



**Meeting of IATI Steering Committee Members and Observers – 1-2 June 2015**  
**The Shaw Centre, 55 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario**

**Paper 3: SUSTAINABLE FUNDING WORKSHOP SESSIONS C2/D2**

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Moderators: Martin Akerman, TBC

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A carefully designed work programme, approved by the IATI Steering Committee aims at the effective implementation of IATI’s strategic results. IATI finances its activities to reach the strategic results through a combination of membership fees and voluntary contributions. The implementation of this financing model has experienced a number of challenges and is now looking to consolidate experience into a more adapted resource mobilization and management approach.

In contrast to the entirely voluntary approach to funding in place from IATI’s inception in 2008, the current funding model was designed to create a genuine feeling of shared ownership and mutual accountability amongst the membership. After almost two years of this new approach, some fine-tuning appears to be warranted in the light of some lessons learned – the 70% membership fee/30 voluntary contributions model contained assumptions about the number of paying members that have not been realized, the level of voluntary contributions has dipped in Year 2, a decision on non-payment has yet to be taken and payment of some member dues have come late in the programme year.

Since IATI can only operate on the basis of cash received to the trust account, the programme has adapted responsively to the resource pressures. However, in order to realize the membership’s ambitions about IATI’s strategic impact, this session should openly discuss ideas that will ensure that IATI is adequately resourced to achieve the impacts desired by the membership and to ensure that IATI will be in good financial health for future years to meet higher levels of expectation around the post-2015 agenda.

*The output of this workshop session will be a revised resource mobilization and management concept and includes a clear identification of the complementary responsibilities of the Steering Committee and the Secretariat. The concept is also one of the data sources available to the Evaluation Team for inclusion in the overall evaluation of IATI.*

Guiding questions:

**Fully meeting the needs of the membership’s ambitions for IATI**

1. Should the principle of results-based budgeting be the guiding approach of IATI’s financial management;
2. Are budgeting-, resource mobilization- and resource management roles and responsibilities of the different stakeholders (members, SC chair, sub-working group, Secretariat) understood, are they appropriate, do they merit revision?

3. How does the membership believe it should fund IATI to meet its levels of expectations, including with an expanded ambition around the post-2015 agenda and guarantee the strong financial health in the future? What peer-to-peer approaches on this matter can be taken to ensure all members are engaged in maximizing the impact of IATI through proper resourcing?
4. How should we refine a theoretical model based on learned experience that maintains the ownership and accountability dimension? Are there things we can learn from similar initiatives (OGP, EITI) that can inspire us?
5. Should we consider resource mobilization support from outside the membership and if so, what form should this take?

### **Strengthening financial stability**

6. How can more be done to make sure that the predictable income from dues is received early on in the programme year? Alignment of all financial years with such a diverse membership is unlikely however should future arrangements consider multi-year fee payment arrangements? Is peer-pressure an option? Should information on payment and non-payment be publicly accessible?
7. Could members consider pledging voluntary contributions for future years?