THE WAY POLICY GROUP

Aid for Trade financing in Ghana: Trade policy and regulations

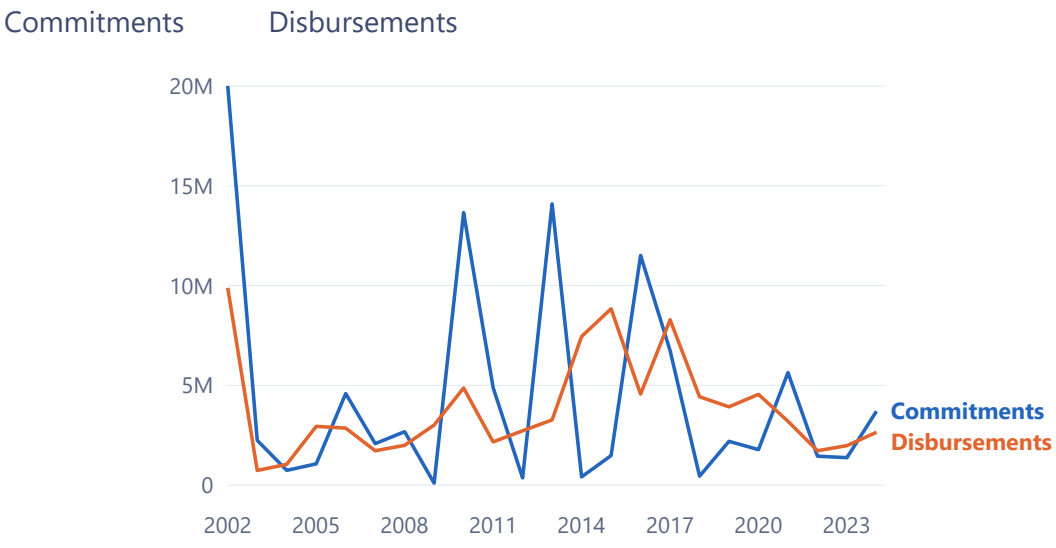
Ghana · All donors · Trade policy and regulations · ODA Grants · 2002 to 2024 · OECD Creditor Reporting System

1. Executive summary

Over **2002 to 2024**, ODA Grants to **Ghana** for Trade policy and regulations was **US$106M** committed and **US$91.0M** disbursed, across 527 activity records and 16 reporting donors. Disbursements over the period are **86%** of commitments over the same period. That is a ratio of two reported series, not a measure of delivery: commitments made late in the window are not yet due to disburse, and a project can disburse against a commitment made before it. All of the ODA on this selection (US$106M) is grants. The largest reported donor is **Switzerland** at US$44.6M, and the top three hold **80%** of the total, a Herfindahl index of 2,607, which is read as concentrated.

In the five most recent reported years, **2020 to 2024**, **US$14.3M** was committed, **14%** of everything reported across the whole period. Against the five years before them that is **38% lower**. The latest reported year, 2024, is **US$3.8M**, **33%** above the five-year average of US$2.86M. 12 donors are active in that window, led by **United Kingdom** at US$5.22M, which is not the donor that leads the period as a whole. A single year can turn on one large operation, so a change here is a change in what was reported, not evidence of a change in policy.

2. Is finance growing, and is it being disbursed?



> **Computation:** annual commitments = Σ eligible commitment amounts by year; annual disbursements = Σ eligible disbursement amounts by year. The two series are never added together.

Both series are on one scale and in the same units. The dashboard flow control is set to Commitments, drawn as the heavier line. A commitment is a promise recorded in the year it was made and a disbursement is a transfer recorded when it moved, so the gap between them is not an error.

3. Who the donors are



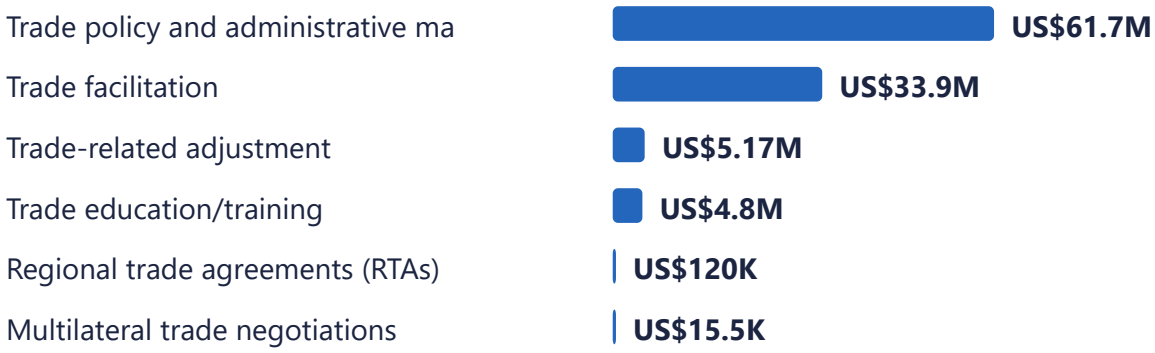
Of US$106M committed, **79%** from bilateral donors (11), **21%** from multilateral institutions (5). Donor is the term the CRS and the dashboard pages use, and it is used throughout this brief; where the wider literature says donor instead, the two words mean the same thing. Multilateral finance is largely lent through an institution with its own appraisal cycle and bilateral finance sits inside a country relationship, so the two are not substitutes; the table holds them together because the records do, and the type column says which is which. Top three donors hold 80% of commitments, a Herfindahl index of 2,607 on a 0 to 10,000 scale where above 2,500 is normally read as concentrated, both computed across donors of every type.

Donor league table

DONOR	TYPE	COMMITTED	DISBURSED	DISB. RATIO	GRANT SHARE	RECORDS
Switzerland	Bilateral	US$44.6M	US$32.1M	72%	100%	54
EU Institutions	Multilateral	US$21.4M	US$22.2M	104%	100%	84
United States	Bilateral	US$18.6M	US$18.5M	100%	100%	134
United Kingdom	Bilateral	US$9.08M	US$10.1M	111%	100%	56

DONOR	TYPE	COMMITTED	DISBURSED	DISB. RATIO	GRANT SHARE	RECORDS
Germany	Bilateral	US$5.47M	US$3.03M	55%	100%	26
Netherlands	Bilateral	US$1.9M	US$1.5M	79%	100%	13
Korea	Bilateral	US$1.17M	US$1.16M	99%	100%	24
Sweden	Bilateral	US$1.08M	US$84.9K	8%	100%	2
Japan	Bilateral	US$1.0M	US$998K	100%	100%	88
Canada	Bilateral	US$650K	US$512K	79%	100%	34
WTO - International Trade Centre	Multilateral	US$452K	US$416K	92%	100%	5
Food and Agriculture Organisation	Multilateral	US$184K	US$184K	100%	100%	2
Bilateral (11)		*US$83.6M*	*US$68.0M*	*81%*		*433*
Multilateral (5)		*US$22.1M*	*US$22.9M*	*104%*		*94*
Total		**US$106M**	**US$91.0M**	**86%**		**527**

4. What the finance is for



Purpose table

PURPOSE	COMMITTED	DISBURSED	DISB. RATIO	GRANT SHARE	RECORDS
Trade policy and administrative management	US$61.7M	US$57.3M	93%	100%	328

PURPOSE	COMMITTED	DISBURSED	DISB. RATIO	GRANT SHARE	RECORDS
Trade facilitation	US$33.9M	US$22.5M	66%	100%	134
Trade-related adjustment	US$5.17M	US$2.39M	46%	100%	11
Trade education/training	US$4.8M	US$3.67M	76%	100%	23
Regional trade agreements (RTAs)	US$120K	US$932K	775%	100%	18
Multilateral trade negotiations	US$15.5K	US$4.19M	27018%	100%	13

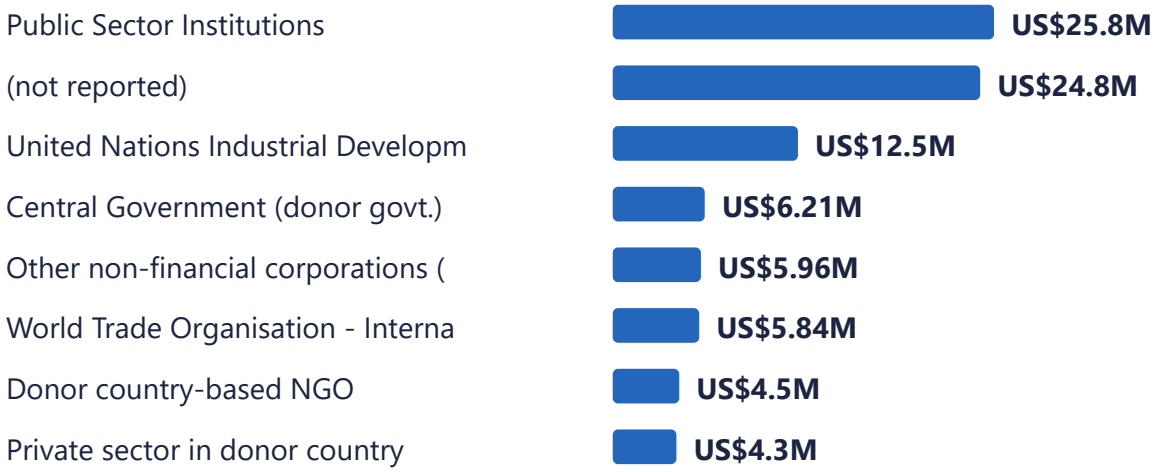
Purposes are the CRS purpose codes as reported. A low disbursement ratio against a large commitment is a question to ask, not an answer on its own.

5. Concessionality: grant, loan, or neither

REPORTED FLOW TYPE	COMMITTED	SHARE
ODA Grants	US$106M	100.0%
Total	**US$106M**	**100.0%**

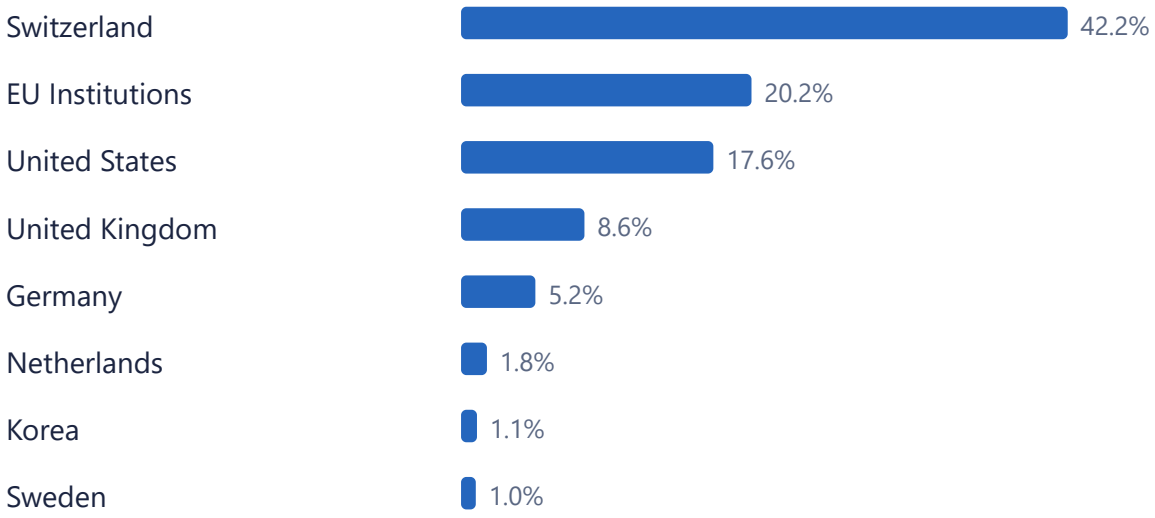
> **Why this table is split this way.** Concessionality is taken from the flow type the donor reported, not from the finance-type code. CRS finance type 421 covers both ODA loans and other official flows, so a grant-versus-loan split built on codes mixes concessional and non-concessional finance. Grants and loans are compared inside ODA only. This brief is restricted to ODA Grants because the measure is set to ODA Grants.

6. How the finance is delivered



Channel of delivery is blank on a share of CRS records and that blank is shown as reported rather than redistributed.

7. Donor concentration and dependency



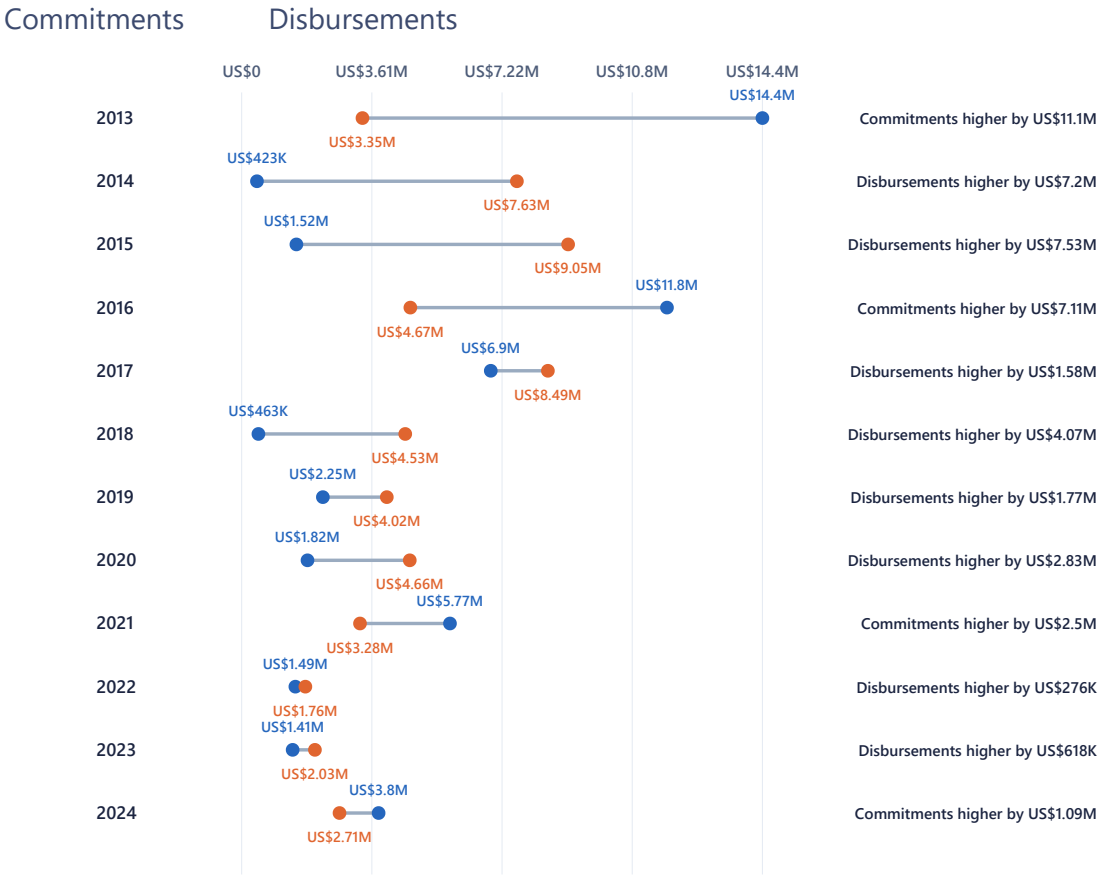
LARGEST DONOR	TOP 3	TOP 5	HHI	ASSESSMENT
42.2%	80.0%	93.7%	2,607	**Highly concentrated**

Computation: donor share = donor selected finance ÷ total selected finance × 100; Top-N = sum of the N largest shares; HHI = sum of squared percentage shares.

The bars show each donor's share of selected financing. HHI thresholds are used as an interpretive portfolio-concentration guide, not as an official OECD Aid for Trade classification.

8. Commitments and disbursements: annual comparison

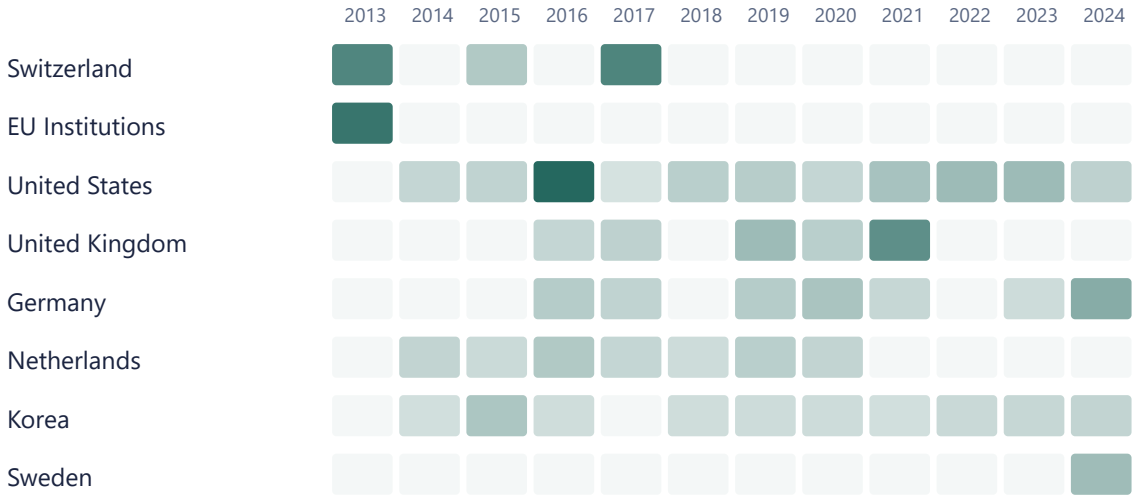
CUMULATIVE COMMITMENTS	CUMULATIVE DISBURSEMENTS
US$106M	**US$91.0M**



> **Computation:** annual difference = annual commitments − annual disbursements; cumulative values are the separate sums of each series over the selected years.

The labels show both annual values, with the plain-language difference at right. The difference is not an implementation rate because the flows may refer to different project cohorts.

9. Funding continuity by donor



Computation: each cell is the sum of the selected flow for one donor and year; colour intensity is scaled to the largest displayed donor-year value.

Darker cells indicate larger selected flows; pale cells indicate no or limited reported financing.

10. Project-size distribution and portfolio structure



Median US$20.0K

Top 10 share 71.2%

Projects	218	Median	US$20.0K
Average	US$485K	Top 10 share	71.2%

Computation: records sharing a CRS identifier or project number are consolidated; the median is the 50th percentile and quartiles are the 25th and 75th percentiles of ordered project values.

Records sharing a CRS/project identifier are consolidated across selected years. This is a project count, not a CRS-row count.

11. Largest reported activities

YEAR	ACTIVITY	DONOR	PURPOSE	FLOW TYPE	COMMITTED	DISBURSED
2011	International Trade Center: Quality Textile Value Chain. Ghana	Switzerland	Trade-related adjustment	ODA Grants	US$4.73M	US$1.6M
2017	Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa Support Programme	Switzerland	Trade education/training	ODA Grants	US$3.55M	US$0
2020	Trade Training Hub (TTH) (B736)	WTO - International Trade	Trade education/training	ODA Grants	US$260K	US$216K
2020	Compete Ghana - Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Trade and Indus	EU Institutions	Multilateral trade negotiati	ODA Grants	US$0	US$678K
2020	Grant to the Ministry of Trade and Industry for the Implementation of th	EU Institutions	Regional trade agreements (R	ODA Grants	US$0	US$432K

Ranked on commitment. Activity records can repeat across years or purposes, so this is a list of records and not a count of distinct projects.

12. Stakeholder questions

Three questions a ministry or a funder asks of this data, answered on the scope above. Each is a description of what was reported, not a projection.

Who is expanding here, and who is stepping back?

Comparing **2002 to 2012** with **2013 to 2024**, the largest increase is **United States**, up US$11.6M, and the largest reduction is **Switzerland**, down US$19.1M. This is a comparison of two reported periods, not a forecast, and a donor that commits in large irregular tranches will move sharply in it for reasons that have nothing to do with intent.

DONOR	2002 TO 2012	2013 TO 2024	CHANGE	CHANGE %
United States	US$3.49M	US$15.1M	+US$11.6M	+333%
United Kingdom	US$2.39M	US$6.69M	+US$4.3M	+180%
Germany	US$1.45M	US$4.02M	+US$2.56M	+177%

DONOR	2002 TO 2012	2013 TO 2024	CHANGE	CHANGE %
Switzerland	US$31.9M	US$12.8M	-US$19.1M	-60%
EU Institutions	US$13.0M	US$8.36M	-US$4.66M	-36%
Canada	US$465K	US$185K	-US$279K	-60%

If we need finance for a particular purpose, who already funds it?

The largest purpose on this scope is **Trade policy and administrative management** at US$61.7M, and **Switzerland** accounts for **57%** of it across 15 donors. The table answers the same question for the three largest purposes, which is the practical form of the question: a ministry with a plan for one of them wants to know who already funds that work here.

PURPOSE	TOTAL	LEADING DONOR	ITS SHARE	DONORS
Trade policy and administrative management	US$61.7M	Switzerland	57%	15
Trade facilitation	US$33.9M	EU Institutions	63%	11
Trade-related adjustment	US$5.17M	Switzerland	96%	3

13. Method and considerations

> **Scope.** ODA is Official Development Assistance, the OECD measure of concessional official finance for development. CRS is the OECD Creditor Reporting System, the activity-level database it is reported in. CRS activity records matching this brief's scope: Ghana · All donors · Trade policy and regulations · ODA Grants · 2002 to 2024. Amounts are as reported in US dollars. Activity amounts differ from the dashboard's constant-price total by 27.7% and from its current-price total by 22.6%, so neither basis matches closely enough to be claimed. They are reported exactly as embedded, without restatement. Commitments and disbursements are shown separately throughout and are never added together. Rankings, bars and concentration measures in this brief are computed on **commitments**, following the dashboard flow control.
> **Brief.** TWPG-COUN-GHANA-20261114 · generated 2026-11-14

What was counted

Every CRS activity record matching the scope above. 527 records, 16 donors, 6 purpose codes, 1 recipient. Of those records, **527** report a commitment amount and **527** report a disbursement amount; 0 report neither and contribute nothing to any total on this page.

Both amount columns hold a number on every record in this build, so a reported zero cannot be told apart from an amount that was never reported. The counts above say how many records carry a figure,

which is not the same as how many donors actually reported one.

How each control was applied

CONTROL	SETTING	EFFECT ON THIS BRIEF
Recipient	Ghana	Filter applied to activity records
Donor	All donors	Not restricted
Aid for Trade category	Trade policy and regulations	Filter applied through the CRS purpose code
CRS purpose	All purposes	Not restricted
Measure	ODA Grants	Filter applied: records restricted to ODA Grants
Flow	Commitments	Sets which series leads the trend chart. Both series are reported throughout
Year range	2002 to 2024	Filter applied. Activity records run 2002 to 2024
Prices	Constant prices	NOT applied. The price basis of the activity amounts could not be established in this build, so they are reported exactly as embedded and no relationship to the dashboard aggregates is claimed

How figures were computed

- Commitments and disbursements are summed separately and never added to each other.
- The disbursement ratio is cumulative disbursements divided by cumulative commitments across the whole period. It is not a disbursement rate for any single commitment and it is not a delivery score.
- Concessionality uses the reported flow type. Grant and loan shares are computed within ODA only.
- Policy-marker analysis is shown only when the selected records carry usable marker scores. Blank or unavailable marker fields are not converted into zero alignment; when coverage is absent, the section is omitted.
- Concentration is the Herfindahl index: each donor's share of the leading series is squared and the squares are summed, on a 0 to 10,000 scale. It is computed across every donor on the scope, of all three types, and 2,500 is the competition-policy convention for a concentrated market rather than a threshold specific to development finance.
- Peer comparisons rank the selected entity against every other entity on the same scope that has at least 30 activity records, so a ratio is not read off a handful of projects. Where the scope pins a donor, the field is narrowed to donors of the same type, and the brief says so when it cannot be.
- Rising and falling donors compare the first half of the reported window with the second. A donor committing in large irregular tranches moves sharply in that comparison for reasons of timing rather

than intent.

- Typical activity size is the median commitment, not the mean, because a few very large commitments pull a mean above anything a reader would recognise as typical. Duration is completion minus start in months, computed only where both dates are present and the result falls between zero and thirty years.
- Illustrative activities are selected on commitment size from the records carrying a principal Rio objective, a title of at least 12 characters, a description of at least 180 characters and a reported commitment above zero. Records whose descriptions match are treated as one activity, because CRS reports a single project across several rows and sometimes under more than one title, so at most three distinct activities appear and fewer where the scope holds fewer that meet the bar. They are examples of what the finance buys and not a ranking of importance.
- Top-N concentration is the sum of the largest donor shares. Annual commitment-disbursement differences compare two reported flow series and are not implementation rates.
- Funding continuity displays annual selected flows by donor. Project-size statistics consolidate records sharing a CRS identifier or project number; quartiles are calculated from the ordered consolidated values.
- Regional scopes use the CRS region attached to each record in the complete analytical layer. Project examples use the edition-specific detail layer and may be omitted when no matching example is embedded; the aggregate regional brief remains valid.
- Portfolio totals and every aggregate chart use the complete analytical population. The Meeting edition sample affects only searchable project details and illustrative activity tables.
- Every table and figure in this brief is reproduced row by row in the evidence CSV and JSON, from the export menu above, so any number here can be checked against the records behind it.
- A blank or unreadable amount contributes nothing to a total and is never replaced with an estimate. It is not counted as a zero observation either: the record counts below say how many records actually carried a figure, which is why they can be lower than the record count in the scope.
- Nothing is imputed, interpolated or redistributed between categories.

What this brief does not claim

- Commitments are promises and disbursements are transfers. Neither is spending on the ground.
- Policy markers are assigned by the reporting donor and are not independently audited.
- Regional results use records assigned to the selected CRS region. Regional or unallocated records are kept distinct from individual-country totals and are not silently redistributed.
- CRS is revised periodically, so every figure carries the vintage of the source build.
- Nothing here establishes effectiveness, attribution or causation. A larger number is not a better outcome, and a higher ratio is not better delivery.

Source and reproduction

OECD Creditor Reporting System, from the dataset embedded in this platform build. Analysis and visualisation by TW Policy Group. info@twpolicygroup.com · twpolicygroup.com