

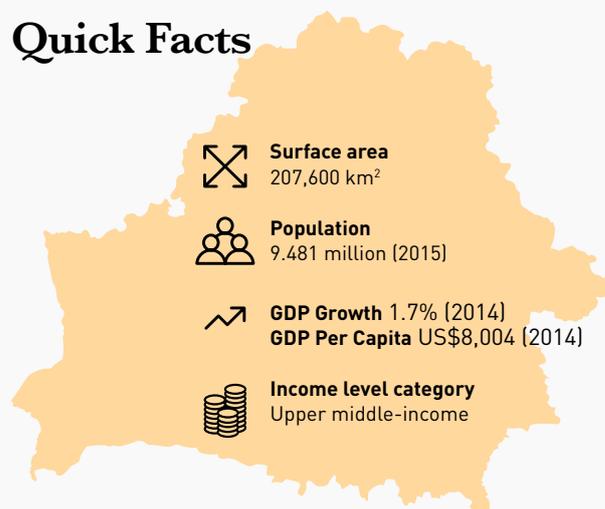


1. Country Context

The Republic of Belarus is an upper middle-income country, with an HDI of 0.79 and a nominal GDP of US\$75.8 billion in 2014. Belarus experienced a peaceful election process with a landslide victory of Alexander Lukashenko (83.5%) in October 2015. EU and US sanctions have limited development co-operation to Belarus, but the volume is expected to increase due to the removal of sanctions by the EU in 2016. Main development partners are the EU and the World Bank; CSOs have participated in national programmes as applicants and partners; private sector involvement is still in the early stages. Belarus has achieved most of the MDGs, with reduced poverty rate, universal primary education, and improved health conditions and environment. The economy of the country was negatively affected by external factors and real GDP fell by 3.9% for the first time. The recent economic downturn triggered rising unemployment rate and a decline in household spending.

In the first quarter of 2016, an agreement was signed with the Euroasian Fund for Stability and Development for a loan worth US\$2 billion. The loan is to be provided in seven tranches in 2016-2018.

Quick Facts

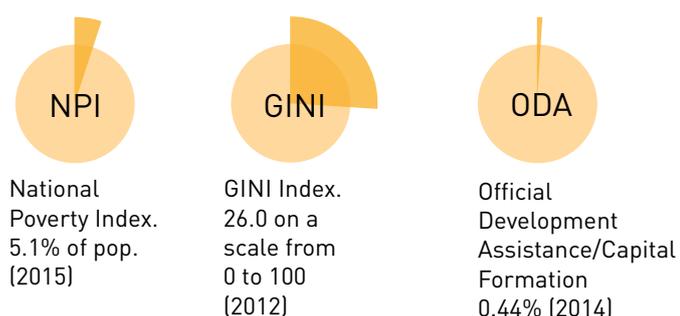


Inflows (% Gross Domestic Product)

LATEST YEAR AVAILABLE



Key Development Indices:



ODA per Capita US\$12.6 (2014)



Key Development Challenges

Belarus ranks 44 out of 189 states in the 2016 Doing Business Index, 25th in terms of 'trading across borders', 7th in 'registering property', 12th in 'starting a business' and 29th in 'enforcing contracts'. Belarus has significantly improved its HDI since 2005 and ranked 50th in 2014. In terms of Gender Equality Index, Belarus's position was 31st. The country also achieved high ranking in access to basic human needs: nearly 100% access to secondary education, low crime rate and free access to information. At the same time, minimization of the health consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe of 1986 and the spread of non-communicable diseases are challenges for the country. Belarus demonstrates progress in combating corruption compared to other CIS states. However, the country still requires support to lower its unemployment rate and strengthen anti-corruption efforts. Besides this, the official economic model targets modernizing the government property and development of the private sector.

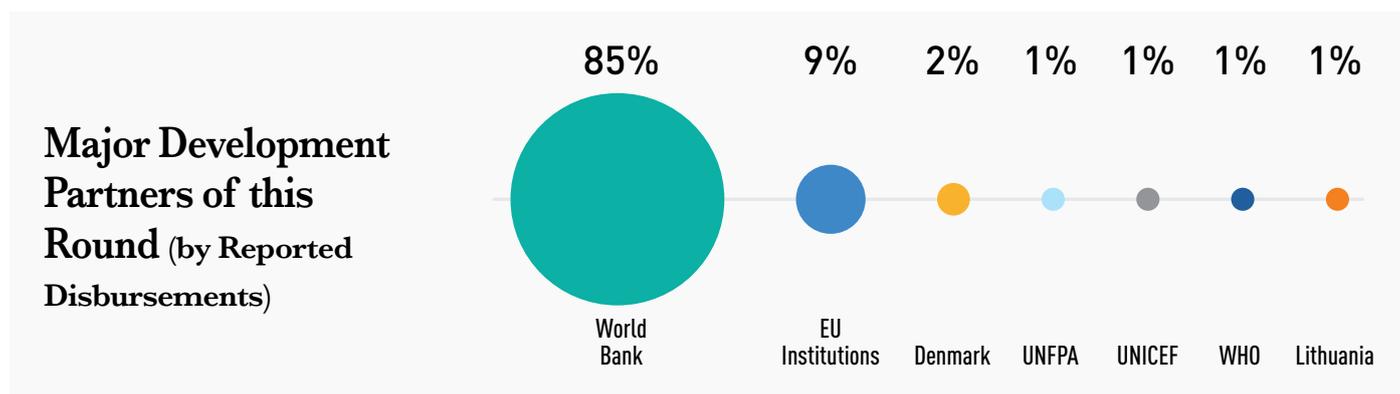
2. Efforts to Implement the Effectiveness Principles

A. Policies and Tools for Partners' Alignment

The development priorities and results on national and sectoral levels are based on the norms of the Law of Belarus and other laws on sectoral development. The National Programme on International Technical Co-operation (NPITC) 2012-2016 is the guiding document to inform

development partners about the development needs of the country. It was drafted by the Ministry of Economy based on goals and priorities defined by the NSSD-2030, national sectoral development programmes, and other national, regional and sectoral pro-

grammes. The next programme for the period of 2017-2021 is currently being developed. National goals will be incorporated into the SDGs within the national development programmes and strategic co-operation agreements with development partners.



 **No**
Participation in 2014 Monitoring

 **Yes**
Existence of a National Co-operation Policy

B. Governance and Management of Development Finance and Co-operation

The Coordinating Council, with participation of the public offices, UNDP, development partners and CSOs, works under the auspices of the Commission on International Technical Co-operation under the Council of Ministers. The Council allows coordinating the activities of all concerned parties, promoting drafting and implementing ITA Programmes. The European Union International Technical Assistance Centre in the Republic of Belarus is tasked to enforce co-operation with the EU in the area of ITA. Besides this, the EU ITA Centre facilitates widening and

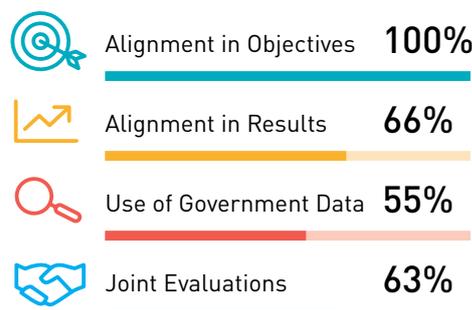
strengthening the mechanisms of the national coordination of ITA and promotes the Global Partnership principles. There is currently no official development finance planning and management data platform or database operated jointly with the providers in the country. The planning and recording for development finance is implemented by the Ministry of Economy and other public offices. Development partners have mostly contributed to the process by providing their own data. The World Bank and the EU demonstrated the greatest interest and involvement.

3. Country Ownership

Indicator 1: Partners' Alignment and Use of Country-Led Results Frameworks

The legal framework and institutional responsibilities are in place that define and guide development priorities and results at the national and sector levels. National priorities in the area of international technical assistance (ITA) are defined by the NPITC and adopted by the government for each consecutive

five-year period. Non-government stakeholders such as branch ministries, development co-operation providers, local authorities and NGOs are engaged in the objective-setting process. Evaluation of projects and programme implementation is carried out by the coordinating and controlling public offices.



Indicator 6. Development Co-operation is on Budget (Subject to Parliamentary Scrutiny)

International technical assistance is not currently integrated into the country budget and is not integrated into the

state, sector and territorial planning systems. In most cases, ITA is included in national sectoral plans and programmes.

Financing from ITA is foreseen for health care, environment, social protection and other sectors.

Indicators 9 and 10. Use of Country Systems

Based on results of the current monitoring round, partners of development co-operation have demonstrated minimal use of national public financial management systems and procurement procedures. The lack of use of country systems

could be attributed to the non-financial nature of some of the projects. More specifically, major partners such as the EU, Denmark, Lithuania and UN Agencies have implemented a number of technical assistance projects that may

not necessarily employ country systems. Untying of official development finance has improved from 30% in 2013 to 61% in 2014, reflecting continued progress on untying of official development assistance over time.

	Budget (ideal: 100%)	Financial Reporting (ideal: 100%)	Auditing (ideal: 100%)	Procurement (ideal: 100%)	CPIA* (maximum: 6)	Untying (ideal: 100%)
INDICATOR 9B.	1%	11%	1%	0%		
INDICATORS 9A & 10.					Not available	61% ▲

* Country Policy and Institutional Assessment

4. Inclusive Partnerships for Development

Indicators 2 and 3. Fostering Inclusive Partnerships for Development

Public hearings on the priorities, goals and tasks of socio-economic development strategies have attracted participation of NGOs and support from international organizations. CSOs have access to government information, but resources for capacity-building of all stakeholders are insufficient. NGOs are required to submit information about their activities with the address of the governing body. As of early 2016, Belarus has 34 registered voluntary unions (associations) of NGOs. Key partners incorporate co-operation

with NGOs and support to public offices in their strategic co-operation documents. However, information on CSO support is only partially shared with the government. The Constitution and more broadly the law, policy and regulation in Belarus recognize and respect CSO freedom, foster an enabling environment for CSO formation, registration and operation and facilitate CSO access to resources without marginalizing any certain group. The private sector is ready and intends to engage with the government

in the initiation and implementation of public-private partnership. Groups and platforms have been established for coordination, evidence consolidation and evaluation. Rule of law is in place for legal bodies and business consortia to be set up quickly. However, involvement of the private sector in national development is in the early stages and public-private dialogue could be further strengthened through enhanced mutual trust and co-operation.

Indicator 8. Gender Empowerment

National- and regional-level gender policies are implemented through the National Plans, which are adopted by the government and monitored annually. Government statistics on gender are compiled into a special digest published

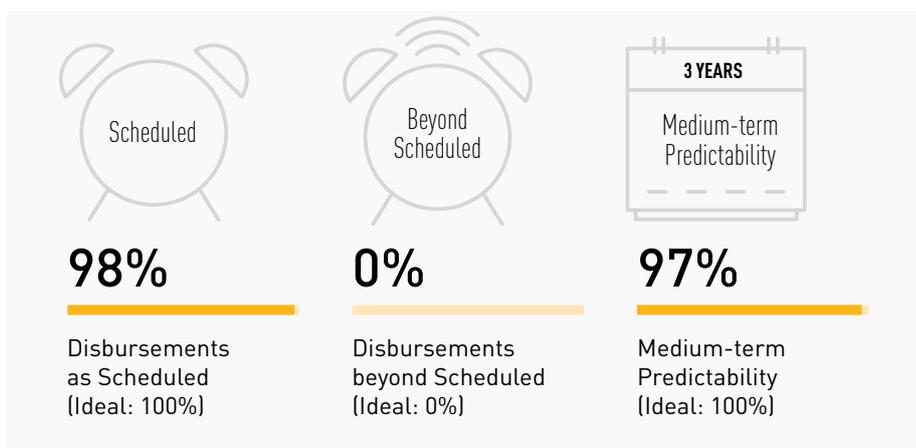
every three years. There are official government statement and leadership oversight on a system for tracking allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment. Gender equality financing is embedded into national and

regional budgets within social policy budget lines. However, budgeting on national and local levels does not foresee gender-specific indicators and data disaggregation.

5. Transparency and Accountability

Indicator 5. Development Co-operation is More Predictable

Based on results of the second monitoring round, 98% of development co-operation funds scheduled to be disbursed to the public sector have been delivered to the Government of Belarus, which demonstrates predictable and accountable development co-operation to Belarus. Medium-term information from providers is also readily available to government for budget planning purposes.



Indicator 7. Mutual Accountability

Belarus has participated in the Mutual Assessment Review to implement development commitments. Coordination of activities of the government and development partners is concentrated in the strategic level documents,

defining goals of co-operation between Belarus and development partners. Government and development partners jointly evaluate the goals during drafting of each co-operation programme. The results of the evaluation are published

online and openly discussed at seminars and meetings with wider audience representation that includes NGOs, the private sector, parliamentarians and local governments.

National Priorities Going Forward

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Belarus will develop its co-operation with the Global Development partners based on the National Strategy of Sustainable Social and Economic Development till 2030 and the Programme of Social and Economic Development of Belarus for 2016-2020. The main development task for 2016-2020 is raising the quality of life of the population based on the growing competitiveness of economy, attracting investments and innovative development. The development of the country and achievement of the tasks will be based on the following priorities: investments, employment, export, information technologies and youth. Belarus will constructively participate in international co-operation for development, share its best national experience in this sphere and improve the mechanisms to actively attract and implement assistance to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals on the national level. These activities will be implemented based on the Global Partnership principles and the results of this monitoring process. We welcome the development partners of Belarus who took part in this monitoring. We count on wider co-operation and introduction of new approaches in planning and implementing the development co-operation.

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Vladimir Zinovskiy
Minister of Economy, Government of Belarus

Disclaimer This document was prepared based on data collected from voluntary reporting to the Second Monitoring Round of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation and other open source information available online. The views presented cannot be used or cited as an official UNDP source of information.

For ease of reference, the term 'country' is used to refer to developing countries and territories that reported to the Monitoring Round. Participation in this process and mention of any participant in this document is without prejudice to the status or international recognition of a given country or territory.