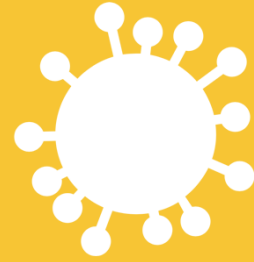


GERMAN MULTILATERAL EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



Confronting the **unprecedented worldwide challenge** posed by the COVID-19 pandemic requires a **joint effort by the multilateral system**. Without **collective action and solidarity**, it would be impossible to tackle this global challenge. Germany is therefore actively engaged in various multilateral responses, including the weekly transatlantic coordination calls on COVID-19, the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 (MCGC) initiated by Canada and the G7/G20 efforts to forge a coordinated response.

Germany is committed to **effective crisis management, credibility, transparency and democratic values**. To this end, the German Government has initiated and implemented the following **measures to strengthen and support international cooperation in the global fight against COVID-19**:



EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY AND SUPPORT FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY OF EU MEMBER STATES

Germany is a Member State of the **European Union**. Having focused initially on humanitarian support and stockpiling (including supply with medical devices and medicines) the Union and its Member States have since May 2020 coordinated closely on issues at the heart of fighting the pandemic such as **travel advice and border controls**. At the request of the October European Council EU institutions and Member States have intensified their efforts with the aim of further deepening their coordination and cooperation regarding a host of issues including testing strategies, quarantine and vaccines.

As regards the economy, the EU has taken decisive action to tackle what can be seen as the **biggest challenge to the welfare of Europeans** since the foundation of the EU's internal market, adopting far ranging measures to help EU Member States, businesses and citizens in a moment of economic crisis:

In April 2020, the Eurogroup in inclusive format has adopted three safety nets for businesses, workers and Euro area member states with a total volume of about **EUR 540 billion**:

- **EUR 100 billion** are foreseen to **support national short-time work programmes** as part of the SURE programme based on guarantees by the EU Member States,
- Loans and equity products of **EUR 200 billion** shall be **granted to business by the European Investment Bank (EIB)**, based on guarantees by EU Member States
- The **European Stability Mechanism (ESM)** has implemented a **special Covid-19 Enhanced Conditions Credit Line (ECCL)** with the sole conditionality of committing to use the loans granted to support domestic financing of direct and indirect healthcare, cure and prevention related costs due to the COVID 19 crisis.

Moreover, on 21 July 2020 EU leaders agreed on a **comprehensive package of EUR 1 824 billion** combining the next long-term budget 2021 – 2027 and an extraordinary recovery effort under the Next Generation EU instrument. This comprehensive effort has a **historic dimension and will help rebuild EU economies and strengthen the resilience of all EU member states**. It is a powerful signal of solidarity and will among other things support investment in the green and digital transitions in line with the Union's political priorities and its longer-term agenda.

Safeguarding the long-term political and socio-economic stability in the immediate neighbourhood – Western Balkans and Neighbourhood countries

PRIORITIES:

- Emergency support for the health sector
- Support to overcome the economic, social and political impacts of the COVID-19 crisis
- Strengthening of regional cooperation

Germany supports the **EU response packages** for the **Western Balkans (EUR 3.3 billion)**, the **Eastern Partnership countries (EUR 2.4 billion)** and the **Southern Neighbourhood (EUR 2.1 billion)**. It is furthermore **delivering supplies of medical and protective goods to countries in the European neighbourhood**.



HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE



PRIORITIES:

- Assisting people in humanitarian crises in coping with COVID-19 and its secondary effects to save lives and alleviate human suffering.
- Contributing to a globally coordinated and multilateral response to the humanitarian needs caused by the pandemic.
- Reaching out to donors who have scaled down their humanitarian budget due to COVID-19 economic impact.

In reaction to the **UN COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan**, Germany has mobilised approx. **USD 530 million** in additional humanitarian funding. This funding has been provided in a very flexible manner providing humanitarian organizations with the flexibility needed to react to highly volatile situation.

Altogether, Germany's contribution for humanitarian assistance has reached the record sum of **USD 2.5 billion in 2020**, making Germany the **second largest bilateral humanitarian donor**.

Germany is committed to a globally coordinated and multilateral response to the pandemic. Providing substantial and needs-based humanitarian assistance is not only a **moral imperative**; it is also an **epidemiological necessity** – given that the pandemic can only be eradicated on a global level.



DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The COVID-19 pandemic influences the social, economic and ecologic spheres. Besides its **dramatic impact on global health**, the COVID-19 outbreak has been **causing a deep recession**, which cuts heavily into national budget and current account balances. The IMF estimates that **the global economy will shrink by around 4.4% in 2020** with an **additional 150 million people expected to fall into extreme poverty** by 2021.

Germany is addressing these challenges with a **comprehensive COVID-19 support package** which encompasses measures in seven areas: Health and fighting the COVID-19 Pandemic; Food security, ensuring basic services to prevent hunger crisis; Stabilization of refugee contexts and crisis regions; Social security, job security in global supply chains; Protection of companies in key sectors, such as textiles and tourism; Securing liquidity of states, Strengthening international cooperation (including frontloading of German contributions to IDA and IBRD)

In total, Germany will contribute **EUR 4.25 billion in development aid as a response to the crisis**:

- In 2020 Germany quickly reallocated **EUR 1.15 billion** of the annual 2020 ODA budget towards **COVID-19 immediate response measures** in partner countries and provided **EUR 1.55 billion in additional funding** through a supplementary budget in 2020.
- For 2021, Germany foresees an additional **EUR 1.55 billion in support for corona response programmes** (pending German Parliament approval).

One focus of the reallocation of funds is in **Africa as well as in countries in crisis and refugee contexts** (especially MENA), in order to address the particular needs of our partners there. Germany is also paying particular attention to **measures addressed to aid the poorest and most vulnerable population groups**.

Beyond the bilateral response, Germany – together with its partners – is already leading the way within the EU (“Team Europe”) and the UN, World Bank and WHO to reinforce the international response and address the crisis together. **Improving donor coordination and cooperation is key to counter the COVID 19 crisis**.

Recover better: The COVID-19 pandemic threatens the progress achieved so far in implementing the SDGs. The economic revival must set the course for climate-neutral, resilient, sustainable and inclusive economies, guided by the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. **By using SDGs as a compass, countries can equip themselves to dealing with future crises**.



INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND COOPERATION AIMING AT VACCINE AND THERAPEUTICS DEVELOPMENT

WHO: German contribution of **EUR 500 million** (EUR 26 million core contribution, EUR 55 million voluntary contribution, EUR 375 million Corona-funds plus contributions in kind)

GFATM: (Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria): Germany supports the fund with a total of **EUR 1 billion** (2020-2022, fourth largest donor). Additionally, Germany supports the Fund's Covid 19 Response Mechanism with an additional **EUR 150 million**.

GAVI (Global Vaccine Alliance): Germany is among the four largest state donors with a contribution of roughly **EUR 600 million** for the periods 2016-20 and 2021-25. Germany provides an additional **EUR 100 million** for the Gavi COVAX AMC programme. Additional funding has already been earmarked in the government's 2021 budget draft.

Access to **COVID-19 Tools Accelerator** (ACT-A): the international community is currently focusing on vaccination and the implementation of the GAVI-administered COVAX facility. By the end of 2021, the COVAX facility aims at providing 2 trillion effective and safe vaccination doses. Of these, 1 trillion doses shall be provided to 92 low and middle income countries through the COVAX Advanced Market Commitment (AMC). Germany has pledged **USD 615 million** for ACT-A and another **EUR 100 million** for COVAX AMC.

EUR 500,000 for the highly precise **IAEA nuclear lab methods** to test for COVID-19.



INTERNATIONAL AID REQUESTS

In June 2020, the German government released its strategy for “An effective international response by Germany to COVID-19” (available on dipl.de) which includes the priorities for bilateral assistance: The German Government is carrying out national programmes which enhance those of the European Union and of the United Nations as well as those of other international organisations. The main focuses of our national programmes are Africa, particularly vulnerable states in the Middle East, the Western Balkans and the countries of the Eastern Partnership.

Since the onset of the pandemic, the federal government has received **requests for assistance from 121 different countries**. Coordinated by the Foreign Office, the various German federal ministries continuously review incoming requests and respond with assistance wherever possible.

Germany has executed the **NATO Crisis Response Measure “Rapid Air Mobility”** allowing for prioritized distribution of disaster relief material by allies throughout German air space. By using **NATO’s strategic air lift capabilities** allies have transported **hundreds of tons of medical supplies**. Germany has also **redirected EUR 390,000 to build capacities and resilience** against the Pandemic in NATO’s partner countries.

EUR 5 million activated to fulfill more than **300 international aid requests** received.



STRENGTHENING BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY

Within the German Federal Government’s preventive security policy, the Federal Foreign Office has for many years assisted selected partner countries and the UNSGM with the aim of **minimising risks associated with biological substances and highly dangerous pathogens: German Biosecurity Programme** (2013 – 2022: EUR 63 million); **Enable and Enhance Initiative** (2016 – 2021: EUR 12 million); **UNSGM-assistance**: (2018 – 2021: EUR 6 million).

Structures, partnerships and networks established in this framework have proven **robust in the current COVID-19 pandemic** situation, in which German partner institutions were able to adapt some of their activities very short term by providing laboratory and protection equipment and covid-19 test kits at the demand of their international partner institutions to cope with the current crisis.



CRISIS PREVENTION AND STABILISATION EFFORTS

PRIORITIES

- Supporting official authorities’ and civil society organizations’ COVID-19 preparedness and response in contexts of fragility.
- Building on existing stabilization partner structures and support networks to strengthen COVID-19 response in contexts of fragility.
- Preventing further destabilisation of conflict regions through the mitigation of socio-economic effects of the pandemic and basic services and livelihood support.
- Supporting crisis prevention and stabilization efforts by offering expert-driven scenario analysis in relation to expected impact of COVID-19 on conflicts in selected countries in the MENA and SSA regions and monitoring COVID-19 related data in particular in SSA.

EUR 25 million to be disbursed **for countries in contexts of fragility**, such as the Sahel region, Lake Chad basin, Middle East, and Afghanistan.

FACTSHEET

1 Dezember 2020



GERMAN FEDERAL ARMED FORCES (BUNDESWEHR) ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT

More than 60 international requests for assistance submitted to the Bundeswehr by more than 30 states and international organisations have been processed. The Bundeswehr provides **continuous, subsidiarily and within the framework of free resources, support for its allies and partners**, e.g. through:

- **Strategic air medical evacuation** operations and Out-of-Theatre treatment: 6 air medical evacuation operations have been conducted in order to transfer 25 heavily affected COVID-19 patients from European partner states for further medical intensive care treatment in German hospitals.
- providing **medical intensive care treatments** in German Federal Armed Forces hospitals,
- provision of three **respiratory specialists on standby**
- **sharing medical personnel, supplies and equipment** (e.g. ventilators) with various international partners (e.g. recently Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo, Iraq, Jordan, Mongolia, Montenegro, Tunisia and Ukraine).



ECONOMIC STABILISATION EFFORTS

USD 87 million in bilateral contribution to the **IMF’s Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust**.

Up to **EUR 233 million** deferred in 2020 as part of the **G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative**.



CULTURAL RELATIONS AND EDUCATION POLICY

PRIORITIES:

- Supporting cultural infrastructure worldwide, especially through our network of cultural intermediary organizations such as the Goethe-Institut and the DAAD.
- Creating flexibility for our partners by extending funding periods and allowing budgetary shifts and adjustments.
- Shifting a large portion of our programmes and projects into the digital realm and supporting our partners with the funding and means to do the same.

Assistance of up to **EUR 70 million** each for the **Goethe Institut network (145 locations in 97 countries)** as well as the **140 German schools abroad**.

EUR 3 million international aid fund for cultural and educational organisations contributing to the safeguarding of cultural freedom and pluralistic societies through independent and sustainable local structures.

Supporting exchange students and scholars affected by the crisis by giving exchange organizations **flexibility to extend or postpone grants and travel**.

Reallocation of **cultural preservation measures** and especially capacity building measures into the **virtual space**.

Making **digital cultural services** internationally visible and tangible through the Goethe-Institut online platform kulturama.digital.

PUBLICATION DATA

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