**IATI-reporting by Denmark’s Strategic PArtners and Pool scheme Managers**

The strategic partnerships and pool schemes falls within the cooperation modality ‘loosely earmarked funds’. As of this year, this modality is recordable and reportable as aid\_type B03 in DAC-reporting as well as IATI Activity Standard.

The partnership period for strategic partners covers the years 2018-2021, but there will only be committed funds for one year at the time. The total frame for Strategic Partnerships lot CIV, from the Finance Act for 2018, is available in [Denmark’s Organisation-file](http://iati.um.dk/api/v2/organisations/files/iati-organisations.xml), including the total frame for the years 2019-2021. This overall budget-information is broken into quarters in current year (pt. 2018), but is presented as annual totals for the pledging years. These tags in the Organisation-file are easily recognised as <budget-line ref="780">. Likewise, the overall budgets for lot HUM and LAB can be found as <budget-line ref="945"> and <budget-line ref="957">.

The agreements with pool-scheme managers are being renewed, covering the period 2019-?, and will also be implemented with annual commitments. These budgets are found in Denmark’s Organisation-file as <budget-line ref="789">.

Denmark’s Activity-file is the vehicle for publication of the individual engagements. The tables in the enclosed spreadsheet contain the unique activity\_id, OpenAid-url and partner\_id’s.



Two partners (BØRNEFonden and PLAN Danmark) has chosen to merge. This fact is not yet reflected in the data.

**Recommended sequence of initial steps**

First of all: Filling in Registry-information in order to become a ‘IATI publisher’.

Step One: Reporting the receipt of funds (IATI Activity-standard).

One Activity is created and published, recording the incoming transaction-types 1, 11 and 13 (Funds, Commitment and Pledge). This activity must refer to MoFA as funding partner, and the relevant activity\_id in Denmark’s Activity-file. Pledging becomes a crucial element in these data, highlighting that these activities cover the full duration of the partnership (2018-2021).

Step Two: Reporting the overall budget of the organisation (Organisation-standard).

The budget-element of the organisation-file is very simple. It only allows organisations to publish disbursement budgets, and only in a flattened format. No hierarchies are possible, but budgets can be repeated with three different shapes: Total budget, budget by country and budget by organisation. The strategic partners are recommended to use the ‘Total budget’ element of the organisation-file, but only present the budget-lines that correspond with the portfolio and volume expected to be published in IATI Activity-standard, i.e. the activities undertaken by the organisation, as a partner in the international development cooperation. Organisations with major responsibilities of no relevance to development cooperation are advised not to include these parts of the organisations total budget in IATI Organisation-standard.

In this overall budget, one budget-line should equal the subsection of the budget and portfolio of the organisation that constitutes the strategic partnership with the ministry of foreign affairs. This budget-line should be referenced from the activity-file, thus identifying the portfolio of activities.

Step Three: Reporting the activities funded under the partnership

Each activity that forms part of the portfolio under a specific ‘lot’ should refer to the specific budget-line in the Organisation-file, using vocabulary no. 4 under country-budget-items.

Building the structure of activities, publishers must pay special attention to the usefulness of data their partners, who always should be considered potential IATI-publishers in their own right. If the portfolio of an organisation has strong hierarchical structures, not reflected in the budget-structure, it is feasible to use the option to create hierarchies in IATI activity-data as well. In that case, the lowest level should hold all transactions, and the individual activities are most feasibly defined as the individual agreements/engagements with partners, or (when the organisational role is ‘implementing’) the activities monitored as a demarcated ‘project’.

In the case of Pool scheme Managers, it is expected that the activity-file will be ‘flat’ – no need for hierarchies but ‘activities’ defined as the individual applications that are granted support, grouped by the budget-line reference into the designated windows for applicants to address.

Building the dataset in the activity-file it is recommended to make the financial transactions the first priority. This will serve the purpose of validating the structure – demonstrating that the figures add up. When this is successfully achieved, it allows for a gradual shift of reporting focus from the bilateral exchange of information in traditional, written reports to openly published data in IATI format.

When the flow of funds is completely reflected, and the activities are tagged with geo-codes, SDG’s and purpose-codes, it will e.g. provide the data that replaces the information currently presented in periodically updated spreadsheets – annexes to written reports.

With the gradual enrichment with e.g. result-reporting and activity-specific ‘descriptions’, it will be possible to arrive at a more effective, digital and data-driven line of communication and cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. But most important: The efforts invested in monitoring and documentation and reporting will be turned into an asset, an open data-source.