

Emerging economies financing to global
health response

TURKEY Country Brief



Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

UNAIDS



PAFDI

PAN-AFRICAN FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

Political context

- Cooperation with a large number of developing countries has been a major element of Turkey's foreign policy over the last two decades. It started basically with Central Asia, expanded to Africa and now covers the whole World. Least Developed Countries are specifically mentioned in this policy.
- TİKA is the important and sole coordinating agency; assistance goes principally through TİKA. It has 62 offices and works in 150 countries.

TİKA Provides Medication for Orphans in South Sudan



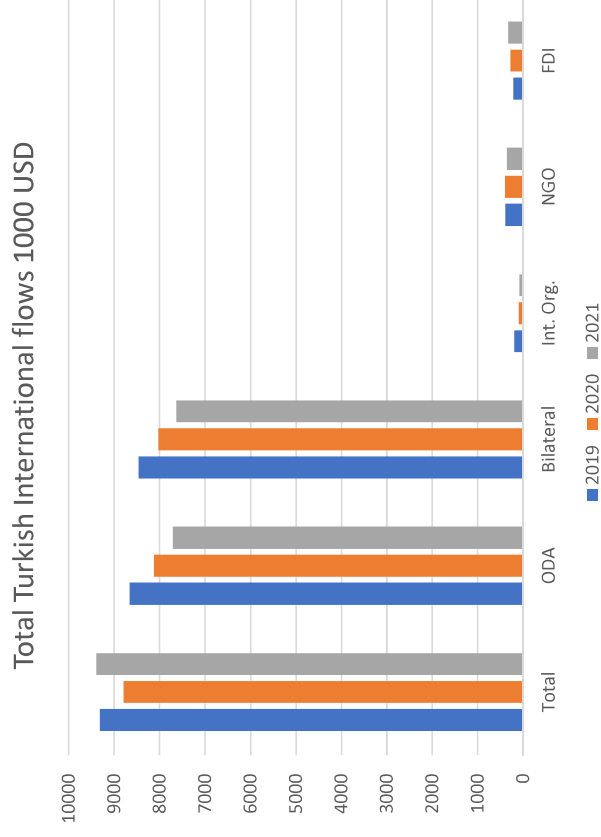
"Hands-on Training" Support by TİKA to Health Department Students from Bosnia and Herzegovina



Historical trends Funding

Emergency and humanitarian aid covers almost 90 per cent of bilateral ODA. Health-specific assistance is less than 1 per cent.

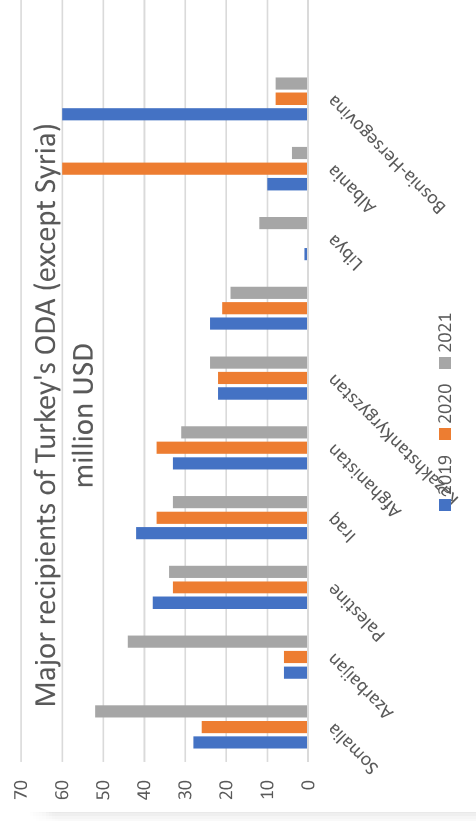
In OECD TOSSD data, only one specific HIV-AIDS activity is mentioned, in Uganda in 2019, entitled «STD control including HIV/AIDS» classified as Population Policies/Programmes & Reproductive Health.



Geographic Focus

Although Turkey provides assistance to about 150 countries, in recent years Turkey's ODA is overwhelmingly directed towards Syria, around 7 billion USD annually, mostly spent within Turkey.

Example of health-related primarily Syrian oriented Immigrant Health Centers: In order to provide preventive health services and primary health care services to Syrians in Turkey an average of 4,000 people treated daily.



JKIA Opened Special Classes for the Education of Children with Disabilities in Syria



Modalities

In TOSSD, for Turkey, cooperation is overwhelmingly classified as «projects», followed by «in kind» assistance. Even granting medical supplies frequently appears as «projects». There does not seem to be a clear definition, the same operation may appear under different modalities in different years. Everything is classified as «standard grant»

Scholarships: Turkish government provides many scholarships to university students from other countries. Approximately 4000 is granted every year and about 15000 students benefit from such scholarships. In TOSSD, only two items (one each to Kosovo and Syria) are classified as scholarships.

In TOSSD for 2019 and 2020, all entries are labelled as South-South cooperation but all 2021 entries are labelled triangular. There are no loans, everything is classified as «grant».

Equipment Support from Tika to Niamey State Hospital



Public Agencies: TIKa and Ministry of Health

TIKA finances a vast array of activities. Some randomly selected health-related ones among hundreds are as follows:

- **Bangladesh** – Outpatient unit building and provision of equipment at Dhaka Children's Hospital
- **Kazakhstan** – Provision of technical equipment to Rehabilitation of Paralysis Section in the Multidisciplinary Medical Centre
- **Niger** – 27th Niger Health Organisation (9680 examinations, 316 operations, 805 eye operations, 1610 gynecological ultrasounds)
- **Northern Macedonia** – St. Panteleymon Dentistry Faculty reparation, furnishing and provision of medical supplies - Mobile clinic and health screening Project
- **Mexico** – Provision of mobile clinic to State of Oaxaca

- TIKa cont.
- **Lebanon** – Modernisation of Saïda Turkish Rehabilitation and Trauma Hospital
- **Senegal** – Material support to Dakar National Orthopedic Equipment Centre
- **Pakistan** – Material support to Gynaecological operating room of Jinnah Training and Research Hospital
- **Tajikistan** – Repair and material support to Republic No. 1 Mental Hospital

Ministry of Health

12 Countries – Treatment Support within the scope of Bilateral agreements free health services provided to 323 patients from 12 countries, mainly Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan, Kyrgyzstan, Kosovo and Niger, in 2020.

Georgia – Batumi Infectious Diseases Hospital Fighting Coronavirus

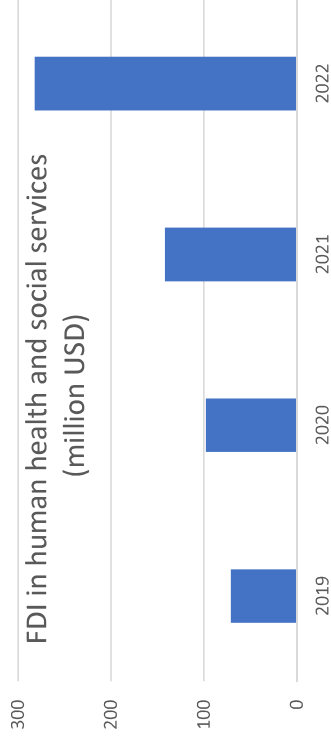
Niger – Turkey Friendship Hospital

Sudan – Turkey Training and Research Hospital

Private sector, NGOs & Philanthropy

NGO's

- In health related areas, various NGO's, many of them with religious Islamic connections provide many cataract operations and mass circumcision in Islamic tradition to boys. IHH's (Humanitarian Relief Foundation) Cataract Project operates in 18 African and Asian countries.
- **Yeryüzü doktorları** (Turkish version of Medecins du Monde) have been active in 54 countries and many medical fields. They performed more than 30 thousand of eye surgeries and more than 2 million examinations in 17 countries since 2006. Clinics are operated, equipment is provided to institutions in various countries. 43 thousand surgeries have been conducted, particularly for cataract (30000). Maternal and child health receive particular emphasis in Syria, Somalia, Niger, DR Congo. Volunteer medical teams are sent on missions.



Turkish private sector operates 20 hospitals abroad and has exports of information systems and codes.

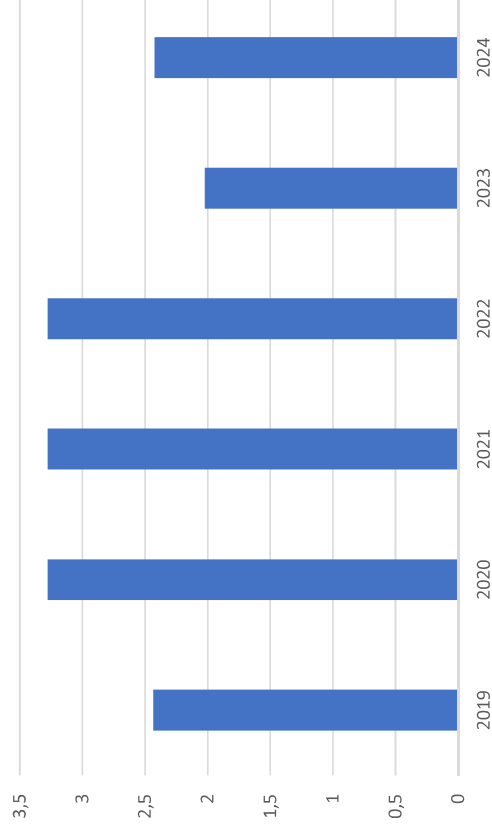


Multilateral channels

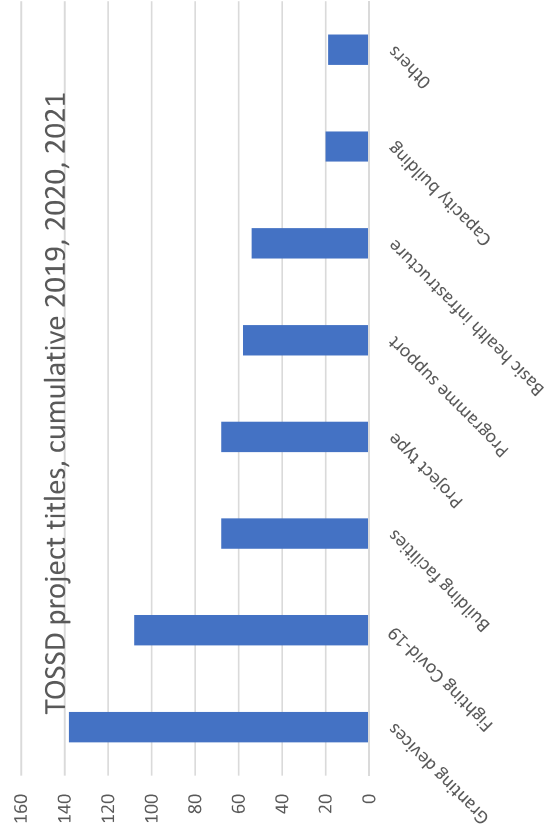
Turkey's contribution to UNAIDS has been very small. In 2020 it was 50000 USD; in 2021 and 2022 it was 100000 USD which is the smallest among all contributors.

In 2011, however, Turkey was welcomed as an important new donor to UNAIDS after it provided 1,200000 USD in 2009 as a voluntary contribution UNFPA and UNICEF have been receiving recently around 50000 USD annually.

Turkey, contribution to WHO, million USD



Focus areas / projects



TIKA's Vehicle Support to Podgorica Nursing Home



TIKA Provided Support to Newborn Health in Pakistan



Success stories & Learning

- Turkey has reached a large number of countries across the world. Although there has been a focus on the supply of materials, much of it produced in Turkey, and COVID-19 related activities, assistance has been provided responding to a wide variety of local needs, some of which not obvious to the outside world.



Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency and Solomon Islands Ministry of Health set up cooperation to ease the transportation of patients among islands through motorboats.

TİKA Continues to Support People with Albinism



Challenges, Risks, Limitations

- Most of the funding is allocated to the necessities of Syrian refugees. Some of the cooperation with other countries, especially in distant regions, can be very small. This may be good public diplomacy but the effectiveness of the operations may be limited except in small countries.
- Some of the NGO's stress religious ties, this facilitates access but may also limit effectiveness and lead to problems with local residents in multi-religious areas.



Opportunities & Future Outlook

- Turkey has acquired a vast amount of experience in international cooperation and allocates considerable funds for this purpose. With the eventual easing of the Syrian crisis, a larger proportion of these funds, thus higher amounts, should be available for the rest of the world. With some more focus, which may be based on ideas from both within the Turkish cooperation community and from outside the country (both recipients and potential partners) effectiveness may increase.
- UNAIDS may have better access to funds from Turkey by presenting itself not exclusively as HIV/AIDS related organisation but stressing its importance in general health.

