



Trade union engagement with the DAC:

**Trends and challenges for ODA arising
from the multiple crises**

Trade unions at the DAC SLM



Access to vaccines:

- Vaccine donation complemented with other policies
- Need for safeguards

Covid recovery:

- Investments in decent climate-friendly jobs and formalising the informal economy
- Just Transition in the fight against climate change
- Universal social protection systems and a GSPF

Financing for sustainable development:

- More ODA
- Debt relief and debt cancellation
- Progressive taxation
- Private finance aligned with the SDGs and labour standards

DAC's work with other development actors:

- Role of trade unions and support to social dialogue in development cooperation.

Climate finance



- Challenges to reach consensus on climate
- Strong focus on the private sector
- References to Just Transition are included in the DAC documents
- DAC's proposal to the COP (references to Just Transition, limit ODA investments in fossil fuels, blended finance)

Trade union priorities:

- Ensure a meaningful implementation of a Just Transition: decent work creation and private sector accountability
- Increase resources for climate finance and Just Transition (reach the USD 100 Billion a year and increase funding for adaptation and loss and damage)

Private Finance



- Impact Standards for Financing Sustainable Development 2022
- Discussion on how to account for PSI: including loans to the private sector, guarantees and equity.

Trade union concerns:

- Impact financing should contribute to decent work creation, guarantee labour rights, social dialogue and collective bargaining.
- Clear safeguards need to be put in place for PSIs

Access to vaccines



Discussions on the counting of excess vaccines from domestic supply donated to developing countries.

DAC members could not reach an agreement on criteria and so a guidance note was issued, settling for an agreed price of USD 6.72 per donated dose

Trade Union concerns:

- Donors should not be rewarded for vaccine hoarding which lead to increased prices and reduced access to vaccines for developing countries.
- Counting excess vaccines donated artificially inflates ODA: in 2021 USD 2.3 billion (1.3% of total ODA) was for donated doses left over from domestic supplies.
- vaccine donations need to go hand in hand with: TRIPS waiver for COVID-19 vaccines and treatments, sharing of technology and knowledge, investments in regional vaccine hubs, strengthening country health systems and ensuring equitable roll-out of diagnostics and therapeutics.
- Clear safeguards need to be established: consideration of expiry dates and the delivery of supplies to guarantee adequate storage conditions and ensure their administration.

DAC's work with Civil Society



Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian assistance, July 2021

3 pillars:

- 1) Respecting, promoting and protecting civic space.
- 2) Supporting and engaging with civil society;
- 3) Incentivising CSO effectiveness, transparency and accountability

Trade union priorities in the Recommendation:

- References to ILO C87 and 98 and the Centenary Declaration
- Reference to support to trade unions
- Promoting social dialogue in private sector engagement

The multiple crises and the role of ODA



- ODA budgets have increased over the last two years: 179 billion in 2021 (+4,4%)
- USD 6.3 billion spent on providing COVID-19 vaccines to developing countries, equivalent to 3.5% of total ODA.
- Excluding vaccines, ODA went up by 0.6% in real terms from 2020.
- In-donor refugee costs were at USD 9.3 billion in 2021 (5.2%) and will surely largely increase in 2022.
- A lot of uncertainty and growing demand: the climate crisis, the COVID-19 crisis and the war in Ukraine.