

Paper 2: Board Recommendations on Vision and Mission for IATI

Proposals for new vision and mission statements for IATI were developed between December 2015 and May 2016 through an iterative process by the Interim Members Advisory Group and the new Governing Board. Initial drafts were shared in April with a reference group of four members (DG, DI, EC and UNICEF) and the proposals updated based on feedback from that group.

Online consultations were subsequently launched for all members, and comments were received from 17 contributors (4 bilateral organisations, 3 multilateral organisations, 1 foundation, 1 partner country and 8 CSOs) during the consultation period between May 19th and June 6th. The consultations have now closed but contributions can be seen here <http://discuss.iatistandard.org/t/iati-vision-and-mission/472/15>.

Members will be asked to come to consensus in plenary during the June 2016 Members' Assembly meeting on a vision and a mission statement developed based on consultations undertaken with members, and outlined in this paper.

IATI VISION STATEMENT

Members were asked to comment on the two following options, indicating whether they agreed fully or proposed alternative wording:

1. Information on development **cooperation/finance** is transparent, relevant, timely and **available** to all stakeholders in support of efforts to achieve development objectives.
2. Transparent, timely information on development **cooperation/finance** is **used** by all stakeholders to help achieve equitable and sustainable development outcomes.

Analysis of consultations

The majority of contributors favoured a formulation that placed emphasis on efforts to increase data use. Whilst most indicated a preference for Option 2 presented in the paper, many felt that a modified version of the text that included both availability and use of data would better reflect the current objectives and future growth of IATI.

There was a sense among several contributors that the vision should be more ambitious to 'future-proof' the initiative, and including the language of '**equitable and sustainable**' achieved this through its alignment with the SDG agenda, although several members instead suggested to remove one or both qualifiers in order to keep the vision more succinct.

With the outcome of the World Humanitarian Summit Grand Bargain fresh at the time of the consultation, some suggested including a specific reference to humanitarian finance; most however found that 'development finance' was broad enough, although some also suggested 'development resources'. There were some arguments that '**all resources for development**' discussed by members at the December 2015 Steering Committee should be used in place of the term 'development finance', although this view was not shared by the majority of those

who commented (and the rationale provided rather indicated a different interpretation of the terminology rather than a fundamental difference in the proposed scope of IATI)..

The Board has slightly modified Option 2 to take into account the specific comments of over half of those who provided feedback on the two options presented for consultation. It has also developed a new Option 3 to reflect others' feedback. Option 1 was removed due to lack of support.

Modified options for consideration Option 2, modified based on feedback received:

Transparent, timely information on development finance is available and used by all stakeholders to help achieve sustainable development outcomes.

OR

New Option 3

Good quality transparent information on all resources for development is available and used by stakeholders to help achieve sustainable development outcomes.

The two options have in common the “why” - information is available and used by stakeholders to help achieve sustainable development outcomes. They differ only on the proposed description of the “what” - “development finance” or “all resources for development”.

Board Recommendation on Vision

The Governing Board feels that **Option 2** incorporates the majority of the feedback received and represents a vision for IATI that is ambitious while remaining true to its original goals. The recommended language is below:

Transparent, timely information on development finance is available and used by all stakeholders to help achieve sustainable development outcomes.

IATI MISSION STATEMENT

Members were presented with the following three options:

1. IATI data is of high quality, timely, compatible with data related to other types of development finance, and can be used to improve development outcomes.
2. IATI members work together to ensure that IATI data is of high quality, timely, compatible, responds to the needs of all stakeholders, covers as much development finance as possible, and is used to promote equity and the achievement of sustainable development outcomes.
3. The IATI community strives to ensure that development stakeholders can use IATI data of high quality, timely and compatible with other relevant data, as well as effective data-analysis tools, to support the achievement of equitable and sustainable development outcomes.

Specific questions posed to members sought feedback on three elements, namely:

- What IATI members are accountable for (ensuring data can be used, ensuring it is relevant, comprehensive and actually used, providing tools for us);
- Who is the main agent (IATI members or IATI community);
- What type of development outcomes (equitable, sustainable or unqualified development outcomes).

Analysis of consultations

Of the three options presented there was very strong support for Option 2, which members felt went further in the direction of encouraging data use without sacrificing attention to improving the quality of data published.

There was a sense among many commentators that IATI should strive for an ambitious agenda and therefore the type of development outcome should remain unqualified. The term 'development finance' was preferred over development 'cooperation', with contributors split between whether this was too ambitious or not ambitious enough. There was a sense throughout the consultation that whatever the eventual formulation of the mission, it should remain broad enough to 'future-proof' IATI.

Modified options for consideration

Some alternative formulations were suggested and elements of these have been included in a new Option 3 below as an expanded option. Option 1 was removed due to lack of support.

Original Option 2 with minor modifications based on feedback:

The IATI community works together 1) to ensure the quality of IATI data is continually improved and responds to the needs of all stakeholders and 2) to provide access to effective data-analysis tools so that IATI data is used to promote the achievement of sustainable development outcomes.

OR

New Option 3:

The IATI community works together to continually improve the quality of IATI data to ensure it responds to the needs of all stakeholders. Effective data-analysis tools developed by the community can be used to promote greater use of the data and support the achievement of equitable and sustainable development outcomes.

Board Recommendation on Mission

Given the support for **Option 2** the Board's preference is to retain this language with the minor modifications suggested. The recommended language is below:

The IATI community works together 1) to ensure the quality of IATI data is continually improved and responds to the needs of all stakeholders and 2) to provide access to effective data-analysis tools, so that IATI data is used to promote the achievement of sustainable development outcomes.