



**15** LIFE  
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# 15.a.1 Official development assistance on biodiversity and ecosystems

Rosstat/UNECE/UNEP/OECD workshop on environment-related SDG indicators

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### SD objective and target

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- **Objective**
  - Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- **Target**
  - Target 15.a: Mobilize and significantly increase financial resources from all sources to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystems
  - Target 15.b: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation
- **Indicator**
  - 15.a.1 Official development assistance and public expenditure on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems
- **Custodian agency: OECD**



### Definition



### Gross disbursements of total ODA from all donors for biodiversity

- **Measured by**
  - The sum of ODA flows from all donors to developing countries that have biodiversity as a principal or significant objective
- **Rationale**
  - ODA plays a key role in mobilising resources for implementing Agenda 2030
  - Indicates the public effort that donor countries provide to developing countries for biodiversity
  - To be complemented with information on other public expenditure on biodiversity and on business expenditure



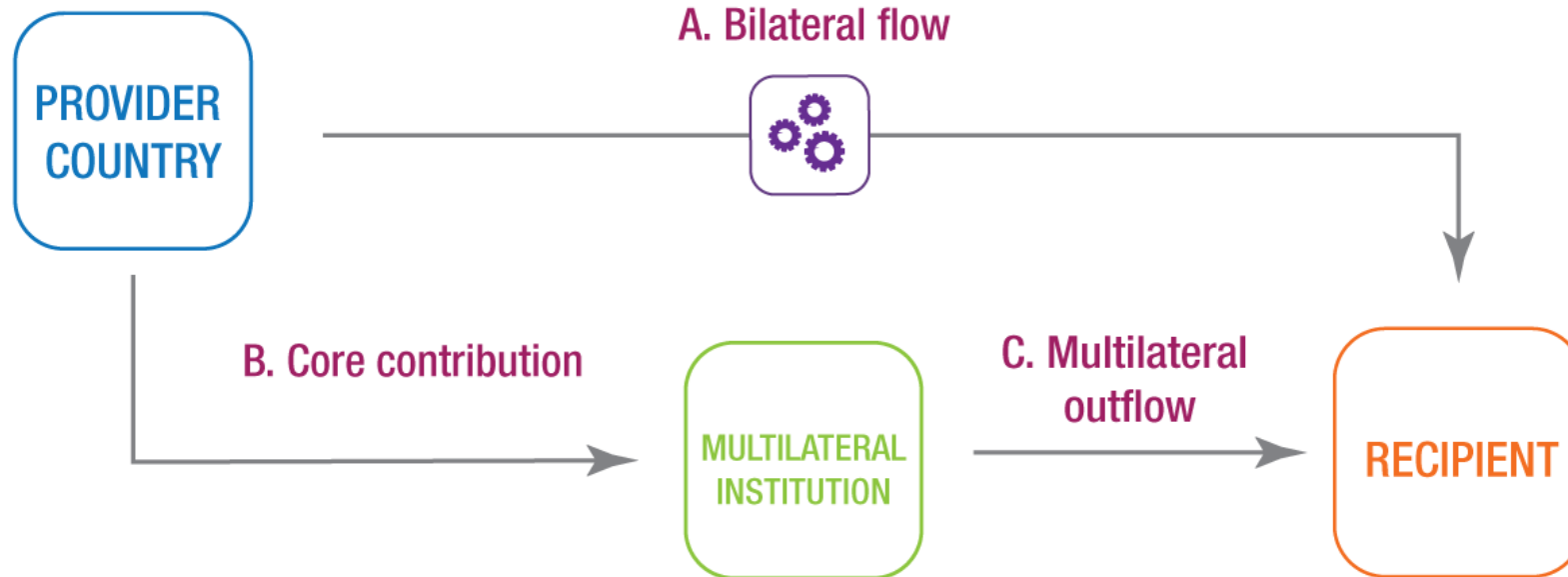
### Concepts



- **Official Development Assistance (ODA) as defined by the OECD DAC**
  - Flows of official financing that
    - are administered with the main objective to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries, and
    - are concessional in character with a grant element of at least 25 per cent (using a fixed 10% rate of discount).
  - From a donor perspective, ODA includes contributions of donor government agencies, at all levels, to developing countries (“bilateral ODA”) and to multilateral institutions.
  - From a recipient perspective, ODA receipts comprise disbursements by bilateral donors and multilateral institutions.
  - Lending by export credit agencies—with the pure commercial purpose of export promotion—is excluded
  - Definition and measurement regularly reviewed
    - List of countries eligible to receive ODA updated every 3 years, based on per capita income
    - New statistical framework to increase comparability across data providers and better identify resources to implement Agenda 2030



## Concepts (2)



Recipient perspective = Bilateral flow + Multilateral outflow

Provider perspective = Bilateral flow\* + Core contribution



### Data sources and reporting mechanisms

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- **Data sources and data collection**
  - OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS)
- **The OECD Creditor Reporting System (CRS), since 1973**
  - Based on standard methodology and agreed definitions
  - Single file format to report at item level on all flows to developing countries
  - Annual reporting by official national sources, validation by OECD
- **Data coverage**
  - All high income countries, growing number of middle-income donors (about 70)
  - Flows to about 150 developing countries (all low-income, low-middle and upper-middle income countries).
  - Data obtained at activity level, disaggregated by provider and recipient country, type of finance, type of resources provided
- **Data on biodiversity-related ODA**
  - Activity data from the CRS, combined with a marker on biodiversity



### The biodiversity marker

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- **The biodiversity marker**

- Introduced in 2002 with other Rio markers (climate, desertification)
- Definition and eligibility criteria closely aligned with the Convention of Biological Diversity Convention (CBD)
- Reviewed in 2016-18

- **Definition**

- An activity should be classified as biodiversity-related (score Principal or Significant) if it promotes at least one of the three objectives of the Convention (CBD):
  - the conservation of biodiversity,
  - sustainable use of its components (ecosystems, species or genetic resources), or
  - fair and equitable sharing of the benefits of the utilisation of genetic resources.”



## The biodiversity marker: Eligibility criteria



### Expanded in 2018 to better reflect the 2010 Aichi Targets

*The activity contributes to:*

- 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.

**The activity will score “principal objective” if it directly and explicitly aims to achieve one or more of the above six criteria.**





## The biodiversity marker (3)



- Indicative table for biodiversity**

- To guide countries' scoring of activities with a biodiversity objective

**1.2. Indicative table to support coding of the Biodiversity marked projects.**

DAC-5 Sector code <sup>a</sup>	CRS purpose code <sup>a</sup>	Sector <sup>a</sup>	Scoring in descending order of likelihood <sup>a</sup>	Rationale for scoring <sup>a</sup>	Examples of Qualifying Activities. <sup>b</sup> <i>The list is not exhaustive. The activities may be scored against the objective only if the eligibility criteria are fulfilled<sup>a</sup></i>
110 <sup>a</sup>	All purpose codes in category 110 <sup>a</sup>	EDUCATION <sup>a</sup>	0, 1 or 2 <sup>a</sup>	Activities in education, research and training for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components are eligible to be marked with a score of 2. The inclusion of biodiversity topics into wider educational programmes is eligible to be marked with the score of 1. <sup>a</sup>	Development of training programs, education curriculum, research and knowledge sharing activities principally focused on biodiversity related subjects [2]. ↩ Mainstreaming of biodiversity themes into teaching, research, training and knowledge sharing activities [1]. <sup>a</sup>
120 <sup>a</sup>	All purpose codes in category 120 <sup>a</sup>	HEALTH <sup>a</sup>	0, 1 or 2 <sup>a</sup>	Biodiversity can contribute to improve health of local populations, and it is an essential element for both traditional and modern medicine. Activities with a principal focus on the linkages between biodiversity and human well-being can be marked as 2, while health activities that include biodiversity concerns can be marked as 1. <sup>a</sup>	Protection and conservation of indigenous medicinal plants [2]. ↩
130 <sup>a</sup>	All purpose codes in category 130 <sup>a</sup>	POPULATION POLICIES/ PROGRAMMES AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH <sup>a</sup>	0 <sup>a</sup>		Integration of biological diversity concerns into vector-borne disease eradication programmes (e.g. malaria) [1]. <sup>a</sup>
140 <sup>a</sup>	14010 <sup>a</sup>	Water sector policy and administrative management <sup>a</sup>	1, 2 or 0 <sup>a</sup>	Water sector policy and governance, including legislation, regulation, planning and management of projects, together with institutional capacity development and training activities, could have a strong impact on biodiversity. These activities would be eligible with a score of 2 if their principal objective is to protect biological diversity, and with a score of 1 if they include biodiversity among other goals. <sup>a</sup>	Community-Led Coastal Management with the overall goal of conserving and sustainably developing local biodiversity to benefit human the communities that depend on it [2]. ↩
140 <sup>a</sup>	14081 <sup>a</sup>	Education and training in water supply and sanitation <sup>a</sup>	1, 2 or 0 <sup>a</sup>		Training with the explicit goal of improving biodiversity through water supply and sanitation, particularly in relation to Integrated Water Resource Management [2]. ↩



### Measurement challenges



- **Interpretation of marker eligibility criteria may vary across countries and over time → indicative table designed to help**
- **Not all countries screen all their aid activities**
  - 96% of bilateral ODA is screened against the biodiversity marker (average for 2016-17 for DAC members).
  - given the data are reported through a marker, the amounts shown provide indicative spending rather than actual flows to developing countries.
- **Not all countries report at activity level**
  - Activity level reporting is mandatory for members of the DAC
  - Not for non-DAC providers, only some report their activities.

In 2017, bilateral ODA in support of biodiversity was USD 8.6 billion, an increase of 12% in real terms over 2016.

The largest two recipient countries were Colombia (USD 418 million) and India (USD 414 million).



### Links and references

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- **OECD Development Cooperation Directorate, Financing for Sustainable Development Division**
  - Yasmin Ahmad, Statistical Collections and Dissemination
  - Julia Benn, Statistical Standards and Methods
- **Methodology on ODA data collection**
  - <http://oecd.org/dac/stats/methodology.htm>
- **Reporting directives and questionnaires**
  - <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards>
- **ODA definitions and concepts**
  - <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/officialdevelopmentassistancedefinitionandcoverage.htm>
    - [http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/glaas/en/](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas/en/)
      - <http://www.unep.org/>
    - <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/data.htm>



**Thank you!**