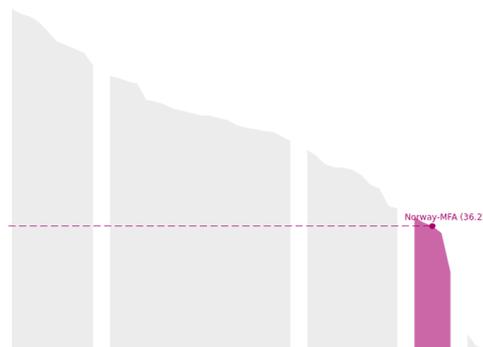


## Norway, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)



<b>SCORE:</b> 36.2	<b>POSITION:</b> 45/50	<b>2022</b> POOR
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### OVERVIEW

Norway's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) is responsible for the country's development cooperation. The Index considers 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.

<b>2020</b> FAIR	<b>2018</b> FAIR	<b>2016</b> FAIR	<b>2014</b> POOR	<b>2013</b> POOR
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Organisational planning and commitments  
5.3 / 15

Finance and budgets  
10.1 / 25

Project attributes  
8.1 / 20

Joining-up development data  
12.7 / 20

Performance  
0 / 20

### ANALYSIS

Norway's MFA has fallen back into the 'poor' category having dropped over seven points since 2020. MFA continues to publish to the IATI Registry on a less than quarterly basis.

Norway's MFA scored best on joining-up development data but still scored well below average for this component. Tenders and contracts were not published to the IATI Registry. Contracts were not available in other formats, but tenders were present on a dedicated portal. Norway's MFA also dropped points on the networked data organisation reference test as they only published recognised organisational references for less than 22% of participating organisations.

Norway's MFA performed poorly for the finance and budgets component, dropping over three points from the 2020 Index. MFA continued to score relatively well for budget alignment, commitments, and disbursements. Norway MFA lost points for disaggregated budgets, project budgets, and project budget documents as they did not disclose these to the IATI Registry. Only project budgets were found in other formats. Total organisation budget dropped points for only being one year forward-looking rather than the optimum three years.

Norway's MFA published all organisational planning and commitments indicators to the IATI Registry. However, organisation strategy, annual report, allocation policy, procurement policy, and country strategies all failed our data quality checks. All of these were found in other formats, except an allocation policy which wasn't published in any format and country strategies which were out of date.

Norway's MFA scored well below average for the project attributes component, dropping over five points from 2020. It lost points because it did not provide contact details, dates, conditions, and sub-national locations. None of these indicators were found in other formats.

It failed to score any points for the performance component indicators, which include objectives, pre-project impact appraisals, results, and reviews and evaluations. None of these indicators were consistently found in other formats.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- As previously recommended for the 2020 Index, Norway's MFA should prioritise a review and address its current approach to project performance and impact, having scored zero for the performance component of the Index again. Critical indicators such as pre-project impact appraisals, project objectives, results, and reviews and evaluations are vital for learning, improvement, and broader development effectiveness.
- Norway's MFA should significantly increase the proportion of its data that it publishes to the IATI Registry.
- It should focus on improving procurement transparency by publishing tenders and contracts.
- Norway MFA should improve the publication of organisational related data by disclosing an organisational strategy, annual report, audit, procurement and allocation policies, and country strategies.
- 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 ensure the publication of sub-national location information to help stakeholders understand precisely where its project activities are taking place.
- Norway MFA should improve the transparency of project-level information by disclosing contact details and planned/actual dates for all its projects.
- Norway MFA should disclose all project specific conditions within its activities or provide a statement on why conditions are not necessary.

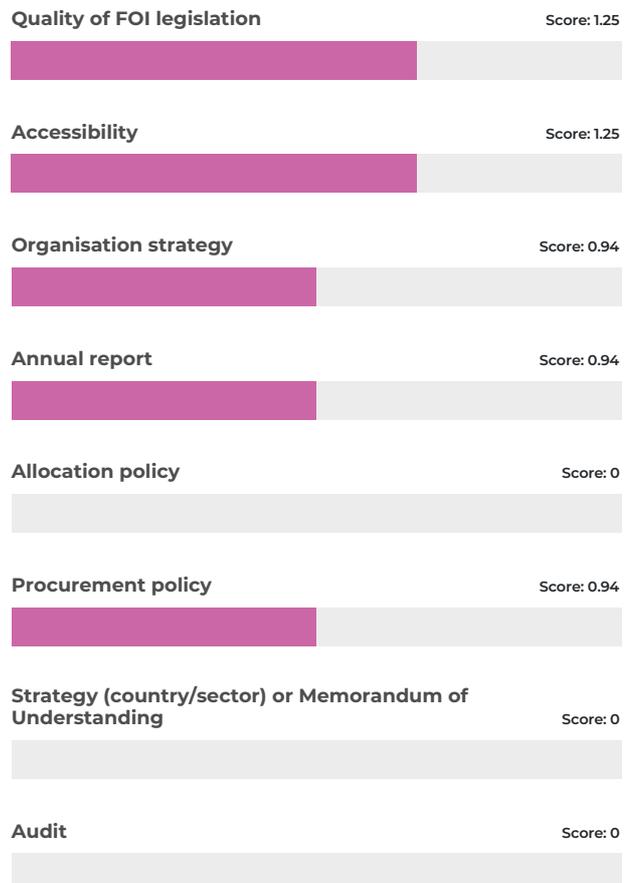
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### Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 5.3 / 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: 10.1 / 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.

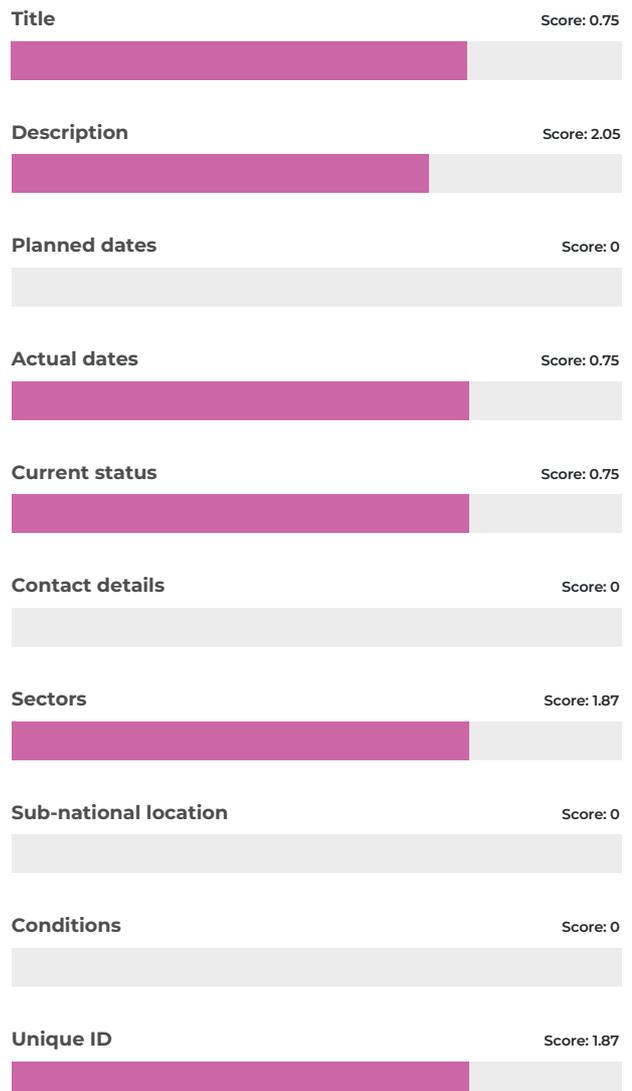


# Project attributes

Score: 8.1 / 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.

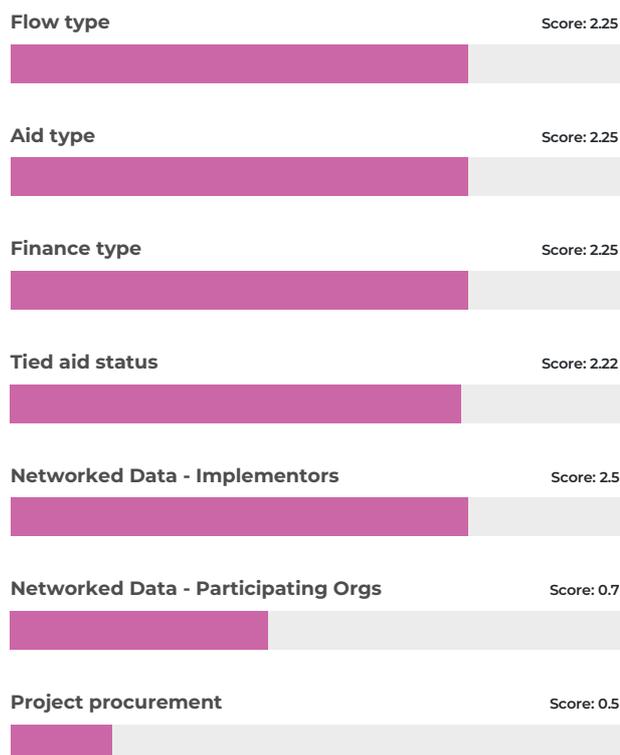


# Joining-up development data

Score: 12.7 / 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.



# 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.

