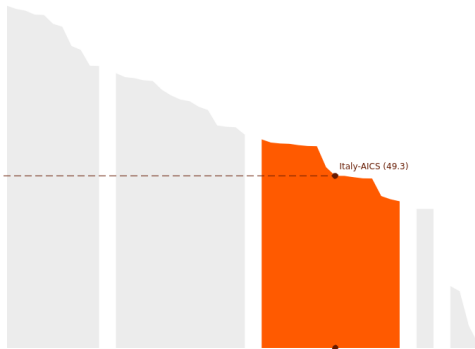


## Italy, Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS)



**SCORE:**  
49.3

**POSITION:**  
35/47

**2020**  
**FAIR**

### OVERVIEW

In January 2016, Italy set up the Agency for Cooperation and Development (AICS). It is responsible for implementing Italy's development work across 20 key countries. AICS is in charge of Italy's IATI publication. It became an IATI member and first published IATI data in June 2017.

**2018**  
**FAIR**

**2016**  
**VERY POOR**

**2015**  
**VERY POOR**

**2014**  
**VERY POOR**

**2013**  
**VERY POOR**

Organisational planning and commitments  
7.1 / 15

Finance and budgets  
13.4 / 25

Project attributes  
13.4 / 20

Joining-up development data  
12.6 / 20

Performance  
2.8 / 20

### ANALYSIS

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) remained in the 'fair' category but with an increase of nearly four points since 2018. AICS published to the IATI Registry on a quarterly basis.

AICS scored below average for the **finances and budgets** component chiefly because it scored zero points for disaggregated budgets and project budget documents. For the **joining-up development data** component, we did not find project contracts and only found project tenders in some instances. For **organisational planning and commitments**, AICS failed to publish key documents including allocation policy, annual reports, and organisational strategy. For the **performance** component, while it did publish objectives, it failed to publish any pre-project impact appraisals, results, reviews, or evaluations. Publication of **project attributes** was inconsistent except for the sub-national location indicator, for which AICS scored zero points, as the information it provided failed to meet the indicator definition.

AICS frequently received lower than average scores because it failed to publish the required information to the IATI Registry, instead providing the information in a mix of other formats. A number of specific issues also stifled its progress. For example, we frequently found descriptions to be copies of the project title, contracts and tenders were often mistakenly tagged as other documents, project budget documents were out of date, and documents tagged as 'reviews and evaluations' were often just project overviews. Finally, AICS failed to meet the sub-national location indicator definition because it only provided national-level information.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- To improve impact transparency, AICS should start publishing performance information including pre-project impact appraisals, results, and reviews and evaluations.
- To improve transparency regarding organisational planning and commitments, AICS should provide allocation policies, annual reports, and organisational strategies, and publish these and other key documents to the IATI Registry.
- AICS should publish key budget documents to the IATI Registry including disaggregated budgets, project budgets, and project budget documents.
- AICS should prioritise identifying and publishing sub-national location data to enable stakeholders to determine where interventions are taking place within a country's borders.

## DEEP DIVE

# Organisational planning and commitments

Score: 7.1 / 15

### ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at the overall aims and strategy of an organisation. We check for any public commitments to aid transparency. We also make sure audits are in place and if planning documents have been published, including by parent organisations (including national governments) where applicable. We make note of any Freedom of Information laws and critically, we make sure that organisations have tried to make their information easy to access and understand. You should not have to be an expert in open data to be able to find and use this information.

#### Quality of FOI legislation

Score: 1.25



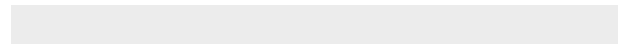
#### Accessibility

Score: 1.88



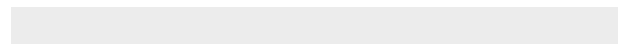
#### Organisation strategy

Score: 0



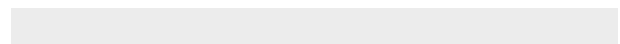
#### Annual report

Score: 0



#### Allocation policy

Score: 0



#### Procurement policy

Score: 1.88



#### Strategy (country/sector) or Memorandum of Understanding

Score: 1.13



#### Audit

Score: 0.94



# Finance and budgets

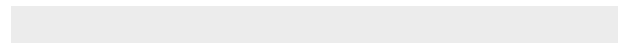
Score: 13.4 / 25

### ABOUT COMPONENT

This component is critical to allow you and anyone else to follow the money. We expect to find the total budget of the organisation being assessed, right down to individual transactions for each development activity. In particular, forward-looking budgets from donors are important for partner country governments to be able to plan their own future finances.

#### Disaggregated budget

Score: 0



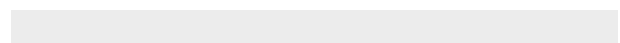
#### Project budget

Score: 1.67



#### Project budget document

Score: 0



#### Commitments

Score: 3.13



#### Disbursements and expenditures

Score: 2.46



#### Budget Alignment

Score: 1.98



#### Total organisation budget

Score: 0



## Total organisation budget

Score: 4.17



## Project attributes

Score: 13.4 / 20

### ABOUT COMPONENT

This component refers to descriptive, non-financial data, including basics like the title and description of a project. Information like this is important as it is often the entry point for data users to quickly understand what a project is about. We also look for other information that helps to put a project in context, such as its sub-national location (rather than simply being pin pointed to a capital city or the centre of a country) or the sector that the project deals with, for example, education or agriculture.

### Title

Score: 0.95



### Description

Score: 0.5



### Planned dates

Score: 0.92



### Actual dates

Score: 0.5



### Current status

Score: 0.95



### Contact details

Score: 0.95



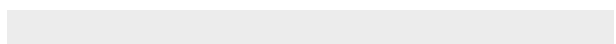
### Sectors

Score: 2.66



### Sub-national location

Score: 0



### Implementer

Score: 2.67



### Unique ID

Score: 3.33



## Joining-up development data

Score: 12.6 / 20

### ABOUT COMPONENT

This component looks at how well a donor's data is able to be linked and connected with other bits of information. There is a diverse nature of flows, activities and actors within the development sector. Aid and development finance data needs to be effectively linked and connected with the rest to provide a

### Flow type

Score: 2.54



### Aid type

Score: 2.54



### Finance type

Score: 2.54



full picture for the user. This can be particularly important for partner country governments, who need to integrate information on aid with their own budgets and systems.

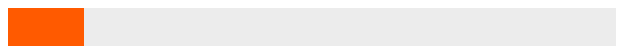
**Tied aid status** Score: 2.19



**Conditions** Score: 2.42



**Project procurement** Score: 0.42



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## Performance

Score: 2.8 / 20

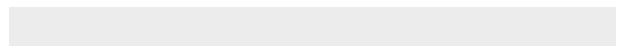
### ABOUT COMPONENT

This component refers to the essential data and documents that assess whether a project is on track or has been achieved. This includes things like baseline surveys, progress against targets, mid-term reviews and end of project evaluations. This information is important to hold donors to account and also to share knowledge with others on what worked and what did not during a project.

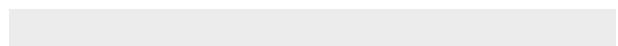
**Objectives** Score: 2.8



**Pre-project impact appraisals** Score: 0



**Reviews and evaluations** Score: 0



**Results** Score: 0

