LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: HOW ARE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ANSWERING THE PLEDGE OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?
Findings from a survey of DAC members

Beatrice Di Francesco and Ida McDonnell
OECD Working Papers do not represent the official views of the OECD or of its member countries. The opinions expressed and arguments employed are those of the authors.

Working Papers describe preliminary results or research in progress by the author(s) and are published to stimulate discussion on a broad range of issues on which the OECD works. Comments on the present Working Paper are welcomed and may be sent to ida.mcdonnell@oecd.org — the Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgement of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org.

COPYRIGHT © OECD 2018

Abstract

In 2015, UN Member States and the international community more broadly endorsed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agenda’s commitment to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for everyone to leave no one behind. This working paper presents and analyses the findings of a survey circulated to members of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) between April and May 2018. The survey investigated the level and extent of commitment to leave no one behind in development co-operation policies, strategies and programming. It also gathered views and evidence from DAC members about the comparative advantage, opportunities, challenges and strategies for answering this pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The findings presented in this paper inform the analysis of the 2018 Development Co-operation Report: Joining Forces to Leave No One Behind.
Table of contents

OECD Development Co-operation Working Papers .............................................................. 3
Abstract ................................................................................................................................. 4
Leaving No One Behind: DAC Member commitment, priorities and strategies .................. 7
  Introduction ......................................................................................................................... 7
  Summary of key findings .................................................................................................... 7
Unpacking the survey findings .......................................................................................... 10
1. How committed are DAC members to leave no one behind? .................................... 10
   1.1. How do members address leave no one behind in practice? .................................. 10
   1.2. Does ODA have a comparative advantage in addressing leave no one behind? .... 14
   1.3. What are members doing differently to ensure development co-operation benefits those left behind? .......................................................... 15
   1.4. Policy coherence: Some members are integrating a leave no one behind perspective in other policies that have an impact globally or on developing countries ......................... 15
2. Leave no one behind as a concept and as an approach ............................................ 16
   2.1. DAC members consider that there are opportunities to committing to leave no one behind .... 16
   2.2. There are also challenges with addressing leave no one behind in practice .......... 17
3. Mainstreaming of leave no one behind into development programming is not systematic ..... 18
   3.1. Evidence base: data, diagnostics and indicators of what it means to be left behind ..... 19
4. Measuring results from a leave no one behind perspective .................................. 19
   4.1. Challenges with integrating specific leave no one behind indicators in results frameworks ..... 20
   4.2. Do DAC members use disaggregated data? .......................................................... 20
Annex A. Questionnaire ..................................................................................................... 21
  Purpose: to gather perspectives, insights and knowledge on whether and how DAC members focus on leaving no one behind through development co-operation .............................................. 21

Tables

Table 1.1. Unpacking DAC member rationales, strategic objectives and approaches to leaving no one behind .......................................................................................................................... 12
Table 2. Opportunities/advantages to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation.................................................................................................................. 17
Table 2.2. Challenges and risks to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation .......................................................................................................................... 18
Figures

Figure 1.1. The majority of DAC members are committed to leave no one behind.............. 10
Figure 1.2. Word cloud of target groups that are, or risk being, left behind according to DAC members (more prominent words were mentioned more frequently) .................. 14
Figure 1.3. Leave no one behind and policy coherence for development .................................. 16
Figure 3.1. Is leave no one behind mainstreamed into the development programming/project cycle? 18
Figure 3.2. Does your ministry/agency have specific methodologies/diagnostic tools to identify who is left behind, where they are left behind within countries, and why? ......................... 19
Figure 4.1. Does your agency/ministry use disaggregated data systematically for programming and project decisions and monitoring? .............................................................. 20
Leaving No One Behind: DAC Member commitment, priorities and strategies

Introduction

The OECD’s 2018 Development Co-operation Report: Joining Forces to Leave No One Behind focuses on what it means to translate into practice the pledge to leave no one behind, as expressed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report responds to demand from governments, policy makers, civil society and business for more clarity on what is at stake and what it will take to answer the pledge. Key questions include how development co-operation policies, programming and accountability should adapt to ensure delivery of the pledge? What should governments, development partners and the international community do differently to ensure that the SDGs are achieved for everyone and especially the people who are furthest behind?

To ground the analysis in the 2018 Development Co-operation Report in evidence and the current state of action, the OECD circulated, between April and May 2018, a short survey to DAC members to gather perspectives, insights and knowledge on whether and how they focus on leaving no one behind and the opportunities and challenges they face.

Twenty-seven DAC members (out of a total of 30) responded to the survey - 90% of the sample. Members responding to the survey are: Australia, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

The full questionnaire is available at Annex A. This working paper presents and analyses responses to the survey questions.

Summary of key findings

Findings from the survey on donor priorities and approaches to leaving no one behind show a broad commitment by members to the pledge, and to align priorities and target resources to the objective of leaving no one behind. According to survey responses, DAC members consider that the focus on leaving no one behind is an important opportunity to seize; it opens the possibility to have new discussions about the priorities and targeting of development co-operation on vulnerabilities, access to development, equity, and poverty eradication. It also stimulates fresh thinking about what needs to be done differently to succeed.

Seventeen members responded that ODA has a specific comparative advantage in answering the pledge to leave no one behind, given its concessional nature and capacity to target the poorest countries and people.
The survey finds that there is a good degree of similarity across DAC member priorities, strategic objectives and approaches. Findings from the survey suggest that DAC members answer the pledge to leave no one behind through two predominant lenses:

1. **Supporting ‘countries most in need’** to achieve the 2030 Agenda, including least developed countries, fragile contexts and small island developing states, and poor and marginalised people and regions in middle-income developing countries.

2. **Supporting poor, vulnerable and excluded people and groups** in developing countries through a strong policy emphasis on eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, promoting social and economic inclusion and respect for human rights.

**Key challenges** to development co-operation being able and fit for purpose in leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first are both political and operational. They include:

- effective mainstreaming of the commitment across the portfolio;
- managing the potentially higher costs and risks of reaching the furthest behind first and providing the long term support required to achieve results;
- identifying and reaching the people/groups who are left behind which requires better and more disaggregated data (e.g. sub-national data, by gender, age, disability, etc);
- the degree to which international and national political-economies are conducive to the objective;
- having a compelling and convincing narrative about leaving no one behind, given its aspirational and ambitious nature; and
- having sufficient political commitment in donor countries and partner countries to deliver.

**Other main findings**

A majority of DAC members have made an explicit commitment to leave no one behind through development co-operation. 60% of DAC members’ development co-operation visions or policies include a commitment to leave no one behind. There is no clear finding, however, on what members are doing differently in development co-operation to deliver on this commitment to leave no one behind.

To translate the pledge into action there needs to be greater clarity of what leave no one behind means for development co-operation. The majority of DAC members who responded to the survey (24 out of 27) asked for greater clarity around the concept of leaving no one behind, of how to implement it and how to identify those people who are left behind as well as a definition of the concept.

The policy commitment to leaving no one behind has yet to be mainstreamed systematically into development programming. For example:

- Fourteen DAC members responded that they mainstream leave no one behind into development programming and project cycles. At the same time, members are at the early stages of translating leave no one behind into actual planning and are not necessarily changing or doing something new.
- Targeted group-based or country-focused actions appear to be the most favoured way of delivering on leave no one behind by DAC members at present.
- In terms of diagnostics, many members conduct analyses at the country level, use international indicators and criteria to identify where needs are greatest, and have specific methodologies/diagnostic tools to identify who is left behind, where they are left behind within countries, and why. However, just four members conduct these assessments in a systematic way.
- Around 67% of DAC members respond that they measure development co-operation results in relation to leaving no one behind. While members have not developed specific leave no one behind indicators or results, they mainly use indicators on poverty, inequality, vulnerability and exclusion and are starting to use disaggregated data.
Unpacking the survey findings

1.1. How committed are DAC members to leave no one behind?

Eighteen DAC members’ development co-operation visions or policies include the commitment to leave no one behind. Thirteen members have made an explicit commitment to leave no one behind in their development co-operation policies, while five members state that the pledge is inherent to the policy vision and, as such, the level of commitment is more implicit. A further seven members are in the process of or are planning to strengthen their policy commitment to leave no one behind in the near future (Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.1. The majority of DAC members are committed to leave no one behind

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the questions: 25 out 27.
Source: Responses to questions 1 and 1.2 of the survey (see Annex A).

1.2. How do members address leave no one behind in practice?

According to 14 members, the main reason or motivation for focusing on leaving no one is to align development co-operation priorities with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Table 2.1).

From a policy perspective, DAC members consider that the pledge to leave no one behind is a way to increase inclusion, boost sustainable development and reduce poverty. The most mentioned objectives/ambitions include:

1. Poverty - expressed by respondents as eradicating poverty (5 respondents), fighting against poverty (3 respondents) and reducing poverty (3 respondents). One respondent also stressed the need to fight hunger and achieve food security.
2. Inclusion: eliminate discriminations and inequalities (mentioned 12 times);
DAC members address leave no one behind through different lenses but notably through a geographical focus on countries/places most in need or lagging behind on SDGs, by targeting specific groups of the population, and/or through specific approaches to development. The two main cross-cutting development approaches are a human rights-based approach (mentioned 11 times by respondents) and gender equality approach (mentioned 10 times). Two members stated that they focus on leave no one behind through multidimensional analyses and engaging with multi-stakeholders. One country adopts a differentiated approach with its partner countries, meaning that its strategies vary according to partner country needs.
Table 2.1. Unpacking DAC member rationales, strategic objectives and approaches to leaving no one behind

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Motivation and focus</th>
<th>Number of times mentioned by respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Focus</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda 2030 and the SDGs</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Focus on people and groups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vulnerable groups</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantaged/marginalised/underprivileged groups</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Populations most in need</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People most at risk</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with disabilities</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People living in poverty</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Geographical focus</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDCs, fragile and conflict-affected states</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various categories of countries</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries most affected by global challenges</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic objectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Poverty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty eradication</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty fight</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty reduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address extreme poverty</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fight against hunger and food security</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Inclusion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliminate inequalities/discriminations</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable growth and development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic growth and development</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Strategic approaches to leaving no one behind</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human rights-based approach</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender equality/feminist approach</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-dimensional approach</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Differentiated approach</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 22 out of 27; multiple responses (number of countries mentioning each topic).

*Source:* Responses to questions 1 and 1.1a of the survey (see Annex A).

The survey asked DAC members if they had identified specific priorities or approaches to address leaving no one behind through development co-operation (question 1.1e). Sixteen countries responded that they had set specific priorities for leaving no one behind and three members are in the process of doing so (19 in total). Similar to other survey questions on focus and priorities, least developed countries and fragile contexts (6 respondents mentioned it), the most vulnerable, the poorest, marginalised and disadvantage groups (4),
human rights (protection of human rights and human rights-based approach) (6), and the specific rights of people with disabilities (one member) emerge as specific priorities. Five members mentioned that middle-income countries are also a target for their development activities, focusing on marginalised and disadvantaged regions/areas within these countries.

In addition, some members state that their focus on gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment aligns with leaving no one behind (4); another member referred to the aim of achieving social inclusion and humanitarian development, and another flagged approaches that focus on human security and protecting and empowering the most vulnerable individuals.

1.2.1. Target groups and countries

The survey asked DAC members if they target specific groups, people and/or countries. Twenty-six out of the 27 members responding to this question said that they focus on both: i) specific groups of the population and ii) on countries and places that are left behind or risk being left behind. Three DAC members stated that their priorities are context-specific meaning that target groups and countries are identified according to needs and other criteria in each context and will vary according to contexts.

Findings show a clear convergence around ‘priority’ groups or people (Figure 2.2):

1. Gender, women and girls (mentioned as a priority by 19 members)
2. People with disabilities (mentioned as a priority by 16 members)
3. Children (mentioned as a priority by 14 members)
4. Youth (mentioned as a priority by 10 members).

Other specific groups mentioned include:

- refugees and displaced people (mentioned by 7 members)
- ethnic minorities and indigenous people (mentioned by 7 and 6 members respectively)
- LGBTI people (mentioned by 6 members)
- religious minorities (mentioned 6 times)
- the elderly (mentioned by 4 members)
- conflict-affected populations, female/child-headed households, human rights defenders, migrants, victims of repression and abuse (each category was mentioned by 2 members)
- asylum seekers, linguistic minorities, people dependent upon the land of others for livelihood or residence, and people living in rural areas (each category was mentioned by one member).
Figure 2.2. Word cloud of target groups that are, or risk being, left behind according to DAC members (more prominent words were mentioned more frequently)

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 27 out of 27; multiple responses (number of countries mentioning each topic).
Source: Responses to question 6 of the survey (see Annex A).

1.3. Does ODA have a comparative advantage in addressing leave no one behind?

Question 1.1(b) asked DAC members if development co-operation and ODA have a specific comparative advantage in addressing the pledge to leave no one behind, compared to other types of development finance. Seventeen members said that ODA has a specific comparative advantage in leaving no one behind. In short, respondents suggest that the comparative advantage of ODA lies in it being able to go where other flows do not go (or are less likely to go) and tackling the causes and drivers of poverty in different developing country contexts. Respondents identified the following strengths of ODA in contributing to no one left behind:

1. **Its concessional nature.** ODA is a crucial investment in countries most in need, such as LDCs, fragile and conflict-affected countries, which are less attractive to other sources of external finance (mentioned by 7 members). Moreover, being highly concessional ODA does not necessarily increase the debt burden of partner countries (mentioned by 7 members).

2. **Its capacity to target** the poorest/riskiest countries and most vulnerable people directly in a way that other flows may not be able to, especially those flows that seek or need financial or commercial returns. ODA still represents an important share of the public budget in some low income countries (mentioned 6 times) and fills financing gaps for provision of basic social services (mentioned once).

3. **Its catalytic role** in leveraging other forms of finance (mentioned by 5 members).
4. **The long-term commitment and objective of ODA** (mentioned by 2 members) and the definition of ODA to promote economic development and welfare in developing countries (mentioned twice). ODA also plays a key role in supporting delivery of the 2030 Agenda and achieving the SDGs in countries most in need (1).

5. **Its policy influence** – through its focus on leaving no one behind and welfare, development co-operation is also a voice for the most marginalised and the poorest people and through policy dialogue can influence partners’ policies for inclusive economic and social development and respect for human rights.

### 1.4. What are members doing differently to ensure development co-operation benefits those left behind?

There is no clear finding on what DAC members are doing differently as a result of committing to leave no one behind for sustainable development. It seems that members see a close alignment between their current policy priorities and investments and answering the pledge to leave no one behind. For example, in their response to the question on what they are doing differently respondents stressed that their focus on fragile and conflict-affected contexts, least developed countries and small islands developing states (3), and on the poorest and most vulnerable groups of the population (2) is how ODA addresses leave no one behind.

### 1.5. Policy coherence: Some members are integrating a leave no one behind perspective in other policies that have an impact globally or on developing countries

Half of DAC members who responded to this question (question 1.1(d)), that is 10 out of a total of 20 respondents, are applying the commitment to leave no one behind through domestic and international policies that have a potential impact on developing countries – other than development co-operation. The policy areas that were mentioned by most countries are climate (7 respondents), trade (6 respondents), and migration (5 respondents). Three respondents highlighted also their commitment to policy coherence for development (Figure 2.3).
2. Leave no one behind as a concept and as an approach

Twenty-four respondents (out of 27) said there is a need for greater clarity on several aspects of leaving no one behind. In particular, fourteen members stated that there is a need for greater clarity on how to translate leaving no one behind into practice and suggest that having and sharing more examples of best/good practice would help. Seven members called for a definition of leave no one behind, and four stressed the challenge of how to identify who the left behind are in different contexts. Two other respondents wondered about the implications of adopting a leave no one behind approach in terms of cost and risk, and the need to ensure political commitment to it.

2.1. DAC members consider that there are opportunities to committing to leave no one behind

The majority of members (25 out of 26) considered that applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation presents some advantages and/or opportunities.

The main opportunity flagged by DAC members is the potential for development co-operation to place a greater focus on people and, in particular, on the most vulnerable, marginalised, disadvantaged people (mentioned 8 times by respondents), and it puts an emphasis on the objective of reducing inequalities and fostering inclusion (mentioned 7 times). Members also mentioned the potential of boosting development innovation and public support for development, improving targeting and measurement, increasing the efficiency of how resources are allocated, improving understanding of the causes, problems and challenges of being left behind for policy design while also enhancing the focus on results and impact for the people who are left behind (Table 2).
LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND: HOW ARE DAC MEMBERS ANSWERING THE PLEDGE OF THE 2030 AGENDA?

Table 2.1 Opportunities/advantages to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunities and advantages mentioned</th>
<th>No. of responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focus on people (the most vulnerable, marginalised, disadvantaged, those left behind)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To reduce inequalities / foster inclusion</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on poverty</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on all developing countries (from LDCs to UMICs)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term focus on gender equality / feminist approach</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To achieve the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on human rights</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on countries/regions/areas most in need</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To boost development innovation</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To improve targeting and measurement</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus on results and impact</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term focus on disability</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Quality growth” (inclusive, sustainable, resilient)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To boost public support for development</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase efficiency in the allocation of resources</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To inform policy design</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To use LNOB as a benchmark</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 26 out of 27; multiple responses (number of countries mentioning each topic).
Source: Responses to question 3 of the survey (see Annex A).

2.2. There are also challenges with addressing leave no one behind in practice

The majority of respondents to this question (23 out of 27) identified challenges and/or risks to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation (Table 2.3). The three top challenges mentioned are:

1. issues of cost, risk and length of time it will take to achieve the pledge (10 members mentioned this);
2. lack of data in several contexts, and the fact that it is not always possible to collect and analyse disaggregated data (8 respondents mentioned this); and
3. lack of political commitment both in donor and in partner countries (6 respondents mentioned this).
Table 2.3. Challenges and risks to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges and risks mentioned</th>
<th>No. of responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Costly, risky and time consuming</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data / disaggregated data</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political commitment</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be systematic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring and tracking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programming</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dialogue with partner countries</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term commitment and change</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mainstream LNOB principle across all development co-operation instruments</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk of reducing the focus on LDCs</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 27 out of 27; multiple responses (number of countries mentioning each topic).

Source: Responses to question 4 of the survey (see Annex A).

3. Mainstreaming of leave no one behind into development programming is not systematic

Fourteen out of 26 members say they mainstream leave no one behind into development programming or project cycles (Figure 3.1). At the same time, the survey findings show that members are at the early stages of translating the pledge into planning and, as such, are not necessarily changing or transforming programmes or planning to answer the pledge. At present, most DAC members appear to be translating leave no one behind into practice through ongoing strategies on poverty, gender mainstreaming and human rights-based approaches.

Figure 3.1. Is leave no one behind mainstreamed into the development programming/project cycle?

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 26 out of 27.

Source: Responses to question 5 of the survey (see Annex A).
3.1. Evidence base: data, diagnostics and indicators of what it means to be left behind

A majority of DAC members (16 out of 24 responding members) state that they use specific criteria and indicators to identify vulnerable groups, people, countries and regions within partner countries. They mainly conduct analysis to identify the level of poverty (e.g. multi-dimensional poverty analysis), fragility, and inequality (e.g. gender analysis) at the country level. They use international indicators and criteria, such as vulnerability indexes, OECD/DAC gender marker, World Governance indicators, human development index, LDC category indicators (GNI per capita, human asset index, and economic vulnerability).

The survey also asked members whether they use specific methodologies/diagnostic tools to identify who is left behind, where they are left behind within countries, and why. Twelve DAC members replied that they are using diagnostic tools. Eight of these respondents are also those members who apply specific criteria/indicators to identify where need is greatest (Figure 3.2). Country assessments that look at human rights, poverty (multi-dimensional poverty analysis), or broader political economy analysis are popular methods for members. However, only four members conduct these assessments systematically. Other respondents said that they rely on a combination of existing data and tools from international, bilateral and local sources.

Figure 3.2. Does your ministry/agency have specific methodologies/diagnostic tools to identify who is left behind, where they are left behind within countries, and why?

Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 26 out of 27.
Source: Responses to question 8 of the survey (see Annex A).

4. Measuring results from a leave no one behind perspective

A majority of respondents (20 out of 25) replied that they measure the results of their development co-operation projects and programmes from a leave no one behind perspective. While they have not developed a specific leave no one behind results approach, they mainly use results indicators on poverty, inequality, vulnerability and exclusion. Just four members use disaggregated data (for instance, disaggregated by gender, age, geography, etc.); two members measure the extent to which the gender perspective is mainstreamed into planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes; two other members measure disability inclusion (e.g. through the disability
inclusion marker), and one measures the impact of development co-operation on indigenous peoples. In addition, four members said that they use different indicators depending on the objectives of the programme/project implemented.

4.1. Challenges with integrating specific leave no one behind indicators in results frameworks

The survey asked DAC members to identify the challenges they face, if any, in integrating specific leave no one behind indicators in their results frameworks. The main challenge mentioned by the majority of respondents (9 out of 14) is in identifying who is left behind and finding and using indicators to measure results from a leave no one behind perspective. Answering the pledge throughout the programme cycle in an equitable way is also a key challenge for DAC members.

4.2. Do DAC members use disaggregated data?

Lastly, very few DAC members (7 respondents) use disaggregated data for programming and project decisions and monitoring in a systematic way (Figure 4.1) while ten respondents would prioritise getting and using disaggregated data from partner country statistical systems, from multilateral organisations and then collecting data themselves.

**Figure 4.1. Does your agency/ministry use disaggregated data systematically for programming and project decisions and monitoring?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yes:</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>not yet, but we plan to:</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>no:</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>don’t know:</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other:</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Number of DAC members who responded to the question: 24 out of 27.*

*Source: Responses to question 12 of the survey (see Annex A).*
Annex A. Questionnaire

Purpose: to gather perspectives, insights and knowledge on whether and how DAC members focus on leaving no one behind through development co-operation

Background

The 2018 Development Co-operation Report will focus on Unpacking Leave No One Behind. References are made to leaving no one behind in several international frameworks and agendas including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030; the Addis Ababa Action Agenda; the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; the Agenda for Humanity and the New Urban Agenda.

The Preamble, to the UN General Assembly Resolution Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises that “eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development” while paragraph 4 states that “As we embark on this great collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. Recognizing that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, we wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. And we will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.” The 2030 Agenda also sets out principles that should guide the follow-up and review processes as being people-centred, gender and human rights-sensitive, and having a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind.

Key questions investigated in this year’s Development Co-operation Report are: What could/does leave no one behind mean for development co-operation policies and programming in different types of contexts? Where and how do ODA and non-ODA policies have the greatest comparative advantage and impact in relation to leaving no one behind? What does good practice in leaving no one behind look like?

The objectives of the 2018 Development Co-operation Report are to i) help clarify what leave no one behind means for development co-operation from a range of perspectives and in different contexts; and ii) provide evidence and analysis of the opportunities and challenges of different approaches, policies and programming tools for addressing leave no one behind and delivering the SDGs for all.

Why conduct a survey?

The purpose of the survey is to consult with and learn from DAC members on how they are working to leave no one behind, to get a sense of how members define it, if at all, for development co-operation in different contexts and how they focus on leave no one behind

---

1 This is a working title for the report.
in policies and the programming cycle. The information and evidence provided by the
survey will be used in the Development Co-operation Report to provide:
An aggregate analysis of the responses will inform a chapter in the report on DAC members
approaches to leave no one behind.

1. A summary of members’ focus and approach to leave no one behind will be
provided in the first page of each DAC member profile.

How to complete the survey?

We understand that leave no one behind may not be an explicit priority for all
DAC members and that several people from different units and/or institutions may need to
participate in responding to the questions. To facilitate the task we have tried to keep the
number of questions short and focused.

We request members to provide a consolidated response, if possible, to the questionnaire
by 10 April 2018 in order for the Secretariat to prepare the text for each donor profile,
which will be published early June.

Contact details

- Name(s):
- Title(s):
- Country:
- Ministry/Agency/Institution:
- Email address:
- Phone number:

Vision, focus and priorities

1. Does your development co-operation vision or policy make an explicit commitment to or reference
to leaving no one behind?

Please select one option (Note to respondent: double click on the box to check it):

- Yes
- No
- Not yet, but we plan to
- Don’t know
- Other, please explain

If the response is OTHER, please explain:

1.1. If the answer to question 1. is YES

- Please tell us what your policy commitment or statement says about leave no one
behind and describe the rationale and strategic objectives.

- Where and how do you consider that ODA has a comparative advantage in
addressing leave no one behind, compared to other types of development finance?
• What will your development co-operation do differently as a result of committing to leave no one behind for sustainable development?

• Does your country/institution’s commitment to leave no one behind apply, also, to other policies (aside from development co-operation) that have a potential impact on developing countries (e.g. trade, investment, climate, migration)?

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If the response is YES, please explain to which policies leave no one behind applies and how:

If response is OTHER, please explain:

• In addition to making an explicit commitment to leave no one behind, has your government/ministry/agency identified specific priorities or approaches to address leaving no one behind through development co-operation?

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ No, but we are on the process of doing so
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If the response is YES, please provide more information about priorities and approaches:

1.2. If the answer to question 1. is NO:

• Would you say that your development co-operation addresses, even implicitly, leave no one behind as referred to in specific SDGs and targets such as target 10.2 “By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status?”

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If the response is YES, please tell us how:

If the response is OTHER, please explain:
2. Irrespective of the extent to which your development co-operation policy is explicit about leaving no one behind, would you say that there is scope for greater clarity in what leave no one behind means in practice?

Please select one option:

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other

If possible, please say why:

3. Irrespective of the extent to which your development co-operation policy focuses on leaving no one behind, would you say there are opportunities/advantages to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation?

Please select one option:

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If YES, please say what they are and why:

If NO, please say why:

4. Irrespective of the extent to which your development co-operation policy focuses on leaving no one behind, would you say there are challenges or risks to applying a leave no one behind approach to development co-operation?

Please select one option:

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If YES, please say what they are and why:

If NO, please say why:

Delivery, programming, diagnostics, data

5. Would you say that a leave no one behind perspective is mainstreamed into the development programming/project cycle?
Please select all relevant options:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not yet, but we plan to
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If the response is YES, we would be grateful if you could tell us **how** and give specific examples.

6. **Does your development co-operation target specific groups of excluded / marginalised/vulnerable people and/or specific countries?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific groups of excluded/marginalised/vulnerable people?</th>
<th>Specific regions, countries, regions/areas within countries?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please select one option:</td>
<td>Please select one option:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Yes</td>
<td>☐ Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ No</td>
<td>☐ No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ No, we take a different approach (please explain)</td>
<td>☐ No, we take a different approach (please explain)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Don’t know</td>
<td>☐ Don’t know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Other, please explain</td>
<td>☐ Other, please explain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please tell us **which vulnerabilities/groups/countries and why**.

7. **Do you use specific criteria and/or indicators to identify where need is greatest (e.g. vulnerable groups, people, countries and regions within countries)?**

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

Please explain:

8. **Does your ministry/agency have specific methodologies/diagnostic tools to identify who is left behind, where they are left behind within countries, and why?**

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other, please explain

If the answer is YES/OTHER, please tell us more about the tools and share if available:

9. **If the answer to question 8 is YES, would you say that these assessments are conducted systematically?**
Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other

Feel free to provide further information about assessments:

10. Do you measure the results of development co-operation projects and programmes from a leave no one behind perspective or in relation to poverty, inequality, vulnerability, exclusion?

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other

If the answer is YES please tell us more about how you do it:

10.1. If the answer to question 10 is YES, could you please provide examples of leave no one behind results indicators that you use?

Provide example here:

10.2. If the answer to question 10 is YES, do you use the same leave no one behind results indicators in all developing contexts (e.g. fragile, non-fragile situations)?

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know
☐ Other

If the answer is NO please give an example of how the indicators adapt to contexts?

11. What challenges, if any, do you face with integrating specific leave no one behind indicators in results frameworks?

12. The 2030 Agenda states that “Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (General Assembly resolution 68/261). Does your agency/ministry use disaggregated data systematically for programming and project decisions and monitoring?

Please select one option:
☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not yet, but we plan to
☐ Don’t know
12.1 If the answer to question 12 is YES or NOT YET, does your agency/ministry plan to collect the disaggregated data itself or through multilateral and partner country processes?

Please tell us how you will access disaggregated data

Good practices for addressing leave no one behind

13. If you wish, please tell us about examples of good practices, innovative tools and approaches to leaving no one behind through development co-operation.

Describe good practice, paste a link to it or send a document

International Co-operation

14. Are there particular opportunities or challenges to addressing leave no one behind through development co-operation and non-ODA tools that could be addressed at the international level?

Please select one option:

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don’t know

Feel free to share your thoughts: