

Netherlands

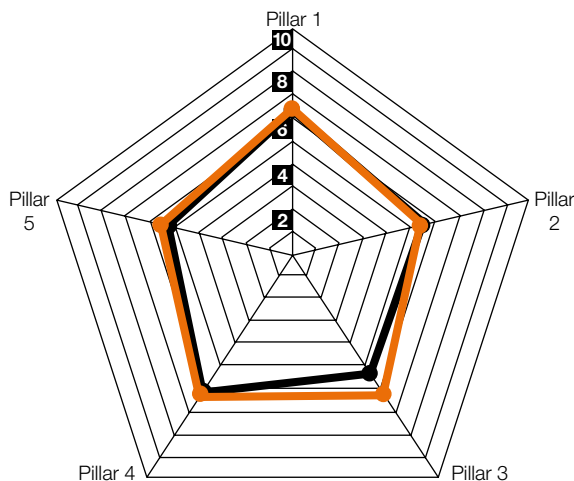
HRI 2010 ranking: 9th

Policy framework

The Netherlands' humanitarian assistance is managed by the Humanitarian Aid Division (DMV/HH) of the Human Rights and Peacebuilding Department (DMV), which is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Its 2008 humanitarian aid policy distinguishes between acute and chronic crises. Sudden onset disasters qualify for emergency aid, while response to chronic crises is limited to specific crisis zones in developing countries and sectors. By law, the Netherlands can only provide humanitarian assistance to countries that have officially requested aid. The Netherlands has been one of the front runners in the establishment of pooled funding structures. In 2009, it spent 0.82% of its GNI on Official Development Assistance (ODA). Humanitarian assistance represented 9.10% of its ODA and 0.063% of its GNI. The 2010 humanitarian aid budget is expected to be similar to that of 2009 despite sizeable budget cuts and challenges posed by the global financial crisis.

The Netherlands was instrumental in the development of the *Principles of Good Humanitarian Donorship* (GHD) and has had a GHD domestic implementation plan since 2005. It co-chaired the GHD group with ECHO in 2008-2009, and attempted to establish a GHD implementation group in the occupied Palestinian territories in 2009.

HRI 2010 scores by pillar



— Netherlands
— OECD/DAC average

Pillar 1 Responding to needs
Pillar 2 Prevention, risk reduction and recovery
Pillar 3 Working with humanitarian partners
Pillar 4 Protection and international law
Pillar 5 Learning and accountability

* The OECD/DAC average does not include scores for Austria, Greece or Portugal.

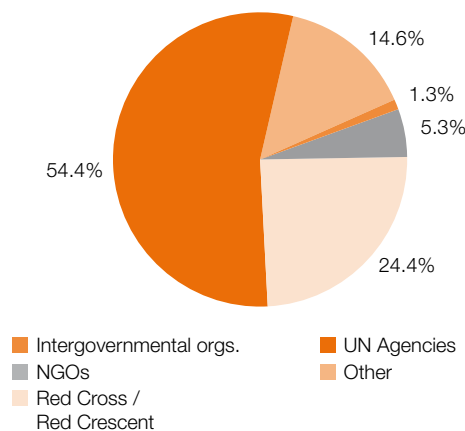
Performance

The Netherlands ranked 9th in the HRI 2010. Based on the pattern of its scores, the Netherlands is classified as a Group 1 donor. Donors in this group tend to do better overall in Pillar 3 (Working with humanitarian partners), Pillar 4 (Protection and international law) and Pillar 5 (Learning and accountability). Other donors in this group include Denmark, Finland, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

The Netherlands scored close to the OECD/DAC average in all pillars, with the exception of Pillar 3, in which it was above average. The Netherlands received its highest average score in Pillar 1 (Responding to needs), in which it was close to the Group 1 average. The Netherlands received its lowest average score in Pillar 2 (Prevention, risk reduction and recovery), where it was below its group average. In Pillar 3, it received its second-highest score, and was close to the Group 1 average. It scored below its group average in Pillar 4. In Pillar 5, the Netherlands scored close to its group average.

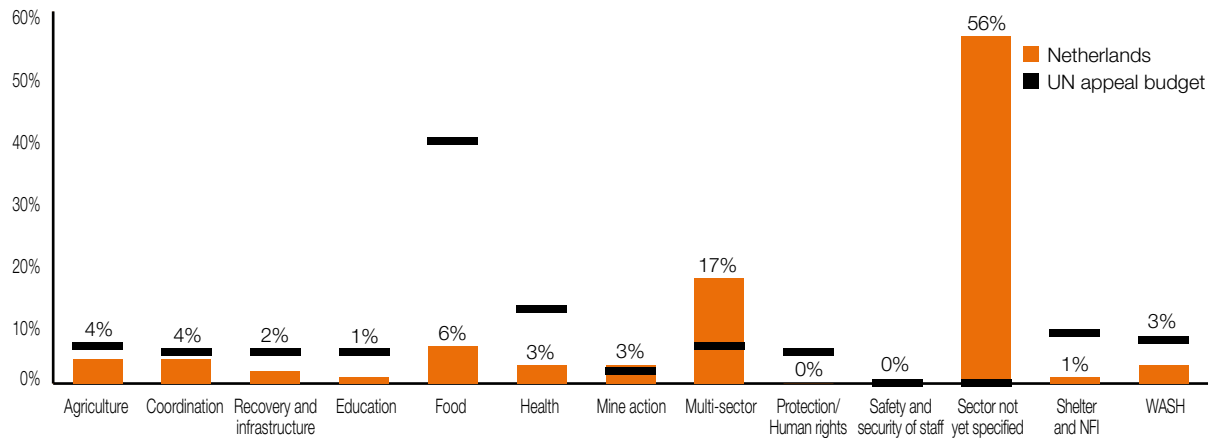
The Netherlands did best compared to its OECD/ DAC peers in the indicators on *Un-earmarked funding, Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals, Participation in accountability initiatives, Refugee law and Funding based on level of vulnerability and to forgotten crises*. Its scores were lowest in the indicators on *Funding for reconstruction and prevention, Funding to NGOs, Timely funding to complex emergencies, International humanitarian law and Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms*.

Aid distribution by type of organisation



Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.

Sectoral distribution of funding to UN appeals, 2009 (%)



* Distribution of donor funding to these sectors includes flows within and outside an appeal that has been reported to OCHA/FTS. This is compared to the “distribution of needs” based on the 2009 UN appeal budget allocation.
Source: OCHA/FTS October 2010.

Recommendations

The Netherlands scored close to, or above, the OECD/DAC average in the qualitative indicators of Pillar 2, but below average in two of the three Pillar 2 quantitative indicators. The Netherlands was well below average in the indicators *Funding for reconstruction and prevention* and *Funding for risk mitigation mechanisms*. Group 1 donors’ allocation to reconstruction and prevention ranged from 4% to 24% of humanitarian funding, with an average of 11%. The Netherlands was on the lower end of the bracket, spending only 8%. Group 3, the best performing group for this indicator, allocated an average of 25%. The Netherlands allocated 1.02% of its ODA to risk mitigation mechanisms, while most Group 1 donors allocated 1.1% to 1.9%. The optimal value for all donors is an allocation of 3.5% of ODA.

- The Netherlands should look into ways to increase its funding for reconstruction, prevention and risk mitigation.

The Netherlands scored at or above average in all the indicators that make up Pillar 3, with the exception of *Funding to NGOs*.

The Netherlands channeled only 5% of its funding to NGOs, compared to the Group 1 average of 15%.

- The Netherlands is encouraged to increase its support to NGOs.

While most Group 1 donors perform particularly well in the indicator on *International humanitarian law*, the Netherlands scored below its group and the OECD/DAC averages. The Netherlands is one of four OECD/DAC donors without a national committee to ensure respect of ratified treaties. Furthermore, the Netherlands allocated only 0.005% of every billion dollars of its GDP to the ICRC, while Group 1 donors provided an average of 0.011%.

- The Netherlands is encouraged to create a national committee to ensure respect of ratified treaties and is also urged to consider increasing its support of the ICRC and promotion of IHL.

For more information, please see www.daraint.org.

Strengths			
Indicator	Donor score	OECD/DAC donor average	% over average
Un-earmarked funding	7.33	3.45	112%
Funding UN and Red Cross Red Crescent appeals	8.74	5.05	73%
Participation in accountability initiatives	7.44	4.73	57%
Refugee law	8.09	5.74	41%
Funding based on level of vulnerability and to forgotten crises	7.45	6.11	22%

Areas for improvement			
Indicator	Donor score	OECD/DAC donor average	% below average
Funding for reconstruction and prevention	2.10	4.12	-49%
Funding to NGOs	2.64	4.40	-40%
Timely funding to complex emergencies	3.12	4.35	-28%
International humanitarian law	5.12	6.16	-17%
Funding of risk mitigation mechanisms	4.83	5.49	-12%