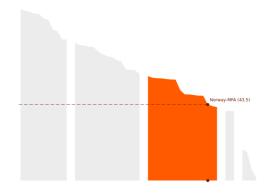


Aid Transparency Index 2020

Norway, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)



SCORE:	POSITION:	2020
43.5	40/47	FAIR

OVERVIEW

Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) is responsible for the country's development cooperation. The Index takes into account information published by the MFA and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). The MFA administers the majority of Norwegian development assistance, but the Norad website contains some activity-level information. Norway's MFA is not an IATI member but started publishing to the IATI Registry in December 2015.

2018	2016	2014	2013	
FAIR	FAIR	POOR	POOR	

Organisational planning and commitments 7.8/15

Finance and budgets 13.4/25

Project attributes 11.9/20

Joining-up development data 10.4/20

Performance 0/20

ANALYSIS

Norway's MFA has remained in the 'fair' category having made negligible progress since 2018. MFA published to the IATI Registry on a less-than-quarterly basis.

For the finances and budgets component of the Index, MFA scored well for budget alignment, commitments, disbursements, and project budgets but lost points for disaggregated budgets and project budget documents. For the joining-up development data component we found conditions documents, tenders and contracts to be largely absent. While MFA published data for the majority of organisational planning and commitments indicators (excluding only the allocation policy), it lost points because it did not make this information available on the IATI Registry. It failed to score any pointsfor the performance component indicators, which include objectives, pre-project impact appraisals, results, and reviews and evaluations. It scored below average for the project attributes component chiefly because of inconsistent publishing, but also because it did not provide sub-national locations.

MFA lost points for failing to provide forward-looking organisational budget information and subnational location data. More generally, it lost points because it did not publish data for a large number of indicators to the IATI Registry. Most importantly, given its mandate, MFA failed to provide project objectives, while only inconsistently providing reviews, evaluations, and results.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Norway MFA should review and address its current approach to project performance and impact having scored zero for the performance component of the Index Important indicators such as pre-project impact appraisals, project objectives, results, and reviews and evaluations are vital for internal learning, continuous improvement and broader development effectiveness.
- It should increase the proportion of its data that it publishes to the IATI Registry.
- It should focus on improving procurement transparency by addressing shortfalls in the publication of conditions, tenders, and contracts.
- Given the scale of its funding in many countries, it should seek to increase the frequency of its
 publication to monthly, rather than less-than-quarterly, to provide a more up to date picture of
 its activities to national stakeholders

 It should commence publication of sub-national location information to aid local stakeholders seeking to understand precisely where project activities are taking place.

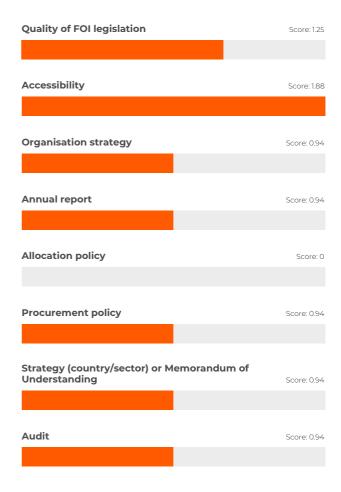
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Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 7.8 / 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.

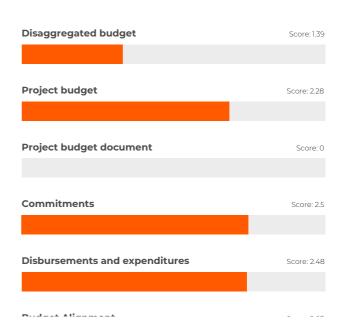


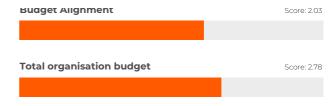
Finance and budgets

Score: 13.4 / 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: 11.9 / 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

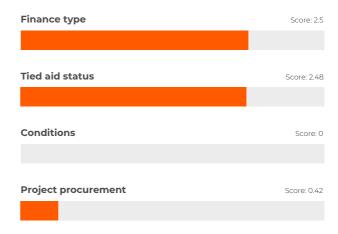
Score: 10.4 / 20

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.



Performance

Score: 0 / 20

AROUT 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: 0
Reviews and evaluations	Score: 0
Results	Score: 0

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