Asian Development Bank (AsDB) – Non-Sovereign Portfolio

AsDB - Non-Sov. (82.3)
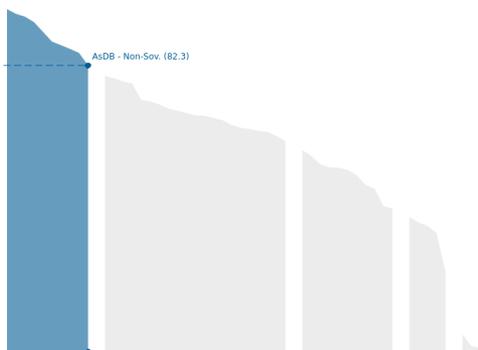
SCORE:	POSITION:	2022
82.3	10/50	VERY GOOD

OVERVIEW

The Asian Development Bank (AsDB) promotes resilience and sustainability across the Asia-Pacific region. Its non-sovereign portfolio provides non-concessional and concessional loans, equity investments, loan guarantees, grants, and technical assistance to the private sector in lower and middle-income countries. AsDB is not an IATI member but publishes to the IATI Standard. Its first publication was in November 2011.

Organisational planning and commitments
13.4 / 15

Finance and budgets
17.5 / 25

Project attributes
16.5 / 20

Joining-up development data
17 / 20

Performance
18 / 20

ANALYSIS

AsDB - Non-Sovereign Portfolio ranks tenth in the 2022 Aid Transparency Index, in comparison to its sovereign operations, which ranked fourth. The non-sovereign portfolio was assessed separately in the 2022 Index for the first time and enters the Index at the bottom of the 'very good' category.

AsDB's non-sovereign portfolio published most of its data to the IATI Registry, with 78% of the Index indicators being assessed in the IATI format. Its non-sovereign portfolio publishes to the IATI Registry on a monthly basis.

Its best scoring component was performance, ranking in the top five donors for these indicators. It published all indicators in the IATI Registry, gaining full points for objectives, and reviews and evaluations and scoring well for publishing pre-project impact appraisals. It performed well on results documents but failed data quality tests for results data as actual results were not available.

AsDB's non-sovereign portfolio performed well for the quality of its IATI data in the organisational planning and commitments component. It only lost points for the quality of FOI legislation, accessibility, and country strategies. Its FOI legislation does not apply an objective harm test to confidentiality of third-party information provided, while for accessibility bulk downloads are in raw IATI XML format. Up to date strategies were not available for all countries.

It also scored well for joining-up development data. It scored full points for aid type, flow type, finance type, tied aid status, and networked data implementer indicators. However, it didn't disclose any IATI data for the remaining indicators: contracts and tenders. These were not found in other formats either.

AsDB published data for all the project attributes indicators for its non-sovereign operations. The conditions indicator, however, failed data quality checks as there was no statement making clear why project conditions were not included.

AsDB's non-sovereign portfolio scored well for the finance and budgets component including budget alignment, commitments, disbursements, project budgets, and organisational budget. It published an organisational budget that was three years forward-looking. The project budget documents indicator failed quality checks as many included redacted information. It did not disclose disaggregated budgets in the IATI Registry. Neither was found in another format. AsDB was the only DFI assessed in the Index to publish disbursement data for its non-sovereign operations.

- AsDB - Non-Sovereign Portfolio should improve the quality of its results data ensuring that actual results are published to the IATI Registry in a timely and consistent manner.
- It should review the exceptions articles in its access to information policy and include an objective harm test for confidentiality of information provided by third parties.
- AsDB - Non-Sovereign Portfolio should ensure the timely publication of country strategies to the IATI Registry.
- It should improve the accessibility of its project data by allowing bulk downloads from its portals to help promote access and use of its aid information.
- AsDB should improve the transparency of its procurement data by starting to publish contracts and tenders in the IATI Registry where possible.
- It should improve the publication of basic financial information in the IATI standard including project budget documents and disaggregated budgets.

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Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 13.4 / 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.

Quality of FOI legislation — Score: 1.25

Accessibility — Score: 1.25

Organisation strategy — Score: 1.87

Annual report — Score: 1.87

Allocation policy — Score: 1.87

Procurement policy — Score: 1.87

Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding — Score: 1.5

Audit — Score: 1.87
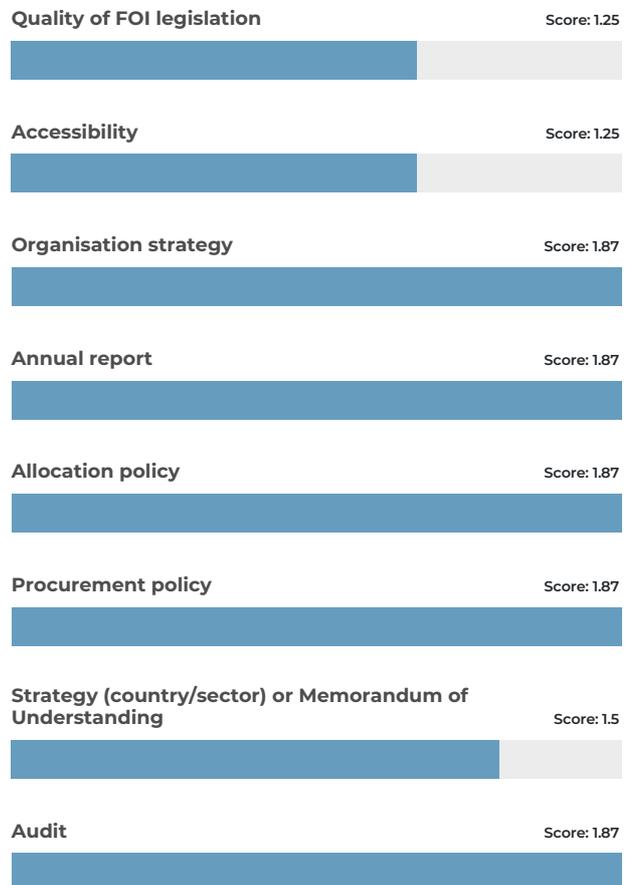
Finance and budgets

Score: 17.5 / 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.

Total organisation budget	Score: 4.17
Disaggregated budget	Score: 0
Project budget	Score: 3.33
Project budget document	Score: 0
Commitments	Score: 3.33
Disbursements and expenditures	Score: 3.33
Budget Alignment	Score: 3.33
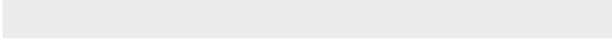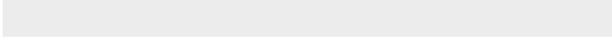
Project attributes

Score: 16.5 / 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.

Title	Score: 1
Description	Score: 3
Planned dates	Score: 1
Actual dates	Score: 1
Current status	Score: 1
Contact details	Score: 1
Sectors	Score: 2.5
Sub-national location	Score: 3.47
Conditions	Score: 0
Unique ID	Score: 2.5
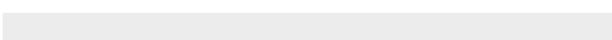
Joining-up development data

Score: 17 / 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: 3

Aid type — Score: 3

Finance type — Score: 3

Tied aid status — Score: 3

Networked Data - Implementors — Score: 4.95

Networked Data - Participating Orgs — Score: 0
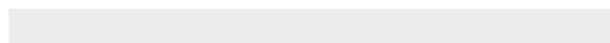
Project procurement — Score: 0
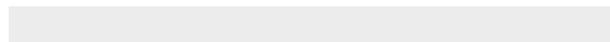
Performance

Score: 18 / 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: 5

Pre-project impact appraisals — Score: 4.79

Reviews and evaluations — Score: 5

Results — Score: 3.23