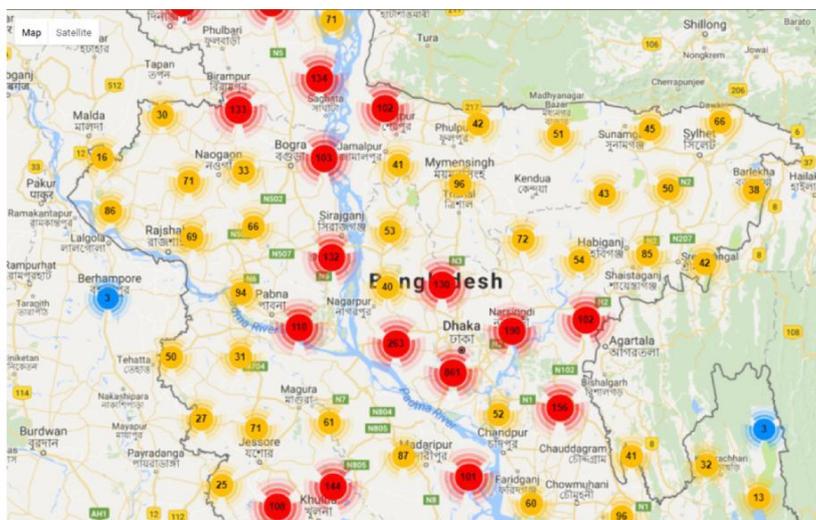


# Spotlight on IATI Data Use: Bangladesh

IATI presents a series of partner country profiles developed by UNDP on behalf of the IATI Secretariat. It should be read in conjunction with the [summary](#) and all findings will be used to inform the initiative's work on data use.

## Key findings

- It is important to strengthen awareness and understanding of the AIMS and IATI data capability and potential among the government entities responsible for the Public Financial Management (PFM) system, as well as among emerging donor countries (firstly Russia, China, India) and Islamic providers to the country.
- The process of ensuring harmonisation of aid data at country level and data from the IATI registry is too onerous and time-consuming.
- There is a need to advocate with IATI publishers for continuous improvement of the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of data from the IATI Registry, taking into account the need to harmonize this data with that which is provided by donor representations at country level.
- Countries or providers that are well represented in Bangladesh are often not IATI publishers, leading to an incomplete picture of resources.
- Further work is needed to refine the import module and its protocol to improve the compatibility and the exchange process between IATI fields, the local AIMS and the Bangladesh PFM system.
- More reliable and complete data in the Bangladesh AIMS will allow for greater integration across government systems and promote stronger, more productive and systematic working relationships with other government services involved in planning, budgeting and result management.



Heatmap of activities in Bangladesh with precise location data from d-portal.org

## Bangladesh involvement in IATI

Ministry of Finance, Economic Relations Division of Bangladesh joined IATI in late 2012 to engage more meaningfully with its development partners and highlight its transparency effort to its citizens. In 2013 Bangladesh was elected as Vice-Chair of the IATI Steering Committee (now Members' Assembly) and re-elected in 2016 to its first Governing Board.

## What IATI data is available?

**Active Projects**  
**1665**  
Total Projects  
**6954**

**% of activities with locations**  
**17%**

**Aid Information Management System**  
Provider: **Techno Vista (Bangladesh)**  
System installed in: **2014**  
Web-link: <http://aims.erd.gov.bd/AIMS/Home>  
Launched in: **2015 (Beta version); 2016 (operational)**

**Main providers not yet publishing in IATI**  
**IMF**  
**Islamic Development Bank**  
**UN WHO**  
**Kuwait**  
**Turkey**

**Number of IATI Publishers**  
**130**

- 2016 Vice-chair of IATI Governing Board
- 2016 Co-chair of the GPEDC
- 2016 DCF Mutual Accountability Survey
- 2016 Development Finance Assessment
- 2016 Global Partnership (for EDC) Monitoring Survey
- 2015 Launched AIMS public portal
- 2014 Global Partnership (for EDC) Monitoring Survey
- 2014 Installed their AIMS
- 2012 Joined IATI

## Top 10 providers of development cooperation (IATI publishers are shown in green)

These top ten providers contributed **3.2 billion US\$** of the country ODA in 2015. This represents **85%** of the total amount reported to OECD (the top twenty providers account for **97%**). Non-IATI publishers represent only **7%** of that total, of which the main provider is the IMF.

1	World Bank	6	IMF
2	Japan	7	European Union
3	Asian Development Bank	8	Germany
4	United Kingdom	9	Australia
5	United States	10	Korea

IATI also displays amounts reported by NGOs & foundations, and a growing number of private cooperation partners (the main ones for Bangladesh are The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Plan International UK, Save the Children UK, Plan International USA & Oxfam GB).

### How does Bangladesh manage aid data?

- Core information on external aid is hosted in an Aid Information Management System built and maintained for the government by a local firm (Techno Vista) since 2014. Information from this system contributes about 25% of the information that is needed to prepare the budget and supply other planning and implementation tools. Remaining information is provided via the debt management database, the iBAS+ (integrated Budget and Accounting System) and the Central Bank.
- Besides traditional government partners, availability of information on NGOs, foundations and South-South and Triangular Cooperation remains difficult to access. This is also true for cooperation provided by countries such as Russia, China and India which do not report to IATI.
- To minimize transaction costs associated with its large donor base, the Government of Bangladesh has requested donors to update their external finance information every quarter, and is keen to automate the import of data from IATI. Accordingly the Ministry of Finance has developed its own import module that has the capacity to carry out 75% of the data transfer from IATI to the local AIMS. Ministry staff have indicated however that not all data are yet reliable enough to be imported from the IATI Registry while there remain too many data inconsistencies such as missing or unclear fields. Timely, forward-looking data matching the national planning cycle therefore remains difficult to access. The Government of Bangladesh reports challenges in validating IATI data from institutions such as OPEC or the Republic of Korea. IATI data is not yet used widely by the government for a number of reasons in addition to the issues of data quality, including a lack of awareness, technical knowledge and user-friendliness of the tools available to access Registry information.
- The Government of Bangladesh is keen to demonstrate that IATI data is useful both nationally and internationally; however, this requires continuing improvement of quality and coverage of data, timeliness and reliability by providers. The government is confident that once clean, reliable and easy-to-import data is available this will lower the burden of data entry and validation at country level and facilitate its full use by national country systems.