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Germany's expanding role in global health

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Supplementary appendix

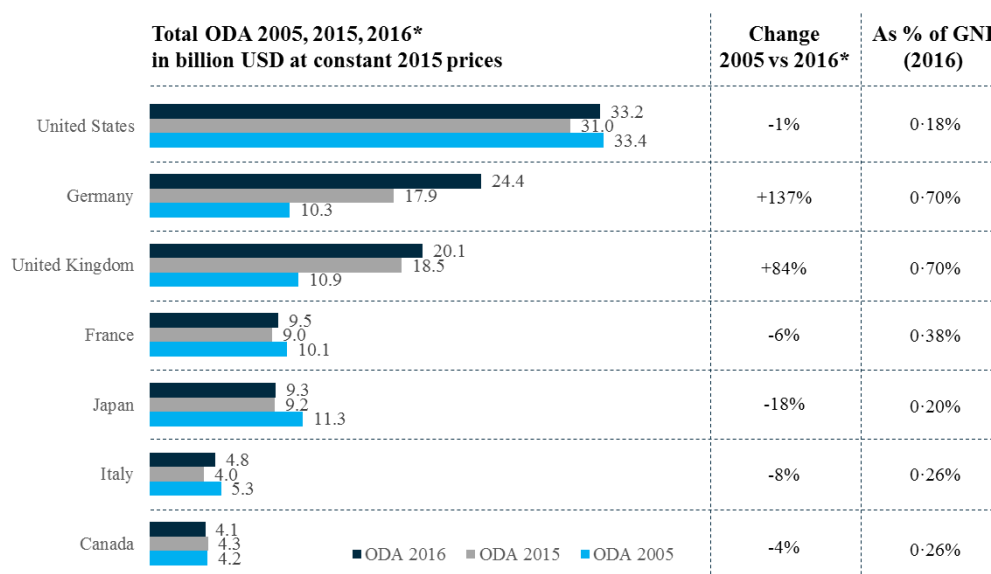
This appendix formed part of the original submission and has been peer reviewed.
We post it as supplied by the authors.

Supplement to: Kickbusch I, Franz C, Holzscheiter A, et al. Germany's expanding role in global health. *Lancet* 2017; published online July 3. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(17\)31460-5](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(17)31460-5).

Germany's ODA spending 2005-2016

The volume of German official development assistance (ODA) has more than doubled from US \$ 10.3bn in 2005 to US \$ 24.4bn in 2016 – a growth of 137 percent (see figure 1).¹ Much of this growth has happened since 2014. According to data from the OECD Development Assistance Committee, German ODA increased by 25.9 percent in 2015 and another 36.1 percent in 2016. The country ranks now second in absolute terms among member countries of the OECD just behind the USA. Among the group of G7 countries, only Germany and the UK have increased their ODA-spending in real terms as compared to 2005. The current volume of development assistance is the largest in Germany's history and the country reaches for the first time the hallmark figure of 0.70 percent of GNI recommended by the UN.

Figure 1:



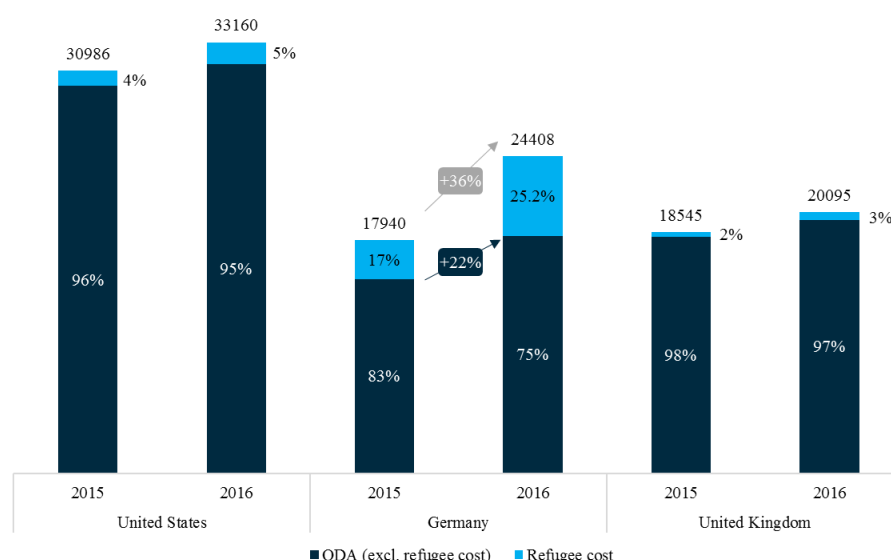
* Data for 2016 is preliminary.

Data from OECD DAC (accessed April 12, 2017): Change between 2005 and 2016 as well as the ODA-to-GNI ratio are based on constant 2015 prices and exchange rates. Values for GNI are based on OECD-DAC database (at constant 2015 prices).

Much of this leap in ODA spending over the past two years is due to funds spent on refugees. In total, domestic spending of the central government on refugee accommodation etc. amounted to EUR 21.7bn in 2016 alone (for 2017 this amount is estimated to remain almost on the same level with EUR 21.3bn).² A share of those costs can be marked as ODA by the German government and are then reported by the OECD-DAC figures. In 2016, the German government has done so more extensively than before. As a result, around US \$ 6.2bn of Germany's total ODA in 2016 were spent on refugees within Germany. Importantly, however, Germany is one of only a few European countries that are not cutting ODA to offset those costs.³ In fact, even when excluding the refugee costs in both years, the ODA spending of Germany would have risen by 22% - or US \$ 3.3bn (see figure 2). In absolute and in relative terms this is far more than in any other G7 country. Whether this rise continues needs to be seen, but the German government expects that – depending on political decisions of the new government to be elected in September 2017 – the ODA-to-GNI ratio will return to its 2015 value of 0.52 percent in 2018.⁴

Figure 2

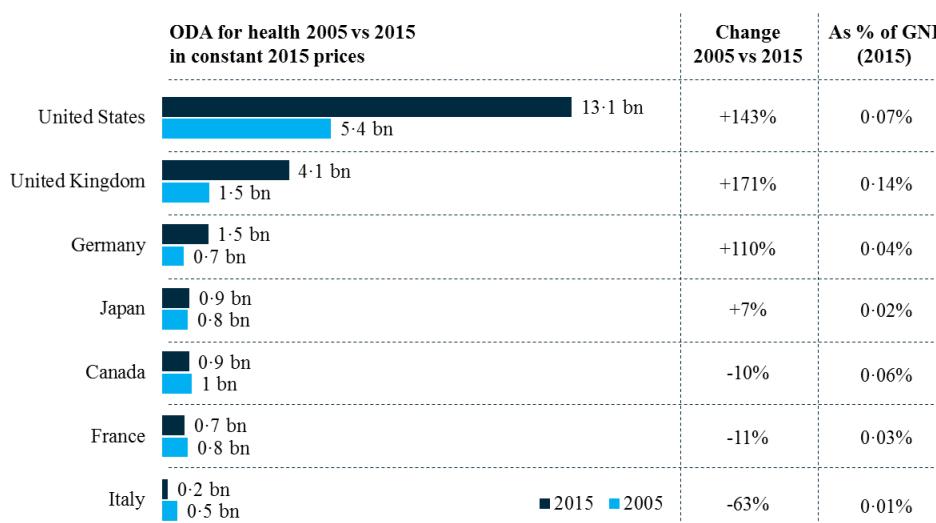
Official Development Assistance (Net disbursements) and the share of In-donor refugee costs
In million \$ US, constant prices (2015)



Data from OECD DAC (accessed April 12, 2017): 2016 figures are preliminary. Authors calculations. All figures and calculations are in constant 2015 prices and exchange rates.

IHME data on ODA for health in the G7 countries and their ODA for health-to-GNI ratios

Calculating data on ODA and ODA for health is not always straightforward and non-controversial. Differences in data can arise for example due to different rules of assigning development projects to health and due to attributing different shares of funds to multilateral organisations as ‘global health’. The data provided in figure 3 below are provided to illustrate that point. The OECD DAC data used in the main paper are compared here to data by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), which provides independent estimations for the contributions of countries and private sector actors to global health. For Germany, trends are similar in both data sets. However, in the IHME data set the contributions of ODA for health are much higher for Germany, the UK, and the US. Consequently, the GNI-to-ODA for health ratios are much higher than in the OECD DAC data set.

Figure 3

Data from Table 2B „DAH by source of funding, 1990-2015“ in Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME). Financing Global Health 2015: Development assistance steady on the path to new Global Goals. Seattle, WA: IHME, 2016. Values for GNI are based on OECD-DAC database (at constant 2014 prices).

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- 1 Calculations by Authors. Data extracted from OECD. Total flows by donor (Net disbursements). OECD; 2017. <http://stats.oecd.org>. (accessed Apr 12, 2017).
- 2 BMF. Monthly Report January. Federal Ministry of Finance 2017. http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Monatsberichte/2017/01/Downloads/monatsbericht-2017-01-deutsch.pdf?__blob=publicationFile&v=6. (accessed Mar 15, 2017).
- 3 Cheney C. German foreign aid is at a record high and rising. Here is how it works. Devex. 2017; https://www.devex.com/news/german-foreign-aid-is-at-a-record-high-and-rising-here-is-how-it-works-89366#.WJg1_-cutl8.twitter. (accessed Feb 2, 2017).
- 4 BMF. Bundeskabinett beschließt Eckwerte für Haushalt 2018 und Finanzplan bis 2021. Federal Ministry of Finance 2017. <http://www.bundesfinanzministerium.de/Content/DE/Pressemitteilungen/Finanzpolitik/2017/03/2017-03-15-pm-eckwertebeschluss.html> (accessed Mar 15, 2017).