# Q1 2026 Secretariat work plan implementation update

## Introduction

This update is prepared ahead of the Q1 2026 Transition Board meeting taking place on March 31 - April 1, virtually. It presents updates on implementation by the IATI Secretariat during the period Jan - March 2026. Delivered to Board members in advance of the end of quarter for their review, it includes planned delivery covering the full period of the first quarter, based on the work plan and budget shared with members during the 2025 MA and. published in the IATI website, with links below:

- 2026 Approved Work Plan and Budget (spreadsheet): LINK
- 2026 Approved Work Plan and Budget (narrative): LINK

The paper will be updated when Q1 (Jan-Mar) has closed, when financial information covering the full quarter is available.

This implementation update draws upon the work plan and budget approved alongside the new IATI Strategic Plan 2026-30, with activities designed annually to achieve the two core outcomes of **Enhanced Data Use** and **More Accountable and Effective International Cooperation** by 2030. We will achieve this through four integrated action areas and a fifth category focusing on Organisational Effectiveness and Efficiency. These outcomes, action areas and institutional performance measures are matched with budget lines and are set out below for standardisation of reporting, through this and subsequent implementation updates.

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| Action Area A: | Strengthening country data-use systems through IATI data |
| Action Area B: | Enhancing IATI Infrastructure to increase quality and usability of data |
| Action Area C: | Championing transparency and accountability for development effectiveness |
| Action Area D: | Promoting the use of IATI data to inform policy dialogues |
| Institutional Performance | Core governance, administrative, financial, and operational systems |

**Action Area A: Strengthening Country Data-Use Systems with IATI Data.**
*Embedding IATI data in country-level systems and processes to support mutual accountability and better coordination at the national level.*

The planned **Mapping of Country IATI Data Use and Future Opportunities** is underway through a dedicated consultancy systematically assess the current state of aid data use across the top 50 aid-recipient countries, including their public finance and aid management systems, levels of awareness and use of IATI data, and readiness to integrate IATI data into national systems. The mapping exercise also identifies country-level policy dialogue platforms (e.g., Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) processes, Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFF), and other national coordination fora) where IATI can strategically add value. The comprehensive mapping report including consolidated findings on data-use readiness, country needs and priority engagement pathways, is on track to be finalized by the end of the first quarter, providing a critical evidence base to inform targeted capacity-building, structured engagement strategies, and the operationalization of the new Strategic Plan's country-focused ambitions.

Administrative and planning work is ongoing in preparation for the capacity-building pilot to be funded by Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) on enhancing public financial management through IATI data integration. Once funding comes online, the Secretariat will undertake preparatory assessments and customisation of training materials, followed by in-country workshops in target countries. The pilot remains strategically important as a proof-of-concept for integrating IATI data into national public finance systems in partnership with BADEA and participating governments. Further afield, a proposal for an ambitious three-year, multifaceted data capacity-building project in the Pacific region[1] is under discussion with bilateral and multilateral partners, including Australia and New Zealand, with a range of outreach activities and dialogues building the foundation for this potential investment.

The Secretariat is continuing efforts to document and promote country-level insights on the use of IATI data. In Q1, insights from partner countries were captured through consultations and shared via social media and the IATI Members' Update. For example, a session with Francophone partner countries under the *Re-imagining IATI Data Quality* consultation highlighted practical uses of IATI data, including one country (Chad) reporting reliance on IATI for "100% of its reporting on international financing". These insights are helping to inform future case study development.

**Action Area B: Enhancing IATI Infrastructure for Data Quality and Usability.**
*Transforming and expanding IATI's technical infrastructure and Standard to ensure data is easy to publish, of high quality, and interoperable across the development data ecosystem.*

### *B.1: Standard Custodianship*

Following the initial pilot of the new **IATI Standard Gazette** in late 2025, two additional rounds of proposals were processed in Q1. These included a new tag for use by the **GNFS/GAFS** initiative and a new other-identifier proposed by Denmark to link IATI activities with OCHA's **Financial Tracking Service (FTS)** flows.

Pending the establishment of the Standard Oversight Committee (SOC, See below) the technical team continued to progress lower impact changes to the Standard in Q1. One such change proposed was the update based on several **OECD DAC-derived code lists**. This work had been delayed due to changes in the DAC's published code list format.

[1] Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, and Tokelau - https://www.undp.org/pacific

All three proposals were issued through the **IATI Gazette**, providing a clear, authoritative audit trail in line with the approved TORs. Full impact assessments were prepared for each, including the extensive DAC code list synchronisation.

Standard experts were invited to express their interest in joining the new **Standard Oversight Committee (SOC)** continuing working group approved by the IATI Governing Board in 2025. Nine applicants have come forward to join the group representing all constituencies with the exception of Partner Countries. In line with SOP protocol for establishing working groups, the Board approves recommendations on membership and composition, and has received a paper on SOC Establishment for its consideration in Q1, with a view to holding the group's first meeting as early as possible in Q2. The essential work of the new group will be to:

*a. Provide diverse strategic and policy guidance to the IATI Secretariat and Board on proposed Standard changes;*

*b. Ensure that change proposals are user-informed, evidence-based, and aligned with IATI's guiding principles;*

*c. Recommend improvements to documentation, stakeholder consultation, and revision control processes; and*

*d. Safeguard the technical integrity, inclusiveness, and long-term relevance of the IATI Standard.*

### *B2. Publishing Tools and Integrations*

A major change to the IATI ecosystem in Q1 was the retirement of the legacy IATI Registry and the launch of **IATI Account** and related services. After cleaning and migrating thousands of user accounts, the new system is fully operational.

At the core is **Single Sign-On (SSO)**, allowing users to create one IATI account for access to multiple services. The first integrations include the service used by publishing organisations to register their data-file links, and the **IATI Publisher** tool, which now relies on IATI Account and no longer requires separate passwords.

In Q1, **AidStream** became the first third-party tool to adopt **IATI Account**, with preparation under way for **AIDA** to follow. These integrations enable tools to act as proxies on behalf of users—functionality not possible under the old Registry—and support future scalability.

While IATI Account reduces duplication and confusion, users accustomed to the Registry will need time to adjust. Additional friction has come from dormant organisations, outdated contacts, and defunct email addresses, requiring outreach to re-establish correct publisher links or identify new focal points.

The new **SuiteCRM** now serves as the Single Source of Truth for organisations and users. IATI Support uses it daily for registrations and assistance, supported by recent improvements to naming, search, and navigation. The surge in registrations linked to the Sweden Sida mandate has both accelerated CRM population and added to onboarding complexity.

Work continues to refine Secretariat-wide CRM use cases, including weekly engagement views and improved mailing-list management. Cleanup of legacy membership records from Solve360 is

under way and will conclude in Q2. Consolidated user lists have created one authoritative publishing-contact record per organisation.

Across publishing services, streamlining is already showing benefits, though one blocker remains: the requirement for users to know their organisation reference before registering. Many legitimate users do not. Research and proposals to adjust this requirement will be prepared for review by the Standard Oversight Committee.

To strengthen **multilingual support across IATI's tools and services**, a new translation workflow combining human review and AI translation was developed in Q1. Using the IATI glossary and reference texts, two AI agents generate and check translations, and the system now automatically updates translated content whenever the English source changes. This workflow has been tested and deployed for IATI Publisher, covering both the interface and its support documentation. A phased roll-out will extend French and Spanish across relevant tools and resources, with community feedback guiding refinements. A soft launch is planned for Q2.

The Secretariat has also begun trialling **AI-based assistance** to support new publishers, with a staged rollout planned in Q2. While chatbots can accelerate support, challenges remain, where organisations cannot easily generate their own identifier and still require direct guidance.

### *B.3. Global Data Use Tools*

Focus in Q1 has been to ensure that our IATI Account service is fully operational. This replaced the former IATI Registry and will have substantial benefits to users and how we support them. It consolidates IATI's data on people and organisations from several different sites, some of which are set to be shut down with content migrated as needed (Solve360 CRM; IATI Connect).

IATI Account is the single place for registration with IATI; 361 people have registered since the start of 2026, and 171 reporting organisations have been created. These are typically organisations that are mandated by their funders to publish IATI data.

Individuals new to IATI would previously have registered on the IATI Registry to be able to publish IATI data. With IATI Account, we can now learn more information about who they are (via an onboarding survey) and give them a single account that they can use to seamlessly access other IATI tools (like IATI Publisher and AidStream and in time also IATI Connect).

In March 2026, we worked with Young Innovations to switch AidStream to use our new single sign-on service too. A total of 1,209 AidStream users, with verified email addresses, were successfully migrated to our new service. All of these users can now benefit from using the same IATI credentials to access AidStream.

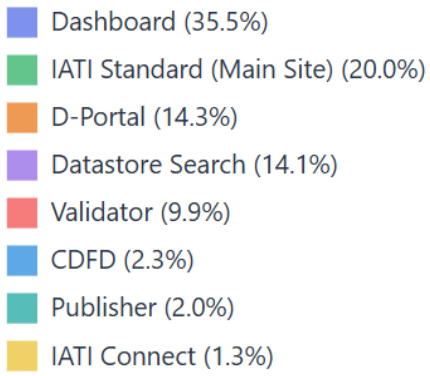
Web statistics confirm an expected **35% growth in visitors to the IATI Dashboard**, redirected from the retired IATI Registry. D-portal continues to be the main data use tool, with positive feedback received from users on the recent addition of new functions around traceability and implementing organisations.

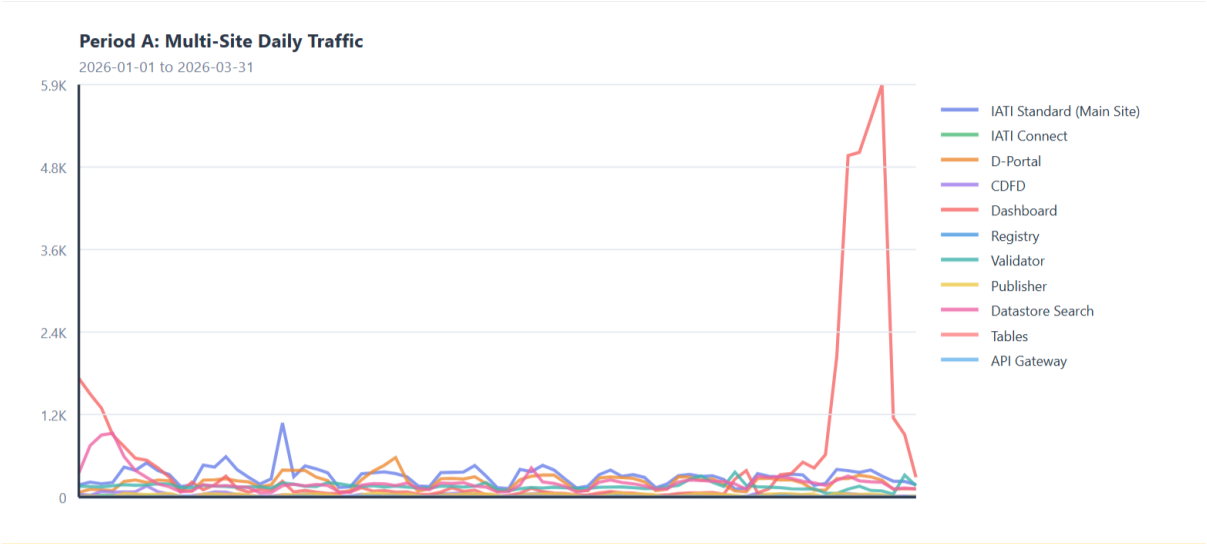
To encourage input on potential data user tool improvements from people across the IATI digital estate, the team has been researching and developing approaches to **in-tool community feedback**. We are testing a feedback form to add in the footer of IATI webpages, and expect to roll this out in Q2 2026. The web usage statistics will focus on the most used services, to gather

this feedback.

These visuals show the numbers of users accessing each of our tools so far in Q1. In future reporting, IATI Account will also be included in this analysis. Period A: Multi-Site Daily Traffic (from March 16th) shows a spike in members accessing the IATI Dashboard, as migration to IATI Connect got underway.

These stats are helpful in understanding which tools are most useful to members and guiding planning on IATI tools and infrastructure in the future.




### *B4. Unified Digital Platform and User-Centered Design*

Significant progress has been made on the development of the updated IATI website (iatistandard.org), alongside the transition from IATI Connect to a more integrated, cost-effective platform. Website updates are focused on improving the promotion and usability of IATI data. This includes new map visualisations, step-by-step publisher guidance that allows users to save and track progress, and a new 'Our Impact section' featuring a case study gallery. IATI Connect is being closed and replaced with a simpler, more cost-effective discussion forum embedded directly into the website. This will include Single Sign-On (SSO) integration, enabling users of IATI accounts and other IATI services to access the community forum through a single login. The launch of a minimum viable product (MVP) of the new website is planned for May 2026. This will include the new homepage, top-level navigation, the Our Impact section, and the new community forum.

Since October 2025, **Sida (Sweden)** has signed agreements with around 200 NGOs requiring them, and their downstream partners, to publish IATI data. The Secretariat presented at Sida's transparency event in February 2026 to introduce IATI, outline benefits for partners, and advise Sida staff. Sida's mandate has driven a significant rise in registrations and support requests, with **Q1 2026 tickets up 50%** compared to the same period in 2025. We continue monthly check-ins with the Sida team to help refine their guidance based on recurring partner questions.

The following is a breakdown of requests received and handled by the Support team during the first two months of 2026, in which the notable increase is attributable to the new partner publishing mandate by Sweden, as well as the shift to the new IATI Account:

**January**:

- 245 support tickets handled (an increase of 60% from Jan 2025). The increase has been driven by:
    a) Queries and new registrations from Swedish partners (following their partner publishing mandate in Oct 2025);
    b) The transition to IATI Account, with people familiarising themselves with the new service;
- 69 new organisations registered as data publishers in Jan 2026, of which 24 were Swedish NGOs.

**February**:

- 248 tickets (a 56% increase from February 2025)
    - This includes 72 new reporting organisation registrations.

- Similar to last month, the increase in tickets is driven by registration, account management, and publishing-related queries from Swedish-funded partners.

Following initial engagement and introductions by UNDP, the technical support team has begun engagement with the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** as new members and the **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** as prospective members. Using AI-assisted methods (Claude), we created prototype IATI datasets from their public project portals, reducing preparation time and allowing more focus on building the case for publication.

We are also in contact with the **Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS)**, which has been asked by the Qatari government to support IATI publishing across a group of Qatar-based NGOs and a government agency.

### *B5: Enhancing IATI Infrastructure for Data Quality and Usability*

In early 2026, **Somalia became the first country to activate its Preparedness Plan under the Global Alliance for Food Security**, while similar plans for 25 other countries remain on standby.

IATI was confirmed as the mechanism for tracking donor and partner responses. To enable this, a new GFNS tag vocabulary and support documentation were developed. The Secretariat also created a tracking service to monitor tagged activities and began targeted outreach to donor contacts to ensure the right data is captured—marking a new level of engagement between sector specialists and IATI publishers.

Additional support included a new "2025 completion estimate" dashboard, helping publishers understand when their 2025 data is likely to be complete based on timeliness and transaction patterns.

The **State of the Data programme focused on subnational location data**—now exceeding 600,000 published locations. Community calls and a survey gathered use cases, leading to collaboration with the MAPME-Initiative and major agencies (KfW, FAO, IFAD). The resulting

analysis linked IATI location data to community needs, particularly around administrative boundaries for mapping and quantitative use. Proposals for Standard updates are expected in Q2.

The **transition from the retired IATI Registry to the new IATI Account** continued to progress. The IATI Dashboard now provides near-real-time updates, replacing the former 24-hour delay. Mock-ups for future dashboard improvements, aligned with Reimagining Data Quality consultations, were also developed and will be discussed in Q2.

The Secretariat has advanced **Phase 2 of the *Reimagining Data Quality: A User-Centric Approach* work**, convening consultations with partner-country governments (Anglophone and Francophone), investigative journalists, and advanced data users to validate proposed cross-constituency baseline parameters and constituency-specific focus areas.

Partner countries highlighted the need for more outcome-oriented and forward-looking data (including predictability and multi-year budgets), stronger alignment with national planning frameworks, clearer treatment of South-South Cooperation, improved subnational detail, and structured country-level validation to strengthen feedback loops. Journalists emphasised IATI's unique value in providing timely, forward-looking development finance data, noting priorities around completeness, comparability, transparency on non-publishing entities, clearer version histories, and reduced publication lags. Participants identified priorities for strengthening data usability, including clearer activity presentation, stronger commitment data and improved location information.

These inputs will be used to inform parameter validation, differentiated diagnostics, and the integration roadmap for the new IATI Dashboard. Consultations will expand in March to UN agencies, multilateral development banks, and bilateral donors.

**Action Area C: Championing Transparency and Accountability for Effective Cooperation.**
*Re-energising the global commitment to transparent, accountable development cooperation through advocacy, partnerships, and expanded membership, positioning IATI as a central pillar of the international cooperation architecture.*

### *C.1 Strengthening Strategic Partnerships and Global Advocacy*

#### *Strategic Advocacy Engagements*

The Executive Director was able to leverage the opportunity offered by the hosting in New York of the 57th Session of the UN Statistical Commission on 3-6 March to hold meetings with key engagement targets.

This included participating in two side events: **"*Data Systems at a Crossroads – Official Statistics for a New Era*,"** co-hosted by Open Data Watch and PARIS21, and **"*Progress on Strengthening National Data and Statistical Systems in the Financing for Development Agenda*,"** hosted by the Norwegian Permanent Mission to the UN. Bilateral meetings were also held with IsDB on IATI membership priorities and with Norad on IATI membership. She also met with representatives from Norway on follow-up to the Financing for Development outcome (Sevilla Commitment), positioning IATI as a practical mechanism to operationalise transparency

commitments under the Platform for Action (also C.3), and continuing momentum towards IATI Membership.

The IATI Executive Director participated in the Grand Bargain forum as a panel member in Q1 and spoke on the topic of Accountability for localisation funding and tracking pass-through financing. The overarching message she conveyed was that IATI's goal is not to create a new reporting requirement but rather to ensure that **information already being published can be structured and reused to improve transparency, coordination, and accountability for localisation commitments.**

IATI strengthened its advocacy on transparency and localisation at the 2026 Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW), where the Executive Director spoke on accountability for localisation funding and equitable partnerships. The intervention highlighted how IATI data can improve visibility of funding flows through delivery chains, including practical examples from collaborations with partners such as the World Bank and the Global Alliance for Food Security.

Planning ahead for the **2026 UN World Data Forum (November 2026)**, the Secretariat coordinated with IATI members and partners to develop and submit four session proposals to the organisers, co-signing with organisations including UN DESA, BMZ, the Saudi Fund for Development, the Government of Nigeria, Open Data Charter and Open Data Watch. The team has continued to engage with the UN Statistics Division (who lead on delivering the UN WDF) to discuss how best to position the submissions.

The team has developed concept notes for a number of upcoming events, the first being a side event at the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up (April 2026) on implementing the Sevilla Commitment on development effectiveness (which referenced IATI). The Secretariat engaged with other organisations also referenced in the Sevilla Commitment including the UN Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), GPEDC and TOSSD, all agreeing on collaboration. Two other concept notes were developed on South-South Cooperation and data interoperability.

Without allocated resources, the Secretariat has determined that no dedicated representative would attend the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data for the 2026 Global Data Festival (Nairobi, Kenya, 2–5 June 2026), and will instead seek opportunities to raise awareness of IATI through members planning to attend.

Initial exploratory discussions took place with the Center for Global Development to assess potential analytical and policy partnerships, around development finance transparency, effectiveness, and accountability.

These discussions form part of the groundwork for a planned series of at least four knowledge products and publications in 2026 to showcase IATI's partnerships, joint initiatives, and data-use value. Among these, a flagship report on **data interoperability** will be developed under the **Bridging Data Systems for Financing for Development** initiative — a joint undertaking with the International Forum on TOSSD and the UN CEB Secretariat under the Sevilla Platform for Action, now endorsed by eight countries. The report will promote IATI-FTS harmonisation and wider interoperability across development finance data systems, with the evidence base being developed through Q1–Q2 mapping and pilot exercises. Additional publications including a series of 2-3 page country and sector briefs, and the IATI Annual Report 2025 are planned for Q2 onwards.

Building on the investigative journalist consultations conducted as part of the Reimagining Data Quality work in Q1, the Secretariat will develop journalist workshop materials in Q2–Q3 to enable IATI members to deliver data-use workshops in at least five countries, demonstrating how IATI data can inform national media stories and strengthen accountability reporting.

Work has begun on the revision of the **IATI Engagement and Partnerships Strategy** to align with the new Strategic Plan 2026–2030. A desk review of the 2024/25 strategy has been conducted, mapping new Strategic Plan priorities, including expanded constituencies, country-level data use, and diversified funding, to the Secretariat's engagement functions. A gap analysis and annotated outline for the revised strategy are in preparation, with a draft to be circulated for review by the Executive Director and Board in Q2.

***Resource Mobilization and Investment Facilitation***

The team has onboarded a new **Philanthropic Engagement Consultant to work for a period of five months to develop a structured engagement strategy and ecosystem mapping**. This work includes identifying foundations and private actors aligned with IATI's value proposition, particularly in climate finance, transparency reform, and AI-enabled data use. Final deliverables are expected in May, centred on a philanthropy sector roundtable with targeted foundations from three priority clusters — Data, Technology & Digital Infrastructure; Systems, Finance & Global Coordination; and Accountability & Public Outcomes — supported by tailored value proposition materials and engagement proposals. The Strategy Note articulates IATI's positioning as shared transparency infrastructure rather than an additional reporting channel, and sets out a phased approach from soft engagement through to structured collaboration and institutionalisation.

The Secretariat has submitted a proposal for an **amendment of its voluntary contribution agreement with the EU**, given that items contained in the 2025/26 work plan with earmarked funding have now materially changed. (The first is the decision by the Board to hold in-person MA's only every second year skipping 2026, and the second is the infeasibility of holding an EU-wide survey within the envelope originally foreseen. The new draft proposal submitted for consideration includes a **Flagship Data Quality Report + live launch event,** and a **One-day EU Member State engagement workshop.** The reprogrammed scope preserves the intent of the original allocation—strengthening transparency, accountability, and EU engagement—while shifting delivery toward outputs that are feasible, meaningful and aligned with the Strategic Plan's implementation pathway.

Beyond these specific initiatives, the Secretariat has continued to lay the groundwork for a diversified revenue model as envisaged in the Strategic Plan 2026–2030, structured around four complementary income streams: membership contributions (with the 2027 increase endorsed at the 2025 Members' Assembly), a new publishing fee mechanism, voluntary contributions and project-based co-investments, and the development of new analytic and data services. On the voluntary contributions and project-based track, a proposal for a three-year, multi-partner capacity-building programme in Pacific SIDS is under active discussion with bilateral partners including Australia and New Zealand, the Pacific Islands Forum, and regional knowledge partners. The programme would deliver phased country-level capacity building, system integration support, and policy-oriented data use across up to fifteen Pacific island countries — directly operationalising Action Area A while demonstrating a model for externally funded, regionally anchored delivery that can be replicated. Preparatory outreach and bilateral dialogues with potential funding partners have taken place throughout Q1, and a refined proposal is being developed for presentation to partners in Q2. In parallel, the interoperability consultation on downstream publishing, exploring how mandating donors and their implementing partners can

strengthen network traceability and data reuse, also has implications for revenue diversification, as growing downstream publishing volumes may inform the design of future fee-based services and support the case for co-investment by mandating organisations (Swedish SIDA; UK FCDO; Belgium MFA; Denmark, Danida; Netherlands MFA) to strengthen interoperability and mapping of the ecosystem and flows across entities.

### *C.2 Expanding and Diversifying IATI Membership and Community*

#### *Membership Growth and Diversification*

The Executive Director and team have begun to meet with members to listen to their priorities for 2026, beginning with members who voted against the proposed membership fee increases (2027 and/or 2028–2030) at the MA 2025. These discussions have taken place already with Australia (DFAT), UNICEF, FAO, ILO, IFAD, WHO, the African Development Bank (AfDB), Belgian Development Cooperation, the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Canada and the Republic of Korea.

In Q1, we welcomed one new member, the **Green Climate Fund (GCF)** and delivered policy and technical briefings in line with protocols for onboarding new IATI members.

Expanding our outreach with a view to diversifying membership, the team has also re-established links with the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to explore potential membership and alignment with the IATI Standard, supporting expansion of IATI's multilateral base and reinforcing coverage of development finance institutions. Invitations to join IATI have been sent to the following Development Finance Institutions: US International Development Finance Institution (DFC),The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), The Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank (FMO), the British International Investment (BII), The International Finance Corporation (IFC), the German Development Finance Institution (DEG), Finnfund, the Investment Fund for Developing Countries (IFU, Denmark), the Belgian Investment Company for Developing Countries (BIO) and IDB Invest (managers of IDB Group's private sector portfolio). During in-person events at UN Headquarters, the IATI Executive Director also met bilaterally with representatives from Norad on their priorities as they consider becoming members of IATI. She also briefed new focal points with Spain's AECID, and referred to the upcoming move of the IATI Secretariat (UNDP) team's move to Madrid which would open up new engagement opportunities.

The Secretariat has furthered **strategic engagement with UNDP's Sustainable Finance Hub** to align IATI's work with Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs), public finance reform, and digital public infrastructure agendas.

The Secretariat continued implementing the IATI Communications Strategy 2025–2028 and remains on track to meet communications targets. This includes regular social media engagement (averaging three posts per week), monthly newsletters and members' updates, and publication of website news and blog content. Recent communications have highlighted the value of IATI data, including a new academic study analysing 10 million global aid transactions using IATI data and progress by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in expanding IATI publishing among development implementing partners. Work has begun on the **IATI Annual Report 2025**. Key statistics have been compiled and analysed, and examples of Secretariat support and member case studies are being gathered. The report will be drafted and published in Q2, with the new Governing Board Chair expected to provide the foreword.

### *Community Engagement and Recognition*

Progress continues on transitioning from IATI Connect community forum to a simpler, lower-cost, website-based community platform. A new platform has been secured and will integrate with the IATI website via single sign-on, using the same login credentials as other IATI products. Launch is expected in Q2. As part of this work to offer strengthened peer learning, policy dialogue and structured engagement opportunities, the Secretariat has developed a streamlined structure, clearer user pathways, and a tiered access model aligned with the new website. The Secretariat also refreshed its online engagement strategy to ensure a smooth transition from the legacy platform while improving consultations, working groups, and member dialogue in line with the new Strategic Plan.

**Action Area D: Promoting the Use of IATI Data to Inform Policy Dialogues.**
*Bridging the gap between data and policy by actively curating and translating IATI data into insights, products, and engagements that inform decision-making at global, regional, and national levels.*

### *D.1: Policy Dialogue Engagement and Influence*

The Secretariat prepared strategic inputs for the upcoming UN DESA Financing for Development Forum, highlighting IATI data as a key tool for tracking downstream financial flows, climate finance, and South–South cooperation. We also ensured alignment between policy engagement and technical infrastructure work so that insights from FfD, INFF, climate, and South–South cooperation discussions guide future priorities for interoperability and data usability.

Recognising the linkages across a number of related strands of work, in early March the Secretariat convened a consultation among the mandating development partners with downstream publishing requirements focused on **Interoperability for Downstream Publishing: From Fragmented Reporting to Reusable Network Information (draft for discussion)**. The concept note provided an overview of the evolving context for downstream reporting and emerging demand for network traceability and reuse within increasingly networked delivery models. It went on to frame the discussion around the opportunities already available through IATI in which the Standard and existing publishing infrastructure already enables structured visibility of downstream partnerships and financing flows. Participants exchanged views on priority use cases related to downstream publishing, and explored ways in which it might strengthen interoperability. For reference, the presentation for the 4 March consultation is available here.

IATI Secretariat joined a meeting of the WP-Stat on March 9-11 contributing to the key discussions on interoperability. IATI's intervention welcomed the efforts to establish interoperable links between the Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the IATI, seeing great potential in using IATI's document-linked data to provide a fuller narrative of development impact within official statistics. This intervention was very positively received and signaled a further recognition of the value of close work to bring about greater interoperability, respecting both the official statistics of the CRS and the timely, granular transparency of IATI

### *D.2: Knowledge Exchange and Structured Dialogue Platforms*

UNDP has leveraged its close links with the joint UNDP-OECD Secretariat of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) to develop a concept note proposing an IATI - GPEDC collaboration to support **action dialogues** in select countries under

Phase 5 of the GPEDC monitoring round, particularly as they relate to the transparency and LNOB dimensions. The two teams are working closely to identify suitable countries as good candidates for those action dialogues.

In a close partnership with UNDP Korea, the Secretariat worked in close collaboration with Korea University's Development Futures Lab culminating in Q1 with the release of a new publication entitled *Strengthening the IATI Data Value Chain: Pathways to enhanced Impact*. This study represented over 12 months of research and analysis into the use of IATI data and provides a roadmap for maximizing IATI's value in supporting transparency, accountability, and aid effectiveness objectives.

IATI took on the role of co-convener of the *Publishing Sub-group* under the *FfD4 and the Future of Data: Strengthening Systems for Sustainable Financing* initiative (a Sevilla Platform for Action initiative). Since Q1, the sub-group has convened three times, advancing work to operationalise commitments from the Sevilla Commitment, with a focus on improving data publishing, interoperability, and support to national data systems.

In parallel, IATI engaged in regular coordination meetings in Q1 under the Sevilla Platform for Action initiative: *Bridging Data Systems for Financing for Development* initiative, co-led with the International Forum on TOSSD, the OECD and the UN CEB Secretariat. This initiative focuses on enhancing interoperability between international reporting systems, including through pilots and system improvements to reduce reporting burdens and support more coherent data ecosystems.

## Institutional Performance

During Q1 2026, UNDP focused on maintaining operational and institutional support across the Secretariat while also completing the final tasks related to the 2025 year-end closure. Alongside this wrap-up work, we kept core operational processes running—managing day-to-day project needs, staying on top of financial workflows, and advancing work related to contribution agreements and overall Secretariat compliance.

### *IP1. Governance and Administration*

Within its governance functions, the most visible activity in Q1 has been the **conduct of biannual elections** for all seven seats on the Governing Board. Clear communications and regularly throughout the nomination and election process, and the Secretariat supported caucuses to convene for discussion. Elections were held using a reputable online service ElectionBuddy where consensus had not been achieved within caucuses. Results were shared with candidates and communicated to members, and a transition meeting agenda for outgoing and incoming board cohorts has been developed in time for Q1 meetings. A schedule of quarterly meetings for 2026 will be confirmed with the incoming Board.

In preparation for the launch of two new formal working groups, the Secretariat sought expressions of interest from experts for a new **Standard Oversight Committee (SOC)** and an **Institutional (SOP) Working Group**. The SOC was well-subscribed and pending Board approval of the composition, will hold its first meeting in early Q2. The SOP Working Group Expression of Interest (EOI) deadline is extended to allow others to take part.

Progress through the **SSC Working Group** has stalled and the Secretariat is exploring new approaches to reinvigorate that group, including bringing new actors on-board with particular knowledge of UNCTAD reporting.

The Secretariat has continued to maintain and regularly update a Risk Register as well as a Conflicts of Interest Register for the Board. New risks are presented to the Board each quarter for evaluation and for guidance on management and mitigation. The Secretariat additionally maintains and carefully monitors a register of all previous decisions taken at MA and GB meetings.

In terms of internal Secretariat management tasks, UNDP continued to manage key administrative functions for the global Secretariat project to ensure effective day-to-day operations. This included establishment of 2026 budgets and new activities in UNDP's financial system (Quantum), and quality-assuring project documents and coordinating HR and procurement actions.

UNOPS managed due diligence (for new memberships) and the negotiation and issuance of membership contribution agreements, leveraging its internal legal advisory mechanisms in alignment with IATI's SOP.

### *IP2. Financial Sustainability*

UNDP maintained financial oversight and donor through:

- Ongoing work with donor organisations on contribution agreements with Canada, Germany and potential new members.
- Regular financial monitoring, budget updates, and quarterly reporting inputs for UNOPS.
- Completion of year-end compliance tasks, including payments processing and GMS fee and income milestone reporting.

Since the beginning of January, UNOPS has been working diligently to collect membership contributions from members already holding an agreement for 2026, while issuing new agreements for those who do not. As widely known, IATI has started this year with an operational budget of USD 1 million. Therefore, the swift collection of resources is pivotal to ensure continuity of implementation. As of the writing of this report, UNOPS had collected USD 1.37 million out of the expected annual total of USD 3.03 million. This information is available on the IATI Financial Monitoring Dashboard which is maintained and regularly updated by UNOPS.

As of 31 March 2025, IATI projected expenditures total USD 737,769. The tables linked below provide a breakdown by Action Area and Cost Category.

## Financial tables

**Table 1: 2026 Quarter 1 Finances by Strategic Priority and Cost Category**

**IATI Secretariat Finances for 2026 Q1 by Strategic Priorty and Cost Category**

| *Strategic Priority* | *Cost category* | 2026 Budget Grand Total | Expense Q1 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Action Area A. Strengthening country data-use systems through IATI data | Consultancy (UNDP) | 142,250 | 20,189 |
| | Personnel (UNDP) | 189,222 | 48,910 |
| | Travel (UNDP) | 136,498 | 0 |
| **Action Area A. Strengthening country data-use systems through IATI data Total** | | **467,970** | **69,099** |
| Action Area B. Enhancing IATI infrastructure to increase quality and usability of data | Consultancy (ODS) | 55,000 | 0 |
| | IT Applications/Subscriptions (ODS) | 192,800 | 48,200 |
| | IT Applications/Subscriptions (UNDP/UNOPS) | 16,000 | 0 |
| | Personnel (UNDP) | 140,151 | 35,406 |
| | Service Contracts (ODS) | 842,600 | 210,650 |
| | Travel (ODS) | 10,000 | 0 |
| **Action Area B. Enhancing IATI infrastructure to increase quality and usability of data Total** | | **1,256,551** | **294,256** |
| Action Area C. Championing transparency and accountability for development effectiveness | Consultancy (UNDP) | 62,000 | 8,076 |
| | IT Applications/Subscriptions (UNDP) | 22,645 | 1,412 |
| | Other (UNDP) | 33,500 | 0 |
| | Personnel (UNDP) | 234,508 | 52,764 |
| | Travel (UNDP) | 5,000 | 0 |
| **Action Area C. Championing transparency and accountability for development effectiveness Total** | | **357,653** | **62,252** |
| Action Area D: Promoting the use of IATI data to inform policy dialogues | Personnel (UNDP) | 137,637 | 34,713 |
| | Print/publications | 10,000 | 0 |
| | Travel (UNDP) | 30,000 | 0 |
| **Action Area D: Promoting the use of IATI data to inform policy dialogues Total** | | **177,637** | **34,713** |
| Facilities and Administration - Implementation | Management fees - UNOPS 3.95%* | 122,694 | 4,294 |
| | UNDP GMS 8% | 226,537 | 46,278 |
| **Facilities and Administration - Implementation Total** | | **349,231** | **50,573** |
| Institutional Performance | Consultancy (UNDP) | 52,944 | 5,384 |
| | Consultancy (UNOPS) | 16,617 | 6,799 |
| | Personnel (UNDP) | 518,959 | 112,772 |
| | Personnel (UNOPS) | 338,898 | 83,982 |
| | Support Services (UNOPS) | 70,000 | 17,940 |
| **Institutional Performance Total** | | **997,418** | **226,876** |
| **Grand Total** | | **3,606,461** | **737,769** |

**Table 2: 2026 Quarter 1 Finances by Cost Category**

**IATI Secretariat Finances for 2026 Q1 by Cost Category (USD)**

| Cost Category 2026 | Budget 2026 | Expense Q1 2026 | Delivery Rate |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Personnel** | 1,612,024 | 368,546 | 22.9% |
| Labour Cost - GS Staff | | - | |
| Labour Cost - IP Staff | | 249,919 | |
| Labour Cost - International Personnel Services Agreement (IPSA) | | 118,628 | |
| Labour Cost - IP Staff on Temporary Appointment | | - | |
| **Consultancy / Service Contracts** | 1,251,411 | 269,038 | 21.5% |
| International Consultants - Short Term Support Contractor | | - | |
| International Consultants - Short Term Technical Contractor | | 34,980 | |
| Service Contract Holders | | 216,118 | |
| Long Term Contractual Service Contracts | | - | |
| General Insurance - Consultancy | | - | |
| Service to Projects - General Opex | | 17,940 | |
| **IT Applications / Subscriptions** | 38,645 | 49,612 | 128.4% |
| Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Supplies | | - | |
| Email Subscription | | 1,412 | |
| Computer Software | | - | |
| Print and Publications | | - | |
| Maintenance Cost - Software Licenses | | 48,200 | |
| Other Media Costs | | - | |
| **Travel** | 311,649 | - | 0.0% |
| Travel Tickets - International/Local | | - | |
| Daily Subsistnce Allowance - International/Local | | - | |
| Travel Cost - Other | | - | |
| Learning/workshop/training costs | | - | |
| **Other** | 33,500 | - | 0.0% |
| Foreign Exchange Losses | | - | |
| Unrealized Foreign Exchange Gain | | - | |
| **Print/Publications** | 10,000 | - | 0.0% |
| Print/Publications | | - | |
| **Facilities and Administration - Implementation** | 349,231 | 50,573 | 14.5% |
| Facilities and Administration - Implementation | | 50,573 | |
| **Grand Total** | **3,606,461** | **737,769** | **20.5%** |

The Q1 delivery rate compared to the total 2026 core budget (USD 3,606,461) is 20.5%, which is broadly aligned with the 25% portion of the year covered in this report.

When deducted from the total current income for 2026 (USD 2,526,544, the total expenditures of USD 737,769 leave IATI with a cash balance of USD 1,788,775, as shown below:

**IATI 2026 Finances -Q1 Income Vs Expenditure**

| 2026 | |
|---|---|
| Income Received from Membership Contribution | 908,766 |
| Income from Voluntary Contribution | 0 |
| Carry over from previous year | 1,615,216 |
| Interest | 2,562 |
| Total Income including MC, VC and Cash from previous years | 2,526,544 |
| Expenditures + Commitments | 737,769 |
| **Current Balance** | **1,788,775** |

It must be highlighted that, of this balance, USD 257,200 is allocated to 2027 and 2028, and that USD 58,283 should be returned to the European Commission as unspent funds under their voluntary contribution for the in-person 2023 and 2024 Members' Assembly meetings. Therefore, the total amount of cash currently available for 2026 is USD 1,473,292.

The breakdown of the 2026 cash flow is as follows:

**IATI 2026 Finances - Q1 Cash Flow & Availability**

| *Indicator* | *Amount (USD)* |
|---|---|
| **Opening balance** | **1,615,216** |
| Total cash inflow | 911,328 |
| Total expenditure & commitments | 737,769 |
| **Closing balance** | **1,788,775** |
| Less: Deferred income (future year contributions) | (257,200) |
| Less: EC voluntary contribution refund provision | (58,283) |
| **Operational Cash Balance** | **1,473,292** |
| Average monthly burn rate | 285,068 |
| **Operational runway (months)** | **5.2** |

| Member | Status |
|---|---|
| Côte D'Ivoire | Unresponsive. |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Agreement signed; no payment for 2025. |
| Ghana | Expressed its intention to sign agreement and pay contribution, but subsequently become irresponsive. |
| Niger | Expressed its intention to request a waiver, but subsequently became unresponsive. |
| Senegal | Expressed its intention to sign the agreement and pay the contribution but is reportedly experiencing difficulties in obtaining the signature from the authorized signatory. |

***IP3. Operations Systems***

Across operations, the UNDP IATI Secretariat team prepared the 2026 Procurement Plan and reported it in the UNDP procurement platform, capturing expected needs for consultancies, technology services, IT subscriptions, events, and travel. We worked closely with HR and procurement units to ensure policy compliance and timely approval of actions. Support was also provided for procuring election software for the 2026 Governing Board elections. In addition, early discussions were initiated with HR and the bureau operations team regarding project arrangements required for the anticipated team relocation to Spain.

Throughout the two first months of 2026, UNOPS has procured interpretation services for the following events:

- 2026 State of the Data - Sub-national Location consultation - 28 January
- IATI Data Quality Consultation Event with Partner Country Governments - 3 February

UNOPS and UNDP have jointly produced the interim report regarding the voluntary contribution from the European Commission (EC), which funded the Members' Assembly (MA) and Community Exchange meetings held in Nairobi in November 2025, as well as activities aimed at assessing IATI's data quality. The report is currently under review by the EC and is expected to be approved shortly.

***IP4. Strategic and Institutional Direction***

UNDP advanced strategic work by:

- Launching procurement for the Infrastructure Roadmap, a major 2026 strategic deliverable.
- Overseeing subscriptions and tools that support day-to-day Secretariat operations

**Implementation challenges**

There were no relocation-related impacts during Q1; however, the planned move of the UNDP Secretariat team to Spain at the end of July is expected to introduce operational challenges later in the year. The transition will require coordinated work with HR, finance, procurement, and legal teams to adjust contracts, budgets, and administrative arrangements. As planning ramps up in Q2, the relocation may add complexity to routine processes and require careful sequencing of operational tasks to avoid disruption and implementation delays.

**Human Resources Challenge:**

While implementation continues as planned, the ongoing shortage of staff on the UNDP side remains a significant challenge, exacerbated by the resignation of one staff member (Policy and Governance Specialist) which will bring significant pressure onto the remaining team until the position can be filled. Current progress is being sustained by placing considerable strain on limited capacity in the team. Additional resources are needed to ensure the workload remains manageable and sustainable over time.

# Annex 1 - Minimum Viable Service Product Assessment

This assessment provides a detailed review of the Secretariat's monitoring of the Minimum Viable Service Product (MVSP) indicators for Q1 2026. The purpose of this paper is to inform the Governing Board of current organisational conditions, identify any risks relative to MVSP thresholds, and provide a formal recommendation. It is prepared by UNDP and UNOPS and is based on the MVSP Trigger Framework approved by members at the 2025 MA in light of the financial situation described at that time.

**Overall Assessment:** Based on Q1 data, none of the MVSP trigger indicators have been met. The Secretariat therefore concludes that activation of the MVSP framework is not warranted at this time. All core operational, financial, and external-context indicators remain within acceptable and stable ranges.

***Assessment Against MVSP Indicators***

**Membership Base:**

The Secretariat notes that the membership base remains stable at 75 active members, which is above the MVSP concern threshold. There is no projected decline in membership fee income approaching the trigger level. While onboarding of new members has been limited (one slightly lower than the planned 2) in the previous 12 months, this does not constitute a material risk in the current context. One new member has joined the Providers of Development Cooperation constituency in Q1, and dialogue with several potential new members is ongoing. The Secretariat assesses the membership base as stable, with no immediate risks requiring reduced service levels.

**Financial Situation:**

The Secretariat confirms that expenditure for Q1 stands at approximately 20% of the total approved annual budget. This level is proportionate to the expected quarterly trajectory and does not exceed the risk threshold of spending more than 20% above the approved envelope (USD616,000). The cashflow runway remains healthy at approximately five months as of the end of Q1, indicating no projected shortfall for the next quarter. There are currently no significant cost pressures, salary escalations, or operational expenditures that would raise concern. The Secretariat therefore assesses financial conditions as sound and free from immediate risk of MVSP activation. Considering that the expected average amount of funds spent per month during this year (burn rate) is USD 285,068 (annual budget of USD 3,420,810 / 12), the balance should be sufficient to cover approximately 5.2 months of implementation, i.e. until mid-August, while collection of outstanding Membership contribution is being accelerated.

**External Factors:**

One potential external factor relates to a proposal developed by UNDP for reprogramming EUR 100,000 from their 2025/26 voluntary contribution. Discussions to date indicate this adjustment will be acceptable to the EU and will not materially impact delivery of core IATI services. There is no evidence of wider withdrawal or deferral of external funding commitments exceeding the threshold of USD 50,000. Global policy trends continue to reinforce, rather than diminish, the relevance of IATI as a data standard—demonstrated by its integration into processes such as the Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS) Somalia activation in January. No external reviews or stakeholder feedback have signalled an urgent need for service reprioritisation. The Secretariat therefore assesses external factors as low-risk for Q1.

***Risks and Mitigation***

Across all categories, the Secretariat identifies only moderate operational risks, primarily linked to temporary staff shortages due to the resignation of one staff member at UNDP, creating pressure on workload distribution. However, mitigation measures such as reassigning responsibilities and preparing recruitment plans - are already in motion. No risks identified rise to the level of threatening continuity of core services as defined under MVSP thresholds.

**Secretariat Recommendation**

In view of the above, the Secretariat recommends that MVSP activation is not required in Q1. All indicators remain well within tolerances established under the framework, and the Secretariat continues to manage the operational environment effectively. Routine quarterly monitoring will continue, with early warning provided should conditions shift closer to MVSP trigger thresholds.