



Transparency 2030: Roundtable on Open Data for enhancing Accountability, Effectiveness and Trust in the Development System

Hosted by: International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) at UNGA 80
1:15pm - 2:30pm, Wednesday 24 September 2025
Amartya Sen Conference Room, FF building - Floor 10
304 East 45th Street, New York, NY 10017
Lunch provided

Context

The world is entering a decisive decade for international cooperation. Traditional aid budgets are shrinking—global ODA fell by 7.1% in 2024 and is projected to decline further—while the complexity of global finance is rapidly expanding. At the same time, private, climate, and south-south flows are growing, often poorly coordinated and insufficiently transparent. Amid overlapping crises of conflict, climate, debt, and fragility, governments, civil society, and citizens alike demand greater accountability for how scarce resources are spent. The legitimacy of international cooperation depends on trust, and trust depends on transparency.

The International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) is evolving to meet these challenges. Our new Strategic Plan 2026–2030 marks a decisive shift: from a data publishing platform to a dynamic, AI-ready global evidence base for accountability and action. Recognised in the outcome of the 2025 FfD4 Conference in Seville, IATI is now positioned as a cornerstone of the international cooperation architecture, linking governments, civil society, philanthropy, multilaterals, and private investors through transparent, usable data. At a time of shrinking aid budgets but expanding climate and private flows, IATI offers the credibility and tools needed to build trust and coordinate more effectively.

This transformation reflects both demand and opportunity. Stakeholders increasingly call for data that is not only open, but also integrated into country systems, interoperable with global platforms, and capable of supporting real-time decision-making. By embedding IATI data in national planning and budgeting, promoting interoperability across initiatives, and championing transparency as a driver of accountability and effectiveness, IATI will play a critical role in shaping the next generation of cooperation.

IATI - Advancing Aid Transparency

International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) has a strong record of enhancing global aid transparency since its launch in 2008:

- Today, over **1,800** organisations publish financial data through the IATI Standard, representing more than **USD 3.7 trillion** in development spending.
- Notably, **two-thirds of aid is tracked by IATI**, through OECD countries publishing their official development assistance (ODA) to IATI. Additionally, **19** developing country governments actively use IATI data for budget planning, monitoring, and aid coordination, ensuring that financial flows are better aligned with national development priorities.
- IATI is also an **endorsed UN data standard**, with the UN Secretary-General mandating system-wide enrolment in IATI in 2017. By 2024, [ECOSOC reported that 61%](#) of UN development system entities were publishing financial data through IATI.

Purpose of the session

During UNGA, IATI will convene a select group of partners, champions, and cheerleaders to spotlight this exciting new direction, generate high-level visibility, and expand the coalition of actors backing IATI's mission. This informal roundtable, will be a space to:

- Discuss the role of transparency and open data in the development system
- Share IATI's new Strategic Directions 2026–2030 and highlight the transformative opportunities they create.
- Secure political and financial support from governments, foundations, and multilateral institutions.
- Broaden IATI's base of champions across the UN, civil society, and private sector.
- Build momentum ahead of the formal launch of the strategy in January 2026.

Draft agenda (90 minutes, lunch roundtable)

1. **Welcome and introduction**
2. **Framing presentation** – IATI Secretariat: Strategic Plan 2026–2030
3. **Reflections from champions** – short interventions by government, foundation, civil society, and multilateral leaders
4. **Open roundtable dialogue** – exploring opportunities for alignment, advocacy, and support
5. **Closing call to action** – building a coalition to make transparency deliver for people and planet