

# IATI Newsletter

## WELCOME

Dear all

Welcome to the April newsletter for the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI). These monthly newsletters aim to keep you up to date with developments in taking forward the IATI, and to alert you to upcoming events.

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### 1. Second IATI Steering Committee Meeting 2 April

The 2<sup>nd</sup> IATI Steering Committee Meeting was held in Paris on 2 April. There was strong participation from Steering Committee members and observers, including partner countries. The meeting discussed the draft IATI scoping study prepared by Development Initiatives for Poverty Research (DIPR); discussed plans for IATI; and received a presentation from TR-AID.

The Steering Committee agreed that short term priorities for IATI are: agreeing what information donors should publish; developing a code of conduct; conducting more detailed assessments of donor systems; and assessing the costs and benefits involved with complying with the likely IATI standards. The Steering Committee also agreed that the IATI conference originally scheduled for June should be postponed to autumn 2009 to enable higher level participation and more time for effective stakeholder consultations.

### 2. New IATI website and communications materials

The IATI has a new website, available at [www.aidtransparency.net](http://www.aidtransparency.net). Information on the aims and objectives of IATI, key documents, and updates on progress will be available on the website shortly. As agreed during the first Steering Committee meeting in November 2008, all meeting minutes will also be published on the website.

IATI also has a new logo. We have short briefing documents and posters available for distributing at events or with stakeholders. Please e-mail [r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk) if you would like hard or soft copies of any of these documents.

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## 3. Update on the Technical Advisory Group

As announced at the Steering Committee, Brian Hammond ([brian.w.hammond@btinternet.com](mailto:brian.w.hammond@btinternet.com)) has been appointed as Chair of the TAG. Simon Parrish ([SimonP@devinit.org](mailto:SimonP@devinit.org)) and Hannah Glanville ([hannah@devinit.org](mailto:hannah@devinit.org)) provide the Secretariat. They have been working with Brian to develop a work plan and timetable for the TAG, which will be circulated early next week. There will be 5 workstreams, each with a team leader. The Secretariat are in contact with potential team leaders. The workstreams are: 1. **Scope**, Definitions and Classifications (parts 1 and 2 of the IATI standard); 2. Data Formats and Technical Architecture (leader Simon Parrish – part 3 of the standard); 3. Code of conduct and setting the standard (part 4 of the standard); 4. Donor assessments and support (leader Brian Hammond); and 5. Accessibility and capacity building. It is planned to have a meeting of team leaders in London on 12 May and of the wider TAG in the first week of the June. Once the work plan has issued, those who wish to join and have not yet made a nomination for the TAG are invited to send one to Hannah indicating which workstream(s) they wish to join.

## 4. Final draft IATI scoping study now available

A final version of the IATI scoping paper has been drafted by DIPR, taking on board comments made by a number of key stakeholders. As before, the feedback received was very positive, and we would like to thank all of those who took the trouble to comment on the draft. The scoping paper will now be used as the major input for planned consultation meetings with partner countries and CSOs. As well as being available on the IATI website [www.aidtransparency.net](http://www.aidtransparency.net), a version allowing chapter-by-chapter comment will be posted on the aidinfo website ([www.aidinfo.org](http://www.aidinfo.org)) by the middle of May.

## 5. IATI budget: call for contributions

Many thanks to those who have already offered funds for the IATI budget (Finland, Netherlands, Ireland, Spain, UK.) We still have a funding gap of around £200,000 (220,000 euro), so further contributions are welcome. This funding is required to conduct high quality partner country consultations and to fund the technical analysis and research which underpins IATI. Please contact [r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk) if you are able to contribute.

## UNTIL NEXT TIME

If you have any information you'd like to share in the next newsletter, or have any colleagues who would like to join this list, please e-mail [r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:r-greenhill@dfid.gov.uk)

Best Regards,

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