



## **Indicator Fact Sheet**

### **Indicator 4: Information on development co-operation is publically available**

This fact sheet includes details on the methodology underpinning Indicator 4 during the 2015-2016 Round of [Global Partnership Monitoring](#), including means of measurement, method of calculation and data source.

For questions, please contact the OECD-UNDP monitoring team at [monitoring@effectivecooperation.org](mailto:monitoring@effectivecooperation.org)

Transparency

**Indicator 4. Information on development co-operation is publicly available  
(Implementation of the Common Standard)**

*The purpose of this indicator is to provide information on the state of implementation by development co-operation providers of the “common, open standard” for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking information on resources provided through development cooperation. It aims to support evidence-based policy dialogue on the transparency of development co-operation and to facilitate mutual accountability and learning at the country and global levels. The common standard was endorsed by the Working Party on Aid Effectiveness in July 2012. It is built on the two main systems of the common open standard, namely the OECD/DAC Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and Forward-Spending Survey (FSS), and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).*

*The methodology described in this sheet is still subject to change as a result of additional technical consultations with the IATI and OECD/DAC Secretariats. A finalised methodology will be endorsed early 2016, which will enable findings from Indicator 4 to be included in the 2016 Progress Report.*

**Relevant Busan commitment**

Through the Busan Partnership agreement, providers of development co-operation commit to implement a “common, open standard for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking information on resources provided through development co-operation, taking into account the statistical reporting of OECD and complementary efforts of International Aid Transparency Initiative and others. This standard must meet the information needs of developing countries and non-state actors..... We will [aim to] implement it fully by December 2015” (Busan [§23c](#)).

**Indicator construction**

The indicator will assess availability of information that is reported to the CRS/FSS and IATI. It is based on a composite approach combining the assessment of information reported to the CRS/FSS and to the IATI. The assessments are led by the OECD/DAC and IATI Secretariats, respectively.

In direct response to the Busan commitment, the assessment focuses on three dimensions: i) *timeliness*; ii) *comprehensiveness*; and iii) *forward- looking nature*.

However, the following revisions are being proposed for consultation:

Reflecting the inherently different purpose of the information captured by the existing reporting systems (i.e. OECD-sourced data provides statistical information, while IATI-sourced data generates management information), the key dimensions of the common standard included in the Busan Partnership agreement (timeliness, comprehensiveness, forward-looking) are interpreted in different ways by the OECD-DAC and IATI data sources for indicator 4, and the items accounted for in calculating the scores reflect these differences in regard to the underlying dimensions included in the data source. The proposed approach will take into account these differences in providing the combined reporting of existing data sources on transparency.

The OECD/DAC Secretariat has included a dimension focusing on data accuracy as an integral component of their data sources, relying on manual qualitative assessment of submitted data. On the other hand, the IATI Secretariat notes that a reliable and objective methodology to assess accuracy has not yet been fully developed (the IATI Secretariat is fully committed to improving the accuracy of IATI data, and will agree on a way to move

**Measurement**

A categorical/rubric scale will provide a measure of degree in which each provider of development co-operation has made progress in implementing the common standard.

An overall status of implementation will be assigned separately for information reported to CRS/FSS and IATI, using descriptive scales (excellent, good, fair, and major improvement needed), with sufficient detailed information on each of components and dimensions.

The reporting of assessments will clearly specify that, under the OECD/DAC Statistics umbrella system, CRS assesses transparency for retrospective data (i.e. related to past/recent performance), while FSS focuses on the transparency of forward-looking aid data (i.e. projections). In cases where only CRS or FSS are available (usually FSS), that would be the only OECD/DAC-sourced assessment reported, with the above-mentioned caveat.

Sub-composite scales for CRS data and FSS data will use the weighted approach. The weights used in the assessment of CRS data are as follows: timeliness (5/20); completeness (3/20) and accuracy (12/20). FSS assessment of forward-looking data will use the following weights: public disclosure of FSS data (1/7); timeliness (1/7); completeness (3/7) and accuracy (2/7).

IATI uses equal weights between each component (timeliness, comprehensiveness and forward looking) for aggregate overall performance of providers. The three sub-components of comprehensiveness are weighted: core (50%), financial (25%) and forward-looking (25%). The IATI reporting scores are adjusted for the coverage of the financial flows reported using the following scale of coverage: Excellent: 80% or over (adjustment factor 1); Good: 60 – 80% (adjustment factor 0.8); Fair: 40 – 60% (adjustment factor 0.6); and Poor: less than 40% (adjustment factor 0.4). The adjusted IATI scores are converted to the descriptive scales as follows: Excellent

<p>forward on this topic in its March 2016 meeting). The JST proposes not to include accuracy as part of the indicator at this stage, but requests both the IATI and OECD/DAC Secretariats to work together to develop a reliable assessment of accuracy starting March 2016. In the meantime, the JST will report on the data accuracy dimension provided by OECD/DAC-sourced data separately, as an emerging layer of analysis in the field of development co-operation transparency.</p>	<p>(80% or over); Good (60 – 80%); Fair (40 – 60%); and Major Improvement Needed (0 – 40%)</p> <p>Different scoring methods will be used by the two Secretariats. This means that numerical composite scores will be calculated for IATI, and composite scores (full, half and no-star) will be made for the CRS and FSS respectively.</p>
<p><b>Data source</b></p> <p>Desk review of data available through reporting on the components/dimensions of the common, open standard (CRS/FSS and IATI). No collection of data at the country level is foreseen.</p> <p>Year of data for assessment – IATI assessment will be done for 2015 data, while CRS data will be based on 2014 data. FSS assessment will cover CPA 2014-2018, while IATI's forward-spending information will look at 2016-2019.</p>	<p><b>Aggregation</b></p> <p>The proposed unit of observation is the individual country providing development co-operation (in the case of bilateral co-operation providers) or organisation (in the case of multilateral providers). Presentation of composite scales will be grouped under the following three categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group A – providers publishing / reporting to both CRS/FSS and IATI;</li> <li>• Group B – providers publishing / reporting to CRS and/or FSS only;</li> <li>• Group C – providers publishing/reporting to IATI only.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Baseline</b></p> <p>This monitoring round will establish the baseline for the indicator.</p>	<p><b>Target</b></p> <p>Implement the common standard – All providers of development co-operation are on track to implement by 2015 a common, open standard for electronic publication of timely, comprehensive and forward-looking information on development co-operation.</p>