

Development Cooperation of the Czech Republic in 2019 (Summary)



The purpose of development cooperation and humanitarian assistance is to promote stability in partner countries, and to foster their potential for sustainable economic and social development and prosperity. Development cooperation enables the Czech Republic to contribute to the reduction of poverty and inequality in the world while promoting its national interests, strengthening its security and laying the groundwork for stronger political, trade and investment relations and for economic diplomacy.

1) Activities of the Czech Development Agency

(total disbursement of 420 762 436 CZK in 2019)

The main focus of the Czech Development Agency (CzDA) is the administration of the bilateral development projects in the priority countries of the Czech development cooperation. In compliance with the [Development Cooperation Strategy of the Czech Republic 2018-2030](#) were the development projects carried out mainly in the six priority countries: **Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Moldova, and Zambia**. In addition, bilateral cooperation projects were implemented in two Specific Countries (Palestine and Ukraine); development cooperation with Kosovo and Mongolia was completed and will continue in other forms.

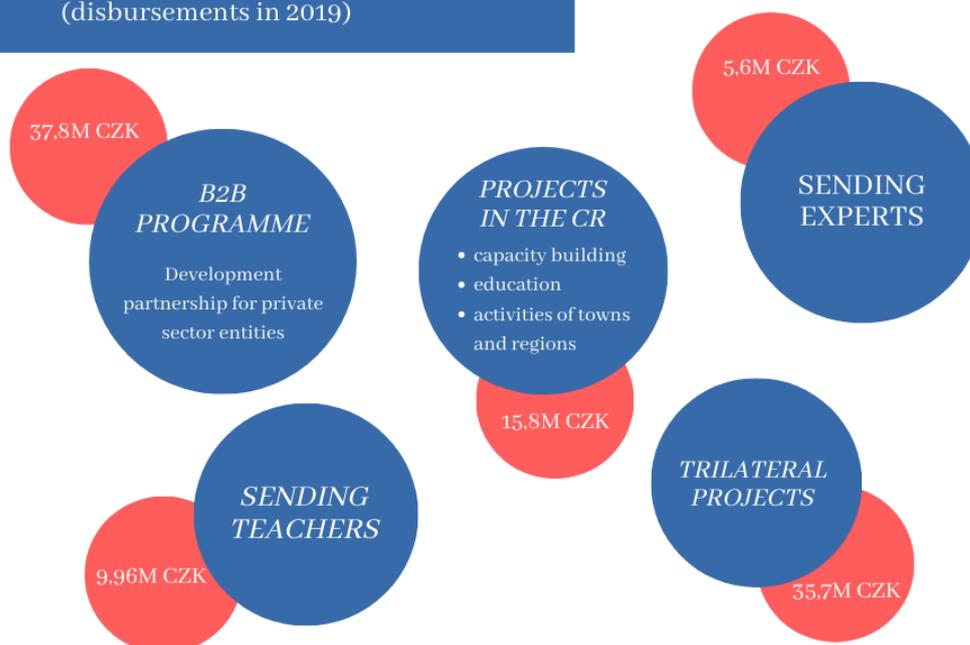
Country	Disbursement in 2019
Moldova	80.8M CZK
Ethiopia	79.4M CZK
Bosnia and Herzegovina	62.7M CZK
Georgia	49.8M CZK
Cambodia	23.8M CZK
Zambia	12.8M CZK

Bilateral development activities aimed at specific thematic priorities of the Strategy (*Sustainable management of natural resources, Agriculture and rural development, Inclusive social development, Good democratic governance, Economic transformation and growth*) and were connected to selected sustainable development goals of the Agenda 2030:



Other instruments of the CzDA

(disbursements in 2019)



2) Activities of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for managing local small scale projects, projects in cooperation with other line ministries and international organizations, projects according to government resolutions and activities of transformation cooperation and humanitarian assistance. The Ministry also ensures the evaluation of programmes and projects of the Czech development cooperation.

Local small scale projects

The main aim of the local small scale projects is to support the activities of local subjects in developing countries with the contribution up to 500,000 CZK. In 2019, in total **80 small scale projects** were carried out in 48 countries supported with 30.9M CZK.

Cooperation with other line ministries

Various projects were implemented in cooperation with other line ministries, e.g. **Economic and Financial Transition Cooperation Programme** managed by the Ministry of Finance; **Aid for Trade**, trade promotion programme managed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade; **projects of global development education for teachers** (Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports) or **Security Development Cooperation Programme** managed by the Ministry of the Interior. The programme of **government scholarships for students from developing countries** at public universities in the Czech Republic has continued (including related healthcare services provided to government scholarship holders under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health).

Multilateral development cooperation

The Czech financial contribution to the development agenda of the **European Union** accounted for **2/3 of the total official development assistance** provided by the Czech Republic in 2019. That equalled to about 90 % of the multilateral component of the development assistance. Remarkably, the first project of delegated cooperation between the European Commission and the Czech Republic has commenced in 2019, in Moldova.



The Czech Republic has continued the cooperation with the United Nations (UN), especially with the **UN's Development Programme (UNDP)** and other agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The Czech Republic has also been involved in the **UN Volunteers (UNV) Programme**.

Transition Cooperation Programme

*Building and strengthening of democratic institutions, rule of law, civil society and good governance, promotion of free media and human rights defenders
(disbursement in 2019: 78M CZK)*

The programme has in 2019 mainly focused on the priority countries of the Czech foreign policy and the areas where the Czech experience and expertise can be utilized and transferred. Countries of cooperation included:

- Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cuba, Georgia, Kosovo, Moldova, Myanmar/Burma, Serbia and Ukraine

Humanitarian assistance

*50 humanitarian activities in 29 countries
(disbursement in 2019: 221,8M CZK)*

Where and why did we assist?

- Disaster response (Iran, Mozambique, Greece)
- Conflicts and forced displacement (Afghanistan, Iraq, Yemen, South Sudan, Jordan, Lebanon, Mali)
- Complex humanitarian crises (Myanmar/Burma, Niger, Pakistan, Palestine, Venezuela – in particular refugees in Colombia and Peru)
- Disaster risk reduction (Bosnia a Herzegovina, Ethiopia, Cambodia, Zambia) and resilience building (Philippines, Indonesia)



The project of renewal of four schools, which were destroyed by a series of earthquakes, on the Indonesian island of Lombok was realized within the Czech humanitarian assistance provided in 2019. Photo: MFA

In addition, special government assistance programmes aimed at **stabilization and post-conflict reconstruction** have been supported in 2019 in the following countries:

Country	Amount in 2019
Syria	39.3M CZK
Afghanistan	20M CZK
Iraq	6.7M CZK

Conclusion

According to the preliminary results, the official development assistance (ODA) provided by the Czech Republic in 2019 was slightly higher than in the previous year – it amounted to 7 billion CZK. The multilateral assistance (contributions to international organizations) further increased, a slight decrease was detected in the bilateral assistance. The Czech Republic remained in the group of countries that provide less than 0.2 % of GNI to ODA. In 2019, two new instruments were implemented – tied financial donations and international development cooperation guarantee; the budget for humanitarian assistance was increased and the assistance to the least developed countries was enhanced.