IATI Implementation Schedule for: United States Government

IATI Organisation Identifier: USG

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

Version: 1 **Date:** December 2012

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 found at: 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	Associated U.S. Government Data Field
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.	Request Year Request Amount USG Agency Name
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.		Request Year Request Amount Name of international organization
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.	(Request) Country / Region / Office
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).

<u>The Congressional Budget Justification</u>: 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	Associated U.S. Government Data Field
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. 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.	Implementing Mechanism ID
Other activity identifiers	Partially compliant	May-13			Disbursing agency code.		
Basic Activity Information							
Activity Title (Agency language)	Fully compliant	May-13					Implementing Mechanism Title
Activity Title (Recipient language)	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost			

Activity Description (Agency language)	Fully compliant	May-13					Implementing Mechanism Purpose Statement
Activity Description (Recipient language)	Unable to publish			c) Not currently captured and prohibitive cost			
Activity Status	Fully compliant	May-13					Current Status as of Reporting Date
Activity Dates (Start Date)	Partially compliant	May-13				Not all activities will have start dates.	Start Date
Activity Dates (End Date)	Partially compliant	May-13				Not all activities will have end dates.	End Date
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					Appropriated agency / Obligating agency
Participating Organization (Extending)	Fully compliant	May-13					Disbursing agency
Participating Organization (Implementing)	Fully compliant	May-13			Channel of delivery		Implementing agency
Participating Organization (Accountable)	Fully compliant	May-13					Implementing agency
Geopolitical Information							
Recipient Country	Fully compliant	May-13					Benefitting Country/Region/Office

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.	Benefitting Country/Region/Office
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.	U.S. Sector Framework Code DAC Sector Codes
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					Collaboration Type

Default Flow Type	Fully compliant	May-13					DAC Classification
Default Finance Type	Fully compliant	May-13					Funding Type
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.	Implementing Mechanism Type
Default Tied Aid Status	Partially compliant	May-13				This information may not available for all activities.	Tying Status of Award
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					Obligation Amount Obligating Agency
Financial transaction (Disbursement & Expenditure)	Fully compliant	May-13					Disbursement Amount Disbursing Agency

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.	