



IATI MEMBERSHIP PACK

Welcome to the **International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)** membership pack. IATI members represent governments, multilaterals, civil society and private sector organisations. Together our members play an essential role in improving the **transparency and open data** of international development and humanitarian resources and results.

In this pack, you will find **all the information your organisation needs** to become an active member of the initiative.



1. Introduction: What is IATI?



2. How is IATI run?



3. Joining IATI



4. Support to publish and use IATI data



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1 INTRODUCTION

What is the IATI Standard?

IATI data driving decisions and accountability

Further information

IATI is a global initiative to improve the transparency of development and humanitarian resources and their results, to address poverty and crises. IATI was launched in 2008 at the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra to meet the demand from the international community to increase the transparency of development resources.

IATI is funded and governed by its members representing governments and development and humanitarian organisations across the world. IATI encourages all organisations involved in addressing international poverty and crises to publish open data about their spending and projects according to the IATI Standard.



[Introduction video: What is IATI?](#)

1 INTRODUCTION

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What is the IATI Standard?

What is the IATI Standard?

The IATI Standard is a set of rules and guidance for publishing useful development and humanitarian data. A wide range of information can be published using the IATI Standard, including financial data, strategic documents, project locations and results achieved.



Once IATI data is published, it is free and open for anyone to access online.

By 2020, more than **1000 organisations** had published IATI data on over **one million** development and humanitarian projects. These organisations range from donor governments, development finance institutions and UN agencies to non-governmental organisations, foundations and private sector organisations.



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IATI data driving decisions and accountability

IATI data is used by a range of organisations to inform decisions and improve the accountability of development and humanitarian financing.

Developing country governments: Governments including Madagascar have identified billions of dollars of assistance and hundreds of external organisations operating in the country that were previously unknown to the government. IATI data has also helped to drive government decisions. For example

the Government of Liberia consulted IATI data to support coordination efforts during an Ebola outbreak.

Civil society organisations: Civil society organisations including Publish What You Fund use IATI to campaign for greater transparency amongst donors.

Donors: Many donor governments and multilateral organisations have created online aid portals powered by IATI data to provide information to the public about where funds go. Examples include the [EU Aid Explorer](#) and [USAID Development Cooperation Landscape](#) tool.



African Development Bank AfDB Data Portal

European Union EU Aid Explorer

USAID Development Cooperation Landscape tool

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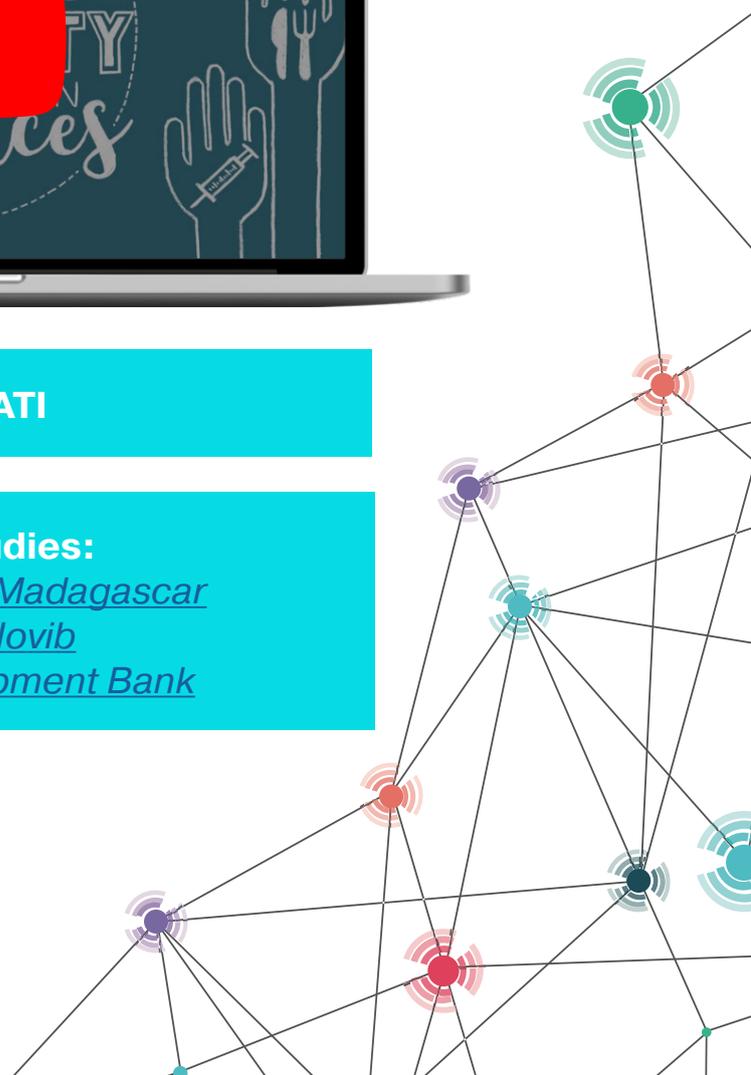
Further information

Introduction video: What is IATI?



About IATI

Case Studies:
[Government of Madagascar](#)
[Oxfam Novib](#)
[African Development Bank](#)



2 HOW IS IATI RUN?

Governance structure

IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025

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Governance structure

Governance structure

IATI is run by its members who govern and fund the initiative through membership contributions and meet annually at IATI's Members' Assembly. There are three main constituencies that make up IATI's membership:



Providers of development cooperation – includes donor governments, multilaterals, development finance institutions and foundations.



Partner countries – these are governments of developing countries.



Civil society organisations and other – includes NGOs delivering development and humanitarian assistance, organisations campaigning for greater transparency, private sector organisations, and providers of IATI services and products to data publishers and users.

[View all IATI's members](#)

Every two years, IATI members elect a Governing Board, which is accountable to the Members' Assembly. The board representatives choose a Chair and Vice-Chair(s). The Governing Board meets quarterly to make

recommendations to members on IATI's strategic direction, and it oversees the implementation of the Strategic Plan (see continuation) by setting and monitoring annual budgets and workplans.

Cont...

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The day-to-day management of IATI's work is undertaken by the IATI Secretariat, under the guidance of the **Governing Board**.

The Secretariat is coordinated by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), working together with the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), which provides financial and administrative support, and the international development organisation

Development Initiatives, which provides technical leadership.

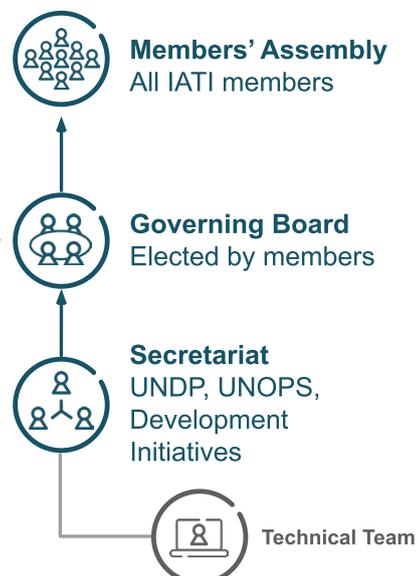
IATI also has a multi-stakeholder community of publishers, developers, data users and transparency advocates. They engage through IATI's **Communities of Practice** and Working Groups (*see Section 6*). Our community contributes to developing the IATI Standard and improving the experience of IATI publishers and data users.



Chair and Vice Chair



Appointed by Board members



2 HOW IS IATI RUN?

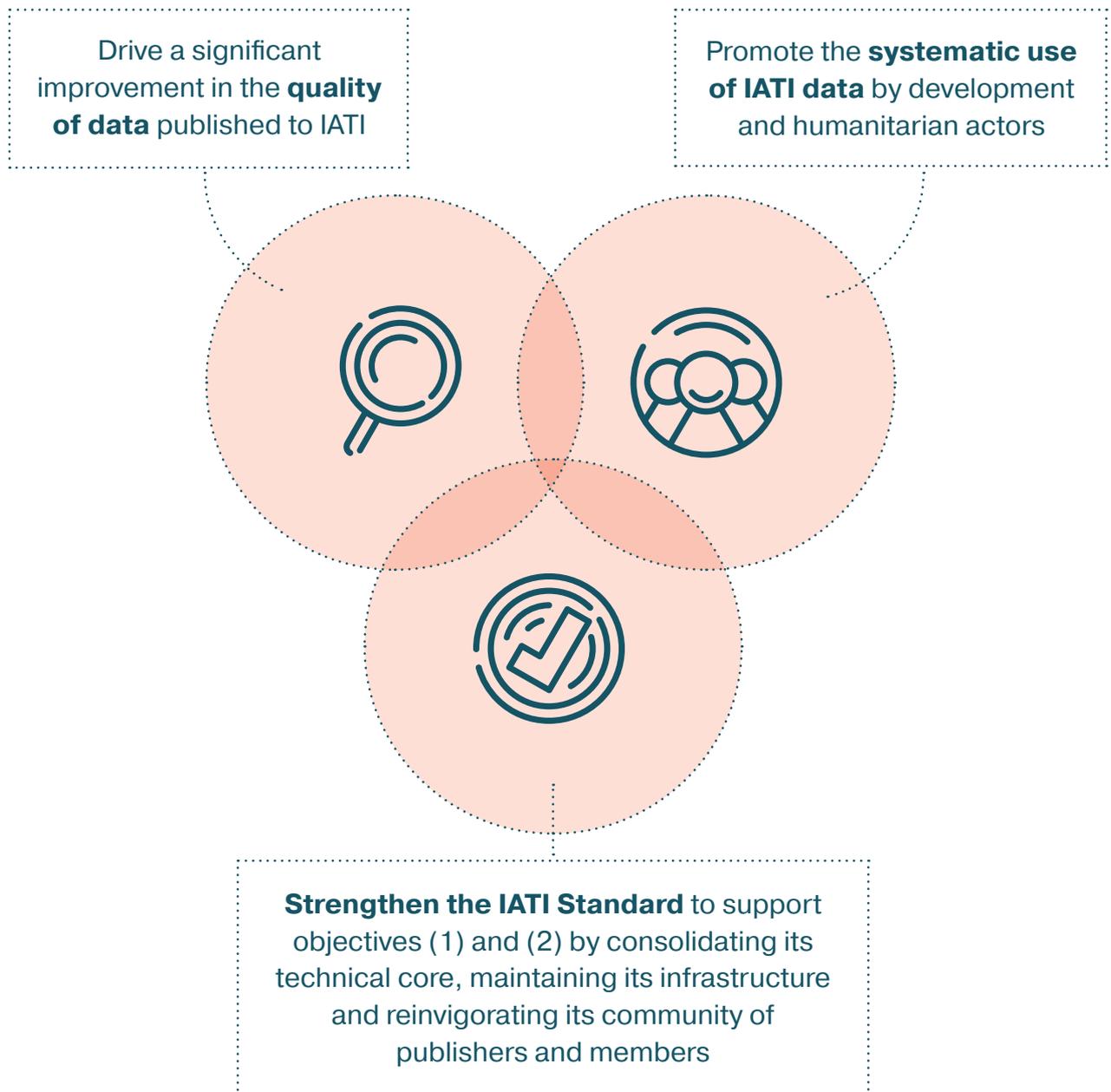
Governance structure

IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025

Further information

IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025

IATI's Strategic Plan 2020–2025 was agreed by IATI members in 2019.



2 HOW IS IATI RUN?

[Governance structure](#)

[IATI Strategic Plan 2020–2025](#)

[Further information](#)



FURTHER INFORMATION

[Annual budget and workplan](#)

[List of IATI members](#)

[Members' Assembly documents](#)

[Representatives of Governing Board and Secretariat](#)

[Standard Operating Procedures](#)

[Strategic Plan 2020–2025 \(ES, FR\)](#)

3 JOINING IATI

Why become a member of IATI?

Benefits of IATI membership

IATI members fund essential work

Membership contributions

How are IATI funds managed?

How to join

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Why become a member of IATI?

Any organisation committed to improving the transparency of development and humanitarian resources and results can join IATI as a member. By becoming a member, organisations support continued efforts to ensure good quality data is published to IATI and used to achieve sustainable development.

What is the **difference** between being an **IATI member** and **IATI publisher**? Do I have to be a member to publish IATI data?

It is important to understand that an organisation does not have to become a member of IATI to publish IATI data. In 2020 there were nearly 100 IATI members but over 1000 organisations registered to publish IATI data.

IATI publisher – any organisation providing, distributing or implementing international development or humanitarian resources can publish IATI data. In order to do so, an organisation must [register as a publishing organisation](#) and publish at least one dataset to IATI. Some governments have made publishing to IATI a mandatory requirement for NGOs to receive grant funding.

IATI member – an organisation that officially registers to join IATI through an exchange of letters with the IATI Secretariat is a member. IATI members fund the initiative and take part in its governance. IATI's membership includes both organisations that publish IATI data and others that do not publish IATI data. Donor governments, UN agencies, development finance institutions and NGOs are examples of members that also publish. Governments of developing countries, media organisations and organisations campaigning for greater transparency have joined for different reasons, such as advocacy, and do not publish any data.

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Benefits of IATI membership

There are *many* benefits of joining IATI. As a member, you will be able to:

Show your commitment to transparency to key stakeholders such as funders, taxpayers, civil society organisations, politicians and the wider international development and humanitarian communities

Learn and share best practice with a growing membership of nearly 100 donor and developing country governments, multilateral institutions, philanthropic foundations, civil society and private sector organisations

Get priority support from the IATI Secretariat to publish and use data

Contribute to consultations on changes to the IATI Standard, ensuring its rules and guidance meet your data needs

Attend IATI member events across the globe, including the annual Members' Assembly meeting, a gathering of the entire IATI membership to make key

Members provide **final approval** of IATI's strategic direction

Decide how IATI is governed and run. Only members are eligible to vote or stand in the elections for IATI's Governing Board

Receive updates on members' news, stories and events in a regular e-update from IATI's Governing Board Chair.



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IATI members fund essential work

IATI members entirely fund the initiative's work. By joining, you are helping to ensure IATI can continue implementing all its vital work. This includes:



A **helpdesk** to respond to hundreds of requests each month for support to publish and access the data



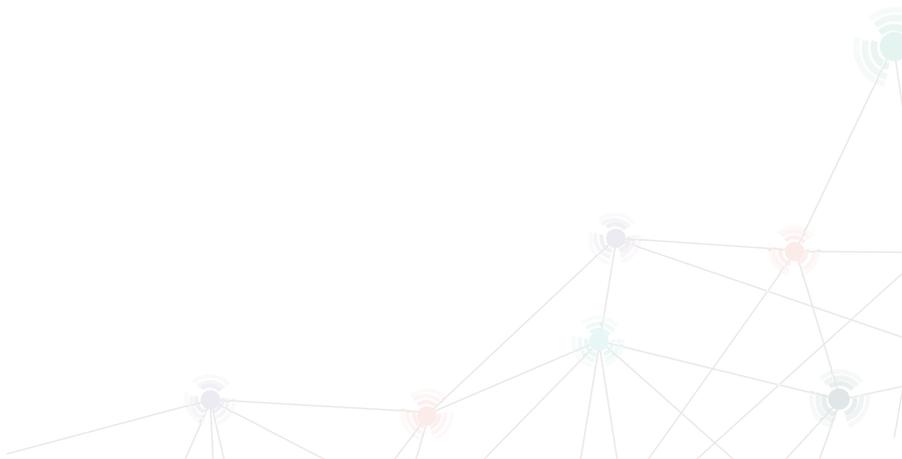
Maintenance of IATI's technical systems, including various digital tools that are critical to the publication and use of the data



A dedicated **Data Use Fund** to help governments, development and humanitarian organisations and citizens use IATI data for decision-making and accountability



Communications and engagement activities to spread awareness and secure political commitments to transparency amongst governments and major international bodies.



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Organisation	Membership contribution (annual)
Provider of development cooperation	\$85,000
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure exceeding \$10m	TBC
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure between \$1m and \$10m	\$2,200
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure below \$1m	\$1,100
Partner countries	\$2,200
Civil society organisation or other organisation with annual expenditure exceeding \$10m	\$2,200
Civil society organisation or other organisation with annual expenditure below \$10m	\$1,100

An adjusted scale has been agreed for UN entities to promote an increase in membership within that constituency. Annual membership contributions for UN entities:

Organisation	Membership contribution (annual)
Provider of development cooperation	\$85,000
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure exceeding \$10m	TBC
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure between \$1m and \$10m	\$2,200
Private sector organisations with annual expenditure below \$1m	\$1,100

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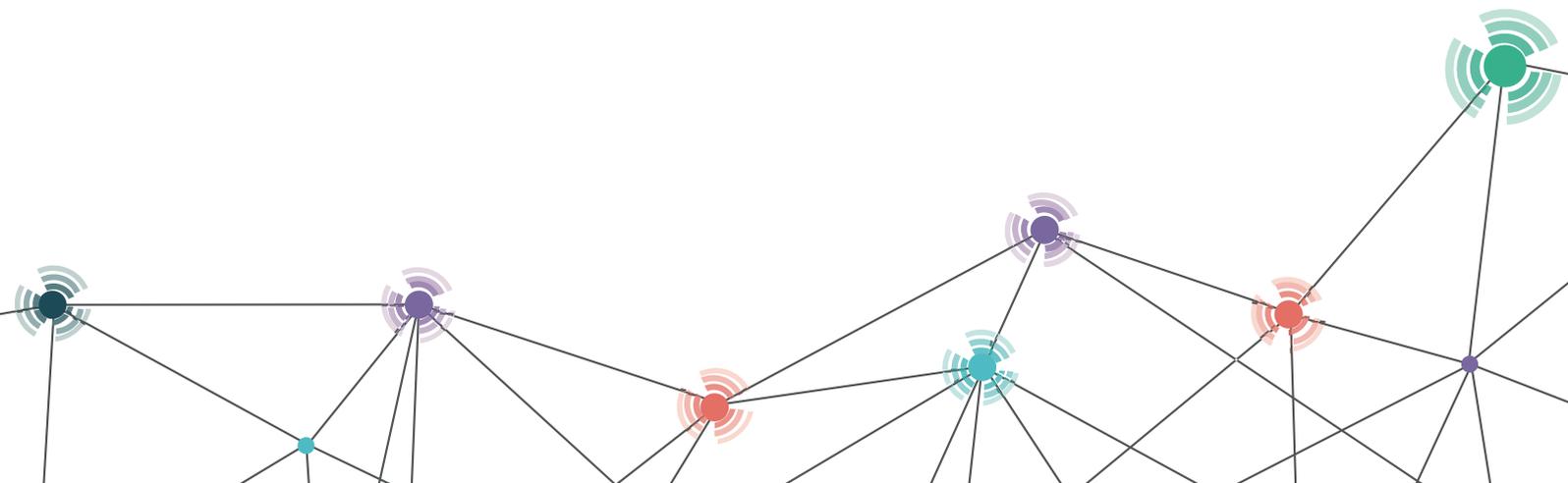
How are IATI funds managed?

IATI membership contributions are managed by UNOPS on behalf of the IATI Secretariat through the IATI Trust Fund. The IATI Secretariat reports to members on the contributions received and the expenditure of funds through the [IATI annual report](#) and at the Members' Assembly (*see Section 5*).

How to join

Governments and organisations interested in becoming a member should request an invitation letter to join. If you would like an invitation, or if you would just like to find out more about membership,

please contact the IATI Secretariat at
info@iatistandard.org.



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[List of IATI members](#)

[IATI annual reports](#)

4 SUPPORT TO PUBLISH AND USE IATI DATA

Publishing IATI data

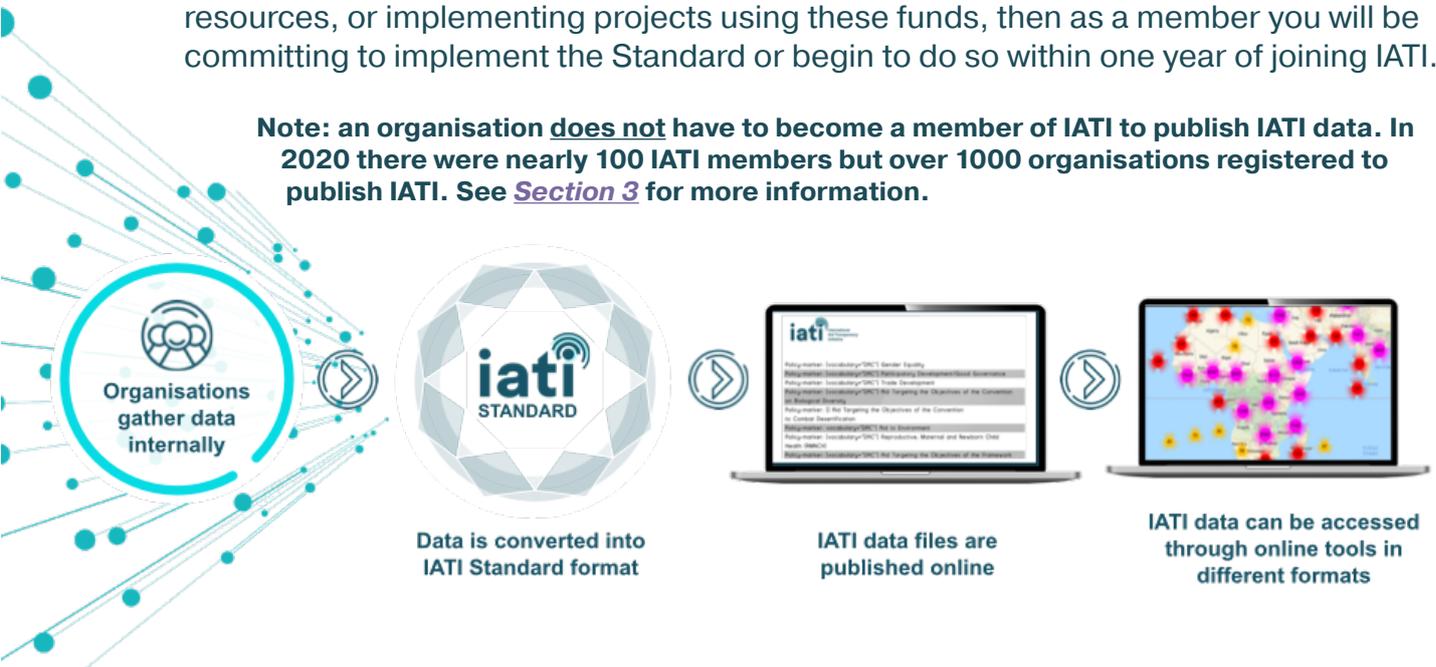
Accessing and using IATI data

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Publishing IATI data

IATI encourages all organisations to publish data on their development and humanitarian spending and projects according to the IATI Standard. If your organisation is involved in providing or distributing international development or humanitarian resources, or implementing projects using these funds, then as a member you will be committing to implement the Standard or begin to do so within one year of joining IATI.

Note: an organisation does not have to become a member of IATI to publish IATI data. In 2020 there were nearly 100 IATI members but over 1000 organisations registered to publish IATI. See [Section 3](#) for more information.



Publishing data to IATI can be a complex process and IATI's staff and community can help you at every step. Here are a number of ways you can get support:

 Arrange a meeting with the IATI Secretariat. As a member you will receive priority support from our team throughout your publishing journey. Email: support@iatistandard.org

 Speak to other publishers and IATI data experts through IATI's Communities of Practice and IATI Connect Platform: iaticonnect.org

 Find detailed information on each step of publishing IATI data on IATI's online publishing guidance: iatistandard.org/en/guidance

 Sign up to free IATI training webinars and learning events: iatistandard.org/en/events and view IATI videos: youtube.com/channel/UCAVH1gcgJXElsj8ENC-bDQQ.

 Look up all data fields included in the IATI Standard: iatistandard.org/en/iati-standard

4 SUPPORT TO PUBLISH AND USE IATI DATA

Publishing IATI data

Accessing and using IATI data

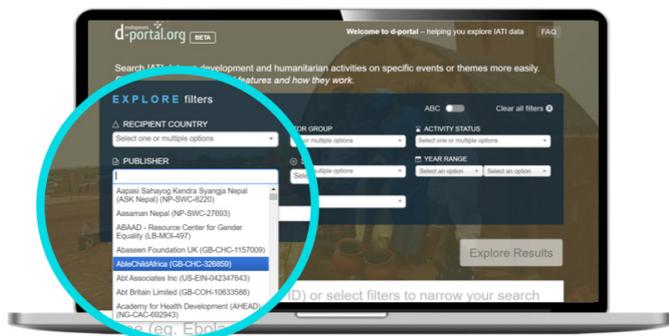
Further information

Accessing and using IATI data

As open data, IATI data can be accessed in a number of ways. In addition to the core tools commissioned or maintained by IATI (see below), there are many other online tools and platforms developed by external organisations. These tools and platforms offer IATI data through different visualisations and formats, and the Secretariat can assist users with understanding which tool best meets their data needs.

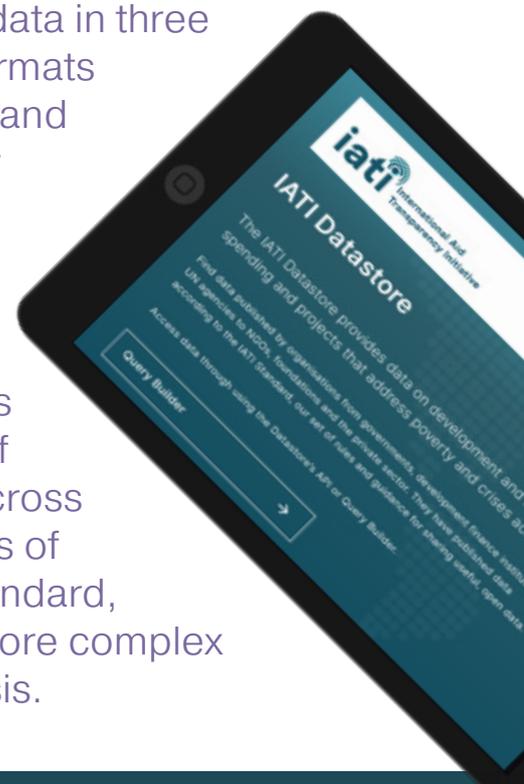
d-portal

One of the simplest ways of searching IATI data is by visiting d-portal.org. Search key IATI data on development and humanitarian activities and view data in charts, graphs and maps. This platform is recommended for users who are new to IATI.



IATI Datastore

The **IATI Datastore** allows for much more detailed queries and searches of IATI data. Use the [Query Builder](#) to search data across 39 fields (elements and attributes) of the IATI Standard and choose to download data in three different formats (CSV, XML and JSON). For the more technical user, the [Datastore API](#) enables searches of IATI data across all elements of the IATI Standard, enabling more complex data analysis.



4 SUPPORT TO PUBLISH AND USE IATI DATA

Publishing IATI data

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FURTHER INFORMATION

View guidance on IATI's website:
iatistandard.org/en/using-data

Find instructions on using IATI tools
iatistandard.org/en/iati-tools-and-resources

Speak to other data users and IATI data experts through IATI's Communities of Practice and IATI Connect Platform: iaticonnect.org

Email IATI's Helpdesk at support@iatistandard.org if you have any problems or questions about using IATI data.

Introduction to IATI session

Constituency caucus meetings

Agenda and meeting papers

How are decisions made?

Participate in IATI's annual Members' Assembly

IATI's Members' Assembly meets once a year and all IATI member organisations are invited to attend. At the meeting IATI members:

- Set and approve IATI's strategic direction
- Approve major changes to the IATI Standard
- Change IATI governance and standard operating procedures
- Receive updates on the delivery of the budget and workplan
- Learn and share best practice from other members.



IATI members' assembly 2019 meeting in Brussels hosted by the European Commission, the European Investment Bank and Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The annual Members' Assembly is usually held as a physical meeting, however when this is not possible it is held virtually. The meeting is chaired by the Chair of the Governing Board in accordance with the procedures set out in IATI's **Standard Operating Procedures**.

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All organisations that have recently joined IATI are invited to an introductory IATI session ahead of each Members' Assembly meeting. These sessions provide basic information on IATI and the opportunity for members to ask questions about IATI data, the IATI Standard and how to engage effectively in the initiative.

Constituency caucus meetings

All members are invited to meet with similar organisations prior to the Members' Assembly in caucus meetings for each IATI constituency: **(1) providers of development cooperation (2) partner countries and (3) civil society organisations and others** (see [Section 2](#) for full descriptions of each constituency). These caucus meetings usually take place during the week leading up to the Members' Assembly and provide members with the opportunity to discuss specific topics that are most relevant to each constituency.

Agenda and meeting papers

All agendas, papers, minutes and outputs from Members' Assembly meetings are publicly available, unless otherwise agreed by the Members' Assembly. Papers for upcoming meetings are emailed to members and published on the [events](#) section of the IATI website two weeks ahead of the meeting. All meeting documents for past Members' Assembly meetings are also available on [IATI's website](#). Minutes are taken by the IATI Secretariat and made publicly available once approved by IATI's Governing Board.

How are decisions made?

Decisions at the Members' Assembly are made by consensus. In exceptional circumstances where consensus cannot be achieved, decisions require a simple majority in each of the three member constituencies. If the proposal fails to achieve a simple majority in one of the three constituencies, it would not be passed.

If members' need to make a decision between annual Members' Assembly meetings, a process of written procedure is used, giving all members the opportunity to carefully review decisions and having time to seek clarifications.

5

PARTICIPATE IN IATI'S ANNUAL MEMBERS' ASSEMBLY

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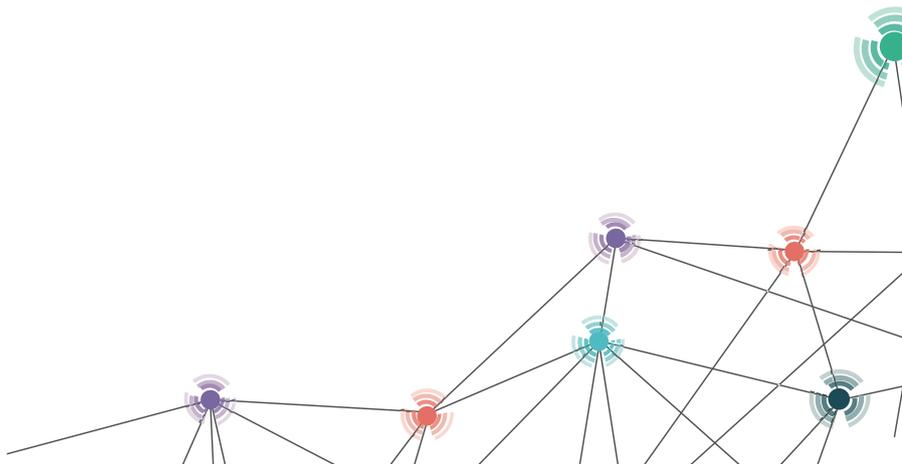
How are decisions made?



FURTHER INFORMATION

[Members' Assembly documents](#)

[Standard Operating Procedures](#)



6 GET INVOLVED IN IATI'S COMMUNITY

Working Groups

IATI Communities of Practice and IATI Connect platform

Social media

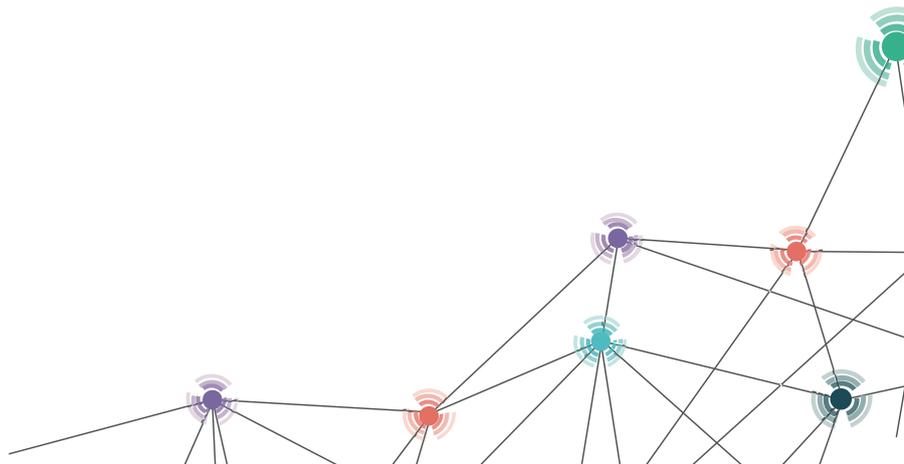
Get involved in IATI's community

As members, organisations commit to contribute their expertise to relevant sub-groups and working groups. IATI's community extends widely beyond just its members and includes a network of data publishers and users, transparency advocates, open data experts and IATI technical specialists from across the globe. From 2020, IATI has a new platform making it easier for individuals and organisations to get involved at any time in any of the following ways.

IATI Working Groups

IATI Working Groups are specific and time-bound groups established to provide expert advice to the Members' Assembly or Governing Board. Working Groups cover a wide range of topics, for example improving the publication and use of IATI data, organising IATI's next community-wide meeting, or developing new data fields for the IATI Standard.

IATI Working Groups include a balance of expertise with diverse representation from different constituencies and regions. By participating, you will be involved in making recommendations that help to deliver IATI's Strategic Plan 2020–2025 or annual workplan.



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IATI Communities of Practice and IATI Connect platform

Social media

Communities of Practice and IATI Connect platform

IATI's Communities of Practice are open and freely accessible communities focusing on standing areas of thematic interest to the IATI community, for example data use, data publishing and technical IATI issues.

IATI's Communities of Practice and community platform IATI Connect (launched in December 2020) provides members of the IATI community with a space for peer exchange, facilitating engagement with colleagues from around the globe.



Join our **Communities** of Practice to:

Share your expertise and exchange views on the open data issues you care about

Expand your network by engaging with data publishers and users, transparency advocates, open data experts and technical specialists from across the globe

Stay up-to-date with relevant events and contribute to IATI consultations

Access training tools and much more



Join IATI Connect

Visit **IATI Connect** now to get involved in IATI's community and for more information see [Communities of Practice FAQs](#).

Watch IATI Communities of Practice launch video

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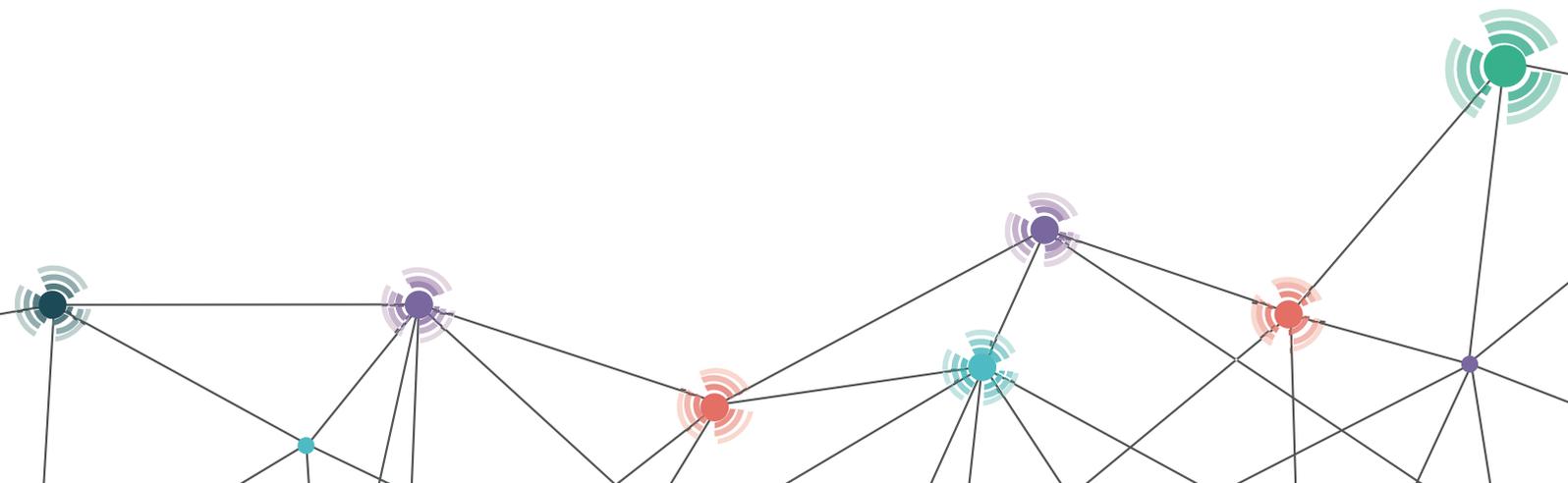
Social media

 Twitter [@IATI_aid](https://twitter.com/IATI_aid) [#IATI](https://twitter.com/IATI_aid)

 LinkedIn [linkedin.com/company/international-aid-transparency-initiative](https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-aid-transparency-initiative)

 Facebook [facebook.com/IATlaid](https://www.facebook.com/IATlaid)

 WhatsApp *please request to join IATI's Group by emailing info@iatistandard.org*



7 USEFUL RESOURCES

IATI presentation materials

IATI newsletter and members' update

IATI annual reports

IATI videos

IATI presentation materials

IATI can provide your organisation with custom presentation materials about the initiative, including detailed information on the IATI Standard and the process of publishing and using IATI data.

Anyone interested in presenting IATI to their colleagues or networks can request custom presentation materials from the IATI Secretariat. Examples of possible audiences include recipient country governments, country-level offices of development partners, journalists, civil society organisations and researchers. Presentation resources are available in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.



[Request custom presentation materials to raise awareness about IATI.](#)

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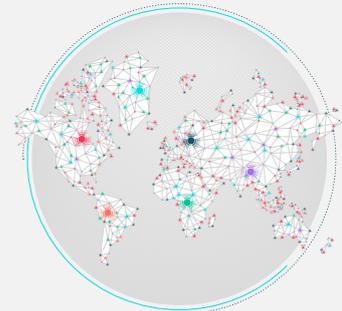
As a member of IATI, you'll receive a **monthly members' update** email from the IATI Chair with the latest news on the governance of the initiative. In addition, you will receive **IATI's community newsletter** containing news from the initiative and the community, events, case studies, technical activities and latest IATI publishers. Anyone can sign up to receive the IATI newsletter by [filling in this form](#).



IATI annual reports

IATI annual reports provide updates on the progress, challenges and finances of IATI. The first IATI annual report was produced in 2013. Since 2014, reports have been published in English, French and Spanish. All are downloadable as [PDF documents](#).

IATI Annual Report
2019



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7 USEFUL RESOURCES

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IATI newsletter and members' update

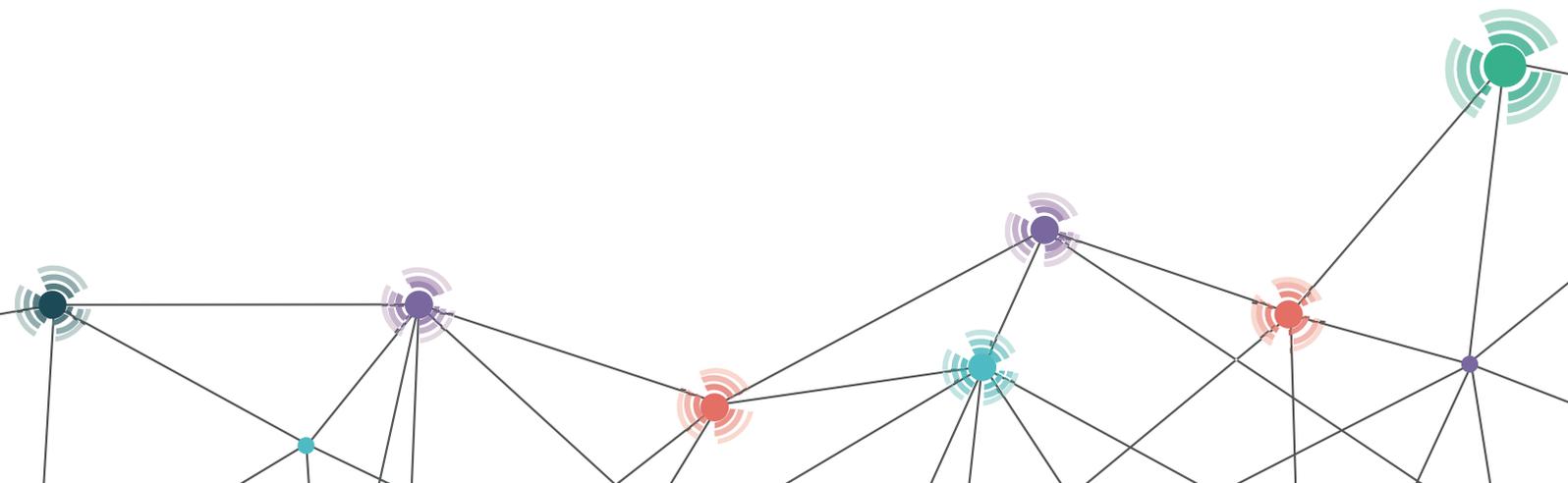
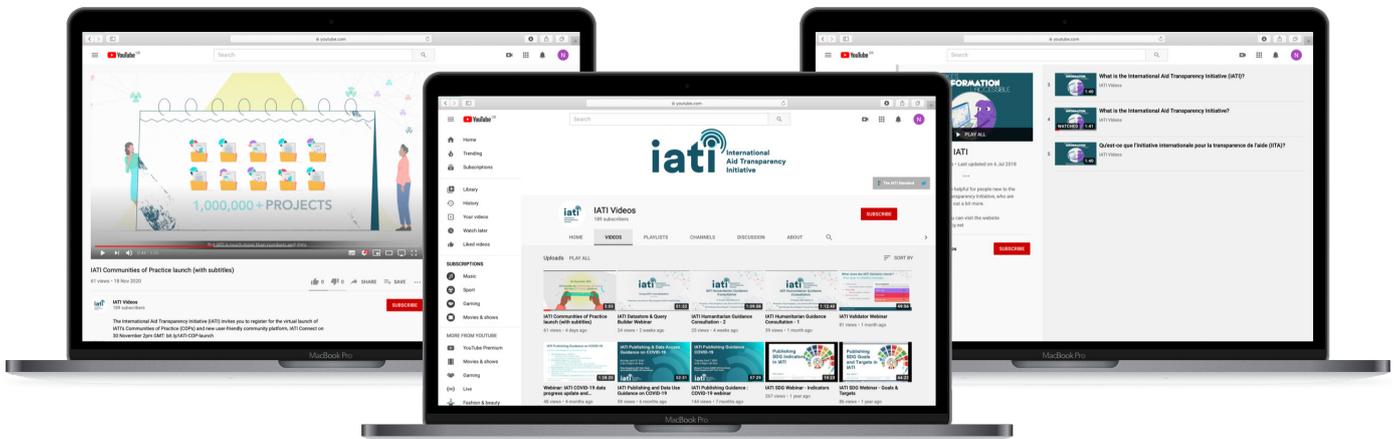
IATI annual reports

IATI videos



IATI videos

View IATI videos to learn more about the initiative, including how to publish and use IATI data. [Visit IATI's YouTube channel to view all videos.](#)



IATI videos

8 CONTACT

IATI's Secretariat is **always happy to hear from you**. Please send your questions or requests for support using the following contacts:

For **general enquiries** about IATI, **membership** or **governance** email

info@iatistandard.org

To contact **IATI's Chair** or **Governing Board**, email

chair@iatistandard.org

For support on **publishing data** to the IATI Standard, **using the data** and other **technical enquiries** email

support@iatistandard.org

If you're a **developer** and **require information** and support please email

code@iatistandard.org

For **media enquiries** contact

media@iatistandard.org

For questions about **IATI's Communities of Practice** or **IATI Connect platform** email

connect@iatistandard.org

