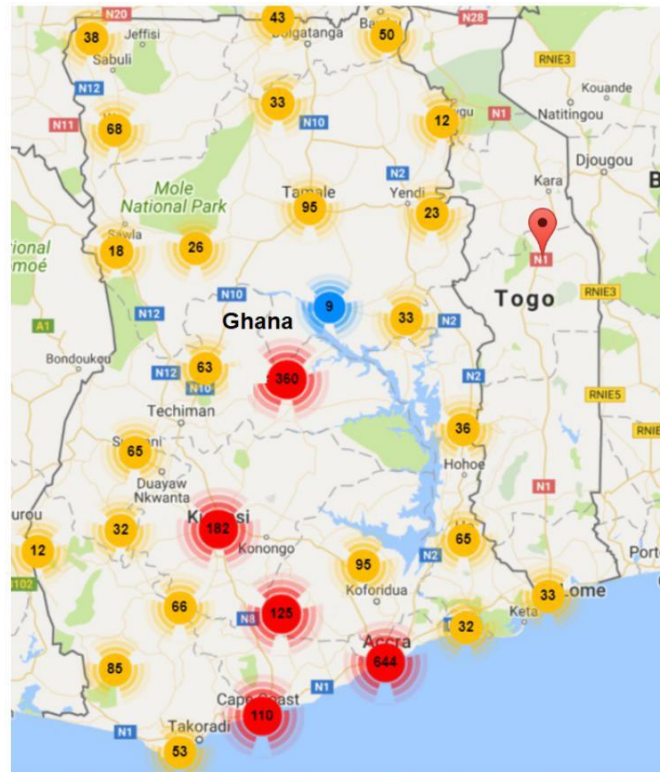


# Spotlight on IATI Data Use: Ghana

IATI presents a series of partner country profiles developed by UNDP on behalf of the IATI Secretariat. It should be read in conjunction with the [summary](#) and all findings will be used to inform the initiative's work on data use.

## Key findings

- Almost 98% of external aid funding (concessional trust funds of the IMF exempted) in Ghana is provided by IATI publishers. This makes IATI data potentially very valuable for Ghana.
- Government officials rely heavily on a long-established system of data collection and have not yet become aware of the good quality data available through IATI. Efforts should be made both with government officials and with the local donor community to increase awareness of the benefits of accessing and using IATI data.
- It is important to clarify any technical reasons preventing the import of IATI data into the local AIMS. Pilot work involving strong IATI publishers such as the World Bank, European Commission, USA and the UK could assist with this.
- It will be beneficial to increase the understanding of the AIMS and IATI data capability and potential by government entities involved in the PFM system.
- Learning opportunities through knowledge exchanges with countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kenya, Vietnam and Rwanda on the use of IATI data and interoperability of information management systems would be valuable
- The growing complexity of the development resource landscape in Ghana multiplies and modifies roles and information systems among institutions, without necessarily increasing transparency on resource flows among these institutions.



Heatmap of activities with precise location data in Ghana from IATI's d-portal.org

## Ghana involvement in IATI

Ghana first heard about IATI at the 3rd High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra in 2008. The Ministry of Finance joined IATI in 2012 and this in turn galvanised the deployment of a management information system to track development cooperation in the country. If the concessional trust funds of the IMF are exempted, almost 98% of external aid funding in Ghana is provided by IATI publishers. This makes IATI data potentially very valuable for Ghana.



## What IATI data is available?

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Active Projects</b></p> <p><b>1597</b></p> <p>Total Projects</p> <p><b>6032</b></p>   | <p><b>Main providers not yet publishing in IATI</b></p> <p>IMF<br/>Arab Bank<br/>Austria<br/>UNHCR<br/>UAE<br/>Italy</p> |
| <p><b>% of activities with locations</b></p> <p><b>16%</b></p>  | <p><b>Number of IATI Publishers</b></p> <p><b>125</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Aid Information Management System</b><br/>                 Provider: Synergy International Systems<br/>                 System installed in: 2016 – Launched in: 2017<br/>                 Web-link: <a href="http://dad.synisys.com/gha">dad.synisys.com/gha</a> or <a href="http://dcmis.mofep.gov.gh">dcmis.mofep.gov.gh</a></p> |  |

## Top 10 providers of development cooperation (IATI publishers are shown in green)

These top ten providers contributed 1.3 billion US\$ of the country ODA in 2015. This represents 83% of the total reported amount to OECD (the top twenty providers account for 97%). Non-IATI publishers represent only 8.7% of that total, the primary among these being the IMF. IATI data includes amounts reported by NGOs, foundations and a growing number of private cooperation partners (the main ones for Ghana are The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Palladium International Ltd UK, Camfed International, DAI Europe, WaterAid).



## How does Ghana manage aid data?

- Bilateral and multilateral desks of the Ministry traditionally collect information from the various providers, including those which are more difficult to reach such as Brazil and Saudi Arabia. Between 25% and 50% of aid information, including some data manually extracted from the IATI Registry, now comes from the national Information Management System. Other information required for the national budget is obtained for example from the Commonwealth Secretariat Debt Recording Management System and the Ghana Integrated Financial Management Information System. Currently, the Ghana AIMS (Development Assistance Database) does not reflect contributions from NGOs or foundations, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, or remittances.
- If the concessional trust funds of the IMF are exempted, almost 98% of external aid funding in Ghana is provided by IATI publishers. This makes IATI data potentially very valuable for Ghana. However, the Government reports constraints including interoperability with the national AIMS, difficulties accessing and understanding IATI data, lack of timeliness of data, lack of clear project identification, loss of historical records, and occasional system bugs.
- These challenges are cited as reasons for slow uptake of the increasing opportunities through the use of IATI data to improve regular data collection. The government recognises that it would benefit from better understanding of IATI in order to fully realise the potential to boost its local AIMS and rapidly integrate external assistance data into the national PFM system.
- The quality of Ghana's external aid management which has been well rooted in national institutions' working procedures, and solid external relations with representations of providers, has been reinforced by IATI principles. Any modification to the current system to enable the government to make better use of IATI data must be cautiously undertaken to ensure that benefits outweigh inconveniences, and changes will be seamlessly generated within the well-functioning current system.