Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation

FAQs for Participating in the Second Monitoring Round of the GPEDC: **Data Collection, Validation and Reporting**

This document presents frequently asked questions and answers on the second monitoring round of the GPEDC.

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DATA COLLECTION, VALIDATION AND REPORTING

This section includes questions and answers on data collection.

How is data collected and validated?

More detailed information on the data collection and validation process is provided in the Monitoring Guide.

The national co-ordinator will lead and coordinate data collection and validation for country-sourced indicators, in close consultation with development stakeholders (providers of development co-operation, civil society organisations, parliamentarians, the private sector, trade unions, subnational entities and other actors) in a multi-stakeholder partnership framework.

To collect and validate data, he/she is encouraged to use existing systems and frameworks to the extent possible (e.g. aid information management systems, donor performance assessment frameworks). For more information and illustrative examples of how developing country governments can ground the monitoring process in their own tools (e.g. aid information management systems) and frameworks, see part II of the the Monitoring Guide. Ad hoc arrangements may need to be established for countries which are interested to participate in monitoring efforts but do not have in place processes or tools for periodic collection of country-level data required for the indicators.
It is encouraged that data is consulted during the data validation and consultation process by all relevant stakeholders to bridge the data gap and ensure the data quality.

Two tools are made available for the national co-ordinator to submit data to the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team (these tools can also be used by the national co-ordinator for data collection if need be). Please note that the national co-ordinator is invited to use one OR the other, but not both.

1. A **Country Spreadsheet** (**Excel file**). The national coordinator is invited to record data for indicators 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9b in the excel sheets. When data is not available in existing aid-management systems, the national co-ordinator can use a separate Excel file (the "Provider input file" which is provided by the UNDP-OECD Joint Support Team) and send it to providers to seek their input.
2. Alternatively, the national co-ordinator can choose to use an **online tool** . National co-ordinators are sent a username and password to access the online tool by the JST. With this username and password, they can save progress and continue the survey later. The national co-ordinator can retrieve the information inputted by providers in real-time, by accessing a reporting link provided along with the username and password. Partial responses are also displayed.

What does the term "disbursement" mean?

A disbursement is the placement of resources at the disposal of a developing country. Resources provided in-kind should only be included when the value of the resources have been monetised in an agreement or in a document communicated to government.

Should funds from a regional or multi-country programme be recorded?

Where development co-operation funding is provided to the developing country as part of a provider of development co-operation's regional (multi-country) programme and it is possible to identify those activities and disbursements that are specific to that developing country, these disbursements should be recorded.

How should funds disbursed by one provider on behalf of another provider be recorded?

In order to avoid double counting in cases where one provider of development co-operation disburses funds on behalf of another, it is only the provider who makes the final disbursement to the government who should report

on these funds. The only exception to this is question Qp14, against which providers should record total development co-operation funds channelled through other providers (in the case of delegated co-operation, funds provided through multilateral organisations, at the country level or multi-donor trust finds administered by another provider).

How do I report on multi-bi funds or 'delegated co-operation'?

Bilateral contributions channelled through a multilateral agency at the country level or through another bilateral agency (delegated co-operation) for a specific programme should be reported by the multilateral agency or the bilateral agency actually delivering this programme, and not by the bilateral agency providing the funds.
Example: Japan gives USD 1 million to UNICEF for a development programme in Vietnam. UNICEF (and not Japan) should report on the USD 1 million.

In case of multi-bi funds, why does the multilateral agency report to the government of the developing country and not the bilateral agency providing the funds?

In order to avoid double counting in case one provider disburses funds on behalf of another provider (see separate question on reporting multi-bi funds or delegated co-operation), it is ONLY the provider who makes the final disbursement to the government who should report on this funds. The only exception is question Qp14, against which providers should record their total funds provided to the country, including those channelled through other providers.

This approach is consistent with the methodology of the monitoring framework of the Global Partnership, which stresses that only the point of delivery reports on certain aspects of the quality of development co-operation funding. This is because the purpose of the monitoring framework of the Global Partnership is to assess the effectiveness with which funds are delivered at the country level, and not to compile accurate aggregates on total funding from a given provider of development co-operation to a particular country.

What currency should be used for reporting?

Reporting should be made in US Dollars. A table of exchange rates is provided in the monitoring section of the Global Partnership community site.

What year should be used for reporting?

The reporting year of reference is **the latest fiscal year of the developing country for which there is information available** on relevant aspects of development co-operation.

Note that for many indicators, the reporting year of reference is likely to be 2014 (or the fiscal year ending in 2014 or 2015).
In developing countries where the fiscal year differs from the calendar year, and where monitoring data is easily available through existing systems, governments may wish to complement fiscal year data with calendar year data. While this would remain optional, it would contribute to facilitate aggregation and comparability of data.

Can the reporting year of providers of development co-operation be different from the reporting year used in a country?

All data from providers of development co-operation is expected to be provided according to the developing country government's fiscal year.

I am a provider and I have noticed an error in my data, what do I do?

The OECD will accept data changes only from the national co-ordinators. Providers should report any errors, changes or anomalies directly to the national co-ordinator of the country in question.

Can providers include operational expenses?

NO, providers' operational expenses should not be included.

What transactions should and should not be recorded in reporting?

The following official transactions are excluded from the scope of the Global Partnership monitoring efforts and should not be recorded:

- Transactions made to beneficiaries that are not based in the developing country or to regional organisations that cannot be identified at country level.
- Debt reorganisation/restructuring.
- Emergency and relief assistance.

Are debt swap programmes included in the definition of ODA?

NO. The Monitoring exercise focuses on development co-operation flows actually going to developing countries. This is the reason why **debt reorganisation/restructuring has been excluded**.

According to the OECD/DAC definitions, debt relief results where there is a reduction in the present valued of debt-service obligations and/or a deferral of the payments due, thus providing smaller near-term debt service obligations. As such, a reduction of debt service obligations does not involve a transfer of flows and is normally not part of any bilateral discussion at country level, except in the case of debt conversions.

Therefore, **debt conversion would be the only case where debt relief could be included** in the reporting for the purpose of the Global Partnership monitoring. The reason is that such an operation involves counterpart domestic currency funds to be used to finance a particular project.

How to report on non-concessional aid?

There is a data column used to indicate whether the funds coming from a development co-operation provider are concessional or non-concessional. When both concessional and non-concessional funds are received from the same provider, the information should be entered as two separate rows.

If we are contributing to military education and training activities for the army in a specific developing country, can this be considered as ODA?

The supply of military equipment and services, and the forgiveness of debts incurred for military purposes, are not reportable as ODA. On the other hand, additional costs incurred for the use of the donor's military forces to deliver humanitarian aid or perform development services are ODA-eligible.

Are education grants and scholarships counted as ODA?

Grants and scholarships for public sector workers can be counted as ODA, but only if the amount figures in an agreement signed between the provider and the partner country government. If there is not an agreement with administrations authorised to receive revenue in the partner country, then none of this assistance should be

reported as funds for the government sector. This is because the monitoring framework of the Global Partnership usually excludes transactions to beneficiaries located outside the partner country.

A formal agreement with the partner government for training of civil servants would designate the government as the beneficiary for the purpose of global monitoring. If the only formal agreement however is with the private individual selected for a scholarship or training, then this beneficiary would be considered neither located within the partner country, nor a government entity.