

ESTONIA

Will Estonia meet its EU 2010 minimum aid target of 0.17%?

NGO Prediction : UNLIKELY

According to the European Commission's March 2006 figures, the Government of Estonia spent 0.06% ODA/GNI in 2005. Due to a lack of data it is not possible to reveal how much of this delivered no new aid resources for developing countries.

Estonian NGOs are concerned that Estonia will not reach 0.17% ODA/GNI by 2010. They note that development cooperation gets very low priority in the Government and consider their aid spending rather low in comparison to that of some of the other new Member States. Estonian NGOs urge their Government to substantially increase the genuine new aid resources in the coming years; in order for Estonia to meet its EU aid target. Though they note that their Government is taking some steps to make development assistance more transparent, they call for still greater transparency in aid reporting by their Government.

Estonian NGOs are also happy that the debt cancellation finance Estonia contributed to the Highly Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund was not counted as official development assistance in 2005.

Estonian NGOs ask their Government to:

- › Keep Estonia's commitment to reach the 0.17% by 2010.
- › Introduce clear commitments to target aid to Least Developed Countries, basic social services and the MDGs.
- › Provide clear figures.
- Make more efforts to raise awareness on global poverty and inequality.

Organisations consulted:

Estonian Roundtable for Development Cooperation (AKÜ).

HUNGARY

Will Hungary meet its EU 2010 minimum aid target of 0.17%?

NGO Prediction : UNLIKELY

According to the European Commission's March 2006 figures, the Hungarian Government spent 0.9% ODA/GNI in 2005. Due to a lack of data, it is not possible to reveal how much of this delivered no new aid resources for developing countries.

Hungarian NGOs are very worried that Hungary will not meet its EU aid target in 2010, despite substantial increases in aid over the last couple of years. This is because their Government recently announced that the Hungarian Ministry of Affairs budget will be reduced by two thirds in 2006.

Hungarian NGOs also demand greater transparency and standardised data from their Government on aid spending. All too often the different Government departments responsible for ODA spending publish different figures.

Hungarian NGOs urge their Government to reach its EU aid commitments.

Organisations consulted:

National development NGO platform.