2024 Financing for Development Forum
Tuesday 23 April 2024, 1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. (New York Time/GMT-4), Conference Room 12
Hybrid Event – Register here for virtual participation

Thriving for transparency in development support: Presentation of the International Forum on Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) and the 2022 TOSSD figures

Side-event organised by the Secretariat of the International Forum on TOSSD, co-hosted by the European Union, Mexico, Peru, Secretariat of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) and Spain.

Concept note

In 2022, TOSSD was included in the SDG global indicator framework as a data source for indicator 17.3.1 aimed at quantifying development support. This stemmed from the work of the IAEG-SDGs “Working Group on Measurement of Development Support”¹, established at the request of the UN Statistical Commission², with wide engagement from both countries and UN entities. The UN Statistical Commission approved this new indicator at its 53rd session³, and entrusted the OECD and UNCTAD to serve as its custodians.

In February 2024, the fourth TOSSD dataset was released, featuring activity-level data from nearly 120 provider countries and institutions on their support for sustainable development throughout 2022. This dataset addresses crucial information gaps in financing sustainable development of developing countries. The TOSSD framework plays a pivotal role in enhancing visibility and transparency by capturing contributions from both traditional providers and dual providers/recipients. It also sheds light on regional and global expenditures dedicated to sustainable development that convey benefits to developing countries (e.g. R&D to fight against infectious diseases). The availability of such data is instrumental in designing effective global, regional, and local responses to strengthen these countries in their pursuit of development goals. Moreover, TOSSD data is a valuable resource for countries presenting Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)⁴ or working on the Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF).

Such an inclusive statistical standard must be supported by an inclusive governance structure. As of 2024, the TOSSD standard is now overseen by the International Forum on TOSSD (IFT). The Forum has formalised TOSSD’s commitment to inclusivity, as an independent body with a balanced representation of governments of provider and recipient countries (including dual providers/recipients) and international organisations. Notably, civil society organisations hold a permanent observer seat at the IFT. The establishment of the IFT marks a significant milestone, building upon six years of groundwork by the informal International TOSSD Task Force to develop the TOSSD standard. The Forum provides a platform for all countries, international organisations and relevant stakeholders to voice their perspectives on measuring development support. The IFT work contributes to current and upcoming global discussions and processes on financing for development.

¹ For more information on the Working Group, see: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iag-sdg/working-group-on-measurement-of-development-support
The side event will present the key findings of the 2023 TOSSD data collection on 2022 activities of development support, showcasing the latest developments of the TOSSD framework. The conversations in the side event also seek to encourage countries and organisations to enhance transparency through TOSSD, including by providing data for indicator 17.3.1 on development support. Furthermore, the event will introduce the newly established International Forum on TOSSD (IFT), shedding light on its potential to facilitate and inform discussions leading up to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

Proposed agenda:

10 mins - Opening remarks – Presentation of the International Forum on TOSSD.

- Mr. Laurent Sarazin, Head of Unit, Finance and Contracts for Africa, Directorate-General for International Partnerships, European Commission and Co-Chair of the International Forum on TOSSD.
- Mr. Ashwell Jenneker, Deputy Director General, Statistics South Africa (on behalf of Risenga Maluleke, Statistician-General of South Africa and Co-Chair of the International Forum on TOSSD).

5 mins – Speed talk: TOSSD and developing countries – the perspective of Burkina Faso.

- Dr. Larba Issa KOBYAGDA, Director-General of Economy and Planning, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Prospective, Burkina Faso.

10 mins - Presentation of the results of the 2023 TOSSD data collection on 2022 activities and recent developments in TOSSD

- Ms. Julia Benn, Head of Secretariat, International Forum on TOSSD.

45 mins – How can TOSSD help foster transparency for development support? Experiences and reflections for the future.

- Ms Eva Granados Galiano, Secretary of State for International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Spain.
- Ms Bjørg Sandkjaer, State Secretary for International Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway.
- Mr Carlos Castillo, Director General for Planning and Evaluation, Mexican Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AMEXCID).
- Mr César Jordán, International Co-operation Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Peru.
- Mr Luca de Fraia, Deputy Director, ActionAid Italy.
- Ms Laura Gallacher, Inter-Agency Adviser, Finance and Budget, Secretariat of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).
- Moderator: Mr Francisco Castro-y-Ortiz, Lead Economist, Strategic Planning and Development Effectiveness, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB).

5 mins – Q&A and conclusions.

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