

GLOBAL PRIVATE PHILANTHROPY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Results of the OECD Data Survey as of 3 October 2017

Background

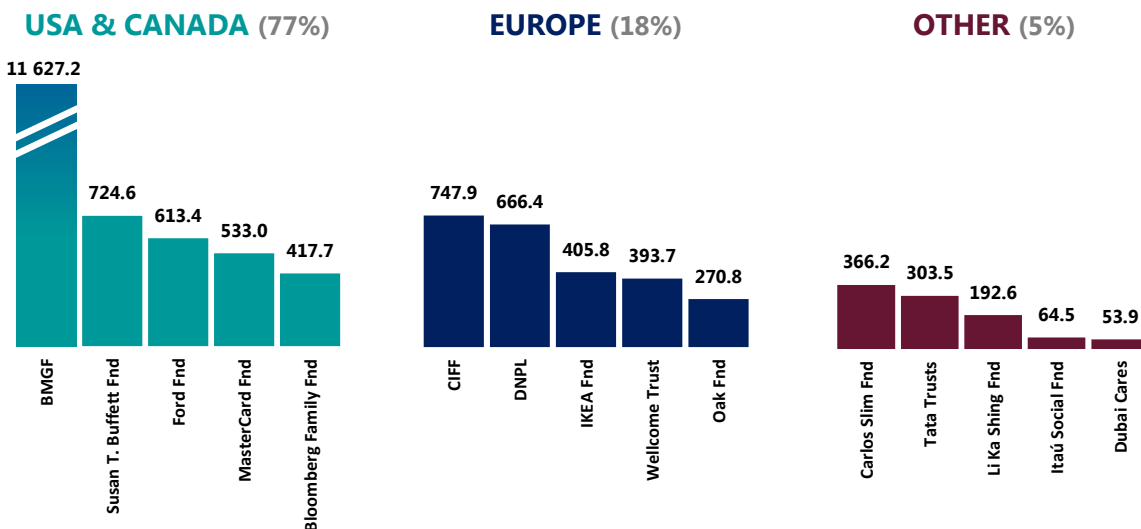
Global private philanthropy is reshaping the development landscape like never before. This is particularly relevant to the 2030 Agenda which emphasises private philanthropy’s role in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In order to dive deeper into philanthropy’s contributions to development, the **OECD Development Co-operation Directorate (DCD)** and the **OECD Network of Foundations Working for Development (NetFWD)** have been working to update and expand the [OECD 2003 report on Philanthropic Foundations and Development Co-operation](#). This exercise is part of OECD efforts to provide an overview of recent developments and the state of play of development finance flows in the framework of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on development finance, the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement to combat climate change.

A major cornerstone of this work is the large-scale **data survey on private philanthropy for development** conducted by the OECD-DCD since September 2016. The objective has been to collect detailed (activity-level) information from the most active and influential private philanthropic foundations¹ involved in development co-operation. **This note presents the results of this survey as of October 2017.**

Philanthropic giving for development amounted to USD 23.4 billion in 2013-15

The survey covered philanthropic giving for developmental purposes, extended either directly to citizens of developing countries or through implementing intermediaries such as NGOs, multilateral institutions, research institutes and private enterprises.² The results indicate these flows amounted to **USD 23.4 billion** in 2013-15, or **USD 7.8 billion per year on average**. These figures are drawn from data on **over 130 private philanthropic foundations**, mostly based in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Switzerland and other European countries, but also India, Brazil, Mexico, Panama, People’s Republic of China (incl. Hong Kong), United Arab Emirates and some African countries.³

Figure 1. Largest foundations working for development per region, USD million, 2013-15



BMGF stands for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations, CIFF for the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, DNPL for the Dutch National Postcode Lottery.

¹ Organisations included in this survey are referred to as ‘foundations’ without prejudice to their legal nature in respective countries. For the purpose of this survey, philanthropic foundations are defined as organisations with a non-governmental ownership, non-profit business model, possessing principal funds of their own (e.g. income from donations, investments, dividends, lotteries, crowdfunding etc.) and promoting social, educational, charitable or other activities serving the common welfare.

² Developing countries include countries on the [DAC List of ODA Recipients](#). Developmental purpose means that the economic development and welfare of developing countries is the main objective of the activity. The term “giving” in this note refers to all activities from philanthropic foundations, although a very small share of the total (0.7%) represents loans and equities.

³ In the case of foundations based in developing countries, the activities captured do not necessarily represent cross-border flows.

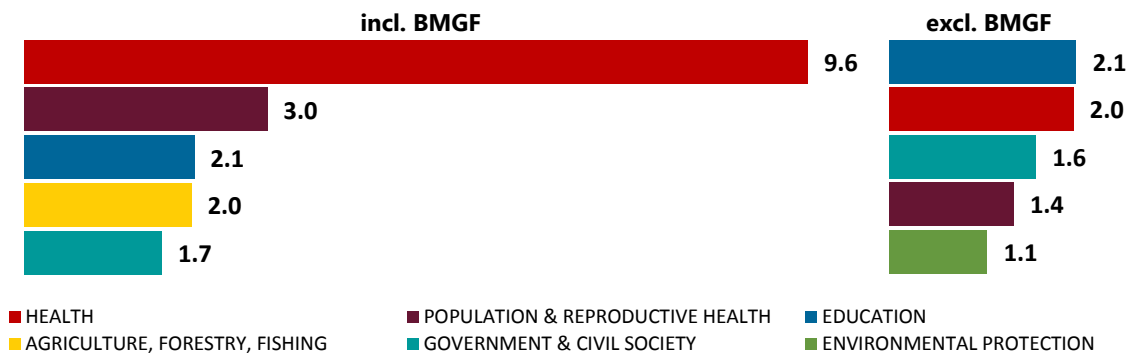
Main foundations

With over USD 11.6 billion of giving over 2013-15, the **Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)** was by far the most generous foundation in the world (50% of the total), followed by the Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, CIFF (3%), the Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation (3%) and the Dutch National Postcode Lottery (3%). While the majority of philanthropic giving originated from North America⁴ (77%), the survey revealed that foundations based in Europe⁵ also played an important role, providing 18% of the total over the three-year period. Giving by foundations located in other countries and regions represented a smaller share of the total (5%).

Main sectors targeted

As shown in figure 2, philanthropic giving predominantly targeted the health and reproductive health & population sectors which together accounted for 54% of the total over 2013-15, followed by education (9%), agriculture (9%) and government & civil society (7% - including mainly human rights, civil society development, ending violence against women and girls, transparency & accountability). Health and reproductive health & population benefitted mainly from BMGF’s giving (73% of sector total), while the education, government & civil society and general environmental protection were mainly fostered by other foundations.

Figure 2. Top five sectors, USD billion, 2013-15



The sectoral analysis above suggests that private philanthropy can play a major role in funding and helping developing countries achieve at least **SDG 1** (“end poverty in all its forms everywhere”), **SDG 2** (“end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”), **SDG 3** (“ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”), **SDG 4** (“ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”), **SDG 5** (“achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”) and **SDG 16** (“promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”).



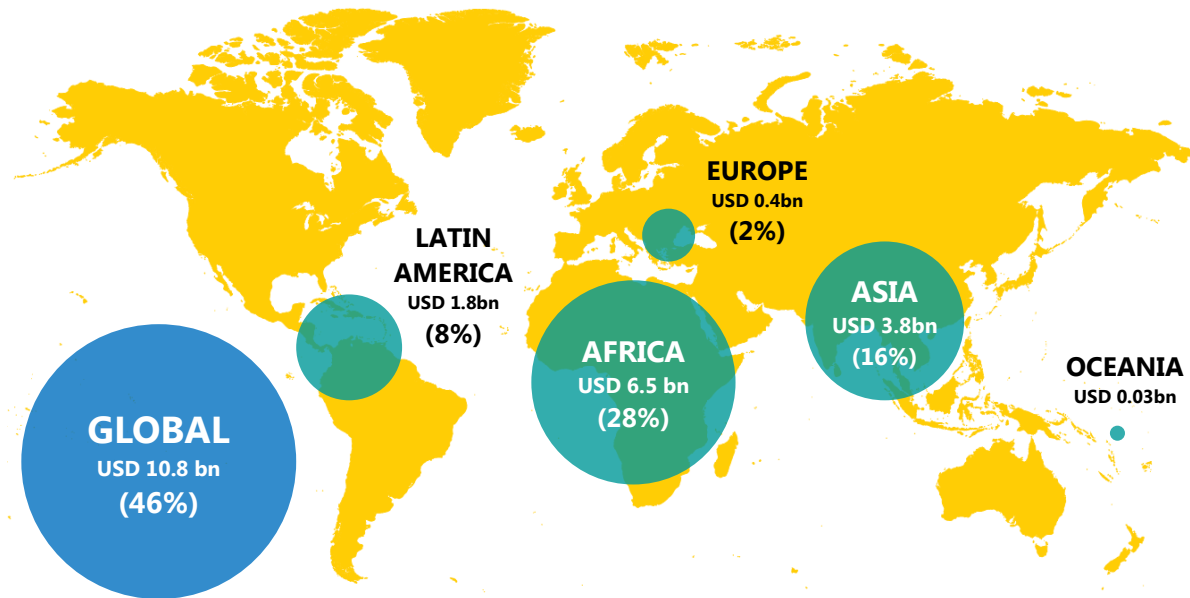
⁴ For the purpose of this flyer, North America includes United States and Canada.

⁵ Including Turkey.

Geographical and income distribution

In terms of geographical distribution, **28% of the total giving was targeted to Africa during the three-year period**, followed by Asia (16%), America (8%) and Europe (2%). **A large share (46%) of the giving had a global or multi-continent scope**⁶.

Figure 3. Geographical distribution, 2013-15

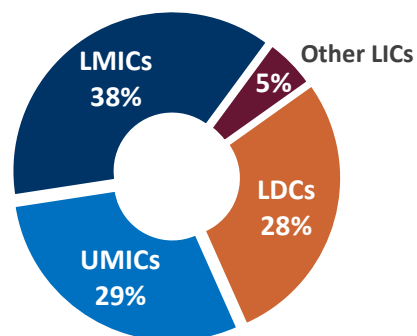


India was the largest recipient country of foundations' giving over 2013-15, as a result of particularly significant giving by the BMGF, Tata Trusts and IKEA Foundation. Five of the top ten recipient countries were from the African continent: **Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Tanzania** (totalling USD 2.3 billion).

Table 1. Top 10 beneficiaries 2013-2015

Country	Amount (USD million)	% of the total
India	1 581.6	6.7%
Nigeria	730.3	3.1%
Mexico	596.1	2.5%
China (People's Republic of)	496.3	2.1%
Ethiopia	459.0	2.0%
Kenya	398.4	1.7%
South Africa	388.4	1.7%
Brazil	329.2	1.4%
Tanzania	326.3	1.4%
Turkey	312.2	1.3%

Figure 4. Income group distribution, 2013-15



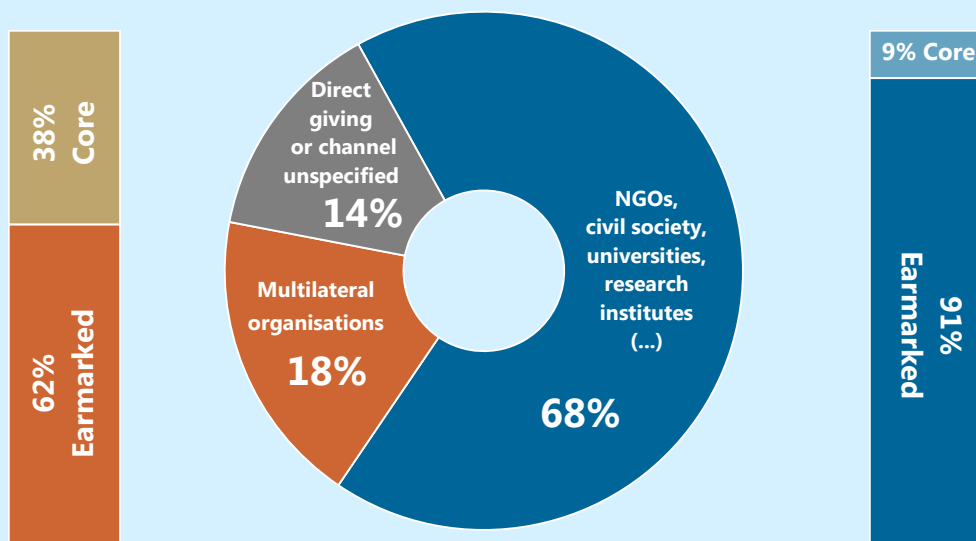
Furthermore, two-thirds of the country-allocable giving benefitted middle-income countries (38% lower middle-income countries – LMICs – and 29% upper middle-income countries – UMICs), while only one-third targeted the low-income countries (28% the least developed countries – LDCs – and 5% other low-income countries – LICs).

⁶ For example, core support to organisations active on multiple continents or contributions to programmes benefiting citizens of multiple continents, such as health research, polio eradication, malaria control, global climate change action, global human rights etc.

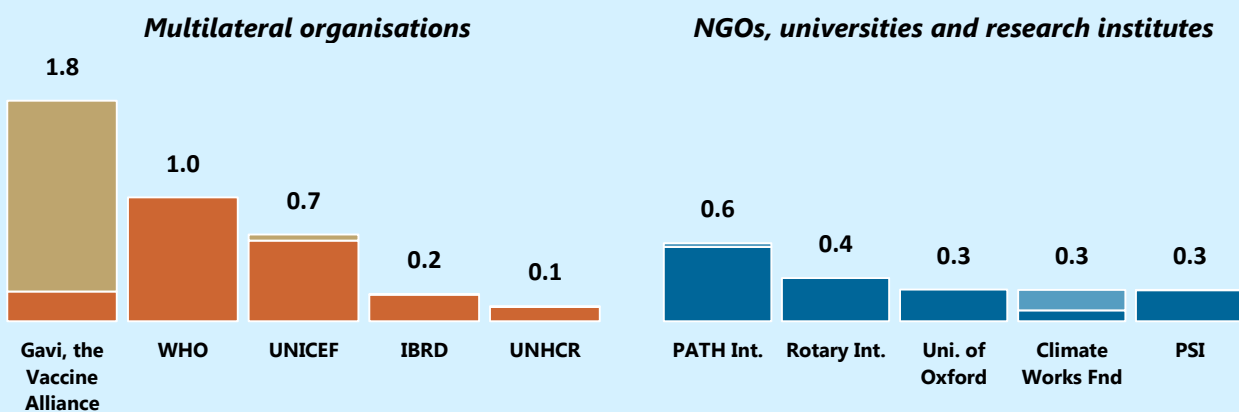
Modalities of giving

As shown in Figure 6, the survey further revealed that a large share of the philanthropic giving was channelled through third parties: 68% through NGOs, research institutes, think tanks, universities, networks, PPPs or private enterprises (of which 9% as core support) and 18% through multilateral organisations (of which 38% as core support). The remaining 14% relate to specific activities implemented by the foundations themselves (including direct charitable activities), programme-related investments and activities for which the channel of delivery was not specified. **Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance**, was the main channel of delivery, followed by **WHO**, **UNICEF**, **PATH International**, **Rotary International** and **University of Oxford**.

Figure 6. Modalities of giving, 2013-15



Top channels of delivery, USD billion, 2013-2015



Contact and more information

Cécile Sangaré

cecile.SANGARE@oecd.org

oe.cd/philanthropysurvey or <http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/beyond-oda-foundations.htm>

Tomas Hos

tomas.HOS@oecd.org