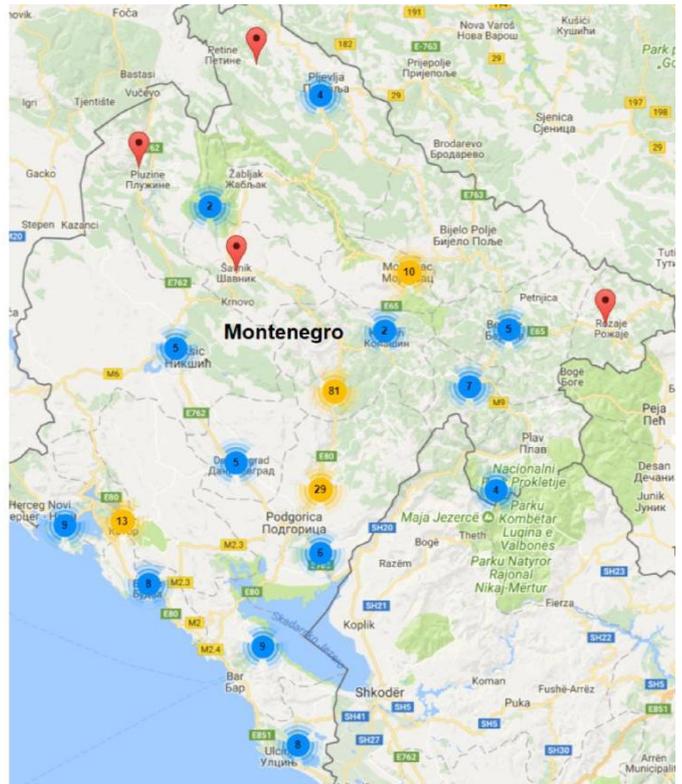


Spotlight on IATI Data Use: Montenegro

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

- Montenegro's newly created Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid is keen to seize opportunities for innovation and efficiency in the management of aid information, and it stands ready to build up knowledge and overcome any capacity constraint to adjust rapidly and address emerging needs.
- It would be beneficial to deepen the exchanges of experiences with countries that have built up or adapted their own AIMS, such as Myanmar, Bangladesh, Vietnam or Cambodia, as well as with those that play a dual role of receiving and providing cooperation (e.g. Honduras, Mexico).
- Optimising automatic downloads of updated IATI information with the EU and Germany would be welcome. This would require strengthening the technical understanding of IATI by MFA and other PFM authorities.
- Communication between all government entities operating in the Public Financial Management System should be strengthened to ensure they are aware of IATI and able to access the data.
- The working environment of the aid information management system and its team is not sufficiently reliable to ensure a regular and reliable internet link through which to access and use IATI data.
- Efforts would be welcomed to encourage Arab countries (the UAE and Turkey) and OECD-DAC members that are not yet IATI members (Slovenia and Austria) to publish data to IATI.
- The government finds that IATI data lack reliability, accuracy and timeliness, compared to locally available data. This is compounded by a lack of technical understanding on the part of national aid information specialists with which to make best use of IATI standard and data.



Heatmap with precise location data in Montenegro from IATI's [d-portal.org](#)

Montenegro involvement in IATI

Montenegro joined IATI in 2012. In 2009, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) hosted an IATI funded workshop for the countries with economies in transition to promote the benefits of IATI membership, raising the overall understanding of development assistance among different stakeholders in the country. However, the responsibility for this policy shifted between different ministries during the subsequent years and as a consequence, the visibility and importance of IATI in the country diminished. In 2015, the MFA re-engaged with IATI as active members and has contributed to policy discussions around transparency and open data since that time.



What IATI data is available?

Active Projects 346 Total Projects 1309	Main providers not yet publishing in IATI UAE Turkey OSCE Slovenia Austria
% of activities with locations 7%	Number of IATI Publishers 35
Aid Information Management System Provider: None System installed in: n/a Web-link: n/a Launched in: n/a	

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

These top ten providers contributed 138 million US\$ of ODA in 2015. This represents 95% of the total amount reported to OECD (the top twenty providers account for 99%). Non-IATI publishers represent 13% of that total.



In addition, IATI displays amounts reported by NGOs, foundations, as well as a growing number of private cooperation partners. The main one for Montenegro is the International Development Law Organization.

How does Montenegro manage aid data?

- Montenegro is in an early stage of developing an Aid Information Management System (AIMS). It has created an excel database which is generated manually using data from forms submitted to the MFA by line ministries and other relevant institutions. It is also streamlining its aid management architecture and coordination arrangements with its partners down to municipal levels, and with civil society and private actors. A law on the country's aid strategy is also under development.
- While aid received focuses on infrastructure projects and technical assistance, Montenegro is also a South-South partner that has emerged as a technical cooperation provider to other developing countries. These elements are important to consider when designing a transparent and comprehensive information system.
- 80% of ODA received by Montenegro comes from the European Union and Germany, while 11% comes from four main providers that are not IATI publishers (UAE, Turkey, Slovenia and OSCE). The MFA also wishes to properly track the cooperation it extends to other developing countries, to report to its government and to measure its impact.
- Since the AIMS in Montenegro is in its infancy, it is the right time to shape it to properly reflect the perspectives of a country that is both a recipient of development cooperation and an emerging donor country. The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid created in March in the Directorate General for Economic and Cultural Diplomacy of the MFA would like to take maximum advantage of available standardized international data from IATI through more automated import, and to have a system wherein Montenegro can reflect its roles as both recipient and provider. IATI's d-portal.org is currently the key public interface openly displaying Montenegro's cooperation data.