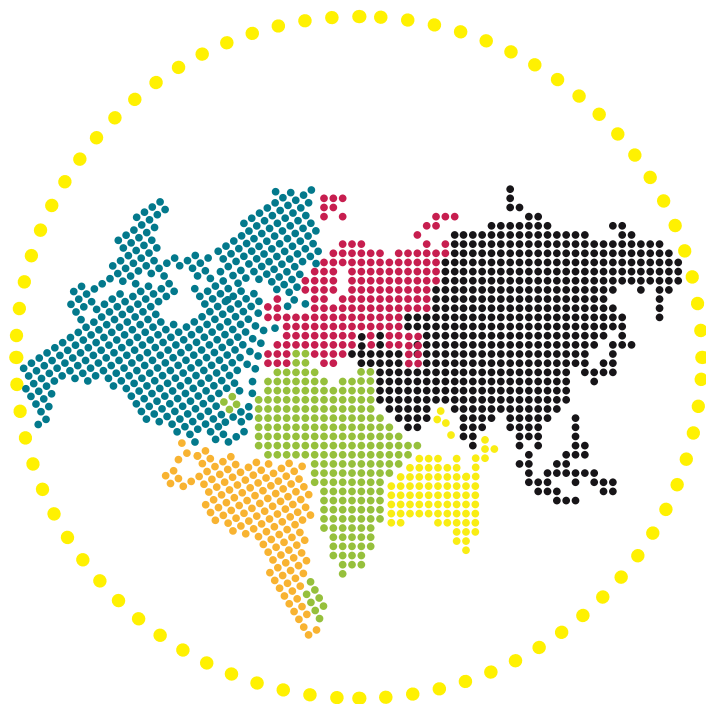


IATI Annual Report 2015

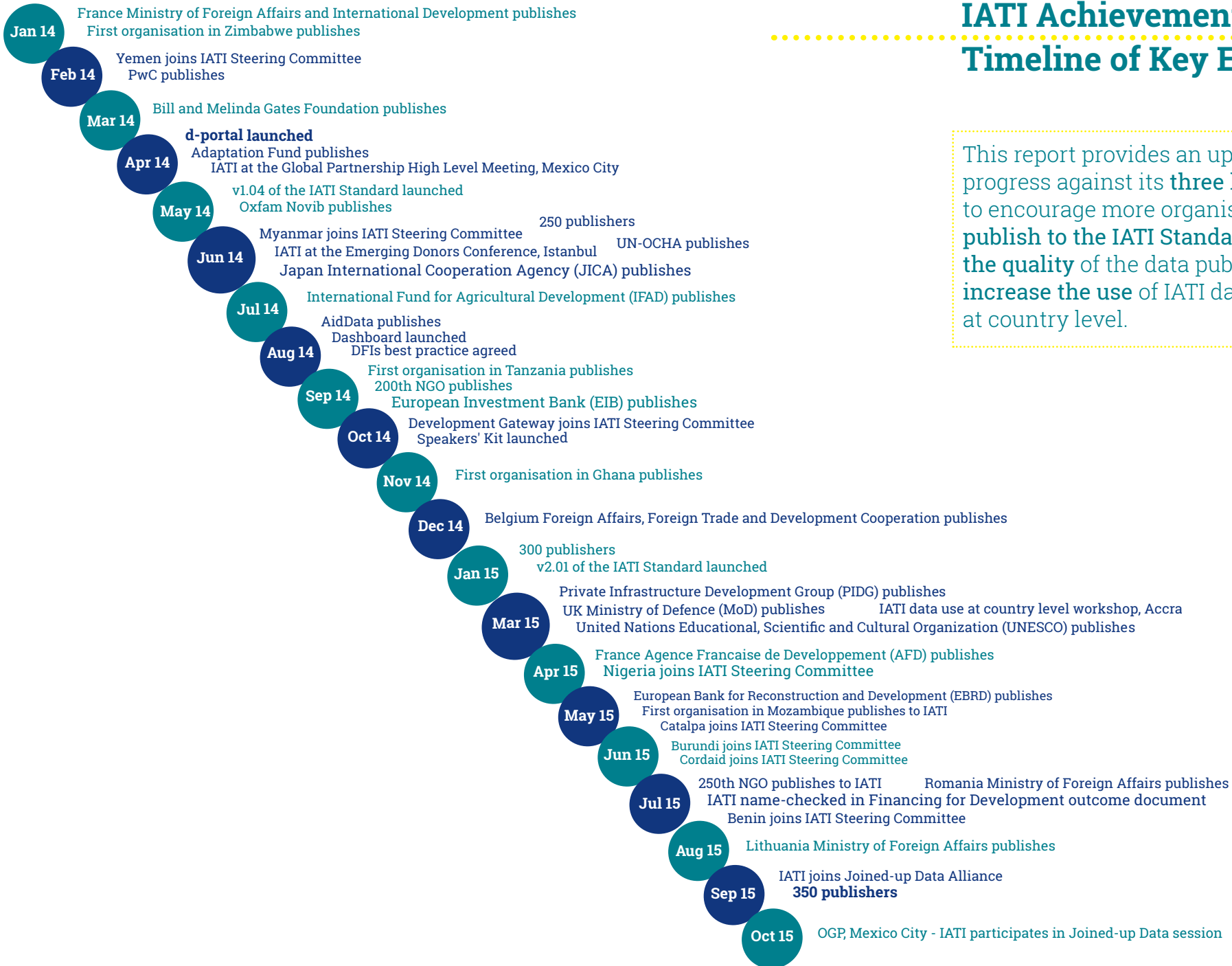
Executive Summary



“Over the coming years, developing countries and their development partners, including civil society, must work closely together to promote greater use of data at country level, so that they can benefit from the rich source of data published to the IATI Standard.”

Helen Clark
Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)





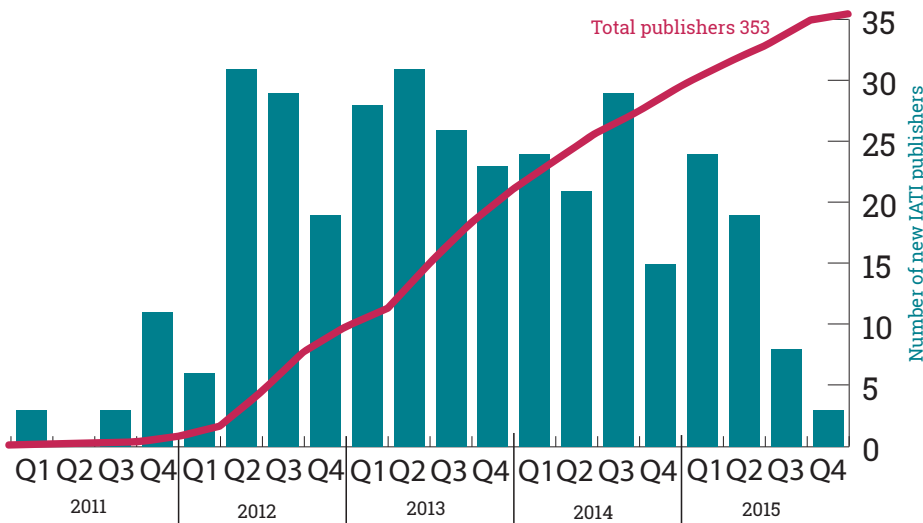
IATI Achievements: Timeline of Key Events

This report provides an update on IATI's progress against its **three key objectives**: to encourage more organisations to **publish to the IATI Standard**; to **improve the quality** of the data published, and to **increase the use** of IATI data, especially at country level.

Growth in organisations publishing IATI Data

Since our last Annual Report¹, the number of organisations publishing IATI data has rocketed by nearly 70% from 210 to 353, with publishers based in 40 different countries (up from 30).

Figure 1: Growth in IATI publishers over time (2011-2015)



A truly multistakeholder initiative: There are now more NGOs, private sector and Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) publishing to IATI than ever before. Since our last Annual Report we have also welcomed new bilateral and multilateral ODA providers and foundations as publishers.

¹ The previous Annual Report was published in May 2014 and covered the period Jan-Dec 2013

“The key to the sustainability of IATI lies in recipient countries’ willingness to use the data in their day-to-day aid management. There is no greater incentive for donors to publish high-quality IATI data than seeing their data being used in public reports, coordination and planning.”

Mohammad Mejbahuddin,
Vice Chair of the IATI Steering Committee and Senior Secretary,
Economic Relations Division,
Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh

Improving data quality - timely, comprehensive and forward-looking

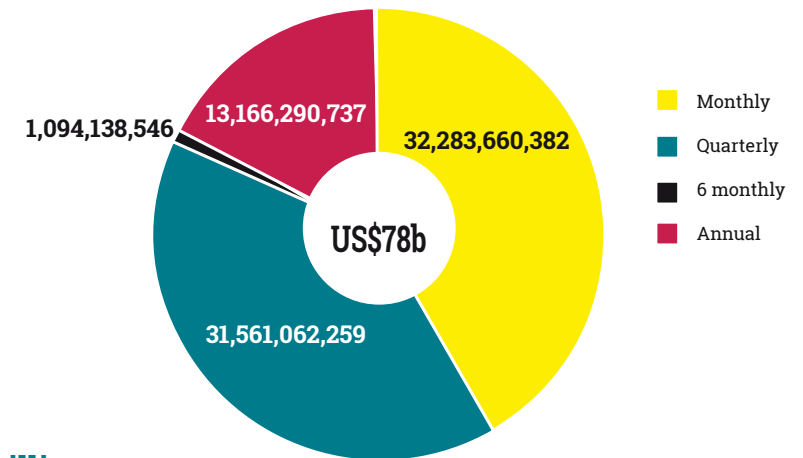
IATI publishers, with the support of the IATI Technical Team, have delivered significant improvements in the quality of development cooperation data, in line with the three Busan dimensions², particularly in its timeliness.

Timeliness

Up-to-date, timely data is vital for partner country governments to plan budgets, improve macroeconomic management, reduce duplication and provide greater accountability for service delivery.

There have been great strides forward in the publication of timely data across IATI publishers.

Figure 2: Timeliness of IATI data publication (US\$)



US\$78 billion

has been reported to IATI this year (2015 disbursements and expenditure up to 30 October 2015). Of this;

80% (US\$63bn)

is from publishers updating their data at least quarterly

41% (US\$32bn)

is from publishers updating their data at least monthly

² Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, paragraph 23c

Comprehensiveness

More comprehensive data helps partner country governments to improve budget alignment, increases national capacity for coordination and promotes mutual accountability.

It helps donors to link their spending to results, coordinate their efforts and facilitate research and learning. It enables parliamentarians and CSOs to put pressure on governments for delivery, it allows them to undertake research and, where CSOs publish data themselves, it increases their visibility, accountability and effectiveness.

Comprehensiveness 'Core' elements:

The majority of IATI publishers are providing valid data in **more than 95%** of each of the 'core' elements of the IATI Standard.

Comprehensiveness 'Value Added' elements:

There is substantial room for improvement on those using the 'value added' elements of the Standard. The poor performance in this area impacts on data users' ability to access information on geolocation and results, as well as key documents associated with activities, leaving users with little context for IATI activities.

"We're enhancing reporting systems to support the monitoring of humanitarian response and our contribution to the SDGs – improving the quality, coverage and availability of disaggregated data to ensure that no one is left behind."

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

"We will maintain a strong commitment to further increasing the quality and quantity of the information we publish to the IATI Standard."

European Commission

Forward-looking

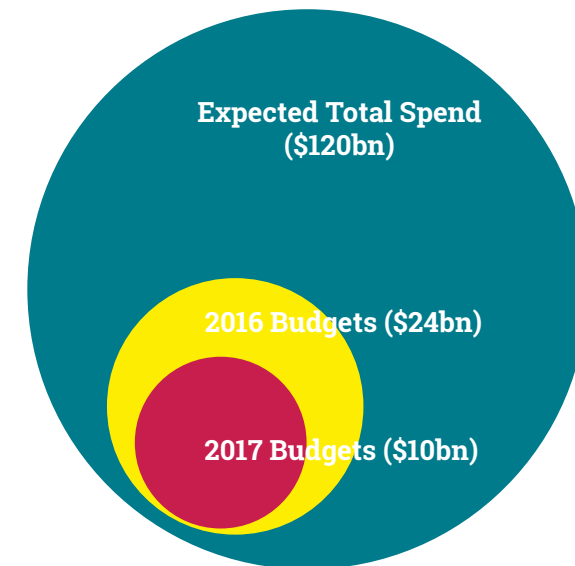
Information on future resource flows is essential for partner country governments, maximising the productivity of public spending and supporting macroeconomic management.

Unfortunately, forward-looking data is the weakest of the three dimensions of data quality:

Only 20% of expected spend for 2016 has been reported as forward-looking budgets

Only 8% of expected spend for 2017 has been reported as forward-looking budgets

Figure 3: Forward-looking data published to IATI



Furthermore, only a handful of organisations are publishing substantial forward-looking data:

99% of the value of 2016 budgets is provided by just 13 publishers

Using IATI data

“There still aren’t enough people using IATI data to drive international development outcomes. We are in danger of being caught in a ‘vicious cycle’ where publishers have no incentive to improve quality because no one is using their data, and users can’t use the data because it isn’t up to scratch. We need to turn this into a ‘virtuous cycle’ where users tell publishers what needs to be improved, publishers respond, and users can then deploy the data for meaningful analysis of financial flows.”

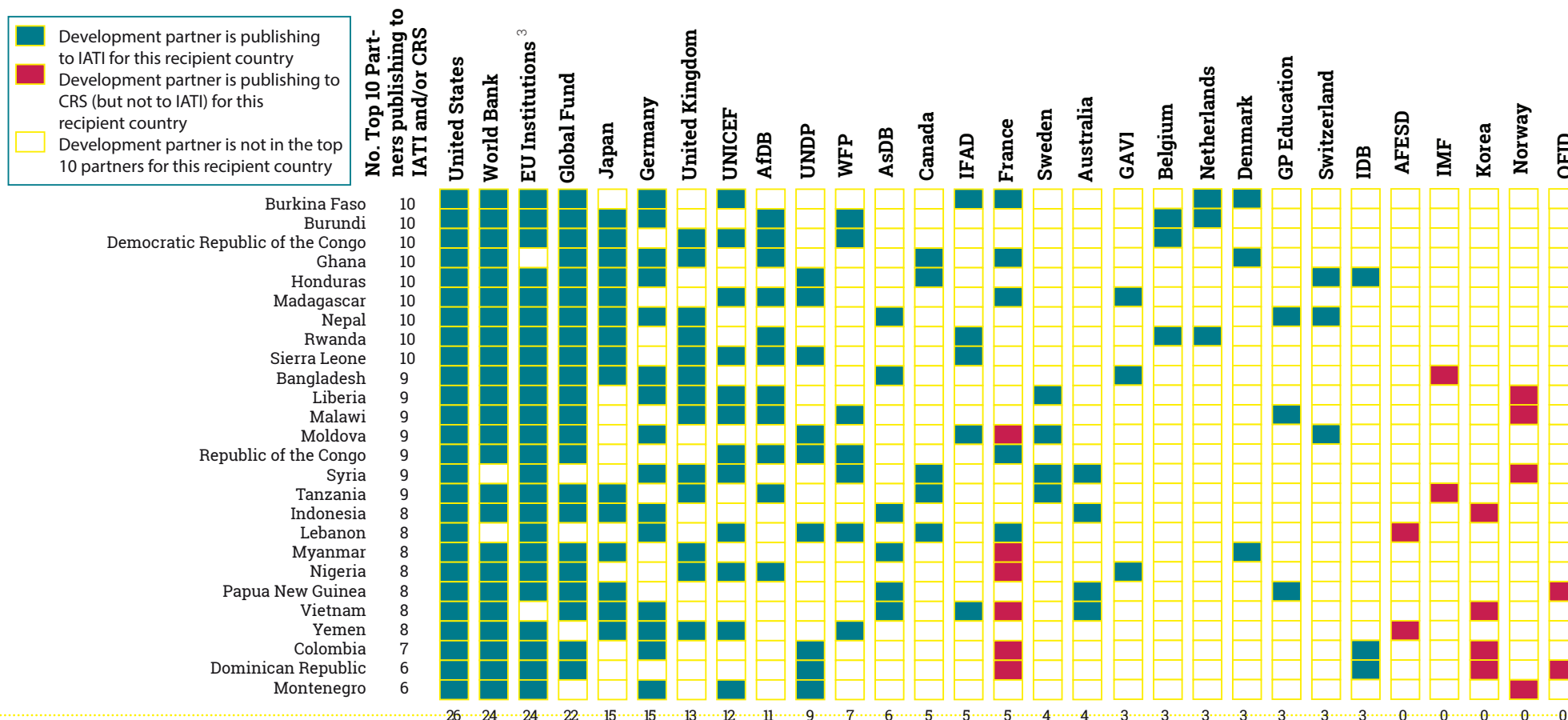
John Adams, Chair of the IATI Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Head of Business Innovation, UK Department for International Development (DFID)

IATI’s recent independent evaluation reported that, although IATI has built up the number and variety of publishers, the priority must now be increasing the use of data, especially at country level.

We now know that the majority of partner country members of IATI are able to access data for at least nine of the top ten development partners in their countries.

However, while there are glimpses of progress, such as Myanmar’s use of IATI data in its Mohinga system and Rwanda’s data import, there is little evidence that IATI data is being used systematically by partner countries, or by other types of data users.

Figure 4: Partner Country members’ top 10 development partners by volume of resources



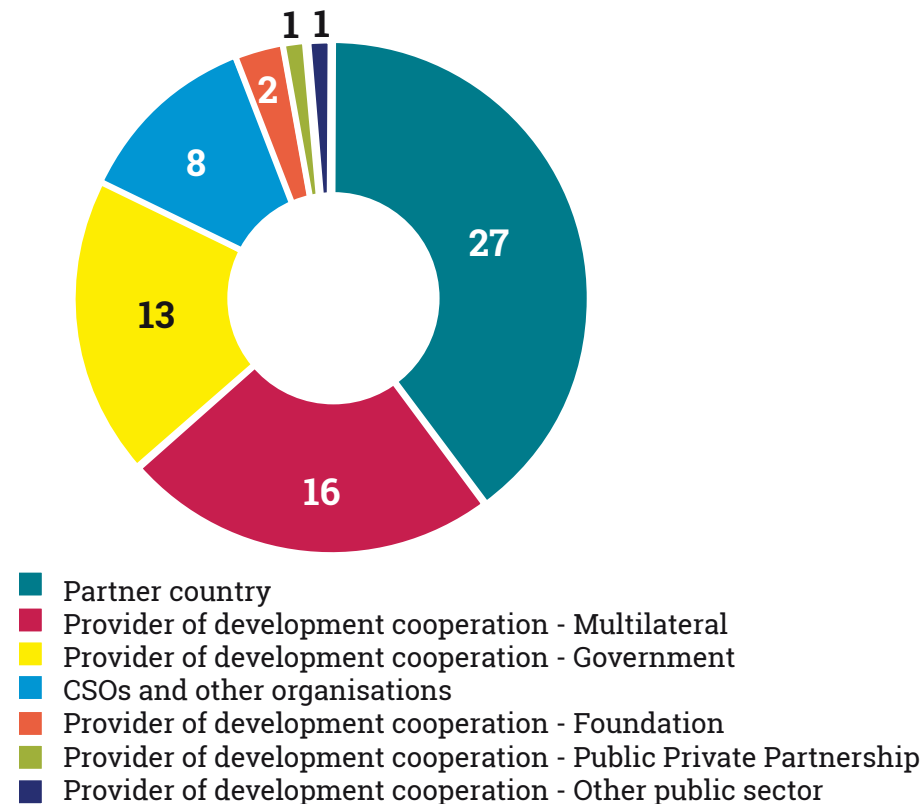
³ EU institutions = DevCo; ECHO; FPI; NEAR

IATI Community

The IATI community is a vibrant, diverse mixture of data publishers and users, political advocates for transparency, communicators, technical specialists and general open data enthusiasts.

Joining IATI as a member not only expresses an organisation's firm commitment to lead on transparency in the development sector and be recognised as a key contributor to aid transparency, it also means having a stake in the governance of the initiative and its development.

Figure 5: IATI members by organisation type



Ottawa 2015

2015 has been an important and particularly active time for the IATI community – for the first time key players of both our TAG (Technical Advisory Group) community and the IATI membership came together for a joint meeting in Ottawa to collaboratively take IATI forward, both on the technical and political level.

IATI TAG (Technical Advisory Group) & Steering Committee Meeting in Ottawa

- 3 day event bringing together IATI's technical and political communities.
- 130+ representatives
- 77 different governments, multilateral organisations, NGOs, CSOs and private sector organisations

“The use of IATI and open data in the international development sector challenges the status quo and demands a paradigm shift in the way all stakeholders work. Through the use of IATI, we all become more accountable and transparent, with an increased focus on the outcomes and impact rather than on inputs and activities, and fostering an environment of cooperation and collaboration.”

Simone Filippini, Chief Executive, Cordaid

“It's always good seeing different point of view, donors, publishers, end users, civil society.”

TAG Participant

“I feel really motivated about my work with IATI now that I've seen how much interest and commitment there is.”

TAG Participant

Looking ahead: IATI's future challenges

While IATI has come a long way since its launch in 2008, a rapidly changing global environment provides many opportunities for the initiative to evolve in new directions. Looking ahead, there are a number of areas where IATI can achieve change by adapting itself and working with others on common goals.

IATI and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2015 saw the agreement of the new Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda on Financing for Development. Both of these processes present significant opportunities for IATI in terms of adapting the Standard to better capture the totality of resource flows available for development cooperation. With the agreement of the Steering Committee, work in 2016 will focus on how IATI can best address these two areas.

Improving Humanitarian reporting using the IATI Standard

We have been working to enable IATI to better capture data on humanitarian crises and these changes will be released as part of the upgrade to version 2.02 of the Standard. The amendments will provide a streamlined framework for daily updates of financial and logistics data to be exchanged automatically between donors, implementing agencies and coordination structures and enable any IATI data user to distinguish funding that has been allocated to

'humanitarian' activities and to know to which specific crisis or emergency an activity relates.

Evaluating IATI

The first independent evaluation of IATI took place over 2015, assessing IATI's impact as a political initiative and a global data standard. The interim Members' Advisory Group within the Steering Committee has been tasked with taking forward some of the evaluation's key recommendations on governance ahead of the December Steering Committee meeting.

Joined-up data standards

2015 also saw the launch of a new Joined-up Data Alliance, of which IATI is member. This coalition of open data standards setters, users and advocates are committed to working together on matters of mutual interest to the development and usage of data standards. Alongside such bodies as HXL (Humanitarian Exchange Language), OpenCorporates and Open Contracting, IATI will share our experience with others and contribute to solving common problems with sustainable solutions.