



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

A Food Systems Approach at SDC

Financial Figures & Highlights 2020-2023

August 2024



**The SDC Agriculture and
Food Systems Network**



I. Context

This factsheet provides an overview of the financial disbursements of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in Agriculture and Food Systems during the period **2020 to 2023** and highlights **the main financial and thematic trends**.

➡ Worsening food and nutrition insecurity

Climate change, conflicts, and inequalities have contributed to a deteriorating food situation in many regions since 2014. The COVID-19 pandemic and the soaring cost of food and fertilizers following the war in Ukraine have further aggravated the situation. Other conflicts, notably in Gaza, Sudan and the Horn of Africa, have also had catastrophic repercussions on global food and nutrition security. Today, the world is not on track to ending hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030, as defined in the goal 2 of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). **Between 713 and 757 million people may have faced hunger in 2023** – one out of 11 people in the world, and one out of every five in Africa. The SDC responded to the food crisis with emergency aid, but also by rapidly adapting agricultural and nutritional projects in particularly hard-hit contexts.

➡ Food systems are essential to sustainable development

Nearly 50% of the world's households are linked to food systems, which play a major role in the environment, health, employment and economies. **Yet an estimated 3 billion people worldwide cannot afford to eat healthily**. Since its inception, the SDC has devoted a substantial proportion of its resources to ensuring equitable access to food and sustainable food production. To this end, SDC works with the scientific community, the private sector and NGOs.

II. Financial overview of SDC-contributions in Agriculture & Food Systems

For this overview of SDC's financial disbursements in the field of Agriculture & Food Systems in the period of 2020 to 2023, all bilateral and earmarked multilateral (multi-bi) contributions targeting Agriculture & Food Systems were considered. Respectively, core contributions to key multilateral organisations, research, and NGOs addressing Agriculture & Food Systems were also considered.

This overview is based on the OECD Purpose Codes (each project in SDC is marked with the codes in it's internal SAP-system).



Note:

The multilateral contributions consist mainly of the core contributions (100%) to CGIAR, WFP, IFAD, UNCCD, as well as part of the core contributions (25%) to UNICEF and WHO.

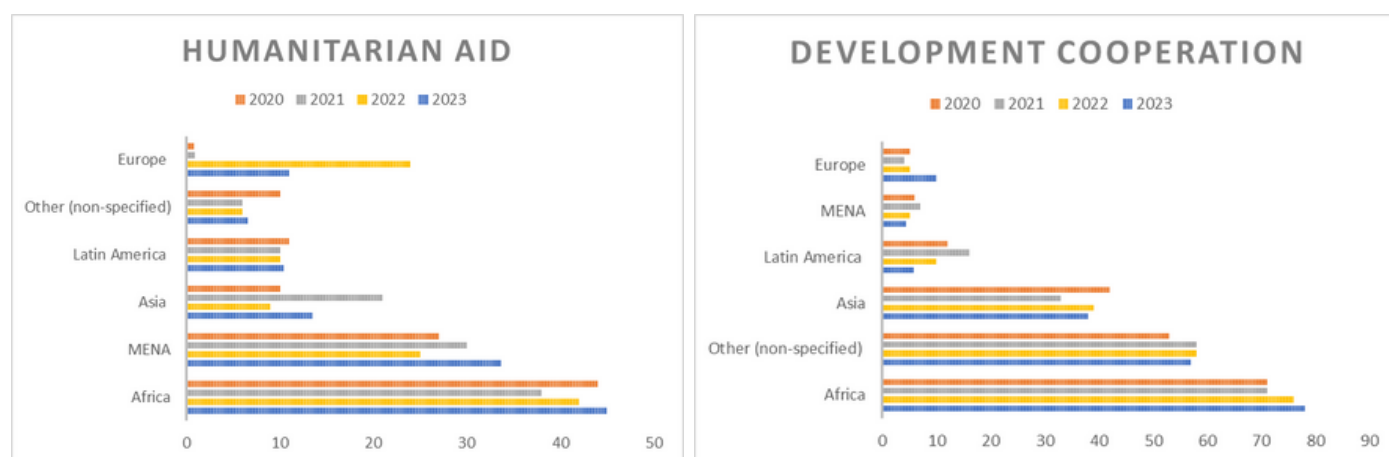
Numbers are rounded, and indicated in millions of Swiss francs (CHF Mio.).

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Bilateral	292	294	310	313
Multilateral	45	50	59	46
Total	337	344	369	359

SDC multi- and bilateral contributions targeting agriculture and food systems have risen steadily between 2020 and 2022, with a slight decrease in 2023. SDC reacted to the aggravated global food crisis in 2021/22 with two record contributions of a total of 204.5 millions to the World Food Programme (WFP) with 100 millions in 2021 and another 104.5 millions in 2022. Those contributions are distributed within the multilateral and the bilateral budget (soft-earmarked to a country but for a multilateral organisation).

Geographical Distribution

The following analysis is based on **bilateral contributions**. The bilateral cooperation consists of the humanitarian aid and the development cooperation in different regions (*Europe, Latin America, Asia, MENA, Africa and Other (non-specified)*). The Other-category includes mainly contributions to global initiatives and NGOs.



The disbursements in the humanitarian aid sector have seen a significant increase, whilst the disbursements in the development cooperation have remained stable. This reflects the overall deterioration of the global situation and highlights SDC's engagements in acute relief support, namely in Ukraine in 2022 and more recently in the MENA region in 2023. At the same time, SDC's contributions to Agriculture and Food Systems have remained stable in Asia and Africa and have slightly decreased in Latin America.