

Context and background information

To achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is imperative to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of development spending from both the public and the private sectors. In 2018, after the successful launch of several impact bonds in emerging markets and developing countries, a group of over 20 donors and major international agencies agreed to establish a working group to help governments and donors use impact bonds and other outcomes-based financing (OBF) tools more effectively.

Since 2018, the community has grown to encompass over 100 leaders representing donors, development agencies, domestic governments, investors, implementers and knowledge partners. In addition, the community's scope has expanded to reflect OBF as a spectrum of flexible tools and funding approaches: impact bonds being just one of the approaches. As a result, what was known as the Impact Bonds Working Group (IBWG) became the Outcomes Finance Alliance (OFA) in 2024.

About the Outcomes Finance Alliance

The Outcomes Finance Alliance is a global forum for organizations interested in enhancing development effectiveness and impact through outcomes-based financing. It builds on the experiences of the IBWG and serves as the global hub for knowledge, expertise and collaboration for organizations at the forefront of the evolution of OBF.

Since 2018, OFA members have worked collaboratively to mainstream OBF approaches and move the market toward maturity. One key initiative was the launching of the **Outcomes Accelerator** in 2022, which provides design funding and support to launch OBF projects. Another important initiative is the joint work with the **OECD** to develop global guidance on OBF.

Our objective

To design and test strategies to make outcomes-based instruments a more mainstreamed practice for development agencies and governments to deliver on the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Our community

The OFA is a forum focused on outcome-funding organizations (donors, aid agencies, DFIs, and governments), and is supported by industry-wide collaboration, including research institutions, investors, service delivery organizations, specialized market support providers, advisory firms and evaluators. The OFA is led by donors (SECO, FCDO and the UBS Optimus Foundation), with Levoca serving as the technical secretariat.



Our activities



Identifying barriers and solutions



Community building



Developing and testing strategy options



Commissioning research and knowledge sharing



Identifying potential areas for collaboration

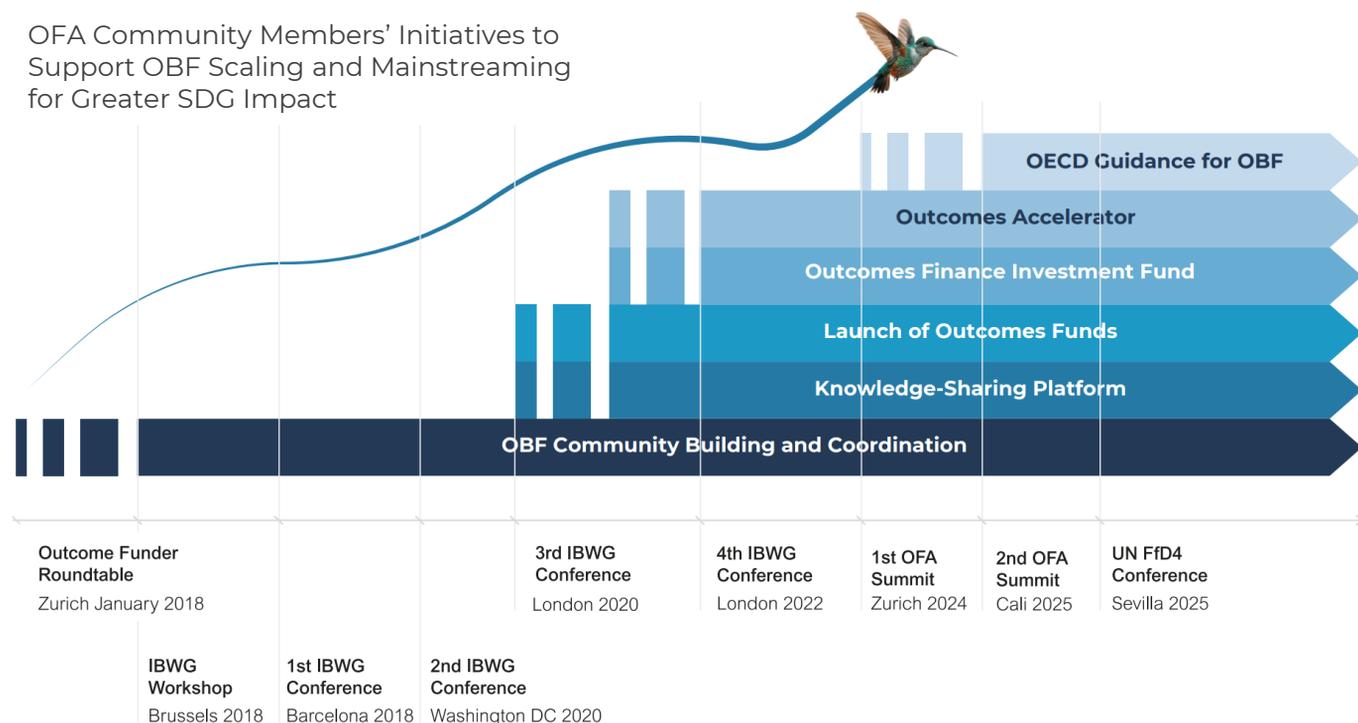


Communicating progress to the market

Our Initiatives

Since 2018, OFA members have been working to accelerate the market’s capacity to deploy outcomes funding cost-effectively and at scale. OFA-member initiatives have served as a catalyst to move the OBF market toward maturity by targeting the most serious barriers to scale, which were defined by outcome funding agencies and refined over various rounds of market consultations.

OFA Community Members’ Initiatives to Support OBF Scaling and Mainstreaming for Greater SDG Impact



OFA at the UN’s FfD4 Conference, Sevilla (Spain)

The OFA’s High-Level Public-Private Roundtable Side Event at FfD4 on Accelerating SDG Impact through OBF will highlight how the strategic use of OBF can be leveraged as a key tool to advance the FfD4 agenda; and how the joint initiatives of OFA community members are supporting the scaling and mainstreaming of OBF, so that it can be used at its fullest potential in and beyond FfD4. These initiatives build on OFA members’ experience targeting OBF market growth barriers since 2018, and some, such as the Scaling of the Outcomes Accelerator and the Outcomes Finance Alliance, and the launch of OECD Guidance on OBF, are now part of the Sevilla Platform for Action.

OFA Governing Committee

UBS Optimus Foundation



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Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
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Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

OFA Secretariat



Contact information

outcomesaccelerator@Levoca.org
www.outcomesaccelerator.org