IATI Workshop

How can you COMMUNICATE your IATI data? What are the benefits?

1. Internal/External communications and benefits:

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| Internal Communications | External Communications |
| * Give regular, quarterly notifications of update to all staff:
	+ Show progress against identifiers
	+ E-mail for whole network meeting for central staff
	+ Clarify position on the ground
	+ On the ground updates, no of beneficiaries etc.
* Make sure it’s in process notes /handover (internal knowledge management)
 | * Updating website project info, regularly
* Infographics e.g. maps
* Impact reports
* Donor stewardship Communications
* Incorporate in all periodic reports
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| Benefits (communications) | Benefits (other) |
| * Improved transparency and effectiveness
* Increased public confidence/accountability
* Increased credibility – especially when applying for new funds
* Additional data source to supplement audited account
* Necessary for specific funders
* Better internal understanding of institutional funding
* To improve external communications
 | * Robust data reporting
* Standardisation
* Raises standards of project reporting across the organisation
* Ensure good practice in closing off projects
* Identifies opportunities and gaps in terms of programmes and funding/funders
* Compare and learn from others and improve your own projects
* Ensures projects are in line with vision/mission
* Collaboration between sector peers
* Addresses political pressure to be transparent
* Increase NGOs visibility
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1. What are the potential RISKS of publishing your data to IATI?
* Confidentiality - sensitive/political data
* Data incomplete or obsolete (risk to reputation)
* Controversial - i.e. being seen to take sides in a conflict area by funding one partner and not another
* Lack of organisation buy-in
	+ Capacity issues in maintaining publishing every 3 months
	+ Cost of implementing IATI – time, coordination
	+ Constrained resources – staff time – plan and automate process (inc in budget)
	+ Staff turnover, loss of IATI knowledge within the organisation, time to rebuild this
	+ Expertise gaps – collection, quality, analysis, presentation
* Difficult to compare organisation’s data – potentially misleading/ineffective
* Validation and data quality/publishing incorrect data
* Makes stakeholder advocacy harder – local perceptions and permissions
* High detail level, in just one format
* Local security – expose as a ‘rich’ actor i.e. local perceptions
* Misuse of data, by press / individuals (UK, local level)- Tabloid sensationalism
* Local partner issues:
	+ - * + Tension amongst local partners – open with partners about what you can/can’t do. Keep name of partner anonymous
				+ Publishing partner data (i.e. health and safety, security)
				+ Alienation of some partners, as others are receiving more money (disbursements) in the same project
* Donor issues: different / parallel systems?
	+ - * + Other funders perceiving over funding – justify need for additional funding – pre donor coordination
				+ Incomplete picture – donors making it a requirement for funding

How can we ensure that the PROCESS is sustainable?

* Data/Source (project finance) / Timeline (quarterly)
* Minimum reporting requirement
* Organisational buy-in (SNR MMT)
* Significance of IATI Transparency:
* Make IATI part of organisational data collection and reporting process
* Ensure finance / accounts data is compatible (not just finished DPTs but also programmes )
1. Assign roles with your organisation
2. Decide structure of activities and data (+level of detail/size) (+any requirements of donors)
3. How to extract data from systems, can systems be aligned to make it easier
4. How to publish? Aidstream or other tool?
5. Process for reviewing and improving