**

The project was a response of the Polish Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy to the current challenges facing the Moldovan Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and the Environment with regard to the implementation of urban policies and building the institutional capacity of local city administration bodies and other urban development organisations for the development of cities in Moldova. One of the most important achievements in 2020 was the development of a model for the functioning of project implementation units in selected cities.

In addition, as a result of the project, a model for the functioning of the National Urban Revitalisation Network was developed to ensure further consistent growth and effective structure of this organisation, based on the standards and principles for the establishment of such organisations in Poland and other EU countries. The training strengthened also the know-how and skills of the representatives of the member cities on how to operate such organisations, how to create partnerships between the cities and other stakeholders, and how to build networks between the cities themselves.



**Example project: *Analysis and development plan for Georgia's crisis management network of emergency units***

**Project value: PLN 205,400**

The main objective of the project implemented by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration is to develop recommendations for the Georgian authorities on the direction of the development of the elements of Georgia's emergency response system and improvement of population security. As a result of the project, the efficiency of operational centres and the ability to utilise skilled rescue resources will be maximised, thus providing the tools to deploy firefighters/rescuers and necessary rescue equipment according to needs, moving them freely between the different regions of Georgia as required. Based on the analysis of existing hazards and operational safeguards in a specific area, needs for minimum stock levels in rescue units, taking account of already existing protected areas and bearing in mind the travel time of rescue units to incidents, a strategic document *Development Plan for the Network of Rescue Units in Georgia* will be produced, reflecting real needs based on a reliable study. It will enable the development of a uniform system, whose consistency and reproducibility at each administrative level will determine the speed and efficiency of response. The activities in 2021 focused primarily on a multi-faceted analysis of Georgia's rescue system, including the organisation of fire departments. They culminated in the development of the study report *Priority Needs Analysis of the Georgian Emergency System*, which forms the basis for continuing the work for the next two years of the project.

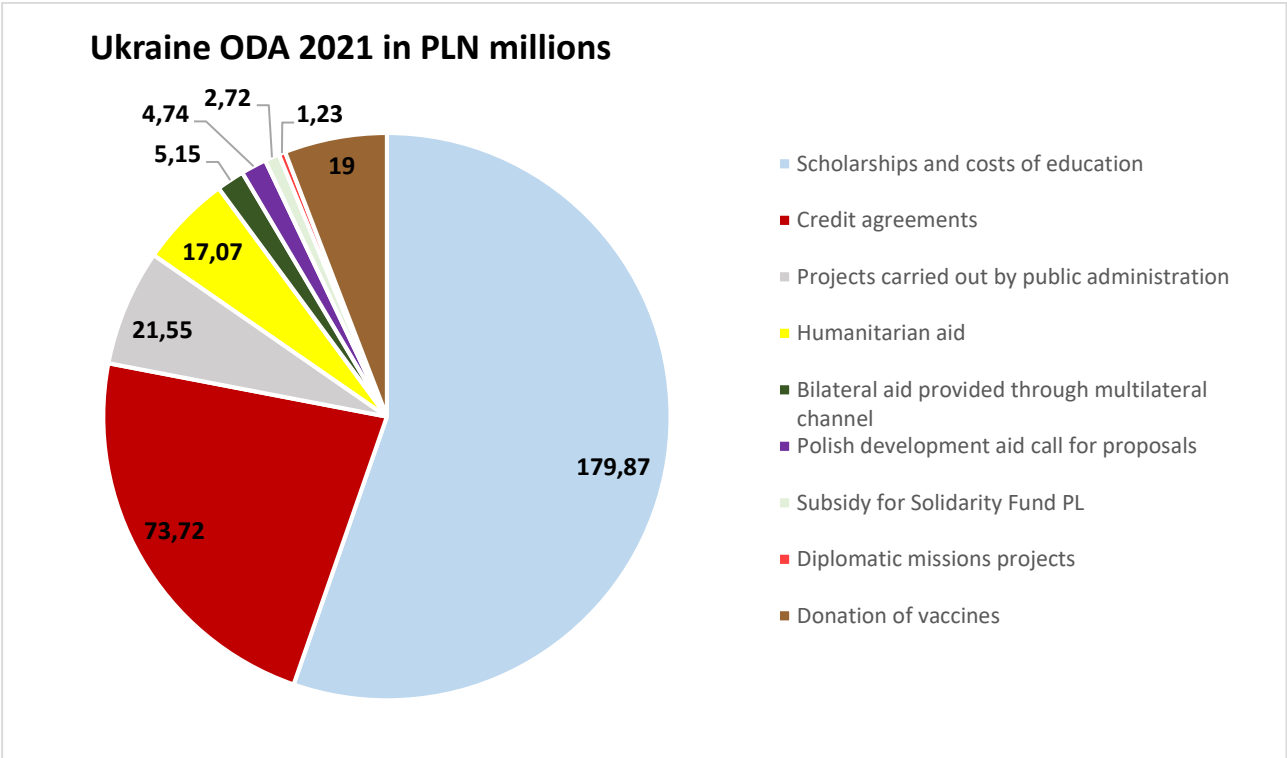
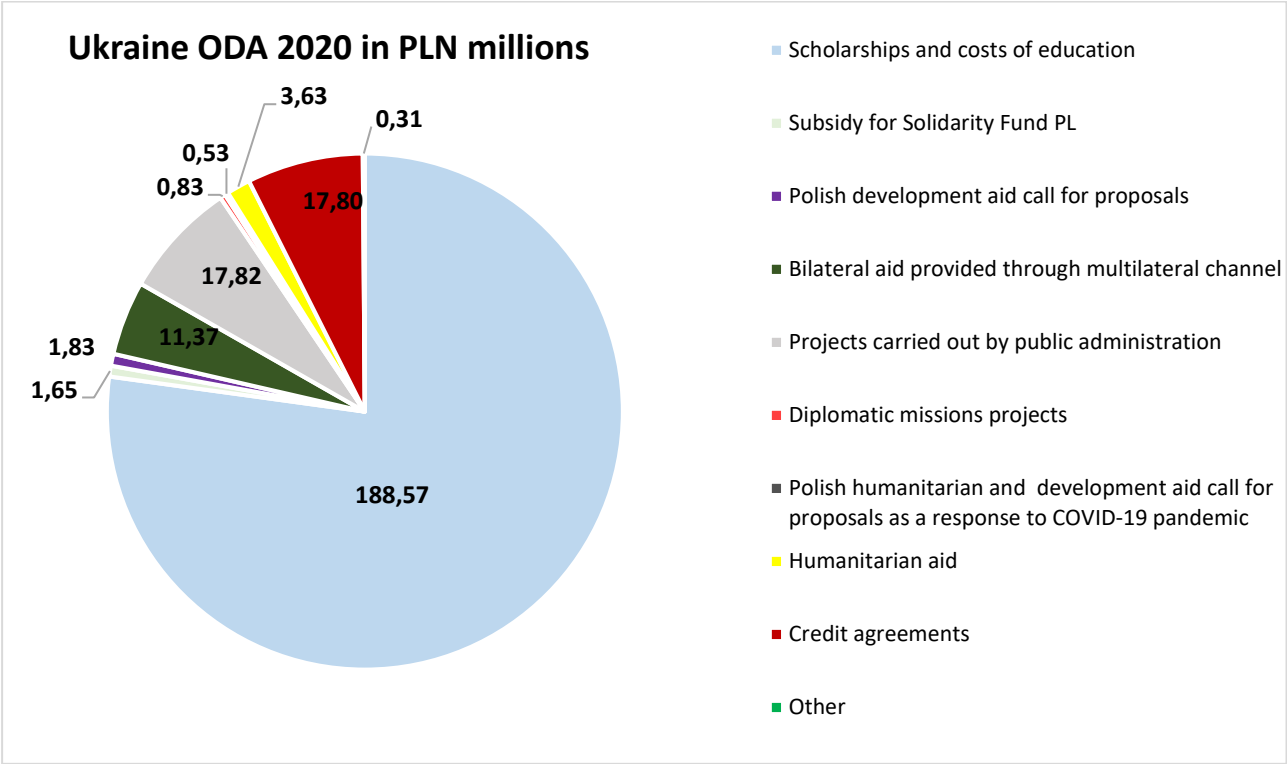


Photo: Monika Wachnik

### 3.8. Polish development assistance in priority countries

#### 3.8.1. Eastern Partnership

##### 3.8.1.1. Ukraine



Ukraine has been a recipient of Polish development cooperation since 2005, with support for the country remaining consistently high. In the years 2020-2021, Ukraine was the largest beneficiary of *Polish aid*.

During this time, projects carried out on its territory were implemented by non-governmental organisations, government administration bodies, the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Kyiv in cooperation with the consulates General of the Republic of Poland in Kharkiv, Lviv and Vinnytsia, the Solidarity Fund PL and international organisations.

An important element of cooperation with Ukraine has been the development of national and regional crisis management systems. As part of projects of this type, *Polish aid* supported the creation of Volunteer Fire Service units and a network of firefighter training centres. Support for the Ukrainian public administration also continued, including in the implementation of key reforms. Assistance was also provided to those affected by the conflict in the east of the country, in particular in the form of social and medical care. At the same time, activities were carried out to facilitate the development of Ukrainian micro and small enterprises.

**Example project: *Model of social services and health care in the Donetsk region in Ukraine***

**Project value: PLN 1,006,000**



Photo: Paweł Kęska

The project implemented in the years 2019-2020 by the Solidarity Bridge Foundation was aimed at developing a system of social and medical services in Donbas, one of the poorest regions in Ukraine due to the armed conflict that has been ongoing since 2014. Activities focused on the professional training of 50 caregivers – social service specialists in 13 villages along the demarcation line. As a result, 25 leaders

created new or relaunched 5 non-governmental organisations in 5 villages. Over a period of nearly two years, they received psychological, accounting and legal support. They have been

trained in providing support to people in need using available state resources and funding instruments and in fundraising.

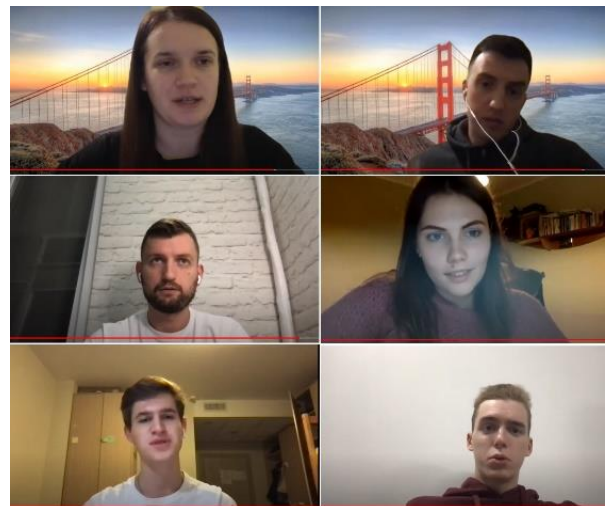
Residents of 13 villages also gained access to additional medical services. This was both direct assistance to the elderly and those in need of care, as well as support for doctors who opened their own practice as part of the health care reform. The medics involved in the project identified working conditions in the Donbas and established a background for their future professional activities. The partner of the Solidarity Bridge Foundation was Caritas Mariupol in Ukraine.

**Example project: *Lviv FashionHub – the creation of FabLab and support for entrepreneurship in creative sectors***

**Project value: PLN 294,727**

Lviv FashionHub is a 3-year project implemented by the Jagiellonian Foundation. It is a place designed for artists, designers and product developers. By providing access to advanced and diverse equipment for the design and prototyping of new products, it enables the creation of

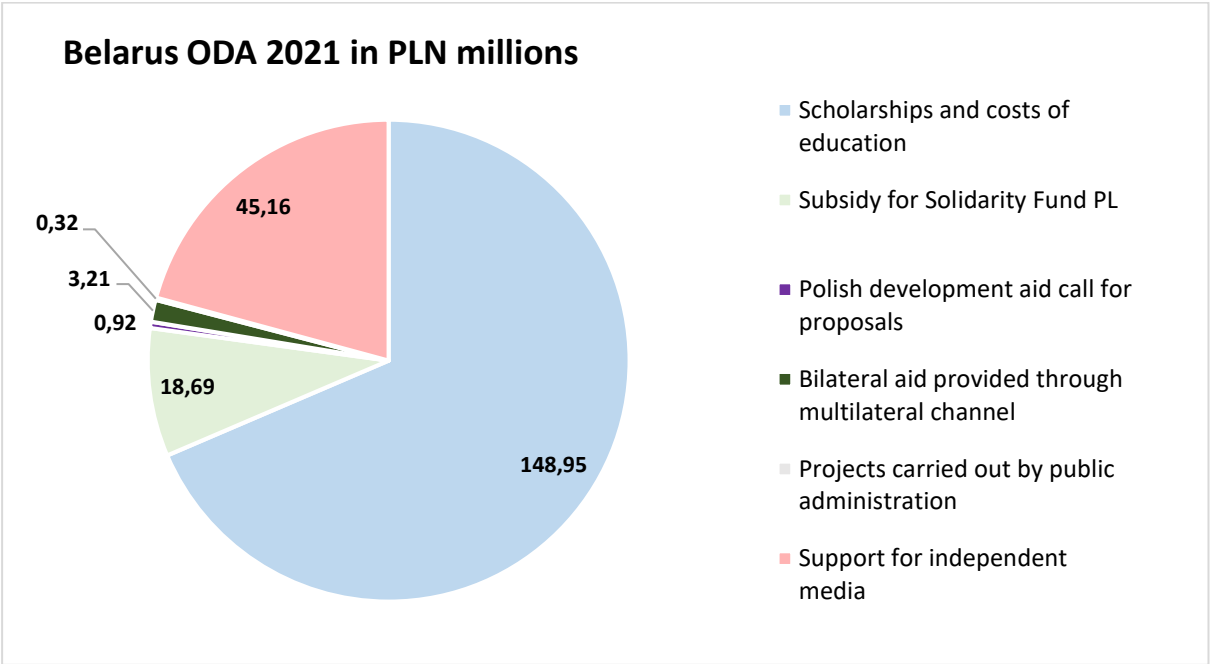
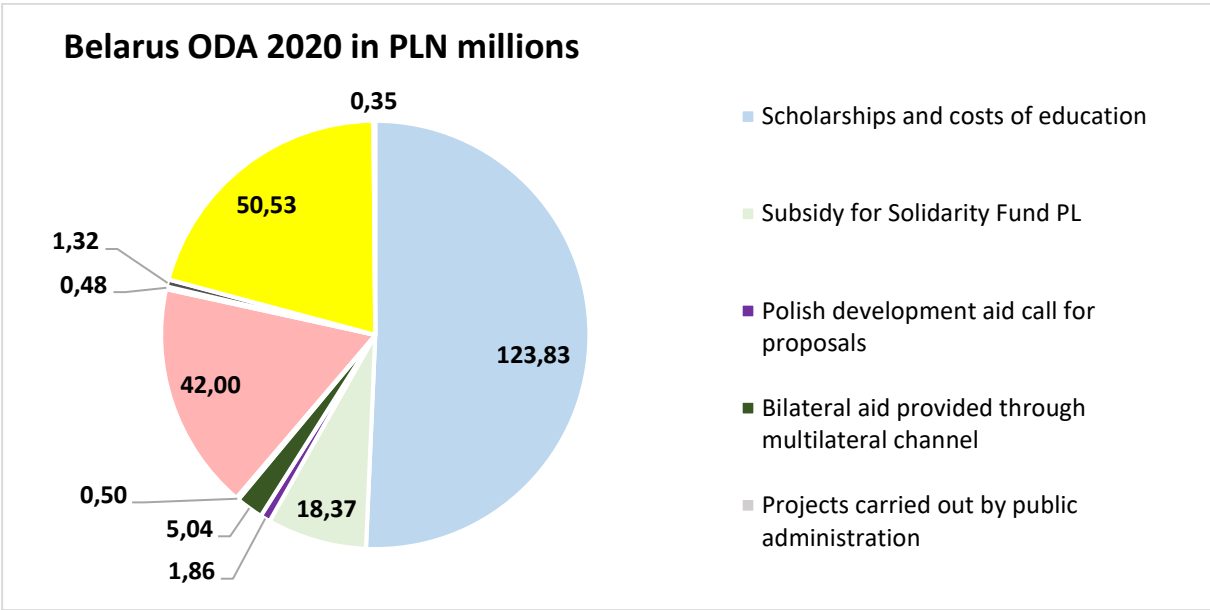
new solutions, testing of work results and entry into the market. It offers 300 m<sup>2</sup> of space. During the implementation of the first module, interior designs were created, including modern furnishings and lighting. The space was supplied with computer and photographic equipment, studio lighting, sewing machines, multifunctional design equipment and fashion books in English and Ukrainian. By participating in the project, its beneficiaries acquired additional competencies



*Photo: Sabina Guzik / Jagiellonian Foundation*

and practical experience, received organisational support and professional business advice, including a mentoring programme, a series of training courses and workshops and took part in industry events. In 2021, training courses on entrepreneurship and running one's own business were organised, especially in the IT and creative sectors.

**3.8.1.2. Belarus**



The society of Belarus has been among the priority beneficiaries of *Polish aid* since 2006. In 2020, activities focused on four thematic areas: human capital, good governance, entrepreneurship and the private sector, and democracy and human rights. In 2021, on the other hand, assistance was provided in the following thematic areas: peace, justice and strong institutions, and equal opportunities in education. Numerous development initiatives

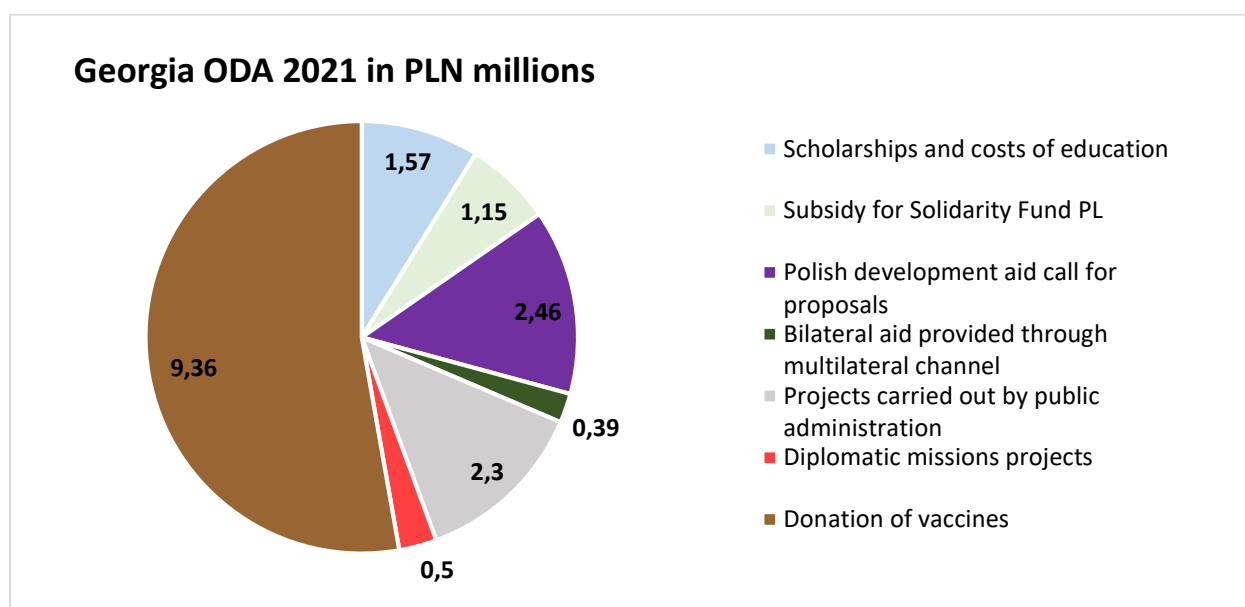
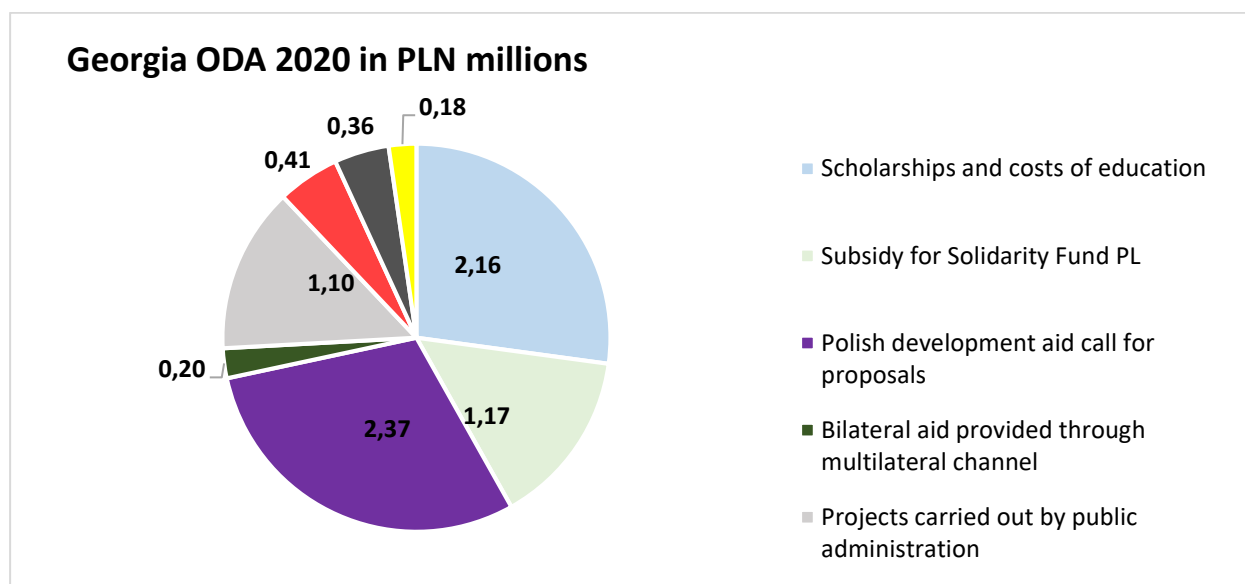
were carried out, including those implemented through government administration bodies, the Solidarity Fund PL and international organisations.

In 2020, the people of Belarus received extensive support in the fight against COVID-19 under the projects of Polish NGOs and the Polish Embassy in Minsk, and also under the projects carried out in cooperation with UN agencies. Purchases included equipment and materials for the manufacturing of masks and personal protective equipment, as well as medical equipment – including respirators. This resulted in improved occupational safety in health care institutions and social welfare organisations, including those specialising in childcare. Moreover, two humanitarian aid convoys were dispatched.

In 2020, in view of the deteriorating internal situation in Belarus after the August presidential elections, Poland announced an additional aid package for the Belarussian society (“Solidarity with Belarus”) worth PLN 50 million. As a priority, support was provided to the victims of political repressions, Belarussian independent media and journalists, and to Belarussian students and academics who, for political reasons, decided to continue to study and work in Poland. Many institutions of the Polish administration at various levels were involved in providing assistance to the Belarussian people, with a particularly important role played by government bodies and the Solidarity Fund PL.

In 2021, due to the internal situation in Belarus, assistance activities addressed to the Belarussian society were continued, in particular those aimed at victims of repression, Belarussian independent media and journalists, and Belarussian students and academics who came to Poland to continue their studies and work.

### 3.8.1.3. Georgia



Georgia has been among the priority recipients of *Polish aid* since 2004.

In 2020, there were 12 projects implemented for the benefit of this country, of which four were carried out by NGOs, three by government administration bodies, four by the Polish Embassy in Tbilisi and one by the Solidarity Fund. In 2021, more than 30 initiatives were implemented using the funds of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including seven implemented by NGOs, six by government administration bodies, four by the Polish Embassy in Tbilisi and three by the Solidarity Fund PL.

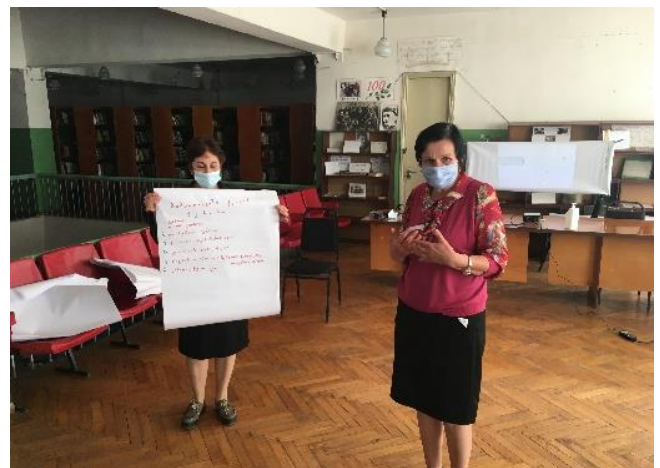


The activities implemented in Georgia in 2020 and 2021 primarily supported social policies concerning persons with disabilities (making them active in the job market and providing inclusive education), as well as victims of domestic violence. Multiannual support for improving the quality of pre-school education was also continued. Assistance was also provided to support public safety services (including emergency rescue and mountain rescue systems) and was focused on developing national and regional crisis management systems by setting up a firefighter training scheme and creating plans for the development of a network of rescue units. In addition, Poland provided funding for the economic development and promotion of selected Georgian regions (including the development of tourism) and for entrepreneurship support.

**Example project: *Improving access to online public services by supporting public libraries in Georgia's mountainous regions located far from major urban centres***

**Project value: PLN 362,639**

The project was implemented in 2020 by the Polish Centre for International Aid in cooperation with the local organisation Civitas Georgica and the Georgian Library Association. In response to the risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the idea of the project focused on the involvement of local libraries in selected mountain municipalities (Tianeti, Ambrolauri, Oni, Lentechi, Cageri, Tkibuli) in helping the local community to complete official matters online.



*Photo: Rusudan Asatiani*

Libraries received appropriate computer equipment (printers, routers), furniture, as well as disinfectants and personal protective equipment. The programme of training for library employees included teaching them how to navigate government websites (including [my.gov.ge](https://my.gov.ge) portal, which allows Georgian citizens to contact public administration, submit documents, applications, etc.) As a result, librarians learned how to use portals providing public and educational services, how to use the resources of the Statistical Office, and how to work with online library sources. Information campaigns were also carried out to encourage residents to use the services available to them. In the final phase of the project,

staff from the Georgian partner organisation and the experts contracted provided individual consultations to librarians via remote access.

**Example project: *Support and promotion of local entrepreneurship and the production of quality cheese in the municipality of Akhmeta, in the Kakheti***

**Project value: PLN 244,449**

The main objective of the three-year project, implemented by Caritas Poland in cooperation with the local organisation BRIDGE Innovation & Development, was to support the economic development of Akhmeta, the poorest municipality in the Kakheti region. Particular attention was paid to the inclusion of the poorest people, women, persons with disabilities, and the representatives of minorities, including Kists, Ossetians and Azeris.

Akhmeta has a cheese production technology that is unique in Georgia, but local small-scale entrepreneurs have limited access to sales markets. At the same time, local production often does not meet sanitary standards. Small entrepreneurs lack sufficient competence, and know-how in marketing, selling and promoting their products. Akhmeta is a

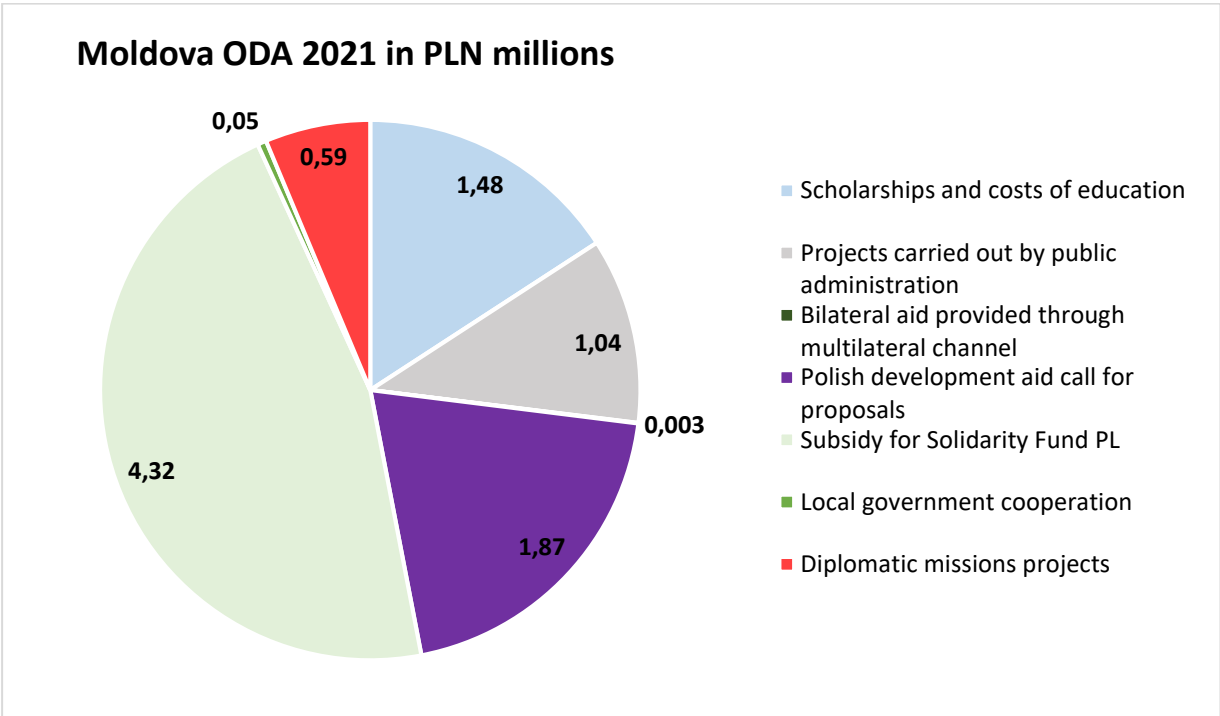
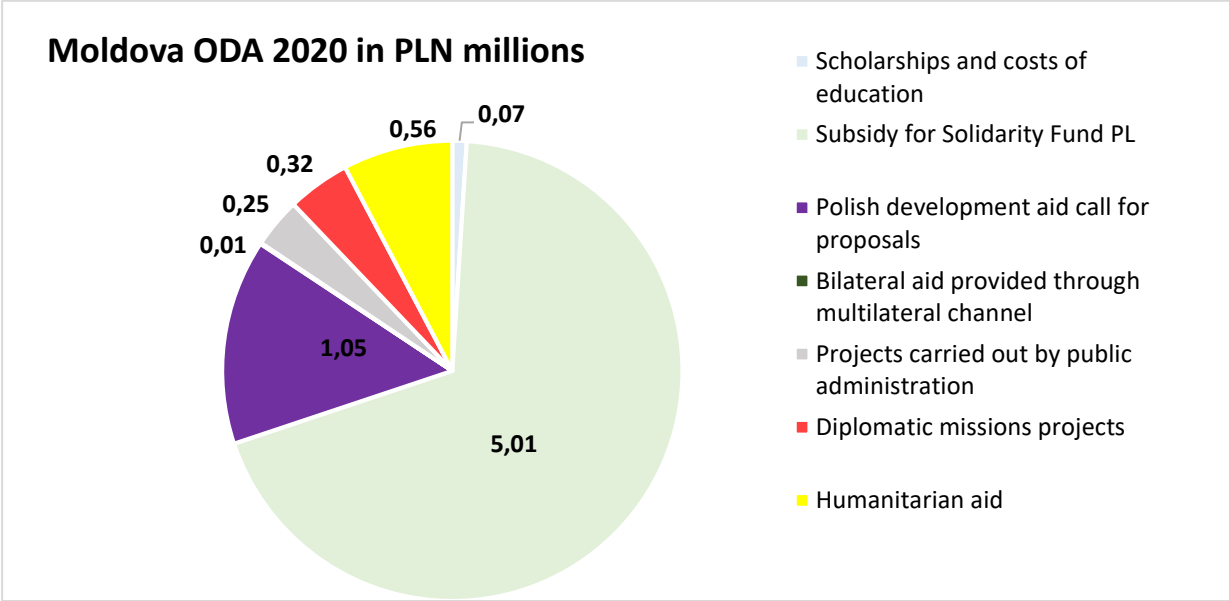


*Photo: Katarzyna Matej*

region with a number of hard-to-reach areas and local entrepreneurs are limited in their mobility and, consequently, have limited access to sales markets.

The project has involved the local community in a joint business initiative – cheese production. In the first phase, care was taken to develop business relationships. In 2021, meetings and exchanges of experience were organised between local minority producers from the Pankisi Gorge and entrepreneurs from other areas. In the next two years, a certified cheese trail for the Kakheti region is to be developed under the auspices of the Tourism Department of the Georgian Ministry of Culture.

**3.8.1.4. Moldova**



Moldova has been among the priority recipients of *Polish aid* since 2004.

A specific area of development cooperation with Moldova was the creation of professional and transparent institutions on both national and local levels, which would be acting for the public good and in compliance with the law, with regard to key reforms resulting from the Association Agreement with the EU, for example in the scope of planning and

implementation of development policies (regional, urban, spatial and infrastructural). In addition, Poland is helping to build strong crisis management and civil protection structures, to implement European policy tools for rural development – LEADER, which consists in creating institutionalised cross-sectoral territorial partnerships at the local level (known as Local Action Groups), and to overcome the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. A significant part of Polish development activities is carried out by the Chisinau Office of Solidarity Fund PL.

In 2020, Poland’s Official Development Assistance for Moldova reached PLN 7.27 million. More than 9 projects were implemented, including two by non-governmental organisations, two by Polish public administration bodies and five by the Polish Embassy in Chisinau.

In 2021, the amount of official development aid increased to PLN 9.35 million. More than 20 projects were implemented, including four by non-governmental organisations as part of the *2021 Polish Development Aid* call for proposals, one by a local government unit, five by Polish public administration and ten by the Polish Embassy in Chisinau.

**Example project: *Developing the potential of a search and rescue group in Moldova according to UN standards***

**Project value: PLN 469,013**

The iHELP Institute Foundation and the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova prepared a two-year project to be implemented in 2019-2020, with the aim to improve the efficiency of search and rescue operations of the Moldovan Rescue Service.

As part of the planned activities, leaders and members of the rescue team were rehearsing practical skills regarding search and rescue techniques. Under the project, the competencies of managerial staff with regard to the coordination of search and rescue operations were also improved, and a multiannual



*Photo: Grzegorz Borowiec*

strategy for the development of the group in accordance with UN standards (the "roadmap") was prepared. A very important component, that enabled the newly acquired skills of the rescuers to be put into practice, was the delivery of specialised rescue equipment (including power tools for making holes in building structures, rescue saws, power generators, height rescue equipment, lighting, and thermal imaging cameras).

The project resulted in the search and rescue group being certified as ready to operate according to international standards set by the United Nations International Search and Rescue Group (INSARAG).

**Example project: *BIKEANDWINE.MD: Culinary and wine tourism in Moldova in the time of COVID-19***

**Project value: PLN 351,000**

The aim of the project implemented by the Centre for the Promotion and Support of Agricultural Entrepreneurship was to promote natural heritage and local wine and culinary culture. The local network of cycling routes and bicycle rental companies was expanded, thus taking the BikeandWine project to the regions of Cauşeni and Ştefan Voda. A first, free-of-charge map of cycle routes was also developed and is available at [www.bikeandwine.md](http://www.bikeandwine.md).

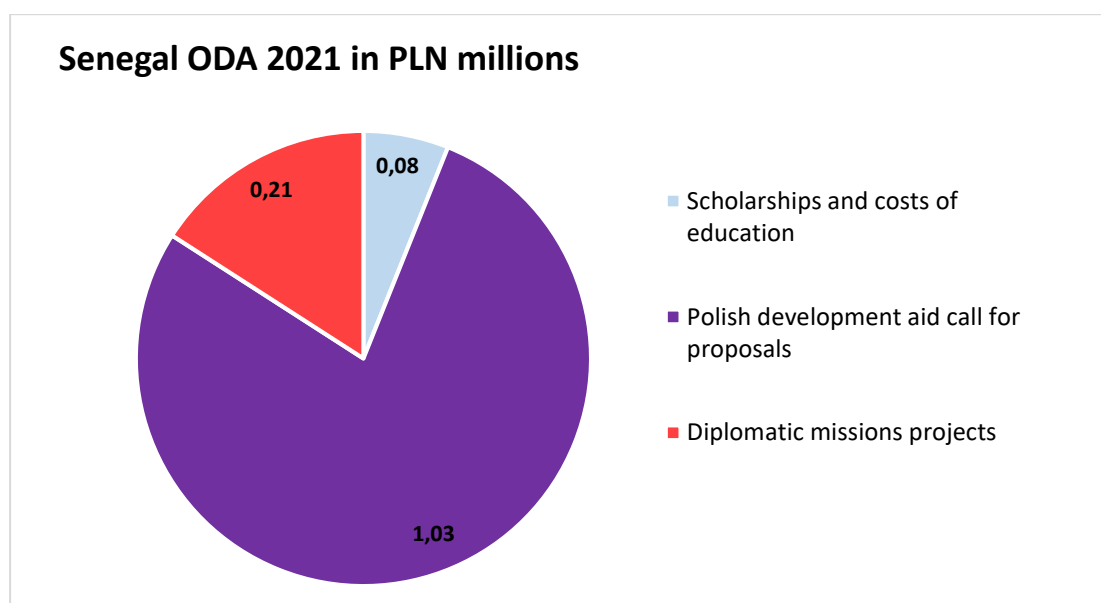
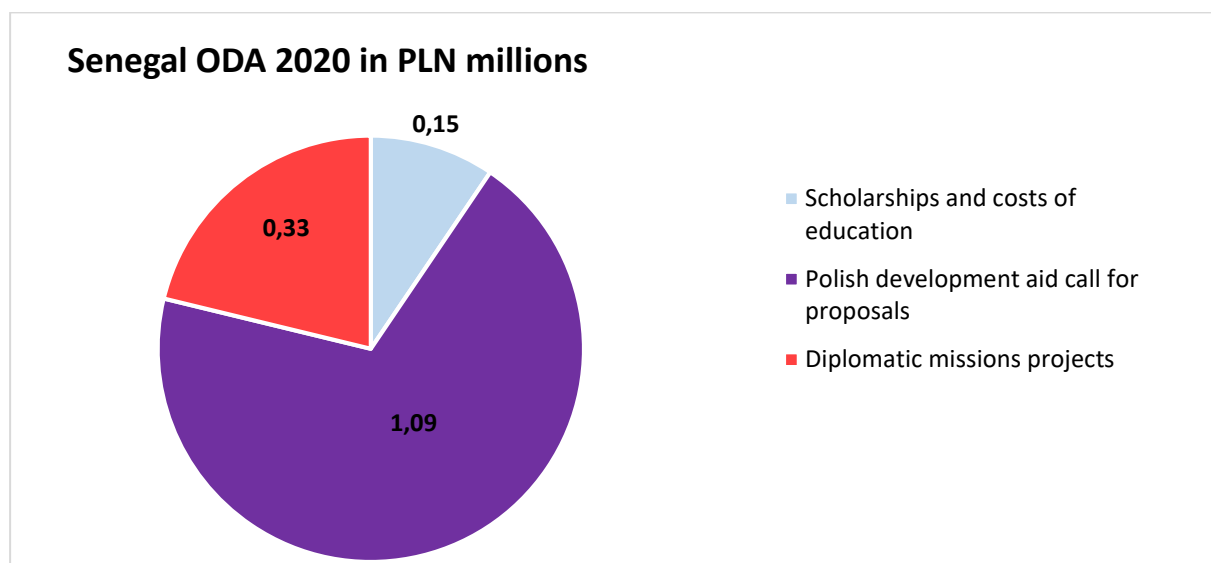


*Photo: Joanna Boduch-Paw*

Two new points of active tourism were created – on Lake Nihalcea and in Crocmaz. They have been provided with the equipment needed for environmental education: birdwatching equipment, a pontoon, appliances for simple water analyses. New tasting and promotion points for local products have also been outfitted, such as the tasting point of the oil mill, the Gogu Winery in Cauşeni, and the tasting room in Caplani. The first tasting pavilion in the Ştefan Voda region was also built to be used jointly by producers of lavender, dried fruit and wine, allowing the permanent sale of local products.

## 3.8.2. Africa

### 3.8.2.1. Senegal



Senegal has been among the priority countries of Polish development cooperation since 2016. In 2020, bilateral *Polish aid* to Senegal focused on the following priority areas:

- combating malnutrition in children, pregnant women and mothers,
- health care,
- support for vocational education and entrepreneurship of women.

In 2021, the priority areas were:

- combating malnutrition in children, pregnant women and mothers,

- health care,
- support for socio-economic and professional integration, and improvement of academic teaching standards.

In 2020, nine development projects were implemented, including two through non-governmental organisations, and seven with the involvement of the Polish Embassy in Dakar. In 2021, there were five development projects, including two implemented through non-governmental organisations and three implemented directly by the Polish Embassy in Dakar.

In 2021, Senegalese nationals had the opportunity to pursue higher education in Poland with tuition fees waived. The scholarship offer gives foreign students the opportunity to acquire education, knowledge and skills in areas important for the socio-economic development of their countries of origin. Time spent in Poland is also conducive to becoming acquainted with Polish culture, language and customs, and to making contacts that can be helpful in career development. The alumni can become involved in building academic, social and economic relations between Poland and partner countries. The total amount of funds allocated for this purpose was PLN 81 600.

**Example project: *Supporting female entrepreneurship from the delta of the Sine and Saloum rivers to mitigate the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic***

**Project value: PLN 90,067**



Photo: Ibrahima Thioye

The aim of the project implemented by the Polish Embassy in Dakar in 2020 was to retrofit the equipment of two agri-food processing cooperatives bringing together women from the poorest social strata in the Sine and Saloum river delta area (from 16 neighbouring villages). The cooperatives have been able to increase productivity, which has made a real contribution to their income.

*Polish aid* funds for one of the cooperatives were used to build a shed and purchase equipment for the production of organic briquettes, and specialised training in the use of the equipment and briquette-making technology was provided. The second cooperative, with 800 women, was equipped with a solar-powered specialised drying facility for fruit and vegetables. Local craftsmen made 100 hand-washing dispensers which were donated to schools in the Fatick area, thus generating income which was used to at least partly cover the losses incurred due to the pandemic.

Funding was also provided for the purchase of materials to sew protective masks for both the cooperative and for sale. The project was implemented with the help of the local partner association *Nebeday*.

**Example project: *Renovation, modernisation and retrofitting of the Centre for Malnourished Children in Velingara, Senegal***

**Project value: PLN 521,545**

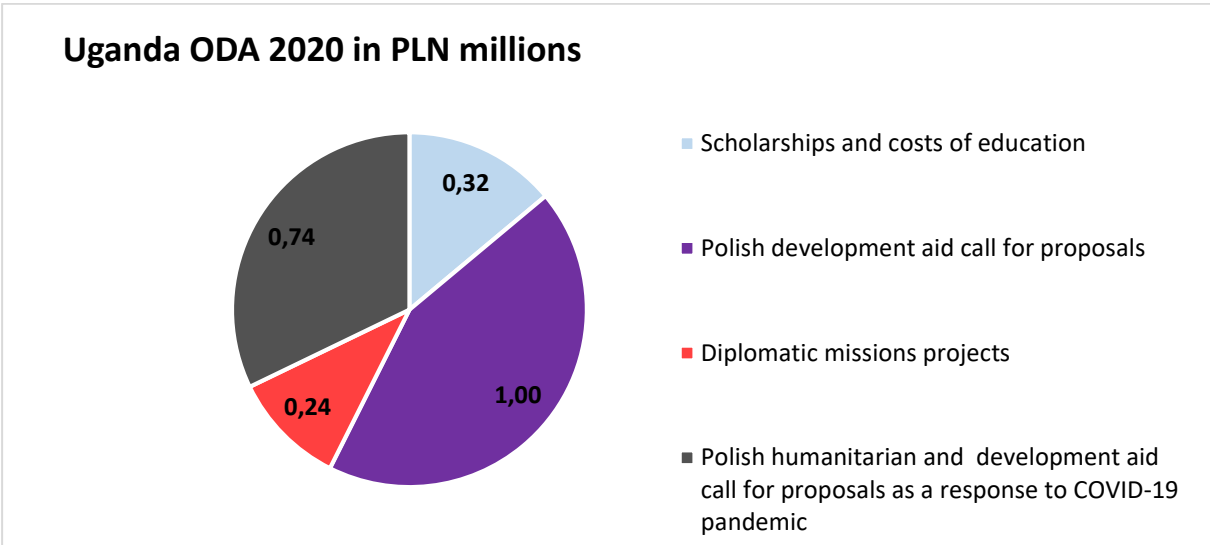
In 2021, the Redemptoris Missio Humanitarian Foundation began work on improving the Centre for Malnourished Children in Velingara, Senegal, which was established more than 28 years ago on the initiative of the Sisters of Mercy of St. Borromeo who are present there. Since the beginning of its existence, the centre had not been renovated due to a lack of financial resources. Thanks to the project, the building was renovated and modernised (the wall and façades were renovated, fungus was removed and the walls were cleaned, the water and sewage network was repaired, a generator, solar lamps and furniture were purchased) and the centre was provided with medical equipment (including an ultrasound scanner). Three sisters who are nurses took part in a three-week training course on how to carry out diagnostics using ultrasonography. The direct beneficiaries of the project are malnourished children up to the age of five, of whom the Centre receives about 500 a year. In addition, there are even 2 thousand patients consulted on an outpatient basis per year.



Fot. Julia Buxakowska



### 3.8.2.2. Uganda



Uganda was among the priority countries of Polish development cooperation from 2018 to 2020. In 2020, there were five development projects, including two implemented through non-governmental organisations and three implemented directly by the Polish Embassy in Nairobi.

Polish development aid for this country focused mainly on supporting health care, education and sport. The actions taken contributed to improved access to quality medical care. Health centres in Matugga and Mpunge were retrofitted with equipment to enable treatment in the areas of primary care, obstetrics, surgery and emergency medical services, among others. The facilities were also adapted to the increased sanitary requirements imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the projects of the Polish Embassy in Nairobi, the Dr Wanda Blenski Tuberculosis and Leprosy Training and Treatment Centre at St. Francis Hospital in Buluba was refurbished and equipped. This improved the training and living conditions for several hundred people attending courses on leprosy and tuberculosis treatment. *Polish aid* funds were also used to create a modern sports facility with playing fields for team sports – young people from Kakooge and neighbouring villages were given the opportunity to spend their free time in a healthy and active way.

**Example projects: *Furnishing the Wanda Matugga Health Centre with equipment necessary to commence medical activities; project value: PLN 999,081 and Upgrading the Wanda Matugga Health Centre with an intensive care unit and personal protective equipment, and running an information campaign on sanitary rules during the COVID-19 pandemic; project value: PLN 739,040***

The projects implemented in 2020 by the InnovAid Foundation for the Wanda Matugga Health Centre in Uganda were a continuation of activities commenced in 2019 in collaboration with the Order of Conventual Franciscans. The aim was to improve the availability and quality of medical care provided to the people of the town of Matugga in Uganda and its neighbouring areas.

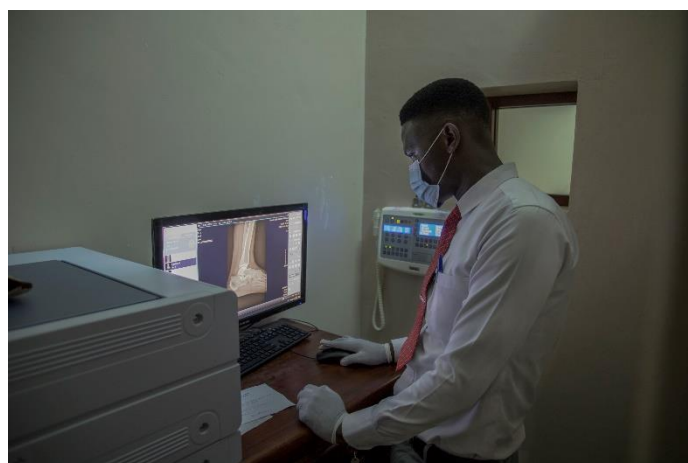


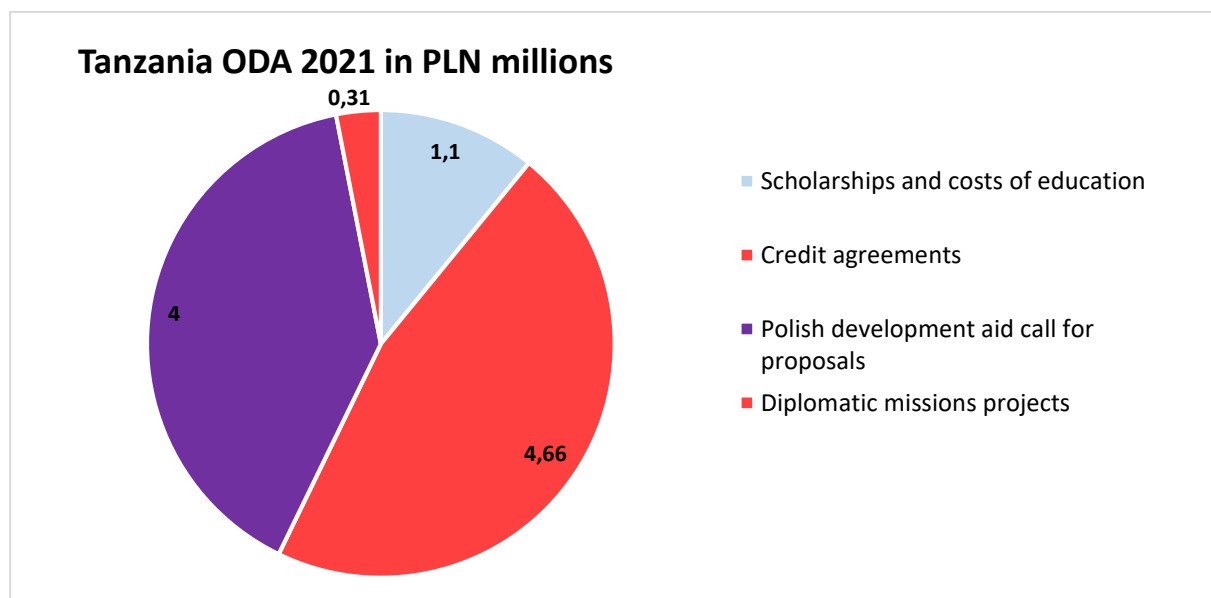
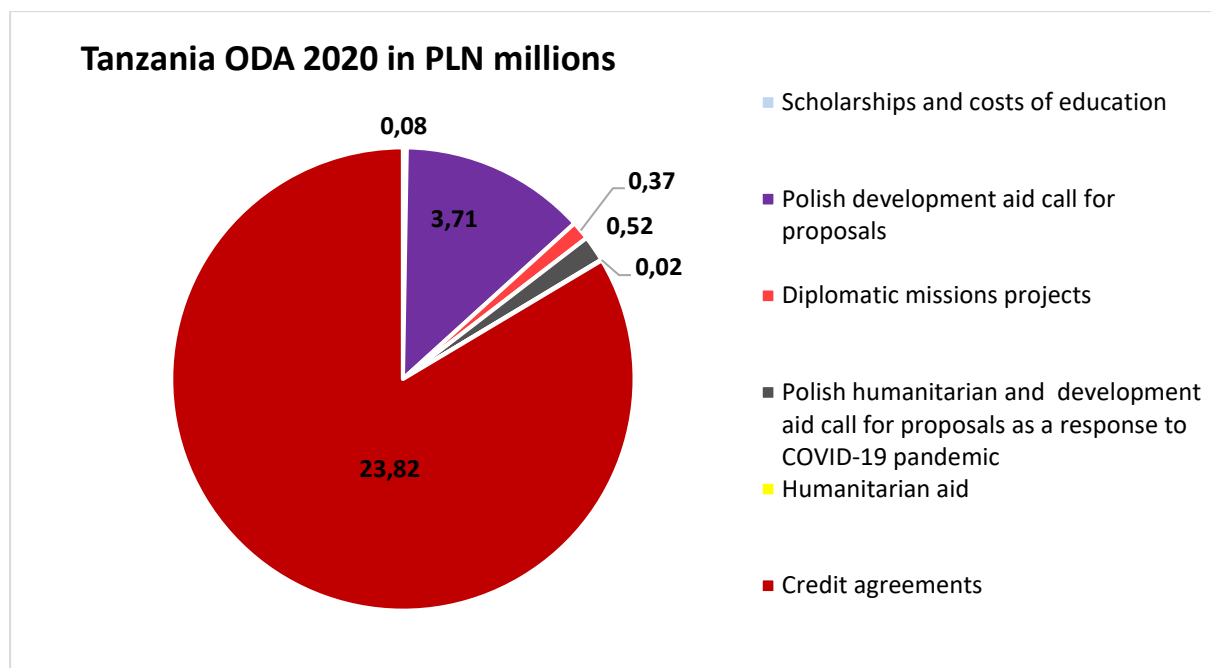
Photo: Stuart Tibaweswa

The hospital was provided with specialised equipment to enable treatment in the areas of primary care, dentistry, surgery, obstetrics and emergency medical services. Ultrasound and X-ray equipment was purchased and the hospital has obtained formal approvals to provide services using the medical equipment purchased. As a result of these developments, trauma patients can be treated locally rather than in the Ugandan capital as before. An operating block was also opened with three doctors working there on a permanent basis.

In the first year when the hospital was operational, the most frequent patients were pregnant women. More and more births are taking place in the hospital, where professional care is provided. As part of a complementary project selected in the call for proposals for *Polish humanitarian and development aid in response to the COVID-19 pandemic*, the InnovAid Foundation equipped the hospital with intensive care units: a ventilator and an incubator for premature babies. Given the unstable operation of the power grid, the foundation supplied the hospital with a 3-phase voltage stabiliser. As part of the information campaign, the InnovAid Foundation developed the *Healthy Adventures with Bill* game. This free app allows users from the local communities to learn more about sanitary hygiene rules

in a simple and accessible way in order to reduce the incidence of COVID-19 and other viral diseases.

### 3.8.2.3. Tanzania



Tanzania has been one of the main African beneficiaries of Polish bilateral development aid since 2004. The thematic areas included in the projects implemented for Tanzania are based on the Sustainable Development Goals, namely: peace, justice and strong institutions, equal

opportunities – education, equal opportunities – decent jobs, equal opportunities – entrepreneurship, health, climate, and natural resources.

In 2020, Polish NGOs implemented in Tanzania six projects worth over PLN 4 million, and the Polish Embassy in Dar es Salaam implemented eight development initiatives for this country for almost PLN 400 thousand.

The projects covered a broad thematic spectrum, i.e. support for entrepreneurship and the private sector, and investments in education, health care and environmental protection. The initiatives were aimed at improving the efficiency of food processing plants (dairy and cashew nuts) and strengthening the competencies and professional know-how of beneficiaries, who in the first case were young women and in the second – students of veterinary sciences. Other projects were about strengthening the health sector in Tanzania. An X-ray laboratory was set up in the village of Maganzo in the northern part of the country. The aim of the second initiative was to increase the quality of surgical and orthopaedic treatment and create conditions for maternal and child care in the Lindi and Mtwara regions of southern Tanzania.

In 2021, Polish NGOs implemented in Tanzania eight projects worth over PLN 4 million, and the Polish Embassy in Dar es Salaam implemented six projects for almost PLN 300 thousand. Projects implemented by NGOs and the Polish diplomatic mission focused on supporting the construction of infrastructure and the purchase of equipment for health care facilities, increasing access to technical and vocational training for young people (including those afflicted with albinism), improving conditions for the coexistence of humans and elephants, and also on the education of children.

**Example project: Support for increased productivity, competitiveness and scale of operations of local dairy cooperatives in the Kilimanjaro region**

**Project value: PLN 1,118,976**



Photo: Gonia Zduńczyk

The project by the Poland-East Africa Economic Foundation carried out in 2020 on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, on the border with Kenya, helped to expand the scale of operations and stabilise the development of local dairy farming in the Kilimanjaro region. This has contributed to a gradual improvement of living standards in impoverished farming communities. Traditionally, local farmers earned a living by growing coffee on

the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, but for demographic and market reasons, they lost their source of livelihood. Also, cow farming, which had been a long-established industry, was not generating enough profit.

Based on the experience of the small dairy cooperatives, in the villages of Uru and Mwika, and the functioning Kondiki dairy, a significant increase in the scale of milk supplies was achieved. In addition, the structures of the Kondiki cooperative and its processing capacity were strengthened. New cooperative groups of farmers were established and the quality of the husbandry of dairy cows improved. The Farmers' Support Centre in Mwika, created as part of the project, made it possible to hold regular training sessions for farmers in the neighbouring cooperatives on the production of compound cattle feed, basic veterinary knowledge, and the principles of cattle breeding. Selected farmers (from among those trained) were also given an opportunity to be employed at the Centre, as it additionally provides paid services such as artificial insemination of animals, advice and technical training. The Centre also offers agro-vet products as well as dairy products from the Kondiki dairy. This allows the members of agricultural cooperatives to save time and money that they would have to spend on getting to larger urban centres.

The opening of the Centre also allowed for the dissemination of certain breeding and veterinary services, such as the use of artificial insemination of animals. The implementation of the project brought a twofold increase in the volume of milk collected and processed by

the Kondiki dairy, and new farmers became involved in cooperative work – by the end of 2020, the cooperatives associated with the project comprised 1,100 farms.

**Example project: *Better tomorrow for people with albinism – TANGA SMA (Module 1)***

**Project value: PLN 414,703**

The project was implemented in 2021 by the African Mission Association, Charity and Volunteer Centre "SOLIDARNI", at the Tanga House – a place where albino children and youth can find refuge. The project aim was to increase the safety of Tanga House residents by constructing an access road and perimeter fence, and to establish a modern plantation, apiary and animal farm.

All these initiatives utilised renewable energy sources, thus minimising the cost of operations. In addition,

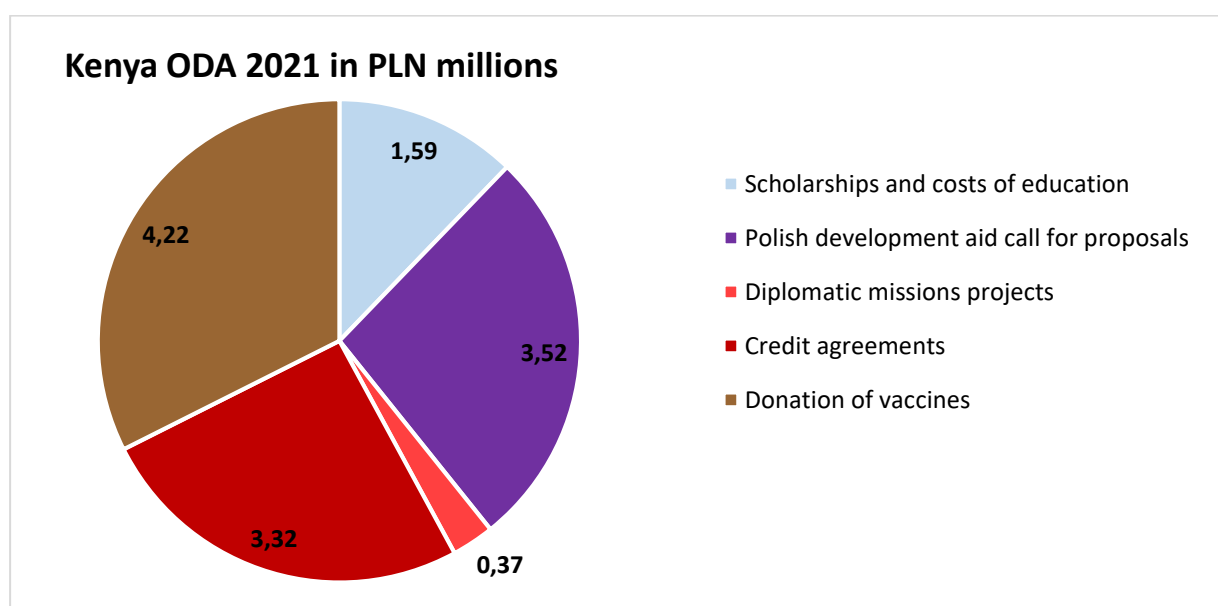
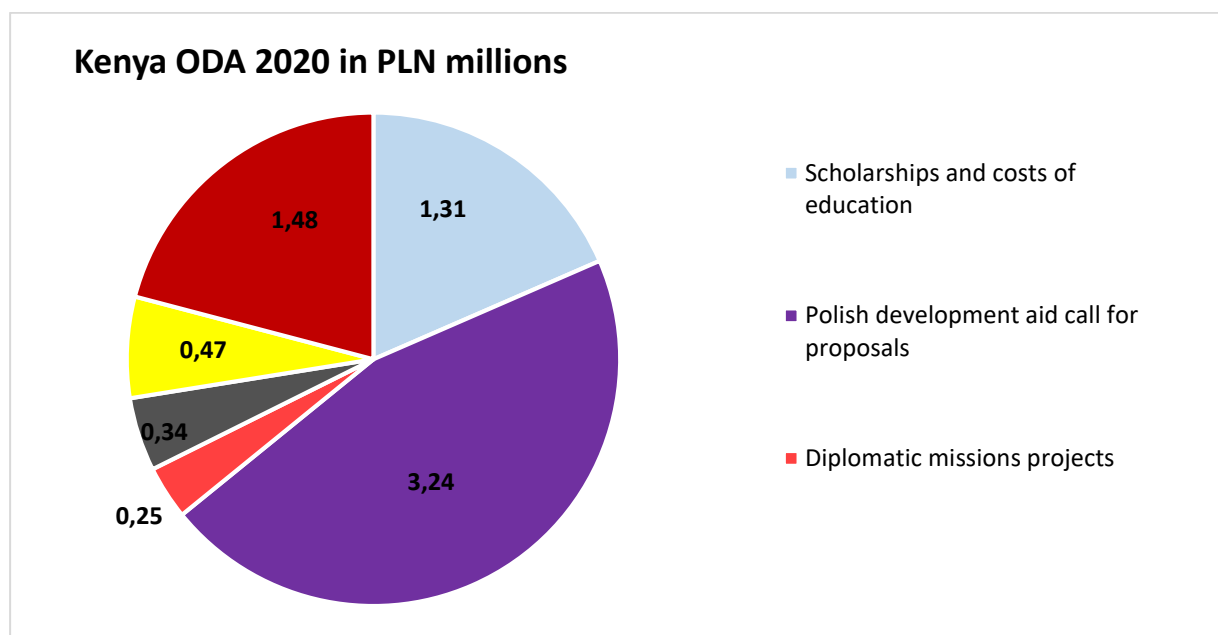
access to technical and vocational training was improved in the sectors of IT, clothing and fashion, as well as in broadly defined education: the computer room and library were expanded, and workshops were held covering education, information technology, or sewing and batik-making techniques.

Meetings and lectures raised awareness of available medical care and hygiene practices to prevent the development of diseases, especially those associated with albinism, and to reduce the negative effects of physical and psychological violence in this vulnerable group who are at risk of exclusion.



*Photo: Tanga SMA*

### 3.8.2.4. Kenya



Since 2012, Kenya has remained a priority country for Polish development cooperation and one of its main recipients. Support provided by Poland is focused on activities relating to the development of human capital, improvement in the quality of health care and education at all levels of learning, including vocational training, and the development of entrepreneurship. Projects carried out are helping, among other things, to improve the capabilities of the emergency services, to support the equalisation of educational and life opportunities for children from groups threatened by social exclusion. Actions aimed at

protecting the environment and preventing the negative effects of climate change are also undertaken.

In 2020, six projects were implemented in Kenya, including four selected through the calls for proposals addressed to NGOs and two implemented directly by the Polish Embassy in Nairobi. In addition, Poland contributed approximately PLN 500,000 to the Kenyan branch of the UN World Food Programme (WFP) to support the local population in combating the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, of which the most important effect was the growing food insecurity in Nairobi slums (Kibera, Mathare and Mukuru Kwa Njenga).

As part of the projects implemented by Polish non-governmental organisations, actions were carried out to counteract the negative effects of climate change. Residents of the counties most affected by the drought were given permanent access to water, thanks to sand dams built on seasonal rivers. Local agricultural cooperatives have been supported to increase the efficiency of their livestock and crop farming, and thanks to the training they received, they acquired the skills necessary to develop their own businesses. The activities of *Polish aid* were aimed at improving access to high quality education at all levels of education, including equalising educational and life opportunities for children from groups at risk of exclusion. Young Kenyans, who were at risk of unemployment, were included in the programme of training in entrepreneurship and running their own business. The most talented were awarded financial grants allowing them to start their own businesses and received mentoring supervision in the initial phase of their business activity. Actions were continued for the fire and rescue services in Kenya under the project of supporting the process of changes in the organisation of the national fire and rescue system. These actions provided a significant improvement in the operational capacity of the Kenyan rescue services. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and given the extremely large needs of local services, the actions also covered support for the health sector by increasing access to high-quality medical care, and also by adapting health centres to difficult epidemic conditions.

In 2021, nine projects were implemented in Kenya, including five selected through the calls for proposals addressed to NGOs and four implemented directly by the Polish Embassy in Nairobi. In addition, the costs of education of young Kenyans students at Polish universities were paid.



**Example project: *Adaptation and expansion of the St. Family Children's Centre in Kithatu in the context of the global COVID-19 pandemic***

**Project value: PLN 342,680**

The project implemented in 2020 by the Redemptoris Missio Humanitarian Foundation focused on the expansion and adaptation to the epidemiological situation of the St. Family Children's Centre in Kithatu, Kenya, built with *Polish aid* funds in 2017. New rooms were added to allow for more residents to be admitted. In addition, an isolation facility was created should one of the children fall ill, a laundry and drying room, a new emergency exit, a playground and additional toilets and disinfection stations.



*Photo: s. Dariana Jasińska*

The pre-school care facility was renovated and retrofitted, and the Centre received a supply of personal protective equipment, some of which was distributed, inter alia, to the poorest residents of Kithat, pregnant women, elderly people and families being cared for by the mission. The refurbishment and adaptation work at the Children's Centre provided employment for around 40 Kithat residents who had lost their previous livelihoods due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

**Example project: *Support the development of a specialist rescue system in Kenya***

**Project value: PLN 1,225,000**

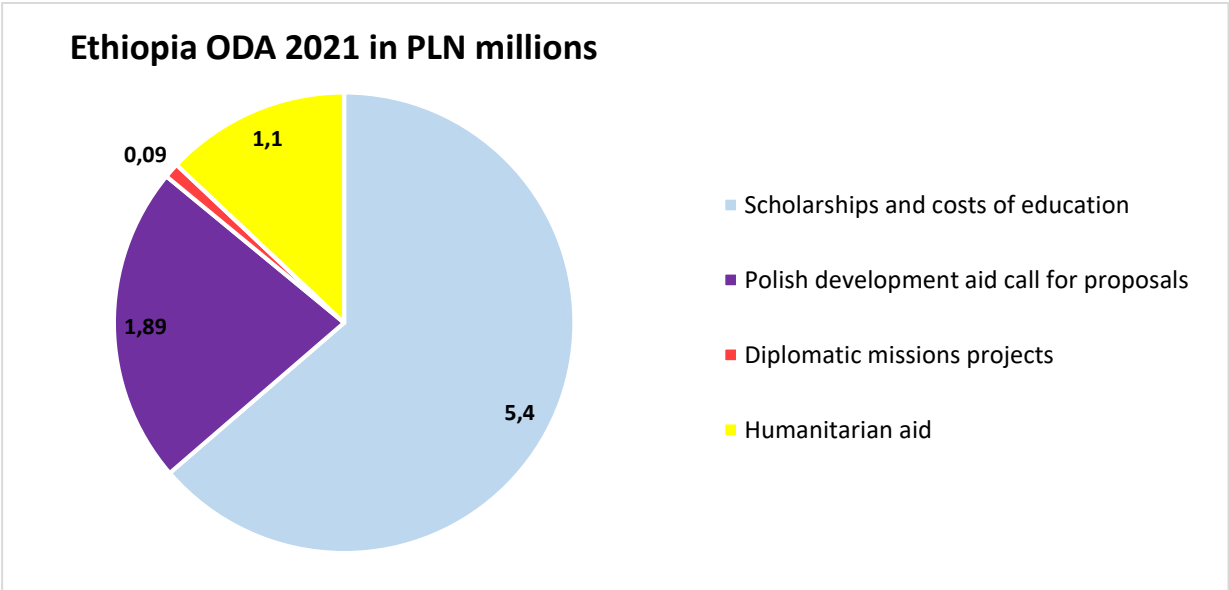
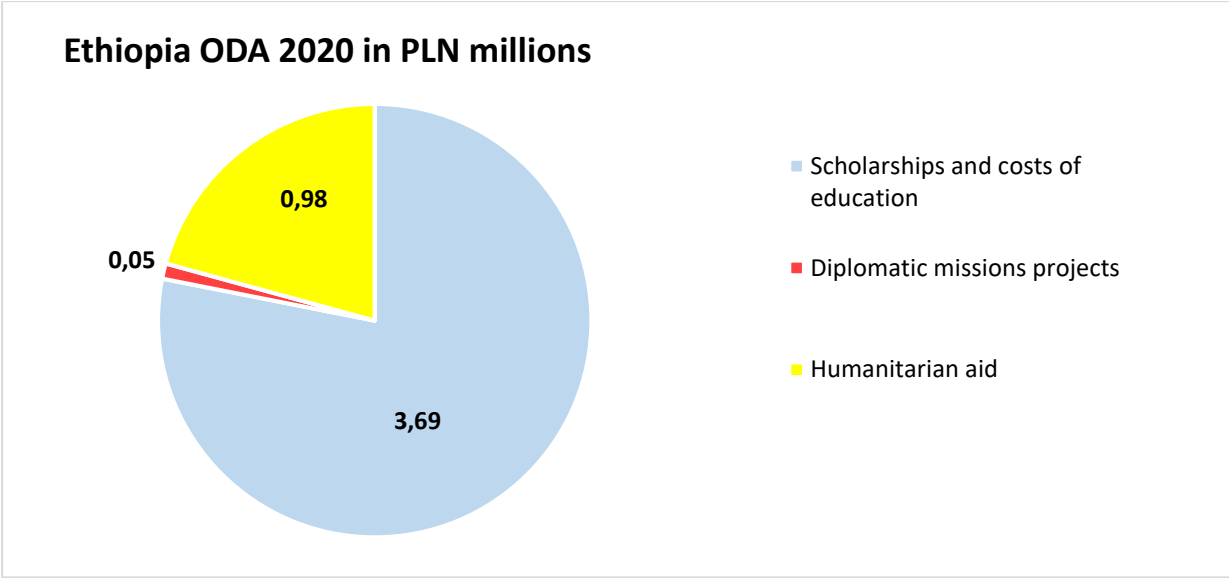
Launched in 2021, the three-year project implemented by the Polish Centre for International Aid (PCPM) aims to expand and retrofit a network of fire service units located along one of Kenya's most important and dangerous transport arteries - the Mombasa-Nairobi road. Guard stations will be built in Makindu (Makueni County) in 2022 and in Kyumvi (Machakos County) in 2023. Their range will cover a



*Photo: Chule Ndonge*

230-kilometre stretch of the road in question, which was previously unprotected in terms of road and medical rescue. As part of the activities undertaken in 2021, the construction of a unit in Makindu began. A canopy for a fire fighting vehicle and a water tower were built. Ultimately, both units will receive medical and technical rescue vehicles, which will allow the emergency services to respond more promptly to accidents and traffic disasters. Emergency medical, technical and specialist training will also be provided.

**3.8.2.5. Ethiopia**



Ethiopia has been a priority country of Polish development cooperation since 2012 and a key partner of Poland in the Eastern Africa region. According to the OECD classification, it belongs to a group of Least Developed Countries.

The thematic areas included in the projects for Ethiopia are based on the Sustainable Development Goals and are: peace, justice and strong institutions, equal opportunities – education, equal opportunities – decent jobs, equal opportunities – entrepreneurship, reducing inequalities, as well as health, climate, and natural resources.

Due to the deteriorating security conditions and unstable internal affairs situation caused by ethnic conflicts and massive population movements in 2020, Polish NGOs did not implement in Ethiopia any development projects funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In 2021, Polish non-governmental organisations implemented two projects worth nearly PLN 2 million, and the Polish Embassy in Addis Ababa implemented two projects for USD 50 thousand.

Activities undertaken by NGOs related to support in the area of emergency medical services and the rehabilitation and job activation of socially excluded families.

**Example project: *Increasing the marketing capacity of the Hope for the Blind Association***

**Project value: PLN 54,007**

The project carried out by the Polish Embassy in Addis Ababa in cooperation with the Hope for the Blind and Handicapped Rehabilitating Association (HBHRA) was aimed at supporting entrepreneurship and the private sector. The Association is a non-profit organisation employing people with disabilities in its plant in upper Addis Ababa in the production of wool carpets, doormats, brushes and mops. The plant employs 153 production workers with disabilities, and more than half of them are people with visual impairments. The production is financially sustainable, which means that sales revenues cover costs. However, sales prices and margins are low, which in turn keeps the wages of production workers at a very low level. The company's ambition was to increase wages by about 30% above inflation, so that



*Photo: Maciej Chrzanowski*

they would be closer to the market wages of persons without disabilities.

The aim of the project was to increase the sales of goods produced by the plant by improving marketing capabilities, for example by developing new direct sales channels, as well as online and export sales. In 2020, the shop and display area were modernised and a tent was purchased to host a bazaar on the premises owned by the plant. New skills, equipment and intangibles have resulted in a significant increase in sales and diversification of sales channels. HBHRA created the Hope Rugs Ethiopia brand to be used, along with a professionally designed logotype, across the entire spectrum of visual communication. The results allowed wages for employees to increase above inflation. In addition, the salaries of 40 older workers staying at home due to the epidemic were partially financed.

**Example project: *Equal opportunities for socially excluded children in Awassa (especially girls) through the rehabilitation and job activation of their families***

**Project value: PLN 392,372**



Photo: Magdalena Soboka

The aim of the project carried out in 2021 by the Salesian Mission Volunteer Service was to equalise the opportunities of socially excluded children in Awassa, Ethiopia, with particular emphasis on girls. The activities focused on improving the living conditions of the children in Barkot care centre, adapting the facility to receive more pupils, improving the quality of classes for children and young people, improving access to education and

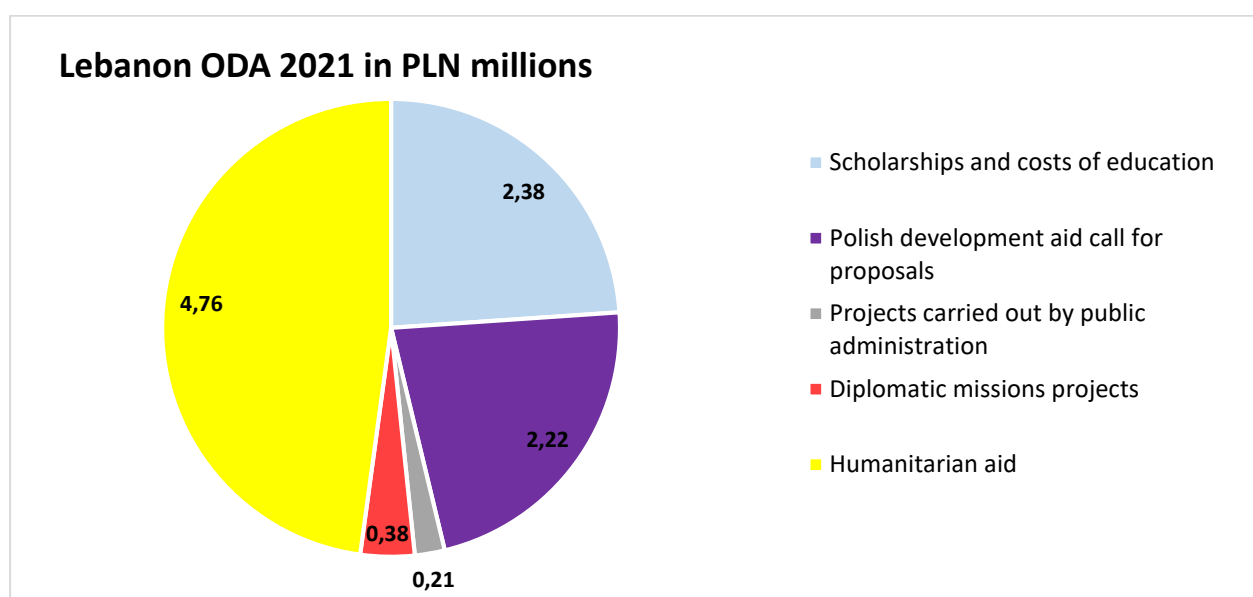
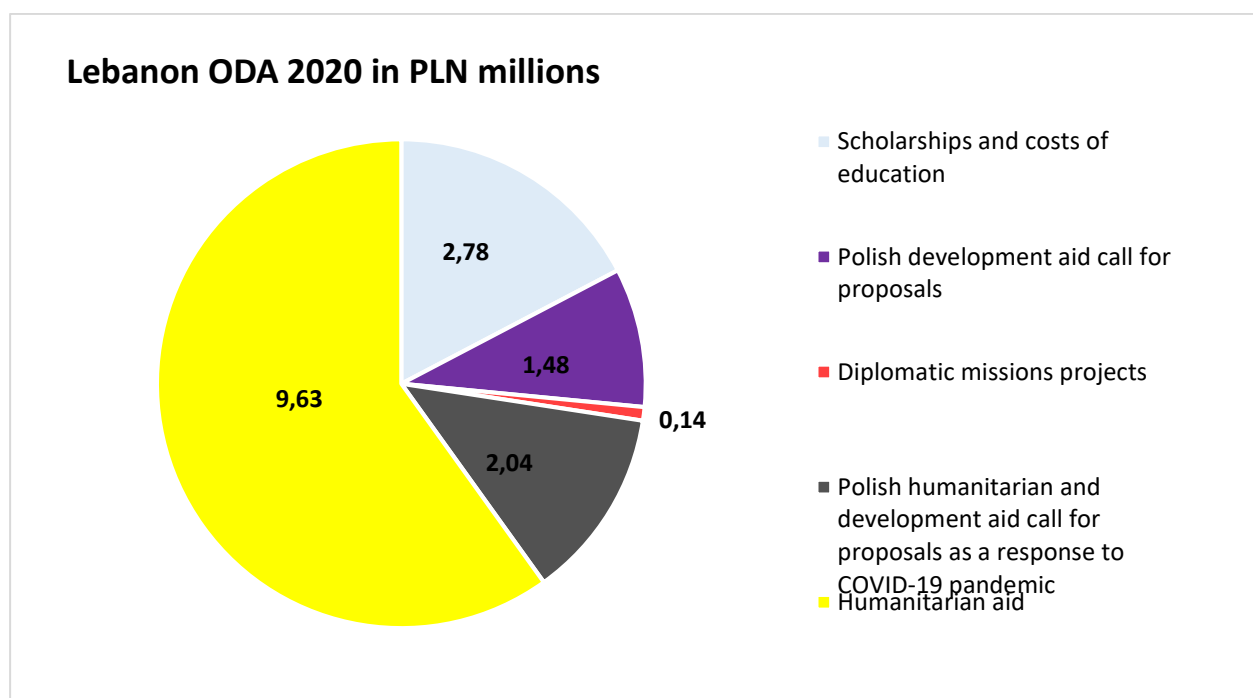
extending the institution-based rehabilitation program, and supporting adults in acquiring the skills necessary to start a job. Equipment was purchased and the centre was adapted to accommodate more pupils who could benefit from an extended offer of classes.

In addition, educators and employees were trained in working with children and young people with a difficult past. Vocational courses were also held for adults, and a group of children and young people were provided the opportunity to start or continue their school education. An important aspect was to adapt the centre to accommodate girls, who are at

particular risk of exclusion from the education system in Ethiopia. Support was provided to 100 children and young people and more than 100 adults. The nature of the centre's activities allows for their uninterrupted continuation in the future and for extending their effects to more beneficiaries.

### 3.8.3. Middle East

#### 3.8.3.1. Lebanon



Since 2012, Lebanon has remained a priority country for Polish development cooperation and one of its main recipients. Since 2018, the country has also been included in the list of priority countries of Polish development cooperation. In the humanitarian area, aid focuses on providing shelter and protection for Syrian refugees and the poorest Lebanese citizens, and in the development area, it primarily focuses on human capital, entrepreneurship and the private sector, as well as on protecting the environment in Lebanon.

The year 2020 brought Lebanon many challenges. A series of internal political and economic problems translated also into the lives of the people, drastically worsening their financial situation and living conditions. The country also had to face the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the explosion of ammonium nitrate in the port of Beirut in August 2020 worsened the country's already difficult situation. In the face of these circumstances, Poland demonstrated solidarity with a nation in crisis. Polish firefighters operating as part of the USAR Poland search and rescue group were involved in the rescue operation in the port of Beirut, while non-governmental organisations and individual donors were involved in providing in-kind assistance to the affected residents.

In 2020, *Polish aid* provided support to Lebanon in a total amount of over PLN 16 million. Some of these funds were used to provide in-kind assistance directly after the explosion in the port of Beirut, while the remainder went to projects run by Polish NGOs and the Polish Embassy in Beirut. The activities of the Polish Centre for International Aid and the Polish Humanitarian Action focused on humanitarian and development aid to Syrian refugees and to the Lebanese community. Initiatives carried out by the Polish Embassy in Beirut, in cooperation with Lebanese partners, helped to improve sanitary conditions and prevent the spread of infectious diseases, in particular COVID-19. *Polish aid* also provided a contribution of PLN 371,440 to UN Habitat enabling the revitalisation of one of Beirut's neighbourhoods.

In 2021, *Polish aid* provided to Lebanon support in a total amount exceeding PLN 9.9 million. This amount was used to finance, among others, the initiatives implemented by Polish non-governmental organisations: Polish Centre for International Aid, Polish Humanitarian Action and the Phoenicia Foundation of St. Charbel. The activities focused on the activation of young people and women in the labour market, or on the protection of the environment (development of water and sewage infrastructure, use of renewable energy sources for street lighting and private farms). Polish Centre for International Aid also carried out

humanitarian projects to provide food aid and safe shelter for Syrian refugees and the most deprived Lebanese families.

In 2021, the Polish Embassy in Beirut, in cooperation with local partners, carried out a number of development projects in areas such as school education and professional development, targeted, inter alia, at groups at risk of social exclusion. In addition, equipment was purchased for agricultural cooperatives and a firefighting unit necessary for emergency situations.

Furthermore, in 2021, experts from the Polish Military Contingent, stationed in Lebanon as part of the UNIFIL mission (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,) successfully delivered three development projects for the local population. Modern computer equipment was purchased for schools, and household waste management was improved.

*Polish aid* also provided another contribution of PLN 806,969 to the UN Habitat, enabling the revitalisation of one of Beirut's neighbourhoods.

**Example project: *Comprehensive support for local communities affected by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis in the province of Akkar in Lebanon***

**Project value: PLN 1,450,575**

In 2020, as part of the implementation of the COVID-19 pandemic response project, the Polish Centre for International Aid carried out in collaboration with local partners a number of activities to prevent the spread of infection and mitigate the economic impact of the pandemic.

The main intervention was the establishment of a triage (medical segregation) at the Notre-Dame de la Paix hospital in Kobayat, so that hospital admissions would take place under an appropriate sanitary regime. The hospital operates in five community associations in the north of Lebanon, providing medical care for about 150,000 people. The medical segregation



*Photo: Mariusz Mieczkowski*

point was an extremely important zone in the time of the pandemic, ensuring proper sanitary and hygienic conditions for patients and hospital staff. The hospital, as well as over a dozen other health facilities, also received personal protective equipment.

In addition, the back garden at the Andaket elderly care centre was remodelled so that the residents could meet their families and relax outside the building in a safe and pleasant environment. A cold room for food storage was also created at the centre.

Another activity involved support for local farmers' cooperatives in coping with the economic impact of the pandemic. The Kobayat cooperative, with around 300 members, gained a modern and aesthetically pleasing trading space, thanks to the renovation and equipment provided. This allowed for the merchandise to be attractively displayed, while maintaining appropriate sanitary and hygienic conditions. Support was also provided to the cooperative in Andaket enabling it to maintain its production activities threatened by the Lebanese financial crisis.

### Example project: *Common Market for Agricultural Products*

Project value: PLN 498,175



Photo: Joya Simon

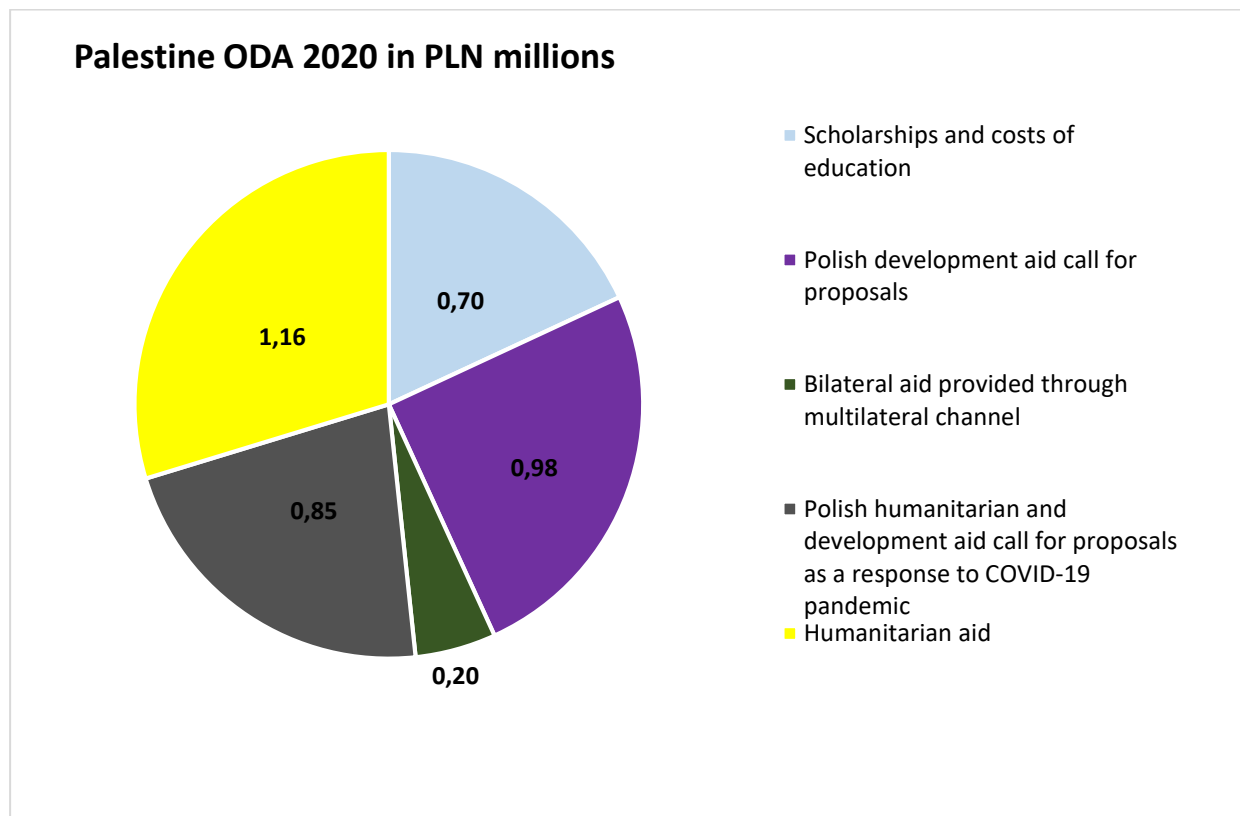
The main objective of the project implemented in 2021 by the Phoenicia Foundation of St Charbel was to develop a business plan for the local agricultural market. The plan allowed the purchase of fresh food directly from the neighbourhood producers, bypassing the chain of intermediaries. The idea was based on creating a Common Market for Agricultural Products and providing access to the

market for small and medium-sized farms to protect them from bankruptcy in the event of the market being taken over by large wholesalers.

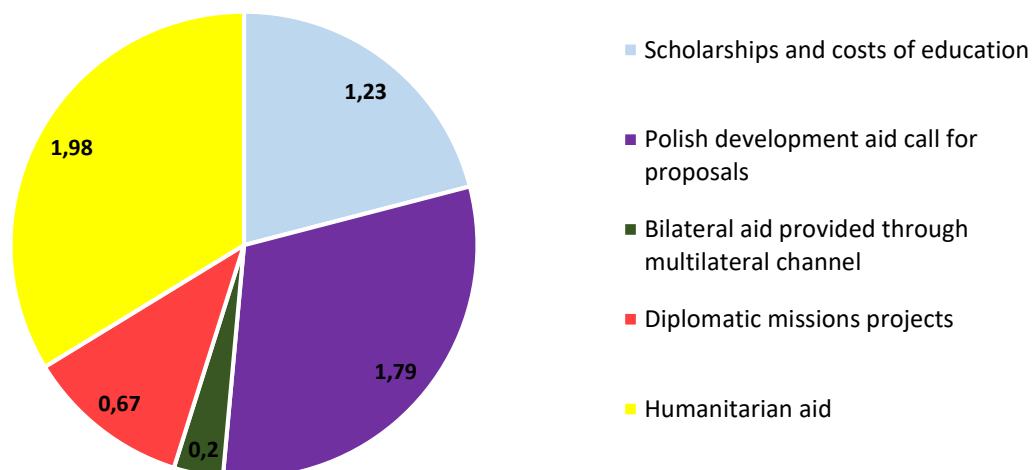


The project also assumed economic activation of young people from areas at risk of unemployment, by providing them with a ready-to-implement business plan. The main focus of the plan was to maintain and develop existing agricultural production while simultaneously generating new jobs. Thanks to professional training organised in 2021 and the practical support provided, participants acquired the skills required to run an agricultural business.

### 3.8.3.2. Palestine



### Palestine ODA 2021 in PLN millions



Polish development cooperation with Palestine has been ongoing for more than 15 years. Activities were primarily focused on the development of human capital, improving conditions in educational and medical institutions, or supporting entrepreneurship and job creation.

In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was necessary to modify mechanisms and channels of support to adapt to the dynamically changing circumstances.

Therefore, activities undertaken in 2020 by Polish non-governmental organisations responded to the challenges of the pandemic and were mainly related to the provision of modern medical equipment and personal protective equipment for patients and medical staff, and also focused on carrying out training to strengthen the Palestinian medical emergency rescue system. Initiatives implemented by the Office of the Polish Diplomatic Representative in Ramallah addressed the basic needs of economically vulnerable Palestinians.

In 2020, Poland also made a contribution of PLN 3 million to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). The agency was faced with additional responsibilities in terms of introducing a sanitation regime in supervised facilities, introducing a remote working system in schools, and with the challenges related to the growing number of people requiring support (including food).

In 2020, Poland also joined the group of donors responding to the *InterAgency Global Humanitarian Response Plan*. The plan took into account, among other things, UNICEF's efforts to secure the needs of children during the coronavirus pandemic. A contribution of PLN 1 million was earmarked for the needs of children in Palestine.

In 2021, development activities in Palestine were carried out mainly by Polish NGOs and the Office of the Polish Diplomatic Representative in Ramallah. As part of the initiatives carried out, support was provided in particular to beneficiaries belonging to groups at risk of exclusion, e.g. people with disabilities, or residents of small towns deprived of access to health care services. The implemented projects were also aimed at supporting business development and job activation (e.g. in the Gaza Strip area), and also providing in-kind aid to educational establishments. Humanitarian support in the form of food parcels for the residents of Bethlehem, severely affected by the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, was also maintained.

In 2021, financial support to UNRWA also included two voluntary contributions. The first contribution of PLN 1 million was made to Nuseirat Elementary School (Gaza) as part of the *Updated humanitarian and early recovery appeal in response to hostilities in Gaza and mounting tensions in the West Bank*. The appeal was published in view of the need to secure the immediate humanitarian needs of the population living in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, resulting from Israeli air strikes in the spring of 2021. Food supplies, as well as medical and psychological support for the residents of Gaza, most affected by Israeli bombings, were considered a priority. The second contribution, also in the amount of PLN 1 million, was made in response to an appeal to support the Agency's activities, made at the UNRWA donor conference in November 2021.

**Example projects: *Support for the residents of Bethlehem affected by the negative effects of the COVID- 19 pandemic* Project value: PLN 66,656 and *Support for the residents of Hebron affected by the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic***

**Project value: PLN 88,875**

The economic impact of the pandemic was particularly felt by Palestinians in their household budgets. On the one hand, in cities such as Bethlehem, travel restrictions reduced tourism to a minimum and thus prevented income from this sector, which is often the main source of livelihood; on the other hand, in other cities in the country (e.g. Hebron), a ban was imposed on the movement of residents both within Palestine and into Israel, making it



*Photo: Justyna Pabian*

impossible for people to get to work. Being cut off from sources of income and a lack of savings led to an increase in the number of people in need of humanitarian support. In these circumstances, the Office of the Diplomatic Representative of the Republic of Poland in Ramallah carried out two projects in the above-mentioned cities in 2020, distributing food parcels with the most necessary items (i.e. pasta, rice, lentils, oil, flour, tea) to Palestinians. In Hebron, the distribution of food was carried out during Ramadan, in keeping with the tradition of supporting those in need during this time. In Bethlehem, the parcels were delivered just before Christmas, reflecting the Christian nature of the city and the Christian traditions upheld there. Both initiatives were very positively received, not only by the recipients themselves but also by the authorities and the local media. In total, nearly 1,200 parcels were delivered to the families most in need, thus providing support to around 6,000 beneficiaries.

**Example project: *Comprehensive support for people with disabilities in the West Bank of the Palestinian Authority (Module 1)***

**Project value: PLN 984,612**

The project, carried out by Caritas Poland, aimed to provide comprehensive assistance to people with disabilities; develop community rehabilitation centres in marginalised rural



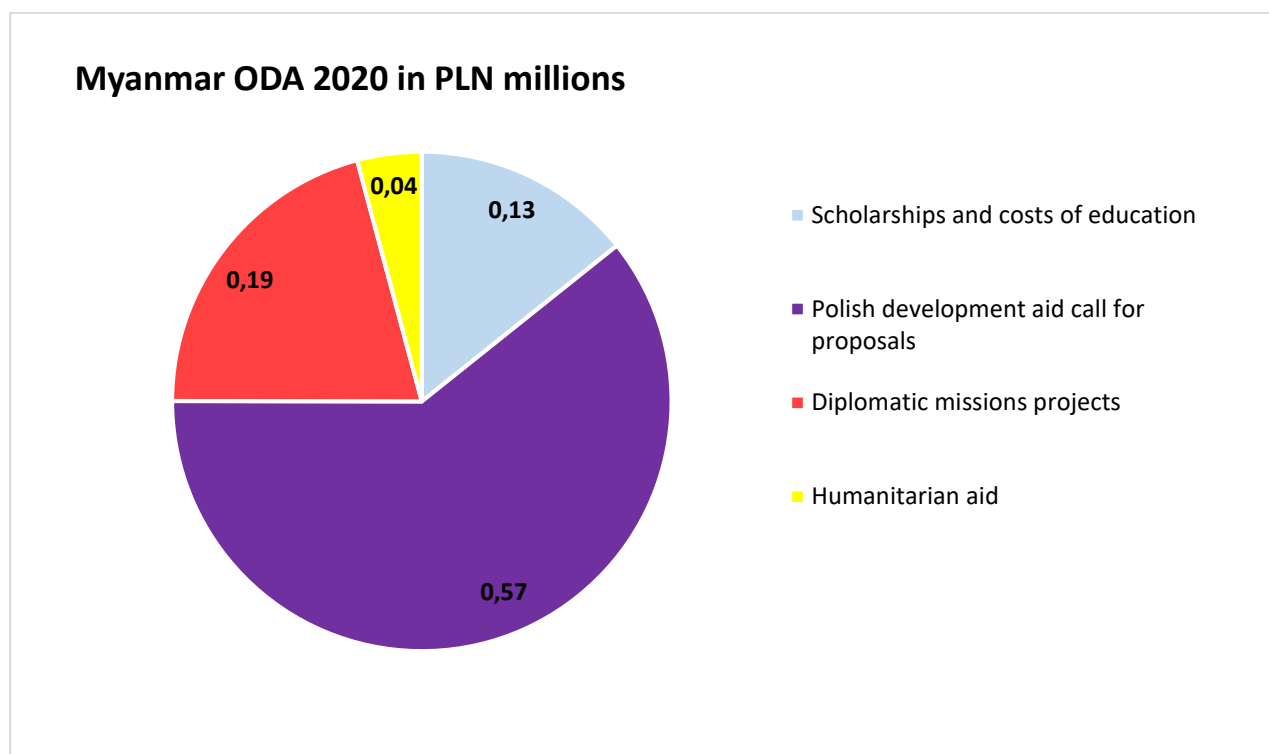
*Photo: Caritas Jerusalem*

areas of Bethlehem province in the West Bank; and carry out awareness-raising activities concerning the potential and rights of people with disabilities who are discriminated against and excluded from society.

As part of the first module, delivered in 2021, six rehabilitation rooms in three community rehabilitation centres were

upgraded with high-quality equipment and modern therapeutic aids. This made it possible to create specialised therapy rooms for sensory, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy and vocational workshops. The fourth centre was completely renovated and transformed into the first specialised rehabilitation centre in the southern part of Bethlehem province. Thanks to these activities, a higher standard of services for more than 1,000 people with disabilities from more than 20 towns was provided. There was also an awareness-raising campaign about the situation of people with disabilities. The training sessions were attended by representatives of local authorities and institutions, caregivers and families of people with disabilities, employees of rehabilitation centres and students. Subsequent modules of the project will be implemented in the years 2022-2023.

### 3.8.4. Other (Myanmar)



In the period 2016-2020, Myanmar belonged to the priority countries of Polish development assistance. In 2020, the second module of a two-year project carried out by the Polish Medical Mission and four projects carried out with the support of the Polish Embassy in Bangkok were implemented. In 2021, the Polish diplomatic mission supervised the implementation of two projects providing support for education and vocational training by improving infrastructure and purchasing equipment for two local schools.

**Example project: Myanmar – medical and training activities and screening tests in the Irrawaddy River Delta**

**Project value: PLN 567,345**

In 2020, the Polish Medical Mission continued the activities it commenced in 2019, aimed at improving the health of the inhabitants of the Wakema county, located in the Irrawaddy River Delta. The mobile clinic ship, which was purchased and refurbished in 2019, provided medical services to residents of villages and towns in the river basin that are difficult to access by land. Thanks to the commitment of Polish funds and the efforts of local doctors from the Wakema district hospital, 4,790 patients received medical advice from the mobile

clinic in the second module of the project implemented in 2020. Programmes of vaccination against hepatitis B, testing for the virus and educating young people to prevent infection were continued. Oral hygiene classes were also conducted for 492 children, and more than 400 patients received dental care.

An important part of the initiative was the construction of rainwater tanks, designed to provide clean drinking water to the district's residents despite the salinity of the groundwater. A total of 15 such tanks were built in 2019 and 2020, five of which were built in the second year of the project. Medical equipment was also purchased for the Wakema district hospital (including blood biochemistry and electrolyte analysis equipment for the laboratory, a patient status monitor, electrocardiograph, an infusion pump, and personal protective equipment such as medical visors and protective masks).

Polish staff on site also provided complementary educational sessions for the local community on the prevention of lifestyle diseases and STDs. They were attended by 1015 participants, both young people and adults.

Improving the quality of medical services in the region proved to be of particular importance during the COVID-19 pandemic.



*Photo: Polish Medical Mission*

## 4. Humanitarian aid

Humanitarian aid as well as ad hoc stabilisation and post-conflict reconstruction activities in the Middle East were continued in 2020-2021. These activities were in particular aimed at refugees, internally displaced persons and the local population in response to the conflict in Syria.

In the period 2020-2021, Polish humanitarian assistance was largely focused on the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. Humanitarian convoys were organised to deliver protective supplies. The humanitarian projects to date were adapted to the new pandemic reality. In solidarity with other countries, Poland donated vaccines for developing countries.

In 2020, **bilateral aid** took the form of financing the second tranche of direct aid projects for refugees, internally displaced persons and the local population, carried out by Polish NGOs in Lebanon, Jordan and Iraqi Kurdistan. The activities were a continuation of the projects selected in 2019.

In 2021, as part of an open **Humanitarian aid call for proposals**, grants worth PLN 9 423 877 were awarded for the implementation of 10 projects in Yemen, Iraqi Kurdistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, South Sudan and Cameroon.

**Multilateral aid** in 2020-2021 focused on co-funding partner organisations' programmes and projects, including, inter alia, activities related to protecting the population during conflicts and bringing aid to areas that are difficult to access for security reasons, in particular through:

- the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) under the *Memorandum on cooperation*,
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA), including the *OCHA Donor Support Group* of which Poland has been a member since 2012,
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR),
- United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF)

### 4.1. Examples of humanitarian projects

The following are examples of humanitarian projects implemented in 2020-2021.

#### **Iraqi Kurdistan**

Poland has been carrying out humanitarian activities in Iraqi Kurdistan since 2015.

Humanitarian support is a response to the mass internal displacement of Iraqi people,



triggered by the armed conflict. The activities carried out by *Polish aid* involved securing the basic needs of Iraqis, including food supplies, financial support and, in 2020, primarily medical care, including rehabilitation and dental care. Beneficiaries of the aid were mainly internally displaced persons (including the Yazidi minority), Syrian refugees, and the local population hosting them.

**Example project: *Medical and dental care for refugees, displaced persons and the local community in the Erbil Governorate***

**Project value: PLN 1,198,607**

The activities carried out by the Polish Medical Mission Association provided access to basic health care, diagnostics, dental care and health education for refugees in three camps – Baharka, Harsham and Qushtapa – and for the local population. When, after the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020, the work of dental surgeries was temporarily suspended, the mobile clinic purchased in 2019 worked as planned and was the only form of medical support in the Baharka and Harsham camps. The clinic’s medical staff was provided with the necessary resources to comply with strict rules reducing the risk of spreading the COVID-19 pandemic. The partners of the project, in cooperation with the management of the camps, also carried out information activities regarding the new virus.

Specialist diagnostic equipment was purchased for the Baharka camp analytical laboratory, which was opened as part of the project. Tests carried out in the laboratory enable rapid diagnosis related to infections and other diseases.

The services of two dental surgeries and a mobile clinic are available to Syrian refugees, internally displaced Iraqis, camp residents, and the local population. The region where the camps are located lacks the financial and human resources to meet the health needs of the population.



*Photo: Grażyna Makara*

## Lebanon

Lebanon was included in the list of priority recipients of Polish development aid in 2018. While being increasingly involved in development projects in the country, Poland also does not give up its humanitarian efforts, to provide shelter for refugees and the poorest members of the local community, and access to basic medical and social services.

**Example project: *Project Providing living quarters and improving access to education for refugees and local population in Lebanon***

**Project value: PLN 1,754,772**

In 2020, as a result of the economic crisis, causing high unemployment and depleted savings, tens of thousands of families in Lebanon were faced with dramatic choices about what to spend their meagre financial resources on or how to survive without any income. One of the most important needs for any family is a safe shelter. Similar dilemmas are faced by Syrian refugees – the vast majority of refugees staying in Lebanon rent flats, garages or other converted spaces.



*Photo: Polish Center for International Aid*

In 2020, the Polish Center for International Aid (PCPM) implemented a project aimed at counteracting the drastically increasing number of evictions resulting from the deteriorating financial situation of families. More than 450 families from the Akkar province and the Beirut metropolitan area received housing allowances for rental expenses. At the same time, the regular rental income provided an additional regular source of revenue for the flat owners, who were also struggling with the effects of the economic crisis. One hundred of the most disadvantaged families who were deprived of opportunities to earn an income (especially the elderly and sick) received a one-off financial allowance in preparation for the winter. These funds allowed them to pay for the cost of heating oil to keep their house warm throughout the winter season.

Another need of key importance is access to education for Syrian youth. For years, PCPM has been cooperating with a local organisation in the town of Bire where, thanks to *Polish aid* funds, an Education Centre is now in operation. It is a place where children can revise

learning material that causes difficulties for them and improve their knowledge under teacher supervision. Due to the 2020 pandemic, the Education Centre suspended classes for several months, and remote learning proved virtually impossible because refugee families lacked access to the internet and electronic devices. Despite this, more than 400 children took part in compensatory classes and 268 young people completed vocational skills courses in fundamentals of electrical engineering, nursing, hairdressing or sewing. The PCPM Foundation also organised specialised training for the representatives of local governments in Akkar province so that they could manage investment projects and budgets in their municipalities more effectively.

## **Yemen**

The situation in Yemen is considered to be the biggest humanitarian crisis of the 21st century. The war started again in 2015 and since then the situation in the country has been deteriorating year by year. This affects both the economy and the civilian population's access to basic services (water, sanitation, health care, and food). In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic which followed relatively soon after the 2018 cholera epidemic, had a particularly negative impact on women and children. UN reports estimate that more than 20 million Yemenis are in urgent need of life-saving assistance in most key life sectors, including health, food aid, water and sanitation services, and education.

**Example project: Supporting the provision of vital life-saving medical services to the population affected by the humanitarian crisis in Abjan province, Yemen, through comprehensive support to the Rasad hospital and the operation of mobile clinics**

**Project value: PLN 1,425,144**



Photo: Caritas Polska

The primary outcome of the project implemented by the Polish Humanitarian Action and Caritas Poland was increased access to life-saving primary medical care in the Abjan province of Yemen through the establishment of two mobile clinics. The clinics, staffed with three-person medical teams, reached 30,000 people living in hard-to-reach villages within the territorial reach of the Rasad hospital. The launch of the gynaecology and obstetrics department at this

hospital made it possible for women and girls living in the areas surrounding the hospital to benefit from specialised gynaecological and obstetric care.

Access to life-saving specialised medical care for 123,000 people living in the coverage area of Rasad Hospital was improved. The hospital operations were supported by an increase in the salaries of medical staff, the provision of equipment, medicines and supplies for diagnostic laboratories, and medical consumables, as well as covering the operating costs of the hospital. Specialised training was provided for the medical staff of the hospital, primary care centres and mobile clinics operating in the area. The project started in 2021 and ended in 2022.

### **Humanitarian convoys**

In December 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs donated humanitarian aid to Sudan to support ongoing humanitarian efforts to help civilians affected by the floods. Assistance in kind was also provided to Lithuania in connection with the migration crisis on the Belarussian-Lithuanian border, and to Armenia for refugees from the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

## Rescue missions

Poland responded also to current humanitarian crises. On 6 August 2020, only two days after the explosion in the port of Beirut, the Polish MUSAR search and rescue group of the State Fire Service (*Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team*), equipped with medicines and medical supplies, reached Beirut. The group consisted of 43 rescuers, six medical personnel, five humanitarian aid experts from the Polish Centre for International Aid (PCPM) and four dogs. Already on 10 August 2020, another tranche of support in the form of medical equipment and personal protective equipment donated by the Agency for Strategic Reserves was delivered. In total, more than 12 tonnes of medicinal products and dressing materials were delivered.

## 4.2. Humanitarian action in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic

### 4.2.1. Humanitarian convoys

Poland provided multidimensional support to countries that were hit particularly hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. The poor state of health systems, the demographic trend of ageing populations, the presence of conflict zones or areas that remain beyond the control of governments, and the weak state of local economies – all these factors exacerbated the negative economic and social impact of the pandemic.

In response to the crisis that followed the war against ISIS and the COVID-19 pandemic, a decision was taken in late 2020 to transfer medical equipment to **Iraq** and **Iraqi Kurdistan** as part of *Polish Aid*.

Since 2021, thanks to *Polish Aid*, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also coordinated humanitarian convoys to **India**, **Vietnam** and **Tunisia**. Part of the resources of the Governmental Strategic Reserves Agency (RARS)<sup>7</sup> were dispatched to these countries

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<sup>7</sup> Formerly the Material Reserves Agency (until 23 February 2021)

(including respirators, cardiac monitors, FFP2 half masks, visors, pulse oximeters, triple-layer masks and oxygen cylinders).

In addition to the support mentioned above, transports with supplies necessary to combat the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic were sent in 2020 to the **Eastern Partnership** countries, the **Western Balkans, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan**. Thanks to many years of experience and an extensive network of contacts, Solidarity Fund PL was entrusted with the task of coordinating these activities.

Aid in the form of medicines, ventilators, disinfectants and antiseptics, protective masks and other items of personal protective equipment was delivered to the **Belarussian population**. Two convoys with humanitarian aid set off from Poland in 2020: in April (the first Polish convoy sent abroad to help fight the pandemic) and in June, with 300 tonnes of equipment and protective supplies.

Personal protective equipment (masks, visors) and disinfectants were delivered to **Georgia** by air. The recipient of the aid was the Emergency Management Agency of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia. The activities were carried out by Poland within the framework of the NATO Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Centre (EADRCC). The aid convoy was a response to a request made under the EU Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM).

Masks, disposable gloves, visors, disinfectants and protective suits were donated to **Ukraine**. The aid was delivered in the form of a humanitarian aid convoy, with the participation, among others, of state-owned companies and the Ministry of Health, and with the support of the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, the Border Guard, and the National Revenue Administration.

To **Azerbaijan**, Poland delivered by air medical masks, visors and disinfectant fluid. The recipient was Azerbaijan's State Agency for Compulsory Health Insurance.

As part of the aid operation, **Armenia** received medical masks, visors and disinfectant fluid, delivered by air. The recipient of the aid was the Republican Centre for Humanitarian Aid at the Ministry of Health.

Humanitarian aid to **Moldova** in the fight against the spread of the virus was delivered by a convoy of the State Fire Service vehicles. The transport included 30,000 masks, 4,800 visors and 20,000 litres of disinfectant fluid. The donors were the National Sugar Company and the

Material Reserves Agency, supported by the Ministry of the Interior and Administration, the Border Guard, and the National Revenue Administration. The convoy was the Polish response to a Moldovan request made under the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

The transport with humanitarian aid from Poland reached also six **Western Balkan countries** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Serbia). More than 60 thousand litres of fluid for disinfection of surfaces and hands and 600 thousand surgical masks were delivered (in total almost 70 tonnes of supplies).

Moreover, personal protective equipment, thermometers, disinfectant fluids and medicines were delivered by air to **Kazakhstan** and **Uzbekistan**. The recipient of the aid in Uzbekistan was the Ministry of Health.

#### **4.2.2. Vaccine solidarity in the face of COVID-19**

The distribution of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines was a lasting response to the pandemic, and Poland willingly shared its resources with the countries in need as a gesture of solidarity. Poland joined the project to resell vaccines to foreign governments in line with the 2020 announcement concerning 4 million doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine. The offer was made in 2020 to six countries in the Western Balkans and three in the Eastern Partnership. The first vaccine shipments left Poland in August 2021. As the situation continued to evolve and more deliveries of COVID-19 vaccines arrived in Poland, it made sense to donate them to countries in need so that the available stock could be fully utilised.



On 13 December 2021, the official launch of the **European Commission's Team Europe initiative** to share vaccines between EU Member States and Eastern Partnership countries took place in the presence of Olivér Várhelyi, the EU Enlargement Commissioner, Zbigniew Rau, the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Beata Daszyńska-Muzyczka, Director of the BGK (Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego – Polish development bank). Poland acted as a coordinator in this initiative.

By the end of 2021, Poland donated a total of 10,907,160 doses of vaccines to 18 countries.

Poland also paid EUR 750 thousand for the international COVAX mechanism to provide COVID-19 vaccines to those most deprived.



## 5. Education and information activities

### 5.1. Global education

Global education is an element of development cooperation and its task is to explain to the citizens of countries that provide development assistance the importance of sustainable and fair global development, to build awareness of the economic, political, social, technological, cultural and environmental interdependencies between countries, and to raise awareness of the needs of the populations of less developed countries.

Global education in Poland is carried out by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the ministry responsible for education, and public benefit organisations, which – on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs – deliver educational projects addressed to teachers, academic staff, pupils, students, and other persons, during events or undertakings taking place in the public sphere.

In 2020, the plans of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were thwarted by the COVID-19 pandemic and related restrictions. The **2020 Global Education call for proposals**, announced on 10 February for projects aimed at organising five educational events in the public space, was resolved without a successful bid.

Instead, four three-module projects selected for implementation in the *2018 Global Education* call were continued, for a total value of PLN 1,111,628. The providers of these projects adapted their actions to the requirements of the situation by developing new forms and ways of executing their plans with the use of online communication and information technology. One example of this was the festival of films on development issues, which was traditionally held in one of Warsaw's cinemas and then later in cinemas and cultural institutions throughout the country. Due to the epidemic, the festival was moved entirely to virtual space and its duration was extended from three to seven days. A digital platform where festival films were presented was created for the festival. From 23 to 29



November 2020, twenty-three documentaries from around the world were presented, depicting global issues and common challenges. The festival was attended by a record audience of 226,000 viewers from all over Poland (in 2019 selected films were watched by 120 thousand people on the festival streaming platform).

There was also, once again, a **re-granting procedure** for projects implemented in towns with a population of less than 500,000. It was open to ideas submitted both by NGOs experienced in global education and also by those that were just looking to set foot in this field. There were 8,400 individuals who participated in the various educational initiatives. In addition, new lesson plans and publications were produced and made available on the project operator's website [fed.org.pl](http://fed.org.pl).

In addition, the series of training sessions for pre-school and early childhood education **teachers** was continued. Their participants created new scenarios of classes for the youngest children. These scenarios were published on the website [edukacijaglobalna.krzyzowa.org.pl](http://edukacijaglobalna.krzyzowa.org.pl), thanks to which kindergartens and schools from all over Poland gained access to ready-made materials and examples of activities that can be taught in educational facilities in addition to classroom lessons. In addition, in cooperation with the University of Warsaw, training in global education was introduced as an additional elective subject to the educational studies curriculum with a specialisation in early childhood education and pre-school education.

In 2021, a call for the **2021 Global Education – funding for projects that are part of an undertaking co-financed from sources other than the Polish budget** was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In line with the objectives, five projects (four of them bi-annual) were selected for co-funding as part of larger projects that received funding from non-domestic sources (i.e. the European Commission's *Development Education and Awareness Raising* programme, Erasmus +, and the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area). They resulted in improved young people's awareness of the causes and consequences of climate change, contemporary migration processes, problems related to the production and consumption of goods, and trade inequalities. These activities also supported the development of young people's critical thinking skills and civic competencies.

In addition, educational materials and tools were developed, i.e. films and lesson scenarios, and courses and training were provided for teachers to support them in their job.

In 2021, a major event for global education in Poland was the presentation of the 2020/2021 **GENE Global Education Awards**, which focused on quality and good practices in Global



The multimedia textbook "**Global Studies - Introduction to Global Education**" is the first holistic approach to global issues in Poland.

It shows the overlapping nature of problems from the Global South and Global North.

Due to its multimedia character, it is accessible for wide public as well.

Education across Europe. It was organised by the Global Education Network Europe (GENE) to highlight high-quality global education initiatives in Europe. Among the seven winners, selected from 47 projects from 18 European countries, there was a

project of the HumanDoc Foundation entitled *Introduction of global education to the education system for students of journalism and political sciences*, which was implemented in the years 2018-2019. It is described in the *Polish Development Cooperation 2019 Annual Report*

The **cross-sectoral dialogue** between NGOs, the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Climate and Environment, continued in 2020-2021 with a view to improve the quality and ensure consistency of activities in this area. At the supranational level, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs participated in the Global Education Network Europe (GENE) network of ministries and agencies that deliver global education.

### Example project: *Sources for effective global education*

**Project value: PLN 87,512**

In 2020, the Centre for Environmental Activities "Źródła" ("Sources") continued to provide training to teachers who took part in the project in 2019. Twenty-two training sessions were held for 348 teachers, who then conducted workshops for students and educational councils in their schools. Three-year project activities culminated in the conference entitled *Do good. Global education in primary school*, addressed to educators, trainers, teachers, as well as educational methodologists, trainers, lecturers and people responsible for the educational content (including publishers and textbook



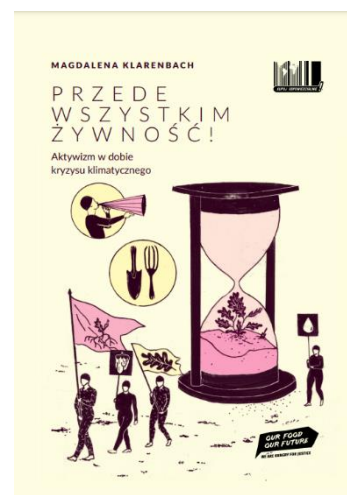
authors). Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the conference was held online.

Presentations by speakers appeared on a specially created [konferencja.globalna.edu.pl](https://konferencja.globalna.edu.pl) website over the next four days. Twenty presentations were watched by almost 500 viewers, and that exceeded the initially assumed number of viewers more than sixfold. The recordings of the conference are available on the conference website mentioned above and on YouTube. In addition, educational materials developed as part of the project and research reports on global education in early childhood schooling were posted on [www.globalna.edu.pl](https://www.globalna.edu.pl).

**Example project: *Our food. Our future. Changemakers and influencers for fair food***

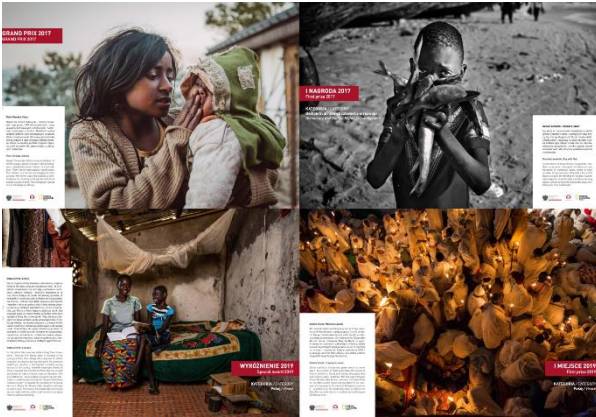
**Project value: PLN 50,000**

The aim of the project carried out in 2021 by the Buy Responsibly Foundation was to raise among young people the awareness of social and ecological problems that accompany food production in the countries of the Global South. In online collaboration with creative people, a campaign on sustainable consumption was carried out on social media platforms (Instagram and TikTok), and a three-day workshop was organised for young people on how to use the power of social media to address major social issues and challenges. An educational publication entitled *First of all, food! Activism in the era of the climate crisis*, free of charge available at [ekonsument.pl](https://ekonsument.pl) was published.



## 5.2. Information activities

In 2020 and 2021, promotional activities carried out by the Department of Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were largely restricted to a remote format. The outdoor and indoor exhibitions planned for 2020 had to be cancelled due to sanitary restrictions.



Two **post-competition** exhibitions entitled *Development through the photographic lens 2017* and *Development through the photographic lens 2019* were produced, and the concept of the exhibition entitled *Polish Aid facing the COVID-19 pandemic* was prepared and scheduled for 2021.



In July 2021, an occasional exhibition of *Polish aid in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic* was presented at the **Open-Air Gallery of the Royal Łazienki Park in Warsaw**. The exhibition, consisting of 25 large-format bilingual boards (in Polish and English), featured photographs accompanied by a short narrative, documenting selected Polish development aid activities coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and aimed at counteracting the effects of the pandemic in, among others, Eastern Partnership countries, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and Palestine. Additionally, in November 2021, selected boards of the exhibition were also presented on the perimeter fence of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs headquarters at 5 Bagatela Street, Warsaw.



Photo: Sebastian Indra/ MFA

In connection with the organisation of humanitarian aid convoys and medical missions, as well as the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to countries most affected by the pandemic, the Department of Development Cooperation also engaged in **organisational and communication activities**, including the preparation of press releases for the website, tweets and briefings for the media.

Among the activities addressed to the general public were **Polish Aid podcasts** on the topics related to Polish development assistance that were of general public interest. The podcasts were posted on the Simplecast platform, which enables their distribution on all major podcast platforms worldwide, i.e. Spotify, Apple Podcast, Google Podcasts, Deezer, IHeatRadio, Overcast, Tune In, etc., as well as on the *Polish Aid* website: [www.gov.pl/polskapomoc](http://www.gov.pl/polskapomoc). Another form of information and promotion of Polish aid activities was a series of sponsored articles on development cooperation published in 2020 in regional dailies of the Polska Press publishing group.



In 2021, in cooperation with the National School of Public Administration, a **commemorative brochure** summarising the 10th anniversary of the Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration (AAPPW) was prepared. The Department of Development Cooperation additionally outsourced the graphic design for an information brochure, which was published and made available in an electronic form.

### Cooperation with foreign partners

The cooperation with the **Global Education Network Europe (GENE)** involved, inter alia, the participation in the regular *GENE Roundtable video conferences* (April, October 2021). These virtual meetings provided an opportunity to present the current state of global education in Poland and to develop new joint directions for action and new tools suitable for use in the conditions of limited mobility and remote work.



Cooperation within the European Commission's *DG Development* network consisted in the implementation of a new campaign on European cooperation on COVID-19 (*TeamEurope*) and the online campaign *2030isnow*, promoting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The activities were carried out in social media in the summer of 2021, with the participation of Polish influencers: Karolina Sobańska and Paulina Górska, whose role was to promote the idea of the Sustainable Development Goals on their social media profiles. The campaign lasted 6 weeks, from July to September 2021. Each of the weeks was devoted to one of the five areas, i.e. People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership (referred to as the 5P principle), in which changes affecting the development of the world are expected.

## 6. Evaluation

The evaluation study of Polish development cooperation carried out in 2020 concerned the programme entitled *Polish Aid Volunteering Programme* and global education activities. The evaluation was carried out on the basis of the objectives and priorities of the *2016-2020 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme*, taking into account the activities carried out under the *2012-2015 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme*, and the assumptions of the new multiannual document for 2021-2030 *Solidarity for Development*.

Since 2012, *Polish aid* initiatives involving volunteers have been carried out in 28 countries. In turn, global education projects, explaining the global interconnections in the modern world, were addressed to the Polish society.

The conclusions from the evaluation are used in the implementation of the *2021-2030 Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme* and as additional support in shaping the assumptions and activities of the *Polish Aid* programme.

The evaluation confirmed that volunteering and global education are important areas of Polish development cooperation. The *Polish Aid Volunteering Programme* is an important source of funding for initiatives undertaken by Polish NGOs in the countries of the Global South. On the other hand, projects implemented within the framework of the *Global Education Competitions* have a significant impact on improving the substantive quality of educational initiatives and increasing public awareness of global interdependencies. A condition for strengthening the effects of global education would be to increase its role and place in the core curriculum in the formal education system.

The potentials of the *Polish Aid Volunteering Programme* and global education can reinforce each other. However, in order to do so, it is important to create solutions that enable volunteers to share their experiences.

Conclusions from the study on *Polish aid*:

- a. on volunteering
  - the small scale and financial value of the *Polish Aid Volunteering Programme* means that the effects are limited and the potential of volunteers is not

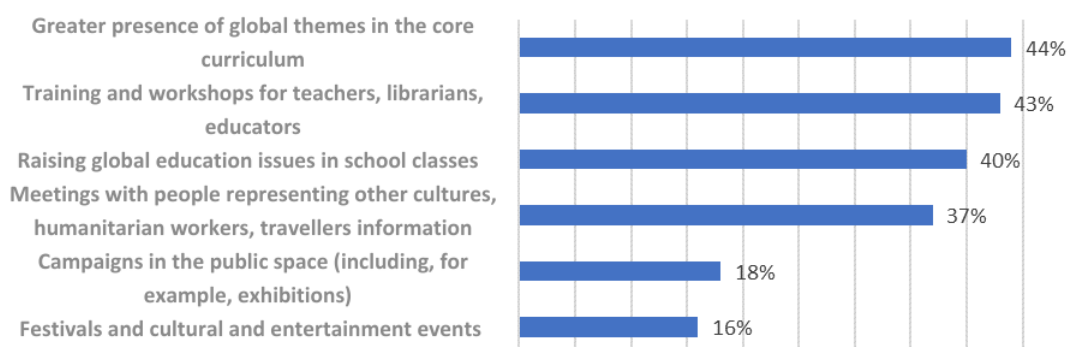
sufficiently exploited. The aim should be to make full use of the available pool of funds and, in the long term, to increase it and extend the list of countries covered by the programme;

- a "specialist path" should be introduced to support short-term trips (lasting approximately 4-6 weeks) for volunteers with specific expertise or professional experience;
- it is necessary to plan projects over several years, in cooperation with sending organisations. Potential project proponents should be informed in advance of the priorities of the planned activities;
- Eastern Partnership countries should not be left out of the *Polish Aid Volunteering Programme*;
- greater involvement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be sought in defining the assumptions and conditions of volunteers' trips, which should result in increased continuity of activities and less dispersion of projects;

b. concerning global education

- global education is not adequately positioned in the Polish formal education system (this also applies to pedagogical studies). Indicating the role and place of global education in the core curriculum will contribute to its dissemination, also among teachers;

### Actions that may affect the effectiveness of global education



*Results of the questionnaire survey conducted during the evaluation*

- networking, which aims to create links between the entities implementing global education, significantly strengthens the sustainability of the effects of the actions



undertaken; it is worth supporting projects that create new networks and those that build on existing ones;

- the creation of a database of global education projects will allow the promotion of good practices, as well as the networking of project organisers, partners and experts;
- the combination of volunteering and global education in one project is one of the possibilities of developing calls for proposals within the framework of *Polish Aid*; the participation of volunteers in global education activities must be properly planned;
- the aims and forms of global education should be updated or redefined in the course of discussion and cross-sectoral cooperation based on past experience and evaluation results;
- global education should be permanent, its sustainability, effectiveness and universality are primarily supported by long-term activities;
- it is recommended that an electronic system of data on global education projects, managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, be created to enable ongoing analysis of their implementation.

## 7. Glossary of abbreviations

AKP	group of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
BGK	Polish development bank (Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego)
CSR/RBC	Corporate social responsibility and Responsible business conduct
CODEV	Working Party on Development Cooperation
DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee
E5P	Eastern Europe Energy Efficiency and Environment Trust Fund
EADRCC	Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre
EaP	Eastern Partnership
EIB	European Investment Bank
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EDF	European Development Fund
ENI	European Neighbourhood Instrument
EPAPA	Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration
EPTATF	Eastern Partnership Technical Assistance Trust Fund
ERI	Economic Resilience Initiative
EU	European Union
EUCPM	EU Civil Protection Mechanism
FAC	Foreign Affairs Council
FSM	Solidarity Fund PL (Fundacja Solidarności Międzynarodowej)
GENE	Global Education Network Europe
GNI	Gross National Income
ICRC	International Committee of the Red Cross
ICT	information and communication technologies
INSARAG	United Nations International Search and Rescue Group
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
KM	Knowledge Management
LDCs	Least Developed Countries

MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MUSAR	Medium Urban Search and Rescue Team
NDICI-GE	The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PAH	Polish Humanitarian Action (Polska Akcja Humanitarna)
PCF	Polish Challenge Fund
PCPM	Polish Centre for International Aid (Polskie Centrum Pomocy Międzynarodowej)
PUP	Polish-UNDP Partnership
2021-2030 Programme	Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme for 2021-2030 Solidarity for Development
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange
UN	United Nations
UN OCHA	United Nations Office for the coordination of humanitarian Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Fund
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WBG	The World Bank Group

## **8. Financial Annex 2020**

# 9. Financial Annex 2021