

# Upcoming event: Does official development assistance have a future?

by Ashlee Betteridge  
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The end of official development assistance (ODA) has been confidently predicted for decades.

But a funny thing happened at the end of the 90s. A set of development targets identified by the OECD mutated into the Millennium Development Goals and political momentum returned to the aid effort.

Annual ODA rose by two-thirds in the decade leading up to 2010. But the knives are out again in finance departments around the world, and critics charge that ODA measurements are inflated in any case.

Will ODA always be with us?

On July 3 at 12.30pm at the Crawford School of Public Policy, Simon Scott from the OECD will discuss the future of international development assistance in a Development Policy Centre event.

Simon Scott heads the Statistics and Monitoring Division of the OECD's Development Cooperation Directorate. He oversees the collection and analysis of data on flows of ODA and other resources, and advises the OECD's Development Assistance Committee on 'performance against its members' ODA volume commitments', trends in financing for development and questions relating to the scope and limits of the concept of ODA. Before joining the OECD in 1993, he worked for AusAID for 14 years. He is the author of *Philanthropic Foundations and Development Co-operation* and *Measuring Aid: 50 years of DAC statistics*, and co-author of *Innovative Financing to Fund Development*.

Register for the event [here](#). Further details [here](#).

## Author/s:

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Ashlee Betteridge was the Manager of the Development Policy Centre until April 2021. She was previously a Research Officer at the centre from 2013-2017. A former journalist, she holds a Master of Public Policy (Development Policy) from ANU and has development experience in Indonesia and Timor-Leste. She now has her own consultancy, Better Things Consulting, and works across several large projects with managing contractors.

Link:

<https://devpolicy.org/upcoming-event-does-official-development-assistance-have-a-future/>