

SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals)³.

The OECD-DAC democratic and inclusive governance marker

The democratic and inclusive governance marker informs if, and to what extent, development co-operation activities pursue democratic and inclusive governance objectives. The marking is based on a scoring system to distinguish between activities that have inclusive governance as the principal objective (score 2) and activities that have it as a significant objective (score 1). The marker can be applied to activities in any sector (excluding administrative costs and core contributions to multilateral institutions). Each activity is a unique record in the database and it can provide information about a project or a programme (or part of a project or programme).

2. Definition and eligibility criteria

Activities marked with the democratic and inclusive governance marker should comply with the following definition and eligibility criteria.⁴ The key terms used in the definition are explained in Table 2.

Table 1 – Democratic and inclusive governance policy marker – definition and eligibility criteria

Definition	It is intended to enhance fundamental elements of democratic and inclusive governance across all areas of development co-operation.
Eligibility Criteria	<p>(a) The objectives are explicitly promoted in activity documentation; and (b) The activity contains specific measures to promote one or several of the governance aspects defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory development includes efforts to support inclusive participation and equal representation of citizens in decision-making processes as well as support to institutions to expand the coverage, quality and/or use of public goods and services. This includes, in particular, efforts to improve the participation of marginalised and vulnerable groups, in line with the principle of leaving no-one behind. - Democratisation, includes support to promote horizontal and vertical accountability, comprising efforts to improve institutional checks and balances within the state, credible elections and support to elected bodies as well as support to citizen engagement and media. - Good governance, includes efforts to uphold a fair rule of law, improve transparency in the management of public affairs, and combat corruption and illicit financial flows. - Human rights, includes measures that directly aim to better guarantee internationally agreed civil and political rights, including the right to security and peace, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. Also covers human rights based programming approaches that aim to expand social services.

³ See: SDG Handbook - DCD/DAC/STAT(2020)7/REV2

⁴ See: DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)15/REV1

The marker's focus on "democratic and inclusive governance" does not mean that, in the area of human rights, the marker measures exclusively the promotion of political and civil rights or human rights based programming approaches that expand social services. The promotion of all human rights is within the definition of the marker.

Table 2 – Describing democratic and inclusive governance

Democratic and inclusive governance	Democratic and inclusive governance captures a broad range of governance dimensions that are essential to pursue open, accountable and inclusive state-society relations. It includes support to interventions that support institutional reforms to underpin sustainable, rights-based development, promote just societies and efforts to improve social and economic inclusion in terms of processes and outcomes.
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3. Scoring

The democratic and inclusive governance marker uses the same scoring methodology as the other policy and Rio markers in the CRS statistical framework, which is based on the following principles:

The scoring is based on three values (Table 3 and Figure 1):

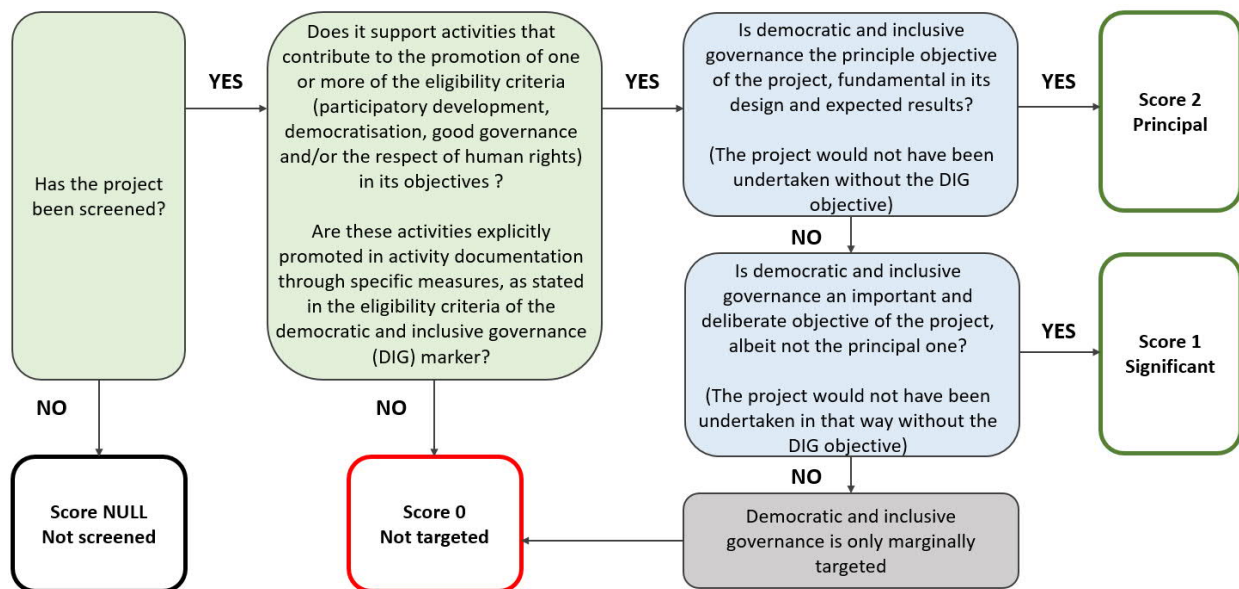
- **Score 2** - Promoting democratic and inclusive governance – in any of its aspects – is the **principal objective of the activity**;
- **Score 1** - Promoting democratic and inclusive governance – in any of its aspects – is a **significant objective of the activity**;
- **Score 0** - The activity is screened but **it does not target any aspect of democratic and inclusive governance**.
- Activities that have not been screened should be left blank (NULL) and not marked 0 by default.

Examples of scoring are provided in Annex I

Table 3 – Scoring system of the OECD-DAC democratic and inclusive governance policy marker

Principal objective (score 2)	Aspects of democratic and inclusive governance are the principal objective of the project and fundamental in the design and expected results. The activity would not have been undertaken without the governance objective. The entire project, in addition to other objectives, is designed with the principal intention to have a positive impact on the promotion of elements of democratic and inclusive governance.
Significant objective (score 1)	Democratic and inclusive governance is an important and deliberate objective, but not the principal reason for undertaking the project. The governance objective must be explicit in the project documentation, i.e. it cannot be implicit or assumed. The project, in addition to other objectives, is designed to have a positive impact on advancing democratic and inclusive governance.
Not targeted (score 0)	The project has been screened against the marker but has not been found to target inclusive governance in any significant way.
Not screened (score NULL)	The project has not been screened. The field is left empty.

Figure 1 – Democratic and inclusive governance policy marker decision tree



The following considerations should also be taken into account while scoring the policy marker.

- **The scoring of the policy marker has a qualitative nature.**