

# SDG indicator metadata

(Harmonized metadata template - format version 1.1)

## 0. Indicator information (SDG\_INDICATOR\_INFO)

### 0.a. Goal (SDG\_GOAL)

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

### 0.b. Target (SDG\_TARGET)

Target 17.3: Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources

### 0.c. Indicator (SDG\_INDICATOR)

Indicator 17.3.1: Additional financial resources mobilized for developing countries from multiple sources

### 0.d. Series (SDG\_SERIES\_DESCR)

GF\_FRN\_FDI - Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows [17.3.1]

DC\_OSSD\_GRT - Gross receipts by developing countries of official sustainable development grants [17.3.1]

DC\_OSSD\_OFFCL - Gross receipts by developing countries of official concessional sustainable development loans [17.3.1]

DC\_OSSD\_OFFNL - Gross receipts by developing countries of official non-concessional sustainable development loans [17.3.1]

DC\_OSSD\_MPF - Gross receipts by developing countries of mobilised private finance (MPF) - on an experimental basis [17.3.1]

DC\_OSSD\_PRVGRT - Gross receipts by developing countries of private grants [17.3.1]

### 0.e. Metadata update (META\_LAST\_UPDATE)

2025-06-11

### 0.f. Related indicators (SDG\_RELATED\_INDICATORS)

10.b.1, 17.2.1, 17.3.2, 17.4.1, 17.5.1 17.9.1 (and others)

### 0.g. International organisations(s) responsible for global monitoring

(SDG\_CUSTODIAN\_AGENCIES)

International Forum on TOSSD (independent entity hosted by the OECD) and the United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

## 1. Data reporter (CONTACT)

### 1.a. Organisation (CONTACT\_ORGANISATION)

International Forum on TOSSD (independent entity hosted by the OECD)

The United Nations Trade and Development (UNCTAD) Statistics Service

OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

## 2. Definition, concepts, and classifications (IND\_DEF\_CON\_CLASS)

### 2.a. Definition and concepts (STAT\_CONC\_DEF)

Annual gross receipts by developing countries of: a. Official sustainable development grants, b. Official concessional sustainable development loans, c. Official non-concessional sustainable development loans, d. Foreign direct investment, e. Mobilised private finance (MPF) on an experimental basis, and f. Private grants.

#### a. Official sustainable development grants

Grants are transfers in cash or in kind for which no legal debt is incurred by the recipient.

#### b. Official concessional sustainable development loans

Loans are transfers in cash or in kind for which the recipient incurs legal debt. A concessional transfer is one which gives something of value away. For the purposes of this indicator, a loan will be regarded as concessional if it embodies at least a 35% grant element when its service payments are discounted at 5% p.a. This test is derived from the World Bank-IMF Debt Sustainability Framework for Low Income Countries and has also been adopted in the TOSSD and UN frameworks.

See:

- <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2018/02/14/pp122617guidance-note-on-lic-dsf>
- <https://www.tossd.org/docs/reporting-instructions.pdf>

<https://unctad.org/publication/manual-framework-measure-south-south-cooperation>

#### c. Official non-concessional sustainable development loans

These are loans (see above) which bear a grant element of less than 35% when their service payments are discounted at 5% p.a.

#### d. Foreign direct investment

Foreign direct investment (FDI) is a category of investment that reflects the objective of establishing a lasting interest by a resident enterprise in one economy (direct investor) in an enterprise (direct investment enterprise) that is resident in an economy other than that of the direct investor. The lasting interest implies the existence of a long-term relationship between the direct investor and the direct investment enterprise and a significant degree of influence on the management of the enterprise. The direct or indirect ownership of 10% or more of the voting power of an enterprise resident in one economy by an investor resident in another economy is taken as evidence of such a relationship. For OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment - 4th Edition and UNCTAD work on Foreign Direct Investment Statistics.

See:

- <https://www.oecd.org/investment/fdibenchmarkdefinition.htm>
- <https://unctad.org/topic/investment/investment-statistics-and-trends>

This sub-indicator is not restricted to developing countries.

#### e. Mobilised private finance (MPF) on an experimental basis

Mobilised private finance (MPF) consists of private resource flows for activities in developing countries which have been mobilised by interventions of multilateral development banks (MDBs), bilateral development

finance institutions, or other bilateral agencies, i.e. where a direct causal link between the official intervention and the private resources can be demonstrated. The OECD method for counting MPF is used; see <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/mobilisation.htm>. MPF is a “memorandum item” because it would likely include and overlap with some finance that would also be found in the FDI sub-indicator. MPF data are typically collected on a commitment basis, rather than in terms of developing country receipts. This indicator excludes private flows mobilised in recipient countries themselves as they do not constitute additional resources. The indicator is included on an experimental basis. During the 2025 review of SDG indicators, no edits were proposed to this sub-indicator.

#### f. Private grants

Private grants are here taken to mean grants for developmental purposes from private institutions outside the recipient country, excluding commercial flows and personal transactions such as remittances. They essentially comprise grants from philanthropic foundations and other non-governmental organizations.

#### Sustainable development criteria

Based on the discussions in the IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Development Support, and building on the work of the TOSSD Task Force, the following cascading approach will be used to identify flows that can be considered as supporting sustainable development:

1. Flows within the proposed indicators and sub-indicators detailed below and identified individually, such as a specific activity in provider reporting systems, should be included if they directly support either (i) at least one of the SDG targets or (ii) an objective in the recipient country’s development plan as long as this is directed towards supporting or achieving sustainable development, with the following exceptions:
  - a. Flows for activities where a substantial detrimental effect is anticipated on one or more of the other targets.
  - b. Flows where the recipient country, after discussion with the custodian agency and/or the reporting provider country, objects to their characterization as supporting its sustainable development.
2. Flows, or portions of flows within the proposed indicators and sub-indicators detailed below for which data are only available at the aggregate country-to-country level are also considered as supporting sustainable development, subject to the same exceptions as under 1.a and 1.b.

Note that some sub-indicators may contain a mixture of activity-specific and aggregate-level flow data and therefore require assessment against 1 and 2 respectively. Also note that further specific exclusions are proposed, as detailed below, that may in some cases be considered to reinforce the focus of the proposed indicators on the sustainable development of developing countries.

### 2.b. Unit of measure (UNIT\_MEASURE)

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US dollar

### 2.c. Classifications (CLASS\_SYSTEM)

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Following International Standard Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) Rev.4, Standard country or area codes for statistical use (M49) of the United Nations, ISO alphabetical codes for currencies, following ISO 4217 standard.

TOSSD classifications are available at: [www.tossd.org/methodology](http://www.tossd.org/methodology) (See “TOSSD code lists”)

Modalities of South-South cooperation as defined in the Manual for the framework to measure South-South cooperation: <https://unctad.org/publication/manual-framework-measure-south-south-cooperation>.

### 3. Data source type and data collection method (SRC\_TYPE\_COLL\_METHOD)

#### 3.a. Data sources (SOURCE\_TYPE)

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Existing databases established at the International Forum on TOSSD (hosted by the OECD), the OECD and UNCTAD will serve as a data source. At the OECD and the International Forum on TOSSD, this includes data collected through TOSSD reporting as well as traditional OECD-DAC-CRS reporting, with certain adjustments to the data in accordance with the requirements of this proposal. At the UNCTAD, this includes existing data on foreign direct investment, and pilot studies towards reporting on South-South cooperation.

#### 3.b. Data collection method (COLL\_METHOD)

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International Forum on TOSSD: Data submission by countries following agreed contents and formats. See

- TOSSD Reporting Instructions, code lists and data forms are available at: <https://www.tossd.org/methodology>
- Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Annual DAC Questionnaire, DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics, 4 September 2024 , available at: [https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC\(2024\)40/FINAL/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC(2024)40/FINAL/en/pdf)

UNCTAD:

- Data submission by countries following format for reporting South-South cooperation to be piloted and fully developed. See <https://unctad.org/publication/manual-framework-measure-south-south-cooperation>
- UNCTAD Training Manual on Statistics for FDI and the Operations of TNCs - Volume I FDI Flows and Stocks, UNCTAD, 2009, available at: [https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091_en.pdf)

#### 3.c. Data collection calendar (FREQ\_COLL)

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TOSSD and OECD-DAC-CRS data collection on YEAR N is launched in April of year N+1 and finalised by December of year N+1.

#### 3.d. Data release calendar (REL\_CAL\_POLICY)

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TOSSD and OECD-DAC-CRS data on YEAR N are released in December of year N+1.

#### 3.e. Data providers (DATA\_SOURCE)

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National development co-operation agencies, national ministries, national statistical offices, development finance institutions, multilateral institutions, philanthropic foundations and central banks.

### 3.f. Data compilers (COMPILING\_ORG)

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National development co-operation agencies, national ministries, national statistical offices, multilateral institutions and central banks.

### 3.g. Institutional mandate (INST\_MANDATE)

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Countries' membership agreement with the International Forum on TOSSD, OECD, UNCTAD and the United Nations.

## 4. Other methodological considerations (OTHER\_METHOD)

### 4.a. Rationale (RATIONALE)

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The indicator measures additional financial and non-financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources. It fully complies with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda by distinguishing flows of different nature and concessionality that have different impacts on development, thus creating transparency. It follows the recipient perspective, and all data represent new financing flows to developing countries. It builds on existing work, in particular standard OECD and UNCTAD data collections and the work of the TOSSD Task Force and the International Forum on TOSSD established in 2024 on its measurement of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD). It is underpinned by an initial conceptual framework on South-South cooperation, allowing reporting by countries of the South on their South-South cooperation.

### 4.b. Comment and limitations (REC\_USE\_LIM)

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The indicator is feasible, suitable and relevant.

Some providers will be reporting on sub-indicators 17.3.1.a, 17.3.1.b and 17.3.1.c to the International Forum on TOSSD while some providers will report on these sub-indicators to UNCTAD according to the agreed conceptual framework on South-South cooperation developed by the sub-Group on South-South cooperation.

Sub-indicator 17.3.1.d (FDI) is reported to UNCTAD by recipients according to the current reporting arrangements.

Some multilateral and bilateral providers are reporting on sub-indicator 17.3.1.e mobilized private finance to OECD. Mobilized private finance is not part of the conceptual framework of South-South cooperation. Some providers that are engaging in this form of development finance may approach UNCTAD regarding the pilot testing and further development of this indicator for wider and global application.

Some countries will report on 17.3.1.f to OECD. Private grants are not part of the conceptual framework of South-South cooperation. Some providers can report on private grants to UNCTAD on a voluntary basis as part of a pilot exercise.

UNCTAD and the International Forum on TOSSD (the Secretariat of which is hosted by the OECD) as co-custodians have undertaken to ensure that there are no overlaps in global reporting for this indicator in cases where countries or multilaterals provide their information to both organizations.

The indicator does not include debt relief, in-donor refugee costs, administrative costs not allocated to specific development activities, or peace and security expenditures other than those reportable as official development assistance (ODA). Furthermore, it does not include private non-concessional loans; portfolio investment; export credits, whether official, officially-supported, or private; short-term flows with an original maturity of 1 year or less; or any other flows that are not within the scope of the proposed sub-indicators. These exclusions sharpen the focus of the indicator on transfers of new resources to developing countries for sustainable development purposes, while excluding commercially-motivated debt-creating flows. While there was broad support for all exclusions during the discussions of the Working Group and the open consultation, and while there were relatively few objections to specific exclusions, some countries nevertheless believe that all exclusions should be reviewed in the context of the 2025 review.

#### 4.c. Method of computation (DATA\_COMP)

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While the sub-indicators follow the recipient perspective, the data for all proposed sub-indicators except foreign direct investment are reportable by the providers and subsequently aggregated by recipient. Foreign direct investment is as reported by recipients.

#### 4.d. Validation (DATA\_VALIDATION)

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Extensive validation and quality assurance procedures are in place and being further developed at the International Forum on TOSSD, OECD and UNCTAD. Flows where the recipient country, after discussion with the custodian agency and/or the reporting provider country, objects to their characterization as supporting its sustainable development may be excluded. The custodian agencies are requested to establish mechanisms for validation based on the sustainable development criteria applied for this indicator which will adequately support concerns of the recipient countries.

#### 4.e. Adjustments (ADJUSTMENT)

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Not applicable

#### 4.f. Treatment of missing values (i) at country level and (ii) at regional level (IMPUTATION)

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Not applicable

#### 4.g. Regional aggregations (REG\_AGG)

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Summation of US dollar values across countries of a specific region, as applicable.

#### 4.h. Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level (DOC\_METHOD)

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See

- TOSSD Methodology, including Reporting Instructions, code lists and data collection form: <https://www.tossd.org/methodology>
- Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Annual DAC Questionnaire, DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics, 4 September 2024, available at: [https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC\(2024\)40/FINAL/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC(2024)40/FINAL/en/pdf)
- Manual for the framework to measure South-South cooperation, UNCTAD, 2025, available at: <https://unctad.org/publication/manual-framework-measure-south-south-cooperation>
- UNCTAD Training Manual on Statistics for FDI and the Operations of TNCs - Volume I FDI Flows and Stocks, UNCTAD, 2009, available at: [https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091_en.pdf).
- UNCTAD project website (Quantifying South-South cooperation for the Sustainable Development Goals) to feature developed, drafted and pilot tested methodological guidance and material, available at: <https://stats.unctad.org/measuringSSC>

#### 4.i. Quality management (QUALITY\_MGMNT)

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UNCTAD Statistics Quality Assurance Framework (SQAf), see <https://unctad.org/webflyer/statistics-quality-assurance-framework>

[United Nations Quality Assurance Framework;](#)  
[Quality Framework for OECD Statistical Activities](#)

#### 4.j Quality assurance (QUALITY\_ASSURE)

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Best practices are being followed.

#### 4.k Quality assessment (QUALITY\_ASSMNT)

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Best practices are being followed.

### 5. Data availability and disaggregation (COVERAGE)

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Existing databases established at the International Forum on TOSSD, OECD and UNCTAD will serve as a data source. At the International Forum on TOSSD and the OECD, this includes data collected through TOSSD reporting as well as traditional OECD-DAC-CRS reporting, assuming the data will be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of this proposal. Pilot exercises are being conducted or are being planned. In its pilot data collection, the OECD was able to provide data as applicable for sub-indicators a, b, c, e and f for 140 reporters covering all recipient countries across all regions. At the UNCTAD, existing databases include data on foreign direct investment. Multiple countries practicing South-South cooperation agreed to the conduct of pilot studies while UNCTAD is committed to support others in their reporting.

Mobilized private finance should cover and be disaggregated by flows originating in (i) high-income, (ii) low- and middle and (iii) multiple/unknown countries but should exclude flows known to be mobilized in recipient countries.

The following countries have submitted their data for sub-indicators 17.3.1a, 17.3.1b, 17.3.1c, 17.3.1e and 17.3.1f: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and United States.<sup>1</sup> Please note that all countries provide support in the form of official sustainable development grants, but only a few provide support in all the mentioned categories. In addition, the data includes multilateral providers. Data gaps linked to providers reporting to the OECD DAC (Creditor Reporting System) but not to TOSSD have been estimated (i.e. for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank).

## 6. Comparability / deviation from international standards (COMPARABILITY)

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Not applicable.

## 7. References and Documentation (OTHER\_DOC)

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- Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators: Working Group on Measurement of Development Support, Finalized draft indicator proposal for SDG Target 17.3 and its reporting, (4 October 2021).
- Outcome document of the sub-group on South-South cooperation, September 2021
- Manual for the framework to measure South-South cooperation, UNCTAD, 2025, available at: <https://unctad.org/publication/manual-framework-measure-south-south-cooperation>
- The TOSSD Methodology, including Reporting Instructions, code lists and data collection form: <https://www.tossd.org/methodology>
- Converged Statistical Reporting Directives for the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Annual DAC Questionnaire, DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics, 27 April 2023, available at [https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC/STAT\(2023\)9/FINAL/en/pdf](https://one.oecd.org/document/DCD/DAC/STAT(2023)9/FINAL/en/pdf)
- Links to data
  - [TOSSD Visualisation Tool](https://tossd.online/) - <https://tossd.online/>
  - [Development finance data - OECD](https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/) - <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/>
  - Investment statistics and trends (UNCTAD):
    - <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/>

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<sup>1</sup> Data submitted to TOSSD by 23 provider countries and territories have been excluded as they relate to South-South cooperation (SSC) and UNCTAD is responsible for global reporting on SSC. The providers excluded are: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Chile, other non-specified areas in Eastern Asia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, the Palestinian International Co-operation Agency, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, and Uruguay.



- [Beyond 20/20 WDS - Table view - Foreign direct investment: Inward and outward flows and stock, annual \(unctad.org\)](https://unctadstat.unctad.org/wds/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=96740) - <https://unctadstat.unctad.org/wds/TableViewer/tableView.aspx?ReportId=96740>
- [World Investment Report | UNCTAD](https://unctad.org/topic/investment/world-investment-report) - <https://unctad.org/topic/investment/world-investment-report>
- Amounts mobilised from the private sector for development (OECD method for counting MPF), see <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/mobilisation.htm>
- GUIDANCE NOTE ON THE BANK-FUND DEBT SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK FOR LOW INCOME COUNTRIES, IMF, February 2018, available at: <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2018/02/14/pp122617guidance-note-on-lic-dsf>
- OECD Benchmark Definition of Foreign Direct Investment - 4th Edition, available at <https://www.oecd.org/investment/fdibenchmarkdefinition.htm>
- UNCTAD Training Manual on Statistics for FDI and the Operations of TNCs - Volume I FDI Flows and Stocks, UNCTAD, 2009, available at: [https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091\\_en.pdf](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/diaeia20091_en.pdf)
- UNCTAD Statistics Quality Assurance Framework (SQAf), see <https://unctad.org/webflyer/statistics-quality-assurance-framework>
- United Nations Quality Assurance Framework, see <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/methodology/dataquality/>
- Quality Framework for OECD Statistical Activities, see <https://www.oecd.org/sdd/qualityframeworkforoecdstatisticalactivities.htm>
- UNCTAD project website (Quantifying South-South cooperation for the Sustainable Development Goals) to feature developed, drafted and pilot tested methodological guidance and material, available at: [https:// stats.unctad.org/measuringSSC](https://stats.unctad.org/measuringSSC).