**What You Need to Know about SDRs**

*Selected Highlights*

The USD 650 Billion SDR Allocation comes into Effect

**What is an SDR?**

The value of an SDR is based on a basket of the world’s five leading currencies. It is an accounting unit for IMF transactions with member countries and a stable asset in countries’ international reserves.

**Quota Shares**

Quota Shares play many roles at the IMF, including in the 2021 SDR Allocation.

**Resource Contributions**

Quotas determine the maximum amount of financial resources a member is obliged to provide to the IMF.

**Voting Power**

Quotas are a key determinant of the voting power in IMF decisions. Votes comprise one vote per SDR100,000 of quota plus basic votes (same for all members).

**Access to Financing**

Quotas determine the maximum amount of financing a member can obtain from the IMF under normal access.

**SDR Allocations**

Quotas determine a member’s share in a general allocation of SDRs.
The Articles of Agreement determine that under certain conditions the IMF may allocate SDRs to members participating in the SDR Department (currently all members of the IMF). The 2021 SDR allocation (effective August 23, 2021) is the largest in the history of the IMF.

For more information on the IMF’s SDRs, please visit the IMF’s SDR Webpage

IMF POLICY AND RESEARCH

2021 SDR Allocation:
Guidance Note for Fund Staff on the Treatment and Use of SDR Allocations
Proposal for a General Allocation of Special Drawing Rights
Allocation of Special Drawing Rights for the Eleventh Basic Period: Draft Executive Board Decision and Managing Director Report to the Board of Governors
IMF Special Drawing Rights Presentation

Other:
Considerations on the Role of the SDR (2018)
Staff Note for the G20 - The Role of the SDR - Initial Considerations (2016)
Is SDR Creation Inflationary? (2011)
SDR Interest Rate Calculation (time series)

EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTIVITIES

The IMF Executive Board Approved the Proposal for a New General SDR Allocation Equivalent to US$650 billion