

Annex 2: Terminology, Data Sources and Methodology

Terminology

For ease of reading, the report uses a number of key terms as they are normally used, also if they are used differently in official OECD/DAC statistics:

Bilateral development assistance, or simply ‘bilateral’, is used to describe development assistance managed directly by a donor or given by a donor to a partner that is not registered as a multilateral organisation. Danish support to country programmes overseen by a Danish embassy, and Danish support to Danish civil society organisations, are examples of what is called bilateral assistance in this report.

Support to ‘*Refugees in Donor Countries*’ is also bilateral development assistance, but this modality is in several tables listed separately, and it is indicated when totals for bilateral assistance excludes support to refugees in donor countries.

Multilateral core funding, or ‘core’, is exclusively used to describe funding to multilaterals that is not earmarked and thus registered in OECD/DAC’s CRS with the ‘Type of Aid’ code B02¹.

Multi-bi or ‘*earmarked contributions through multilaterals*’ describes funding from a donor to a multilateral with some type of earmarking. Technically, such funding is categorised and counted as bilateral assistance in OECD/DAC statistics – only core funding is counted as multilateral funding. In this report, ‘multi-bi’ is used as a separate category that is not included in bilateral assistance, but often added to ‘multilateral core funding’ to give the total for ‘funding to (core) or through (multi-bi) multilaterals.’

More details follow below.

Total Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) is the sum of all disbursement modalities including bilateral, refugees in donor countries, multi-bi and multilateral core.

Bilateral covers all engagements that are carried out within a bilateral framework. Whereas *OECD stats* understands bilateral as including all ODA engagements not covered by core contributions to multilateral organisations, the term is as already indicated used differently in this study and does not include funding channelled through multilateral organisations. These engagements are referred to as Multi-Bi. In the data accessed through *OpenAid*, all Multi-Bi and *Refugees in Donor Countries* disbursements are included in the bilateral total.

As stated above, **Refugees in donor countries** is a separate category in some of the tables. When not presented as a separate category, it is included in the total bilateral. It refers to disbursements related to assisting refugees in donor countries. OECD has the following rationale for counting refugees in donor countries as a part of total ODA: “*Underlines that refugee protection is a legal obligation and that providing assistance to refugees may be considered a form of humanitarian assistance.*”²

¹ The list of codes can be downloaded from <http://www.oecd.org/development/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/dacandcrscodelists.htm>

² <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/refugee-costs-oda.htm> (accessed 14 November 2020)

Multi-bi refers to all bilateral engagements that are channelled through multilateral organisations. These can also be referred to as earmarked contributions to multilateral organisations or contributions through multilaterals. Within the overall category of multi-bi, OECD distinguishes between different types of Multi-Bi:

- *Contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by implementing partners* (B03);
- *Basket funds/pooled funding* (B04);
- *Project-type interventions* (C01);
- *Donor country personnel* (D01); and
- *Other technical assistance* (D02).

When nothing else is noted, all of these types of multi-bi are included in the total multi-bi. The two first categories (B03 and B04) are most often considered as ‘soft’ earmarking, implying that while targeted at a theme, a country/region, or programme, the donor(s) has not specified in detail how the funds are to be used. Contributions to multi-donor funds and trust-funds set up by e.g., the UN or the World Bank are typically classified as B03 and thereby as soft earmarking. Project-type interventions (C01) or staff secondments (D01) are considered ‘hard’ earmarking. As discussed in the report, the use of the classifications is less than consistent and clear in practice.

Lastly, **multilateral core** refers to all core disbursements to multilateral organisations. Since these contributions are core, they are pooled into the general budget of the organisation. It is therefore not possible to map e.g., the sector or region that the funding will be used in. Instead, core contributions are listed as *unspecified* or *unallocated* in OECD Stat. The multilateral organisations receiving core funding need to be deemed ODA-eligible by the [OECD/DAC](#). Hence, they need to be on OECD/DAC’s list of multilateral organisations to count as part of the total ODA. Core disbursements to multilateral organisations that are not on the list, are therefore not included in this category.

Data Sources and Methodology

The main source of data drawn upon in the report is *OECD Stat*’s database³. Within the database’s theme ‘Development’, data have been drawn from the following reports: *Total flows by donor (ODA+OOF+Private) [DAC1]*, *Creditor Reporting System (CRS)* and *Members’ total use of the multilateral system*. The data cover with a few exceptions the period 2011-2018, both because this gives a reasonable length of time and because specific registration of multi-bi assistance only started in 2011.

All amounts are in 2018 USD constant prices (OECD’s exchange rate) and are based on gross disbursements, unless otherwise stated. Amounts are in most cases indicated in USD millions without decimals. Hence, when 0 appears in the tables it refers to an amount below USD 0.5 million. An empty cell indicates that there have not been any disbursements.

Total flows by donor (ODA+OOF+Private) [DAC1] has been used to access the numbers for Denmark’s net disbursements (when it has been relevant to compare gross with net disbursements) as well as ODA as % of GNI for both Denmark and its selected peers (chapter 3 and associated tables). The *Creditor Reporting System (CRS)* which includes details on all reported individual disbursements has been used to access data on Denmark’s gross disbursements. This includes the totals as well as data on

³<https://stats.oecd.org>

regions, sectors, multilateral organisations, development channels, type of aid, as well as individual disbursements of particular interest. The *CRS* has been used to access data for both bilateral and multi-bi disbursements. The *Members' total use of the multilateral system* has been used to access data on core disbursements to multilateral organisations. Furthermore, it has been used to access a more detailed overview of the specific disbursements for both core and multi-bi engagements⁴.

In table 4.4 the data are drawn from **Danida's database *OpenAid*** which registers net disbursement. The database only covers the years from 2013 and onwards, but includes 2019, while the OECD data is only available up to 2018. The data for 2019 have been accessed to identify possible (major) changes from 2018 to 2019. The original amounts in DKK current prices for the respective years have been converted into DKK 2018 constant prices. The Danish consumer price index for 2013-2019 were used⁵ to convert the current prices into 2018 constant prices which were converted into USD 2018 constant prices using OECD's official exchange rate (DKK-USD) for 2018, which was 6,3135.

⁴ It should be noted that an irregularity has been observed in the comparison between the multi-bi data from the *Creditor Reporting System (CRS)* and *Members' total use of the multilateral system*. For the year 2011, the Multi-Bi total for the CRS is 337,62383 mill. USD, whereas it is 336,775025 mil. USD in the latter. Since most data have been derived from the *Creditor Reporting System (CRS)*, 338 mill. USD is used as the total number for the 2011 multi-bi disbursements throughout the annexes.

⁵<https://www.statistikbanken.dk/PRIS8> (accessed 10 November 2020).