

TOTAL Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD): a new measure for the 2030 Agenda

INNOVATIONS FOR THE 2030 AGENDA

WHAT IS TOSSD?

The international community is working to develop a new international statistical standard, **Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)**, in order to track resources invested to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The new framework will – for the first time – allow transparency about the full array of officially-supported bilateral and multilateral flows to developing countries as well as South-South co-operation for sustainable development. It responds to new financing imperatives called for in the 2030 Agenda: mobilising SDG-supportive investments by the private sector; marshalling more resources to provide global public goods; and, promoting right conditions for sustainable development.

Working definition of TOSSD: “TOSSD includes all officially-supported resource flows to promote sustainable development in developing countries and to support development enablers or address global challenges at regional or global levels.”

TOSSD aims to complement, and not replace, ODA. It will measure “external” support – resources provided from beyond the borders of the countries receiving it. It will cover all officially-supported development co-operation and resource flows regardless of financial instruments used or their level of concessionality, or whether they are delivered through bilateral or multilateral channels. TOSSD will enable the international community to monitor resources supporting the SDGs, above and beyond ODA, including private resources that are mobilised through official means. It will also track international support for development enablers and global challenges – heretofore “invisible” in global development finance statistics. The TOSSD framework will be composed of two pillars: one capturing the cross-border flows to developing countries, and another the resources for promoting development enablers or tackling global challenges at regional or global levels.

TOSSD
USD 580 billion (gross)

ODA
USD 169 billion (gross)

Note: Estimated TOSSD flows and gross ODA amounts based on 2014 OECD DAC Data [DCD/DAC(2017)14]

WHY IS TOSSD IMPORTANT FOR DEVELOPMENT?

Today, there is no global framework to measure external financing towards the SDGs and TOSSD aims to fill this gap. TOSSD will provide a critical contribution to development. Specifically, it will:

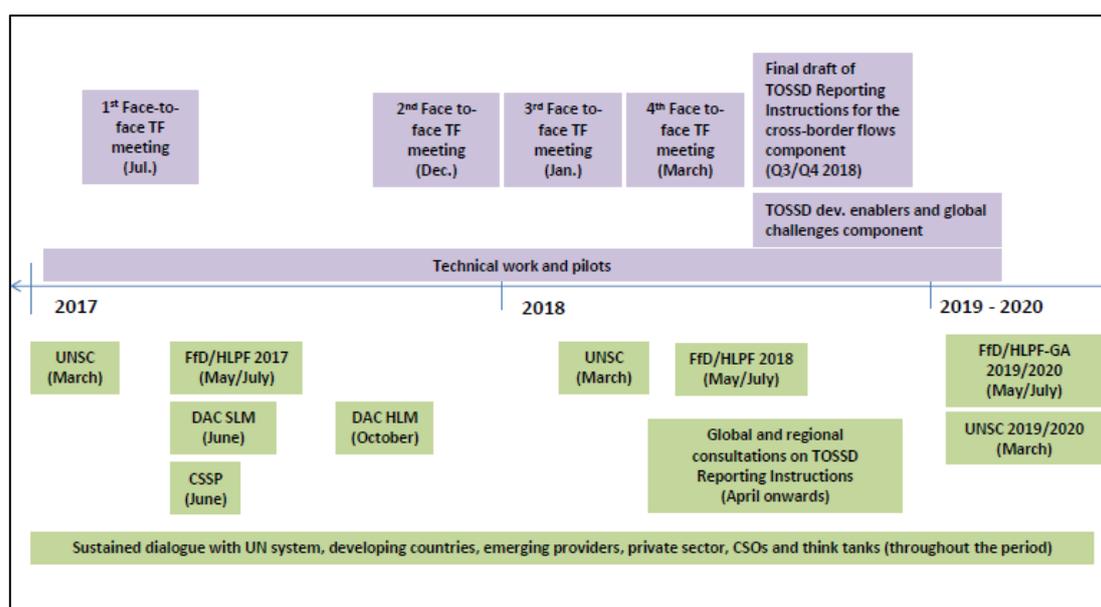
- establish a sound, **shared international statistical framework** for monitoring and connecting SDG resources;
- facilitate a cohesive and holistic approach to scaling up the Means of Implementation of the 2030 Agenda across the **global partnership for development (SDG 17)**;
- support the **empirical basis for informed international policy discussions** about the scope, targeting and relevance of broader development finance towards SDG implementation;
- “**demystify**” **complex financing operations**, identifying financial components by instrument, volume and source;
- **facilitate learning and exchange of good practice** among developing countries about accessing and combining external resources most effectively;
- offer insights about how and to what extent the international community is providing finance to address **global challenges and promote development enablers**; and,
- foster greater **collaboration**, **reduce gaps** and enhance synergies across development partners financing the SDGs.

HOW CAN WE WORK TOGETHER TO ADVANCE TOSSD?

The concrete development of the TOSSD framework has started. In line with the request by the international community in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda¹ to hold open, inclusive and transparent discussions on TOSSD, a special international TOSSD Task Force was established in July 2017². This Task Force is currently composed of 24 statistical and development policy experts from provider countries, developing countries and emerging providers with two co-chairs, one from the North and one from the South. The objective of the Task Force is to elaborate the statistical features and parameters of TOSSD, starting with the cross border flows component of the measure. By March 2018, the Task Force aims to prepare a first set of Reporting Instructions that all providers can use to report TOSSD flows. **The international Task Force is the main vehicle through which TOSSD will be developed. It is critical that DAC members provide their full political and technical support to the work of the Task Force, including in the UN context.**

WHAT'S NEXT?

Positioning TOSSD in the SDG monitoring framework. The objective is to develop TOSSD as a useful input to the future discussions of the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) on new SDG indicators in 2020. To formally introduce TOSSD into UNSC discussions, further work should be carried out to secure support from UNSC Member States, including via the TOSSD Task Force. From 6-9 March 2018, the UN Statistical Commission will hold its 49th Session in New York, where it is expected that the work of the Task Force will have sufficiently advanced to present a first set of Reporting Instructions on the cross-border flows pillar of TOSSD for presentation to the UN Statistical Commission members.



CASE STUDIES

In order to secure appropriate buy-in from the international community, the OECD work will need to show the full potential of TOSSD in support of developing countries. Since 2016, the OECD has embarked on a series of in-country pilot studies to test the TOSSD measure with developing countries and gather evidence on how TOSSD could best support partner countries. In 2016 and 2017, two pilot studies were carried out, one in Senegal and another in the Philippines³, with six additional country-level studies scheduled for 2018 and 2019.

¹ See paragraph 55 in the [Addis Ababa Action Agenda](#).

² For more information, see the dedicated web page of [the TOSSD International Task Force](#).

³ See DCD(2017)1 and DCD(2017)8