Validator API Minor Version Change Notification

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Users of the IATI Validator API,

As part of improvements to the IATI Validator to make it easier for publishers to pinpoint which activities have critical schema validation errors we are planning on the following changes to the Validator API response JSON. These are non breaking Minor changes following our Versioning Protocol from v2.1.X to v2.2.0.

There will be no change to the IATI Validator API Contract. A new query parameter will be added to the POST /validate route and the validation report response JSON will change.

Timeline

The changes will not happen before 1 October 2022. We will communicate the actual release date with at least 2 weeks notice.

Change 1 - Critical Error Summary

Currently, the "summary" object in the report only reports 0 or 1 for "critical" severity errors.

```
"summary": {
    "critical": 1,
    "error": 0,
    "warning": 1
},
```

With v2.2.0, for files that have multiple "critical" severity errors, the count will reflect the total number of critical errors found.

```
"summary": {
    "critical": 3,
    "error": 0,
    "warning": 1
},
```

Change 2 - Critical Errors now have Activity Context

Currently, errors of the "schema" category are only reported at the file level. So the associated "identifier" and "title" were as such:

```
{
        "id": "0.3.1",
        "category": "schema",
        "severity": "critical",
        "message": "Element 'activity-date': The attribute 'type' is required but missing.\n",
        "context": [
            {
                "text": "At line: 73"
            }
        ],
        "identifier": "file",
        "title": "File level errors"
  }
```

With v2.2.0, errors of the "schema" category are now reported at the Activity or Organisation level. So the associated identifier and title are now based on the location of the schema error:

```
{
        "id": "0.3.1",
        "category": "schema",
        "severity": "critical",
        "message": "Element 'activity-date': The attribute 'type' is required but missing.\n",
        "context": [
            {
                "text": "At line: 73"
            }
        ],
        "identifier": "AA-AAA-123456789-ABC123",
        "title": "Activity title"
 }
```

This aligns schema category errors with the other categories like "identifiers" and "geo". Note the above responses are obtained using the ?group=false query parameter for easier display in this document.

Change 3 - Activity or Organisation metadata added

With v2.2.0, when the query parameter of meta=true is present in the URL, a new key/value pair will be present in the response body. The key will be the value of the "fileType" key, so "iati-activities" for Activity files and "iati-organisations" for Organsation files. It contains metadata about each Activity or Organisation identified in the file:Activity
  -    ['iati-activities'][].identifier - value of iati-identifier element in the iati-activity

- ['iati-activities'][].valid - boolean indicating if the activity conforms to the IATI XML Schema
- ['iati-activities'][].index - index where the iati-activity element was found in the iati-activities element

```
"iati-activities": [
    {
        "identifier": "AA-AAA-123456789-ABC123",
        "valid": false,
        "index": 0
    }
],
```

Organisation

- ['iati-organisations'][].identifier - value of organisation-identifier element in the iati-organisation
- ['iati-organisations'][].valid - boolean indicating if the organisation conforms to the IATI XML Schema
- ['iati-organisations'][].index - index where the iati-organisation element was found in the iati-organisations element

```
"iati-organisations": [
    {
        "identifier": "NP-SWC-1234",
         "valid": true,
        "index": 0
    }
],
```

Full JSON Comparison

Request Body XML File:
https://cdn.iatistandard.org/prod-iati-website/documents/iati-act-multi-schema-errors.xml

Response Body JSON:
- ○ Example Activity Validation JSON v2.1.X (current)
- ○ Example Activity Validation JSON v2.2.0 (planned)

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns with this change in the comments on IATI Connect or email us at code@iatistandard.org