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**DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION DIRECTORATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE**

**Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and
the Annual DAC Questionnaire**

Annexes – modules D and E

These Reporting Directives were approved by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) on 30 August 2024. They are now issued as FINAL and UNCLASSIFIED.

Annexes are presented in three separate documents: DCD/DAC(2024)40/ADD1/FINAL, DCD/DAC(2024)40/ADD2/FINAL and DCD/DAC(2024)40/ADD3/FINAL.

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*MODULE D. GRANT ELEMENT, DAC
RECOMMENDATIONS AND EXPLANATORY NOTES*

Annex 15. Grant element formula and examples for ODA loans

The DAC has addressed the question of financial terms of ODA through a series of terms recommendations. The first dates from 1963 and the most recent, still valid, from 1978. In brief, the 1978 Terms Recommendation urged members to extend their ODA commitments with an average annual grant element of at least 86% overall. An additional, more demanding target was set for aid to Least Developed Countries (at least 86 per cent over three years for each country, or 90 per cent annually for the group). Members' compliance with the Recommendation is assessed each year in the Statistical Annex of the Development Co-operation Report ¹.

The grant element reflects the financial terms of a transaction: interest rate, maturity (interval to final repayment) and grace period (interval to first repayment of capital). It is a measure of the concessionality (softness) of a loan. It is calculated as the difference between the face value of a loan and the discounted present value of the service payments the borrower will make over the lifetime of the loan, expressed as a percentage of the face value.

Four factors determine the grant element:

- interest rate (per cent per annum);
- grace period, i.e. the interval from commitment date to the date of the first payment of amortisation;
- maturity, i.e. the interval from commitment date to the date of the last payment of amortisation; and
- discount rate used to determine the present value of future payments. For bilateral loans to the official sector ⁽¹⁾, the discount rates used in the ODA calculation are differentiated by DAC income group: 9 per cent in the case of loans to LDCs and other LICs, 7 per cent in the case of loans to LMICs and 6 per cent in the case of loans to UMICs. For loans to multilateral institutions, the discount rate is 5 per cent in the case of global institutions and multilateral development banks, and 6 per cent for other multilateral organisations, including sub-regional organisations.

For bilateral loans to the official sector, minimum grant elements for qualifying as ODA are also differentiated by DAC income group: 45 per cent in the case of loans to LDCs and other LICs, 15 per cent in the case of loans to LMICs and 10 per cent in the case of loans to UMICs. For loans to multilateral institutions, it is 10 per cent.

See Annex 25 for details on the computation of grant elements for loans to the private sector and other private sector instruments.

Grant element formula and examples for ODA loans

The formulas below apply to three particular types of repayment: equal principal payments, annuity or lump sum repayment. In all other cases, the grant element calculation is based on the repayment schedule (see examples).

¹ The DAC will discuss in 2021 whether the adoption of new rules on concessionality necessitates adjustments to the 1978 Terms Recommendation on the grant element of members' total ODA and the recommended special terms for least developed countries.

1. FORMULAS²

Variables entering in the formulas:

M = Maturity

G = Grace period

A = Number of repayments per year

INT = Interval between the commitment date and the first repayment date minus the interval between two successive repayments = $G - 1/A$

DR = Repayment duration = $M - INT$

I = Discount rate (9% in the case of loans to LDCs and other LICs, 7% in the case of loans to LMICs and 6% in the case of loans to UMICs.)

R1 = Interest rate during grace period

R2 = Interest rate during repayment period

D = Discount rate per period = $(1+I)^{(1/A)} - 1$

NR = Total number of repayments = $A * DR$

C1 = $(1+I)^{INT}$

C2 = $(1+I)^{DR}$

GE = Grant element

- **Equal principal payments**

General formula

$$GE = 100 * (1 - ZG - ZM - ZX)$$

where

$$ZG = R1 * (1 - 1/C1) / (A * D)$$

$$ZM = (1/NR) * (1/C1) * ((1 - 1/C2) / D)$$

$$ZX = (R2 / (A * NR)) * (1/C1) * ((1/C2) - 1 + D * NR) / (D * D)$$

Simplified formula when the interest rate is the same for the whole period: $R1 = R2 = R$

$$\left[1 - \frac{R/A}{D} \right] * \left[1 - \frac{\frac{1}{(1+D)^{A*INT}} - \frac{1}{(1+D)^{A*M}}}{(A*M - A*INT)*D} \right]$$

The first bracket corresponds to the difference between the interest rate and the discount rate; the second bracket takes into account the repayment profile.

- **Annuity**

² As a convention, grant element calculations assume a year is composed of 365.25 days (not 360 days which is another convention used in finance).

$$GE = 100 * (1 - ZG - ZX)$$

where

$$ZG = R1 * (1 - 1/C1) / (A * D)$$

$$ZM = 1 / ((1 + R2/A)^{NR} - 1) + 1$$

$$ZX = (R2/A) * ZM * (1/C1) * ((1 - 1/C2) / D)$$

- **Lump sum repayment (principal and interest)**

$$GE = 100 * (1 - (1 + R2 * G) / (1 + I)^M)$$

(with $M = G$)

EXAMPLES

A loan of 1000 units is committed and disbursed on 1 January 2015. The examples below cover different recipient countries and repayment terms:

- *Example 1:* Loan to an LDC, duration 18 years, interest rate is 1% p.a., equal principal repayments by six-monthly instalments, commencing on 1 July 2017;
- *Example 2:* Loan to a LMIC, duration 10 years, interest rate is 2.5% p.a., annuities: equal six-monthly repayments (principal and interest combined), commencing on 1 July 2017;
- *Example 3:* Loan to a UMIC, duration 10 years, interest rate is 2.5% p.a., single lump sum repayment of principal and interest on 1 July 2025.

In the first two options, it is assumed that interest only is paid six-monthly from 1 Jan. 2015 to 30 June 2017.

- **Applying the formulas**

The variables take the following values:

	<i>Example 1</i>	<i>Example 2</i>	<i>Example 3</i>
M	18	10	10
G	2.5	2.5	2.5
A	2	2	2
INT	2	2	2
DR	16	8	8
I	0.09	0.07	0.06
R1=R2	0.01	0.025	0.025

Applying the formulas leads to the following results:

	<i>Example 1</i>	<i>Example 2</i>	<i>Example 3</i>
Grant element	49%	21.8%	30.2%

- **Calculation on the basis of the repayment schedules**

Example 1: Equal principal payments

Date payment due	Period (p)	Principal outstanding	Future payments			Six-month factor at 9% (1.09) ^p	Present value of future payments
			Principal	Interest	Total		
01/01/2015							
01/07/2015	0.5	1000.00		5.0	5.0	1.04	4.8
01/01/2016	1	1000.00		5.0	5.0	1.09	4.6
01/07/2016	1.5	1000.00		5.0	5.0	1.14	4.4
01/01/2017	2	1000.00		5.0	5.0	1.19	4.2
01/07/2017	2.5	1000.00	31.25	5.0	36.3	1.24	29.2
01/01/2018	3	968.75	31.25	4.8	36.1	1.30	27.9
01/07/2018	3.5	937.50	31.25	4.7	35.9	1.35	26.6
01/01/2019	4	906.25	31.25	4.5	35.8	1.41	25.3
01/07/2019	4.5	875.00	31.25	4.4	35.6	1.47	24.2
01/01/2020	5	843.75	31.25	4.2	35.5	1.54	23.1
01/07/2020	5.5	812.50	31.25	4.1	35.3	1.61	22.0
01/01/2021	6	781.25	31.25	3.9	35.2	1.68	21.0
01/07/2021	6.5	750.00	31.25	3.8	35.0	1.75	20.0
01/01/2022	7	718.75	31.25	3.6	34.8	1.83	19.1
01/07/2022	7.5	687.50	31.25	3.4	34.7	1.91	18.2
01/01/2023	8	656.25	31.25	3.3	34.5	1.99	17.3
01/07/2023	8.5	625.00	31.25	3.1	34.4	2.08	16.5
01/01/2024	9	593.75	31.25	3.0	34.2	2.17	15.8
01/07/2024	9.5	562.50	31.25	2.8	34.1	2.27	15.0
01/01/2025	10	531.25	31.25	2.7	33.9	2.37	14.3
01/07/2025	10.5	500.00	31.25	2.5	33.8	2.47	13.7
01/01/2026	11	468.75	31.25	2.3	33.6	2.58	13.0
01/07/2026	11.5	437.50	31.25	2.2	33.4	2.69	12.4
01/01/2027	12	406.25	31.25	2.0	33.3	2.81	11.8
01/07/2027	12.5	375.00	31.25	1.9	33.1	2.94	11.3
01/01/2028	13	343.75	31.25	1.7	33.0	3.07	10.8
01/07/2028	13.5	312.50	31.25	1.6	32.8	3.20	10.3
01/01/2029	14	281.25	31.25	1.4	32.7	3.34	9.8
01/07/2029	14.5	250.00	31.25	1.3	32.5	3.49	9.3
01/01/2030	15	218.75	31.25	1.1	32.3	3.64	8.9
01/07/2030	15.5	187.50	31.25	0.9	32.2	3.80	8.5
01/01/2031	16	156.25	31.25	0.8	32.0	3.97	8.1
01/07/2031	16.5	125.00	31.25	0.6	31.9	4.15	7.7
01/01/2032	17	93.75	31.25	0.5	31.7	4.33	7.3
01/07/2032	17.5	62.50	31.25	0.3	31.6	4.52	7.0
01/01/2033	18	31.25	31.25	0.2	31.4	4.72	6.7
sum=							509.72

Note: $GE = (1000 - 509.72)/1000 = 49 \%$

Example 2: Annuity

Date payment due	Period (p)	Principal outstanding	Principal	Future payments Interest	Total	Six-month factor at 7% (1.07) ^p	Present value of future payments
01/01/2015							
01/07/2015	0.5	1000.0		12.5	12.5	1.03	12.1
01/01/2016	1	1000.0		12.5	12.5	1.07	11.7
01/07/2016	1.5	1000.0		12.5	12.5	1.11	11.3
01/01/2017	2	1000.0		12.5	12.5	1.14	10.9
01/07/2017	2.5	1000.0	56.8	12.5	69.3	1.18	58.6
01/01/2018	3	943.2	57.6	11.8	69.3	1.23	56.6
01/07/2018	3.5	885.6	58.3	11.1	69.3	1.27	54.7
01/01/2019	4	827.3	59.0	10.3	69.3	1.31	52.9
01/07/2019	4.5	768.3	59.7	9.6	69.3	1.36	51.1
01/01/2020	5	708.6	60.5	8.9	69.3	1.40	49.4
01/07/2020	5.5	648.1	61.2	8.1	69.3	1.45	47.8
01/01/2021	6	586.8	62.0	7.3	69.3	1.50	46.2
01/07/2021	6.5	524.8	62.8	6.6	69.3	1.55	44.7
01/01/2022	7	462.0	63.6	5.8	69.3	1.61	43.2
01/07/2022	7.5	398.5	64.4	5.0	69.3	1.66	41.7
01/01/2023	8	334.1	65.2	4.2	69.3	1.72	40.4
01/07/2023	8.5	268.9	66.0	3.4	69.3	1.78	39.0
01/01/2024	9	202.9	66.8	2.5	69.3	1.84	37.7
01/07/2024	9.5	136.1	67.6	1.7	69.3	1.90	36.5
01/01/2025	10	68.5	68.5	0.9	69.3	1.97	35.3
						sum =	781.8

Note: $GE = (1000 - 781.8)/1000 = 21.8 \%$

Example 3: Lump sum repayment (principal and interest)

Date payment due	Period (p)	Principal outstanding	Principal	Future payments Interest	Total	Six-month factor at 6% (1.06) ^p	Present value of future payments
01/01/2015							
01/07/2015	0.5	1000			0	1.03	0
01/01/2016	1	1000			0	1.06	0
01/07/2016	1.5	1000			0	1.09	0
01/01/2017	2	1000			0	1.12	0
01/07/2017	2.5	1000			0	1.16	0
01/01/2018	3	1000			0	1.19	0
01/07/2018	3.5	1000			0	1.23	0
01/01/2019	4	1000			0	1.26	0
01/07/2019	4.5	1000			0	1.30	0
01/01/2020	5	1000			0	1.34	0
01/07/2020	5.5	1000			0	1.38	0
01/01/2021	6	1000			0	1.42	0
01/07/2021	6.5	1000			0	1.46	0
01/01/2022	7	1000			0	1.50	0
01/07/2022	7.5	1000			0	1.55	0
01/01/2023	8	1000			0	1.59	0
01/07/2023	8.5	1000			0	1.64	0
01/01/2024	9	1000			0	1.69	0
01/07/2024	9.5	1000			0	1.74	0
01/01/2025	10	1000	1000	250	1250	1.79	698.0

Note: $GE = (1000 - 698.0)/1000 = 30.2 \%$

Annex 16. Recommendation on terms and conditions of aid (1978)³

(See the 1978 DAC Chair Report on Development Co-operation)

PREAMBLE

The Development Assistance Committee, having reviewed the Recommendation on Terms and Conditions of Aid adopted by the DAC at its High Level Meeting on 16th to 18th October, 1972,

Approving the progress made towards fulfilling or surpassing the objectives set out in this Recommendation, and noting the favourable average terms of aid provided by DAC Members as a group,

Recognising the desirability for further improvement in the financial terms of Members' programmes of Official Development Assistance, considered not only as a whole but also in their application to the specific needs of individual developing countries,

Reaffirming that equal attention must also be given to the provision of an adequate and sustained volume of Official Development Assistance,

Recognising that the continuing differences in the terms provided by Member countries impair the spirit of the common effort and render more difficult the maintenance of the most liberal standards of terms,

Bearing in mind the special needs of the least-developed countries,

Renewing its resolve to seek appropriate ways and means of advancing towards untying national aid programmes and urging its Members in the meantime to mitigate as much as possible the adverse effects of aid tying,

Adopts - one country having reserved its position⁴ - the following Recommendation which supersedes that of 1972:

1. Coverage of the Terms Objectives

1. The objectives of this Recommendation apply to Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments, made on and after the 1st of January, 1978. ODA is defined as those flows to developing countries and multilateral institutions provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies, each transaction of which meets the following tests:
 - a) it is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective, and
 - b) it is concessional in character and contains a grant element⁵ of at least 25 %.

³ The DAC will discuss in 2021 whether the adoption of new rules on concessionality necessitates adjustments to the 1978 Terms Recommendation on the grant element of members' total ODA and the recommended special terms for least developed countries.

⁴ Italy lifts its reservation in 1993.

⁵ "Grant element" is the difference between the face value of a financial loan commitment and the discounted present value (using a 10% discount rate) of the service payments to be made by the borrower during the lifetime of the loan, expressed as a percentage of the face value.

2. Objectives for Financial Terms

2. In order to achieve a further softening of overall financial terms of ODA, Members should endeavour fully to maintain or achieve as soon as possible an average grant element in their ODA commitments of at least 86 per cent. In this connection the special value of grant assistance is recognised.
3. Countries whose ODA commitments as a percentage of GNP are significantly below the DAC average will not be considered as having met the terms target.

3. Recognition of Circumstances of Individual Recipient Countries and Harmonisation of Terms

4. Members should relate the terms of aid on a case-by-case basis to the circumstances of each developing country or group of countries. In particular, Members should provide a substantial part of the assistance given to developing countries with the severest economic problems in the form of grants or on very soft terms. Member countries which already extend a large proportion of their assistance on soft terms, but concentrate it on a limited number of recipients, should aim to grant increasingly soft terms also on their assistance to other recipients whose circumstances also call for soft terms.
5. The Development Assistance Committee will continue to review the current position and prospects regarding the income level, the development performance, the balance of payments, the debt servicing burden, etc. This should assist individual donors in formulating their terms policies and may provide the basis for a common view on the terms appropriate to individual developing countries or group of countries.
6. Members should make concerted efforts to harmonise terms at the level of the recipient country. They should make use of consortia, consultative groups or other concerted aid operations, where these exist, in co-operation as appropriate with the international bodies involved, in order to reach a common view as to the appropriate terms at which assistance should be provided. Where no such co-ordinating arrangements exist, terms harmonisation should be sought through an appropriate form of consultation, the nature of which might be the subject of an exchange of views in the DAC.
7. The absence of harmonisation of donors' aid terms is liable to be particularly harmful to poorer developing countries. In extending aid to such countries Members should not only take account of the circumstances of the country itself but also be guided by the terms of the donors extending their aid at soft terms to that country. Members who hitherto have provided funds on harder terms, should do their best to come as close as possible to the average terms of all bilateral DAC donors to the individual country.

4. Special Terms for Least-Developed Countries

8. A group of least-developed countries has been identified by the UN for which, apart from any other special measures, the softest possible terms of aid are appropriate. Official Development Assistance to these countries should be essentially in the form of grants and, as a minimum, the average grant element of all commitments from a given donor should either be at least 86 per cent to each least-developed

country over a period of three years, or at least 90 per cent annually for the least-developed countries as a group.

9. DAC Members should endeavour fully to extend their ODA commitments to other countries whose needs are the greatest on the best grant element possible.

5. Regular Review of Implementation

10. The achievements of individual Member countries in implementing the agreed objectives set out above will be regularly appraised in the DAC as part of the Aid Reviews. In addition, the DAC will review each year the progress under the various provisions of this Recommendation.

6. Need for Non-Project Assistance and Local Cost Financing

11. While acknowledging the advantages of the project approach, Members recognise that it is necessary to consider the overall needs of the developing country as well as its balance of payments and other factors, and that it may be appropriate to provide aid to finance general import costs or local costs of development, or both. With respect to local cost financing, Members shall take into account the Guidelines on Local Cost Financing adopted by the DAC on 27th October, 1977.

7. Review of Other Officially Extended or Supported Flows⁶

12. The objectives of the Recommendation apply to Official Development Assistance. In addition, however, other officially extended or supported flows are of continued importance as a source of finance. DAC Members, therefore, agree to review more fully, in consultation with other interested Committees of the OECD, their basic approaches to extending such flows to developing countries, and their relationship to aid and development considerations. Further, the DAC will keep itself informed of the incidence of other officially extended or supported flows and their geographic distribution, especially with respect to those developing countries with severe external debt situations.

⁶ Including officially extended and officially guaranteed private export credits as well as officially guaranteed private foreign investment.

Annex 17. Tied aid disciplines and untying recommendation⁷

- **Recommendation on Untying Official Development Assistance (2001 and amendments in 2006, 2008 and 2018)**
- **New Measures in the Field of Tied Aid (1992)**
- **DAC Guiding Principles for Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance (1987)**

⁷ The text on tied aid disciplines will need to be updated to reflect the 2014 HLM agreement on measuring ODA (the quantitative definition of concessionality and revised eligibility thresholds) and the introduction of the term “ODA flows”. The Guiding Principles are not affected as such as the calculation of the concessionality level is based on CIRR (see Appendix). The terminology of the untying recommendation will also need to be adjusted.

DAC Recommendation on Untying ODA

[25 April 2001 – DCD/DAC(2001)12/FINAL] amended on [15 March 2006 – DCD/DAC(2006)25 & DCD/DAC/M(2006)3/FINAL] and [25 July 2008 – DCD/DAC(2007)41/REV1 & DCD/DAC/M(2008)5] and [22 October 2018– DCD/DAC(2018)33/FINAL]

1. Objectives and Principles

1. Members of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) agree to the objective of untying their bilateral Official Development Assistance (ODA) to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPCs), Other Low-Income Countries (OLICs)⁸⁹, and IDA-only countries and territories¹⁰ (hereafter referred to, collectively, as ‘countries and territories covered by the Recommendation’), as a means to:
 - foster co-ordinated, efficient and effective partnerships with developing countries;
 - strengthen the ownership and responsibility of partner countries in the development process;
 - demonstrate responsiveness to the requests from partner countries and others to increase the use of untied aid in order to promote aid effectiveness; and
 - contribute to broader efforts with partner countries to promote their integration into the global economy.
2. This Recommendation reflects the results of discussions in the DAC to respond to the mandate provided at its 1998 High Level Meeting (see Appendix III). It also reflects the subsequent decisions by the DAC to revise the Recommendation. In 2008, the DAC agreed to extend the country coverage of the Recommendation to non-LDC HIPCs (the list of non-LDC HIPCs as of 1 January 2014 is provided in Appendix II), to introduce provisions inviting non-DAC donors to untie their aid in parallel with DAC Members and inviting those responsible for procurement to promote respect for internationally agreed principles of corporate social and environmental responsibility. In 2018, the DAC agreed to extend the country coverage of the Recommendation also to OLICs and IDA-only countries and territories. The shared intentions of DAC Members are to:
 - untie their ODA to the countries and territories covered by the Recommendation to the greatest extent possible;

⁸ For the purposes of this Recommendation, “Other Low-Income Countries (OLICs)” means low-income countries or territories that are included neither in the LDC group nor in the HIPC category.

⁹ As of June 2018, the low-income category, as defined by the World Bank, included also the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea. However, the classification of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea as a LIC is not based on World Bank GNI data. Moreover, it has not been possible to identify verifiable income level data. The DAC has therefore decided that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea remains out of the scope of the Recommendation, until verifiable data is available, based on which the committee can take a decision on its inclusion.

¹⁰ According to the World Bank operational lending categories, “IDA-only countries and territories” are countries and territories that are only eligible to financing from the International Development Association.

- promote and sustain adequate flows of ODA in terms of quality, volume and direction, in particular to the countries and territories covered by the Recommendation and ensure that ODA to these countries will not decline over time as a result of the implementation of this Recommendation;
 - achieve balanced efforts among DAC Members.
3. The report “Shaping the 21st Century: the Contribution of Development Co-operation”, set out the relative dependence of LDCs on aid and their relative need for accelerated progress towards the International Development Goals. However, HIPCs, Low-Income Countries (LICs) and IDA-only countries and territories not part of the LDC group are also aid dependent and need to make progress towards these same goals. Therefore, this initiative aims to capture, for all these countries, the benefits of open procurement markets.
 4. In promoting the above objectives, the DAC considers that reinforcing partner country responsibility for procurement, with appropriate guarantees for effectiveness, accountability, probity and transparency is intrinsic to this initiative. Similarly, promoting local and regional procurement in partner countries is a shared goal. DAC members will work with partner countries to identify needs and to support efforts in both areas.
 5. This Recommendation does not restrict the prerogative of DAC Members to untie ODA to a greater extent than set out herein. DAC Members are invited to continue to provide untied ODA in areas not covered by the Recommendation when they already do so, and to study the possibilities of extending untied aid in such areas. Neither does this Recommendation pre-empt positions that DAC Members may take in discussions on related issues in other fora.
 6. Promoting effort-sharing among DAC Members is an integral part of this Recommendation. Variations in the structures and geographical orientations of DAC Members’ aid programmes, together with the coverage provisions of this Recommendation, can result in sizeable differences in the extent to which their ODA to the countries and territories covered by the Recommendation is presently untied, and in respect of their aid performance in these countries more generally.
 7. This Recommendation sets out objectives, principles and procedures for DAC Members untying aid in order to increase the effectiveness of that aid. In a global market for procuring aid funded goods, services and works, these good practices have a broader applicability and interest beyond DAC Members and have reference for all other countries providing aid to the developing countries. Accordingly, non DAC donors are also invited to consider the provisions concerning untied aid set out in this Recommendation and to take them into the fullest account possible in their aid relations with developing countries.

Implementation

a) Coverage

8. Untying is a complex process. Different approaches are required for different categories of ODA, and actions by DAC Members to implement the Recommendation will vary in coverage and timing. Bearing this in mind, DAC Members will untie their ODA to the countries and territories covered by the Recommendation to the greatest extent possible and in accordance with the criteria and procedures set out in this Recommendation:

- i. DAC Members agreed to untie ODA -- to the Least Developed Countries by 1 January 2002, to non-LDC Heavily Indebted Poor Countries by 1 October 2008, and to Other Low-Income Countries and IDA-only countries and territories by 1 January 2019 -- in the following areas: balance of payments and structural adjustment support; debt forgiveness; sector and multi-sector programme assistance; investment project aid; import and commodity support; commercial services contracts, and ODA to Non-Governmental Organisations for procurement related activities.
- ii. In respect of investment-related technical co-operation and free standing technical co operation, it is recognised that DAC Members' policies may be guided by the importance of maintaining a basic sense of national involvement in donor countries alongside the objective of calling upon partner countries' expertise, bearing in mind the objectives and principles of this Recommendation. Free-standing technical co-operation is excluded from the coverage of the Recommendation.
- iii. In respect of food aid, it is recognised that DAC Members' policies may be guided by the discussions and agreements in other international fora governing the provision of food aid, bearing in mind the objectives and principles of this Recommendation.

b) Effort-Sharing

9. Promoting a more balanced effort-sharing among DAC Members is a necessary process. Pursuant to paragraphs 2, 5, and 6 of this Recommendation, DAC Members agree to undertake their best endeavours to identify and implement supplementary effort-sharing actions in accordance with the mechanism set out below.

Mechanism

10. To this end, DAC Members should apply the following reference indicators matrix and procedures:
 - Reference indicators matrix
11. The situations of DAC Members and their evolution over time with respect to initial positions and reference points will be set out in a reference indicators matrix (see Appendix I). The elements of this matrix will be used in conjunction with DAC Member performance profiles (see below) to monitor and assess the progress made by DAC Members towards more balanced effort-sharing.
 - DAC Member performance profiles
12. DAC Members will prepare annual country profiles setting out their positions in respect of the reference indicators matrix and, on that basis, identify initial and medium term supplementary actions to promote effort-sharing. Peer review of these profiles by the DAC will be used to help DAC Members identify and undertake supplementary actions in furtherance of a more balanced effort-sharing in respect of the reference indicators matrix.
13. The implementation of this part of the Recommendation will be assessed as part of the annual reports covering all aspects of this Recommendation. These reports will be considered by the DAC High Level Meeting, which may recommend further actions, as well as in the peer reviews of individual DAC Member's development co-operation policies. An overall review of the effort-sharing mechanism and

procedures was conducted in 2009 which confirmed that a more balanced effort-sharing had been achieved.

c) Procurement regime

14. The procurement of goods and services covered by this Recommendation should follow the DAC's Good Procurement Practices for Official Development Assistance¹¹.
15. In conducting procurement of aid-supported goods and services, and in partnership with developing countries, DAC Members should apply relevant commitments and guidance such as:
 - The Recommendation of the Council for Development Co-operation Actors on Managing the Risk of Corruption [[OECD/LEGAL/0431](#)].¹²
 - The 1997 OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions [[OECD/LEGAL/0293](#)] and the Recommendation of the Council for Further Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions [[OECD/LEGAL/0371](#)];
16. Those responsible for procurement should promote respect from suppliers with agreed international standards of corporate social and environmental behaviour. This could be done through reference to environmental and social considerations in tendering procedures.

d) Transparency

17. For untied aid offers covered by this Recommendation, DAC Members should, and in collaboration with partner countries as appropriate, provide or ensure ex ante notification. This provision does not apply to activities with a value of less than SDR 700,000 (SDR 130,000 in case of investment related technical co-operation).
18. DAC Members should respond promptly and fully to requests by other DAC Members for further information on, or clarification concerning untied aid offers covered by this Recommendation.
19. DAC Members should ensure that the DAC will be provided with information on contract awards pertaining to the untied aid offers covered by this Recommendation.

e) Derogation

20. For individual aid offers, DAC Members may, in exceptional circumstances, take measures inconsistent with the terms of this Recommendation, in situations where they believe it to be justified on the basis of overriding, non-trade related, development interests. Derogations are to be justified in a letter to the Secretary-

¹¹ DAC (86)22 (Corrigendum, 2nd Revision), also reproduced in 'Development Assistance Manual: DAC Principles for Effective Aid. OECD 1992.

¹² The 1996 DAC Recommendation on Anti-Corruption Proposals for Aid-Funded Procurement, previously contained in the Recommendation, was abrogated and replaced in 2016 by the Recommendation of the Council for Development Co-operation Actors on Managing the Risk of Corruption.

General of the OECD and to the DAC Chair and will be followed up in review procedures.

f) Monitoring and evaluation

21. The DAC will monitor all aspects of this Recommendation through a combination of different mechanisms:

- Annual reports covering all aspects of the Recommendation, as well as the experience in delivering its objectives. These reports, which will be reviewed by the DAC in time for its annual High Level Meeting, will, inter alia:
 - assess the impact of the Recommendation on the volume, quality and directions of ODA flows;
 - set out DAC Members' policies in respect of investment-related technical co-operation and food aid;
 - review the implementation of this Recommendation with respect to promoting effort-sharing among DAC Members in accordance with the mechanism set out in section IIb above;
 - review DAC Members' procurement practices and patterns for untied aid offers;
 - assess progress towards strengthening partner countries' local procurement capacities and improving the access of partner countries' enterprises to aid funded procurement;
 - address, in addition to the provisions for bilateral consultations set out above, specific concerns that may be raised by individual DAC Members in respect of the Recommendation.
 - The annual reports will also provide input for the peer reviews of individual DAC Member's development co-operation programmes.
 - A comprehensive evaluation of its implementation and impact was carried out by the High Level Meeting in 2009. That evaluation concluded that DAC Members fully met the commitments in the Recommendation to untie agreed categories of ODA and that improvements in effort sharing were significant and sustained.
 - At the scheduled review of the extension of the country coverage of the Recommendation to non-LDC HIPC countries in 2018, the DAC decided to renew this extension for a further five years¹³. In addition, the DAC has also agreed to extend the country coverage of the Recommendation to OLICs and non-LDC IDA-only countries and territories. The next review of the extension of the country coverage to non-LDC HIPC countries, OLICs and non-LDC IDA-only countries and territories will take place in 2023, at which time a DAC Member may decide to use, after that date, tied aid as part of its ODA to non-LDC HIPC countries, OLICs and non-LDC IDA-only countries and territories, in which case it is required to notify the country/ies concerned and the DAC Chair of its decision to do so.
22. DAC Members will work with stakeholders, particularly partner countries, to ensure the Recommendation delivers its objectives.

¹³ At the 2018 review, Japan notified the DAC that, in accordance with paragraph 20 of the Recommendation, it reserves the right to use tied aid as part of its ODA to all non-LDC HIPC countries, OLICs and non-LDC IDA-only countries and territories listed in Annex II. Accordingly, as of 1 October 2019, Japan may use tied aid as part of its ODA to all non-LDC HIPC countries, OLICs and non-LDC IDA-only countries in conformity with the Recommendation.

Appendix I

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES AND UNDERSTANDINGS

1. This Appendix forms an integral part of the DAC Recommendation on Untying Official Development Assistance (hereafter the “Recommendation”). It details, where necessary, provisions concerning operational procedures and understandings related to the coverage and implementation of this Recommendation.

1. Definitions and coverage

2. Untied ODA refers to loans or grants which are freely and fully available to finance procurement from substantially all aid recipient countries and from OECD countries. DAC Members which have rules of origin, or minimum national content rules, should take any steps necessary to ensure that ODA untied in accordance with this Recommendation is both de jure and de facto untied.
3. This Recommendation applies to DAC Members’ bilateral ODA to the countries and territories covered by the Recommendation. The list of these countries (as may be periodically modified respectively by the United Nations and the World Bank and IMF) is set out in Appendix II.
4. Definitions of the ODA categories addressed in this Recommendation are as set out in the DAC’s Statistical Reporting Directives [DCD/DAC/STAT(2018)9/FINAL].

Commercial services contracts

5. For the purposes of this Recommendation, commercial services contracts are defined as contracts let on a commercial basis to a company for the running or management of a utility or distribution network.

ODA provided for NGOs

6. ODA provided for non-governmental organisations’ (NGOs) activities is covered by this Recommendation only to the extent that NGOs are involved in procurement-related activities included in its coverage. Grants for the core support of development NGOs or their programmes are excluded.

Management services arrangements

7. Management services arrangements (i.e. “technical co-operation” provided by DAC Members primarily for the purpose of carrying out the administration of their own aid projects and programmes) are excluded from the coverage of this Recommendation.

2. Transparency

8. DAC Members recognise that efforts to promote partner country responsibility for procurement are intrinsic to this untying initiative. In situations where partner countries have responsibility for conducting procurement, some of the information requirements set out below may be available in the first instance from partner countries or their procurement agents. DAC Members should report in a timely

manner the information required by the following provisions, or should work effectively with partner countries to do so.

i. Ex ante notification

9. Untied aid offers covered by this Recommendation which are above SDR 700,000 or SDR 130,000 in case of investment related technical co-operation, are to be notified ex ante. These notifications should include the following information:
 - Notifying DAC Member, agency and contact point;
 - Recipient country;
 - Project description;
 - Sector/activity and DAC purpose code;
 - Project value (in donor currency and SDR);
 - Bidding period (start and closing dates);
 - Procurement regime (if not International Competitive Bidding, state regime and justification);
- Details of agency responsible for procurement and from which further information or details (e.g. bidding periods, procurement regime, bidding documentation) can be requested, and all other information that the DAC Member deems appropriate.
10. Notifications should be made to the Secretariat not less than 30 calendar days prior to the opening of the bidding period.
11. Bidding periods should ensure sufficient time to all suppliers to prepare and submit bids, while taking account of the circumstances of the procurement agent. Bearing this in mind, bidding periods should normally be not less than 45 calendar days, except for large projects (with a value of, or exceeding, SDR 50 million), where bidding periods should normally be not less than 90 calendar days.
12. Notifications should be made available to DAC Members and to potential suppliers through the DAC's Untied Aid Bulletin Board of Business Opportunities¹⁴. DAC Members may also, in addition, wish to use their own facilities to publicise the aid offers contained in notifications.

ii. Exchange of information procedures

13. DAC Members which have received an enquiry from another DAC Member concerning individual untied aid offers covered by this Recommendation should respond promptly (i.e. within 14 calendar days) and fully, providing all information relevant to the request, including information concerning donor financing of services related to the design and implementation of the notified project. Such enquiries and responses should use electronic means of communication. The DAC Members concerned should, together, take all possible steps to clarify or resolve issues arising.
14. Where that latter is not possible, a DAC Member may, if it so wishes, broaden the initial bilateral exchange of information to other DAC Members, in order to solicit views on issues pertaining to the implementation of the Recommendation.

¹⁴ See: <https://untiedaid.oecd.org/NotificationList.aspx?Lng=En&Mnu=True>

15. The periodic reviews of the implementation of the Recommendation will also address experience with these procedures.

iii. Information on contract awards

16. DAC Members should provide the Secretariat with information on contract awards pertaining to individual ex ante notifications. This information should include the name, address and country of incorporation of the firm awarded the contract (or the prime contractor, where a syndicate of firms is concerned). The above information should be provided on an annual basis and be reviewed in the context of the overall review procedures.
17. For activities with a value of less than SDR 700,000 or SDR 130,000 in case of investment related technical co-operation DAC Members should provide the Secretariat with annual aggregated overviews of the number and value of contract awards in their country, in other OECD Member countries, in developing countries and in Least Developed Countries.

3. Reference Indicators Matrix

	<u>Members’ positions (1)</u>	<u>Reference point</u>	<u>Index (2)</u>
I.	Bilateral LDC/HIPC ODA untying ratio	0.60	
II.	Effort-sharing composite indicator (3)	0.04	

(1) 5-year average.

(2) DAC Members’ positions as ratios of reference points.

(3) Calculated according to standing DAC practices as follows: (bilateral LDC - HIPC ODA/GNI times bilateral LDC - HIPCs untying ratio) + multilateral LDC - HIPC ODA/GNI. The presentation of the composite indicator, and the reference indicators matrix more generally, will set out in full their component elements.

Appendix II

Least Developed Countries (as of December 2018)

Afghanistan; Angola; Bangladesh; Benin; Bhutan; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cambodia; Central African Republic; Chad; Comoros; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gambia; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Haiti; Kiribati; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Lesotho; Liberia; Madagascar; Malawi; Mali; Mauritania; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Niger; Rwanda; Sao Tome and Principe; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Solomon Islands; Somalia; South Sudan; Sudan; Tanzania; Timor-Leste; Togo; Tuvalu; Uganda; Vanuatu; Yemen; Zambia.

Non LDC, Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (as of 1 January 2014)

Bolivia; Cameroon; Côte d'Ivoire; Ghana; Guyana; Honduras; Nicaragua; Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Other Low-Income Countries (as of June 2018)¹⁵

Zimbabwe; Tajikistan.

IDA-only countries and territories (as of June 2018)¹⁶

Kosovo¹⁷; Kyrgyzstan; Maldives; Marshall Islands; Micronesia; Samoa; Syrian Arab Republic; Tonga.

¹⁵ See above footnote 9.

¹⁶ The list includes countries and territories that are included in the IDA-only category but do not have LDC, HIPC or OLIC status.

¹⁷ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and are in line with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244/1999 and the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice on Kosovo's declaration of independence.

Appendix III

AID PROCUREMENT LIBERALISATION: 1998 DAC HLM MANDATE

1. HLM participants mandate the Working Party on Financial Aspects to work on a Recommendation on untying ODA to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), including the relevant implementation issues, with a view to presenting a proposed text to the HLM in 1999. A status report should be presented to the Senior Level meeting (SLM) of the DAC in December 1998.
2. Participants recognised that in order to arrive at an agreed text, the following issues, in particular, will have to be satisfactorily addressed:
 - The need for effective donor co-ordination and partnerships with developing countries that reflect responsiveness, efficiency and effectiveness of development co-operation.
 - Assessment of potential effects on the quality, volume and direction of ODA flows.
 - Helping develop the capacities of the private sector and procurement systems in partner countries.
 - The importance of maintaining a basic sense of national involvement in donor countries (especially in certain forms of technical co-operation) alongside the objective of calling upon partner countries' expertise.
 - The need to take into account differences in the structures and starting points of Members' programmes with respect to volume, ODA/GNP ratio, distribution and existing untying of aid.
 - Initiatives to enlist the understanding and involvement of the business community in Member countries and promote wide public information and support.
 - The impact of further procurement liberalisation on regional arrangements such as the Lomé Convention.
 - Thorough examination of the modalities involved in the untying initiative, including:
 - ⇒ appropriate procurement modalities (including safeguards against corruption);
 - ⇒ manageable thresholds, coverage and exclusions (including with respect to technical co-operation and promotion of procurement from local and regional sources in developing partner countries);
 - ⇒ definitions and reporting arrangements on the tying status of ODA;
 - ⇒ mechanisms for confidence building and transparency, including provision of relevant statistical information;
 - ⇒ monitoring and peer review.

New Measures in the Field of Tied Aid (1992)

(See the Development Assistance Manual: DAC Principles for Effective Aid)

OECD Members are agreed on the following general principles

1. Policies for export credit and aid credit should be complementary: those for export credits should be based on open competition and the free play of market forces and those for tied aid credits should provide needed external resources to countries, sectors or projects with little or no access to market financing, ensure best value for money and minimise trade distortion and contribute to developmentally effective use of these resources.

Member countries of the Development Assistance Committee

- reaffirming the DAC Revised Guiding Principles for Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance of 1987 as well as the DAC Principles for Project Appraisal of 1988;
- acknowledging the valuable role of untied aid for the development of recipient countries' economies and societies as well as for minimising trade distortions and thus encouraging each other to provide aid in this form wherever possible;
- recognising the importance of managing tied aid in a way that ensures obtaining best value for money and minimising trade distortion;
- emphasising the advantages of international competitive bidding for obtaining best value for money and minimising trade distortion;

Undertake to implement the following new measures:

1. Large projects

2. In respect of large projects with a value of more than SDR 50 million, financed by tied aid¹⁸ credits, with the exception of credits which according to the rules and definitions of the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits have a concessionality level¹⁹ of 80 per cent or above, and consistent with the rules of the Arrangement on mandatory consultations in case of projects larger than SDR 50 million, the DAC agreed to the following:

¹⁸ Tied aid includes associated financing, tied ODA and partially untied ODA. For the purpose of this provision, technical co-operation, humanitarian and disaster relief action are excluded from tied aid. Untied ODA is defined as loans and grants which are freely and fully available to finance procurement from substantially all developing countries and from OECD countries. For transactions to qualify as untied or partially untied, respectively, the donor has to inform the recipient at the time of the aid offer, clearly and explicitly, of the countries which are eligible for procurement.

¹⁹ The Arrangement rules and definitions concerning the calculation of the concessionality level are used at the stage of notification of tied aid transactions. They do not affect the DAC ODA definition nor the reporting of ODA disbursements and commitments.

Mutual appraisal

3. The principles for mutual appraisal set out below constitute good practice for all large projects but they are particularly important for tied aid credits where there may be a risk of aid and trade distortion.
4. DAC Member countries recognise the value of the participation by the World Bank Group in the preparation and financing of large projects.
5. Where the World Bank Group does not participate, interested donors will seek to agree to co-ordinate with the World Bank, also using where appropriate contacts at local level, to ensure that the project is consistent with the objectives of the dialogue between it and the recipient government concerning policies and resource allocation in the sector concerned.
6. They also agree to co-ordinate with the recipient country and each other on project preparation and appraisal work, including a joint review of the project prior to finally committing aid funds, in keeping with the DAC Principles for Project Appraisal and the Checklist for Developmental Quality of Aid-Financed Projects which is based on these Principles (the Checklist is produced in the publication "Development Assistance Manual: DAC Principles for Effective Aid", paragraphs 444 to 452).
7. DAC Member countries will develop procedures which will facilitate such collaboration, including at the field level, among themselves and between them, the World Bank Group and the recipient country. These procedures should ensure also co-ordination with financing from untied sources.

Appropriate financing terms

8. Interested donors will consult, together with the recipient authorities, with a view to agreeing appropriate financing terms for a large project consistent with the economic situation of the recipient country concerned. However, donors would not be expected to harden the terms at which they normally extend assistance to the country concerned.

International competitive bidding

9. Offers of aid for large projects should be subject to the recipient authorities undertaking arrangements for international competitive bidding (ICB) in accordance with internationally accepted practice.²⁰
10. Contracts financed by tied aid credits should be awarded to the lowest evaluated bidder, concerning both price and technical factors, before taking into account the financing terms. However, it is recognised that seriously resource-constrained poor countries, in awarding a contract, may need to take into account the availability of financial resources at concessional terms, provided the award goes to a supplier which ranked second or third in bid evaluation for price and quality or where the price margin is reasonable.

²⁰ DAC Members agreed Good Procurement Practices for Official Development Assistance in 1986, which include "Minimum Conditions for Effective International Competitive Bidding", and possible exceptions from ICB.

2. Limitations on use of tied aid credits

11. DAC Member countries recognise the importance for development of the productive sectors and economic infrastructure and of appropriate market oriented pricing policies. However, for projects in these areas market financing is often appropriate and available, especially in stronger developing countries. Official development assistance is therefore preferably used for other areas.
12. For these reasons, and consistent with the rules of the Arrangement, DAC Member countries will limit the extension of tied aid credits as follows, with the exception of credits with a value of less than SDR 2 million or which according to Arrangement rules and definitions have a concessionality level of 80 per cent or above or unless otherwise agreed under the provisions of the Arrangement.
 - a) Tied aid credits, except for credits to Least Developed Countries, shall not be extended to public and private projects that normally should be commercially viable if financed on market or Arrangement terms.

The key tests for such aid eligibility are:

- is the project financially non-viable, i.e. does it lack capacity with appropriate pricing determined on market principles, to generate cash flow sufficient to cover the project's operating costs and to service the capital employed; or
- is it reasonable to conclude, based on communications with other participants, that it is unlikely that the project can be financed on market or Arrangement terms?

The above tests are intended to describe how a project should be evaluated to test whether it should be financed with such aid or with export credits. Through the consultation process, a body of experience is expected to develop over time that will more precisely define, for both export credit and aid agencies, ex ante guidance as to the line between the two categories of projects.

- b) There shall be no tied aid credits to countries whose per capita GNP would make them ineligible for 17 or 20 year loans from the World Bank.²¹ If such credits which according to Arrangement rules and definitions have a concessionality level of 80 per cent or above are extended to these countries, they might be used mainly for exceptional balance-of-payments support and for financing of projects in such areas as the social field, environment, good governance and emergency aid.
13. The DAC recognises the importance of all the provisions in the Arrangement; in case of consultations, DAC Member countries will co-operate with Participants.

3. Further work

14. Member countries agree to pursue work in the following areas:

²¹ Currently GNP/capita over \$2 465 in 1990. A country will only be moved to, or from, this income category after its World Bank income category has remained unchanged for two consecutive years. The list of countries in this category is subject to automatic, annual revision. Notwithstanding classifications of countries ineligible or eligible to receive tied aid, tied aid policy for Bulgaria, CSFR, Hungary, Poland and Romania is covered by the Participants' agreement, as long as such agreement is in force, to try to avoid such credits other than outright grants, food aid and humanitarian aid. The OECD Ministers endorsed this policy in June 1991.

- a) monitor Member countries' compliance with the new measures above, as well as with the DAC Guiding Principles for Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied ODA;
- b) work on a more precise definition on tied ODA and monitor Member countries' practices in the use of tied ODA;
- c) work on a more precise definition of untied and partially untied ODA and monitor Member countries' practices, including procurement results, and work further towards greater use of untied ODA;
- d) harmonise and improve further definitions and procedures contained in the Good Procurement Practices for Official Development Assistance;
- e) monitor Member countries' ODA terms performance, with particular emphasis on terms for tied aid, including associated financing;
- f) the DAC will take stock of progress made in the above areas by the end of 1993.

DAC Guiding Principles for Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance (1987)

(See the 1987 DAC Chair Report on Development Co-operation)

1. Preamble

1. Recognising the need to avoid the risk of distortion of aid and trade, DAC Members undertake to ensure that Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance will promote priority developmental objectives and are consistent with fair trade competition and to this end adopt the Guiding Principles set out below. Most of these principles constitute good practice for Official Development Assistance generally but they are particularly important where there may be a risk of aid and trade distortion.

2. Definitions

2. *Official Development Assistance* (ODA) is defined as those resources to developing countries (and multilateral institutions) provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies, each transaction of which meets the following tests:
 - It is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective, and
 - It is concessional in character and contains a grant element of at least 25 per cent. To calculate the grant element of an ODA transaction, a 10 per cent discount rate is used.
3. *Associated Financing* with developing countries associates in law or in fact two or more of the following:
 - Official Development Assistance;
 - Other Official Flows with a grant element of at least 25 per cent;
 - Officially supported export credits, other official flows or other funds with a grant element of less than 25 per cent.
4. Associated Financing transactions may take various forms -- such as “mixed credit”, “mixed financing”, “joint financing”, “parallel financing” or single integrated transactions. Their main characteristic is that the concessional component is linked in law or in fact to the non-concessional component, that either the non-concessional or the concessional component or the whole financing package is in effect tied or partially untied and that the availability of concessional funds is conditional upon accepting the linked non-concessional component. In determining association or linkage “in fact” due consideration should be given to the existence of informal understandings between the recipient and the donor authority and the intention by the donor through the use of ODA to facilitate the acceptability of a financing package.
5. *Untied Official Development Assistance* is defined as loans or grants which are freely and fully available to finance procurement from substantially all developing countries and from OECD countries. Funds provided to finance the recipient's local costs are also defined as untied. *Partially Untied Official Development Assistance*

is defined as loans or grants which are in effect tied to procurement of goods and services from the donor country and from a restricted number of countries which must include substantially all developing countries. For the purposes of these Guiding Principles *Tied Official Development Assistance* is defined as loans or grants which are either in effect tied to procurement of goods and services from the donor country or which are subject to procurement modalities implying limited geographic procurement eligibility other than those described above under Partially Untied.

6. A transaction is defined to be *in effect* tied or partially untied if:
 - It is the subject of a formal or informal understanding to that effect between the recipient and the donor country, or
 - It involves practices which the Development Assistance Committee and the Participants in the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits may determine to result in such tying or partial untying. In cases of substantial doubt as to whether a certain financing practice falls within the scope of the above definition, the donor country shall furnish evidence in support of any claim that such a practice is untied or partially untied.
7. For a transaction to qualify as untied or partially untied, respectively, the donor has to inform the recipient, at the time of the aid offer, clearly and explicitly of the countries which are eligible for procurement. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding on Untying of Bilateral Development Loans in Favour of Procurement in Developing Countries, Members wishing to extend Partially Untied Official Development Assistance will notify the Chairman of the DAC, and through him other DAC Members, of those developing countries which are eligible for procurement.

3. Guiding Principles²²

8. Members confirm that Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance should be the subject of greatest possible transparency.
9. Members will continue the mutual ex post examination of individual Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance transactions.
10. Members will refrain from extending commitments of Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied ODA transactions which do not comply with the rules of the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially-Supported Export Credits set out in the Appendix.^{23,24}

²² As regards Associated Financing, paragraphs 9 to 17 apply to transactions containing an element of Official Development Assistance.

²³ The Arrangement rules concerning the minimum permissible concessionality level and its calculation affect neither the ODA definition nor the reporting of ODA disbursements and commitments.

²⁴ Associated Financing transactions whose Official Development Assistance component consists solely of technical co-operation are exempted from this rule, provided that the technical co-operation component remains below 3 per cent of the total value of the Associated Financing transaction or below \$1 million, whatever is lower.

11. Members undertake to confine Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance to priority projects and programmes which are carefully appraised against developmental standards.
12. In implementation of these principles, Members undertake:
 - To establish and make available, during 1987 and subsequently as required, to other DAC Members and the OECD Secretariat the criteria for the selection and design of projects and programmes financed by a) Associated Financing, b) Tied or Partially Untied ODA with a grant element of less than 50 per cent, and c) where different from b) above, Tied or Partially Untied ODA with a grant element of 50 per cent or more, including the exceptional conditions under which ODA is being used for “matching”;
 - To conduct thorough ex post evaluations of representative selections of projects and programmes financed by Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied ODA, including the effects of tying on development effectiveness, and to make the results of the evaluations available for the regular DAC Associated Financing Reviews;
 - In response to a request by Members of the Working Party on Financial Aspects of Development Assistance, to prepare thorough reports on individual projects and programmes financed by Associated Financing or Tied or Partially Untied ODA to determine possible aid or trade distortion. These reports shall be prepared in accordance with criteria established by the Working Party which shall include project selection and appraisal procedures. Such reports shall be prepared promptly after the request has been received and be made available for the regular DAC Associated Financing Reviews;
 - A summary of the reports shall be submitted to the next DAC High-Level Meeting following the DAC Associated Financing Review at which they were considered.
13. The following considerations are important in examining the developmental priority of all projects and programmes financed with ODA. Members undertake to pay particular attention, when examining the developmental priority of a project or programme to be financed with Associated Financing or Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance with a grant element of less than 50 per cent to these considerations:
 - It is part of investment and public expenditure programmes already approved by the central financial and planning authorities of the recipient country;
 - It has been the subject of review and general endorsement in such international aid co-ordination arrangements as may exist;
 - It is being co-financed with an international development finance institution;
 - Particular care will be applied in the examination of projects where evidence exists that they had been considered and rejected by an international development finance institution or another DAC Member on grounds of low developmental priority.
14. In conformity with the DAC Recommendation on Terms and Conditions of Aid, which stipulates that Members should relate the terms of aid on a case-by-case basis to the circumstances of each developing country or group of countries, Members undertake to tailor also the terms of Associated Financing to the economic situation, stage of development and debt servicing capacity of the recipient country.

15. In line with this general principle, to the extent that Associated Financing or Tied or Partially Untied ODA is provided to Least Developed Countries (as defined by the United Nations), Members will ensure that the transaction takes place on favourable terms. Members undertake to restrain the use of Tied and Partially Untied ODA and of ODA for Associated Financing in case of stronger developing countries, both as a proportion of the total ODA programme and, subject to paragraph 10, for individual transactions, apart from technical co-operation.
16. Members reconfirm the importance of the “Good Procurement Practices for Official Development Assistance” approved by the DAC and the undertakings contained therein.
17. In order to ensure full transparency in the proposed use of Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance, especially prior to contract decisions, Members will use the system of contact points in their administrations actively and respond fully and promptly to requests for information by other Members on aid offers for particular projects.

4. Statistical Reporting Requirements

18. Members reaffirm their commitments to comply fully and promptly with the standard requirements of the Creditor Reporting System which includes Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied Official Development Assistance. In particular, Members will notify within two months of the signature date of the grant or loan agreement (specifying amounts, financial terms, tying status and purpose):
 - Individual ODA grants and loans, specifying those used for Associated Financing;
 - Individual OOF (“Other Official Flows”) grants and loans, specifying those used in Associated Financing; and
 - Individual officially supported export credits used in Associated Financing.

Under the Creditor Reporting System, reporting of technical co-operation grants is voluntary unless they are used in Associated Financing. Low value grants (less than \$10 000) may be grouped for individual recipients.

5. Review and Appraisal

19. Members agree to review periodically, through the DAC Working Party on Financial Aspects of Development Assistance, their policies and practices concerning Associated Financing and Tied and Partially Untied ODA against the Guiding Principles set out above. Members will provide information on policies and procedures as required for the review and will inform the DAC of any significant new policies adopted in this area. The Guiding Principles themselves will be the subject of review in the light of experience.

6. Co-operation with the OECD Group on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees and with the Participants in the Export Credit Arrangement

20. The DAC Working Party on Financial Aspects of Development Assistance will follow closely relevant work of the Group on Export Credits and Credit Guarantees of the Trade Committee and the Participants in the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits and co-operate with these Groups as required.

Appendix

First Stage

- a) The minimum concessionality level for tied and partially untied aid credits to Least Developed Countries will be increased to 50 per cent. The minimum concessionality level for tied and partially untied aid credits to all other developing countries will be increased to 30 per cent.
- b) The discount rate for calculating the concessionality level will be related to the commercial interest reference rates (CIRR) for each currency and will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{CIRR} + 1/2 (10 - \text{CIRR})$$
- c) These measures will enter into force on 15th July 1987.

Second stage

- a) The minimum concessionality level for tied and partially untied aid credits will be increased to 35 per cent for developing countries other than Least Developed Countries.
- b) The discount rate for calculating the concessionality level will be calculated as follows:

$$\text{CIRR} + 1/4 (10 - \text{CIRR})$$
- c) The interest rate subsidies for importing countries in Category I of the matrix will be abolished. The matrix interest rates for importing countries in Categories II and III will be increased by 30 basis points.
- d) These measures will enter into force on 15th July 1988.

Annex 18. Explanatory notes on the reporting of in-donor refugee costs

1. These explanatory notes complement the clarifications on in-donor refugee costs in Chapter 2, section II.6 of the Directives.

1. Clarification 1 | Rationale for counting in-donor refugee costs as ODA

2. At the DAC High Level Meeting in February 2016, participants noted that the refugee crisis had significantly impacted on several members' ODA volumes which, together with poor comparability of members' reporting, may endanger the credibility of ODA. The HLM noted that DAC members had a shared interest in improving the consistency in reporting in-donor refugee costs: the Directives must be interpreted in a consistent way.
3. The previous Reporting Directives [DCD/DAC(2016)3/FINAL] provided no explicit rationale for counting in-donor refugee costs as ODA which prompted a discussion on this topic at the Temporary Working Group. Some members urged that the rationale for in-donor refugee costs recognize the imperative of refugee protection and the need to demonstrate responsibility sharing, particularly with developing countries, who host the vast majority of the world's refugees. Some members emphasised the need to acknowledge that refugee protection is an obligation for OECD member states, all of whom are States party to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The Refugee Convention/Protocol include obligations to provide refugees the same treatment as nationals with regard to basic education, public relief and assistance, social security, and access to courts, and as favourable treatment as possible and not less favourable than that accorded to other aliens as regards public housing, among other rights.
4. Many members saw in-donor refugee costs as a form of humanitarian aid. Contributions to specific refugee organisations such as UNHCR are ODA-eligible, and members have commented that support to refugees in developing countries is categorised as humanitarian aid; this in turn suggests that the provision of such support to refugees originating from ODA-eligible countries should be eligible regardless of whether the refugees physically remain in developing countries or seek protection in donor countries. Some members have also suggested presenting the rationale of in-donor refugee costs as directly assisting developing countries experiencing humanitarian crises, or contributing to their economic development and welfare (considering that support for refugees in donor countries temporarily relieves countries in crisis and their neighbours of the presence of some refugees). However, some TWG members requested that the humanitarian aid rationale be nuanced, so as not to broaden eligibility and possibly count, as ODA, support to developing country nationals that do not meet the definition of a refugee but for whom assistance could be considered of a humanitarian nature (such as victims of natural disasters, trafficking, homeless persons etc.).
5. Other TWG members saw in-donor refugee costs more as a contribution to global welfare than a developmental expenditure (donor assistance to incoming refugees is designed to meet their welfare needs, and not to promote the development of their countries of origin), and noted that the majority of costs related to refugees born by members are a result of domestic policies and laws that are separate from members' development co-operation policies, as evidenced by the fact that they come from domestic budgets for social security, employment, education, etc.

6. Several members have stressed that in-donor refugee costs is an exceptional item in ODA reporting, and a conservative approach to reporting on this item is essential to protect limited resources available for ODA, highlighting the need to exercise caution, so as not to inflate ODA and to protect the integrity of the concept. This approach very much reflects multiple discussions on the inclusion of in-donor refugee costs in ODA in the 1980's²⁵, during which time, eligibility of costs was limited to costs incurred in the country of first asylum, temporary sustenance (amounts spent to promote the integration of refugees into the economy of the donor country are excluded) and expenditures during the first year of stay. A number of members have decided not to report on in donor refugee costs in their ODA.
7. Clarification 1 reflects the outcome of the TWG discussions described above. It presents the rationale for including in-donor refugee costs in ODA as a reflection of the financial effort of hosting refugees and the sharing of responsibility with developing countries; the humanitarian nature of these expenditures is also referenced.
8. The TWG also discussed that it could be legitimate to request, as for all other ODA components, that an explicit link to development co-operation policy be demonstrated²⁶. Also, in order to limit the diversion of ODA resources away from developing countries, the authorities responsible for reporting ODA figures could “have their say” on the ODA amount reported for in donor refugee costs: they should be involved in the determination of the refugee costs included in ODA and be able to respond to questions on the calculation and estimates used. This would help avoid situations where different line ministries (e.g. education, health) determine and “impose” the amounts to impute to the development co-operation budget for the sustenance of refugees.
9. Members agree that given the political dimension of this item, and for the sake of transparency, it should always be presented separately.²⁷

2. Clarification 2 | Meaning of the term “refugees”

10. The definition of “refugee” in the Reporting Directives is derived from international legal normative standards. All members of the DAC are signatories to the 1951 Geneva Convention and their procedures are further governed by regional legislation. The option of reporting expenditures on refugees in donor countries was introduced in DAC statistics in the early 1980s and covered the costs of hosting refugees as defined by the 1951 Geneva Convention. In 2000 [DCD/DAC(2000)10] the definition was expanded in line with the extended

²⁵ See DCD/DAC/STAT(2005)13.

²⁶ As a parallel, indirect (“imputed”) costs of tuition in donor countries are eligible for inclusion in ODA if the presence of students reflects the implementation of a conscious policy of development co operation by the host country, that is, if as a minimum these costs are specifically recognised in official budgets, and there is an appropriate degree of involvement by the authorities responsible for ODA programmes in the formulation of policy on the intake and tuition of students, bearing special national factors in mind. See Reporting Directives, paragraph 89.

²⁷ See latest press release on 2016 ODA figures: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-aid-rises-again-in-2016-but-flows-to-poorest-countries-dip.htm>.

refugee definition under UNHCR's mandate²⁸ and regional resolutions and treaties²⁹.

11. Members have operationalised the definition of a refugee in different ways in their ODA reporting: some count costs only after a decision on asylum has been made and refugee status has been established while others count costs only for the period while asylum-seekers are awaiting decision on their status and stop counting costs once the asylum-seekers get refugee status or get rejected; yet others count costs for both the period while asylum-seekers are awaiting decision and the period after decision. There is therefore a need to provide clarification on the meaning of the term "refugees" to facilitate the alignment of members' practices in line with the TWG mandate.³⁰
12. During TWG discussions on this topic, members' views differed on the eligibility of costs incurred for the temporary sustenance of asylum-seekers who ultimately get rejected. Some see rejected asylum-seekers by definition falling outside the boundaries of the Directives and note that the inclusion of these costs could significantly inflate members' ODA figures. Others insist on their eligibility as they consider the support provided to asylum-seekers until the decision is reached as humanitarian aid and judge that ex-post deduction would not be practicable.
13. Members who do not agree to the reporting of costs for the period prior to the rejection of a claim underscore that a final rejection implies that the individual did not, at any point during his or her claim, fit within the definition of refugee as outlined in the 1951 Geneva Convention or other relevant legislation. This interpretation is not found to contradict the principle of declarative status, which states that a person does not become a refugee because of recognition, but is recognised because he is a refugee. In this regard, Clarification 2 promotes comparison of reporting practices and instructs that members excluding all costs related to rejected asylum-seekers from their ODA will make explicit reference to their exclusion in their statistics. It was also suggested that some costs that might not be eligible for reporting under the current Statistical Reporting Directives could potentially be reported under the new measure of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD), thus ensuring that countries are formally

²⁸ UNHCR also has the competence to provide international protection to refugees who come within the extended refugee definition under UNHCR's mandate because they are outside their country of origin or habitual residence and unable or unwilling to return there owing to serious and indiscriminate threats to life, physical integrity or freedom resulting from generalized violence or events seriously disturbing public order.

²⁹ Countries in the Americas and Africa experiencing large-scale displacement as the result of armed conflicts found that the 1951 Convention definition did not go far enough in addressing the protection needs of their populations. Consequently, both Article 3 of the Cartagena Declaration and Article 1(2) of the 1969 OAU Convention extend refugee status to an individual who "owing to external aggression, occupation, foreign domination or events seriously disturbing public order in either part or the whole of his country of origin or nationality, is compelled to leave his place of habitual residence in order to seek refuge in another place outside his country of origin or nationality." The European Council Resolution on burden-sharing with regard to the admission and residence of displaced persons on a temporary basis of 21 September, 1995, states that Member States should, where possible, continue to give temporary refuge to people whose lives or health are under threat as a result of armed conflict or civil war..

³⁰ See DCD/DAC(2016)23/FINAL.

recognised for their efforts to support incoming asylum-seekers. However, some members were cautious about the feasibility of this approach.

14. Members also requested clarification on the term “in-transit refugee”. It was noted that there is no such category as an “in-transit” refugee and information was provided about the distinction between asylum-seekers or refugees who move on from the first country of asylum versus irregular migrants who do not intend to apply for asylum.
15. Some members noted that assistance provided to irregular migrants was humanitarian in nature and should therefore be reported as in-donor costs. It is clarified that the reference to “humanitarian assistance” in the proposed clarifications seeks to provide a rationale for counting in donor refugee costs as ODA. It does not, however, expand the categories of persons eligible for reporting within the Statistical Reporting Directives. Various forms of humanitarian or social assistance may be provided to a wide range of vulnerable groups in DAC member countries including victims of natural disasters, trafficking, homeless persons and others. Being a recipient of humanitarian assistance does not, however, automatically denote eligibility under the in-donor refugee category.
16. Some members noted that the concept of “declarative status” should be extended to “in transit refugees”, that is, an assumption should be made that, at some point in the future, irregular migrants might choose to seek asylum. It is however noted that the concept of “declarative” status does not apply to individuals who have not declared their intent to seek asylum, as there is no immediate presumption of fear of persecution either on an individual or group basis in the absence of an asylum claim. The Reporting Directives make reference to refugees, not to regular or irregular migrants. Noting that the TWG does not have the mandate to introduce new reporting categories, costs incurred for irregular migrants cannot be reported as in-donor refugee costs. However, it is noted that expenditures for individuals who formally express the intent to seek asylum in one donor country but subsequently move on to another donor country can be included in reporting. Individuals recognised on a prima facie or group basis are also considered eligible for reporting under the Statistical Reporting Directives.
17. Some members requested further clarification on the inclusion of individual applicants for family reunification as an eligible reporting category. While the 1951 Refugee Convention does not specifically address family reunification and family unity, subsequent developments in international law, including related treaties and agreements, State practice, and *opinio juris*, indicate that individual applicants for family reunification should be considered to fit the definition of a refugee.³¹ UNHCR³² notes that members of refugees' families may apply for derivative status in accordance with their right to family unity. At its most basic, derivative status

³¹ The Final Act of the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons recommends that Member States “take the necessary measures for the protection of the refugee’s family, especially with a view to (...) [E]nsuring that the unity of the refugee’s family is maintained particularly in cases where the head of the family has fulfilled the necessary conditions for admission to a particular country.” The EU Qualification Directive (2011/95/EU) further states that “family members, merely due to their relation to the refugee, will normally be vulnerable to acts of persecution in such a manner that could be the basis for refugee status”.

³² See UNHCR’s Procedural Standards for Refugee Status Determination Under UNHCR’s Mandate.

means that once one member of the family –“the principal applicant”- is recognised as a refugee, the rest of the accompanying family members may also benefit from the same status.³³

3. Clarification 3 | Twelve-month rule

18. There are frequent requests to explain the origin of the twelve-month rule and sometimes suggestions that expenditures beyond the twelve-month period should be counted as ODA, given that the protracted nature of current crises responsible for massive migration flows. There is therefore a need to provide a definitive justification to the rule, and explain why it cannot be changed. This is in line with the TWG mandate.
19. A number of members claimed that the 12-month period could be used as a good proxy for determining the boundary between temporary (eligible) and integration (not eligible) costs. Others highlighted that not all assistance provided in the first year is eligible (a significant portion of expenditures for refugees granted status will relate to items contributing to integration and should be excluded), and that assistance may not be required for a full year. The 12-month period therefore cannot be used as the unique parameter to determine eligibility of costs, and clarification 3 should be read in association with clarification 4 on the eligibility of cost items. The fact that some members include costs for a longer period than others does not affect comparability, but simply reflects the reality of their eligible assistance.
20. In situations where a member maintains separate systems through which people apply for asylum and apply for asylum support, the twelve-month period can be considered to commence from the date of start of support, where this allows for reporting real costs for individuals. Support provided after the final rejection of the individual claim is not reportable as ODA
21. The original focus of the Directives [see DAC/STAT/M (80)2, paragraph 3] intended that only costs incurred for the first twelve-months of stay *in the country of first asylum* be reported as ODA. It is recognised that current displacement dynamics, which often include secondary displacement and multiple asylum applications, may have implications on reporting for second countries of asylum, which also bear a share of responsibility for newly-arrived individuals. **Members are however urged, as far as possible, to follow a conservative approach, in line with the original intentions of the Reporting Directives.**

Clarification 4 | Eligibility of specific cost items

22. The current rules give indications on the eligibility or non-eligibility of certain expenditures: “Official sector expenditures for the **sustenance** of refugees in donor countries can be counted as ODA [...] This includes payments for **refugees’ transport to the host country and temporary sustenance (food, shelter and training)** [...] this item also includes expenditures for **voluntary resettlement of refugees in a developing country** [...] Expenditures on **deportation or other forcible measures to repatriate refugees** should not be counted as ODA. Amounts spent to **promote the integration of refugees into the economy of the**

³³ However, persons who are excluded from obtaining refugee status are also excluded from obtaining derivative status. Family members who are nationals of the host country or of another country (other than the principal applicant’s country of origin) are not eligible for derivative status, unless they fulfil the refugee criteria themselves.

donor country, or to **resettle them elsewhere than in a developing country**, are also excluded.”

23. Members have different interpretations of what cost items are eligible under the current Directives, including in relation to administrative costs. Apart from essential temporary sustenance provisions such as food, clothing, accommodation, the type of assistance programmes included by members in their ODA differ e.g. professional training and resettling refugees in municipalities, administrative costs and police, interpretation and counselling.
24. There is therefore a need to provide clarification on the meaning of the terminology used in the Directives such as “temporary sustenance (food, shelter and training)” and “amounts spent to promote the integration of refugees in the economy of the donor country” and on the treatment of administrative costs, to facilitate the alignment of members’ practices. This is the purpose of clarification 4 and is in line with the TWG mandate.
25. Members expressed diverging views on several cost items discussed in the framework of the TWG. The Secretariat has adjusted its proposal to take these comments into account, and provides below a rationale for the proposed treatment of different costs.

Treatment of administrative costs

26. Administrative costs are not mentioned in the current specific instructions on in-donor refugee costs (paragraphs 92 and 93 of the Directives). Members’ views differ on whether this means that administrative costs incurred in relation to refugees are not reportable as ODA or whether they are reportable in line with the general rules on administrative costs provided in the Directives (paragraphs 77-82). Given the divergence in views and the specificity of the in-donor refugee costs item which is driven by domestic policies rather than development co-operation policies, the Secretariat recommends a compromise and conservative approach whereby only overhead costs attached to the direct provision of temporary sustenance to refugees are eligible. This includes costs of personnel assigned to provide eligible services to refugees (see list of eligible services in Clarification 4), but does not include costs of personnel (technical staff or other) who are not involved in the direct execution of these services (e.g. management, human resources, information technology) or the associated infrastructure provided for these personnel.
27. The only provisions that can be counted towards ODA under the Directives refer to expenditures for the temporary sustenance of refugees (food, shelter, training). Costs related to activities which are a function of the management of migratory flows and frontier control, for example the registration and processing of individual applications for asylum, are thus excluded, as they do not constitute temporary sustenance and therefore do not fit within the definition of ODA. Activities linked to the asylum procedure, which provide a direct benefit to the asylum seekers, such as translation of documents, legal and administrative counselling, and interpretation services, can be reported. Construction costs in the donor country are excluded from ODA in any case.

Training

28. With reference to “training”, members are referred to Article 22 of the 1951 Geneva Convention, which states that “Contracting States shall accord to refugees the same treatment as is accorded to nationals with respect to elementary education (...)

Contracting States shall accord to refugees treatment as favourable as possible, and, in any event, not less favourable than that accorded to aliens generally in the same circumstances, with respect to education other than elementary education.” The provision of basic primary education (including early childhood education, primary education, and literacy and numeracy skills) for refugee children is a key component of humanitarian assistance and can therefore be reported as ODA in so far as these items are provided for the purposes of temporary sustenance and can be said to primarily benefit developing countries.

29. Several members insisted on including secondary education (with the exception of vocational training) in the list of ODA-eligible items. This could be construed as a more permissive interpretation of temporary sustenance and should be backed by a strong development narrative. Vocational training is considered to be an activity which promotes the integration of refugees into the domestic economy and is excluded from ODA.
30. Several members currently report on language costs. Members discussed whether language costs could be considered within the parameters of “training” in the context of temporary sustenance, or whether language training constitutes a service that contributes to the integration of refugees. For the purposes of these clarifications, it is understood that costs for basic language skills courses, which are provided with the intent of enhancing the capacity of refugees and asylum-seekers to access services which are necessary for their temporary sustenance e.g. health care and basic education, are included in the list of ODA-eligible items. Costs for language courses which are provided as a component of national integration policies should not be reported.

Rescue at sea

31. Most countries (only a few exceptions) do not report costs of rescue-at-sea. Given the numbers of refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants arriving by sea, however, members noted that some further discussion and/or clarification of whether or not these costs qualify for reporting was needed. To determine eligibility of rescue-at-sea, the main purpose of the maritime activity involved needs to be considered. If the main purpose for official vessels to patrol the waters is protecting borders, expenses incurred for rescue-at-sea should not be counted as ODA, as this is only a secondary activity (which is in any case a duty to coastal states). If the main purpose of the patrol is to identify potential needs for rescuing refugees at sea, costs may be counted as ODA.
32. With reference to rescue-at-sea, it is also important to note that Masters have an obligation to render assistance, and Member States have a complementary legal obligation to coordinate and co operate so that persons rescued at sea are disembarked in a place of safety as soon as possible. This is a longstanding maritime tradition as well as an obligation enshrined in international law based on two essential texts: the 1974 International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea and the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. It is important that members make the distinction between activities undertaken for the purposes of meeting their international legal obligations, and the specific costs incurred for these activities, only some of which may be considered eligible for reporting under the DAC Statistical Reporting Directives.

Voluntary repatriation of refugees

33. Expenditures for voluntary repatriation of asylum-seekers and refugees within the first twelve months are eligible³⁴; they cover support for making travel arrangements and paying for the return journey to the country of origin. Costs for forced returns are excluded. The following voluntary repatriation costs are not eligible: costs for the return of rejected asylum-seekers, in line with Clarification 2 which states that costs incurred after the final rejection are not reportable as ODA³⁵; costs for returning regular or irregular migrants; costs for voluntary repatriation of refugees after the first twelve months.
34. A few members also questioned the ineligibility of these costs given the potential positive impact on development of these repatriations, and the likelihood that they occur after 12 months of stay in a donor country. However, as previously noted, beyond 12 months, refugees are considered residents and support is no longer “cross border”, even for voluntary repatriation³⁶. Note that costs incurred in the country of origin for the sustainable reintegration of refugees and migrants returning to their country of origin (allowances/ material assistance provided upon arrival in the country of origin) represent cross-border flows to developing countries and fall outside the scope of in-donor refugee costs.

Transport within the host country

35. The costs of transport within the host country for the purposes of transferring asylum-seekers or refugees from the point of entry to the relevant admissions, processing or reception site or centre may be reported. Transport for coercive purposes is not included.

Clarification 5 | Methodology for assessing costs

36. The current rules give no indication on the methodology for assessing costs. Members use different methods with complex calculations and several estimates. It is therefore useful to provide clarification on the general principles to follow when calculating the in-donor refugee costs, in order to improve consistency and comparability, in line with the TWG mandate.

³⁴ The Directives also note (paragraph 93) that “expenditures for voluntary resettlement of refugees in a developing country” are reportable as in-donor refugee costs. However, it is almost never the case in practice that people are resettled to developing countries [by definition resettlement is to a third country, repatriation or return is to country of origin, see the Glossary of definitions DCD/DAC/TWGMR(2016)5].

³⁵ Where there is decision to reject the asylum claim on the first instance, but a decision on appeal is pending, costs for voluntary repatriation of the individual concerned are reportable as ODA (within the first twelve months).

³⁶ UNHCR defines Voluntary Repatriation in relation to the international human right of return: “Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.” Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) established in Article 13 (2). The right of refugee to return to their home country also stands in relation to the principle of non-refoulement (1951 Convention Relating to the status of Refugees Article 33) providing that no one shall expel or return (“refouler”) a refugee against his or her will, in any manner whatsoever, to a territory where he or she fears threats to life or freedom. The fact that repatriation must be voluntary implies that the subjective fear should have ceased (UNHCR, 1996, Handbook Voluntary Repatriation: International Protection).

37. Members agreed with the transparency principle: they should continue to share with the Secretariat a detailed description of their methods and estimates which should allow the Secretariat or any data user to verify the final figure included in ODA reporting. Actual data points and calculations should be shared on the OECD website (including the number of refugees and the per capita costs). Members have also proposed that the Secretariat should be responsible for validating the treatment of in-donor refugee costs against the Directives.
38. The main cost items (costs incurred in the pre-recognition phase, post-recognition phase, and administrative costs) could also be reported as separate transactions in the CRS. The granularity of reporting on in-donor refugee costs will be the subject of discussions at the WP-STAT.
39. Several members commented on the need to maintain the possibility for assessing costs using imputations. However, making use of imputations implies that refugees benefit from the services available to all citizens, which raises the question of whether these costs have a permanent rather than temporary nature in which case they can be seen to promote integration of refugees and should be excluded from ODA. The clarification therefore recommends members refrain from using imputations. This provision does not, however, intend to exclude costs of a temporary nature provided through national systems, to the extent that the reporting member is able to provide a clearly defined estimate of the number of refugees / asylum-seekers benefiting from a particular service for up to 12 months.
40. Members have highlighted that there is a trade-off between flexibility (to reflect different country contexts) and consistency and comparability of approaches. They mentioned the difficulty in technically mainstreaming this item in ODA and normalising the cost accounting methods across the membership, as national contexts and refugee support systems diverge greatly between donors. The Secretariat has therefore not attempted to develop more detailed instructions for clarification 5 but its role in validating the methods used by members is expected to contribute to further alignment.
41. The WP-STAT will discuss the reporting procedures for in-donor refugee costs, including the granularity in CRS reporting, the method validation process by the Secretariat and several methodological aspects (e.g. the use of imputations). See also footnote 1 in Clarification 5.

MODULE E. POLICY OBJECTIVES

Annex 19. Policy markers

Reporting on the Policy Objectives of Aid: The DAC policy marker system

1. The marker system facilitates monitoring and co-ordination of members' activities in support of DAC policy objectives for aid, including key elements of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These cover the areas of economic well-being, social development, environment sustainability and regeneration and democratic accountability, protection of human rights and the rule of law.
2. Some of the SDGs are clearly sector-focused (e.g. universal primary education), and the CRS sector classification gives the necessary detail to collect data on aid activities in these fields. Certain aspects of environmental sustainability can likewise be captured through purpose codes (e.g. specific activities for environmental policy and planning, biosphere protection, biodiversity conservation and hazardous waste management). However, activities across all economic sectors can be targeted to environmental sustainability. Likewise, activities across a multitude of sectors can be targeted to reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health. Gender equality measures are also applied in various sectors. To identify these activities, the following markers have been defined: gender equality; aid to environment; democratic and inclusive governance reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH); nutrition; disaster risk reduction (DRR) and inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities.
3. A large majority of activities targeting the objectives of the Rio Conventions – United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification – fall under the DAC definition of “aid to environment”. Four Rio markers permit their specific identification: **biodiversity, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, and desertification**.
4. Policy marker data are descriptive rather than quantitative. The system allows for the identification of activities targeted to a policy objective. It gives information on the degree to which members implement the agreed policies in their aid programmes.

Reporting directives

5. Data collection on all policy objectives of aid is based on a marking system with three values:
 - principal objective;
 - significant objective;
 - not targeted to the policy objective.
6. **Principal** (primary) policy objectives are those which can be identified as being fundamental in the design and impact of the activity and which are an explicit objective of the activity. They may be selected by answering the question “would the activity have been undertaken without this objective?”.
7. **Significant** (secondary) policy objectives are those which, although important, are not one of the principal reasons for undertaking the activity.
8. The score **not** targeted means that the activity has been screened against, but was found not be targeted to, the policy objective.

9. An activity can have more than one principal or significant policy objective. To qualify for a score “principal” or “significant”, the objective has to be explicitly promoted in project documentation. Avoiding negative impact is not a sufficient criterion.
10. It is important to note that the same activity could score differently depending on the level of focus on the policy objective - it is important to examine whether the policy is the main objective or a subsidiary objective.
11. For data processing purposes, the scores are given numeric values: “2” for principal, “1” for significant and “0” for not targeted. An **empty** field indicates that the activity has not been marked (not screened against the objective).

Coverage

12. Policy objective markers except Rio markers should be applied to all bilateral aid excluding administrative costs. In other words, they will cover both sector-allocable and non sector-allocable aid. Similarly, they cover all forms of aid (e.g. investment projects, technical co-operation).
13. Rio markers should be applied to all bilateral ODA excluding general budget support (type of aid A01), imputed student costs (E02), debt relief (F01) except debt swaps, administrative costs (G01), development awareness (H01) and refugees in donor countries (H02). They should also be applied to non-export credit OOF though this is not mandatory.
14. Policy markers are reportable on OOF on a voluntary basis. They are also reported for private sector instruments (PSI).³⁷.

Definitions

The definitions are given below.

³⁷ See Addendum 3 for more details on PSI.

Gender Equality	
DEFINITION An activity should be classified as gender equality focused (score Principal or Significant) if:	<p>It is intended to advance gender equality and women's empowerment or reduce discrimination and inequalities based on sex.</p>
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<p>Gender equality is explicitly promoted in activity documentation through specific measures which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reduce social, economic or political power inequalities between women and men, girls and boys, ensure that women benefit equally with men from the activity, or compensate for past discrimination; or b) Develop or strengthen gender equality or anti-discrimination policies, legislation or institutions. <p>This approach requires analysing gender inequalities either separately or as an integral part of agencies' standard procedures.</p> <p>See also FAQ on gender analysis in the Appendix.</p>
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Examples of activities that could be marked as principal objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- legal literacy for women and girls; -- male networks against gender violence; -- a social safety net project which focuses specifically on assisting women and girls as a particularly disadvantaged group in a society; -- capacity building of Ministries of Finance and Planning to incorporate gender equality objectives in national poverty reduction or comparable strategies. <p>Such activities can target women specifically, men specifically or both women and men.</p> – Examples of activities that could be marked as significant objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- activity which has as its principal objective to provide drinking water to a district or community while at the same time ensuring that women and girls have safe and easy access to the facilities; -- a social safety net project which focuses on the community as a whole and ensures that women and girls benefit equally with men and boys. <p>See FAQs in the Appendix for further examples.</p>
<p>N.B. Support to Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions (CRS sector code 15170) and Ending violence against women and girls (CRS sector code 15180) score, by definition, principal objective.</p>	

Appendix

GENDER EQUALITY: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FAQ 1. What is gender analysis?

Gender analysis examines the differences in men's and women's lives, including those that lead to social and economic inequalities and applies this understanding to programme and policy development and to service delivery.

Gender analysis should lead to the inclusion of explicit measures in the activity design which:

- incorporate gender specific strategies in the activity budget;
- overcome barriers to women's full participation in the activity;
- ensure that women and men have equitable control over the activity;
- ensure that women and men, girls and boys benefit equitably from the activity's results;
- use gender specific and/or sex-disaggregated indicators, including impact indicators, for monitoring and evaluation.

FAQ 2. Is qualifying for a marker for gender equality as a principal objective "better" than qualifying as a significant objective?

No, if mainstreaming is systematically practised, gender equality will often be a significant objective, integrated into projects, across the range of sectors. A principal mark is given where the activity would not have been undertaken without a gender equality objective.

The following two approaches to an agricultural extension project distinguish between principal and significant marks:

- *The gender analysis shows that the majority of farmers in a particular area are women who have been neglected by extension services. An agricultural extension project aims to hire and train substantial numbers of women to increase women's access to extension services. This project would be marked with gender equality as a **principal objective** (i.e. "2").*
- *An agricultural extension project is planned with the aim of increasing crop production in a particular area. During the pre-design phase a gender analysis pointed to the need to carry out specific actions to involve and empower women-headed households. Alongside other measures and as part of the overall project, a specific lending and credit facility was established for them to purchase agricultural inputs such as pesticides or fertilisers. This project would be marked with gender equality as a **significant objective** (i.e. "1").*

Note that a project dedicated to improve *gender mainstreaming* across one or several sectors would be marked with gender equality as a **principal objective** (i.e. "2"). However a project in any sector that includes a gender mainstreaming component would be marked with gender equality as a **significant objective** (i.e. "1").

FAQ 3. Should activities that target women or girls specifically be assigned the gender equality marker?

Mostly “yes” but not necessarily - the marker focuses on gender equality as an objective rather than on women or girls as a target group. Therefore the scoring follows the same principles of the definition and the list of eligibility criteria.

Examples of activities that target women and that are not gender equality focused:

- *Women targeted to plant tree seedlings for the purpose of reforestation without economic or any other benefit for them;*
- *Women targeted for repairing roads because men are not available (migrant labourers). By contrast, if the project also involves women in community planning, it would be considered as gender equality focused.*

FAQ 4. Are maternal health clinics focussed on gender equality by definition?

Yes, as they improve the status of women by providing health care services responding to their needs.

- *The project would be marked with gender equality as a significant objective (i.e. “1”) if services are limited to safe motherhood without an empowerment perspective.*
- *The project would be marked with gender equality as a principal objective (i.e. “2”) if the maternal health clinic provides also information and services which strengthen women’s reproductive rights.*

FAQ 5. Can activities that target men and boys specifically be assigned the gender equality marker?

Yes. Each of the examples listed below addresses inequalities between men and women, boys and girls:

- *Training for male judges or police officers on women’s human rights;*
- *Male adolescents who receive training in sexual and reproductive rights;*
- *Men’s groups who meet for activities to combat violence against women.*

FAQ 6. Can the gender equality marker apply to capital projects as well?

Yes.

Example

The construction of a school respects the special needs of girls regarding hygiene, privacy, and safety by building toilets for boys and girls in separated areas.

FAQ 7. When to use the CRS purpose code “15170 – Women's rights organisations and movements, and government institutions”?

The use of purpose code 15170 is restricted to the reporting of contributions to these organisations. Any other activity targeted to gender equality should be coded under the relevant CRS purpose codes, and marked for gender equality. A gender equality programme with several dimensions should also be marked for gender equality, and be either coded under the relevant purpose codes describing the overall objectives of the programme with their corresponding percentages.

Examples

- *Support for an association of women’s lawyers should be coded under “15130 – Legal and judicial development” and marked for gender equality.*
- *Multisectoral approach: a programme addressing gender based violence which includes policing, legislative reforms, care, social welfare and support for non governmental organisations should be reported under e.g. “15160 – Human rights”, “15130 – Legal and judicial development” and “16010 – Social/welfare services”, with the corresponding percentages, and marked for gender equality.*

FAQ 8. What is the distinction between the value “0” and the value “blank”?

The gender equality marker, as other markers, can take three values: “0” for not targeted, “1” for significant and “2” for principal. However, the “0” value can be assigned only to activities that have been screened against the gender equality marker, and that were found as not targeted to the objective.

For activities that have not been screened, the “0” value should not be used, but the marker field should be left empty. This way, there is no confusion between activities that do not target the objective (marker = “0”), and activities for which the answer is not known (marker = “null”).

Aid to Environment	
DEFINITION An activity should be classified as environment-oriented (score Principal or Significant) if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) It is intended to produce an improvement, or something that is diagnosed as an improvement, in the physical and/or biological environment of the recipient country, area or target group concerned; or b) It includes specific action to integrate environmental concerns with a range of development objectives through institution building and/or capacity development.
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The objective is explicitly promoted in activity documentation; and b) The activity contains specific measures to protect or enhance the physical and/or biological environment it affects, or to remedy existing environmental damage; or c) The activity contains specific measures to develop or strengthen environmental policies, legislation and administration or other organisations responsible for environmental protection.
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES The list is not exhaustive. The activities may be scored against the objective only if the above criteria for eligibility are fulfilled.	<p>Social infrastructure and services: Water resources protection; water resources policies and water management that take into account environmental and socio-economic constraints, sanitation or waste management practices that bring environmental benefits.</p> <p>Economic infrastructure and services: Infrastructure projects designed with comprehensive and integrated environmental protection and management components; activities promoting sustainable use of energy resources (power generation from renewable sources of energy); energy conservation.</p> <p>Production sectors: Sustainable management of agricultural land and water resources; sustainable forest management programmes, combating land degradation and deforestation; sustainable management of sea resources; adoption and promotion of cleaner and more efficient technologies in production processes; measures to suppress or reduce pollution in land, water and air (e.g. filters); increasing energy efficiency in industries; sustainable use of sensitive environmental areas for tourism. (Sustainable natural resources management is a combination of management practices that have been planned and selected on the basis of interdisciplinary and participatory assessment of ecological, social and economic impacts of alternative management options, and resolution of possible conflicts or disputes concerning the significance and acceptability of the impacts of the proposed management alternatives.)</p>

N.B. Activities that can be assigned the sector code “**general environmental protection**” i.e. environmental policy and administrative management, biosphere protection, bio-diversity, site preservation, flood prevention/control, environmental education/training, environmental research **score**, by definition, **principal** objective.

Democratic and Inclusive Governance	
DEFINITION	
<p>An activity should be classified as governance-oriented (score Principal or Significant) if:</p>	<p>It is intended to enhance fundamental elements of <u>democratic and inclusive governance across all areas of development co-operation.</u></p>
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<p>(a) The objectives are explicitly promoted in activity documentation; and</p> <p>(b) The activity contains specific measures to promote one or several of the governance aspects defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Participatory development, <u>includes</u> efforts to support <u>inclusive participation</u> and <u>equal</u> representation of citizens in decision-making processes as well as support to institutions to expand the coverage, quality and/or use of public goods and services. <u>This includes, in particular, efforts to improve the participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups, in line with the principle of leaving no-one behind.</u> – Democratisation, includes support to promote horizontal and vertical accountability, comprising efforts to improve institutional checks and balances within the state, credible elections and support to elected bodies as well as and support to citizen engagement and media. – Good governance, includes efforts to uphold a fair rule of law, improve transparency in the management of public affairs, and combat corruption and illicit financial flows. . – Human rights, includes measures that directly aim to better guarantee internationally agreed civil and political rights, including the right to security and peace, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. Also covers human rights based programming approaches that aim to expand social services.
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES	
<p>The list is not exhaustive. The activities may be scored against the objective only if the above criteria for eligibility are fulfilled.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Institutional reforms that improve government accountability and transparency. – Programmes that improve access to justice. – Support to civil society organisations to improve citizen participation in governance processes. – Support to improve the quality and integrity of electoral processes.



- Support to decentralisation processes.
- Civic education on social, economic and political rights.
- Building inclusive green cities.
- Empowering communities for climate resilience.
- Programmes that promote anti-corruption measures.
- Support to education reform programmes that turn the sector more inclusive.
- Support to multi-actor dialogue processes in various sectors (trade, agriculture, water & sanitation etc.).

Examples of activities that do not qualify:

- Construction of government buildings
- Technical feasibility studies or surveys

Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH)	
DEFINITION An activity should be classified as RMNCH if:	It contributes to achieving improved maternal, newborn and child health based on the “continuum of care” concept: The "Continuum of Care" for reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) implies a life-cycle approach and includes integrated service delivery for women and children from reproductive health to pre-pregnancy, delivery, the immediate postnatal period, and childhood. Such care is provided by families, households and communities as well as through inclusive outpatient services, clinics and other health facilities on district and national level. The Continuum of Care recognises that reproductive choice and safe childbirth are critical to the health of both the woman and the newborn child - and that a healthy start in life is an essential step towards a sound childhood and a productive life.
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<p>The activity contributes to any one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Improved access for women and children to a comprehensive, integrated package of essential health interventions and services along the continuum of care; b) Strengthening health systems in order to improve access to and deliver integrated high-quality RMNCH specific services; c) RMNCH specific workforce capacity building, ensuring skilled and motivated health workers in the right place at the right time, with the necessary infrastructure, drugs, equipment and regulations. <p><i>Note: as good practice, in their project text, donors should indicate which of the above criteria is addressed in their activity.</i></p>
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES	<p><u>Essential interventions and services</u> such as:</p> <p>Family planning, contraception; Antenatal, newborn, and postnatal care; Emergency obstetric and newborn care; Skilled care during childbirth at appropriate facilities; Safe abortion services (where not prohibited by law); Prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV and other STIs; Combating reproductive tract infections, reproductive health-related cancers, and other gynaecological morbidities; Infertility treatment; Prevention and treatment for major childhood illnesses including acute respiratory infections and diarrhoea; Improving infant and child feeding practices; Promoting exclusive breast-feeding; Providing ready-to-use therapeutic foods and key vitamins and minerals, including Vitamin A and iodized salts.</p> <p><u>Health Systems Strengthening:</u></p> <p>Removal of financial, social, and cultural barriers to access health care (including advocacy); Improving service delivery to RMNCH and increasing access to adequately equipped health centres; Supporting national plans and priorities regarding RMNCH; Implementing monitoring and evaluation mechanisms; Training, retraining and deploying health workers.</p> <p><u>These activities contribute to the RMNCH-continuum of care through important interventions outside the health sector:</u></p> <p>Promotion of standards of comprehensive sexual education; Targeted food security programmes tailored to the needs of pregnant women, mothers and their children; Programmes that address most vulnerable population groups, such as internally displaced persons or ethnic minorities that suffer from displacement, with regard to their sexual and reproductive health needs; Improving access to clean water and hygienic sanitation for pregnant women, mothers and their children; Provision of maternal and child health services such as birthing kits or the dispatch of midwives and obstetricians which forms part of humanitarian aid emergency response; Collection of census data where specific development has occurred to target accurate reporting of vitals, i.e. the number of births and the number of “live” births.</p>

Aid targeting the objectives of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

DEFINITION

An activity should be classified as DRR-related (score Principal or Significant) if:

CRITERIA**FOR ELIGIBILITY**

It promotes the goal and global targets* of the Sendai Framework to achieve substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries.

The activity contributes to:

- a) the prevention of new disaster risk, and/or
- b) the reduction of existing disaster risk, and/or
- c) the strengthening of resilience

through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, and increase preparedness for response and recovery with the explicit purpose of increasing human security, well-being, quality of life, resilience, and sustainable development.

The activity will score “**principal objective**” if it directly and explicitly contributes to at least one of the four Priorities for Action of the Sendai Framework:

- **Priority 1:** Understanding disaster risk.
- **Priority 2:** Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk.
- **Priority 3:** Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience.
- **Priority 4:** Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.
- Support for design, implementation, and evaluation of strategies, policies, and measures to improve the understanding of disaster risk
- DRR considerations integrated into development policies, planning and legislation
- Fostering political commitment and community participation in DRR
- Multi-hazard risk mapping, modelling, assessments and dissemination
- Decision support tools for risk-sensitive planning
- Early warning systems with outreach to communities
- Developing knowledge, public awareness and co-operation on DRR
- Inclusion of DRR into curricula and capacity building for educators
- Disaster risk management training to communities, local authorities, and targeted sectors
- DRR considerations integrated with the climate change adaptation, social protection and environmental policies
- Legal norms for resilient infrastructure and land use planning
- Disaster financing and insurance
- Disaster preparedness planning and regular drills for enhancing response
- Protective infrastructure and equipment
- Resilient recovery planning and financing

**EXAMPLES OF
TYPICAL ACTIVITIES**

Disaster Risk Reduction (43060) and Multi-hazard response preparedness 74020) score, by definition, principal objective. See the examples of scoring and an indicative list of activities by sector in the next pages.

* The global targets of the Sendai Framework are: a) Substantially reduce global disaster mortality by 2030, aiming to lower the average per 100,000 global mortality rate in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015; b) Substantially reduce the number of affected people globally by 2030, aiming to lower the average global figure per 100,000 in the decade 2020–2030 compared to the period 2005–2015; c) Reduce direct disaster economic loss in relation to global gross domestic product (GDP) by 2030; d) Substantially reduce disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services, among them health and educational facilities, including through developing their resilience by 2030; e) Substantially increase the number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020; f) Substantially enhance international cooperation to developing countries through adequate and sustainable support to complement their national actions for implementation of the present Framework by 2030; g) Substantially increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning systems and disaster risk information and assessments to people by 2030.

DRR MARKER - POTENTIAL SCORING OF A SAMPLE OF AID ACTIVITIES

The table below shows sample aid activities and/or development objectives and potential eligibility and scoring for the DRR marker based on the decision process and eligibility criteria. The marker coverage and scoring (*2-Principal; 1-Significant*) are only for illustrative purposes. The actual screening and scoring require a thorough review of an aid activity's documentation and development objectives.

Sector/ purpose	Short description of the aid activity and/or development objectives	Potential Score
General Environment Protection	Integrating disaster risk considerations in environmental law, regulation, policy, planning and programming.	2
Disaster Risk Reduction	Building disaster resilient communities by strengthening national systems for disaster risk management, with accompanying national and sub-national risk assessment.	2
Industry	Assessment of disaster risk in the development of the industrial sector, and corollary impacts of industrial development on disaster risk.	2
Multi-hazard response preparedness	Strengthening national weather forecasting and warning services and disaster risk analysis for building sustainable national capacity for disaster risk management.	2
Energy Generation and Supply	Retrofitting and upgrading smart grids to be resilient to modelled cyclonic wind and flood risk, and promoting continuous service delivery.	2
Other Multisector	Building a city's resilience to earthquakes by reinforcing public buildings to seismically safe standards, and developing city-level disaster preparedness plans and policies.	2
Water Supply and Sanitation	Mobilise networks of NGOs and communities to advocate in favour of a strengthened national water policy and law, which considers sustainable use of water resources, sanitation services, and disaster risk reduction to support vulnerable populations.	1
Education	Support to Ministry of Education for shaping the research agenda on education in conflict-affected states, developing guidelines on education and child protection and corresponding training to education practitioners, and developing disaster risk reduction (DRR) plans for the education sector.	1
Agriculture	Enhancing the resilience of smallholder producers to climate variability by improved management of watersheds, introducing or expanding soil management practices, and reducing vulnerability of crop storage facilities to hazards.	1

DRR MARKER - LIST OF EXAMPLES BY SECTOR

The following list of examples is not exhaustive.

EDUCATION (110)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Development or introduction of educational programmes that promote resilience to natural hazards such as disaster resistant construction practices. ▫ Development or introduction of a DRR curriculum in school education and training programmes. ▫ Retrofitting existing schools and any academic facilities for disaster resilience. ▫ Integration of disaster resistant standards in academic infrastructure design and development. ▫ Support for the establishment of hazard safety plans and training drills in academic institutions.
HEALTH (120)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Training of health care providers in disaster preparedness and response. ▫ Retrofitting existing health infrastructure such as health centres and hospitals with disaster resilient building codes. ▫ Assessing changes in risk (exposure and sensitivity) to disaster-related diseases, including in respect of vulnerable groups and post-disaster incidence. ▫ Incorporating disaster-related health risks into clinical practice guidelines, and curricula for continuous medical education and training. ▫ Preventive measures to counteract increased exposure to diseases related to disasters. ▫ Strengthening health management information systems related to disaster risk management. ▫ Strategies that aim to improve the disaster risk management of the health and insurance system. ▫ Including disaster-related diseases in basic benefits of insurance policies.
WATER AND SANITATION (140)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Reducing the vulnerability of public drinking water supply and distribution systems. ▫ Strengthening of hydrometeorology capacity and early warning systems. ▫ Reducing the vulnerability to natural hazards of wastewater treatment and disposal designs. ▫ Integration of DRR measures in river basin's development and management.
GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY (150)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Public financial management integrating DRR measures, including strengthening risk-informed financial and managerial accountability, public expenditure and financial management systems and budget drafting. ▫ Legal and judicial development addressing DRR, including measures that support the improvement of risk-informed legal frameworks, constitutions, laws and regulations.
OTHER SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES (160)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Housing sector policy, planning and programmes that integrate DRR measures. ▫ Multisector aid for basic social services (including basic education, basic health, basic nutrition, population/reproductive health and basic drinking water supply and basic sanitation) that integrate DRR. ▫ Specific targeting of groups vulnerable to natural hazards for social protection programmes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of social protection strategies / safety nets to respond to natural disasters.
TRANSPORT AND STORAGE (210)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embedding disaster-resilient elements in the existing transportation network. Assessing economic, environmental, or social impacts of natural hazards on transportation, as well as disaster risk impacts of new transport and infrastructure investments. Introducing disaster resilient building codes in road construction projects.
COMMUNICATION (220)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporating hazard and disaster risk considerations in information and communication policies and institutions. Establishment of disaster resilient connectivity. Development or strengthening of telecommunications infrastructure, including for use as part of an emergency response system during times of natural disasters.
ENERGY GENERATION AND SUPPLY (230)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporation of the potential impacts of disasters in the design standards of generation, transmission and distribution lines and power system reliability assessments. Integration of DRR considerations in energy sector planning and institution capacity building. Supporting the increased production of climate smart sources of energy.
AGRICULTURE (311)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing, testing or introducing practices or techniques that are more resilient to disasters and climate variability in farming systems or plant breeding. Research of existing and new threats to agriculture from disaster related hazards. Integration of disaster resilience into extension services and programmes. Development of irrigation or drainage networks to reduce vulnerability to disasters. Developing or introducing strategies to intensify crop production to mitigate rising food prices that result from drought. Introducing or strengthening soil management practices to adapt to climate hazards.
FORESTRY (312)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing the use of forest systems to reduce vulnerability to landslides, flooding or other natural hazards. Reforestation and afforestation with species less vulnerable to climate variability and natural hazards. Forest fire prevention measures. Mangrove preservation and afforestation to improve a coastal community's resilience to disasters. Forestry sector policy, planning and programmes, and institution capacity building integrating DRR.
FISHING (313)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing sector policy, planning and programmes, and institution capacity building integrating DRR.
INDUSTRY (321)	Assessing economic, environmental, or social impacts of disasters on industrial policy, planning and programmes, as well as disaster risk impacts of investments in industrial development.
CONSTRUCTION (323)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including disaster resilient building codes / design standards in infrastructure development.
GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (410)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of database, inventories / accounts of physical and natural resources; environmental profiles and impact studies, and risk assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental policy, laws, regulations, planning and programmes, and institution capacity building, integrating DRR. Supporting development and use of approaches, methods and tools for assessment, valuation and sustaining of ecosystem services in managing disaster risk.
OTHER MULTI-SECTOR (430)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration of DRR measures in urban development projects, urban planning and/or policies. Integrated rural development policies and programmes incorporating DRR. <p><i>Activities coded under Disaster Risk Reduction (CRS purpose code 430xx) score, by definition, principal objective:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation of national disaster risk reduction strategies, plans and programmes. Capacity building in DRR-related taxonomy, hazard classification, standard setting and information management. Identifying groups vulnerable to hazards and undertaking measures to reduce their vulnerability. Assistance in the development of disaster risk transfer / insurance initiatives, including disaster risk insurance schemes for productive sectors. Development of flood prevention / control measures: floods from rivers or the sea; including sea water intrusion control and sea level rise related activities. Support for research on ecological, socio-economic and policy issues related to disaster risks and their inter-dependencies, including research on and application of knowledge.
RECONSTRUCTION RELIEF AND REHABILITATION (730)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoring pre-existing infrastructure with disaster-resilient features and providing associated social services (“build back better”).
MULTI-HAZARD RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS (740)	<p><i>Activities coded under Multi-hazard response preparedness (CRS purpose code 740xx) score, by definition, principal objective.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of evacuation shelters for communities to use in times of natural disasters. Developing storage capacities for pre-positioning of disaster preparedness equipment, material and supplies. Development of disaster helplines.

Nutrition	
DEFINITION A project should be identified as nutrition related with the policy marker (score Principal or Significant) when:	It is intended to address the <u>immediate</u> or <u>underlying</u> determinants of malnutrition ³⁸ . This can encompass a range of projects across a variety of sectors, including humanitarian interventions, maternal health, WASH and agriculture.
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY A project is eligible for the nutrition policy marker if:	It is reported under the 12240 basic nutrition purpose code OR The project contributes to a nutrition-sensitive outcome AND the project documentation includes an explicit nutrition objective or indicator.
Examples of nutrition objectives and indicators*	Qualifying objectives include: Improve access to more diversified nutritional diets and food; Improve the nutritional status of a target population; Improve infant and young child feeding practices; Improve access to management of acute malnutrition Qualifying indicators include: Prevalence of stunting amongst children under five; Prevalence of overweight; Household Food Consumption Score; Household Dietary Diversity Score; Prevalence of severely underweight children under 5 years; % of acutely malnourished children under-5 enrolled in feeding programme; Prevalence of anaemia among women in childbearing age
Examples of nutrition-sensitive outcomes*	Individual level: Improved access to nutritious food for women, adolescent girls and/or children; Improved diet in quality and/or quantity for a target population; Improved access for a target population to water, sanitation and hygiene; Improved access to education/school for adolescent girls; Improved knowledge/awareness on nutrition for relevant audiences; Improved empowerment of women National level: Improved governance of nutrition; Increased nutrition sensitive legislation; Increased scientific research with nutrition objectives
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES* Projects may be scored as principal or significant only if the above criteria for eligibility are fulfilled.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fortification of staple foods with the aim of reducing iron and folic acid deficiency • Management of acute malnutrition in emergency situations • Behaviour change communication to promote exclusive breastfeeding • Improvements in nutrition surveillance and health information systems • Training health personnel to identify and treat nutritional deficiencies • An integrated programme for maternal and child health that includes breastfeeding promotion, along with several other health interventions that are not directly relevant to nutrition • A school feeding programme whose principal objective is increased school attendance, while also including explicit objectives/indicators for the dietary diversity and micronutrient-richness of school meals • An agriculture programme whose principal objective is improving the access of smallholder farmers and women to markets, while also including explicit objectives/indicators for the availability and affordability of nutritious foods in markets • Programmes promoting dietary diversity

*This list is not exhaustive.

³⁸ The immediate determinants of malnutrition include inadequate dietary intake, feeding practices or access to food. Underlying determinants of malnutrition include food security; adequate caregiving resources at the maternal, household and community levels; and access to health services and a safe and hygienic environment.

Inclusion and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	
<p>DEFINITION</p> <p>In accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.</p>	<p>Development co-operation activities are classified as being inclusive of persons with disabilities (scores Principal or Significant) if:</p> <p>They have a deliberate objective on ensuring that persons with disabilities are included, and able to share the benefits, on an equal basis to persons without disabilities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p>They contribute to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and promote respect for their inherent dignity in line with Art. 1 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p>They support the ratification, implementation and/or monitoring of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</p>
<p>CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY</p> <p>Support to activities that contribute to respect, protection and fulfilment of the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities, explicitly promoted in activity documentation through specific measures which:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and protect the equal enjoyment of all human rights by all persons with disabilities, and promote respect for their inherent dignity (CRPD Art. 1). • Ensure empowerment and accessibility for persons with disabilities to the physical, social, economic and cultural environment, to health and education and to information and communication. • Promote social, economic or political inclusion of persons with disabilities; or develop or strengthen policies, legislation or institutions in support of effective participation in society of persons with disabilities and/or their representative organisations.
<p>Examples of activities that could be marked as principal (score 2) objective include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to inclusive education as defined by art 24 of the CRPD. • Support to job insertion programmes inclusive of persons with disabilities. • Support to health and social projects specifically designed to reduce the vulnerability of the persons with disabilities. • Support to reduce architectural barriers in urban areas.
<p>Examples of activities that could be marked as significant (score 1) objective include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new or refurbished infrastructure project that is fully accessible to persons with disabilities. • A local library/school that makes cultural and education material also available in a form accessible to persons with visual or hearing impairments. • A social inclusion project that includes persons with disabilities among the target groups.
<p>Examples of activities that could be marked as non-targeted (score 0):</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme or activity aimed at improving basic services for the poor that states that it will also reach persons with disabilities because they tend to be amongst the poorest, but does not contain specific mechanisms or activities to ensure inclusion. • A programme establishing a segregated school for children with disabilities.

Annex 20. Rio markers

BACKGROUND ON RIO MARKERS

1. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) were conceived in the lead-up to the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development. They are known collectively as the “Rio Conventions” and aim to address global environmental challenges and to ensure sustainable development.
2. The developed country Parties of the three Rio Conventions have committed themselves to assist developing countries in the implementation of these Conventions, providing financial and technical resources for this purpose.
3. Since 1998, the DAC has monitored development finance flows targeting the objectives of the Rio Conventions through its Creditor Reporting System (CRS) through use of “Rio markers”. The Rio markers were originally designed to help members in their preparation of National Communications or National Reports to the Rio Conventions, by identifying activities that mainstream the Conventions’ objectives into development co-operation. DAC members are requested to indicate for each development finance activity whether or not the activity targets environmental objectives.
4. Initially there were three Rio markers that have been in use since 1998: biodiversity, climate change mitigation, and desertification. In 2009, an additional marker was created to capture flows for climate change adaptation. It was implemented in reporting on 2010 flows. Data collection covers ODA and other official flows ³⁹.

FIELD OF APPLICATION

5. Rio markers should be applied to all bilateral ODA, private sector instruments (PSI)⁴⁰ and non-export credit OOF⁴¹, excluding general budget support (type of aid A01), imputed student costs (E02), debt relief (F01) except debt swaps, administrative costs (G01), development awareness (H01) and refugees in donor countries (H02). Multilateral contributions (B02/B021/B022) should not be marked with Rio markers individually by members; instead international organisations report on the actual allocation of their funds (“multilateral outflows”) and apply Rio markers to these outflows⁴².

³⁹ A new data collection on amounts mobilised from the private sector by official interventions is being put in place in DAC statistics whereby Rio markers would also apply to the private amounts mobilised. This data collection excludes export credits.

⁴⁰ See Addendum 3 for more details on PSI.

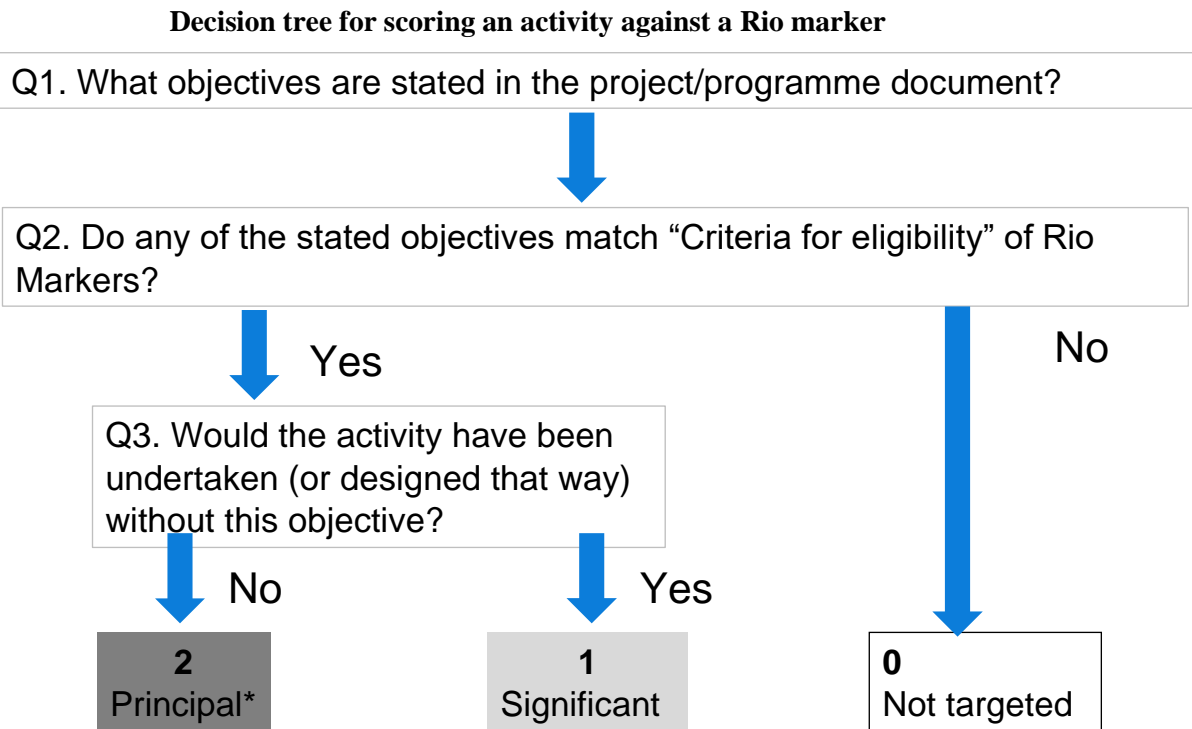
⁴¹ Reporting Rio markers on OOF is voluntary.

⁴² To ensure consistency in reporting, the DAC approach is to avoid members individually marking their multilateral contributions and instead to have international organisations report Rio markers on their outflows (or, in the case of Multilateral Development Banks, components, elements or proportions of climate finance based on the Joint MDB reporting approach); this information is used to estimate members’ contributions to climate through multilateral organisations (“imputed multilateral contributions”, same share applied to all members for the same organisation).

SCORING SYSTEM

6. A scoring system of three values is used, in which official development finance activities reported to the DAC CRS are screened and “marked” as either (i) targeting the conventions as a “principal” objective (score “2”) or (ii) as a “significant” objective (score “1”), or (iii) not targeting the objective (score “0”). These markers indicate donors’ policy objectives in relation to each development finance activity:
- An activity can be marked as “principal” when the objective (climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, biodiversity, combating desertification) is explicitly stated as fundamental in the design of, or the motivation for, the activity. Promoting the objective will thus be stated in the activity documentation to be one of the principal reasons for undertaking the activity. In other words, the activity would not have been funded (or designed that way) but for that objective.
 - An activity can be marked as “significant” when the objective (climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, biodiversity, combating desertification) is explicitly stated but is not the fundamental driver or motivation for undertaking and designing the activity. The activity has other prime objectives but has been formulated or adjusted to help meet the relevant environmental concerns.
 - The score “not targeted” (“0”) means that the activity was examined but found not to target the objective in any significant way. For activities that have not been assessed with the Rio markers in mind, the “0” value should not be used, but rather the marker field should be left empty. This way, there is no confusion between activities that do not target the objective (score = “0”), and activities for which the answer is not known (score = “null”). This important distinction has implications for statistical presentations of Rio marker data.

The following decision tree helps identify for which score a given activity qualifies.



*Note: *Assigning a double “principal” score (e.g. to both mitigation and adaptation) to the same activity should be considered only upon explicit justification. See paragraph 70.*

Mainstreaming and the integration of environmental concerns into development co-operation

7. If mainstreaming is systematically practiced, the Rio Conventions’ objectives will be integrated into projects across a wide range of sectors, such that many development co-operation activities will be considered to make some contribution towards the objectives of the Conventions and are likely to be marked against the “significant” objective score. However, mainstreaming can in some cases transform the activity to the point that it deserves to be scored as a “principal” objective. For example, if mainstreaming has led to the redesign of a traditional power project to now rely on renewable energy and energy savings, the entire activity can be considered as having climate change mitigation as its principal objective. If the mainstreaming of a Rio Convention theme is extremely limited (with regard to the overall scope of the activity), and/or so superficial (vague declaration of intent), it should be marked as “not targeted”.
8. Activities that facilitate mainstreaming can also qualify for a “principal score”. For example, an activity that is primarily designed to build capacity and develop tools to integrate biodiversity, climate change or land degradation into national and sub-national policies, planning and investment frameworks, should obtain the “principal” objective score.

Activities arising from a national action plan linked to a Rio Convention

9. The Rio Conventions call upon Parties to formulate action plans or strategies to implement the Conventions. A biodiversity, desertification, or climate change mitigation/adaptation arising from such an action plan or strategy (e.g. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action

Plan under the CBD; NAPAs, NAPs, NAMAs⁴³ or INDCs under the UNFCCC; and National Action Plans under the UNCCD) automatically qualifies as principal objective⁴⁴, as the Conventions provide the motivation for the design of the activity.

PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

10. To facilitate transparency and in light of public scrutiny of the Rio marker data, it is important that, in activity descriptions reported to the CRS, the relation between the activity and the objective (e.g. climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, other) is clearly communicated and made explicit, especially for principal score and largest activities (recognising the administrative constraint when numerous small activities are concerned).

IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THE METHODOLOGY

Purpose-based

11. Markers identify activities contributing to meeting the objectives of the corresponding Rio Convention(s). Activities are thus to be marked according to their stated objectives and purpose and not primarily in relation to their relevance or outcomes or possible positive side-effects, i.e. the methodology is purpose-based.
12. The emphasis is on the objective pursued in providing support for the activity in question, as described in the activity documentation i.e. primarily the written material which forms the basis for the agreement to provide funding. This may be the actual project or programme document, or a proposal for funding an action which is outlined in a partner country document such as national programme, sectoral strategy, climate change strategy or Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP).
 - Example: if an activity is designed to improve the capacity of a healthcare system to cope with increased incidence of water and vector borne diseases, due to the impacts of climate change, the adaptation marker can be applied. However, if the objective is to improve the capacity of a healthcare system to treat diseases including water and vector-borne diseases, with no reference to climate change, the marker cannot be applied as climate change is not a factor driving the design of the project.
 - Example: a provider contributes to a pooled donor fund that supports a partner country programme in the forestry sector because of its links to climate change adaptation. The specific motivation for contributing to the pooled fund should be made clear in the activity documentation, i.e. in the programme document and in the donor's supporting documentation: the donor, through its contribution to the pooled fund, intends to address climate change adaptation. It is not enough simply to reference a whole PRSP or sector programme which may have an element of climate change adaptation.

Targeting multiple environmental objectives and overlaps between Rio markers

13. The causes and solutions to global environmental issues under the Rio conventions (biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, desertification) and other local environmental concerns are intertwined. The Rio Conventions often complement and

⁴³ NAPAs: National Adaptation Programmes of Action; NAPs: National Adaptation Plans; NAMAs: Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions; INDCs; Intended Nationally Determined Contributions.

⁴⁴ In other words, score "2".

reinforce each other, and consequently it is possible that the same activity, policy or measure simultaneously addresses climate change, biodiversity and/or desertification objectives. An activity may target multiple objectives and qualify for more than one Rio marker (e.g. the same activity can target and be marked for climate change mitigation and biodiversity, or for biodiversity and desertification).

14. For example, a sustainable forest management project can contribute to biodiversity conservation, to capturing carbon (climate change mitigation) and to reducing climate risk (climate change adaptation). In drylands such a project can also help to combat desertification. However, not all score combinations are equally meaningful and assigning a double “principal” score (e.g. to both mitigation and adaptation) to the same activity should therefore be considered only upon explicit justification.
15. While the Rio marker system allows for multiple environmental policy objectives of an activity to be reflected, this needs to be taken into account when aggregating data across several markers. To avoid double or triple-counting the same activity, aggregate figures for biodiversity, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation and desertification-related development finance should not be added up. Statistical presentations should either be prepared for one marker at a time (and resulting totals for each marker should not be added up) or the overlap should be presented and treated to avoid double counting.⁴⁵

Qualitative methodology allowing an approximate quantification of finance flows

16. By identifying activities targeting climate change as a “principal” or “significant” objective, the markers provide an indication of the degree of mainstreaming of environmental considerations into development co-operation portfolios. Rio markers apply to activities as a whole, and, in marking the full value of development finance **activities the markers are considered descriptive rather than strictly quantitative**, but allow for an approximate quantification of development finance flows that target the Rio convention objectives. In OECD DAC marker data presentations the figures for flows targeting objectives as principal or significant should be shown separately and the sum referred to as the “estimate” or “upper bound” of environmental-related development finance.

USE OF RIO MARKERS FOR REPORTING TO THE RIO CONVENTIONS

17. The majority of OECD DAC members draw on Rio markers to report internationally on environment-related development finance. However, the figures that can be derived from Rio markers may not be identical to the figures reported to the Rio Conventions, in particular reflecting that the Rio markers were originally intended to track the mainstreaming of environmental considerations into development co-operation rather than providing a quantification of finance. For reporting to the Rio conventions on finance provided in National Communications, National Reports or Biennial Reports under the UNFCCC, members’ reporting is often based on, and may not be directly comparable to Rio marker data as some members may apply additional quantitative methodologies. Whilst the majority of DAC members report 100% of finance marked “principal”, different Parties often account only for a certain share of finance targeting climate change as a “significant”

⁴⁵ Detailed information on how to treat overlap can be found in the Rio marker webpage <https://www.oecd.org/content/oecd/en/topics/sub-issues/development-finance-for-climate-and-the-environment.html>.

objective⁴⁶. These shares may range across members (from 0 to 100%) and there is no common reporting standard and limited transparency in some cases as to the evidence base supporting the approach chosen. Other differences in reporting to the Rio conventions may also arise, for example, use of disbursement data or differences in geographical scope.

⁴⁶ See: results of the survey on the coefficients applied to 2019-20 Rio marker data when reporting to the UN environmental conventions - DCD/DAC/STAT(2022)24/REV1.

Aid targeting the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity	
DEFINITION An activity should be classified as bio-diversity-related (score Principal or Significant) if: CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<p>It promotes at least one of the three objectives of the Convention: the conservation of bio-diversity, sustainable use of its components (ecosystems, species or genetic resources), or fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of the utilisation of genetic resources.</p> <p>The activity contributes to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) conservation or enhancement of ecosystems, species or genetic resources, and/or enhancement of the sustainability of their use, through in-situ or ex-situ measures, or the restoration of existing damages; or b) integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services concerns within recipient countries' development objectives, economic decision making and sectoral policies, through measures such as institution building, capacity development, strengthening the regulatory and policy frameworks, research, technology transfer, knowledge management and stakeholder engagement; or c) elimination, phasing out or reform of incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, and provision of positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; or d) maintenance of genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species; or e) fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to these resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, as internationally agreed; or f) developing countries' efforts to meet their obligations under the Convention. <p>The activity will score “principal objective” if it directly and explicitly aims to achieve one or more of the above six criteria.</p>
EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES 1. Typical activities take place in the sectors of: <i>Water and sanitation</i> <i>Agriculture</i> <i>Forestry</i> <i>Fishing</i> <i>Tourism</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of biological diversity concerns into sectoral policy, planning and programmes; e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources protection and rehabilitation; integrated watershed, catchment and river basin protection and management; • Sustainable agricultural and farming practices including substitution of damaging uses and extractions by out-of-area plantations, alternative cultivation or equivalent substances; integrated pest management strategies; soil conservation; in-situ conservation of genetic resources; alternative livelihoods; • Combating deforestation and land degradation while maintaining or enhancing biodiversity in the affected areas; • Promotion of sustainable marine, coastal and inland fishing;

2. Typical non-sector specific activities are:

Environmental policy and administrative management
Biosphere and bio-diversity protection
Environmental education/training
Environmental research

- Sustainable use of sensitive environmental areas for tourism.
- Preparation of national bio-diversity plans, strategies and programmes; bio-diversity inventories and assessments; development of legislation and regulations to protect threatened species; development of incentives, impact assessments, and policy and legislation on equitable access to the benefits of genetic resources.
- Establishment of protected areas, environmentally oriented zoning, land use and regional development planning.
- Protecting endangered or vulnerable species and their habitats, e.g. by promoting traditional animal husbandry or formerly cultivated/collected plants or ex-situ conservation (e.g. seed banks, zoological gardens).
- Capacity building in taxonomy, bio-diversity assessment and information management of biodiversity data; education, training and awareness-raising on bio-diversity.
- Research on ecological, socio-economic and policy issues related to bio-diversity, including research on and application of knowledge of indigenous people.
- Supporting development and use of approaches, methods and tools for assessment, valuation and sustaining of ecosystem services.

N.B. Biodiversity (CRS sector code 41030) scores, by definition, **principal** objective.

Aid targeting the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement	
Climate change mitigation	
DEFINITION An activity should be classified as climate-change-mitigation related (score Principal or Significant) if:	It contributes to the objective of stabilisation of greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system by promoting efforts to reduce or limit GHG emissions or to enhance GHG removal by sinks, in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement* .
CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY	<p>The activity contributes to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the mitigation of climate change by limiting anthropogenic emissions of GHGs, including gases regulated by the Montreal Protocol; or b) the protection and/or enhancement of GHG sinks and reservoirs; or c) the integration of climate change concerns with the recipient countries' development objectives through institution building, capacity development, strengthening the regulatory and policy framework, technology transfer or research; or d) developing countries' efforts to meet their obligations under the Convention and the Paris agreement, namely the implementation and enhancement of mitigation actions. <p>The activity will score “principal objective” if it directly and explicitly aims to achieve one or more of the above four criteria.</p>
<p>* See art. 2.1 (a) of the Paris Agreement:</p> <p><i>Holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change.</i></p> <p>See the indicative table for guidance on Rio marking by sector/subsector and examples of qualifying activities.</p>	

Aid targeting the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement

Climate change adaptation

DEFINITION

An activity should be classified as adaptation-related (score Principal or Significant) if:

It intends to reduce the vulnerability of human or natural systems to the current and expected impacts of climate change, including climate variability, by maintaining or increasing resilience, through increased ability to adapt to, or absorb, climate change stresses, shocks and variability and/or by helping reduce exposure to them, in line with the Paris Agreement.

This encompasses a range of activities from information and knowledge generation, to capacity development, planning and the implementation of climate change adaptation actions.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

An activity is eligible for the climate change adaptation marker if:

- a) the climate change adaptation objective is explicitly indicated in the activity documentation; and
- b) the activity contains specific measures targeting the definition above.

Carrying out an assessment of vulnerability to climate variability and change, either separately or as an integral part of agencies' standard procedures, facilitates this approach.

To guide scoring, a three-step approach is recommended as a “best practice”, in particular to justify for a principal score:

- a) **Setting out the context of risks, vulnerabilities and impacts related to climate variability and climate change:** for a project to be considered as one that contributes to adaptation to climate change, the context of climate vulnerability should be set out clearly using a robust evidence base. This could take a variety of forms, including use of material from existing analyses and reports, or original, bespoke climate vulnerability assessment analysis carried out as part of the preparation of a project.
- b) **Stating the intent to address the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts in project documentation:** The project should set out how it intends to address the context- and location- specific climate change vulnerabilities, as set out in existing analyses, reports or the project's climate vulnerability assessment.
- c) **Demonstrating a clear and direct link between the identified risks, vulnerabilities and impacts and the specific project activities:** the project should explicitly address risk and vulnerabilities under current and future climate change as identified in the project documentation.

See the indicative table for guidance on Rio marking by sector/subsector and examples of qualifying activities.

Aid targeting the objectives of the Convention to Combat Desertification

DEFINITION

An activity should be classified as desertification-related (score Principal or Significant) if:

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

It aims at combating desertification or mitigating the effects of drought in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas through prevention and/or reduction of land degradation, rehabilitation of partly degraded land, or reclamation of desertified land.

The activity contributes to

a) protection or enhancement of affected ecosystems through the rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources or the restoration of existing environmental damage;

or

b) integration of desertification, land degradation and drought concerns with recipient countries' development objectives through measures such as institution building, capacity development, strengthening the regulatory and policy framework, or research;

or

c) developing countries' efforts to meet their obligations under the Convention and voluntary targets when striving to achieve land degradation neutrality at national and subnational level.

The activity will score "principal objective" if it directly and explicitly relates to one or more of the above criteria, including in the context of the realisation of sub-national, national, sub-regional or regional action programmes".

EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL ACTIVITIES

1. Typical activities take place in the sectors of:

Water and sanitation

Agriculture

Forestry

2. Typical non-sector specific activities are:

Environmental policy and

administrative management

Env. education/training

Environmental research

- Integration of action to combat desertification and land degradation into sectoral policy, planning and programmes (e.g. agricultural and rural development policy, plans and programmes);
 - Rehabilitation of land, vegetation cover, forests and water resources, conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources;
 - Sustainable irrigation for both crops and livestock to reduce pressure on threatened land; alternative livelihood projects;
 - Development and transfer of environmentally sound traditional and local technologies, knowledge, know-how and practices to combat desertification, e.g. methods of conserving water, wood (for fuel or construction) and soil in dry areas.
- Preparation of strategies and action programmes to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought; establishment of drought early warning systems; strengthening of drought preparedness and management; observation and assessment of CCD implementation, including monitoring and evaluation of impact indicators;
- Measures to promote the participation of affected populations in planning and implementing sustainable resource management or improving security of land tenure;
- Support for population/migration policies to reduce population pressure on land;
- Capacity building in desertification monitoring and assessment; education, training and public awareness programmes related to desertification and land degradation;
- Research on desertification and land degradation.

INDICATIVE TABLE TO GUIDE RIO MARKING BY SECTOR/SUB-SECTOR

Climate change adaptation and climate change mitigation

1. This table provides guidance to support activity-level screening and marking against the climate Rio markers by sector. For each sector category, it indicates the likely most appropriate scores to assign to activities, with the most likely score indicated first. For example, the indication “0 or 1” means that activities in the sector concerned generally do not qualify against the objective (score “0”) but there are circumstances where they do qualify as significant (score “1”). For each sector, the table also explains the rationale for scoring activities and provides examples.
2. The biodiversity table was last revised in 2018, while the table for climate change mitigation and adaptation was revised in 2024. The table is not an exhaustive or prescriptive list of activities that can be associated with Rio markers. It is meant to facilitate the application of markers to activities in different sectors, but it is by no means prescriptive nor does it contain binding rules on scores to assign or not assign for each sector. Members may still apply scores different from the suggestions provided in the table, provided the activities concerned meet the definition and eligibility criteria of the markers. The guidance provided by the table is also not intended to replace activity level screening, and instead seeks to support it. In general, for climate change adaptation, the three-step approach described in the eligibility criteria is recommended as a “best practice” prior to any adaptation scoring.

The indicative table for climate change mitigation, adaptation, and biodiversity is available online at this address, in Excel format:
https://webfs.oecd.org/climate/Rio_markers_indicative_tables_2024_approved.xlsx

Annex 21. Programme-based approaches: Examples

Ghana

Financial Sector Reform Programme

1. Is the host country or organisation exercising leadership over the programme supported by donors?

YES. Designated government staff co-lead and co-ordinate the donor funded activities through the Private Sector Development Working Group and the Financial Sector Sub-Group. Activities (whether project activity or budget support) are detailed and governed in MoUs between the donor community and the Government.

2. Is a single comprehensive programme and budget framework used?

YES. The Programme has a budget framework that captures the Government and donor input. For PSD and Financial Sector activities, the framework is connected to specific strategic outcomes and is used as a management tool. Majority of the donors provide some project activity support – all of these activities are incorporated in the framework.

3. Is there a formal process for donor co-ordination and harmonisation of donor procedures for reporting budgeting, financial management and procurement?

YES. Both the PSD and Financial sector processes fulfil all four functions.

4. Does your support to the programme use at least two of the following local systems: (i) programme design, (ii) programme implementation, (iii) financial management and (iv) monitoring and evaluation?

YES, IT USES 2 SYSTEMS. USAID uses local system for programme design and participates in design of other donor's activities. USAID activities are implemented with various GoG agencies / ministries / departments (e.g. technical assistance to farmers is designed with and then provided by local GoG agricultural workers). USAID also gives money to local institutions to implement activities. As USAID does not provide pooled funding or sector budget support, USAID does not use local financial management and M & E Systems.

Source: USAID.

Tanzania

Health SWAp

1. Is the host country or organisation exercising leadership over the programme supported by donors?

YES. Basket funding is managed by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MOHSW) which its Chief Medical Officer chairs the Health SWAp Technical Working Group. The technical working group is comprised of a subset of invited partners from government, donors, CSOs and private sector.

2. Is a single comprehensive programme and budget framework used?

YES. A Mid-Term Economic Framework budgets all health funds at the district and above levels. Funds include government revenue, General Budget Support and the Health Basket. Progress is being made to include projectised donations into the MTEF.

3. Is there a formal process for donor co-ordination and harmonisation of donor procedures for reporting budgeting, financial management and procurement?

YES. A very active Donor Partner Group for Health meets monthly and has sub-groups for basket funding, M & E and other topics which cover all four areas.

4. Does your support to the programme use at least two of the following local systems: (i) programme design, (ii) programme implementation, (iii) financial management and (iv) monitoring and evaluation?

Yes. Programme implementation uses the SWAp Technical Working Group. Financial management is done through the basket subcommittee of Donor Partner Group on Health reviews and comments on the MTEF. Monitoring and evaluation is done through the Joint Assistance Strategy for Tanzania Review.

Source: USAID.

Afghanistan

Afghan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF)

1. Is the host country or organisation exercising leadership over the programme supported by donors?

Yes. ARTF funding only goes to public sector activities that have been defined in Government of Afghanistan's budget, the National Development Framework and its National Priority Programme. It provides funding in support of 11 National Priority Programmes which are based on the NDF.

2. Is a single comprehensive programme and budget framework used?

Yes. The ARTF has one framework and programme consisting of two windows – for recurrent expenditure and investment. This means that there is one source of funding for the recurrent budget. Further, all proposals for activities that are to receive ARTF funding come from the Ministry of Finance. Whilst these can in principle come from any line ministry of the Government, it must be accompanied by a justification in terms of importance to the Government of Afghanistan's NDF and NPPs.

3. Is there a formal process for donor co-ordination and harmonisation of donor procedures for reporting budgeting, financial management and procurement?

Yes. The ARTF is overseen by a Management Committee (MC) consisting of representatives from the Asian Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, UNDP and the World Bank. The MC is responsible for reviewing progress and taking key decisions, including the approval of investment projects proposed for ARTF financing. Donors participate in a Steering Committee that meets quarterly, focusing on administrative and performance issues.

4. Does your support to the programme use at least two of the following local systems: (i) programme design, (ii) programme implementation, (iii) financial management and (iv) monitoring and evaluation?

Yes. By working through reimbursements, which are verified by the Monitoring Agent, ARTF provides an incentive to improve financial management and accountability. In addition, the World Bank (which manages the ARTF) is providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Finance to enable increased use of government systems. The recent Public Expenditure Review demonstrated that strong progress has been made in the Government's fiscal discipline and budget planning and information on budget execution.

Source: DFID and Assessment, Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF), March 2005.

Annex 22. Steps to follow to ensure compliance of ODA loans with the IMF/WB debt policies

List of countries subject to IMF/WB Debt Limits Conditionality

Most recent, updated list is available at:
<https://www.imf.org/external/np/spr/2015/conc/jointDLC.xlsx>.

List of items recommended to share with the IMF and the WB on intended ODA loans

Information on new loans via the Lending to LICs mailbox will be kept confidential by the IMF and the WB and used for the sole purpose of monitoring debt limits and cross-checking debt data of the respective countries.

Minimum recommended information

- Amount and expected date of signature
- Beneficiary and use of proceeds
- Loan terms: interest rate, maturity, grace period, upfront fees, commitment fees, other fees, late payment penalties, collateralization
- Disbursement profile

Additional, desirable information

- Repayment profile if unusual
- Undisbursed pipeline, specific conditions attached to disbursement
- Does the loan agreement include any conditionality on the choice of suppliers? If yes, please provide profile and breakdown of type of spending.
- Does the loan include aid in kind? If yes, please describe.
- Late payment grace period, if different from 30 days
- Is the information about the loan publicly available, and if so where