European Commission, Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EC-ECHO)
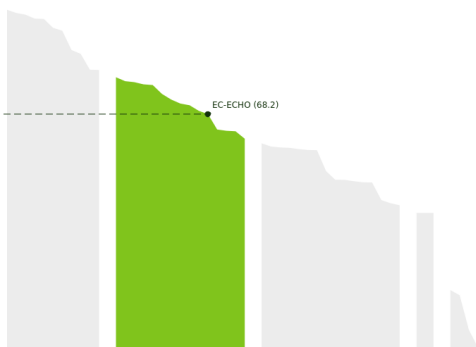
EC-ECHO (68.2)

SCORE:	POSITION:	2020
68.2	22/47	GOOD

OVERVIEW

The Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (EC-ECHO) is responsible for formulating European Commission (EC) humanitarian aid policy and delivering European Union relief assistance through its two main instruments: civil protection and humanitarian aid. The EC joined IATI in 2008 and EC-ECHO began publishing to IATI in September 2013.

2018	2016	2015	2014	2013
GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	FAIR	FAIR

Organisational planning and commitments
12.2 / 15

Finance and budgets
18.6 / 25

Project attributes
15.4 / 20

Joining-up development data
17.9 / 20

Performance
4 / 20

ANALYSIS

EC-ECHO remained in the 'good' category, though it dropped by nine points since the 2018 Index. It fell from 10th place in the 2018 Index to 19th place in the 2020 Index. EC-ECHO published to the IATI Registry on a monthly basis.

EC-ECHO performed very well on the **joining-up development data** component. It published all indicators apart from contracts to the IATI Registry. It made contracts available in a different format, and therefore we scored the indicator accordingly. The quality of the IATI data was good, though there was an issue with the conditions indicator because EC-ECHO did not attach documents for any of its activities.

EC-ECHO scored well against the **finance and budgets** indicators with data published to the IATI Registry for all apart from disaggregated budgets, which we did not find using manual checks either. The quality of the IATI data was generally good, with the exception of two issues: the total organisation budget was only one year forward looking and EC-ECHO did not provide budget documents for 42 percent of its activities.

For the **project attributes** component, EC-ECHO published data to the IATI Registry for all indicators, and the quality of IATI data for eight out of ten of the indicators was good. The description indicator failed our IATI data quality checks because too many descriptions were the same as the title. The sub-national location indicator also failed because EC-ECHO provided locations at the national level only.

The data EC-ECHO published to the IATI Registry for indicators in the **organisational planning and commitments** component were of good quality. However, it lost points for this component because it did not publish current versions of its organisation strategy and annual report to the IATI Registry. A current organisation strategy was available in another format, though we could not find an up-to-date annual report.

EC-ECHO scored poorly for the **performance** component. It disclosed information for the pre-project impact appraisals and objectives indicators to the IATI Registry. However, the objectives indicator failed the IATI data quality checks because EC-ECHO did not make its objectives clear in the activity descriptions nor in the documents. EC-ECHO did not publish reviews and evaluations to the IATI Registry and we could not consistently find evaluation documents published in other formats. It did not publish results to the IATI Registry and we could not find results published in

other formats either. EC-ECHO did, however, publish pre-project impact appraisals to the IATI Registry for the majority of its activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- EC-ECHO should improve the comprehensiveness of its IATI data by publishing data for all indicators.
- It should aim to disclose all relevant data to the IATI Registry. It could easily publish indicators that are already available in other formats, which include its organisational strategy, contracts and conditions documents to the IATI Registry. It should also publish project results and evaluations.
- It should improve the quality of its data for the descriptions and sub-national locations indicators.
- It should provide the total organisation budget three years in advance.
- It should also publish up-to-date annual reports.

DEEP DIVE

Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 12.2 / 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.

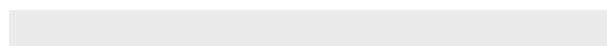| Quality of FOI legislation | Score: 1.88 |

| Accessibility | Score: 1.88 |

| Organisation strategy | Score: 0.94 |

| Annual report | Score: 0 |

| Allocation policy | Score: 1.88 |

| Procurement policy | Score: 1.88 |

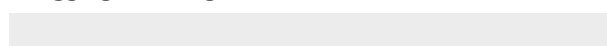| Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding | Score: 1.88 |

| Audit | Score: 1.88 |

Finance and budgets

Score: 18.6 / 25

ABOUT COMPONENT

| Disaggregated budget | Score: 0 |

| Project budget | Score: 3.33 |

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 budget document   Score: 2.64

Commitments   Score: 3.33

Disbursements and expenditures   Score: 3.24

Budget Alignment   Score: 3.31

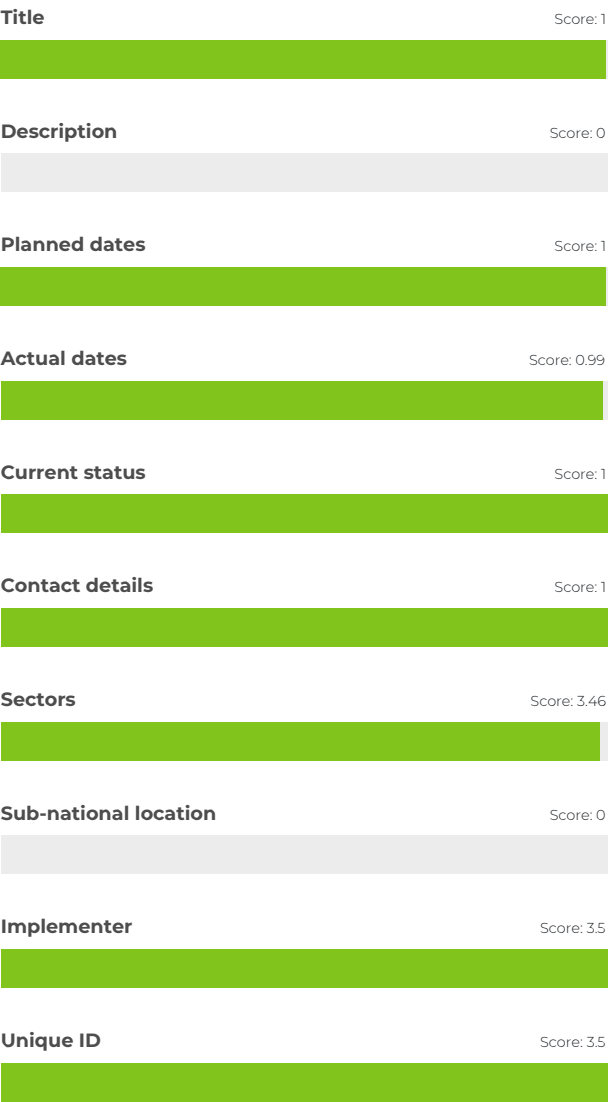**Total organisation budget**   Score: 2.78

Project attributes

Score: 15.4 / 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

Planned dates   Score: 1

Actual dates   Score: 0.99

Current status   Score: 1

Contact details   Score: 1

Sectors   Score: 3.46

Sub-national location   Score: 0

Implementer   Score: 3.5

Unique ID   Score: 3.5

Joining-up development data

Score: 17.9 / 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: 3.33

Finance type — Score: 3.33

Tied aid status — Score: 3.33

Conditions — Score: 2.5

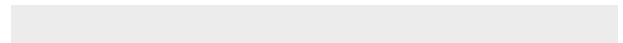**Project procurement** — Score: 2.08

Performance

Score: 4 / 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.
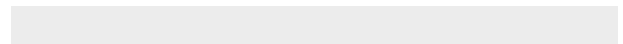
Objectives — Score: 0

Pre-project impact appraisals — Score: 3.97

Reviews and evaluations — Score: 0

Results — Score: 0