IATI network data: why and how?

Thea Schepers

Herman van Loon

Cobi Mars

09-03-2023

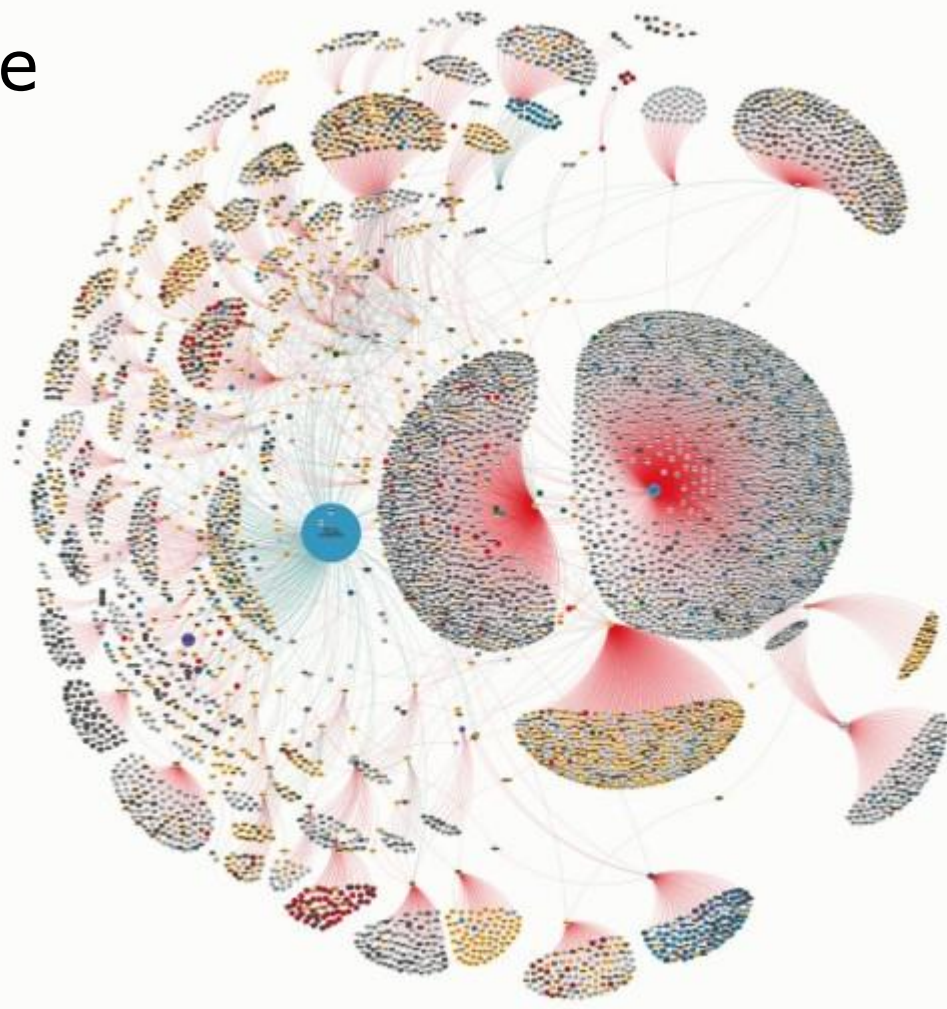IATI Community Exchange (15-16 March) 2023
UN City Copenhagen
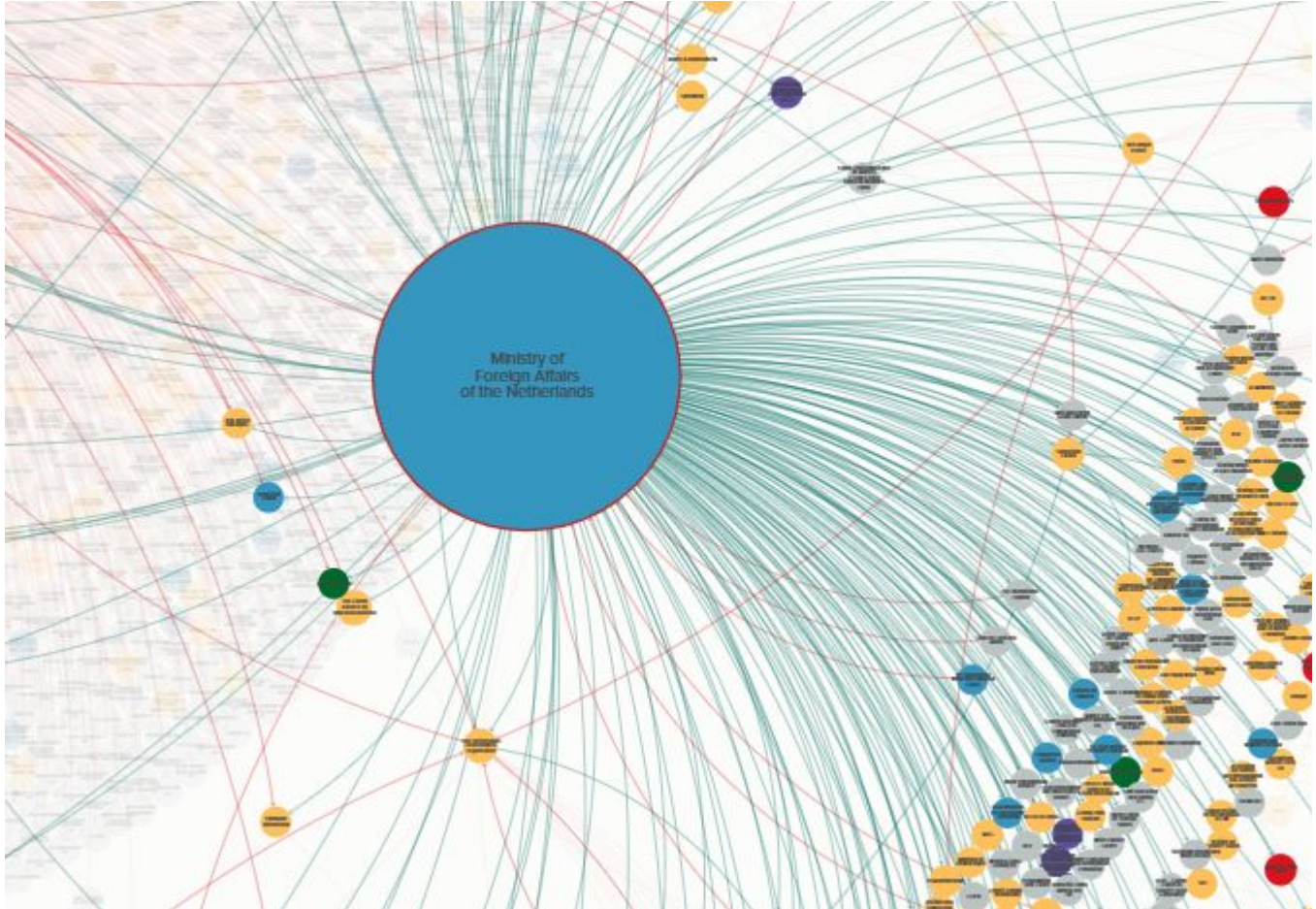
The Netherlands MFA's network of partners

The full picture

Why do the Netherlands consider IATI vital?

Pragmatic

- 80 % of our funding is indirect
- To properly inform our parliament and the public, we need information from our partners <u>in data format</u>

Accountability for the sector

Donors like MFA should ask questions like:
- Are we doing the right things?
- Are we working in the right locations?
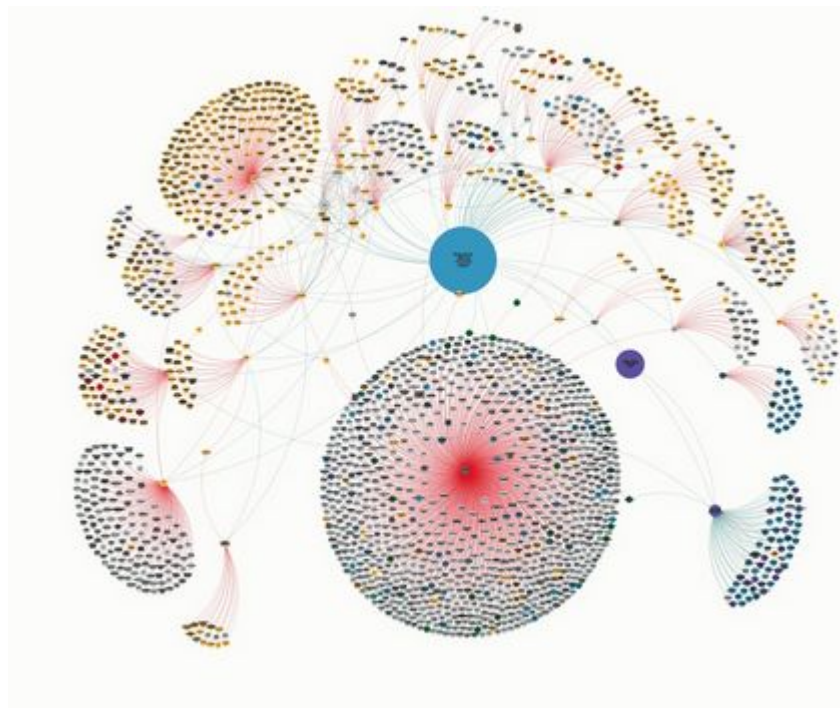- If we follow the money, where does it end up?

Others in the network may ask:
- What happens in my area?
- Are those the things we need?
- Did NGOs and donors learn from past mistakes?

Data quality is vital
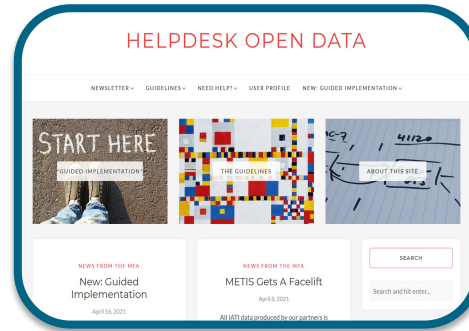
If links are not made correctly, the network is incomplete
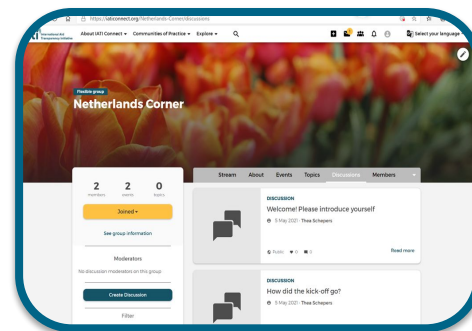
How we support our partners
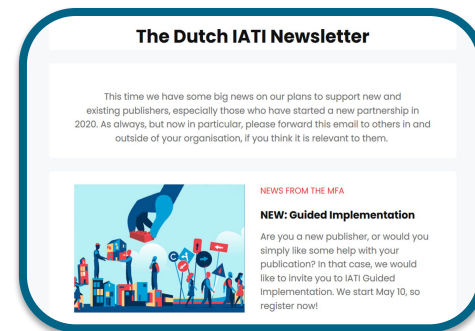

"Guided Implementation"

Helpdesk website

Email support

IATI Connect

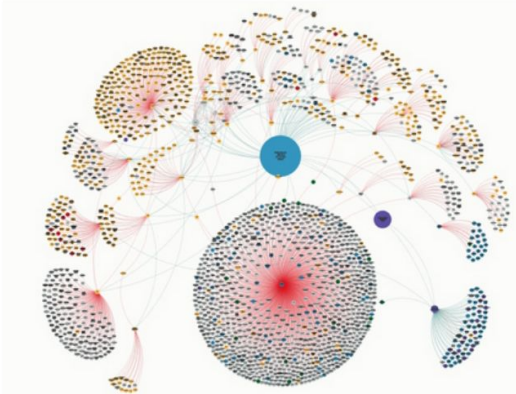Question Hours on Thursdays

Newsletter

Our #1 article on the website:

September 2020

Now

What works?

Feedback

Support

Use

But: this way of support is labour intensive
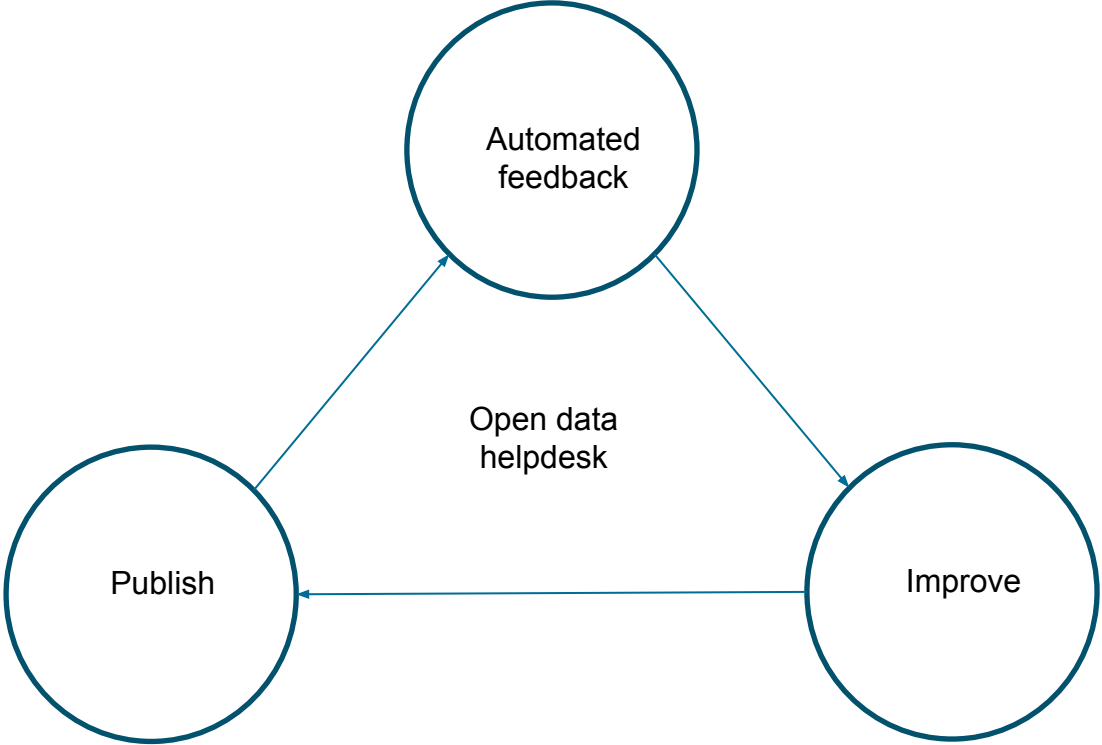
Automated feedback

Automated feedback of data quality after publication of IATI data

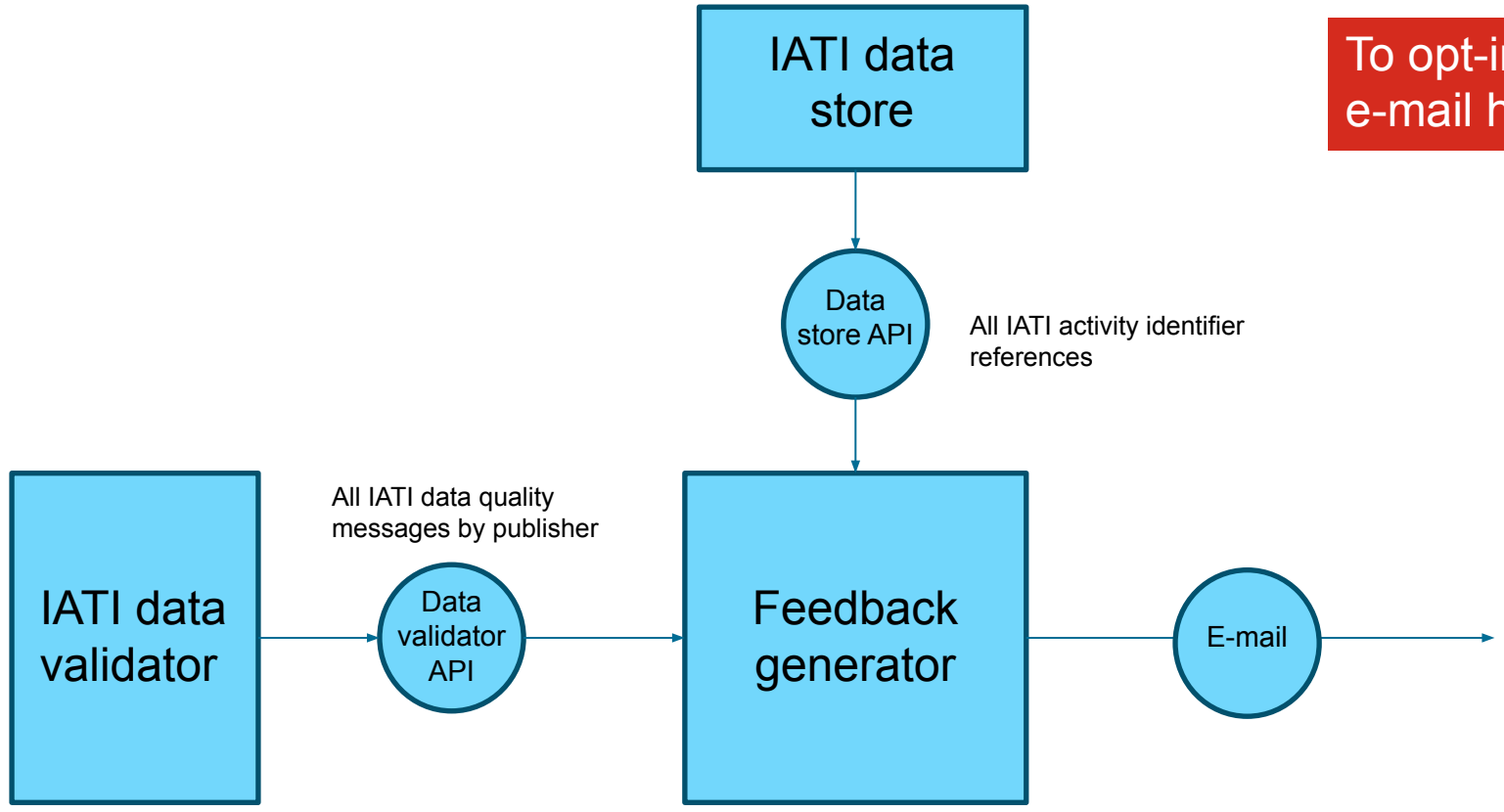- Immediate feedback
- Easily scaled up

The IATI data quality cycle

Automated feedback using IATI tools (in <u>beta</u> now on opt-in basis)

IATI data store

To opt-in for this service please
e-mail helpdesk-opendata@minbuza.nl

Data store API

All IATI activity identifier references

IATI data validator

All IATI data quality messages by publisher

Data validator API

Feedback generator

E-mail

IATI publisher feedback report

Publisher

Oxfam Novib Nederland

This PDF document provides a summary of error and warning messages regarding your last IATI publication. For each error message the number of affected activities is shown between parentheses. Please visit the website for more details:

https://iativalidator.iatistandard.org/organisation/onl

Legend:
1 - errors: errors make it hard or impossible to use your data.
2 - warnings: warnings significantly reduce the value of your data.
3 - information: messages to inform you about the state of your data.

Example

Example

IATI publisher feedback report

iati-activities

https://www.oxfamnovib.nl/redactie/Downloads/XML/iati.xml

Thu Feb 23 14:54:34 CET 2023

NMFA-2 error: Non existing provider organisation activity identifier used. All references must be to existing valid IATI identifiers.

Invalid non existing provider organisation activity id US-EIN-23-7069110 used in a transaction of activity NL-KVK-27108436-A-04766-02:M2

Generated by the feedback process

1.8.13 warning: The receiver-org identifier must not contain any of the symbols /, &, | or ?. (1 activities)

For /iati-activities/iati-activity/participating-org/@ref = 'N/A' at line: 64563, column: 323

Generated by the IATI data validator

Invalid reference to an IATI activity

Partner activity id

Invalid character in identifier

Example: monitoring direct & indirect activities in Bangladesh
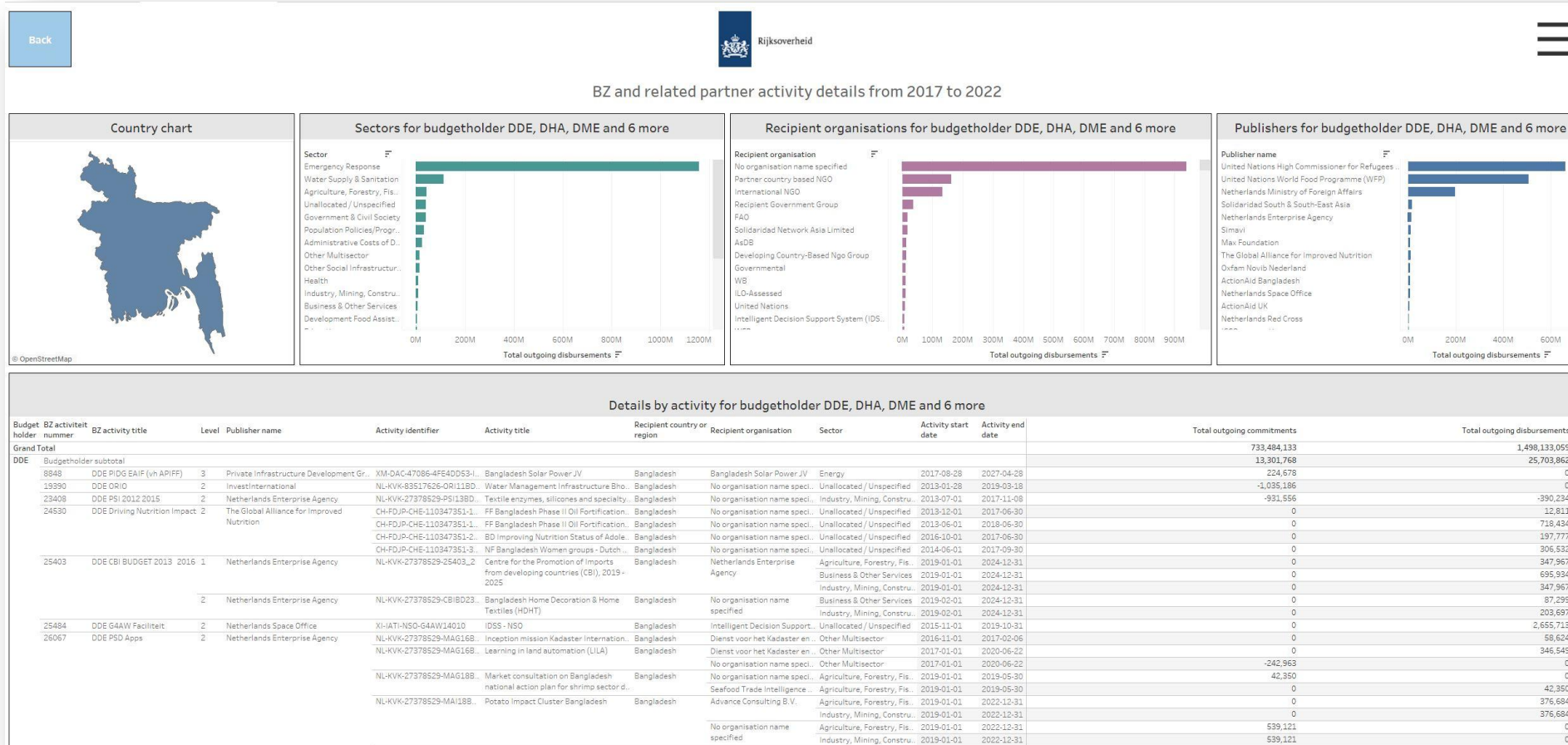
Example: monitoring the locations of activities in Bangladesh

Example: monitoring the results of 42 partnerships & 4 Funds
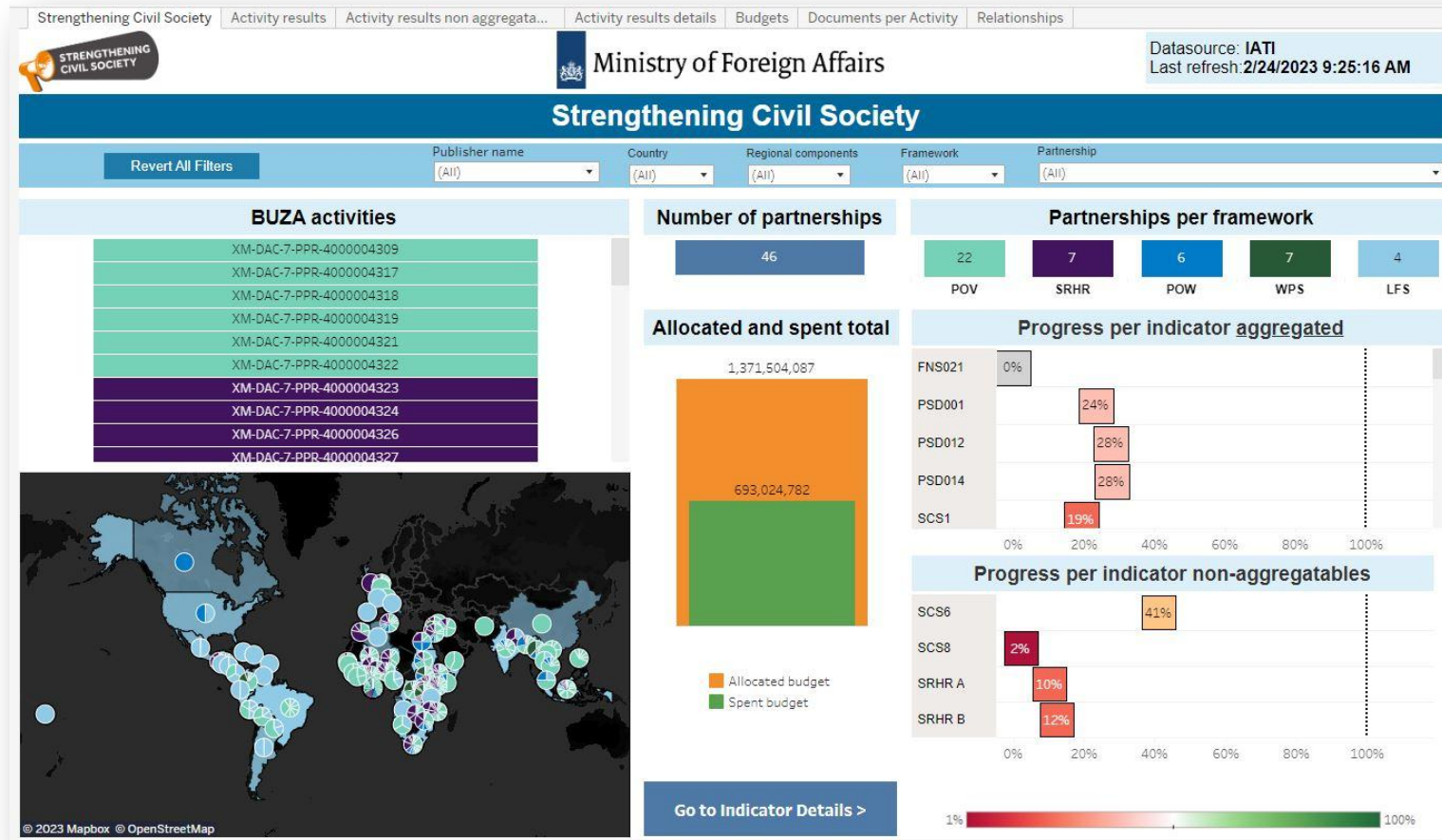
The Strengthening Civil Society (SCS) IATI dashboard is....

the latest addition to the series of IATI dashboards, providing insights in policy, grant instrument and partnership level, including information about which partnerships works where, which topics they focus on, the targets, progress and baseline situation of each partnership and the structure of the consortia.

The dashboard is an all-in-one window to ease monitoring, reporting, and policy dialogue.

SCS IATI indicator guidelines -> SCS IATI dashboard

Information asked

- Information at country/regional level
- Quantitative and qualitative information
- Indicator periods
- Indicators codes

This enabled us to build the SCS IATI dashboard

Disclaimer on the dashboard

- Do no harm -> some partners received permission to publish anonymized data, aggregated data (instead of country-based data) or not publish at all.

- The SCS IATI dashboard is therefore not 100% complete, but it gives interesting insides in the partnerships publishing information.

What can we (= the MFA) use the data for?

To inform programming & policy:
- Progress: compared to baseline, over years, budgets, potential risks?
- Dialogue: with CSO partners, national authorities, multilateral and other stakeholders
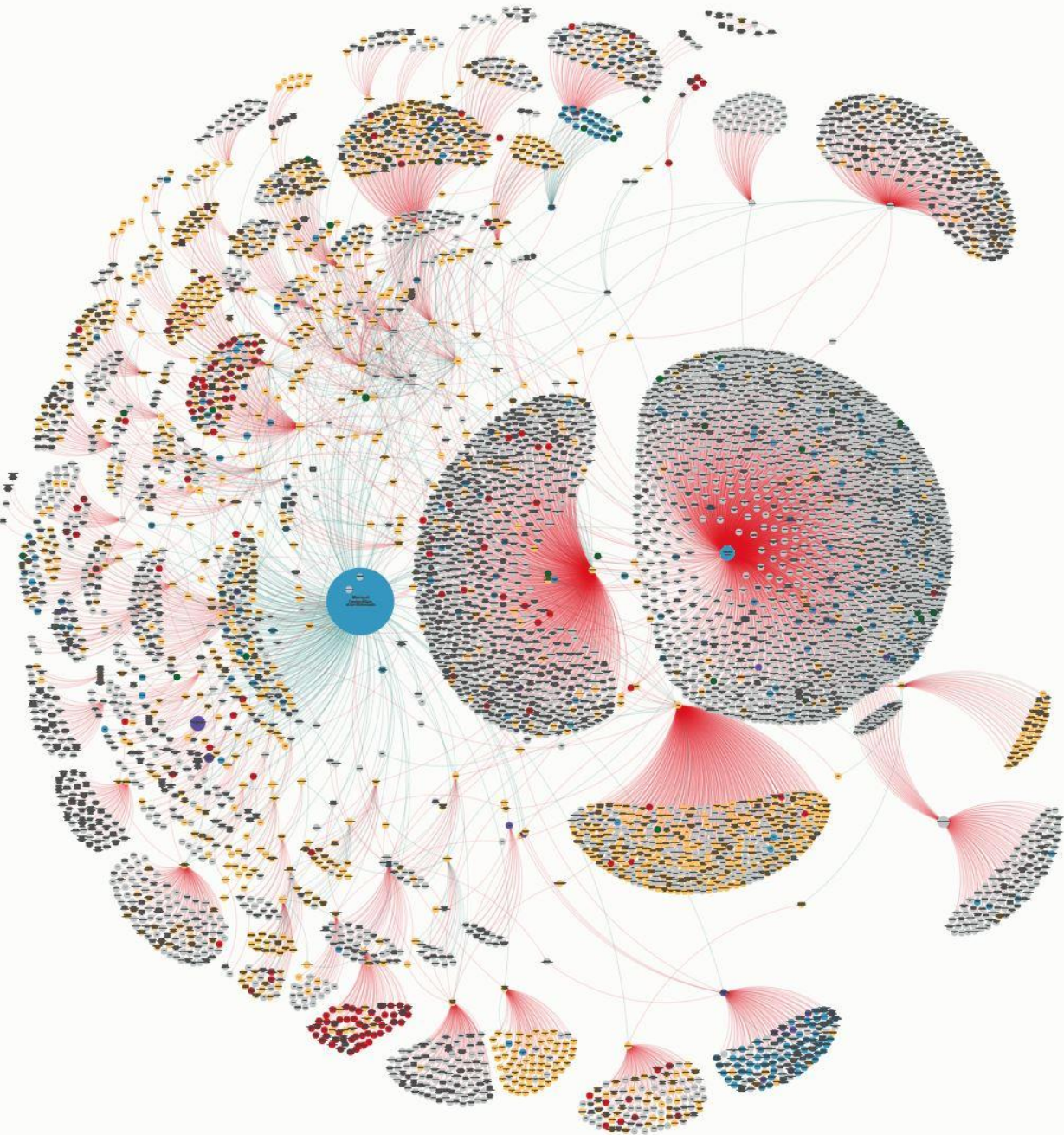
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Thank you!

All info:
www.helpdesk-opendata-minbuza.nl