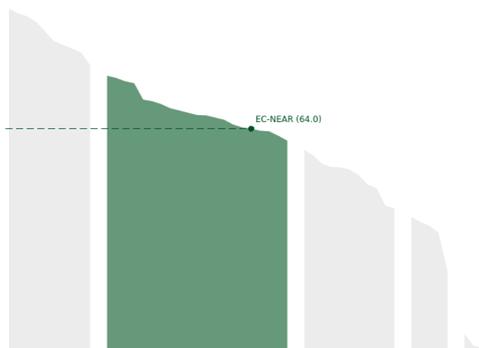


English

## European Commission, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (EC-NEAR)



SCORE:  
64

POSITION:  
27/50

2022  
GOOD

### OVERVIEW

The Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (EC-NEAR) is responsible for the European Union's (EU) enlargement policies and its relations with neighbouring countries. It manages the bulk of the EU's financial and technical assistance to these countries. The European Commission (EC) became an IATI member in 2008 and EC-NEAR began publishing to the IATI Registry in September 2013.

2020 GOOD	2018 GOOD	2016 GOOD	2015 GOOD	2014 GOOD	2013 FAIR
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Organisational planning and commitments  
13.1 / 15

Finance and budgets  
18.2 / 25

Project attributes  
16.3 / 20

Joining-up development data  
16.4 / 20

Performance  
0 / 20

### ANALYSIS

EC-NEAR remains in the 'good' category but saw a considerable decrease in scores from the 2020 Index. It now ranks 27<sup>th</sup> at the bottom of the good category where previously it ranked 12<sup>th</sup> at the top. It continued to publish on a monthly basis and published 72% of the Index indicators in the IATI Standard format.

EC-NEAR received its best scores in the project attributes component where it scored slightly above average with full data on basic project information from titles to locations and sectors, this was an improvement from 2020. It passed the quality checks on its basic project information but failed many of these checks for the performance indicator where it scored '0.' It was the only organisation to score zero in this component in a category other than 'poor' because we found very little to no additional performance data on its website representing a decrease in quality and available results data in 2022.

EC-NEAR received above average scores for the other components although these scores were still all below its 2020 component scores. For finance and budgets, it published good project and total organisational budgets, but its disaggregated financial data could be improved. Its disaggregated project budget data could not be accessed due to technical errors with its website, which let down the score. It only published two years forward-looking total organisation disaggregated budgets. It also published less disbursement data for its projects with only 31% of activities disclosing regular disbursement figures.

It performed well on basic joining-up development data, picking up 82% of the available points here by publishing data on aid type, finance type, flow type, and tied aid status to the IATI Registry. It lost scores for procurement tenders disclosure with only 39% of activities having tenders disclosed. Contracts were consistently found on the NEAR website so it scored for these in the manual survey.

We awarded NEAR 88% of the scores for the organisational planning and commitments component. While we found most of its documents, its organisational strategy was missing. All other documents were all up to date on the IATI Registry. The EU aid explorer data portal maintained its high scores for the accessibility indicator with data available to search and download in bulk, although it was not possible to search for specific EC directorates through the portal.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- EC-NEAR should make improvements to the quality and quantity of its publication of performance-related information such as results, and reviews and evaluations by ensuring that web links in its IATI data are working.
- It should start publishing contracts to the IATI Registry to make them more searchable.
- EC-NEAR should make disaggregated financial information for total organisational budgets and project budgets available on the IATI Registry, including making project budgets available quarterly as well as annually.
- EC-NEAR can improve its aid data portal by allowing a search of activities and data by Directorate General (DG), as it currently aggregates data across the DGs.

## DEEP DIVE

# Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 13.1 / 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.

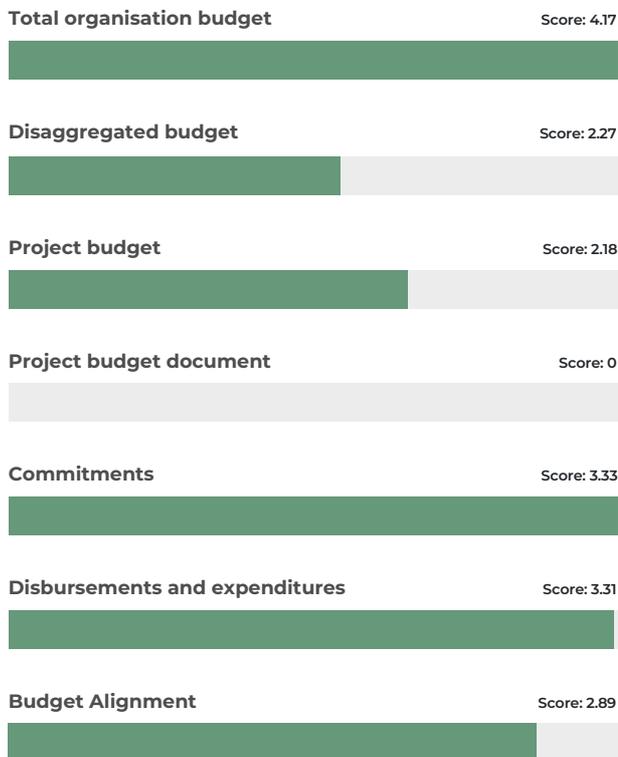


# Finance and budgets

Score: 18.2 / 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: 16.3 / 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: 16.4 / 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



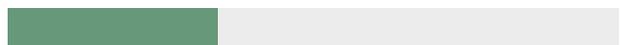
Tied aid status Score: 1.91



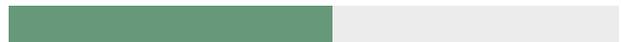
Networked Data - Implementors Score: 3.33



Networked Data - Participating Orgs Score: 0.58



Project procurement Score: 1.6



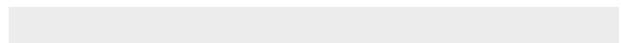
# Performance

Score: 0 / 20

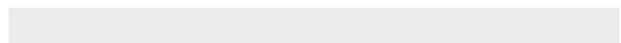
## ABOUT COMPONENT

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.

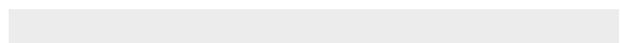
Objectives Score: 0



Pre-project impact appraisals Score: 0



Reviews and evaluations Score: 0



Results Score: 0

