Saudi Arabia, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief)

OVERVIEW

Saudi Arabia established the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KSRelief) in 2015. KSRelief works in 46 countries around the world with a focus on humanitarian and relief work in the Middle East and North Africa regions. Saudi Arabia donor entities report to the OECD DAC Creditor Reporting System. KSRelief is currently listed as an IATI publisher and started publishing to the Registry in November 2019.

2020 FAIR

Organisational planning and commitments
5 / 15

Finance and budgets
8.3 / 25

Project attributes
11.2 / 20

Joining-up development data
14.2 / 20

Performance
0 / 20

ANALYSIS

2020 was the first year that KS Relief was assessed for the Aid Transparency Index. For 2022 it moved down one ranking from the 'fair' to the 'poor' category and continued to publish to the IATI Registry on a quarterly basis.

KSRelief decreased its transparency this year for lower performance and project attributes components data although it did make some small disclosure improvements to its organisational documentation.

KSRelief has not yet created an organisational file. As in 2020 we found some organisational planning documents instead on its website including an annual report and a procurement policy. KSRelief should look to provide accessible strategy, allocation and audit documents. It made improvements to its web-portal where disaggregated activity information was publicly available for bulk download this year.

KSRelief did marginally well in the joining-up development data component by providing basic information such as aid, flow and finance types and disclosing implementer organisation names across over 95% of its activities. However, it did not make further details such as procurement information and conditions available.

We found several project level data sets on the IATI Registry that included dates, descriptions, and titles for project attributes. Most notably it improved its description data, however it still did not make sub-national locations available and did not always make contact details available.

KSRelief only published finance and budgets information disclosing commitments, disbursements and expenditures and annual project budgets, to the IATI Registry. This year it published only two year forward-looking project budgets and its commitments data was found in an accessible format on its website. We still could not find total organisational or disaggregated project budgets in other formats.

For performance, KSRelief decreased its score as its objectives data, published to the IATI Registry, did not pass our quality checks this year. For objectives, we look for what the activity intends to achieve, the intended outcomes of the activity and a description of the target group(s). We could not find any other performance information in other data formats.
RECOMMENDATIONS

- KSRelief should maintain or increase its frequency of publication and look to publish the full portfolio of its activities rather than just a sub-set.
- KSRelief should publish its organisational documents in an organisational file to the IATI Registry.
- It should improve its publication of financial information, focusing on the total organisational budgets, including country disaggregation.
- It should improve the data available for its activity objectives and should provide some basic results either on its updated web portal or through the IATI Standard.
- It should work with other Saudi aid entities to share learning on increasing transparency.

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Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 5 / 15

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at the overall aims and strategy of an organisation. We check for any public commitments to aid transparency. We also make sure audits are published and if planning documents have been published, including by parent organisations (including national governments) where applicable. We make note of any Freedom of Information laws and critically, we make sure that organisations have tried to make their information easy to access and understand. You should not have to be an expert in open data to be able to find and use this information.
Finance and budgets
Score: 8.3 / 25

ABOUT COMPONENT
This component is critical to allow you and anyone else to follow the money. We expect to find the total budget of the organisation being assessed, right down to individual transactions for each development activity. In particular, forward-looking budgets from donors are important for partner country governments to be able to plan their own future finances.

Project attributes
Score: 11.2 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT
This component refers to descriptive, non-financial data, including basics like the title and description of a project. Information like this is important as it is often the entry point for data users to quickly understand what a project is about. We also look for other information that helps to put a project in context, such as its sub-national location or the sector that the project deals with, for example, education or agriculture.
Joining-up development data

Score: 14.2 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at how well an organisation's data is able to be linked and connected with other bits of information. There is a diverse nature of flows, activities and actors within the development sector. Aid and development finance data needs to be effectively linked and connected with the rest to provide a full picture for the user. This can be particularly important for partner country governments, which need to integrate information on aid with their own budgets and systems.

Performance

Score: 0 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component refers to the essential data and documents that assess whether a project is on track or has been achieved. This includes things like baseline surveys, progress against targets, mid-term reviews and end of project evaluations. This information is important to hold aid organisations to account and also to share knowledge with others on what worked and what did not during a project.