

Aid Transparency Index 2020

European Commission, Directorate-General Development and Cooperation (DEVCO)



| SCORE: | POSITION: | 2020 |
|--------|-----------|------|
| 76.5 | 16/47 | GOOD |

OVERVIEW

The Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (EC-DEVCO) is responsible for formulating European Commission (EC) development policy and implementing European Union development cooperation worldwide. EC-DEVCO manages a number of financing instruments, most notably the Development Cooperation Instrument and the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights. The EC became an IATI member in 2008. EC-DEVCO began publishing to IATI in October 2011 and convenes an internal EC working group on improving IATI publication.

| 2018 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | GOOD | FAIR |

Organisational planning and commitments 12.8/15

Finance and budgets 22.1/25

Project attributes 19/20

Joining-up development data 17.6/20

Performance 5.1/20

ANALYSIS

EC-DEVCO improved its score by ten points since the 2018 Index, moving it into the top five donors in the 'good' category. It continued to publish to the IATI Registry on a monthly basis.

EC-DEVCO published data for all indicators from the **project attributes** component to the IATI Registry. However, sub-national location was the lowest-scoring indicator within this component due to the location narrative failing our data quality checks because they only provided national-level locations.

EC-DEVCO also performed well on the majority of the **joining-up development data** indicators including aid type, flow type, finance type, and tied aid status. However, EC-DEVCO did not make contracts available in the IATI Standard and instead used another format. In addition, we only found tender data for less than 40 percent of IATI activities.

EC-DEVCO only made project budgets and budget documentation available for less than 50 percent and 3 percent, respectively, of all IATI activities. It published IATI data for all other indicators of **the finance and budget** component for all of its activities.

EC-DEVCO lost points this year because it did not make all of its **organisational documents** available in its IATI organisational file. The annual report and the audit had broken links, but we found them available in other formats.

EC-DEVCO scored far below its group average for the **performance** component, only picking up some points in objectives and results data, which it published to the IATI standard for less than 2 percent of activities. It did not publish pre-project impact appraisals at all, and we found some country-level evaluations in other formats.

RECOMMENDATIONS

• EC-DEVCO should make improvements to sub-national location narratives, which many data

users particularly value.

- It could make further improvements at the project-level to include all project budgets, contracts and tenders as IATI data.
- EC-DEVCO should ensure the quality of its IATI organisational file and that all links to current documents are working.
- It should increase the publication of objectives and results across its IATI activities and start publishing reviews and evaluations.

DEEP DIVE

Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 12.8 / 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: 1.88 |
|---|-------------|
| | |
| Accessibility | Score: 1.88 |
| Organisation strategy | Score: 1.88 |
| Annual report | Score: 0.94 |
| Allocation policy | Score: 1.88 |
| Procurement policy | Score: 1.88 |
| Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding Score:1 | |
| Audit | Score: 0.94 |

Finance and budgets

Score: 22.1 / 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.



| Disbursements and expenditures | Score: 3.32 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| | |
| | |
| Budget Alignment | Score: 3.06 |
| | |
| | |
| Total organisation budget | Score: 4.17 |
| | |
| | |

Project attributes

Score: 19 / 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.

| Title | Score: 1 |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| | |
| Description | Score: 0.97 |
| | |
| Planned dates | Score: 1 |
| | |
| Actual dates | Score: 1 |
| | |
| Current status | Score: 1 |
| | |
| Contact details | Score: 1 |
| | |
| Sectors | Score: 3.47 |
| | |
| Sub-national location | Score: 2.52 |
| | |
| Implementer | Score: 3.5 |
| | |
| Unique ID | Score: 3.5 |
| | |

Joining-up development data

Flow type

Score: 17.6 / 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.

| Aid type | Score: 3.33 |
|---------------------|-------------|
| | |
| Finance type | Score: 3.33 |
| Tied aid status | Score: 2.48 |
| Conditions | Score: 3.33 |
| Project procurement | Score: 1.82 |
| | |

Performance

Score: 5.1/20

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

| Objectives | Score: 2.56 |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| | |
| Pre-project impact appraisals | Score: 0 |
| Reviews and evaluations | Score: 0 |
| | |
| Results | Score: 2.52 |
| | |

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