Total ODA commitments by DAC donors have increased by 6.3% in 2016 (to 184,442 billion United States Dollars - USD), compared to 2015 (173,531 billion USD). Gross disbursements have increased by 11.2% in 2016 (to 176,592 billion USD) compared to 2015 (158,803 USD).

In 2016, Germany joined five other countries – Denmark, Luxembourg, Norway, Sweden and the UK – in meeting the long-pledged commitment to allocate 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to ODA. The Netherlands slipped below 0.7% to join 22 other donors under the threshold.

Spending on Refugees As Part Of Increased ODA

In 2016, the amount of ODA allocated to cover refugee costs in donor countries rose to unprecedented levels, from just 6 in 2014 and 12 in 2015 to 16 billion USD. This represents almost 8.6% of total ODA spent in 2016 – and 15.3% if one only considers EU DAC donors (Member States and institutions). If ‘in-donor refugee costs’ are excluded, the overall increase in ODA commitments between 2015 and 2016 falls from 9.6% to 4.5%. While only three countries (Australia, Korea, and Luxembourg) and the EU institutions do not count ‘in-donor refugee costs’ as ODA, another thirteen countries spent more than a tenth of their ODA commitments for this purpose; Greece spent 39.8% of its total ODA commitments on this, followed by Austria (34.4%), Italy (33%), Iceland (26.7%), Switzerland (26.1%), Germany (23%), Denmark (18.4%), Sweden (17.4%), Belgium (17.2%), Norway (16.8%), Finland (14.4%), The Netherlands (11.2%) and Slovenia (10.1%).