

Aid Transparency Index 2020

Belgium, Directorate-General Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD)



SCORE:	POSITION:	2020
63.4	24/47	GOOD

OVERVIEW

The Directorate-general for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid (DGD) is responsible for setting Belgium's development policy and allocating its foreign aid. Belgium DGD became an IATI member in 2012 and first published to the IATI Registry in December 2014.

2018	2016	2015	2014	2013
GOOD	FAIR	POOR	VERY POOR	POOR

Organisational planning and commitments 8.4/15

Finance and budgets 17.8/25

Project attributes 15.8/20

Joining-up development data 16.6/20

Performance 4.7/20

ANALYSIS

Belgium DGD has remained in the 'good' category and publishes to the IATI Registry on a monthly basis. Belgium DGD ranked in the middle of the Index, in the lower half of the 'good' category. There were variations between components; some scored well while others not so well.

Belgium DGD performed well in the **joining-up development data** component. It published all indicators apart from contracts and tenders to the IATI Registry. Belgium DGD provided contracts and tenders on publicly available procurement and tenders sites however, it did not score for these indicators since we had difficulty either accessing the site or finding specific project information.

Belgium DGD also scored well against the **project attributes** indicators for having published data for most attributes to the IATI Registry. However, Belgium DGD failed our IATI sampling for the sub-national location indicator because it primarily provided locations at the national level only.

Belgium DGD published data for most of the indicators in the **finance and budgets** component to the IATI Registry, except for its disaggregated budget. Even though we found the disaggregated budget in a different format, we did not award points because Belgium DGD did not disclose forward-looking data. We found the quality of the IATI data to be good for most of the indicators, although did not score budget alignment as highly because the capital spend was not present. Belgium DGD provided project budgets and budget documents but not for all activities, and it did not disaggregate budgets on a quarterly basis.

Belgium DGD performed poorly for **organisational planning and commitments** indicators because it only published its annual report and country/sector strategies to the IATI Registry. Organisation strategy, allocation policy, and procurement policy were all available in different formats, however, we could not find an up-to-date audit.

Belgium DGD also scored poorly for **performance** indicators because it only disclosed its objectives to the IATI Registry. It published some results in other formats but not consistently, and we could not locate pre-project impact appraisals and project-specific evaluations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Belgium DGD should focus on improving the comprehensiveness of its publication. It should
text publishing are project impact approicele and evoluations, ensure that it publishes results

start publishing pre-project impact appraisais and evaluations, ensure that it publishes results for all projects, and provide an up-to-date audit.

- It should also make sure to publish all information to the IATI Registry. Documents for the organisational planning and commitment component that it already discloses in different formats can be provided easily, including its allocation policy, organisation strategy, and procurement policy, by linking these in Belgium DGD's IATI organisation file.
- Belgium DGD can make it easier to search for ODA-related contracts and tenders in its portals as well as by adding these to its IATI activity data.
- It should provide specific sub-national location information at the subnational rather than national level.
- Belgium DGD can improve its budget score on an organisational level by providing a forwardlooking breakdown for its disaggregated budget. It can also improve project-level budget data by ensuring all budget documents are present and that it shows forward-looking breakdowns quarterly and not just annually.

DEEP DIVE

Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 8.4 / 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 in place 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: 0.62
Accessibility	Score: 1.25
Organisation strategy	Score: 0.94
Annual report	Score: 1.88
Allocation policy	Score: 0.94
Procurement policy	Score: 0.94
Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding	Score: 1.88
Audit	Score: 0

Finance and budgets

Score: 17.8 / 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

Disaggregated budget	Score: 0
Durain at hundred	
Project budget	Score: 2.33
Project hudget document	Score: 2 E

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 budget document	SCULE: 2.5
Commitments	Score: 3.31
Disbursements and expenditures	Score: 3.27
Budget Alignment	Score: 2.18
Total organisation budget	Score: 4.17

Project attributes

Score: 15.8 / 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 (rather than simply being pin pointed to a capital city or the centre of a country) or the sector that the project deals with, for example, education or agriculture.



Joining-up development data

Score: 16.6 / 20

ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at how well a donor'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, who need to integrate information on aid with their own budgets and systems.

Flow type	Score: 3.33
Aid type	Score: 3.31
Finance type	Score: 3.32
Tied aid status	Score: 3.33
Conditions	Score: 3.33
Project procurement	Score: 0

Performance

Score: 4.7 / 20

ABOUT COMPONEN

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 donors to account and also to share knowledge with others on what worked and what did not during a project.

Objectives	Score: 4.75
Pre-project impact appraisals	Score: 0
Reviews and evaluations	Score: 0
Results	Score: 0

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