Financing the
UN Development System

Managing Unprecendented Times

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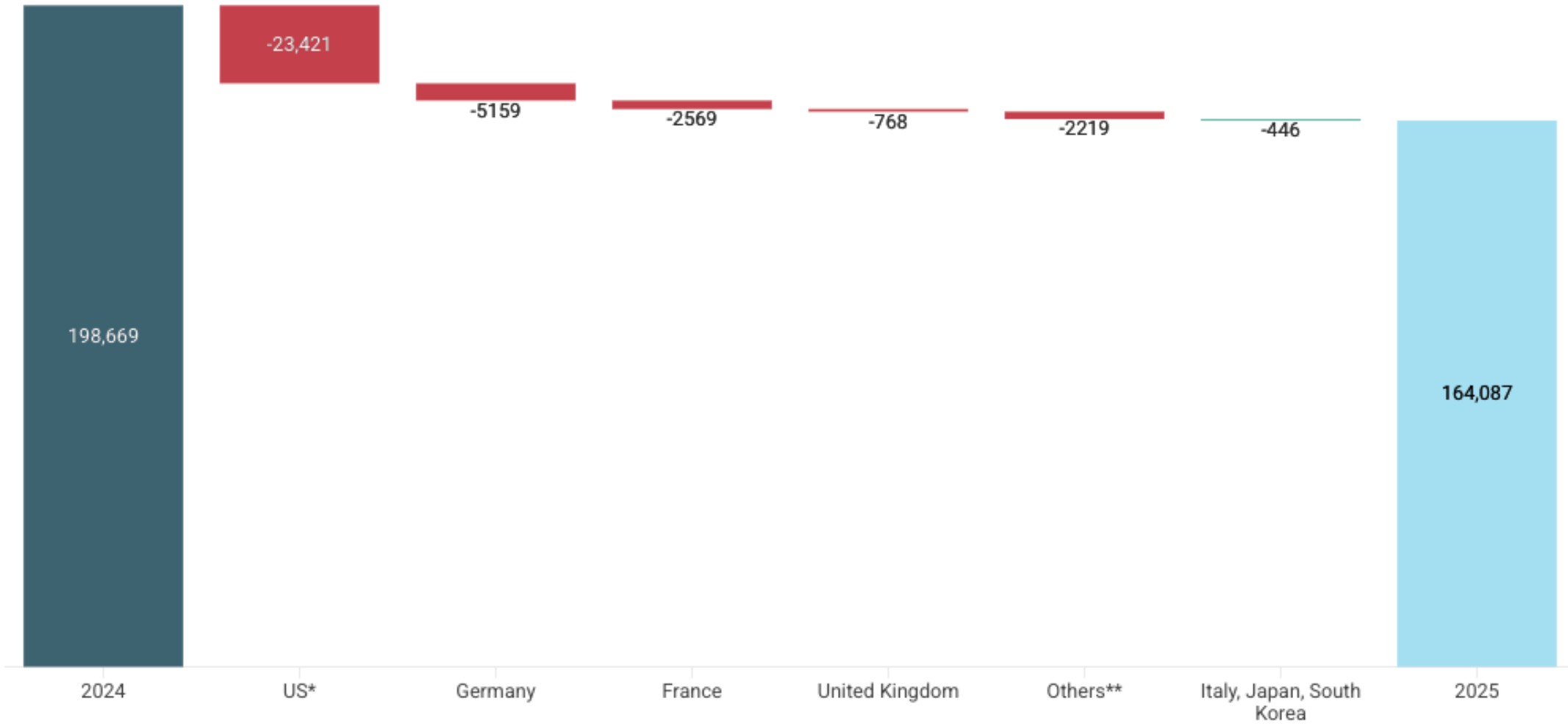
Projected ODA changes 2023-2025 USD mln



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The Financing of the UN Development System report

Produced together with the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO).

The 11th edition published in September 2025:
Managing Unprecedented Times

The report offers

- an overview of the UN development system's income and expenditure
- articles by authors both inside and outside the UN system on current funding trends

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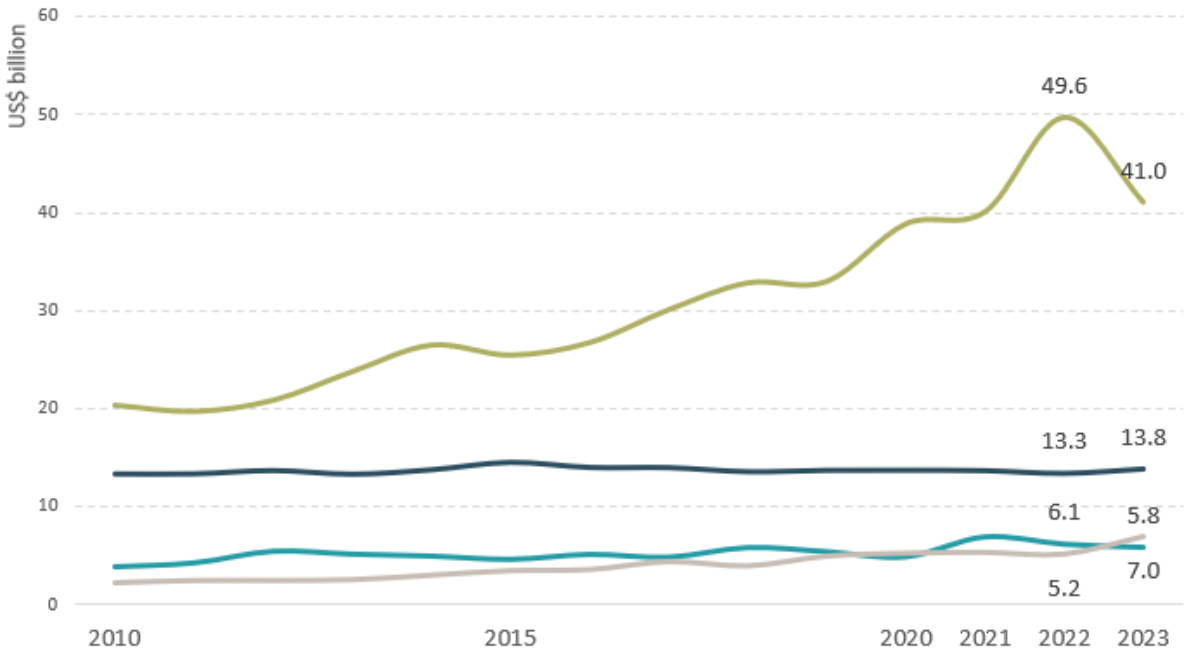
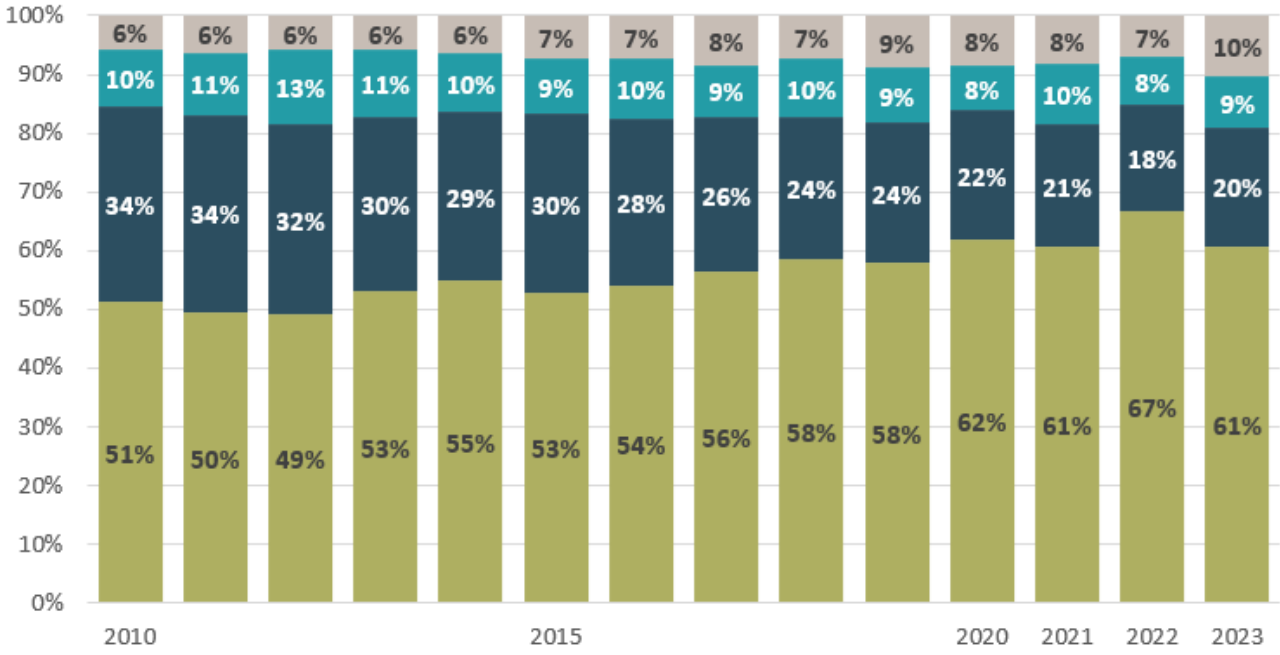
UN system funding has decreased for the first time since 2010 due to the substantial drop in earmarked contributions

67.6
$US bn
(2023)

- 6.7 $US bn
from 2022





Assessed | Voluntary core | Earmarked | Other activities

CORE

First year-on-year decline in earmarked funding in nearly a decade (-US $8.6 B)

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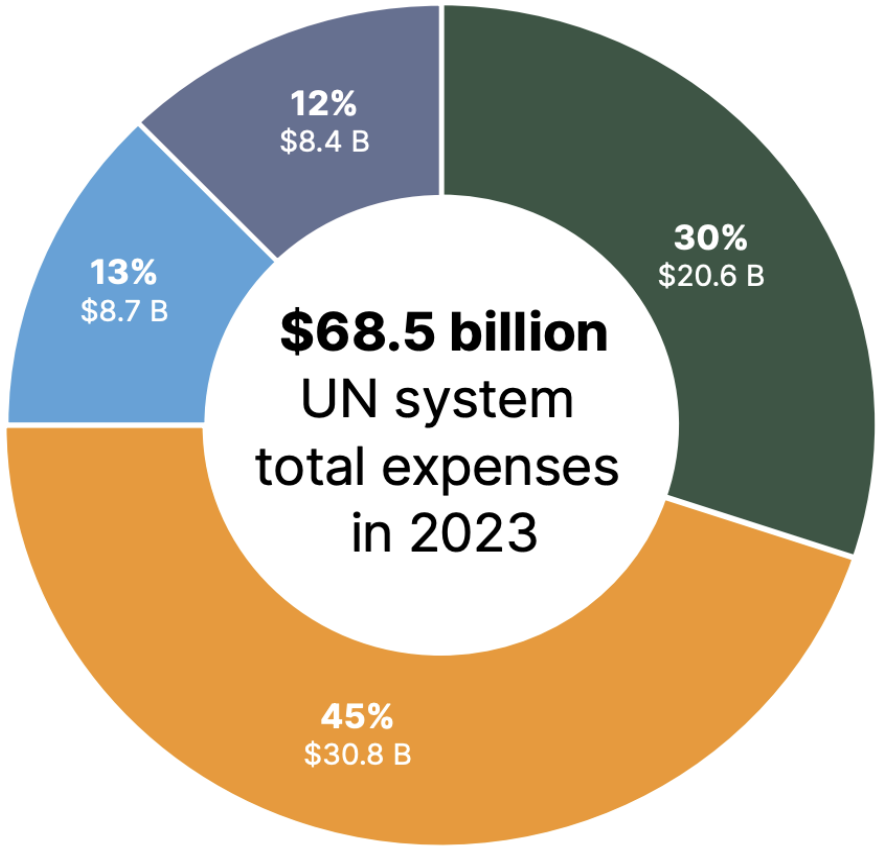
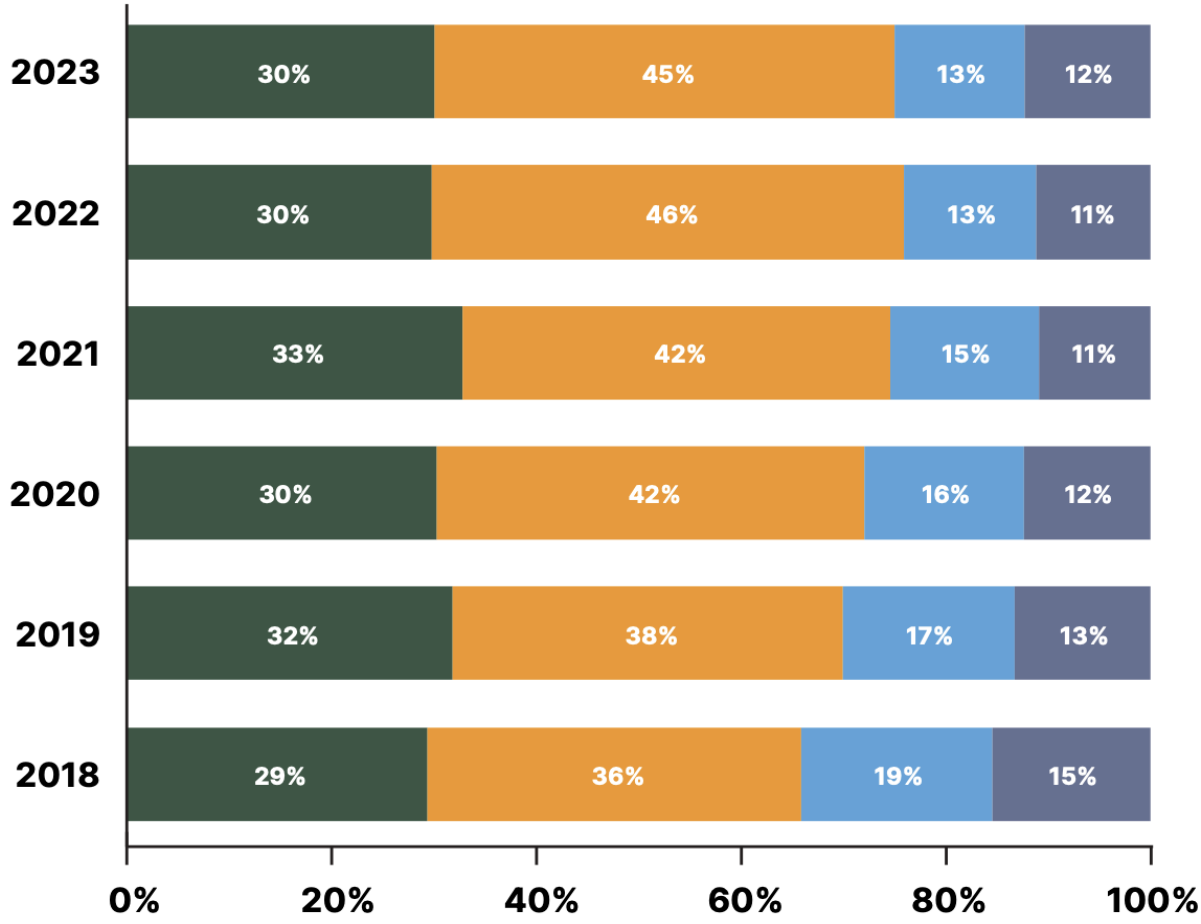
Expenses of the UN system by function, 2018–2023





Development assistance
Humanitarian assistance
Peace operations
Global agenda and specialised assistance

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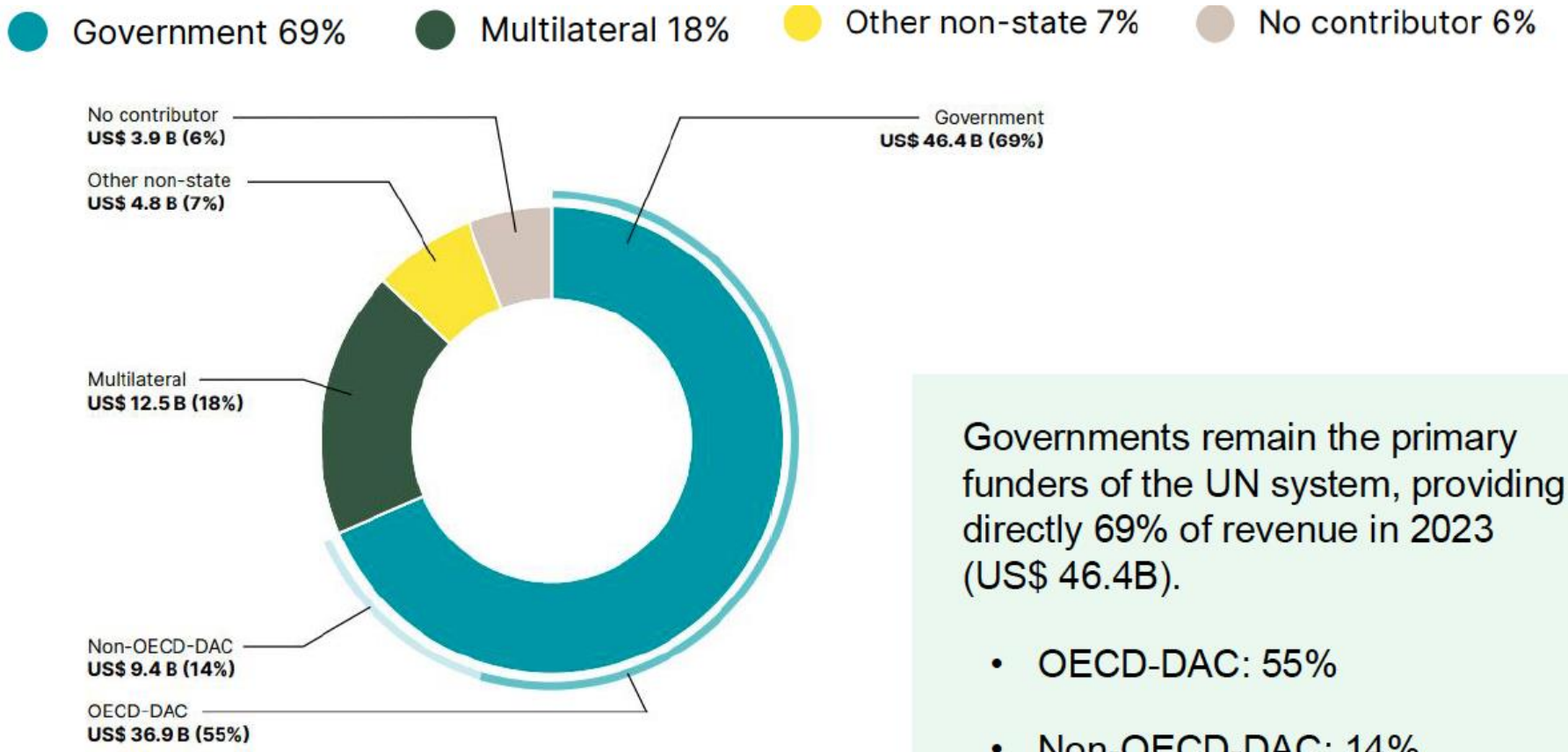
Funding Sources for the UN System, 2023



Governments remain the primary funders of the UN system, providing directly 69% of revenue in 2023 (US$ 46.4B).

- OECD-DAC: 55%
- Non-OECD-DAC: 14%

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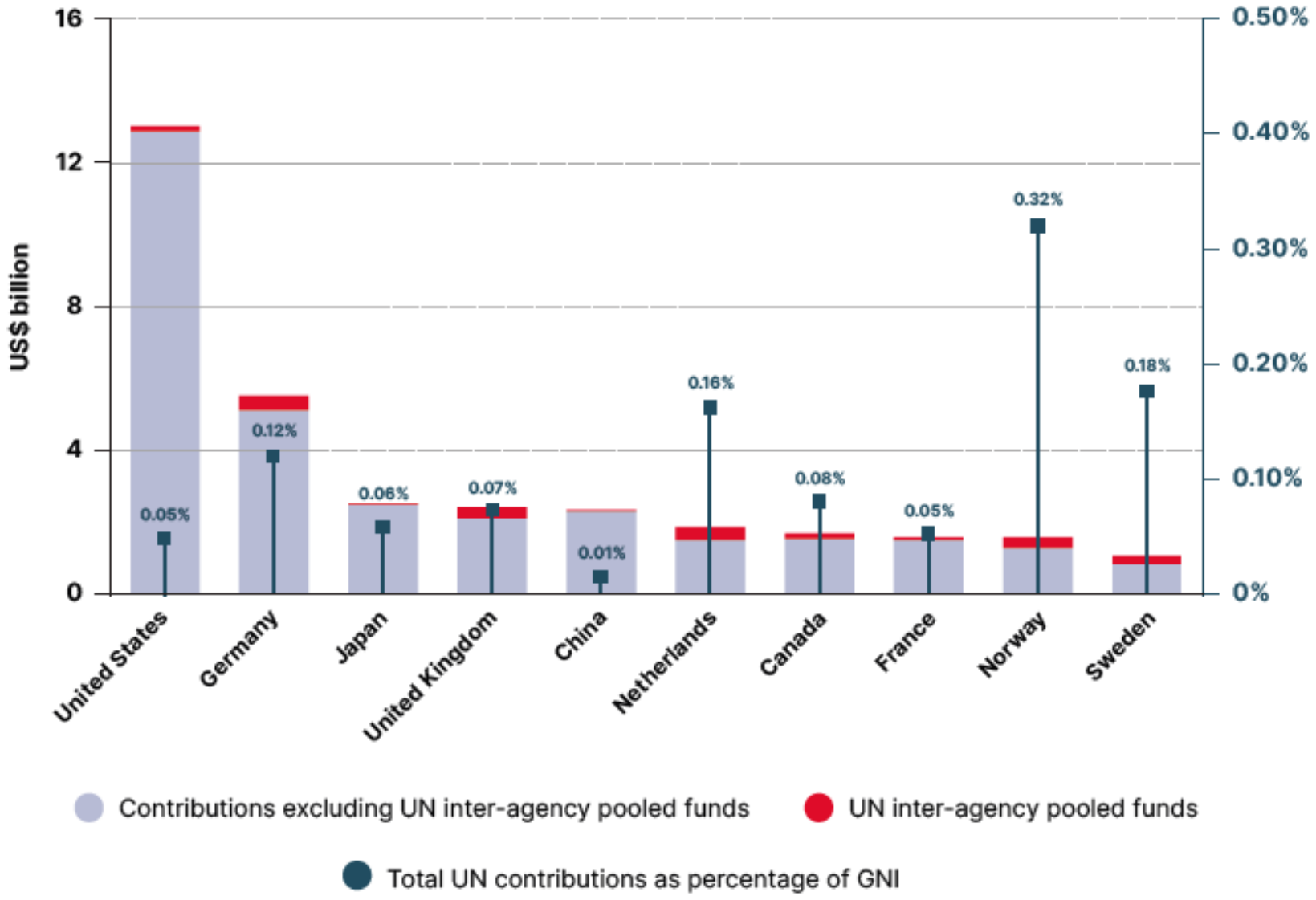
Top Member State contributors to the UN system, 2023



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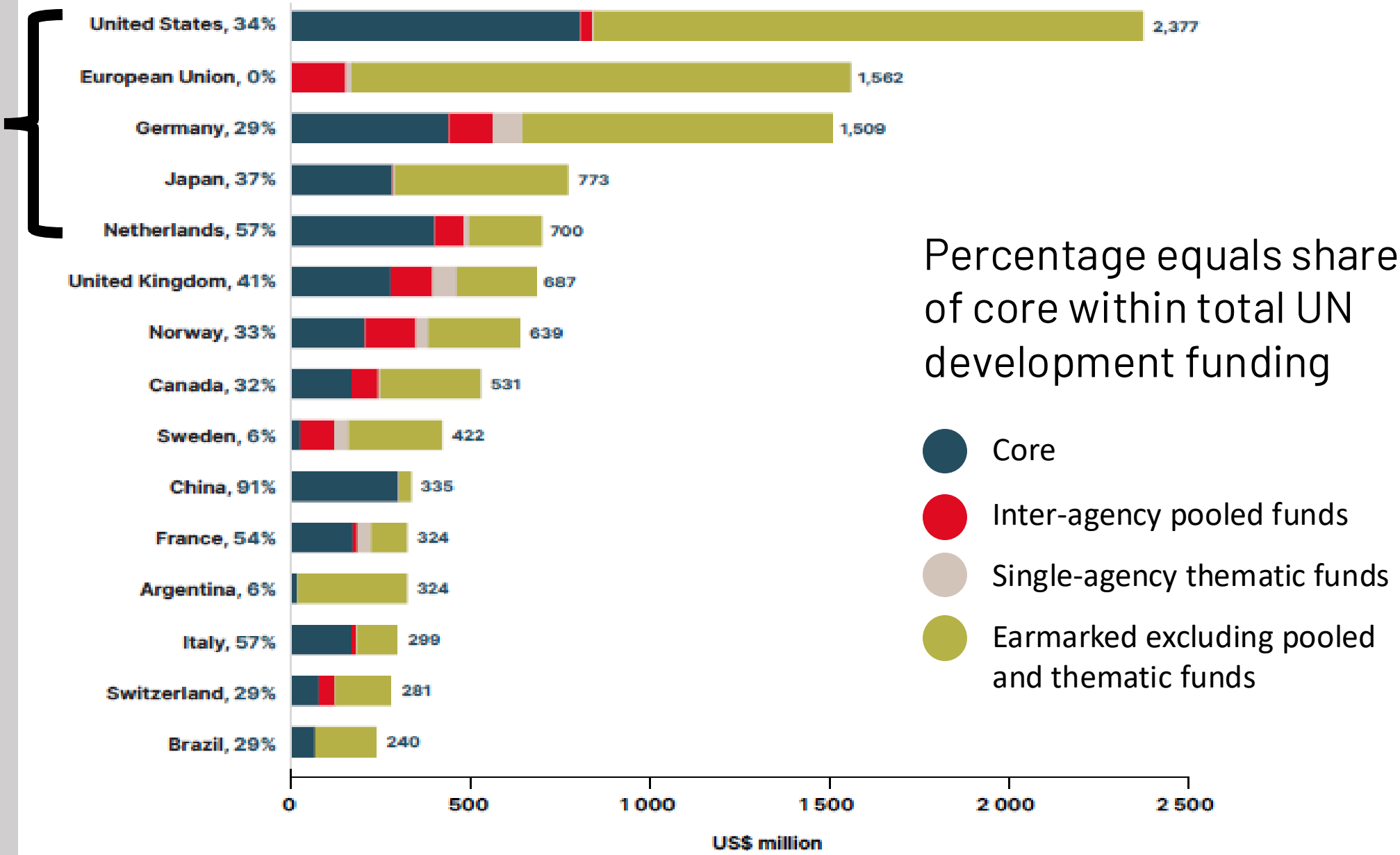
Top contributors for UN development assistance 2023 (USD mln)

Top 5
37%



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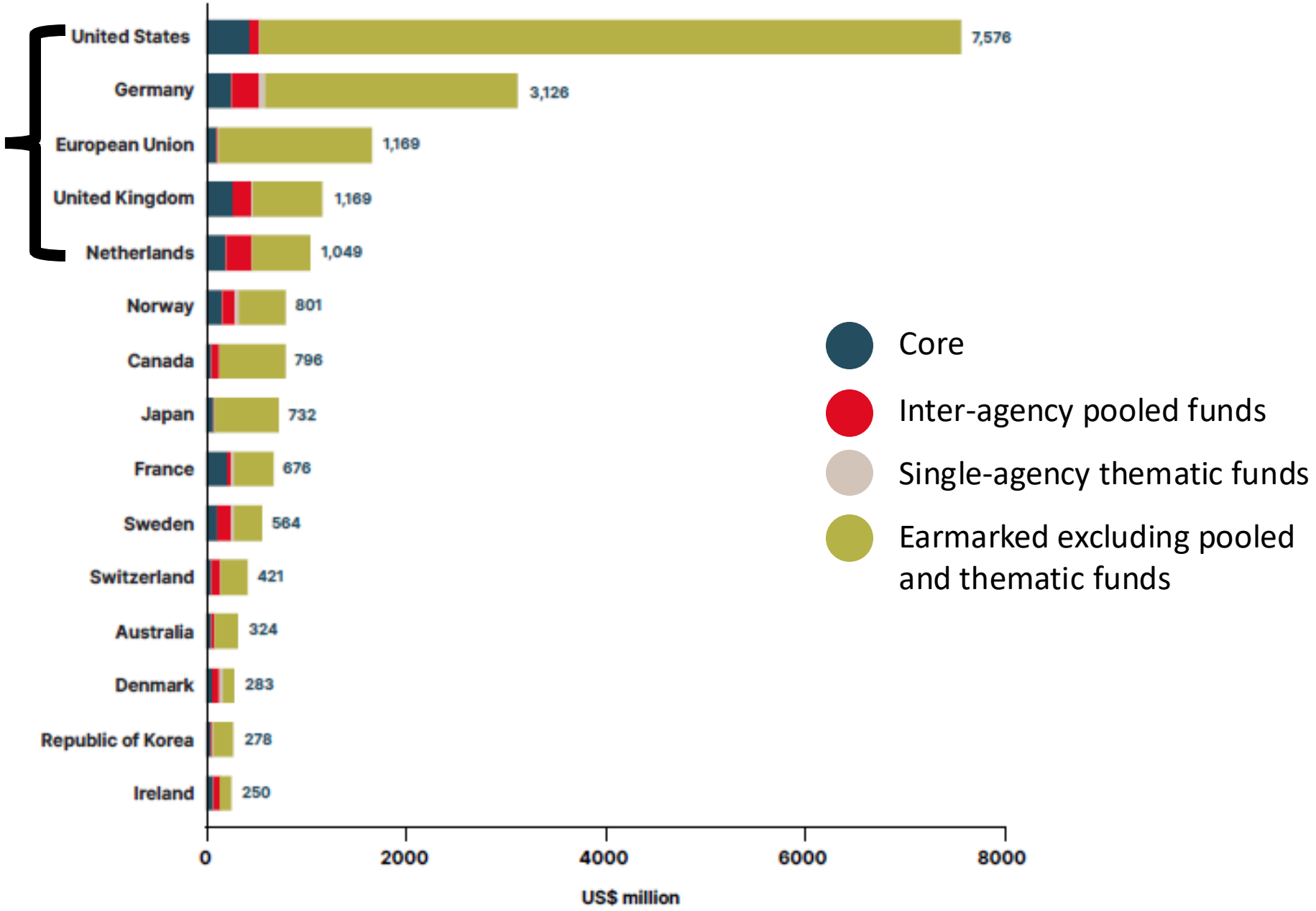
Top contributors for UN humanitarian assistance 2023 (USD mln)

Top 5
54%



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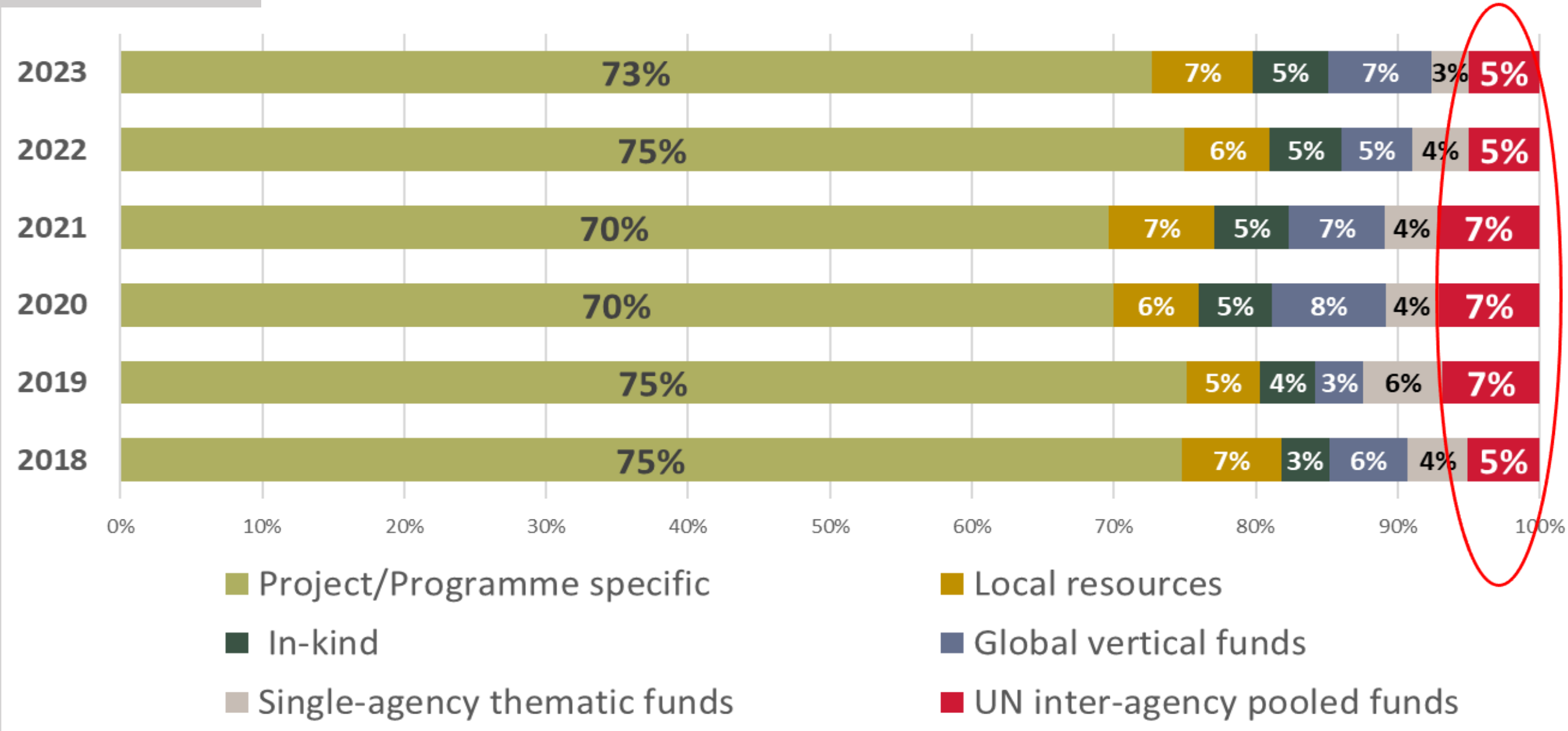
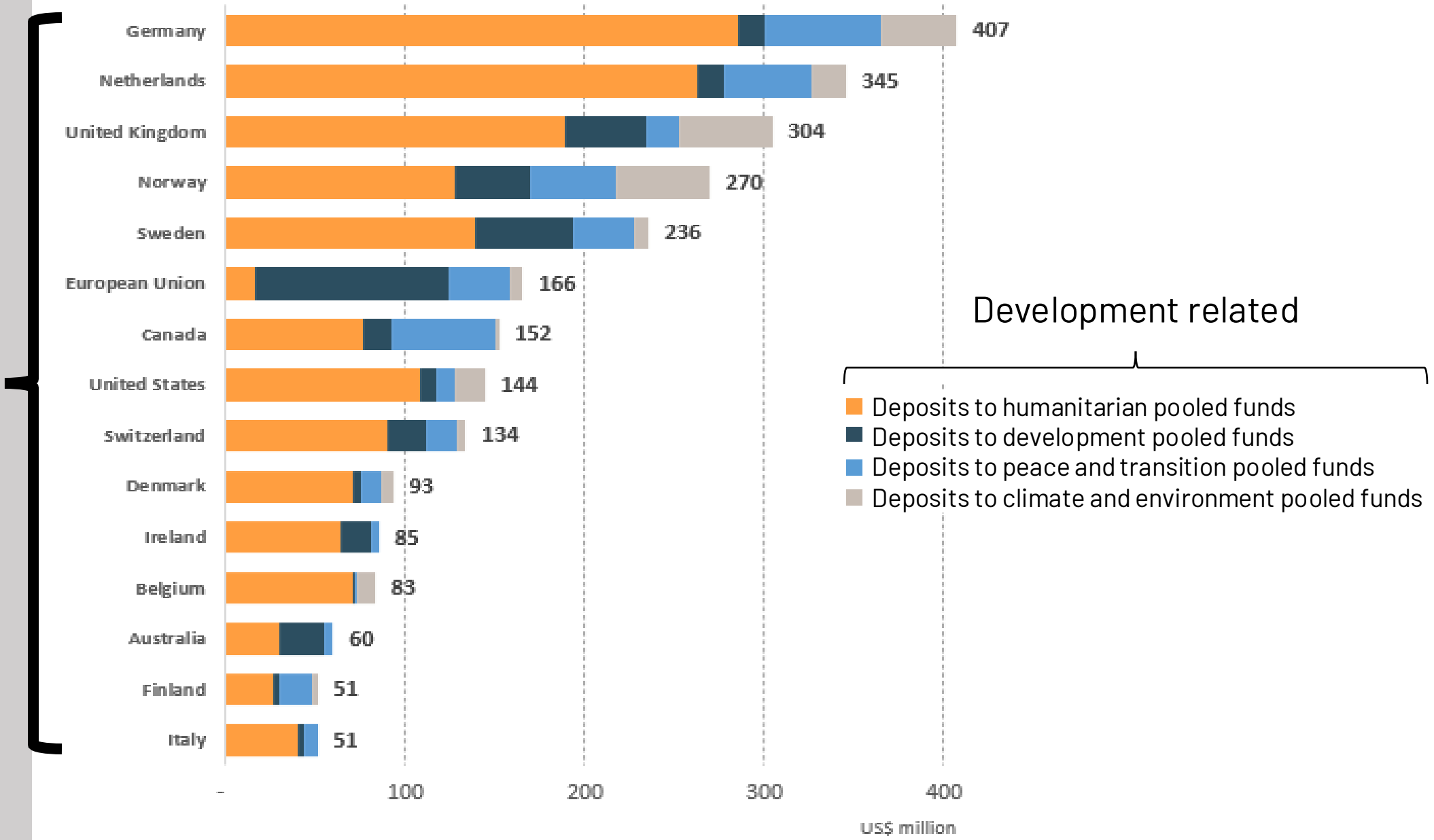
UN System earmarked contributions 2018 – 2023



Top 15 contributors to inter-agency pooled funds, 2023

Top 15
80%



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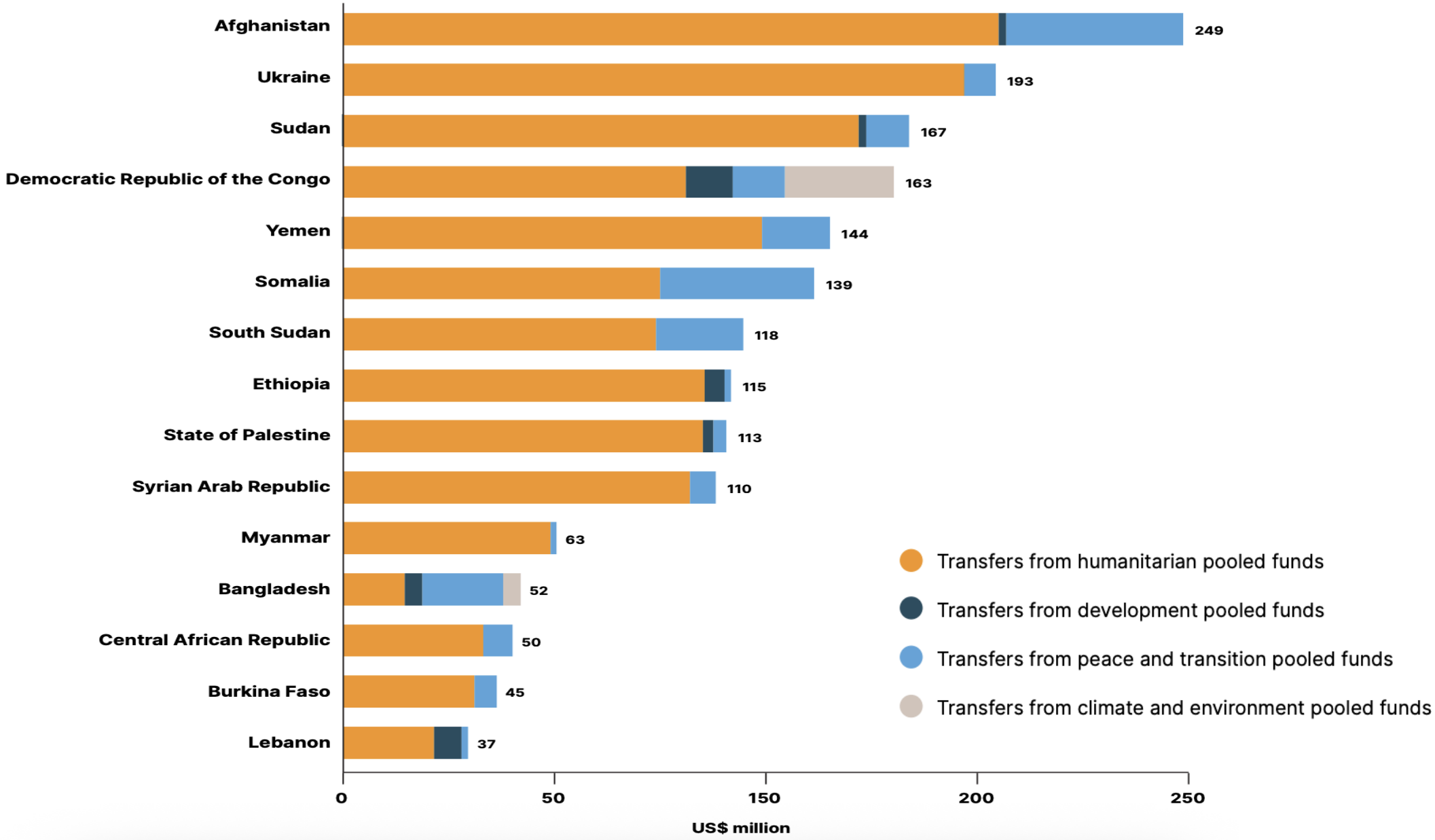
Top recipients of UN inter-agency pooled funds



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UN Funding Compact

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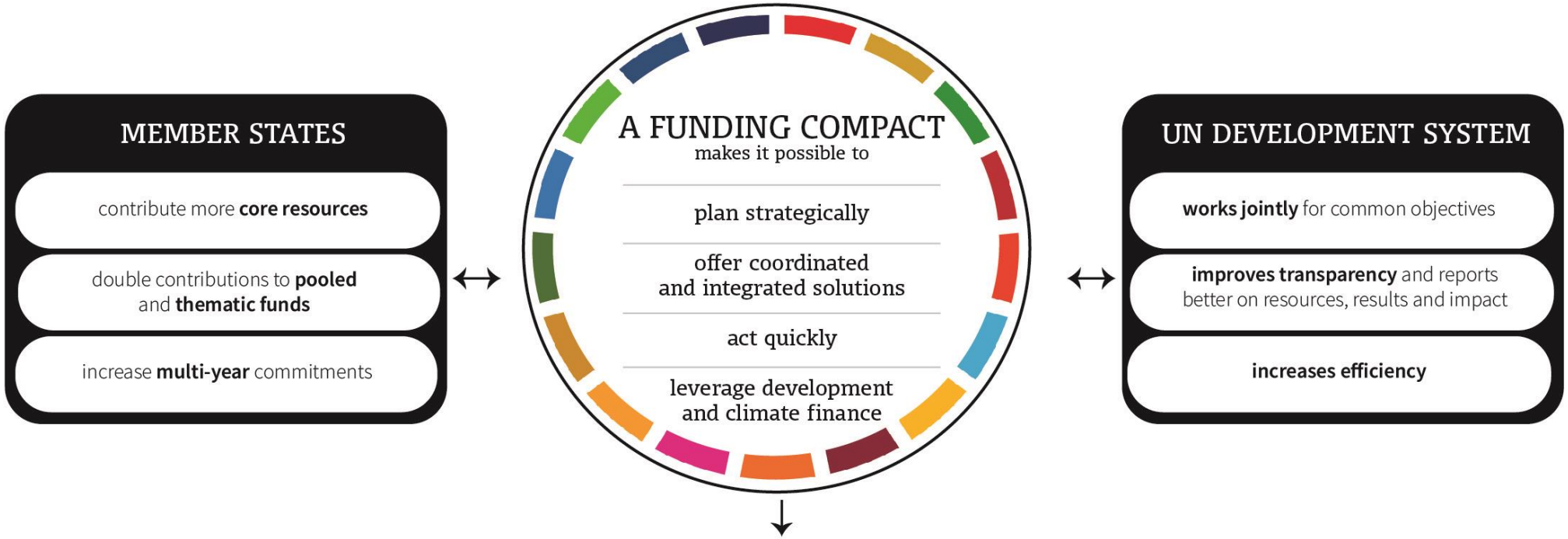
Why a Funding Compact?

A partnership to deliver better results on the ground



strengthened trust of governments and general public in **multilaterlism**

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FC ambitious targets for MS

- **Voluntary core** as a share of total voluntary funding for operational activities for development from Member States:

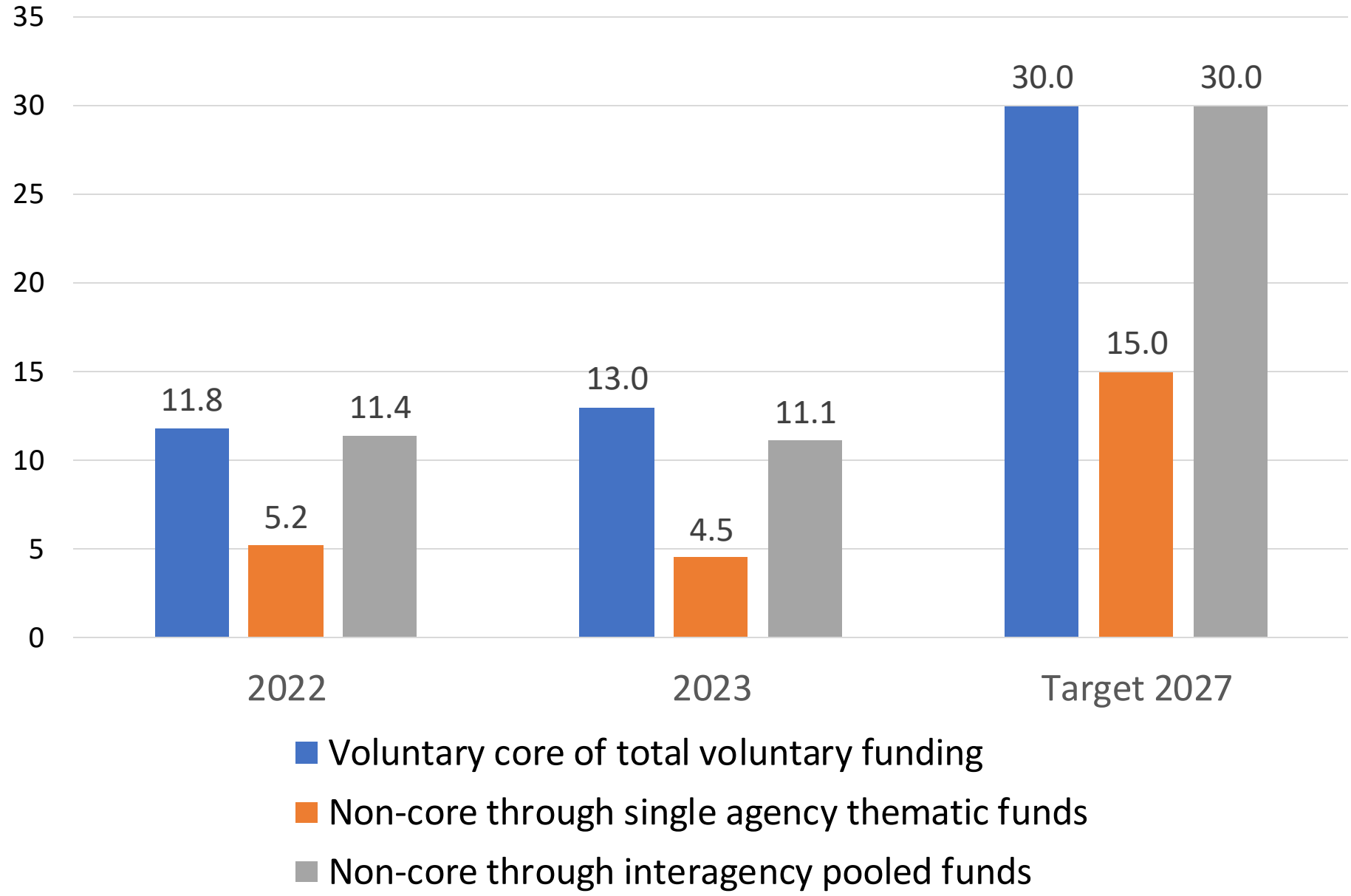
  2022 baseline: 11.8% *2027 target: 30%*

- % of non-core contributions for development activities, from Member States, provided through **single-agency thematic funds**:
- *2022 baseline: 5.2%* *2027 target: 15%*

- % of non-core contributions for development activities, from Member States, provided through **interagency pooled funds**
- *2022 baseline: 11.4%* *2027 target: 30%*

- **Joint SDG Fund**: from $56 ml in 2023 to $500 ml annual target in 2027
- **Peacebuilding Fund:** from $132 ml in 2023 to $500 ml annual target in 2027
- **Country-level MPTFs** to support CFs: from $325 ml in 2023 $800 ml annual target in 2027

MS contributions through various channels (%)



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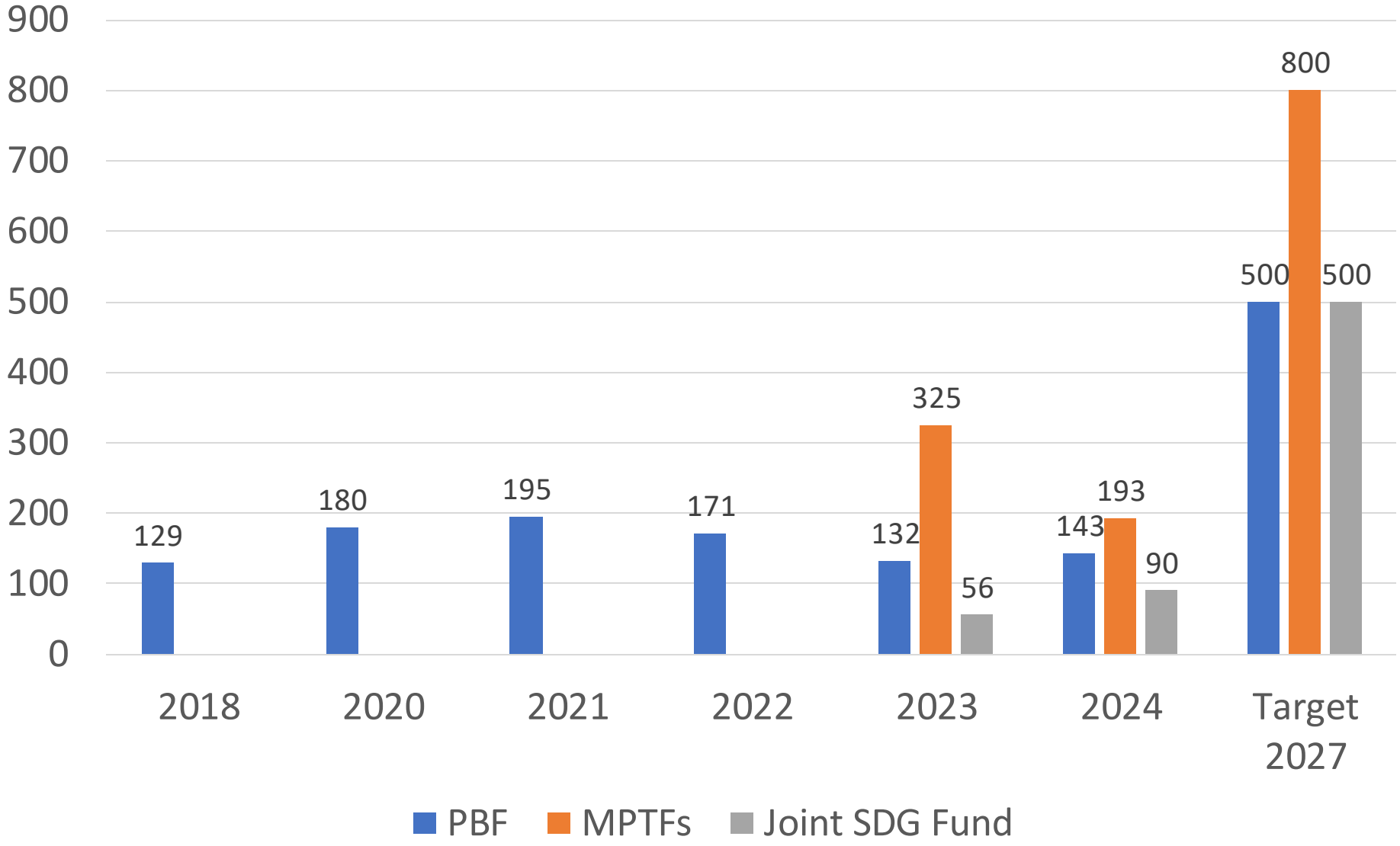
MS contributions to PBF, MPTFs, Joint SDG Fund (USD ml)



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Funding Compact in practice research: reflections and lessons

- Timeline 2024-2025
- Interviews with over 70 colleagues from the UN agencies, RCOs, IFIs, governments and Member States
- 19 countries* representing all regions

*Countries included into the sample at this stage of the assessment were: Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Chile, Brazil, Uruguay, Rwanda, Gambia, South Africa, Somalia, Liberia, Kenya, Cabo Verde, Moldova and Montenegro
Upcoming data from: Afganistan, PNG, Indonesia, Sri Lanka (2025)

Why do donors still earmark hard?

Donor visibility and access are typical reasons for hard earmarking, which could be addressed by core

UN need to improve reporting and engagement on pooled funding and thematic funding

The idea to ‘safeguard’ certain prioritised themes by donors, can be addressed by soft earmarking

Going beyond traditional donors

Generating core, flexible funding for effective work on non-state fundraising

Context specific early engagement, scaling up and innovations to engage private sector

Engaging and adjusting to non-OECD DAC donors

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Key takeaways

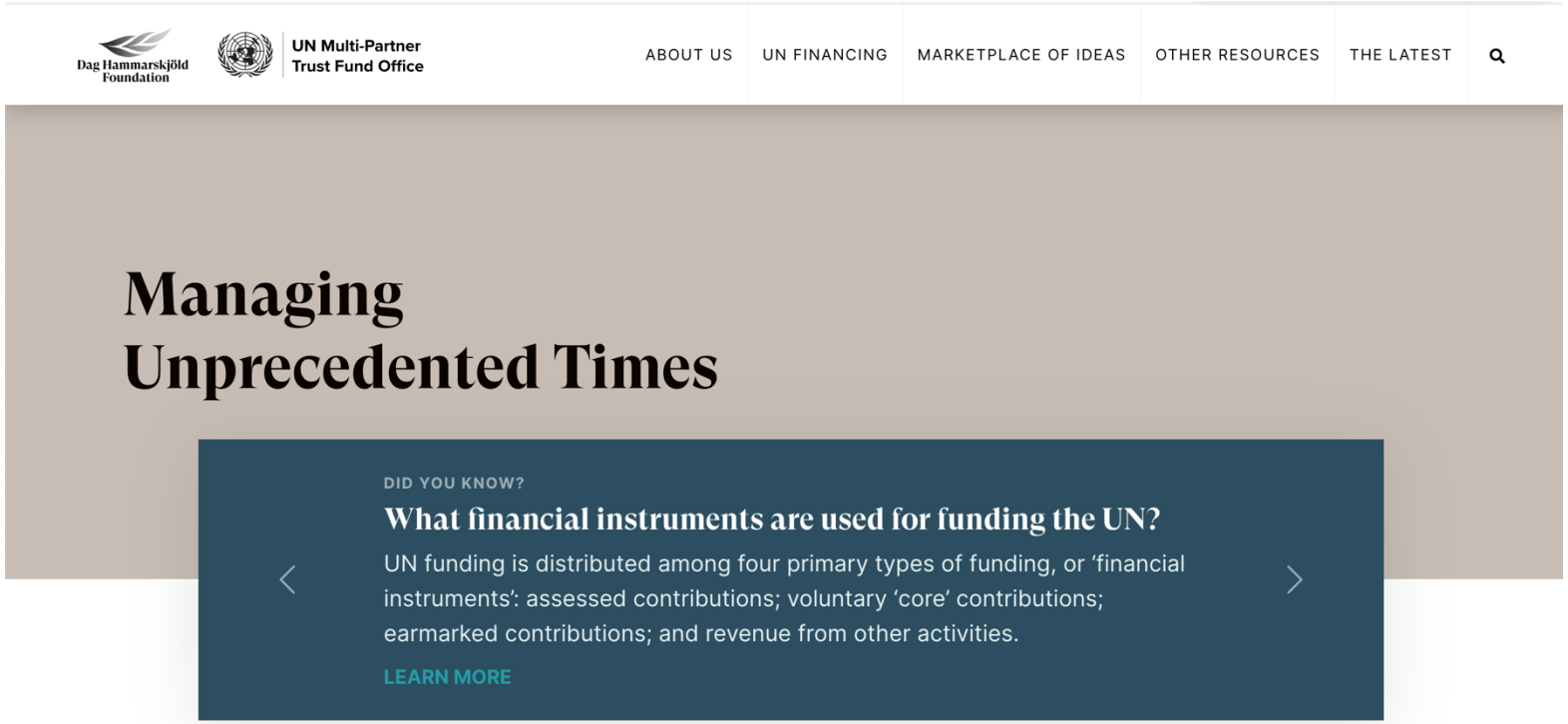
1. Increasing needs in the world for both development and humanitarian assistance

2. Decreasing funding and total resources to meet global challenges, including at the UN

3. Insufficient quality funding for the UN

4. Also, the trends on quality funding are going in the wrong direction (on 2 of the 3 indicators in the Funding Compact)

Visit the interactive site financingun.report



- Data visualizations
- Marketplace of ideas, since 2015
- Download figures, tables and data
- Access to other resources

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Thank you!

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