USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

December 28, 2012

Mr. Jon Lomoy
Director, Development Cooperation Directorate
Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
2 rue Andre-Pascal
75775, Paris, Cedex 16, France

Ms. Jennie Barugh
Head Finance, Performance & Impact Department
UK Department for International Development
(IATI Host Organization)
Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride
Glasgow G75 8EA, England

Dear Mr. Lomoy and Ms. Barugh:

Thank you for your letter dated 24 October 2012 regarding aid transparency and the commitments made at the Fourth High Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4), held in Busan in 2011. I am pleased to be responding on behalf of the United States.

The United States takes its Busan commitments seriously and is pleased to engage with other members of the international community to define a common standard for the electronic publication of all developmentally related flows. However, we are not persuaded that full agreement exists on the proposed three-pronged, "common standard" referred to in your letter, as many have called for one consolidated system that merges and harmonizes the three separate and distinct reporting requirements (the DAC's Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and the Forward Spending Survey (FSS) plus the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)). It is also critical that non-DAC bilateral donors and South-South cooperators are consulted in greater numbers to sustain the inclusiveness established in Busan and encourage their participation in the proposed standard.

Despite this hesitation, the United States has completed the CRS++ portion of the requested implementation schedule, which is attached. Also, as a new IATI signatory, the United States recently submitted its IATI Implementation Schedule to the IATI Secretariat which I am attaching here for your information. The United States does not participate in the Forward Spending Survey because U.S. Federal Law prohibits the projections of future aid flows.

We look forward to continued exchange on the subject of the common standard and to a productive collaboration on aid transparency in the future.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Anthony Pipa
International Policy Advisor to the Administrator
Deputy Assistant Administrator
Bureau for Policy, Program and Learning

Attachments:

1. Implementation Schedule for the common standard_USG.xlsx
2. IATI Implementation Schedule_Final.xlsx

Part II – General questions on comprehensiveness, timeliness and public availability of information

To be completed for the whole country/organisation

Country or Organisation Name: United States

Date: 12/14/2012

The information provided below applies to U.S. Government CRS reporting only.

1. COVERAGE AND COMPREHENSIVENESS

A. To which system(s) do you currently report/publish:

CRS		FSS		IATI	
	x				

B. What is the coverage of your current reporting in terms of financial flows and what levels of aggregation do the reported data represent? (Tick all boxes that apply)

	CRS					IATI				
Flows covered / aggregation level [1]	ODA	Official Export Credits	Other OOF	PRIV	NGO	ODA	Official Export Credits	Other OOF	PRIV	NGO
Activity-level	x									
Semi-aggregate (by recipient country and sector/component)			x							
Aggregate (by recipient country only)		x		X (by region, with the eception of FDI which is by country)	X (one total figure due to confidentiality provisions)					

C. i) What, if any, thresholds do you apply for aggregating CRS data?

None

ii) What, if any, is the threshold on the value of activities below which you do not publish to IATI?

iii) What, if any, rules do you apply to exclude information from publishing to IATI (e.g. based on national regulations)?

D. i. If you publish through IATI, which agencies **do** the published data currently cover?

Name(s) of agencies	Agency coverage	if bilateral donor: % of gross ODA

ii. **In future**, which agencies **will** your published data cover?

Name(s) of agencies	By when?	if bilateral donor: % of gross ODA

iii. **In future,** which agencies will your published data **not** cover?

Name(s) of agencies	if bilateral donor: % of gross ODA

iv. Please provide additional information related to current/future coverage of publishing (if necessary)

E. What improvements do you plan to the coverage (types of flows) and comprehensiveness (level of detail) of your data by 2015?

Flows covered	Improvements	By when?
ODA		
OOF		
PRIV		
NGO		

2. FREQUENCY AND TIMELINESS

A. **Frequency:** At what intervals **do** you currently report to the CRS / publish through IATI?

	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other (specify)
CRS			x	
IATI				

B. **Frequency:** At what intervals **would** you be able to report to the CRS / publish through a publicly available website? By the end of 2015, we intend to report CRS data quarterly.

	Monthly	Quarterly	Annually	Other (specify)
CRS		x		
IATI				

C. **Timeliness:** How soon after data are captured and available internally can you publish them? (Please give the soonest any data are available to publish, even if they cover only part of your aid e.g. country project data.)

One month	One quarter	One year	Other (specify)
			Two months

D. What improvements do you plan to the frequency and timeliness of your data and by when?

Flows covered	Improvements	By when?
ODA		
OOF		
PRIV		
NGO		

3. FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

A. i) For how many years ahead do you provide information (i.e. what is the current practice)? Please indicate for each level of aggregation how many years into the future your outlook reaches. (If not possible leave blank)

Level of aggregation		Forward Spending Survey (FSS)	IATI
Activity-level	committed / ongoing projects		
	also including planned / not yet committed projects		
	also including remaining country budget envelopes		
Semi-aggregate (by recipient country and sector/component)			
Aggregate envelopes (by recipient country)			

ii) For how many years ahead can you legally provide information?

iii) Please provide additional information related to forward-looking information, including if you use a fixed (e.g. 3-year) or rolling (extended by one year each year) planning framework.

B. If the above information relates to the DAC Forward Spending Survey (FSS), do you permit the publication of this information?

Yes [ ] No [ ]

If no, why not?

C. What improvements are you planning to provide more forward-looking information, and by when?

Flows covered	Improvements	By when?
ODA		
OOF		
PRIV		
NGO		

4. PUBLICATION

A. What information on your development co-operation resources do you currently publish/plan to publish on your website?

Currently		Planned		By when
x	Project Database	x	Project Database	
x	Information and Reports	x	Information and Reports	
	Other (describe)		Other (describe)	

B. What formats/mechanisms do you currently use/plan to use for publishing **data** on your website?

Currently		Planned		By when
	XML format for IATI registry	x	XML format for IATI registry	end 2012
x	Table(s)/ online tool(s)	x	Table(s)/ online tool(s)	
x	Only through OECD website/online databases	x	Only through OECD website/online databases	
	Other (please name)		Other (please name)	

C. Under which license do/will you publish your data (2)

[x] Public domain [ ] Attribution

If neither of these, please specify why:

5. NOTES

(1) Detailed definitions are available at: http://www.oecd.org/dac/aidstatistics/38429349.pdf

ODA: Official development assistance is defined as those flows to countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA Recipients and to multilateral development institutions which are:
i. provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies; and
ii. each transaction of which:
a) is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective; and
b) is concessional in character and conveys a grant element of at least 25 per cent10 (calculated at a rate of discount of 10 per cent).

Official export credits: official bilateral loans which are primarily export-facilitating in purpose.

Other OOF: Other official flows are official sector transactions which do not meet the ODA criteria, e.g. official bilateral transactions intended to promote development but having a grant element of less than 25 per cent

PRIV: Private flows at market terms undertaken by firms and individuals resident in the reporting country from their own private funds.

NGO: NGO flows cover strictly private funds spent by NGOs/charitable organisations (as grants) on development cooperation (funds they raise themselves from private sources). This therefore would not include any ODA or OOF nor private flows at market terms.

(2) Definitions are available at: : http://iatistandard.org/getting-started/licencing/licence-types

IATI requires data published to the Standard to be compliant as either:

Public Domain: no copyright, database rights or contractual rights exist over the data that has been published by an organisation. Examples include the Creative Commons' CC0 tool and the Open Data Commons Public Domain Dedication and Licence (PDDL). You can access an example IATI Public Domain licence.

Attribution-Only: licenses that allow for use and reuse of the data, with the only restriction being that attribution (credit) be given to the organisation that has published the data. Examples include the Creative Commons' Attribution Licenses (CC-BY) and the Open Data Commons Attribution Licence. You can access an example IATI Attribution-Only licence.

Part IIIb - Activity data

Separate sheet to be completed by each agency that does/will publish data to the common standard

The information provided below applies to U.S. Government CRS reporting only.

Organisation or Agency Name:	U.S. Government	**CRS donor/agency code or Organisation IATI Identifier:** (if available)	302
Date:	1/1/2013		

This tab refers to the availability of information at activity level. For each information item in the table, please make a general assessment of your agency's ability to provide the requested information on all your activities. For details of the code values for an item refer to the codes lists in Part IV.

In the status column you can specify the degree of compliance for each information item. For instance, if you can provide the requested information on most of your projects or programmes, you can indicate this by selecting "Fully Compliant", if only for some projects or programmes you can select "Partially Compliant" with an explanation in the notes column.

Note that the common standard uses the term 'activity' to describe the reported unit for all types of development co-operation resources. An activity is any project, programme, contract, cooperative agreement or financial arrangement that is reported at a level of detail that is meaningful to the recipient and manageable by the donor.

The cells highlighted with this colour represent overlap between IATI and CRS/FSS. For data fields overlapping with CRS, there are several cases where different application criteria are used, definitions adjusted, and codes lists extended.

The cells highlighted with this colour represent partial overlap between IATI and the CRS/FSS.

Information Item	Detailed information / Definitions (See Part IV on code lists for further details)	Status	Publication date	Publication notes, including any field level thresholds or exclusions and definitions specific to publishing organisation
Reporting Organisation	Does your system allow publication of the name and unique identifier of the organisation publishing the information?	Fully compliant		
Standard activity identifier	Does your system allow publication of a globally unique identifier for your activities? This should be in the form of the CRS ID or the IATI Organisation Identifier (for the reporting organisation) concatenated to that organisation's activity identifier.	Fully compliant		
Other activity identifiers	Does your system allow publication of other activity identifiers, which can be used to identify an activity for multiple organisations? This can for instance be a donor's own project number.	Fully compliant		

Information Item	Detailed information / Definitions (See Part IV on code lists for further details)	Status	Publication date	Publication notes, including any field level thresholds or exclusions and definitions specific to publishing organisation
Basic Activity Information				
Activity Title	Does your system allow publication of a title of your aid activities (preferably official name used in project documents)?	Fully compliant		
Activity Title (in recipient's language)		Not applicable		
Activity Description	Does your system allow publication of long descriptions summarising the specific purpose or objective of your activities?	Fully compliant		
Activity Description (in recipient's language)		Not applicable		
Activity Status	Does your system allow publication of the current stage of the aid activity at the time the information is published/updated? The stages are based on an activity lifecycle, *e.g.* pipeline, implementation, completion etc.	Not applicable		
Activity Dates (Start Date)	Does your system allow publication of expected/planned/actual start dates of your activities? Please specify in publication notes field if it is expected/planned start date for the project or actual start date (i.e. the date the physical progress of the project begins). Note that CRS only includes expected/planned start dates.	Fully compliant		When available. Not all activities have start dates.
Activity Dates (End Date)	Does your system allow publication of expected/planned/actual completion dates of your activities? Please specify in publication notes field if it is expected/planned completion date for the project or actual completion date (i.e. the date the physical project ends). Note that the CRS only includes expected/planned completion dates.	Fully compliant		When available. Not all activities have end dates.
Activity Contacts	Does your system allow publication of contact details for your activities? This can either be a generic contact or specific individual providing there are no privacy concerns and there is an automatic update when individual changes job.	Not applicable		
Participating Organisation (Funding)	Does your system allow publication of the identity and role of each organisation in activities (including the reporting organisation)?	Not applicable		For CRS reporting, the participating organisation (implementing) is the channel of delivery.
Participating Organisation (Extending)		Fully compliant		
Participating Organisation (Implementing)		Fully compliant		
Participating Organisation (Accountable)		Not applicable		

Information Item	Detailed information / Definitions (See Part IV on code lists for further details)	Status	Publication date	Publication notes, including any field level thresholds or exclusions and definitions specific to publishing organisation
Geopolitical Information				
Recipient Country	Does your system allow publication of the country(is) for whose benefit aid flows are provided (if applicable)?	Fully compliant		
Recipient Region	Does your system allow publication of supra-national areas for whose benefit aid flows are provided (if applicable)? This includes geographical or administrative regions grouping various countries (*e.g.* Sub-Saharan Africa) or 'global' for activities benefiting substantially all developing countries.	Fully compliant		
Sub-national Geographic Location	Does your system allow publication of sub-national geographical identification of the target locations of your activities? These can be described by coordinates, administrative areas or a textual description. Note that the CRS allows for a textual description, while publication through IATI builds upon the UCDP/AidData geocoding methodology.	Not publishing now		
Classifications				
Sector (DAC CRS)	Does your system allow publication of the specific sector(s) of the recipient's economic or social development that the transfer intends to foster, known as "purpose codes" in the CRS.	Fully compliant		
Sector (Agency specific)	Does your system allow publication of agency-specific sector codes for the recipient's economic or social development that the transfer intends to foster.	Not applicable		
Policy Markers	Does your system allow publication of indicators tracking key policy issues, notably the CRS policy markers? This can be also used for donor specific thematic classifications.	Fully compliant		
Collaboration Type	Does your system allow publication of identifiers to show the type of collaboration? For official donors, it would show if activities are bilateral; earmarked multilateral; core multilateral; core contributions to NGOs; core contributions to PPPs; or multilateral outflow. Other types may apply to foundations and NGOs.	Fully compliant		
Default Flow Type	Does your system allow publication of identifiers to show the classification of the flow? For official donors this means if activities are Official Development Assistance (ODA), or Other Official Flows (OOF) [non-concessional but developmental, i.e. excluding export credits]. Other types can be specified for other donors.	Fully compliant		

Information Item	Detailed information / Definitions (See Part IV on code lists for further details)	Status	Publication date	Publication notes, including any field level thresholds or exclusions and definitions specific to publishing organisation
Default Finance Type	Does your system allow publication of identifiers to show the financing mechanism of the aid activity (e.g. grant, loan, capital subscription, export credit, debt relief, equity)? Other types can be specified for other donors.	Fully compliant		
Default Aid Type	Does your system allow publication of identifiers to show the type of assistance provided. For official donors broad categories are budget support, pooled funds, project-type interventions, experts, scholarships, debt relief, administrative costs)? Other types can be specified for other donors.	Fully compliant		
Default Tied Aid Status	Does your system allow publication of amounts by degree of restriction on where procurement of goods or services can take place, classified as untied (open procurement), partially tied (donor and developing countries) and tied (donor or group not including most developing countries).	Fully compliant		
Financial				
Activity Budget	Does your system allow publication of planned budgets (by quarter or annual) for the lifetime of your activities?	Not applicable		
Planned Disbursements	Does your system allow publication of planned disbursements and expenditures for your activities? Note that the FSS requests this information by calendar year while IATI recommends this to be specified by the financial year of the recipient country.	Not applicable		
Economic Classification (Capital/Recurrent)	*Format still to be finalised by IATI Steering Committee*	Not applicable		
Recipient's Administrative/Functional budget classification	*Format still to be finalised by IATI Steering Committee*	Not applicable		
Financial Transaction				
Financial transaction (Commitment)	Does your system allow publication of commitments? A commitment is a firm written obligation by the donor to provide resources of a specified amount under specified financial terms and conditions and for specified purposes for the benefit of the recipient.	Fully compliant		
Financial transaction (Disbursement & Expenditure)	Does your system allow publication of disbursements and/or expenditures? A disbursement is the amount placed at the disposal of a recipient country or agency (in the case of internal development-related expenditures, the outlay of funds). An expenditure is the outlay by the implementing agency on goods and services. Please specify in the publication notes if you can publish disbursements and expenditures separately or only publish these jointly.	Fully compliant		

Information Item	Detailed information / Definitions (See Part IV on code lists for further details)	Status	Publication date	Publication notes, including any field level thresholds or exclusions and definitions specific to publishing organisation
Financial transaction (Reimbursement)	Does your system allow publication of reimbursements? Reimbursements are disbursements that repay funds already spent by the recipient, as agreed in the terms of the loan or grant.	Not applicable		
Financial transaction (Incoming Funds)	Does your system allow publication of incoming funds? These are funds received from an external funding source (*e.g.* a donor).	Not applicable		
Financial transaction (Loan repayment / interest repayment)	Does your system allow publication of loan repayments? Loan repayments are the actual amounts of principal (amortisation) repaid, including any arrears; Interest Repayments are the actual amount of interest repaid.	Fully compliant		
Related Documents and Links				
Activity Documents	Does your system allow publication of published documents that are related to your activities?	Not applicable		
Activity Website	Do you have websites with more information about individual activities?	Not applicable		
Related Activity	Does your system allow publication of links to other activities related to your activities; for example for multi-funded projects?	Not applicable		
Performance				
Conditions attached Y/N	Does your system allow publication of whether there are any special conditions attached to your individual activities (yes/no), and if so, the exact details of the conditions (optional)?	Not applicable		
Text of Conditions		Not applicable		
Results data	Does your system allow publication of generic frameworks for the reporting of indicator-based targets and outcomes. Please note that there are no restriction on the choice of indicators, measures or baselines.	Not applicable		

Annex C: DAC Code Lists

See also: DAC Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts http://www.oecd.org/document/32/0,3343,en_2649_33721_42632800_1_1_1_1,00.html

Name	Description	Comment
Classifications that equate to, or can be mapped to, DAC/CRS codes		
Aid Type	DAC/CRS classification of type of aid (Type of aid tab in DAC codelist)	
Collaboration Type	DAC/CRS classification of bi/multi; contributions to NGOs and private bodies; and multilateral outflows (Bi/multi tab in DAC codelist)	
Country	All countries in world using 2-character ISO code Link to DAC authority list once this is on the web	DAC/CRS lists only ODA-eligible recipient countries using 3-digit numeric code that can be mapped to ISO codes (Annex 7 of CRS++ Guidelines)
Currency	Currency used for all transactions and budgets	DAC use 3-digit codes, but can be mapped to ISO codes. Only allow reporting in USD or currency of a DAC member.
Finance Type	DAC/CRS type of finance, distinguishing between grants, loans, debt relief, etc. (Type of finance tab in DAC codelist)	
Flow Type	DAC/CRS type of flow, distinguishing ODA (official development assistance) and other types of resource flow (Annex 1 of CRS++ Guidelines).	
Organisation Identifier	The IATI Technical Advisory Group is involved in ongoing work, supported by Guidestar International, to create a system of universal coding rules to uniquely identify any organisation in the world, be it government or NGO, public or private. These codes will supplement the OECD DAC code lists for donor agencies and channels of delivery which are linked to below.	
Organisation Identifier	DAC/CRS classification of bilateral aid agencies in DAC member countries (Agency tab in DAC codelist), with 2-character country code suffix.	
Organisation Identifier	DAC/CRS classification of multilateral organisations (Annex 6 of CRS++ Guidelines)	
Organisation Identifier	DAC/CRS classification of INGOs, PPPs and Networks (Annex 6 of CRS++ Guidelines)	
Organisation Role	The role played by a participating organisation (funding, extending, implementing, accountable).	DAC distinguish extending and implementing agency.
Organisation Type	Type of organisation (e.g. government, multilateral, NGO, PPP, foundation, private sector, academic)	Equivalent to categories in Annex 6 of CRS++ guidelines
Policy Marker	DAC/CRS policy markers of objectives addressed by the activity (Annex 6 and 7 of CRS reporting directives).	IATI allows for addition of other donor-specific markers should a donor wish to publish them.
Policy Significance	DAC/CRS scores for not targeted, significant objective, principal objective (Annex 6 and 7 of CRS reporting directives).	
Region	DAC/CRS region codes using 3 digit DAC codes (Recipient tab in DAC codelist)	IATI allows for other regional classifications to be used should a donor wish to publish them.
Sector	DAC/CRS purpose codes classification (Purpose code tab in DAC codelist)	
Tied Status	DAC/CRS classification of tying status: Tied, Partially tied or Untied (page 8 of CRS++ Guidelines)	

INTERNATIONAL AID TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE

IATI Implementation Schedule for:

IATI Implementation Schedule for:	United States Government
IATI Organisation Identifier:	USG
Version: 1	Date: December 2012

(Click on hyperlink above for more information on IATI Organisation Identifiers)

This document provides a publication plan which covers:

1. When will data be published? Timetable and frequency of publication
2. Exclusions and constraints: Overview of exceptions, thresholds & constraints
3. How will data be published? How published data will be presented to users
4. What data will be published? Overview coverage. For each area of the standard:
    - a. Timetable for publication
    - b. Terminology used within the data provider's systems
    - c. Exceptions, thresholds & constraints

Instructions for completion:

The Implementation Schedule is divided into three tabs:

1. Publishing Information
2. Organisation Data
3. Activity Data

Publishing Information

This provides space to provide more detailed information about what data will be published, whether there will be any exclusions, and how the data will be published.

This is made up of a mixture of boxes for extracting specific information and text boxes for providing more detailed information.

Many of the boxes for specific information consist of drop-down menus where you will need to select the most appropriate category that fits with the qualitative information you provide in the adjacent text box.

Some require a typed entry:

e.g. Numeric entry for % of total budget (/ODA) and date entries for publication timetable (this should appear in mmm-yy format - e.g. Jan-12).

The purpose of these boxes is to make it easier for users to extract the most pertinent information, whereas the text boxes expand on this to provide more detailed information.

Organisation Data and Activity Data

Although each of these has its own worksheet, the format for completing each is the same.
Each is made up of a table consisting of seven columns:
1) Information Area, 2) Status, 3) Publication date, 4) Exclusions & Thresholds, 5) Exclusion category 6) Data provider definition, and 7) Publication notes.

1) Information Area -
this identifies the data item.
2) Status -
this provides a traffic light rating on the readiness of data to be published and is based on the following key:

Fully compliant	Publishing in full compliance with the IATI Standard
Partially compliant	Publishing some data required by the IATI Standard
Future publication	Data will be published at a future date
Under consideration	No current plans to publish, but could be considered

Unable to publish	Information not available or collected, or not relevant to organisation

(The colour coding is auto-generated through use of the drop-down menu.)
For anything less than full compliance, further information should be provided in the publication notes. This includes:

- dates for full compliance if partial compliance is expected initially
- information on future publication of data items - e.g. potential dates or what it is dependent upon (e.g. new management systems)
- under what conditions data items under consideration could be published (e.g. implementing geo-coding or collecting of results data)
- reasons for being unable to publish (e.g. not relevant to the organisation, not part of the organisation's business model, etc.)

3) Publication date -
identifies when data can start being published (this will be based on the overall timetable for publication identified in the 'Publishing Information' tab, and should indicate when in the publication timetable this date item will be published).

The date should appear in mmm-yy format (e.g. Jan-12). If any additional information needs to be provided about the date, this should be added in the 'Publication notes'.

4) Exclusions & Thresholds -
highlights any specific thresholds or exclusions for the data item.

5) Exclusion category -
identifies the reason for the exclusion using the following drop-down menu:

n/a	No exclusions
a	Not applicable to organisation
b	A non-disclosure policy
c	Not currently captured and prohibitive cost
d	Other (please specify within the 'Exclusions & Thresholds narrative)

6) Data provider definition -
provides the terminology used within the organisation's internal systems (this demonstrates how internal terminology maps to IATI).

7) Publication notes -
provides additional information, such as reasons for amber or red coding, or relevant information which is not covered in the preceding columns or requires further clarification.

Support available:

Knowledge Base

The Knowledge Base has a number of forums that provide additional information about getting started and implementing IATI, including discussions on tools, information for NGOs and some technical information.

Information on communication support can also be found here to help in promoting your IATI publication (including examples of existing news releases, templates and contacts).
The Knowledge Base can be found at:
http://support.iatistandard.org/forums

Further support

If you require any further support or there are any areas of information you would like to see added, please contact Mandy Burrows at:
mandy.burrows@devinit.org

Introductory Notes:

1. This implementation plan was prepared on the basis of the U.S. Government's Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Bulletin 12-01 which outlines all required data fields needed to satisfy multiple U.S. Government reporting requirements and provides guidance on the collection of U.S. Government foreign assistance data.
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/bulletins/fy2012/b12-01.pdf

2. It should be noted that twenty-seven agencies of the United States Government provide foreign assistance. This plan will result in publication of the majority of total Official Development Assistance (ODA) in the IATI format at the early stages of implementation.

1. When will data be published?

Timetable and frequency of publication		
Which organisations/agencies/programmes will your IATI data cover? (What % of your total development flows does this cover? What is missing?)		
Percentage of total budget / ODA		*Narrative*
100%		The data will cover all U.S. Government Official Development Assistance (ODA) flows from all departments and agencies that fund or execute activities.
Overall timetable for publication (Provide a date for when these organisations will publish (a) an initial (incomplete) set of IATI data and (b) full IATI implementation)		
Date of initial implementation	*Date of full implementation*	*Narrative*
Dec-12	Dec-15	By the end of 2012, the U.S. Government plans to publish (1) CY 2009, 2010 and 2011 CRS data and (2) forward-looking budget request data (for approximately 70% of total ODA flows) in the IATI XML format. The U.S. Government will continue to publish IATI compliant data in the following three ways: (1) Activity level data on a quarterly basis will be published for approximately 70% of total ODA by the end of 2013. The coverage is expected to increase to approximately 90% of total ODA by the end of 2014, with 100% of all ODA flows reporting all available IATI compliant data expected by the end of 2015. (2) At the end of February each year, the U.S. government will publish annual, 1-year forward planning budget data which is the requested amount submitted to Congress. ODA coverage rates are expected to follow the same pattern as the quarterly activity data. (3) Verified, complete statistical data and information on U.S. Government ODA flows will be published in the IATI format at the end of each calendar year once OECD/DAC reporting is complete.
Timeliness and frequency of publication (How soon after data is captured and available internally will data be published? How frequently will data be published?)		
Frequency of publication	*Timeliness of publication*	
Initially, annually with a move to quarterly reporting by 2015.	2 months in arrears	Based on the schedule and coverages rates elaborated above, regular quarterly data publication will commence in 2013 for a subset of total ODA, with 100% implementation expected by the end of 2015. Verified, complete statistical data and information on U.S. Government ODA flows, will be published in the IATI format at the end of each calendar year once OECD/DAC reporting is complete.
How early in lifecycle will activity details be published? (Will activity details be published during the pipeline/identification stage or not until they are approved and in the implementation stage)		
Lifecycle status at publication		
Implementation		

Data quality status (Do you want to identify the status of the quality/audit/statistical verification of data that is published in registry? Please indicate whether you anticipate doing this, and the likely timing of moving from	
Data quality	*Narrative*
Unverified	Data and information on U.S. Government ODA flows will be published in IATI format throughout the year on a timely quarterly basis and will be unverified. This data will be replaced in its entirety at the end of each calendar year with verified, complete statistical OECD/DAC CRS data, once OECD/DAC reporting is complete. As part of its overall data quality control and assurance processes, the U.S. Government will work to identify and resolve discrepancies between preliminary and verified data. This iterative process will likely result in the publishing of better quality data on a quarterly basis over time.
Approach to publication (Please outline what staff and system resources are being made available to implement IATI, any relevant organisational structures e.g. working groups, and who is leading on IATI implementation)	
System resource	Narrative
Other	Quarterly activity data will be provided on the U.S. Foreign Assistance Dashboard[1] maintained by the U.S. State Department and converted to IATI format, and should be considered preliminary. Verified, complete statistical data and information on U.S. Government ODA flows will be converted into the IATI format once a year from the OECD/DAC CRS file by USAID, posted to the U.S. Foreign Assistance Dashboard and replacing unverified data.
Other notes	
This implementation plan focuses on the reporting of ODA. However, data published in the IATI format will include information on all U.S. Government foreign assistance[2] flows, not only ODA.	

[1] The Foreign Assistance Dashboard is a web-based data portal that incorporates all U.S. Government foreign assistance data into a standard format. The goal of the Foreign Assistance Dashboard is to enable a wide variety of stakeholders, including U.S. citizens, civil society organizations, the U.S. Congress, U.S. Government agencies, partner countries and other donors to research and track U.S. Government foreign assistance investments in an accessible and easy-to-understand format. It was initiated by the Department of State and USAID under the policy guidance of the National Security Staff and is accessible here: http://foreignassistance.gov/Default.aspx.

[2] ODA is a subset of total U.S. Government foreign assistance, which is defined as tangible or intangible resources (goods, services, and/or funds) provided by the U.S. Government to a foreign country or an international organization for the purpose of assistance to foreign entities or populations as authorized under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, or any other Act. These resources include, but are not limited to, any training, service, or technical advice; any item of real, personal or mixed property; any agricultural commodity; and United States dollars and any foreign currency owned by the U.S. Government.

2. What are the exclusions from publication?

Exceptions and constraints: general rules that exclude activities from being published. *Any specific data item exclusions should be listed in the data tables (Organisation data tab and Activity data tab).*
Thresholds *(are there any thresholds on the value of activities or transactions to be published. Please specify what the*
No.
Exclusions *(Please identify any rules for excluding data or information that will either be applied automatically or used*

It is the policy of the U.S. Government, per OMB Bulletin 12-01, for agencies to have a strong presumption in favor of openness. The guidance does provide the following principled exceptions: a) When public disclosure threatens national security interests; b) When public disclosure is likely to jeopardize the personal safety of U.S. personnel or recipients of U.S. resources; c) When public disclosure would interfere with the agency's ability to effectively discharge its ongoing responsibilities in foreign assistance activities; d) When there are legal constraints on the disclosure of business or proprietary information of non-governmental organizations, contractors, or private sector clients; e) When the laws or regulations of a recipient country apply to a bilateral agreement and restrict access to information; or f) When data reveal private information about individuals that must be kept confidential consistent with ethical guidelines and federal regulations. When examining information that falls within these categories, USG agencies have sufficient flexibility to protect sensitive information from disclosure, on a case-by-case basis, in order to protect against potential harm while maintaining a strong presumption in favor of transparency. To ensure that these exceptions are rarely applied, and are used appropriately and consistent with the presumption of openness, agencies will maintain specific case-by-case justifications for all instances of reliance on the principled exceptions established in this section.
Any general issues or other constraints

3. How will data be published?

Information for prospective users of information	
Licensing (Under which license will data be published: public domain or attribution? If the license does not meet the IATI standard please specify why. Please state whether you intend to use the IATI authorized license or another)	
Licence type	*Narrative*
Public domain	
Definition of an activity and multi-level activities (How is an activity defined e.g. projects and programmes, or some other structure? Do you have multi-tiered project structures e.g. projects and sub-projects or components? At which level do you intend to publish details (e.g. transactions)?)	
Multi-level activities reported?	*Narrative*
No	For the United States, each record (row or data entry) is an activity. U.S. reporting does not have a multi-tiered project structure.
Segmenting data for publication (The recommendation is to publish data segmented by country i.e. one data file for each country. Duplicate project data must not exist within different files, so projects targeting multiple countries or regional/worldwide by nature should be held within a non-country specific file(s). Is this a practical suggestion for your programme? How many projects are not specific to one country and what non-country files best suit your programme?)	
Segmentation	*Narrative*
Other	Forward looking organizational data and quarterly activity data will be published both as one file and separately for each country. Final verified data will be published separately for each country.
Do you intend to provide a user interface in addition to raw IATI data? (Will IATI data be accessible for end users through an existing or a new user interface on your website? [Note: this is not an IATI requirement])	
User interface?	*Narrative*
No	Detailed data on U.S. ODA and foreign assistance flows is available to the public for free at the following sites: (1) Foreign Assistance Dashboard - http://foreignassistance.gov/ (2) U.S. Overseas Loans and Grants - http://gbk.eads.usaidallnet.gov/ (3) U.S. Official Development Assistance Database - http://usoda.eads.usaidallnet.gov/ (4) OECD/DAC's International Development Statistics (IDS) online databases on aid and other resource flows - www.oecd.org/dac/stats/idsonline

Organisation

Note: definitions and code lists can be four
http://iatistandard.org/organisation-stand

Note: For further information or support please go to the Knowledge Base:
http://support.iatistandard.org/forums

Information Area	Status	Publication date	Exclusions & Thresholds	Exclusion category	Data provider definition	Publication notes
Annual forward planning budget data for agency	Partially compliant	Feb-13	Multi-year forward projections are included to the extent permitted by U.S. federal law and regulation. At the end of February each year, the U.S. Government will publish annual, 1-year forward planning budget data on a fiscal year basis. The U.S. Government fiscal year is 1 October through 30 September.	d) Other	Data will be provided by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Assistance Dashboard from the President's Budget Submission (see definition provided below).	Data can only be reported for agencies that have requested foreign assistance in the budget submission.
Annual forward planning budget for funded institutions	Partially compliant	Feb-13	Multi-year forward projections are included to the extent permitted by U.S. federal law and regulation. At the end of February each year, the U.S. Government will publish annual, 1-year forward planning budget data on a fiscal year basis. The U.S. Government fiscal year is 1 October through 30 September. Includes information on contributions to certain IFIs (*roughly 100% of multilateral ODA*).	d) Other	Data will be provided by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Assistance Dashboard from the President's Budget Submission.	
Annual forward planning budget data for countries	Partially compliant	Feb-13	Multi-year forward projections are included to the extent permitted by U.S. federal law and regulation. At the end of February each year, the U.S. Government will publish annual, 1-year forward planning budget data on a fiscal year basis. The U.S. Government fiscal year is 1 October through 30 September. This will include information on appropriations representing approximately 70% of total ODA.	d) Other	Data will be provided by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Assistance Dashboard from the U.S. Foreign Operations Congressional Budget Justification (see definition provided below).	Approximately 70% of ODA is requested and appropriated by recipient country.

Organisation documents	Partially compliant	Feb-13	Multi-year forward projections are included to the extent permitted by U.S. federal law and regulation. At the end of February each year, the U.S. Government will publish annual, 1-year forward planning budget data on a fiscal year basis. The U.S. Government fiscal year is 1 October through 30 September.	d) Other	Data will be provided by the U.S. Department of State, Foreign Assistance Dashboard from the President's Budget Submission and the U.S. Foreign Operations Congressional Budget Request.	The Dashboard will have links to agency websites for more specific assistance information.

For more information on the U.S. Government's budget process see: http://foreignassistance.gov/AboutTheBudgetProcess.aspx

The President's Budget Submission: The Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires that the President of the United States submit to Congress, on or before the first Monday in February of each year, a detailed budget request for the whole of government for the coming federal fiscal year, which begins on October 1. The President's Budget Submission is prepared by the President and the President's Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

The Congressional Budget Justification: The Congressional Budget Justification (CBJ) is the annual presentation to the Congress that justifies the entire budget request of an agency and reflects the continuing process to provide improved strategic focus, data quality, and information on topics of greater Congressional interest. The CBJ also includes the Annual Performance Report for the prior fiscal year and the Annual Performance Plan for the upcoming fiscal year. Each agency develops detailed budgets that submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The OMB then forwards the proposals to Congress in the form of Congressional Budget Justification Books (CBJBs).

Activities

Note: definitions and code lists can be found at: http://iatistandard.org/activities-standard

Note: For further information or support please go to the Knowledge http://support.iatistandard.org/forums

Introductory Note:

Twenty seven agencies of the United States Government provide foreign assistance. In addition to data elements elaborated below, each has the opportunity to provide additional information regarding their unique budget processes, frequently asked questions, terminology definitions, data clarifications, and any other supplemental information (e.g., results or geo-spatial data) that will aid the public in better understanding and interpreting the agency's information, including links to its website.

Information Area	Status	Publication date	Exclusions & Thresholds	Exclusion category	Data provider definition	Publication notes
Identification						
Reporting Organization	Fully compliant	May-13				
IATI activity identifier	Partially compliant	May-13			For quarterly activity-level data, this will be the implementing mechanism ID. An implementing mechanism is a legally binding relationship established between the U.S. Government implementing agency and an implementing agent to carry out U.S. Government-funded programs. Types of implementing mechanisms include grants, cooperative agreements, contracts and U.S. Government employees providing direct technical assistance. The Implementing Mechanism ID is the unique identifier for the implementing mechanism.	For complete, verified data, this will be the CRSID number.
Other activity identifiers	Partially compliant	May-13			Disbursing agency code.	

Basic Activity Information						
Activity Title (Agency language)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Activity Title (Recipient language)	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Activity Description (Agency language)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Activity Description (Recipient language)	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Activity Status	Fully compliant	May-13				
Activity Dates (Start Date)	Partially compliant	May-13				Not all activities will have start dates.
Activity Dates (End Date)	Partially compliant	May-13				Not all activities will have end dates.
Activity Contacts	Partially compliant	May-13				Individual names will not be published, however general agency points of points of contact will be provided.
Participating Organization (Funding)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Participating Organization (Extending)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Participating Organization (Implementing)	Fully compliant	May-13			Channel of delivery	

Participating Organization (Accountable)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Geopolitical Information						
Recipient Country	Fully compliant	May-13				
Recipient Region	Partially compliant	May-13				For the reporting of quarterly activity data, programs/activities not allocated to a specific country will be assigned to a "catch-all" field for non-country specific assistance (world not specified). DAC-defined regional grouping codes will not be available until complete, verified OECD/DAC CRS data is finalized.
Sub-national Geographic Location	Under consideration			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		Although not required in the current Dashboard data fields, agencies are advised in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Bulletin 12-01 that in the future they may be required to include location-specific data at the activity level.
Classifications						
Sector (DAC CRS)	Fully compliant	May-13				Preliminary sector information will be available during quarterly reporting of unverified data and will be updated annually when OECD/DAC CRS data is finalized.
Sector (Agency specific)	Fully compliant	May-13				Dashboard framework sector code.

Policy Markers	Partially compliant	Apr-13				Policy markers are assigned to new activities during data verification and quality control procedures and are not available until verified OECD/DAC CRS data is finalized. Therefore, quarterly data will only contain policy markers for on-going activities that have already been reported to the OECD/DAC.
Collaboration Type	Fully compliant	May-13				
Default Flow Type	Fully compliant	May-13				
Default Finance Type	Fully compliant	May-13				
Default Aid Type	Partially compliant	May-13				Initially, types of aid will be assigned to new activities during data verification and quality control procedures and will not be available until verified OECD/DAC CRS data is finalized. Therefore, quarterly data will only contain aid types for on-going activities that have already been reported to the OECD/DAC. By 2015 information on aid type will be available in the quarterly reporting.
Default Tied Aid Status	Partially compliant	May-13				This information may not available for all activities.

Financial						
Activity Budget	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Planned Disbursements	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
(UNDER DEVELOPMENT) Recipient Country Budget Identifier	Under consideration			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Financial Transaction						
Financial transaction (Commitment)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Financial transaction (Disbursement & Expenditure)	Fully compliant	May-13				
Financial transaction (Reimbursement)	Partially compliant	May-13			The Dashboard does not capture reflows (recoveries on grants) within each quarter but rather these flows are netted out in the following quarter.	This information will be available only after complete, verified OECD/DAC CRS data is finalized.
Financial transaction (Incoming Funds)	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Financial transaction (Loan repayment / interest repayment)	Fully compliant	May-14				
Related Documents						
Activity Documents	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Activity Website	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		

Related Activity	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Performance						
Conditions attached Y/N	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Text of Conditions	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		
Results data	Under consideration			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost		Although not required in the current Dashboard data fields, agencies are advised in the Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) Bulletin 12-01 that in the future they may be required to make performance metrics or documents available.