

Netherlands – Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

OVERVIEW

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (known as Minbuza) is the organisation responsible for Dutch bilateral development cooperation. The Netherlands-MFA was one of the founder members of IATI in 2008 and chaired the IATI Steering Committee between 2014 and 2016. It first published IATI data in September 2011. In April 2018, it became Chair of the IATI Governing Board and Member's Assembly.



SCORE: 70.1

POSITION: 15 / 45

Good

2016: **Good** 2015: **Good** 2014: **Fair** 2013: **Fair**

Due to a [methodology change](#) after 2016, results are not directly comparable with 2018.

Organisational planning and commitments
12.9 / 15

Finance and budgets
17.0 / 25

Project attributes
18.1 / 20

Joining-up development data
17.0 / 20

Performance
4.9 / 20

ANALYSIS

Netherlands-MFA remains in the 'good' category.

Netherlands-MFA publishes to the IATI Registry monthly.

Full points are achieved for all organisational planning documentation, with the exception of country strategies which is one of the lowest scoring indicators.

Apart from capital spend, which is not published at all, all finance and budget indicators are provided in the IATI format. However, there is room for improvement for the disaggregated budgets indicator and project budget documents which is available in other formats.

All project attributes indicators are published to the IATI Registry. However, sub-national location is one of the lowest scoring indicators and both titles and descriptions contain many acronyms and are incomplete.

Netherlands-MFA does generally well on joining-up development data. Only information on procurement, namely tenders and contracts, is not made available in the IATI Standard. Tenders are always being made available in other formats. Contracts are not published.

Within the performance component, the Netherlands-MFA only scores on objectives. Results are not being made available in other formats, neither are reviews and evaluations. Pre-project impact appraisals are sometimes provided.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Netherlands-MFA should ensure that basic information such as titles and descriptions are fully provided and are legible to non-expert data users.
- It should improve its publication of sub-national locations to provide information on where its development work is being implemented.
- It should include tenders to its IATI publication and start publishing contracts.
- It should prioritise timely, comprehensive and consistent publication of performance-related indicators from pre-project impact appraisals to reviews and evaluations, and results.
- To demonstrate the impact of transparency on development work, the Netherlands-MFA should take responsibility to promote the use of the data they publish: internally, to promote coordination and effectiveness; and externally, to explore online and in-person feedback loops, including at country-level.