

# **Session 4: Strengthening IATI's Institutional Foundations: Governance, Membership, and the Standard Stewardship**

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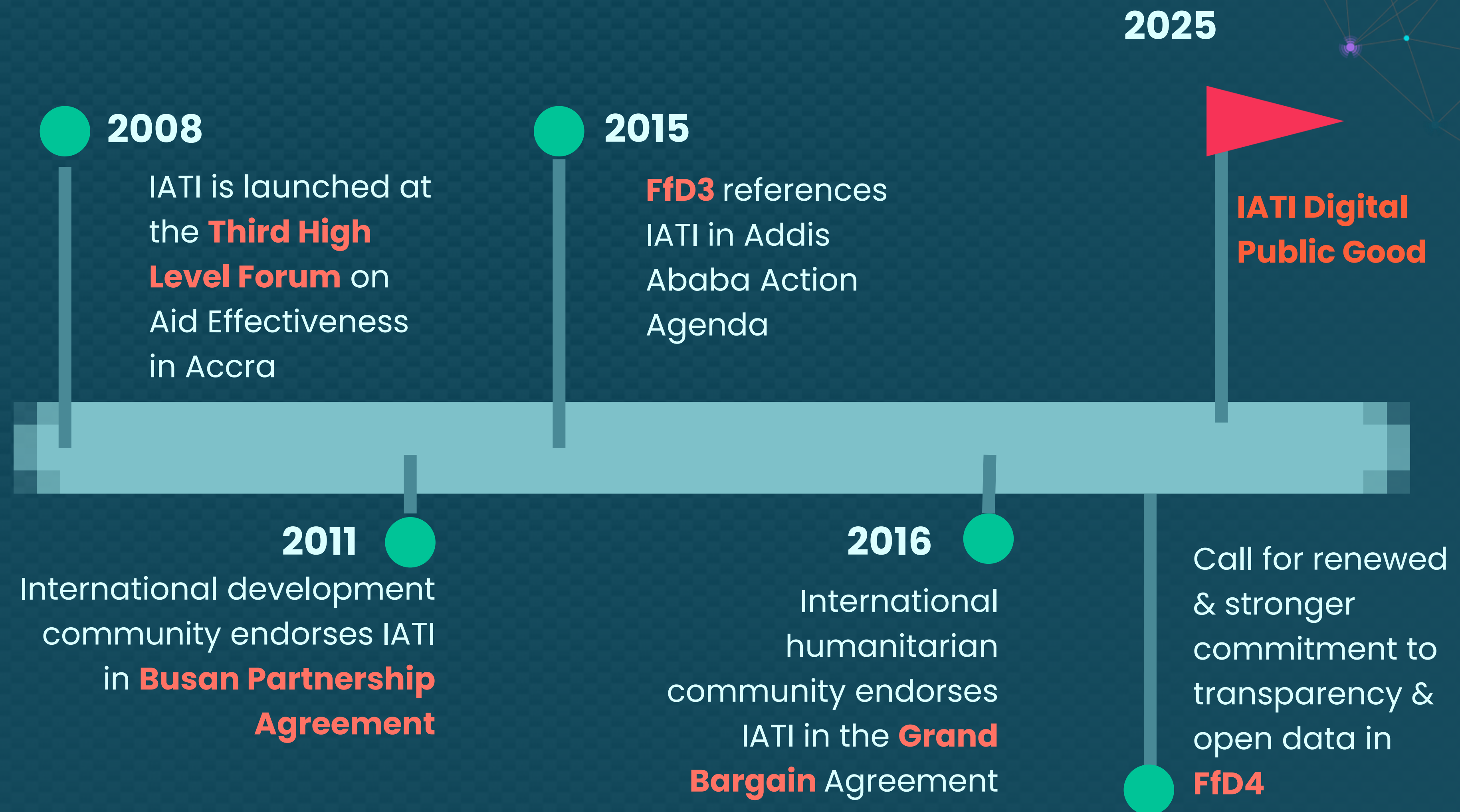
Private Secretary, UK FCDO

# International **Commitments** to Transparency & Open Data

Decades of commitments ...

**for Better  
Development Data**

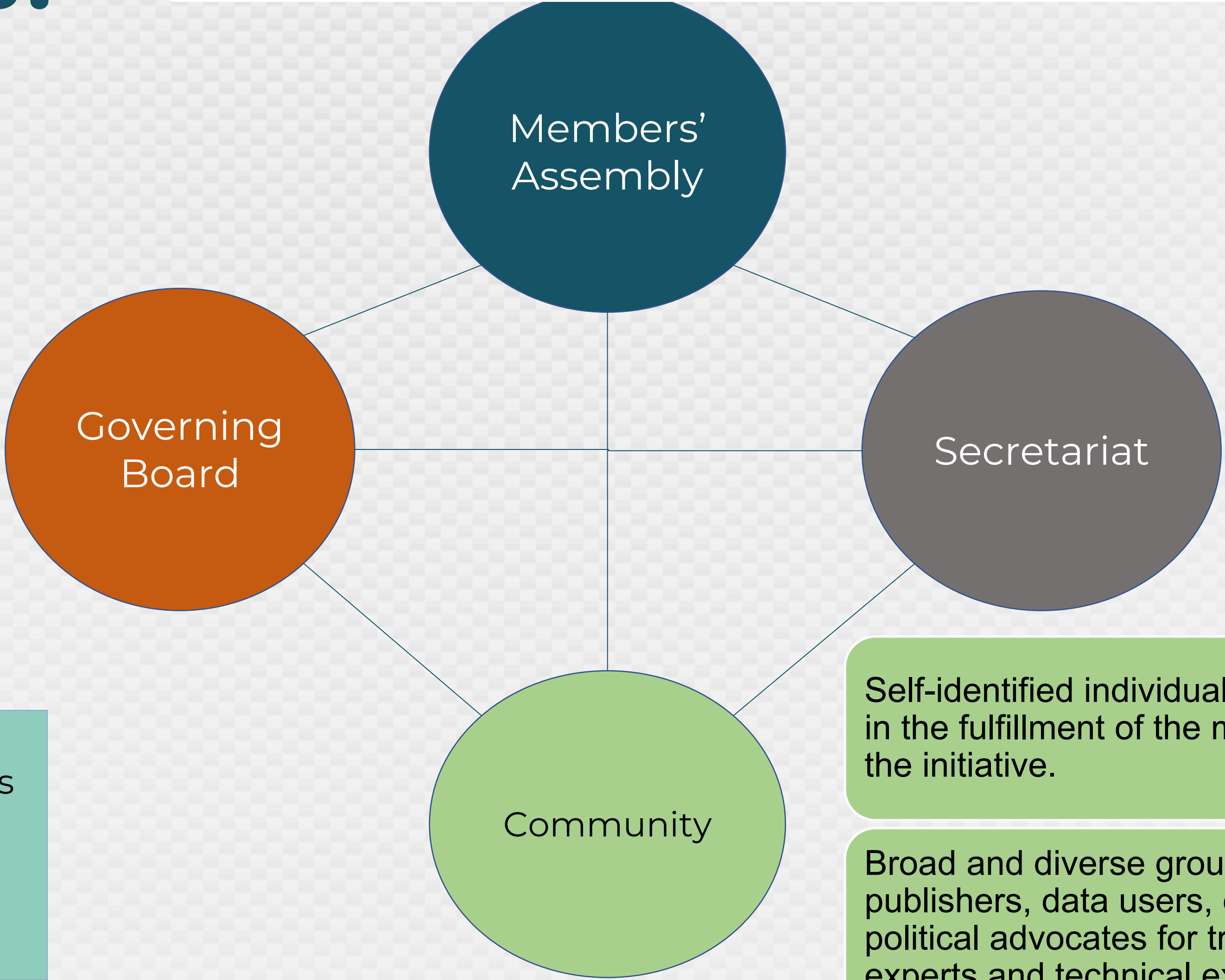
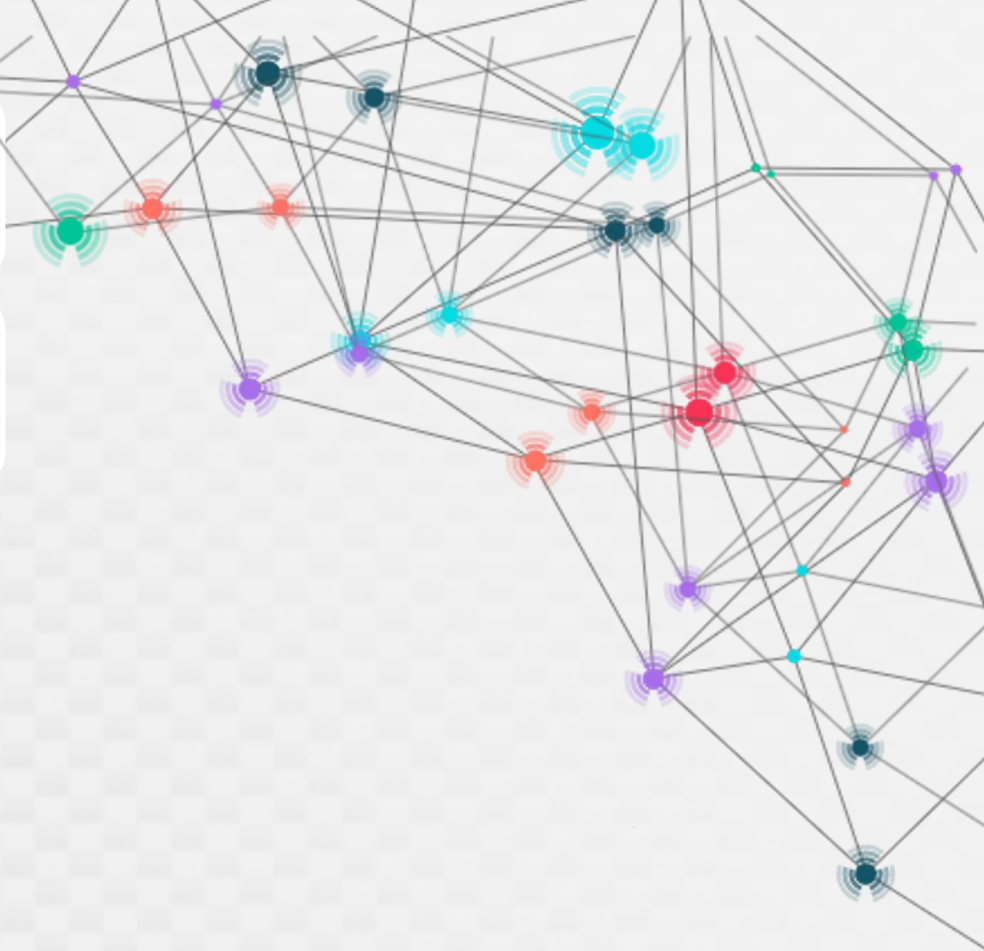
✓ Recognised needs for:  
**timely,**  
**detailed,**  
**forward-looking,** and  
**results-focused**



# Who are IATI's Stakeholders?

Three constituencies: Providers of Development Cooperation; Partner Countries; Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Private Sector Organisations

Open to all interested in formally joining as members.



Seven representatives elected by Members

Two members per constituency and one technical specialist

Manages day-to-day hosting of IATI (Policy, Technology, Legal & Operations)

Note: the **Standard Operating Procedures** (SOP) codify how IATI is run, including respective roles and responsibilities of Members' Assembly, Governing Board and Secretariat.

Self-identified individuals or organizations interested in the fulfillment of the mission, vision and values of the initiative.

Broad and diverse group made up of data publishers, data users, development practitioners, political advocates for transparency, open data experts and technical experts.



# Members' Assembly Responsibilities & Authority

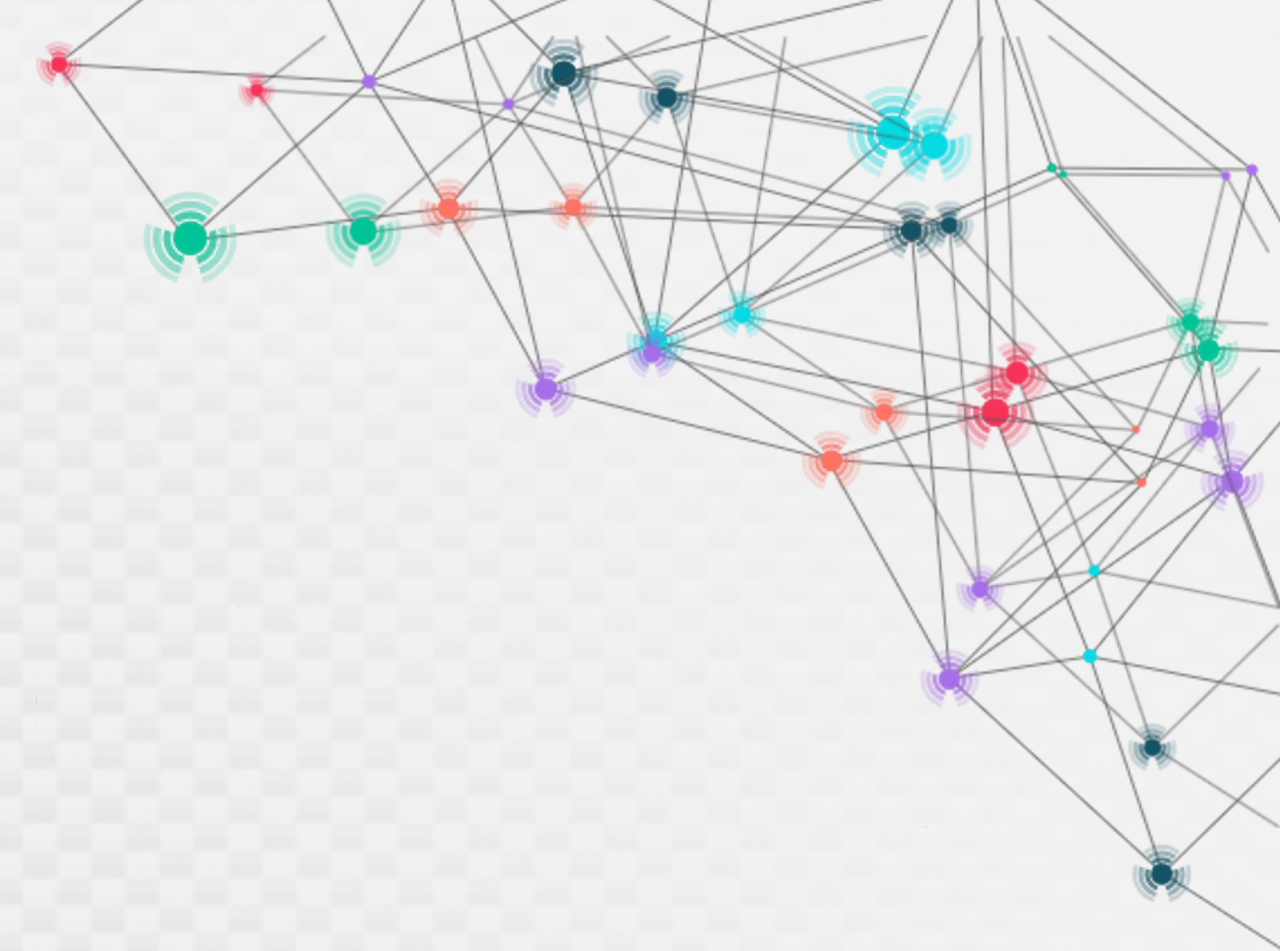


- **Approve Board recommendations on strategic direction and oversight, including the 5-year Strategic Plan and its results framework, changes to SOP and governance arrangements**
  - **Approve annual membership contribution amounts based on recommendation from the Board**
  - **Provide expertise to support the Board's work, in particular through IATI working groups**
  - **Approve major upgrades to the standard**
- ❖ Decision-making is usually by consensus, and if not, triple-lock system (simple majority in each constituency).

NB: MA does not approve the annual budgets; however, MA does approve annual fees, thus effectively sets parameters for budgets



# Standard Operating Procedures Fundamentals



## What they are:

**First stop for any question on IATI governance!**

## **Codify how IATI is run, including:**

- Roles and responsibilities of Members' Assembly, Governing Board and Secretariat
- Methods to make decisions and to elect Board members
- Membership contributions for each constituency (and rules for waivers)
- Board Code of Conduct
- IATI Standard upgrade process

## How they are updated:

**Most changes to SOP follow MA decisions: when decisions are made at the MA, changes required to the SOP to reflect or implement these decisions are identified**

**Following the MA, changes to SOP are prepared and shared with members for approval via written procedure**



# Three Governance Issues Needing Member Direction

## Discussion Points



1.

### Updating the Standard Operating Procedures (revision 9)...

- Reconstitution of the SOP Working Group for 2026;
- Revisiting membership categories, due-diligence, contribution models
- Clarifying MA oversight roles, Board composition, term limits, and written procedures
- Institutionalising Standard Governance & change processes

2.

### Recommendations of the Evaluation, and how to strengthen governance...

- Aligning with evaluation recommendations to ensure IATI's institutional and governance structures are fit-for-purpose in the next SP cycle

3.

### Reviewing the 2026 Governing Board Elections Process...

- Examining timelines, constituency balance, eligibility criteria, and seniority expectations.