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Overview of Official Development Assistance from Major Donors in Terms of Disbursement

The OECD-DAC establishes international rules on what cooperation constitutes ODA and how it should be reported. Under the rules set by the DAC, ODA must meet the following three requirements: (i) it is provided by official agencies or their executive agencies; (ii) its main objective is to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries; and (iii) it is concessional in character (in the case of government loans, the terms of the loan [e.g. interest rate and repayment period] are set in favor of recipient countries).

DAC countries provide development cooperation under the rules set by the DAC. However, the content of ODA implemented by major donors varies by country. This section outlines the aid provided by DAC donors, focusing on the G7 countries, based on their disbursements in 2024.

■ Aid Disbursements by Major Donors

ODA provided by DAC countries in 2024 (calculated by the GE system) amounted to approximately \$214,549 million. By country (GE basis, share among DAC countries), the United States ranked first (approximately \$65,475 million, 30.5%), Germany second (approximately \$32,832 million, 15.3%), the United Kingdom third (approximately \$17,992 million, 8.4%), Japan fourth (approximately \$16,494 million, 7.7%), France fifth (approximately \$15,447 million, 7.2%), the Netherlands sixth (approximately \$7,522 million, 3.5%), Canada seventh (approximately \$7,387 million, 3.4%), Italy eighth (approximately \$6,841 million, 3.2%), and Norway ninth (approximately \$5,179 million, 2.4%). G7 countries accounted for the majority of the top donor countries. ⁷

■ Sectors Aided by Major Donors

Disbursements in 2024 from the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany were concentrated in the social infrastructure sectors, including education, health, and water supply and sewerage. The United States allocated more than 26% of total ODA to emergency response (humanitarian aid, etc.) and food aid. On the other hand, in the economic infrastructure sectors, such as roads, bridges, railroads, communications, and electric power, Japan has the highest allocation with 43.3% of its total ODA, followed by France with 17.7%. Economic infrastructure assistance makes up a large share of Japan's cooperation because Japan, with its postwar recovery experience, considers that, in order to achieve poverty reduction and other goals through sustainable economic growth in developing countries, it is essential first and foremost to establish economic infrastructure and support the self-help efforts of developing countries (Chart II-7).

■ Regions Aided by Major Donors

Whereas Japan's ODA is primarily directed at the Asian region (approximately 54.6% of gross disbursements in 2024 [hereinafter the same]) (Chart II-2), Sub-Saharan Africa was the top recipient of aid from the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Italy (26.2%, 18.2%, 29.7%, and 18.9% respectively). ⁸ In terms of the percentage of total aid disbursements from major DAC countries by region, the United States was the largest donor to the Middle East and North Africa (29.2%), Sub-Saharan Africa (44.9%), Latin America and the Caribbean (36.3%), and Europe (55.5%). Australia and New Zealand provided 50.6% of total ODA to Oceania. As these figures indicate, the regional priority of aid for each donor is influenced by factors such as geographic proximity and historical background (Chart II-8).

⁷ OECD database (OECD Data Explorer) (December 2025).

⁸ OECD database (OECD Data Explorer) (December 2025).

Chart II-7 Bilateral ODA Distribution of Major DAC Countries by Sector (2024)

(Unit: %)

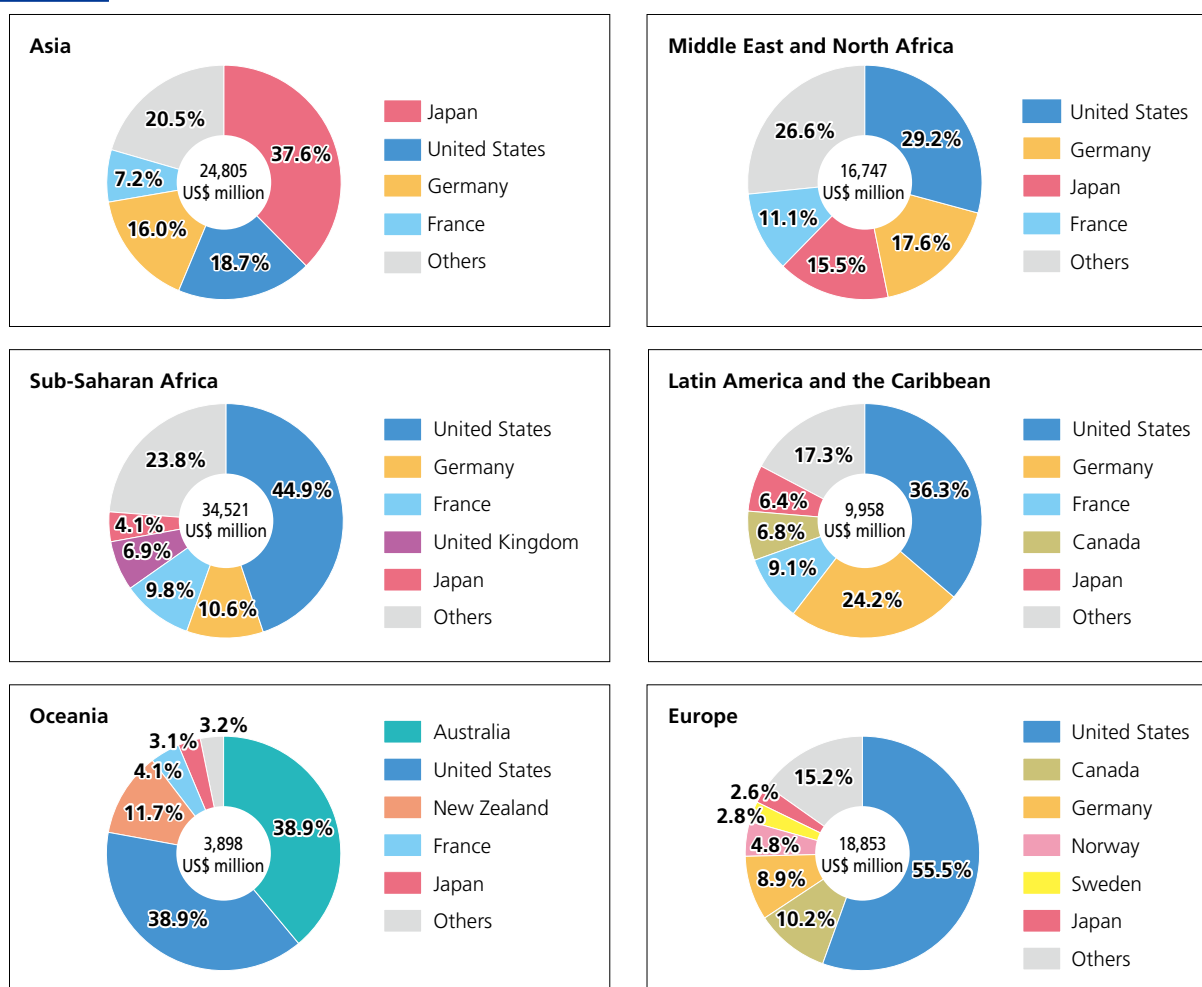
Sector \ Country	Japan	United States	United Kingdom	France	Germany	Italy	Canada	DAC Average
Social infrastructure (education, health, water and sewerage, etc.)	15.6	41.3	28.8	35.7	29.4	15.4	11.8	32.1
Economic infrastructure (transport, communications, electric power, etc.)	43.3	5.7	5.5	17.7	11.8	7.0	3.7	12.2
Agriculture, forestry, and fisheries	3.3	2.4	3.2	6.6	1.6	4.4	0.6	3.2
Manufacturing and other production sectors (mining, environmental protection, etc.)	26.2	2.8	15.2	14.0	22.5	16.6	37.7	12.7
Emergency response (humanitarian aid, etc.) and food aid	6.6	26.2	11.6	5.5	6.5	6.7	7.0	14.8
Program and other assistance (debt relief, administrative costs, etc.)	5.0	21.6	35.7	20.5	28.3	49.8	39.3	25.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source: OECD database (OECD Data Explorer) (December 2025)

Notes:

- Commitment basis.

- Due to rounding, the totals for each sector may not add up to 100%.

Chart II-8 Major DAC Countries in ODA by Region (2024)

Source: OECD database (OECD Data Explorer) (December 2025)

Notes:

- Gross disbursement basis.

- Regional classifications are the same as the Chart IV (page 136).

- The figures in the graphs are the total ODA of DAC countries.

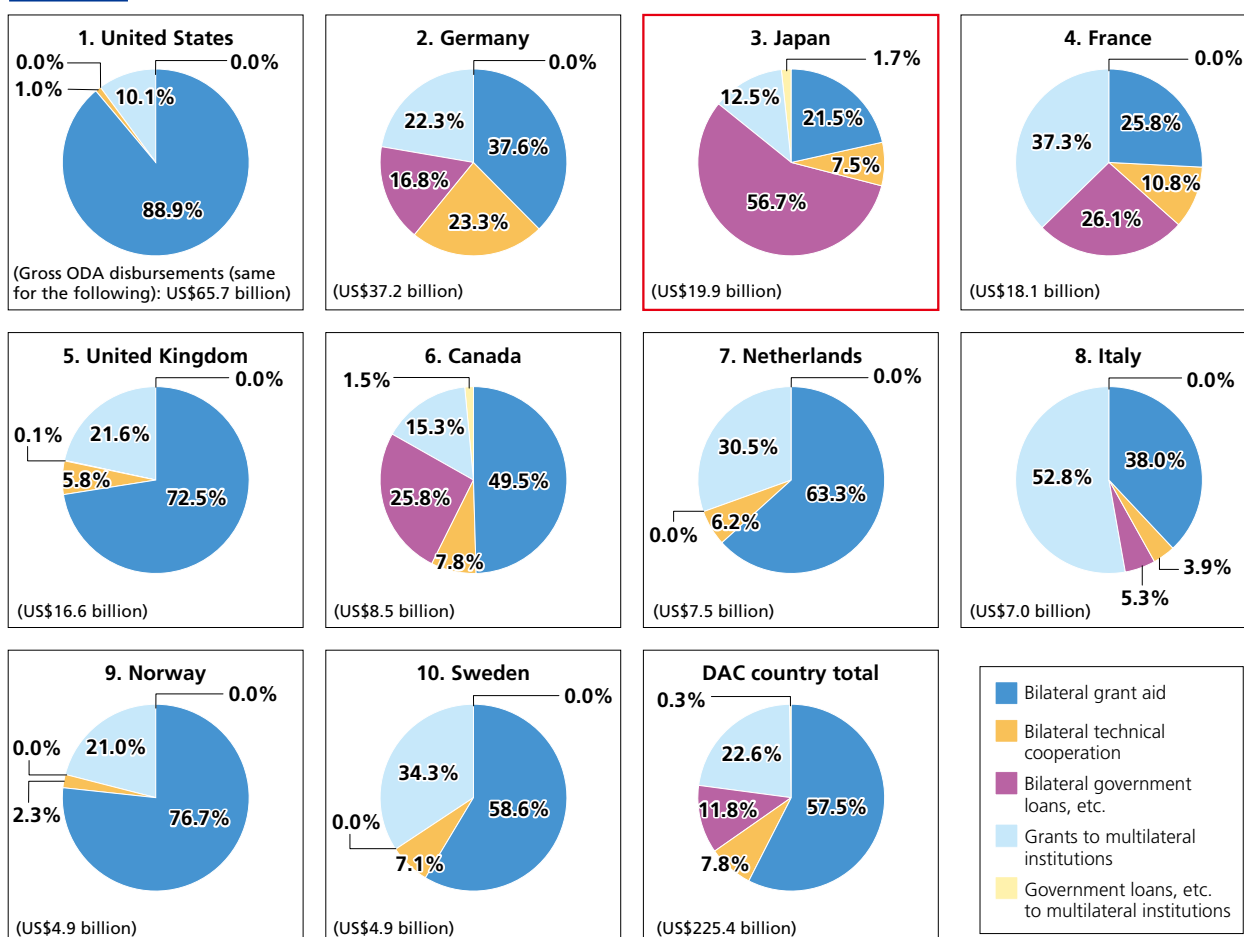
Disbursements by Type of Assistance

By type of assistance, approximately 87.9% of ODA provided by all DAC countries in 2024 were grants (bilateral grant aid⁹: approximately 57.5%; bilateral technical cooperation: approximately 7.8%; grants to multilateral institutions: approximately 22.6%), and approximately 12.1% were government loans, etc. (bilateral loans: approximately 11.8%; loans to multilateral institutions: approximately 0.3%). With the exception of Japan, the top 10 major DAC countries implemented much of their ODA as grants (bilateral grant aid, bilateral technical cooperation, and grants to multilateral institutions) (Chart II-9).

Loan aid (yen loans, etc.) accounts for a large share of Japan's ODA because Japanese assistance aims to support developing countries' self-reliant efforts to

achieve economic growth. This is based on the idea that effective development cooperation requires awareness raising that development is not something that is granted; rather, it is something that developing countries take ownership of. From the perspective of developing countries, undertaking projects aimed at their own economic and social development by using money they themselves have borrowed leads to proactive engagement with those projects. Moreover, Japan provides cooperation that combines non-structural support, such as capacity building and legal and institutional development, so that local people can continue to independently develop their own livelihoods even after loan aid (yen loans, etc.) comes to an end. This combined approach rooted in an emphasis on the self-reliant efforts and sustainable development of developing countries is a distinctive feature of Japan's cooperation.

Chart II-9 ODA of DAC Countries by Type of Assistance (2024)



Source: OECD database (OECD Data Explorer) (December 2025)

Notes:

- Top 10 DAC countries by ODA for 2024 on a gross disbursements basis.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100%.

⁹ Bilateral grant aid refers to grant aid, debt relief, and grants through multilateral institutions, etc., on Chart II-1 on page 17.