IATI Community Exchange Summary Report
27 November 2025, Nairobi, Kenya

The IATI Community Exchange 2025 (CE 2025) took place at a moment of renewed direction for the Initiative: directly following the Members' Assembly endorsement of the **IATI Strategic Plan 2026–2030**, the launch of the **Integrated Results and Resourcing Framework**, announcement of IATI's recognition as a Digital Public Good, and critical discussions on financial sustainability, governance reform, and membership evolution.

This year's Community Exchange stood out not only for its scale and energy, but for its **shift from technical discussions toward strategic, user-focused, and systems-oriented collaboration**. Participants consistently described CE 2025 as "the most forward-looking exchange yet" and "a community ready to act, not just analyse."

Several factors contributed to its distinctive value:

- **A clear unifying narrative** on transparency as a driver of trust, accountability, and development effectiveness.
- **Practical demonstrations of data use** across partner governments, thematic actors, and humanitarian systems.
- **Greater engagement of partner countries** in shaping the data quality and interoperability agenda.
- **Early alignment on implementation pathways** for the new Strategic Plan.

Across all sessions, three cross-cutting aspirations emerged:

1. **Make IATI data systematically useful for decisions** at national, sectoral, and global levels.
2. **Upgrade the Standard and governance model** in ways that simplify participation and support future interoperability.
3. **Mobilise a confident, outward-facing and collaborative community** to co-deliver transparency and impact.

All **recordings, concept notes and presentations** from the Community Exchange sessions are available on the IATI website MA/CE event page.

Opening CE / Welcoming Remarks

Speakers:

- Thea Schepers, Chair of the IATI Governing Board, Government of the Netherlands
- Mohammad Monsour Uddin, Joint Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh
- Yemesrach Workie, Executive Director, IATI Secretariat

Thea Schepers opened the Community Exchange by welcoming participants from across the membership and community, emphasising the momentum generated by the Members' Assembly the previous day and the shared responsibility to translate the new Strategic Plan into practical action. She highlighted the importance of collaboration, openness, and collective problem-solving as IATI enters a new implementation cycle.

Mohammad Monsour Uddin delivered the formal welcome on behalf of the host constituency, underscoring Bangladesh's commitment to data use and the value of transparency for national planning. He stressed that high-quality, timely information is essential for countries navigating climate vulnerability, constrained fiscal space, and growing development needs. He encouraged the community to keep the focus on impact and to leverage IATI to strengthen accountability and evidence-based decision-making.

Yemesrach Workie introduced the objectives of the Community Exchange, linking the day's sessions to the Strategic Plan's priorities on data quality, data use, and modernising the IATI Standard and infrastructure. She framed the CE as a space for honest dialogue, practical demonstrations, and collective commitment-building, reaffirming that IATI's strength lies in the diversity and energy of its community.

Session 1: Plenary: Reimagining Data Quality: A Strategic and User-Centric Approach

Moderator: Ammar Malik, Gates Foundation

Speakers:

- Cody Wallace, IATI Secretariat (Policy & Governance)
- Steven Flower, IATI Secretariat / Open Data Services
- Guillermo Vitale, European Commission (DG INTPA)
- Henry Asor, Federal Ministry of Budget & Economic Planning, Nigeria
- Jack Lightly, UK FCDO

Cody Wallace presented the strategic framing for IATI's new user-centric model for data quality. Key messages included the shift from compliance-based metrics toward **usability**, predictability, timeliness, and organisation-appropriate expectations. He stressed the need for **better feedback loops** between publishers and users, recognising varying mandates and resource constraints.

Steven Flower summarised findings from the **State of the Data 2025** deep dives. He outlined new insights on document accessibility, broken links, delivery chains across 17,000 organisations, timeliness issues, and opportunities for new validation rules, fixes, and enhancements. He highlighted the emerging "analysis → dialogue → action" cycle. **Guillermo Vitale (EC)** emphasised the EU's strategic interest in higher-quality IATI data to support joint programming, upstream political decision-making,

and expanded EU Member State publishing. He stressed the need for complete organisational information and improved visibility across actors.

Henry Asor (Nigeria) shared practical challenges using IATI data for national planning: the need for **timely, forward-looking budgets**, predictable publishing rhythms, and consistent organisational references. He highlighted the benefits of integrating IATI data into Nigeria's Development Cooperation Dashboard.

Jack Lightly (FCDO) described FCDO's internal reforms, automated checks, and dashboards to improve data accuracy and timeliness, stressing donors' responsibility to model good practice and the value of structured support from the Secretariat.

Highlights from Discussion

- Agreement that **data quality is foundational** to IATI's value proposition in the new Strategic Plan period.
- Multiple participants stressed that **timeliness** and **forward budgets** are more useful than ever to partner countries facing volatile financing environments.
- Users noted that broken links and unclear organisational identifiers reduce trust and slow uptake.
- The community welcomed a differentiated, user-centric model and more transparency on diagnostic processes.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Develop and publish the **data quality diagnostics framework** and "publisher baseline" in early 2026.
- Strengthen support to high-volume publishers ("publishers-in-focus") with targeted engagement.
- Expand documentation and predictable feedback loops linked to State of the Data.
- Donors to champion improved timeliness and comprehensive publishing.

Session 2: Data Use Cases

Moderator: Zeinab Al-Azzawi, UNICEF
Speakers:

- Ishaka Nyallay, Ministry of Planning & Economic Development, Sierra Leone
- Yuki Murakami, UNESCO (remote)
- Saliou Diop, Government of Senegal
- Mark Brough, Emergentally
- Alex Tilley, Publish What You Fund
- John Paxton Dearborn, World Bank

Summary of Presentations

Sierra Leone (Ihaka Nyallay) presented rapid analysis using IATI data on the expected **$22.7M annual loss** from the USAID pause, demonstrating how IATI enables early forecasting of fiscal risks and sectoral reallocations (e.g., increasing health-budget share from 7% to 9%). He advocated for improved aid-data infrastructure and donor coordination.

UNESCO (Yuki Murakami) showed that financing for education in crises is severely fragmented across CRS, FTS, and IATI. IATI fills important timeliness gaps but requires more consistent tagging, markers, and budget classifications. Education aid is declining overall but rising in emergencies.

Senegal & Emergentally (Salilou Diop & Mark Brough) demonstrated a PFM-aligned resource-tracking model where IATI data is mapped to national health-budget classifications in nine African countries. IATI data is **more granular and timelier than CRS**, enabling ministries to avoid repeated data requests to partners.

Publish What You Fund (Alex Tilley) showed how IATI improves advocacy and visibility for funding to girls' education and child-marriage prevention, enabling detection of underfunding and fragmentation. Due to time restraints, a prerecorded video made by John Paxton Dearborn, World Bank, about how GAFS food and nutrition security dashboard integrates multiple data sources (incl. IATI) to track crisis financing, sector gaps, and response flows, was shared with participants online, rather than during the session.

Highlights from Discussion

- Strong consensus on the need for **cross-system alignment (CRS–FTS–IATI)**.
- Countries requested **provider-activity IDs**, **predictable publishing**, and **mapping guidance**.
- Advocacy actors emphasised the need for minimum transparency standards for crisis-affected sectors.
- Publishers asked for clearer tagging (gender, education, health, nutrition) to increase discoverability.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Secretariat to strengthen **sector-specific guidance** (education, health, nutrition).
- Improve humanitarian and crisis-related coding to support dashboards.
- Advance work on automated ingestion of IATI into sectoral/national dashboards.
- Include cross-system interoperability in the 2026–2030 work plan.

Session 3: Upgrading the IATI Standard

Moderator: Sylvan Ridderinkhof, The Open Data Company
Speakers:

- IATI Secretariat technical team, contributors to Standard Gazette pilot
- Ole Jacob Hjøllund, Danida: Insights from the IATI–FTS Mapping Pilot

Summary of Presentations

The Secretariat presented progress on the **Standard Change Process pilot**, including the Gazette workflow, issue-logging, public review periods, and the introduction of the **Standard Oversight Committee (SOC)** as a new governance structure.

Key principles for change were reiterated: **simplicity, modularity, conceptual alignment, precision, coherence**, and the need to embed change as a normal function of the Standard.

The team outlined early lessons from 2025 testing, including technical debt, documentation gaps, and the need for multilingual interfaces. OJ Hjøllund also reviewed interoperability work of the **IATI-to-FTS mapping pilot** led by Denmark and OCHA.

Highlights from Discussion

- The community supported structured process and called for clearer communication and onboarding for non-technical users.
- Strong interest in the FTS convergence work and its implications for humanitarian reporting.
- Members emphasised clarifying Standard scope and retiring outdated elements.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Secretariat to maintain a **public issues list** and begin 45-day consultations for 2026 proposals.
- Translation of Gazette interface (FR/ES) to broaden participation.
- Community to test prototypes (document-store concepts, validation rules, identifiers).
- SOC to convene regularly and guide the 2026 roadmap.

Session 4: Traceability for local impact and accountability

Moderator: Ingrid Rydell, SIDA

Speakers:

- Elise Baudot, ICVA
- Aussama Bejraoui, OECD
- Eddie Sneh, Government of Liberia
- Freddy Ndjemba, INTOSAI Development Initiative

Summary of Presentations

ICVA (Elise Baudot) presented findings from "Publish Once, Use Often", highlighting NGO reporting burdens and the need for automated rather than manual IATI reporting. She stressed the importance of downstream visibility to support localisation and transparency.

OECD (Aussama Bejraoui) shared results from subcontracting-data pilots showing that subcontract datasets reveal more accurate procurement patterns than prime-contract data. Emphasised the importance of consistent organisational IDs and linkages.

Liberia (Edie Sneh) showcased the Liberia Development Dashboard and its integration of CSO and NGO systems to improve coordination, visibility, and data accuracy.

INTOSAI (Freddy Ndjemba) described opportunities for Supreme Audit Institutions to use IATI data to strengthen government oversight, noting benefits for national-level auditing.

Highlights from Discussion

- High demand for better delivery-chain traceability and organisational identifiers.
- Agreement that donors and multilaterals must publish subcontract flows to support localisation.
- Concerns around incentives for NGOs to publish, and barriers to automated reporting.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Secretariat to clarify expectations for downstream publishing in 2026 guidance.
- Explore strategic partnerships with SAIs for audit-relevant data.
- Community to collaborate on improving ORG IDs and delivery-chain linkages.
- Expand pilots integrating IATI into national platforms.

Session 5: Emerging Tools for IATI Data

Moderator: Sylvan Ridderinkhof, The Open Data Company

Speakers:

- Sarah Neumann, BMZ (ChecKI+)
- Olivier Mills, FCDO Dev Explorer
- Ole Jacob Hjøllund, MFA Denmark (IATI–FTS pilot)
- Floor Oostwegelm, RVO Netherlands

Summary of Presentations

BMZ (Sarah Neumann) showcased **ChecKI+**, an AI-supported tool for analysing project descriptions, assigning OECD policy markers, sector codes, and generating structured summaries. Accuracy for non-relevant and principal-objective markers reached ~80%. Human oversight remains essential.

Dev Explorer (Oliver Mills) demonstrated how humanitarian data can be managed through integrated interfaces drawing from multiple data sources.

MFA Denmark (OJ Hjøllund) presented findings from a nine-month IATI→FTS mapping pilot. Denmark's analysis showed that partners' IATI data is higher-quality for FTS purposes than EDRIS

submissions. Recommendations included creating an IATI→FTS conversion tool and enabling FTS to pull from IATI.

RVO Netherlands (Floor Oostwegelm) demonstrated how integrating the full IATI dataset into an internal data warehouse improved visibility, data quality, and programme alignment. Colleagues identified inconsistencies through use, triggering systematic improvements.

Highlights from Discussion

- Strong consensus that AI can support, but not replace, human validation.
- Publishers welcomed tools for automated tagging, markers, organisation identifiers, and document summaries.
- Interoperability with FTS remains a major community priority.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Secretariat and community to formalise the IATI–FTS technical roadmap.
- BMZ to share codebase for community adaptation.
- RVO and others provide case studies on integrating IATI into internal systems.
- Investigate AI tools for document-link validation and broken-link detection.

Session 6: Plenary: Strengthening the IATI Infrastructure

Moderator: Yemesrach Workie, IATI Executive Director
Speakers:

- Steven FLowers, IATI Secretariat technical leadership
- Professor Cuz Potter, Korea University, Development Futures Lab

Summary of Presentations

The Secretariat presented improvements to IATI's infrastructure: unified tools, single sign-on, consolidated documentation, and enhanced data-security measures. Emerging findings from research into tool performance and user needs were shared, including usability constraints and documentation gaps.

Highlights from Discussion

- Community welcomed infrastructure unification and clearer interfaces.
- Interest in a document-store concept to address broken links.
- Need for multilingual documentation and better onboarding and user journeys.

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Secretariat to progress single-sign-on rollout and documentation consolidation.
- Explore feasibility of a central document-store.
- Continue and strengthen user-experience testing with publishers and data users.
- The community provided inputs as to how to improve IATI infrastructure - such as address duplication and project identifiers which will address the pertinent issue of IATI data including aggregation or trend analysis.

Closing Remarks

Moderator: Thea Schepers, Chair of the IATI Governing Board, Government of the Netherlands

The closing session reflected on shared priorities emerging across all sessions:

- User-centred data quality
- Cross-system interoperability (FTS–CRS–IATI)
- Strengthening data use in sectors and partner-country systems
- Clear governance and Standard-change processes
- Investment in emerging tools and unified infrastructure

Key Takeaways / Follow-up Actions

- Consolidate CE 2025 outputs into the 2026 Work Plan.
- Launch consultations on data-quality diagnostics and Standard roadmap early 2026.
- Strengthen engagement structures for constituency groups.
- Maintain momentum on humanitarian interoperability and sector dashboards.

Conclusion: A Community Ready for Action

CE 2025 demonstrated a confident, outward-oriented IATI community, grounded in shared purpose and equipped with clear priorities for implementing the Strategic Plan. Participants left Nairobi with a strong sense of momentum:

- **data quality with purpose**,
- **data use that strengthens decisions**,
- **a Standard that is simple to use and interoperable**, and
- **a community that is empowered and coordinated**.

Initial Feedback on Value of the 2025 Community Exchange

Participants consistently highlighted what made CE 2025 stand out relative to other forums:

1. Strategic alignment

The CE directly followed the endorsement of the Strategic Plan, enabling immediate translation of commitments into actionable ideas.

2. Strong partner-country leadership

Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Senegal, and Bangladesh framed data use as a **sovereign capability**, not just a technical exercise.

3. Humanitarian interoperability momentum

The FTS–IATI pilot captured imaginations across constituencies and signaled that IATI is ready for **real-time crisis-relevant data exchange**.

4. A maturing community identity

There was a shared sense that IATI's community is not peripheral but **central to delivering the Strategic Plan**, and provided a wide range of valuable expertise and experience.

5. Practicality and energy

The CE combined ambition with implementable ideas, substantive and well prepared discussions, reflected to the new Strategic Plan reflecting a community ready to co-own the next phase of IATI's evolution.

The discussions reinforced that IATI's next chapter will be shaped not only by its Secretariat and Governing Board but by a broad and committed ecosystem of actors across countries, sectors, and institutions. An after-event survey to gather further structured feedback is being conducted.

As one participant concluded:

> *"The future of transparency is collective. IATI works best when we build it together."*

Annex 1: Participants

115 total participants

84 In-person Participants

1	Abdullah Alsakran	Saudi Fund for Development
2	Abie Elizabeth Kamara	Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
3	Abu Camara	Islamic Development Bank
4	Adam Sturesson	Sida, Sweden
5	Adriel Dutra Amaral	IATI Secretariat - UNOPS
6	Al Kags	Publish What You Fund, (Chair)
7	Alex Tilley	Publish What You Fund
8	Ali Jobe	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
9	Ali Saleh Bichara	Observatoire Tchadien des Finances Publiques
10	Ammar Malik	Gates Foundation
11	Anand Nair	Fields Data
12	Anouska Traast	Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
13	Asma Khadhraoui	IATI Secretariat - UNOPS
14	Asor Henry Nkang	Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning Country
15	Bakary DIARRA	Banque Ouest Africaine de Dévéloppement
16	Bibhusan Bista	Young Innovations
17	Bimal Sapkota	Ministry of Finance, Under Secretary
18	Birama Sangare	Ministère de la Réconciliation…
19	Catherine Brennan	Ireland, DFAT - Civil Society Unit
20	Cedney Vaz d´Almeida	Dirección Nacional de Planificación
21	Charlie Martial Ngounou	AfroLeadership
22	Clement Bundaunda	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
23	Cody Wallace	IATI Secretariat - UNDP
24	Diana Warira	Gates Foundation (Kenya)
25	Eddie Sneh	Ministry
26	Elma Jenkins	Publish What You Fund

27	Floor Oostwegel	RVO (Netherlands Enterprise Agency)
28	Gary Forster	Publish What You Fund
29	Guillermo Vitale	European Commission - DG INTPA
30	Horace Emilson Biny	Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances
31	Ingrid Rydell	Sida, Sweden
32	Ishaka Nyallay	Ministry of Planning and Economic Development
33	Jack Lightley	FCDO
34	Jaimie Grant	IATI Secretariat - UNDP
35	JEAN NKESHIMANA	TERRE DES JEUNES DU BURUNDI
36	Jules Matungulu Ngola	Plateforme…/Ministère du Plan
37	Katrine Heggedal	OECD WP-STAT/Norad
38	Kosalendra Rijal	Ministry of Finance, Section Officer
39	Maisha Simbigura	Burundi (Partner Country)
40	Maria Rotaru-Neghină	Moldova, The State Chancellery
41	Marija Pavlovic	IATI Secretariat - UNOPS
42	Mark Brough	Emergentally
43	Mathias Mailosi	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
44	Mattis Lukas Bös	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
45	Milagros Yepez	CAF
46	Mohammad Monsour Uddin	Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance
47	Motai Ramokoinihi	Lesotho
48	Mr. Adeep Abanmei	Saudi Fund for Development
49	Muthoni Peris	Emergentally
50	Ole Jacob (OJ) Hjøllund	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Danida)
51	Professor Cuz Potter	Korea University
52	Rob Redpath	IATI Secretariat - ODS
53	Ross Clement	FCDO
54	Saliou Diop	Ministère de l'Economie, du Plan et de la Coopération
55	Sara Kouakou	IFAD - International Fund for Agricultural Development
56	Sarah Neumann	BMZ

57	Simon Whitehouse	IATI Secretariat - ODS
58	Sisay Edecha Negash	Development Expertise Center (DEC)
59	Sophie Tanner	FCDO, UK High Commission Kenya
60	Steven Flower	IATI Secretariat - ODS
61	Sylvan Ridderinkhof	The Open Data Company
62	Thea Schepers	Netherlands, MFA
63	Victor Kiprop	iHub
64	W. Jean Marie Kebre	Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances
65	Winnie Kamau	Association of Freelance Journalists
66	Wobusobozi Stanley Dennis	DefendDefenders
67	Yemi Workie	IATI Secretariat - UNDP
68	Zainab Al-Azzawi	UNICEF
69	Henry Owino	Talk Africa
70	Boniface Okendo	Standard Media Group
71	Lucy Agota	KBC Radio
72	James Nyabolm	Kenya Governance Magazine
73	Churchill Simiyu	The Conty Diary News
74	Joshua Zakayo	FagiliaTV
75	John Maluki	CityView TV
76	Lenahi Bosibori	Talk Africa
77	Aggrey Omboki Monayo	Talk Africa/De Frontera Group
78	Rose Aoko Oyando	The National Treasury, Kenya
79	Angela Joy Awuor	The National Treasury, Kenya
80	Mitchell Wambui Wanjiry	The National Treasury, Kenya
81	Mary Salim	Local Development Research Institute
82	Isaah Okuku	The National Treasury, Kenya
83	Munaniye Peter	Kenya Broadcasting corporation
84	Denis Mugambi	Tropicom TV Kenya

31 Online participants (Zoom user name)

1	Antoon Van Broeckhoven, Belgium
2	Ari Kim, KOICA
3	Aussama Bejraoui, OECD
4	Camilo Gambagamba, TOSSD
5	Catherine Bareyre, France AFD
6	Edwin Mangheni, UK DESNZ
7	Elise Baudot, ICVA Network
8	Fabio Thoma, Germany BMZ
9	Hildur Sigurdardottir, UNFPA
10	Ibiso Ivy King-Harry, The Global Fund
11	Isabel Birds, ODS
12	Jasper Hakala, Finland
13	Jiwon Lee, RoK
14	Julia Surina, ILO
15	Justus Koopmann, RVO NL
16	Leigh Mitchell
17	Leila Farsani, ODS
18	Leo J. Stolk, Oxfam Novib
19	Maria Molsa, UNOPS
20	Nathan Lloyd, Liberia
21	Patricia Gutierrez Rodriguez
22	Roberta Rofman, UNFPA
23	Rohini Simbodyal, IATI Secretariat
24	Ryangwon Kim, ROK
25	Sohir Debbiche, AfDB
26	Sylvie Syrota, France AFD
27	Tanvir Singh, Australia DFAT

28 Tina Nickels, UK FCDO

29 Yohanna Loucheur, Canada

30 Yuki Murakami, UNESCO

31 Zayzay F. Sillah, Liberia