Spotlight on IATI Data Use: Nigeria

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

- The understanding and usefulness of aid management tools and mechanisms are not widely shared within the Nigerian government.
- Despite an overwhelming number of IATI publishers among Nigeria’s aid providers, the existence and the possible use of IATI data are insufficiently known to government officials (apart from the ones having participated in the installation of Nigeria’s Aid Information Management System), and to several development partners, international and local.
- The AIMS installed by the government does not appear to be its main source of aid information when preparing the country resource framework and their budgets.
- Work should be undertaken with Nigeria’s AIMS supplier to develop and implement an import module from IATI to the AIMS, to take full advantage of the wealth of IATI data available.
- Awareness sessions and training workshops for government officials and development partners would be useful to improve IATI understanding, access to data, and the liaison with the government AIMS.

Nigeria involvement in IATI

Nigeria joined IATI in 2015 after learning of the initiative at a community of practice meeting of the Development Assistance Database (DAD), which is the Aid Information Management System (AIMS) they had installed in 2010. The aid management personnel at the Ministry of Budget and National Planning have since that time consistently included IATI awareness in all its presentations relating to aid data.

What IATI data is available?

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

These top ten providers contributed 2.4 billion US$ of the country’s ODA in 2015 representing 93.6% of the total reported amount to OECD (the top twenty providers account for 99%). Non-IATI publishers represent only 0.6% of that total.

In addition, IATI displays amounts reported by NGOs, foundations, as well as a growing number of private cooperation partners. Key contributors in Nigeria are the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation, Abt Associates Inc., Palladium International Ltd, and CDC Group plc.)
How does Nigeria manage aid data?

- Nigeria’s AIMS data itself is not relied upon to prepare the budget, due to incomplete and untimely data, as well as lack of awareness of the system by relevant Government Ministries, departments and agencies.

- As a sensitisation and data validation exercise, the Development Cooperation Report 2015 prepared by the Ministry compared the number of projects in the AIMS with projects published in IATI. Through this process, it was revealed that overall information from government and multilateral donors contained in the AIMS is rather poor. Some donors enter their information directly into the AIMS via the web interface. At present the AIMS does not include data on activities of NGOs, international or local, and from the private sector.

- The great majority of aid providers to Nigeria are IATI publishers, and the 15 largest ones represent 98% of reported OECD aid. Nevertheless, to date, no IATI data is transferred to the country’s AIMS (DAD Nigeria).

- One reason may be that there is still a general lack of awareness of IATI capabilities in the country. IATI data does not appear to meet the needs of the Nigerian authorities in terms of timeliness, compatibility of codes and fields. Significant efforts will be required to bridge the gap towards more systematic use of IATI data in the AIMS and in the budget cycle.