Strengthening the IATI Community to maximise impact

Steven Flower, IATI Members’ Assembly, Brussels, 11 Sept 2019
Annual Members’ Assembly
11-12 September 2019
European Commission VM-2 building
Brussels, Belgium

Board Paper: Strengthening the IATI Community to maximise impact

Purpose
As highlighted in the IATI Strategic Plan 2020 - 2025, a strong and engaged community sits at the heart of IATI and will play a central role in realising the 2020 - 2025 strategy. Input from diverse members of the community is recognised as particularly important for the development of the IATI Standard, guidance and associated tools. This paper builds on the ideas outlined in the Strategic Plan and puts forward specific recommendations on strengthening the IATI Community for discussion and decision by the Members’ Assembly.
A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away....
There was some (standardised) data!

<table>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Number of activity records</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Department for International Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development Initiatives Poverty Research</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The World Bank</td>
<td>144</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IATI Registry, ~2011
There was the Technical Advisory Group!
IATI XML Schema Tutorial

This document provides a tutorial introduction to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) XML schemas, release 20100707 (version 1.01). The intended audience is information-technology specialists and managers who are implementing or evaluating the IATI XML document types. Readers should have a basic working knowledge of XML and some familiarity with common concepts in the world of international development or humanitarian aid.

This tutorial is a supplement to the detailed schema reference documentation available online at http://www.iatistandard.org/. In case of disagreement, the schema reference documentation — not this tutorial — is the authoritative source.

Table of contents

- Table of contents
- Background
- IATI document types
- Character Encoding
- Conventions
- Activities document walk-through
- Basic structure and date/time generated
- Top level of an activity report
The TAG shapes the standard.

IATI Consultations Archive

Live discussions and consultations can be found at discuss.iatistandard.org.

1.02 First Decimal Upgrade

Changes to be implemented in the first decimal upgrade of the Standard. First consultation on these proposed changes (minor bug fixes, codelist and schema amends) is open until 5pm 31 August 2012. See our timetable for the implementation of changes here: http://wiki.iatistandard.org/standard/revision/1.02 (http://wiki.iatistandard.org/standard/revision/1.02)
The TAG informs the standard.

I only became aware of these proposed changes today through the very helpful summary document distributed by the Secretariat. As part of the fusion of CIDA and DFAIT, we are in the process of merging our management systems. This will likely result in all x-CIDA projects getting new project numbers - hence new activity-identifiers.

While such situations will hopefully not happen very often, other publishers may find themselves in a similar situation. What would the solution be? Should we include in the codelist “Previous Activity Identifier”?

Bill Anderson

September 25, 2014 08:33

Yohanna, you are right. You are in a special case having already traveled this path, but it may well apply to others who have absolutely no option but to change activity identifiers.

I agree we should add "Previous Activity Identifier" to the codelist.

For implementation see: https://github.com/iATI/iATI-Codelists/issues/68
The TAG safeguards the standard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slide No.</th>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>Link</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>Next Step</th>
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<td>Rules and Guidelines</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/2m6W6A">http://bit.ly/2m6W6A</a></td>
<td>Implementation Schedules</td>
<td>Guideline</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>The need to produce and maintain an implementation schedule should no longer be a requirement of IATI publishing.</td>
<td>Consult further</td>
<td>The wording of the proposal needs to change and further discussion on how the information previously captured in the implementation schedule can be added to the IATI Registry. IATI tech team to take forward for further consultation and change wording of this proposal.</td>
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<td>Implementation Schedules</td>
<td>Guideline</td>
<td>2.03</td>
<td>Publishers should improve and regularly maintain the content of all fields in their IATI Registry publishing accounts.</td>
<td>Consult further</td>
<td></td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Rules and Guidelines</td>
<td><a href="http://bit.ly/2m6W6A">http://bit.ly/2m6W6A</a></td>
<td>IATI Registry Publisher Status</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Introduce a new IATI Registry status of 'Dormant' for all accounts where no new information has been added within the most recent 12 months.</td>
<td>Consult further</td>
<td>New wording to be suggested for the &quot;Publisher Status&quot; that can replace dormant. IATI tech team to take forward for further consultation.</td>
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The TAG *loves* IATI

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</table>
```
IATI *loves* the TAG
Meanwhile in IATI...
We *all* got **busy**

More publishers

More versions

More requirements

More rules

More difference
The Group...
... increased
... diversified
... complicated
The Advice...

... increased

... diversified

... complicated
The Technical...
... increased
... diversified
... complicated
2011…

A Technical Advisory Group
2011… 2019…

A Technical Advisory Group
2011…

A Technical Advisory Group

2019…

A Diverse & Concurrent Community of People with Opinions, Experience, & Insights to Share on the Implementation, Direction & Architecture of a Global Open Data Standard
2011…  2019…

TAG
2011… 2019…

TAG  DCCPOEISIDAGODS ?
What do we do next?
Reform the old TAG?
Ignore any issues and hope they will go away?
As members of IATI we need...

… a way to seek and gather and specialist advice...

… a mechanism via which our communities can share, learn, interact and grow...

… so that we can deliver the Strategic Plan
Paper: Strengthening what we have.
Tasked *Working* Groups

Mandated by the MA / Board

Specific issues

Emphasis on deliverables

Time-bound
Communities of Practice

Needs based
Community driven
Open ended
Emphasis on learning
We have precedent

Quick update on progress with the SDG guidance before the IATI Members’ Assembly:

1. The final agreed guidance [https://docs.google.com/document/d/11vsqHc-mdAYUCqrGCaCTFxx48oD3VvBVSf9YQ3video/edit#] will be IATI branded (Rohini Simbodyal) and added to the IATI reference site by next Tuesday 10th of September.

2. Wendy Thomas will talk very briefly about the work of the SDG group, the new guidance and call for members to commit to publishing SDG data. This will happen at the end of t...
We are in good company

WAI Working Groups and Interest Groups

WAI has Working Groups developing accessibility guidelines and related work, and Interest Groups providing a forum for discussing Web accessibility issues. Participating in WAI describes generally how to participate in WAI work. To find out more about participating in a specific WAI group, see the group’s home page linked below. WAI working groups often have Task Forces operating under them; see Task Force link below.

**Accessibility Guidelines Working Group (AG WG) (formerly WCAG WG)**

AG WG develops guidelines to make web content accessible for people with disabilities, and develops implementation support materials for the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

**Accessible Platform Architectures (APA)**

APA reviews specifications, develops technical support materials, collaborates with other Working Groups on technology accessibility, and coordinates harmonized accessibility strategies within W3C.
Questions to consider, today
(We won’t get to a whole list of groups and communities in the next x minutes)
1. Are these the right tools (to help us with the SP)?
2. What do groups need (to help us with the SP)?
3. How do we put this together (to help us with the SP)?