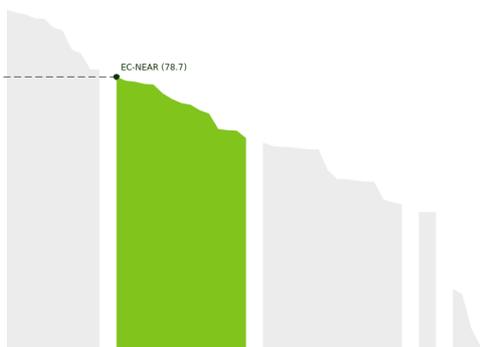


European Commission, Directorate-General Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations (EC-NEAR)



SCORE:
78.7

POSITION:
12/47

2020
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.

2018
GOOD

2016
GOOD

2015
GOOD

2014
GOOD

2013
FAIR

Organisational planning and commitments
15 / 15

Finance and budgets
22.6 / 25

Project attributes
19.9 / 20

Joining-up development data
18.5 / 20

Performance
2.8 / 20

ANALYSIS

EC-NEAR remains in the 'good' category and, with a small improvement in scores from the 2018 Index, now ranks highest in this category.

It continued to publish on a monthly basis and provided data for 88 percent of the index indicators in the comparable IATI Registry format.

EC-NEAR received its highest score for the **finance and budgets** component. Commitments, total organisational budget, and disbursements received full scores for quality and coverage. However, EC-NEAR can make improvements to its coverage of project budget documents, as only 40 percent of projects had detailed budgets.

EC-NEAR made all of its **project attributes** data available on the IATI Registry. Notably, this year it passed our data quality checks for sub-national locations, which it could only improve upon by ensuring that all activities have these high-quality coordinates or points locations included. It passed all other quality checks on descriptions and titles.

It also performed well on basic **joining-up development data**, picking up 92 percent of the available points here by publishing data on aid type, finance type, flow type, and tied aid status to the IATI Registry. There were improvements to the quality and coverage of tender documentation across its activities from the 2018 index. However, contracts were not available in the IATI Registry and so we instead scored them based on their availability on the organisation's website.

We awarded EC-NEAR 100 percent of the scores for **organisational planning** component documents, which were all up to date on the IATI Registry. The launch of the EU aid explorer in time for the 2020 index improved its score to 100 percent of the points for the accessibility indicator.

For **performance** data, EC-NEAR published objectives, results, and impact appraisals to the IATI Registry, but only its objectives data passed our quality checks. It did not receive the full score for objectives, however, as only 14 percent of activities contained objectives. EC-NEAR's pre-project impact appraisals and results data did not pass our quality checks. It provided reviews and evaluations at the strategy level through the EU aid explorer data portal, but they were not available at project level, so these were not awarded any scores.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- EC-NEAR should make improvements to the quality and quantity of its publication of performance-related information.
- It should start publishing contracts to the IATI Registry to make them more searchable.
- EC-NEAR should include sub-national locations and descriptions for every project to build on the improvements made here in the quality of data provided.
- It should also make project budget documents available for all of its projects on the IATI Registry and make 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: 15 / 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: 1.88



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: 22.6 / 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,

Disaggregated budget

Score: 4



Project budget

Score: 2.45



Project budget document

Score: 2.33



forward-looking budgets from donors are important for partner country governments to be able to plan their own future finances.



Project attributes

Score: 19.9 / 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: 18.5 / 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: 3.29



Conditions Score: 3.33



Project procurement Score: 1.83



Performance

Score: 2.8 / 20

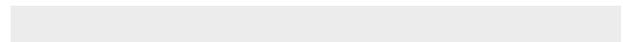
ABOUT COMPONENT

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.

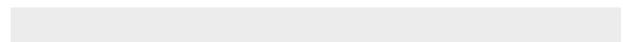
Objectives Score: 2.84



Pre-project impact appraisals Score: 0



Reviews and evaluations Score: 0



Results Score: 0

