

Further development of the TOSSD recipients' list

TOSSD Task Force Issues Paper¹ - Agenda item 3 16th meeting of the International TOSSD Task Force 6 April 2022

1. At the last TOSSD Task Force meeting in February 2022, Mexico presented a preliminary proposal to further develop the TOSSD recipients' list. The final version of the proposal was circulated by e-mail to the Task Force on 9 March 2022 and has also been posted on the TOSSD website².
2. The present paper briefly presents the main rationale and salient points of Mexico's proposal. It also provides references to the papers related to the TOSSD recipients' list from previous Task Force meetings.
3. The proposal presented by Mexico invites the TOSSD Task Force to revisit the indicators used to determine the list of TOSSD recipient countries and to establish criteria that could make it more consistent, coherent, legitimate, and more politically acceptable to South-South co-operation (SSC) providers and recipients, as well as to other groups of countries, such as the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Middle-Income Countries (MICs).
4. The paper by Mexico argues that the GNI per capita is not a sufficient criterion to establish the recipients' list and proposes that when a country reaches the high-income status, additional indicators be considered to assess whether it should be removed from or maintained in the list. These indicators are the Gini coefficient on inequality, the share of informal employment in total employment, and the Human Development Index (HDI), published annually in the UNDP's Human Development Reports. Furthermore, the paper addresses the scenario in which a High-Income Country can be promptly reintegrated into the TOSSD list.
5. Given that the Task Force had already discussed the possibility of developing multidimensional criteria for the TOSSD recipients' list early on in its proceedings³, the proposal by Mexico is particularly welcome. It notably addresses the original aim of the Task Force⁴ while proposing a system that makes possible the practical implementation of a multidimensional approach to the establishment of the recipients' list.

¹ Drafted by the TOSSD Task Force Secretariat.

² See <https://www.tossd.org/task-force/>

³ See the action points of the [First](#) and the [Second](#) Task Force meetings, held in 2017. Moreover, the Secretariat presented inputs for these discussions in two issues papers: "[Clarifying key concepts embedded in the TOSSD definition](#)" and the "[Stock-take and further considerations regarding the definition of TOSSD](#)".

⁴ See the action points of the [Second TOSSD Task Force meeting](#) in December 2017 where members "expressed wide support for establishing a list of TOSSD-eligible countries that is broader than the DAC list of ODA recipients", since the TOSSD agenda is broader than the ODA agenda.

Issues for discussion

Task Force members are invited to comment on the analysis by Mexico and in particular the following questions:

- Do they agree with the selection of the indicators?
- Do they have comments on the proposed criteria (thresholds) for the indicators?
- Would they support the Secretariat developing a revised draft text for the Reporting Instructions on the TOSSD recipients' list on this basis?