

WHAT PROGRESS LOOKS LIKE

WORLD – INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

(SDG TARGET 6.A)

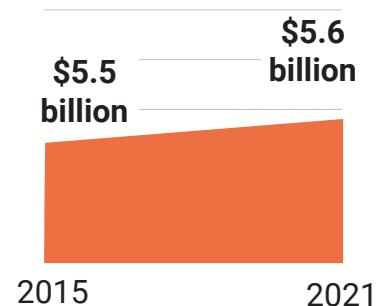


Progress indicator: SDG 6.a.1 Amount of water sector official development aid (ODA) channelled through the recipient government

Level of impact: Global

Result: The amount of water sector ODA channelled through recipient governments increased by \$100 million between 2015 and 2021, from 60% to 72% of total ODA. This indicates a higher level of cooperation and alignment between donors and recipient governments.

Progress 2000–2020:



SITUATION

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 6.a aims to expand international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes. Global progress towards the target is measured as the amount of water- and sanitation-related ODA that is part of a government-coordinated spending plan.

This snapshot focuses on ODA disbursements to the water sector that are channelled through recipient country governments. Other types of channels include public sector institutions, non-governmental and civil society organizations, public-private partnerships and networks, multilateral organizations, universities and other teaching institution, research institutes and think tanks and private-sector institutions. ODA being channelled through recipient country governments indicates a high level of cooperation and alignment between donors and these recipient governments, in the spirit of target 6.a.

PROGRESS MADE

While water sector ODA disbursements have stagnated or even decreased since 2015, the proportion of ODA channelled through recipient governments has increased over the SDG period, in terms of both the number of donors and the total amount.

In 2015, \$5.5 billion of water sector ODA was channelled through recipient governments; in 2018 this had increased by 26 per cent to \$6.9 billion. Between 2018 and 2021, the amount dropped to \$5.6 billion. Although the yearly amounts fluctuate, the trend indicates that more and more ODA is channelled through recipient governments.

In 2015, donors channelled 60 per cent of their water sector ODA through recipient governments. This proportion increased over the following years, peaking at 75 per cent in 2019 and since then remaining above 70 per cent. During this time, the number of official donors channelling funds through recipient governments increased from 22 in 2014 to 29 in 2019.



Not only are more donors choosing to channel ODA through recipient governments, but those that do are also delivering a greater proportion of their total funding in this way.

Some examples of bilateral donors that are focused on delivering their water sector ODA through recipient governments are France and Japan. In France, the amount

of ODA channelled through recipient governments almost doubled between 2014 and 2019, from \$375 million to \$736 million. Over 80 per cent of these disbursements were provided as concessionary loans. Since 2015, Japan has consistently channelled over 80 per cent of its annual \$1 billion of water sector ODA grants and loans through recipient governments, primarily as concessionary loans focusing on large projects in urban areas.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

- Increased awareness of the importance of alignment with national policies and plans for sustainable interventions
- Increase in ODA to large water and sanitation infrastructure projects aimed at improving access to services, calling for greater collaboration with recipient governments
- Increased donor awareness and willingness to provide ODA through recipient governments

LEARN MORE

- [Strong Systems and Sound Investments, GLAAS report 2022](#)
- [Latest available data on water sector ODA from the OECD](#)
- [Snapshot of global progress towards SDG target 6.a](#)