HUNGARY’S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION STRATEGY
FOR THE PERIOD 2020-2025

Enhancing Hungary’s international role

01

Mobilising Hungarian actors

02

More comprehensive policy coordination

03

Strengthening economic partnerships

04

Project implementation in line with the SDGs

05

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE OF HUNGARY
The aim of Hungary’s International Development Cooperation Strategy for the period 2020-2025 (IDC2025) is to ensure that Hungary plays a more prominent role in addressing some of the foremost challenges faced by the international community. In line with the vision of IDC2025, Hungary seeks to contribute to the sustainable development of our partner countries and their local communities in a manner consistent with their needs and demands, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and socio-environmental concerns. The Government of Hungary strives to provide assistance where it is most needed, thereby addressing the root causes of migration; concurrently, Hungary recognises that international development cooperation is an important enabler of, and tool for promoting, economic partnerships and economic development more generally. As such, IDC2025 seeks to stimulate the enhanced involvement of the private and civil sectors in development.
IDC2025 is predicated on five, goal-oriented pillars. In accordance with the principle of “leaving no one behind”, the Strategy closely abides by the aims of the 2030 Agenda and the overarching guidelines of the OECD DAC, in particular pertaining to the eradication of poverty and addressing inequality.

Moreover, IDC2025 seeks to place a greater emphasis on enhancing Hungary’s role on the international level, inter alia by creating and deepening development and economic partnerships, in line with the principles of sustainable development and equal partnership.

NEW STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

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\(^1\) Official Development Assistance/Gross National Income
ENHANCING HUNGARY’S INTERNATIONAL ROLE

Taking into consideration the need to effectively and rationally allocate resources, Hungary will strive to attain an ODA/GNI ratio of 0.25% by 2025. In order to reach this objective, a greater emphasis will be placed on the implementation of strategic, tailor-made bilateral development cooperation programmes based on local needs and demands, taking into account socio-environmental concerns.

MORE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY COORDINATION

Hungary will strive to engage more substantively with the African continent, in particular Sub-Saharan Africa and Least Developed Countries (LDCs), as well as the Middle East. At the same time, prioritising the European neighbourhood and the Eastern Partnership – in line with Hungary’s traditional foreign policy interests – will continue to be an important feature of Hungary’s development cooperation. Furthermore, realising a more effective policy coherence for development (PCD) is a key element of IDC2025. In this context, international development coordinators have been appointed in each relevant ministry to establish a closer, continuous inter-ministerial coordination. Hungary will thus implement policies aimed at improving geographical and sectoral coordination.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IN LINE WITH THE SDGS

Although Hungary’s current development cooperation already accords with the implementation of the SDGs, IDC2025 seeks to enhance the country’s development cooperation focus on those Goals in which Hungary or Hungarian actors have a comparative advantage. Hungary therefore prioritises the implementation of projects and programmes pertaining to water management and sanitation, agriculture, health, education, the environment and information technology, thus contributing in the most effective way as possible to sustainable development.
The aim is to create and deepen mutually prosperous economic partnerships, as well as the implementation of projects and programmes that foster such ties, provide an opportunity to contribute effectively to the SDGs and promote Hungarian foreign policy and economic interests. As such, a unique objective of IDC2025 is to promote the greater involvement of the domestic private sector, in particular small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

IDC2025 likewise seeks to mobilise and encourage civil society and private sector actors to engage more prominently in international development cooperation. Besides the traditional means of implementing development cooperation projects and programmes, a greater emphasis will be placed on innovative financing mechanisms encouraging private sector actors to invest in developing countries on their own accord, thereby realising a multiplication of resources available for Hungarian international development cooperation. The Strategy advocates creating a domestic awareness-raising platform for Hungarian civil, religious and private sector actors.
Each line ministry reports to the Inter-Ministerial Committee for International Development Cooperation (IDC Committee) on an annual basis; the IDC Committee will continue seeking to foster coordination between relevant domestic actors and will review, evaluate and report on the Government’s policies. These insights will form part of the annual international development report produced by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, in line with provisions of the Act XC concerning Hungarian International Development Cooperation and International Humanitarian Aid.

A comprehensive review of IDC2025 will take place at the end of 2024 with the involvement of the relevant ministries, experts and civil society organisations. This review will form the basis of renewing the Strategy, as necessary.
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