FINANCING WATER AND SANITATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Key trends and figures

Latest trends in official finance and private finance mobilised in favour of water and sanitation in developing countries

Total official finance flows to water and sanitation to developing countries have increased by 5% annually in the last decade, reaching USD 14.3 billion in commitments on average per year in 2014-15¹.

As shown in figure 1, while ODA flows represent 58% of total aid to the water and sanitation sector (amounting to USD 8.2 billion on average in 2014-15, in constant 2014 prices), other types of official interventions are becoming increasingly important in the development finance architecture targeting this sector. Other Official Flows (OOF) have grown by 13% per year since 2006-07, amounting to USD 6 billion on average in 2014-15. The growth in OOF is the main reason for the increase in the general trend behind growing commitments to the water and sanitation sector.

2-y average commitments, USD billion, constant 2014 prices

16

USD billion

2

8

4

0

2006-07 2008-09 2010-11 2012-13 2014-15

ODA flows

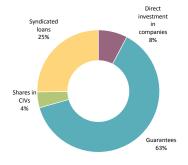
Other Official flows

Figure 1. Trends in aid to water and sanitation, Total official flows from all donors,

ODA flows to water and sanitation increased until 2012-13 but then fell sharply in 2014-15 both in absolute terms and as a percentage of total sector allocable ODA (7.2% of total ODA flows, both bilateral and multilateral, focused on water and sanitation in 2006-07 versus 5.5% in 2014-15).

Figure 2. Private finance mobilised by official development finance interventions to the water and sanitation sector,

USD million, 2012-15



Building on the preliminary findings of the 2016 OECD DAC Survey on amounts mobilised from the private sector by official development interventions², it is estimated that an additional USD 1.5 billion of private resources were mobilised in 2012-15 for water and sanitation (USD 385 million on average per year). The Survey also reveals that the main leveraging instruments in this sector were guarantees (USD 1 billion), followed by syndicated loans (USD 388 million).

² For more results on this survey, see http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/Preliminary-results-MOBILISATION.pdf.



¹ Total official finance flows to water and sanitation refers here to ODA and OOF flows from DAC members, Arab providers of development co-operation and multilateral agencies' outflows.

In 2014-15, Low and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) received the bulk of official flows to water and sanitation (40%), followed by Upper Middle Income Countries (UMICs, 33%) and Least Developed Countries (LICs, 22%). (Figure 3.1).

When looking specifically at ODA flows, again LMICs received 40% followed by LICs with 33% and UMICs with 19%.

Asia is prioritised as a recipient region, receiving 45% of total official financing to water and sanitation, followed by Africa (27%), America (18%) and Europe (6%). Figure 3.2.

Figure 3.1 Income distribution of official flows to water in developing countries in 2014-15,

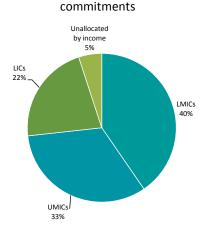
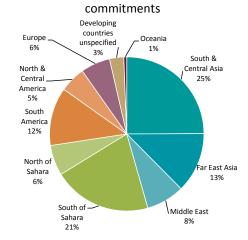
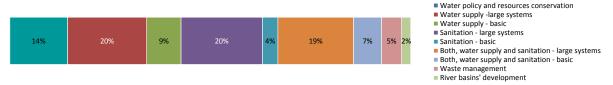


Figure 3.2 Regional distribution of official flows to water in developing countries in 2014-15,



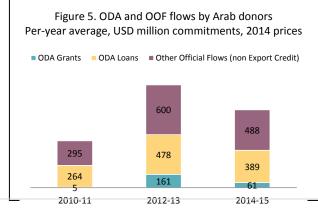
- In 2014-15, the main modality used to channel total official flows in the water sector was investments projects (91%); whereas 5% was in the form of sector budget support; 2% as contributions to specific-purpose programmes and funds managed by international organisations (multilateral, INGO), and 1% as technical assistance.
- An estimated 59% of all official interventions in the water and sanitation sector in developing countries concerned investments in infrastructure to provide water supply (20%), sanitation (20%) and, water and sanitation (19%).

Figure 4. Sub sector breakdown of water and sanitation official interventions in 2014-15.



Box 1. The contribution of Arab providers to the water and sanitation sector in developing countries

From 2009 onwards, Arab ODA and OOF flows are tracked in the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) database, which cover two bilateral providers (Kuwait, United Arab Emirates) and a number of Arab institutions (Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, Islamic Development Bank, Arab Bank for Development in Africa and OPEC Fund for International Development).



In 2014-15, total official flows to the water and sanitation sector from Arab providers amounted to USD 938 million per year, growing at 13% annually in the period 2010-15. This represents 12% of their total official flows to developing countries. From these, USD 938 million, 73% focused on interventions in Africa, 14% on South and Central Asia and 13% on South and Central America. All their activities were extended in the form of investment projects.