

REPORT



Polish Development Cooperation

2022



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Poland



Polish aid

POLISH DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION – 2022

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Foreword by Minister Paweł Jabłoński

Dear Readers,

I present to you the report *Polish Development Cooperation – 2022*. The unexpected and unjustified aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine in February 2022 posed unprecedented challenges to Polish foreign policy, including in its dimension related to development and humanitarian aid, to which we had to respond on a daily and ongoing basis.

The first such challenge was the largest refugee crisis in this part of the world since World War II. It prompted changes to the *2022 Development Cooperation Plan* and a redirection of *Polish Aid* funds to humanitarian activities for Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees (in Poland alone in 2022, there were more than 1.5 m refugees, mostly women and children). Another challenge that remains was to undertake initiatives to support Ukraine in preparing for the country's reconstruction and to strengthen its resilience.

Since the beginning of the conflict, Poland has also become a key logistics hub, where aid is gathered and prepared for further delivery to Ukraine. 80% of EU aid passed to Ukraine through the hub located in Poland.

The International Donors' Conference for Ukraine at the initiative of the Prime Ministers of Poland and Sweden and in cooperation with the European Union was held in Warsaw on 5 May 2022. The pledged support for Ukraine, which is fighting Russian aggression, has reached USD 6.5 bn.

On a multilateral level and in connection with the conflict in Ukraine, Poland also made contributions in 2022 to UN system organisations providing specialised assistance, including PLN 6 m to the WFP (World Food Programme) for Yemen and African countries affected by the war due to the grain supply chain disruption.



The Russian aggression against Ukraine and its implications for the security of the region have reinforced the belief that our bilateral development aid is crucial to beneficiaries within the Eastern Partnership. Poland has supported and will continue to support Belarusian independent communities, including the media, Belarusian students (through scholarship programmes) and entrepreneurs. We also remained a leading provider of development aid to Moldova in the areas of, among other things, regional policy, rural development, urban revitalisation, and the establishment of an efficient civil defence system. The Chisinau branch of the Solidarity Fund PL was thriving. Our aid to Georgia focused primarily on support for the rescue and security system.

Unprecedented support for refugees from Ukraine and increased outlays for contributions to international organisations brought Poland's Official Development Assistance (ODA) to a record value of more than PLN 15.6 bn in 2022, representing 0.53% of Gross National Income. Poland thus exceeded the 0.33%/GNI target. At the same time, the ratio of bilateral to multilateral aid completely reversed from the previous period, amounting to 76% and 24% respectively in 2022 (30% and 70% respectively in 2021).

Focusing our aid efforts in 2022 on tasks resulting from the Russian aggression against Ukraine did not mean that we were any less deeply engaged in assisting our other traditional partners and addressing challenges arising from the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2022, we continued vaccine donations, transferring more than 25 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines from our surplus to beneficiaries around the world, including as a coordinating country in facilitating supplies from EU Member States to Eastern Partnership countries.

Within the framework of the *Polish Development Assistance 2022* competition, grants were awarded for the implementation of 26 projects (Georgia, Tanzania, Moldova, Kenya, Palestine, Lebanon, Senegal, Sierra Leone). In addition to Ukraine, also Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon received aid from the projects of the *Polish Humanitarian Aid 2022* competition. 37 countries were beneficiaries of projects implemented by Polish diplomatic and consular missions.

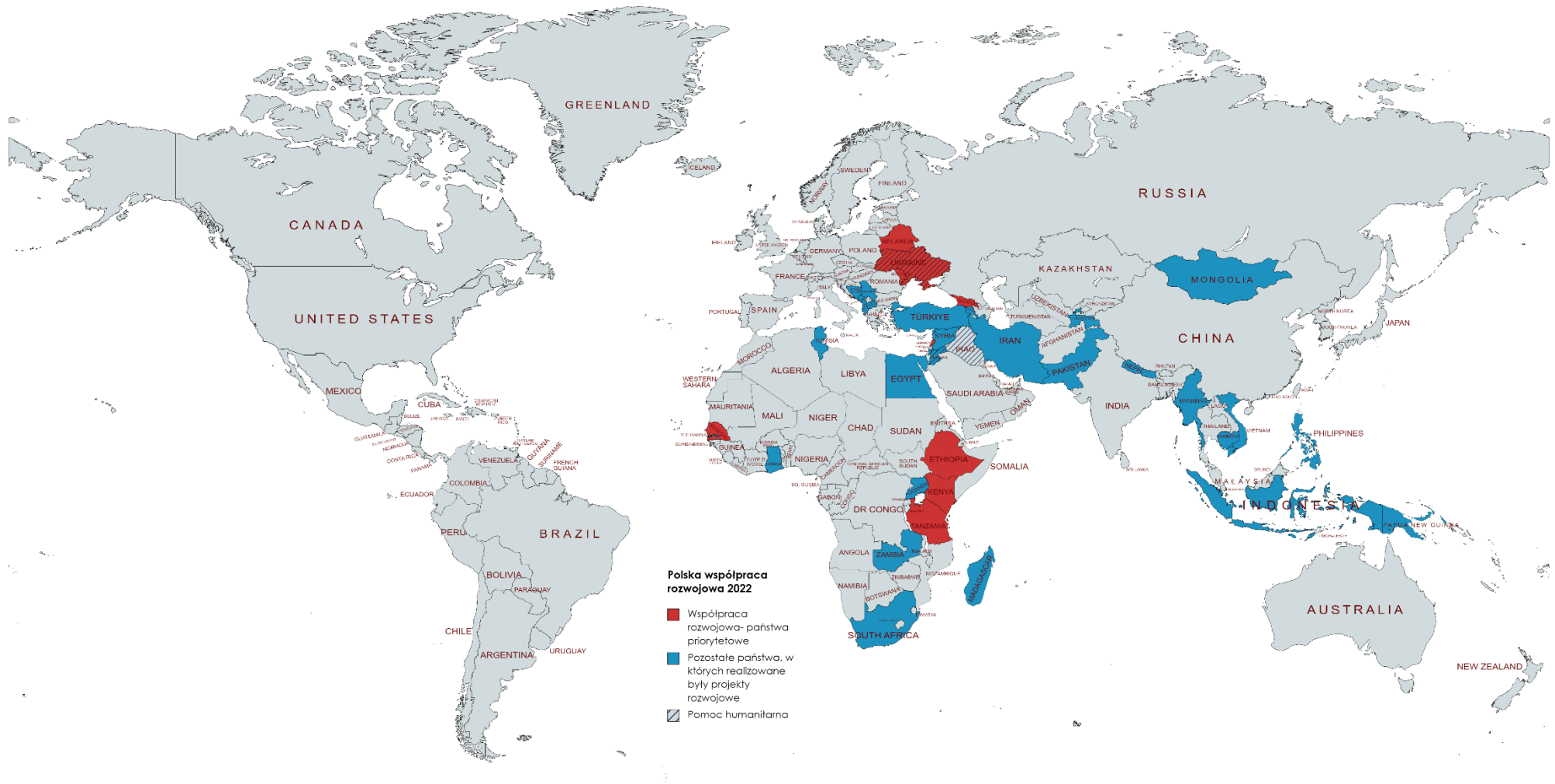
Polish entrepreneurs were involved in the implementation of development policy goals under the main programme titled *Polish Challenge Fund* (PCF) carried out by the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs (MFA) 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.

The year 2022 was a test of true *Solidarity* for everyone involved in *Polish Aid* – officials and diplomats, NGO workers and volunteers, local government officials, entrepreneurs, and finally ordinary citizens. It should be left to the judgment of the readers of this Report whether the result was positive.

Paweł Jabłoński
National Coordinator for
Development Cooperation

• Map of *Polish Aid* projects in 2022



1. Development cooperation system

1.1. Development cooperation – *Polish Aid*

Development cooperation is part of foreign policy, which involves supporting the development of economically disadvantaged and less developed countries (**development assistance**) and providing assistance in the wake of natural disasters or conflicts (**humanitarian aid**). Development cooperation also includes educational activities, called **global education**, aimed at raising awareness and understanding of global issues and interdependencies between countries. *Polish Aid* refers to all actions carried out in these areas by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with central government bodies, social organisations and local entities in partner countries, as well as activities in the international forums and organisations of which Poland is a member.

Development assistance can be implemented as **bilateral** aid (i.e., to a specific partner country) through special aid programmes and projects, provision of donations and loans for specific initiatives, scholarships for citizens of recipient countries, debt relief, and provision of concessional loans. **Multilateral** aid is the second channel for providing development assistance – Poland provides this aid through contributions to international institutions that support development around the world, such as the United Nations specialised agencies.

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

Development cooperation is a joint global effort to implement the **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), adopted in the UN General Assembly Resolution *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. By signing the document, leaders of the UN member states pledged in September 2015 to take action to improve the quality of life in the world in 5 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 dedicated to this purpose, are classified as **Official Development Assistance (ODA)**.

Poland's Official Development Assistance reached a record value of more than PLN 15 bn, or **0.53% of its Gross National Income** in 2022. Poland thus exceeded the 0.33% ODA/GNI target. The nearly threefold increase in ODA over the previous year was caused by the unprecedented support for refugees from Ukraine and increased outlays for contributions to international organisations. Poland allocated USD 310 m directly to help Ukraine (9% of ODA), while USD 2,193 m (63% of ODA) went to support refugees in the territory of Poland. The ratio of bilateral to multilateral aid completely reversed from the previous year, amounting to 76% and 24% of ODA respectively in 2022 (30% and 70% respectively in 2021).

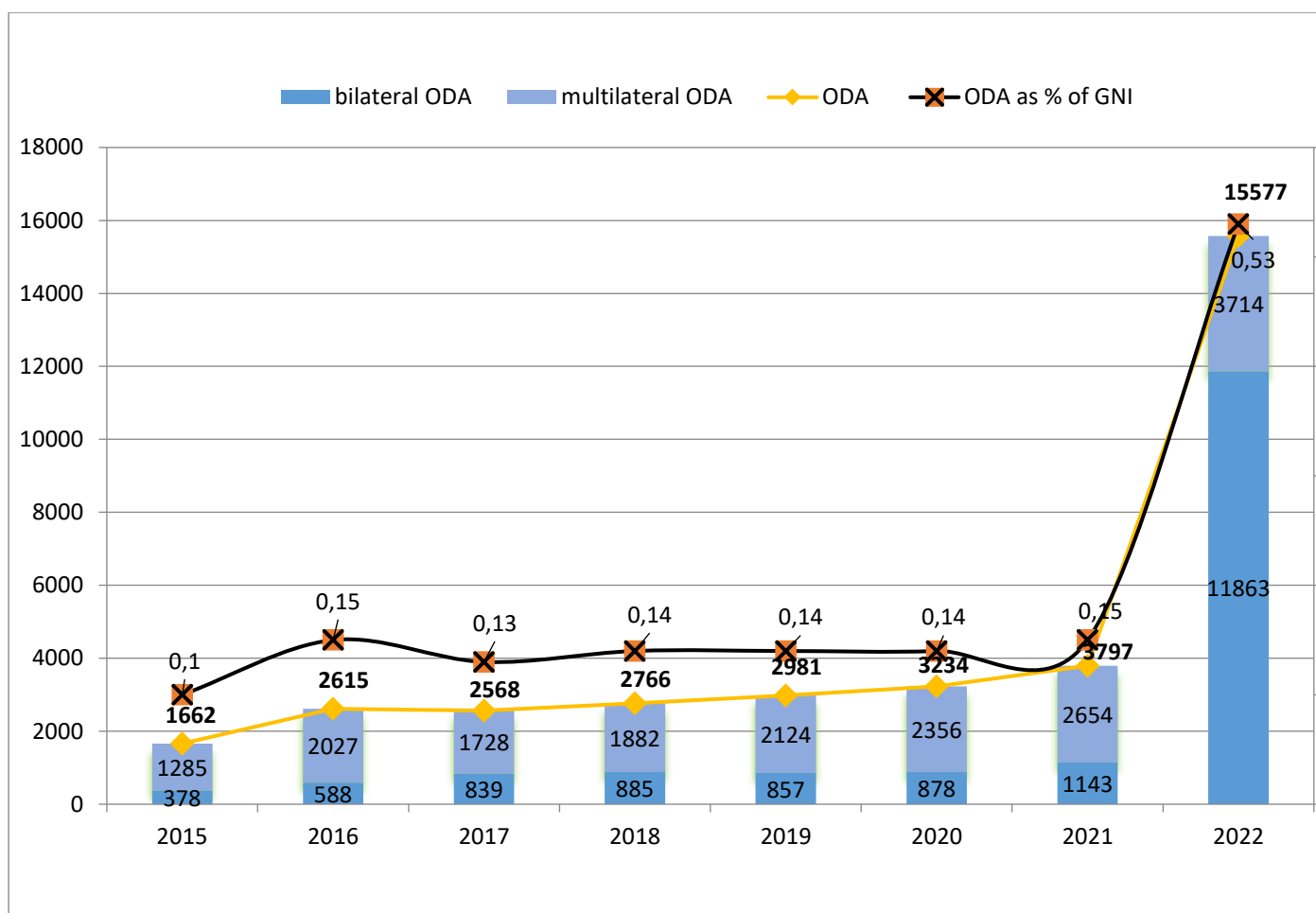


Figure 1 Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the period 2015–2022 in PLN mln

1.2. Polish Aid priorities in terms of geography and issues addressed

In 2022, Polish Aid activities were targeted at ten priority countries:

- four European countries included in the Eastern Partnership initiative: Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine;
- four African countries: Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, and Tanzania;
- two Asian countries located in the Middle East: Lebanon and Palestine.

In 2022, Poland's aid focused on selected areas under the following Sustainable Development Goals: 16. Peace, justice and strong institutions, 4. Quality education, 8. Decent work and economic growth, 10. Reduced inequalities 3. Good health and well-being

6. Clean water and sanitation, 11. Sustainable cities and communities, and 13. Climate action. The priority issues were complemented by two cross-cutting priorities: climate protection and equal opportunities for women and men.

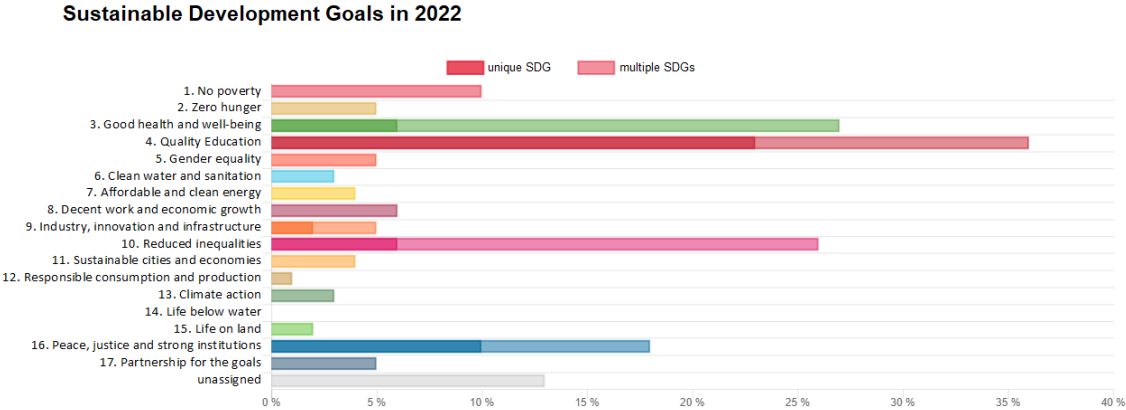


Figure 2 ODA – data by Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

1.3. Polish development cooperation: legal and institutional framework

The **Development Cooperation Act** of 16 September 2011 (Journal of Laws of 2021, item 1425) is the legal foundation for planning Polish involvement in development cooperation, while the implementation of *Polish Aid* activities is based on the following documents: *Multiannual Development Cooperation Programme for 2021–2030 Solidarity for Development* adopted by the Council of Ministers by the resolution of 19 January 2021 and the *2022 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. In 2022, two meetings of the third-term Council were held: on 7 October and 13 December. At its October meeting, the Council was informed of the adoption of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) *DAC Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society in Development Co-operation and Humanitarian Assistance* (OECD, OECD/LEGAL/5021). During the December meeting, the methodology for calculating the cost of refugees’ maintenance and steps being taken to strengthen the climate priority in Polish development cooperation for

the purpose of Official Development Assistance were put under discussion on the assumptions of the draft *2023 Development Cooperation Plan*.

The implementation of development cooperation tasks involves a number of public administration bodies, in particular the Ministry of Finance (MF), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Science. Among other things, the MF pays Poland's contribution to the EU budget, which largely determines the total volume of multilateral cooperation. The Ministry of Education and Science's scholarship policy includes support for foreign students from developing countries. In addition, in 2022, a number of institutions independently implemented development activities for Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia and Lebanon. The **Ministry of the Interior and Administration** provided technical assistance in public security in the areas of emergency medical services, capacity building for border guard and emergency services, combating drug crime and human trafficking and road safety. The **Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy** supported the Moldovan and Ukrainian administrations in the area of urban revitalisation and development. It also implemented a project to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Georgian administration to professionalise its entrepreneurs' service and, in partnership with the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP), to strengthen Georgian start-ups in growth and entry into foreign markets. The **Armed Forces Operational Command**, as part of the UNIFIL mission in Lebanon, provided support to schools and fed the electrical grid with cheap and environmentally friendly energy. In addition, initiatives undertaken by the **Office of Competition and Consumer Protection** and the **Office of Electronic Communications** were aimed at, respectively, developing professional administration of consumer protection in Moldova and Armenia, and supporting Moldovan telecommunications regulators. The cooperation with the Georgian Regulation Agency for Medical and Pharmaceutical Activities undertaken by the **Ministry of Health** aimed at bringing about harmonisation of the existing standards for the supervision of medicinal products with those of European Union countries. The tasks assigned to the Minister of Foreign Affairs in the scope of development cooperation are implemented by the **Development Cooperation Department (DCD)** of the Ministry. Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, which began on 24 February 2022, had the utmost effect on the department's operations. The department had to take on additional humanitarian coordination duties. It also became necessary to modify planned initiatives to

facilitate support for affected individuals and refugees, financial support for activities implemented by international organisations (multilateral development aid) for Ukraine and, to a lesser extent, for Moldova. International forums have been seeking to provide as much funding as possible to help Ukraine and counter the global impact of the war.

ODA expenditure of government entities in 2022	
Institution	Amount in PLN mln
Ministry of Internal Affairs	4998.81
Ministry of Finance	4980.53
Ministry of Family and Social Policy	2318.68
Ministry of Health	662.87
Government Agency for Strategic Reserves	649.37
Ministry of Education and Science	585.41
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	578.84
Ministry of Climate and Environment	424.23
Chancellery of the Prime Minister	168.83
Ministry of State Assets	52.14
Ministry of Infrastructure	18.75
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development	16.28
Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy	15.82
Ministry of Culture and National Heritage	15.15
Ministry of Economic Development and Technology	4.86
National Bank of Poland	3.32
Ministry of Sport and Tourism	0.79
Ministry of Justice	0.74
Ministry of National Defence	0.59

Office of Competition and Consumer Protection	0.38
Other	85.69

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). Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD) is considered a key element 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 a way that avoids actions that have a negative impact on global development and on the development opportunities of other countries** (including developing countries). Simultaneously, countries should strive to align the objectives of their national goals with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2022, PCD continued to address the existing priority areas, i.e. the fight against illicit financial flows in terms of tax avoidance and money laundering (leading institution: Ministry of Finance), the dissemination and implementation of corporate social responsibility standards (leading institution: Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy), the fight against illegal trade of 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. In addition, the MFA is coordinating issues related to the implementation of the *National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights* (NAP).

2. Multilateral development cooperation

2.1. Cooperation with international organisations

In 2022, Poland's activity in the area of international cooperation conducted by international organisations was marked by the challenges created by Russia's aggression against Ukraine. In particular, we supported programmes of the UN and other international organisations implemented in Ukraine and Eastern Partnership countries. We sought to ensure that the commitment to help Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees resonated strongly in the development documents adopted by the EU Council. At meetings of the Development Council, we consistently raised the demand to secure as much funding as possible for the future reconstruction of Ukraine and to create an EU instrument for this purpose.

On 5 May 2022, at the initiative of Polish Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki and Swedish Prime Minister Magdalena Andersson, the **International Donors' Conference for Ukraine** was held in Warsaw, attended – in person or online – by the heads of state and government of 21 countries, numerous humanitarian organisations, and financial institutions as well as representatives of global business. The international community raised some USD 6.5 bn during the Conference to support Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees.

Due to the significant increase in Polish aid to Ukraine, the share of multilateral cooperation in total Polish development assistance fell from 70% to 30%, which, however, it did not translate into a reduction in real support. The European Union is the main channel for the transfer of multilateral aid. 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**, for example through the participation of its representatives in the meetings of the Foreign Affairs Council (FAC), operating in the format of development cooperation ministers, and through active participation in the work of Council working groups. In 2022, the Working Party on Development Cooperation and International Partnerships (CODEV-PI) reached Council's

conclusions setting out the directions of EU development policy, including the Disaster Risk Reduction and the Youth Action Plan conclusions. During the work on these documents, Poland pushed for the inclusion of Polish foreign policy priorities, including programme priorities of *Polish Aid*, as well as for the use of wording that is in line with the EU Treaties.

In 2022, Poland continued its participation in the works of the committee for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-GE) aimed at implementing regional and thematic programmes under this instrument. 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 development), and taking into account the knowledge and experience of all Member States in the implementation of EU aid programmes.

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). Under the new 2021–2027 Multiannual Financial Framework, this instrument has been integrated into the EU budget as part of the NDICI-GE instrument. In 2022, Poland contributed EUR 56.2 m to EDF. We also supported the transfer of outstanding EDF funds to combat the negative effects of Russian aggression in the Global South countries, including primarily in the area of development cooperation.

As a member of the **OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC)**, Poland actively participates in developing of standards and principles that shape contemporary development assistance. In 2022, Poland continued its involvement in the Committee’s work. Key topics discussed by the DAC that year included: possible DAC support for Ukraine in the face of the war caused by Russia; food security; growing needs in the humanitarian aid sector; integrating climate, environmental and biodiversity issues into development cooperation; increasing the involvement of civil society organisations in development cooperation; and further financing of development assistance, including deepening cooperation with the private sector to mobilise innovative funding for development activities.

In line with Poland’s foreign policy goals and development cooperation priorities, in 2022 Poland continued to support – through **voluntary contributions** – development activities

implemented by specialised multilateral organisations, programmes and international funds. In the wake of Russian aggression against Ukraine, most of the activities co-sponsored by Poland involved Ukraine, and to a lesser extent Moldova and Georgia. Other supported areas include, in particular, democratisation efforts, peacebuilding, bridging inequalities, and support for least developed countries and small island developing states (LDCs/SIDS).

In 2022, we continued our long-standing cooperation with **organisations of the UN system**: the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the UN Department of Political Affairs (UNDPA), the UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF), the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS), the United Nations Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Agenda (UN Women), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and we also supported UNESCO activities (including a project for Ukraine) and the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy (UNDIS).

Consistent with previous years, we also provided financial support for development activities carried out by **regional organisations**: OECD (including a contribution of PLN 1 m to establish an OECD Office in Kiev), the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and Council of Europe programmes for Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. In addition, Poland made contributions to the NATO Professional Development Programme (PDP) for Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia in 2022.

In 2022, Poland continued its cooperation with **international development banks**, primarily the World Bank Group (WBG), the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), both through regular member contributions and participation in funds (ERI TF, EPATF, EBRD's E5P Fund for Eastern Partnership countries).

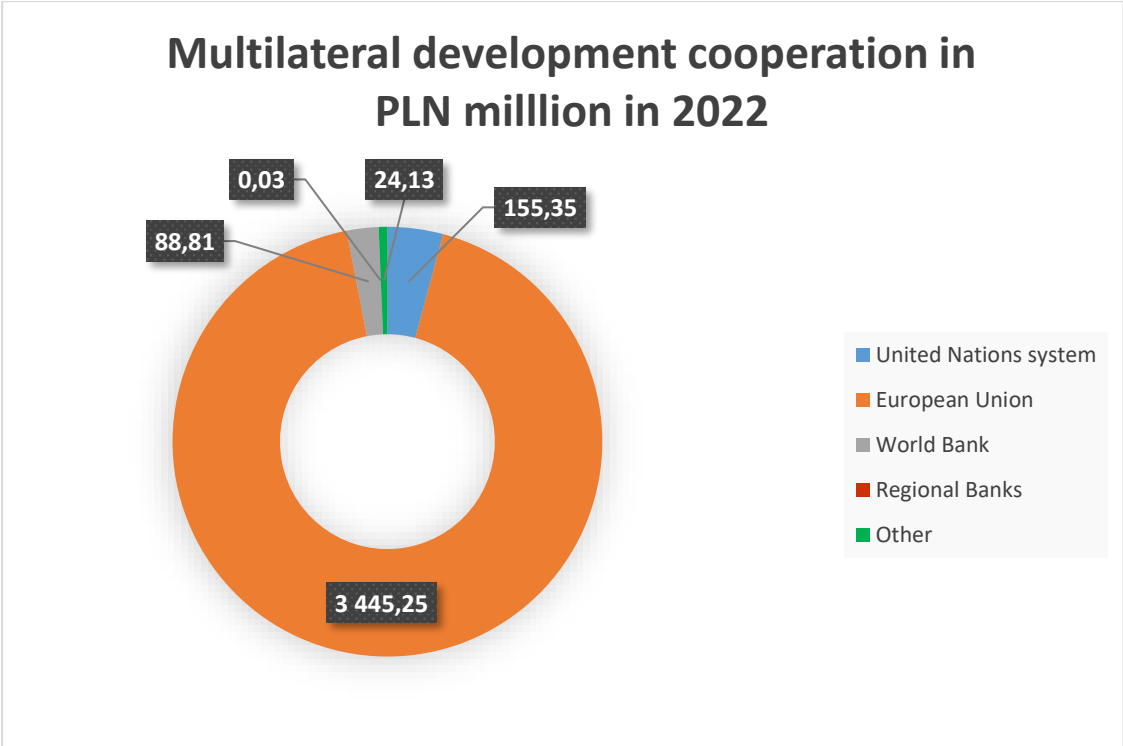


Figure 3 Multilateral development cooperation in 2022 by type of international organisation (in PLN m)

2.2. Coordination of bilateral assistance – Twinning and TAIEX

Polish public administration actively takes advantage 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.



Thus, by using funds other than the state budget (assistance provided by Polish entities through the Twinning and TAIEX instruments is not counted as Polish ODA), 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.

The beneficiaries of Twinning and TAIEX are mainly the Eastern Partnership countries, the Western Balkans and some Middle Eastern and North African countries. In addition, the programmes concerned are gradually extending their impact area in order to include other countries in Africa and Asia.

In 2022, within the framework of **TAIEX**, Poland was among the top ten most active EU countries, carrying out about 100 expert missions, mainly in the Eastern Partnership countries and the Balkans. In particular, the activity of experts from the Polish Financial Supervision Authority and the Office of Electronic Communications should be mentioned here.

During the aforementioned period, within the framework of the **Twining**, Polish institutions prepared one cooperation offer, which was selected for implementation by the beneficiary. It was a project for Azerbaijan titled *Increasing Road Safety in Azerbaijan* with a budget of EUR 1 m. It is currently (2023) being implemented by a Polish-Lithuanian consortium in which Poland has a leading role. Polish institutions involved in the project are: Centre for EU Transport Projects (leading institution), Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy, General Inspectorate of Road Transport, Road and Bridge Research Institute.

Significantly lower activity of the Polish administration in Twinning in 2022 in comparison to previous years was caused mainly by ongoing project commitments, which were extended as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the review period, activities were carried out to facilitate Polish entities' participation in Twinning projects, among other things, by providing training for the Polish administration in the implementation of Twinning.

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



Engagement of Polish entrepreneurs in development policy goals through the Polish-UNDP Partnership (PUP) established with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued in 2022. The two main components of PUP cooperation are the *Polish Challenge Fund (PCF)* and *Knowledge Management (KM)*.

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*.

Despite the new threats in the region caused by the armed conflict in Ukraine, but also the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation of the initiatives selected in the 3rd edition of the PCF, which had been delayed due to the war, was finalised. In addition, the initiatives awarded in the 4th edition of the PCF were implemented as planned, as well as a call for proposals was launched in the second half of the year, for the next, 5th edition.

As a result of the 5th PCF competition, the implementation of 9 of the 10 highest-rated innovative solutions submitted to the contest by Polish entrepreneurs in cooperation with local partners from the Republic of Moldova was launched with a total funding of USD 356,636.

The second component of the *Knowledge Management* project focused on gathering lessons learnt and sharing them with a wider audience based on the developed data collection system (from applicants to end-users), strengthening the PCF brand among potential applicants and local partners, and developing relevant partnerships with significant stakeholders active in the field of innovation, as well as companies and start-ups.



3. Polish aid to Ukraine and Ukrainians facing full-scale war

Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 has led to a humanitarian catastrophe that has affected millions of people forced to flee war-torn towns and villages. Bombings, intense fighting, attacks on civilians, civilian facilities and critical infrastructure have caused great suffering to the population and massive destruction of property. The war in Ukraine has unleashed the largest refugee crisis in that part of the world since World War II. Millions of refugees who have found refuge in Poland, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary and Moldova do need support. Poland alone hosted more than 1.5 million refugees in 2022, most of them women and children.

This situation has demanded fundamental changes to the *2022 Development Cooperation Plan* and the diversion of *Polish Aid* funds to humanitarian activities for Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees. At the same time, development assistance activities continued, tailored to the immediate needs of the Ukrainian population. Initiatives were also taken wherever possible, supporting Ukraine in preparing for the country's reconstruction and strengthening its resilience.



Photo: Ivano-Frankivsk Maltese Relief Service

On 15 February 2022, Ukraine activated the EU Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). Since then, the European Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) has received hundreds of requests for assistance or updated lists of needs from Ukrainian authorities.

With the support of the ERCC, within the UCPM, Poland, Romania and Slovakia have established UCPM logistics hubs, where EU Member States' aid to Ukraine is temporarily pooled and supplies to Ukraine are prepared. Poland, within the framework of the UCPM, has provided assistance to Ukraine in the form of, among others, medicines, medical supplies and equipment, medical personal protective equipment, food, power generators,

temporary shelters and their equipment (beds, blankets, bedding), electronic equipment. With the help of a logistics hub managed by the Government Agency for Strategic Reserves (GASR; Polish: RARS), more than 870,000 tonnes of humanitarian aid had been transferred to Ukraine by the end of 2022. More than 80% of EU aid passed to Ukraine through the logistics hub located in Poland.

In addition to aid for Ukrainian refugees in Poland and humanitarian aid delivered to Ukraine, Poland has undertaken to mobilise financial support for Ukraine. On 5 May 2022, the International Donors' Conference for Ukraine was held at the National Stadium in Warsaw at the initiative of the Prime Ministers of Poland and Sweden and in cooperation with the European Union. The event was attended – in person or online – by heads of state and government, foreign ministers and ambassadors from 43 countries, as well as representatives of the UN system, humanitarian organisations, financial institutions, and global business. During the conference, the international community pledged some USD 6.5 bn in support for Ukraine and its people, including more than USD 1.2 bn in new funds. Poland pledged USD 3.71 bn in aid to Ukraine.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs made numerous contributions for Ukraine to multilateral organisations providing specialised assistance, including: PLN 3,255,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), PLN 500,000 to UNICEF, PLN 250,000 to UNICEF Country Programme for Ukraine (2018–2023), PLN 510,241 to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) for activities in Ukraine, PLN 2,250,000 to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) in response to the global humanitarian appeal related to the armed conflict, EUR 500,000 as chair of the OSCE for a humanitarian aid project in Ukraine, and PLN 500,000 to UNHCR working in Moldova on the refugee crisis. Poland, with contributions to the World Food Programme (WFP) totalling PLN 6,000,000, also supported African countries and Yemen,



Photo: Michał Ostrowski, DWOT

threatened by famine as a result of the disruption of Ukrainian grain supply chains caused by hostilities and Russia's blockade of Black Sea ports.

In launching the *Humanitarian Aid 2022* grant procedure, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs financed projects implemented on Ukrainian territory by Polish NGOs together with Ukrainian local partners, as well as projects implemented in Poland for Ukrainian refugees, to the tune of PLN 11.5 m. Total MFA expenditures through the bilateral channel and the multilateral channel for Ukraine amounted to PLN 43 m.

Poland's **Official Development Assistance (ODA)** reached a record value of more than **PLN 15,577 m** in 2022. The increase was related to Poland's above-average response to the migrant crisis caused by Russia's attack on Ukraine, as well as Poland's support for Ukrainian refugees and increased outlays for contributions to international organisations. The cost of maintaining refugees qualified as bilateral ODA amounted to PLN 9.8 bn. Bilateral aid directed to Ukraine reached nearly PLN 1.4 bn.

4. 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 authorities, diplomatic and consular missions.

In 2022, Polish bilateral development assistance was mainly addressed to 10 priority countries listed in the *2023 Development Cooperation Plan*: Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, Lebanon and Palestine. At the same time, bilateral aid was also targeted at other ODA recipients included on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of developing countries.

In 2022, the most important **instruments of bilateral development cooperation** financed or co-financed by 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 channel¹.

¹ 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.

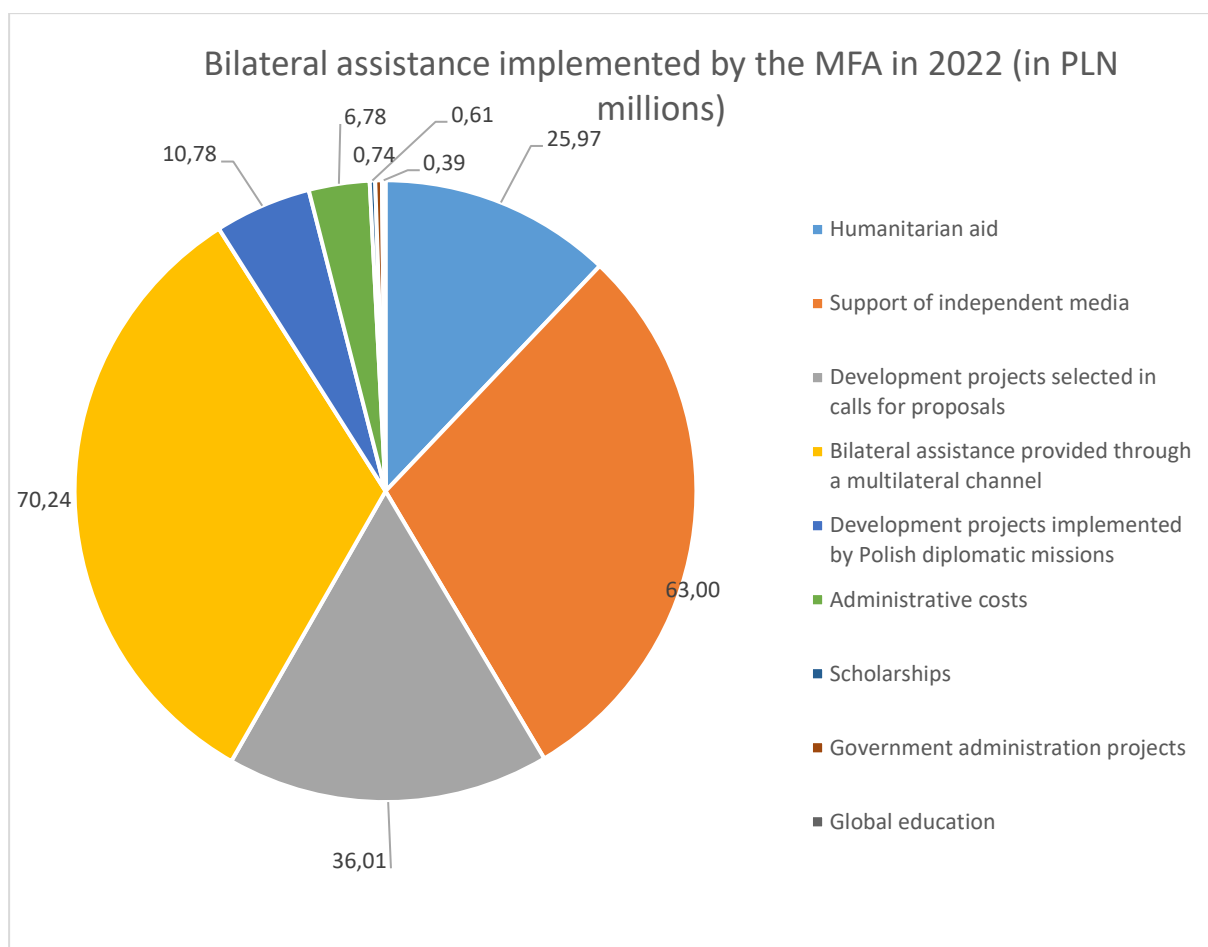


Figure 4 Bilateral aid implemented by the MFA in 2022 (in PLN m)

4.1. Calls for proposals announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs each year 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 the principles for their evaluation. Proposals may be submitted by non-governmental organisations registered in Poland, local government, public and non-public higher education institutions, research institutes as well as the Polish Academy of Sciences and its branches. It is required that the applicant should have a local partner in the partner country with whom the project will be implemented.

In 2022, the following calls for proposals were launched:

- The *Polish Development Assistance 2022* call for proposals
- The *Humanitarian Aid 2022* call for proposals

The *Polish Development Assistance 2022* call for proposals

By the decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, grants for the implementation of **26 projects** were awarded in the *Polish Development Assistance 2022* call for proposals. This figure takes into account 11 modular, two-year projects scheduled for implementation in 2022–2023 and 9 three-year projects to be implemented in 2023–2024. 6 projects for Georgia, 5 for Tanzania, 5 for Moldova, 3 for Kenya, 2 each for Palestine, Lebanon and Senegal, and 1 for Sierra Leone were selected for funding. The total value of grants awarded under the call for proposals (taking into account all modules) amounted to **PLN 41,870,964.66**.

The *Humanitarian Aid 2022* call for proposals

In the *Humanitarian Aid 2022* call for proposals, by decision of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, grants were awarded for the implementation of 9 projects for Ukraine, to be implemented in 2022, and 3 projects for the Middle East (Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon), to be implemented in 2022–2023. The total amount of grant awarded to Ukraine was PLN 11,458,477.41, while the total amount of grant awarded to the Middle Eastern countries was PLN 2,992,040.00 for 2022 and PLN 4,487,216.00 for 2023. The total grant value of the *Humanitarian Aid 2022* call for proposals (taking into account all modules) amounted to **PLN 18,937,733.4**.

4.2. Projects launched by Polish diplomatic and consular missions

Projects implemented by Polish diplomatic and consular missions were carried out both in *Polish Aid* priority countries, as well as in other developing countries. In 2022, these countries were: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Egypt, the Philippines, Gambia, Ghana, Georgia, Indonesia, Iran, Jordan, Cambodia, Kenya, Lebanon, Northern Macedonia, Madagascar, Myanmar, Moldova, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, South Africa, Senegal, Serbia, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania,

Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Vietnam, Zambia. The initiatives were prepared jointly with local partners, i.e. registered and legally operating NGOs, religious centres, public institutions as well as central and local administration in the territory concerned. Their goal is to meet the specific needs of the local population.

In 2022, Polish foreign missions carried out **113 projects** for a total amount of PLN 10,781,783.

Development initiatives were to improve the quality and availability of medical care, both inpatient and outpatient, as well as the implementation of preventive health care programmes. Measures were taken to support crisis management systems, ensure the safety of the population, including fire safety, and improve access of local communities to municipal and social services. Support was given to the modernisation and development of education systems at all levels, as well as vocational programmes and labour market activation. Within the framework of bridging social inequalities, assistance programmes targeted women, people with disabilities, and victims of domestic violence in particular. The development of entrepreneurship, tourism, and job creation was promoted. Measures designed to protect the environment, preserve the biodiversity of ecosystems and support the development of green technologies were supported.

4.3. Activities carried out by Solidarity Fund PL

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs commissioned the Solidarity Fund PL to implement the **Support for Democracy 2022** programme, which consisted of 7 activities for a total amount of PLN 40,438.8 thousand.



Activities for **Belarus**: the Fund provided support to Belarusian society through its own and partner projects, the purchase of broadcasts and airtime, and the organisation of a call for proposals for Polish NGOs. The Fund also oversaw the headquarters of independent Belarusian communities in Poland.

In **Moldova**, the Fund implemented the next stage of programmes on local rural and urban development, as well as pilot projects related to the construction of a civil protection system and support for internal services.

In **Ukraine**, the Fund continued its activities related to civil protection reform, implemented pilot projects on the provision of psychological services and the construction of management competencies of *hromadas*. The Fund adapted the social service sector reform programme to war conditions and participated in the implementation of a project related to the preparation of a report according to the UNESCO methodology on the safety of journalists. In response to the challenges of the next phase of the Russian invasion in Ukraine, the Fund provided humanitarian aid and supported the adaptation of Ukrainian refugees in Poland.

In **Georgia**, the Fund continued the Academy of Participation as a tool for improving the quality of governance and implemented activities to improve energy efficiency. Pilot activities were also undertaken in the field of revitalisation of post-industrial spaces.

In **Armenia**, the Fund implemented a project on supporting judicial reform and building trust between local communities.

In 2022, the Fund arranged to send Polish observers on one election observation mission. The snap presidential election in **Kazakhstan** was watched by 16 short-term observers (STOs) and 2 long-term observers (LTOs) from Poland. In addition, a two-day training course on short-term election observation was organised.

4.4. Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration

The Eastern Partnership Academy of Public Administration (EPAPA) programme is being implemented by the Lech Kaczyński National School of Public Administration (KSAP) on the initiative and with the cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

EPAPA aims at strengthening public administration in the Eastern Partnership countries by organising specialised training modules for officials from partner countries.

The twelfth edition of the Academy programme took place in 2022, after a two-year break it was again organised in an in-person format and consisted of four one-week training modules and one two-week training course – “study visits in the civil service” – conducted in

cooperation with the Civil Service Department of the Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland. The thematic modules included both lectures and workshops led by experienced experts and practitioners. They were organised for representatives of the five Eastern Partnership countries: **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**, with each module designed for about 15 participants.



Photo: Karolina Sawicka, National School of Public Administration

The modules covered the following topics:

1. Competition protection – the Polish experience for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, organised in cooperation with the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection,
2. The electronic surveillance system and probation – a training course for representatives of the probation service of Armenia, organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the Bureau of Electronic Surveillance of the Prison Service and the Warszawa Praga District Court,
3. Combating corruption and the fight against the informal economy – the Polish experience for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, organised in cooperation with the Central Anti-corruption Bureau and the Polish Ministry of Finance (National Tax Administration),
4. Concentration control – the Polish experience for Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, organised in cooperation with the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection,

5. Study visits in the civil service. Strengthening the human resources management system in the civil service of Eastern Partnership countries, organised in cooperation with the Chancellery of the Prime Minister.

4.5. Scholarship programmes

Poland supports students from developing countries who study at Polish universities. Aid offerings include tuition exemptions and scholarships, among others. Foreign students in Poland have the opportunity to acquire education, knowledge and skills in domains important for the socio-economic development of their countries of origin. They learn about Polish culture, language and customs, and make contacts that foster stronger academic, social and economic relations between Poland and its partner countries.

Incentives to come to Poland include **scholarships** offered under scholarship programmes co-financed from funds earmarked for development cooperation. For many years, the largest group of foreign students in Poland has been citizens of Ukraine and Belarus.



Support for foreign students is also part of the process of internationalisation of Polish education. The Ministry of Education and Science, the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange and universities are taking the lead here.

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 2021, the programme was extended to include an offer previously available under the Ignacy Łukasiewicz Scholarship Programme. The possibility of undertaking master's degree 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, the Philippines, Senegal, Serbia, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam. In addition, students from European, Southern Caucasus and Central Asian countries had the opportunity to study also in the field of humanities and social sciences, with the exception of philology studies in the native language from the beneficiary's country of origin. In addition, 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 Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange. More than 2,000 foreign students expressed their willingness to participate. In 2022, a total of more than 600 scholarship holders participated in the programme.

The Konstanty Kalinowski Scholarship Programme – *Solidarity with Belarus*

In 2022, support for students and researchers from Belarus who, due to the political environment, 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. Under the Konstanty Kalinowski Scholarship Programme, run by the Centre for East European Studies at the University of Warsaw, scholarships were awarded to over 650 beneficiaries in 2022. They had the opportunity to acquire a European-level education within the prevailing freedom of scientific research in a democratic state.

4.6. Projects implemented by government administration bodies

Projects implemented by Polish government administration bodies support reforms and 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.

In 2022, Polish government administration bodies and their subordinate units implemented 26 projects co-financed from the MFA's special-purpose reserve for a total of PLN 7,580,954.34.

The **Ministry of the Interior and Administration** provided technical assistance in public security in the areas of emergency medical services, capacity support for border guards and emergency services,

combating drug crime and human trafficking, and road safety.



Ministry of the Interior and Administration
Republic of Poland

The **Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy** supported the Moldovan and Ukrainian governments in the area of urban revitalisation and development. It also implemented a project to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Georgian government to professionalise its entrepreneurs' service and, in partnership with the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP), to strengthen Georgian start-ups in the process of growth and entry into

foreign markets.



Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy
Republic of Poland

The **Armed Forces Operational Command**, as part of the UNIFIL mission in Lebanon, provided support to schools and fed the energy system with cheap and environmentally friendly energy.



In addition, initiatives undertaken by the **Office of Competition and Consumer Protection** and the **Office of Electronic Communications** were aimed at, respectively, developing



professional administration of consumer protection in Moldova and Armenia, and supporting Georgian, Moldovan and Ukrainian telecommunications regulators.

Cooperation with the Georgian Regulation Agency for Medical and Pharmaceutical Activities and the Armenian E. Gabrielyan Scientific Centre of Drug and Medical Technology Expertise undertaken by the **Ministry of Health** aimed at harmonising the existing standards for the supervision of medicinal products with those of European Union countries.



Ministry of Health
Republic of Poland

4.7. Bilateral development assistance in priority countries

4.7.1. Eastern Partnership

4.7.1.1. Belarus

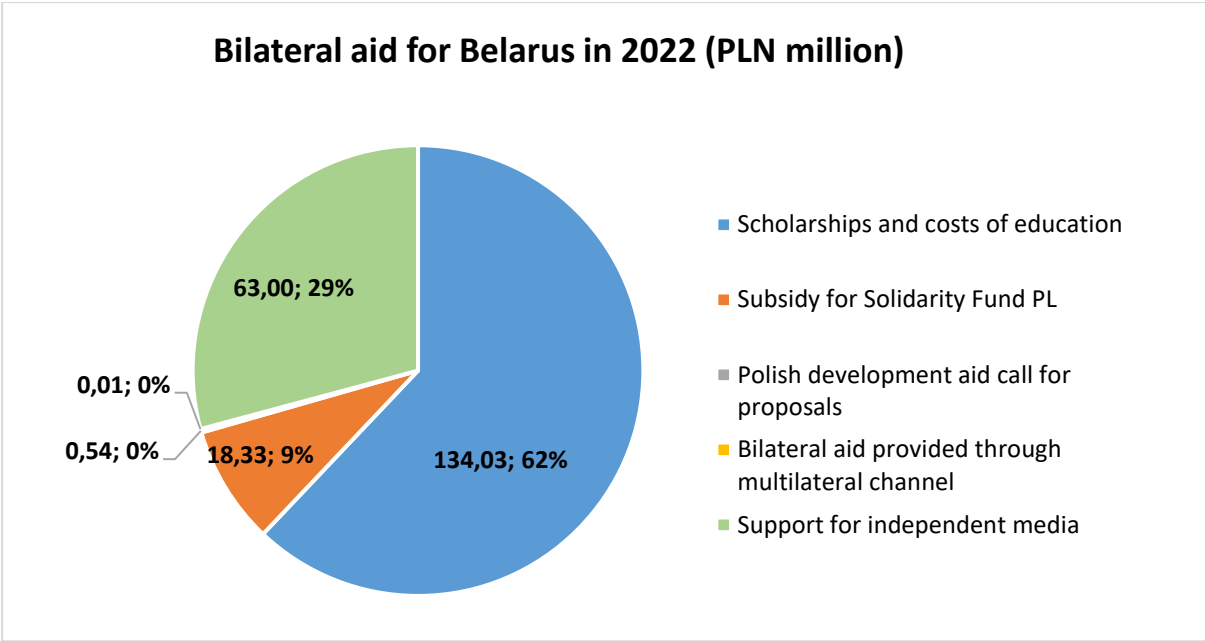


Figure 5 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Belarus

The Belarusian society has been among the priority beneficiaries of *Polish Aid* since 2006. In 2022, the implementation of development projects for Belarus was very difficult due to the political situation and the lack of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. As a result, it was necessary to adjust the forms of assistance activities carried out and focus on two thematic areas: **Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions** and **Equal Opportunity – Education**. Dozens of development initiatives of varying value were implemented, most of them through government administration bodies and the Solidarity Fund PL.

Aid activities were directed, among others, to repressed persons, Belarusian independent media and journalists, and Belarusian students and scientists who came to Poland for further study and work. Most of the funds went to projects aimed at increasing access to unbiased information for the Belarusian public, including radio broadcasts and television programmes,

as well as to finance the cost of education and scholarships for students – in 2022, more than 12,000 Belarusian citizens were already being educated at Polish universities . An



Photo: Society of Friends of the Korycin Land

important role in the implementation of the projects was played by cooperation with Belarusian overseas communities, which acted both as implementers and beneficiaries. In all the activities undertaken, the key issue was to ensure the safety of the people involved.

4.7.1.2. Georgia

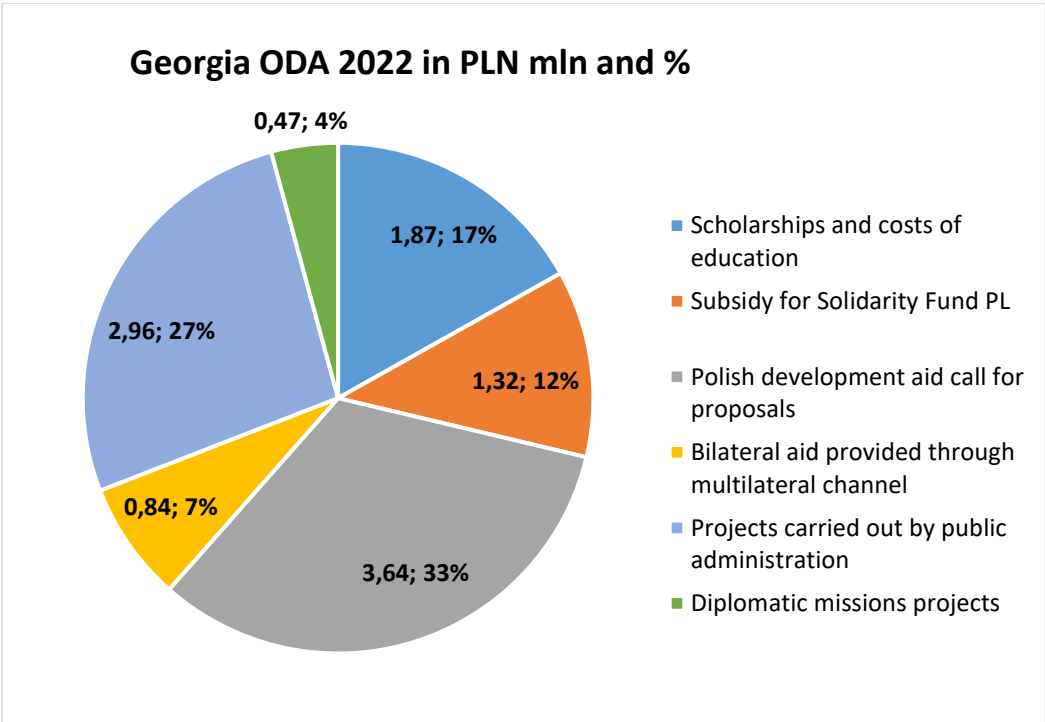


Figure 6 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Georgia

Georgia has been a priority country for Polish development assistance since 2004. A total of 21 projects were implemented in 2022, including: 7 by NGOs and 1 project by a local

government unit under the *Polish Development Assistance 2022* call for proposals, 6 by the Polish government administration and 4 projects by the Polish Embassy in Tbilisi. Some of the Polish development activities in Georgia were implemented by the office of Solidarity Fund PL in Tbilisi (3 projects).

Aid activities for Georgia focused primarily on **support for the rescue and security system**.

The aim of the projects was to improve the skills of firefighters through training and providing the Tbilisi Fire Department training centre with the equipment. In addition, an analysis of the rescue system was conducted and a plan was created to develop Georgia's network of rescue units. The operational capabilities of water rescue services, mountain rescue services, road rescue services and units involved in combating organised drug crime had been enhanced.



Photo: Representative of the Provincial Police Headquarters in Krakow

Another important priority of *Polish Aid* in Georgia was to **support socially excluded groups**, mainly people with disabilities and those living in poverty. The projects were aimed at improving the amenities of rehabilitation centres and labour market inclusion of people with disabilities.

Polish Aid was also involved in the **development of entrepreneurship and tourism industry** in selected regions of Georgia. Support was provided to Georgian regions in creating an investment offer to attract business and strengthen the development of Georgian start-ups. Local small business and tourism industry were developed.

The long-standing support for **improving the quality of preschool education** was also continued by working with local governments and preparing them for the process of authorising preschools in accordance with new state quality standards.

4.7.1.3. Moldova

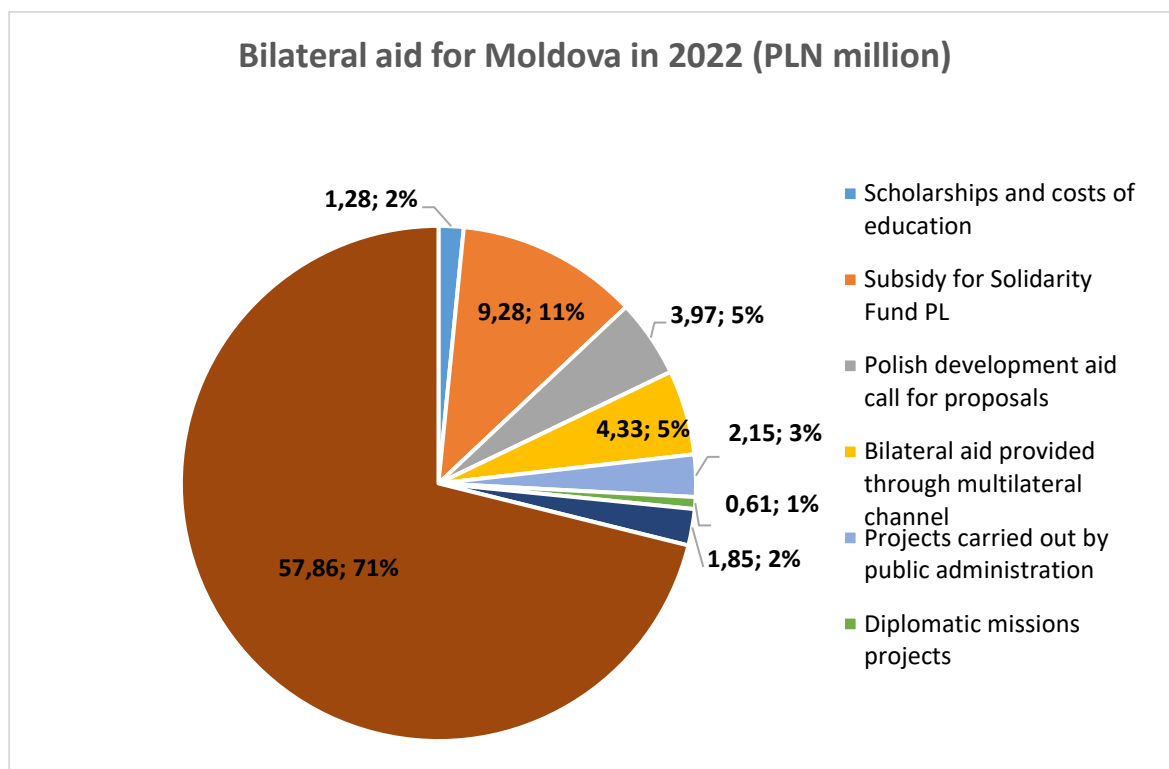


Figure 7 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Moldova

Moldova has been among the priority recipients of *Polish Aid* since 2004. A total of **27 projects** were implemented in 2022, including: 7 by NGOs and 2 projects by local government units under the *Polish Development Assistance 2022* call for proposals, 5 by the Polish government administration and 9 projects by the Polish Embassy in Chisinau. Some of the Polish development activities were also carried out by the Representation of Solidarity Fund PL in Chisinau (4 projects).



Photo: Eugeniu Carabulea

Polish development assistance to Moldova focuses primarily on **support for key reforms**, involving the institutional capacity development of public administration to plan and implement development policies: regional, urban, spatial and infrastructure. Polish Aid also supports the development of national and regional **crisis management systems**, training Moldovan police officers and upgrading the skills of emergency services. The **construction and development of entrepreneurship in rural areas** (LEADER – a tool of European rural development policy, which involves the creation of institutionalised intersectoral territorial partnerships known as Local Action Groups (LAGs) at the local level), as well as, starting this year, the strengthening of the system of market surveillance, fuel quality control and consumer protection, and monitoring of state aid and competition protection remain an important topic.

4.7.1.4. Ukraine

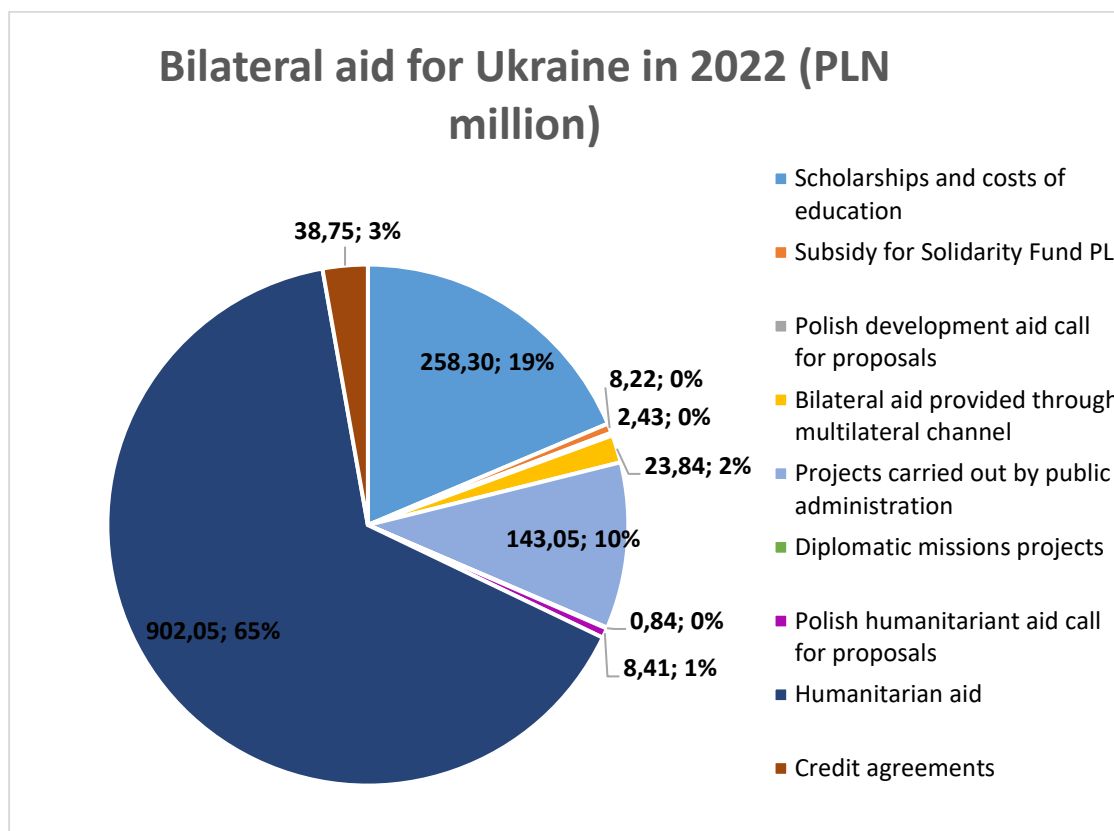


Figure 8 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Ukraine

Ukraine has been among the priority recipients of *Polish Aid* since 2005. In 2022, a total of 29 development assistance projects were implemented for Ukraine. As a result of Russia's full-scale aggression against Ukraine, development assistance activities for Ukraine, which had begun before the war, were adjusted to meet the immediate needs of the Ukrainian people. At the same time, new initiatives were also taken wherever possible, supporting Ukraine in preparing for the country's reconstruction and strengthening its resilience. In cooperation with the Ukrainian administration, activities were carried out in response to the challenges of the **reconstruction and modernisation of Ukrainian cities** destroyed as a result of the military aggression of the Russian Federation. Support for Ukrainian **emergency services, both state and volunteer**, also continued, which in 2022 included training in rescue and firefighting operations during wartime conditions as well as the delivery of necessary equipment. A new element of cooperation with the Ukrainian emergency services was support in conducting fire safety education classes for children in the context of ongoing warfare.

In 2022, Polish development assistance also included activities aimed at **mitigating the economic and social impact of the war**. In this regard, initiatives were funded to support entrepreneurship and the reconstruction and development of businesses among conflict-affected populations. Support also included the education and vocational training system, including in terms of the country’s reconstruction needs. Polish development assistance also financed activities aimed at building a system of mental health support for the population in wartime conditions. **Scholarship assistance** remained an important element of development cooperation with Ukraine, with Ukrainian students making up the largest group among foreign students at Polish universities.



Photo: Ivano-Frankivsk Maltese Relief Service

4.7.2. Africa

4.7.2.1. Ethiopia

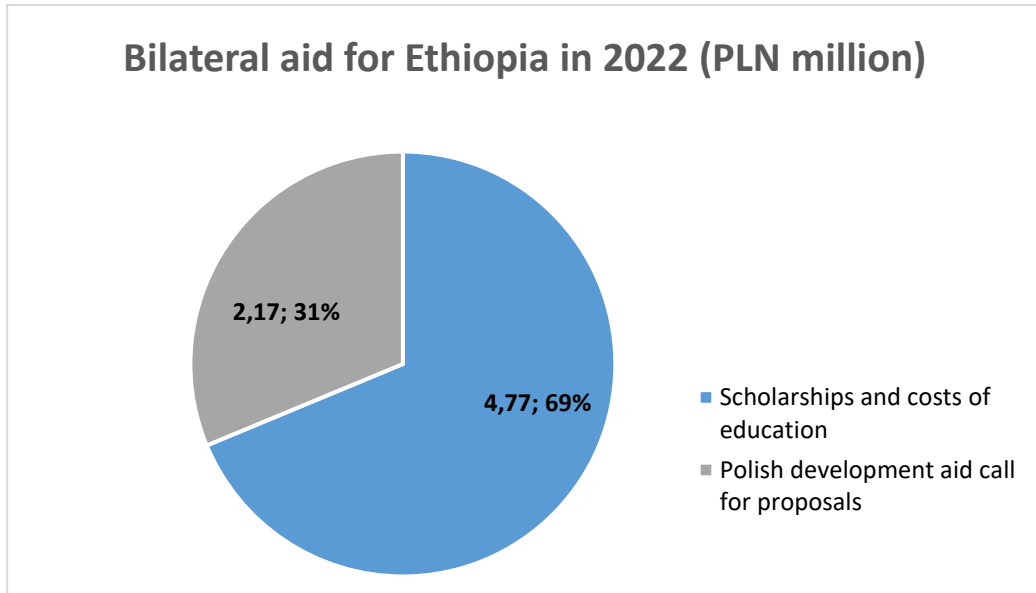


Figure 9 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Ethiopia

Ethiopia has been one of the priority countries for Polish development assistance since 2012. No new initiatives were launched for Ethiopia in 2022, due to the tense security situation in many regions of the country. Meanwhile, efforts continued to **improve the public health system's ability** to help victims of accidents, heart attacks and other emergencies by increasing the skill level of paramedics and other medical personnel and developing the competence of the instructional staff in emergency medicine. An important element of the



Photo: Magdalena Soboka

project was to support Ethiopia's Ministry of Health in implementing the emergency services development strategy through expert support, knowledge transfer and Polish experience in this area.

4.7.2.2. Kenya

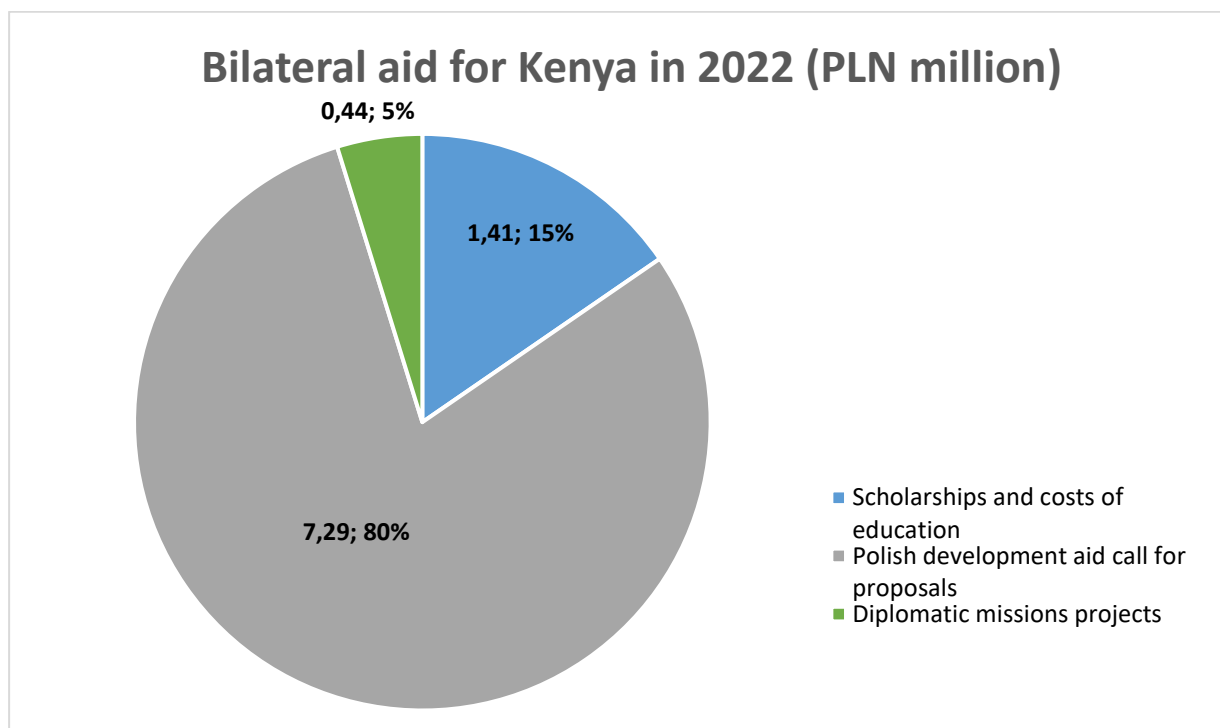


Figure 10 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Kenya

Kenya has been a priority country for Polish development cooperation since 2012 and one of its main recipients. A total of 10 projects were implemented in 2022, including: 6 by NGOs and 4 by the Polish Embassy in Nairobi.

Initiatives to **support the development of the rescue and security system** continued in 2022. Activities carried out in the Turkana, Taita Taveta and Nyeri counties served to enhance the functioning of the emergency medical system and improve the actions taken in life and health emergencies. An Emergency Notification Centre was built and put into operation in Turkana county and an emergency number was established. In order to increase safety, the road rescue system was also comprehensively supported. Fully-equipped firefighting units are being set up on the Nairobi-Mombasa road, which will enable rapid response along a section of the route previously unattended by emergency services. In addition, two fire stations were renovated in Murang'a and Meru counties.

Another important focus in Kenya was **climate action** linked to **support for business development** in agricultural areas. They focused on improving community living conditions in three counties in southern Kenya (Kitui, Makueni, Machakos), areas where access to safe

water and adequate sanitation is increasingly challenging as a result of the negative effects of climate change. Local schools were provided with access to sustainable water and sanitation infrastructure and energy sources. Thanks to the sand dams built, agricultural cooperatives operating in the region have gained access to water and its distribution powered by solar energy.

Under the “**equal opportunities**” focus, *Polish Aid* supported the **vocational education sector** in Kenya in the area of introducing modern technologies. Measures implemented at the Don Bosco Boys’ Town Technical Institute in Nairobi are helping to increase the level of vocational education, thereby increasing job opportunities among poor youth in the region.

With the aim of **improving teaching conditions**, nine elementary schools in West Pokot county were supplied with school desks and beds for students living in dormitories. To provide a safe place for the wards of the Limuru orphanage, the kitchen was renovated and a dining room was built. Sewing machines were also purchased for a newly opened sewing school, where girls from the orphanage and the surrounding area will be able to acquire vocational skills that will help them in adult life.



Photo: Agnieszka Kulowska

In the area of **efforts to combat social inequality**, the groups most at risk of exclusion – women survivors of human trafficking and at-risk youth from economically deprived neighbourhoods in Nairobi – were supported. Thanks to *Polish Aid*, these groups were provided with access to quality medical care, vocational and technical education, and professional psychological support for coping with challenges.

4.7.2.3. Senegal

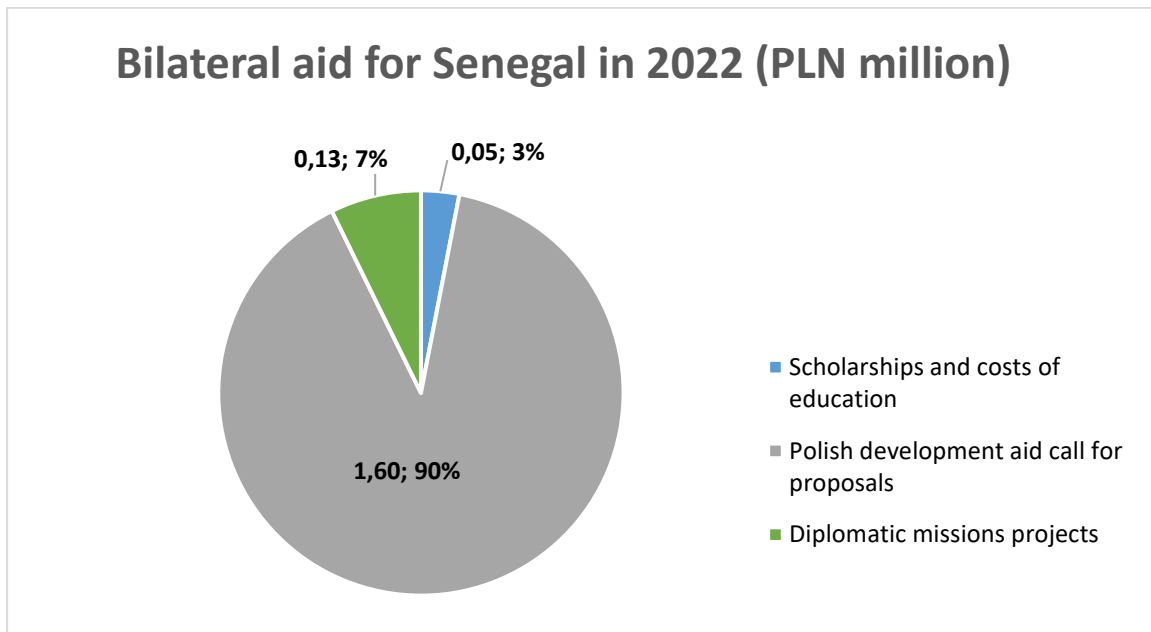


Figure 11 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Senegal

Senegal has been one of the main African beneficiaries of Polish bilateral development assistance since 2016. A total of 3 projects were implemented by Polish NGOs in Senegal in 2022 with *Polish Aid* funds, while the Polish Embassy in Dakar implemented 2 projects. In addition, Senegalese students are covered by the Stefan Banach Scholarship Programme.

Among the projects implemented by NGOs, **education, health care and education support** activities dominated. The goal of the two-module *Polish Medical Mission* project



Photo: The Polish Medical Mission Association

(2022/2023) is to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality by reducing the risks to mother and child from pregnancy, childbirth and then inadequate nutrition up to the age of 5. The direct beneficiaries of the project are public health facilities, 70 mid-level medical personnel, as well as children under the age of 5 and their mothers. The projects carried out in

cooperation with the Dakar Outpost addressed the Equal Opportunities – Education and

Equal Opportunities – Decent Work priorities and the Climate and Natural Resources priority.

4.7.2.4. Tanzania

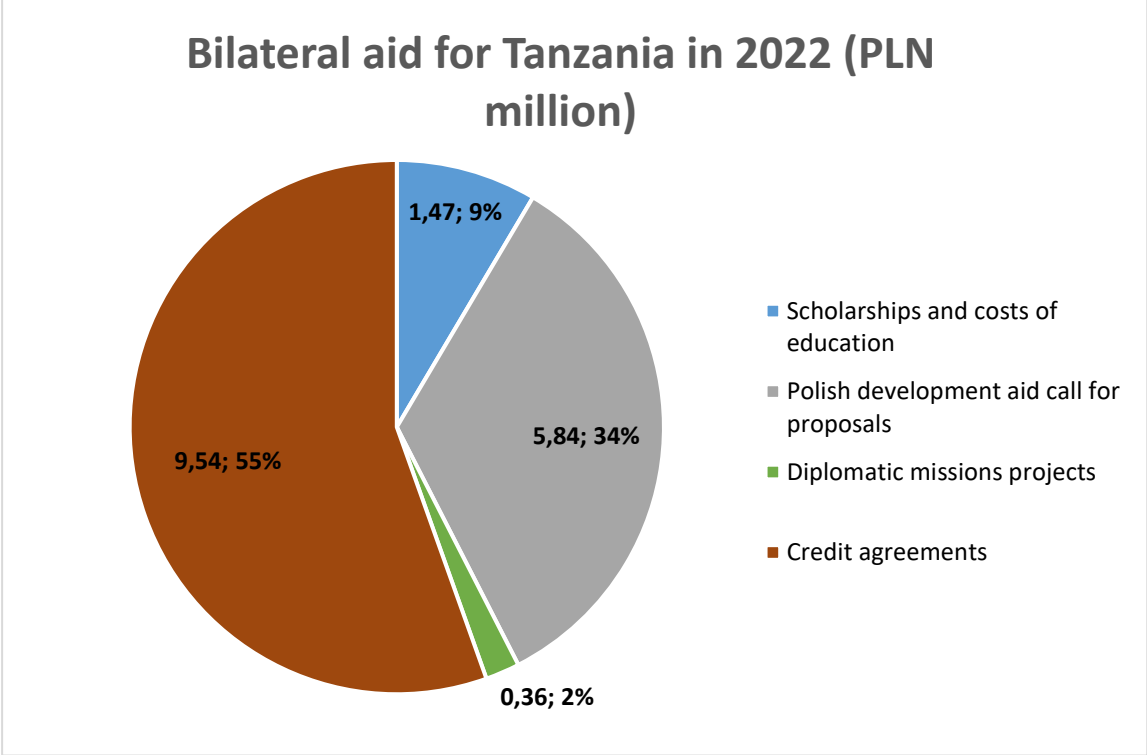


Figure 12 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Tanzania

Tanzania has been one of the main African beneficiaries of Polish bilateral development assistance since 2004. A total of 13 projects were implemented in 2022, including: 7 by NGOs and 6 by the Polish Embassy in Dar es Salaam.

An important focus of *Polish Aid* in Tanzania was to **support the development of health care systems, including the emergency medical system**. New medical wards for women, men and children were established, supplied with, among other things, power from solar energy systems. *Polish Aid* also included support for the development of preventive programmes in the early detection of breast cancer and detection of tuberculosis, treatment of visual disorders, emergency medicine, including birth complications – training was provided for medical personnel, medical units were equipped with the necessary equipment, and awareness-raising campaigns were conducted among the local population.

In an effort to **improve the quality of the education system** and make it more accessible, a dormitory for girls was established at the Kiabakari Elementary School, providing 180 girls for whom daily commuting to school was impossible with proper accommodation. In order to support sports education, the Franciscan Educational and Sports Centre in Tungi was expanded to include a basketball court. The resulting infrastructure will help integrate local youth, improve physical health and develop sports talents.

Activities for Tanzania also served to **develop entrepreneurship**. Support continued for the local Kondiki dairy cooperative in the Kilimanjaro region. Its establishment has helped reduce poverty for local farmers who lost income from coffee cultivation. To support the cooperative's continued growth, refrigeration infrastructure was expanded. Attention was also given to cultivate the knowledge and develop the skills of managers and employees.

Polish Aid **also included efforts to combat social inequality**, including combating the social exclusion of people with albinism. They have contributed to supporting labour market activation through training, mentoring and supplying young entrepreneurs with start-up capital for business development. Meetings, lectures and seminars were held for local people, schools as well as governmental and non-governmental organisations.



Photo: Michał Dzikowski

4.7.3. Middle East

4.7.3.1. Lebanon

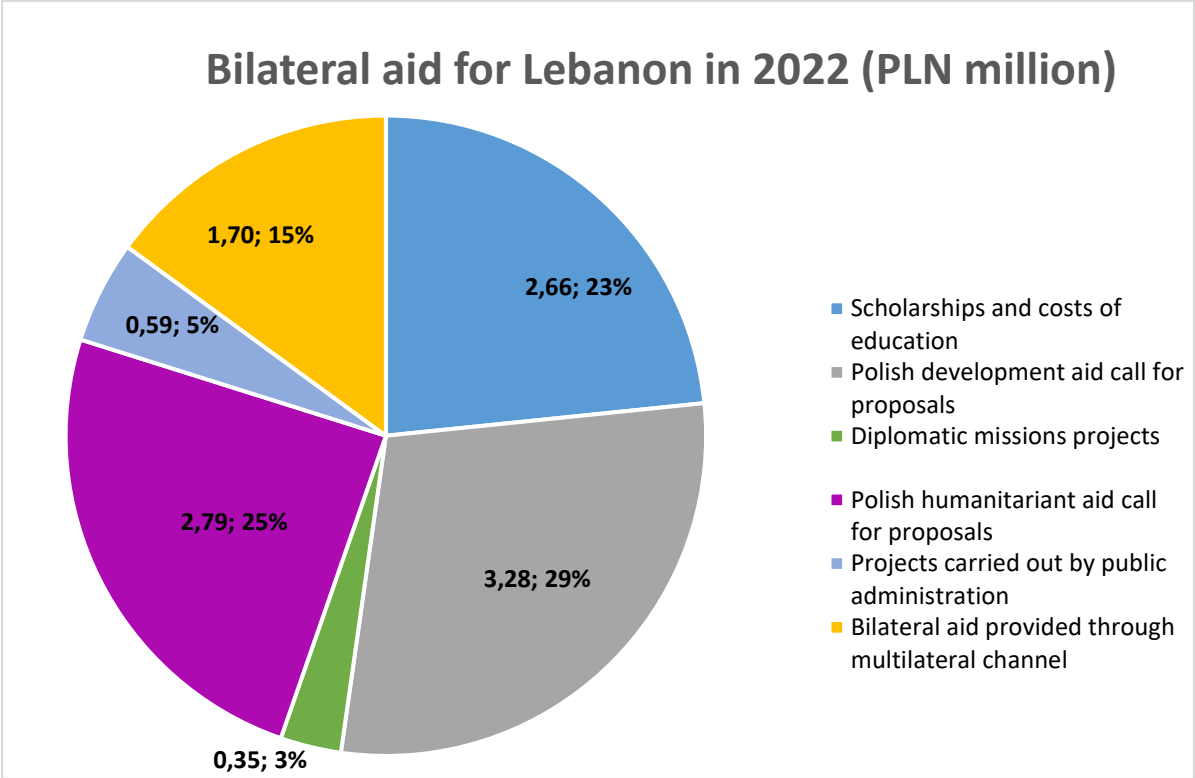


Figure 13 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Lebanon

Lebanon joined the priority countries of Polish development cooperation in 2018. In 2022, 15 development projects were implemented in Lebanon with Polish Aid funds, including 4 projects by NGOs selected in the *Polish Development Assistance 2021* and *Polish Development Assistance 2022* calls for proposals, 5 projects by the Polish Embassy in Beirut, and 6 projects implemented by the Polish Military Contingent as part of the UNIFIL mission.

One of the leading priorities of *Polish Aid* in Lebanon in 2022 was to **support the education system**. A number of initiatives were implemented to improve and expand school infrastructure. Solar systems were installed at selected facilities, classrooms and laboratories were equipped with IT equipment and teaching aids, and renovation work was carried out. In addition, a scholarship fund was established for the most economically disadvantaged students (with a special focus on girls), enabling them to continue their education.

Activities in the field of **urban sustainability support** included the installation of photovoltaic panels at the wastewater treatment plant and the expansion of water and sanitation infrastructure, the installation of solar lanterns on local public roads, and solar systems in selected households of impoverished families. These investments increased security at the local level.

The aforementioned activities were also in line with the priority of **climate protection** through increased energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources. In addition, the activities implemented in the area of environmental protection contributed to improving the wastewater treatment and waste management system and raising environmental awareness in the community.

In support of **business development**, local small and medium-sized agricultural producers gained access to the market for direct sales of good quality organic food. The implemented activities mainly focused on strengthening the capacity of farmers in efficient agricultural production methods and potential markets for their products.



Photo: Joya Simon

4.7.3.2. Palestine

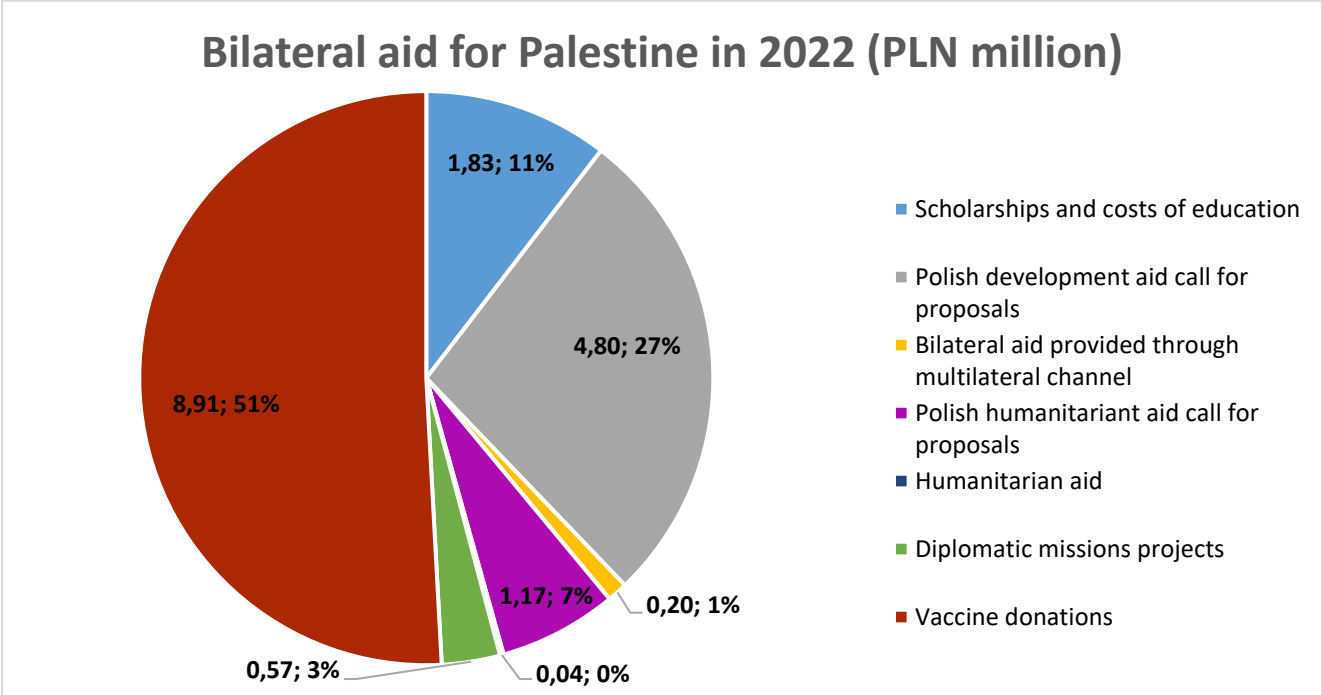


Figure 14 Bilateral development assistance in 2022 (in PLN m) – Palestine

Palestine has invariably been among the priority countries for Polish development cooperation since 2007. In 2022, 6 projects were implemented in Palestine, including 4 NGO projects selected in the Polish Development Assistance 2021 and Polish Development Assistance 2022 calls for proposals and 2 projects of the Representative Office of the Republic of Poland in Ramallah.

The implemented measure focused on **supporting the health care system** in the West Bank, which resulted in providing the local population with access to quality medical services. Thanks to the initiatives implemented, medical infrastructure was upgraded, particularly in areas with limited access to medical services, and training was provided to improve the skills of medical personnel.

Initiatives to **counteract the social exclusion of** people with disabilities were



Photo: George Jaraiseh

also supported. Rehabilitation centres were renovated and equipped, which resulted in improvements in the quality of treatment and therapies provided, especially to children. The implemented activities also focused on supporting the labour market activation of people with disabilities and their families.

In support of the **development of entrepreneurship**, fishing boats were refurbished, giving local fishermen and their families from the Gaza Strip opportunities to maintain employment in the fishing and fish processing sector.

Polish Aid also supported efforts to **improve the quality of education** by expanding the infrastructure of the educational institution, which gained the ability to conduct various developmental activities, including sports, for the benefit of the local community.

As part of its support through the multilateral channel, Poland made a voluntary contribution of PLN 1 m to the general budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) in 2022. Support for the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) also continued. Voluntary donations regularly contribute to both the organisation's general budget, as well as provide support for the UNMAS GAZA Emergency Response programme, whose main goal is to improve the security of local communities by reducing the dangers posed by unexploded ordnance from times of armed conflict remaining in the Gaza Strip.

5. Humanitarian aid

5.1. Polish humanitarian aid (Middle East, other countries)

Although in 2022, the MFA was mainly involved in assisting Ukraine and efforts to mitigate the effects of the humanitarian crisis in the region immediately adjacent to Poland, our country responded to emergency situations, including in the Middle East, and continued to support African countries, as well as civilians affected by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (in 2020).

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as part of the *Humanitarian Aid 2022* call for proposals, supported humanitarian projects implemented by Polish NGOs in **Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq** to the total amount of nearly **PLN 3 m in 2022** and **PLN 4.5 m** for the continuation of these projects in 2023.

In 2022, the second modules of projects selected in the *Humanitarian Aid 2021* call for proposals were also implemented in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq, Palestine, Yemen, South Sudan, Cameroon, Armenia and Azerbaijan. The total amount of co-financing provided for these projects in 2022 was more than **PLN 11 m**.

Projects in Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Palestine (Gaza Strip) were aimed at providing shelter for refugees and the poorest local population. In addition, in Jordan and Iraq, projects were implemented in the Health sector, while in Lebanon in the Food sector.

The projects implemented in Armenia and Azerbaijan were aimed at supporting civilians affected by the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. They were implemented in the Shelter and Health sectors, respectively.

In **Yemen**, the MFA continued its support of Rasad Hospital, which received specialised equipment, medical devices, medicines and medical consumables, as well as coverage of the facility's running costs, under the second module of the 2021 Humanitarian aid call for proposals.

The continuation of the project in **Cameroon**, in turn, consisted in providing 6 health centres run by missionaries with medical equipment.

The project implemented in 2022 in **South Sudan** was a continuation of an initiative to provide comprehensive support to a refugee camp run by the Salesians, which houses refugees fleeing violence from Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan and Congo.

The MFA contributed to mitigate crises in various parts of the world through multilateral channels through international humanitarian agencies: the **World Food Programme (WFP)** for Yemen the amount of PLN 1 m and for Lebanon the amount of PLN 1.7 m, to UN OCHA in Sudan the amount of PLN 250,000, to UNHCR for activities in Afghanistan the amount of PLN 433,000, for Pakistan, after massive floods, the amount of PLN 250,000, and for Syria the amount of PLN 1 m.

In addition, in 2022, the Polish Embassy in Damascus, with temporary headquarters in Beirut, implemented 5 projects for a total of PLN 500,000.

5.2. Vaccine assistance in 2022

The concrete response to the pandemic in 2022 was the continued donation of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines to countries around the world. Poland has delivered surplus vaccines to countries in need since the very beginning of setting up a sharing mechanism. We have transferred on a bilateral basis about **28 million doses of vaccines** to beneficiaries around the world, from most continents, including the following countries and regions: Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Bangladesh, Laos, Australia, Kenya, Rwanda, Egypt, Iran, Norway, as well as some European Union countries and others.



Photo: Ministry of Health in Cambodia

Vaccine solidarity through donations – including in-kind donations – of surplus vaccines has been helpful in the worldwide fight against the pandemic and new mutations of the SARS-CoV2 virus. The challenge was the need to fill gaps in countries with low vaccination rates and to address inequalities in access to vaccines.

An example of the fight against the pandemic was the **COVAX programme**, but also other regional initiatives, such as the EU **Team Europe** initiative on vaccine solidarity with our Eastern Partnership partners. By assuming the role of coordinator in the process of making vaccines from EU Member States available to Eastern Partnership countries, Poland, in one of the most difficult global battles of this century, has once again demonstrated how important a role it has to play in EU policy towards the Eastern Partnership region and in the topic of vaccine solidarity.

On 13 December 2021, Poland was appointed as the coordinating country for facilitating the supply of COVID-19 vaccines from EU Member States to Eastern Partnership countries. The European Commission earmarked a budget of EUR 35 m for a 24-month period for this

purpose. In cooperation with the European Commission, the MFA collected data from EU Member States on doses offered, and at the same time data on vaccine demand from EaP countries. Team Europe's *EU Vaccine Solidarity* initiative with the Eastern Partnership countries provided for supplying vaccines to the Eastern Partnership countries on a fully no-cost basis to the beneficiaries, while opening up the possibility of reimbursement to the EU Member States involved. In the first quarter of 2022, the transfer from EU countries of two tranches of vaccines to Armenia was carried out. In view of Russia's full-scale aggression against Ukraine on 24 February 2022 and declining vaccine demand in EaP countries, the European Commission decided to allocate the remaining funds from the project's budget for humanitarian assistance to Ukraine for the first time in May and again in December 2022. In both cases, funds for humanitarian aid projects for Ukraine, including the purchase of ambulances, were provided with the help of the Solidarity Fund PL.

5.3. Global education

Global education is a special type of education targeted at modern society. It aims to develop awareness and understanding of global issues and challenges. Its recipients are encouraged to explore the economic, social, political, environmental and technological **interdependencies that exist between countries**. In the face of current challenges, such as climate change, social and economic inequalities, armed conflicts, migration, and the development of new technologies, global education is becoming a tool that enables young people to understand these phenomena and the consequences of their occurrence. By fostering empathy, critical reflection and acceptance of differences, as well as through the formation of the ability to cooperate, it aims to raise a generation of citizens aware of global challenges who are capable of effective action for sustainable development.

In 2022, the second modules of NGO projects that were selected for funding in the call for proposals held in 2021, *Global Education 2021 – financing projects that are part of a project co-financed from sources other than the Polish budget*, were implemented. The value of their co-financing amounted to PLN 248,518. All projects were part of larger projects that had previously received foreign funding, such as the European Commission's *Development*

Education and Awareness Rising programme, Erasmus and the Financial Mechanism of the European Economic Area.

Three projects strengthened teachers' competencies in addressing topics related to climate change, migration and sustainable consumption and fair trade at school, as well as shaping students' critical thinking skills and civic competence. As part of one of the projects at the Universities of Warsaw, Wrocław and Opole, a subject called *Sustainable development* was introduced in the humanities degree courses. An accompanying multimedia academic textbook was also developed that comprehensively discusses the issue. It can be read and downloaded for free at <https://zr.humandoc.pl>.



A major event in the field of global education in 2022 was the adoption of the ***European Declaration on Global Education*** at the Congress on Global Education in Dublin on 3–4 November 2022. Representatives of state institutions responsible for global education (ministries of foreign affairs, ministries of education and development agencies), the EU European Commission, UNESCO, civil society organisations, youth organisations, local governments and local authorities from European

countries affiliated with the *Global Education Network Europe (GENE)* were involved in drafting the text of the declaration. The declaration is a response to a dynamically changing world with new challenges for the global community. It enables coordination of activities, exchange of good practices and promotion of innovative teaching methods that can influence people's attitudes and values, preparing them for full participation in a global society.



The contents of the Declaration were translated into Polish. The Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Climate and Environment and Grupa Zagranica – a platform of Polish NGOs implementing development cooperation and global education projects – were involved in the consultation process for the translation of the document.

The text of the Declaration is available on the *Polish Aid* website.



In addition, in 2022 the MFA continued cross-sectoral dialogue on the implementation of global education in Poland with the above-mentioned entities, exchanging information on activities in this area.

Representatives of the MFA also participated in meetings of the **GENE network**, where, in addition to consulting on the content of the *European Declaration on Global Education*, they exchanged – with their counterparts from ministries and agencies from European countries associated in the network – knowledge and experience in the implementation of global education at the national level.

5.4. Information activities



The main tools used in informing the public about the activities of *Polish Aid* were the www.gov.pl/polskapomoc website and social media handles: YouTube/@PolishAid, Twitter/@polskapomoc. Announcements published there described the ongoing implementation of development cooperation activities and information on calls for proposals announced by the MFA. Videos commissioned by Polish foreign missions and NGOs on the effects of their activities in beneficiary countries of development cooperation were added to the *Polish Aid* channel on YouTube.

Among the activities aimed at the general public were the **podcasts** titled *Polish Aid*. People from institutions implementing aid projects in the relevant countries talked about Polish aid provided to internal refugees in Ukraine and the involvement of Polish companies and research institutes in the development of modern technologies in Moldova. The podcasts, in Polish and English, were posted on the Simplecast platform, which enables their distribution on all major podcast platforms worldwide, i.e. Spotify, Apple Podcast, Google Podcasts, Deezer, iHeartRadio, Overcast, TuneIn, etc., as well as on the *Polish Aid* website:

www.gov.pl/polskapomoc/podkasty.

In 2022, an **opinion poll** “*Poles’ opinion on development assistance*” was commissioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to examine the level of Poles’ knowledge of development assistance, as well as the willingness of our country’s society to provide such assistance. This is a continuation of cyclical polls that, at the initiative of the MFA, have been conducted

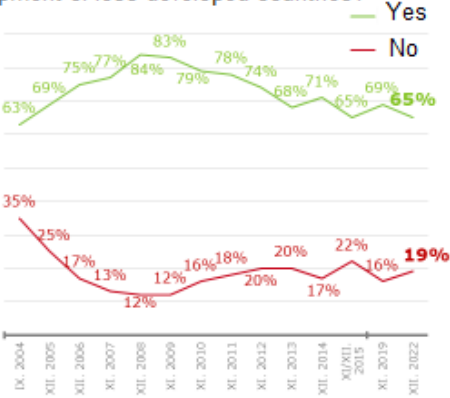
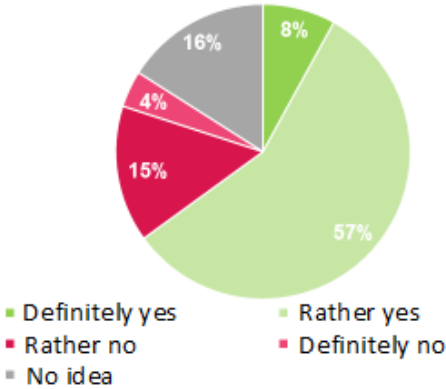
since 2004. They are opinion polls and are conducted on a 1,000-person representative sample of Poles over the age of 15. The opinion poll, conducted in December 2022 by Mantle Poland Sp. z o.o. (Kantar Public), was supplemented with a block of questions on respondents’ attitudes toward aid for war-affected Ukraine.

The poll showed that **nearly two-thirds of Poles (65%) believed that Poland should assist the development of less developed countries.** This belief is prevalent in all socio-demographic groups. In justifying their stance, supporters of Poland’s assistance to less developed countries most often pointed to the fact that it was our moral duty (41%). According to the respondents, Polish development assistance should go primarily to Africa. In 2022, Poles most often indicated that Poland could contribute to the development of less developed countries by supporting medical care in those countries (37%) and sending volunteers there (30%).

According to the respondents, Poland should transfer funds to less developed countries through Polish NGOs and companies (47%) and specialised international organisations (42%).

Two thirds of Poles believe that Poland should be helping underdeveloped countries in their development.

Do you think that Poland should support the development of less developed countries?



Prepared by Kantar Public

The 2022 poll covered **Poles’ attitudes toward helping Ukraine:** 71% of Poles believe that Poland should support Ukraine in a state of war. The opposite view is held by 18% of respondents. Poles who think Poland should support Ukraine say so primarily because they

believe that by helping Ukraine we increase our security (56%) and that we have a moral obligation to help our neighbour (44%). More than half of Poles (54%) believe that Poland's assistance to Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees will benefit our country in the long run.

6. Monitoring of development cooperation activities

In 2022, monitoring of *Polish Aid* projects resumed after an almost two-year hiatus due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the epidemiological situation. The MFA staff looked at activities carried out in twenty-one projects – humanitarian, development and global education ones. They visited assignment sites in Georgia, Lebanon, Palestine, Ethiopia and Senegal, as well as projects in Poland (a global education project and activities for Ukrainian refugees).

The main purpose for which the MFA conducts monitoring of projects is to check whether their implementation is proceeding as intended and whether the results achieved can be maintained after the Polish government's funding ends. Site visits allow for the verification of data provided on an ongoing basis by project implementers and for gaining new information on the status of initiatives.

All monitoring visits were documented using standardised forms. The conclusions and observations presented by the monitors come from both observations and interviews conducted with partners or beneficiaries of ongoing development activities. Each project promoter whose project was subject to monitoring was informed of the comments and recommendations made. Conclusions from the monitoring will also be used in the programming of Polish development cooperation.

7. Glossary of abbreviations

ACP	The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
CODEV-PI	Working Party on Development Cooperation and International Partnership
CPMP	Chancellery of the Prime Minister of Poland
DAC	OECD Development Assistance Committee
EDF	European Development Fund
ERCC	Emergency Response Coordination Centre
EUCPM	EU Civil Protection Mechanism
GASR	Government Agency for Strategic Reserves
GENE network	Global Education Network Europe
KM	Knowledge Management
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MCE	Ministry of Climate and Environment
MCNH	Ministry of Culture and National Heritage
MDFRP	Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy
MEDLT	Ministry of Economic Development, Labour and Technology
MES	Ministry of Education and Science
MF	Ministry of Finance
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MFSP	Ministry of Family and Social Policy
MH	Ministry of Health
MIA	Ministry of the Interior and Administration
MND	Ministry of National Defence
MSA	Ministry of State Assets
MST	Ministry of Sport and Tourism
NAP	National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights
NBP	National Bank of Poland
NDICI-GE	The Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe
OCCP	Office of Competition and Consumer Protection
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
PARP	The Polish Agency for Enterprise Development
PCD	Policy Coherence for Development
PCF	Polish Challenge Fund
PCIA	Polish Centre for International Aid
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFP	Solidarity Fund PL (Fundacja Solidarności Międzynarodowej)
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange
UN	United Nations
UN	United Nations System
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