

Notice
External transactions

Development aid

In the field of development aid, the German government and other donors make sizeable payments to domestic and foreign recipients. Both the KfW Bankengruppe and the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) are involved to a large extent in the allocation of contracts and financing of services provided by German companies in developing countries (eg construction and engineering).

The Bundesbank is obligated to record all external transactions fully and accurately in the balance of payments. In addition, the development aid provided by Germany is to be shown at the international level and in comparison with other countries and financiers. The Bundesbank therefore requires precise information on the payments provided and transactions conducted.

Like all other domestic agencies, firms active in development aid are obliged to report their cross-border services and transactions to the balance of payments statistics (pursuant to section 59 et seq of the Foreign Trade and Payments Regulation). Accordingly, firms are also obliged to report incoming payments for engineering and other work performed for foreign receipts irrespective of whether the payments are received directly from non-residents or from the German government, the KfW, the GIZ or other domestic agencies.

In general, the amount, the type of payment and the recipient country for which the payment is being made are to be reported. Form Z4 should be used for this purpose. Individual figures relating to individual organisations are kept confidential; only aggregated data are published in the balance of payments.

Contact

Further information may be obtained from the Deutsche Bundesbank, Service Centre 'Außenwirtschaftsstatistik', 55148 Mainz, as well as from the Balance of Payments Statistics Division, International Investment Position, PO Box 30 09, 55020 Mainz, Germany.

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Newsletter (available in German only): registration on the website under "Meldewesen→Newsletter" (category: Außenwirtschaft)