The Sustainable Development Goals Extended Report 2023

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Note: This unedited 'Extended Report' includes all indicator storyline contents as provided by the SDG indicator custodian agencies as of 30 April 2023. For instances where the custodian agency has not submitted a storyline for an indicator, please see the custodian agency focal point information for further information. The 'Extended Report' aims to provide the public with additional information regarding the SDG indicators and is compiled by the Statistics Division (UNSD) of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

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Target 17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection

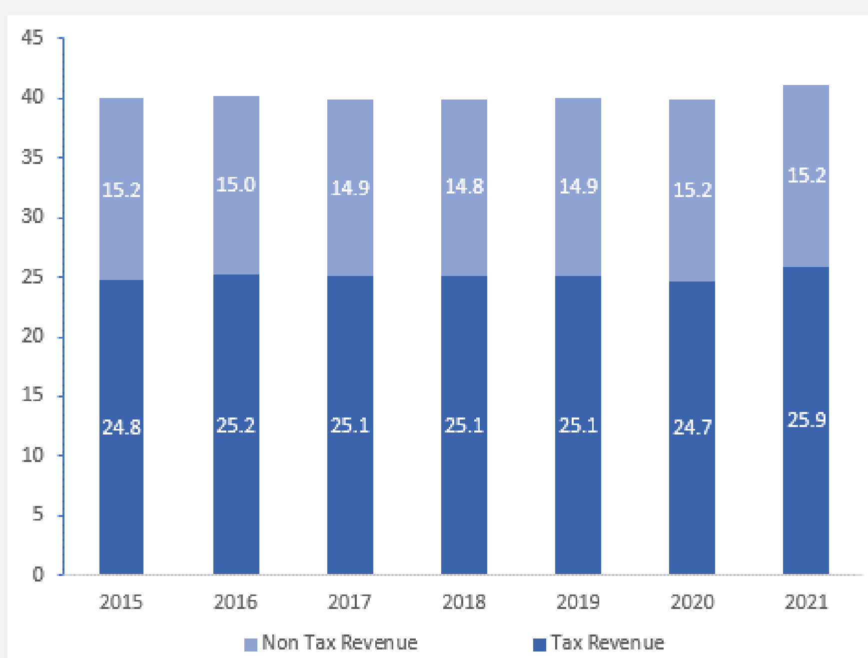
Indicator 17.1.1 Total government revenue as a proportion of GDP, by source

Revenue mobilization is required if the state is to fulfill its role in sustainable and inclusive growth. Taxation is necessary to enable the state and is at the center of development policies, which in turn are concomitant with overall prosperity.

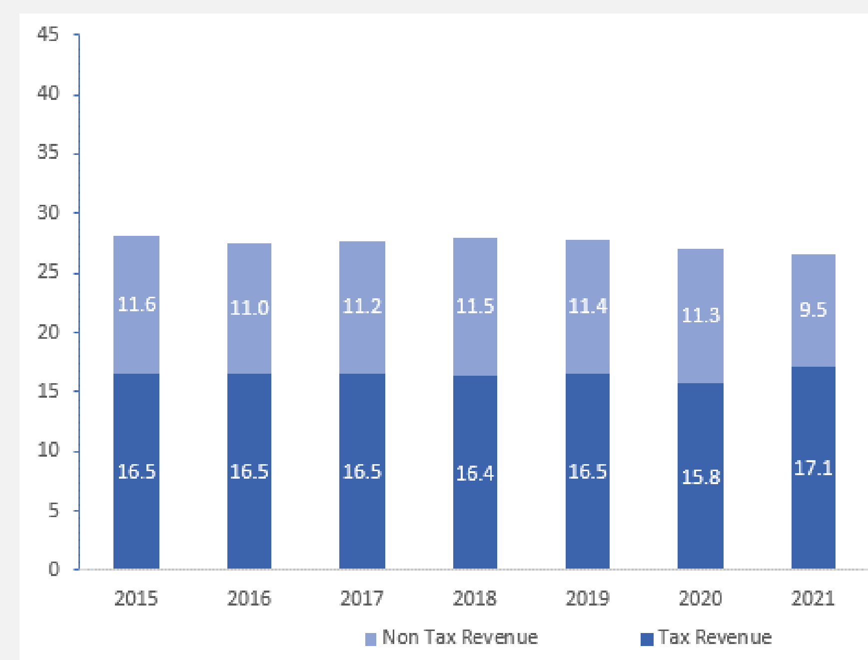
In order to enable the state, all countries face choices on where to set the ideal level of taxation and in determining how sources of non-tax revenue (social contributions, grants and other revenues) can augment overall revenue mobilization. The composition and the sustainability of government spending (see indicator 17.1.2) is also impacted.

Assessing whether the overall "tax burden" (revenue in the form of taxes) or, for countries with well-established social protection schemes, the "fiscal burden" (revenue in the form of taxes plus social contributions) is appropriate represents a key element of fiscal policy. The most recent data show, on average, that the "tax burden" in a representative sample of approximately 130 economies has tended to converge with the tax level in major industrialized countries. Amongst the advanced economies the average overall rate of taxation is 26% of GDP, while the "fiscal burden" is 36%. For most countries, revenue in the form of Grants is 3% of GDP, although there are some outliers (Marshall Islands 41%, Palau, 25% and Tonga 19%). Similarly, other revenue comprises 6% of GDP, on average, except for some resource rich countries that tend to rely on rents/royalties (Azerbaijan 19%, Iraq 38%, Saudi Arabia 24% and Timor-Leste 54%).

Total Government Revenue (% GDP) - Advanced Economies



Total Government Revenue (% GDP) - Emerging and Developing Economies



Custodian agency(ies): IMF

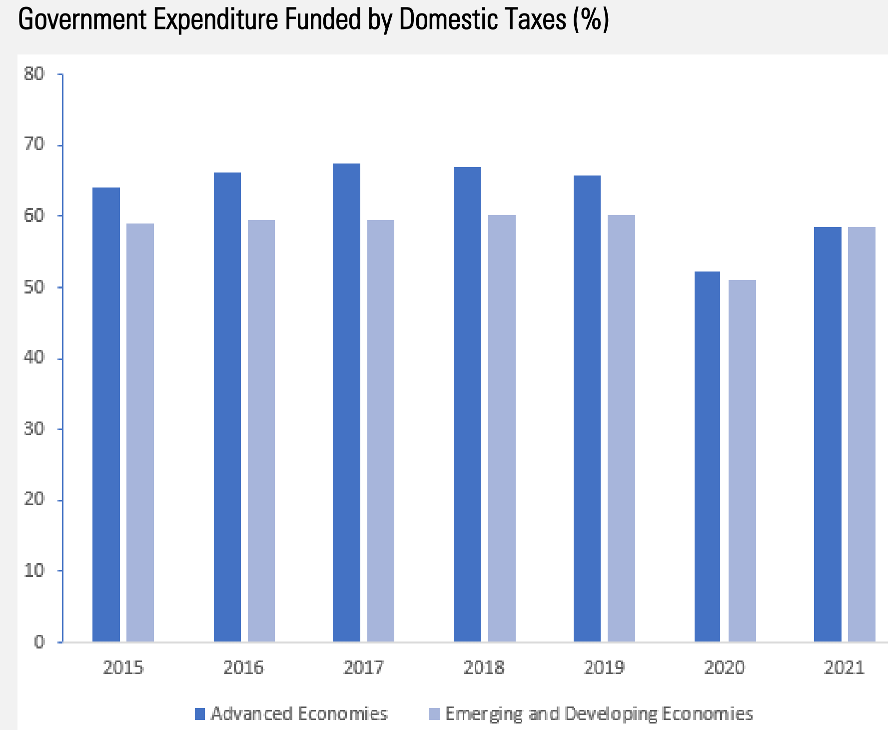
Indicator 17.1.2 Proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes

A well-functioning revenue mobilization system is a necessary condition for government to effectively contribute to strong, sustained and inclusive economic development.

World-wide, there is increased focus on spending levels, spending composition, and spending outcomes, as measured by both the economic and functional spending classifications. Many countries are seeking to adopt sound structural measures to ensure that spending levels remain sustainable, to address poor social outcomes such as high inequality and poor health and education outcomes, and to efficiently and equitably contain spending pressures arising from an ageing population. But what level of public spending is desirable for a country at a given level of national income? And can a link be made with setting the ideal levels and types of tax and non-tax revenue (see indicator 17.1.1) or determining the optimal "tax burden"?

Government revenue funds much of the public expenditure on physical, social and administrative infrastructure that enables growth and development. The most recent data prior to the Covid-19 pandemic show that in a representative sample of approximately 130 economies the proportion of government expenditure funded by taxes, on average, varies across regions but has remained stable within regions. Where it has occurred, the reduction in the role of taxes in funding government expenditure over time may represent a combination of improved revenue mobilization and public financial management. Following the Covid-19 pandemic, the proportion of government expenditure funded by taxes sharply declined from the previous year in part due to an increase in expenditure on policy measures in conjunction with a decrease in tax revenues – this sharp decline was reversed albeit not completely in the following year.

Government Expenditure Funded by Domestic Taxes (%)



Custodian agency(ies): IMF

Target 17.2 Developed countries to implement fully their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries; ODA providers are encouraged to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to least developed countries

Indicator 17.2.1 Net official development assistance, total and to least developed countries, as a proportion of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee donors' gross national income (GNI)

ODA surges in 2022 due to spending on refugees in donor countries and aid to Ukraine

In 2022, official development assistance (ODA) by member countries of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) amounted to USD 204.0 billion an increase of 13.6% in real terms compared to 2021. This was the fourth consecutive year ODA surpassed its record levels, and one of the highest growth rates recorded in the history of ODA. ODA as per cent of GNI stood at 0.36% compared to 0.33% in 2021.

The increase was primarily due to in-donor refugee costs which amounted to USD 29.3 billion in 2022 and represented 14.4% of DAC member countries' total ODA. Excluding these costs, ODA rose by 4.6% over 2021 in real terms.

Net ODA to Ukraine also contributed to the increase in ODA in 2022 and amounted to USD 16.1 billion, representing 7.8% of total ODA. Within this total, USD 1.8 billion were provided in the form of humanitarian aid.

Initial estimates indicate that within total ODA, DAC countries spent USD 11.2 billion on COVID-19 related activities, down by 45% compared to 2021. Within this total, USD 7.0 billion were to provide support related to COVID-19 control (e.g. prevention; treatment, care and vaccines). Vaccine donations amounted to USD 1.5 billion, a fall of 74.1% in real terms compared to 2021.

Net bilateral ODA for programmes and projects and technical assistance (excluding in-donor refugees and humanitarian aid) rose by 12.7% in real terms, some of that driven by special assistance to Ukraine. Humanitarian aid amounted to USD 22.3 billion and rose by 1.0% in real terms compared to 2021. Net debt relief grants remained low at USD 60 million. Contributions to the core budgets of international organisations remained stable but as a share of ODA represented 25% compared to approximately 30% in previous years.

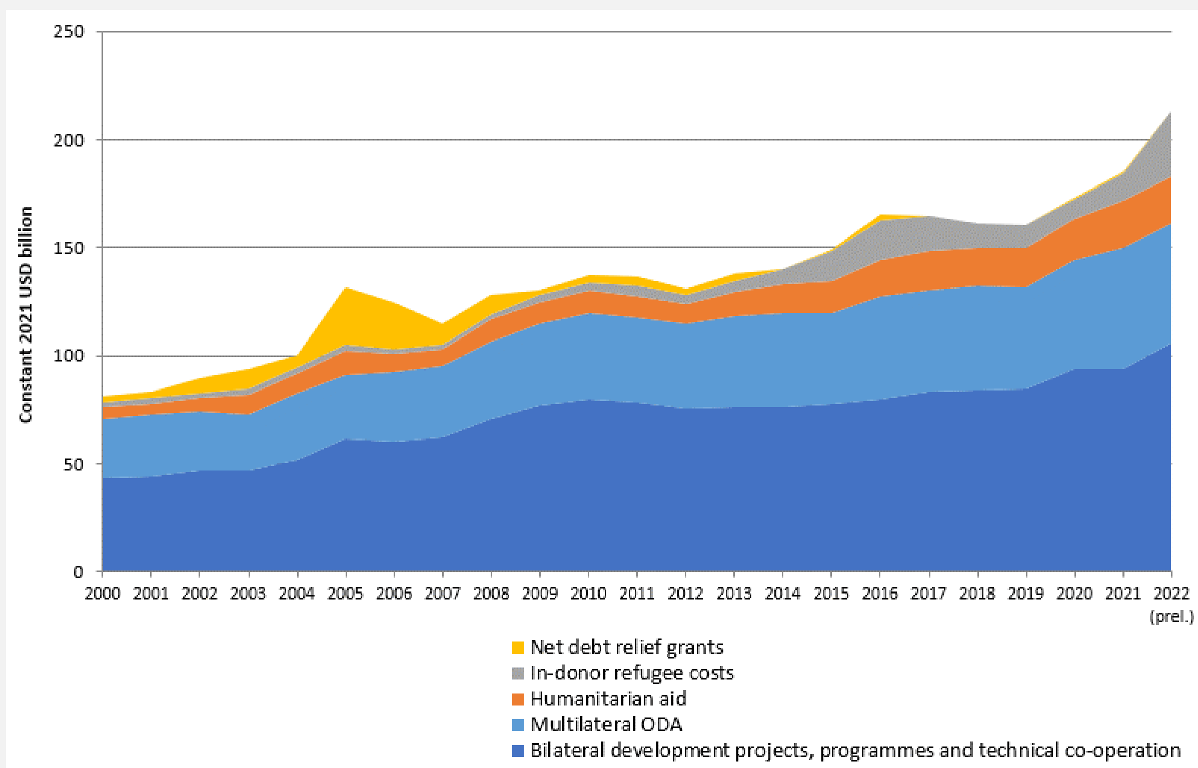
In 2022, the United States continued to be the largest DAC member provider of ODA (USD 55.3 billion), comprising more than a quarter of total DAC ODA, followed by Germany (USD 35.0 billion), Japan (USD 17.5 billion), France (USD 15.9 billion) and the United Kingdom (USD 15.7 billion). The following countries met or exceeded the United Nations' ODA as a percentage of GNI target of 0.7%[1]: Denmark (0.70%), Germany (0.83%), Luxembourg (1.00%), Norway (0.86%) and Sweden (0.90%).

ODA rose in twenty-six DAC member countries, for many as a result of increased support for in-donor refugee costs, and it fell in four countries.

Total ODA by EU Institutions rose by 30.3% in real terms to reach USD 23.1 billion, mostly due to support to Ukraine, some of which in the form of loans.

Net Official Development Assistance has risen for the most part steadily in volume terms since the it was first measured in 1960. Despite the impact of the crises on donor economies, aid volumes have grown by 160 percent in real terms since 2000, when the Millennium Development Goals were agreed, and have risen by 41 percent since the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted in 2015.

In 2022 ODA surpassed its record level for the fourth consecutive year due to in-donor refugee costs and aid for Ukraine. Components of DAC member countries' ODA, constant 2021 USD million



Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Yasmin Ahmad, OECD

Custodian agency(ies): OECD

[1] Not all DAC members have set a domestic target for ODA as a share of GNI.

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

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

A new SDG indicator has been adopted in 2022 for a more inclusive and transparent measurement of development support, including South-South Cooperation

In March 2022, the UN Statistical Commission adopted a new indicator of development support. In compliance with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, the indicator distinguishes between different types of flows in order to increase transparency, adopting a recipient perspective. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) are the co-custodians of the indicator. The indicator results from discussions in the UN Working Group on Measurement of Development Support (UNWGMDS), which included 21 countries from all regions. Also, the indicator builds on the standard OECD and UNCTAD data collections and the work of the Task Force on the measurement of Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD).

It is underpinned by an initial conceptual framework on South-South cooperation (SSC) agreed by the SSC sub-group of the UNWGMDS, allowing reporting by countries that provide South-South cooperation. The UN Statistical Commission welcomed the development of the framework and "requested that further work on this, including on global reporting and capacity-building, be enabled by the co-custodianship of UNCTAD and be led by countries from the global South, building on country-led mechanisms". The Commission invited countries involved in South-South cooperation to work closely with UNCTAD. To enable the reporting of Southern countries and timely support to national efforts, UNCTAD shared a survey on South-South Cooperation and capacity building with developing countries in December 2022. Based on the findings, UNCTAD will establish data reporting mechanisms and launch a capacity development project in spring 2023 with the UN Regional Commissions and the UN Statistics Division and in coordination with the OECD.

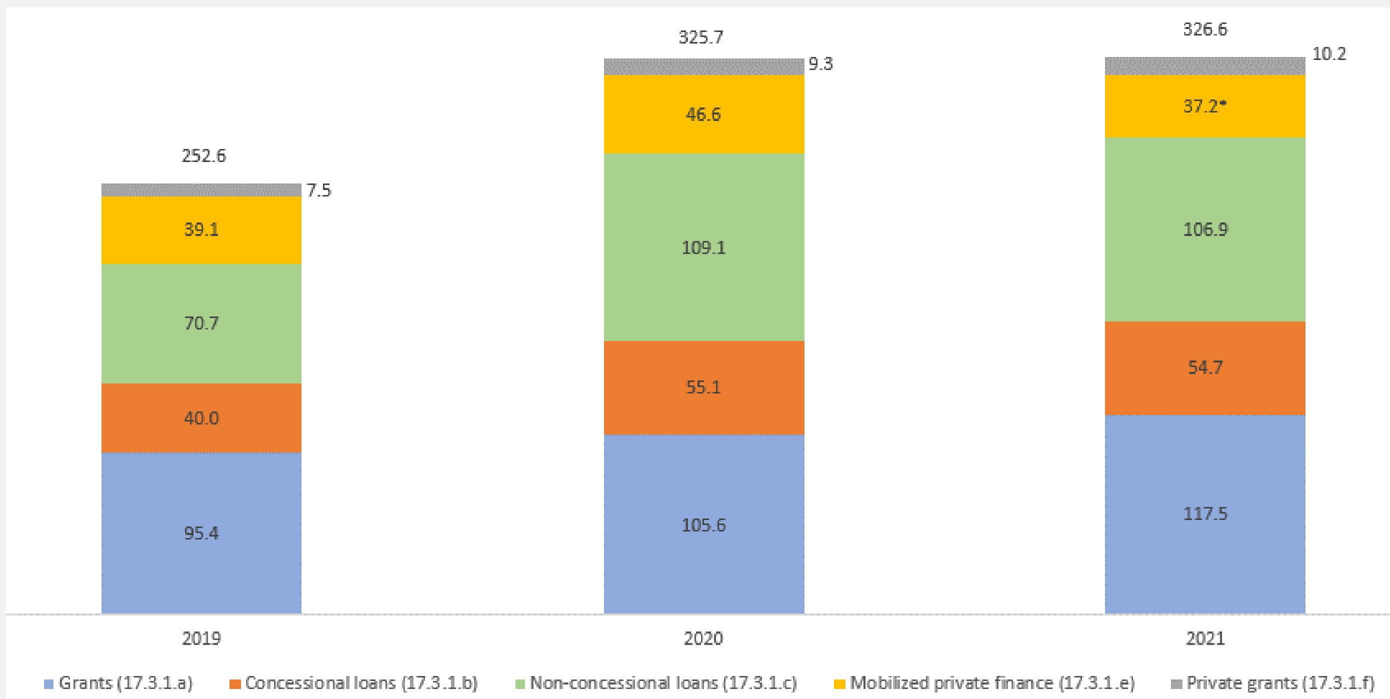
For official flows, the most significant increase took place in 2020 with a growth of 54% in non-concessional loans and of 38% in concessional loans, while overall disbursements remained stable in 2021 (Figure 1). Mobilized private finance also increased, reaching a peak of USD 46.6 billion in 2020. Private grants followed an upward trend throughout the years.

A closer look at this increase confirms the harmony of the data collected with the global macroeconomic context. The COVID-19 pandemic had a heavy impact on the development landscape, reshaping development co-operation to meet the most urgent needs. In particular, in 2020, flows targeting the health sector steadily increased, with a fivefold increase in non-concessional loans and a twofold increase in concessional loans and mobilized private finance. The specific sectors targeted by official sustainable development flows for the control of pandemics and infectious diseases in 2020 and 2021 are shown in Figure 2. In 2020, around USD 3.9 billion were provided to combat the COVID-19 pandemic directly, while this increased to USD 10.1 billion in 2021.

Moreover, amounts related to COVID-19 were not limited to health, as a timely pandemic response was relevant in numerous sectors and contexts. Overall, USD 38.1 billion of official flows were earmarked as COVID-19 related in 2020 and USD 42.1 billion in 2021.

Private finance mobilized by official development finance interventions (Figure 3) mainly targeted the banking, industry and energy sectors over the 2019-2021 period, thus contributing to achieving the SDGs on affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth as well as industry, innovation and infrastructure. While direct investment in companies constituted the main leveraging mechanism overall, guarantees played a greater role in mobilizing private finance towards the banking sector.

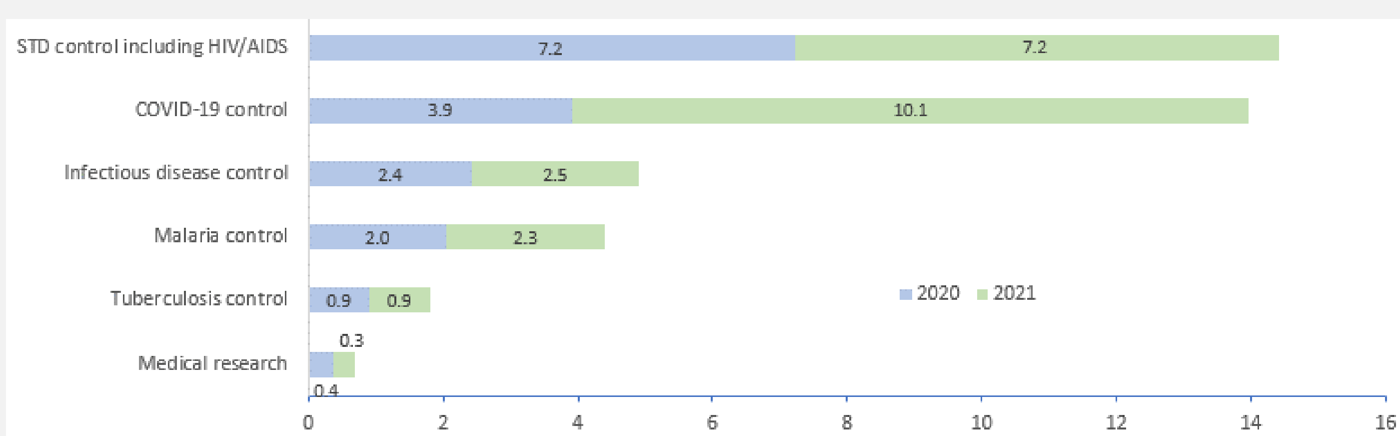
Figure 1. Financial resources mobilized for developing countries from multiple sources, 2019 -2021, USD billion, current prices



Source: TOSSD, www.tossd.online, for grants, loans and mobilized private finance; OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS) (oecd.org) for complemented information on mobilized private finance and private grants.

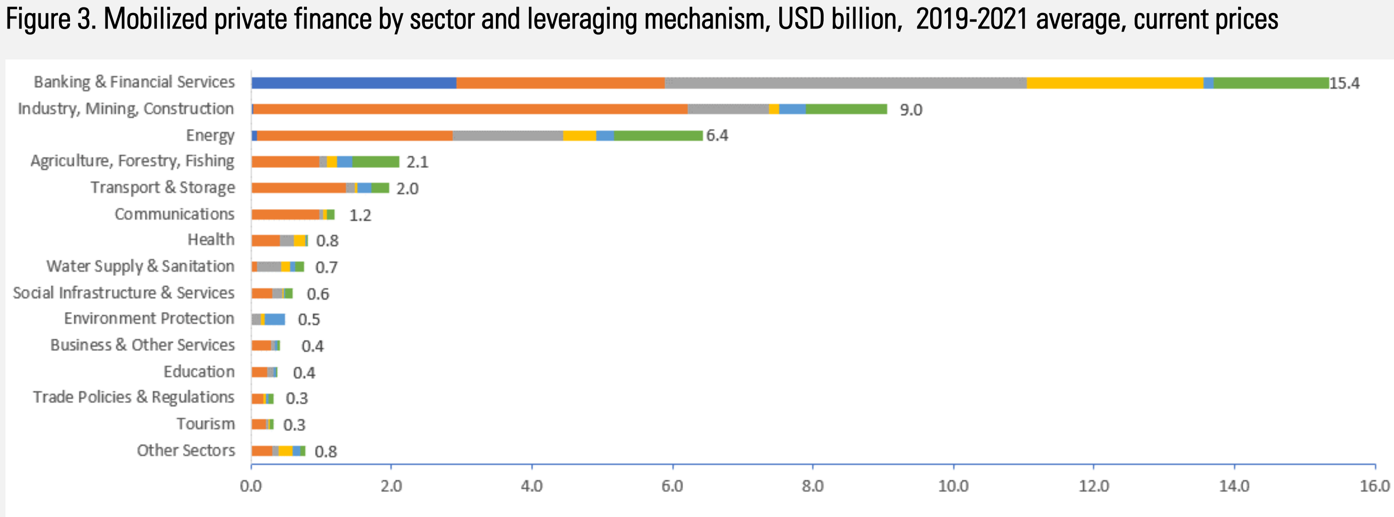
* Note : The figures for official sustainable development grants, concessional and non-concessional loans do not include the data from providers that will report to UNCTAD according to the agreed conceptual framework on South-South cooperation, still subject to pilot testing. At the time of producing this chart, 2021 figures on mobilized private finance are still partial and therefore provisional.

Figure 2. Official sustainable development grants and loans for the control of pandemics and infectious diseases in 2020 and 2021, USD billion, current prices



Source: TOSSD, www.tossd.online

Figure 3. Mobilized private finance by sector and leveraging mechanism, USD billion, 2019-2021 average, current prices



Source: TOSSD, www.tossd.online; OECD, Creditor Reporting System (CRS) (oecd.org) for complemented information. The amounts in this indicator exclude the resources mobilized in developing countries, which amounted to 4 USD billion in 2021.

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- Metadata for the indicator 17.3.1: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-17-03-01.pdf
- Outcome document of the sub-group on South-South cooperation: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/working-group-on-measurement-of-development-support/IAEG-SDGs-04-Note-on-the-outcome-of-the-subgroup-on-SSC_final-after-WG.pdf
- UNCTAD: https://unctad.org/topic/south-south-cooperation
- TOSSD data: www.tossd.online
- TOSSD website: www.tossd.org

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Julia Benn, OECD; Anu Peltola, UNCTAD

Custodian agency(ies): OECD,UNCTAD

Indicator 17.3.2 Volume of remittances (in United States dollars) as a proportion of total GDP

Custodian agency(ies): World Bank

Target 17.4 Assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress

Indicator 17.4.1 Debt service as a proportion of exports of goods and services

Trends in external debt stocks in 2021

Debt levels of advanced and low- and middle-income countries reached record highs during the pandemic, increasing the likelihood of adverse consequences on economic growth. Total external debt of low- and middle-income countries, excluding end-2021 outstanding SDR allocations of $273 billion, increased 5.6 percent in 2021 to US$9 trillion. The rise was driven primarily by an increase in short term debt. Public and publicly guaranteed debt rose 3.7 percent to $3.6 billion, while private non-guaranteed debt, including intra-company lending, rose by 2.7 percent to $3 billion.

Debt accumulation during the last decade has been associated with a shift in the creditor composition. Private creditors accounted for an increasing share of low- and middle-income countries' external debt. At year-end 2021, 61 percent of the public and publicly guaranteed debt of low- and middle-income countries was owed to private creditors, up from 46 percent in 2010. Bonds issued in international capital markets by governments and public sector entities in low- and middle-income countries totaled $2 trillion between 2012 and 2021, equivalent to 45 percent of all external loan commitments of public and publicly guaranteed debt between 2012 and 2020.

Multilateral creditors provided extraordinary levels of assistance to help mitigate the economic and social costs of the COVID-19 pandemic and support the recovery. The World Bank (IBRD and IDA) extended $384 billion in new loans between 2012 to 2021 to low- and middle-income countries and was the largest multilateral creditor, accounting for 41 percent of loan commitments from multilateral creditors in this period.

The change in external debt stocks in 2021 also varied widely at the regional level. The South Asia region recorded the fastest rise in external debt stocks in 2021. They rose 7.3 percent in 2021 to $879 billion, driven by sharp increases in Bangladesh (22.7 percent), Pakistan (10.5 percent) and India (8.5 percent).

Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa recorded a 2 percent rise in external debt stocks in 2021 to $754 billion, down from the 5.6 percent increase from 2019 to 2020. The decline was largely attributable to the 5.4 percent contraction in the external debt of South Africa, the region's largest borrower.

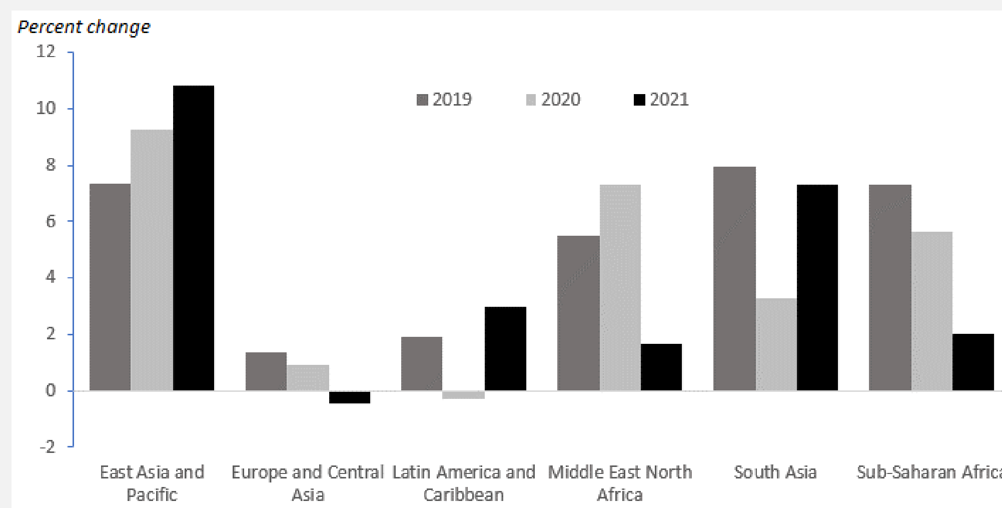
In Latin America and the Caribbean external debt stocks rose 3 percent in 2021, driven primarily by the 7.8 percent increase in Brazil's external debt stock and sharp rise recorded by some of the region's other large borrowers including Colombia and Peru, up 8.8 percent and 16.7 percent, respectively, from the 2020 level.

The rate of increase slowed in the Middle East and North Africa with external debt stocks rising only 1.7 percent in 2021 compared to 7.3 percent in 2020. This was primarily due to the change in composition of the region, the addition of Iraq to the latest dataset, and to the $5.4 billion, 22 percent fall in Lebanon's private non-guaranteed debt.

Countries in the East Asia and Pacific region, excluding China, also recorded a small, on average 1.8 percent increase in external debt stocks in 2021. This was driven in large part by 1.6 percent contraction in the external debt stock of Indonesia, the region's largest borrower.

In Europe and Central Asia external debt stocks contracted on average 0.5 percent, in large part because of the 12 percent fall in Turkey's short-term debt and a 6.6 percent decrease ($8.4 billion) in Kazakhstan's private non-guaranteed debt.

External Debt Stocks – Regional Distribution and Trends, 2019-2021



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Custodian agency(ies): World Bank

Target 17.5 Adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for least developed countries

Indicator 17.5.1 Number of countries that adopt and implement investment promotion regimes for developing countries, including the least developed countries

Investment promotion instruments for outward foreign direct investment (OFDI) in developing countries are gradually incorporating sustainability criteria as part of their eligibility requirements

32 countries offered at least one type of investment instrument to promote outward FDI in developing countries, including LDCs, in 2022. Almost one-third of them are emerging economies (e.g. Brazil, Chile, China, India), which is consistent with the trend of increasing South-South FDI inflows.

Investment guarantees and insurance are the most commonly used policy instrument (22 countries), followed by loans encouraging the internationalization of national companies (17 countries). At least 14 countries offer State-sponsored programmes providing equity participation in investment projects abroad. In addition, at least 17 countries offer investment facilitation tools to promote FDI in developing countries including LDCs. Some countries provide for all four types of investment promotion instruments (e.g. France, Poland, United States).

Although most outward FDI promotion regimes do not discriminate among destination countries, a selected number of investment instruments from national promotion regimes limit their eligibility to investments made in developing countries. In 2022, at least 9 countries had implemented policies that specifically promote outward investment in developing countries, including LDCs (Austria, Denmark, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States).

Investment promotion instruments for outward FDI in developing countries are gradually incorporating sustainability criteria as part of their eligibility requirements. Accordingly, several investment promotion schemes require the proposed investment project to generate economic, social and/or environmental impact in the host country, which may include specific environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria.

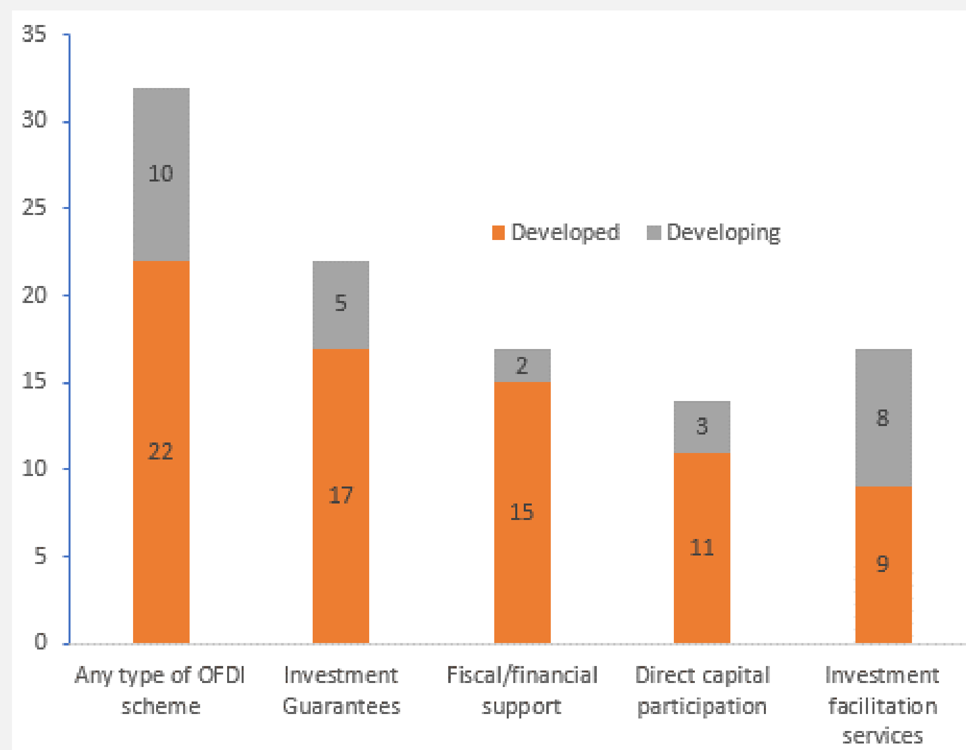
Non-binding guidelines by international organizations (such as the OECD's "Common Approaches"[2]) or industry-based frameworks for risk management (such as the Equator Principles[3]) are often used for the sustainability assessment of proposed investments benefitting from outward FDI promotion (e.g. Australia).[4]

Although for most outward FDI promotion schemes, sustainability criteria are applied as an eligibility requirement, other approaches can be found. In some countries, sustainable investment is also promoted by offering more beneficial conditions for investment projects aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement (e.g. Spain).

Conversely, some countries have created exclusion lists to ban outward FDI promotion support for certain sectors or economic activities deemed incompatible with sustainability or ESG. For example, in Denmark, the Investment Fund for developing countries (IFU) has extended, since 2022, its exclusion list to fossil fuel as well as other non-sustainable industries such as "export-oriented agribusiness models that focus on long-haul air cargo for commercialization" or " biomaterials and biofuel production that makes use of feedstock that could otherwise meaningfully serve as food or compromise food security".[5]

Another approach is to create schemes targeting specific sustainable development objectives. For example, Norway has launched a new investment guarantee scheme, in partnership with MIGA, to mitigate non-commercial risks involved in foreign direct investments in renewable energy projects in developing countries. This scheme is targeting specifically renewable energy investments and aims to increase decarbonization in developing countries.[6]

Type of outward FDI promotion schemes towards developing countries, including LDCs, by type of promotion instruments and country group (number of countries)



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Custodian agency(ies): UNCTAD

[2] https://www.oecd.org/trade/topics/export-credits/environmental-and-social-due-diligence/; https://legalinstruments.oecd.org/public/doc/280/280.en.pdf
[3] https://equator-principles.com/
[4] https://www.exportfinance.gov.au/admin-pages/key-eligibility-criteria-for-our-loans-bonds-and-guarantee-products/
[5] Exclusion-list-2022.pdf (ifu.dk)
[6] https://www.regjeringen.no/en/aktuelt/new-guarantee-initiative-to-generate-investments/id2884650/

Target 17.6 Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through a global technology facilitation mechanism

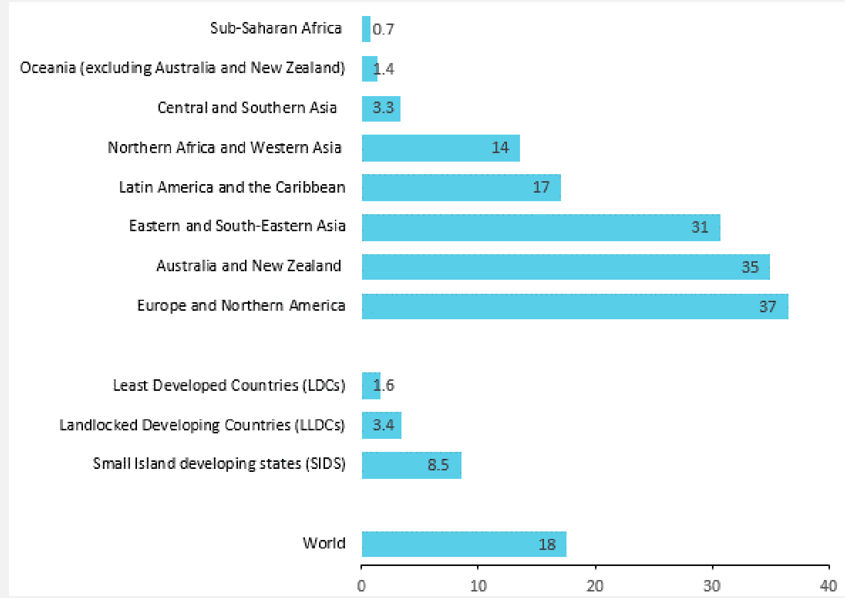
Indicator 17.6.1 Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed

Fixed-broadband subscriptions continue to grow steadily, but with a wide disparity between low- and high-income countries

Fixed-broadband subscriptions continue to grow steadily, at an average annual growth rate averaging 6.7 per cent over the last 10 years, reaching 18 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants in 2022 globally.

Penetration rates for fixed subscriptions are much lower than for mobile subscriptions, because fixed connections are usually shared by several people in a household. Nonetheless, the inequalities in access to fixed connections across countries are far higher than for mobile connectivity. While fixed connections are common among households in upper-middle-income and high-income countries, they are nearly non-existent in low-income countries, due to high prices and a lack of infrastructure.

Fixed Internet broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, 2022



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- ITU, Measuring digital development: Facts and Figures 2022, see https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/statistics/facts-figures-2022/
- ITU, Digital Development Dashboard, available at https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/Digital-Development.aspx

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Martin Schaaper, ITU

Custodian agency(ies): ITU

Target 17.7 Promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed

Indicator 17.7.1 Total amount of funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies

The total trade of tracked Environmentally Sound Technologies shows a positive trend, with the vast majority in North America and Europe, as well as in Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia

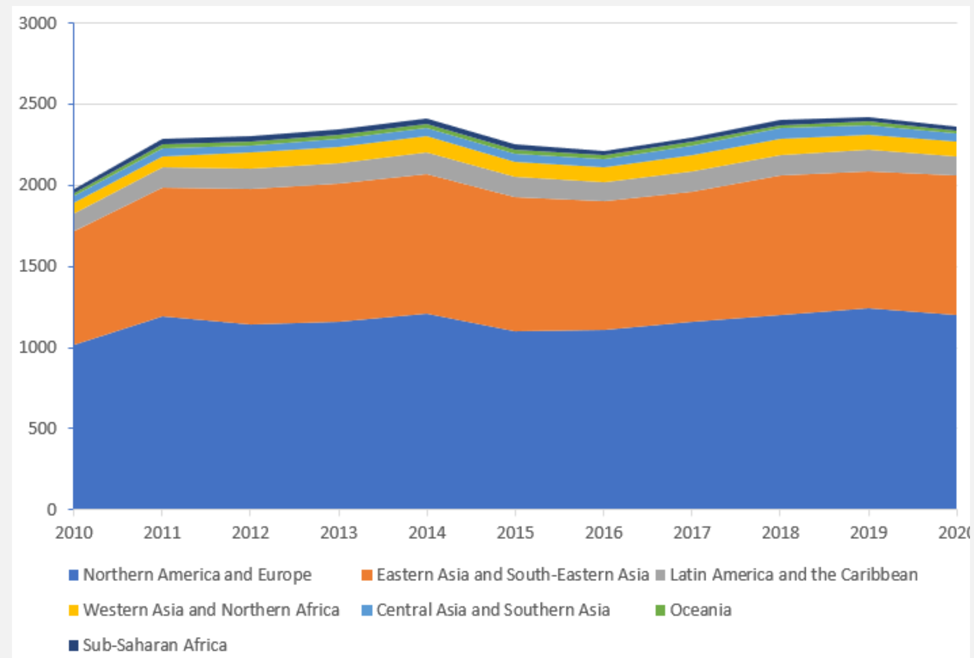
Environmentally Sound Technologies (ESTs) are technologies that have the potential for significantly improved environmental performance relative to other technologies. ESTs protect the environment, are less polluting, use resources in a sustainable manner, recycle more of their wastes and products, and handle all residual wastes in a more environmentally acceptable way than the technologies for which they are substitutes.

Promotion of Environmentally Sound Technologies (ESTs) is one of the targets of the 2030 Agenda. To monitoring this target, indicator 17.7.1 "Total amount of funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies" was proposed. The harmonisation of the national approaches still brings a lot of questions, UNEP uses data on total trade of tracked ESTs as an option for monitoring this indicator at the global level.

In 2020, the total trade of tracked ESTs was 2 364 billion USD, increased by 48 per cent since 2010. An analysis of total trade of tracked ESTs from 2010 to 2020 shows a positive trend with some recessions between 2014 and 2016, as well as between 2019 and 2020 (see chart 1). The decline in trade of tracked ESTs from 2014 to 2016 correlates with the findings of the 2017 UN World Economic Situation and Prospects report, which noted the lowest rate of world trade flows since the global financial crisis due to cyclical factors and a series of structural shifts. The decline since 2019 is due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The vast majority of trade of tracked ESTs is in North America and Europe, as well as in Eastern Asia and South-Eastern Asia, accounting for about 85-87 per cent annually from 2010 to 2020.

Total trade of tracked Environmentally Sound Technologies, 2010-2022 (billion USD)



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- General recommendations are provided in the INDICATOR METHODOLOGY FOR SDG 17.7.1: https://wedocs.unep.org/xmlui/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/38265/SDG17.7.1_Method.pdf
- UNEP (2018). Trade in environmentally sound technologies: Implications for Developing Countries.: https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/27595/TradeEnvTech.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y
- UN (2017). World Economic Situation and Prospects 2017: https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/wesp2017_en.pdf

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Ekaterina Poleshchuk, UNEP; Dany Ghafari, UNEP

Custodian agency(ies): UNEP-CTCN

Target 17.8 Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

Indicator 17.8.1 Proportion of individuals using the Internet

Two-thirds of the world's population uses the Internet, but 2.7 billion people remain offline

Today, an estimated 5.3 billion people, or 66 per cent of the world's population, use the Internet. This represents a growth rate of 6.1 per cent over 2021, up from 5.1 per cent for 2020-2021, but pales in comparison with the 11 per cent for 2019-2020 seen at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. That leaves 2.7 billion people offline, showing just how much remains to be done if the target of universal and meaningful connectivity that the world set itself for 2030 is to be reached.

In Australia and New Zealand, universal use (defined for practical purposes as an Internet penetration rate of at least 95 per cent) has been reached already, and Europe and Northern America are at close distance from this target. In Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern and South-Eastern Asia, and Northern Africa and Western Asia, just over three-quarters of the population use the Internet. In Central and Southern Asia and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand), this share was only half of the population, while in the average for Sub-Saharan Africa is just 39 per cent of the population.

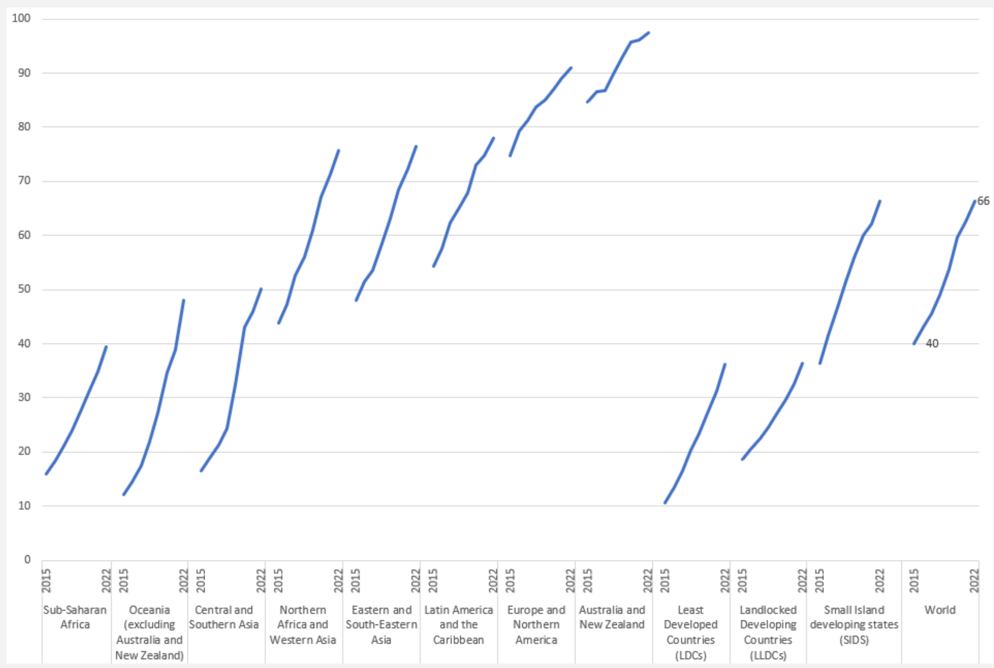
Universal connectivity also remains a distant prospect in the least developed countries (LDCs) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), where only 36 per cent of the population is currently online.

The world takes a small step towards digital gender parity

On a global scale, 69 per cent of men are using the Internet, compared with 63 per cent of women. This means there are 259 million more men than women using the Internet in 2022.

Gender parity is deemed achieved when the gender parity score, defined as the female percentage divided by the male percentage, stands between 0.98 and 1.02. Over the last three years, the world has been taking small steps towards gender parity, moving from 0.90 in 2019 to 0.92 in 2022. The gender parity score, however, only provides a partial picture, because it represents the ratio of two percentages. Measured by the absolute difference between the numbers of men and women online, the gender gap actually *increased* by 20 million. Furthermore, while women account for roughly half of the population, they account for a disproportionate – and increasing – share of the global offline population: women now outnumber male non-users by 18 per cent, up from 11 per cent in 2019.

Proportion of individuals using the Internet (%)

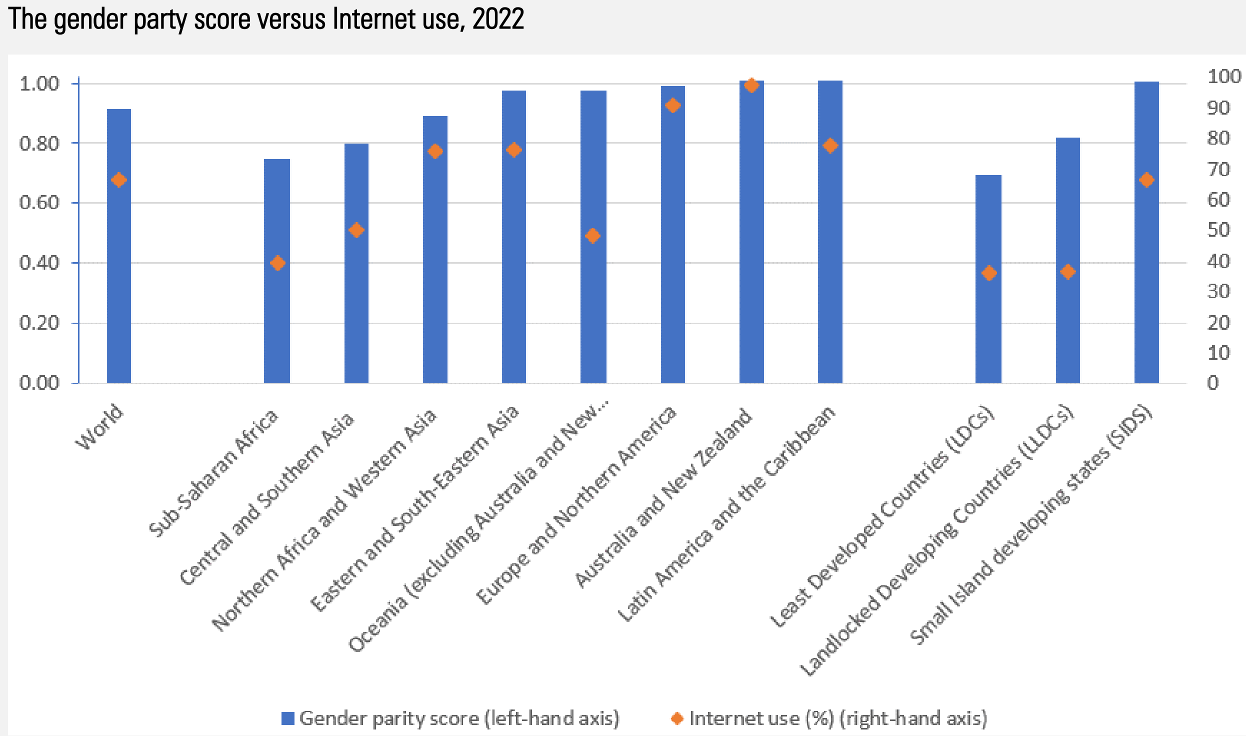


Regions with a high proportion of Internet users, such as Australia and New Zealand, Europe and Northern America necessarily also have a high gender parity score. Gender parity is also reached in Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania (excluding Australia and New Zealand), despite much lower Internet penetration rates. Low gender parity scores are recorded in the regions with the lowest Internet penetration rates, Sub-Saharan Africa, Central and Southern Asia, and Northern Africa and Western Asia.

Generally, the regions with the highest Internet use also have the highest gender parity scores. In the Americas, the CIS and Europe, gender parity has been achieved. Both the Asia-Pacific and the Arab States have improved their gender parity score, whereas Africa has stalled in the last three years.

LDCs and LLDCs show the same trends as Sub-Saharan Africa: low Internet use and a low gender parity score, with hardly any progress towards gender parity over the last three years. The small island developing States (SIDS) are an exception to the correlation between low Internet use and a low gender parity score: while universal connectivity remains elusive, these islands reached full gender parity.

The gender party score versus Internet use, 2022



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- ITU, Measuring digital development: Facts and Figures 2022, see https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/statistics/facts-figures-2022/
- ITU DataHub, available at https://datahub.itu.int/
- ITU, Digital Development Dashboard, available at https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/Digital-Development.aspx

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Martin Schaaper, ITU

Custodian agency(ies): ITU

Target 17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the Sustainable Development Goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation

Indicator 17.9.1 Dollar value of financial and technical assistance (including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation) committed to developing countries

Custodian agency(ies): OECD

Target 17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, including through the conclusion of negotiations under its Doha Development Agenda

Indicator 17.10.1 Worldwide weighted tariff-average

Custodian agency(ies): WTO,ITC,UNCTAD

Target 17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020

Indicator 17.11.1 Developing countries' and least developed countries' share of global exports

Custodian agency(ies): WTO,ITC,UNCTAD

Target 17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries, consistent with World Trade Organization decisions, including by ensuring that preferential rules of origin applicable to imports from least developed countries are transparent and simple, and contribute to facilitating market access

Indicator 17.12.1 Weighted average tariffs faced by developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States

Custodian agency(ies): WTO,ITC,UNCTAD

Target 17.13 Enhance global macroeconomic stability, including through policy coordination and policy coherence

Indicator 17.13.1 Macroeconomic Dashboard

Custodian agency(ies): World Bank

Target 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

Indicator 17.14.1 Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development

In most countries, government administrations have no dedicated team responsible for ensuring policy coherence on sustainable development that makes it difficult to monitor the number of countries in which such mechanisms are in place and receive feedback from countries

Target 17.14 of the 2030 Agenda, to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development, is a crucial target for making the SDGs work in synergy, horizontally, across policy sectors, and vertically, across levels of the government administration. Enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development is important for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) in a balanced and integrated manner; for ensuring coherence between policies at various levels of government; and for ensuring that policies in different sectors are mutually supportive and do not work against each other. It is also important in addressing the impacts of domestic policy internationally.

To monitor the number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development (SDG indicator 17.14.1), UNEP has proposed a methodology that interprets 'policy coherence of sustainable development' as the coherence between policies in general that cover the dimensions of sustainable development. This indicator is a composite indicator that covers mechanisms related eight aspects: Institutionalization of Political Commitment, Long-term considerations in decision-making, Inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination, Participatory processes, Policy linkages, Alignment across government levels, Monitoring and reporting for policy coherence, and Financing for policy coherence.

Unfortunately, today in most countries, government administrations have no dedicated team responsible for ensuring the coherence of policies on sustainable development. This makes it difficult to monitor this important indicator and get feedback from countries, and it is not uncommon for countries to inform UNEP that they cannot find a responsible authority for this indicator at the country level.

The first data collection exercise was held in 2020. At that time, 27 countries reported on their level of existence of mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence for sustainable by filling out the appropriate questionnaire. The result showed that for 10 countries the level of existence of mechanisms in place is measured as middle with a score from 31 to 70 per cent, 12 countries can be considered as countries with high level of existence of mechanisms in place with a score from 71 to 90 per cent, and five countries showed results more than 91 per cent considered as advanced. There was no correlation of this score with the regional distribution: the five advanced level countries represent different regions such as Europe, West Asia, South Asia and the Caribbean.

The second cycle of data collection began at the end of 2022 and is still ongoing. UNEP has already received feedback from 21 countries. As in the first data collection cycle, there are no clear trends in regional distribution. The countries that have already shared their report represent all geographical regions. 11 countries out of 21 reported on this indicator for the first time.

At the same time, it is important to emphasize that the meaningful information on the indicator is mostly qualitative, because simple enumeration, at global level, of the countries with mechanisms for policy coherence for sustainable development in place or, at the national level, of the mechanisms that have been put in place, gives no indication whether the mechanisms are effective.

Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- The methodology for calculating this indicator is available in the UNEP document "Methodology for SDG-indicator 17.14.1: Mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development".

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Ekaterina Poleshchuk, UNEP

Custodian agency(ies): UNEP

Target 17.15 Respect each country's policy space and leadership to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

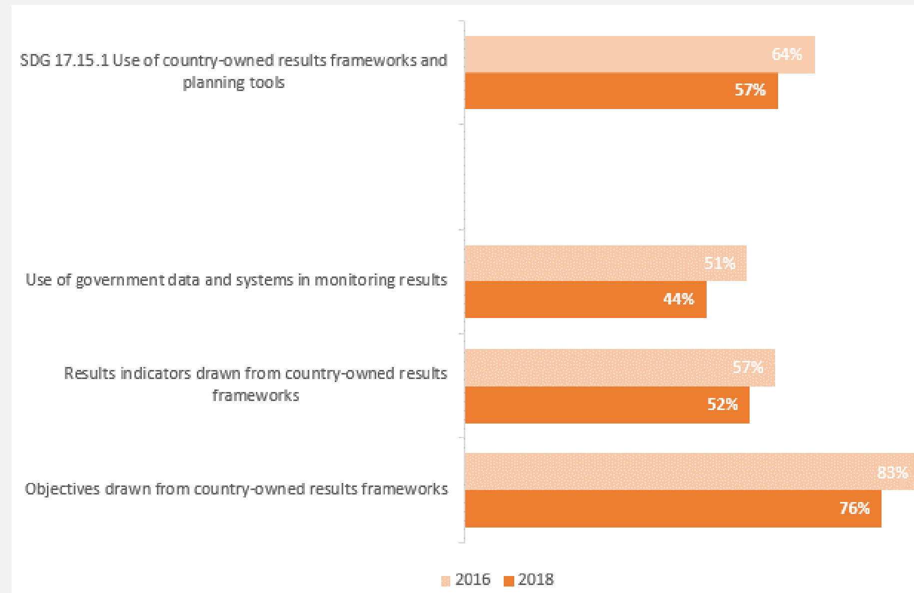
Indicator 17.15.1 Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation

Greater providers' alignment to countries' objectives and results frameworks is key for a long-term recovery that accelerates achievement of the SDGs

Effective partnerships are critical to catalyse development cooperation, especially to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and cope with the spill overs of multiple international crisis. Country ownership, building on developing countries' systems and aligning with country priorities are key for a long-term recovery that accelerates achievement of the SDGs.

The COVID pandemic has demonstrated the need for a shift in development co-operation practice, from short-term solutions to more long-term, predictable, sustainable development planning. Only a third of partner countries have timely, regular, and accurate data and information to effectively manage resources and devise risk-informed policies and programmes. To this end, while there is a need for partner countries to invest in the national statistical and monitoring and evaluation systems, providers of development co-operation must increase alignment of their development objectives to country priorities as well as increase the use of country government data and statistics for monitoring the results of their development co-operation programmes. Data suggests that country-owned results frameworks are considered more often as general guidance for outcome objectives, but their use is narrower regarding project indicators and data sources. While most countries have strengthened development planning since 2011, the use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by bilateral providers of development co-operation has decreased from 64% to 57% since 2016. Around 76% of new development projects and programmes align their outcome objectives to those defined in national strategies and/or plans. However, only around half of results indicators (52%) for these interventions are drawn from country-owned results frameworks and slightly less than half of all results indicators (44%) are monitored using data from government monitoring systems and statistics.

Use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools (bilateral providers, project/programme level)



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- Making development co-operation more effective - 2019 Progress Report
- Statement on Covid-19 and the importance of effectiveness

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Valentina Orrù, OECD; Ashley Palmer, OECD; Luis Roa, UNDP

Custodian agency(ies): OECD, UNDP

Target 17.16 Enhance the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, complemented by multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, in particular developing countries

Indicator 17.16.1 Number of countries reporting progress in multi-stakeholder development effectiveness monitoring frameworks that support the achievement of the sustainable development goals

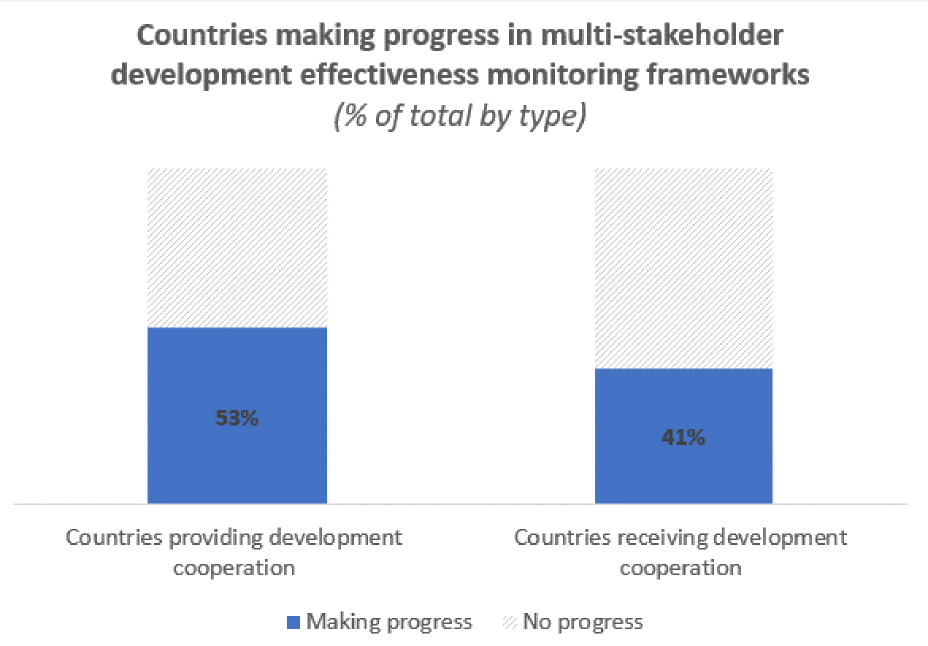
Multi-stakeholder partnerships must be strengthened to accelerate the recovery from Covid-19 disease

Accelerating the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires using development cooperation and partnerships effectively, in a way that draws the best contributions fromvarious partners. In 2018, 51 countries (31 recipients and 20 providers of development cooperation) had made overall progress towards strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Whilst overall progress was uneven among countries and across effectiveness areas, countries receiving development cooperation reported progress or maintained the achievements made in improving the quality of their public financial management systems and facilitating mutual accountability for use of development cooperation. However, substantial efforts are needed to increase the space for civil society's contribution to development. Despite efforts from both public and private actors to increase mutual trust, more inclusive and relevant dialogue is needed to leverage the potential of the private sector's contribution to sustainable development.

Countries providing development cooperation made progress in reporting information about their development cooperation activities and flows and untying their aid. Urgent action is needed to reverse negative trends in medium-term predictability of development cooperation, and greater effort is needed to use countries' public financial management systems when channelling development cooperation to the public sector.

Fifty-one countries made progress in multistakeholder development effectiveness monitoring framework



Additional resources, press releases, etc. with links:

- [Making development co-operation more effective - 2019 Progress Report]
- [Statement on Covid-19 and the importance of effectiveness]

Storyline authors(s)/contributor(s): Valentina Orrù, OECD; Ashley Palmer, OECD; Luis Roa, UNDP

Custodian agency(ies): OECD, UNDP

Target 17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

Indicator 17.17.1 Amount in United States dollars committed to public-private partnerships for infrastructure

Custodian agency(ies): World Bank

Target 17.18 By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

Indicator 17.18.1 Statistical capacity indicator for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring

Custodian agency(ies):

Indicator 17.18.2 Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Custodian agency(ies): PARIS21

Indicator 17.18.3 Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding

Custodian agency(ies): PARIS21

Target 17.19 By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Indicator 17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries

Custodian agency(ies): PARIS21

Indicator 17.19.2 Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration

Custodian agency(ies): UNSD