



The Strategy for  
Estonian  
Development  
Cooperation and  
Humanitarian Aid

2016–2020

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS .....	2
INTRODUCTION.....	4
<b>1. STRATEGIC GROUNDS OF THE AREA .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>1.1. General principles of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid .....</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1.1. Value-based approach .....	7
1.1.2. Building on partnership and on the priorities of the partner country .....	7
1.1.3. Building on long-term goals and results .....	7
1.1.4. Efficient coordination and complementarity .....	7
1.1.5. Underlying principles of humanitarian aid .....	8
<b>1.2. Active participation in international organisations.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>1.3. Priority partner countries .....</b>	<b>10</b>
1.3.1. Priority partner countries with a country strategy.....	11
1.3.2. Long-term priority partner countries.....	12
1.3.3. Other partner countries.....	13
<b>1.4. Compliance of the Strategy with international goals.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>1.5. Relationship between other policy areas and the goals of development cooperation and humanitarian aid .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>1.6. Information and communication technology and e-government.....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>1.7. Implementers of development cooperation and humanitarian aid and their capabilities</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1.8. Performance of Estonian development cooperation.....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>2. AREA OF ACTIVITY OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>2.1. Current situation of the area of development cooperation .....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>2.2. Activities for the implementation of development cooperation .....</b>	<b>19</b>
2.2.1. Donations, grants and pooled funds.....	19
2.2.2. Projects .....	20
2.2.3. Experts and other technical assistance.....	20
2.2.4. Scholarships and student costs in donor countries .....	20
2.2.5. Other in-donor costs — awareness and refugees.....	20
<b>GOAL I: Contributing to the eradication of poverty and achievement of sustainable development goals .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Measure 1. Ensuring the quality of education .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Measure 2. Supporting the development of health care .....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Measure 3: Contributing to safeguarding peace and stability .....</b>	<b>24</b>

Measure 4: Supporting the development of democracy and the rule of law, introduction of good governance practices and guaranteeing human rights .....	25
Measure 5: Supporting of the economic development .....	27
Measure 6: Supporting environmentally sustainable development and achieving internationally set environmental goals .....	29
Measure 7: Raising the awareness of the Estonian public, particularly younger people, as regards development cooperation, humanitarian aid and global development problems.....	30
<b>3. HUMANITARIAN AID .....</b>	<b>32</b>
3.1. Analysis of the current situation OF humanitarian aid.....	32
3.2. Activities of the humanitarian aid area.....	34
<b>GOAL II – rescuing and helping victims of natural or man-made catastrophes as well as prevention of such situations and improving readiness of RESPONDING to THEM .....</b>	<b>34</b>
Measure 1: – rescuing and helping victims of natural and man-made catastrophes .....	35
Measure 2: RECONSTRUCTION and rehabilitation .....	36
Measure 3: DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS .....	37
<b>4. CROSS-SECTORAL REGULAR COOPERATION.....</b>	<b>38</b>
4.1. Supporting the activities of international organisations .....	38
4.2. Increasing the capability of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid institutions .....	38
4.3. Reception of refugees in a donor country.....	39
4.4. Development cooperation and humanitarian aid administrative expenditures.....	39
<b>5. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STRATEGY.....</b>	<b>39</b>
ANNEX 1: THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS .....	41
ANNEX 2: LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION .....	42
ANNEX 3: DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS .....	43

## INTRODUCTION

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The Strategy for Estonian Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid 2016–2020 serves as the basis for regulating the activities of the Estonian public sector in the areas of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The Strategy also allows other development cooperation and humanitarian aid interest groups to plan their activities. The Strategy has been drawn up on the basis of the previous strategy for 2011–2015, the underlying principles and directions of which are hereby continued and developed further.

The guiding principle of the Strategy is to make Estonia a unique donor country that supports international development goals and builds on generally recognised principles of development cooperation, whose assistance is welcome in partner countries and beneficial to their development, who is open to cooperation with other donor countries and whose work directly helps to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

As a result of drawing up the Strategy, Estonia's development cooperation is transparent and effective and its grounds, areas, activities and major target countries and international organisations have been identified. Estonia's development cooperation resources are limited when considering global development and humanitarian aid needs, and therefore the function of the Strategy is to achieve maximum accuracy in terms of focus, planning and performance of the aid activities, which would comply with the needs of the target countries and the activities of other donors.

The Strategy is based on general international development agreements and goals, e.g. the UN Sustainable Development Goals and Financing for Development as well as the development policy decisions and guidelines of the European Union (EU). Internal development cooperation is regulated by the Government of the Republic Act, Foreign Relations Act and the Conditions and Procedure for the Provision of Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid. The Strategy supplements and furthers the document "Principles of Estonian Development Cooperation" approved by the *Riigikogu* as well as other international and national underlying documents.

**The main objective of Estonian development cooperation is to contribute to the eradication of poverty and to attaining the other Sustainable Development Goals.**

The goals of Estonian development cooperation across the areas of activities are the following:

- 1) supporting the quality of education,
- 2) supporting the development of health care,
- 3) guaranteeing peace and stability,
- 4) supporting the development of democracy, introduction of good governance practices and guaranteeing human rights,
- 5) promoting economic development,

- 6) fostering environmentally friendly development,
- 7) raising the awareness of the Estonian public, particularly younger people, concerning development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as well as global development problems.

Covering all areas, Estonia promotes more extensive application of information and communication (ITC) technologies in the framework of development cooperation.

Estonian bilateral development cooperation is primarily aimed at countries to which Estonia can offer added value based on its own experiences. Thus, the priority partner countries of Estonian bilateral development cooperation are Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Afghanistan and Belarus. However, flexibility is also important for Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid, as it allows reacting to the world's crises in cooperation with international partners.

International organisations are indispensable for reducing global poverty, ensuring stability and observing human rights. For that reason Estonian development cooperation pays great attention to supporting their activities and goals. In this context, Estonia contributes, in addition to the EU, also to the UN system and its organisations engaged in development issues, to the World Bank and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Estonia is represented in many organisations that manage international development cooperation and this allows Estonia to actively participate in influencing the policy of development cooperation and budget of these organisations.

The **objective of humanitarian aid** provided by Estonia is to save human lives and deliver assistance to victims of natural or man-made disasters, focusing particularly on the most vulnerable population groups. Preventing crises and strengthening the security and resilience of the population has become more and more important in addition to reacting to catastrophes. Estonia assesses each and every need for humanitarian aid separately and provides aid in a way that is most suitable and feasible. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for providing and coordinating humanitarian aid. As preparing for and reacting to major accidents mainly includes civil protection, the Ministry of the Interior is responsible for disaster reduction. On a national level, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cooperates with the Ministry of the Interior, Estonian Rescue Board, Health Board and with many Estonian non-governmental organisations. In order to improve the international humanitarian aid system and its coordination, Estonia, first and foremost, supports the central role of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) and continues to support the activities of the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC).

Estonia increased the amount of official development assistance to 0.14% of its gross national product (GNP) in 2014 and is striving for 0.33% of its GNP in accordance with the EU Council of Ministers' decisions of 25 May 2005 and 26 May 2015, within the deadlines of fulfilling the sustainable development goals.



## 1. STRATEGIC GROUNDS OF THE AREA

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### 1.1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF ESTONIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID

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#### 1.1.1. VALUE-BASED APPROACH

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Estonian development cooperation has always focused on safeguarding human rights and environmental friendliness. Estonia considers it important to observe the principles of empowering women and gender equality in all activities of development cooperation and humanitarian aid, to ensure the performance and sustainability of development cooperation.

#### 1.1.2. BUILDING ON PARTNERSHIP AND ON THE PRIORITIES OF THE PARTNER COUNTRY

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Estonia in its development cooperation applies the principle that responsibility for the development of a country lies primarily with the country itself. To achieve sustainable results and to ensure the responsibility and motivation of the partner for that purpose, Estonian development cooperation will be based upon the needs, priorities and development strategies of the partner country. However, when planning cooperation, Estonia also follows its own priorities and possibilities. To achieve greater involvement of the partner country, Estonia is willing to cooperate in the drafting, implementation as well as the assessment of development cooperation with the government and representative bodies and also the third sector and private sector. Estonia follows the principle of good donorship when providing humanitarian aid, this means addressing the needs of the partner country and their requests for assistance.

#### 1.1.3. BUILDING ON LONG-TERM GOALS AND RESULTS

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In order to achieve lasting results and ensure greater responsibility and involvement of the partner country, Estonia increasingly plans and assesses projects on the basis of longer-term cross-project goals. Estonia binds development cooperation projects in the best way with longer-term goals and programmes at the level of the partner country and, where possible, pursues long-term cooperation covering various levels and institutions in the sectors of priority. All key players can access substantive information about Estonian development cooperation activities as it is publicly available.

#### 1.1.4. EFFICIENT COORDINATION AND COMPLEMENTARITY

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The efficiency of aid depends on cooperation between target countries and donors in reconciling different interests, goals and aid. For the purpose of harmonisation of operations Estonia participates in the cooperation harmonisation structures, supporting the leading role of the partner country where possible. Estonia follows the EU Council's conclusions on harmonisation of assistance activities and the Paris Declaration of

harmonisation of assistance (2005), the Accra Agenda for Action (2008) and Busan Partnership agreement (2011).

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#### 1.1.5. UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES OF HUMANITARIAN AID

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The humanitarian policy of Estonia is based on the principles of providing humanitarian aid according to the articles of association of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the UN General Assembly Resolution 46/182.

1. Humanity – people should be treated humanely in all situations, when saving lives and alleviating suffering by respecting the rights of an individual. Special attention should be given to the most vulnerable population groups.
2. Impartiality – providing humanitarian aid has to be impartial and it cannot be based on citizenship, race, religion or political views. Providing aid is needs-based.
3. Independence – humanitarian organisations have to present and implement their measures independently of other policies and measures of the government.
4. Neutrality – no party is favoured in case of hostile acts and there shall be no participation in political, racial, ideological or religious conflicts.

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#### 1.2. ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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One of the principal elements of effectiveness of Estonian development cooperation policy is the purposeful participation in international organisations where Estonia can significantly impact the making of international development and humanitarian aid policy by actively participating in the debates. When considering the limited resources and diplomatic presence of Estonia, financial support to international agencies is the most effective way to support the poorest and most vulnerable countries when it comes to development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

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#### EUROPEAN UNION

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Estonia is actively shaping the EU development policy, by participating in topical debates of the development cooperation work group and drawing up policy documents in accordance with Estonian priorities and political interests. The main areas are coherence of policy areas, efficiency of aid, gender equality, thorough mainstreaming of ICT and also better integration of development cooperation and humanitarian aid in the case of conflicts and forced mass migration. Estonia contributes to the EU budget, the development cooperation resources of which are used to finance EU aid programmes and funds, which are directed towards the poorest and most vulnerable countries. To that end Estonia actively participates in the decision-making process of joint programming exercise of the EU development assistance budget. The contribution to the budget of the European Commission constitutes a big part of the total official development assistance of Estonia and active participation in the EU institutions, work groups and committees is necessary to ensure the reasonable and purposeful use of this contribution. It is important to participate and build the capacity and interest of Estonia in participating in the EU twinning and TAIEX technical aid programmes in the countries of the EU neighbourhood policy.



EU and its member states are the biggest providers of humanitarian aid in the world. Estonia considers it vital to connect the EU humanitarian aid with civil protection and development cooperation policy, and supports the joint response to crisis and coordination through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

Estonian Presidency of the EU Council in the first half of 2018 gives additional opportunities to direct the EU development cooperation and humanitarian aid policy.

## UN SYSTEM

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It is important for Estonia to be an active and reliable partner in the work of the UN. Estonia supports the functioning of the UN, the only universal and legitimate global development cooperation system, through which it is possible to direct development processes in the least developed regions of the world. Estonia has actively participated in the work of the UN Second Committee and the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as a member of the latter in 2015–2017 and vice president in 2015–2016. An Estonian expert participated in the UN Sustainable Development Financing Work Group in 2014–2015. In the area of humanitarian aid, Estonia is focused on the promotion of good humanitarian donorship and is a member of the OCHA donor support group. Additionally, Estonia has negotiated many resolutions in the area of development cooperation and humanitarian aid on behalf of the EU and has been an active advocate for women's issues and empowering them, and for ICT in the field of development cooperation.

The priorities of Estonia in the work of the Second Committee from 2011 to 2015 have been the ICT and development resolution, development-finance resolution and some of the more important sustainable development resolutions, which cover Agenda 21, UN Environment Programme (UNEP), climate change and biological diversity.

Estonia has helped the UN funds and development programmes with activity support for years. This is the most flexible way to finance funds and programmes. Furthermore, Estonia supports many development cooperation and humanitarian aid projects of UN funds and programmes in target countries. As part of the Estonian development cooperation resources are directed through the UN funds and programmes, it is important to be involved in their executive councils, to help set the strategic goals of the organisations, enhance their activities and get a better overview of the financing and results. Estonia is the president of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) Bureau in 2016 and has been the vice president of the fund twice (in 2012 and 2015).

On September 25th 2015, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved over the next 15 years. During the negotiations, Estonia focused on two wider topics, gender-based rights and their protection and the rule of law as a prerequisite of guaranteeing sustainable development, and participated in those debates. Hereafter the UN will focus on implementing the principles of sustainable development and monitoring and supervising the goals on a global level. ECOSOC has the key role in monitoring global sustainable development and they organise a High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) each year. HLPF gives regular overviews about implementing the goals of sustainable development, which include countries and different topics. The national reviews are voluntary. As a member and vice

president of ECOSOC, Estonia takes actively part in negotiating and developing a more specific role for the HLPF.

#### WORLD BANK AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND (IMF)

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The World Bank and the World Bank Group organisations are among the most important international organisations for implementing development cooperation: International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC), International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). In 2008, Estonia joined the IDA, which supports least developed countries, and has participated as a donor in the IDA funding rounds since joining the association. It is important for Estonia to participate in the work of the World Bank Group organisations (foremost IBRD, IDA and IFC) by being an active member in the Nordic and Baltic constituency. Opinions shaped by the constituency constitute a vote in the council of the World Bank, which influences the bank's policies. It is also crucial to contribute to the special funds of the World Bank.

Development aid is not the main function of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), but it takes into account the level of development of the states upon shaping its loan instruments, providing technical assistance and giving the member states economic policy advice. IMF offers loans with a subsidised interest rate and free technical assistance to poor countries. During the period of the new Strategy, Estonia is considering participating in the subsidisation fund of loan instruments offered to poor countries in proportion to other countries and according to its own rate of participation in the IMF.

#### ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

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The international principles of funding development, on which donor countries base their contributions, are determined during the meeting of the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and the committee work groups. Estonia participates in the work of the committee as an observer and implements the approved principles in its development cooperation policy. The goal for 2016–2020 is to participate more actively in shaping the development funding policy during the DAC meetings and to prepare for becoming a member of the DAC according to the budget. As of 2014, Estonia presents detailed reports to the DAC Secretariat about funding development cooperation and humanitarian aid and project activities (in CRS<sup>1++</sup> format). In 2015–2020 Estonia wishes to further improve the database and reporting system in active cooperation with the DAC Secretariat so that the system would correspond to the international standard of transparency of development assistance flow.

### 1.3. PRIORITY PARTNER COUNTRIES

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In order to achieve the most effective results with limited resources, Estonian development cooperation focuses on priority partner countries. The selection of priority partner countries is

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<sup>1</sup> *Creditor Reporting System*

based on two factors: firstly, where the benefit factor and value added by Estonia is the highest and secondly, on the foreign policy goals of Estonia.

No priority partner countries are determined for humanitarian aid. Special attention is paid to acute and long-time crisis. The decision to provide assistance is reached separately for each crisis, considering the needs on site, the specific request for assistance, and Estonia's readiness to provide appropriate aid. Humanitarian aid can only be offered to countries that have been declared eligible for aid by the OECD Development Assistance Committee, from the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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### 1.3.1. PRIORITY PARTNER COUNTRIES WITH A COUNTRY STRATEGY

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Keeping in mind the continuing long-term cooperation and the aforementioned criteria, the long-term priority partner countries of Estonia in 2016–2020 are **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**. In order to improve the efficiency of cooperation between the countries, the country strategies drawn up for Georgia and Moldova during the previous strategy period will be updated; cooperation with Ukraine will continue according to the basis<sup>2</sup> established for the previous Strategy period.

The EU has signed association agreements with Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, which also includes creating a comprehensive free trade area. Implementing the association agreement implies that the partners have to go through a complicated reform process, with which assistance and the expertise of the international community will be also needed. Thus in 2016–2020, Estonian cooperation will focus on supporting EU integration and reforms in three countries, thereby the Estonian Centre of Eastern Partnership is an essential strategic partner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in mediating the reform experience.

#### GEORGIA

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Georgia has been one of the priority countries of Estonian bilateral development cooperation since 2006. In 2016–2020 it is important to continue working in the areas where Estonia has already started cooperation with Georgia. It is necessary to support Georgian integration with the EU and to be ready to provide assistance for the implementation of the association agreement in Georgia. The basis of cooperation in 2016–2020 is the Estonian development cooperation country strategy for Georgia, which reflects the needs and development strategies of Georgia and determines the development directions and areas where Estonia can offer value added. Given the Strategy for Development Cooperation and the needs of Georgia, Estonia focuses on the following key areas when planning and implementing development cooperation in Georgia: supporting the education sector, developing good governance practices and democracy, supporting economic development and environmentally friendly development. If possible, Estonia will cooperate in areas where Georgia perceives Estonia can add value.

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<sup>2</sup> Bilateral cooperation strategy will be drawn up based on the development cooperation with Ukraine.

## MOLDOVA

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Moldova has been one of the priority partner countries of Estonian development cooperation since 2006 and the Estonian public and private sector and civil associations have established a sustainable cooperation with their partners in Moldova. Moldova is still interested in the Estonian reform experience and its gradual integration with the EU has created an advantageous foundation for continuing the cooperation. Moldova will continue to be a priority target country in 2016–2020 and the Estonian development cooperation is built upon the country strategy for Moldova. Based on the development priorities of Moldova, the activities of the previous effective development cooperation between the two countries and the advantages and capabilities of Estonia for implementing the bilateral development cooperation, attention should be paid to cooperation in the field of healthcare, enforcing democratic state structures, supporting the development of civil society and rural areas. Estonia wishes to focus on human rights, gender equality, environmental sustainability and ICT in all of these areas.

## UKRAINE

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Estonia supports implementation of the reform programme established in the EU association agreement with the Ukrainian government in 2014 and primarily supports the reinforcement of the development of democracy and state structures, including activities that promote the fight against corruption, as well as e-governance and introducing of ICT solutions. Collaboration will continue in areas where Estonia and Ukraine have already had cooperation in the past: regional development, sustainable economic development and empowering of civil society. While planning the activities, it should be taken into account that a military conflict has been going on in the country since 2014. Therefore in the following years, alleviating the humanitarian situation and the possibility to contribute to the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine both bilaterally and multilaterally should be taken into consideration.

The basis for the bilateral cooperation will be followed during the period of the new Strategy, which focuses on supporting the Ukrainian integration with EU. The long-term goal of the document is to build a stable democratic society and to increase the well-being of the people living in Ukraine.

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### 1.3.2. LONG-TERM PRIORITY PARTNER COUNTRIES

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In addition to partner countries for which a country strategy has been devised, Estonia is willing to continue long-term cooperation with **Afghanistan** and **Belarus**.

## AFGHANISTAN

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Afghanistan is one of the poorest countries in the world and its human development index is very low. The greatest developmental challenge is the lack of security and stability, which is a prerequisite for sustainable development. The withdrawal of international forces

from Afghanistan in 2014 has led to the worsening of the security situation. Insecurity has increased due to fighting between the Afghanistan government forces and armed resistance. Lack of infrastructure, weak leadership and the government's issues in ensuring a constitutional state in all parts of Afghanistan also hinder economic development. Serious problems include the lack of education and medical care and the situation of women and girls. Afghanistan's standard of living indicators are one of the lowest in the world, a considerable proportion of the population suffers because of a lack of housing, clean water, electricity, medical care and employment.

Afghanistan has been one of the most important target countries of the Estonian bilateral development cooperation since 2006 and Estonia has contributed to Afghanistan through international organisations and bilateral cooperation. The work of the Estonian special mission to Kabul in 2006–2014 also contributed to this. Estonian development cooperation in Afghanistan is focused on the areas of security, education and improving the situation of women and girls. With regard to Estonian long-term international obligations in Afghanistan, cooperation will continue in 2016–2020 bilaterally and with the involvement of international organisations, depending on the security situation in the state and the opportunities on site.

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## BELARUS

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Belarus has been ruled by an authoritarian regime and centralised economy since 1994. The government restricts political freedom, freedom of expression, media, public gatherings and religion of the citizens. 80% of the industry is under the state control and the local business-hostile environment hinders foreign investments.

Estonian development cooperation with Belarus began at the start of 2011, when Estonia showed its support to the Belarussian democratic forces during the violent events. Although the political situation is still complicated, it is essential for Estonia to continue cooperation with the Belarussian civil associations supporting and empowering their activities. Estonia is also willing to continue cooperation in the areas of small businesses, ICT and education, as well as continue awarding scholarships to Belarussian students who are acquiring higher education in Estonian universities. In order to plan its development cooperation, Estonia is cooperating with local partners, mostly representatives of the civil society.

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### 1.3.3. OTHER PARTNER COUNTRIES

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Based on the foreign policy goals of Estonia and the international agreements to contribute more development cooperation resources to vulnerable countries, Estonia will continue to respond to the needs of other countries in a flexible manner; these needs mainly include the needs of least developed and post-conflict countries, namely developing island states and developing landlocked states in areas where Estonia can offer a clear added value. In this kind of cooperation, assistance of Central Asia, Africa and Middle East regions will be preferred, and the funding decisions will be made according to the government resolution „Conditions and Procedure for the Provision of Development Assistance and Humanitarian Aid”.

#### 1.4.COMPLIANCE OF THE STRATEGY WITH INTERNATIONAL GOALS

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193 countries adopted the universal Sustainable Development Goals (Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development) in September 2015 during the UN Summit. This, together with the final document of the Addis Ababa Financing for Development Conference (July 2015), provides the basis for Estonian development cooperation. The Sustainable Development Goals are an extension to the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDG), which applied to the developing countries during 2000–2015. Unlike the UN MDGs, the new goals are universal, meaning these are binding for Estonia as well. Sustainable Development Goals are listed in Annex I of the Strategy.

Estonia is a member of the EU, who is the biggest global donor. Upon implementation of the development cooperation and humanitarian aid, Estonia follows the conclusions of the EU Council and the agreements covering aid effectiveness (Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda for Action, Busan Partnership agreement). Estonian humanitarian aid policy is based on the Geneva Conventions, international humanitarian law and the principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship. Regarding development cooperation and humanitarian aid, Estonia also takes into account other more important international agreements, with which Estonia has joined as a member of the EU. Political documents are listed in Annex II.

#### 1.5.RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OTHER POLICY AREAS AND THE GOALS OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID

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The sustainable development of countries cannot be ensured by the development cooperation policy of donor countries alone; it has to be supported by other policy areas, such as trade, agriculture, environment, healthcare, security and financial policy as well. The relationship between development cooperation and other policy areas can clearly be seen in the goals of sustainable development, which includes many areas, but has a single goal regarding the development of countries. In order to guarantee the efficiency of Estonian development cooperation policy and to help achieve the goals of sustainable development, all policy areas have to consider the positive or negative impact of their point of view on poorer countries. To better connect other policy areas with the goals of development cooperation, in 2016–2020, the compliance of other policy areas with the goals of development cooperation will be mapped by 2017, the awareness of key area decision-makers about the compliance of policy and goals of development cooperation will be raised and the first Estonian political compliance framework will be determined by 2020 in cooperation with a strategic partner.

#### 1.6.INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND E-GOVERNMENT

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Comprehensive use of ICT and e-government solutions has significantly contributed to the development of Estonia. These solutions have helped to make the Estonian government sector considerably more efficient and transparent. Estonia is willing to support the implementation of ICT and e-government solutions in developing countries based on its own experience.

Estonia is willing to share the relevant experience and best practices in order to offer guidance to countries that are planning or already starting with the relevant work and is willing to offer assistance in implementation of very concrete bilateral projects that aim to reforming of state governance and public services, fight against corruption, implementation of the principles of open governance, increasing the transparency, reporting and efficiency. ICT cooperation projects have been carried out in many developing countries by now, including priority partner countries.

Estonia's goal is to acknowledge the potential of ICT and e-government as promoters in the EU development policy more extensively and to participate actively in the discussion in many international formats. In 2015, Estonia participated in compiling the World Bank World Development Report 2016 on Digital Dividends, during which President Toomas Hendrik Ilves was the Co-Chairman of the Advisory Panel. The report concluded that ICT is most beneficial in countries that have established strong liable institutions and have implemented comprehensive legal reforms that support digital solutions. The report calls attention to Estonia as a successful example of how technical solutions can be the fundament of democracy and transparency and can support rapid economic development. The report presents the connections between ICT and development and the best practices of Estonia all over the world.

#### 1.7. IMPLEMENTERS OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID AND THEIR CAPABILITIES

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Estonian development cooperation with partner countries and their institutions is implemented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other ministries, municipalities and representatives of civil society and private sector. In order to ensure the efficiency of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid, it is important to develop and broaden the know-how and strengthen the capabilities of all participants. It is also important to raise the administrative capacity of the implementers of development cooperation, including project management, budgeting, accounting and evaluating results. The specific contribution meant to strengthen the capabilities of implementers of development cooperation is described in subsection 4.2 of the Strategy.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the strategic planning, implementing and coordinating the activities of different participants of Estonian development cooperation. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

- drafts the directions of development cooperation and the Strategy in cooperation with other institutions and organisations;
- holds an active political dialogue with the partner countries; based on the needs and priorities of the partner country and Estonia's resources, agreed on specific areas of cooperation;
- represents Estonia and its positions on development cooperation at the international level, including in the international organisations falling within the area of responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as in forums and in the media;

- assess the situation and, if necessary, upgrade the system of implementing bilateral development cooperation;
- communicates with other donors both at the partner country level as well as internationally and prepares bilateral or multilateral cooperation projects with other donors;
- informs relevant institutions, ministries and state authorities, civil associations and the private sector and involves them in the implementation of development cooperation.

Other ministries and representatives of civil associations are also involved in drafting, renewing and implementing the Strategy for Estonian Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid. Representatives of ministries and civil associations for the development cooperation committee, that evaluates the development cooperation projects, proposes projects for the Foreign Minister to approve and supervises their implementation.

Considering the proposals by the ministries, the Strategy sets out the areas, measures and organisations falling within the field of administration of other ministries in which Estonia intends to support developing countries. Other ministries are primarily responsible for planning, implementing and evaluating development cooperation projects in their own field. They also develop direct relationships with relevant institutions in developing countries, keeping in mind the goals of this Strategy. Local authorities and the private sector, incl. business organisations, are active partners in shaping the development cooperation policy and implementing projects.

The implementation of development cooperation activities requires the involvement of the whole of society. In achieving this, civil associations have the best opportunities in Estonian development cooperation. Their relations with partner countries' civil associations make these organisations valuable partners for the public sector in policymaking, project implementation and in informing and involving the public. For empowering the capabilities of the representatives of civil society, the non-profit association and long-term strategic partner Arengukoostöö Ümarlaud (Development Cooperation Roundtable), which acts as an umbrella organisation, is an important actor in addition to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One of the main tasks of the Arengukoostöö Ümarlaud is to increase the capability of its members and to inform the public. In addition to the Arengukoostöö Ümarlaud, the strategic partners of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2011–2016 are the Estonian Center of Eastern Partnership and the e-Governance Academy. The foundations for cooperation between the strategic partners will be renewed in 2016–2020.

The role of private sector in implementing development cooperation has continuously increased in 2011–2015 and enterprises have become more interested in the public calls for proposals for development cooperation. One of the goals for 2016–2020 is to more actively handle the strengthening of know-how and capability of the public sector, when it comes to the issues of development cooperation, in order to stimulate interest for helping to achieve the goals of development cooperation. Estonian enterprises have become more international and they have also expanded to developing countries. Therefore raising the awareness of private sector organisations about the impact of enterprises on developing countries has also become more important, whether it concerns paying a decent salary to employees, working conditions that do not damage health or keeping in mind the aspects of environmental protection. Non-



governmental organisations that promote social responsibility of enterprises are a valued partner for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in informing enterprises.

#### 1.8.PERFORMANCE OF ESTONIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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Estonian development cooperation has so far focused on regulating the formal system of providing development assistance: the legal acts regulating development assistance and humanitarian aid have been improved, availability of information is better and the conditions and procedure have become more transparent. After ten years of experience in official development cooperation, strengthening the capabilities and increasing budgetary resources, it is time to evaluate the performance and impact of Estonian projects. Objective assessment of performance gives an opportunity for retrospection and for the better planning of future projects, in order to ensure greater benefits for the target country and the best use of public resources. In 2016–2020, Estonia will continue to develop and implement the system for assessing performance based on the preliminary work done during the previous Strategy, with the goal of implementing a functional framework for evaluating the performance of Estonian projects by 2020.

## 2. AREA OF ACTIVITY OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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### 2.1. CURRENT SITUATION OF THE AREA OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

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Estonian official development assistance (ODA) has increased significantly in 2011–2014: it was 17.4 million euros in 2011 and 28.5 million euros in 2014. This means that in four years, Estonia has contributed almost 80 million euros for development cooperation and 7.8 million euros for humanitarian aid. The increase in ODA also saw the increase in the amount of development cooperation and humanitarian aid in the budget of Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2011–2015, which grew to 12 million euros in 2015. The budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs depends on the annual negotiations of the State Budget Act. As the budget increased during the last period of the Strategy, it has enabled to implement more area-specific bilateral projects in priority partner countries. At the same time, civil associations, institutions and the private sector have become more interested in the open calls for proposals of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and this in turn has boosted competition and enabled to choose projects of higher quality.

#### LEGAL GROUNDS

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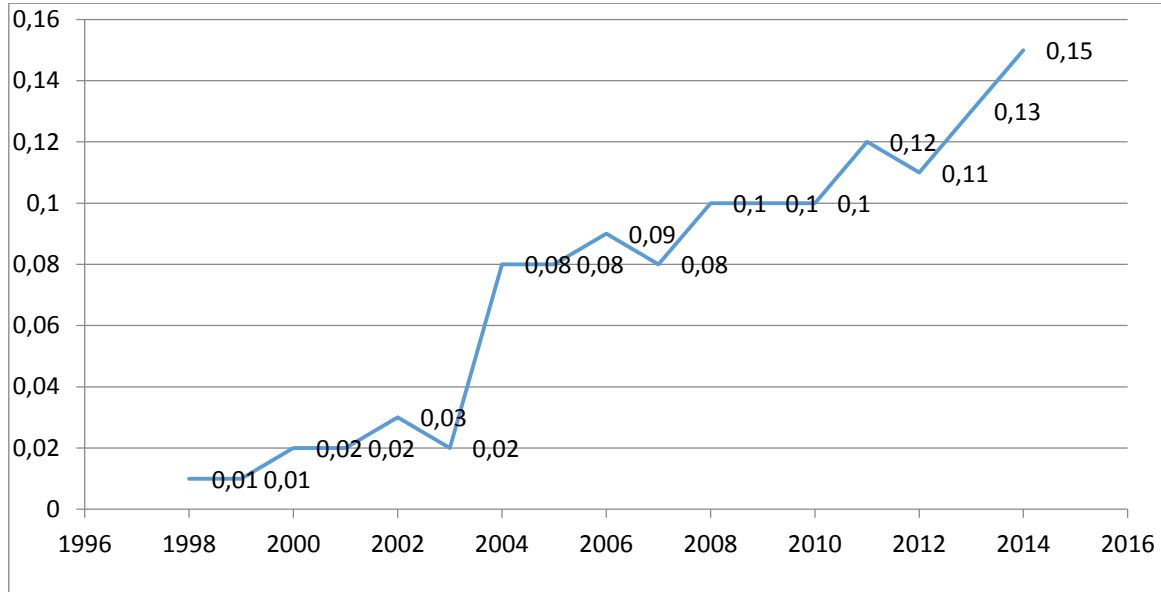
The underlying document of Estonian development cooperation is the Principles of Estonian Development Cooperation approved by the *Riigikogu* on 15 February 2003. The document specifies the common goals and priorities of Estonian development cooperation and the forms of implementing development cooperation. The Government of the Republic Act and the Foreign Relations Act specify the mechanisms of granting development assistance in greater detail and the leading role of the Ministry of Finance in planning and implementing development cooperation and in coordinating the respective policy. According to the Foreign Relations Act, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presides at Inter-ministerial Development Cooperation Committee, which includes as full members the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as other ministries substantial for the area and representatives of civil associations take part in the work of the committee. The committee's function is to ensure the high quality of Estonian development cooperation projects; the usefulness and impact as well as technical feasibility of the projects is assessed by the committee. The Government of the Republic regulation "Conditions and procedure for the provision of development assistance and humanitarian aid" regulates the implementation of bilateral development coordination. The Regulation stipulates and establishes among other things the following: the organisation of calls for proposals to find projects, more detailed terms and conditions for granting aid, the limits of aid and self-financing, project assessment criteria, rules of procedure, conditions for eligibility and use of the grant, obligations and rights of the donor and final recipient.

#### FUNDS

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During the EU Council meeting of Foreign Ministers on 26 May 2015, Estonia confirmed the pledge to try to achieve 0.33% of the GNP as the level of official development assistance within the deadlines of fulfilling the goals of sustainable development. The funds of

development cooperation and humanitarian aid depend on the annual state budget negotiations and possibilities offered by the budget. Graph 1 shows Estonia's contribution in 1998–2014.



Graph 1: Estonian official development assistance as a percentage of GNP in 1998–2014.

## 2.2. ACTIVITIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Development cooperation and humanitarian aid policies are implemented through activities, which are the same for different measures. One of the aims of this Strategy is to harmonize the internal reporting with the OECD DAC reporting, in order to avoid double reporting and an excessive administrative burden. The activities of development cooperation and humanitarian aid policy implementers can be summarised and described according to the types of aid determined for the OECD DAC reporting. It is unnecessary to use all the activities listed in the OECD DAC classification in case of Estonia and thus the most appropriate have been chosen, considering the context of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The activities listed below are valid for the implementation of all measures of the Strategy, both in the field of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. It is not necessary to use all possible activities for all measures, but the most appropriate for the implementation of the measure should be selected.

### 2.2.1. DONATIONS, GRANTS AND POOLED FUNDS

This category includes activity support for non-governmental organisations, private sector, research institutes and multilateral organisations; donations to specific-purpose funds and programmes that operate under the auspices of multilateral organisations or international

non-governmental organisations; supporting pooled funds. Corresponds to the OECD DAC type of aid category B.

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#### 2.2.2. PROJECTS

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Projects are activities agreed with the partner country, to reach specific objectives within a defined time frame, budget and geographical area. In addition to governmental and non-governmental organisations, international organisations can carry out projects. Corresponds to the OECD DAC type of aid category C.

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#### 2.2.3. EXPERTS AND OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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Organising the assignment of experts or training or research to share know-how. Corresponds to the OECD DAC type of aid category D.

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#### 2.2.4. SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT COSTS IN DONOR COUNTRIES

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This category of activities includes scholarships for students from donor countries to study in Estonia. Corresponds to the OECD DAC type of aid category E.

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#### 2.2.5. OTHER IN-DONOR COSTS — AWARENESS AND REFUGEES

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Awareness activities in Estonia and sustenance of refugees during the first twelve months of their stay. Corresponds to the OECD DAC type of aid category H.

## GOAL I: CONTRIBUTING TO THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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Estonian development cooperation is based on the sustainable development goals approved by the UN in September 2015 and the objective is to help achieve these goals with activities targeted for developing countries. Unlike the Millennium Development Goals, which were focused on reducing poverty and targeted mostly to developing countries, attaining the goals of sustainable development is the task of the entire world and thus the goals are significantly more comprehensive (goals are listed in Annex I). The goals of sustainable development include three interconnected dimensions: social affairs, economy and environment. The thematic measures of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid Strategy include all three dimensions: measures 1–4 (education, healthcare, peace and democracy, human rights) cover social affairs, measure 5 is for economic development and measure 6 for the environment. All measures of the Strategy contribute to the eradication of poverty either directly or indirectly.

In 2016–2020, output indicators, which represent the financial contribution of Estonia to different countries and areas, are used to evaluate the goals and most of the measures of this Strategy. In order to guarantee the implementation of area-specific activities set in the Strategy, above all in

the priority partner countries listed in subsection 1.3, base and target levels will be determined for the bilateral development cooperation with priority partner countries within the limits of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' budget for development cooperation and humanitarian aid. Reaching the target level of indicators depends on the annual state budget negotiations, possible crises or major changes in the political situation and security situation of the partner countries.

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Base level</b>	<b>Target level 2016–2020</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Percentage of official development – assistance of the GNP</b>	0.14% in 2014	Attempt to achieve 0.33% of GNP within the deadlines of fulfilling the goals of sustainable development <sup>3</sup>	Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of funds allocated to development cooperation with <b>Georgia</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>8%</b> in 2011–2015	To maintain the average level of <b>8%</b> in 2016–2020	Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of funds allocated to development cooperation with <b>Moldova</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>8%</b> in 2011–2015	To maintain the average level of <b>8%</b> in 2016–2020	Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of funds allocated to development cooperation with <b>Ukraine</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>7%</b> in 2011–2015	On average <b>9%</b> in 2016–2020	Development Cooperation Report

<sup>3</sup> According to the budgetary strategy of 2015, it is recommended to maintain the percentage of official development assistance at least at the 2015 level of GNP until 2019.

Percentage of funds allocated to development cooperation with <b>Afghanistan</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>13%</b> in 2011–2015	On average <b>10%</b> in 2016-2020	Development Cooperation Report
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Percentage of funds allocated to development cooperation with <b>Belarus</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>2%</b> in 2011–2015	To maintain the average level of <b>2%</b> in 2016–2020	Development Cooperation Report
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Percentage of development cooperation funds allocated to <b>other priority partner countries</b> from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	On average <b>7%</b> in 2011–2015	On average <b>9%</b> in 2016–2020	Development Cooperation Report
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## MEASURE 1. ENSURING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION

In order to improve the situation of people living in poverty, Estonia considers it important to support, above all, their development opportunities. The most sustainable and long-term investment in the growth of people’s opportunities as well as in the development of society is the availability and quality of education. Guaranteeing primary education was one of the eight Millennium Development Goals, which was not achieved fully. 90% of children in the world received primary education in 2015, but gender inequality persisted, as 60% of illiterates in the world are women. The educational goals of sustainable development are more extensive than the Millennium Development Goals. The aim of goal 4 of sustainable development is to ensure free and high quality primary and basic education and early childhood education to all boys and girls by 2030; to ensure affordable technical, occupational or higher education to women and men; to ensure accessibility to education and suitable conditions for school to everyone (including vulnerable groups and persons with disabilities). The goal for 2020 is to significantly increase the number of scholarships for students from developing countries on the international level, so they can study mostly technical and ICT specialities in developed countries.

Through 2011–2014 Estonia has achieved the sub-goal of education in developing countries mainly by financing projects supporting the education system of the partner countries, including by supporting training programmes and research networks and by allocating study scholarships. Also, important international development cooperation and humanitarian aid organisations and initiatives such as UNICEF, UN Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Girls' Education

Initiative (UNGEI) have been supported in the field of education. More than 4 million euros has been contributed to education in 2011–2014.

In 2016–2020, Estonia continues to fund activities that improve the educational system of Estonia’s partner countries, paying special attention to enhancing the quality of education. Estonia will also continue to fund programmes that improve the quality of education in partner countries, by supporting multilateral organisations active in education and their activities either as a partner or through voluntary donations.

Indicator	Base level	Target level	Source
Percentage of educational resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Georgia</b>	Percentage in 2011–2014: <b>19%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>20%</b>	Country Strategy Paper — Georgia/Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of educational resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Ukraine</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>23%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>23%</b>	Basis of Ukrainian development cooperation  Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of educational resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Afghanistan</b>	Percentage in 2011–2014: <b>11%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>30%</b>	Development Cooperation Report

## MEASURE 2. SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF HEALTH CARE

Upon supporting human development and reducing poverty, special attention must be paid to the health care of the population in developing countries. One of the priorities is the availability of healthcare to all groups of the population. Also, the spread of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other causes of the high mortality rate, especially in the case of mothers and infants, must be limited. Also, planned reproductive behaviour preventing health problems is important from the point of view of development of the population.

Goal 3 of sustainable development is associated with developing healthcare and the objective of this is to guarantee a healthy life and well-being of people of all ages by 2030. The objective at that is to reduce the maternal, infant and child mortality rate, reduce infectious and other diseases, drug and alcohol addiction and road deaths. In addition to that, the goal is to ensure overall availability of reproductive medicine, invest in the availability of primary health care services and in research supporting the development of medicine.

In 2011–2014, Estonia supported the development of healthcare in developing countries with 2.2 million euros. Estonia will continue to implement bilateral projects in 2016–2020, in order to

improve the availability of health care services in partner countries and to raise the competence and capability in the field of healthcare. Estonia wants to especially focus on improving the reproductive health of women and girls. Estonia will also continue, in cooperation with multilateral organisations, including among others the World Health Organisation (WHO), UNICEF and the UN Population Fund (UNFPA), to co-finance projects that improve healthcare and the situation of women and children and support organisations through voluntary donations.

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Base level</b>	<b>Target level</b>	<b>Source</b>
Percentage of healthcare resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Moldova</b>	Percentage in 2011–2014: <b>11%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>15%</b>	Country Strategy Paper — Moldova Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of healthcare resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Ukraine</b>	Percentage in 2011–2014: <b>0%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>3%</b>	Basis of Ukrainian development cooperation Development Cooperation Report
Percentage of healthcare resources of all development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Afghanistan</b>	Percentage in 2011–2014: <b>9%</b>	Percentage in 2016–2020: <b>10%</b>	Development Cooperation Report

### MEASURE 3: CONTRIBUTING TO SAFEGUARDING PEACE AND STABILITY

Peace and security are important prerequisites for the development of the society and economy of a country. Although the Millennium Development Goals did not cover this area, the Sustainable Development Goal 16 focuses directly on these topics. The Sustainable Development Goal 16 “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels” is designed for, amongst other targets, reducing all forms of violence, in particular violence against and torture of children, strengthening national and international institutions to combat terrorism and crime and maintain or achieve a peaceful living environment.

Most of Estonia’s activities in safeguarding peace and security in the world take place under the aegis of the UN and EU mainly through international peacekeeping and post-conflict missions. The duties of such missions include mine clearance (including humanitarian demining), collection of small weapons and stabilisation of the situation, followed by build-up and development cooperation with the aim of ensuring the build-up and stability of post-conflict countries. Safeguarding stability in developing countries also ensures a liveable environment for people and reduces their need to leave homes, at the same time decreasing forced and illegal migration. Both in post-conflict as well as in developing countries it is important, amongst other things, to support decentralisation, state structure functions, legislative drafting and security



policy reform, training police officers and judges as well as implementing other activities safeguarding peace and stability.

Through 2011-2014 Estonia contributed close to 5 million euros to the area of peace and security. For example, Estonia has supported the EU Police Mission in Afghanistan, civil missions in Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Kosovo, made voluntary donations to the UN Peacebuilding Fund and the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for clearance of mines and unexploded ordnance. Through 2016-2020 Estonia will continue sending its experts to international civil missions preventing crises or contributing to solving such crises, international cooperation for clearing unexploded ordnance and mined areas, co-financing UN peacekeeping operations as well as cooperation with multilateral organisations for implementing projects with the aim of developing police and justice systems of partner countries. Estonia will also contribute to the protection of women's rights in conflict situations in a manner consistent with the Estonian Action Plan for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 “Women, Peace and Security” in Estonia through 2015-2019.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
Weight of resources indicated for safeguarding peace and stability of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Georgia</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>20%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>15%</b>	Development operation Report
Weight of resources indicated for safeguarding peace and stability of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Ukraine</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>18%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>11%</b>	Development operation Report
Weight of resources indicated for safeguarding peace and stability of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Afghanistan</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>39%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>40%</b>	Development operation Report

MEASURE 4: SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND THE RULE OF LAW, INTRODUCTION OF GOOD GOVERNANCE PRACTICES AND GUARANTEEING HUMAN RIGHTS

Just as peace and security, an effective democratic system and rule of law, low level of corruption and guaranteed human rights are important prerequisites for the development of a country. The Sustainable Development Goal 16 focuses on these topics as well. The goal is aimed at achieving equal access to justice for all, substantially reducing corruption and bribery, developing effective

and transparent institutions as well as ensuring public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms.

The area of democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights was one of the areas receiving most support from Estonia through 2011-2014 with a total of 6.3 million euros contributed. It is also an area in which Estonia is a partner of interest to developing countries due to its own transition experience. Through development cooperation projects, expert missions and training, Estonia has supported the modernisation of partner countries, paying special attention to increasing the availability of information and communication technologies and their application in the government sector (e-governance), third sector and education system of the partner countries. Estonia has also supported the strengthening of the civil society of partner countries and, in case of Eastern Partnership countries, the implementation of reforms proceeding from the EU association agreements. Through 2016-2020 Estonia will continue similar bilateral cooperation with partner countries, primarily in the field of e-governance solutions and ICT.

Safeguarding human rights is the main prerequisite and measure for reducing poverty and improving quality of life. Estonia has successfully cooperated in the field of human rights with UN agencies, including supporting the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and the UNDP with voluntary donations and, jointly with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), contributed to ensuring children's rights and needs in the world. Support of multilateral organisations involved in developing human rights, democracy, good governance and rule of law will continue through 2016-2020.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source	
Weight of resources indicated for democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Georgia</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>25%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>30%</b>	Development Cooperation Report	Co-
Weight of resources indicated for democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Moldova</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>38%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>45%</b>	Development Cooperation Report	Co-
Weight of resources indicated for democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights of the total development cooperation	2011-2014 weight <b>33%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>45%</b>	Development Cooperation Report	Co-

resources allocated to **Ukraine**

Weight of resources indicated for democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Belarus</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>26%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>30%</b>	Development Cooperation Report	Co-
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Weight of resources indicated for democracy, rule of law, good governance and human rights of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>other priority target countries</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>34%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>37%</b>	Development Cooperation Report	Co-
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MEASURE 5: SUPPORTING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

According to the UNDP and the World Bank, the development of the economy and, above all, small businesses is one of the major catalysts of poverty reduction. In this matter, the Sustainable Development Goal 8 “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all” is relevant with its targets of supporting small- and medium-sized enterprises and other business, encouraging innovation, supporting sustainable consumption and tourism. The Sustainable Development Goal 10 “Reduce inequality within and among countries” is also relevant from the perspective of developing economies; its targets include supporting trade of least developed countries in accordance with World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements.

In the period of the Strategy for 2011-2014 Estonia supported partner countries upon establishment of an economic environment suitable for private enterprise and foreign investments and upon opening of access to the global trade market by more than 1.7 million euros. In addition to aid, Estonia actively supports the liberalisation of the global trade rules and reduction of export and national subsidies and reduction of customs restrictions through the WTO. In the Strategy for 2016-2020 Estonia wishes to continue these activities and contribute more to the development of agriculture and tourism as well as promoting creating and developing start-ups in the partner countries, besides small businesses.

In most of Estonia’s partner countries, the development of agriculture and rural life plays a great role in the economy and its sustainable development has a direct impact on incomes as well as on the development of the economy as a whole. Sustainable and clean intensification of agriculture has become the key topic; it focuses on more effective use of existing natural resources that, in turn, presumes the introduction of new technologies and practices. In the context of climate change, adaptation to new natural conditions, including disease agents, is of determining value in

agricultural production. It is important to ensure the competitive development of the agriculture sector and the creation of new jobs in rural areas. One solution is developing measures of small and medium enterprises as the competitiveness of these often determines employment in rural areas. More attention must be paid to food security and better nutrition, including promotion of international standards of safe and assured food. The Estonian trust fund with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN and participation in the projects of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) have been of assistance in sharing the experience of Estonian experts.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
Weight of resources indicated for economic development of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Georgia</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>24%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>27%</b>	Development Cooperation Strategy Paper – Georgia Development Cooperation Report
Weight of resources indicated for economic development of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Ukraine</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>12%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>21%</b>	Development cooperation bases with Ukraine Development Cooperation Report
Weight of resources indicated for economic development of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Moldova</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>15%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>20%</b>	Development Cooperation Strategy Paper – Moldova Development Cooperation Report
Weight of resources indicated for economic development of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>other priority target countries</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>9%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>10%</b>	Development Cooperation Report

## MEASURE 6: SUPPORTING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVING INTERNATIONALLY SET ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

An indispensable prerequisite for achieving sustainable development is the sustainable use of the environment and natural resources. For that reason, one of the goals of Estonian development cooperation is to contribute to finding environmentally sustainable solutions in partner countries as well as at the global level. Saving the environment is also one of the three main measures of sustainable development. The topic is most directly included in the Sustainable Development Goal 13 “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” that suggests strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries, integrating climate change measures into national strategies, improving awareness on climate change mitigation and adaptation and institutional relevant capacity and support, above all, the least developed countries in increasing climate change capacity by focusing on women, youth and small communities. The Sustainable Development Goal 12 “Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns”, Goal 14 “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development” and Goal 15 “Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss” are also related to preserving the environment.

Throughout 2011-2014 Estonia contributed 4.7 million euros to the environmentally sustainable development of partner countries. The majority of the amount (approx. 80%) was provided by the Ministry of the Environment that has been prescribed by the state budget strategy resources for supporting developing countries in alleviating climate change and adapting to it. Throughout the 2016-2020 period Estonia will continue supporting environmentally sustainable development of partner countries by contributing to bilateral projects and multilateral organisations and area funds. The main focus will be on alleviating climate change and adapting to it, for example by supporting renewable energy sources, energy efficiency or transport and industry efficiency projects, as well as by strengthening administrative capacity regarding climate action or supporting solutions of adapting to climate change.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
Weight of resources indicated for supporting environmentally sustainable development and internationally set climate goals of the total official development assistance of Estonia	2011-2014 weight 4%	2016-2020 weight 4.5%	Development Co-operation Report. Estonian National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of the Ministry of Environment.
Weight of resources indicated for environmental development of the	2011-2014	2016-2020	Development Co-

total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Belarus</b>	weight <b>2%</b>	weight <b>3%</b>	operation Report	
Weight of resources indicated for environmental development of the total development cooperation resources allocated to <b>Ukraine</b>	2011-2014 weight <b>10%</b>	2016-2020 weight <b>6%</b>	Development operation Report	Co-

MEASURE 7: RAISING THE AWARENESS OF THE ESTONIAN PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY YOUNGER PEOPLE, AS REGARDS DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, HUMANITARIAN AID AND GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS

Estonian contribution to development cooperation and humanitarian aid has become an increasingly important foreign policy output, the awareness of the Estonian public as regards global issues and support to being involved in international development cooperation has also increased. According to the public opinion poll carried out in 2015, 75% of the Estonian population are interested in global and world development issues and 5% are actively involved in these topics. Compared to a similar poll in 2005, the weight of people more widely interested in what is happening in the world has grown by 12% in ten years. In 2015, 74% of the population and 98% of opinion leaders were convinced that Estonia should render assistance to poorer and less developed countries. That is 9% more compared to 2005.

Although the results show positive trend, there is constant need for active notification regarding modern global development issues, international development goals and the activities of Estonia as a development cooperation and humanitarian aid donor country. This results in a more general and better understanding of development cooperation and humanitarian aid in the society and increases the amount of conscious and interested citizens who could potentially participate in development cooperation themselves and be involved in global topics. Over the years Estonia has become a donor country that assists on the international level together with other developed countries the growth of general global stability and welfare that all Estonian members of the public can contribute to in their own way.

The outreach activities during 2010-2015 have mainly taken place with the help of organisations and citizens' associations involved in development cooperation projects, in particular MTÜ Mondo and their umbrella organisation Estonian Roundtable for Development Cooperation. A majority of information is distributed through social media, yet appearances on traditional media have also been arranged, seminars and conferences have been organised, printed works and books have been published, exhibitions and documentaries as well as public events have been organised.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also assists in informing on development cooperation and humanitarian aid, in particular by financing projects of outreach, world education and sending

volunteers to developing countries and providing information through all their public communication channels. However, the main notifiers of development cooperation are the implementers of development cooperation projects and organisations involved in humanitarian aid. Thus, the priority of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the empowerment of outreach of organisations implementing development cooperation and humanitarian aid or, in other words, strengthening their communication capability in cooperating with civil society partners. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also supports, if possible, the provision of information regarding development cooperation and humanitarian aid activities, campaigns, options for donating and other similar initiatives, through its channels.

It is also important to focus on world education, introduce world education projects and development cooperation and humanitarian aid in schools (as well as in informal education system in cooperation with project partners) and add global development topics to formal education and curriculums of schools. For this purpose, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs supports the composing and distribution of study materials on world education and cooperates with the Ministry of Education and Research.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs assists the promotion of world education in Estonia from all perspectives. One of the means for this is to support projects sending volunteers to developing countries. When discussing their work and activities and sharing their experiences, volunteers also become important notifiers of development cooperation and humanitarian aid. A public opinion poll<sup>4</sup> conducted in the spring of 2015 also confirmed that transferring knowledge from person to person is one the most important means of gaining knowledge on development cooperation and humanitarian aid among young people.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Initial level</b>	<b>Target level</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Weight of population convinced Estonia should render assistance to less developed countries</b>	<b>74% in 2015</b>	<b>80% in 2020</b>	<b>Public opinion poll</b>

<sup>4</sup> [http://vm.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/arengukoostoo\\_uuringu\\_aruanne\\_2015\\_tnsemor.pdf](http://vm.ee/sites/default/files/content-editors/arengukoostoo_uuringu_aruanne_2015_tnsemor.pdf)

### 3. HUMANITARIAN AID

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#### 3.1. ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION OF HUMANITARIAN AID

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The objective of humanitarian aid is to save lives, reduce suffering of people and provide necessities for decent life during and after natural and human-made catastrophes as well as provide aid in order to improve preparedness for responding to the abovementioned situations and preventing them.

Estonia assesses each and every need for humanitarian aid separately and provides assistance in the manner most needed in the given situation. Through 2011-2015 Estonia actively participated in international humanitarian aid policy via the EU and UN organisations by consistently increasing its contribution in responding to natural and human-made humanitarian crises as well as assisting the international humanitarian aid system. During 2011-2014 Estonia allocated 7.8 million euros for humanitarian aid from the budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Estonia considers the EU's role in making the international humanitarian aid system more efficient very important and supports the coordination of aid within the framework of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism by taking into account the central role of the OCHA in coordinating aid in catastrophe areas. Estonia actively participates in the activities of the EU and UN agencies in shaping international humanitarian aid. ECHO, together with the Member States, is still globally the biggest provider of humanitarian aid, jointly providing around 50% of financial resources intended for financing global emergency aid. During the Estonian Strategy period for 2011-2015, the EU humanitarian aid policy document "European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid" was assessed and an EU humanitarian aid body for volunteer missions to disaster areas was created. The main political priorities of the EU were increasing the capability of responding to crises, the endurance of target countries and the effectiveness of aid as well as the interconnection of development cooperation, humanitarian aid and civil protection policy. In March 2015, Estonia joined the UN voluntary Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction that significantly increases international cooperation and development activities concerning population and environment protection, development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

In 2014, Estonia joined the OCHA Donor Support Group that was one of the goals in the period of the Strategy for 2011-2015. This is a natural step towards strengthening the role of Estonia on the international arena after a long political stand for a better and more effective international humanitarian aid. During 2015-2017, Estonia will be a member of the ECOSOC for the second time. Estonia has been a member of the Executive Committee of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR ExCom) since 2007 and was elected a UNICEF Committee member for 2014-2016, holds a vice-presidency in the Bureau of the Executive Board in 2015 and has submitted its candidacy to become the President in 2016. In addition, each year Estonia contributes to the CERF and provides human and financial resources to the UNDAC missions, thus, supporting the central role of the OCHA in determining the need for help in humanitarian catastrophes and coordinating a uniform response. An important event in 2016 will be the first-ever World Humanitarian Summit meeting in Istanbul where the focus will be on achieving a new quality in solving and alleviating humanitarian crises.

It is important for Estonia to systematically support long-term humanitarian crisis hotspots to alleviate human suffering and reduce possible migration pressures. In long-term crises, the main



channels of cooperation are multilateral humanitarian aid agencies and trust funds, and in case of increased effectiveness, bilateral project activities.

When providing humanitarian aid, Estonia has based its actions, above all, on specific needs in a given situation and found the quickest and most efficient way of providing aid in the event of each catastrophe. In terms of assessment of a situation, Estonia mostly relied on the UN, European Commission or Red Cross as well as direct requests for assistance by countries (e.g. Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia). Through 2011-2014 Estonia provided humanitarian aid to 34 countries, in the total amount of 7.8 million euros. Estonia has granted most of its humanitarian aid through UN organisations (OCHA, UNHCR, UNIFEC, UNRWA, CERF, WFP, WHO) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which are mostly represented in the region struck by the catastrophe/crisis and thus know the situation on the spot, have an overview of the scope of the crisis and are able to bring the aid to those in need efficiently and quickly. The Rescue Board and many non-profit associations were the main national cooperation partners.

The Estonian Disaster Relief Team has proven itself as a significant and credible team of professionals. A capability of providing rescue and humanitarian aid consistent with international standards has been developed allowing, if necessary, Estonia to send modules and groups intended for various tasks to areas suffering from natural disasters. A team is assembled for each mission based on specific needs. An urban search and rescue team (USAR), a medical team (MED), a pump team (PUMP) and a chemical team (CHEM) have been formed from operational capability. The team also includes a support team (SUP) and an expert team (EXP) that support and organize the work of the team on missions, trainings and during everyday activities. They also have a humanitarian demining capability. The EU Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM), the International Humanitarian Partnership (IHP) and the OCHA, including the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) and the United Nations Office for the Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) are important cooperation networks of the Estonian Rescue Team.

## LEGAL GROUNDS

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The underlying documents of Estonian humanitarian aid are the Principles of Estonian Development Cooperation approved by the *Riigikogu* on 15 February 2003 and this Strategy. The Government of the Republic Act and the Foreign Relations Act provide in greater detail the mechanisms of granting humanitarian aid and the Regulation of the Government of the Republic of 21 January 2010 “Conditions of and Procedure for Provision of Development and Humanitarian Aid” regulates the terms and conditions of allocating humanitarian support (incl. requirements for applicants and applications). The Rescue Act, which entered into force on 1 September 2010, and the Civil Missions Act, which entered into force in 2011, and the procedure for urgent international aid renewed in 2015 regulate the sending of the EDRT or its members to catastrophe areas. The provision of humanitarian aid is decided by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the sending Estonian Rescue Team modules and groups by the Minister of Foreign Affairs following consultations with the Ministry of the Interior. The most extensive missions of the Rescue Team have been decided by a decision of the Government.

## FUNDS

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Funds for providing humanitarian aid are prescribed within the Foreign Ministry budget on a single row of resources for development and humanitarian resources. The most extensive Rescue Team missions have been funded from the reserve capital of the Government of the Republic. Through 2011-2015, the weight of resources intended for humanitarian aid made up about 10% of the total amount of Estonian official development assistance.

## INSTITUTIONS

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Pursuant to the Government of the Republic Act and the Foreign Relations Act, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for providing and coordinating humanitarian aid. As preparing for major accidents and responding to them mostly involves the area of civil protection, the Ministry of Internal Affairs is the leader of Estonian catastrophe prevention. Domestic partners include the Ministry of the Interior, the Rescue Board, the Health Board and Estonian non-governmental organisations.

### 3.2. ACTIVITIES OF THE HUMANITARIAN AID AREA

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Activities of the humanitarian aid area are similar to those of development assistance described in section 3.2 of the Strategy.

## GOAL II – RESCUING AND HELPING VICTIMS OF NATURAL OR MAN-MADE CATASTROPHES AS WELL AS PREVENTION OF SUCH SITUATIONS AND IMPROVING READINESS OF RESPONDING TO THEM

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Providing humanitarian aid to countries and populations suffering due to a catastrophe must be connected to the frameworks of catastrophe prevention, civilian-military cooperation, the climate as well as sustainable development. In humanitarian aid policy, Estonia builds on the principles of providing humanitarian aid – humanity, impartiality, independence and neutrality – as provided for in the articles of association of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent and resolution 46/182 of the General Assembly of the United Nations as well as international humanitarian law, the Geneva humanitarian conventions and the underlying document “European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid” of the European humanitarian aid policy. Estonia also considers important the closer cooperation and coordination between military and civil institutions and the use of military resources in providing humanitarian aid in accordance with the Oslo Guidelines.

Estonia considers important the capability of responding to acute humanitarian crises both internationally and nationally, provides special attention to long-term crises, strengthening the endurance of populations and preventive activities. This approach enables the successful joining of rescue work, emergency aid, initial restoration work and development cooperation as well as

the support of sustainable development of the country. Estonia provides separate attention to helping the most vulnerable groups of the society – women, children, victims of sexual violence, internally displaced persons and refugees – by taking into account their gender, age and state of health. There were around 60 million refugees in the world by the end of 2014, 86% of them in developing countries. In order to support these countries in managing the amount of refugees and alleviate the situation of refugees in these countries on spot and, taking into account the increase of humanitarian crises and their lengthiness, Estonia will increase the weight of humanitarian aid from its official development assistance to 13% by the year 2020.

In connection to the increase of funds provided for humanitarian aid during 2011-2015 and the armed conflict in closely located Ukraine, the amount of bilateral humanitarian aid projects of Estonia as well as the interest of civil society representatives in the area of humanitarian aid and implementing projects have increased. Through 2016-2020, a suitable cooperation form will be developed in order to involve civil society representatives in the area of humanitarian aid.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Initial level</b>	<b>Target level</b>	<b>Source</b>
<b>Weight of humanitarian aid of the total official development assistance</b>	<b>10.5%</b> in 2014	<b>13%</b> in 2020	Development Co-operation Report

MEASURE 1: – RESCUING AND HELPING VICTIMS OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CATASTROPHES

Rescuing and helping victims of catastrophes consists of three components. Firstly, the material assistance, rescue work and other services in a crises situation providing necessities for decent life immediately after a catastrophe. Material assistance includes access to drinking water, hygiene and health care services and medical products. Rescue work includes providing search and rescue services, field hospitals or other emergency services. Secondly, food assistance relieving the situation of those suffering due to the crisis. Thirdly, all services necessary for delivering the first two assistance components, such as coordination, logistics and protection and safety of civilians.

Estonia finds it important to respond to basic needs arising after a catastrophe immediately and operatively, given that there are relevant capabilities and resources, and it is possible to act in the manner that is currently needed and for which there are appropriate means. Through 2016-2020 Estonia will continue alleviating long-term man-made humanitarian crises by focusing on healthcare and measures against sexual violence. Estonia considers the central coordination of the UN important in responding to humanitarian crises (CERF, UNDAC, and INSARAG). The Estonian Rescue Team has an important role in a rapid response to a catastrophe. Given the limited resources, Estonia considers it important to support the work of international agencies in responding to international humanitarian crises. Through 2016-2020 we will continue supporting our current international partners, such as OCHA, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, and ICRC, with voluntary contributions.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
<b>Weight of resources intended for rescuing and helping victims of the total humanitarian aid resources</b>	Averagely <b>88%</b> in 2011-2015	Averagely <b>70%</b> in 2016-2020	Development Co-operation Report

## MEASURE 2: RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION

Initial restoration and build-up work includes both the initial response as well as subsequent restoration work. A military conflict or a natural disaster damages or completely destroys houses and vital infrastructure (water, sewage, electricity, bridges, ports, roads; necessities for providing healthcare services). Such situations require both short-term build-up work following a catastrophe in order to restore vital services as well as smooth subsequent connection of humanitarian aid activities with development cooperation projects in order to restore normal daily life.

Providing psychosocial support to those who have experienced trauma is of extreme importance, the focus should first and foremost be on the weaker groups of society – women, children, people with disabilities – who are in need of separate support and protection. Employment programmes enabling people to return to their normal life are also important. Estonia will contribute to supporting people in post-catastrophe situations during the 2016-2020 period by focusing on the area of healthcare and education.

A prerequisite of initial restoration and build-up work following an armed conflict might be clearing areas contaminated with ordnances or mined areas. Unexploded ordnances and mined areas jeopardize the life and health of civilians and hinder the provision of medical assistance and delivering food products to those in need. It is important to involve both outreach work as well as help mine victims and integrate them into the society. Estonia will continue supporting the UN Voluntary Trust Fund (UNMAS) in mine and unexploded ordnance clearance and will contribute, if possible, to other international cooperation projects involved in humanitarian demining.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
<b>Weight of resources intended for restoration work and build-up of humanitarian aid resources</b>	Averagely <b>10%</b> in 2011-2015	Averagely <b>25%</b> in 2016-2020	Development Co-operation Report

### MEASURE 3: DISASTER PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS

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The results of responding to humanitarian crises depend on the initial readiness and capability of the country involved in the catastrophe in accepting international help. Thus, it is becoming increasingly more important not only to respond to catastrophes, but also prevent crises as well as protect the population of the country and strengthen its endurance. Estonia first and foremost considers important the implementation of activities reducing the risk of catastrophes (increasing awareness, cartography of natural disasters, building surveillance, legislation) and the support of developing countries in, for example, developing response plans for emergencies, developing early warning systems and planning mass evacuations. A recurrent principle of assistance is the reduction of vulnerability of the population and the protection of the weakest groups of society. Estonia considers important the leading role of local governments and partners in preventing crises and ensuring readiness for responding to catastrophes.

In 2015, Estonia joined the UN voluntary Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction that is aimed at increasing the readiness of countries and regions for preventing natural disaster and dealing with their consequences. Joining the Sendai Framework facilitates international cooperation and development activities in the areas of population and environment protection, development cooperation and humanitarian aid. Since preparing for major accidents and responding to them mostly involves the area of civil protection, the Ministry of Internal Affairs takes the leading role in this area in Estonia. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will continue annual voluntary contributions to the UN humanitarian aid organisations and will contribute financial and human resources to the UNDAC missions. Estonia will also support bilateral projects of its partners in the area of protection of the population and prevention.

Measure	Initial level	Target level	Source
Weight of resources intended for readiness to catastrophes and prevention of humanitarian aid resources	Averagely 2% in 2011-2015	Averagely 5% in 2016-2020	Development operation Report Co-

## 4. CROSS-SECTORAL REGULAR COOPERATION

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There are regular cooperation forms within the area of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid that are supported from the state budget, yet, that cross measures in their essence. The aim of this sub-area of the Strategy is to more clearly specify the contribution of Estonia to these forms of cooperation.

### 4.1.SUPPORTING THE ACTIVITIES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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Estonia regularly pays operating assistance to the budgets of international organisations providing development cooperation in order to assist the purposeful work of these organisations. Both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as other ministries make payments to the budgets of these organisations within their administrative fields. A large part of the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of Estonia makes up the payment from the budget of the Ministry of Finance to the budget of the European Commission intended for implementing development cooperation and Estonia also annually contributes to the European Development Fund that serves as an important resource in implementing the EU development cooperation policy. In addition, if necessary, Estonia makes payments to other funds involved in the EU development cooperation, such as the Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF). Regular payments are made to the Council of Europe Development Bank. Estonia supports the activity of the UN by paying the annual membership fee. Estonia also regularly supports the activities of UN agencies (such as UNESCO, ILO, IFAD, and FAO). An important organisation implementing development cooperation is the World Bank. Estonia supports the activities of the IDA with regular payments from the budget of the Ministry of Finance and, if necessary and possible, supports other organisations of the World Bank Group. In addition to the organisations mentioned, Estonia supports other international organisations involved in development cooperation by taking into account the need and possibilities of our budget.

### 4.2.INCREASING THE CAPABILITY OF ESTONIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID INSTITUTIONS

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs regularly contributes to increasing the capability of Estonian development cooperation and humanitarian aid institutions. In order to strengthen the inclusion and capability of civil society, Estonia supports an umbrella organisation of citizens' associations involved in development cooperation; the aims of the organisation include, among other things, increasing development cooperation capability of its members. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also provides activity support within the framework of strategic partnership to other civil society organisations that assist in achieving the development cooperation and humanitarian aid goals of Estonia, in a manner consistent with foreign policy directions.

#### 4.3. RECEPTION OF REFUGEES IN A DONOR COUNTRY

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Pursuant to the DAC directive<sup>5</sup> of the OECD regarding the eligibility for aid of different expenses, the expenditure of refugees for the first 12 months in a donor country is considered official development assistance. The expenditures are covered from the budget of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

#### 4.4. DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN AID ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURES

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Pursuant to the DAC directive of the OECD, the administrative costs of agencies implementing development cooperation also constitute as official development assistance. The wages of officials implementing development cooperation, costs of implementing job assignments related to development assistance as well as costs of visits and meetings related to development assistance that, pursuant to an international practice, should remain under 10% of development assistance, are eligible for aid.

### 5. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE STRATEGY

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The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for the implementation and management of the Strategy for Estonian Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid. Besides the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, other ministries and their agencies, the *Riigikogu* and other constitutional institutions, local authorities, the non-profit sector and the business sector implement activities in the framework of the measures set out in the Strategy. The other ministries submit data concerning the activities of the previous year to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the Estonian institution that gathers development cooperation statistics annually, in the first quarter.

Each year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs submits to the Government of the Republic a report on the official development assistance of the previous calendar year. For this purpose, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs asks for the assessment of other institutions related to the Strategy regarding the conformity of implemented activities with the objectives of the Strategy. In addition, regarding Strategy goals and activities (such as projects, assistance allocated to international organisations) aimed directly at developing countries, the Ministry of Finance takes into account the assessments of the partner countries and their partner institutions and international development cooperation and humanitarian aid organisations regarding progress made in relevant sectors in the developing countries.

The compliance of the activities (development cooperation projects) financed from the development cooperation and humanitarian aid budget of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the goals of the Strategy and their effectiveness is evaluated by the Development Cooperation

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<sup>5</sup> Directive approved on 11 June 2013 ([http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DCD-DAC\(2013\)15-FINAL-ENG.pdf](http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DCD-DAC(2013)15-FINAL-ENG.pdf))

Committee on the basis of legislation. Other ministries exchange information and cooperate with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the basis thereof, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will draw up an overview of the resources of Estonian state budget-funded institutions, which is treated as a part of the development cooperation under the methodology of the OECD's Development Cooperation Committee and submits it to the OECD DAC.



The UN 2030 agenda for sustainable development<sup>6</sup>

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts\*
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

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<sup>6</sup><https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/7891TRANSFORMING%20OUR%20WORLD.pdf>

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## ANNEX 2: LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION<sup>7</sup>

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Declaration of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro 1992)

UN Millennium Declaration and UN 2005 and 2010 World Summit Outcomes

UN Millennium Development Goals (2000)

Declaration and Plan of Implementation of the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg 2002)

UN Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 (the so-called Istanbul consensus, 2011)

Agreements on financing for development: Monterrey 2002, Doha 2008, and Addis Ababa 2015

UN Sustainable Development Goals or the 2030 Agenda (2015)

Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security (Rome 2009)

Decisions related to the WTO Doha Development Round

Declaration of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995)

Programme of Action of the UN International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo 1994)

Declaration of the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen 1995)

Decisions of the high level forums on harmonisation and aid effectiveness (Rome 2003, Paris 2005) and Accra Agenda for Action (2008) and the Busan Partnership agreement (2011)

Principles, rules and guidelines of development assistance agreed upon in the OECD Development Assistance Committee

The European Consensus on Development (2006)

Notification of the European Commission: an agenda for change for increasing the influence of the European development policy (Agenda for Change, 2011)

Conclusions of the Council of the European Union on Policy Coherence for Development (2015)

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<sup>7</sup>The list is not exhaustive

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### ANNEX 3: DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

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ODA (Official Development Assistance) – a term that covers the loans and grants granted by the public sector to developing countries for the purpose of supporting economic development and welfare, incl. humanitarian aid. The definition of Official Development Assistance and the auxiliary activities contained therein are decided by the DAC of the OECD. Based on the definition of the Official Development Assistance, the OECD gathers international development assistance statistics as well

Development aid/assistance/cooperation – financial or material assistance or know-how granted to developing countries

Developing country – a country that has been included as such in the list of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)

CERF – the Central Emergency Response Fund of the UN

DAC – the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD

Donor country – a country that provides another country or region with development or humanitarian aid

ECHO – the European Commission's Humanitarian aid and Civil Protection department

ECOSOC – Economic and Social Council of the UN

European Development Fund (EDF) – the European Commission finances the assistance granted to African, Caribbean and Pacific countries out of the funds of the EDF

Estonian Disaster Relief Team (EDRT) – a group of experts from Estonia participating in international rescue work and mine clearance operations

EU – European Union

EU CPM – Civil Protection Mechanism of the EU

FAO – Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN

GEF – Global Environmental Facility

GHD – Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative

HLPF – High Level Political Forum

Humanitarian aid – financial or material assistance provided to another country with the aim to rescue lives, reduce suffering of people and provide necessities for decent life during and after natural and man-made catastrophes as well as provide aid in order to improve preparedness for responding to said situations and preventing them

IBRD – International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Part of the World Bank Group

ICRC – International Committee of the Red Cross

IDA – International Development Association. Part of the World Bank Group

IFAD – International Fund for Agricultural Development

IFRC – International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

IHL – International Humanitarian Law

IHP – International Humanitarian Partnership

ICT – Information and Communications Technology

IMF – International Monetary Fund

Human Development Index (HDI) – an indicator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), which synthesises three aspects of human development on a numerical scale: (1) life span, (2) knowledge and (3) living standard

INSARAG – International Search and Rescue Advisory Group

Bilateral development cooperation – development assistance that a donor country or donor countries grant to a recipient country in cooperation

World Bank (WB) – IBRD and IDA (see separately). Besides the IBRD and the IDA, the World Bank Group includes the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

Multilateral development cooperation – assistance granted to a recipient country by international organisations or assistance granted to a recipient country via international organisations

NIF – Neighbourhood Investment Fund of the EU

OCHA – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OCHA DSG or ODSG – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Donor Support Group

OECD – Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) – expresses the actual purchase power of the currency and differs from the official exchange rate of the currency

Priority partner country – a developing country with which Estonia pursues closer cooperation in the interests of the country and which has been specified in the Strategy as a priority partner country

PRSP – internationally recognised national development strategy that is drafted by involving the entire society for the purpose of establishment of national goals and priorities

Gross national income (GNI) – the monetary expression of the total amount of goods and services for final consumption created by the state's production factors in a year

Gross national product (GDP) – the value added of the goods and services produced in the state's economic territory in a year in market value

UNDAC – United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination

UNDP – United Nations Development Programme

UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme

UNFPA – United Nations Population Fund

UNGEI – United Nations Girls' Education Initiative

UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF – United Nations Children's Fund

UNIFEM – United Nations Development Fund for Women

UNRWA – United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

WFP – World Food Programme

WHO – World Health Organization

WTO – World Trade Organisation

UN – United Nations