Italy

Reported ODA: EUR 6067 million
0.30% GNI (↑ from 0.29% in 2024)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 4613 million
0.23% GNI (↑ 4.7% difference with 2024)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 1454 million
23% of total

National Platform: **Concord Italy**

Holding the line in difficult times: the challenge is turning resilience into momentum.

Main trends

Italy's development cooperation is navigating a period of significant institutional transition. While **ODA remained broadly stable (0.30% in 2025), Italy continues to fall well short of the internationally agreed target of 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to ODA.** At the same time, the implementation of the **Mattei Plan for Africa has increased the political prominence of development cooperation,** raising important questions about policy coherence, transparency, and Majority World country ownership.

These challenges are reflected in the findings of the 2026 OECD DAC Peer Review of Italy, which provides a clear roadmap for strengthening the development cooperation system. Its recommendations include, establishing a credible pathway towards the 0.7% ODA/GNI target, improving institutional effectiveness and whole-of-government policy coherence, enhancing transparency and accountability, and strengthening partnerships with civil society.

Government's relationship with civil society

The relationship between **CSOs and Italy's development cooperation institutions remains active,** structured and characterised by engagement across multiple levels of the cooperation system. Preparations for the National Conference on Development Cooperation (COOPERA) created opportunities for civil society to **contribute to discussions on the future of Italy's development cooperation.**

A significant development was the adoption of revised procedures governing Civil Society Organisation (CSO) access to Italian development cooperation funding. While it is still too early to assess their overall impact, the new framework responds to several longstanding concerns raised by civil society, including on localisation and partnerships with local actors. Its implementation will require close attention, particularly as discussions continue on the future of **Italy's financing architecture beyond the current model based predominantly on competitive calls for proposals.**

However, the broader civic space remains uneven. For instance, organisations working on migration and search-and-rescue operations continue to face political and operational constraints, highlighting the importance of safeguarding an enabling environment for civil society as a whole.

Recommendations

→ **Develop and implement an action plan to operationalise the recommendations of the 2026 OECD DAC Peer Review** of Italy's development cooperation.

→ **Adopt a credible, time-bound roadmap to achieve the 0.7% ODA/GNI target,** with particular attention to increasing support for least developed countries.

→ Ensure that the Mattei Plan for Africa is fully integrated within Italy's development cooperation architecture, **rather than creating parallel mechanisms or priorities.**

→ Ensure that all development cooperation policies and instruments, including those implemented through the Mattei Plan for Africa, are transparent, accountable, country-led and **aligned with internationally agreed development effectiveness principles.**

→ **Consolidate meaningful partnerships with civil society,** including through the effective implementation of the new CSO funding procedures and sustained institutional dialogue.