

Annual Report 2024:

Towards Better Open Data and Transparency



Foreword



Thea Schepers

Chair of IATI Governing Board

Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

e find ourselves at a critical juncture for international cooperation. The global context in which IATI operates is becoming more complex by the day. Rising humanitarian needs, growing inequalities, the climate crisis, and geopolitical tensions are testing the limits of development cooperation. In response, development and humanitarian actors are being asked to do more with much less. Amid these tectonic shifts, the role of transparency is clearer than ever. Trust, coordination, and accountability in the development system depend on it.

At IATI, we are not standing still. In 2024, we responded to these challenges with renewed urgency and ambition—accelerating our engagement efforts and laying the groundwork for IATI's future. After greatly improving our governance internally, our gaze in 2025 is decidedly outward. We reached out to potential new members and collaborators, launched a global consultation on our new Strategic Plan, and amplified our voice in major global policy arenas including shaping conversations about transparency ahead of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4).

It was a privilege to join IATI's Members' Assembly and Community Exchange in Bogotá in April 2024. This was our first annual gathering

held in Latin America. From open data innovators in Colombia to policymakers from the Dominican Republic, we witnessed first-hand the enthusiasm and practical value of transparency across the region.

All of this work has one thing in common: our community. IATI's strength lies in our members—governments, multilaterals, civil society, and others—who continue to champion the transformative power of open data. On behalf of the Governing Board, I extend my sincere thanks to every member and supporter who has contributed to IATI through their time, ideas, and resources. Your leadership matters, and it is making a difference.

2024 was also a year of transition and new beginnings. We were delighted to welcome Yemesrach Assefa Workie as IATI's first Executive Director. In a short space of time, she has brought fresh energy and clarity to our shared mission, working in close collaboration with members and partners to chart IATI's next chapter.

As we develop our new Strategic Plan for 2026–2030, we do so with both realism and resolve. The challenges ahead are formidable—but so is the strength of our initiative. If we act together to make development cooperation truly transparent, open, and accountable, we can help build the trust in the system that the world so urgently needs.

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Access IATI Financial Report 2024



About

he International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) works to ensure that transparent, good quality information on development cooperation and humanitarian assistance is available and used to help achieve sustainable development outcomes.

Organisations publish information according to the rules and guidance set out in the IATI Standard, generating data that is freely and openly available to anyone. The initiative supports its publishers to improve the quality of IATI data and facilitates access to effective tools and guidance to use this information to drive decision-making and accountability.

IATI is funded and governed by its members and a member-elected Governing Board, and it is supported by a global community of development and humanitarian practitioners, advocates for transparency, data experts and technical specialists. IATI's Secretariat is hosted by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), which is responsible for policy and technology services, with Open Data Services as the technology delivery partner and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) as the provider of operational and financial services.

Annual Report 2024

This year's Annual Report shares the progress and challenges in 2024 of implementing the IATI Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025. This report is accompanied by a separate Financial Report.

Access IATI Financial Report 2024

IATI Data Snapshot: What is available in 2024

The data published to IATI continues to grow—both in volume and in the breadth of information made available according to IATI's robust data standard. This expansion enables better decisions, coordination, and accountability across the development and humanitarian system.

Here's an overview of what data is available at the end of 2024:



Funding at a Glance: Budgets and Spending

Budget data

(2025 financial year)

Planning Ahead

IATI budget data shows what development providers and other organisations plan to spend in future years. In 2024, data on 2025 budgets provided decision-makers, including partner country governments, with valuable data to support choices about where and how to allocate resources.

USD 147 billion across **1,656** publishing organisations

893,918 development and humanitarian activities

68% published from multilateral organisations

20% published from bilateral government donors

Spending Data

(2024 disbursements and expenditures)

USD 269 billion across221 recipient countries





Humanitarian Transparency: Supporting preparedness and response

106,442 humanitarian activities published

10% growth from 2023

Data on activities responding to humanitarian emergencies:

How IATI Data Connects to the Humanitarian System

Organisations publishing to IATI can tag their funding and activities to show how they align with global humanitarian coordination efforts.

GLIDE (GLobal IDEntifier number):

A unique code assigned to specific humanitarian crises (e.g. floods, earthquakes), enabling responders worldwide to reference the same event.

UN OCHA Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals: both outline priority needs and funding requirements during emergencies, helping coordinate international responses.

540 unique GLIDE codes

18 related to new humanitarian emergencies in 2024

325 unique Humanitarian Response Plans and Flash Appeals referenced

24 related to humanitarian responses in 2024

Tracking Global Goals: SDG Contributions



169,000+ activities linked to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

All **17 SDGs** and **169** targets covered

10% increase in SDG-tagged activities compared to 2023

Enhancing Climate Transparency



25,900 activities marked as targeting **climate mitigation** by 191 organisations

34,700 activities targeting **climate adaptation** by 215 organisations

Understanding Gender Equality Commitments



497 organisations reported activities targeting gender equality

143,900+ activities tagged under gender equality objectives

For more information, see Annex: IATI Annual Report statistics and methodology.





Sustaining progress towards IATI's Strategic Plan

ATI Strategic Plan 2020-2025 sets out a clear direction for the initiative to maximise its contribution towards achieving sustainable development outcomes. It aims to achieve three objectives:

- Promote the systematic use of IATI data by development and humanitarian actors.
- Drive significant improvements in the quality of data published to IATI.
- Strengthen the IATI Standard to support objectives (1) and (2) by consolidating its technical core, maintaining its infrastructure and reinvigorating its community of publishers and members.

To measure the delivery of the Strategic Plan in each of the five years and to shape successive annual work plans, an annual monitoring exercise is undertaken based on the Strategic Plan's Results Framework. As with previous years, 2024 results will be released in a separate Strategic Plan Results Framework Monitoring Report. This report will be published in the latter half of 2025.

View the most recent report: IATI Strategic Plan Results Monitoring Report 2023

IATI Strategic Plan Objective:

Promote the systematic use of IATI data by development and humanitarian actors

The IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025 aims for IATI data to be systematically used to inform the planning, coordination, and accountability of development and humanitarian resources. In

2024, IATI expanded its efforts to raise awareness, build capacity, and grow partnerships, particularly with civil society, partner country governments and humanitarian stakeholders.



Participants at IATI Africa Regional Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya (4 - 6 November 2024).

Nairobi workshop engages African development data users

In November 2024, IATI convened its Africa Regional Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, bringing together 48 participants from across East, Central, and Southern Africa. Attendees represented partner country governments, providers of development cooperation, budget advocacy organisations, academia, and the media. The

workshop raised awareness about IATI as a valuable source of information on development finance and activities, with 19 partner country governments already using the data for budgets, aid coordination and monitoring. Practical training was provided on how to access and analyse IATI data using online tools.



Mercy K. Wambua, Chief Executive at the Commission on Administrative Justice, Office of the Ombudsman, Government of Kenya.

Participants heard a keynote speech from Commission Secretary and Chief Executive Mercy K. Wambua, (OGW), at the Commission on Administrative Justice, Office of the Ombudsman, Government of Kenya. Ms. Wambua highlighted Kenya's commitment to strengthening governance and accountability.

A key component of the event was a full-day consultation on IATI's next Strategic Plan (2026–2030), where participants shared valuable insights on regional and sector specific data needs looking ahead to 2030.

Speaking at the event, IATI Executive Director Yemesrach Assefa Workie said:

"In an era where the global landscape is marked by rapid change, the need for transparency in development cooperation has never been more urgent. We are called not just to share information but to do so in a manner that fosters trust, accountability, and informed decision-making."



In 2024, IATI was able to strengthen the use of its data to inform humanitarian responses. In October, IATI held a workshop in Istanbul with UN OCHA's Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to explore how IATI could better support FTS.

As the UN's global platform for tracking humanitarian financial flows, FTS plays a vital role in supporting transparency and coordination during crises. The workshop provided a focused opportunity to examine FTS's rapid and complex data needs, and identify practical next steps. Participants co-developed a prototype to demonstrate how IATI data could be used as a source for reports to FTS, laying the groundwork for more efficient, integrated reporting of humanitarian financing and projects.

Following the workshop, Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reviewed their humanitarian data sources, and found the IATI Standard to be a robust and reliable foundation for data exchange. A new pilot aims to reduce duplication, by enabling organisations to actively use their

IATI data as a source to report their humanitarian finance data. Denmark is playing a valuable leadership role in demonstrating how this can happen.

Ole Jacob Hjøllund, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark said:

"As the world changes, it's hard to think of a more important task than the delivery and coordination of humanitarian assistance. Using IATI data to support the urgent needs of FTS now – in a way that promises faster, automated exchange of data in the future – is crucial to balance long-term ambitions with immediate action."

Member-Driven Priorities for Data Use

In August 2024, the IATI Secretariat supported the Board Chair to host two virtual brainstorming sessions with over 60 participants from IATI member organisations. The sessions aimed to gather ideas on how the initiative can best promote the use of IATI data, both now and in the future.

Discussions focused on priority user groups and actions to increase uptake of IATI data. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and partner country governments emerged as key audiences for targeted engagement:

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

Members highlighted the role of CSOs as data intermediaries—organisations with the capacity to translate technical data into accessible insights for wider audiences, such as journalists or government officials. They also noted that CSOs can amplify awareness of IATI across specialised networks e.g. International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) or the International Budget Partnership.

Partner Country Governments

Members encouraged IATI to focus on partner country governments, extending its engagement beyond stakeholders in aid coordination units. IATI members wanted more focus on other relevant government departments such as budget, debt, and project management units as well as higher level engagement with Prime Ministers' Offices.

A Summary and Actions paper was produced to inform IATI's 2025 annual work plan, upcoming data use strategy, and the consultation process for the initiative's next Strategic Plan (2026–2030).

Increasing Demand for IATI Data by Thematic Communities

In 2024, the demand for IATI data was sustained among some communities focused on thematic issues. A new collaboration began with UNICEF's Education Cannot Wait (ECW), whilst ongoing engagement continued with the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS), the Land Portal Foundation, and a coalition focused on tracking funding to Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs). These partnerships demonstrate a recognition of IATI as a reliable source of information—providing thematic communities with accessible data on funding, actors, and activities, without the need to collect and maintain it themselves.

IATI offers support to thematic communities' to make the best use of IATI tools, data standard, and guidance according to their specific needs. For example, in 2024, IATI participated in a technical workshop on IPLC data held in New York in April to support the adoption of the IATI Standard in a common framework. The event brought together a wide coalition of Indigenous networks, donors, and global partners, all aligned around the 'Paris Roadmap for Tracking of Funds'. This roadmap involves developing a common framework for reporting and monitoring funding to Indigenous Peoples—aimed at closing data gaps and improving transparency, comparability, and accountability. At the workshop, IATI joined OECD-DAC and CANDID to help develop shared classifications, terminology, and standards for use across the sector. Following the workshop, IATI raised awareness of its role in tracking IPLCs funds by speaking at a side event in April 2024 during the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII).

Case study

IATI data for crises preparedness: The State of Pre-arranged Financing for Disasters 2024 Report

As disasters become more frequent and severe, agreeing financing before shocks happen can enable faster, more effective responses. In October 2024, the Centre for Disaster Protection, a technical and policy advisory organisation focused on disaster risk finance, used IATI's near real-time data to track this important funding in their second <u>State of Prearranged Financing for Disasters</u> report.

The report looked at Pre-arranged financing (PAF) approved by governments and funders in advance of a crisis, which is released to a specific implementing organisation if a pre-identified trigger condition is met. The Centre for Disaster Protection *used* IATI data to provide timely insights to complement and expand retrospective data sources including the OECD DAC Creditor Report System (CRS).

In 2022, around 85% of PAF was provided by five major donors: the World Bank, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB). Each of these donors reported consistently and comprehensively to using the IATI Standard, enabling analysis of more recent trends CRS data had not yet captured. As more organisations publish timely, comprehensive data to the IATI Standard, the potential to monitor and strengthen PAF – and broader crisis response systems – continues to grow.

To speed up and strengthen the analysis, the Centre used a machine learning model to scan IATI data for relevant transactions. Trained on CRS data, the model searched IATI data on text in the titles and descriptions of thousands of projects published, model was uncertain, records were reviewed manually.

Michele Plichta, Senior Researcher at the Centre for Disaster Protection said:

"Over the past two years, our work has shown just how powerful IATI data can be when it comes to tracking pre-arranged disaster finance. The ability to see what's happening now opens the door to making more timely decisions that can result in more effective mitigation, planning and preparation for disasters".

By making this kind of timely, structured analysis possible, IATI data is helping to build a clearer, more dynamic picture of global disaster finance. The Centre for Disaster Protection's report demonstrates the growing value of IATI as essential infrastructure that enables faster, more informed decision-making in a world where delays can cost lives.



Case study

IATI data for tracking development cooperation: Nigeria Development Cooperation Dashboard launched in 2024

In 2024, Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning launched the Nigeria Development Cooperation Dashboard, improving visibility of billions of dollars of resources.

In 2023, over 158 organisations published IATI data on projects in Nigeria totalling over USD 5 billion.

As the government works towards the goal of lifting over 100 million Nigerians out of poverty by 2030, the timely and open data IATI provides is crucial to driving evidence based decisions that can maximise the impact of development cooperation.



Since joining IATI as a member in 2015, Nigeria's government has increasingly used IATI data to improve governance and economic planning. The Central Bank of Nigeria, for example, uses this data to calculate balance of payments, ensuring more accurate financial management. The Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning relies on the data to develop a more informed Medium-Term Expenditure Framework, improving budgeting decisions. The National Assembly also uses this data to provide parliamentary oversight, providing accountability that funds are spent effectively.

In 2024, Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning scaled up their use of IATI data by launching the Nigeria Development Cooperation Dashboard, a tool designed to enhance transparency and accountability of development resources. The dashboard maps IATI data to Nigeria's National Development Plan pillars and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), providing more effective monitoring of progress towards national goals, as well as attaining the SDGs. This helps the government to better track and measure outcomes, adjust their strategies in real time, and ensure that resources are directed to the most impactful initiatives.

The Nigeria Development Cooperation Dashboard also helps to foster trust and accountability among development partners, civil society and the public. By providing timely access to comprehensive data, the dashboard helps stakeholders to better understand where resources are going, how they are being used, and the tangible outcomes that they deliver.

Henry Asor Nkang, Development Assistance Database Manager at the Nigerian Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning and former IATI Governing Board Chair said:

"The government of Nigeria sees immense value in the International Aid Transparency Initiative and is using IATI data to track millions of dollars of development finance flowing into our country. We used IATI data to inform Nigeria's Annual Development Cooperation Report, which monitors development financing to our country and informs government decisions about the future coordination of these resources".

IATI Strategic Plan Objective:

Drive a significant improvement in the quality of data published to IATI

To ensure that IATI data is useful, the Strategic Plan contains an important objective of improving the quality of the data published. At the end of 2024, IATI had reached 1656 publishers, with a growth of

106 organisations publishing data according to the IATI Standard. During the year, the IATI Secretariat continued to offer support to organisations seeking to publish and improve their data.

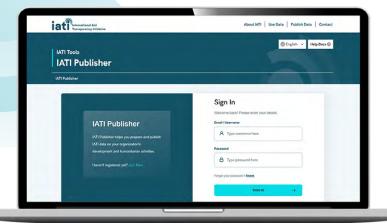
Linking activity data: Strengthening aid coordination and traceability

To strengthen aid coordination and improve the traceability of funding and results, the IATI Secretariat implemented activities in 2024 to enhance how links between aid activities are tracked and validated. Every development and humanitarian activity published to IATI includes a unique identifier (activity ID), which allows organisations to reference each other's work—to show links within funding relationships, implementing partnerships, or related projects.

In July 2024, the <u>IATI Validator</u>—a key tool that checks whether data complies with the IATI Standard—was updated to flag when the use of

activity IDs need to be improved. This new feature helps to identify broken and missing links, and when activity references do not point to existing records. Organisations who publish IATI data are encouraged to use the IATI Validator to correctly link the relationships between different development and humanitarian activities using activity IDs.

These identifiers form the foundation for a connected view of aid delivery, enabling data users to follow the flow of resources across organisations and understand who is working where, on what, and with whom.



Improving IATI Publisher: simpler data sharing

In 2024, IATI began improving its online Publisher tool to make it clearer and easier for organisations to share high-quality aid data. <u>IATI Publisher</u> is a free tool designed for small and medium-sized organisations, enabling them to publish data in the XML format required by the IATI Standard—without needing to build or maintain their own publishing systems.

The latest updates make it easier for users to enter data on their development and humanitarian

activities, check for completeness, and follow clearer, step-by-step guidance within the tool. These improvements aim to save time, reduce confusion, and lessen the need for human support, including from the IATI Support Desk.

With 1656 organisations publishing to IATI—and many required to do so by development providers such as the UK, Netherlands, Belgium, and Denmark—IATI Publisher plays an important role in supporting data publication across the sector.

IATI Support Desk: One-to-One guidance throughout the publishing journey

In 2024, the IATI Secretariat continued to offer dedicated one-to-one support to organisations seeking help with publishing their data, as well as responding to queries about accessing and using IATI data. This support was delivered through the IATI Support Desk, which consistently maintained the highest levels of user satisfaction based on feedback received.

Demand for support remained steady throughout the year. In 2024, the Support Desk received an average of 108 tickets per month, with July seeing the highest volume and November the lowest—a 17.5% increase on previous reporting periods.

The Secretariat also provided in-depth technical assistance to several major development actors. This included the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), which published IATI data for the first time in August 2024 following sustained support since 2023 (see case study below).

Continued support was also provided to the Government of Australia to update its publishing commitment, leading to the launch of a new transparency portal powered by IATI data (see case study below).

Case study

Australian Government launches new transparency portal powered by IATI data

In December, the Australian Government launched <u>AusDevPortal</u>—a new online transparency platform that provides unprecedented access to data on Australia's Official Development Assistance (ODA). The portal is powered by the IATI Standard, providing clear, accessible data about how Australia's aid is planned, allocated and delivered.

The launch marked a significant milestone in Australia's 2023 International Development Policy, reaffirming its dedication to creating a more transparent, accountable and impactful international development programme.

AusDevPortal offers a detailed view of over 900 aid projects supported by Australia in the 2022-23 financial year, ensuring the transparency of \$4.78 billion across 122 countries. These projects span sectors across infrastructure, health and education, showcasing Australia's contributions to sustainable development.

The portal offers a comprehensive range of data, including:

- project descriptions
- annual expenditure and total investment values
- geographic locations
- · policy markers
- · performance scores, and
- key documents like project evaluation and design reports.

The IATI Secretariat worked closely with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade to provide advice and support about publishing data and developing the portal. The data presented on the portal is sourced from Australia's IATI activity file and other verified government systems.

Pat Conroy, the Australian Minister for International Development and the Pacific, said:

Visit AusDevPortal: adp.dfat.gov.au



"I look forward to using this transparency uplift to foster more open dialogue about the importance of development in our region. Transparency is essential to building confidence in our development program, and supporting better, deeper relationships with our partners across the region."



Case study

CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean Starts Publishing IATI Data

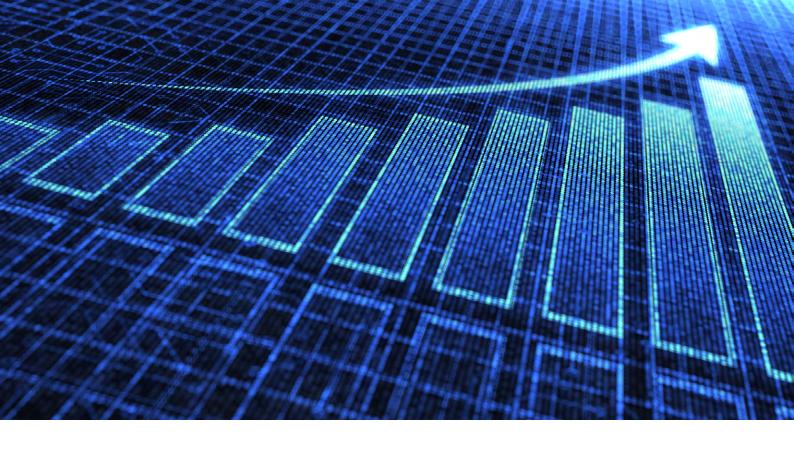
In 2024, CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean began publishing IATI data on their financing. They shared detailed information on over 150 development activities across 14 countries, totalling more than USD 5 billion. By publishing their data using the IATI Standard, CAF is showcasing how cooperation among regional partners can drive growth and develop local solutions that accelerate progress towards shared development goals.

CAF's publication follows the launch of its Access to Information and Institutional Transparency Program in 2023, through which the bank committed to improving openness and accountability. As part of this Program, CAF became an IATI member and pledged to make its financial information easier to find, access, and use—strengthening the potential of data to drive impact.

Throughout 2023 and 2024, the IATI Secretariat worked closely with CAF to support their journey to publication. This included assistance in modelling their data to align with the IATI Standard, using tools such as the IATI Validator to ensure quality, and refining internal systems to enable regular, high-quality reporting.

Alejandra Claros Borda, Secretary-General of Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, said:

"Being a member of IATI is evidence of CAF's dedication to advancing a culture of openness and strengthening public trust in all our actions. Thanks to efforts to promote transparency, in addition to being accountable to our Governing **Bodies and citizens,** we also promote an environment where the final beneficiaries can have participation and a voice in the projects we finance."



Recognising Progress: Aid Transparency Index Reaches Record High

In 2024, Publish What You Fund (PWF) released its Aid Transparency Index, reporting the highest-ever scores since the Index began. The Index primarily assesses data published through the IATI Standard, and the 2024 report confirmed that "overall data quality as measured by the Index is significantly better than at any other time." Among the 50 major development agencies assessed, all but one are now publishing at least some data to IATI—a milestone that reflects the growing maturity and uptake of the Standard since its launch in 2011.

IATI commends PWYF for its outstanding work in driving progress through 14 years of independent assessment and was pleased to provide one-off funding in support of the 2024 Index. Special recognition goes to the African Development Bank (AfDB), which topped the rankings for the second consecutive time. In 2024, AfDB launched a new version of its MapAfrica platform, delivering a more robust infrastructure and improved user experience to help stakeholders explore AfDB investments and results.

Horia Sohir Debbiche, Principal Results and Transparency Officer at African Development Bank (AfDB), said:

"Progress doesn't happen overnight—it takes years of rigour, dedication, and a relentless commitment to transparency and accountability. At AfDB, we've embraced this journey by aligning with IATI standards and continuously improving our organisational efficiency."

While continued improvements to the IATI Standard and supporting tools remain a priority, the data now available is widely recognised as "good enough" to be used by a broad range of development and humanitarian actors—enabling more informed decision-making, accountability, and collaboration across the sector.

IATI Strategic Plan Objective:

Strengthen the IATI Standard by consolidating its technical core, maintaining its infrastructure and reinvigorating its community of publishers and members

In 2024, the IATI Secretariat worked to deliver major improvements to how data is accessed, explored enhancements to user experience, and laid the groundwork for a more regular and responsive approach to updating the IATI Standard.

Maintaining the IATI Standard and Strengthening Technical Infrastructure

Since its launch in 2011, the IATI Standard has been upgraded a few times to address the evolving needs of the development and humanitarian communities. For example, Version 2.02 enabled organisations to report on how their activities contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). While updates are infrequent (with the last in 2018), maintaining a strong foundation is essential to ensure the Standard remains relevant and accessible.

In 2024, the Secretariat laid important groundwork for future upgrades. To improve how changes to the Standard are proposed and reviewed, IATI convened a **Stewardship of the Standard Working Group.** The group met three times in 2024 to explore ways to strengthen transparency, build better evidence for updates, and improve the documentation of use cases. Their contributions set the stage for a more regular and responsive approach to Standard updates in the years ahead.

During the year, work progressed on a new IATI Glossary to clarify key terms within the IATI Standard used across tools and guidance, with initial content translated into French and

Spanish. These efforts, supported by new internal Translation Guidelines, laid the foundations for a more accessible Standard and enabled the first multilingual version of Validator documentation (see <u>French</u> and <u>Spanish</u>).





Modernising IATI's Technical Infrastructure

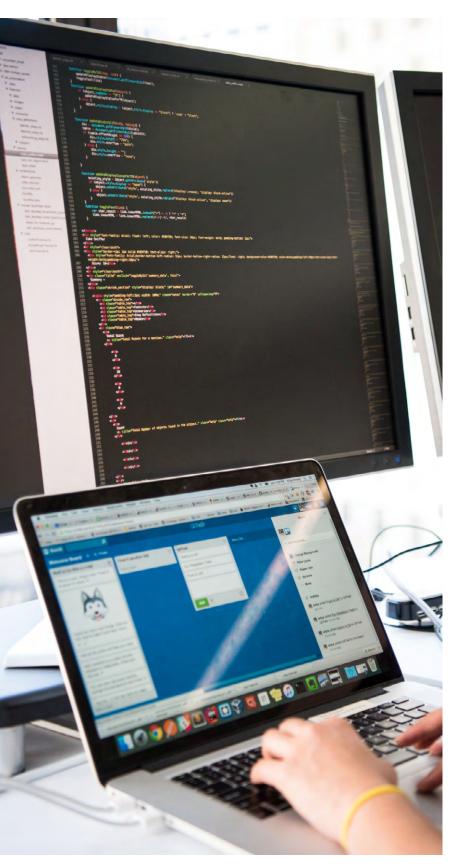
In 2024, IATI launched a new <u>Bulk Data Service</u>, a major improvement to how raw data is accessed and updated. This new service, part of IATI's Unified Platform, enables developers to download **all available IATI data** in a single .zip file with accompanying metadata. The service refreshes as frequently as every hour, ensuring access to the most up-to-date information and improving consistency across IATI including the IATI Datastore and Validator.

Alongside this, development began on a File Information Service to help monitor long-term

publishing behaviour. This service will store metadata about data files—such as fetch status and file size—helping users identify trends and resolve issues. A public interface is also in development to allow publishers to track and troubleshoot their own data.

Together, these services improve the reliability, speed, and transparency of IATI's infrastructure—empowering developers and data users to build stronger tools and insights.

Improving User Experience Across IATI Tools



The Secretariat also advanced a series of projects aimed at improving the user experience of IATI's digital services. User research was completed for a **new single sign-on system,** due to launch in 2025, which will allow access to multiple IATI tools with a single login.

To support a more cohesive user journey, a **new design system** was developed to align the look and structure of tools such as d-portal.org and streamline access to guidance materials. This system also supports easier multilingual translation, with the first version applied to the Validator's documentation in 2024.

IATI's main website, <u>iatistandard.org</u>, also underwent usability improvements. After minor content and navigation updates earlier in the year, a comprehensive audit by a content design agency led to recommendations for further changes. These recommendations will guide a series of improvements from 2025 onwards, helping ensure future content is clearer, more accessible, and better meets the needs of a diverse, global audience.



Governance, Community and Engagement

he IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025 identifies several cross-cutting action areas essential to achieving the initiative's core objectives. In 2024, IATI made significant progress across

these areas—strengthening engagement with members and the broader community, deepening outreach to key global stakeholders, and ensuring effective governance of the initiative.

IATI Governance: Diversifying membership, strengthening leadership

IATI is governed and funded by its members—organisations committed to improving the transparency of development and humanitarian resources. In 2024, the initiative welcomed three new members: the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the Government of Senegal,

and Fields Data. Their addition reflects IATI's growing relevance across the development and humanitarian landscape, as the initiative continues to attract a diverse range of actors committed to advancing global transparency.

In March, IATI members elected a new Governing Board to serve a two-year term. The new Board appointed Thea Schepers, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, as Chair, and Charlie Martial Ngounou, Executive President of Afroleadership, as Vice-Chair.

June marked a significant milestone with the appointment of <u>IATI's first Executive Director</u>, <u>Yemesrach Assefa Workie</u>. Ms. Workie was welcomed by the Board at its in-person meeting in Vienna, and soon after hosted a virtual "Meet and Greet" session to introduce herself to IATI members and hear their priorities. Since then, the Executive Director has joined virtual "Board Dropin Sessions" led by the Chair, providing an open forum for members to engage on governance issues.

The Board also maintained active communication with members through <u>IATI Connect Members'</u> <u>Group</u>—sharing updates, encouraging dialogue, and promoting transparency in decision-making throughout the year.

Inclusive governance through Community Working Groups

In 2024, IATI continued to benefit from the expertise of its members and wider community

through several dedicated working groups. Working groups remain an important part of IATI's governance model, helping ensure that decisions and technical developments are shaped by those who use and support the initiative.

- The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)
 Working Group completed updates to IATI's
 SOPs, including clearer guidance on financial
 good standing and membership fee waivers.
 These updates support greater transparency
 in how the initiative is managed. (See Financial
 Report 2024 for more detail.)
- Group met three times in 2024 to explore improvements to how changes to the IATI Standard are proposed and assessed. Their work laid the foundation for a more transparent and evidence-based approach to Standard updates. (See section: *Maintaining the IATI Standard*.)
- The South-South Cooperation Working Group, established in late 2024, began early discussions on how IATI can support greater transparency and coordination in South-South Cooperation. This work will continue in 2025.

These groups play a vital role in fostering inclusive decision-making and ensuring IATI continues to reflect the needs and priorities of its global community.



Yemesrach Assefa Workie, IATI Executive Director (left) at IATI Governing Board meeting Vienna 4 - 5 June 2024



B. Piedad Urdinola Contreras, Director General of the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) opened the IATI Members' Assembly 2024 in Bogotá, Colombia.

Advancing Transparency in Latin America: IATI's Annual Members' Assembly and Community Exchange held in Bogotá

From 23–25 April 2024, IATI held its annual Members' Assembly and Community Exchange in Bogotá, Colombia. Hosted by Colombia's Presidential Agency for International Cooperation (APC) and the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE), the meeting marked the first time IATI's annual gathering was held in Latin America. The event convened a diverse group of stakeholders from governments, civil society, multilaterals and the private sector to share experiences, co-create solutions, and build partnerships around open data for sustainable development.

In opening remarks on behalf of the United Nations, Alejandro Pacheco, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Colombia, emphasised the global importance of IATI's mission:

"In a world where mis- and false information are spreading faster than the truth, reliable data and resulting fact-based reporting are more important than ever. It is incumbent on each one of us—partner country governments, donors, civil society and development organisations—to support IATI and the free access to high-quality data."



The Members' Assembly invited all IATI members to participate in discussions focused on how the initiative is governed and resourced. The following two-day Community Exchange gave organisations from across the world the opportunity to present their work with IATI data and share how they are using transparency to drive better development and humanitarian outcomes. Community sessions highlighted cutting-edge approaches to climate finance with a gender lens, the use of IATI data for performance and results management, and practical examples of how regional actors in Latin America are democratising data and using open standards to inform decision-making. Technical discussions also addressed improving data publishing workflows, leveraging artificial intelligence, and strengthening the IATI Standard through collective stewardship.

Eleonora Betancur González, Director of APC Colombia, highlighted the country's growing role in supporting regional data capacity:

"On our recent tour of Africa, Colombia was highlighted as a leader in strengthening the national statistical systems of Ghana and Kenya. This demonstrates the great work we are doing in our country in terms of data and the potential of South–South Cooperation for the exchange of capabilities."

Andrea Ramírez Pisco, Deputy Director of DANE, underscored Colombia's focus on transparency and data for sustainable development:

"The Colombian government has prioritised strengthening the transparency and availability of data about development cooperation, recognising that it is an element essential to optimise the impact of our resources towards compliance with the 2030 Agenda."



Case study

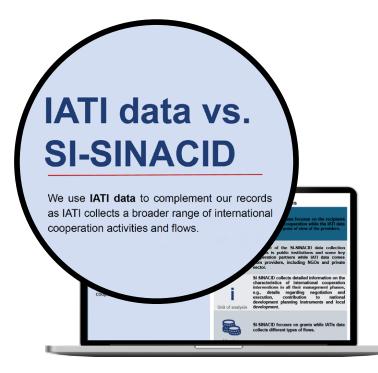
Dominican Republic Presents Use of IATI Data at Bogotá Community Exchange

At the 2024 IATI Community Exchange in Bogotá, representatives from the **Ministry of Economy**, **Planning and Development of the Dominican Republic** shared how IATI data is being used to complement the country's national system for tracking international cooperation—highlighting IATI's added value in strengthening transparency and visibility of development finance.

The Ministry oversees **SI-SINACID**, the national system for monitoring non-reimbursable international cooperation projects. While SI-SINACID captures detailed data reported by public institutions and key development partners, the Ministry representatives explained that IATI offers additional insight. To enhance national reporting, the Ministry draws on IATI data to reflect contributions from a broader range of development actors—including NGOs, academic institutions, and the private sector—that do not report to SI-SINACID.

As part of the preparation of the **2022 Annual Report on International Cooperation**, the Ministry compared SI-SINACID data with IATI records. The representatives presented the following findings:

- 765 activities were reported in IATI as taking place in the Dominican Republic in 2022
- Only 96 of these (12.5%) were already captured in SI-SINACID
- IATI revealed 683 additional activities not recorded in the national system
- These activities represented over USD 11 million in development cooperation flows
- Key sectors included agriculture, education, health, environmental protection, and civil society



Using IATI data helped identify activities led by a wider range of providers and recipients, offering a more inclusive picture of development cooperation in the country. The representatives noted that while the data required some cleaning and deduplication, it significantly contributed to building a more complete overview of development activities—particularly those implemented by non-governmental actors.

By sharing their experience at the Community Exchange, the Dominican Republic provided a valuable example of how IATI data can complement national systems and strengthen cooperation reporting. This case also illustrates how IATI's engagement in Latin America is helping surface national use cases and deepening collaboration with governments across the region.



Expanding Engagement: Elevating IATI's Global Influence

In 2024, IATI scaled up its global outreach through the delivery of a new Engagement Strategy and Action Plan, focused on strengthening visibility, data use, and growing IATI's membership and community.

Leveraging its base within UNDP in New York, the Secretariat deepened strategic engagement with senior representatives from UN Permanent Missions and development actors. The Executive Director led high-level meetings with countries including Nigeria, the Netherlands, Nepal, Ethiopia, Gambia, Senegal, Cape Verde, Kenya, Vanuatu, Ghana, Tuvalu, Fiji, Peru, and

CARICOM. These conversations were supported by country-level data briefings and tailored communication materials.

This targeted engagement helped position IATI as a relevant actor amid rapid changes in the development landscape. It also led to concrete outcomes: new memberships from the Governments of Senegal and Gambia, deeper dialogue with civil society organisations such as DefendDefenders, and a €200,000 voluntary contribution from the European Union confirmed in November 2024 to support work on data quality and membership growth.



H.E. Mrs. Fatima Haram Acyl, Minister Delegate for Economy and Planning of Chad at IATI side-event at the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2024, co-hosted by the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC).

Advancing Transparency in Global Financing: Early Engagement in the FfD4 Process

In 2024, IATI took early action to advocate for stronger commitment to transparency of aid in the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), set to take place in June 2025. This once in a decade conference will drive the framework in which the global community finances development outcomes.

The United Nations has identified FfD4 as a crucial opportunity to close the estimated USD 4 trillion annual financing gap and to reform the international financial system in ways that "rebuild trust in multilateralism."

IATI's message throughout the year was clear: the global community should commit to publishing data on all international resources using the IATI Standard, and promote the use of this data.

Prior to the formal FfD4 consultation process, IATI co-hosted a side-event at the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) in July 2024, in partnership with the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC). The event was one of the first to spotlight open data and development effectiveness in the FfD4 context, and called for clear commitments to publish development finance using the IATI Standard.

The keynote address was delivered by **H.E. Mrs. Fatima Haram Acyl, Minister Delegate for Economy and Planning of Chad,** who shared how IATI has strengthened national transparency systems.

"Chad has worked with IATI to gain valuable data about development resources coming into the country. This data has helped us coordinate efforts, reduce duplication, and improve how we allocate public resources," she said.

Mrs. Acyl emphasised that transparency and effectiveness are not abstract concepts for Chad—they are practical tools for achieving real results.

The event also featured speakers from USAID, the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, Publish What You Fund, and the Government of Nigeria, and prompted renewed engagement between IATI and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), which is coordinating the FfD4 process.

In October, IATI submitted formal input to the FfD4 Elements Paper, calling for the global community to publish data on all international resources using the IATI Standard and to promote the use of this data to improve coordination, accountability, and decision-making. IATI's Executive Director also engaged directly with key stakeholders involved in shaping the negotiation process, including meeting the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations, one of the co-facilitators of the Outcome Document.



Yemesrach Workie, IATI Executive Director and H. E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations.

Working through the UN System: Expanding IATI Policy Engagement

In 2024, IATI expanded its policy engagement across global, regional, and country levels—working through the UN system and directly with governments to improve the visibility and coordination of development and humanitarian finance.

At the **country level**, IATI supported the development of national finance tracking systems through its collaboration with UNDP country offices. In Nepal, the Secretariat worked closely with the Ministry of Finance and the UNDP Country Office to develop a new Development Finance Information System (DFIS), ensuring integration with IATI data from IATI's Datastore. In Ukraine, IATI provided technical assistance—via the UNDP Country Office—to the DREAM project portal, a new procurement monitoring platform developed by Open Contracting Partnership and Prozorro. This support helped apply the IATI Standard to track reconstruction and recovery funding more effectively.

At the **regional level**, IATI contributed policy advice to UNDP's Community of Practice on Aid Coordination in the Arab States region, supporting ongoing efforts to strengthen how development cooperation is planned and reported across multiple countries.

At the **global level**, IATI engaged in policy dialogues with humanitarian actors, including consultations with the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) on anticipatory action financing, and continued collaboration with the Centre for Humanitarian Data (HDX) to strengthen the use of open data in humanitarian planning and response.



These activities reflect IATI's growing policy relevance and uptake across the UN system. Following the UN Secretary-General's 2017 call for system-wide enrolment in IATI, 61% of UN development entities were publishing financial data using the IATI Standard by 2024, according to the UN Economic and Social Council.¹

¹ https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n24/096/69/pdf/n2409669.pdf





Consultation Launch: Shaping IATI's Strategic Plan for 2026–2030

In 2024, IATI launched a global, inclusive consultation process to develop its next Strategic Plan (2026–2030)—a roadmap that will guide the initiative's priorities in a rapidly evolving development and humanitarian landscape. As the current 2020–2025 Strategic Plan approaches its conclusion, it has become more important than ever to reflect, adapt, and shape IATI's future with the insights of its broad community and wider stakeholder ecosystem.

To help frame these discussions, the Secretariat published a paper entitled *IATI 2030: Exploring Strategic Pathways in an Evolving Aid Landscape.* The paper provided a clear-eyed assessment of the shifting development context, identifying major trends—including increased fragmentation of finance, growing humanitarian needs, and widening inequalities—that are reshaping the aid landscape. This framing helped focus early consultation efforts and ensured participants could engage with a shared strategic foundation.

The first phase of consultations was held between November 2024 and January 2025 and included:

- An in-person strategic planning workshop in Nairobi
- A virtual visioning workshop bringing together global members and stakeholders

- A global open online consultation on IATI Connect, moderated by community stakeholders
- · One-to-one stakeholder interviews

These early engagements generated valuable insight into how IATI can remain relevant and transformative in a shifting global context. Key takeaways from the <u>Phase I Summary</u> (January 2025) highlighted:

- The need for stronger advocacy and partnerships to position transparency as a foundation for collaboration and mutual accountability
- Opportunities for IATI to serve as a one-stop shop for tracking diversified development finance, including climate and South–South cooperation flows
- The importance of investing in user-friendly technologies, automatic translation, Al-driven publishing and analytics tools, and georeferenced data to expand IATI's reach and usability

IATI will continue the Strategic Plan consultation throughout 2025, with further in-person, online and bilateral engagements and draft documents released for review ahead of final endorsement by IATI Members at the Members' Assembly in Q4 2025 (see *Looking Ahead* section).



Looking ahead

he global development landscape is rapidly evolving. Rising humanitarian needs, fragmented financing, and growing geopolitical tensions are placing new demands on international cooperation. In this context, the role of transparency has become even more critical.

For IATI, 2025 marks a pivotal year. It is the final year of implementing the 2020–2025 Strategic Plan—and the moment to shape a new strategy that responds to current realities and future challenges.

Securing the Future of Transparency: IATI's Strategic Planning Journey

Over the course of 2025, IATI will continue implementing its current Strategic Plan while using an independent evaluation to assess progress and capture lessons learned. These reflections will inform the development of the next Strategic Plan. Alongside this, IATI will place strong emphasis on financial sustainability. Expanding and maintaining membership contributions, while managing expenditure prudently, will be critical to safeguarding the initiative's future (see Financial Report 2024).

Strategic planning will remain a central focus in 2025, as IATI works with its membership and community to shape a new strategy for 2026–2030. Consultations will continue throughout the year, with drafts of the new Strategic Plan to be shared for review in Quarter 3. The final version of the new Strategic Plan will be presented for approval at the in-person Members' Assembly in Quarter 4.

Improving Data Quality for More Effective Development

Delivering high-quality data remains a key focus of the existing Strategic Plan. In 2025, IATI will accelerate its efforts to support organisations to improve the data available for transparency, coordination, and results in development and humanitarian action.

Key activities include:

- Quarterly Data Reviews and a State of IATI Data Report to highlight good practices, address challenges and create feedback loops.
- Upgrades to the IATI Dashboard to provide more actionable feedback to publishers.
- Continued improvements to the IATI Publisher tool to support smaller development and humanitarian organisations.
- New publishing guides tailored to different publishing contexts.
- Working with the OECD on a pilot to improve visibility of subcontractor relationships and local procurement in aid delivery.





Strengthening the Use of IATI Data

Increasing the use of IATI data remains a core strategic objective for the initiative. In 2025, IATI will prioritise support for key stakeholders—including civil society organisations and partner country governments—to build their capacity to access, understand, and apply IATI data in meaningful ways.

Training and capacity-building activities will focus on virtual delivery, taking into account budget constraints. However, targeted in-person opportunities will be pursued where funding

allows. An example includes a West Africa Regional Workshop (co-hosted by the African Development Bank), which will be held in Abidjan in June 2025. This event will convene data users and publishers from across the region to discuss practical solutions for improving data accessibility and usability.

To support greater consistency across tools, the IATI Secretariat will work to align the Datastore, d-portal, and Country Development Finance Data (CDFD) platforms. These improvements will be guided by the rollout of a new IATI Data Policy.

Using IATI Data to Support Humanitarian Coordination

In 2025, IATI will continue working with the UN OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS) and Denmark's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to advance a pilot aimed at improving the interoperability of humanitarian finance reporting. The pilot, launched following a technical workshop in Istanbul in 2024, will focus on developing solutions for how IATI data can be used within FTS—enabling organisations to publish their data once using the IATI Standard, with the information made directly usable by

FTS. This approach aims to streamline reporting processes, reduce duplication, and strengthen the overall visibility of humanitarian assistance.

IATI will also continue to provide technical and policy support to UN agencies and platforms, including the Humanitarian Data Exchange (HDX), to further enhance the use of IATI data in humanitarian preparedness, coordination, and response.

Tracking Climate Financing to Developing Countries

Transparency will be essential to delivering the new USD 300 billion annual climate finance goal agreed at COP29.

In 2025, IATI will work to improve the visibility of climate finance flows—particularly to countries most vulnerable to climate change, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A 2025 report by Publish What You Fund underscored the need for more consistent and comparable open data, noting that only one of the four major multilateral climate funds currently publish to IATI.

IATI has already begun engaging key stakeholders to raise awareness of the Standard's role in capturing climate finance, including <u>presenting</u> IATI data to the Pacific Islands Forum in February 2025.



Strengthening Engagement and Growing IATI's Reach

Alongside efforts to engage key humanitarian and climate actors, IATI will continue delivering its *Engagement Strategy and Action Plan (September 2024–December 2025)*. A priority in the first half of the year is advocating for recognition of transparency—and of IATI itself—in the Outcome Document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4). IATI will maintain its engagement with Member States and plans to deliver a dedicated side event during the FfD4 conference in Seville (30 June–10 July).

In parallel, IATI will deepen its engagement with its existing community while expanding outreach to potential new members and partners across the development and humanitarian landscape. This

includes building on momentum from successful activities, such as an <u>IATI-EU Transparency Workshop</u> (delivered in March 2025), co-hosted by the EU Commission which brought together 40 representatives from EU member states.

As international cooperation continues to evolve, IATI's engagement strategy will respond to the growing influence of a broader set of actors—including multilateral development banks (MDBs), South—South cooperation providers, philanthropic foundations, and private funders. Through this focus, IATI aims to remain relevant in a changing global landscape and champion the essential role of transparency in delivering better development outcomes.



Annex: IATI Annual Report statistics and methodology

Il budget, spending, humanitarian and SDG data presented was pulled from the IATI Registry on 31 January 2025. This data was processed using both Python and R studio. Climate and gender data were pulled from IATI Datastore Search on 31 January 2025. The number of organisations publishing to IATI presented in the report was also counted as of 31 January.

Budgets: Activity budget data has been analysed in the report. When an original and revised budget has been reported for the same period, only the revised budget has been used. Data for budgets commencing in 2025 reported as of 31 January 2025 has been analysed. Only budgets with recipient countries reported at the activity level have been included.

Spend: For the spend analysis, transaction types (3-disbursement and 4-expenditure) with transaction dates in 2024 have been analysed.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): For the SDG analysis, SDGs reported at the sector, tag, and result indicator levels have been used. All activities including SDG data as of 31 January 2025 have been counted.

Humanitarian: Activities have been classified as humanitarian if the humanitarian flag has been used at activity level. For the analysis of

GLIDE and HRP, any activities that have used the humanitarian scope element and humanitarian scope vocabulary 1-2 (GLIDE) and 2-1 (Humanitarian Plan) were included. Emergency and appeal activities numbers have been counted by using the humanitarian-scope type. To avoid ambiguity, any GLIDE or humanitarian plan codes that were incorrectly formatted were filtered out of the analysis and counting.

Climate action: Climate data was pulled from the Datastore Search on 31 January 2025. Data for activities pertaining to climate change adaptation and mitigation was collected. Activities were included in this classification if they included the policy marker code 6, "Aid Targeting the Objectives of the Framework Convention on Climate Change – Mitigation", or policy marker code 7, "Aid Targeting the Objectives of the Framework Convention on Climate Change – Adaptation" as a "principal" or 'significant" objective.

Gender equality: Gender data was pulled from the Datastore Search on 31 January 2025. Data for activities pertaining to gender equality were collected. Activities were included in this classification if they included the policy marker code 1, "Gender Equality" as a "principal" or "significant" objective.

Acknowledgements

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