

Messages from the International Aid Transparency Initiative: 76th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 76) 14-30 September 2021

In order to meet the UNGA 76 theme of 'recovering from COVID-19 and rebuilding sustainably,' open, transparent data on development and humanitarian activities and progress being made on the ground are critical.



Increased availability and transparency of development cooperation data is not an end in itself, but an essential step towards improving the coordination, accountability and effectiveness of development resources to maximise their impact and support achievement of national (and international) development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and to help the world 'build back better' from the economic and social after-effects of the global pandemic.



Across the world, governments and other development stakeholders are systematically making more (and more relevant) data more open and accessible, providing a valuable asset for social and economic transformation, and increased resiliency. Data collected and shared by these stakeholders, including by publishing to the [International Aid Transparency Initiative \(IATI\)](#), can support positive development outcomes by enhancing service delivery, prioritising scarce resources, holding governments accountable and empowering individual citizens; and supports evidence-based decision-making by development and humanitarian stakeholders.



Transparent, easily accessible, comparable data is crucial, particularly for complex, time-sensitive events such as the COVID-19 pandemic. In these circumstances, using IATI data can strengthen the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief, allowing data users to see which development or humanitarian activities are taking place (and where); which organisations are funding and implementing these activities; and how much money is budgeted, committed and spent. By the middle of 2021, IATI data was available on nearly 15,000 development and humanitarian COVID-19-related activities. Find more information on how to access IATI COVID-19 data [here](#), or by using IATI's [d-portal](#) or the [UNOCHA COVID-19 funding dashboard](#).



Timely, comprehensive and forward-looking data on planned development activities are essential for partner countries to be able to bridge the humanitarian-development divide and ensure they build back sustainably and with national ownership of their respective development agendas. IATI's recently launched [Country Development Finance Data \(CDFD\)](#) tool was designed in close consultation with partner country stakeholders and allows users to download simple, Excel-formatted IATI data on commitments, disbursements and expenditures, as well as forward-looking budgets, presented simply by country and region. CDFD can provide complementary information to partner country governments and other national stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, on which stakeholders are operating in their country.

Join the UNGA virtually!

Check out these online events that may be of interest to the IATI, open data and transparency communities...



15 September,
11am-1pm EST

COVID, Climate and Cooperation: what will it take to fix our fractured world?

Co-hosted by the Financial Times and the United Nations Foundation

The Financial Times, in partnership with the United Nations Foundation, will host a strategic preview of the UNGA, bringing together diverse and insightful speakers to discuss what to expect, what's at stake and why it matters to you.



20-22
September

SDG Business Forum

Co-hosted by the Global Compact, UNDESA, and the International Chamber of Commerce

This CEO-level virtual event will incorporate the themes of several United Nations conferences, including the High-Level Dialogue on Energy, the Food Systems Summit and the Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference, while building momentum for the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26). It will provide a platform for thought leadership, learning and meaningful connection between leaders who are committed to taking action on the goals – and willing to work within and across sectors to achieve them.



21-23 September,
8am EST

Devex @ UNGA 76

Coinciding with the 76th United Nations General Assembly, Devex will convene UN agency heads, government leaders, development practitioners and private sector actors to discuss the most effective ways to build back better from the global COVID-19 pandemic.



17-26
September

Global Goals Week to #ACT4SDGs

Global Goals Week is a shared commitment between 130+ partners across civil society, business, academia and the UN system to accelerate action on the SDGs throughout the UN General Assembly. Join a week of activities to help the international community speak as one voice, and share ideas and transformative solutions in the fight to recover better from global challenges.



20-24
September

Business Fights Poverty Global Goals Summit 2021

A week of interactive events bringing together voices and insights from across the globe, from business, NGOs, academia and government. Access and share the latest thinking on the role of business in tackling the SDGs; and deepen connections and build new relationships to drive forward collaborative action on the SDGs.



22-24
September

World Humanitarian Forum

Convened by the World Humanitarian Forum, this event will provide an invaluable opportunity for humanitarian leaders to join Heads of State, UN Principles and private sector c-level executives to discuss and find solutions to the key issues of today being discussed at the UNGA.



22 September,
10am-4pm EST

UNGA Conference 2021: Transforming Our World

Hosted by the Journalists and Writers' Foundation

The UNGA Conference is the flagship event of the JWF, creating a platform for diverse stakeholders to discuss the 2030 Agenda, and offer innovative solutions, strategies and policy recommendations to advance a culture of peace, human rights and sustainable development. This year's conference will focus on successful implementation of SDG17: Partnerships for the Goals.