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DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics

External resource flows beyond ODA:
Remittances in the post-2015 DAC statistical framework

19-20 November 2013, Paris

This note considers what place could be given to remittances in the post-2015 DAC statistical framework. It reviews the existing methodology and data and highlights the importance of remittances in the big picture of developing countries' resource receipts and the extent to which they contribute to development. It is presented for discussion at the DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics informal meeting on 20 November 2013. In particular, members are invited to comment on the possible ways to pay more attention to these flows in the DAC system presented in section IV.

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EXTERNAL RESOURCE FLOWS BEYOND ODA: REMITTANCES IN THE POST-2015 DAC STATISTICAL FRAMEWORK

I. Introduction

1. Remittances represent household income from foreign economies arising mainly from the temporary or permanent movement of people to those economies[1]. These flows have increased rapidly in recent years and now represent the largest source of external resources for many developing countries. According to the World Bank[2], worldwide remittances to developing countries reached their highest level in 2012 at **USD 389 billion**, ahead of Official Development Assistance (ODA) and following Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). In the global financial crisis context, remittances constitute an important source of funds for many developing countries because of their countercyclical nature (they rise during downturns in the recipient economy, unlike capital flows such as FDI which are more procyclical). Moreover, while private capital flows mostly to emerging countries, remittances are particularly important in the poorer countries (they could represent up to almost half of their GDP, e.g. Tajikistan in 2008) and are recognised as one important component of people's resilience to economic or humanitarian crisis.

2. In this context, statistics on remittances are in high demand for a wide range of analyses of financing for development. Remittances are not captured in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) statistics[3]. The main source of data is the annual *Balance of Payments Statistics [BoP] Yearbook* of the IMF, although these data present some quality and comparability issues. The necessity to improve data on remittances entered the G8 agenda at the 2004 Sea Island Summit, giving rise to the G8 Global Remittances Working Group (GRWG) in 2009.

3. The G8 Heads of States in 2009, followed by the G20 in 2011, endorsed the GRWG's objectives of coordinating international remittance initiatives and supporting remittance markets and pledged to **reduce the global average costs of transferring remittances from 10% to 5% by 2014**. At the 2013 DAC Senior Level Meeting members reiterated the need to devote more resources to facilitate the circulation of remittances through formal channels (i.e. banks, financial intermediaries) to encourage saving and increase countries' creditworthiness on international capital markets.

4. This note considers **how remittances could be given more emphasis in the DAC statistical framework**. It has been prepared as part of the DAC workstream to improve statistics on non-ODA flows[4] but it also contributes to the implementation of the DAC HLM mandate on modernising the measurement and monitoring of external development finance post 2015. (One specific outcome of the work plan to implement the HLM mandate is "a landscape of external development finance flows and instruments and

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1 . Cf. Sixth Edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual (BPM), Appendix 5.

2 . See World Bank Migration and Development Brief 21.

3 . Historically, remittances were considered to finance consumption more than investment, and therefore to escape the DAC statistical concept of "resources for development"; see Development Co-operation Report 2004, pp. 50-53.

4 . For more information about the DAC non-ODA workstream, see DCD/DAC/STAT(2013)2.

sources and uses of external development finance information", with one of its objectives formulated as "better understanding the big picture of resource flows from the recipients' perspective, how the different types of flows interact and what triggers them".[5])

5. The note is structured as follows. Section II reviews and compares existing data sources (including methodologies, definitions) for remittances and identifies the most appropriate source of information for DAC purposes. Section III discusses the importance of remittances in the big picture of developing countries' resource receipts and, based on a literature review, presents the extent to which these flows contribute to development (their economic impacts and motivation being controversial). Finally, section IV presents possible ways to pay more attention to these flows in DAC analyses and products.

II. Review of existing data and methodology on remittances

A. Variety of definitions

6. Table 1 below provides an overview and illustrates the lack of homogeneity in definitions of remittances used by selected multilateral institutions, think tanks and aid agencies.

Table 1. Remittances definitions across institutions

International institutions	Think tanks	Aid agencies
International Monetary Fund (IMF): Personal remittances are defined as current and capital transfers in cash or in kind between resident households and non-resident households, plus net compensation of employees.	**Overseas Development Institute:** income (in any form) received by a household in one distinct place, from individuals or households living in another place.	**Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA):** money and goods that migrants earn while working and living abroad and send back to families in their home or ancestral countries.
World Bank: person-to-person, cross-border, relatively small payments.	**Centre for Global Development:** sum of non-resident deposits in home bank accounts (part of which comes from the household's migrants) and direct foreigners' transfers to households.	**USAID:** monetary funds sent by individuals working abroad to recipients in the country that they came from.
International Organization for Migration (IOM): personal monetary transfers that a migrant worker makes to his/her relatives back in their country of origin.	**The Migration Policy Institute:** monies sent from one individual migrant or migrant household to another individual or household in the migrant's country of origin.	**DFID:** monies sent from one individual or household to another. International remittances are those sent by migrant workers who left their home country.

7. Following the G8 summit in 2004, methodological work was carried out at the global level to improve and harmonise methodology and data on remittances in the BoP framework (see chronology in box 1). As a result, in 2011, the IMF introduced in BPM6 an internationally agreed definition of remittances represented through three different items of BoP statistics (see next section).

5. See DCD/DAC/RD(2013)12/RD2, objective 2D.

Box 1. Methodological work on remittances carried out at global level

In 2003, Ratha (World Bank) considered that the most accurate estimation of remittances was the sum of three BoP components: "compensation of employees" (current account), "workers' remittances" (current account) and "migrants' transfers" (capital account).
In 2005, in a meeting organised jointly by the World Bank and the IMF, a voluntary group of experienced compilers of remittance data was established to work on a remittances compilation guide and to improve methodology and data in the BoP framework. In 2008, the Global Remittances Working Group (GRWG) was set up, with data issues as one of its four thematic working areas (the latter being dealt with in the so-called Luxembourg Group on Remittances data, which OECD also attended). In 2009, the IMF, the World Bank, Eurostat and the OECD jointly published "International Transactions in Remittances: Guide for Compilers and Users" (RCG).
One of the key outcomes of the methodological work carried out on remittances was the removal of the concept of "migrant" from the balance of payments framework on remittance data, replaced by the concept of residency. This change was incorporated in the Balance of Payment Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6) in 2011.

B. Balance-of-payments definition and items on remittances

8. Table 2 shows the presentation of remittance items in BPM6.

Table 2. Remittances concepts in BPM6

Total remittances and transfers to NPISHs: a+b+c+d+e+f					
Total remittances: a+b+c+d				e	f
Personal remittances: a+b+c			d		
a	b	c			
Personal transfers (part of current transfers)	Compensation of employees less taxes, social contributions, transport, and travel	Capital transfers between households	Social benefits	Current transfers to NPISHs	Capital transfers to NPISHs

Source: IMF, 2008 (*BPM6*).
Note: "Personal transfers" is a standard item; other items are supplementary.

Personal remittances (a+b+c)

9. The concept of **personal remittances**, introduced in BPM6, comprises three components:

a. **Personal transfers** (which replaced the BPM5 concept of workers' remittances[6]) consist of all current transfers in cash or in kind received by resident households from non-resident households. This concept most closely conforms to the notion of **periodic, unrequited, non-market transfers between residents of different countries**.

b. **Compensation of employees (COE)** is the gross earnings of workers residing abroad for less than 12 months, including the value of in-kind benefits. It includes the remuneration paid by resident companies to non-resident workers (including the salaries of diplomatic staff and officials of international organisations such as IMF, World Bank and OECD) as well as residents receiving salaries from non-resident companies. For the purpose of measuring personal

6 . Workers' remittances were defined as the value of monetary transfers sent home from workers residing abroad for more than one year. Data on workers' remittances are still collected for continuity of series.

remittances according to BPM6, COE are recorded on a net basis. **COE is a relevant indicator of cross-border seasonal work and economic dependencies between countries** (e.g. Lesotho's dependency on South Africa).

c. **Capital transfers between households** (which replaced the BPM5 concept of "migrants' transfers") consist of all capital transfers between resident and non-resident households and represent the wealth of individuals who move their residency from one country to another for a period of at least one year. Capital transfers capture two different types of transactions:
   - *Return home assets*: the assets accumulated during their stay by non-residents returning to their home country;
   - *Change in residency status*: individuals' change of residence from one country to another, which, therefore, may not involve real financial flows.

Total remittances (personal remittances +d)

10. Total remittances include all household income from working abroad and can be calculated as the sum of personal remittances and social benefits (which include benefits payable under social security funds and pension funds).

Total remittances and transfers to non-profit institutions serving households (total remittances +e+f)

11. Total remittances and transfers to non-profit institutions serving households (NPISHs) include all transfers benefiting households directly or indirectly through NPISHs, as well as the net earnings of short-term workers abroad (including donations, in cash or in kind, from governments and enterprises to charitable organisations in another economy). **Total remittances and transfers to NPISHs is therefore a very broad concept, which is not closely linked with migration.**

12. In general, data on remittances involve a large amount of estimation. Furthermore, while informal transfers are not captured, it is worth noting that the inclusion of compensation of employees tends to overestimate the actual amount of cross-border remittances (see also paragraph 18).

C. World Bank data on remittances

13. The World Bank publishes statistical series on remittances, derived from the BoP data collected by the IMF, but adjusted to include estimates for countries that do not report data on remittances in their BoP. These series refer to the concept of personal remittances and include annual data on the different items of personal remittance inflows and outflows[7]. The BoP statistics themselves are only available by either receiving or sending countries and do not enable for example estimation of remittance figures from DAC countries to developing countries.

14. To fill this gap, Ratha and Shaw developed a bilateral sender/recipient remittance matrix which provides estimations of bilateral migrations and remittances using 2010 data on i) migrant stocks, ii) migrant stocks and destination country incomes, and iii) migrant stocks, destination country incomes, and source country incomes. The World Bank updated the matrix for 2011 and 2012 with migration data for 71 destination countries as described in the Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011. The bilateral

7. The World Bank presents statistics on personal remittances as the sum of two BPM6 main components: personal transfers and COE. It excludes the third item: "capital transfers between households" as data on this item are difficult to obtain at national level and are not reported for almost all countries.

remittances matrix is particularly relevant to derive estimates on personal remittances to developing countries from DAC countries.[8]

15. Despite methodological work carried out at the international level in recent years, data on remittances are incomplete and their quality relies on national statistical capacity which varies a lot from one country to another. **The best estimates (such as the World Bank series on remittances) are results of modelling and require careful interpretation.** Also, attention should be paid on using the most appropriate concepts in analyses of developing countries' resource receipts since the change in methodology introduced in BPM6 (personal vs. total remittances vs. total remittances and transfers).

III. Relevance of remittances in broader analyses of total resource flows to developing countries

A. Why are remittances important in the big picture of developing countries' total resource receipts?

A stable upward trend of remittances

16. Worldwide remittances to developing countries[9] have increased in constant 2010 prices from USD 187 billion to USD 345 billion between 2004 and 2011 (Figure 1), making these flows the second source of financing for developing countries right after private flows at market terms (mainly composed of FDI). Over the same period, ODA-like (concessional bilateral and multilateral) flows rose from USD 122 billion to USD 165 billion. While the share of ODA in total developing countries' resource receipts fell from 21% in 2004 to 15% in 2011, the share of worldwide remittances in the total remained stable with 32%. In its Migration and Development Brief 21, the World Bank estimates that worldwide remittances to developing countries will continue to increase and will reach USD 540 billion by 2016.

17. However, the data on remittances shown in Figure 1 include all remittances and thus do not fully compare with the other flows from DAC countries only. According to the World Bank estimates available for 2010 onwards, remittances from DAC countries to developing countries in 2011 amounted to USD 185 billion, representing 20% of their total resource receipts.

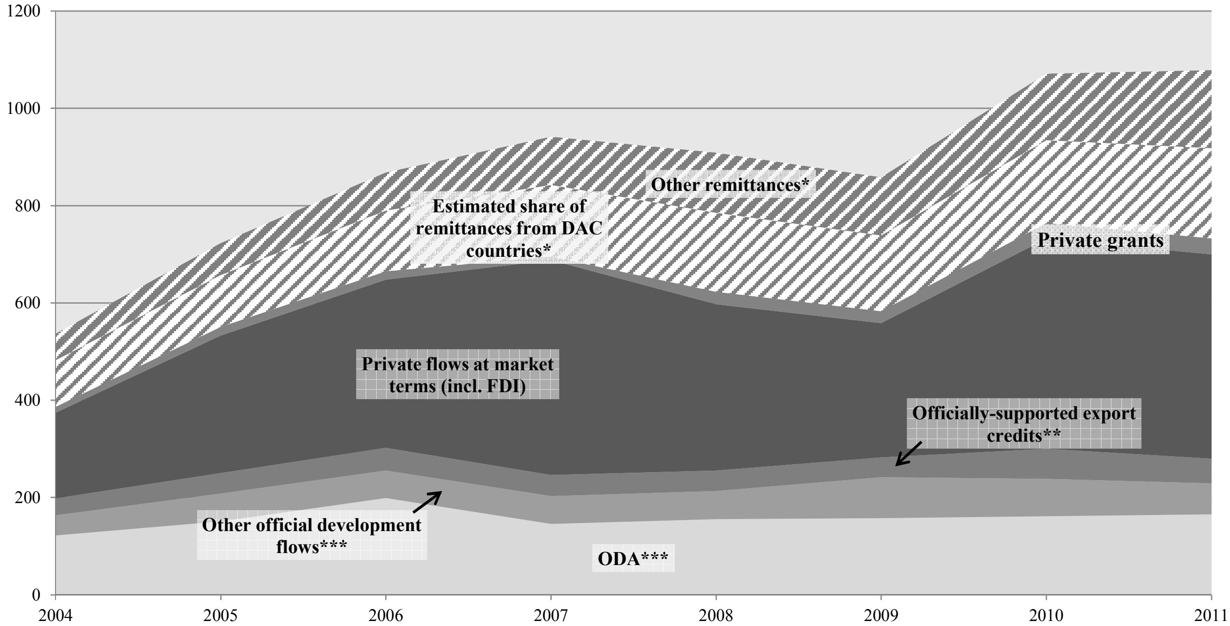
18. Moreover, the inclusion of *compensation of employees* in the data tends to overestimate the significance of remittances as it covers earnings of migrant workers that are partly spent in the host country and never remitted, and income of non-migrants, e.g. locally-recruited staff of embassies, consulates and international organisations, which are treated in the balance of payments as extraterritorial entities. Although the BoP categories are well defined, their implementation worldwide may also differ and affect the comparability of the data.[10]

8. The OECD Statistics Directorate also collects data on bilateral workers' remittances and compensation of employees (BPM5 basis) derived from Eurostat's database on outflows and inflows of workers' remittances and compensation of employees by partner country. However, it provides only a partial picture as it only covers remittances from European countries and Japan.

9. Composed of personal transfers and COE, according to World Bank statistics on remittances.

10. For example, some central banks record almost all migrants' remittances under "compensation of employees". Some others do not record "migrants' transfers" in the Balance of Payments capital account.

Figure 1. Developing countries' gross resource receipts, including worldwide remittances in 2004-2011, USD billion, constant 2011 prices



* Includes personal transfers and compensation of employees. The share of remittances from DAC countries has been estimated from the 2010 and 2011 World Bank Bilateral Remittances Matrixes.
** Include official direct export credits and private export credits that are officially guaranteed.
*** Includes bilateral and multilateral outflows to developing countries.
Sources: DAC statistics and World Bank statistics for remittances.

19. On the other hand, remittance flows may be underestimated as they do not include transfers through informal channels, e.g. money sent through people traveling or by mail. These flows, called “hawala”, “hundi” or “fei qian”, are not recorded in official statistics, but are estimated to represent one-third to one-half of the worldwide remittances[11].

Remittances represented 2.2% of developing countries’ GDP in 2005-11

20. Over the period 2005-11, the top-10 recipients’ personal remittances to GDP ratio ranged between 39% and 19% with the five largest recipients being Tajikistan, Lesotho, Moldova, Tonga and Lebanon (see Table 3 below). In terms of personal transfers (workers’ remittances) to GDP, the five largest recipients in the same period were Tajikistan, Haiti, Kyrgyz Republic, Samoa and Lebanon.

11 . CGD (Center for Global Development) 2004; see Bibliography.

Table 3. Share of personal remittances and personal transfers in developing countries' GDP, 2005-11

Personal Remittances (percent of GDP) by income group				Personal Transfers (percent of GDP) by income group			
Income group	Average	Max	Standard deviation	Income group	Average	Max	Standard deviation
LICs	6.1	39.1	7.7	LICs	6.1	39.0	7.8
LMICs	7.9	35.3	7.1	LMICs	6.0	20.7	5.3
UMICs	3.2	21.8	3.7	UMICs	3.2	19.0	3.4

Top 10 recipients of Personal Remittances (percent of GDP)		Top 10 recipient of Personal Transfers (percent of GDP)	
Tajikistan	39.1	Tajikistan	39.0
Lesotho	35.3	Haiti	21.7
Moldova	28.3	Kyrgyz Republic	21.0
Tonga	24.5	Samoa	20.7
Lebanon	21.8	Lebanon	19.0
Haiti	21.7	Honduras	18.7
Kyrgyz Republic	21.0	Nepal	18.5
Samoa	20.8	Tonga	18.4
Nepal	19.5	El Salvador	17.2
Honduras	18.9	Guyana	16.4

Source: World Bank

B. Are remittances part of development finance?

21. Many studies have assimilated remittances to development finance with little consideration of whether economic development is their true aim or effect. There is, however, a literature on this issue, which is briefly reviewed below.

1. What motivates remittances?

22. The question of what motivates remittances has been extensively analysed, but it is difficult to establish what exactly determines the willingness to remit (i.e. support relatives, investment, saving, etc.).

23. As pointed out by Stark (1991), there is no general theory of remittances. However, the literature distinguishes between different determinants of remittances flows, from pure altruism to pure self-interest, suggesting that the decision to remit could be quite complex and not necessarily driven by migrants' concern about families left in the home country. Under a pure altruistic model, the migrant derives satisfaction from the welfare of his/her relatives, although the amount of remittances tends to decrease with the domestic income of the family and over time as the attachment to the family gradually weakens. By contrast, in a pure self-interest scenario remittances appear to be mostly driven by either the aspiration to inherit or the concern that relatives in the home country can take care of any of the migrant's assets left there. Other determinants between altruism and self-interest have also been identified, e.g. Lucas and Stark (1985) explained the motivations to remit by a more eclectic model labelled "tempered altruism" and "enlightened self-interest" where the decision for one family member to migrate results from family decision-making, remittances being the mechanism for redistributing the gains to the family.

2. Remittances inflows and impacts on economic development and welfare

24. Microeconomic or macroeconomic impacts of remittances are controversial and the extent to which these flows contribute to development is still not clear. General views taken from the literature are summarised below.

Education and Health

25. Empirical studies (Lopez-Cordova 2006, Hanson and Woodruff 2002 about education improvements in Mexico; Cox Edwards and Ureta 2003 about El Salvador, Hildebrandt and McKenzie 2003 on Health) have shown a positive correlation between remittances, education and health improvement (rise of literacy levels and school attendance; decrease of infant mortality[12]).

Productive vs. non-productive use of remittances

26. Remittances have traditionally been perceived to be spent for direct consumption (medicines, food, car, etc.) rather than productive investment, and to generate or maintain dependency. However, more recent analyses have suggested that remittances contribute to increasing households' spending on education more than on consumption (Adams 2005 about Guatemala), education being a key element of economic development. This demonstrates the difficulty of separating non-productive and productive uses of remittances (Seddon 2004). Furthermore, an increasing number of studies established a direct link between the increase of remittances inflows and the level of investment (Mishra 2005, Leon-Ledesma and Piracha 2004).

Effects on poverty reduction

27. It is reasonable to assume that the amount of remittances sent by migrants to their families back home, by meeting their basic needs, has an overall impact on poverty reduction (Adams 2005).

Effects on inequality

28. World Bank research in Guatemala and Ghana found that remittances are responsible for a "slight increase in income inequality", while other studies in Egypt, Pakistan and Philippines concluded that remittances have a negative effect on rural income distribution (Adams 2005), because of the small number of beneficiaries.

Brain drain and brain waste

29. Brain drain in developing countries results from the loss of high-skilled workers that aspire to earn higher salaries in developed countries (Bhagwati and Hamada, 1974). However, a brain gain is possible i) if the flow of skilled workers returning to the home country is high, and ii) if those receiving remittances gain a better access to education (Garcia Pires, 2009). The brain gain is offset by brain waste when skilled migrants do not have access to qualified jobs in the destination country. Brain waste often results from illegal immigration and low international transferability of human capital (Hanson, 2006; Chiswick and Miller, 2007).

Remittances and the macro-economy

30. It is commonly agreed that remittances contribute to i) reducing poverty, ii) alleviating credit constraints and reducing macroeconomic volatility, iii) protecting consumption against negative shocks, and iv) enhancing investment in human and physical capital.

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12 . Shawn M. Kanaiupuni and Katherine M. Donato, 1999, "Migradollars and Mortality: The Effects of Migration on Child Mortality," Demography 36, No. 3, cited in Lopez-Cordova, 2006, "Globalization, Migration and Development: The Role of Mexican Migrant Remittances".

31. In its 2008 report on Macroeconomic Consequences of Remittances, the IMF qualifies remittances as compensatory countercyclical transfers behaving like public social insurance programmes or aid flows, used for increasing the well-being of migrants' households but not necessarily leading to an increase in national productive capital. The report further points out that remittances:

- increase consumption and leisure, improving welfare;
- increase public debt sustainability and reduce country risk by lowering the marginal cost of servicing debt;
- have an insurance effect against household shocks; and
- increase consumption tax collections to finance government operations.

32. However, the report also underlined two potential perverse phenomena:

1. **"Dutch disease" effects**: Remittances may aggravate pre-existing distortions between the tradable and non-tradable sectors (increase of consumption demand biased toward non-tradables), leading to inflation and deterioration of the balance of payments.

2. **"Moral hazard" problem:** The increase of income resulting from remittances enables people to work less (diminishing labor supply) or makes uncertain that, if remittances are used for investment purposes, the resulting investment will be productive.

33. The above literature on both the motivation and impacts of remittances suggests that i) remittances have both positive and negative economic effects, and ii) lack a clear developmental intention. One might therefore conclude that it would not be appropriate to assimilate remittances to development finance. However, given that they represent a huge potential source of financing for productive investment and welfare development, their inclusion in the DAC big picture of developing countries' resource receipts is relevant, to inform development co-operation policy and decision-making on development finance allocations.

IV. Remittances and DAC statistical analyses

A. How could DAC analyses pay more attention to remittances?

34. In line with the 2012 DAC HLM mandate to improve statistics on all resource flows to developing countries, and facilitate monitoring of the G20 commitment to reduce the cost of remittance services, this section presents possible options for the DAC to give more attention to remittances in its analyses and work.

35. As mentioned in section III, remittances represent massive flows to developing countries and play an important role in mitigating economic shocks in receiving economies. Consequently, they have been increasingly included in economic analyses and in the formulation of development policies to facilitate flows and optimise their development impact.

36. The use of remittances data to complete the DAC picture of developing countries' resource receipts would help to focus more attention on these flows when formulating and implementing development co-operation strategies**. A non-exhaustive list of possible concrete actions to broaden the current DAC picture is presented below for discussion**:

- Following up on a 2004 US proposal[13], WP-STAT members could consider the usefulness and advisability of **presenting, as a new Table of the Statistical Annex of the DCR,** the big picture of developing countries' resource receipts including remittance data;
- Analysis of remittance inflows as well as of donors' support to facilitate them could also be **incorporated in other relevant data presentations and analyses**, e.g. a possible WP-STAT biennial report on remittances, or attention in Peer Reviews to donors' efforts to lower sending costs;
- Possible **OECD statistical access to World Bank remittances data**: the Secretariat could envisage collaborating with the World Bank and working on technical options that would facilitate the inclusion of remittances data in queries for data on total resource flows to developing countries on OECD.STAT;
- Specific webpages on remittances under the non-ODA website could be developed to present major trends and provide insights on the importance of these flows in the big picture of recipients' receipts.

B. How to better track support to remittances in DAC statistics?

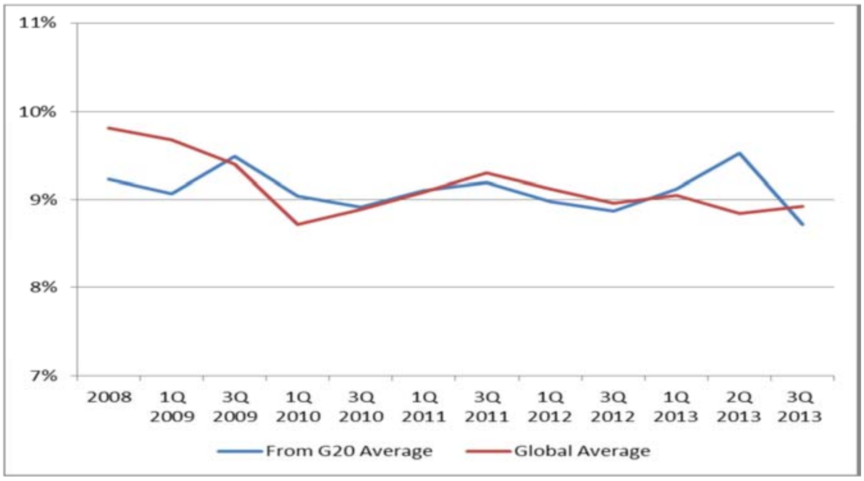
37. Work could also be carried out by the WP-STAT to improve the tracking of donors' efforts in support of remittances. In addition to complying with the DAC HLM mandate to broaden the scope of development finance data collection, tracking financial efforts to the facilitation and promotion of remittances would contribute, in particular, to monitoring the pledge endorsed by the G8 in July 2009, at the L´Aquila summit, to achieve "the objective of a reduction of the global average costs of transferring remittances from 10% to 5% in 5 years".

38. As shown in Figure 2 below, while the global average total cost for sending remittances in Q3 2013 remained stable with 8.9%, the cost of remitting from G20 countries fell below 9% for the first time in a year and stands now at 8.7%. As pledged by the G20[14], a reduction in the cost of transferring remittances from 10% to 5% would bring significant benefits, including for the more expensive South-South transfers. Both sending and receiving countries were to adopt policies that create competitive and transparent market conditions, provide access to better financial services and encourage a more informed and productive use of remittances. A brief analysis of members' reported efforts to promote the flow and development impact of remittances is presented in the Annex.

13 . See DCD/DAC/STAT/A(2004)1/RD6.

14 . 5 December 2011 G20 Summit declaration, point 77.

Figure 2. Average cost of sending USD 200 from G20 countries
(Source: Remittance Prices Worldwide, the World Bank)



39. To facilitate donors' reporting and potential analyses on their support to remittances, the Secretariat could explore the feasibility of **including one specific purpose code for remittance facilitation, promotion and optimisation under category 240 – Banking and financial services**. This would constitute one concrete way to track DAC members' efforts in this area and also monitor the implementation of the G20 pledge to facilitate remittance flows by reducing transfer costs. There is also a clear link with the HLM mandate to ensure that ODA is used to catalyse other public and private resources of financing for development.

40. The current DAC statistical framework could also contribute to better tracking the specific financial efforts made by some specific donors (e.g. United Kingdom) to finance research and improve remittances' data and methodology, by insuring that already existing CRS purpose codes (e.g. 16062 – Statistical capacity building or 43082 - Research/scientific institutions) cover also these specific financial flows.

ANNEX:

DAC MEMBERS' REPORTING ON THEIR SUPPORT TO LEVERAGE REMITTANCES

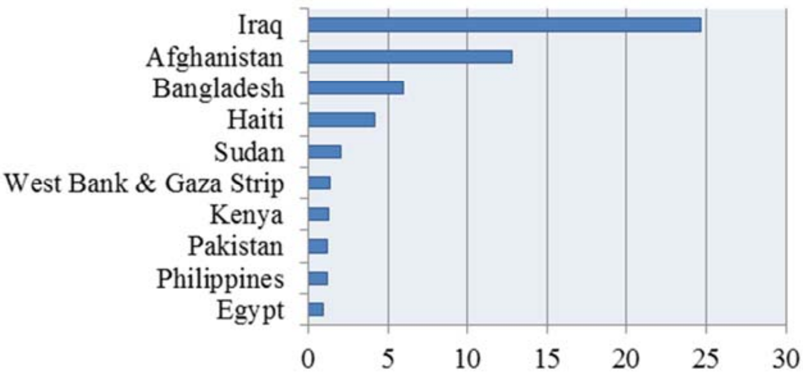
A text search in the CRS database showed that several donors use ODA to facilitate remittance flows (Table below). In the period 2006-11, over USD 400 million were committed to this purpose (including statistical capacity building and awareness campaigns). However, it remains difficult to capture the full picture of donors' support in this area and analyse trends as the identification of relevant CRS records depends on the quality of reporting in textual fields "project title", "long description" and "reported channel of delivery". Based on the text search results, the Secretariat classified the identified projects into four main types of remittances support (see "broad purposes" in Table below). Figures 1 and 2 present the top ten recipients and donors for remittances-related projects[15]. Figure 3 shows that most activities supporting remittances are currently reported under "economic infrastructure and services", banking and financial services sector. These practices have remained consistent over the last few years, although none of the CRS purpose codes specifically mentions any link with remittances.

Table 1. Remittances-related projects and their broad purposes
2006-11 commitments, USD thousands, current prices

Year / Broad purpose	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
Facilitation, promotion and optimisation	15 339	54 011	81 216	98 672	101 988	53 843
Research	45	377	1 288	565	1 611	0
Statistical capacity building	290	317	118	0	36	0
Methodological work	81	15	48	124	53	522
Other	1 007	452	198	7 707	258	942
Total	**16 761**	**55 173**	**82 868**	**107 068**	**103 947**	**55 307**

*: The decrease in 2011 might be due to projects that could not be identified with CRS textual fields.

Figure 1. Top 10 recipient of remittances-related projects
2006-11 yearly average commitments, USD million, current prices



15. The textual research has been possible in three languages (English, French and Spanish) through the CRS fields "reported channel of delivery", "project title" and "long description".

Figure 2. Top 10 donors of remittances-related projects
2006-2011 yearly average commitments, USD million, current prices

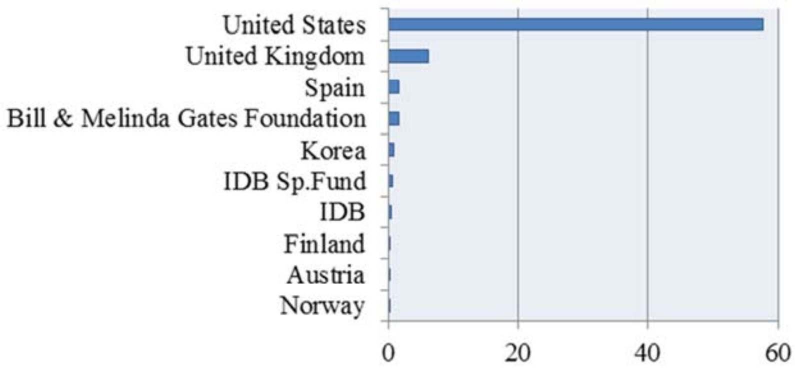
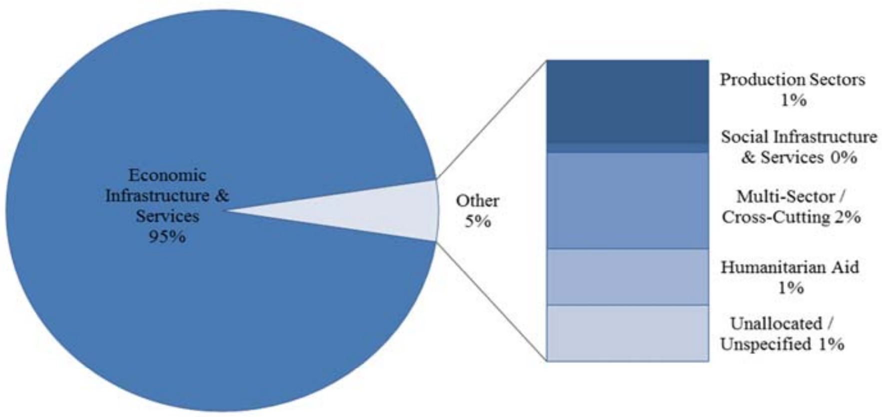


Figure 3. Current reporting practices on DAC sectors for remittances-related projects
2011 commitments



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