

## AidDataCore\_ResearchRelease\_Level1\_v3.1

Released: 2017/10/6

AidData's Core Research Release Version 3.1 provides a few fixes to the AidData Core Research Release 3.0. No new data has been added, but the following changes have been made:

- We have removed activity codes for 292,089 projects in the dataset and updated 71,176 projects - after a thorough review, we found these codes had been incorrectly applied to the data during an internal data migration activity.
- We have added a column providing the commitment amount of the projects in current USD, which will allow users to do their own deflation calculations if they wish.
- We have removed a duplicate "finance\_t" column in the dataset.

As with the 3.0 release, this dataset represents the most comprehensive project-level data tracking international development finance. The base of the Research Release is all core data exported from the AidData Portal at [www.aiddata.org](http://www.aiddata.org). The Research Release serves as 1) a time-stamped version of AidData's core data, which allows users and researchers to replicate their research results, and 2) a version of the data that is provided in a flat-table structure, allowing for users and researchers to analyze annual commitments more easily. This dataset was developed by AidData with the support of AidData's Core Funders, including the Hewlett Foundation.

Please direct any questions or comments to [data@aiddata.org](mailto:data@aiddata.org)

### Citation

Tierney, Michael J., Daniel L. Nielson, Darren G. Hawkins, J. Timmons Roberts, Michael G. Findley, Ryan M. Powers, Bradley Parks, Sven E. Wilson, and Robert L. Hicks. 2011. More Dollars than Sense: Refining Our Knowledge of Development Finance Using AidData. *World Development* 39 (11): 1891-1906.

Updated in: AidData. 2017. AidDataCore\_ResearchRelease\_Level1\_v3.1 Research Releases dataset. Williamsburg, VA : AidData. Accessed on [date]. <http://aiddata.org/research-datasets>.

Please note: both sources should be used as the official citation for the 3.1 research release.

### 3.1 Core Research Release Data Coverage

#### **Full Release:**

**Years:** 1947-2013

**Donors:** 96

**Total Projects/Rows:** 1,561,039

**Total Variables:** 67

**Total Commitments:** \$7,042,232,727,299

**Total Rows Activity Coded:** 659,396

**Percentage of Dataset Activity Coded:** 42.2%

**Percentage of Dataset with Purpose Codes (Coalesced):** 99.9%

**Thin Release:**

**Years:** 1947-2013

**Donors:** 96

**Total Rows:** 1,561,039

**Total Variables:** 8

**Total Commitments:** \$7,042,232,727,299

**Percentage of Dataset with Purpose Codes (Coalesced):** 99.9%

**Donor/Recipient/Year Aggregated Release:**

**Years:** 1947-2013

**Donors:** 96

**Total Projects/Rows:** 104,295

**Total Variables:** 4

**Total Commitments:** \$7,042,232,727,299

**Donor/Recipient/Year/Purpose Aggregated Release:**

**Years:** 1947-2013

**Donors:** 96

**Total Rows:** 700,671

**Total Variables:** 6

**Total Commitments:** \$7,042,232,727,299

**Overview**

AidData's Core Research Release 3.1 is a dataset tracking known international development flows from bilateral and multilateral aid organizations. The data included in this dataset represent flows as reported from the donor perspective. It includes earmarked contributions made by bilateral donors to multilateral organizations, but does not include core contributions to multilateral organizations. The dataset also includes all forms of development finance, including Official Development Assistance (ODA), Other Official Flows (OOF), and Export Credits, and Equity Investments.

**Glossary**

Term	Definition/Explanation
AidData	A research and innovation lab at the College of William and Mary. More is available at <a href="http://www.aiddata.org/our-story">www.aiddata.org/our-story</a>
AidData Coding Scheme	AidData's <a href="#">coding scheme</a> pioneers a unique approach to categorizing projects where each project not only gets one overall purpose code (much like the CRS purpose code), but it is also tagged with activity codes to indicate all the separate activities included in the project. The AidData coding scheme includes over 550 separate activity codes loosely based on the OECD CRS purpose code structure. Each project can be assigned as many activity codes as necessary (including across multiple sectors). For the last 10 years, AidData has been rigorously coding its full core dataset with this activity coding scheme using a double-blind and arbitration methodology. We have successfully coded 60.2% of the core research release project.
Bilateral Donor	A sovereign country providing official development finance to another country. AidData seeks to collect information on all official development finance from all bilateral donors.
Bilateral Flows	Flows provided directly by a donor country to an aid recipient country. The AidData core database seeks to collect data on all bilateral flows with a development purpose from all bilateral donors.
Constant Dollars	For financial information that is available in a time series, it is important to account for inflation/deflation across those years. When financial information is provided in constant dollars, all financial amounts have been deflated to a base year to make the amounts comparable. This is in contrast to current or nominal dollars, where inflation has not been accounted for (so time series analysis should not use nominal or current amounts).
Creditor Reporting System (CRS)	The OECD DAC's <a href="#">Creditor Reporting System</a> (CRS). Members of the OECD are required to report their official development financing activities to the OECD DAC in two forms: 1) DAC Aggregates and 2) CRS Project-Level Data. The DAC aggregates represent total official flows (both bilateral and multilateral) from the specified donor. Many non-DAC donors will voluntarily report aggregate information to the DAC. The details on these flows are limited (because they are aggregates). The CRS data in contrast is provided at the project-level, which provides full details on where the development flows are going, when, and to what effect. Many multilateral donors also report to the CRS (voluntarily) along with 2 non-DAC bilateral donors (Kuwait and United Arab Emirates). The majority of AidData's core dataset comes from CRS data (especially DAC Bilateral Flows). AidData supplements CRS data with additional data from other donors or sources to provide the most comprehensive view of development finance.
Double Counting	The possibility of reporting a development finance flow more than once within the AidData core database. The main potential source for double counting comes from the cross between reporting bilateral core contributions or earmarked contributions to multilateral agencies and then reporting on the flows from multilateral agencies to recipients. We seek to reduce this possibility as much as possible by following OECD CRS reporting directives and only tracking the following flows: 1) Pure bilateral flows, 2) Multi-bilateral flows reported by the bilateral donor, and 3) Multilateral flows from core resources. So the AidData

	<p>database specifically excludes bilateral contributions to multilateral agencies in the form of core contributions as well as multilateral flows using earmarked contributions reported by the multilateral agency.</p> <p>Other sources for double counting include 1) using multiple sources for one donor (including in the same year or across years) and 2) duplicated projects from the same source. AidData seeks to eliminate all double counting wherever possible using rigorous quality assurance methods.</p>
Export Credits	Loans for the purpose of trade and which are not represented by a negotiable instrument. They may be extended by the official or the private sector. If extended by the private sector, they may be supported by official guarantees.
Humanitarian Aid/Emergency Aid	Humanitarian aid is material or logistical assistance provided for humanitarian purposes, typically in response to humanitarian crises including natural disasters and man-made disaster. The primary objective of humanitarian aid is to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain human dignity. In contrast, development aid has a longer perspective.
Multi-bi Flows	Projects implemented by multilateral organizations on behalf of donor countries. In this case, a bilateral donor gives a multilateral agency a contribution, but that contribution is earmarked in some way (either for a specific project, thematic area, or recipient). These flows are reported as bilateral flows by the bilateral donor government. As such, AidData seeks to track all multi-bi flows where the donor makes the information available.
Multilateral Contributions	Monetary contributions by a bilateral donor government to a multilateral agency. These can take two forms: Core contributions or earmarked contributions. Core contributions consist of money that becomes pooled with other bilateral contributions to become part of the multilateral agency's regular budget. With core contributions, the bilateral donor loses all control over how the money is spent. Capital subscriptions or assessed fees count as core contributions. With earmarked contributions, the bilateral donor specifies a particular purpose for the money--either at the recipient, sector, or project level. As such, the multilateral agency essentially becomes the implementing/executing agency for the project, but the bilateral donor retains some amount of control over how the money is allocated. Earmarked contributions are reported by the bilateral donor as a multi-bi flow and are included in the AidData core database. In contrast, core contributions to multilateral agencies are not included in AidData to reduce the risk of double counting.
Multilateral Donor/ Organization	International institutions with governmental membership which conduct all or a significant part of their activities in favor of development and aid recipient countries. They include multilateral development banks (e.g. World Bank, regional development banks), United Nations agencies, and regional groupings (e.g. certain European Union and Arab agencies). AidData seeks to collect information on all official development finance from all multilateral donors.
Multilateral Flows	Flows provided by a multilateral development agency to a recipient country funded through the multilateral agency's regular budgets. AidData seeks to track all data on multilateral flows funded through core, pooled funding sources (see multilateral contributions).

Official Aid (OA)	This is an outdated category of aid flows that the OECD DAC no longer uses. It was used after 1991 - 2009 for development flows targeted towards countries that had higher income levels or were created as a result of the breakup of the USSR. Unfortunately the OECD CRS decided to delete these flows from its records as of 2010. To better capture a more complete picture of historical flows, AidData has preserved these flows by pulling them off of the OECD CRS 2009 CD and included them in our core data (where the source = "Previous Aid Flows").
Official Development Assistance (ODA)	A measure used by the OECD DAC to classify international flows focused on development in countries most in need compared to flows that may be to richer countries or with less than developmental purposes. To qualify as ODA, a flow must meet 4 criterion: 1) Come from an official source (government agency etc), 2) be focused on development (as opposed to having commercial or representational purposes), 3) have concessional terms -- if it's a loan, the grant element must be at least 25%, and 4) be to an ODA-eligible country. Flows for military purposes are excluded.
Other Official Flows (OOF)	A measure used by the OECD DAC to classify international flows that are beyond the scope of ODA--either because they were not aimed at development or because they were not concessional (had a grant element of less than 25%).
South-South Cooperation	In the context of international development, South-South Cooperation (SSC) involves the exchange of resources, technology, and knowledge between developing countries, also known as countries of the global South. Broadly speaking, South-South Cooperation involves development activities initiated by developing countries for other developing countries. These activities usually focus on knowledge sharing and capacity building, allowing developing countries to share their experiences and knowledge with other developing countries.
Technical Cooperation	Technical co-operation is the provision of advice and/or skills, in the form of specialist personnel, training and scholarship, grants for research and associated costs.
Trilateral/ Triangular Cooperation	A type of development cooperation involving three partners--typically one South-South cooperation partner, a traditional donor (bilateral or multilateral), and a beneficiary country in the developing world. Usually it facilitates knowledge sharing and training across all partnering organizations. An example would be Honduras partnering with Germany to implement a capacity building project in El Salvador. Information on these transactions is usually limited (due to inadequate reporting mechanisms). To the extent possible, AidData seeks to include information on trilateral cooperation.

\*Some definitions have been pulled from International Development Matters at <http://idml.co.uk/resources/glossary/> and the OECD DAC Glossary.

For a full list of AidData/Development finance terms, please see the AidData Term Dictionary on page 77 of our *Data Management Plan* available at [www.aiddata.org/sites/default/files/dmp\\_public\\_version1.0\\_signed.pdf](http://www.aiddata.org/sites/default/files/dmp_public_version1.0_signed.pdf).

## Files Included in this Release

File	Description
README.pdf	A README document describing the dataset and license and attribution information and donor-specific details.
AidDataCoreFull_ResearchRelease_Level1_v3.1	The AidDataCoreFull_ResearchRelease_Level1_v3.1.csv file is a CSV separated file based on a flat-table representation of development flows at the project level.
AidDataCoreThin_ResearchRelease_Level1_v3.1	A “Thin” release of the Full Core Release with only 8 fields (aiddata_id, aiddata_2_id, year, donor, recipient, commitment_amount_usd_constant, coalesced_purpose_code, coalesced_purpose_name)
AidDataCoreDonorRecipientYear_ResearchRelease_Level1_v3.1	A pre-aggregated version of the Research Release by Donor/Recipient and Year, with Commitment amounts summed by that grouping.
AidDataCoreDonorRecipientYearPurpose_ResearchRelease_Level1_v3.1	A pre-aggregated version of the Research Release by Donor/Recipient, Year and Purpose Code with Commitment amounts summed by that grouping.

### Field Definitions -

Field Name	Definition & Notes
Additional Info	Any additional information on the project that does not fit elsewhere in the data scheme.
AidData Activity Code/Name	Identifies the full list of activities involved in each development project. This field is assigned to a project using the AidData Activity Coding Methodology (including a double-blind and arbitration system). Each project can have as many activities assigned as necessary. All activities (codes and names) are provided in the same field in a tab-delimited list.
AidData ID/AidData ID 2	AidData ID is a unique identifier for each project/activity published on the AidData Portal. AidData ID 2 provides the matching ID for projects included in AidData’s previous Research Release (2.0). Not all project records will have this ID ( for example project records imported or created after the 2.1 release will not have this ID).
AidData Purpose Code/Name	The dominant activity that the project is meant to foster. This field is usually assigned to a project using the AidData Activity Coding Methodology (including a double-blind and arbitration system). Before a project is purpose/activity coded though, this field can be generated from the CRS purpose code. Each project can only have one purpose code in this research release.
AidData Sector Code/Name	The AidData Sector (3-digit) that the project is meant to foster. This field is usually generated from the purpose code assigned to the project through the AidData Activity

	Coding methodology. Before a project is activity coded though, this field can be generated from the CRS purpose code, a donor-provided sector, or the title of the project (as a temporary way to make sure each project has at least a sector classification).
Channel Code	The code representing the channel of delivery code as reported by donors to the OECD CRS. The channel reported name is represented in the Implementing Agency field. For a complete list of what the codes mean, see the DAC code list available at <a href="http://oecd.org">oecd.org</a> .
Coalesced Purpose Code/Name	Purpose codes can come from either the AidData Coding Scheme (when AidData has purpose/activity coded a project) or from the CRS. To allow users to use one field to identify purpose code information, we have coalesced this data into one field, so that all rows will have at least one purpose code assigned. If a particular project has both an AidData purpose code and a CRS purpose code available, then the AidData purpose code is used for the coalesced field.
Commitment Amount	The loan or grant amount for a project or program as given by the donor. Conceptually, we use the same definition as the OECD-DAC: “A firm obligation, expressed in writing and backed by the necessary funds, undertaken by an official donor to provide specified assistance to a recipient country or a multilateral organisation. Bilateral commitments are recorded in the full amount of expected transfer, irrespective of the time required for the completion of disbursements.” If the donor reports the amount in both USD and another currency in donor documents, then we enter the original currency amount (to standardize our currency exchange rates). In the 3.1 research release, this field is given as USD 2011 Constant amount.
Commitment Date	This date is pulled first from the date of board approval. When such is unavailable we will use the date of loan signature or grant approval.
CRS Markers	This is a set of fields that the CRS codes to indicate whether a project focuses on specific topics, including biodiversity, climate, desertification, or the environment.
CRS Purpose/Sector Codes/Names	The purpose/sector assigned by each donor when reporting to the OECD CRS. Please see the OECD website for the full sector/purpose coding scheme.
Donor	Donor name. For bilaterals this is the name of the sovereign government (i.e. France, Saudi Arabia). For multilaterals this gets slightly more confusing – it is the name of the donor, and soft/hard lending windows may be treated as separate donors (i.e. IDA & IBRD are listed as separate donors, AfDB & AfDF are listed as separate donors). We attempt to follow CRS practice in this manner.
Donor ISO	Donor’s ISO-2 code.
Donor Project Id	This is the provided donor’s ID for tracking the project. We seek to capture meaningful IDs where available (meaning they are used internally by the donor to identify a specific project). If not available, this field may report a database ID if provided by the donor.
Donor Secondary Project Id	A secondary project ID used by the donor or the original source. For core data where the source is the OECD CRS, this field is the CRSID as reported in the original CRS data.
End Date (Actual)	Date project ended. A full date is required for this field. However, donor data will often report incomplete dates (such as month-year combos or only the year). In that case, the default date will be the the last day of the specified month or year. (i.e. if the

	documentation says the project ended in December 2011, the end date in the Portal would be 2011-12-31). Some data sources, including IATI data, draw a distinction between “planned end date” and “actual end date.” In the AidData portal, the End Date corresponds to the “actual end date.” If a donor source only provided one end date and did not specify whether it was a planned or actual end date, the default is to assume it is the actual end date, so it is mapped to the End Date field. This field is recorded as an ISO date format (YYYY-MM-DD).
Financing Agency	For bilateral donors, the financing agency is the sub agency within the sovereign government (i.e. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, USAID, etc) that financed the project. For multilateral donors, it represents the fund financing the project. For example, the NADB is a donor but it has several funds that it can pull money from to finance projects. This field specifies what fund that commitment was pulled from. Sometimes it'll just be OCR, sometimes special funds, sometimes left blank.
Flow Name	<p>The project’s type of international assistance flow, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equity: Some development financiers invest in a recipient country’s institutions/companies. They purchase shares/equity in the company. The CRS identifies equity investment as “comprises direct financing of enterprises in a developing country which does not (as opposed to direct investment) imply a lasting interest in the enterprise.</li> <li>• Grant: A project where flows given do not need to be paid back. This can include the monetary value of in-kind contributions provided by donors. According to CRS directives, grants are transfers in cash or in kind for which no legal debt is incurred by the recipient. For DAC/CRS reporting purposes, it also includes debt forgiveness, which does not entail new transfers; support to non-governmental organisations; and certain costs incurred in the implementation of aid programmes.</li> <li>• Loan (Non-concessional): A project where the funds provided must be paid back using market interest rates or the terms less than 25% concessional.</li> <li>• Loan (concessional): A project where a portion of the funds provided must be paid back, but the loan uses concessional terms. To qualify for this category, the concessionality must meet the OECD-DAC’s requirements including having a grant element larger than 25%.</li> <li>• Loan (unknown): A project where the funds provided must be paid back, but the concessionality of the loan terms are unknown. It is likely many of these loans are concessional, but without sufficient information to certify a project’s concessionality, the flow type is assigned to this.</li> <li>• Loan &amp; Grant: A project that includes a combination of loan and grant. This is only used if the grant proportion is unknown or falls under the 25% threshold. Otherwise, the project should be categorized as a concessional loan.</li> <li>• Export Credits: Loans for the purpose of trade and which are not represented by a negotiable instrument. They may be extended by the official or the private sector. If extended by the private sector, they may be supported by official guarantees.</li> <li>• Not Reported: The donor did not report enough information to determine the financing type.</li> <li>• ODA Grant-Like: A project where loan repayments or commodity assistance directly benefit the recipient country and counts as Official Development Assistance as categorized by the OECD-DAC (see ODA definition). This category is only used when specified by the reporting organization (the CRS). According to CRS directives, this category comprises a) loans for which the service payments are to be made into an account in the borrowing country and used in</li> </ul>



	<p>the borrowing country for its own benefit, and b) provision of commodities for sale in the recipient's currency the proceeds of which are used in the recipient country for its own benefit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODA Grants: Grants that qualify as Official Development Assistance as categorized by the OECD-DAC (see ODA definition).</li> <li>• ODA Loans: Concessional loans that qualify as Official Development Assistance as categorized by the OECD-DAC (see ODA definition).</li> <li>• OOF Loans (non-export credit): According to the CRS, this category includes official sector loans which do not meet the ODA criteria. This category is only used when specified by the CRS (See OOF definition).</li> <li>• OOF (non export credit): OOF flows where loan/grant distinction is not specified (See OOF definition).</li> <li>• Private Grants: Global health commitments from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as reported to the OECD CRS for 2009.</li> </ul>
Fund	The fund financing a project within a multilateral agency. For example, the NADB is a donor but it has several funds that it can pull money from to fund projects. This field specifies what fund that commitment was pulled from. Sometimes it'll just be OCR, sometimes special funds, sometimes left blank. There can be a many-to-one relationship between specified funds and one project, so if a project is pulling money from more than one fund (under a single donor), it is captured here.
Donor Region	The region where the donor/funder is located.
Implementing Agency	<p>The organization that is responsible for implementing the project and is the channel of delivery (in OECD-DAC terminology). This usually ranges from a government agency (from the donor or partner country), an intergovernmental organization (such as UNDP), to private national or international NGOs. This field is not normalized. When collecting data directly from the donor, we standardize implementing agency names as much as possible with reporting the full agency name and then its acronym, e.g. "United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)."</p> <p>Sometimes implementing agency is listed as executing agency, or in the CRS, it is reported in the field "Channel Reported Name".</p>
Long Description	A long description of the project activities and objectives. The length of the description, and the resulting depth of information, varies by donor.
Planned End Date	For the sources that make this information available, this is the date that the project was planned to end. When available, this date (theoretically) can be compared to the actual end date provided in the End Date field.
Planned Start Date	For the sources that make this information available, this is the date that the project was planned to start. When available, this date (theoretically) can be compared to the actual start date provided in the Start Date field.
Recipient	The sovereign country that is the recipient of the project. This is often referred to as the Partner country in recent aid literature. We have sought to match our country names to those used by the CRS. Similarly we have tried to match our regional groupings to theirs. At times flows are directed at NGOs – in that case we put the recipient as the country that is benefitting from the project.

	<p>In some cases the donor identifies a region as a recipient instead of a specific country. In these cases, we have mapped the donor-specified region to the corresponding region in our dataset.</p> <p>Some donors will report one project to multiple countries or regions but only one commitment amount for the project as a whole. In those cases, we seek to retain as much information as possible by identifying the smallest regional category that encompasses all recipients, and that is reported in the recipient field. When we know specific country names but have to use a regional recipient we retain the information on the individual countries in the additional info field. If the commitment amount is disaggregated for each recipient, then each recipient and corresponding amount will be recorded in separate rows (in a flat table structure)</p>
Recipient iso	Recipient's ISO-2 code.
Short Description	A short description of the project activities. This field is only filled in for data sourced from the CRS. For data collected directly from the donor, all descriptive information should be mapped to either the title or the long description.
Source	Source type for the project records. The current source types include OECD CRS or Donor Documents (indicated by Annual Report, Website, Screen-Scrape Adapter, Other)
Source Detail	URL providing source information. Our goal is to provide a pdf version of the original source for each project. Currently this is complete for recently-collected data, and we hope to expand this to all data soon.
Start Date (Actual)	Date project began. A full date is required for this field. However, donor data will often report incomplete dates (such as month-year combos or only the year). In that case, the default date will be the the first day of the specified month or year. (i.e. if the documentation says the project started in March 2011, the start date in the Portal would be 3/1/2011). Some data sources, including IATI data, draw a distinction between "planned start date" and "actual start date." In the AidData portal, the Start Date corresponds to the "actual start date." If a donor source only provided one start date and did not specify whether it was a planned or actual start date, the default is to assume it is the actual start date, so it is mapped to the Start Date. This field is recorded as an ISO date format (YYYY-MM-DD).
Title	The name of a project or program specified by the donor or reporting organization (such as the CRS). Of all the descriptive fields (including title, short description, and long description), title should be prioritized over the other fields. If limited descriptive information exists for a project when collecting data from a source, this should be the first field to be filled in--so if a donor only provides a single sentence or sentence fragment describing the project, that information should become the title of the project.
Total Project Cost	The total cost of the project from all funding sources. This usually includes co-financing amounts from other donors as well as the partner country itself. This field is only filled in when the donor provides the information explicitly. Any totals using this field across projects is likely to produce double counting.
Year	This is the year of the recorded commitment.

For a complete list of field definitions for the core research release, please see table 1 on page 73 of AidData's [Data Management Plan](#).

## Using Data in Spreadsheets

Microsoft Excel has known limitations when working with CSV files that have character encodings like UTF8 (the character encoding of the AidData CSV Data). To avoid potential problems with character encodings, please use the “From Text” command on the Data menu when opening the CSV files. Double-clicking on the files to open in Excel, and/or saving them as CSV from Excel may result in character encoding problems. Additionally, MOST versions of Excel will not be able to successfully open a table the size of the FULL core research release (> 1.5 million rows). 65536 is the maximum number of spreadsheet rows supported by Excel 97, Excel 2000, Excel 2002 and Excel 2003 (Excel 2007, 2010 and 2013 support 1,048,576 rows). Data Tables files that are larger than these number cannot be imported to these versions of Excel. LibreOffice and OpenOffice support 1,048,576 rows. If you don't need the full datasets with all the project records, the pre-aggregated datasets may be of use to you. There are also other options for working with large data tables including:

- OpenRefine (<http://openrefine.org/>): a free tool for working with large datasets which will let you facet, trim and export the data as you desire, then perform additional operations outside of the tool;
- R: CSV files are easily readable by R using the the native data import commands found in the language (<https://www.datacamp.com/community/tutorials/r-data-import-tutorial>)
- STATA: STATA also provided native CSV import commands (<http://www.stata.com/manuals13/dimportdelimited.pdf>)
- Python: Python provides CSV import and analysis through the Pandas module (<http://pandas.pydata.org/>) and the read\_csv command (<http://pandas.pydata.org/pandas-docs/stable/io.html#io-read-csv-table>)

Please note that the full dataset has a large memory footprint. It is recommended that your computer have at minimum 4GB of RAM (8GB of RAM recommended) if being loaded into Python/R/STATA.

## Source Information

The AidData Core Research Release 3.1 is meant to represent the most comprehensive dataset on international development finance. To do so, AidData seeks to find, collect, and standardize information from as many development agencies as possible. For each donor, AidData identifies the best source available. For many donors, especially bilateral donors belonging to the OECD Development Assistance Committee, the best information is available through the OECD Creditor Reporting System. For other donors, we found the best information directly from donor documents (such as annual reports, donor websites, and so forth). AidData collected the information from these donor documents and standardized them so they could be incorporated alongside other development finance data. The source for each row of data is

indicated in the source field and the source detail field. Additional information on sources are also available in our Data Management Plan available on our website.

AidData has incorporated CRS data available from the OECD's bulk download website and supplemented it with information from the OECD CRS 2009 CD. The supplemental information pulled from the 2009 CD generally represent Official Aid flows that were later dropped from the CRS dataset. AidData has preserved these flows to ensure a complete picture of all development flows, and are identified with the source "Previous Aid Flows." Additionally, AidData employs an accretive model for collecting OECD CRS data. The OECD may revisit previous year's data releases to update its data holdings. AidData however, only imports the new year's records and leaves the previous year's updates unchanged. Over time, this produces a delta between the OECD CRS holdings and AidData representation of same time period. AidData has carefully weighed the benefits and drawbacks of this model and decided that the accretive model provides richer data for the user of our data.

Citation for OECD Data incorporated into this research release: Creditor Reporting System: Bulk Download: <http://stats.oecd.org/DownloadFiles.aspx?HideTopMenu=yes&DatasetCode=CRS1>. Last Accessed on May 17, 2015.

For additional information, please read AidData's disclaimer available at <http://aiddata.org/disclaimer> and the [OECD's terms and conditions](#).

## Donor Sources

Donors	Years	Projects	Commitment Amount (USD)	Source
African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)				
	1999-2008	130	\$276,754,956	Donor Documents
African Development Bank (AFDB)				
	1967-2010	1,192	\$74,813,353,177	Donor Documents
	2011-2013	121	\$2,448,786,255	OECD CRS
African Development Fund (AFDF)				
	1974-2010	2,107	\$54,823,461,723	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	206	\$7,018,463,575	OECD CRS
Andean Development Corporation (CAF)				
	1988-2010	779	\$87,804,313,033	Donor Documents
Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA)				

	1974-2011	1,122	\$7,579,373,688	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	170	\$406,461,142	OECD CRS
Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development (AFESD)				
	1974-2011	1,446	\$38,250,891,112	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	70	\$2,655,055,603	OECD CRS
Asian Development Bank (AsDB Special Funds)				
	2013	381	\$4,327,433,138	OECD CRS
Asian Development Bank (AsDB)				
	1968-2011	8,604	\$215,933,699,784	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	409	\$16,887,903,619	OECD CRS
Asian Development Fund (ASDF)				
	1969-2010	1,174	\$59,329,307,811	Donor Documents
Australia				
	1973-2013	46,892	\$83,677,648,675	OECD CRS
Austria				
	1974-2013	19,006	\$20,365,739,454	OECD CRS
Belgium				
	1973-2013	55,598	\$38,669,203,073	OECD CRS
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation				
	2009, 2013	2,255	\$5,033,290,469	OECD CRS
Brazil				
	1998, 2001, 2004 - 2010	1,072	\$205,351,019	Donor Documents
Canada				
	1973-2013	61,661	\$109,015,340,030	OECD CRS
Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)				
	1970-2010	1,732	\$10,487,206,814	Donor Documents
Chile				
	2002-2010	517	\$12,743,274	Donor Documents
Colombia				

	2006-2008, 2010	202	\$10,939,497	Donor Documents
Congo Basin Forest Fund (CBFF)				
	2009-2010	14	\$17,081,730	Donor Documents
Cyprus				
	2005-2011	173	\$19,719,481	Donor Documents
Czech Republic				
	1996-2009	485	\$313,140,848	Donor Documents
	2011-2013	1,978	\$183,971,744	OECD CRS
Denmark				
	1973-2013	14,143	\$48,250,602,754	OECD CRS
Estonia				
	2000-2010	275	\$15,635,529	Donor Documents
	2013	248	\$17,985,924	OECD CRS
European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)				
	1991-2007	2,879	\$86,751,847,943	Donor Documents
	2013	416	\$5,431,845,034	OECD-CRS
European Communities (EC)				
	1973-2013	39,831	\$388,876,326,567	OECD CRS
Finland				
	1974-2013	19,026	\$18,638,486,080	OECD CRS
France				
	1973-2013	89,029	\$233,565,000,000	OECD CRS
Germany				
	1973-2013	104,900	\$331,125,520,530	OECD CRS
Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunization (GAVI)				
	2007-2013	2,463	\$6,855,061,383	OECD CRS
Global Environment Facility (GEF)				
	1991-2010	2,692	\$12,290,465,843	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	1,208	\$2,501,367,045	OECD CRS

Global Fund to Fight Aids Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFTAM)				
	2002-2011	914	\$18,291,526,188	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	552	\$6,338,068,329	OECD CRS
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)				
	2013	42	\$15,459,133	OECD CRS
Global Partnership for Education				
	2004	7	\$46,217,537	Donor Documents
Greece				
	2002-2013	8,840	\$2,759,767,999	OECD CRS
Hungary				
	2003-2008	329	\$25,127,062	Donor Documents
Iceland				
	1990-2009	79	\$82,361,864	Donor Documents
	2011-2013	295	\$71,514,949	OECD CRS
India				
	2006-2010	420	\$4,218,551,756	Donor Documents
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)				
	1970-2008	5,059	\$313,769,826,103	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	1,692	\$19,035,261,329	OECD CRS
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)				
	1978-2011	1503	\$20,376,354,436	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	623	\$1,543,116,807	OECD CRS
International Monetary Fund (IMF)				
	1981-2011	662	\$734,795,265,922	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	52	\$2,661,750,097	OECD CRS
Ireland				
	2000-2013	31,859	\$7,582,174,215	OECD CRS
Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)				
	1976-2008	2,596	\$15,223,724,051	Donor Documents

	2012-2013	264	\$4,721,826,595	OECD CRS
Italy				
	1973-2013	41,651	\$74,694,848,418	OECD CRS
Japan				
	1973-2013	111,188	\$561,863,597,002	OECD CRS
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)				
	2001-2013	7,300	\$2,665,792,273	OECD CRS
Korea				
	2006-2013	41,262	\$25,756,175,360	OECD CRS
Kuwait				
	1962-2010	1,094	\$33,185,946,013	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	67	\$2,804,802,628	OECD CRS
Latvia				
	2005-2010	103	\$2,359,566	Donor Documents
Liechtenstein				
	1981-1998, 2000-2008	878	\$49,490,165	Donor Documents
Lithuania				
	2007-2009	315	\$10,320,300	Donor Documents
Luxembourg				
	1989, 2001-2013	15,269	\$3,524,804,896	OECD CRS
Monaco				
	2006-2008	175	\$11,144,509	Donor Documents
Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol				
	1992-2006, 2009	36	\$721,707,889	Donor Documents
Netherlands				
	1973-2013	44,047	\$133,894,225,591	OECD CRS
New Zealand				
	1974-2013	8,107	\$4,602,936,508	OECD CRS
Nigerian Trust Fund (NTF)				



	1976-1994, 1996, 2000-2005, 2009-2010	78	\$884,393,554	Donor Documents
Nordic Development Fund (NDF)				
	1989-2010	218	\$1,313,845,011	Donor Documents
	2012-2013	28	\$89,051,660	OECD CRS
North American Development Bank (NADB)				
	1996-2011	385	\$2,485,856,072	Donor Documents
Norway				
	1973-2013	68,980	\$77,260,443,270	OECD CRS
OPEC Fund for International Development				
	1976-2010	2,113	\$16,248,393,803	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	413	\$3,252,375,224	OECD CRS
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)				
	2010-2013	425	\$580,036,426	OECD CRS
Poland				
	2013	643	\$136,907,374	OECD CRS
Portugal				
	1983-2013	12,746	\$10,817,485,002	OECD CRS
Qatar				
	2007	17	\$104,519,053	OECD CRS
Romania				
	2007-2009	45	\$6,918,790	Donor Documents
Saudi Arabia				
	1975-2011	569	\$26,449,198,618	Donor Documents
Slovak Republic				
	2004-2010	370	\$60,926,197	Donor Documents
	2013	277	\$13,774,917	OECD CRS
Slovenia				
	2010	199	\$21,728,691	Donor Documents

	2013	171	\$19,819,791	OECD CRS
South Africa				
	2005-2009	53	\$242,530,185	Donor Documents
Spain				
	1988-2013	122550	\$53,055,163,685	OECD CRS
Sweden				
	1973-2013	55339	\$90,991,581,630	OECD CRS
Switzerland				
	1973-2013	48624	\$51,806,794,851	OECD CRS
Taiwan				
	1999-2011	374	\$1,953,336,012	Donor Documents
Thailand				
	2007-2010	641	\$34,048,522	Donor Documents
United Arab Emirates				
	1972-2010	246	\$12,466,789,487	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	1,730	\$11,399,788,465	OECD CRS
United Kingdom				
	1973-2010	53,647	\$158,778,117,297	OECD CRS
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)				
	2000-2013	71,585	\$13,448,723,299	OECD CRS
United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF)				
	2007-2009	271	\$83,984,184	Donor Documents
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)				
	1999,2004-2013	36,468	\$6,128,834,204	OECD CRS
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)				
	2007	5	\$101,111	OECD CRS
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)				
	2007	5	\$152,927	OECD CRS

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)				
	2008-2013	320	\$77,253,470	OECD CRS
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)				
	2011-2013	160	\$1,284,867,907	OECD CRS
United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UNPBF)				
	2010-2013	262	\$298,039,715	OECD CRS
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)				
	2001-2013	32,206	\$4,241,990,063	OECD CRS
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)				
	2010-2013	48	\$1,792,177,768	OECD CRS
United States				
	1980-2009	4,420	\$231,037,523,117	Donor Documents
	1973-2013	20,3804	\$627,013,033,084	OECD CRS
World Bank - Carbon Finance Unit				
	2002-2010	107	\$2,120,344,263	Donor Documents
World Bank - Debt Reduction Facility				
	1990,1997-1999,2005,2007,2009	7	\$150,687,721	Donor Documents
World Bank - International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)				
	1947-2011	5,860	\$1,045,560,554,669	Donor Documents
	2011-2013	897	\$50,314,510,202	OECD CRS
World Bank - International Development Association (IDA)				
	1961-2011	5,865	\$405,633,455,843	Donor Documents
	2010-2013	1,754	\$34,758,619,562	OECD CRS
World Bank - International Finance Corporation (IFC)				
	1980-2002	3,696	\$120,310,395,543	Donor Documents
World Bank - Managed Trust Funds				
	1998-2011	453	\$4,682,193,859	Donor Documents
World Health Organization (WHO)				

	2009-2013	7,677	\$2,185,953,553	OECD CRS
World Trade Organization (WTO)				
	2007	409	\$18,987,793	OECD CRS
World Trade Organization (WTO) - International Trade Centre				
	2007	4	\$44,758,358	OECD CRS

## Caveats

**Activity Coding:** This dataset is only partially activity coded. In total, 60.2% of the rows in the Research Release is activity coded. This percent varies on a donor-year basis though. Generally, all rows from Donor Document sources are fully activity coded, whereas many CRS rows are still in the process of getting activity coded. When using activity codes, it would be best to isolate a subset of donors/years that are completely activity coded. Also, AidData does not make assumptions about the division of financial amounts when a transaction has more than one activity code. Individual users determine the best approach for estimating financial allocation across codes. Many researchers choose to divide the total transaction amount equally across all activities. For more information, check out AidData's [User's Guide](#) section on Activity Codes.

Year Range	% Activity Coded
1947-1972	99% -100%
1973-1991	79%-90%
1992-1998	60%-74%
1999-2012	48%-67%
2013	33%

**Deflation:** All financial values are deflated to USD2011. Further, step-by-step details on the currency conversion and deflation process for the research release can be found in the "AidData Exchange Rates and Deflation Methodology" section of the [Data Management Plan](#).

**Disbursements:** Disbursements are not made available in this Research Release. Due to the data sources and structures of the available historical data, the AidData Core Research Release is mainly a commitment database. Any disbursements that would be available from our portal are incomplete for years before 2013. As such, we have chosen not to publish the disbursement field to reduce the likelihood for mis-understandings with our users on how to best use the data.

**Missing Years:** The dataset contains 59 projects for which the year is “9999”. AidData was not able to determine the correct commitment year for those projects from the information provided in the source documentation.

**Incomplete Coverage:** For many bilateral donors that do not report to the OECD CRS (now or historically), AidData collected as much project-level data that we could find using documents published by the donor (in PDFs, websites, etc) or as provided directly to us by official government agencies. While this project-level data sheds light on these non-DAC donors’ development activities, the data generally only covers one or two financing agencies within that donor government. As such there is likely missing flows for the years we have collected, so using aggregates for these donors is misleading. The donors this likely applies to includes the following donors: Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic (pre-2011), Estonia (pre-2013), Hungary, Iceland (pre-2011), India, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Monaco, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovak Republic (pre-2013), Slovenia (pre-2013), South Africa, Thailand, United Arab Emirates (pre-2010).

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