EDITORIAL

How far do we need to go to fulfil the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to “Leave No One Behind”?

While we have witnessed a significant reduction in extreme poverty since the early 2000s – to less than 10% of the global population, we cannot be complacent. That aggregate figure masks a stark reality: today’s world hunger levels – climbing to 821 million undernourished people in 2017 – marks a return to those of a decade ago. At the same time as OECD members and emerging economies in Latin America and Asia experience growing economic prosperity, there has been an increase in economic inequality within countries, threatening sustainable development. In a world of global and national progress, as measured by GNP, the poorest inhabitants are being excluded from development gains. Worse, they are often literally invisible, because national averages do not capture or tell their story due to the lack of good data systems.

We cannot claim to be on track to leave no one behind, when women and girls continue to be disproportionately affected by the risk of poverty: 330 million women and girls live on less than USD 1.90 a day, which is 4.4 million more than men. We cannot claim to be building a better future for all when by 2030, more than 2.3 billion people, or about 27% of the world’s population, will live in fragile contexts, including under the threat of conflict situations, forced displacement, pandemics, violent extremism, famine and natural disasters. This includes more than 80% of the world’s poorest.

We have to reverse these trends. A decisive step change is needed by all actors, from the OECD to civil society, the private sector and national governments, to join forces and focus policies on promoting growth that is inclusive and sustainable, to ensure no one is left behind. In today’s world of unparalleled interconnectedness, our linked fates make our shared responsibility to the most vulnerable non-negotiable. We cannot ignore those at the furthest reaches of the economy, society, politics and, increasingly, on the front line of environmental threats, since climate change has a disproportionate impact on the poorest people.

With more than a decade left before 2030, we still have time to do something about it. The good news is that the development co-operation community is already showing signs of grasping the new context in which we are working. Policies and investments are placing greater emphasis on people-centred growth and well-being. Nonetheless, the Sustainable Development Goals ask much more of development actors if they are to make good on the promise to close first the gaps for those left furthest behind. Development co-operation has to demonstrate its readiness to serve this transformative global development agenda, while prioritizing those most in need.

This Development Co-operation Report 2018 helps clarify what committing to the “Leave No One Behind” pledge means in practice. It takes a fresh and critical look at the readiness and capacity of development co-operation and official development assistance to support developing countries and communities to achieve the SDGs. It also makes the case for more deliberate, systematic and coordinated efforts by development actors and stakeholders to maximise their impact on leaving no one behind.

In all these areas and many more, count on the OECD to continue designing, developing and delivering better policies for more inclusive and sustainable development co-operation.

Angel Gurría
OECD Secretary-General
Leaving no one behind is a radically new level of ambition for governments and societies worldwide, for it implies that the Sustainable Development Goals will only be achieved if they deliver results for everyone and especially the furthest behind. By embracing the pledge in 2015 to leave no one behind, United Nations member states signed up to and entered a new era: one bound by the commitment to universal, equitable and sustainable development for all. Delivering on this agenda will require fundamental refocus and reform of systems, institutions and policies, from the global to the local level.

Delivering on this central promise of the 2030 Agenda means lifting at least 730 million people out of extreme poverty – those who despite two decades of strong economic growth remain trapped in poverty, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa and in fragile contexts. It also means addressing inequalities, discriminations, and fragilities. According to the World Inequality Lab, inequalities leave less than 9% of global income to the poorest 50% of the world’s people. Intersecting discriminations and disadvantages afflict women and girls, minority groups and vulnerable populations around the world. An estimated 27% of humanity is expected to live in fragile contexts by 2030 due to the borderless reach of conflict, forced displacement, pandemics, violent extremism, famine and natural disasters. Yet, time may already be running out: in some areas we are actually backsliding – for example, 40 million more people went undernourished between 2014 and 2017.

Reaching people trapped in a complex web of deprivations is all the more difficult in situations where governments and private actors are amongst the world’s most under resourced. In order to support them in the most efficient way, governments, international partners and providers of development co-operation have to carefully examine the strengths and weaknesses of their policies, investments and other instruments, including our rules based multilateral system, to ensure they are fit to meet this pledge with benefits for citizens everywhere.

Indeed, in 2017, as it revised its mandate, the OECD Development Assistance Committee affirmed its commitment to “supporting developing countries in their efforts to improve the lives of their peoples, leaving no-one behind […]”. That call echoed the 2030 Agenda’s clear, unequivocal and unprecedented pledge to meet the Goals for all – all countries, all people.

Providers of development co-operation and official development assistance (ODA) have a unique role to play: their policies and concessional resources are designed to improve the welfare of citizens in developing countries which in turn contributes to global welfare in our interdependent world. The purpose of ODA, the agreed measure of development co-operation, is not to seek immediate financial or commercial returns: it can focus on longer-term results, invest patiently in contexts where public revenues grow irregularly and slowly, and advocate for and reach groups and areas that are less accessible or less of a priority in national development strategies.

But as this edition of the Development Co-operation Report shows, providers of development co-operation need to adapt their approaches in the face of this new ambition: First by renewing their narratives, to make the case that focusing on those left behind worldwide is essential to the well-being of citizens at home, as it also feeds into key strategic interests such as economic growth, peace and security. Second, providers must mainstream inclusiveness, universal access and equality of opportunity across the whole portfolio of their activities, systematically identifying who is furthest behind and where, and tracking progress for them. Finally, they must scale up official finance for sustainable development and improve the way this finance is allocated in order to reach the countries and sectors where needs are greatest.

This report aims to support reform of development co-operation: it frames the challenge of leaving no one behind from the points of view of a variety of actors, documents dozens of examples of good practice so far, and highlights priority areas for action. Importantly, it provides a starting point for renewed dialogue, peer learning and accountability, which the OECD is proud to host and facilitate.

Jorge Moreira da Silva
Director, Development Co-operation Directorate
LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND

How development co-operation can play to its strengths to achieve the SDGs for all.

WHAT IT MEANS

People-centred and informed by the voices and needs of people and countries that are left out

Access and rights for everyone including the poorest and most vulnerable in the hardest to reach areas

Preserve the environment and development results for future generations

WHAT IT TAKES

Success cannot be achieved solely on the back of faster economic growth. It requires strong political will to...

understand multidimensional drivers, needs, and results with the right data

accelerate progress for the poorest and most disadvantaged people and places on all SDGs

tackle discrimination, vulnerability and exclusion

A CALL TO RENEW AND REFORM DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION FRAMEWORKS

NEW NARRATIVES

Leaving no one behind improves lives everywhere = shared prosperity, peace and security

BEFTER FOCUS

Deliberately align the whole portfolio - policies, allocations and instruments - to leaving no one behind

MORE & SMARTER AID

Make the most of ODA’s unique ability to reach the people and countries with the greatest needs
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2015, UN member states approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – a transformative global agenda that integrates the economic, social and environmental pillars of development within 17 intricately interdependent Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Central to the 2030 Agenda is a pledge to meet the Goals for all, leaving no one behind, and endeavouring to reach the furthest behind first. The Development Co-operation Report 2018 unpacks the meaning of this pledge with a specific focus on the unique role and added value of development co-operation and official development assistance (ODA). This report responds to demand from members of the OECD Development Assistance Committee for greater clarity on how to answer the pledge.

In a global context of rising income and wealth inequalities within and between countries, alongside more frequent climate-related shocks, hard-won development gains are under threat. More visible and urgent risks to development and the environment are pressuring governments, the international community and development partners to respond and adapt. They are facing a clear need to renew strategies and investments in eradicating poverty, curbing inequalities, and tackling the drivers of these threats to sustainable development, which have consequences globally.

So what does committing to leave no one behind mean in practice? Recognising that there is no single response to this question and that every UN member state is responsible for delivering the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs for all, this report provides a comprehensive view. It uses the latest evidence, data and analysis from a range of governmental, academic and non-governmental experts and policy makers on what it means to be left behind and strategies that work. It also takes a fresh and critical look at the readiness and capacity of development co-operation and official development assistance to support developing countries and communities to achieve the SDGs for all.

It is clear that the pledge to leave no one behind entails a substantive shift in the narrative on sustainable development in all countries - to consider and include the people who are not benefitting from progress for often-intersecting political, social, economic, environmental, cultural and structural reasons through inclusive, equitable and sustainable development in developing countries. Chapters and case studies from Benin, Indonesia, Kenya, Latin America and West Africa show how more inclusive social, economic and environmental policies backed with the right data and evidence, can make a real difference towards equitable and sustainable development.

Part 1 of the report provides evidence of why leave no one behind matters along with data and analysis on what it means to be left behind. Chapters zoom-in on eight critical issues that need to be tackled to achieve the SDGs for all: ending extreme poverty in countries most in need; tackling rising income inequality; addressing fragility; enabling inclusive governance; the imperative of climate action; making progress towards gender equality and women’s economic empowerment; including the world’s 1.2 billion young people; and ensuring persons with disabilities are no longer left behind.

Part 2 investigates leaving no one behind in practice. Chapters shed light on the potential impact of more integrated policies, budgets and programmes across sectors and between levels of government in reaching the most vulnerable. Achieving the SDGs for all relies on data and diagnostics that count everyone and are disaggregated by factors like income, sex and gender, geography, age and disability. National statistical systems still need to develop these data capabilities. Ensuring the right enabling environment for civil society to deepen its grassroots role of representing the marginalised is also crucial. Other local forces for inclusion are micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. Such enterprises can play a larger role if they have sufficient access to affordable finance, one of the areas in which development co-operation can contribute.

Part 3, building on responses by DAC members to a survey on their policies and approaches, discusses ways forward for development co-operation policies, financing and programming to be fit for purpose in leaving no one behind. The final part of the report (Part Four) contains the individual aid profiles of all members of the DAC as well as 13 other providers that report to the OECD in a sufficiently granular manner, and private development finance from two foundations. It also includes estimates on development finance for 10 countries that do not currently report to the OECD.
A call to update development co-operation frameworks

The Development Co-operation Report 2018: Joining forces to leave no one behind makes a strong case for the unique role of development co-operation in supporting countries and the global community to achieve the 2030 Agenda. However, to keep the collective promise of achieving SDGs for all, leaving no one behind, and reaching the furthest behind first, business as usual development co-operation will not suffice. Providers need to make new deliberate, systematic and co-ordinated efforts to adapt their narratives, management practices and financing to maximise individual and collective impact. This report calls for providers to update development co-operation frameworks in three ways:

1. A new narrative spelling out the mutual benefits of leaving no one behind for everyone;
2. Deliberately mainstreaming the objective of inclusive, equitable and sustainable development through development co-operation portfolios, and harnessing agents of change, innovation and data;
3. A smarter use and allocation of ODA as an integral part of broader efforts to increase the volume of financing to achieve the SDGs for all.

IN MY VIEW...

The Development Co-operation Report 2018 includes a series of opinion pieces by political and civil society leaders on what it means to leave no one behind:

It is imperative to make growth more inclusive – an OECD perspective, Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20 (Chapter 2)

Can we leave no one behind in a world so unequal?, Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of Oxfam International (Chapter 3, Inequality section)

We need new ways of working across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus so no girl is left behind, Ulla Tørnæs, Minister for Development Cooperation, Denmark (Chapter 3, Fragility section)

When the world invests in girls and women, everyone wins, Katja Iversen, President and Chief Executive Officer, Women Deliver (Chapter 3, Women and girls section)

The role of African civil society organisations in leaving no one behind, Kumi Naidoo, Founding Chair, and Coumba Toure and Muhammed Lamin Saidykh, Co Movement Coordinators, Africans Rising for Justice, Peace & Dignity (Chapter 6)

We need to step up efforts to fulfil our pledge, Dr Maria Flachsbarth, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (Chapter 9)

Joining forces to leave no small island developing state behind, The Right Honourable Keith C. Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada (Chapter 10)

Technological change raises the stakes for action to leave no one behind, Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator (Chapter 12)

Next year’s BAPA+40 is a unique opportunity to forge a new global consensus for international development co-operation, Jorge Faurie, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Argentina (Chapter 13)
Overview
Development co-operation for 2030 - Renewing and reforming to deliver on leaving no one behind
By Ida McDonnell and Rahul Malhotra, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

The overview responds to the question: what does the pledge to “leave no one behind” mean in practice? It discusses how inclusive, equitable and sustainable development should be the primary objective of policies, investments and partnerships to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Pathways to lift at least 730 million people out of extreme poverty and up to 2.3 billion people out of fragility between now and 2030 need smarter, context-specific development strategies. This in turn demands innovative partnerships with agents of change, more disaggregated data to identify the poorest, most marginalised and vulnerable people and understanding the intersecting drivers of disadvantage and exclusion. The chapter defines how leave no one behind can be achieved and discusses the readiness of development co-operation to play its unique role.

The chapter calls for renewing and reforming development co-operation in three ways: (i) a new narrative spelling out the benefits of leaving no one behind for everyone; (ii) deliberately mainstreaming inclusive, equitable and sustainable development through portfolios; and (iii) a smarter use of official development assistance as an integral part of broader efforts to increase the volume of financing to achieve the SDGs for all.

ANSWERING THE PLEDGE: PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIES

Throughout the chapters to come there are strikingly consistent recommendations for answering the pledge in practice which trace the vital connections between policies, strategies, financing and programming.

Underlying principles for meeting the commitment to leave no one behind include:

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<th>EQUITY</th>
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<td>through impartiality, fairness and justice</td>
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Strategies for implementing leave no one behind through international, regional, national and sub-national policies and investments include:

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<td>through people-centred approaches that include the voices and needs of countries, people and groups that are left behind or at risk of being left behind;</td>
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<th>BEING EVIDENCE-BASED</th>
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<td>through context-specific multidimensional analyses, measurements and indicators of poverty, inequality and well-being beyond national averages, powered by investments in data and statistical systems to fill data gaps about vulnerable people;</td>
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<th>EMBRACING COMPLEXITY AND INTERSECTIONALITY</th>
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<td>by understanding that people, groups, countries and places can be left behind due to several intersecting disadvantages with multiple drivers which require context-specific strategies and responses;</td>
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<th>BEING COHERENT</th>
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<td>through integrated programmes that get out of policy and sectoral silos to achieve the SDGs for all as an interconnected and indivisible package;</td>
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<th>BUILDING RESILIENCE</th>
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<td>and using evidence of the disproportionate impact of risks on the most vulnerable people and places when managing short- and long-term risks;</td>
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<th>MAXIMISING MACRO-MICRO INTERLINKAGES</th>
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<td>that connect policy, legislative, structural and institutional enabling environments on the macro level with investments on the micro level through long-term, context-specific and flexible mechanisms</td>
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Chapter 2
Why leaving no one behind matters

By Elizabeth Stuart, Overseas Development Institute

This chapter examines the origins and imperatives of the leave no one behind commitment, explores how it resonates with wider social and political considerations currently rising up the global agenda, and asks why it is so central to development co-operation today and in the future. In doing so, it reviews understandings of the commitment as an instrumental part of the Sustainable Development Goals, as an anti-discrimination agenda, and as a call to account for the limited reach of past development progress. It introduces some of the notable critiques of leave no one behind and the challenges it faces, but also presents evidence that it can be achieved.

Chapter 3
What does it mean to leave no one behind?

This chapter brings together evidence, data and analysis on what it means to be left behind in relation to eight critical issues that need to be tackled to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for all. These are:

- **Ending extreme poverty**, by Geoffrey Gertz and Homi Kharas, Brookings Institution
- **Tackling rising income inequality**, by Alexandre Kolev, OECD Development Centre
- **Enabling the greatest potential rewards from addressing fragility**, by Rachel Scott, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate
- **Enabling inclusive governance**, by Catherine Anderson and Marc de Tollenaere, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate
- **The imperative of climate action to leave no one behind**, by Bérénice Lasfargues, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate
- **Making progress towards gender equality and women’s economic empowerment**, by Jenny Hedman and Lisa Williams, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate
- **Including the world’s 1.2 billion young people in sustainable development**, by Ji Yeun Rim, OECD Development Centre
- **Ensuring persons with disabilities are no longer left behind**, by Elizabeth Lockwood, CBM International

Chapter 4
Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals for all: Policy priorities for leaving no one behind

By Jessica Espey, Guillaume Lafortune, Guido Schmidt-Traub, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network

Drawing on successful examples, this chapter explores how to meet three challenges to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): investment, policy and data. Sections discuss financing for leaving no one behind, how to co-ordinate planning and budgetary processes to make more efficient use of resources, how to encourage long term, cross-sectoral planning and build the necessary data systems to enable targeted and efficient interventions. The chapter then uses a good practice example from the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) period (2000–15) focused on the health sector, where access to treatments for malaria, AIDS and tuberculosis improved significantly, including for the most vulnerable population groups in low-income countries, to illustrate how investment, policy and data challenges can be met in the context of the SDGs. In particular, it discusses the role that development co-operation can play in generating and scaling up innovations to improve health, education and other societal outcomes.
Chapter 5

Data and diagnostics to leave no one behind

By Rolando Avendano and Charlotte Balitrand, PARIS21 and Carolyn Culey, Development Initiatives

Ensuring progress on the leave no one behind commitment set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires a new approach, one that is based on counting people, and takes into account the factors that contribute to their exclusion. This chapter examines the data challenges posed by the leave no one behind agenda and considers the potential of new and existing data sources to meet them. It makes the case for increased data disaggregation and assesses the tools available for country diagnostics and improving the targeting of resources to those at risk of being left behind. It highlights data success stories, considers the potential for scaling up new data initiatives, and urges greater investment in data and national statistical systems as prerequisites for meeting and monitoring the pledge to leave no one behind.

Chapter 6

Putting the last first? Civil society’s role in leaving no one behind

By Suhani Bhushan and Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah from CIVICUS, Karin Fällman from OECD Development Co-operation Directorate and Wolfgang Jamann from The International Civil Society Centre

Civil society organisations already play pivotal roles in identifying who is being left behind, in undertaking programmes to support them, in filling data gaps, and in advocating for groups that are not otherwise seen or heard. This chapter recognises the necessity of civil society in the effort to leave no one behind and sets out an agenda to enable this role. It identifies the obstacles that prevent civil society from fulfilling its potential to serve and stand up for the marginalised – including restrictions on civic space and ineffective funding structures. The chapter explores how governments, donors and civil society itself can create an enabling environment where all voices are heard and no one is left behind.

109 countries have closed, repressed or obstructed civic space

Chapter 7

The private sector and the catalytic role of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

By Thomas Böhler, Hanna-Mari Kilpeläinen, and Zeki Kocaata OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

Micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) often employ, and provide goods and services to, vulnerable and underserved segments of the population. In this capacity, MSMEs play a pivotal role in promoting inclusive growth and helping to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in a way that leaves no one behind. This chapter provides an overview of opportunities and challenges in unleashing the potential of MSMEs to benefit the poor, and explains how development co-operation can help including through blended finance. It describes the variety of constraints facing MSMEs, such as barriers in accessing finance and lack of capacity, which hinder their abilities to act as drivers of inclusive growth. The chapter also highlights challenges in current development co-operation practices regarding MSMEs, and concludes with a set of questions for development partners seeking have effective private sector engagement.

Chapter 8

Case studies from developing countries: What works and why

Five case studies show initiatives already in place to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals for all people in specific countries and regions.

- In Benin, the government is applying a new approach that focuses on the needs of the poorest 20% of the country’s people, by Abdoulaye Bio Tchané, Minister of Planning and Development, Government of Benin

- In Indonesia, the government shares lessons on what it takes to ensure food assistance programmes reach the most vulnerable of households, by Sri Kusumastuti Rahayu and Elan Satriawan, National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction, Indonesia

- In Muthithi, Kenya, a multidimensional study on welfare has informed local government interventions to help those furthest behind, By Diana Kimani, Jane Mariara, Michael Murigi, Phyllis Machio and Patrick Kariuki, Partnership for Economic Policy, Global Headquarters, Kenya

- Around Latin America, social protection is enhanced when financial inclusion is institutionalised as part of social protection programmes, by Carolina Trivelli, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Ivonne Villada, Proyecto Capital, Carolina Robino, International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

- In West Africa, regional integration and cross-border co-operation have potential to improve economies and lives in remote border regions, by By Freerk Boedeltje, OECD Sahel and West Africa Club

Chapter 9

Development co-operation policies and approaches to leave no one behind

By Chantal Verger and Valentina Sanna, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

While the 2030 Agenda is a collective journey for all countries, the contributions of providers of development co-operation, including Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members, are particularly vital in many development contexts where domestic resources are scarce and national capacity limited. So what does the pledge to leave no one behind really mean for DAC members? This chapter, drawing on a recent survey of members, presents an overview of the approaches they are following as they seek to translate their commitment into effective action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for all. It acknowledges the political and operational challenges they are encountering, and the need for transformative narratives and development co-operation plans, programmes and partnerships that deliver on the potential of leaving no one behind.
Chapter 10

How is financing for development helping to leave no one behind?

By Eric Bensel, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, with support from Giorgio Gualberti and Cecilia Piemonte, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

The 2030 Agenda requires a mobilisation of finance commensurate with its ambitious scope, which includes the bold pledge to leave no one behind. This chapter describes the twofold challenge for development financiers: scaling up finance to implement all 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals; and ensuring that the implementation of these goals benefits even the most marginalised people on the planet. The chapter examines the progress that financiers - public and private, domestic and international - have made towards both objectives and offers suggestions on how to accelerate progress. It highlights specific actions to mobilise greater volumes and more targeted allocations of finance, with a particular emphasis on external private investment, domestic public resources and official development finance.
Chapter 11

Adapting programming to leave no one behind: Lessons from the NGO Humanity & Inclusion

By Blandine Bouniol and Aurélie Beaujolais, Humanity & Inclusion

The commitment to leave no one behind provides an opportunity for all organisations tackling inequality and exclusion to renew their approaches. This chapter reflects the experience of the organisation Humanity & Inclusion – formerly Handicap International – in seeking to operationalise the leave no one behind agenda through more adaptive and evidence based programming. It explains how the commitment to leave no one behind provided a transformative opportunity to develop a new theory of change around the intersecting factors of inequality that reinforce the exclusion of certain people from the services they require. A second step was to develop an analytical framework around the perspective of universal access to services, which serves as a tool to identify how services function and where barriers arise. A third step was to create an Institutional Policy on Disability, Gender and Age, which includes implementation guidelines and markers and drives teams and partners to respond effectively wherever people are left behind due to disability, gender or age.
Chapter 12
Using foresight methods to adapt development co-operation for the future
By Catarina Tully, School of International Futures and Piero Fontolan, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate, in collaboration with Wiebke Bartz-Zuccala, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

To design long-term solutions that ensure no one is left behind, it is necessary to consider the possible alternative futures that lie ahead. Strategic foresight, an approach to think systematically about the future, can support actors in development co-operation to engage with uncertainty and develop solutions that meet both existing and future needs. It allows them to sense and shape the future as it emerges, while building resilience, harnessing the potential of emerging technologies and other trends, and mitigating future risks.

This chapter examines the potential for the development co-operation policy community to use strategic foresight to increase the effectiveness of development interventions; to support developing country governments and citizens; and to achieve the 2030 Agenda for all, in a lasting and adaptable way. It provides examples of how foresight has been used in the sector and concludes with practical ideas for applying foresight to development co-operation.

Chapter 13
Development finance and policy trends
By Yasmin Ahmad and John Egan, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

This chapter highlights emerging trends in official development assistance (ODA) from members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and other providers of development assistance. A key finding is that the growth in the total volume of concessional finance for development is enhanced by providers of development assistance beyond the DAC, due to the scaling up of their aid and better reporting. Furthermore, stronger global economic performance is not translating into more ODA. According to preliminary data, in 2017 net ODA from DAC members reached USD 146.6 billion, or 0.31% of gross national income, a slight fall of 0.6% in real terms from 2016. The fall was due in part to reduced spending on in-donor refugee costs. By contrast, DAC members’ humanitarian aid increased by 6.1% in real terms, to USD 15.5 billion in 2017. Country programmable aid and flows to sub-Saharan Africa and small island developing states continue to decline, while the percentage of aid channelled through the multilateral system and civil society organisations is rising.
TRENDS IN ODA:
MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

DAC AID ROSE!
30% FROM 2006 TO 2016

WHY NOT? Because the share of DAC countries’ spending on development directly in partner countries continues to decline.

58% of ODA in 2009
47% of ODA in 2016

USD 105.6 bn
USD 145 bn
USD 146.6 bn

But is this really enough? NO

At the same time: Humanitarian aid from DAC countries has doubled since 2006
In-donor refugee costs have tripled since 2013

ODA RECEIVED BY COUNTRIES MOST IN NEED: A MIXED PICTURE

Combined flows from DAC countries and multilateral providers to:

- Sub-Saharan Africa: stable (0% growth)
- Fragile contexts: 8% increase
- Small island developing states (excluding debt): 19% decrease

Time period: 2011-2016

COLLECTIVELY, DONORS MUST DOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS

ODA/GNI 0.31% (2017)
ODA/GNI TO LDCs 0.09% (2016)

TARGET 0.70%
TARGET 0.15–0.20%

IT CAN BE DONE!

- Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom all reached or exceeded the 0.7% target in 2017.
- Other providers committed to scale up their efforts e.g. France, Italy, Korea, Switzerland.

ACTION NOW! LET’S REACH OUR TARGETS
PROFILES OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
by Valentina Sanna in collaboration with Yasmin Ahmad, Elena Bernaldo de Quirós, Pierre Blanchard, Emily Bosch, Olivier Bouret, Beatrice Di Francesco, John Egan, Kerri Elgar, Mags Gaynor, Alejandro Guerrero-Ruiz, Rahul Malhotra, Ida Mc Donnell, Valentina Orrú, Aisha Salih, Andrzej Suchodolski, Valérie Thielemans and Hikaru Uzawa, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

The profiles of Development Assistance Committee (DAC) members, which are presented in alphabetical order in this section, give key data on official development assistance (ODA) flows, channels, and thematic and geographic allocations. In line with the overall focus of the Development Co-operation Report 2018, the profiles also provide information on DAC members’ approaches to Leaving no one behind which was gathered through a survey.

PROFILES OF PROVIDERS OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION BEYOND THE DAC
by Marisa Berbegal Ibáñez, Juan Casado Asensio, Tomas Hos, Michael Laird, Nadine Piefer and Cécile Sangaré, in collaboration with Valérie Thielemans, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate

This chapter presents information on the volume and key features of the development co-operation provided by countries that are not members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). The chapter includes the 13 providers who reported to the OECD on their development co-operation programmes with a sufficient level of detail.

It also includes profiles for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Postcode Lotteries, both of which are leading private funders for development. As these foundations report to the OECD on a regular basis following the DAC statistical standards, their data are fully compatible with statistics on other development finance flows, particularly official development assistance (ODA).

ESTIMATES FOR OTHER PROVIDERS OF DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION NOT REPORTING TO OECD
by Marisa Berbegal Ibáñez, Juan Casado Asensio, Michael Laird and Nadine Piefer, OECD Development Co-operation Directorate. Estimates on development co-operation flows were produced by Marisa Berbegal Ibáñez.

This chapter includes information on the estimated volume and key features of the development co-operation provided by ten providers that are not members of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) and which are among the largest providers of development co-operation, including OECD priority partners. The OECD estimates the volume of their programme based on official government reports, complemented by web-based research (mainly on contributions to multilateral organisations).
CASE STUDIES ON LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND: A COMPANION VOLUME TO THE DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION REPORT 2018

The Case Studies on Leaving No One Behind complement the Development Co-operation Report 2018: Joining forces to leave no one behind. They are a source of knowledge and lessons on the multiple, broad and varied, mainstreamed, targeted and co-ordinated ways that poor, vulnerable and marginalised people can be included in and benefit from sustainable development.

The insights, good practices and lessons shared in these case studies were provided by diverse actors. These include official development co-operation ministries and agencies from members of the OECD and the Development Assistance Committee, international organisations, developing country governments, civil society organisations, business, and research bodies.

Case study contributors share knowledge and lessons on what it takes to answer the pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind through national and sub-national policies, strategies and programmes as well as international development co-operation projects, programmes and partnerships. The case studies are organised under two broad categories:

1. Reaching and including people and places. These case studies include examples of how projects and programmes target populations and groups left behind in different sectors and contexts.

2. The enabling role of international co-operation: policies, partnerships and data. These case studies cover diverse international and development co-operation policies and programmes, and tools and instruments to identify who is left behind and where and understand the root causes. There is a strong emphasis on how policies can be more inclusive and multidimensional and several solid examples of partnerships and co-ordinated approaches that are effective in overcoming common challenges with each partner building on its comparative advantage. Many of the case studies showcase how development co-operation can play to its strengths in answering the pledge to leave no one behind.