Finland, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

Finland-MFA (58.6)
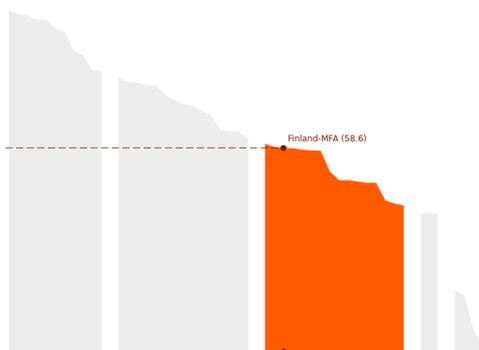
SCORE: 58.6	POSITION: 29/47	2020 FAIR

OVERVIEW

The Department for Development Policy sits within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is responsible for implementing Finland's development cooperation. Its four priority areas are the rights and status of women and girls; the growth of developing economies; democratic and better functioning societies; and food security, access to energy, and sustainable use of natural resources. Finland has been an IATI member since 2008 and first published to the IATI Registry in November 2011.

2018 FAIR	2016 POOR	2015 FAIR	2014 FAIR	2013 POOR

Organisational planning and commitments
10.4 / 15

Finance and budgets
17.8 / 25

Project attributes
11.7 / 20

Joining-up development data
13.7 / 20

Performance
5 / 20

ANALYSIS

Finland-MFA has remained in the 'fair' category. Finland-MFA published to the IATI Registry on a monthly basis, improving its frequency of publication compared to the 2018 Index.

Finland-MFA published data to the IATI Registry for five out of the seven indicators from the **finance and budgets** component. It did not publish project budget data or project budget documents to the IATI Registry. It made project budgets available in other formats but did not disclose budget documents. The quality of the IATI data scored well. However, Finland-MFA did not provide commitments for 56 percent of its activities.

It published data for all indicators in the **organisational planning and commitments** component, except for its allocation policy, to the IATI Registry. We did not find an allocation policy with the manual checks either. The quality of the IATI data was good for most indicators, but we only found country strategies for 29 percent of the countries where Finland has aid activities. Finland-MFA failed the accessibility indicator because it did not make any independent aid data portal available.

For the **joining-up development data** component, Finland-MFA published data for four out of the seven indicators to the IATI Registry. It provided good quality data for these indicators. It did not publish conditions, contracts, or tenders to the IATI Registry. It disclosed tenders in other formats and we scored them as such. It sometimes published contracts elsewhere on the European tenders' portals. We could not find conditions during the manual checks.

We assessed IATI data for most indicators in the **project attributes** component. Finland-MFA did not publish contact or implementer details to the IATI Registry. Neither indicators scored in the manual checks either. The quality of the sub-national location IATI data failed because Finland-MFA disclosed only national locations. The IATI data quality for other indicators was good, albeit Finland-MFA did not disclose planned start dates.

Finland-MFA scored poorly for the **performance** component. It did not disclose any performance data to the IATI Registry. It published objectives and evaluations in other formats, and we scored it according to this. It did not provide results or pre-project impact appraisals data in other formats.

- Finland-MFA should improve it publication of performance-related data.
  It should start publishing project-specific results and pre-project impact appraisals.
  It should also publish the objectives and evaluations data that it already discloses in other formats to the IATI Registry.
- Finland-MFA should improve the comprehensiveness of its publication for other components too. It should start
  publishing project budget documents, allocation policy, contracts, conditions, contact details, and implementer details.
- It can improve accessibility by offering a searchable project portal on its website.
- It should also improve the quality of data that it publishes to the IATI Registry for specific indicators, including publishing start dates and specific sub-national locations.
- It should also publish in full across all activities on the IATI Registry
  by including commitments, contracts and tenders.

DEEP DIVE

Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 10.4 / 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: 1.88
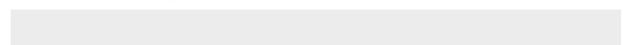
Accessibility — Score: 0

Organisation strategy — Score: 1.88

Annual report — Score: 1.88

Allocation policy — Score: 0

Procurement policy — Score: 1.88

Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding — Score: 1.21

Audit — Score: 1.69

Finance and budgets

Score: 17.8 / 25

ABOUT COMPONENT

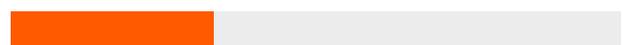This component is critical to allow you and anyone else to follow

**Disaggregated budget** — Score: 3.75

Project budget — Score: 1.11

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: 0
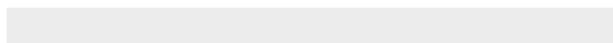
Commitments — Score: 2.39

Disbursements and expenditures — Score: 3.2

Budget Alignment — Score: 3.14

Total organisation budget — Score: 4.17

Project attributes

Score: 11.7 / 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: 0.95
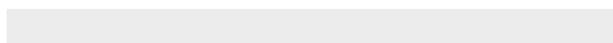
Planned dates — Score: 0.75

Actual dates — Score: 1

Current status — Score: 1

Contact details — Score: 0
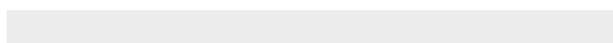
Sectors — Score: 3.5

Sub-national location — Score: 0

Implementer — Score: 0

Unique ID — Score: 3.5

Joining-up development data

Score: 13.7 / 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
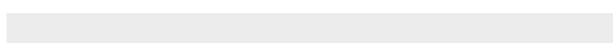
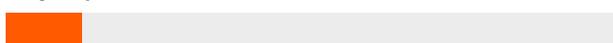**Aid type**   Score: 3.33

Finance type   Score: 3.33

Tied aid status   Score: 3.33

Conditions   Score: 0

Project procurement   Score: 0.42

Performance

Score: 5 / 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: 2.5

Pre-project impact appraisals   Score: 0
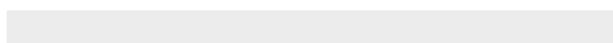
Reviews and evaluations   Score: 2.5

Results   Score: 0