

WIDE Input / Gender

for DAC Peer Review 2014

Vienna, 2.6.2014

What has changed: improvements

- Reporting on gender in Austrian Development Agency (ADA) programmes in annual OEZA reports, based on CRS data since 2009
- Ambitious benchmark for ADA gender budgeting set (75%)¹
- Evaluation of ADA gender policy carried out in 2012²

What has changed: setbacks

- Decrease of funding for ADA programmes with gender equality as a significant objective (DAC gender equality marker 1) since 2008 (from 74 Mio. EUR in 2008 to 42 Mio EUR in 2012)³
- Decrease of ADA projects/programmes with gender equality as a principal objective (DAC gender equality marker 2) (3 Mio. EUR or 4,3% of ADA flows in 2012).
- Accordingly, aid in support of women's institutions and organizations is very low (0,5 Mio. US\$ to global and 3,1 Mio. US\$ to local women's organizations in the average 2009/10⁴; and between 1 and 2 Mio. US\$ for Women's Equality organizations in 2011/2012⁵
- The objective expressed in the last Austrian budgetary plans of reaching 75% of ADA funding addressing gender equality as a principal or significant goal (Gender Equality Marker 1+2) is missed (53% in 2011, 62% in 2012)
- Severe budgetary cuts in the voluntary contributions to UN organizations which explicitly promote gender equality since 2010 (eg. UNFPA, UNDP, UN WOMEN...)⁶

Why no proper improvements?

- Significant reduction of overall funding for development cooperation channelled through the Austrian MFA / ADA.
- Serious problems in the implementation of the gender mainstreaming approach in several areas (as pointed out in the ADA gender evaluation), new tools and instruments either not developed or not used.
- Shift away from long term cooperation with focus countries where strong linkages between Austrian NGOs and local organizations exist, like Nicaragua – the country with one of the highest proportion of gender sensitive aid flows from Austria (eg. 93% in 2008)⁷.

¹ <http://www.parlament.gv.at/ZUSD/BUDGET/BD - Gender Budgeting-Landkarte BFG 2014 u. 2015.pdf>

² <http://www.oecd.org/derec/austria/Final%20Evaluation%20Report%20GENDER.pdf>

³ See all data in annex below, based on OEZA Reports

⁴ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/ CRS%20overview%20web.pdf>, p.7

⁵ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/47335126.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.bmf.gv.at/budget/das-budget/budget-2013.html>

⁷ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/47335126.pdf>

What do we propose?

- ADA, MFA and the Ministry of Finance should take women more serious as actors of development. This implies policy dialogue with women's organizations at all levels, strengthening advocacy capacities for gender equality, improving capacities for gender analysis and the implementation of gender mainstreaming approaches, as well as a substantive increase the funding for gender equality programmes.
- Public Austrian reporting on gender equality should be extended to overall bilateral (by sector allocable) ODA, like in the DAC reports on Gender Equality⁸, and not be limited to ADA flows.
- Strategic decisions on development cooperation should be based on human rights reports and recommendations as well as on the Austria Development Cooperation Law, not on Austria's economic interests (there is no foundation for such an approach in the Austrian Law on Development Cooperation⁹).
- Policy coherence for development should be more systematically promoted, including policy dialogue with gender equality organizations and institutions. Special attention must be paid to the integration of a gender perspective in environmental and climate change policies.
- The recommendations from the "Evaluation of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) Gender Policy between 2004–2011" should be implemented with a management response.
- The Agreed Conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women "Challenges and achievements in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls" of March 2014 should be used as a guidance for the next Three-Years-Programme of Austrian Development Cooperation.

Annex: Gender Equality / Funding through Austrian Development Agency

(Commitments in million EUR and percent)

	2007		2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
Gender Equality Marker	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %	Commit. in Mio.EUR	in %
Principal objective (Marker 2)	12,01	11%	6,24	6%	5,12	5%	9,49	10%	4,7	6%	3,09	4%
Significant objective (Marker 1)	58,37	55%	74,08	67%	65,55	67%	41,25	45%	35,13	47%	41,87	58%
Marker 1+2	70,38	66%	80,32	73%	70,67	72%	50,74	55%	39,82	53%	44,96	62%
Total OEZA/ADA	105,91	100%	109,60	100%	97,90	100%	91,82	100%	74,71	100%	72,65	100%

Source: OEZA: Bericht 2009¹⁰, 2010¹¹ and 2012¹² (own rounding of percentages)

WIDE - Network for Women's Rights and Feminist Perspectives in Development

Währingerstr. 2-4 / 22, A-1090 Vienna, Tel: (++43-1) 317 40 31 office@wide-netzwerk.at www.wide-netzwerk.at, ZVR-Zahl: 626905553

⁸ <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/aidinsupportofgenderequalityandwomens empowerment.htm>

⁹ <http://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=20001847>

¹⁰ OEZA: Bericht 2009, p.35; http://www.oefse.at/Downloads/eza/OEZA_Bericht_2009_Web_03.pdf

¹¹ OEZA: Bericht 2010, p.58; http://www.entwicklung.at/uploads/media/ODA-Bericht_2010_03.pdf

¹² OEZA: Bericht 2012, p.48; http://www.entwicklung.at/uploads/media/ODA-Bericht_2012.pdf