

IATI TAG 2018 meeting proposal

Kathmandu, Nepal, Tuesday 13 - Thursday 15 November 2018

Introduction

The annual Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting is being planned for 13-15 November 2018 in Nepal. The TAG brings together technical experts, open data advocates, IATI data publishers and users from across the world.

Meeting proposal - your feedback needed

This paper explores the key themes and objectives for the TAG 2018 meeting. By **Monday 17 September 2018** we are asking you to:

1. *Comment:* Provide any comments/additions you have on the proposed objectives and themes for the event on the [Discuss forum thread](#).
2. *Start planning sessions:* Begin considering ideas for your organisation to run a session at the event based on the TAG 2018 themes and objectives. These could involve workshops, networking events, presentations, hackathons or new ways of engaging participants. The more interactive, the better!

Next steps

After your comments have been reviewed, IATI will open the process to submit proposals to run TAG 2018 sessions. The submission process will involve completing a short online form. We will also open the registration process for participants and encourage you to spread the word about the meeting to your networks.

We look forward to an engaging, enjoyable and productive meeting. For any questions email: info@iatistandard.org.

Core objective: Using IATI data in a country context

We propose that the TAG 2018 focuses on achieving our initiative's key mission objective: the routine use of IATI data to help achieve sustainable development.

Over 1,000,000 development and humanitarian activities have been published using the IATI Standard from over 800 organisations. The TAG 2018 will bring together participants to engage in sessions that will help increase the use of this data, specifically in a country context.

Focusing on data user needs - four themes

This meeting proposal involves each session at the TAG 2018 covering a specific data user need, split into one of four themes (sessions may cover more than one of the themes):

1. Learning and Evidence

This theme will look at how users can understand what development and humanitarian interventions have been implemented in the past. Users can include investors, policymakers, or academics who are keen to understand and learn what has worked/not worked. For example:

- Using IATI data to find past projects (by sector, policy, location etc)
- Using results data that has been published on past projects to understand its impact or outcome(s).

2. Planning and Coordination

This theme will look at using IATI to understand what current and future activities and spending is being delivered to help harmonise and compliment the implementation of interventions. For example:

- Using sub-national and geo-locations of active projects
- Understanding which networks/organisation are at work in your sector (e.g. health, education, etc.) and policy areas (e.g. gender)
- Using IATI data in response to humanitarian crises
- Accessing further information on projects (through project documents and other data sources)

3. *Government national systems*

This theme will look at how governments can use IATI data in their internal systems to support the management of external resource flows in the country. For example:

- Understanding IATI data on forward-looking budgets
- Using data on the Sustainable Development Goals
- Understanding the conditions on resources e.g. loans vs grants
- Developing an approach to incorporating IATI into Aid Information Management Systems
- Exploring how IATI data could be used in other financial internal systems e.g. Country PFMS (Public Financial Management Systems)

4. *Accountability*

This theme will look at how data can be used to hold decision makers and implementers of development and humanitarian activities to account. Participants in this theme are wide-ranging, from journalists, to Civil Society Organisations or Parliamentarians.

- Using data to tell stories
- Improving traceability: tracking resources through complex delivery chains from donors to implementation on the ground
- Using data to help review the transparency/commitment to open data of governments, donors and other organisations operating in the development and humanitarian sectors

Overcoming data use challenges - five objectives

[IATI's Data Use Strategy 2017-19](#) has outlined 5 main challenges that prevent data users from being able to use IATI data. When planning sessions, organisations will need to identify which of the following five challenges will be explored to improve a particular user need theme (read [strategy](#) for more information):

Objective 1: Raise awareness of IATI as a source of aid data and develop a common understanding of the priority needs of different user groups.

Objective 2: Improve data quality in order to facilitate use, and assure users of its reliability, including through the development of feedback mechanisms.

Objective 3: Improve existing tools and develop new, user-friendly tools that help multiple actors access and use IATI data;

Objective 4: Improve guidance, training and support for specific user groups;

Objective 5: Promote integration of IATI data into partner country aid systems and processes.

Proposed session matrix

We are proposing to use a matrix in which organisations indicate which themes and objectives that their session(s) will address. Please provide feedback if you have any other options that you would like us to consider.

	Cross-check to 5 data use objectives (tick boxes)				
User need theme	Awareness	Quality	Tools	Guidance	Country systems
Learning and Evidence					
Planning and coordination					
National systems					
Accountability					

Meeting participants needs

As well achieving the event's core objective, the TAG 2018 needs to ensure it appeals to a wide range of participants within the IATI TAG community. We are currently planning how we ensure a mix of sessions to appeal to different stakeholders and are very keen to hear your additional thoughts/ideas on the following:

Participants needs	
New to IATI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What data is in the Standard? ● What data has been published (e.g. analysis of 1,000,000 activities presentation)? ● How can I sell these to my internal colleagues (for different stakeholders)? ● How/should I publish good data? ● How can I access the data (e.g. tools sessions)?
Technical experts: Improvements to the IATI Standard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Deprecation of version 1 ● Validation - rule set discussions ● Improving publishing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SDGs - Hierarchies - Budgets - Geo-locations - Organisations identifiers ● Any outstanding 2.03 bugs/issues ● New upgrade process <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integer - Decimal ● Codelist Management Process
Showcasing your organisation's work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Opportunities for community to showcase their work on new tools, training and support and other activities
Networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase networking opportunities at the TAG e.g. through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speed dating

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Evening social- Randomised Coffee Trials
Enhancing understanding of users needs to inform future work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Using the meeting to further understand user needs to inform future IATI work (including change the standard, improving tools etc)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What data do you need to do your job?- What is working well?- What needs improving in the Standard/tools/support