CLEARANCE SLIP FOR GLOBAL PROJECT DOCUMENTS AND AMENDMENTS

Project No	00080578
Project Title	International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Secretariat – Fostering the maintenance and update of the IATI Standard, promoting use of data at country level and providing policy advice and service to IATI governing bodies.
Business Unit	UNDP1
Project Manager	Annelise Parr, IATI Coordinator
Nature of submission (please check)	☐ New development project ☐ Substantive amendment ☐ Standard budget revision increase and/or extension ☒ Engagement Facility ☐ Project Initiation Plan
Cleared by Team Head/OIC: Confirming that the project and/or amendment meets corporate quality standards.	*Margaret Thomas* _____ _____ *Margaret Thomas, Head, Effectiveness Team* *Date*
Comments/ Additional information from submitting unit:	The team is seeking an extension of the IATI Secretariat project for the period April – Dec 2020. The new Engagement Facility request will be for the period 1 January 2021 – December 2022. The workplan and budget will be updated upon approval of the IATI Board.
Cleared by Directorate/Programme: *[Directorate clearance not required for standard revision increases and/or project extensions].* Confirming that document has been reviewed and due process has been followed.	*Aurelie Boukobza* _____ _____ *Aureli Boukobza, Team Leader* *Date* *Programme Management and Results*
Cleared by Directorate/Operations: Confirming that the management arrangements are adequately defined, the budget takes into account the management and operational needs for implementing the project.	*for use in official UN documents* _____ _____ *Yuna Badaker, Team Leader* *Date* *Operations Management*
Cleared with notes and conditions (if any):	

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Engagement Facility

Project Title:	International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) Secretariat
Expected SP Outcome(s):	Quality programmes and managing for results allow UNDP to contribute effectively to Agenda 2030
Expected SP Output(s):	Evidence based performance, cross-cutting approaches, knowledge and innovation
Start/End Dates:	1 January 2021 – 31 December 2022
Implementing Partner:	UNDP – Bureau for Policy and Programme Support

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Brief Description

The International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) is a voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiative that seeks to increase the transparency of data and results on development and humanitarian resource flows. IATI was launched at the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Accra in 2008 and was designed to support donors in meeting their Accra commitments on transparency and simultaneously serve the information needs of developing countries to enable the planning and management of national budgets based on more accurate and timely information. IATI brings together donor and partner countries, civil society organizations, and private sector actors, among other experts in aid information management, open data, and transparency.

IATI is overseen by a multi-stakeholder Governing Board, who directs the initiative on behalf of the IATI membership. A Consortium led by UNDP, in consultation with partners at UNOPS and the UK-based international development organization Development Initiatives (DI) operationalizes IATI's annual work plan under the direction of the Board and membership.

This engagement facility is established to support UNDP's role as coordinator of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), a global initiative established in 2008 to improve the transparency of development and humanitarian resources and their results for addressing poverty and crises.

IATI's budget and workplan are established annually by its Governing Board and members and this document refers to the 2020 budget and workplan. It will be updated to add 2021 details once these are available. UNOPS' donor reports for the entire project are available in published annual reports here

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Atlas Project Number:	00080578	
Atlas Output ID:	00090233	

Total resources required	1,331,315
Total allocated resources:	
• Regular	
• Other:	
o UNOPS	1,011,468
Unfunded budget:	
In-kind Contributions	319,927

Agreed by UNDP:

Adriana Dinu

Adriana Dinu, Deputy Assistant Administrator/Deputy Director, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support

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Engagement Facility - International Aid Transparency Initiative

This paper sets out the background and establishes UNDP's use of the Engagement Facility as a modality for managing project 00090233, IATI Secretariat.

Contents

What is IATI: Strategic Objectives and Governance arrangements

IATI is a global initiative established in 2008 to improve the transparency of development and humanitarian resources and their results for addressing poverty and crises. Through a Secretariat managed by UNDP, IATI works to deliver the strategic objectives set out in the IATI Strategic Plan 2020 - 25. These mutually reinforcing objectives are: improving the quality of IATI data that is published; promoting the use of data by development and humanitarian actors; and strengthening IATI's Data Standard and reinvigorating its community of publishers and members. These objectives are crucial in helping IATI achieve its vision: that transparent, good quality information on development resources and results is available and used by all stakeholder groups to help achieve sustainable development outcomes.

IATI's Governing Board is made up of seven members representing providers of development cooperation (The Netherlands; UNICEF), partner countries (Nepal; Nigeria) and civil society, non-governmental and private sector organisations (Oxfam Novib, Association of Freelance Journalists). The Board also includes one technical representative (Sida). The members of the Board appoint IATI's Chair (currently a representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands) and Vice Chair (currently a representative from the Ministry of Finance of Nigeria), who chair both the Governing board and the Members' Assembly. More information on the governance of the initiative is available on its website https://iatistandard.org/en/governance/who-runs-iati/.

Setting the context: Transparency as a global and UN commitment

Through successive global political commitments from the Paris Declaration (2005) and Accra Agenda for Action (2008), leading up to the Busan Agreement (2011) and later the Grand Bargain that emerged from the World Humanitarian Summit (2015), calls for global action on transparency have become more urgent, while the positive impacts of increasing transparency have become more compelling. UNDP has been a leader in aid effectiveness throughout this time, putting practical steps in place to strengthen efforts to increase transparency, leading to greater effectiveness of global aid resources.

Through its coordinating role in IATI, UNDP has the opportunity and position to advocate for key UN policy decisions in relation to transparency and accountability.

UN reform and UN data standards

In 2017, the UN Secretary-General included clear support for the use of the IATI Standard as a basis for strengthening transparency and accountability across the UN Development System, within his _Report on Shifting the management paradigm in the United Nations: ensuring a better future for all_ https://undocs.org/A/72/492 with a commitment to publish _"comprehensive, real-time and easily accessible transaction-level information about United Nations operations relating to the Sustainable Development Goals, using the standards established by the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)...".

UNDP's recognised coordinating role within IATI was a strong driver behind this clear commitment, and the support and expertise available from UNDP to UN agencies working towards publishing their data using IATI remain important in ensuring the commitment is implemented. Thanks to UNDP's advocacy and technical support, 17 UN entities are already publishing data in IATI, and UNDP is further supporting the UN Secretariat in finalising the technical work required to enable all remaining UN Secretariat entities to do the same in 2020.

In 2018/19 UNDP worked closely with the Ad hoc team on the UN Data Cube initiative to establish and receive agreement from both the High Level Committee on Management (HLCM) and UNSDG for six data standards for UN System-wide reporting of financial data https://www.unsceb.org/CEBPublicFiles/UN_DataStandards_Digital_Final.pdf. Through UNDP's efforts, IATI was included as one of the six standards that contribute to the Funding Compact for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

History of UNDP's engagement in IATI

UNDP has been at the forefront of the UN's transparency efforts through its work hosting Secretariats for the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC), and for the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). Work is led in both projects by the Effectiveness Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.

The Secretariat of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) has been hosted under a consortium arrangement since September 2013 with UNDP in the coordinating role, since it was selected through a competitive process and took over from IATI's original hosts, the Department for

International Development (DfID). UNDP leads and coordinates the day to day work of the Secretariat, with UNOPS taking care of financial and administrative aspects, and the international development organisation Development Initiatives based in the UK, which handles the technical work of maintaining the IATI Standard and providing support to IATI publishers. In addition to overseeing and guiding the work across the Secretariat, UNDP prepares strategic advice and policy support for the governance bodies of IATI, leads work on communications, outreach, partnership and communication, and provides policy analysis and support to partner country stakeholders in IATI, leading efforts to increase data use.

Links to UNDP Strategic Plan

UNDP's own adherence to IATI is anchored in the IRRF that accompanies UNDP's Strategic Plan 2018-21, which contains the following statement: *Reflecting its commitment to accountability and transparency, UNDP will continue to publish project and financial information, including IRRF results, consistent with the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI).* Whilst the IATI Secretariat works to promote greater access, awareness and use of IATI data with national government actors at country level, UNDP also uses its IATI publishing more widely within the organisation to ground its own project management, knowledge sharing and reporting.

Funding of IATI through membership contributions

IATI's multi-stakeholder membership body comprises 94 organisations including donor governments and multilateral organisations (of which 12 UN agencies), 31 partner country governments, foundations, international NGOs, national CSOs and national networks, development finance institutions and academia. Each of these pays an annual membership fee, with current rates for smaller NGO members and Partner Country Government members set at $1,100 - $2,200 annually, rising to a top rate of $85,000 which is paid by the category of *Providers of Development Cooperation* making up more than one third of members (38, including 12 UN agencies). Members sign off on each annual budget envelope based on the recommendation of the Governing Board. IATI's Standard Operating Procedures contain the basis for calculation of the annual membership contribution (with reference to the number of members at 1 August of the preceding year) and provisions for adjustments in the level of the annual contribution. In addition to required annual contributions, members make voluntary contributions from time to time to sponsor particular activities such as the holding of large community meetings. The IATI Governing Board provides close oversight, reviewing income and expenditure by the Secretariat on a quarterly basis and reporting back to members annually.

IATI financial management

IATI's annual budget is determined by the IATI Governing Board and approved by its members. Membership has increased steadily, and contribution levels have remained stable for the past [3] years. Members agreed in 2019 to retain the same contribution for a further three years up to 2022. Income from membership contributions and carry-over from previous years is projected to reach $3.28m in 2020. The budget has increased year upon year since 2013, with unspent funds rolled over into subsequent years.

Fund management

UNOPS collects membership contributions from 94 members and disburses funds to consortium partners UNDP and Development Initiatives, based on the approved annual budget. UNDP and UNOPS have established a UN to UN agreement in relation to the funds transferred annually to UNDP, and the agreement is renewed each year.

Under the guidance of UNDP as Secretariat Coordinator, UNOPS prepares annual financial reports following UN Financial Rules and Regulations and makes these available through IATI's Annual Reports, published online on the IATI website.

UNDP allocation from IATI Trust Fund

UNDP receives funds for activities and project personnel from the IATI Trust Fund held by UNOPS, to implement activities across the eight workstreams identified in the IATI work plan. Activities include local and international consultants, UNDP staff on TA contracts, minor equipment purchases, workshops, conferences, learning events, and associated travel.

Demonstrating its strategic commitment to transparency, UNDP also contributes by funding a staff member, and in recognition of this in-kind contribution it does not pay an organisational membership contribution to the initiative.

Risk management

The IATI Governing Board maintains and regularly reviews a formal risk register ahead of its quarterly Board meetings, recommending appropriate actions to manage or mitigate risks. In addition to risks to the wider initiative, UNDP may also face risks related to its own ability to continue to deliver results for a multi-stakeholder initiative in the current environment in which planned travel to partner countries cannot now be undertaken.

At the Secretariat Consortium level, principals from each partner organisation meet on a quarterly basis and undertake a management review that includes examining risks likely to impact delivery or organisational reputation, and takes appropriate actions to manage identified risks. These actions have included cancellation of all planned travel in 2020 and likely much of 2021, with alternative activities taking place virtually.

UNDP project management arrangements

At UNDP, the IATI Secretariat was established as project 00090233 with a full project board in 2013, under the authority of Magdy Martinez-Soliman, BDP Director at that time. The Project Manager has provided annual QA updates through UNDP's Atlas, but has not convened a UNDP Project Board meeting. This approach was taken to avoid duplication of the existing robust governance and oversight of the overall IATI Secretariat by its Board and members. Nonetheless, establishing a new Engagement Facility mechanism will provide the level of internal oversight necessary to regularise the IATI Secretariat project and serve as a continuing tool for internal monitoring of the project, along with the stringent external monitoring by IATI Governance bodies on the basis of the Results Framework for its Strategic Plan.

IATI Workplan

Period: 01 January 2020 to 31 December 2020

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Partner Country Analysis and Support *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Deep-dive country analysis to better understand the collection, management, and use of development finance information at the national level to inform how the Standard should be changed and how partner country data needs can be better met in order to enable greater IATI data use at the national level.		10,000	10,000	10,000	UNDP	UNOPS	Four one-week country missions to map the processes that partner country governments use for collecting, managing, and using external development finance data; assess data needs and data gaps, and ground truth findings of IATI/AIMS comparison	30,000
	Personnel Support	19,866	19,866	19,866	19,866	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	79,464
Improve the Quality of IATI Data *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Personnel Support	7,263	7,263	7,263	7,263	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	29,053

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Promote Systematic Data Use *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Facilitation of the Data Use Task Force and Data Use Fund to increase the use of IATI data across the development and humanitarian communities.		45,000	45,000	45,000	UNDP	UNOPS	Data Use Fund replenishment to $250,000, based on DUTF proposal. Administration of Requests for Proposals	135,000
	Priority users of data better understand how to access and use IATI data relevant to their specific context.				20,000	UNDP	UNOPS	Produce content, design and translate training materials (e.g. videos, courses, guidance materials)	20,000
	Personnel Support	16,450	16,450	16,450	16,450	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	65,802
Strengthen the IATI Community *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Establishment of digital infrastructure to support the COPs and other knowledge-sharing needs of the IATI community.		80,000			UNDP	UNOPS	Deliver digital platform to support COPs, WGs, and peer-learning / knowledge-sharing. Q1 TOR, Q2 deliver	80,000
				21,000	21,000	UNDP	UNOPS	Short-term consultant (6 mos) to support building of digital infrastructure and manage the initial needs of the COPs including migration where applicable.	42,000
	Personnel Support	16,450	16,450	16,450	16,450	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	65,802
Communications *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Stakeholders at all levels receive targeted, relevant and up to date information on IATI.		10,000			UNDP	UNOPS	Use existing user journey research and engage Information architecture / UX specialist to scope ways to strengthen IATI website design for key stakeholders. Informs website improvement activity in 2021	10,000

| EXPECTED OUTPUTS | PLANNED ACTIVITIES | TIMEFRAME | | | | RESPONSIBLE PARTY | PLANNED BUDGET | | |
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
	Personnel Support	14,350	14,350	14,350	14,350	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	57,400
Outreach *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Personnel Support	16,450	16,450	16,450	16,450	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist	65,802
Institutional Arrangements *Baseline:* *Indicators:* *Targets:* *Related CP outcome:*	Internal capacity building Secretariat	42,000				UNDP	UNOPS	Consultancy support to finalise methodology for SP Results Framework and establish baselines (links to 8c on monitoring)	42,000
	Management of the Secretariat strengthened through robust project management tools.	500	500	500	500	UNDP	UNOPS	Subscription costs for project management tools	2,000
	Secretariat Travel	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	UNDP	UNOPS	Secretariat Team travel	60,000
	Personnel Support	38,055	38,055	38,055	38,055	UNDP	UNOPS	Personnel Costs: Monitoring Analyst and Communications,Outreach, Partnership and Engagement Specialist and Project Management Analyst	152,220
TOTAL									936,544

- 319,927 - In-kind personnel support provided to the programme by the IATI Coordinator and Chief of the Effectiveness Group
- 74,924 USD – 8% GMS