

THE LUXEMBOURG DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

LËTZEBUERGER ENTWÉCKLUNGSZESUMMENARBECHT
AN HUMANITÄR HËLLEF

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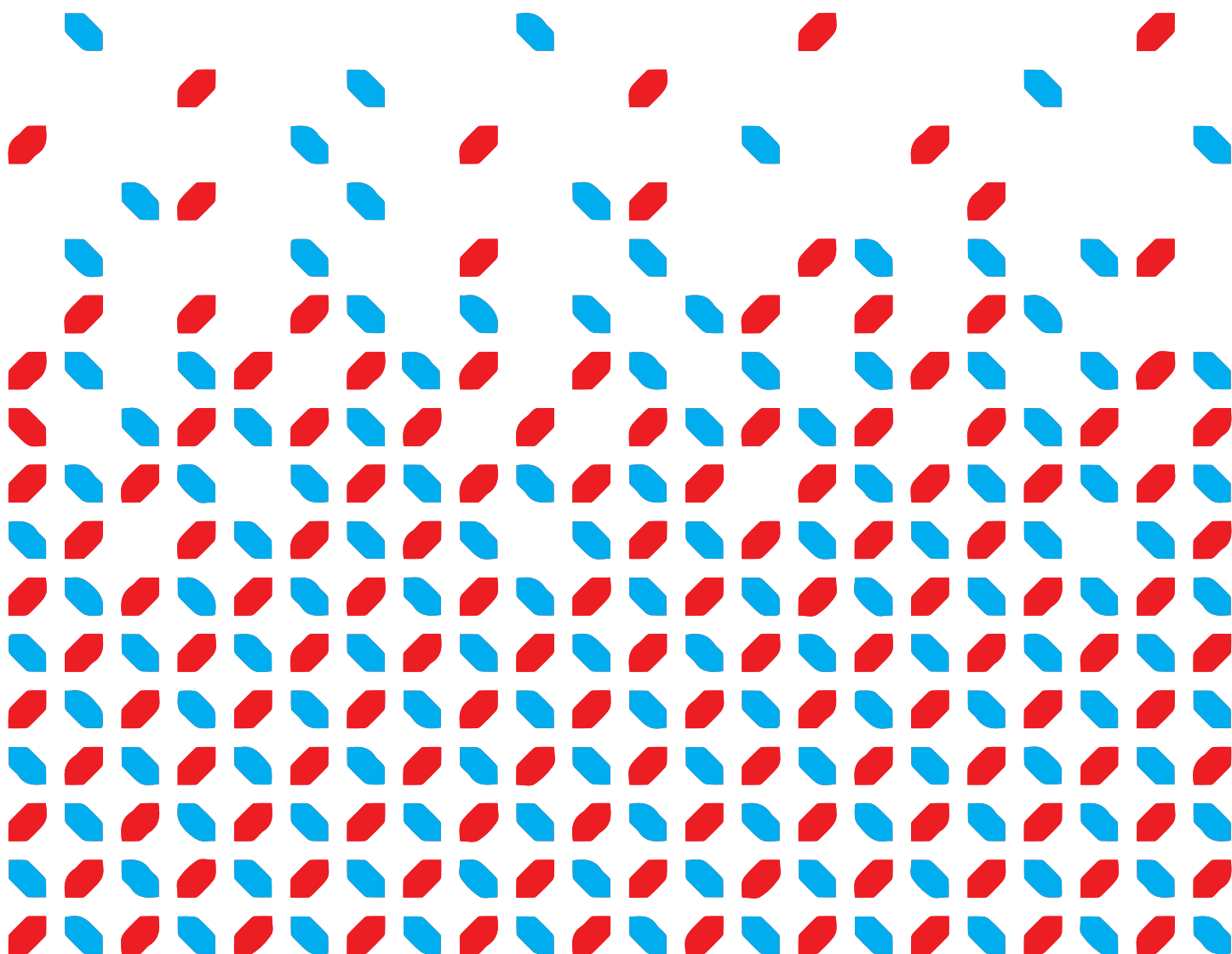


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FOREWORD BY THE MINISTER



Franz Fayot, Minister for Development
Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs

Dear friends of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation,

Following the impact on all our lives of COVID-19, for over two years, with serious consequences for the 'least developed' countries in particular, we had high hopes of quickly overcoming setbacks in terms of poverty, nutrition, education and security around the world. However, the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022 changed our world completely. The war has further exacerbated suffering in many countries, where it was already significant. Extreme poverty has increased dramatically, while food security has deteriorated. These difficult times underline once again the importance of solidarity with each other. This is why it makes me particularly proud that in 2022, despite the setbacks it had to deal with in its actions, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued to support its partners, both bilaterally and multilaterally.

I am very pleased that, from a financial point of view, we have had the necessary resources in 2022 to continue our support in combating extreme poverty and promoting sustainable development. Despite the economic impact of the Russian war in Ukraine, in 2022 Luxembourg's official development assistance exceeded EUR 500 million for the first time, amounting to EUR 503.87 million. Luxembourg has thus again allocated one percent of its gross national income to official development assistance, making the Grand Duchy the most generous member of the OECD's Development Aid Committee in terms of the size of its economy, for the second year in a row. This is an effort we can be proud of — not only because we are

in first place, but above all because this amount reflects our unwavering commitment to leaving no one behind.

In 2022, as a result of the war in Ukraine, food insecurity increased worldwide, particularly affecting those populations that were already the most vulnerable. In order to respond to this crisis, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has mobilised more than EUR 80 million to support projects linked to agriculture, agroecology and strengthening food supply. Luxembourg has devoted 16,5% of its official development assistance to combating hunger, aiming both to alleviate acute hunger through its humanitarian action and to make food systems sufficiently resilient in the long term through its development cooperation.

But the resurgence of food insecurity is not the only crisis facing the international community. Conflict and climate change continue to have negative impacts, leaving millions of people without resources and in need of humanitarian assistance. Urgent solutions are needed, and it is with this in mind that we set ourselves a new strategy for our humanitarian action in 2022. Through this approach, we are committed to dedicating at least 15% of our financial resources to humanitarian purposes and thus to make our contribution to combating the many crises that are currently in progress. In 2022, we were able to devote a total of EUR 87.6 million to our humanitarian action and we plan to increase this amount further for 2023.

In addition to humanitarian efforts, we continued our bilateral development cooperation activities, which form an essential part of our interventions. In many partner countries, our development cooperation rela-

tions were marked by difficult, and even fragile, situations. The Sahel, a long-standing region for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, is a prime example of what happens when various crises combine, with the outcome of growing insecurity. In Burkina Faso, which suffered two coups in the course of nine months, we decided to continue to support the population on the basis of a transition strategy, as in Mali. Senegal and Niger remain pillars of stability in the region. With Niger, we have been able to significantly consolidate our development cooperation relations in recent years, and we are currently implementing our largest Indicative Cooperation Programme to date, with an indicative financial envelope of EUR 144.5 million.

In Asia, we are continuing our cooperation with Mongolia and Laos, where in 2022 we celebrated 20 and 25 years of development cooperation relations respectively. During these periods, considerable progress has been achieved, which I have seen with my own eyes on working visits to both countries. While our projects in the fields of telemedicine and cardiovascular medicine have contributed significantly to improving the health situation of the population in Mongolia, our interventions in the fields of rural development, good governance, health and nutrition, and employment and vocational training have produced significant results in Laos.

In order to strengthen our impact and to be able to contribute our skills to other contexts and fields, we are in the process of diversifying our development cooperation relations in Africa and Central America. In this context, in 2022 the first steps were taken to deepen cooperation with Rwanda, Benin and Costa Rica. In Rwanda, we were able to open an office of LuxDev, our development cooperation agency, in September, and we signed our first general cooperation agreement with Benin in December.

In the framework of our multilateral cooperation, which remains a fundamental element of our activities, new partnerships were also established in 2022. Thus, in July, I signed a first framework agreement with UN Women for the period from 2023 to 2025. This is a clear sign of even closer collaboration to achieve rights and autonomy for women and girls worldwide, and is wholly in line with the priority of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation to promote gender equality in all its interventions.

Civil society, and therefore NGOs in particular, continue to play a very important role in our development cooperation. They are present on the ground, work very closely with local partners and are familiar with the needs of the people. However, they were also hit

by the global upheavals and the ensuing price rises. I am therefore particularly pleased that we have maintained our commitment and support to NGOs at a very high level, as was the case during the pandemic. Thus, we ensured that the necessary flexibility could be used in project budgets. In addition, we provided additional support by raising the ceiling that is used in calculating administrative costs from 14% to 15%.

While our traditional development cooperation work is important, and will remain so, it is essential that we continually adjust our approach so that we can address challenges differently and contribute to a more resilient world. In Luxembourg, we have a wealth of expertise in innovation, digitalisation and research – a potential that we can and must make use of so that we may continue to support development cooperation and humanitarian action efforts. In concrete terms, we were able to put our strengths in digitalisation and cybersecurity to work for the humanitarian community in November 2022, with the inauguration, in Luxembourg, of the first delegation for cyberspace of the International Committee of the Red Cross. It is the first delegation of its kind in the world, a testament to the confidence that the international humanitarian community places in the work and competences of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation.

Speaking of confidence, I would also like to highlight the excellent work of all those involved with the Luxembourg Development Cooperation for our common cause, whether it be our many partners, LuxDev agents, NGOs, volunteers or my co-workers at the ministry. It was a real pleasure to meet them all for fruitful dialogue at the development cooperation conference in December, which we were finally able to hold once more under normal conditions, after a two-year break due to COVID-19.

Finally, all that remains is for me to say a big thank you to all those who have contributed to ensuring that we were able to manage 2022 well, despite it being a difficult year. I am particularly grateful to those on the ground who are experiencing difficult conditions, including in terms of security, but who are constantly forging ahead. Through all these efforts, we continue, despite the many obstacles, to contribute together to a better and more sustainable future for all.

Franz Fayot

Minister for Development Cooperation
and Humanitarian Affairs



THE MINISTER'S MEETINGS AND VISITS IN 2022

1

JANUARY

12/01 Partnership committee meeting with Cabo Verde

19/01 Discussion with Maggy Barankitse, partner of the NGDO *Fondation Partage Luxembourg*

3

MARCH

1/03 Participation in Zero Discrimination Day, Parliamentary Event: Addressing Inequalities from a Human Rights perspective (videoconference)

3/03 Participation in the opening ceremony of the Luxembourg City Film Festival 2022

5-7/03 DAC Development informal meeting in Montpellier

16/03 Signing of a new agreement with the International Labour Organization (ILO) (videoconference)

4

APRIL

3-6/04 Working visit to Kosovo

6-7/04 Working visit to Vienna, Austria, and discussion with Gerd Müller, Director General of UNIDO

20/04 Discussion with Jesse Jean, Ambassador of the Republic of Haiti

20/04 Participation in "Microfinance at Midday" at the Bank of Luxembourg

20/04 Launch of the Business Partnership Facility (BPF) at the Chamber of Commerce

23/04 Participation in the "Bildung fir nohalteg Entwécklung" fair in Leudelange

29/04 Presentation of the UNFPA State of the World Population report

2

FEBRUARY

2/02 Signing of framework agreements with 6 NGDOs (videoconference)

7/02 Participation in the Public Forum on the theme of 'Kooperationspolitik' in the Rotondes

8-11/02 Working visit to Niger and Benin

21/02 Courtesy visit by a delegation from Niger led by Hamadou Adamou Souley, Minister for the Interior, and Hassane Barazé Moussa, Minister for Post and New Information Technologies

23/02 Discussion and lunch with Anita Bhatia, Assistant Secretary-General and UN Women's Deputy Executive Director for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships

23/02 Discussion with Werner Hoyer, President of the EIB

5

MAY

2/05 Joint visit with Yuriko Backes, Minister for Finance, + Signature SPTF, emf-P & CGAP (Consultative Group to Assist the Poor) to the House of Microfinance

5/05 Participation in the signing ceremony of an agreement between the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and UN Women

19-20/05 Meeting of Development FAC in Brussels

31/05 Annual meeting of the ICRC Donor Support Group and bilateral discussion with Peter Maurer, President of the ICRC in Luxembourg

31/05 Discussion, lunch and press conference with Peter Sands, Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

31/05 Diplomatic conference (videoconference)

6

JUNE

5-8/06 Working visit to Niger and Rwanda with the Prime Minister

29/06 Discussion with Carlos Fernandes Semedo, Ambassador of Cabo Verde

29/06 Participation in the award ceremony of the 7th European Civil Protection Forum

30/06 Inauguration of the International Humanitarian Law course, at the National Museum of Military History in Diekirch

8

AUGUST

19/08 Press conference — Presentation of the new humanitarian strategy

9

SEPTEMBER

6-9/09 Working visit to the Occupied Palestinian Territories

17/09 Celebration of 40 years of CITIM (Third World Information Centre)

21/09 Joint Environment and Development Cooperation Committee — Presentation of the final Voluntary National Review report

23/09 Visit to Luxembourg by the Bangladeshi partners of the Friendship Luxembourg NGDO

11

NOVEMBER

2-4/11 Co-Presidency of the European Congress on Global Education and adoption of the Declaration on Global Education to 2050 in Dublin, Ireland

16/11 Statement to the Chamber of Deputies on Luxembourg's development cooperation policy

17/11 Inauguration of the ICRC Delegation for Cyberspace in Luxembourg

17/11 Participation in the European Microfinance Award 2022

19/11 Participation in the Luxembourg Red Cross Bazaar

24/11 Discussion with the ambassadors of the Central American Integration System (SICA)

7

JULY

4-5/07 Participation in the Ukraine Recovery Conference, Lugano, Switzerland

8/07 Visit by Alexandra Hill Tinoco, El Salvador's Minister for Foreign Affairs

11/07 Presentation of the Humanitarian Strategy and the Annual Report to the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs at the Chamber of Deputies

11/07 Partnership committee meeting with Niger (videoconference)

13-16/07 Participation in the High-Level Political Forum and presentation of the Voluntary National Review in New York

18/07 Return of the mid-term review of Senegal's ICP IV

20-22/07 Working visit to Kosovo – Signing of the bilateral cooperation agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with Deputy Prime Minister Besnik Bislimi

26-30/07 Working visit to Mongolia

10

OCTOBER

1/10 Participation in the Solidarity Pyramid of the NGO Handicap International

1/10 Lunch at Festival Nepal at the FNEL Home centre in Cents

3/10 Visit by Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization

5/10 Meeting with the LuxDev Board of Directors

5/10 Signing of a new junior technical assistants (JTAs) agreement with LuxDev

5/10 Joint discussion with Yuriko Backes, Minister for Finance, with CGAP, and signing of a new agreement

13/10 Courtesy discussion with Luvsanvandan Bold, Ambassador of Mongolia

14/10 Partnership committee meeting with Laos

12

DECEMBER

5-8/12 Working visit to Laos with H.R.H. the Grand Duke

12/12 Participation in the 2022 Effective Development Cooperation Summit, Geneva, Switzerland (videoconference)

15/12 Development cooperation conference
+ reception celebrating 10 years of emergency.lu

16/12 Development cooperation conference

19/12 Working visit by Romuald Wadagni, Benin's Minister for Economy and Finance, and Aurélien Agbénonci, Benin's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, to Luxembourg

19/12 Discussion with Emanuela Del Re, European Union Special Representative for the Sahel

The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this are several white geometric lines that form a series of interconnected, irregular polygons. These lines create a sense of depth and structure, with some lines extending from the top and bottom edges towards the center. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist design.

OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN 2022



CHANGES TO LUXEMBOURG'S OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN 2022

The OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) defines official development assistance (ODA) as "government aid that promotes and specifically targets the development and welfare of developing countries".

ODA data are published by the OECD twice a year, in spring (preliminary report) and autumn (final report). The preliminary report provides an overview of ODA, excluding information on sectors of intervention and geographical location. The final report presents the final data and includes a detailed breakdown by sector and by country.

In 2022, Luxembourg ODA amounted to EUR 503.87 million (an increase of 10.5% compared to 2021) and represents 1% of gross national income (GNI). Luxembourg is therefore still one of the small number of OECD members — alongside Sweden (0.90%), Norway (0.86%), Germany (0.83%) and Denmark (0.70%) — to have maintained its ODA at 0.7% of GNI or above. In absolute terms, the US remains the most generous donor, followed by Germany, the European Union, Japan and France.

At the international level, official development assistance reached an unprecedented level of USD 204 billion in 2022, an increase of 9.7% in real terms compared to 2021. That represents 0.36 % of the combined GNI of the members of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee and is the highest level ever achieved. The increase in global official development assistance is largely due to spending on aid to Ukraine and on the treatment and reception of refugees in donor countries.



BREAKDOWN OF ODA BY MINISTRY IN 2022

In 2022, the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs managed 81.50% of ODA, i.e. EUR 410.64 million (of which EUR 401.97 million was managed by the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs).

The remaining 18.50% came from contributions made by the Ministry of Finance (8.41%), the Ministry of Health (0.08%), the Ministry of Culture (0.03%), and the share of Luxembourg's contribution to the EU's general budget — apart from the European Development Fund (EDF — allocated by the European Commission for the purposes of development cooperation in 2022 (EUR 50.07 million, i.e. 9.94 % of Luxembourg's ODA).

We should note in this respect that Luxembourg's assistance via all the EU's bodies, including Luxembourg's contribution to the EDF, amounted to EUR 57.09 million.

The summary table below (**ODA by ministry**) gives a detailed view of expenditure by budget item and by ministry in 2022 notified as ODA to the OECD's Development Aid Committee.

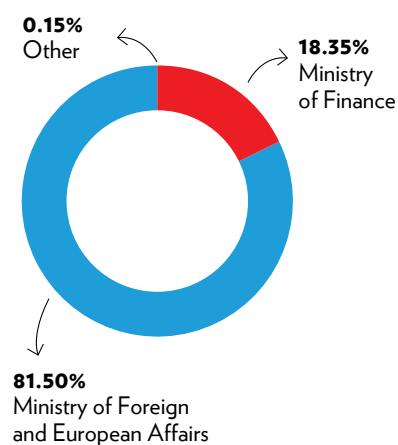
BUDGET ITEM	MINISTRY	APPROVED APPROPRIATION	ODA SHARE IN 2022
	Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs	€ 428,171,632	€ 410,644,394
	Directorate of Political Affairs	€ 14,870,341	€ 6,481,456
01.0.12.253	Activities in relation to Luxembourg's candidacy for a member's seat on the Human Rights Council, diplomacy department and diplomatic missions	€ 622,000	€ 25,000
01.12.xx.xxx	Embassies in developing countries		€ 2,851,412
01.2.35.030	Mandatory contributions to the various budgets and other joint expenditure of international institutions and associated fees; other international expenditure	€ 8,697,516	€ 2,085,925
01.2.35.031	Subsidies to international institutions and organisations; subsidies for funding international relief and solidarity actions	€ 1,100,000	€ 933,560
01.2.35.032	Mandatory contributions to peacekeeping operations under the aegis of international organisations and to the EU crisis management mechanisms	€ 4,124,825	€ 501,859
01.2.35.033	Voluntary contributions to civil or military crisis management missions run by international organisations	€ 51,000	€ 51,000
01.2.35.060	Voluntary contributions to international actions of a political or economic nature	€ 275,000	€ 32,700
	Directorate of International Economic Relations	€ 1,100,000	€ 1,041,197
01.3.35.040	Technical and economic assistance, humanitarian action and training initiatives at the international level	1,100,000	€ 1,041,197
	Directorate of Immigration	€ 64,500	€ 54,207
01.4.33.300	Bilateral or multilateral aid for the reintegration of returnees and for actions designed to achieve better management of migration flows; subsidies pursuing the same aim to international organisations and NGOs	€ 25,000	€ 17,950
01.4.35.030	Mandatory contributions to the budgets of international institutions other than the European Union	€ 39,500	€ 36,257
	Directorate of Defence	€ 31,832,500	€ 1,100,000
01.5.35.035	Contributions by Luxembourg and assistance to partners as part of international missions and operations carried out within defence policy	€ 31,832,500	€ 1,100,000
	Directorate of Development Cooperation	€ 380,304,291	€ 401,967,534
01.7.11.005	Staff remuneration	€ 6,331,586	€ 3,029,186
01.7.12.012	Mileage and accommodation expenses and statutory foreign travel expenses for staff on development cooperation and humanitarian action missions	€ 600,000	€ 630,268
01.7.12.050	Shipping	€ 8,000	€ 10,643
01.7.12.120	Effectiveness of development assistance: expert reports, monitoring, control and evaluation of development cooperation projects and programmes	€ 1,000,000	€ 855,731
01.7.12.140	Public information and awareness-raising campaigns in Luxembourg regarding development cooperation	€ 300,000	€ 127,736
01.7.12.190	Training, study and research actions; seminars and conferences	€ 100,000	€ 71,578
01.7.12.230	Expenses in connection with public acts and events of a protocol or social nature; miscellaneous expenditure. (Non-restricted appropriation with no distinction regarding use)	€ 50,000	€ 80,344
01.7.32.020	Development cooperation leave: compensatory and flat-rate allowances	€ 90,000	€ 22,212
01.7.33.000	Contribution to expenditure of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in carrying out actions to raise awareness of development cooperation among the Luxembourg public and other measures with the same purpose	€ 4,000,000	€ 3,857,498
01.7.33.010	Subsidies to the <i>Cercle de coopération</i> fees paid by non-governmental organisations and other measures to promote development cooperation	€ 437,750	€ 437,750
01.7.35.000	Development cooperation: contributions to economic and technical assistance programmes and to European Union humanitarian action; miscellaneous expenditure with the same purpose	€ 7,750,000	€ 8,176,845
01.7.35.030	Development cooperation: contributions to the budgets, programmes and thematic priorities of international institutions other than the European Union	€ 51,000,000	€ 50,304,101

01.7.35.032	Development cooperation: mandatory contributions to budgets of international institutions other than the European Union	€ 450,000	€ 339,458
31.7.74.065	Development of software	€ 70,200	€ 5,480
	Development Cooperation Fund	€ 308,116,755	€ 335,061,955
	Reimbursements		€ -1,043,250
	Ministry of Culture	€ 227,500	€ 142,300
02.0.35.030	Contributions and subscriptions to UNESCO	€ 227,500	€ 142,300
	Ministry of Finance	€ 47,005,000	€ 42,376,134
34.0.54.030	Contribution to programmes and projects run by the international financial institutions and development assistance	€ 16,000,000	€ 16,000,000
34.0.54.032	Contributions to Financial Technology Transfer Agency (ATTF) programmes	€ 1,305,000	€ 1,305,252
34.8.84.037	Treasury bills issued and to be issued for the benefit of international financial organisations: provision for sovereign debt fund in order to cover the bills' amortisation	€ 27,000,000	€ 22,768,172
59.0.84.036	International financial Institutions: increase to and adjustment of GDL subscription through cash payments and payments to cover own resources committed by international financial institutions	€ 2,700,000	€ 1,604,042
	Fund to combat drug trafficking		€ 698,668
	European Union	€ 420,737,798	€ 50,069,999
04.0.35.001	Contribution to the EU budget	€ 420,737,798.00	€ 50,069,999
	Ministry of Health	€ 315,000	€ 220,915
14.0.35.060	Contributions to international bodies	€ 315,000	€ 220,915
	Ministry for Digitalisation	€ 154,000,000	€ 413,623
24.1.41.050	Allocation to assist the operation of the Government IT Centre	€ 154,000,000	€ 413,623
	Total net ODA		€ 503,867,365
	GNI	1.00%	€ 50,628,760,188

DISTRIBUTION OF ODA IN %

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs	81.50%
Directorate for Development Cooperation	79.78%
other Directorates	1.72%
Ministry of Finance	8.41%
Contribution to the EU budget	9.94%
Ministry of Culture, Higher Education and Research	0.03%
Ministry of Health	0.08%
Ministry for Digitalisation	0.08%
	100%

TOTAL ODA DISBURSED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES 2022





BREAKDOWN OF ODA BY TYPE OF COOPERATION IN 2022

The table below (**breakdown of gross ODA**) gives the distribution by type of cooperation of all Luxembourg's 2022 ODA expenditure, following the rules of the DAC.

This reveals that bilateral cooperation, as defined by the DAC, represents 70.66% of all expenditure (DCF and budget items), while 29.34% was expended on multilateral cooperation.

Humanitarian aid, which is included in bilateral cooperation, was 17.39% of ODA in 2022.

NGOs administered a fifth of Luxembourg's ODA (20.73%), of which 15.46% was administered by Luxembourgish NGOs approved by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

The difference between gross and net ODA is due to the reimbursements made to the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) or directly to the State Treasury during the year (cf. point 5 below).

DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS ODA	2022	% OF BI-LATERAL COOP.	% OF ODA	HUMANITARIAN AID COMPONENT	% BILATERAL HUMANITARIAN AID	% OF ODA
Gross bilateral cooperation	€ 356,777,754.47	100.00%	70.66%	€ 87,624,971.16	24.56%	17.39%
Programmes and projects implemented by LuxDev	€ 123,672,062.76	34.66%	24.49%	€ -	0.00%	0.00%
Programmes and projects implemented by multilateral agencies and programmes	€ 93,167,188.03	26.11%	18.45%	€ 38,627,300.00	44.08%	7.65%
Other bilateral programmes and projects (BI-MFEA other than by NGOs and agencies)	€ 20,220,854.16	5.67%	4.00%	€ 7,048,680.49	8.04%	1.40%
Cooperation implemented by NGOs	€ 104,672,765.31	29.34%	20.73%	€ 41,948,990.67	47.87%	8.31%
by national NGOs	€ 78,083,626.10	21.89%	15.46%	€ 19,799,849.41	22.60%	3.92%
by international NGOs	€ 24,887,260.90	6.98%	4.93%	€ 21,994,916.00	25.10%	4.36%
by NGOs based in a developing country	€ 1,701,878.31	0.48%	0.34%	€ 154,225.26	0.18%	0.03%
Programme support	€ 4,003,034.50	1.12%	0.79%	€ -	0.00%	0.00%
Other	€ 11,041,849.71	3.09%	2.19%	€ -0.00	0.00%	0.00%

DISTRIBUTION OF GROSS ODA	2022	% OF MULTILATERAL COOPERATION	% OF ODA
Gross multilateral cooperation	€ 148,132,860.02	100%	29.34%
United Nations organisations	€ 51,868,638.44	35.01%	
European Union institutions	€ 57,091,744.15	38.54%	11.31%
World Bank & IMF	€ 21,740,000.00	14.68%	4.31%
Regional development banks	€ 6,095,413.80	4.11%	1.21%
Other	€ 11,337,063.63	7.65%	2.25%
Gross ODA	€ 504,910,614.49		ODA/GNI
Revenue	€ -1,043,249.59		1.00%
Net ODA (excl. revenue)	€ 503,867,364.90		



BREAKDOWN OF ODA BY INTERVENTION SECTOR IN 2022

The following table (**ODA by sector**) gives the breakdown by sector of all Luxembourg ODA expenditure in 2022.

In 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to focus on sectors falling into the category of infrastructure and social services, which made up 27.73% of total aid (and 36.72% of bilateral aid). Education, health, policy on population/health and reproductive health, water distribution and sanitation, support for governance and civil society as well as infrastructure and various social services all fall within that category.

The humanitarian aid category accounts for 17.39% of aid (24.56% of bilateral aid) and development food aid accounts for 3.17% of aid (4.49% of bilateral aid).

The category of infrastructure and economic services made up 6.85% of aid (9.70% of bilateral aid), the two main sub-categories being investments in the sector of banks and financial services (inclusive finance) and the communications sub-category.

The production sector category made up 5.97% of ODA in 2022 (8.09% of bilateral aid), mainly allocated to agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Support for multi-sector and cross-cutting issues represented 2.06% of ODA (2.57% of bilateral aid).

Finally, we should note that, under multilateral ODA, the majority of the investments (92.25%) cannot be allocated to a precise sector. This is due to the nature of multilateral aid, which is made of up direct contributions, both mandatory and voluntary, to the multilateral agencies' general budget.

SECTOR-BASED BREAKDOWN OF GROSS BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL ODA	BILATERAL ODA	%	MULTILATERAL ODA	%	TOTAL BY SECTOR	%
Infrastructure and social services	€ 131,020,398	36.72%	€ 8,986,273	6.07%	€ 140,006,670	27.73%
Education	€ 35,729,288	10.01%	€ 500,000	0.34%	€ 36,229,288	7.18%
education, unspecified level	€ 16,470,480	4.62%	€ 500,000	0.34%	€ 16,970,480	3.36%
basic education	€ 3,977,721	1.11%	€ -	0.00%	€ 3,977,721	0.79%
secondary education	€ 13,757,831	3.86%	€ -	0.00%	€ 13,757,831	2.72%
post-secondary education	€ 1,523,256	0.43%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,523,256	0.30%
Health	€ 45,312,590	12.70%	€ 6,600,000	4.46%	€ 51,912,590	10.28%
general health	€ 28,015,492	7.85%	€ 300,000	0.20%	€ 28,315,492	5.61%
basic health	€ 15,945,930	4.47%	€ 6,300,000	4.25%	€ 22,245,930	4.41%
non-communicable diseases	€ 1,351,167	0.38%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,351,167	0.27%
Policy on population/health and reproductive health	€ 3,472,399	0.97%	€ -	0.00%	€ 3,472,399	0.69%
Distribution of water and sanitation	€ 14,893,700	4.17%	€ -	0.00%	€ 14,893,700	2.95%
Government and civil society	€ 21,233,958	5.95%	€ 1,886,273	1.27%	€ 23,120,230	4.58%
government and civil society - general	€ 19,987,608	5.60%	€ 183,706	0.12%	€ 20,171,315	4.00%
public policies and administrative management	€ 2,625,104	0.74%	€ -	0.00%	€ 2,625,104	0.52%
public finance management	€ 975,196	0.27%	€ -	0.00%	€ 975,196	0.19%

SECTOR-BASED BREAKDOWN OF GROSS BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL ODA	BILATERAL ODA	%	MULTILATERAL ODA	%	TOTAL BY SECTOR	%
decentralisation and support to sub-national administrations	€ 75,752	0.02%	€ -	0.00%	€ 75,752	0.02%
organisations and institutions combating corruption	€ 1,309,802	0.37%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,309,802	0.26%
fiscal policy and support for fiscal administration	€ 1,990,953	0.56%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,990,953	0.39%
development of legal and judicial services	€ 1,771,483	0.50%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,771,483	0.35%
democratic participation and civil society	€ 2,108,710	0.59%	€ -	0.00%	€ 2,108,710	0.42%
media and freedom of information	€ 95,000	0.03%	€ -	0.00%	€ 95,000	0.02%
human rights	€ 6,061,208	1.70%	€ 183,706	0.12%	€ 6,244,914	1.24%
organisations and movements that defend women's rights and governmental institutions	€ 330,580	0.09%	€ -	0.00%	€ 330,580	0.07%
violence against women and girls	€ 2,580,871	0.72%	€ -	0.00%	€ 2,580,871	0.51%
facilitating migration and mobility in an orderly, safe, regular and responsible manner	€ 62,950	0.02%	€ -	0.00%	€ 62,950	0.01%
conflict, peace and security	€ 1,246,349	0.35%	€ 1,702,566	1.15%	€ 2,948,916	0.58%
Infrastructure and miscellaneous social services	€ 10,378,464	2.91%	€ -	0.00%	€ 10,378,464	2.06%
Infrastructure and economic services	€ 34,609,319	9.70%	€ -	0.00%	€ 34,609,319	6.85%
Communications	€ 1,825,822	0.51%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,825,822	0.36%
Energy: production, distribution and efficiency — general	€ 457,882	0.13%	€ -	0.00%	€ 457,882	0.09%
Banks and financial services	€ 29,951,677	8.40%	€ -	0.00%	€ 29,951,677	5.93%
Business and other services	€ 2,373,938	0.67%	€ -	0.00%	€ 2,373,938	0.47%
Production	€ 28,859,687	8.09%	€ 1,300,000	0.88%	€ 30,159,687	5.97%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	€ 28,006,108	7.85%	€ 1,300,000	0.88%	€ 29,306,108	5.80%
Manufacturing industries, extractive industries, construction	€ 511,211	0.14%	€ -	0.00%	€ 511,211	0.10%
Commercial policy and regulations	€ 342,367	0.10%	€ -	0.00%	€ 342,367	0.07%
Multisector or cross-cutting issues	€ 9,179,141	2.57%	€ 1,196,800	0.81%	€ 10,375,941	2.06%
Environmental protection	€ 381,510	0.11%	€ 1,196,800	0.81%	€ 1,578,310	0.31%
Other multisectors	€ 8,797,631	2.47%	€ -	0.00%	€ 8,797,631	1.74%
multi-sector aid	€ 4,033,602	1.13%	€ -	0.00%	€ 4,033,602	0.80%
urban development and management	€ 67,398	0.02%	€ -	0.00%	€ 67,398	0.01%
rural development	€ 3,979,614	1.12%	€ -	0.00%	€ 3,979,614	0.79%
non-agricultural alternative development	€ 107,863	0.03%	€ -	0.00%	€ 107,863	0.02%
household food security programmes	€ 511,096	0.14%	€ -	0.00%	€ 511,096	0.10%
multisector education and training	€ 98,057	0.03%	€ -	0.00%	€ 98,057	0.02%
Budget support	€ 8,742	0.00%	€ -	0.00%	€ 8,742	0.00%

SECTOR-BASED BREAKDOWN OF GROSS BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL ODA	BILATERAL ODA	%	MULTILATERAL ODA	%	TOTAL BY SECTOR	%
Developmental food aid/food security	€ 16,022,436	4.49%	€ -	0.00%	€ 16,022,436	3.17%
Humanitarian aid	€ 87,624,971	24.56%	€ -	0.00%	€ 87,624,971	17.35%
Emergency intervention	€ 79,524,733	22.29%	€ -	0.00%	€ 79,524,733	15.75%
material assistance and emergency services	€ 60,916,893	17.07%	€ -	0.00%	€ 60,916,893	12.06%
basic health care services in emergency situations	€ 1,208,180	0.34%	€ -	0.00%	€ 1,208,180	0.24%
education in emergency situations	€ 397,560	0.11%	€ -	0.00%	€ 397,560	0.08%
emergency food aid	€ 8,818,077	2.47%	€ -	0.00%	€ 8,818,077	1.75%
coordination of emergency assistance and support and protection services	€ 8,184,024	2.29%	€ -	0.00%	€ 8,184,024	1.62%
Reconstruction and rehabilitation	€ 2,405,228	0.67%	€ -	0.00%	€ 2,405,228	0.48%
Disaster prevention and disaster preparedness	€ 5,695,010	1.60%	€ -	0.00%	€ 5,695,010	1.13%
Donors' administrative costs	€ 23,338,697	6.54%	€ -	0.00%	€ 23,338,697	4.62%
Awareness-raising	€ 4,146,879	1.16%	€ -	0.00%	€ 4,146,879	0.82%
Refugee assistance in the donor country	€ -	0.00%	€ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
Unallocated/unspecified	€ 21,967,485	6.16%	€ 136,649,787	92.25%	€ 158,617,272	31.41%
Total bilateral & multilateral aid broken down by sector	€ 356,777,754	100.00%	€ 148,132,860	100.00%	€ 504,910,614	100.00%



THE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FUND IN 2022

Established by the amended law of 6 January 1996 on development cooperation and humanitarian action, the Development Cooperation Fund (DCF) is an instrument enabling the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs to carry out development programmes and projects extending over several years.

The state budget provided the DCF with EUR 338.12 million in 2022; added to which are the assets available on 1 January, i.e. EUR 15.99 million, as well as revenue during the year (EUR 1 043 249.59). Revenue includes repayments by NGOs and agencies of undisbursed funds from projects co-funded by the Ministry. EUR 4.3 million was also routed through the DCF between Denmark's development cooperation and LuxDev as delegated cooperation.

In 2022, a total of EUR 335.06 million was disbursed through the DCF. LuxDev, as the state's principal agent responsible for the implementation of projects and programmes falling under the heading of governmental bilateral cooperation, benefited from the majority of this amount, i.e. EUR 124 million (36.91%). Humanitarian aid was credited with EUR 86.29 million (25.75%). Next come multilateral organisations and agencies (14.70%) and non-governmental development organisations, which received EUR 42.04 million (12.55%) as part of the co-financing of their projects and programmes and to cover some of their administrative costs. The balance was accounted for by projects implemented by the Ministry directly with other partners (8.90%) and programme support (1.19%).

DISBURSEMENTS THROUGH THE DCF IN 2022 BY HEADING

	ODA	%
Programmes and projects implemented by LuxDev	€ 123,672,062.76	36.91%
Programmes and projects implemented by multilateral agencies and programmes	€ 49,251,480.11	14.70%
Other bilateral programmes and projects	€ 29,821,876.37	8.90%
Cooperation with NGOs (framework agreements, co-financing and administrative expenses)	€ 42,041,800.91	12.55%
Programme support	€ 3,980,822.61	1.19%
Humanitarian aid	€ 86,288,911.79	25.75%
Miscellaneous	€ 5,000.00	0.00%
Total	€ 335,061,954.55	100.00%



CHANGES TO OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

As the graph below shows, Luxembourg's official development assistance initially grew slowly but steadily.

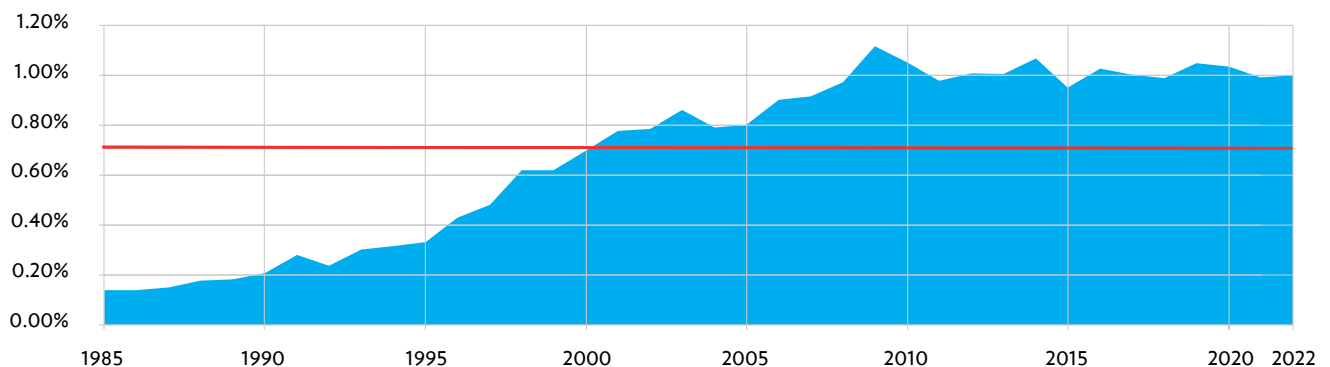
At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, Prime Minister Jacques Santer formally announced Luxembourg's desire "to provide 0.7% of GNI by 2000". This objective was then confirmed and in 1999, during the formation of the government contributions, particularly, it was decided to set the rate of

0.7% as an objective to be reached by 2000, then to increase this aid "with a view to reaching 1% at the end of this government's term".

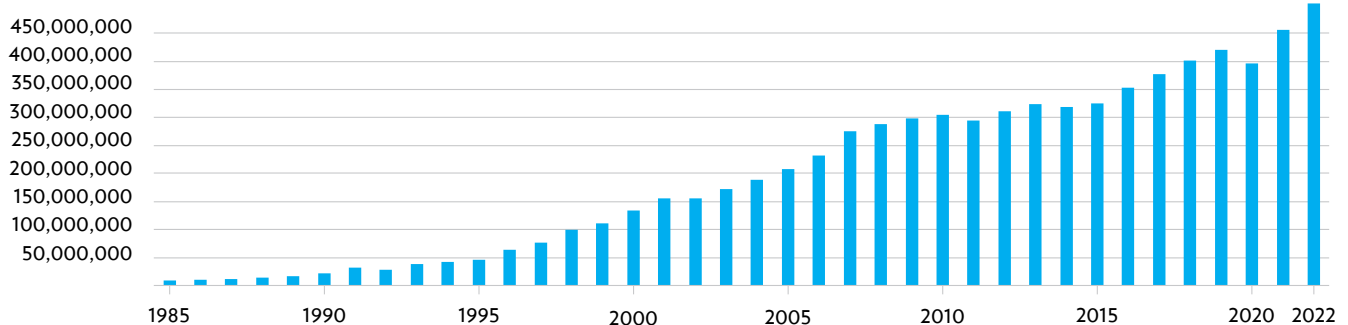
The target of 0.7% of GNI was achieved as planned in 2000 and that commitment was confirmed in subsequent years, with ODA never falling below that threshold. In 2009, Luxembourg's official aid exceeded the threshold of 1% of GNI for the first time.

This objective is still current, although in some years the ODA/GNI ratio has varied slightly at close to 1% due to reassessments of GNI during the year.

ODA 1985-2022 IN VOLUME TERMS



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ODA AND GNI 1985-2022



CHANGES SINCE 1985 TO OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AS A RATIO OF GROSS NATIONAL INCOME

YEAR	NET ODA	GNI	ODA AS % OF GNI
1985	€ 9,082,818.75	€ 6,536,208,567.70	0.14%
1986	€ 9,672,805.34	€ 7,005,669,324.91	0.14%
1987	€ 11,110,587.78	€ 7,370,147,174.39	0.15%
1988	€ 14,201,572.14	€ 8,058,002,126.93	0.18%
1989	€ 16,566,228.47	€ 9,109,318,565.49	0.18%
1990	€ 20,751,910.64	€ 10,001,065,942.16	0.21%
1991	€ 31,284,162.83	€ 11,146,433,184.02	0.28%
1992	€ 27,739,285.42	€ 11,701,516,364.69	0.24%
1993	€ 38,200,392.17	€ 12,671,598,095.19	0.30%
1994	€ 41,596,533.46	€ 13,252,189,519.56	0.31%
1995	€ 46,113,000.00	€ 13,992,800,000.00	0.33%
1996	€ 63,077,000.00	€ 14,705,000,000.00	0.43%
1997	€ 75,596,000.00	€ 15,803,700,000.00	0.48%
1998	€ 98,829,000.00	€ 16,020,300,000.00	0.62%
1999	€ 110,118,000.00	€ 17,868,200,000.00	0.62%
2000	€ 133,433,659.00	€ 19,170,400,000.00	0.70%
2001	€ 155,128,137.00	€ 20,050,300,000.00	0.77%
2002	€ 155,735,183.00	€ 19,897,800,000.00	0.78%
2003	€ 171,677,042.00	€ 20,027,700,000.00	0.86%
2004	€ 188,981,534.00	€ 23,988,000,000.00	0.79%
2005	€ 207,387,692.00	€ 26,007,300,000.00	0.80%
2006	€ 231,510,318.00	€ 25,800,400,000.00	0.90%
2007	€ 275,135,892.00	€ 30,158,600,000.00	0.91%
2008	€ 287,679,785.00	€ 29,729,000,000.00	0.97%
2009	€ 297,817,177.00	€ 25,126,100,000.00	1.11%
2010	€ 304,031,901.10	€ 28,633,700,000.00	1.05%
2011	€ 294,322,548.33	€ 30,250,700,000.00	0.97%
2012	€ 310,447,807.61	€ 30,927,066,000.00	1.00%
2013	€ 323,037,939.00	€ 32,284,000,000.00	1.00%
2014	€ 318,347,926.85	€ 29,970,000,000.00	1.06%
2015	€ 324,941,071.12	€ 34,352,350,000.00	0.95%
2016	€ 353,143,813.00	€ 34,550,000,000.00	1.02%
2017	€ 377,093,413.53	€ 37,790,000,000.00	1.00%
2018	€ 401,296,347.29	€ 40,767,580,800.10	0.98%
2019	€ 420,797,574.94	€ 40,350,000,000.00	1.04%
2020	€ 396,927,971.71	€ 38,520,000,000.00	1.03%
2021	€ 456,095,218.06	46,170,000,000.00	0.99%
2022	€ 503,867,364.90	€ 50,628,760,188.19	1.00%

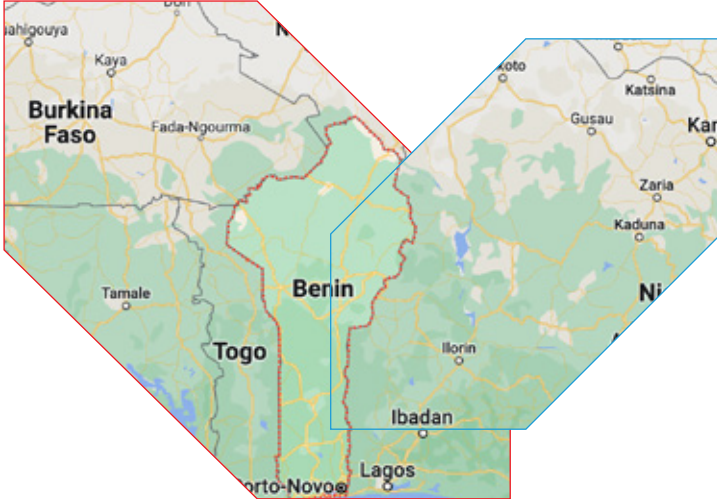
The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this are several white geometric lines that form a series of overlapping, irregular polygons. These lines create a sense of depth and structure, with some lines extending from the top and bottom edges towards the center. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist design.

THE LUXEMBOURG DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND ITS PARTNERS



AFRICA

BENIN



The year 2022 saw the development cooperation partnership between Luxembourg and Benin deepen. In February, Minister Fayot paid a working visit to Benin, during which he held a working meeting with five Beninese ministers to discuss the potential for cooperation within the framework of the current Beninese Government Action Plan (2022-2026). He also had a meeting with Aurélien Agbénonci, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, which concluded with the signing of a letter of understanding that

marks the formal launch of bilateral cooperation between the two countries. Interventions by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation in Benin will align with the country's development priorities and will aim in particular to promote the socio-economic integration of women and young people, financial inclusion, digital development, sustainable and inclusive growth and inclusive governance. In May 2022, a delegation from the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, composed of representatives of the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, the LuxDev agency and the NGO ADA, visited Benin to further explore specific partnership opportunities in the selected priority areas.

On 19 December 2022, Romuald Wadagni, Benin's Minister for Economy and Finance, and Aurélien Agbénonci, Benin's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, paid a working visit to Luxembourg. At the conclusion of a bilateral discussion with the two Beninese ministers, Ministers Fayot and Agbénonci signed a general cooperation agreement between Luxembourg and the Republic of Benin.

In 2022, Luxembourg contributed to two existing bilateral programmes in Benin, in line with the current government action programme, with a total financial

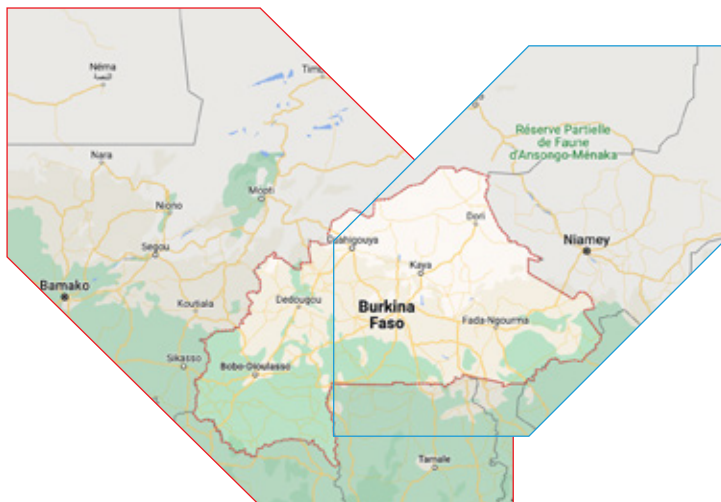


Benin. Transplanting tomatoes in a farmer field school on tomato varietal tests to combat bacterial wilt in Grand-Popo.
© Enabel

envelope of EUR 6 million. The first programme provides support for the establishment of 30 agricultural high schools through a contribution of EUR 3 million, implemented by the French development agency. The support of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation will make it possible to operationalise an integrated scheme for guidance, training and access and agricultural advice geared towards agricultural and rural employment for young people. The second programme consists of support for the agro-ecological transition and sustainable food systems in the Mono biosphere reserve through a contribution of EUR 3 million, implemented by Enabel for the European Union's delegation as part of a Team Europe Initiative approach. The programme's aim is to contribute to the inclusive, sustainable and climate-resilient territorial development of the Mono biosphere reserve and the Avlékété-Bouche du Roy marine protected area, in southern Benin on the border with Togo.

At the multilateral level, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is contributing to the project for "the empowerment of young people for access to sexual and reproductive health and rights", an agreement on which was signed with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) at the end of 2022, with a view to implementation for the 2023 to 2025 period. This project in the field of population, health and reproductive health policy has a budget of EUR 4.75 million and will be implemented by UNFPA with technical support from the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF).

BURKINA FASO



Development cooperation relations between Burkina Faso and the Grand Duchy date back to 1996, when Burkina Faso became a Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner country. In order to reinforce these links, on 27 October 1999 the two countries signed an initial framework cooperation agreement, succeeded by the signing of three Indicative Cooperation Programmes (ICPs), the first in 2003.

In 2022, development cooperation relations were governed by ICP III (2017-2022), signed on 21 November 2016 by both governments for an initial period of 5 years. ICP III was extended by one year in 2021, bringing its total duration to 6 years. ICP III formally ended on 31 December 2022. The signing and entry into force of the ICP IV, covering the 2023-2027 pe-

riod, initially scheduled for 7 February 2022, had to be suspended due to the coup d'état on 24 January 2022. Yet the population's need for support remains enormous. Thus, in close coordination with partners from Europe and Burkina Faso, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued its commitment in 2022. Neither the budget for NGO activities nor the budget for multilateral and bilateral programmes was reduced. However, Luxembourg took the decision that a number of activities would be implemented directly by LuxDev rather than through central funds managed by the Government of Burkina Faso.

In view of the outcome of the negotiations between the Burkinabe transitional authorities and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), in particular as regards the duration of the 24-month transition starting on 1 July 2022, in July 2022 Luxembourg unilaterally adopted a transition strategy covering the years 2023 and 2024 in order to ensure the continuity of Luxembourg's support for the sustainable development of Burkina Faso, in the absence of an applicable ICP. The transition strategy is based on the vision conveyed by the initial ICP IV and the national development plans of the Burkinabe authorities. For the 2023-2024 period, a total financial envelope (bilateral, multilateral, NGOs, humanitarian) of EUR 59 million is planned. For 2025, a financial envelope of EUR 17 million is planned to allow a continuation of bilateral interventions pending the finalisation of a new ICP with the next democratically legitimised Burkinabe government.

Visit to a nursery
in Koudougou



At the bilateral level, in 2022 the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to implement the bilateral programmes in the ICP III, adapting to the new institutional and security context. At the same time, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation extended, until 2025, two bilateral programmes that had initially expired at the end of 2022. These were the “Programme to support the sustainable management of forest resources” and the “Programme to support the implementation of the education and training sector plan”, with an additional financial envelope of EUR 34 million. Within the framework of the programme in the environmental sector, the sustainable management of forest resources will remain a priority of the programme. In addition, there will be an increased emphasis on improving environmental governance and sustainable development, the transition of Burkina Faso towards a green and inclusive economy, and support for coordination and sectoral environmental leadership. With regard to the programme in the education sector, activities will focus on education in emergency situations, taking into account developments in the security context, the quality of the education sector, increasing the role of environmental education in the school context, as well as governance of the education and training sector.

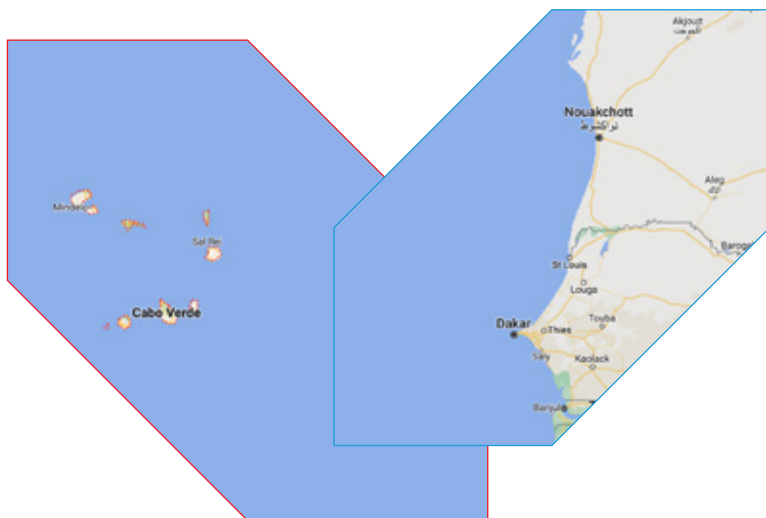
Finally, in 2022, 13 Luxembourgish NGOs were active in Burkina Faso, and continued to implement their projects through their local partners, despite the political and security crisis.

Following developments in the security and humanitarian situation in Burkina Faso, Luxembourg is continuing to considerably increase its support in the field of humanitarian assistance. In 2022, Luxembourg contributed EUR 7 671 085.85 to emergency and “nexus” projects and programmes. Thus, Luxembourg supported the World Food Programme, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and several humanitarian NGOs. In addition, partnerships were actively sought between the programmes implemented bilaterally by the LuxDev agency and humanitarian actors supported by Luxembourg.

In response to the international food and nutrition crisis, Luxembourg is supporting three interventions in Burkina Faso, with a total financial envelope of EUR 4 million. Two interventions have been implemented by the German NGO Welthungerhilfe, with financial envelopes of EUR 1 million each, with the aim of providing immediate, safe and adequate access to food for the most vulnerable populations while covering the food needs of newly displaced people in the north central and east central regions during the lean season and providing adequate emergency assistance for newly displaced households, by supplying either food or money transfers. The third intervention involves a contribution of EUR 2 million to support the “School feeding Support Project” in the north central region, implemented by the NGO Catholic Relief Services.

AFRICA

CABO VERDE



The Republic of Cabo Verde and the Grand Duchy have long-standing relations, mainly founded upon development cooperation links. There have been about 15 high-level visits, including the visit to Cabo Verde by His Royal Highness Grand Duke Henri, in March 2015. Luxembourg has been working in this partner country since 1993 and is now one of the archipelago's main donors, because since it joined the category of middle-income countries in 2008 most other donors have withdrawn.

As a result of the health crisis, the programmes of the fourth Indicative Cooperation Programme (ICP), which were to close at the end of 2020, were extended for an additional year. The memoranda of

understanding for the programmes of the new “Development – Climate – Energy” ICP (DCE ICP, 2021-2025) were signed at the 21st partnership committee meeting, held in January 2022 in Luxembourg in the presence of six ministers from both countries, including Minister Fayot, Carole Dieschbourg (Minister for the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development) and Claude Turmes (Minister for Energy and Spatial Planning). The DCE ICP marks the first opportunity for the implementation of a whole-of-government approach to the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, intended to strengthen the impact of public investment in sustainable development. This includes all the Luxembourg actors and sources of financing likely to contribute to it, in order to improve the coherence of development actions and synergies between them. The programmes will be financed both by the Development Cooperation Fund and the Climate and Energy Fund, with a total indicative budget of EUR 84 million.

In 2022, the National Statistics Institute of Cabo Verde (INE) began preparing for the implementation of the fourth national survey on household revenue and expenditure, which will be co-financed by the government of Cabo Verde in collaboration with the World Bank, the United Nations and the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. The updated data collected will be used to improve poverty reduction policies, such as social protection. The survey will also provide important data for monitoring the DCE ICP.



Ponta Preta desalination plant on Maio island in Cabo Verde

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation also decided in 2022 to support the creation of this system in order to enable employees of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation and Integration (MNECIR) to have all the tools required for carrying out their daily tasks available in a single environment. While the direct beneficiaries of the project are mainly MNECIR workers, international development partners and civil society organisations also benefit from this new system.

In 2022, there were five Luxembourgish NGOs working in Cabo Verde, funded by the MFA: *Beetebuerg Hëlleft* (basic education), ECPAT Luxembourg (gender-based violence), *OGBL Solidarité Syndicale* (trade union training), *Athenée Action Humanitaire* (education and promotion of renewable energies), and *Guiden an Scouten fir eng Welt* (education and vocational training).

In the context of the “economic and social emergency situation following the war in Ukraine” declared on 20 June 2022 by the government of Cabo Verde, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation committed to financing food security measures through support for the school canteen programme. This programme makes it possible, with Luxembourg’s support, to provide daily hot meals served in all the country’s public schools until the beginning of the 2024/2025 school year.

AFRICA

MALI



Development cooperation relations between Luxembourg and Mali began in 1998 with the signing of a general cooperation agreement, before Mali became a Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner country in 1999.

In view of the worrying humanitarian situation and in order to ensure the continuity of Luxembourg's long-standing commitments in Mali, in 2022 Luxembourg extended its existing transition strategy in order to continue to offer opportunities to the population. With the presidential election scheduled for March 2024 and the prospect of a return to a constitutional

system, an extension of the transition strategy, covering the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2024, was granted in August 2022. This will involve the extension of bilateral programmes in the fields of training and labour market integration, rural development and food security as well as strengthening the resilience of rural communities.

The rural development programme mainly intervenes in the profitable rice, fonio and sesame industries by increasing their productivity, sustainability and profitability, in order to sustainably boost sources of income and food security for those living in Mali. In the field of training and integration into the job market, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation seeks to broaden the range of high-quality vocational training on offer to enable young people and women to acquire skills that are suited to the employment market and thus to promote their access to income-generating activities. In total, 2 148 young people from family farms have been identified and constitute the primary target group for the receipt of advice from the integration support structures.

The support programme in agro-pastoral sectors in the regions of Ségou and Sikasso, financed jointly with Switzerland with a budget of EUR 16 million, is designed to help increase the incomes of family agro-pastoral farms active in the local milk and potato



Apprenticeship in carpentry in Ségou

sectors, by improving productivity and employability and by bringing together operators from the public sector, the private sector and civil society.

Within the framework of multilateral cooperation, Luxembourg supports the “Mali Youth Entrepreneurship” programme implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (2021-2023, EUR 2.25 million), which aims to train 10 000 young people in entrepreneurship and to support them to set up their businesses. The implementation of the UNDP support programme for reforms and elections in Mali (2021-2023, EUR 200 000) continued in 2022.

In response to the growing humanitarian needs in Mali, Luxembourg contributed EUR 3 571 215 to the humanitarian activities of its partners in the country in 2022, in particular by providing support to ICRC humanitarian operations in Mali, the World Food Programme’s (WFP) “School feeding” and “UN Humanitarian Air Service” (UNHAS) programmes, as well as the operations of the Belgian Doctors of the World organisation in Mali.

Finally, six Luxembourgish NGOs (*Caritas*, the Luxembourg Red Cross, *Bridderlech Deelen Foundation*, *Fondation Raoul Follereau*, *Handicap International* and *SOS Faim*) have run projects in 2022 in Mali in the sectors of water and sanitation, education and vocational training, rural and agricultural development and the elimination of violence against women.

Political instability and the deterioration of the security situation, especially in the north of the country, have aggravated an already very difficult humanitarian situation. In Mali, as in Niger, Burkina Faso, Senegal and Cabo Verde, Luxembourg also made additional resources available in 2022 to combat food insecurity. A decision was taken to contribute to the School Feeding Support Project (PAAS) implemented by the WFP (EUR 3 million) and to two existing projects set up by Caritas Luxembourg in collaboration with Caritas Switzerland, with the main objective of strengthening food assistance for the most vulnerable populations at risk of food insecurity (EUR 500 000).

AFRICA

NIGER



Development cooperation relations between Niger and Luxembourg date back to 1989 and have been consolidated over the years: Niger became a Luxembourg Development Cooperation priority partner country in 1996 and the two countries signed a general cooperation agreement in 1999. This was replaced by a second agreement in 2002 that made provision for a partnership committee to meet annually. This is a forum dedicated to dialogue between the two countries, which also facilitates the examination of the state of play in development cooperation interventions. Since then, Luxembourg's official development assistance (ODA) has steadily increased: from EUR 2.2 million in 1999 to EUR 36 million in 2022. Luxembourg's ODA includes bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes, support to NGOs and humanitarian action.

The year 2022 saw the start of the programmes in the fourth Indicative Cooperation Programme (ICP IV), signed in May 2021 during the visit by Mohamed Bazoum, President of Niger, to Luxembourg. The ICP IV covers the 2022–2026 period, with an initial indicative financial envelope of EUR 144.5 million (which has already increased to more than EUR 150 million since it was signed). It identifies three priority areas of intervention: the provision of and inclusive access to basic social services such as water, sanitation, habitat, and food and nutrition security; the capacity strengthening

of Nigeriens through support for education, technical and vocational training, adolescent empowerment and socio-economic integration; and strengthening governance, particularly by providing support to the capacities of public authorities to enable them to provide the basic social services, public finance management and inclusive finance that are needed.

As part of the launch of the new ICP IV programmes, Minister Fayot paid a working visit to Niger from 8 to 9 February 2022, where he met Hassoumi Massoudou, Minister of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, and Dr Ahmat Jidoud, Niger's Minister for Finance. Ministers Fayot and Massoudou signed the first programme in the ICP IV, the "Project to support the development of financial and sustainable inclusion in Niger", implemented by ADA Microfinance, a Luxembourgish NGO specialising in microfinance, in collaboration with LuxDev. This is the largest programme in the field of inclusive finance in a Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner country, with a funding envelope of EUR 15 million. During the visit, Minister Fayot was also received by Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger, and Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou, Prime Minister of Niger.

At the 14th partnership committee meeting with Niger, held on 11 July 2022, Ministers Fayot and Massoudou signed the following four bilateral programmes, implemented by LuxDev: the "Water and Sanitation Programme", the "Education Sector Common Fund Support Programme", the "Programme to support public financial management" and the "Programme to support the development of employment and employability of young people and women in the regions

Programme to support the development of employment and employability of young people and women in the regions of Dosso, Niamey and Zinder



of Dosso, Niamey and Zinder”. In order to mitigate random shocks to food production and to help prevent food and nutritional insecurity, in October 2022 Luxembourg formalised its financial support for the “National Food Crises Prevention and Management Mechanism (DNP-GCA)”, a multi-donor mechanism created by the Prime Minister and operating under his authority, to support Niger’s government in tackling the recurrent food crises in the country. For the period of the current ICP (2022-2026), the Luxembourg Development Cooperation will contribute EUR 6 million.

Following the invitation by Mohamed Bazoum, President of the Republic of Niger, Prime Minister Bettel and Minister Fayot paid an official visit to the Republic of Niger on 5 and 6 June 2022. In Niamey, Xavier Bettel and Franz Fayot were officially received by Mohamed Bazoum. Accompanied by Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou, Prime Minister of Niger, the ministers went to Ouallam to visit a centre hosting a total of 1 950 displaced, returned, refugee and host households. The project has been set up and is supported by the international assistance of the Luxembourg Red Cross, the Niger Red Cross and the Danish Red Cross and aims to improve the humanitarian housing conditions of the most vulnerable populations affected by armed conflicts and natural disasters, in particular by providing shelter, latrines and hygiene kits. Xavier Bettel and Franz Fayot also travelled to the village of Simiri to visit a drinking water distribution system. That project was implemented by Niger’s Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation through the joint financing mechanism, an innovative financial instrument set up under the leadership of Luxembourg, which was the lead partner in the water and sanitation sector in Niger from 2016 to 2022. This mechanism has, among other things, enabled the installation of solar panels as an energy source as well as the installation of a more powerful pump in order to increase production and access to drinking water in the municipality.

Within the framework of ICP IV, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports two multilateral programmes in Niger. Overseen by the Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Protection of Children, the programme to “strengthen the rights and health of adolescents aged 10 to 15 and empower girls in Niger” (“Illimin” project), with a budget of EUR 7 million, is implemented by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) (2022-2026). To date, the Illimin initiative has gone through six consecutive cycles and has made it possible to set up 1 580 safe spaces in rural and urban communities in all regions of Niger and to reach nearly 152 000 adolescent ben-

eficiaries. In addition, since December 2022 Luxembourg has been supporting the project “Breaking barriers to girls’ education in Niger”, implemented by the World Food Programme (WFP), which is part of the joint initiative “Breaking Barriers to Girls’ Education”, implemented by the WFP, UNFPA and UNICEF. With a budget of EUR 5 million and covering the 2022-2025 period, the project aims to overcome obstacles to girls’ education through an expanded school feeding programme that includes multisectoral actions to promote girls’ education.

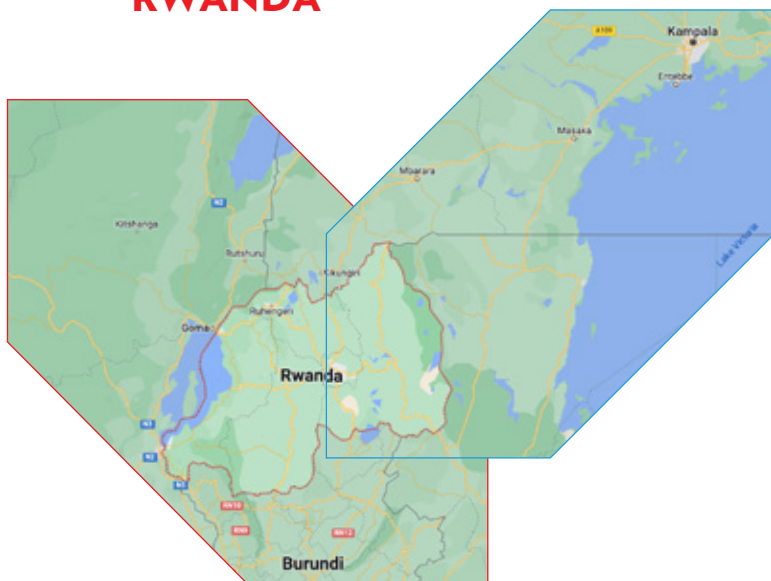
Currently, seven Luxembourgish development NGOs are running activities in Niger in the agricultural sectors (agricultural development, agricultural production, agricultural financial services), administrative management policy, training of health personnel, sanitation, basic nutrition, health education, multisectoral assistance for basic social services, financial intermediaries in the formal and informal sectors, education, school facilities and vocational training. They are also carrying out regional projects in the field of agricultural cooperatives, social services and disaster prevention and preparedness. In January 2022, the total multiannual budget from the MFA for the framework agreements with these NGOs stood at EUR 9 612 759 for the 2018-2026 period. The MFA co-financing rate is 80%.

The country is facing a complex humanitarian emergency where continued violence and insecurity have been compounded by endemic poverty, demographic pressure and climate shocks. Armed conflicts in neighbouring Burkina Faso, Mali and Nigeria continue to aggravate instability and displacement in border areas, and significant contagion effects are being felt in the border regions of Niger. In view of the growing humanitarian needs in Niger, financial support for humanitarian operations has increased considerably in recent years, reaching EUR 8 728 913 in 2022 (compared to EUR 2 300 000 in 2018), EUR 2 600 000 in 2019, EUR 4 021 390 in 2020 and EUR 4 448 930 in 2021). Humanitarian assistance in Niger is mainly implemented through assistance to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations Agency for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as humanitarian NGOs. The strategic partnership frameworks (SPFs) signed for the 2022-2025 period with the ICRC, WFP and UNHCR reflect the need to provide more and longer-term support to our humanitarian partners in Niger. A multiannual management project was launched in 2021 together with the Luxembourg Red Cross, which will allow a Red Cross logistics centre to be set up in Niamey.

In response to the international food and nutrition crisis, Luxembourg will support Niger through assistance to the National Food Crises Prevention and Management Mechanism (DNP-GCA), in order to support Niger's government in tackling the recurrent food crises in the country. The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has granted an additional contribution from Luxembourg to the DNP-GCA of EUR 3 million, to contribute to the DNP-GCA's "Support plan for vulnerable populations 2022", and more specifically to provide food and non-food items to flood victims and for recovery actions in the form of cash for work and restocking livestock holdings. In addition to financial support, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation will also provide, through LuxDev, structural support enabling the DNP-GCA common fund to improve accounting, financial and administrative management and to improve alignment with the WAMEU reforms in public finance management.

AFRICA

RWANDA



In Rwanda, two identification missions in March and September 2022 identified priority areas for renewed development cooperation with this West African country. In this scenario, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation would focus primarily on vocational and technical training, inclusive and innovative finance and the environment and sustainable development. In addition, human rights and gender equality will be seen as cross-cutting priorities.

During the visit by the Prime Minister and Minister Fayot in June 2022 to Rwanda, Minister Fayot had two meetings with his Rwandan counterparts responsible for international cooperation, namely the Minister for Finance and Economic Planning and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Among other topics, the meetings focused on renewing cooperation between our two countries. In addition, the Prime Minister and the Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs were invited to attend a presidential dinner, at which they expressed their concerns about respect for human rights in Rwanda.

Two delegated cooperation projects, with Enabel and the French Development Agency (AFD), were concluded in 2022. Thus, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is co-financing the KHIWAZA (“feeding the cities”) project, together with the European Union. It is being implemented by Enabel, the Belgian development cooperation agency, thus demonstrating the “Team Europe” approach. The project aims to strengthen horticulture and aquaculture value chains in Rwanda. This contributes to Rwanda’s

transition towards more sustainable agriculture, in the broad sense of the term. Rwanda’s population is largely dependent on subsistence agriculture, with about 65% of households practising agriculture. Yet, while the agricultural sector is an important pillar of the Rwandan economy, it is also a sector with very low productivity and low revenue. In order to support Rwanda in its quest for an agricultural sector that can feed the country (Rwanda is still largely dependent on imports to ensure food security in the country), the project seeks to strengthen the above-mentioned value chains through capacity building and through the development of more sustainable farming methods, as well as improved access to finance for small-scale farmers. To that end, Enabel has requested the expertise of ADA, a Luxembourgish NGO. In addition, the organisational capacities of small agricultural cooperatives in Rwanda should be strengthened to improve the marketing of smallholders. The project is also directly linked to the “Team Europe” initiative on the construction of a wholesale market in Kigali where smallholders could sell their produce. Luxembourg’s financial contribution amounts to EUR 5.5 million.

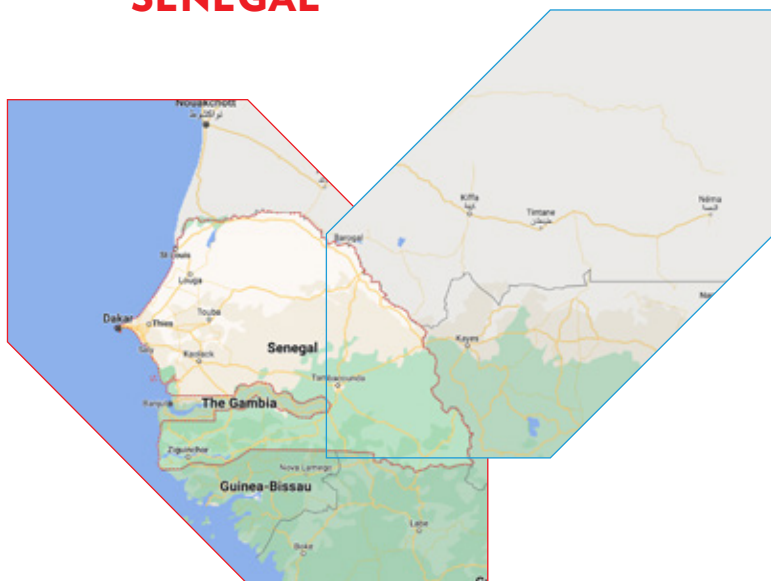
With AFD, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is co-financing the AFTER II project, implemented by AFD and Expertise France. Luxembourg’s contribution amounts to EUR 6 million. The AFTER II project aims to help improve teaching and learning conditions in vocational and technical training (VTT) in order to offer young people high-quality training suited to current labour market requirements. The sites benefiting from the project are the Karongi and Muhororo VTT centres in Karongi district and the Kitabi and Cyanika VTT centres in Nyamagabe district. The project will enable the four beneficiary institutions to increase their capacity and offer better living and study conditions on campus through the construction and equipment of classrooms, laboratories and workshops, dormitories, canteens, infirmaries, recreational spaces, an early childhood development centre and sports facilities, and to help technology colleges to become centres of excellence. The buildings will combine both energy efficiency and environmental performance and will need to respond to climate change by having a reduced carbon footprint during manufacture, use and end-of-life disposal.

In addition, the recruitment of an internal expert by LuxDev in August 2022 launched the production of a roadmap that is to serve as a basis for the development of a future project in the field of inclusive and innovative finance. The final roadmap is expected in March 2023.

Since September 2022, LuxDev has been represented in Rwanda by a resident representative.

AFRICA

SENEGAL



Despite the growing instability in the Sahel region, Senegal remains a reliable partner with whom Luxembourg has had a privileged cooperation partnership for almost 30 years. 2022 saw progress in the implementation of the programmes in the fourth Indicative Cooperation Programme (ICP IV, 2018-2023) between Luxembourg and Senegal, which focuses on two priority sectors: (i) the health sector, and specifically strengthening emergency medical assistance services, combating non-communicable diseases and improving access to universal sickness coverage, and (ii) the vocational training and labour market integra-

tion sector for young people, with a particular focus on improving access to and provision of training as well as strengthening the capacities of state actors. Luxembourg continued to act as lead partner of the technical vocational training and labour market integration sub-group until June 2022. In order to make up for some delays in implementation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICP IV has been extended by one year until the end of 2023, and the financial commitment has been increased by EUR 13.3 million, resulting in a total financial envelope of almost EUR 85 million.

In the health sector, the year 2022 saw, among other things, the provision of equipment in emergency and intensive care departments, the operationalisation of the emergencies skills and care training centre using medical simulation in Dakar, that had been inaugurated in 2021, raising of awareness among the population concerning non-communicable diseases (e.g. cardiovascular diseases, type 2 diabetes), the professionalisation of the three mutual health insurance companies in the central zone, and the ratification of the Strategic Emergency Management Plan 2022-2026 and the Strategic Plan for the Development of the Universal Health Coverage Agency 2022-2026.

In terms of vocational training, the programme has made it possible to develop access and improve the



In Senegal, young people in the peanut basin are trained to better manage their holdings

quality of training provision, to provide support for 1 692 young people to enter the labour market, to empower and strengthen the capacities of vocational training centres and secondary schools, short-term training (i.e. 3 to 9 months) leading to qualifications for 4 300 young people, and to deploy nine mobile training units in which 2 600 young people have been trained.

A mid-term review of the ICP IV between Senegal and Luxembourg was carried out by Luxembourg in the first half of 2022. The results of this review not only highlight the level of maturity of development cooperation between the two countries, but will also feed in to the thinking about the next cycle of programming, ICP V, which will include interventions that will be implemented as early as 2024. The process of identifying this new ICP, led by the Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Dakar in close collaboration with the Senegalese authorities, was launched during an inaugural workshop held on 6 December 2022 in Dakar. The ambition for the years ahead will be to consolidate our development cooperation relations through the ICP V, continuing our commitment in the health sectors, as well as in the sector of vocational and technical training. Luxembourg plans to position itself in a third sector, that of water and sanitation, which will make it possible to include more environmental considerations within the next ICP.

Luxembourg continued to support Senegal to combat the COVID-19 pandemic through new support to the Institut Pasteur in Dakar, with a total budget of EUR 1.2 million euros, covering three separate actions: (i) deployment of 360 000 rapid diagnostic tests within the Senegalese and West African monitoring system, (ii) organisation of a course in “Genomic Algebra” applied to the analysis of COVID-19 genomes; (iii) provision of cold chain equipment to strengthen the system for collecting and storing field samples.

Multilaterally, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) continued its activities to strengthen the health and social protection system with a view to improving access to high-quality healthcare. The International Labour Office (ILO) has continued to implement its programme, designed to equip the vocational and technical training system with appropriate human resources and to strengthen the training of trainers in entrepreneurship.

In 2022, ten Luxembourgish NGOs (*ECPAT, Frères des Hommes, Guiden a Scouten fir eng Welt, Handicap International Luxembourg, PADEM, Pharmaciens Sans Frontières, SANA, Chaîne de l’Espoir Luxembourg, SOS Sahel* and *SOS Villages d’Enfants Monde asbl*) have implemented projects in Senegal in various areas such as basic social services, health and sanitation, education and vocational training, agricultural development, women’s equality and democratic participation.

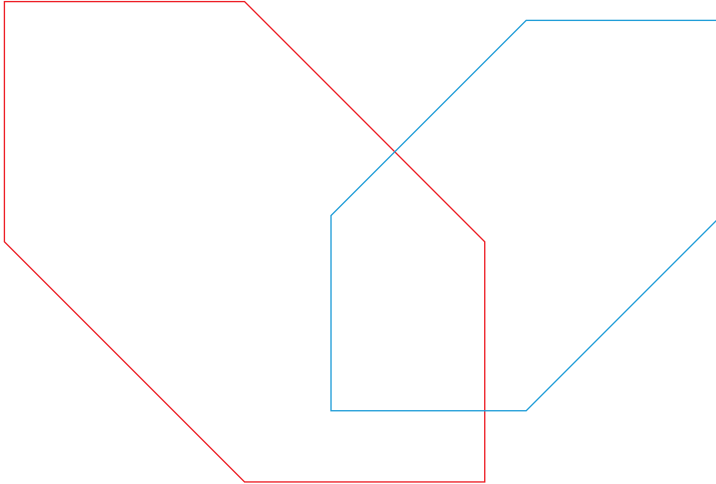
Luxembourg has also helped to improve food and nutrition security in Senegal, among other things by providing support of EUR 4 million to the General Delegation for Rapid Entrepreneurship of Women and Youth (DER/FJ). The intervention’s specific objective is to promote agricultural entrepreneurship in agricultural value chains with high job creation potential (e.g. cereals, fruit and vegetables, meat and fish), focusing especially on women and young people.

In addition, within the framework of the Strategic Partnership Agreement with the World Food Programme (WFP), Luxembourg has renewed its support for school feeding in Senegal with a contribution of EUR 2 million for the 2022-2025 period.



AFRICA

REGIONAL AFRICA / SAHEL



While keeping an eye on the deteriorating security and political situation, Luxembourg has continued its commitment to health, governance, human rights and regional health in West Africa and the Sahel.

In the area of combating communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS, Luxembourg has continued its support for the FEVE IMPULSE project (2021-2026) implemented by the international NGO *ENDA Santé* and by contributing to the 95-95-95 strategy of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) with a particular focus on vulnerable populations and cross-border cooperation, in ten countries in the sub-region (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Senegal). Benin and Côte d'Ivoire were added as new countries for intervention in 2022, increasing the total project budget to EUR 7 377 347.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued the partnership between the Luxembourg Institute of Health, the *Centre Hospitalier de Luxembourg*, *ENDA Santé*, Luxembourg's *Laboratoire National de Santé* and the Luxembourgish NGO *Stop AIDS Now/Access*, in order to improve access to diagnostics and treatment for those infected with sexually transmitted diseases in Senegal and Guinea-Bissau (CARES project). Innovation, applied scientific research and the promotion of multi-stakeholder partnerships have become the common threads for this project, which is inspired by United Nations SDG 17 with the aim of building inclusive partnerships for effective cooperation. This commitment in the field of

health is complemented by the partnership on universal health coverage with the World Health Organization (since 2013), which Luxembourg is supporting financially with a contribution of EUR 8.8 million from 2022 to 2024.

Beyond the health sector, Luxembourg is supporting the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to improve the protection of human health, food security and sustainable trade in food in Senegal, Burkina Faso and Mali. The year 2022 also saw the continuation of the Agri+ project implemented by the NGO *SOS Faim*. This aims to improve financing conditions for family agriculture in Burkina Faso and Mali.

In terms of governance, Luxembourg has continued its support for the technical assistance centre in the area of building macro-economic management capacities for the International Monetary Fund. It organises seminars and immersion sessions to train officials in participating countries in public finance and good governance. Support from Luxembourg has also made it possible for training to be delivered in the financial and banking sector by ATTF/House of Training in collaboration with the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO).

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation is also supporting the development of microfinance and inclusive and innovative finance through several impact investment vehicles, eligible to operate in the region. For example, the Financial Inclusion Fund supports financial intermediaries in developing services tailored to the needs of the communities they serve (e.g. education, health and digitalisation sectors). The BLOC Smart Africa fund is dedicated to start-ups active in the information technology and communication sector. In the area of agriculture, the Smallholder Safety Net Up-Scaling Programme (SSNUP) aims to strengthen the resilience of three million smallholders and their families, who today are among the groups most vulnerable to natural shocks. The objective of the Agri-Business Capital Fund (ABC Fund) is to mobilise public and private funds to finance agricultural value chains in developing countries to contribute to the development of new markets and the creation of job opportunities. Finally, the Bamboo-UNCDF Initiative for the Least Developed countries (BUILD



The Sahel remains a priority area of intervention for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation

Fund) aims to support small and medium-sized enterprises with a particular focus on supporting economic independence among young people and women.

In 2022, Luxembourg also actively pursued its commitment to digitalisation and research. The LuxWAYs project (EUR 3.5 million for 2020-2024) aims to provide support and training to 10 expert teachers/researchers to ensure that a training curriculum is put in place with the long-term aim of training highly qualified local professionals who would then join the labour market. The UCAD (Dakar) and the Joseph Ki-Zerbo University (Ouagadougou) are participating as benchmark universities in West Africa, with the SNT (University of Luxembourg) as a benchmark in Luxembourg. Also in the interest of research, the

Luxembourg Development Cooperation has formalised its decision to contribute to the establishment of a development policy impact assessment unit at the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER) (EUR 1 25 million for 2022-2023).

Its long-standing commitment in the Sahel led Luxembourg to join the Sahel Alliance, of which it has been an active member since 2018. The Sahel Alliance seeks to improve coordination of the development cooperation actions of the various donors and to reinforce their impact on the ground.

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA



Costa Rica has been selected as the new physical location of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation in Central America, in particular because of its institutional stability and its status as a regional hub, which ensure multi-country coverage, while capitalising on existing bilateral/regional relations and the presence of an international network. In view of the close political and strategic alignment in development cooperation between Luxembourg and Costa Rica, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has decided to complement its regional efforts with bilateral

activities. These activities will be within the priority areas of the regional strategy mentioned above.

A letter of understanding formalising the intention of the two countries to engage in bilateral cooperation on these themes was signed by Minister Fayot in January 2023 during a visit to the country. Negotiations are underway for a general cooperation agreement between Costa Rica and Luxembourg that creates the necessary legal framework for the implementation of bilateral projects and programmes and allows LuxDev to establish itself locally.

Through the Nicaraguan Civil Society Support Fund (FASOC), managed by Oxfam IBIS (EUR 1.8 million, 2019-2023), the Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports Costa Rican organisations working with Nicaraguan migrants and refugees. This approach has been changed, following the ban by the Nicaraguan authorities on Oxfam IBIS operating in the country. Currently, projects by three NGOs (*Movimiento campesino*, CENDEROS and SOS Nicaragua) support: (i) the basic needs of Nicaraguan farm workers in Costa Rica, (ii) the improvement of the quality of life of the Nicaraguan refugee population that has settled in the northern part of Costa Rica, and (iii) the sexual and reproductive health of displaced Nicaraguan women.



Farm worker in Costa Rica who benefited from microcredits from FUNDECOCA, an NGO supported by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation



CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR



Development cooperation relations between Luxembourg and El Salvador began in 1993, as part of efforts to rebuild the country following the civil war. El Salvador has been one of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation countries with projects since it joined the category of middle-income countries in 2015. The year 2022 saw the closure of the main bilateral projects. The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has focused on three key areas, through innovative projects targeting:

- support for the El Salvador government's social policy (FOCAP);
- support for youth employability through civil society via the *Fondo Concursable*, managed by the El Salvador government;
- support for South-South and triangular cooperation (FOSAL).

These projects were implemented by the El Salvador government with support and follow-up from LuxDev. The last activity by the *Fondo Concursable*, implemented in 2022, supported the creation and strengthening of enterprises set up by young people in risky situations. The last remnants of FOSAL have been used to finance two graduate training courses, one in the management of international cooperation and the other in the management of South-South and triangular cooperation.

At the end of 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation launched a new project with its long-standing partner *Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo* (FUNDE). This project, which runs until 2025, focuses on strengthening civil society, citizen participation and transparency in El Salvador. The project's overarching objective is to contribute to the strengthening of democratic governance and the rule of law in El Salvador through civic participation, the creation of alliances, the strengthening of the capacities of citizens' organisations and the promotion of dialogue.

The Luxembourgish NGO *Action Solidarité Tiers Monde* (ASTM) received co-financing from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs in 2022 and continued the implementation of projects in the human rights area in El Salvador.



CENTRAL AMERICA

NICARAGUA



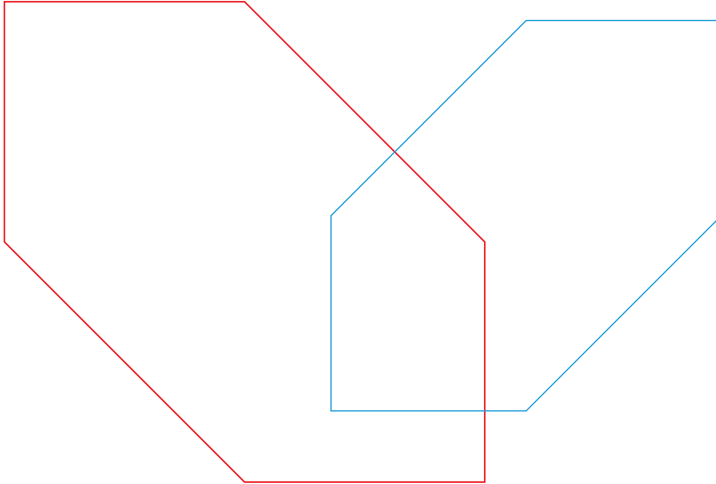
Development cooperation relations between Nicaragua and Luxembourg first began in 1993. The first general cooperation agreement setting out cooperation relations between the two countries was signed in 2000. The tourism, health and vocational training sectors were the traditional priority areas for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation in Nicaragua. However, because of the socio-political crisis the Luxembourg Development Cooperation was forced to end bilateral cooperation and close the embassy's offices in Managua in February 2022.

Since that time, development cooperation in Nicaragua has featured, notably, multilateral support and a considerable amount of aid to the NGOs in the country. The Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports the World Food Programme (WFP) in a school canteens project to address the food and nutritional insecurity of children in the north and north-east of Nicaragua. Since 2018, Luxembourg has continued to provide significant support to Nicaraguan civil society in relation to the promotion of human rights, in particular through a project by the NGO Front Line Defenders to support human rights defenders. In view of the deterioration of the situation in recent years for human rights defenders in Central America, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has decided to extend its support to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in addition to Nicaragua.



CENTRAL AMERICA

CENTRAL AMERICA



In 2022, the MFA adopted a new strategy for its development cooperation in Central America. This new direction is motivated by the fact that the countries of the sub-region share the same challenges, which cannot be solved on a national basis. This new sub-regional strategy lays down three priority themes:

1. the socio-economic integration of women and young people;
2. climate resilience and environmental sustainability; and
3. social cohesion and human rights, including for migrants.



These areas are supported by two cross-cutting themes, which will guide interventions in the priority areas and facilitate the achievement of their objectives: (i) inclusive and innovative finance; and (ii) digitalisation and cybersecurity. This new strategic direction is accompanied by a change in the physical presence in the sub-region. The embassy's offices in Nicaragua, a former priority partner country, had to be closed in early February 2022 due to the continued deterioration of the socio-political situation in the country. Costa Rica has been identified as the best option for a new geographical location for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation's offices.

With regard to the regional programmes currently being implemented in Central America, Luxembourg remains an important partner in the Central American Integration System (SICA), particularly through a regional project for female entrepreneurs with the centre for the promotion of micro and small business in Central America (CENPROMYPE). This is a key project dedicated to equality between men and women and the promotion of women's economic rights. Having performed well in the past, the programme is currently in its second phase of funding, which runs until 2025.

The "Forestry and Climate Fund" (FCCF) impact investment fund was launched in 2017 at Luxembourg's initiative, as a public-private partnership. It aims to promote sustainable timber exploitation and associated value chains in Central America. The Luxembourg Development Cooperation supported the FCCF through technical assistance from LuxDev until the end of 2022. Technical assistance will again be provided as part of a regional sustainable forest management project, due to start in 2023, which will take into account entire value chains and the inclusion of local people.

At the sub-regional level, the MFA also supported the NGO ADA in its assistance to REDCAMIF (*Red Centroamericana y del Caribe de Microfinanzas*), a regional network that aims to promote the micro-

Beneficiary of a regional project implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to support migrant women in Central America.

finance industry and its economic and social impact in the Central American and Caribbean region. In 2022, ADA supported the digitalisation processes of REDCAMIF network members through a transition project, while the two organisations are developing a new multiannual programme.

At the end of 2022, Luxembourg launched a second phase of its support to migrant women in Central America and the Dominican Republic, through a regional project with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In September 2022, a new programme with UN Women started, seeking to promote the financial inclusion of women in the northern triangle (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador). A

programme with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) seeking to reduce pregnancies among Afro-descendant adolescents will begin in 2023. In addition, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation and the Ministry of Finance have jointly contributed to the third phase of the technical assistance programme of CAPTAC-DR (International Monetary Fund regional technical assistance centre for Central America, Panama and the Dominican Republic). This centre, based in Guatemala, provides technical assistance to its seven member countries, targeting capacity-building for institutions and individuals for the implementation of sound macroeconomic and financial policies.



ASIA

LAOS



Laos has been a Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner country since 1997 and aspires to become a “middle-income country” by 2024. Luxembourg opened an embassy in Vientiane in February 2016. A general framework for our development cooperation relations was established in Vientiane in 2000 with the signing of a general cooperation agreement. The first Indicative Cooperation Programme (ICP), with a budget of EUR 18 million, was signed in 2003.

Early 2022 continued to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. While the majority of countries had reduced restrictions linked to the pandemic, Laos was still seriously affected by the virus, with peaks in new infections between January and April 2022. At the beginning of May 2022, the government gave in to the pressure of the population in the face of the so-

cio-economic crisis, caused by the hermetic closure of the country for over two years, and reopened the borders.

Faced with the health situation at the beginning of the year, Luxembourg decided to continue its assistance to local health authorities and increased its budget for support to the Ministry of Health for combating the spread of COVID-19. An amount of EUR 475 000 has thus been allocated to the acquisition and distribution of medical supplies and consumables for the prevention and control of infections in three of our intervention provinces (Vientiane, Bolikhamxay and Khammouane).

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation’s activities resumed their usual pace from the second half of 2022. At the same time, from the beginning of 2022, the mission to formulate the new projects for the new five-year programme in Laos took place. In July 2021 the fifth ICP was signed. It has a funding envelope of EUR 95 million and covers the 2023-2027 period.

This process has resulted in four new bilateral projects in the same sectors, including the priority sectors of health, vocational training, local development and the promotion of the rule of law, good governance and access to justice, all of which were approved by the governments of Laos and Luxembourg in December 2022. For the new phase of the project in the higher education sector, it is key to note the participation and co-financing from the Swiss cooperation agency and the European Union (EU). The Swiss cooperation agency will also contribute to the financing of the local development programme under the new ICP V.

The health project will prioritise strengthening health systems with a greater focus on nutrition and including complementary measures in cardiology, while exploring the option of trilateral cooperation with Mongolia in the cardiovascular sector. There are also plans for a smaller-scale extension of activities to the province of Bokeo in close collaboration with the local development programme and the United Nations Joint Programme (UNJP). The professional skills project will no longer focus only on the tourism and



Students from the hotel school
“The Academy” in Vang Vieng.
©MGD/S. Margue

hospitality sector, but also on the agriculture and forestry sectors, which should be brought into line with the local development programme. The local development sector will provide annual funding for districts to implement priority actions in the areas of water, sanitation and hygiene, education and feeder roads, in line with district development plans. Concerning higher education in law, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is also supporting a collaboration between the University of Luxembourg and the National University of Laos, including regular exchanges of students and members of both universities. This project also includes support for the development of the capacities of legal practitioners (judges, prosecutors, lawyers, police officers and inspectors from the anti-corruption agency) through forums organised by the Institute for Legal Support and Technical Assistance (ILSTA). Another new area of engagement is the work with the Lao prison system to improve detention conditions.

It should also be noted that the EU and Switzerland will participate in the financing of the ICP V programmes, with support from the EU for the vocational training programme, while Switzerland will participate in that programme as well as in the local development programme.

December 2022 also saw the very first visit of H.R.H. the Grand Duke, accompanied by Minister Fayot, to Laos, to celebrate the 25th year of diplomatic and development cooperation relations. During this historic visit, the Grand Duke had a discussion with Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Republic, while Minister Fayot talked with Prime Minister Phankham Viphavanh. Franz Fayot also signed four bilateral and trilateral (Luxembourg, Switzerland and Laos) agreements, so that the four main programmes in the ICP V could begin in 2023. The delegation visited several projects by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, such as the faculty of law, the Marie Thérèse Hospital and the nurses' training school in the province of Vientiane, the Pasteur Institute of Laos, the Lao-Luxembourg Heart Centre set up by the NGO *Aide au développement de la santé*, the Academy, which is the training centre in hospitality and catering in Vang Vieng, and the centre for information on unexploded explosive ordnance (UXO) in Luang Prabang. The delegation also met NGOs and the Luxembourgish community in Laos.

In addition, the 14th Laos-Luxembourg partnership committee meeting was held in Luxembourg in October 2022, led by Khamjane Vongphosy, the Lao Minister for Planning and Investment.

In December 2022, a new partnership was concluded with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Laos to contribute to the mine clearance of UXO, remnants of the second Indochina War. This contribution, with a budget of EUR 1 million for the 2022-2024 period, will be implemented in close collaboration with the Luxembourg Development Cooperation local development project in the province of Khammouane.

Several other complementary bilateral initiatives in the area of health are supported by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. Thus, through the PaReCIDS project (Partnership for Research and Capacity Building in Infectious Disease Surveillance), currently in its third phase and implemented by the Luxembourg Institute of Health and the Pasteur Institute of Laos, a Lao-Luxembourg laboratory has been set up within the Pasteur Institute in Vientiane, focusing on research into viral diseases that can be prevented using vaccines. In addition, the Luxembourgish NGO *Aide au Développement de la Santé* (ADS) is continuing to work in the field of cardiac surgery. The activities by ADS will form part of the bilateral health project under the current ICP.

In addition, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued its work with five Luxembourgish NGOs in the field of development and humanitarian action: *Aide au Développement de la Santé* (ADS), *Appui au développement autonome* (ADA), CARE Luxembourg, *Handicap International Luxembourg* and *Fondation Caritas Luxembourg*. Their priority sectors of operation are: medical services, health, rural development, education, vocational training, clearance of land-mines and explosive remnants of war, and food and nutritional security.

Faced with the food crisis, caused by the socio-economic crisis and exacerbated by high inflation and the devaluation of the local currency, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation allocated a budget of EUR 717 060 to the World Food Programme (WFP) for a new programme of food assistance to vulnerable populations in the northern provinces of Laos.

ASIA

VIETNAM



The project in the field of finance and banking training implemented by LuxDev ended in March 2022. It served to identify opportunities for collaboration in the green and sustainable finance sector in Vietnam. Discussions are under way to consolidate the results and pursue the avenues that have been identified. At the same time, LuxDev will take advantage of its continued presence in Hanoi to formulate projects to be financed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF), with which the agency is accredited.

The Luxembourgish NGDO Christian Solidarity International is continuing to carry out projects in the field of education, in particular by providing primary and secondary education for children living with disabilities, training teachers and raising awareness about fields of education in the local community (2021-2024).



ASIA

MONGOLIA



While the fifth phase of the support programme for the cardiovascular health sector was intended to be the last phase of support by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation for the cardiology sector in Mongolia, its results have led the Luxembourg Development Cooperation to reconsider its position.

Following the recommendations of the final evaluation and on the basis of a request by the Mongolian authorities, a formulation mandate was issued at the beginning of 2022, allowing the development of a new intervention in the field of cardiology, cardio-surgery and telemedicine in Mongolia. Like previous phases, the implementation of the new programme will again

focus on supporting the ten-year State Policy on Health (2017-2026).

With a budget of EUR 5 million and a duration of five years, this new project started in October 2022, with the same partners — the Shastin hospital/National Cardiac Centre and Luxembourg's National Institute for Interventional Cardiac Surgery and Cardiology (INCCI) — and adopted the same intervention methods as before. The new project seeks to consolidate cardiovascular services in Mongolia and to strengthen and institutionalise the National Cardiology Centre (NCC). The future programme will focus solely on support and technical assistance, leaving the Mongolian counterpart with the highest possible degree of autonomy.

Having celebrated, in 2021, the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Mongolia, Minister Fayot visited Mongolia in July 2022 for his first working visit. The mission provided an opportunity to celebrate the 20th anniversary of bilateral cooperation and, specifically, the project funded by Luxembourg in the Mongolian cardiovascular sector, and also to sign new bilateral and multilateral agreements. The delegation also had the opportunity to visit both a central provincial hospital and a district hospital (*soum*) in the province of Khuvsgul.



The nurses from Shastin Hospital in Ulaanbaatar

MYANMAR



In view of the ongoing political crisis in Myanmar, support for multilateral humanitarian projects continued in 2022. Thus, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is assisting the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to support Myanmar's civil society in preventing human rights violations and strengthening accountability measures.

In the same vein, a contribution of EUR 1 million in support of ECHO's intervention plan (European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations) was agreed in 2021, and the activities under this plan were deployed in 2022.

At the end of 2022, the second phase of the MyConstitution programme, implemented by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), came to an end. The programme has supported actors from Myanmar to provide the country with a modern and democratic constitution. Following the coup d'état in February 2021, the programme underwent major adjustments while retaining its relevance to (emerging) democratic actors with a view to a return of democracy in Myanmar.

AFGHANISTAN/TAJIKISTAN



In 2022, Luxembourg continued to support the most vulnerable population in Afghanistan through several different channels. Bilaterally, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation extended its contribution to a health project set up by the Aga Kahn Foundation (AKF). The project consists of providing medical assistance to vulnerable people, mainly women, children and the elderly, and to prisoners, in the provinces of Badakhshan, Takhar and Baghlan. Luxembourg's contribution is mainly being used to guarantee the wages of workers in the health sector, as well as the supply of basic medical equipment to hospitals and health care centres. The sum invested up to 28 February 2023 was EUR 536 139. This project is part of a larger project seeking to prevent the collapse of the Afghan health system. At the end of 2022, a decision was taken to increase the contribution to this project by EUR 800 000, in order to guarantee the continuity of basic health services in the country. With the resurgence of hostile acts against women and girls, it is becoming increasingly difficult to implement projects where women are placed on an equal footing with men, both as beneficiaries and as implementing partners. It should be noted that, unlike all the cross-border projects by the PATRIP Foundation (Pakistan-Afghanistan-Tajikistan Regional Integration Programme), this project is only being implemented in Afghanistan.

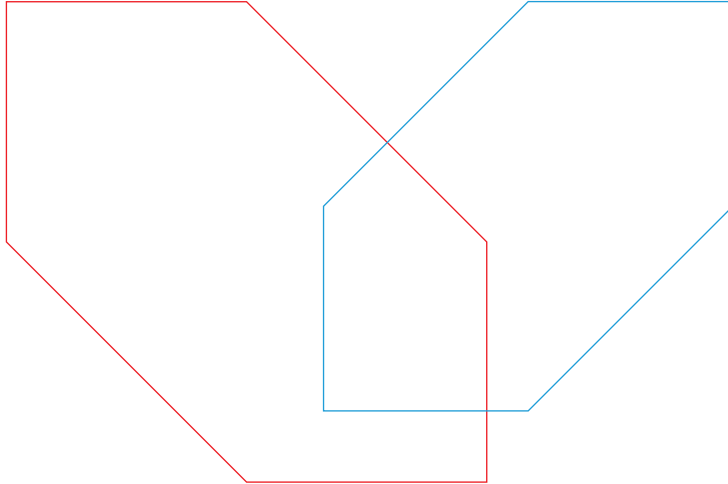
Multilaterally, Luxembourg is contributing EUR 1 million per year until 2024 to the project "Household Food and Livelihood Security (HFLS) and Support for the Development of an Effective Extension System" by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in the area of food security, which has become increasingly fragile in Afghanistan since the Taliban took power. The project aims to reduce food insecurity among the poorest families in four districts in particular, namely Chahar Asyab, Jabal Siraj, Qarghayi and Mohammad Agha. The project involves careful selection of means of subsistence, targeting diverse sources of income and food, and introducing technologies and practices geared towards resilience and adaptation to climate change.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation is also part of the Special Trust Fund for Afghanistan (STFA), alongside 10 other donor countries and numerous UN organisations. The Trust Fund was established to prevent a humanitarian disaster and the socio-economic collapse of the country, which would lead to increased instability, serious security threats and migratory flows in Afghanistan, the region and beyond. The Fund serves as an interinstitutional mechanism to enable donors to channel their resources and coordinate their support for the ABADEI strategy. The ABADEI strategy (Area Based Approach for Development Emergency Initiatives) is being implemented in collaboration with other UN agencies, funds and programmes. Following an initial contribution of EUR 2 million in 2021, an additional contribution was announced at the end of 2022, in order to meet the growing needs in the country, especially of women and girls who see their future darkening day by day. The decree of 24 December 2022 prohibiting women from working with national and international NGOs has plunged Afghan women into further distress.



ASIA

SOUTH-EAST ASIA



Regionally, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued to support the Mekong River Commission (MRC) which helps the countries bordering the Mekong to reach consensus on solutions that will create a sustainable future for the Mekong and those living in the area, through monitoring of the basin, evaluation, data and information sharing, dialogue and cooperation.

Luxembourg has also continued to implement the second phase of the Mekong Region Land Governance sub-regional project for better land management in the countries bordering the Mekong (Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam), in cooperation with Switzerland and Germany.

In 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation concluded a new agreement with the International Labour Organization (ILO), for support to the ILO's global flagship programme on the establishment of sustainable and resilient cornerstones of social protection for all at regional level, particularly in Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (2022-2025).

In South-East Asia, Luxembourg has also continued its support for the promotion of inclusive finance. Thus, through the mechanism for responsible inclusive finance (RIFF-SEA), the Social Performance Task Force (SPTF) is continuing to run training courses in social performance management in various countries in South-East Asia (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Vietnam) and is co-financing projects enabling microfinance institutions (MFIs) to improve their social performance.

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES



In terms of partnerships, Luxembourg is continuing its support for civil society actors through multiannual partnership agreements with the Palestine Agricultural Development Association (PARC), an NGO working to strengthen sustainable livelihoods and economic inclusion in rural communities, the NGO Palestinian Medical Relief Society (PMRS), an organisation active in the sector of women's reproductive health, the NGO Teacher Creativity Center (TCC), which works in the area of training in psychosocial support for teachers in Palestinian schools, as well as with the NGO Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN), working in the area of transparency and inclusive governance.

Visit by Franz Fayot to the Palestine Agricultural Development Association's vocational training centre

Minister Fayot visited the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT) from 5 to 8 September 2022. The mission mainly covered humanitarian projects supported by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation while giving an overview of the development aspect and allowing a meeting with the Palestinian Authority. The planned meeting with the Israeli Authority could not take place due to diary conflicts. The visits and meetings were in the following regions and cities: East Jerusalem, Area C (Abu Nawar), Bethlehem, Hebron and Ramallah.

The mission allowed Minister Fayot to see first-hand the many overlapping challenges, rooted in prolonged social and political instability and amplified by global economic, environmental and health shocks.





EUROPE

KOSOVO



Kosovo is currently the only Luxembourg Development Cooperation country in the Balkans. Following the 1999 conflict, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation first focused on humanitarian aid and reconstruction, and then implemented development cooperation programmes from 2001 onwards. A co-operation office was opened in 1999, and was converted into an embassy in 2013.

In July 2022, Minister Franz Fayot signed a new cooperation agreement and a memorandum of understanding with a budget of EUR 35 million, which

sets the framework for cooperation with Kosovo for the 2023-2025 period. In addition to the traditional sectors of health, vocational training and support for civil society, the MoU also covers more innovative aspects, including digitalisation and renewable energies. This third MoU sees a diversification of development cooperation with Kosovo, and a link with the private sector in Kosovo and Luxembourg.

After the new MoU was signed, taking into account a prospective and strategic study of Luxembourg's development cooperation in Kosovo in 2021, as well as the reclassification of Kosovo as a higher middle-income country, Luxembourg presented its strategic vision (2023-2025) at the launch workshop with its Kosovar counterpart in October 2022. The vision seeks to guide future cooperation and diversification of bilateral relations.



The courtyard of the Hivzi Sylejmani library, which has been transformed into a public space with a focus on education and community



MULTILATERAL COOPERATION



MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation remains a reliable partner for multilateral organisations, which it supports through contributions to core resources, thematic contributions and support for programmes and projects concentrated mainly in its partner countries. In parallel with this financial support, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is also active in substantive ways by supporting specific initiatives, policies and technical exchanges with its multilateral partners. For example, Luxembourg is actively contributing to ongoing efforts to reform the international development system, in terms of both policies and programmes.

Luxembourg's continued commitment to multilateralism and the achievement of Agenda 2030 was recalled during the presentation of Luxembourg's Voluntary National Review (VNR) at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2022 as well as during the annual consultations with UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), which also took place during this trip to New York. Luxembourg took the opportunity to reinforce its long-standing commitment to the rights and autonomy of women and girls worldwide by signing a strategic partnership agreement with UN Women for 2023-2025 with a budget of EUR 8 million. With the same aim of strengthening partnerships with multilateral partners, Luxembourg has signed a new four-year strategic partnership agreement with the International Labour Organization (2022-2025). The agreement provides for annual contributions to the regular budget supplementary account of a total amount of EUR 4 million, and a thematic commitment to social protection of EUR 4 million.

Beyond the current climate of uncertainty, the political and economic upheavals caused by the Ukrainian conflict are continuing to hamper the implementation of the SDGs by exacerbating existing problems, in-

cluding food insecurity and extreme poverty, which had already been made worse by climate change and environmental degradation. Targeting the most vulnerable in particular, multilateral cooperation has promoted universal access to high-quality food and has strengthened its partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) through support to school feeding in Nicaragua, with a budget of EUR 2 million, and its support to the school feeding programme in fragile and conflict-affected areas in Niger, with a budget of EUR 5 million. At the Development cooperation conference held on 15 and 16 December 2022, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) participated in a round table on food security that explored possible ways to combat food insecurity more effectively.

In 2022, the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine had a particularly serious impact on the lives and education of children living in rebel areas or near the front in the east of the country. Luxembourg therefore made a contribution of EUR 250 000 to UNICEF to support its programme in the field of education and protection in Ukraine. This 15-month project aims to improve children's access to education and protection in conflict zones in eastern Ukraine.

In the knowledge that there were still very considerable needs for funds and for vaccines against COVID-19 in 2022, Luxembourg strengthened its support for combating the pandemic. It increased its financial support to COVAX, the vaccine working axis, led by Gavi, with a financial contribution of EUR 1 million to its market commitment instrument at the COVAX Advance Market Commitment Summit in April 2022. The COVAX mechanism includes the COVAX Facility, as well as the COVAX advance market commitment financing instrument. This is enabling 92 low- and middle-income economies to be supplied with donor-funded doses of vaccine. As in 2021, Luxembourg donated COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX mechanism as part of Team Europe. 350 400 doses of vaccine were delivered to Egypt, Niger and Sudan. At the end of December 2022, Luxembourg also made available 103 680 doses of Pfizer vaccine, which will be delivered via the COVAX mechanism to a beneficiary country in 2023.

The year 2022 saw the seventh replenishment of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria ("the Global Fund"), whose resource mobilisation conference was co-organised in September 2022 by the United States in New York. In order to stem the epidemics of these three diseases by 2030, the Global Fund advocated an increase in financial contribu-

tions from its donors by 30% compared to the sixth Replenishment. Luxembourg was able to respond to this request for support. During the visit by Global Fund Executive Director Peter Sands to Luxembourg on 31 May 2022, Franz Fayot announced a pledge of EUR 11.7 million. In order to compensate for the lack of financial resources mobilised by the Global Fund at the conference in September 2022, Luxembourg decided to increase its financial contribution to EUR 3 million, bringing its total financial contribution for the 2023-2025 period to EUR 14.7 million. It should also be noted that Luxembourg committed to being an alternate member within its “Point 7” constituency in 2021, before assuming the role of full member in the summer of 2023.

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), a long-standing partner of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, has found that the fight against HIV/AIDS is going backwards rather than forwards, due in part to inequalities in access to health care and criminal laws on HIV. On the occasion of the global Zero Discrimination Day, Franz Fayot spoke at an event named “Remove laws that harm, create laws that empower”. Following the event, Luxembourg was the first Member State of the European Union to join the Global Partnership for Action to Eliminate all Forms of HIV-Related Stigma and Discrimination. This platform, hosted by UNAIDS, aims to achieve the 10-10-10 targets of the UNAIDS Global Strategy which call for the elimination of societal and legal barriers, including stigma and discrimination against key populations and people living with HIV. Luxembourg’s membership of the Global Partnership helps support Mr Angel’s commitment as a spokesperson for the promotion of the UNAIDS objectives as part of his new mandate of “UNAIDS Red Ribbon Leader for the 10-10-10 Social Enabler Targets”.

During his first visit to Luxembourg, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO), met Ministers Franz Fayot and Paulette Lenert for a joint discussion on 3 October 2022. They debated many global health topics, including institutional reform of the WHO and the need to improve global health architecture, such as the negotiation of a treaty on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and the revision of the international health regulations through targeted amendments.

The WHO plays a key role in ensuring universal health coverage, enabling equitable and affordable access to high-quality care for all, which is one of Luxembourg’s priorities. According to the 2021 global monitoring report on universal health coverage, about half

the world’s population still does not have access to essential health services. Luxembourg has renewed its support for the Universal Health Coverage Partnership for a fourth phase from 2022 to 2024, with a contribution of EUR 8.8 million, and has announced its financial support to the UHC2030 platform, contributing EUR 300 000. UHC2030 develops global advocacy to promote the strengthening of health systems and to achieve universal health coverage.

The eradication of poliomyelitis has also been a priority for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation for many years, especially with new cases of infection being seen in 2022. In 2022, Luxembourg, represented by its permanent representative in Geneva, co-hosted the Polio Partners Group (PPG) of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI), and increased its financial contribution by EUR 200 000, and then by EUR 300 000 at the resources mobilisation conference organised as part of the World Health Summit in Berlin in October 2022.

Luxembourg renewed its financial support for the project to train French-speaking health researchers in sub-Saharan Africa in the special programme focused on research and training on tropical diseases from 2022 to 2024, with a budget of EUR 1 236 301.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation renewed its support for the sixth phase of the “Microbiology for Development” project led by the Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH). It aims to contribute to capacity-building in infectious disease research laboratories and to the scientific training of infectious disease researchers in developing countries.

Finally, to contribute to efforts to prepare for and respond to pandemics, Luxembourg has concluded a partnership agreement with CEPI (Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations) for the 2022-2026 period. CEPI is investing in the development of vaccines to prevent future epidemics and pandemics, and aims, among other things, to prepare the world to respond to the next “disease X” by developing a new vaccine in less than 100 days.

In parallel with subjects relating to global health, multilateral cooperation is engaged in the field of innovation, particularly in the area of space activities. In December 2022, Franz Fayot participated online in the technical assistance mission for African States organised as part of the “Space Law for New Space Actors” project implemented by the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) and funded by Luxembourg. In his pre-recorded opening speech, the minister highlighted how important it was for the principle of leaving no one behind to apply



Signing of the first strategic partnership agreement with UN Women

to the space sector too, and the opportunities for addressing major global challenges with the help of space technologies and applications. The event was mainly an opportunity to follow up on the first technical assistance mission for African States organised online in December 2020 and to discuss the principles of international space law.

In early April 2022, Minister Fayot travelled to Vienna for a working meeting with Gerd Müller, the new Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). The meeting focused on the priorities of Mr Müller's mandate and the possibilities for strengthening the partnership between Luxembourg and UNIDO.

As the Palestinian refugee question is a priority for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, particularly in these uncertain times, Luxembourg remains a reliable partner of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), which it continues to support through its health programme and its general budget. During a visit to the Occupied

Palestinian Territories (OPT) in September 2022, Franz Fayot had the opportunity to visit the Aida refugee camp in Bethlehem, where he gained an overview of the work of UNRWA, whose services include education, health care, relief work and social services.

Finally, the promotion and defence of human rights is a cross-cutting priority for the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. In view of the continuing worrying situation regarding human rights and good governance in Myanmar, Luxembourg has granted an additional contribution of EUR 750 000 to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Myanmar. Luxembourg has also contributed EUR 750 000 to OHCHR activities in Rwanda to integrate human rights into sustainable development work and combating poverty and inequality, and to strengthen the rule of law and accountability for human rights violations in Rwanda.

SUPPORTING THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE LIVES AND STATUS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD

In 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued its support for the rights of women and girls, in line with our feminist foreign policy and gender strategy, through the following activities in the field of multilateral cooperation:

- **Signing of the first strategic partnership agreement with UN Women:** this new agreement was signed during the minister's visit to New York in July 2022. It formalises a long-standing collaboration between the two partners. Luxembourg and UN Women share a common vision of the world, a world in which all forms of discrimination and violence against women are eliminated, where women are empowered and the goal of gender equality is achieved. In this context, UN Women, through its normative role in developing normative instruments/frameworks, ensures that many international instruments, such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, are implemented.
- **New inclusive and innovative finance programmes for women's rights and gender equality.** With a view to deepening its collaboration with UN Women, Luxembourg is committed to supporting the development of the UN agency's sustainable finance programme for a period of three years. In this context, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation welcomed the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and UN Women to advance their cooperation in the area of gender obligations. The minister participated in the launch in May 2022. Finally, Luxembourg is contributing to the UN Women project entitled "Enabling an inclusive financial ecosystem that contributes to the reduction of gender gaps in access to markets and capital in the Northern Triangle of Central America", which is directly in line with the Luxembourg Development Cooperation's regional strategy.
- **Innovate to accelerate equal opportunities for women and girls:** as part of the high-level political forum, the minister participated in a UNFPA event that Luxembourg co-sponsored with the Finnish government. The theme of the event was "Equal opportunities for women and girls through innovation", and it committed to increasing support for women and girls in terms of project development and funding. The discussion brought together Member States, industry experts, academics and entrepreneurs to discuss innovative ways to finally achieve equal opportunities for women and girls. The discussions highlighted, once again, how important it is for different fields and sectors to come together to exchange views and facilitate collaboration between the public and private sector.
- **Contributions to end female genital mutilation (FGM):** FGM practices are a violation of human rights and have harmful effects on the health of women, girls and newborns. Since 2010, Luxembourg has supported the UNFPA-UNICEF Joint Programme on the Elimination of FGM. For phase IV of the programme, Luxembourg has significantly increased its contribution to EUR 2 million for 2022-2025. In December 2022, Luxembourg also hosted the Donors Working Group on FGM, which explored innovative finance as a way of speeding up progress towards the elimination of FGM. At the same time, Luxembourg made a commitment in New York to adopt progressive language for all gender-related themes and against female genital mutilation. In this context, Luxembourg co-sponsored a biannual resolution on intensifying global efforts for the elimination of female genital mutilation at the General Assembly's third committee.



EUROPEAN UNION

The negotiations that started in September 2018 for a successor agreement to the Cotonou Agreement have continued in the Council of the European Union (EU) and with the Africa Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. Following the political agreement of October 2020, the agreement was initialled in April 2021 by the chief negotiators of the EU and the ACP countries, marking the end of formal negotiations. It should be noted that, because of delays, the current agreement has had to be extended until 30 June 2023 and transitional measures have been put in place to avoid a legal vacuum pending the formal signing of the Post-Cotonou agreement, expected to take place in 2023.

The Council continued to follow up on the new “Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe” (NDICI). With a total budget of EUR 79.5 billion (in 2018 prices) for the years 2021-2027, EUR 14 481 million was disbursed in 2021 for official development assistance (ODA), representing 97% of the EU external action budget. Luxembourg, which defended the maintenance of a significant proportion of the external budget for ODA during the discussions on the introduction of the new instrument, therefore welcomes this outcome, which goes well beyond the 93% targeted by the NDICI regulation. The year 2022 also saw the start of implementation of the European Fund for Sustainable Development Plus (EFSD+), the new European Union investment instrument. In the first call for tenders, 20 European development finance institutions received budget guarantees totalling EUR 6.05 billion.

Under the French Presidency of the Council of the EU from January to June 2022, discussions focused on the harmful consequences for developing countries of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. During the negotiations for the Council conclusions in connection with the European response to global food insecurity, Luxembourg sought to ensure strong support for the least developed countries (LDCs) and those most affected by increasing insecurities. To that end, the EU Member States urgently mobilised EUR 600 million through funds de-committed from the 10th and 11th European Development Funds (EDF) in May 2022.

Outside the developing countries, the EU has shown solidarity with Ukraine and has repeatedly expressed its willingness to support Ukraine as long as necessary. At the humanitarian level, the EU has so far supported Ukraine with EUR 485 million, of which EUR 371 million has already been paid out. Luxembourg’s contribution in this area amounts to EUR 12 224 500, including EUR 4 million for contributions in kind (such as telecommunications and medical equipment).

As a priority of the French Presidency, the EU Council adopted conclusions on the EU’s renewed partnership with the LDCs. During the negotiations for this text, Luxembourg recalled the commitments of all EU Member States set at UN level to bring their allocations to LDCs to 0.20% of gross national income, in the long term. While it abides by this figure, Luxembourg encouraged other EU Member States to increase their contributions to official development assistance to effectively combat (extreme) poverty.

The Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU from July to December 2022 focused on better coordination between humanitarian activities and development cooperation, notably through the production of a practical guide on the implementation of the humanitarian-development nexus. In addition, the Council succeeded in adopting conclusions on disaster risk reduction and the youth action plan 2022-2027. Together with its like-minded partners, Luxembourg was particularly committed to promoting gender equality during the negotiations of these Council conclusions, in full accordance with its feminist foreign policy.

With the launch of the European Commission’s new Global Gateway strategy in December 2021, 2022 also served to integrate the Team Europe approach into this new geopolitical strategy. The Global Gateway seeks to go beyond traditional development cooperation by trying to align European strategic interests with the interests of our partners. Thus, the Global Gateway has five key areas, namely the digital sector; climate and energy; transport; health; and education and research. This new external investment strategy actively seeks to do more to incorporate the private sector, with the aim of broadening the financing bases of its external action. Thus, the Global Gateway should enable the EU’s partners to develop their societies and economies, but should also enable the private sectors of EU Member States to invest and remain competitive, while abiding by the highest environmental and labour standards, as well as sound financial management. In this context, the European Commission expects that Team Europe, i.e. the institutions, the EU Member States and the development banks, will mobilise up to EUR 300 billion in

investments in the five above priority areas by 2027. The Global Gateway is a strategy to be implemented jointly by all members of Team Europe, including all contributions under the NDICI – Global Europe and the EFSD+, as well as those made by the Member States. Luxembourg is actively contributing to this through its participation in various Team Europe Initiatives (TEIs), in line with the objectives of the Global Gateway, including education and research, while staying true to its principle of untied aid and ensuring that development cooperation continues to reach the most deprived populations, particularly in LDCs.

In the framework of the European Union - African Union Summit, which took place from 17 to 18 February 2022, the EU adopted its first investment package under the Global Gateway for the African continent. A similar investment package was also unveiled at the EU-Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit on 15 December 2022.



Luxembourg will continue to commit to equitable and sustainable development at European level

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS

The activities of non-governmental development organisations (NGDOs) remain essential for Luxembourg's development cooperation. In 2022, 25 multiannual framework development agreements were funded and 27 development projects were accepted. For awareness-raising and development education in Luxembourg, 15 multiannual framework agreements (2022-2024) were signed in 2022 and 8 annual projects received subsidies from the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFA). Two mandates, Rethink your Clothes and the Third World Information Centre (CITIM), were renewed (2022-2024) for programmes fully funded by the MFA.

Faced with the significant increase in the actual administrative costs incurred by the NGDOs, the ministry decided to raise the ceiling for administrative costs from 14% to 15% in order to help the NGDOs to absorb costs linked to personnel, operations and their premises.

Concerned by the inflationary surge in developing countries in 2022, the ministry has already indicated to NGDOs that it will ensure that funds are reallocated so that they can adapt their activities on the ground to the inflationary environment.

Following some cases linked to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEAH) that have occurred in the development cooperation and humanitarian action sector internationally, the MFA and the NGDOs' Circle decided to produce a charter to prevent and respond to SEAH. Since 2021, any association or foundation wishing to obtain ministerial approval or any NGDO wishing to renew its ministerial approval must have signed the SEAH Charter. During 2022, the MFA, in collaboration with the Circle, worked to draft a virtual self-directed training guide for approved NGDOs to better support them in this area.

Since 2020, as part of development projects and programmes, a security budget heading has been created to finance not only security training for local partners and volunteers but also non-lethal equipment, eligible as official development assistance (ODA), required in order to ensure the safety of local partners and volunteers on the ground. In addition, the ministry co-financed security training in Luxembourg for accredited NGDOs, organised by the Circle in 2021 and 2022.



Virtual signing of seven new framework agreements with six Luxembourgish NGDOs



AWARENESS-RAISING AND DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

The work of awareness-raising and development education, particularly at the national level, also forms part of the challenge of poverty eradication. The aim of these activities is to raise public awareness in Luxembourg of the various themes that relate to the sustainable development of countries and relations between countries, including fair international trade. They also aim to ensure that from an early age members of the public acquire the knowledge and skills needed to understand and engage in critical thinking about the causes and consequences of poverty, and take an active role in the development of fairer and more inclusive societies.

Projects and programmes are guided by the expertise of NGOs, acquired through experience in the field, as well as by Agenda 2030 and the 17 sustainable development goals, to account for the complexity of the challenges of our society in its social, ecological and economic dimensions. These include inequalities, human rights, gender equality, food sovereignty, the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, climate change, production chains, etc.

National NGOs therefore play an essential role in the implementation of awareness-raising and development education activities in Luxembourg. In 2022, for example, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation co-financed 8 annual projects and 15 three-

year framework agreements with a total budget of EUR 2 846 818.14.

In order to promote increased citizen involvement, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation also promotes joint initiatives and campaigns between NGOs on specific development themes as well as on sustainable development in general. Within this framework, the MFA allocated an amount of EUR 1 010 679.96 (100% co-financing rate) to two implementing mandates in the field of awareness-raising and development education: the Third World Information Centre (CITIM) and the Rethink your Clothes campaign.

The MFA has continued to provide financing under the Third World Information Centre's (CITIM) mandate to ASTM, which has since 1982 been providing specialised documentation and education on the countries of the Global South, North-South relations and human development. This documentation is made available to the general public in the form of a library. Since 1 January 2015, the ministry has provided 100% of the funding for CITIM. In addition, in 2022, *Fairtrade Letzebuerg* a.s.b.l. and *Fondation Caritas Luxembourg* were mandated to implement the third phase of the Rethink your Clothes campaign, which aims to raise awareness of the social and ecological challenges of the textile industry.

In the area of national awareness-raising and development education policies, the MFA has maintained its representation in the Interdepartmental Committee on Education in Sustainable Development (CIEDD) with a view to defining guidelines for integrating education about sustainable development into all levels



Opening of the new Lët'z refashion as part of the Rethink your Clothes campaign © Charly Ecko Delta

of Luxembourg's education system. The CIEDD seeks to coordinate these efforts with key institutional stakeholders and civil society actors.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation also represented Luxembourg within the Global Education Network Europe (GENE), with a view to improved mutual learning and networking of the actors involved in development education internationally, across Europe and in Luxembourg. In this context, Luxembourg co-chaired, alongside Ireland, the process of formulating the European Declaration on Global Education to 2050, the strategic European Framework for improving and developing global education in Europe to 2050. The declaration, ratified in November 2022, defines global education as educa-

tion at formal, non-formal and informal levels, which allows people to critically reflect on the world and their place in it, to open up their hearts and minds to the reality of the world. It enables understanding and action to create a world of social and climate justice, peace, solidarity, equality, sustainability and international understanding. It involves respect for human rights and diversity, inclusion and a decent life for all. The drafting process was carried out in close collaboration with the Ministry of National Education, Children and Youth, to ensure consistency between what is being done in Luxembourg and what we promote and support internationally.

INCLUSIVE FINANCE, PRIVATE SECTOR, DIGITAL4DEVELOPMENT

INCLUSIVE AND INNOVATIVE FINANCE

By valuing the expertise of the leading international financial centre and relying on integrated local development approaches, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation aims to eradicate poverty and implement the sustainable development goals (SDGs) through inclusive and innovative finance. Taking advantage of new financial tools, innovative finance focuses on the creation of impact investment opportunities focused on development.

With regard to its strategic partnerships, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has renewed its support to several partners.

A new agreement has been signed for a period of two years with the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP), a World Bank think tank with the mission of improving the lives of vulnerable people by promoting innovative solutions.

During a visit to the House of Microfinance on 2 May 2022, Franz Fayot also signed a new three-year agreement with the European Microfinance Platform (e-MFP), the main network of European organisations and individuals active in the financial inclusion sector.

Support for the LuxFLAG labelling agency has also been renewed through a new two-year agreement.

The year 2022 also featured the European Microfinance Week, an annual fixture for experts in the sector, whose flagship event is the presentation of the European Microfinance Award. This took place at the European Investment Bank (EIB) on 18 November, in close collaboration with e-MFP and the Inclusive Finance Network Luxembourg asbl (InFine.lu). On 17 November, at a ceremony chaired by H.R.H. the Grand Duchess, the award was presented to Banco Fie (Bolivia), in recognition of the efforts made in the field of financial inclusion for women.

The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has also begun — through its implementing agency LuxDev and the NGO ADA — to formulate new inclusive finance programmes in its partner countries and has concluded new strategic partnerships in the regions of South-East Asia and central America. Specifically, a new regional partnership has been signed with the Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI), an international network of central banks and financial regulatory institutions, which aims to implement innovative strategies for financial inclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has also sought to consolidate its commitment to the fintech sector to promote inclusive finance by signing a partnership with the Luxembourg House of Financial Technology (LHoFT), with the aim of expanding the scope of its CATAPULT: Inclusion programme.



Beneficiaries of the Luxembourg
Microfinance and Development
Fund (LMDF) in Zambia.
©LMDF/LMF Zambia



COOPERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Since the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development, it has been widely recognised that it is now essential to harness the dynamism of the private sector in order to help implement the sustainable development goals (SDGs) globally. It is with this in mind that the formation of a closer relationship between the Luxembourg Development Cooperation and these actors has been encouraged, with the specific aim of identifying innovative solutions and making them available to help achieve development objectives in the Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries. All the avenues explored in this framework place a central focus on the responsible conduct of companies in relation to human rights and compliance with environment criteria.

On the basis of an internal review of the instruments available and ongoing projects, the year 2022 featured preparatory work for a dedicated and coherent portfolio available to LuxDev for cooperation with the private sector, in particular for mobilising companies in the Global South on economically viable projects, contributing to the SDGs and addressing structural deficiencies identified in local markets.



Thus, the teams of the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs and LuxDev have worked together to develop a set of three instruments: (1) the Business Partnership Facility (BPF), (2) the Challenge Funds, and (3) demonstration projects. The BPF is part of the package in its revised version, while the Challenge Funds will represent a new tool available to the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. This makes it possible to launch calls for proposals on a theme dedicated to the local/regional level, to which companies in the Global South will be able to respond by proposing innovative solutions, which will subsequently be co-financed by LuxDev. The third instrument, demonstration projects, will allow these local solutions to be scaled up, if they have demonstrated adequate potential. For the latter project type, three pilot countries have been identified: Senegal, Kosovo and Rwanda. The planned financing takes the form of co-financing, its implementation will be supervised by a scientific monitoring system designed to demonstrate the outcomes of the interventions, and the award of funds will be conditional on specific commitments relating to due diligence. It should be noted that the Luxembourg national contact point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises is supporting LuxDev to implement an ambitious approach in terms of due diligence in the conceptualisation of these new instruments.

It should also be noted that these are three separate instruments targeting direct collaboration with enterprises. They will therefore be complementary to the various instruments available to the Inclusive and Innovative Finance Service, which seek to mobilise private financing through innovative financing tools and projects.

The Business Partnership Facility (BPF), a tool that aims to encourage the Luxembourgish and European private sector to link up with partners in developing countries (businesses, administrations or NGOs), is therefore operating according to procedures that have been revised since April 2022. The partnership approach, which lies at the heart of the instrument, promoting the North-South and South-North transfer of technologies and expertise, has been preserved. In order to better meet the private sector's demands, the facility has gone from one call for proposals each year to a mode of operation with two selection processes per year, with one closing date at the end of

Production of 12 kg of body cream as part of the Uption project, which is supported through the Business Partnership Facility

April and another at the end of October, thus allowing companies to submit projects throughout the year. The eligibility areas were abandoned, and so any innovative project that can demonstrate a contribution to the SDGs in a developing country is now eligible. However, priority is still given to innovative solutions based on the smart use of emerging technologies that appear promising for implementation in often difficult contexts, preferably in the Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries and/or countries with projects. In addition, the website bpf.lu has been redesigned, and an online matchmaking platform has been added, thus facilitating the creation of North-South partnerships, which is an essential condition for eligibility.

In 2022, four high-quality projects were selected, taking the number of projects chosen by the BPF to 38 since 2016.

Multilaterally, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued its commitment with the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF), a multi-donor programme directly linked to the World Trade Organization (WTO). The programme aims to provide specific support to the least developed countries to enable them to play a more active role in the global trade system. Luxembourg's financial commitment for 2016-2022 amounts to EUR 4.5 million, bringing Luxembourg's overall contribution to EUR 9 million.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation also continued, together with the LuxDev teams, its involvement in the Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED), which is a network of practitioners placed in different thematic working groups, with the aim of exchanging good practice and expertise between international actors working on the mobilisation and engagement of the private sector in development contexts.

At national level, two specific issues should be noted: the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has also participated actively in the work of the "Business and Human Rights" working group, responsible for implementing and monitoring the second national action plan on business and human rights (NAP 2), and in the interministerial committee responsible for defining the broad guidelines on the duty of care for Luxembourg companies, and even preparing Luxembourg's position for negotiations in relation to a European directive in this field, scheduled for 1 February 2022.

In 2022, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs also took part in the Circular by Design Challenge implemented by Luxin-

novation, with a specific category aimed at encouraging the Luxembourg economy to work on innovative solutions to meet the challenges faced by populations and/or practitioners in the fields of development cooperation and/or humanitarian action. The selection process runs until spring 2023 and will close with an award ceremony in May 2023.



DIGITAL FOR DEVELOPMENT (D4D)

The Digital for Development (D4D) concept seeks to promote the integration of digital tools by those working in development assistance and humanitarian action, whether in regard, for example, to basic social services, major innovative development projects or as a tool for the formalisation and monitoring of development policies. The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs thus aims to support partner countries in their inclusive, green, human-centric and trustworthy digital transformation, to contribute to their sustainable development. To that end, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued its commitment to further mobilise innovative partnerships, approaches and instruments in areas where Luxembourg has expertise at national level, particularly in the sector of digital financial services, ICT, telecommunications and cybersecurity.

The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, together with LuxDev, implements a number of projects in the fields of e-education, e-government, e-agriculture and e-health. Those areas correspond to the Luxembourg Development Cooperation main areas of intervention in the D4D sector. The SATMED project, led by SES and the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, is an example of how Luxembourg expertise can be used in developing countries: SATMED is an open telemedicine platform. Serving non-governmental organisations, hospitals, universities of medicine and other healthcare providers active in resource-poor regions, it provides free online health services. Its tools can be used to support projects in areas such as e-care, e-learning, e-surveillance, e-health management and e-health financing.

In 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued its commitment to the European Commission's Digital for Development (D4D) Hub network, of which it has been a founding member since it was launched in December 2020. The D4D Hub aligns the European Union's (EU) digital initiatives in order to increase their impact. This strategic multi-stakeholder platform promotes new international partnerships in the field of digital transformation between the EU and partner countries, particularly in Africa. The shared aim is a human-centric approach to digital transformation: facilitating multi-stakeholder partnerships, sharing digital expertise and encouraging investments from various European and global partners. In this context, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is actively contributing to activities within the Africa branch as well as to the cyberspace working group, which Luxembourg co-chairs together with the European Commission.

In this context, Luxembourg has also continued its commitment within the African Union – European Union (AU-EU) D4D Hub. Implemented by five European development agencies, including LuxDev, and with EUR 8 million under European funding, this project aims to help bridge the digital divide, including the gender divide, and to use digital innovations for sustainable and inclusive development in Africa. The AU-EU D4D Hub also benefits the Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries, in particular Niger, thus constituting an excellent example of how Luxembourg can benefit from the European or international network in the framework of its activities.

Together with its national partners such as the Luxembourg House of Cybersecurity (LHC), Luxembourg continued its commitment in 2022 to the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE), which it joined in 2021. The purpose of this multi-stakeholder platform is to build capacity and expertise in cybersecurity. The Forum has more than 115 members and partners, including governments, international organisations and other civil society and private-sector operators, as well as the academic community. Its aim is to strengthen global cybersecurity capabilities through knowledge-sharing, including through working groups, a cyber knowledge portal and its function as an information exchange centre, as well as through practical initiatives. The GFCE aims to be a pragmatic, action-oriented and flexible platform for international collaboration.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation's D4D projects focus primarily on the modernisation of public administration, digital financial services, telecommunications, telemedicine and cybersecurity. With regard to cybersecurity, the opening of a delegation for cyberspace by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Luxembourg in November 2022 is a significant step. Efforts to implement these areas in a cross-cutting manner in bilateral programmes will continue beyond 2022.



In Senegal, the Grow Academy makes digital education accessible to girls and women not attending school.



COOPERATION WITH RESEARCH STAKEHOLDERS

The year 2022 saw significant efforts by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation to find specific areas for its collaboration with the research ecosystem through collaborations and joint projects to contribute to the sustainable development goals. Thus, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation would like to do more to support the development of research capacities and expertise in the North as well as in the Global South, and to do so on a more systematic basis. It has worked towards both strengthening existing institutional links and building new partnerships with research stakeholders.

Discussions with the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (MESR) have been stepped up considerably, to meet the shared objectives of the national research and innovation strategy, maximising the global impact of national efforts through a systematic review of research results for use and potential transfer in development cooperation efforts. Many of the challenges facing development cooperation policy can benefit from technologies and results from the research ecosystem. It is with this in mind that the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, the MESR and the National Research Fund (FNR) have agreed to establish a joint instrument called LuxAid BRIDGES, which will finance research projects with the capacity to advance the objectives of development cooperation and humanitarian affairs policy through annual calls for projects, the first of which will take place in 2023.

In line with its “Road to 2030” strategy, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has also pursued its aim of extending its support to the academic world and supporting the development of research capacities and expertise in the field of international development cooperation. The aim is to contribute to the creation of expertise in Luxembourg that can provide analyses of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation’s policies, with the specific aim of supporting the effective design and implementation of its programmes.

It is with this in mind that in July 2022 the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs and the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER) signed a statement on the creation of an impact assessment unit for development

cooperation policies, based at LISER and financed by the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Human Affairs, with a budget of EUR 1.25 million for the first two years of implementation. In this context, we note the close collaboration between LISER and the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) in Paris, known for the work of Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee, winners of the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2019, on combating poverty.

Other collaborations with Luxembourg research institutions have been strengthened, in relation to joint projects currently being planned. Thus, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, LuxDev and the University of Luxembourg’s Interdisciplinary Centre for Security of Trust (SnT) have conducted a study to sustain (and regionally extend) the excellent results of the LuxWays project (Luxembourg/ West-Africa Lab for Higher Education Capacity Building in Cybersecurity and Emerging Topics in ICT – 4Dev). The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has been supporting the project since 2020, and it is implemented in partnership with entities in Senegal and Burkina Faso.

The excellent collaboration between the Luxembourg Development Cooperation and the various faculties of the University of Luxembourg will be further strengthened and made more systematic, in particular through specific scholarships for students from Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries and/or countries with projects. In contrast to other types of scholarships aimed at attracting talent to Luxembourg, scholarships financed with official development assistance will focus particularly on strengthening local capacities and creating opportunities in the countries of origin of the selected recipients.

In 2022, together with the NGO *Appui au développement autonome* (ADA), the Ministry continued its financial support to the ADA Chair at the University of Luxembourg’s Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance (FDEF). The Chair works on research in European and international financial law with a particular emphasis on all aspects of inclusive and innovative finance and fintech. Each year, the Chair organises the certification of professionals in the sector via the Certificate in Law and Regulation of Inclusive Finance, organises conferences on relevant topics relating to financial law and inclusive finance, publishes high-quality research in the field of financial law and inclusive finance and participates in national, European and international conferences. Thus, the Chair contributes to the reputation of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as a European hub for the law on and

regulation of inclusive finance and advances research on regulatory aspects that are of national interest for its competitiveness.

Finally, in 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to create new partnerships, with the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST), for example, and deepened its collaboration with the Luxembourg Institute of Health (LIH), with which it is already collaborating in Laos and West Africa.

Internationally, in 2022 the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to build on its long-standing partnership with the Centre for Africa-Europe Relations (ECDPM), in Maastricht (in the Netherlands), on research topics linked to European policy in relation to the African continent, and with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and universities in the Netherlands, Switzerland and Luxembourg on the subject of data protection in humanitarian contexts.



SPACE FOR DEVELOPMENT

Avenues for specific collaborations were developed in 2022, inspired by the shared desire to highlight concrete synergies at the intersection of the respective objectives of the Luxembourg Space Agency (LSA) and the Luxembourg Development Cooperation.

Thus, certain specific opportunities are emerging: space-based technologies that can directly support the implementation of development cooperation projects, as well as access to Space for developing countries and the capacity building (including through university training and technical assistance facilities) that is required in order to do this, and the provision of (secure communication) space technologies. These will be pursued in accordance with any needs expressed by the countries with which the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs cooperates.

For example, Luxembourg provided expertise through the Space Law for New Space Actors project implemented through the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA).

The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this are several white geometric lines that form a series of interconnected, irregular polygons. These lines create a sense of depth and structure, with some lines extending from the top and bottom edges towards the center. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist design.

HUMANITARIAN ACTION

HUMANITARIAN ACTION

In 2022, fatal droughts and floods wreaked havoc from Pakistan to the Horn of Africa. Russia's war in Ukraine unleashed the largest wave of forced displacement on European soil since the second world war, and more than 100 million people are now displaced worldwide. Soaring food prices, further aggravated by the conflict in Ukraine, have triggered a global crisis that has led to several million additional people being pushed

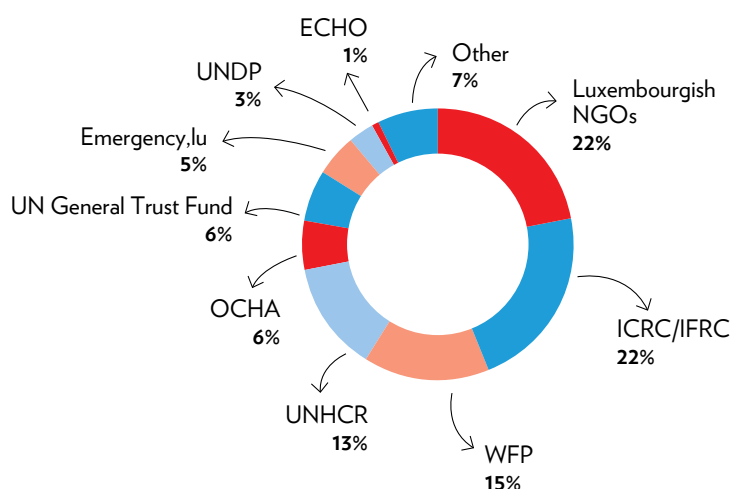
into extreme poverty, worsening hunger and malnutrition. All these crises are in addition to the devastation left by the COVID-19 pandemic among the most vulnerable populations.

While in 2022 humanitarian organisations helped 157 million people, according to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), humanitarian needs increased faster than funding and at the end of 2022 there was a deficit of nearly 50%.

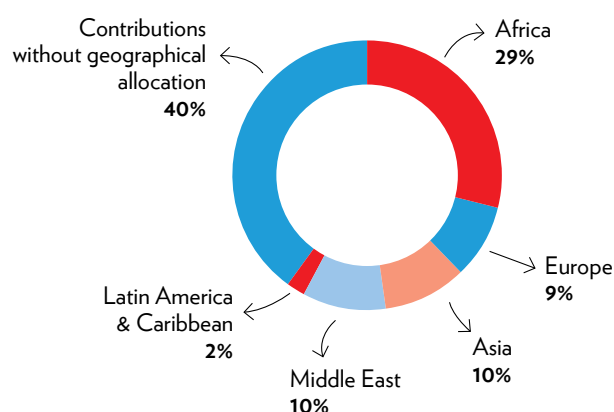
DISBURSEMENTS ACROSS ALL ALLOCATIONS

HUMANITARIAN ACTION		%	% OF ODA
Emergency aid	€ 79.524.732,94	90.76%	15.78%
assistance in materiel and emergency services	€ 60.916.893	69.52%	12.09%
basic health care services in emergency situations	€ 1.208.180	1.38%	0.24%
education in emergency situations	€ 397.560	0.45%	0.08%
emergency food aid	€ 8.818.077	10.06%	1.75%
coordination of emergency assistance and support and protection services	€ 8.184.024	9.34%	1.62%
Aid for reconstruction and rehabilitation	€ 2.405.228	2.74%	0.48%
Disaster prevention and disaster preparedness	€ 5.695.010	6.50%	1.13%
Total	€ 87.624.971	100.00%	17.39%

HUMANITARIAN AID BY PARTNER



HUMANITARIAN AID BY COUNTRY





Arrival of a helicopter at the refugee camp in Ouallam, Niger

FOOD SECURITY

According to the United Nations, in 2022 there were 50 million people experiencing acute famine in Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen, and 828 million people were in a state of food insecurity. This figure has tripled over the last three years. In response to this situation, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has launched a call for projects so that humanitarian and development NGOs can implement projects that will in the short term directly assist the most vulnerable in the world. Thirteen NGOs were able to use their expertise and local networks to react quickly and effectively to the crisis, implementing projects totalling EUR 2.2 million. They have implemented their projects in countries such as South Sudan, Somalia, Niger, Bangladesh, Haiti, Burkina Faso and Senegal.

In view of the alarming situation in terms of food insecurity in the Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries (Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Cabo Verde, Niger and Laos), the ministry has, on an exceptional basis, granted a mandate of EUR 20 million to its bilateral development agency LuxDev to implement projects aimed at strengthening food security, by supporting various national, multilateral and civil society partners.

One of the flagship achievements of the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs in 2022 was the publication of its new strategy for humanitarian action, a revision of the previous version, which dated from 2013. The new strategy is divided into six cross-cutting priorities, six strategic objectives and 50 action points, and also sets a minimum rate of 15% of the country's overall ODA for humanitarian action. With this percentage, Luxembourg is one of the first countries setting out to place structural importance upon its humanitarian action. This step will also allow its partners' programming to be more predictable and effective. Minister Fayot presented the strategy to the Chamber of Deputies on 11 July and to the general public at a press conference on 19 August. Following these presentations, the Humanitarian Affairs Directorate disseminated it widely in relevant forums and presented it at meetings in Geneva, Brussels, New York and Rome.

UKRAINE

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, Luxembourg decided, at the first donors' conference on 1 March, in the framework of the Joint Launch of the Humanitarian Flash Appeal, to make contributions of up to EUR 3 million for humanitarian actors active in Ukraine and Moldova. At the second international conference for Ukraine on 5 May 2022, chaired by Sweden and Poland, Luxembourg committed an additional EUR 1 million for UNICEF and the Halo Trust Fund, which specialises in mine clearance. In this initial phase of the response, Luxembourg therefore reacted swiftly by contributing a total amount of EUR 4.25 million for humanitarian projects designed to respond to the immediate needs of the displaced populations. Minister Fayot then reaffirmed support for the country's rapid recovery at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Lugano on 4 and 5 July.

At the Standing with the Ukrainian people conference on 13 December 2022 in Paris, Prime Minister Xavier Bettel announced an additional contribution of EUR 4 million for various humanitarian projects. In view of the Russian attacks on civilian infrastructure, these projects have mainly targeted the sectors of rebuilding private homes, repairing medical infrastructure and access to clean water and education.

In short, in 2022 Luxembourg provided support totalling about EUR 8.25 million to its humanitarian partners in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. These allocations were made both within the framework of partnerships with UN agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), and as contributions to humanitarian NGOs. In addition, there were contributions in kind with a value of nearly EUR 4.13 million, including a donation of 700 000 COVID-19 rapid antigen tests coordinated by the emergency.lu team and the Ministry of Health. The tests were made available following

the request for support that Ukraine made through the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

OTHER INTERNATIONAL CRISES

Luxembourg has maintained its commitment to major humanitarian crises around the world. Thus, in 2022 the Grand Duchy made a total contribution of more than EUR 15 million to the humanitarian response in the Sahel, spread over Niger (EUR 8 million), Burkina Faso (EUR 3.6 million) and Mali (EUR 3.5 million). In addition, the humanitarian crisis in Syria remains a priority for Luxembourg's humanitarian action, with a total of EUR 4.5 million allocated in 2022. A third priority for Luxembourg's humanitarian action in 2022 was the humanitarian response following the conflict in Ethiopia, with a total contribution of about EUR 3.2 million. Other humanitarian contributions in 2022 were for the humanitarian crises in Afghanistan (EUR 2.4 million), South Sudan (EUR 2.1 million), Yemen (EUR 1.95 million), the Occupied Palestinian Territories (EUR 1.8 million) and Somalia (EUR 1.5 million).

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)

Luxembourg's co-chairmanship of the Donor Support Group (DSG) of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for the 2021-2022 cycle concluded with the DSG's annual meeting in Luxembourg, from 31 May to 1 June 2022, co-chaired by Manuel Tonnar, Director for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, and Robert Mardini, the ICRC's Director-General. The DSG's annual meeting brought together Franz Fayot, Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, Peter Maurer, the President of the ICRC, the eight directors of the organisation and the representatives of the 22 members of the DSG, to discuss the humanitarian challenges and opportunities to strengthen the ICRC as a neutral and impartial organisation in an increasingly polarised world. The central theme of the DSG co-presidency was: "preserving and strengthening neutral, impartial and independent humanitarian space in protracted crises and fragile contexts".



The Ukraine Recovery Conference was held in Lugano on 4 and 5 July 2022



Opening of the first delegation for cyberspace of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in Luxembourg

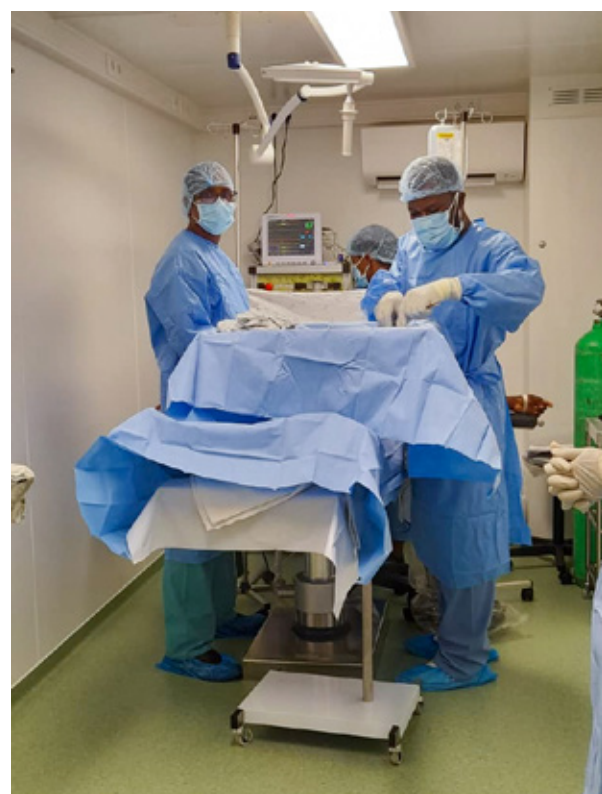
On 1 June 2022, Franz Fayot and Peter Maurer signed the agreement on the status, privileges and immunities of the ICRC in Luxembourg, aimed at setting up the organisation's first ever "Delegation for Cyberspace", based in Luxembourg. On 17 November 2022, this physical delegation was inaugurated in the presence of Minister Franz Fayot.

On 8 November 2022, the first "Symposium on Cybersecurity and Data Protection in Humanitarian Action" was held in Luxembourg, organised in partnership with the ICRC, the Luxembourg Red Cross, the Luxembourg House of Cybersecurity, the University of Luxembourg and the National Commission for Data Protection (CNPD). The symposium brought together the experience and expertise of more than 120 people from the key stakeholders in the public, private and humanitarian sectors, as well as civil society and academia, in order to identify, and if possible anticipate, the challenges and concerns associated with the use of technology in humanitarian action, and to jointly find ways to overcome them.

MULTILATERAL AGENCIES

In order to meet the many humanitarian challenges that have become more significant in 2022, Luxembourg has drawn on its close partnerships with international agencies, which make it possible to provide tailored responses to different crisis situations. Consequently, Luxembourg was able to start its new strategic partnership framework with the World Food Programme (WFP), which supports people affected by food insecurity. Apart from its nutritional support for countries in the Sahel and Yemen, Luxembourg also provided food aid in Latin America, Asia and the Middle East.

Similarly, Luxembourg embarked on its agreement with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for the 2023-2025 period. The agreement covers both current humanitarian emergencies such as in Ukraine and Afghanistan as well as forgotten crises such as in Western Sahara. The partnership also includes support for innovation and psychosocial support, among others.



Obstetrical emergencies department at the Asile hospital, located in Nippes, Haiti

Luxembourg has joined the Troika of the OCHA Donor Support Group (ODSG) in preparation for Luxembourg's presidency of this working group, which is scheduled for June 2023.

LUXEMBOURGISH AND INTERNATIONAL NGOS

Luxembourg has maintained or even increased its commitment to Luxembourgish humanitarian NGOs. Thanks to humanitarian NGOs, Luxembourg was able to respond quickly to the many new humanitarian crises in 2022. In view of the humanitarian crises caused by the floods in Pakistan, the war in Ukraine and its side effects, as well as by food insecurity, Luxembourg has allocated additional contributions to the various humanitarian NGOs. Alongside these new humanitarian crises, in the media spotlight, Luxembourg, in collaboration with Luxembourgish humanitarian NGOs, has ensured that it abides by its commitment to the "forgotten" chronic humanitarian crises, such as those in Myanmar, Haiti, the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Since mine clearance is one of the points of action in the new humanitarian strategy, in 2022 Luxembourg supported the Halo Trust for the first time. This is an organisation that is active in the field of mine clearance in Ukraine and the Middle East. A side effect of this collaboration in the mine clearance sector is an improvement in humanitarian access for other humanitarian actors, particularly in Ukraine. In the same context, in 2022 Luxembourg also increased its support to the International NGO Safety Organisation (INSO) in Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger. INSO seeks to bring together the latest safety-related information/developments to enable NGOs to adapt to the changing contexts of humanitarian situations. Understanding conflicts, mapping actors, lessons learned from other humanitarian situations and an adaptive method to identify risks are essential for an effective and safe humanitarian response and are at the heart of INSO's activities.

In 2022, Luxembourg maintained its financial support for the work of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ), with a total budget of EUR 1.1 million (from 2021 to 2023), in particular for its transitional justice programmes in Tunisia, Colombia, and in eastern Africa, especially in Ethiopia and Sudan, through the flexible regional fund.

In addition, the Geneva Call project in Mali, aimed at promoting the protection of civilians through the commitment on the part of non-State armed actors and communities to promote respect for norms, again benefited in 2022 from a contribution of EUR 400 000 from the ministry, bringing total support to EUR 800 000 over two years (2021-2022). In 2022, Luxembourg further strengthened its partnership with Geneva Call by supporting, for a period of three years (2022-2024), its humanitarian commitment to protect children and education through respect for humanitarian norms.

Finally, Luxembourg increased its annual contribution to the West Bank Protection Consortium (WBPC) in 2022, a year which saw the highest number of demolition incidents in a single year since 2009.

NATIONAL COORDINATING PLATFORM FOR LUXEMBOURG EMERGENCY AID IN THE EVENT OF DISASTERS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISES

Since 2020, the Luxembourg government has had to deal with a series of disasters and humanitarian crises abroad (COVID-19, Afghanistan, Ukraine etc.), the frequency of which seems to be increasing continuously, posing significant challenges for the government in terms of coordinating its direct assistance abroad. To further increase the effectiveness and relevance of Luxembourg's response and following the publication of its new humanitarian action strategy, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (MFA) proposed setting up a national platform for coordinating Luxembourg's emergency aid in the event of disasters and humanitarian crises.

The platform's remit will be the strategic and operational coordination of aid, to improve the national coordination and exchange of information between Luxembourg's different resources. It will bring together representatives of the MFA's Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs and the Defence Directorate, the Ministry of Health, the High Commission for National Protection, the Grand Ducal Fire and Rescue Corps and the Ministry of Interior. An initial meeting was held on 25 November 2022.



EMERGENCY.LU

Under the contract signed on 28 April 2011 between the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and the private partners HITEC Luxembourg, SES TechCom and Luxembourg Air Ambulance, renewed in 2014 and 2020, the satellite telecommunication platform “emergency.lu” has been operational since 2012. The first deployment took place in January 2012 in Southern Sudan.

Thus, on 22 March 2022, the tenth anniversary of emergency.lu was celebrated at the Luxembourg pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, in the presence of H.R.H. the Grand Duke Henri. At the same time, Luxembourg welcomed the representatives of ETC (Emergency Telecommunications Cluster) for their plenary assembly at the Luxembourg pavilion. For the anniversary, again, a reception was held in Luxembourg on 15 December 2022 in the presence of Franz Fayot.

During 2022, at the operational level, Luxembourg’s humanitarian action continued to provide telecommunication services in support of humanitarian organisations in the Central African Republic, Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Venezuela and Syria, at the request of

the World Food Programme (WFP), ETC, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UNICEF. Two emergency.lu terminals were installed in Tonga to reconnect two islands following destruction caused to submarine cables during the eruption of the Tonga-Hunga volcano. Two other antennas were positioned in Dnipro and made available to ETC in the context of Russia’s aggression against Ukraine.

Within the framework of emergency.lu, Luxembourg provides its support for the work of its partners in terms of capacity-building, organising various training courses in the Grand Duchy. In 2022, five training courses were delivered at the Centre for Training and Seminars of the Chamber of Employees (CEFOS) in Remich, at the request of ETC and UNHCR.

In 2022, as part of its commitment to UNDAC, the UN system for disaster assessment and coordination, which is managed by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the Grand Duchy deployed experts to the Democratic Republic of Congo and Madagascar.



Deployment of emergency.lu in Venezuela

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CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

In the arid regions of Niger, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports the installation of water boreholes



ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

The major global environmental changes, and in particular climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification, are adversely impacting the human and natural systems on which human well-being and economic activities are based. They will continue to influence countries' development conditions. These changes constitute threats and a major challenge for societies in their ability to meet basic human needs, promote justice, peace and security and pursue sustainable growth and development.

Environment and climate issues are therefore a key element of the overall aim of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation general strategy, and one of the three cross-cutting issues on which its actions focus. In line with the additionality of international climate financing provided for in the government's coalition agreement, it is more vital than ever to strengthen and optimise the incorporation of the environment and climate change within cooperation activities.

In 2021, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation's new environment and climate change strategy was presented. It is aligned with its central remit of poverty eradication, and is the result of a lengthy consultation process that fully involves development cooperation partners.

Under this strategy, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation aims to frame all its activities and/or aid within sustainable, inclusive, renewable or low-carbon development dynamics that are resilient to the effects of climate and environmental change, in accordance with international environmental conventions, Agenda 2030 and the Paris Agreement goals.

2022 saw progress in the implementation of the new gender and environment/climate strategies. An operational action plan has been defined, with the key actions to be carried out by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation and its partners in the medium term to ensure the strategy is properly deployed. Tools have also been developed for the implementation of the action plan internally and by the main partners of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation: an internal tool at the Ministry of Foreign and

European Affairs, LuxDev's operational guides, the gender, environment and climate guide of the NG-DOs and thematic fact sheets on the interrelations between gender, environment and climate change.

Specifically, this enhanced integration of environment and climate was applied in 2022 in various fields. For example:

- environment and climate change were identified as priority areas for cooperation in the new bilateral partnerships with Rwanda, Benin and Costa Rica;
- the European Microfinance Platform (e-MFP) received specific support for the Green Inclusive and Climate Smart Finance Action Group to record existing green projects and identify and disseminate good practice and innovative practices in green inclusive finance;
- the whole-of-government approach was strengthened on these themes with the signing of an agreement between the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Finance to establish a trust fund for sustainable finance instruments. The proposed intervention offers a new approach to addressing the development financing gap in Global South countries by leveraging the potential of the capital market to promote sustainable development, including climate change mitigation and adaptation, putting in place policy incentives and risk reduction measures to direct bond proceeds towards sustainable, inclusive and resilient low-carbon initiatives and projects.

In 2022, the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs was part of Luxembourg's delegation to the COP27 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Sharm El Sheikh. Many bilateral discussions were held at COP27 with the delegations from Luxem-

Students studying at the Faculty of Law at the National University of Laos, which is supported by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation © MGD/S. Margue



bourg's partner countries and organisations, in order to strengthen political dialogue on environmental and climate change issues.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has also continued its involvement in the interministerial management committee of the Climate and Energy Fund (CEF), chaired by the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development, whose remit includes the multiannual planning of CEF expenditure and the drafting of opinions and, where appropriate, recommendations concerning the financing of eligible investments.



GENDER

The promotion and protection of gender equality remains a priority of Luxembourg's foreign policy, including in relation to development cooperation, where gender is at the core of the work done. To effectively strengthen gender equality, the intersection between gender and other factors, such as age, disability, ethnicity and socio-economic status, must be taken into account. It is also necessary to address the discriminatory structures and gender-based social norms and stereotypes that are the root causes of gender inequality. Action by women in the public and private spheres of life is crucial.

Since the commitments made at the Generation Equality Forum in July 2021, Luxembourg has made tangible progress. In addition to taking positions in international and European fora, Luxembourg has implemented concrete measures.

After revising its gender strategy, making it resolutely progressive and tailored to meet current global challenges, The Luxembourg Development Cooperation has developed several operational tools and sector-specific sheets to ensure gender is integrated and actually taken into account in the management of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation programming and project cycle. More specifically, the various actors within the Luxembourg Development Cooperation are being equipped with the appropriate tools for the methods used to implement activities in the various components of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation.

In September 2022, Laos was chosen as Luxembourg Development Cooperation's first partner country, and relevant local ministries were made aware of the need to implement the cross-cutting themes of gender and environment and climate change. In addition, Luxembourg's embassy in Vientiane, LuxDev staff and Luxembourgish NGDOs on the ground were trained to use the tools developed.

In order to promote a healthy working environment, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has continued its work on developing actions to prevent and combat all forms of sexual and gender-based violence. On the basis of online training courses, which were organised in 2021, a self-directed training guide was developed to support the NGDOs to improve their internal procedures for the prevention, detection and treatment of and protection against all types of sexual and gender-based violence. The Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports a significant number of multilateral initiatives that strengthen women's rights, including the "Education Plus" programme, implemented by UNAIDS, which aims to ensure that all adolescent girls and young women in sub-Saharan Africa have access to high-quality secondary education and the joint programme for the eradication of female genital mutilation run by UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). In addition to these actions, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has also signed its first framework agreement with UN Women, providing the organisation with an additional budget of EUR 8 million, particularly in the field of innovative financing.

At partner country level, Luxembourg continues to support the new phase of the Illimin project, a UNFPA flagship initiative in Niger focusing on engaging men to encourage greater overall change in the com-

munity in relation to sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender and respect for the rights of young girls. Support for the Illimin project totals EUR 7 million for the 2022-2026 period.

In Senegal, Luxembourg is contributing EUR 500 000 for the 2022-2025 period to fund the VIMOS project, which is implemented by civil society actors and focuses on preventing sexual violence and female genital mutilation among young women, as well as on the development and support of care for victims.



HUMAN RIGHTS

The Luxembourg government prioritises the promotion and defence of human rights through the various elements of its external action. Through this cross-cutting priority, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation aims primarily to strengthen the respect for and protection and realisation of human rights in order to create an environment that offers equal opportunities, so that each individual can freely determine the course of his or her existence. In other words, the aim is to implement the principle of leaving no one behind, as enshrined in Agenda 2030 and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for the financing of development, which lie at the heart of Luxembourg's overall development cooperation strategy.

In its partner countries, the actions of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation therefore form part of this human rights-based approach, in the sense that an improvement in governance seeks to strengthen the institutions of the State in fulfilling their roles as bodies bound by obligations. Appropriate legal and administrative frameworks and institutions are necessary in order to address the needs and rights of people. Support must also be given to rights holders, who will be better able to claim and exercise their fundamental rights, which comprise civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

With its partner countries, Luxembourg maintains a regular political dialogue at ministerial level. The Indicative Cooperation Programmes include the field of human rights and are the subject of an annual review as part of the partnership committee meetings that take place alternately in Luxembourg and in the relevant partner country.

Luxembourg at the Human Rights Council. © MFA





One of two round tables on human rights at the 2022 Development cooperation conference

Through its new humanitarian strategy, Luxembourg remains committed to promoting respect for international humanitarian law (IHL), and ensuring respect for human rights, as well as supporting efforts to build a lasting peace, notably through transitional justice activities.

On 15 November 2022, Franz Fayot delivered his analysis of the challenges faced by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation to the Chamber of Deputies. During his speech, the minister referred to the importance that the Luxembourg Development Cooperation attaches to respect for human rights in all its interventions. In order to strengthen its commitment and impact in this area, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation plans in the future to increase the budget allocated to projects that specifically promote the protection of human rights in their political and civil dimensions. For human rights are universal, interrelated, interdependent and indivisible. In order for people to fully benefit from their human dignity, it is imperative to guarantee fundamental freedoms, such as the freedom of expression, the protection of privacy, the right to equal treatment or to legal aid, to name a few, that are ensured in States where the rule of law holds sway and in democracies. In countries where the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is active, support will continue, in particular, for human rights defenders.

MULTILATERAL FORA

Within the United Nations, Luxembourg's action is undertaken with the aim of achieving Agenda 2030's sustainable development goals. As part of its mandate at the Human Rights Council 2022-2024, Luxembourg is committed to a human rights-based approach to international development.

The theme of human rights was also addressed at the "Assises de la Coopération" held on 14 and 15 December, which was a flagship conference bringing together all those involved in Luxembourg's development cooperation. This reflects the strong desire on the part of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation to invest more in promoting and protecting human rights, as recognised in numerous international treaties and conventions, in the countries where it has a presence. This choice also stems from the fact that efforts to protect the poorest are still insufficient on the international stage. The two round tables were an opportunity to exchange views on the challenges and perspectives of advancing the human rights agenda, with, among others, participants from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Front Line Defenders (FLD) and the NGO *Action Solidarité Tiers Monde* (ASTM) and its partners such as the Peace and Development Group in the Philippines.

THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE (ICTJ)

In 2022, the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ) programmes in Tunisia, Colombia and East Africa continued, with the support of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. The ICTJ works for the acknowledgement of human rights violations and the restoration of dignity, which lays the foundations for peace in the long term and helps prevent the recurrence of renewed cycles of conflict, abuse and marginalisation.

In Colombia, the hearing to acknowledge responsibility convened by the Colombian Special Jurisdiction for Peace marked the first time that the leaders of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia — People's Army have publicly acknowledged their role in systemic crimes, and it represents a decisive step in the process of transitional justice for the country and

in the affirmation of the dignity of victims, two elements necessary to repair Colombia's social fabric, torn apart by more than 50 years of war.

In Tunisia, the ICTJ continued to work with civil society and victims in the face of President Saïed's continued efforts to consolidate power and shift the country towards authoritarianism.

Almost two years after the outbreak of conflict in Tigray, the Ethiopian federal government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) signed a cessation of hostilities agreement on 2 November 2022. The ICTJ's engagement with national and regional institutions in Ethiopia has resulted in a number of requests for technical assistance and capacity building, including in the Ministry of Justice, the National Dialogue Commission and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

The ICTJ also contributed to a draft resolution by the Human Rights Council at its 51st session in September. The resolution refers to the contributions of transitional justice to sustainable peace and development, and is also the result of research funded by Luxembourg on prevention in the field of transitional justice.

REGIONAL OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)

In 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to support the regional office (RO) of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) for East Africa. The OHCHR East Africa Regional Office (EARO) is particularly active in the field of human rights in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Tanzania, three countries where activities have been carried out thanks to funding from Luxembourg.

Luxembourg's contributions have enabled the EARO to respond to requests for technical assistance from Ethiopia and Djibouti in the field of human rights and inclusive governance. This support has also translated Luxembourg's commitments at the level of the Human Rights Council in Geneva into action on the ground.

In early November 2022, representatives of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and of the Ethiopian central government decreed a permanent ceasefire. In the post-conflict context, the EARO was formally invited by the Ethiopian authorities to provide technical support to the transitional justice process and to deploy observers in the north of the country to prevent the recurrence of human rights violations.

Similarly, the Djiboutian authorities have asked the EARO to provide technical support in advance of the country's next Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In Myanmar, the OHCHR continued to monitor the human rights situation. In 2022, many people continued to flee the country to escape military violence, avoid arrest and seek fresh personal and professional opportunities. According to the OHCHR, an additional 1.2 million people have been internally displaced and more than 70 000 have left the country, joining over a million others, including most of the country's Rohingya Muslim population.

One year after the coup, the OHCHR has continued to guide and support human rights defenders, legal aid providers, journalists and other victims of human rights abuses and violations, including through resettlement and emergency grants.

In 2022, the OHCHR's technical cooperation fund (VFTC) supported technical cooperation work for country offices in Burkina Faso, Chad, Mauritania, Mexico and Palestine.

In order to support its monitoring and reporting activities on human rights, the OHCHR has finalised a comprehensive map of the parties to the conflict in Burkina Faso to facilitate identification of those responsible for human rights violations and abuses, while facilitating the Office's engagement with national actors, and in particular the security forces.

Following the coup d'état in September 2022, the OHCHR established a cooperation framework with the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to monitor, report and follow up on allegations of human rights violations by the security forces and their civilian auxiliaries.

FRONT LINE DEFENDERS

In view of the changes to the situation in 2022, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation continued to support the NGO Front Line Defenders (FLD) in Nicaragua, in particular through the allocation of 34 protection grants to human rights defenders (HRDs) at risk, 50% of which went to women, so that they could benefit from increased security. The intervention particularly targets the most vulnerable and marginalised HRDs, such as women, indigenous peoples and HRDs in remote rural areas.

Luxembourg participated in the biennial conference organised by FLD, from 26 to 28 October 2022. Set up in 2002, the Dublin Platform is an event that of-

fers a unique opportunity for human rights defenders from almost every country in the world to come together and share advocacy and protection strategies, and strengthen solidarity with their colleagues and participants from governmental and intergovernmental organisations.

In view of the worsening situation for HRDs in Central America, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation will continue its support on a multiannual and regional basis to enable the NGO to also support HRDs in their efforts in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua for the next three years (2023-2025), giving a total of EUR 300 000.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Luxembourg's commitment to the implementation of the United Nations guiding principles on business and human rights and the guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) will be continued and expanded by two new instruments that will complement the Business Partnership Facility (BPF) tool. These are the Challenge Fund tool and the Demonstration Projects tool, which will make it possible to approach the private sector in the Luxembourg Development Cooperation partner countries and countries with projects via an additional channel. The two new tools have been designed to mobilise the private sector in the Global South in relation to the sustainable development goals in their local contexts, through subsidies that will, among other things, be conditional on commitments to socially and environmentally responsible business conduct. In terms of monitoring these conditionalities, the Luxembourg national contact point (NCP) for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises is supporting LuxDev in the design phase of the new co-financing tools. The two new tools were developed together with LuxDev in 2022 and their implementation is planned for 2023.

The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs has also participated actively in the work of the "Business and Human Rights" working group, responsible for implementing and monitoring the second national action plan on business and human rights (NAP 2), and in the interministerial committee responsible for defining the broad guidelines on the duty of care for Luxembourg companies. This was also an opportunity to coordinate in formulating Luxembourg's position during the negotiations on the European directive in this field, tabled on 1 February 2022. This work, which is a concrete example

of a strong commitment to policy coherence for development and the implementation of a human rights policy, will continue in 2023.

UNESCO

Since 2019, Luxembourg has supported the International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC), managed by UNESCO, which helps to mobilise the international community around discussion of progress with the media in developing countries.

The support of EUR 100 000 provided for the year 2022 helped to strengthen capacity in media institutions in Tanzania in order to combat violence against women, as well as to reinforce the safety of female journalists in Sudan.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRACY AND ELECTORAL ASSISTANCE (IDEA)

Despite the difficult context for work on the ground since the coup d'état in 2021, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation remains present in Myanmar. In 2022, it financed the second phase of the MyConstitution project in Myanmar, together with Norway, Finland and Sweden, implemented by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), an intergovernmental organisation bringing together 35 member states, committed to promoting and advancing democracy, good governance and the rule of law at international level.

The project's aim is to strengthen the capacity of different Burmese democratic actors, who are determined to restore democratic governance in Myanmar and to support the process of drafting a new constitution.

MEKONG REGION LAND GOVERNANCE

Land governance is often at the centre of development challenges: these include issues linked to land expropriation, large-scale land acquisition and investment, land disputes and recognition of customary land tenure. It is in this context that the Luxembourg Development Cooperation has been contributing, since 2014, alongside Switzerland and Germany, to the Mekong Region Land Governance (MRLG) Project.

The MRLG project is implemented in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) by a consortium of two international NGOs, Land Equity International and GRET, and it enables small-scale farmers, especially those from ethnic minorities, to have sustainable and equitable access to land and control over their agricultural and forest lands.

The continuation of Luxembourg's support for this project also reflects the need to address the links between climate and human rights: protecting and respecting the collective rights of indigenous peoples is particularly important for biodiversity and forest conservation.

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DEVELOPMENT EFFECTIVENESS



OECD DAC

Luxembourg has been a member of the Development Aid Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) since 1992. As a unique international forum with 30 members, the DAC brings together the largest providers of development assistance. In 2021 the DAC celebrated 60 years of existence.

The overarching aim of the DAC for the 2023–2025 period as redefined in September 2022 is to promote development cooperation and other relevant policies so as to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, poverty eradication, improvement of living standards in developing countries, and to a future in which no country will depend on aid.

In order to achieve this overarching objective, the Committee has developed a new budget programme for 2023 and 2024 that will include, in particular, monitoring the resources that support sustainable development, assessing them and reporting on them; reviewing development cooperation policies and practices and upholding international norms and standards; carrying out analysis, developing guidance and collecting good practice to assist the members of the DAC and the expanded donor community to enhance innovation in development cooperation, development impact and effectiveness and the results produced by development cooperation. As part of this work, in 2022 the DAC produced new guidance for interaction with the private sector.

The DAC organises periodic peer reviews of the efforts of its 30 members to analyse the effectiveness of development assistance, provide feedback and exchange good practice around development assistance. Each member country is evaluated every five to six years by two other member countries. In 2020, Luxembourg carried out its mid-term review. The full evaluation of Luxembourg was planned for 2022 but was postponed to 2024 due to the health crisis.



EVALUATION

In 2022, Luxembourg mainly evaluated civil society activities and various aspects of cooperation with the private sector.

In response to a need for information on the functioning of 11 NGDOs, in particular at the level of their organisational and management structure for the implementation of co-financed projects, Luxembourg carried out an evaluation in Luxembourg of the NGDOs *Aide au Vietnam Luxembourg*; *Amitiés Luxembourg Amérique Latine*; *Amizero*; *Athénée Action Humanitaire*; *FOLES*; *Iwerliewen, techniques durables solidaires*; *Kindernothilfe Luxembourg*; *Kolping*; *LP4YOU*; *Tous à l'école*; and *WEGA Humanitarian Aid*. The aim of the evaluation was to take an external look at the organisational performance of each NGDO, put forward recommendations to enable them to evolve and maximise their potential, and provide them with a learning opportunity and a space for dialogue.

Luxembourg also launched a review of the projects and programmes of 7 Luxembourgish NGDOs in Senegal. The objective of the review is to provide evidence to assess the contribution by the NGDOs to the implementation of Senegal's development strategies. This includes going beyond the interventions in progress and seeing how to improve synergies between the Luxembourgish operators on the ground. The conclusions and lessons learned from the review will make it possible for the NGDOs to make potential improvements to their current programme with a view to strengthening their contribution to combating poverty, attaining sustainable development and improving the quality and effectiveness of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation's interventions in Senegal.

The year 2022 also saw individual evaluations of NGDOs. Thus, Luxembourg evaluated, both in the field and at headquarters, a microfinance project run by the *Comité pour une Paix Juste au Proche-Orient* (CPJPO), three projects by *Enfants Défavorisés de l'Île de Madagascar* (EDIM) and Unity Foundation's framework agreement.

In terms of collaboration with the private sector, Luxembourg's attention has focused on the Microinsurance Network and on the Investing for Development open-ended investment company.

Finally, in addition to the management and follow-up of evaluations, Luxembourg has continued to focus on the work of evaluation networks by participating in the meetings of the OECD's DAC Network on Development Evaluation (EVALNET), the COVID-19 Global Evaluation Coalition and the Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN). Luxembourg was also present at the meeting of the German-speaking Evaluation Network (DACH) in Vienna and will host the next DACH meeting in June 2023. In addition, Luxembourg will organise, jointly with the *Société luxembourgeoise de l'évaluation et de la prospective* (SOLEP – Luxembourg company for evaluation and forecasting) and the French-speaking Evaluation Network (RFE), the biannual International Francophone Evaluation Forum (FIFE) in Luxembourg in July 2023.



IT SYSTEM

The Directorate of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs supports development and humanitarian action programmes implemented by a wealth of partners. A robust data centralisation and management instrument is essential. Therefore, and with the aim of modernisation, the Ministry believes that it is now necessary to transition to a professional information system.

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation plans to take the opportunity provided by this transformation programme not only to facilitate the collection of information on the development programmes implemented by its many partners but also to improve the presentation of project data for internal and external reporting purposes (International Aid Transparency Initiative [IATI], OECD), to increase the reliability of data and their centralisation, and to have a system able to communicate with the SAP financial systems already in place.

To that end, a roadmap has been produced, documenting the stages to be followed to develop an information system capable of meeting the expectations described above, as well as future needs.

Following the modelling of the main business processes as well as the implementation of a data warehouse to allow the generation of electronic files containing activity data for its IATI reporting and a visualisation tool in 2021, the development of the partner portal

(MyGuichet.lu) and the dedicated back-office tool for monitoring activities and managing requests for funding for development cooperation and humanitarian action was launched in 2022.



GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) was established at the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea, in 2011. It was launched with the ambition of being the main multi-stakeholder cooperation platform for advancing the development effectiveness (DE) agenda in order to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. At the Busan forum, the four principles of effectiveness were formally set out. These are: (i) country ownership of development priorities by partner countries and alignment with their policies, systems and procedures; (ii) focus on results; (iii) inclusive partnerships; and (iv) transparency and accountability to one another.

The GPEDC aims to overcome the dichotomy between the so-called “donor countries” and “recipient countries” by opening up in particular to the emerging countries as the main protagonists of South-South and triangular cooperation, to civil society organisations, to the private sector and to philanthropic foundations. The GPEDC has also officially established a mechanism to periodically measure and monitor progress on commitments to implement the principles of development effectiveness, in line with partner countries' priorities. This global monitoring framework (Global Monitoring Round), with common indicators, benchmarks, targets and objectives, should allow comparisons between countries over time to demonstrate the results and impacts of implementing the principles of effectiveness and should thus foster mutual accountability among development partners.

At the midpoint of Agenda 2030, the 2022 High-Level Summit on Effective Development Cooperation, organised by the GPEDC and held from 12 to 14 December 2022 in Geneva, highlighted how effective cooperation strengthens trust and has revitalised the DE agenda both substantively and operationally. At this summit, the four principles of DE were confirmed and consolidated by six priority areas of action in 2022,

in particular social protection and inclusion, combating poverty and economic recovery, multi-partnership and inclusive approaches, strengthening national capacities, strengthening national statistics as well as strengthening the GPEDC. The fourth global monitoring cycle was formally launched at the summit after ambitious reforms of the monitoring framework (the indicators measured) and its process (the measurement method).

Minister Franz Fayot took the opportunity to speak virtually at the summit during the plenary session on “Tackling the Multiple Challenges: Strengthening Health Systems, Food Security and Socio-Economic Recovery”. In his speech, the minister highlighted the harmful effects of the many current crises, which are interlinked, and stressed the importance that the Luxembourg Development Cooperation attaches to multi-stakeholder partnerships, including civil society actors in the private sector and working methods such as South-South and triangular cooperation.

Franz Fayot also highlighted the need for gender equality in order to achieve the SDGs. Women are often the ones who suffer the most from the consequences of crises, and at the same time are important agents of change, for example in mobilising communities or implementing strategies to combat climate change. That is why the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is working to strengthen the inclusion and empowerment of women in a cross-cutting way in all its projects. Finally, the minister gave an overview of the various initiatives that the Luxembourg Development Cooperation is undertaking in order to improve its evaluations and, ultimately, the effectiveness of its development cooperation.

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COHERENCE OF POLICIES

COHERENCE OF DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

The Luxembourg Development Cooperation is actively committed to promoting and supporting the coherence of policies for development in the context of the implementation of Agenda 2030. This enables it to contribute to the coherence of all Luxembourg's actions in developing countries and to evaluate its effective contribution to sustainable development.

In terms of external policies in a development cooperation context, Luxembourg has developed several tools to ensure it adopts a coherent policy in support of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The 3D approach (diplomacy, development and defence) implemented in the context of Luxembourg's foreign policy, as well as the whole-of-government approach introduced with the coalition agreement, constitute the main reference framework for ensuring coherence between national and foreign policies, with the primary aim of contributing to sustainable growth and stability. The "Development – Climate – Energy" Indicative Cooperation Programme (DCE ICP, 2021-2025) between Cabo Verde and Luxembourg marks the first opportunity for the implementation of a whole-of-government approach by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, aiming to strengthen the impact of public investment in sustainable development, integrating all stakeholders and sources of Luxembourg financing likely to contribute to it.

In 2018, the Luxembourg Development Cooperation adopted a general development cooperation strategy entitled "Road to 2030", which is inspired by the SDGs and aims to help eradicate extreme poverty and promote economic, social and environmental sustainability. Since 2021, three thematic strategies have been added to it to promote the more systematic integration of cross-cutting priorities relating to gender equality, environmental sustainability and financial inclusion, which will serve as a compass for interventions by the Luxembourg Development Cooperation. Human rights are a cross-cutting priority in the "Road to 2030" strategy.

The SDGs reiterate the commitment to improve policy coherence for development in terms of goals, sectors and actors, thereby encouraging a favourable environment for sustainable development. This involves assessing whether and to what extent national policies effectively contribute to the attainment of the aims set in Agenda 2030 in developing countries. In this sense, The Luxembourg Development Cooperation supports the inclusion of impact on developing countries within the *Nohalteg-keetscheck*, which will make it possible to test the sustainability of legislative initiatives, thus boosting the synergies between national policies and international cooperation.

Nationally, the Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation (ICDC) is responsible for pan-governmental coordination on development cooperation and coherence of development policies.

Internationally, as part of its monitoring and review mechanisms, the United Nations "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" encourages Member States to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at national and sub-national levels ("Voluntary National Review/VNR"). These national reviews serve as the basis for regular reviews by the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), convened under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Luxembourg carried out an initial Voluntary National

In New York, Franz Fayot presented the section of Luxembourg's Voluntary National Review covering the Grand Duchy's efforts and initiatives to advance the attainment of the SDGs in developing countries.



Review in 2017 and a second in 2022. The results of Luxembourg's 2022 VNR were presented jointly by Ministers Fayot and Welfring in New York on 15 July 2022 at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, with Minister Fayot speaking about the Grand Duchy's efforts and initiatives to advance the attainment of the SDGs in developing countries. In September 2022 there was an exchange between the ministers and the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Foreign and European Affairs, Cooperation, Immigration and Asylum and the Committee on the Environment, Climate, Energy and Spatial Planning on the results of the VNR.

In order to strengthen policy coherence, Luxembourg is supported by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), which makes recommendations for the adjustment of Luxembourg's mechanisms to make them even more effective and efficient. For example, Luxembourg has launched, under the aegis of the Ministry of the Environment, Climate and Sustainable Development and the Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, an institutional analysis process on policy coherence for sustainable development, together with the OECD. The aim is to strengthen existing mechanisms and institutional capacities for policy coherence in order to achieve sustainable development objectives, both nationally and internationally. Thus, two workshops were held in the format of a joint meeting between the ICDC and the ICSD, in April and July 2022.

All development cooperation actions feature a multi-stakeholder approach in order to increase their effectiveness. This approach fosters dynamic and diverse partnerships with international, national and local NGOs and also seeks to promote increased collaboration with private sector and research actors (including through public-private partnerships that can mobilise additional resources), in particular within its partner countries. The state of progress regarding development policy coherence is also closely monitored by the NGOs' *Cercle de Coopération*, which, with the support of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation, regularly makes observations and implements awareness-raising activities, particularly in the areas of fair trade and socially responsible clothing.



INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

The Law of 9 May 2012 amending the amended law of 6 January 1996 on development cooperation and humanitarian action defines the responsibilities of the Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation (ICDC). It has the remit of giving its opinion on the broad outlines of development cooperation policy and the coherence of development policies (Article 50). The law also asks the government to submit an annual report to the Chamber of Deputies on the work of the Committee, including the issue of the coherence of development policies (Article 6). The Grand Ducal Regulation of 7 August 2012 lays down the make-up and mode of operation of the Interministerial Committee for Development Cooperation.

In 2022, the ICDC met five times under the chairmanship of the Director for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs. In addition to the routine updating on the flagship activities of the Luxembourg Development Cooperation at each meeting, including, in particular, the reorientations of projects and programmes as a result of the pandemic, the work of the ICDC placed special emphasis on policy coherence.

One of the first meetings of the ICDC presented the Luxembourg Development Cooperation's support to Ukraine, either through financial contributions or contributions in kind through *emergency.lu*. In addition, there are the higher education initiatives for Ukrainian students and initiatives by the European Investment Bank in favour of Ukraine.

Representatives of the NGOs' *Cercle* were invited to the ICDC's meetings for all discussions on policy coherence, and one of the meetings was facilitated by the *Cercle*. This was held in October with a presentation (in English) by CONCORD of the report "A test of the EU's integrity towards the 2030 Agenda: the status of policy coherence for sustainable development".

As in the previous year, a joint meeting between the ICDC and the Interdepartmental Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD) was held. The joint session was facilitated by two experts from the OECD who presented the "Policy coherence on sustainable development in Luxembourg" project. Over a 24-month period this project will make it possible to

work on the following aims: (a) strengthening Luxembourg government capacities to identify synergies, manage policy trade-offs and avoid negative spillovers when implementing the sustainable development goals (SDGs); and (b) improving understanding among policy makers and key stakeholders on how to apply policy coherence and integrated policy-making in practice to achieve the SDGs in Luxembourg and abroad. Due to diary clashes, the results of this workshop will not be presented until 31 January 2023, at the first joint meeting of the ICDC and the ICSD.

One of the meetings was dedicated to the D4D Hub, with a presentation of the European Center for Development Policy Management (ECDPM). The presentation included the European Commission's investment strategy for connectivity in the broad sense, which is described by some as a European response to China's Belt and Road Initiative.

The presentation also addressed the question of the link between the Global Gateway and the D4D Hub, in terms of the role that the platform could play in the implementation of the ambitious Global Gateway strategy.

Finally, it should be noted that the meeting of 8 July 2022 was the last meeting chaired by Manuel Tonnar, who left office as President of the ICDC on 1 September. Manuel Tonnar was replaced in the post by Christophe Schiltz.

The background is a solid blue color. Overlaid on this are several white geometric lines that form a series of interconnected, irregular polygons. These lines create a sense of depth and structure, with some lines extending from the top and bottom edges towards the center. The overall effect is a modern, minimalist graphic design.

**BEING PART OF
LUXEMBOURG DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION**



BEING PART OF LUXEMBOURG DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Programme support manages and facilitates operations to deploy human resources for cooperation. Specifically, this relates to junior professional officers (JPOs) and volunteers at the United Nations, junior professionals in delegation (JPDs) at the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS), as well as the junior technical assistants (JTAs) in the framework of a vocational internship programme funded by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and managed by LuxDev, the Luxembourg agency for development cooperation.

In order to give young graduates the opportunity to acquire further training and improve their skills by acquiring a first experience in development cooperation and humanitarian action, the MFA also offers field

placements or work placements, with a salary paid for those lasting four weeks or longer. Internships within the international NGO *ENDA-Santé* and the cooperation volunteer service (SVC), managed by the National Youth Service (SNJ), are the other elements of this varied range of programmes for young graduates.

In addition, the Directorate of Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs grants financial support to aid workers working on behalf of various accredited Luxembourgish NGOs. In order to enable the members of these NGOs to also participate in development programmes and projects and to assist the target populations, the law makes provision for development cooperation leave of six days per year per beneficiary. Development cooperation leave and aid worker status are granted in the form of ministerial orders.

OVERVIEW OF THE DEPLOYMENT OF YOUNG HUMAN RESOURCES IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION IN 2022

1 SDP	17 JPOs	7 JPDs	13 ATJs	4 UN VOLUNTEERS
UNDP (Praia)	DPPA (New York)	EEAS (Hanoi)	LAO/031 (Vientiane)	Joint UN Office (Praia)
	OCHA (The Hague)	EEAS (San Salvador)	LAO/031 (Vientiane)	WFP (Matam)
	OCHA (New York)	EEAS (Vienna)	SEN/POOL (Dakar)	WHO (Vientiane)
	UNAIDS (Kigali)	EEAS (East Jerusalem)	SEN/POOL (Dakar)	UN Women (Pristina)
	UNCDF (New York)	EC (Praia)	SEN/POOL (Dakar)	
	UNDP (Amman)	EC (Vientiane)	SEN/031 (Dakar)	
	UNDP (Panama City)	EC (Tunis)	SEN/032 (Dakar)	
	UNFPA (Vientiane)		SEN/BP (Dakar)	
	UNHCR (Niamey)		BKF/BP (Ouagadougou)	
	UNHCR (Copenhagen)		NIG/BP (Niamey)	
	UNICEF (Ouagadougou)		CVE/390 (Praia)	
	UNICEF (Nairobi)		CVE/401 (Praia)	
	UNICEF (Beirut)		KSV/BP (Pristina)	
	UNRCS (Vientiane)			
	WFP (Dakar)			
	WFP (Bangkok)			
	WHO (Geneva)			

PERSONAL STORIES



JULIE SADLER

Junior Professional Officer in her fourth year with UNHCR, deployed in Niger since 2021

I HAVE LEARNED A LOT SINCE I STARTED AS A JPO, ESPECIALLY IN NIGER, WHERE MY WORK IS VERY PRACTICAL, SPECIFIC AND PRAGMATIC. THE RESULTS OF MY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE VERY TANGIBLE AND HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT BOTH ON THE LIVES OF REFUGEES AND ON UNHCR'S RESETTLEMENT INTERVENTION IN NIGER.

“

Before becoming a JPO, I studied political science at the University of Vienna and international security at the University of Bristol. After my studies, I completed internships at Luxembourg's Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, in United Nations agencies and NGOs. These experiences led me to my first job with the NGO *Caritas* as an advisor for asylum seekers and refugees, including unaccompanied minors, in Austria.

Two years later, I started working as a JPO for the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in Lebanon in the area of education, working on programmes to ensure that Syrian refugee children were enrolled in primary school and stayed there. After two years in Lebanon, I had the opportunity to be deployed to Niger, where I have been working for UNHCR since February 2021. In my day-to-day work, I assess the eligibility of vulnerable refugees for resettlement and coordinate information and case management with the field, resettlement countries, the IOM and other stakeholders to ensure a smooth resettlement process, from identification to the submission for departure of refugees to resettlement countries in Europe and North America.

I have learned a lot since first starting work as a JPO, especially in Niger, where my work is very practical, specific and pragmatic. The results of my contributions are very tangible and have a direct impact both on the lives of refugees and on UNHCR's resettlement intervention in Niger. UNHCR's operation in Niger is also special because I work not only with refugees who have entered Niger on their own but also with asylum seekers evacuated by UNHCR from Libya to Niger through the Emergency Transit Mechanism (ETM). These asylum seekers, the vast majority of whom are eligible for refugee status, are particularly vulnerable because of the long periods of arbitrary detention and inhuman and degrading treatment which they have suffered in Libya.

My experiences in Lebanon and Niger have allowed me to better understand the area of protection in humanitarian action and the vulnerabilities and needs of forcibly displaced people, and have strengthened my desire to continue working in this area.



NOÉMIE GINTER

Junior technical assistant
at the LuxDev Regional Office
in Senegal (2021-22)

WHAT HAS INSPIRED ME AND HELPED ME TO CARRY OUT THE TASKS GIVEN TO ME HAS BEEN THE PATIENCE OF THE SENEGALESE, WHO HAVE A DIFFERENT CONCEPTION OF TIME FROM PEOPLE IN LUXEMBOURG, FOR EXAMPLE. TIME IS SEEN MORE BROADLY AND WHAT MATTERS MOST OF ALL IS TODAY AND THE NEXT DAY, "INSHALLAH". THIS HAS LED ME TO SEE TIME IN A MORE RELAXED WAY AND NOT TO BE FRUSTRATED WHEN THINGS DON'T GO TO PLAN.

“

Before becoming a Junior Technical Assistant (JTA) at LuxDev's Regional Office in Senegal, I studied political economics and completed a master's in economics and environmental policy. By applying to the JTA programme, I hoped in particular to discover a new professional field as well as a different country and culture to any I had experienced previously. Professionally, I wanted to discover and have a better understanding of the development cooperation sector and the international dynamics involved. Personally, since I had not visited the African continent before, I hoped to gain a better knowledge and understanding of African values and traditions.

Currently in the LuxDev Regional Office in Dakar, I am working on the monitoring of projects and programmes, the capitalisation of the fourth Indicative Cooperation Programme (ICP IV), the formulation of the new SEN/301 programme, the drafting and implementation of the CSR plan and LuxDev's institutional communication. I also support the office on gender and environment issues.

During my experience as a JTA, there have been several highlights, especially during field missions and meetings with final beneficiaries. These have been important in helping me better understand the activities of the projects, how development cooperation functions and what the situation is really like on the ground.

In this context, I have particularly strong memories from my first mission to collect personal stories. I went with Anna, a fellow JTA, to the northern and central areas to meet beneficiaries of two vocational training and health programmes. One of our interviews was with a person who had benefited from the Saint-Louis emergency medical assistance services. Another was with a young 27-year-old entrepreneur, who had benefited from a loan after his training that had enabled him to invest in land, which he uses for horticulture thanks to Luxembourg's development cooperation with AJIR Niombato and the Union of Community Mutual Savings and Credit Institutions.

What has inspired me and helped me to carry out the tasks given to me has been the patience of the Senegalese, who have a different conception of time from people in Luxembourg, for example. Time is seen more broadly and what matters most of all is today and the next day, "Inshallah". This has led me to see time in a more relaxed way and not to be frustrated when things don't go to plan. This is just one aspect among the many things I've learned about Senegal and West Africa during my first year as a JTA, and which continue to be sources of inspiration.

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