Q2 Implementation update on 2025 Work plan

Introduction

This update is prepared ahead of the Q2 2025 virtual board meeting scheduled for June 17th which took place on June 26th, 2025. Updates cover the months of April-June 2025 and refer to the work plan approved on December 22, 2024, published in the IATI website with links below:

- 2025 Approved Work Plan and Budget (spreadsheet): LINK
- 2025 Approved Work Plan and Budget (narrative): LINK

Work planned for completion in June is included in this paper, which will be updated after the end of Q2, along with financial information covering the full quarter.

1. Governance, Accountability and Strategic Planning

Secretariat support to the Governing Board has continued in Q2, with the Executive Director continuing to hold weekly meetings with the Board Chair and to be available for ad hoc meetings and information updates upon request of the Board. Q1 Board minutes were finalised and published on the IATI website along with a detailed Q1 implementation report. The Executive Director maintained and updated the Board Risk Register. Risks identified during the Q1 Board have increased in proximity, probability, and potential impact upon the initiative. These included: Strategic risk of not being mentioned in the FFD4 outcome document (Management plan: Manage); Financial risks to the initiative resulting from the funding shortfall exacerbated by the US defunding of USAID; Strategic risk of negative impact on data quality following the cancellation of the ATI in 2026.

The Secretariat maintained its regular support to governance working groups, and in the context of the Financial Sustainability Working Group, increased the schedule of meetings and addressed all additional information requests received from that group. The FSWG expects to conclude its deliberations within the extended timeframe of June 1st, agreed during the Q1 Board.

During Q2, IATI advanced its strategic engagement on South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) through the active leadership of the IATI South-South Cooperation Working Group. A major milestone was the open webinar hosted on 27 May 2025, which brought together over 50 participants from governments, UN entities, civil society, and data transparency initiatives. The session featured expert presentations from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Forum on TOSSD, providing a comparative look at global efforts to standardize and increase the visibility of SSC flows. The discussion underscored the potential for alignment between IATI's open data Standard and the conceptual framework developed by UNCTAD, as well as opportunities to ensure IATI data can support complementary reporting systems like TOSSD. This dialogue reaffirmed IATI's convening power and its value in promoting practical data interoperability solutions.

IATI's technical inputs were also reflected in the 2025 United Nations Secretary-General's Report on the State of South-South Cooperation (Section D, para. 60), which recognized IATI as a tool for fostering standardized, transparent data sharing across SSC partnerships. The report specifically cited the establishment of IATI's SSC Working Group following the 2024 Members' Assembly and Community Exchange in Bogotá, where stakeholders called for greater visibility and coordination of SSC. Through this group, IATI has worked closely with UNCTAD and other partners to explore how its Standard can be adapted to capture SSC flows in alignment with the Conceptual Framework for the Measurement of South-South Cooperation. These efforts are laying the groundwork for more structured and integrated data ecosystems in support of SDG 17.

Looking ahead, IATI will continue supporting partner countries and SSC providers in applying its open data tools to improve the usability, comparability, and timeliness of SSC reporting. This includes exploring updates to the IATI Standard to improve tagging and classification of SSC activities, and strengthening collaboration across data frameworks to reduce duplication. These efforts are not only about data publication, but about enabling real-time coordination, policy coherence, and mutual learning—ensuring that SSC activities are visible, impactful, and aligned with national and global development priorities.

Planning is underway for a round table discussion in Q3 with the UN Office of South South Cooperation and key SSC providers to advance this work and position IATI as the only platform and standard for the comprehensive publication of South South and Triangular Cooperation, with reference to existing UNCTAD definitions.

With the 2020–2025 Strategic Plan (SP) period approaching its conclusion, Q2 marked a crucial phase for evaluating the outgoing strategy and laying the groundwork for the 2026–2030 Strategic Plan, in line with the approved work plan.

Key milestones were achieved across evaluation, internal visioning, stakeholder engagement, and drafting of the new plan, in line with IATI's stated 2025 priorities. A strong emphasis was placed on using the strategic planning process not only for internal direction-setting, but also as a tool for raising IATI's political visibility and community ownership.

A combination of online and in-person stakeholder consultations attracted more than 100 contributors - ranging from technical users and government partners to donors and civil society - ensuring that the SP development process remained inclusive, regionally grounded, and community-led. Meanwhile, internal workshops and bilateral engagements helped clarify IATI's institutional identity, service offerings, and long-term value proposition, aligning technical and strategic ambitions with operational capacities, to feed into the Strategic Directions paper, and supplementary strategic analysis and recommendations.

Q2 delivery:

Finalisation of the 2020–2025 Strategic Plan Evaluation

Taking account of feedback received from the Governing Board, the independent evaluation team delivered its final report assessing the impact, relevance, and limitations of the current strategic plan. The IATI Secretariat prepared a formal management response, identifying priority areas for institutional learning and adjustments to be carried into the next strategic cycle.

Strategic Plan Consultations

Structured multilingual dialogues for the new Strategic Plan 2026-30 were hosted on IATI Connect, engaging stakeholders in co-design conversations around IATI's future role, priorities, and user services. Regional workshops in West Africa (Abidjan, June 3-4 - see below) and

Europe (Brussels EU Workshop and IATI Community Day, March 18-19) provided opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to strategic planning discussions in person. Consultations in Abidjan focused on country priorities and local data use needs, and involved government representatives, CSOs, and development partners from the region. In Brussels, European stakeholders including donor agencies and multilateral organizations, held discussions on aligning SP goals with EU transparency, digital cooperation, and financing priorities.

Contributions in this process were also made through a series of structured Secretariat workshops examining IATI's mission, vision, and institutional value proposition, leading to a clearer articulation of IATI's distinct roles in the transparency and data ecosystems.

Insights from the extensive consultations, along with the independent evaluation of the 2020-25 Strategic Plan, as well as feedback received during the Q1 Board were drawn together into an updated Strategic Directions Paper, which will inform the drafting of the initial structure of the new strategic plan in June. The initial draft includes outcome areas, priority actions, and a results framework outline. Coordination with engagement, technical, and communications teams will ensure alignment across workstreams, and findings from internal review sessions will ensure alignment with the technical roadmap and digital estate planning with the SP's emerging priorities, retaining coherence across IATI's policy, community, and data tools.

UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub (SFH) Alignment

Following its institutional shift at UNDP to the Sustainable Finance Hub within the same Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, the IATI Secretariat has worked to identify and leverage shared priorities around country-level support, digital public infrastructure, and joint communications opportunities particularly in the lead-up to the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) in Sevilla, Spain, July 2025.

2. Improving data quality for more effective development

Key work plan activities for 2025 towards progressing IATI's data quality include undertaking a State of Data review, and revitalising the IATI Dashboard to become a comprehensive and dynamic point of reference for all published data and insights. Significant progress has been made in Q2 towards each of these priorities. This has taken place alongside ongoing tasks to maintain and improve IATI core infrastructure, support smaller publishers, and provide technical support through the Support Desk.

Q2 delivery:

Quality of data dialogues

Extensive work is underway to support publishers to gain a better awareness of the quality of their own publication, as it impacts the experience of users.

A series of quarterly data quality dialogues will address topics chosen to move the needle on IATI data quality, culminating with a State of Data Review for launch at the 2025 MA. The first data quality dialogue in June is on the topic of document links, and in preparation for that dialogue the Secretariat shared research on the topic and held a virtual consultation, ahead of an online webinar featuring presentations by partners FCDO and BMZ, both working to advance A.I. applications using IATI data, to emphasise the value of documents and unstructured text published in IATI.

Impetus for the first of these briefings in June was spurred by a presentation in May of a new tool developed for FCDO which pilots A.I. analysis of its IATI published data. This work and partnership have revealed not only the goldmine of data and analysis now possible as a result of the availability of structured IATI data, but also the areas in which data quality improvements by publishers can make a step change in the outcomes for data users. IATI Secretariat is exploring engagement opportunities with a number of its members with notably strong datasets, to join in this pilot.

UNDP has benefited from work undertaken through its Seoul Policy Centre in conjunction with Korea University, which has written a research paper looking at IATI as a key data source for strengthening engagement with development partners. The first and second parts of the research paper offer a number of recommendations on improving data quality on the supply side, which can be considered alongside the Secretariat's ongoing data quality work.

Support for smaller publishers

Support for smaller publishers has been enhanced through a series of activities to maintain and update the IATI Publisher tool. On the back end, these include extensive stress testing of the infrastructure to mitigate any risks that arise through increasing publisher numbers - through new organisations publishing, and migrations from other tools. Monitoring of user volumes, page load times and performance of key processes was undertaken in Q2 to inform any structural improvements needed for the tool. Other work to improve the user experience and access include IATI branded headers, footers and fonts integrated across IATI Publisher, along with text translations in French and Spanish. These tool improvements will greatly enhance the publisher experience for many more organisations having use of a tool in their native languages. Building on review work undertaken in 2024, bulk data import workflows are being improved through added functionality to upload transactions in a single process, together with minor design improvements to the import page to make the process more intuitive for users. Updated user guidance will accompany these changes. Information flows for those needing support for publishing have been improved, ensuring relevant information such as help articles can be found easily alongside support desk access.

Communications announcing the availability of new guidance were posted on IATI Connect in late March https://www.iaticonnect.org/group/7/topic/iati-publisher-new-documentation-site pointing to updated online documentation to support users with IATI Publisher https://docs.publisher.iatistandard.org/en/latest/ The new documentation site replaces the older pdf manual. It can be viewed online making it easier to access, maintain and update.

While the IATI Publisher progress described above will provide significant improvements for users, back end alignment work is also taking place as part of a broader infrastructure upgrade towards single sign-on and the new IATI Registry.

Within this portfolio, the Secretariat has worked to improve its internal information management systems with updated CRM software. With this update and the consolidation work undertaken to transition client files, the Secretariat can provide better, more consistent advocacy and communications work across its entire community. Progress has been communicated through IATI Connect and the work will be completed in Q3.

Stewarding the IATI Standard

Following the culmination of the work of the Standard Stewardship Working Group in late 2024, the Secretariat has continued to engage with the Governing Board to refine the methods of implementation and monitoring of the recommendations of the group, based on feedback received on a paper shared with the Board in April. The primary recommendations from the group focused on engaging the community in discussing and understanding potential changes to the IATI standard through a primary lens of **impact analysis**. The Board has provided guidance in regard to the definition and application of 'continual change' according to language

received from the SSWG, to ensure this does not negatively impact external systems outside of IATI's control, preferring a predictable rhythm for upgrades. The Board has also added its recommendations on the most appropriate body for monitoring and managing implementation of Standard upgrades.

In June, the Secretariat has moved ahead to identify a candidate set of potential changes to test this process, applying industry standard mechanisms to ensure publishers are alerted and aware of the process underway and the planned outcomes.This careful approach will ensure backward compatibility requirements are respected, while maintaining momentum to keep the IATI Standard up to date and ready to capture important data such as on climate finance and South South and Triangular Cooperation.

As part of its ongoing technical engagement work, the Secretariat is working on maintaining IATI Standard artefacts in liaison with OECD to reflect new formats of DAC code lists and ensuring the two standards remain synchronised.

IATI Dashboard and Registry improvements

Detailed communications were announced to the IATI community in April in preparation for a major change coming in Q3 when the current aging IATI Registry will be replaced. This is part of a wide ranging infrastructure upgrade that will lead to a simpler way to register data, along with the creation of a single login for IATI tools, improved navigation of publisher data and availability of more powerful tools for integrations by developers.

An important upgrade was completed on the IATI datastore in April when search servers were upgraded for better performance and long-term reliability, moving to a newer version of Solr, and a more maintainable platform for the future. This work repaired and stabilised the aging IATI Dashboard and was essential to pave the way for planned new features to enhance user experiences.

Where the Registry and Dashboard were previously two separate tools, these will merge in Q3, with the Dashboard **replacing** the public website of the IATI Registry.

With these foundations in place and aligned with the Product Technical Maturity Analysis presented to the Board in Q3/2024, the Secretariat has begun to detail the following phases of activity for the third and fourth quarters which together will simplify infrastructure, create clearer distinctions between tools, and offer a more unified experience for users.

- Centralizing metadata: Consolidating information from the IATI Registry to make the Dashboard the Single Source of Truth for IATI metadata.
- Improving accessibility: Enhancing the layout, user interface, and translation options.
- Integrating key tools: Connecting to CDFD, Tables, d-portal, and the Datastore for easier interaction with published IATI data.
- Strengthening data linkages: Ensuring consistency across IATI tools through the Data Policy work.
- Introducing sign-in features: Exploring identity-based customization for organizations.

Positioning the Dashboard for assessment of IATI Data Qualities

- Defining relevant data quality metrics and where appropriate, incorporating ATI test results into the Dashboard.
- Improving contextualisation: Making data more user-focused, linking data quality to clear analytical use cases.
- Transitioning from standard reporting: Moving beyond Publishing Statistics and ATI tests to a more tailored approach based on State of Data Review findings.

The goal of this work is to evolve the Dashboard into a dynamic tool that reflects data quality insights while maintaining transparency and usability for all stakeholders. Consultations and insights from the State of the Data exercise will inform progress in this work.

3. Enhancing Data Use, and Training and support for data users

Planned activities for Q2 focused on the organisation of the West Africa training workshop jointly with the African Development Bank to enhance data use among regional stakeholders. Once this activity is concluded, resources will turn to organising a series of online clinics for data users, with analysis already ongoing to determine the exact data use needs to be addressed through clinics. The Secretariat is working through existing processes such as GPEDC monitoring action dialogues, where IATI data can support evidence-led decision-making.

For publishers using the IATI Helpdesk, self-service mechanisms are being explored in 2025, together with peer support / collaboration where deeper dive assignments are called for.

Q2 delivery:

Increasing country-level engagement

Recognising the very different needs of data users in different county typologies, in Q2 the Secretariat has worked through UNDP's country offices to survey partner country data users in preparation for targeted online data use sessions to take place quarterly starting in Q3. The three cohorts identified for targeted data use sessions are 1. LDC/LIC (Least Developed Countries / Low-Income Countries); 2. LDC/LIC countries with Integrated National Financing Frameworks - INFFs; and 3. Pacific Island Forum countries, with this latter cohort chosen for its particular interest in climate financing considerations. With this analysis in hand, the Secretariat will move quickly ahead after completion of the IATI-AfDB West Africa Workshop (3-5 June).

The Secretariat has begun a new engagement with the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) currently preparing Action Dialogues as part of the fifth Phase of its fourth monitoring round, which seek to identify forward-looking reforms and actions based on country context. The use of IATI's realtime disaggregated aid data will offer a pathway to increase the impact of these Action Dialogues, and the IATI Secretariat is working towards offering support in three countries, Nigeria with its robust IATI data coverage and active AIMS engagement and either Burkina Faso or the Democratic Republic of the Congo where operational complexity and aid fragmentation present strong use cases for improved donor transparency, data use and inclusive dialogue. These steps and closer collaboration between the two secretariats will open essential new opportunities for IATI country-level advocacy.

IATI-AfDB West Africa Workshop (3-5 June):

As part of IATI's strategic efforts to strengthen the use of development cooperation data at country level, the Secretariat organised and co-hosted an IATI–AfDB West Africa Regional Workshop from 3–5 June 2025 in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, in partnership with the African Development Bank (AfDB). This high-level workshop convened government representatives from eight Francophone West African countries — Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Benin, Guinea, Mali, Niger, and Togo — alongside a diverse group of development partners, including Germany (BMZ), the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), the World Bank, BOAD, and Global Affairs Canada. The interactive and solutions-oriented event focused on strengthening data use in national planning and coordination systems, enhancing the visibility of aid flows, and fostering greater alignment between publishers and data users.

The workshop agenda responded directly to regionally identified priorities around public financial management, aid coordination, and transparency. It featured targeted training on IATI's tools for accessing and using data, practical sessions on integrating IATI data into government systems, and peer learning exchanges between development partners and country governments. The workshop also served as a platform to test new approaches to data use training and publisher–user feedback loops, while advancing key strategic consultations for IATI's next Strategic Plan. This marks a critical step in deepening IATI's engagement across Francophone Africa and operationalizing our data use agenda in a context-responsive manner.

IATI support services

ODS has continued to provide dedicated Support Desk support, advice and guidance to 72 unique organisations, with 132 tickets solved, 12 new registration contacts including climate funding organisations and Latin American development banks/bodies. and 9 first time publishers (statistics from the month of April). The Secretariat is carefully analysing these tickets to help understand the nature of queries and improve our services going forward.

The Secretariat is working to enhance and further develop its API offerings to give better support and improve collaboration strategies with other providers. Analysis of support queries has shown a sharp upturn in cases using IATI APIs, pointing to recognition by external organisations in IATI's ability to support the development sector with programmatic access to the data with which to build analytical tools and services. (See also Coordination, Efficiency and Impact below).

4. Advocacy, engagement and online presence

IATI positioned the Strategic Plan process as a key narrative in ongoing FfD4 preparations, supporting advocacy for IATI's inclusion in the agenda on data interoperability and transparency for international financial flows. The IATI Executive Director met bilaterally with over 20 key stakeholders, including donors, partner countries, and multilateral institutions, to socialise SP priorities and secure strategic alignment in relation to the FFD4 outcome document. Advocacy efforts intensified with strategic partners around IATI's value in global financing and accountability mechanisms. Strategic alignment activities were also deepened with core partners and initiatives, with the UNDP IATI team working closely within its new institutional home at the UNDP Sustainable Finance Hub to align preparations for IATI's presence and positioning at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4).

Q2 delivery:

FfD4 Strategic Engagement

Organisers of the FfD4 Conference in Sevilla, Spain in July have accepted IATI's joint proposal for a side event entitled "Data as Dialogue: Unlocking Interoperability for Financing Sustainable Development" with co-hosts The Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Nigeria; Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia (TBC); Lowy Institute. IATI will also co-host a second event jointly with Australia (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), Shanghai University, Korea International Cooperation Agency, and emerging donor government aid agencies, including Thailand International Cooperation Agency (TICA), Ministry of External Affairs of India, and Indonesia AID. Inclusion in these two side events which will be included in the main conference schedule and venue will greatly amplify the political profile and visibility of IATI at this important global conference and will complement the advocacy and engagement undertaken at UN Headquarters through successive preparatory committees throughout Q1 and Q2.

The Secretariat has worked with the Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD) Secretariat to develop a joint briefing note on Bridging Transparency Gaps: The Complementary Roles of TOSSD and IATI in Development Finance, intended for circulation ahead of the FfD4 Conference. The intention behind this paper is to clarify the complementary roles these two reporting frameworks and emphasise the critical need for inclusion of both in the outcome document. The paper further addresses the calls for greater interoperability of IATI with other open data standards and frameworks, by setting out the comparative advantages of each in a clear and compelling way. The briefing note makes a number of recommendations to promote interoperability, leverage existing infrastructure, enhance the visibility of South-South Cooperation data, support integrated analysis and support developing country capacities for data analysis - many of which are emerging from consultations on IATI's new Strategic Plan and together support a more transparent, accountable and efficient global financing system and sustainable development.

IATI has applied and been successfully included in the list of recognised aid sector-specific open standards, by the Digital Public Good (DPG) Alliance. The Secretariat is following up with a further more detailed application for recognition of the published data also as a DPG, which would significantly enhance advocacy opportunities for IATI.

IATI Communications Strategy

The Secretariat has begun to implement IATI's new Communications Strategy 2025–2028 following its approval by the Governing Board in Q1. The new strategy sets out clear objectives, target audiences, and expected results over three years to guide strategic outreach and engagement. Communications planning has been improved through a new content publication schedule, and social media activity which led to the tripling of these activities in Q2 to boost visibility.

IATI Annual Report

The IATI Annual Report 2024 and Financial Report are now fully drafted and in the final design phase, remaining on track to be delivered within Q2. This year's Annual Report includes more testimonials and real-world examples than in previous years, showcasing how IATI data is being used across regions and sectors.

Communications of IATI Activities

IATI has continued to promote key activities through e-newsletters, news/events posts, IATI Connect posts and social media. Newsworthy items in Q2 have included the EU Transparency Day/ Community event, IATI representation at CAF's launch of its first Transparency Report, the IATI Results Framework monitoring survey, an event to engage Netherlands-based journalists (*Workshop open data in ontwikkelingssamenwerking* - 26 May 2025), and the South-South Cooperation Working Group open session (27 May 2025) with UNCTAD and TOSSD. A communications plan has been created to support the upcoming West Africa Regional Workshop (3-5 June).

IATI Connect Platform Review

The Secretariat has undertaken an internal review of IATI Connect platform performance, user engagement, and accessibility issues for consideration by the Governing Board and guidance on next steps ahead of the 2026 work planning and budget cycle. Guidance will be sought from the Governing Board on the options set out in the paper, ahead of the 2026 workplanning cycle.

5. Coordination, efficiency and impact of aid

The IATI Standard has been found by a number of groups working in distinct thematic areas to greatly improve their access to the data they need for the work they are mandated to do. In furtherance of these partnerships, IATI has continued its support to data users and enhance the coordination of aid and humanitarian resources. During the Q1 EU Seminar in Brussels, lively workshop discussions took place under the lead of Denmark which has continued its pilot work on a tool to generate monthly FTS reports from its IATI reporting. This had been put forward as an alternative for those humanitarian publishers previously using the EDRIS reporting system to FTS, through submission of Excel spreadsheets. The IATI Secretariat has developed a procedure to convert IATI data into FTS format, but next steps in verifying this approach requires engagement from FTS, which has not been forthcoming in Q2, and therefore the pilot has not progressed.

Proposed activities for Q2 have included preparing a Roundtable discussion bringing together Education Cannot Wait, / the Global Alliance for Food Security / Land Portal / Indigenous Peoples / Disaster Preparedness for a 2 day event in Europe, and a separate Thematic Data Use workshop in Geneva. These activities will help to identify and eliminate the challenges each thematic grouping faces in their particular environment, and share lessons learned across communities. These activities will get underway with a slight delay, with pre-workshop calls scheduled in June and activities planned to take place in Q3.

Q2 delivery:

Support for thematic communities and data-led initiatives

In Q2 the team assisted the **Global Alliance for Food Security (GAFS)** with finalisation of a guidance note on IATI data, for inclusion in the Operations Manual that will inform and guide how partners work together (including publishing and using IATI data). This manual forms part of World Bank GAFS Preparedness Plans and is used in the event the plan is triggered in a particular country.

Next steps in supporting this and other thematic communities will focus on the development of a draft concept note detailing collaborations so far, leading towards a workshop with stakeholders (slated for Q3).

6. Finance and operation

UNDP and UNOPS work together on finance, operation and legal matters, maintaining subscriptions and managing contracts of personnel and vendors including the Long Term Agreement with Open Data Services, and ongoing calls for interpretation or translation from UN LTA holders. Deliverables to highlight in Q2 have included delivery of a dashboard for monitoring of income from membership and voluntary contributions (UNOPS), and preparations for the June West Africa workshops.

Q2 delivery:

PROCUREMENT

A. IATI-AfDB Regional Consultation and Training Workshops on Data Quality – West Africa

The Secretariat is making arrangements for the IATI - African Development Bank (AfDB) Regional Consultation and Training Workshops focused on data quality in West Africa which

aims to enhance the capacity of stakeholders in the region to improve data quality standards and practices.

Key Activities:

- **Workshop Arrangements:** UNDP has coordinated logistics, working closely with AfDB on venue/hotel reservations, participant invitations, presentations, and travel support ensuring effective engagement of stakeholders from various sectors. UNOPS has procured translation and interpretation for the event.

- **Technical Training Consultant:** A consultant specializing in data quality has been engaged to provide in-depth technical training to participants. The Consultant will provide substantive, coordination, and facilitation support for the planning, preparation, and delivery of the IATI-AfDB West Africa Regional Workshop working closely with the IATI Secretariat team, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and technical partners to ensure the smooth organization and successful delivery of the workshop. The Consultant will also support the integration of key insights and follow-up actions emerging from the workshop into broader IATI outreach and data use strategies in the region.

B. Consultancy Contracts – Communications, Engagement, and Outreach

UNDP continues to strengthen its communication and outreach efforts by extending several consultancy contracts in the areas of communications, engagement, and outreach. These consultants will play a pivotal role in enhancing UNDP's visibility and engagement with stakeholders.

Key Activities:

- **Contract Extensions:** Existing consultancy contracts will be extended to maintain continuity in communication and engagement activities.

- **Evaluation Consultancy Contracts:** The evaluation consultancy contracts have been concluded with the submission of the final evaluation report on the strategic plan. This report is anticipated to offer valuable insights and recommendations that will assist IATI in enhancing its impact and continuing to lead global efforts in aid transparency.

C. Long-Term Agreement with Open Data Services (ODS) for Technology Service Support

UNDP continues its collaboration with Open Data Services (ODS) under a Long-Term Agreement (LTA) to provide ongoing technology service support. This partnership ensures the availability of specialized personnel, software, and IT tools necessary for the implementation of technology-related activities outlined in the work plan.

Key Activities:

- **Personnel Support:** ODS provides qualified personnel to assist in the execution of technology-related tasks in the approved work plan, with detailed activities discussed and agreed monthly with UNDP.

- **Software and IT Tools:** The LTA facilitates access to a range of software and IT tools required for the successful implementation of technical operations to provide a robust, reliable and secure infrastructure, designed according to user needs.

D. Procurement of Monthly Subscription Services for IT Tools and Applications

UNDP continues to procure monthly subscription services for various IT tools and applications that are integral to the efficient execution of tasks and the achievement of project objectives.

Key Activities:

- **Procurement of IT Tools:** MailChimp for communication management, Office 365 for productivity and collaboration, and Adobe licenses for design and document management.

- **Subscription Management:** Ongoing management of these subscriptions will ensure uninterrupted access to the necessary tools, supporting the smooth execution of planned activities.

E. Personnel - Recruitment of Engagement Specialist and Data Policy Specialist

UNDP is actively taking steps to fill the vacant positions of Engagement Specialist and Data Policy Specialist under the International Personnel Services Agreement (IPSA) contracts for the second half of the year. These roles are critical to advancing UNDP's strategic objectives in engagement. The data policy specialist will lead on developing policy required to promote the systematic use of IATI data across a range of stakeholders including governments and civil society organisations.

Key Activities:

- **Positioning and Engagement Specialist:** UNDP has posted a vacancy for the Positioning and Engagement Specialist (IPSA-10), an office-based role in UNDP HQ in New York. The application deadline was 27 May 2025. This specialist will provide expertise and direction to position UNDP and advance its strategic advocacy efforts in the digital development sector.

- **Data Policy Specialist:** The job description for the Data Policy Specialist, also an office-based (UNDP HQ) role is currently being developed. It is anticipated that this position will be filled in Q3. The Data Policy Specialist will contribute expertise and analysis from the data user perspective to inform possible changes to the IATI Standard and technical infrastructure.

FINANCE

In Q2, UNDP continued to collaborate with UNOPS to prepare various background documents and financial information for the Financial Sustainability Working Group (FSWG), tasked by the Governing Board with commissioning a thorough review of financial arrangements to ensure IATI's medium- and long-term sustainability.

With the anticipated closure of the 2024 financial ledger, UNDP plans to share the official certified financial donor reports with Switzerland, Germany, and Canada in relation to contribution agreements routed through UNDP. Canada has deposited its 2025 fee with UNDP, and Germany is set to disburse its 2025 contribution upon receipt of the UNDP Certified Financial Report (CFR), expected to be released in June or early July.

UNDP is also preparing an updated financial report for submission to UNOPS to facilitate the release of the second tranche deposit under the UN-to-UN Agreement Amendment between UNDP and UNOPS.

As a key tool for engagement with members and accountability to the governing bodies, UNOPS has developed a new dynamic IATI Dashboard for Membership Contributions which has been made openly available through the IATI website and promoted through IATI Connect.

UNOPS continues its efforts to collect membership contributions from members with signed multi-year agreements who have yet to pay for 2025. In parallel, UNOPS is urging members who have only signed up until 2024 to sign contribution agreements for 2025 and beyond as soon as possible. As of the issuance of this paper, 48 paying members have signed contribution agreements covering the year 2025 or beyond, and of those 32 have already paid their 2025 contribution, totaling USD 2.15 million.

As of 27 May 2025, IATI expenditures totaled USD 1,726,652. The tables below provide a breakdown of expenditures by scopes, priorities and cost categories.

Table 1

IATI 2025 Finances by Scope			
Expenditure by Scope	**Q1**	**Q2 (as of May 27)**	**Total Expenditure**
Scope: 1. Accountability Structure	82,428	47,016	129,443
Scope: 2. Stewardship of the IATI Standard	69,282	70,180	139,462
Scope: 3. Technical Infrastructure	169,205	180,804	350,009
Scope: 4. Publisher and User Support	118,323	134,897	253,220
Scope: 5. Advocacy, Community and Communications	127,116	135,347	262,463
Scope: 6. Policy and Planning Services	131,623	121,997	253,620
Scope: 7. Operational and Financial management	84,831	61,778	146,609
Scope: 8. Procurement and Contracts Management	36,740	34,767	71,507
Sub-Total	**819,548**	**786,785**	**1,606,334**
GMS - UNDP 8%	56,194	58,345	114,539
Management fees - UNOPS 3.95%	4,620	1,160	5,779
Grand Total	**880,361**	**846,290**	**1,726,652**

Table 2

IATI 2025 Finances by Strategic Priority and Cost Category

Strategic Priority	Cost category	Q1 Expenditure	Q2 Expenditure	Total Expenditure
1. Governance, Accountability and Strategic Planning (2025 Priority)	Consultancy (UNDP)	16,150	-	16,150
	LTA Service Contracts	5,784	468	6,251
	IT Applications/Subscriptions	1,255	1,150	2,405
	Personnel (UNDP)	154,590	150,690	305,280
	Personnel (UNOPS)	91,900	54,700	146,600
	Print / publications	-	-	-
	Travel	30,350	173	30,524
1. Governance, Accountability and Strategic Planning (2025 Priority) Total		**300,029**	**207,181**	**507,210**
2. Improving data quality for more effective development (SP Objective 1)	IT Applications/Subscriptions	43,393	50,800	94,193
	Service Contracts (ODS)	174,285	174,555	348,840
	Travel	924	21,084	22,009
2. Improving data quality for more effective development (SP Objective 1) Total		**218,603**	**246,439**	**465,042**
3. Training and support for data users (SP Objective 2)	IT Applications/Subscriptions	1,721	9,950	11,671
	Personnel (UNDP)	11,594	4,953	16,547
	Service Contracts (ODS)	110,115	109,845	219,960
3. Training and support for data users (SP Objective 2) Total		**123,430**	**124,748**	**248,178**
4. Advocacy, engagement and online presence (2025 Priority)	Consultancy (UNDP)	22,275	8,250	30,525
	Consultancy (UNOPS)	-	2,197	2,197
	IT Applications/Subscriptions	1,495	38,102	39,597
	Others	5,178	(63)	5,115
	Personnel (UNDP)	113,435	104,321	217,756
	Print / publications	-	-	-
	Travel	-	11,154	11,154
4. Advocacy, engagement and online presence (2025 Priority) Total		**142,383**	**163,961**	**306,344**
5. Coordination, efficiency and impact of aid (SP Objective 3)	Consultancy (UNDP)	-	13,400	13,400
	Personnel (UNDP)	35,102	31,057	66,159
	Travel	-	-	-
5. Coordination, efficiency and impact of aid (SP Objective 3) Total		**35,102**	**44,457**	**79,559**
Sub-Total		**819,548**	**786,786**	**1,606,334**
GMS - UNDP 8%		56,194	58,345	114,539
Management fees - UNOPS 3.95%		4,620	1,160	5,779
Grand Total		**880,361**	**846,291**	**1,726,652**

Table 3

IATI 2025 Finances by Cost Category (USD)

Cost Category	Budget	Expenditure Q1	Expenditure Q2 (as of May 27)	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate
Personnel	**1,771,584**	**406,622**	**345,721**	**752,343**	**42.47%**
Labour Cost - GS Staff		14,086	8,835	22,921	
Labour Cost - IP Staff		260,574	249,166	509,740	
Labour Cost - International Personnel Services Agreement (IPSA)		131,962	87,720	219,682	
Labour Cost - IP Staff on Temporary Appointment		-	-	-	
Consultancy / Service Contracts	**1,479,100**	**328,609**	**308,714**	**637,323**	**43.09%**
International Consultants - Short Term Support Contractor		-	-	-	
International Consultants - Short Term Technical Contractor		322,825	308,247	631,072	
Service Contract Holders		-	-	-	
Long Term Contractual Service Contracts		5,784	468	6,251	
General Insurance - Consultancy		-	-	-	
Service to Projects - General Opex		-	-	-	
IT Applications / Subscriptions	**296,300**	**47,864**	**100,002**	**147,866**	**49.90%**
Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Supplies		-	-	-	
Email Subscription		1,228	1,302	2,530	
Computer Software		-	34,800	34,800	
Maintenance Cost - Software Licenses		46,636	63,900	110,536	
Print and Publications		-	-	-	
Other Media Costs		-	-	-	
Travel	**276,835**	**36,332**	**32,445**	**68,777**	**24.84%**
Travel Tickets - International/Local		10,470	17,486	27,956	
Daily Subsistnce Allowance - International/Local		13,344	9,284	22,628	
Travel Cost - Other		3,906	2,930	6,837	
Learning/workshop/training costs		8,612	2,745	11,357	
Grants		-	-	-	
Publish What You Fund (PWYF)		-	-	-	
Others	**10,000**	**120**	**(96)**	**24**	**0.24%**
Foreign Exchange Losses		120	(31)	89	
Unrealized Foreign Exchange Gain		-	(65)	(65)	
Print / publication /workshop	**72,000**	-	-	-	**0.00%**
Facilities and Administration - Implementation	**288,102**	**60,814**	**59,505**	**120,318**	**41.76%**
Facilities and Administration - Implementation		60,814	59,505	120,318	
Grand Total	**4,193,921**	**880,361**	**846,291**	**1,726,652**	**41.17%**

Table 4

IATI 2025 Finances - Income Vs Expenditure

2025	
Income Received from Membership Contribution*	1,949,427
Income from Voluntary Contribution	115,650
Carry over from previous year	2,088,224
Total Income including MC, VC and Cash from previous years	4,153,301
Expenditures	1,726,652
Current Balance	**2,426,649**

* USD 86,806 received by UNDP

As shown in Table 3, the 2025 delivery rate as of May 27 is 41.17% compared to the total 2025 budget. When measured against the Q1 and Q2 budgets (USD 2,148,387), the rate is 80%.

When deducted from the total current income for 2025 (USD 4,153,301), the total expenditures of USD 1,726,452 leave IATI with a cash balance of USD 2,426,649, as demonstrated in Table 4.

In this regard, it should be highlighted that the following members are yet to pay their 2024 contributions:

1. Bond (agreement not signed)
2. Centre for Democracy and Development (agreement not signed)
3. Government of Chad
4. Government of Malawi (to be paid by the UNDP Country Office)
5. Media Foundation for West Africa (agreement not signed)
6. Oxfam Novib

Relatedly, during the Q1 Governing Board meeting, the members listed below were granted a contribution waiver for the years 2024 and 2025:

1. Burkina Faso
2. Colombia
3. Madagascar
4. Moldova
5. Nepal
6. Nigeria
7. Guinea
8. Sierra Leone
9. Somalia
10. Tanzania
11. Yemen

In collaboration with UNDP, UNOPS has reached out to members who have gradually disengaged from IATI over time, including those whose contributions were typically waived. These inactive members have been asked to respond by 20 June and encouraged to contact the Secretariat to explore possibilities for reengaging with the initiative. In total, 18 members received letters signed by the IATI Executive Officer.

As a final note, UNOPS has recently completed three key deliverables in its role as IATI's financial manager: the 2024 Financial Report (in close collaboration with UNDP); the Contribution Dashboard, which provides greater visibility over agreements signed and member payments; and the audit process led by an independent firm contracted by the European Union to review expenditures related to the voluntary contribution of USD 171,931 for the annual MA and Community Exchange meetings held in Copenhagen in 2023. Regarding the latter, UNOPS

has already provided all the required information and documents and is currently awaiting the auditors' report. The process is progressing smoothly, and no issues are anticipated.

Currently, UNOPS is preparing the financial report for the EC's voluntary contribution of USD 109,850 for the annual MA and Community Exchange meetings held in Bogotá in April 2024.

Implementation Challenges

The Secretariat continued to operate with reduced staffing, with two of its positions unfilled. An institutional shift from the SDG Integration Group into the Sustainable Finance Hub within the same bureau has offered new opportunities for collaboration particularly with the Public Finance and Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) teams, but at the same time operational burden. The West Africa workshop in Abidjan originally planned for Q1 but rescheduled to accommodate requests by the co-host African Development Bank is taking place in Q2.

Activities marked as amber representing delays, are as follows:

- Implementing new approaches agreed by the Standard Stewardship Working Group.
    - Guidance from the Board on the recommendations received from the WG was delayed with a knock on effect on this activity. Now targeted for Q3.
- Progress on implementing single sign-on has been slightly delayed in the context of the Registry revamp and will now be concluded in Q3. Communications have been issued to members in preparation, through IATI Connect.
- Consolidate and improve IATI's digital presence, specifically Website design and information architecture refresh, in line with Strategic Planning communication requirements.
    - This activity was delayed due to staff illness and is planned for Q3.
- Strengthening Secretariat Functioning
    - Work planning in person did not take place due to budgetary constraints.
- Establish IATI-FTS data exchange - Workshop held; briefing paper published; action plan published.
    - IATI has progressed this activity but has been unable to obtain response from OCHA-FTS. This matter will be escalated through UNDP at senior levels.
- Develop climate financing options for IATI
    - Delay due to staff capacity constraints, and will be taken up in Q3.
- Conduct virtual training sessions and develop training materials for CSOs, CSO intermediary groups, and partner country government representatives.
    - Delayed due to staff capacity constraints, however planning is underway and this activity will take place in Q3.
- Contribution to OECD paper on Untying Aid; development activity around organisation references and traceability.
    - No response was received on the part of OECD. The Secretariat will continue to follow up.
- IATI Data policy - Development of an issues paper for consultation on a new IATI data policy was delayed due to capacity constraints and is scheduled for Q3.

Conclusion and considerations for Board

The Secretariat is on track to meet deliverables set out in the approved work plan for the second quarter except where flagged above, and requests the Board to approve this implementation report for circulation to members through the IATI website.