

Denmark

Priorities and approaches

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark has supported development research for more than 40 years with the aim to strengthen research capacity and generate new knowledge in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). Denmark's development and cooperation strategy [The World We Share](#) (2021-2025), highlights the importance of partnerships between Danish universities and the research community in the Global South. It also stresses the importance of partnerships with multilateral organizations and continued engagements through the European Union (EU). One of the objectives of the strategy focuses on action areas around climate change adaptation and building resilience in least developed and vulnerable countries, addressing agriculture-related challenges such as biodiversity loss, food insecurity, poverty, access to water and food losses. It also supports green value chains and nature-based solutions.

[The Government's Priorities for Danish development cooperation 2022](#) presented the following goals:

- From 2023, development assistance targeting climate, nature and environment must amount to at least 30% of development assistance to LMICs. At least 25% must be climate related and at least 5% must be environmentally related.
- In 2025, funding efforts focusing on regions of origin, migration and fragile states must have increased to a total of DKK 3.5 billion.

Organisation of ARD

The [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark](#) through [Danida](#) – the term used for Denmark's development cooperation – is responsible for the strategic and political aspects of the support to development research. Danida also promotes dialogues, collaboration, and knowledge sharing between different stakeholder groups such as policymakers, practitioners - from public and private sectors – and research communities. The [Danida Fellowship Centre \(DFC\)](#) is responsible for the administration of the application rounds for collaborative research projects and manages research support including monitoring of project implementation. DFC also provides training and learning programmes.

The [Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries of Denmark](#) has established and provides funding for the [International Centre for Research in Organic Food Systems \(ICROFS\)](#). ICROFS participated in international research activities to strengthen the position of organic farming and food systems but their international development efforts have decreased in recent years.

The [Danish Institute for International Studies \(DIIS\)](#) is an independent public research institution focusing on foreign, security and development policy. Various central themes under the institute's Sustainable Development and Governance Research Unit include some activities related to agricultural research for development (ARD) such as the *Agricultural Investors and Development Actors* project ([link](#), 2016-2022) and the *Governing Adaptation Finance for Transformation* project (see below).

Instruments and programs of ARD funding

ARD funding is currently organized according to three types of support: On a competitive basis, core funding to the CGIAR and support for building stronger universities.

1. Competitive funding

Funding for research collaboration is granted on a competitive basis. The modality is often referred to as the 'FFU modality'. The [Consultative Research Committee for Development Research \(FFU\)](#) advises the ministry on its support to development research. It assesses funding proposals that are submitted to the competitive funding modality and evaluates the quality of the awarded research projects. Various ARD-related projects were granted funding in 2020 and 2021:¹

- *Better Barley by New Breeding Techniques* in Ethiopia ([link](#)) is led by Aarhus University and implemented in partnership with the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) and Haramya University in Ethiopia (DKK 12m/2021-2025).
- *Governing Adaptation Finance for Transformation* in Kenya and Tanzania ([link](#)) is led by DIIS and implemented in partnership with Kenyatta University in Kenya and Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) in Tanzania (DKK 12m/2021-2025).
- *The Paradoxes of Climate-Smart Coffee* in Ethiopia and Tanzania ([link](#)) is led by Copenhagen Business School and implemented in partnership with the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and Jimma University in Ethiopia (DKK 12m/2021-2026).
- *Circular Bioeconomy for the Kenyan Dairy Sector* in Kenya ([link](#)) is led by UNEP DTU Partnership (UNEPDTU) in Denmark and implemented in partnership with the African Centre for Technology Studies, International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), Kenya's Egerton University, Kenya Eastern and Southern Africa Dairy Association (ESADA, Technical University of Denmark and Denmark's Arla Foods Ingredients Group P/S (DKK 5m/2021-2025).
- *Climate Change Resilience of Ecosystem Services* in Burkina Faso and Ghana ([link](#)) led by the University of Development Studies in Ghana and implemented in partnership with University Joseph KI-Zerbo, Association Ragussi, University Norbert Zongo, all in Burkina Faso; Savannah Fruit Company and Organisation for Indigenous Initiative and Sustainability, both in Ghana; and B4Trees Aps (B4T) and Aarhus University, both in Denmark (DKK 12m/2021-2026).
- *Health and Antibiotics in Vietnamese Pig Production II* ([link](#)) led by the University of Copenhagen and implemented in partnership with the Vietnamese National Institute of Veterinary Research (NIVR), Vietnam National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), and Vietnam Laboratory for Swine Diseases (SEGES) (DKK 5m/2021-2024).
- *Sustainable and Efficient Insect Production for Livestock Feed through Selective Breeding* in Kenya and Uganda ([link](#)) is led by Aarhus University and implemented in partnership with the University of Copenhagen Makerere University in Uganda, University of Nairobi and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya, and the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe) (DKK 12m/2022-2027).

¹ . These projects fall under the FFU themes 'agricultural production'; 'food security and safety'; 'natural resource management'; 'economic development and value chains' or 'climate change'.

- *Climate-Friendly and Climate-Resilient Prawn Farming in Bangladesh* ([link](#)) is led by the University of Copenhagen and implemented in partnership with the Danish Technical University (DTU and Patuakhali Science and Technology University and Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU), both in Bangladesh (DKK 12m/2022-2026).
- *Pastoralist Climate Change Resilience in Somaliland* ([link](#)) led by the Roskilde University and implemented in partnership with the DIIS, University of Hargeisa in Somalia, University of Nairobi in Kenya, Social Research and Development Institute (SORADI) in Somaliland and University of Southern Denmark (DKK 12m/2022-2027).
- *Carbon Capture for Microbial Protein Synthesis in Burkina Faso* ([link](#)) led by Technical University of Denmark and implemented in partnership with Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique et Technologique (CNRST), DAFANI SA, Expertise-For-Sens-and-Empowerment' (EFSE), SANLE EXPORT SECHAGE, all in Burkina Faso; University of Ghana (UG) and Regional Maritime University (RMU), both in Ghana; and the INNITI ApS, and Kvasir Technologies ApS, both in Denmark (DKK 12m, 2022-2026).
- *Sustainable Valorisation of Agro-industrial Residues through Integration of Food, Bioproducts and Bio-energy* in Kenya and Tanzania ([link](#)) led by the Technical University of Denmark and implemented in partnership with the Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology in Tanzania and the Pwani University in Kenya (DKK 12m/2022-2026).

2. Funding to the CGIAR

Support to the CGIAR system has been longstanding: Denmark has supported the system since the 1970s, with the exception of a few years after 2016. Funding to the CGIAR is in the form of undesignated funding portfolio funding to its Trust Fund. Building on the longstanding cooperation between Denmark and the system, a grant of DKK 30m was provided in 2020 for the years 2020-2022, which was funded through the Climate Change Envelope. In December 2021, an additional amount of DKK 19m was allocated to CGIAR.

3. Support for building stronger universities

Since 2011, collaborations between Danish universities and selected universities in partner countries have been funded under the [Building Stronger Universities \(BSU\)](#) programme. The objective of the programme is to strengthen the capacity to undertake research in the selected universities in partner countries. The third phase of the programme, covering the period 2017-2022, focuses on partnerships between six universities in Uganda, Tanzania and Ghana and partners across universities in Denmark. Two of the partnerships have included a thematic focus on agriculture. Preparation of a new five-year phase of the BSU programme is being initiated and will have a specific focus on smaller universities in fragile countries and regions, but there will be no targeted focus on ARD. The two BSU partnerships with an ARD focus have been extended due to COVID-related delays:

- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana. Thematic areas include Climate-Smart Agriculture and Environmental Management (DKK 13m/2019-2021, extended to 2022).
- Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Tanzania. Thematic areas include Agricultural Value Chains, Agro-Ecology and Aquaculture (DKK 13m/2019-2021, extended to 2022).

Table: Main ARD budget and beneficiaries, 2020-2021 (DKK million)

	2020	2021
FFU projects	58	60
CGIAR	30	19
BSU III, 2017-22	—	—
Total	88	79

This country profile has been prepared by EIARD with contributions from staff of Danida, complemented by information collected from internal and online databases and websites. The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this profile do not necessarily reflect the views of Danida or other Danish organisations involved in ARD.