

Data for Development: DAC Member Priorities and Challenges

Valentina Sanna and Ida Mc Donnell



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***DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT:
DAC MEMBER PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES***

Working paper

by Valentina Sanna and Ida Mc Donnell

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ABSTRACT

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits the international community to support the modernisation and strengthening of national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries and to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data to measure their progress against the Sustainable Development Goals. This paper, informed by a survey circulated among DAC members between February and April 2017, presents DAC members' policies and practices to support national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries. It highlights some of the main challenges that DAC members face in relation to making data work for sustainable development, notably in co-ordinating their support for statistics to avoid duplication and find synergies, in mobilising more resources, and in using quality data for development co-operation decision-making, programming, monitoring and reporting. The findings presented in this paper will inform the analysis of the 2017 Development Co-operation Report on Data for Development which will be published in October 2017. The report will provide guidance to providers of development assistance on how to best support developing countries to have and use quality and timely data for enabling delivery of the SDGs.

Keywords: development co-operation; data; statistics; evidence-based; SDGs

JEL classification: O1 Economic Development; O10 General; O19 International Linkages to Development • Role of International Organizations; O2 Development Planning and Policy; O20 General; O21 Planning Models • Planning Policy; O22 Project Analysis



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1. DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT: DAC MEMBER PRIORITIES AND CHALLENGES

Introduction

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits the international community to support the modernisation and strengthening of national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries and to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data to measure their progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (UN, 2015). However donors' investment in statistical capacity building is low: standing at 0.25% of ODA in 2014 according to the 2016 Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PARIS21, 2016).

To seize the opportunity that the data revolution offers for more and better data for sustainable development, the *2017 OECD Development Co-operation Report: Data for Development* will make the case for stronger political leadership, greater investment and more collective action for strengthening national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries.

This paper, based on a recent survey¹, presents DAC members' policies and practices to support national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries. It highlights some of the main challenges DAC members face in relation to making data work for sustainable development. Looking at the practices and challenges highlighted in this paper, the 2017 Development Co-operation Report will also help donors by providing guidance on how development co-operation can be more effective in supporting developing countries to produce and use quality and timely data for their policy making to achieve the SDGs.

Overview of survey findings

1. Policies and practices of DAC members to support statistical systems in developing countries

1. **The majority of DAC members (16) provide support for national statistical capacity and systems in developing countries.** This is an explicit development co-operation strategic priority for two of them (Portugal and Sweden).
2. **Investing in having more and better data about the development needs, gaps and results in developing countries is becoming a greater priority for the majority of the DAC members who responded to the survey (15 out of 22).** Important factors behind this trend are the need to monitor, evaluate and report results on SDGs and the need to close data gaps for evidence-based policy and programming and channelling resources where they can make the biggest difference.

¹ Details on the survey questions, sample and respondents are given in section 2.

3. **Several DAC members (9) have already started looking into the potential contribution of big data² to development co-operation while six members are thinking about working with big data.** Some members are working with big data on specific projects and sectors, others are discussing strategies and the advantages and challenges of using big data to improve their understanding, delivery and monitoring of development challenges.
4. **The majority of DAC members (20) are engaged in statistical capacity building in developing countries.** The main factors informing their decisions on how and what to support are, in order of importance: bilateral discussions with partner countries; discussions with multilateral organisations and partnerships on statistical capacity; and partner countries' national strategies for the development of statistics.
5. **Support to statistical capacity building is provided mainly in the form of bilateral government to government technical assistance** (paying for consultants, training, etc.). **The main types of support offered by DAC members have as objectives to improve developing countries' statistical production** (provided by 17 DAC members) **and to strengthen data dissemination** (provided by 12 DAC members). The majority of DAC members (17) focus their support on developing countries' national statistical systems.

2. Members' views on challenges to making data work for sustainable development

Five of the questions in the survey asked DAC members to share views on issues related to making data work for sustainable development. Responses reveal a general consensus about some key challenges.

1. **A majority of DAC members (18) highlight the need for more systematic co-ordination between donors** supporting statistical capacity building. DAC members state that there is a need for a division of labour between donors to enhance synergies and impact and to ensure more effective allocation of resources by avoiding duplication of efforts and minimising the burden on capacity constrained national statistical offices of partner countries. One member also mentioned the need to co-ordinate across different forms of support such as to the wider institutional environment, direct support to national statistical offices, and capacity building of national and local actors and civil society.

Building partnerships with civil society and the private sector were mentioned by two DAC members as needing to be addressed, especially to take advantage of new sources of data that are relevant for development.

2. The majority of DAC members (16) also agreed that there is a **need for more systematic co-ordination between donors and partner country** national statistical offices on the surveys and

² The survey referred to "big data" as data collected as a by-product from new technologies, in line with the UN Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development definition of the data revolution for sustainable development as "the integration of data coming from new technologies with traditional data, in order to produce relevant high-quality information, with more detail and at higher frequencies to foster and monitor sustainable development". <https://unstats.un.org/bigdata/taskteams/sdgs/>.

other forms of data collection that is paid for by official development assistance. Through more strategic and systematic co-ordination resources might be allocated where the statistical needs are greatest and duplication reduced. Better co-ordination could also help enhance the international comparability of the statistics that are produced.

One DAC member suggested that this co-ordination should go beyond national statistical offices to include government departments/ministries that often work with different donors on data collection. Another member stated that developing countries' ability to co-ordinate national statistical systems also needs to be strengthened by increasing resources and capacities available to national statistical offices.

3. DAC members were asked whether the **current amount of official development assistance invested in statistical capacity building is adequate** (estimated at USD 470 million in 2014, according to PARIS21's 2016 Partner Report on Support to Statistics [PRESS]) to support developing countries to make their national statistical systems fit for purpose in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

DAC members have mixed views about the level of aid for statistics. While eight members responded that the current level of funding is not enough to meet data requirements, in particular to follow up and review targets and goals of the 2030 Agenda, seven members neither agree nor disagree with the statement that the level of funding is sufficient and five members were not able to answer the question.

In their comments on the funding question members suggested that they need **further analysis on funding needs before deciding on whether the current amount of ODA for statistical capacity building is sufficient or not.** The analysis should assess whether the current level of financial support could be used more efficiently and effectively as well as the scope to raise funds and investment from other non-ODA sources (e.g. developing countries domestic resources, private sector).

4. The majority of DAC members (16) agree with the statement that **ensuring that their countries' development co-operation decisions, programming, monitoring and reporting are based on evidence from statistics and data is a challenge**, in light of data gaps and quality issues, including reliability. When asked how much they rely on and use data produced by partner countries for development co-operation, the majority of members (17) said they **try to use partner country data but the level of use varies from country to country.** Several members commented that they try to complement these data with data that have been produced or verified by international institutions such as the World Bank in particular, the International Monetary Fund as well as the United Nations.

2. DAC MEMBER SUPPORT TO DATA FOR DEVELOPMENT: SURVEY FINDINGS

The OECD circulated, between February and April 2017, a short survey to gather evidence of DAC members' policies and practices to "Make data work for sustainable development". The purpose of the survey was to inform the 2017 Development Co-operation Report which is focusing on *Data for development*. The survey gathered information about support to national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries and members' opinions on the main challenges they face in relation to making data work for sustainable development.

The OECD received 22 responses to the survey, representing 73% of the targeted sample (of 30 DAC members). The respondents are: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the European Commission, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. The 22 respondents represent 98% (USD 239 million) of the average annual amount committed by DAC members to finance national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries between 2013 and 2015, estimated at USD 243 million according to the 2017 Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) dataset (PARIS21, forthcoming).

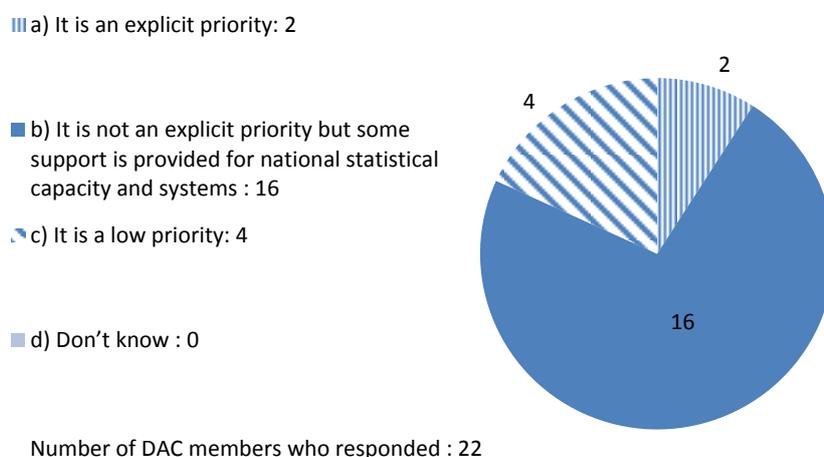
This paper analyses DAC member responses to questions 2 to 17 of the survey (see Annex for details on the survey).

Is statistical capacity building a strategic priority of development co-operation?

For two DAC members (Portugal and Sweden), strengthening national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries is an explicit priority of the development co-operation policy/strategy. Sixteen DAC members said that it is not an explicit strategic priority but that they provide some support for national statistical capacity and systems.

The reasons for providing support include the importance of having reliable statistics for evidence based decision making (allocation of resources, macroeconomic management, good governance), to monitor and evaluate interventions, to increase transparency and accountability, and for a robust follow-up to the 2030 Agenda. Members mentioned, specifically, the need to collect and analyse disaggregated data by gender, geography etc. within the context of the leave-no-one-behind principle of the 2030 Agenda. National statistical capacity building is currently a low priority for four countries - Denmark, Hungary, Iceland, and Slovenia.

Figure 2.1. The extent to which strengthening national statistical capacities and systems is a strategic priority for DAC members



Investing in having more and better data for decision making is a priority

The majority of DAC members who responded to question three (15 out of 22) agreed that investing in having more and better data about the development needs, gaps and results in developing countries is becoming a greater priority for their development co-operation decision making.

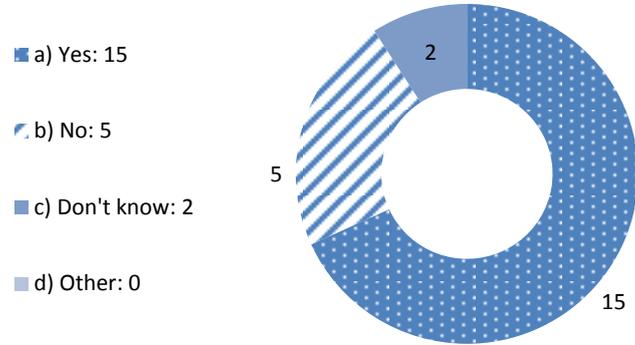
The two most important reasons for investing in more and better data, according to DAC members are:

1. to monitor, evaluate and report results on SDGs; and
2. close data gaps for evidence-based policy and programming and channelling resources where they can make the biggest difference.

Other reasons mentioned by members are:

3. to help developing countries to measure progress (achievements and shortcomings) against goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;
4. to give to civil society the tools to hold governments accountable for their actions;
5. to collect and analyse data (including gender data) about the most marginalised groups in partner countries to make these groups visible, to have a baseline of their needs and measure progress in meeting these needs to contribute to leave no one behind agenda; and
6. to take advantage of the potential offered by the data revolution for development co-operation.

Figure 2.2. Is investing in having more and better data for development becoming a greater priority for your country's development co-operation decision making?

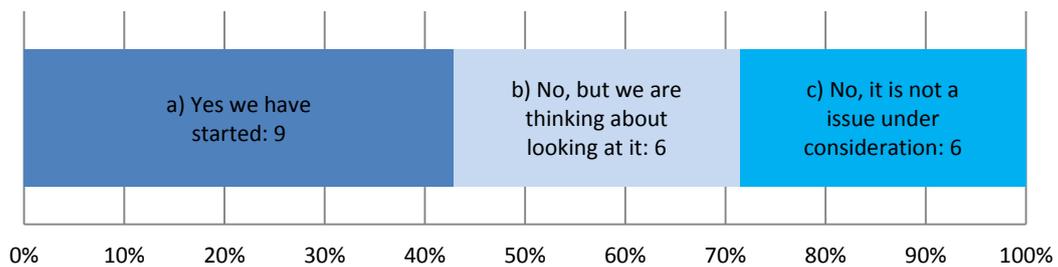


Number of DAC members who responded : 22

DAC members are working with big data

The majority of respondents to the big data questions said that their administrations had already started working with (nine members) or were thinking about looking at (six members) the potential contribution of big data to development co-operation. For instance, Australia, Belgium and France have started or are already working with big data to collect and monitor information to improve public policies, in particular in the education and health sectors, while other countries such as Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are investigating, more broadly, the advantages and challenges of using big and open data to improve understanding, delivery and monitoring of development challenges.

Figure 2.3. Has your country's development co-operation started to or is starting to work on big data?

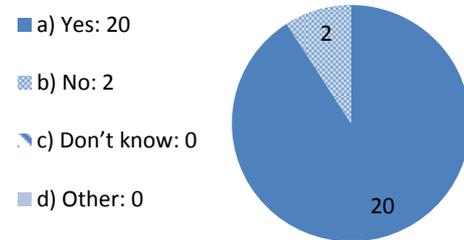


Number of DAC members who responded : 21

Most DAC members engage in statistical capacity building in developing countries

Nearly all DAC members who responded to the survey (20) engage in statistical capacity building, either directly through bilateral co-operation or through multilaterals.

Figure 2.4. Does your country engage in statistical capacity building in developing countries?

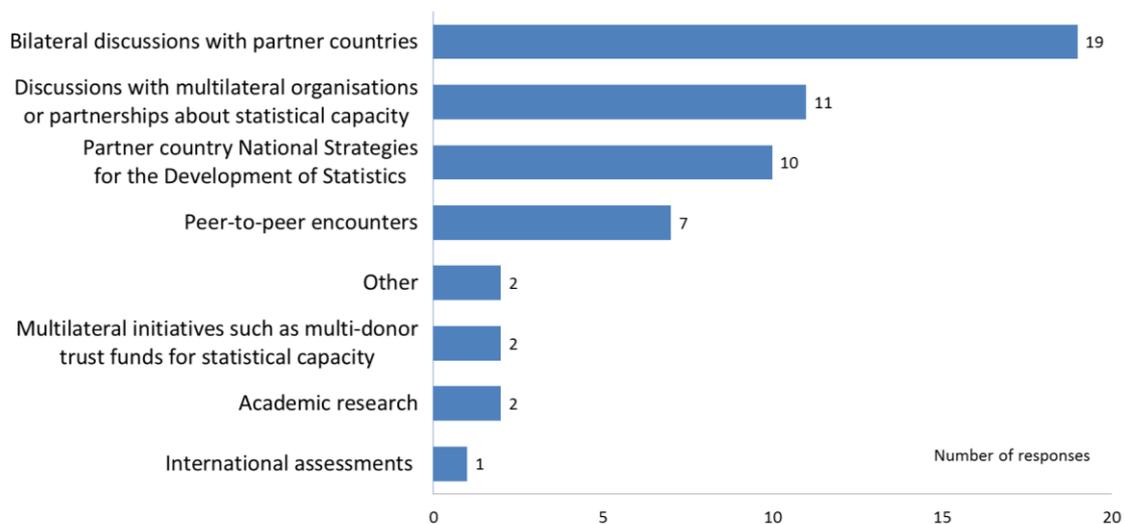


Number of DAC members who responded : 22

How do DAC members take funding decisions on statistical capacity building?

The survey asked DAC members to list the main factors that inform their decisions on how and what to support when they engage in statistical capacity building in developing countries. The most important factors listed by respondents are: bilateral discussions with partner countries; discussions with multilateral organisations or partnerships about statistical capacity; and partner countries' national strategies for the development of statistics.

Figure 2.5. When you engage in statistical capacity building which of the following inform your decisions on how and what to support?

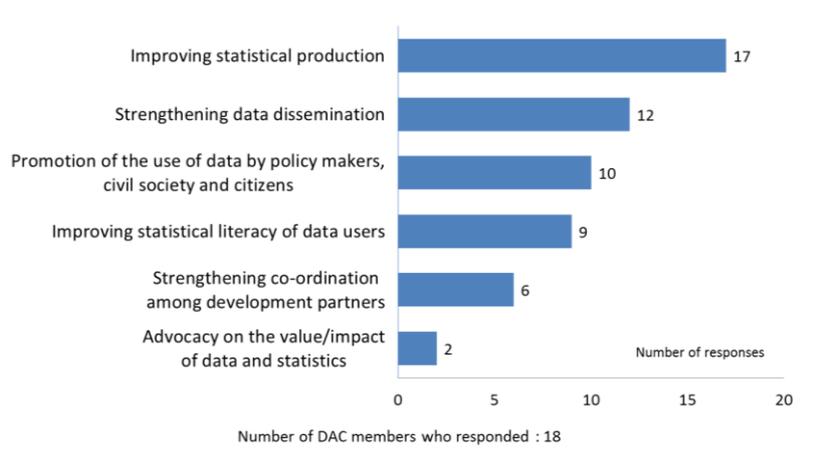


Number of DAC members who responded : 20

The objectives of DAC members' support for statistics

When engaging in statistical capacity building in developing countries, DAC members focus mainly on improving statistical production, strengthening data dissemination and on promoting the use of data by policy makers, civil society and citizens.

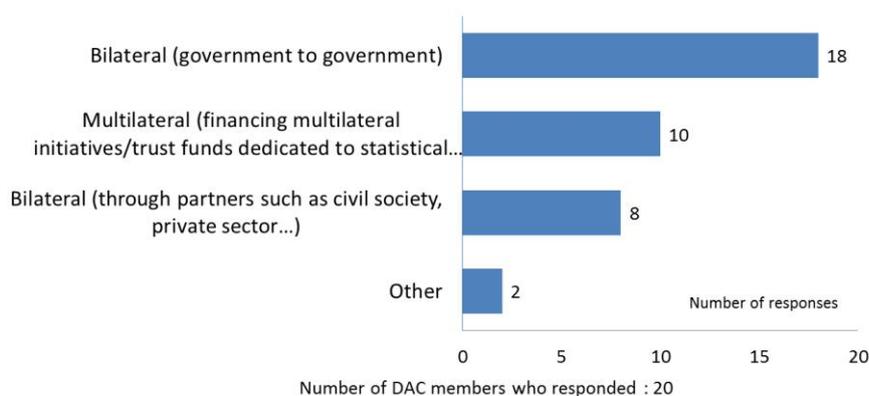
Figure 2.6. When you engage in statistical capacity building in developing countries, what kind of support do you provide?



The main channels of support to statistical capacity building

The majority of DAC members (18) work through the bilateral government-to-government channel, while 10 members also work through the multilateral channel. Australia and New Zealand mentioned that Pacific regional organisations are an important channel of support.

Figure 2.7. Which co-operation channels does your country use to support statistical capacity building in developing countries?



The sectoral focus of support to statistics

Half of DAC members who responded to the question on sectoral support (10 out of 20) focus on specific sectors. DAC members mentioned in their comments that they provide support in the following sectors: health, demography/civil registration and vital statistics, education, gender statistics, trade/business, agriculture, public finance and disability statistics.

Table 2.1. DAC members' sectoral focus

| Does your country's support for statistical capacity in developing countries focus on specific sectors? | Number of responses |
|---|---------------------|
| a) Yes | 10 |
| b) No | 5 |
| c) Don't know | 2 |
| d) Other | 3 |
| Number of DAC members who responded | 20 |

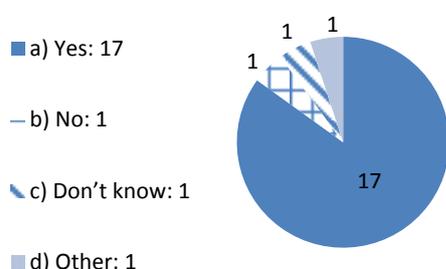
Table 2.2. Main sectors in which support is offered

| Sector of support mentioned by DAC members | Number of DAC members who mentioned the sector |
|--|--|
| Health | 5 |
| Demography/civil registration and vital statistics | 4 |
| Education | 4 |
| Gender | 4 |
| Trade/business | 4 |
| Agriculture | 3 |
| Public finance | 3 |
| Disability statistics | 1 |

National statistical systems in developing countries are the main focus of support

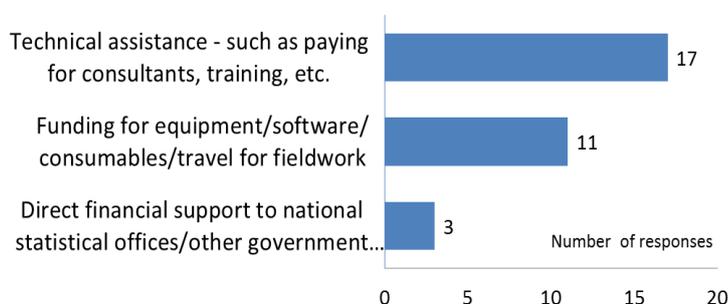
DAC members' support for statistical capacity building in developing countries has an important focus on national statistical systems. The prevailing type of support, according to DAC members' responses to question 12, is technical assistance – it is provided by all DAC members who responded to the question (17 members).

Figure 2.8. Does your support for statistical capacity building focus on national statistical systems?



Number of DAC members who responded : 20

Figure 2.9. Types of support provided to national statistical systems



Number of DAC members who responded: 17

DAC members see a need for better co-ordination between donors

The majority of DAC members (18) agree that there needs to be better co-ordination between donors supporting statistical capacity building in developing countries.

Members mentioned the following reasons for stepping-up co-ordination:

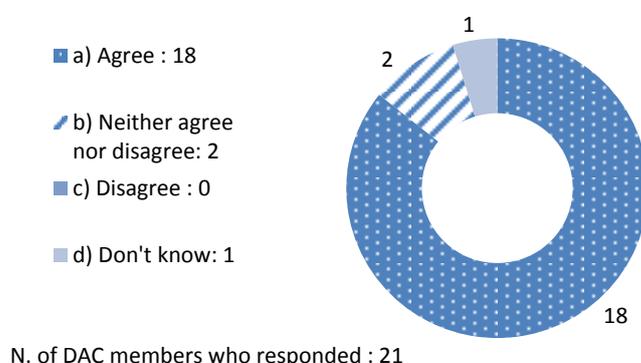
- to work jointly and enhance synergies to achieve a significant and sustainable impact and ensure an effective allocation of technical and financial resources;
- to adopt a division of labour so that each partner can focus on its area of strength and learn from each other's experiences;
- to avoid duplication and fragmentation of efforts and minimise the burden on capacity-constrained national and sector statistics offices.

One member also mentioned the need for more co-ordination at the country level in order to follow the holistic, sector-wide approach of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Another member stated that donors should co-ordinate their interventions within and across sectors but also the different forms of support that they provide. This includes support to the wider institutional/enabling environment for statistics, to national statistical offices and capacity building of national and local actors as well as civil society. Two other DAC members also mentioned that there should be more co-ordination or partnering with civil society and the private sector, including to take advantage of new sources of data that are relevant for development.

Several DAC members suggested that co-ordination and donor harmonisation (but also integration of civil society and the private sector) could be facilitated by international initiatives such as PARIS21, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data and the Management Group on Statistical Co-operation established by Eurostat. A few members suggested that in-country meetings and the creation of a platform to conduct country needs analyses and overview capacity building activities could also be useful.

Figure 2.10. **DAC members' views on the need for more systematic co-ordination between donors that support statistical capacity building**



DAC members see a need for better co-ordination with partner governments on statistics

The survey sought DAC member views on the need for more systematic co-ordination between donors and partner country national statistical offices in relation to the surveys and other forms of data collection that is paid for by official development assistance.

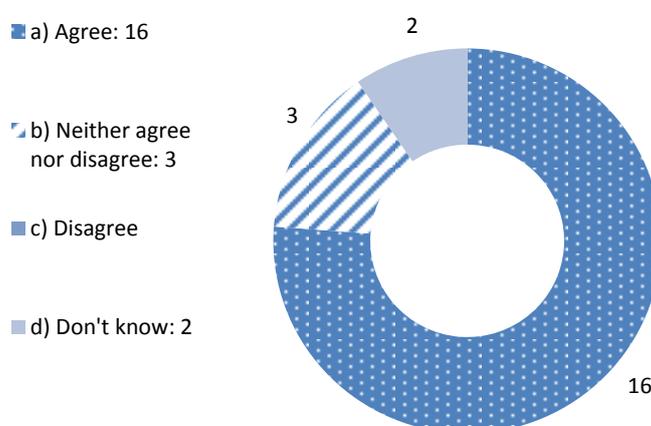
The majority of DAC members who responded to the question (16 out of 21) agreed that they should co-ordinate more and harmonise their support with partner governments, mentioning several reasons for better co-ordination, including to:

- avoid the risk of duplication and to reduce the burden on partner countries;
- ensure international comparability of statistics and promote a coherent and well-functioning international statistical system; and
- ensure that available resources are allocated strategically where they are needed most.

One member also highlighted that co-ordination should not be limited to national statistical offices but should involve all government departments of the partner country which often work with different donors on data collection and that co-ordination should also go beyond governmental actors to include the private sector and civil society.

Another member highlighted the need for better co-ordination within the national statistical systems of partner countries. It identified some challenges for national systems, notably the need to strengthen the political role, the budget allocation and the capacities of national statistical offices so that they can function properly and are capable of retrieving, analysing and processing data that can also be used by the donor community.

Figure 2.11. **DAC members' opinion on the need for more systematic co-ordination between donors and partner country national statistical offices for data collection paid for by ODA**



Number of DAC members who responded : 21

DAC members' views on the adequacy of funding for statistical capacity building

DAC members were asked to respond to the following statement: "The current level of official development assistance that is invested in statistical capacity building (USD 470 million in 2014, according to PARIS21's 2016 Partner Report on Support to Statistics [PRESS]) is sufficient to support developing countries to make their national statistical systems fit for purpose in the context of Agenda 2030."

Eight members thought the level of funding is insufficient, seven said they neither agree nor disagree, five said that they did not know and one thought the level was sufficient.

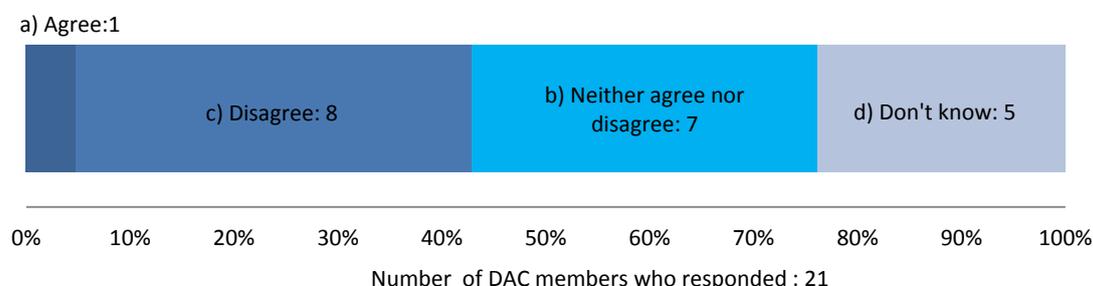
The DAC members who said that the current level of ODA funding is not sufficient and should increase mentioned in their comments that:

- The data requirements to follow up and review the SDGs are enormous and the statistical capacity building required to meet this demand far outstrips current available funding.
- Donors should provide more funding in line with their SDG commitment to support developing countries to increase the availability of data for development.
- Developing countries need more resources to build their own institutional context for implementing new statistical methodologies, and pay for more skilled staff to be able to gather relevant information.

One respondent also mentioned that many developing countries already have tailored strategies for statistical development and capacity building but cannot currently implement them due to lack of funding.

Members who were not able to say if the current level of financing is sufficient or not (those who neither agreed nor disagreed) mentioned that developing statistical systems is not only a matter of the amount of ODA funding, but also of its continuity and co-ordination. They highlighted the need to find more cost-effective solutions and to improve national statistical offices' leadership and resources and their ability to deliver on their strategic objectives (outlined in the National Strategies for the Development of Statistics).

Figure 2.12. **Is the current level of ODA invested in statistical capacity building sufficient to support developing countries to make their national statistical systems fit for purpose in the context of Agenda 2030?**



Several members mentioned that further analysis is needed to evaluate whether the quantity of development assistance for statistical capacity building is sufficient or not and there should be a cost estimate of what is required to make developing countries' national statistical systems fit for purpose in the context of Agenda 2030. The analysis should assess whether the current financial support could be used more efficiently and effectively, how much developing countries are able to pay and whether other sources of finance could complement ODA.

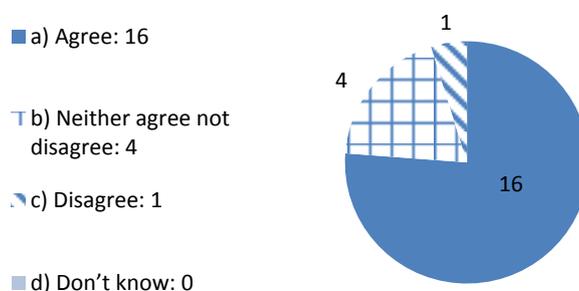
Is it a challenge to ensure that development co-operation decisions are evidence-based?

DAC members were asked for their views on the statement that “Ensuring that my country’s development co-operation decisions, programming, monitoring and reporting are based on evidence from statistics and data is a challenge”.

The majority of DAC members who responded to the question (16 out of 21) agreed that it is a challenge to be evidence based. These members commented that partner countries face severe data gaps and quality/reliability issues with available data and that development co-operation decisions are often based on old, approximate and incomplete data, simple assumptions or highly expensive one-off data collections. These constraints severely limit the possibility to adopt an evidence-based approach, leading to inefficient use of scarce resources. In addition the lack of quality data limits public transparency and community participation in development interventions. One respondent also mentioned that development co-operation policies and implementation are often driven more by politics, common knowledge and implicit assumptions/convictions than by objective evidence.

Members who neither agreed nor disagreed with the statement said that data availability changes according to specific contexts and that they try to ensure, to the extent possible, that all decisions, programming, monitoring and reporting are based on evidence from statistics and data. They take a pragmatic approach making the most of available information, including by triangulating data from numerous sources. The DAC member who disagreed with the statement, mentioned that its administration’s decision making and programming process use statistics widely and that the issue is not about using statistics but about getting reliable, credible statistics for all countries and sectors.

Figure 2.13. DAC members’ view on the statement: “Ensuring that my country’s development co-operation decisions, programming, monitoring and reporting are based on evidence from statistics and data is a challenge”



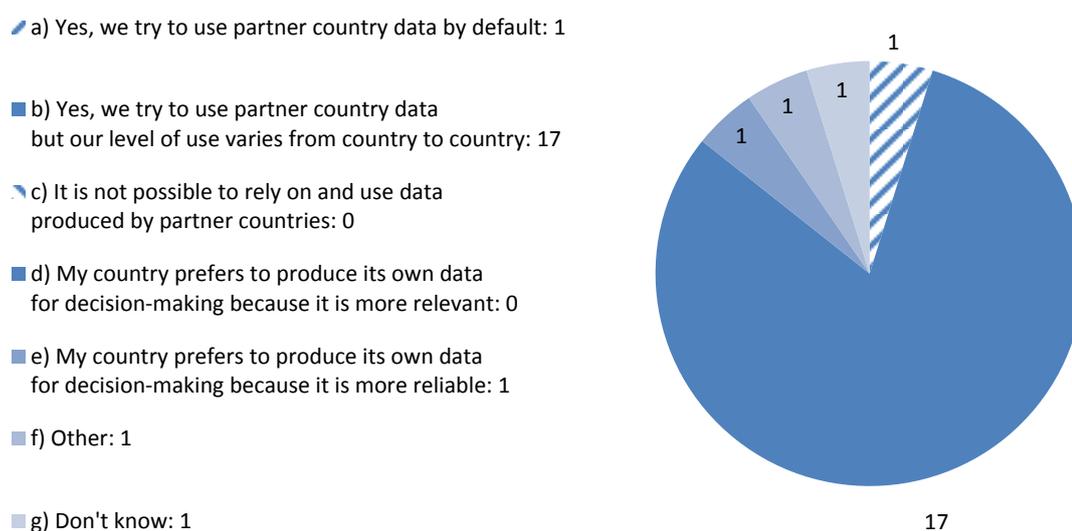
Number of DAC members who responded : 21

DAC members' reliance and use of data produced by partner countries

The survey asked DAC members about the extent to which they rely on and use data produced by partner countries for their development co-operation decision making, programming, monitoring and reporting.

The majority of DAC members who responded to the question (17 out of 21) indicated that they try to use partner country data but that the level of use varies from country to country and in some cases data gaps and quality issues can be quite severe. Several members mentioned that they try to complement these data with data that have been produced or verified by international institutions, notably the World Bank but also the IMF, the UN, and the International Aid Transparency Initiative, or with donor-produced data (mentioned by one DAC member) which are considered more reliable and relevant.

Figure 2.14. DAC members' view of the following statement: "It is possible to rely on and use data produced by partner countries in development co-operation decision making, programming, monitoring and reporting."



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ANNEX – THE QUESTIONNAIRE

SHORT SURVEY ON DAC MEMBERS' POLICIES AND PRACTICES TO “MAKE DATA WORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”

What is the issue?

In many developing countries limited statistical capacity remains a challenge for development. The 2030 Agenda commits the international community to support the modernisation and strengthening of national statistical systems in developing countries, and to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data as part of the means of implementation.

Why do we need to conduct a survey?

The OECD's 2017 Development Co-operation Report will focus on the issue of making data work for sustainable development. The report will examine how development co-operation – through finance and statistical capacity building – can be more effective in supporting developing countries to have and use quality and timely data for their policy making to achieve the SDGs.

Individual profiles of DAC members are a standard feature of the Development Co-operation Report. These profiles analyse the latest trends in DAC members' development co-operation programmes and allocations. They also include, to the extent possible, relevant information on each member's policy, investment and approach to the specific topic of this annual report.

The purpose of this short survey is to gather some baseline information about DAC members' policies and practices to support statistical capacity building in developing countries and to identify opportunities and challenges that DAC members face in relation to making data work for sustainable development.

How to complete the survey?

We understand that each DAC member will have different institutional approaches to how they manage and support statistics in developing countries. Several people and/or institutions [e.g. the statistics unit, national statistical offices, strategy and programming units, managing for results units, etc.] may need to participate in responding to the questions. We request that each DAC member submit one consolidated response to the OECD secretariat by 27 February.

This survey has 18 questions. It can be saved and re-opened which should enable different people to participate in the response. However, please note that once the survey has been submitted no further edits can be made to the response. Should you wish to look at the complete survey before answering it online, please find it attached to the email for this survey.

Should you encounter any difficulties in filling out the survey, or require further clarification, please contact Valentina SANNA at valentina.sanna@oecd.org.

How your responses will be used?

Factual and descriptive answers will be compiled for each member. This information will be published in the first page of each member's profile. Each member will have an opportunity to fact-check their profile. The secretariat will circulate the profiles for fact-checking during the week of 20 March. Opinion based responses (see questions 3 and 13-17) will be aggregated. These responses will inform the analysis of the rest of the report. These responses will not be disaggregated by responding member.

We thank you for your co-operation.

***1. Your contact details**

Name(s):

Title (s):

Country:

Ministry/Agency/Institution:

Email address:

Phone number:

***2. To what extent is strengthening national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries a strategic priority of your development co-operation?**

- It is an explicit priority of the development co-operation policy/strategy
- It is not an explicit strategic priority but we provide some support for national statistical capacity and systems
- National statistical capacity building is a low priority
- Don't know

If the answer to the above question is yes, please describe the rationale and strategic objectives of your country's support for national statistical capacities and systems. If possible, please provide a hyperlink to the policy or strategy that outlines this priority or send it by email to the secretariat (valentina.sanna@oecd.org).

***3. Please share your view on the following statement: "Investing in having more and better data about the development needs, gaps and results in developing countries is becoming a greater priority for my country's development co-operation decision making." (Opinion based question)**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other

If possible, please explain why:

***4. The UN's Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development defines the data revolution for sustainable development as "the integration of data coming from new technologies with traditional data, in order to produce relevant high-quality information, with more detail and at higher frequencies to foster and monitor sustainable development". Data collected as a by-product from new technologies is often referred to as "big data". Could you tell us whether your country's development co-operation has started to or is starting to work on big data?**

- Yes we have started to look at the potential contribution of big data to development co-operation.
- We have not started to look at the potential contribution of big data to development co-operation but we are thinking about looking at it.
- Big data is not an issue being addressed in our development co-operation.
- Don't know
- Other (please explain in the text box):

5. Feel free to provide additional information about current thinking and approaches (such as project examples) to big data in your development co-operation.

***6. Does your country engage in statistical capacity building in developing countries?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other (please explain in the text box):

***7. If the answer to question 6 is yes, which of the following inform your decisions on how and what to support? [please select the top three]**

- International assessments (e.g. the World Bank Statistical Capacity Indicator)
- Bilateral discussions with partner countries
- Partner country National Strategies for the Development of Statistics
- Discussions with multilateral organisations or partnerships about statistical capacity
- Multilateral initiatives such as multi-donor trust funds for statistical capacity
- Peer-to-peer encounters (e.g. between national statistical offices)
- Academic research
- Don't know
- Other (please explain in the text box):

***8. If your country engages in statistical capacity building in developing countries, how would you describe this support? [please select the top three]**

- Improving statistical production
- Strengthening data dissemination
- Improving statistical literacy of data users
- Promotion of the use of data by policy makers, civil society and citizens
- Advocacy on the value/impact of data and statistics
- Strengthening co-ordination among development partners

- Other (please explain in the text box):

*

ing in

developing countries:

- Multilateral (financing multilateral initiatives/trust funds dedicated to statistical capacity and systems)
- Bilateral (government to government)
- Bilateral (through partners such as civil society, private sector...)
- Other (please explain in the text box):

***10. Does your country's support for statistical capacity in developing countries focus on specific sectors (e.g. education, gender, health, etc.)?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other

Please give more information about your approach:

***11. Does your country's support for statistical capacity building in developing countries focus on national statistical systems?**

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other (please explain in the text box):

***12. If the answer to question 11 is yes, please select the types of support you provide:**

- Funding for equipment/ software/ consumables/ travel for fieldwork
- Technical assistance - such as paying for consultants, training, etc.
- Giving direct financial support to national statistical offices or other government department to top-up salaries or hire extra staff.
- Other (please explain in the text box):

***13. Please select your institutions opinion/view of the following statement: "There is a need for more systematic co-ordination between donors that support statistical capacity building to enhance synergies." (Opinion based question)**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Don't know

If possible, explain why there is/is not a need:

***14. Please select your institutions opinion/view of the following statement: "There is a need for more systematic co-ordination between donors and partner country national statistical offices in relation to the surveys and other forms of data collection that is paid for by official development assistance." (Opinion based question)**

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree

- Don't know

If possible, explain why there is/is not a need:

...level of official development assistance that is invested in statistical capacity building (USD 470 million in 2014, according to PARIS21's 2016 Partner Report on Support to Statistics [PRESS]) is sufficient to support developing countries to make their national statistical systems fit for purpose in the context of Agenda 2030." (Opinion based question)

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Don't know

Please explain your response if you wish:

****16. Please select your institutions opinion/view of the following statement: "Ensuring that my country's development co-operation decisions, programming, monitoring and reporting are based on evidence from statistics and data is a challenge." (Opinion based question)***

- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Don't know

Please explain your response if you wish:

***17. Please select your institutions opinion/view of the following statement: "It is possible to rely on and use data produced by partner countries in development co-operation decision-making, programming, monitoring and reporting." (Opinion based question)**

- Yes, we try to use partner country data by default
- Yes, we try to use partner country data but our level of use varies from country to country
- It is not possible to rely on and use data produced by partner countries
- My country prefers to produce its own data for decision-making because it is more relevant
- My country prefers to produce its own data for decision-making because it is more reliable
- Other

Please explain your response if you wish:

18. If you wish, please share an example of an initiative (bilateral or multilateral) to strengthen national statistical capacities and systems in developing countries that your country supports and which you consider to be a good practice or innovative.

