

Finland's policy on financing for sustainable development



The global Sustainable Development Goals and their financing were agreed globally in 2015. In the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, UN Member States committed to enhance financing for sustainable development through national, international, private and public channels.

In the Foreign Service, this policy is related to support for financing sustainable development through trade policy, development policy and development cooperation. All financing must be economically, socially and environmentally sustainable.

THE MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS SET EIGHT OBJECTIVES FOR THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT TERM:

- 1. Actions to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda are strengthened:** In order to achieve these objectives, Finland will exert influence in the UN development finance negotiations and discussions on development effectiveness in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD.
- 2. International investment agreements support sustainable investments in the least developed and poorest countries:** Finland will influence the content and implementation of the Investment Framework for Development under preparation in the WTO and promote the OECD's work concerning sustainable investments and development of its norms for export-credit practices.
- 3. International organisations supported by Finland promote efforts to increase sustainable investments in the least developed and poorest countries:** Finland will participate in the development of the EU's financial instruments and influence international development finance institutions as well as promote openness of information and international standards.
- 4. Tax questions:** Finland will implement the Taxation for Development Action Programme and commission an external evaluation of its implementation.
- 5. Finnish development cooperation instruments direct funding to partner countries and the poorest countries:** Finland will strengthen Finnfund's capital and risk-taking capacity and direct its development policy investments in line with the objectives; support Finnish companies', CSOs' and research institutes' opportunities to engage in business activities in developing countries; promote innovative partnerships between public and private actors; and support projects that leverage other private and public funding.
- 6. The business environment in Finland's partner countries improves:** Finland will work in sectors important to this objective in its partner countries.
- 7. Gradually, 85% of new projects include objectives that promote gender equality:** Finland will take gender equality into account in all its work.
- 8. Finnish actors are aware of the need for and preconditions of sustainable investments and will work to develop them.** Finnish actors will be kept informed of international discussions on sustainable financing, Finland's actions and the support provided by the Foreign Service and the Team Finland network.