Spain, Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)

OVERVIEW

The Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID) is the executive body for Spanish development cooperation. It works in over 30 countries around the world. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MAEC) oversees Spain-AECID. Spain-AECID is not an IATI member but has published IATI data since November 2011.

2020 FAIR
2018 POOR
2016 FAIR
2015 FAIR
2014 FAIR
2013 VERY POOR

ANALYSIS

Spain-AECID had the second highest drop in points in the 2022 Index, losing 16 points compared with 2022. Although it remains in the ‘fair’ category, it now ranks at the bottom of this category.

Spain’s publication frequency also fell, from monthly to quarterly and it dropped its score across all four components demonstrating decreasing commitment to transparency in comparison to 2020.

Spain-AECID’s lost most points for finance and budgets where it stopped publishing total and disaggregated organisation budgets as well as far fewer project budgets, with only four percent of IATI activities disclosing total budgets. It did however continue to publish disbursements and commitments data.

Spain-AECID also scored below average for the organisational planning component with many of its organisational documents such as the annual report and strategy documents failing for being out of date. Its country strategy documentation was not scored due to broken links making them inaccessible. It also lost points for the accessibility indicator because data on its aid portal was out of date.

Its scores for the joining-up development data component remained similar as it continues to publish data to the IATI Registry on aid, financial and flow types, as well as tied aid status across 100% of its activities. However, it should start publishing procurement data to the IATI Registry, as we found these were available in other formats online.

AECID’s scores for the project attributes component also decreased as it stopped publishing dates, locations and conditions, although it still publishes titles and sector information across nearly 100% of its activities. It should also improve the publication of description information which was only available across 67% of activities.

As in 2020, AECID did not score any points for the performance component because we did not find any performance-related documents in its IATI data nor was this information consistently available in other formats.
RECOMMENDATIONS

- AECID should re-commit to transparency by publishing regular and current organisational files, such as its annual report and country strategy documents, to the IATI Registry.
- It should increase its publication frequency for its IATI activity data to monthly, as was the case previously.
- AECID should keep its aid data portal up to date with project-level data.
- It should publish descriptions for all its activities in its IATI data.
- AECID should publish forward-looking financial information including organisation and activity budgets.
- It should start publishing data and documents on its performance, from objectives to results and evaluations.

DEEP DIVE

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: 9.3 / 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: 10.8 / 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: 16.1 / 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.

Flow type: Score 2.85
Aid type: Score 2.85
Finance type: Score 2.85
Tied aid status: Score 2.85
Networked Data - Implementors: Score 3.17
Networked Data - Participating Orgs: Score 0
Project procurement: Score 1.5

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.

Objectives: Score 0
Pre-project impact appraisals: Score 0
Reviews and evaluations: Score 0
Results: Score 0