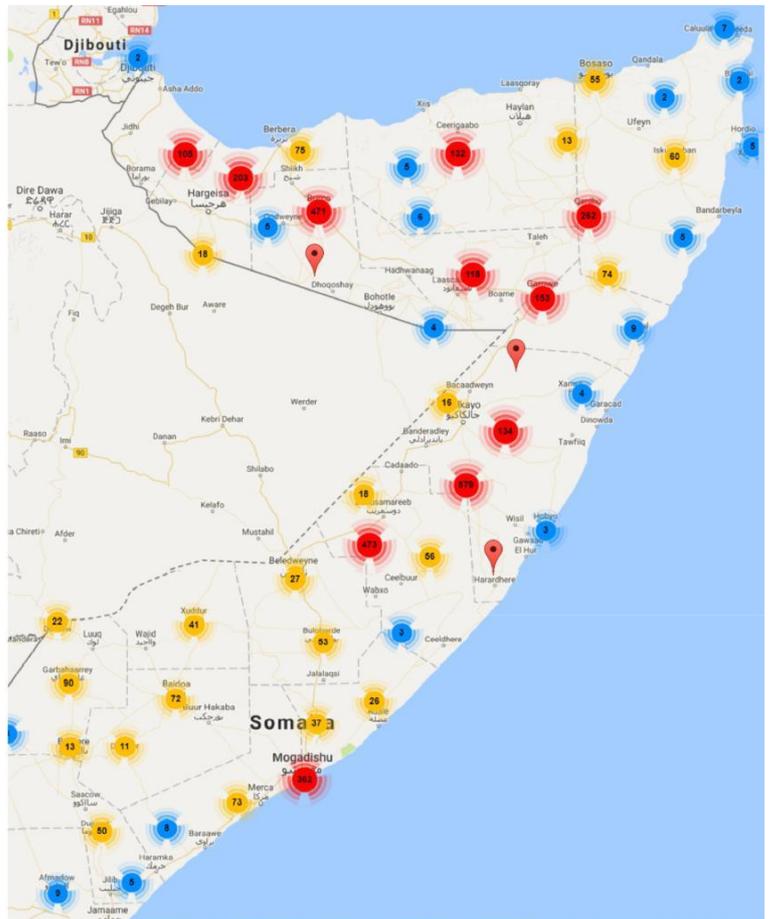


# Spotlight on IATI Data Use: Somalia

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

- Somalia is a highly aid-dependent country that stands to benefit significantly from the more widespread availability of IATI data. IATI data will also benefit the donor focal points who provide data to the current Annual Aid Mapping.
- The Federal Government of Somalia (under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning, is developing a home-grown AIMS to be able to make use of IATI data, building on the experiences of other partner countries that have built up or adapted their own systems (e.g. Myanmar, Bangladesh, Rwanda).
- The data made available by IATI publishers is not simple to use in Somalia. For example, all data needs to be coded to the Somali national sectors, and adjusted for the Somali financial year so that it can be incorporated into Government processes and systems. There is also no system to remove double counting, and no contact points for most IATI activities, and the majority lack location information. Significant manual input is needed to use of IATI data.
- Strengthened IATI engagement of Islamic countries (especially Turkey and the UAE) should be encouraged. Full exchange of data between the OCHA FTSS database and the IATI Registry is needed to fully capture humanitarian aid. Many current publishers could improve their data e.g. by identifying specific implementing partners or using hierarchies that allow projects to be identified.



Heatmap of activities in Somalia with precise location data from IATI's d-portal.org

## What IATI data is available?

**Active Projects**

1197

Total Projects

7144

**% of activities with locations**

29%

**Main providers not yet publishing in IATI**

Turkey  
UAE

**Number of IATI Publishers**

89

**Aid Information Management System**

From 2011 to 2014 - Development Assistance Database Provider: Synergy International Systems. IATI compatible home-grown system under development

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

These top ten providers contributed 1 billion US\$ of the country ODA in 2015. This represents 85% of the total reported amount to OECD (the top twenty providers account for 98%). Non-IATI publishers represent 19% of that total.



In addition, IATI displays amounts reported by NGOs, foundations, and a growing number of private cooperation partners (the main ones for Somalia are Oxfam Novib, Oxfam GB, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the International Development Law Organization, and DAI Europe). Since 2015, the ACU is collecting aid data from all development partners, and is coming up with national figures on a regular basis. There are variations between national figures and those published to OECD and IATI that should be investigated.

## Somalia's involvement in IATI and aid management

- The Government of Somalia (GoS) learnt about IATI in 2008 in Accra. An Aid Information Management System (AIMS), the Development Assistance Database (DAD), was used between 2011 and 2014. However, recorded information remained generally poor about governmental aid, and none was available on support provided by non-governmental and private development actors.
- In 2014, a study found that the DAD had also difficulty with multi-donor and multi-sector/location projects, with automatic exchange rates, and that it was unable to use the most recent sector definitions in Somalia. The same year, the Government established an Aid Coordination Unit (ACU), now under the new mandate of the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development. The ACU produced a pragmatic aid information management strategy in 2015, and a more comprehensive UN joint Project (2017-2019) on Aid management and Coordination is being finalized to support the central government in line with the recommendations of the Somali Compact Review and the National Development Plan (2017-2019) which has a special chapter on aid policy.
- The NDP provides an analysis of Somalia 's current development status, challenges and opportunities with a central theme to accelerate socio-economic transformation in order to achieve the stated objectives for poverty alleviation, economic revival and societal transformation in a socially just and gender equitable manner. The plan will largely rely on the development assistance from the international community given the precarious socio-economic status of the country as well as the meager domestic revenue which is anticipated not to be able to meet the development and recurrent costs of the country in the coming years.
- The number of IATI publishers that provide aid to Somalia has increased in the recent years, though data from Islamic countries remain absent from IATI. For those that are publishing, data is generally not yet of sufficient quality to be used in place of data collected from donors' representations and other local sources. Compounded with a lack of sufficient understanding and knowledge of IATI capabilities, this explains that, at this point, government officials as well as development partners are unwilling to spend the time resolving the differences between IATI data and the manually-entered data. Government and development partners agreed in 2015 that the DAD was not meeting Somalia's needs and are currently developing a home-grown AIMS which can better integrate with government processes, which requests a simpler (but more easily available) set of data and is locally owned, with open source code, and can therefore be locally adjusted as needs change, to remain relevant.
- The current installation of a strengthened Aid Coordination Unit to deal with aid management issues in the context of the latest National Development Plan is opening new grounds for tailored made solutions that would better fit the Somalia context, and take advantage of other recent similar examples world-wide.

