

South –South Cooperation Data: Issues around Southern Donors' Aid Statistics

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The Non DAC Donor's Data Availability Index

- What are the data gaps in the Non DAC donor's aid data generated through AidData initiative?
 - the data gap is defined as 'the lack of data for a particular Non DAC donor with specific type of information required in the AidData database'.

<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/government-society/idd/research/aid-data/chapter1.pdf>

The Non DAC Donor's Data Availability Index (Continued)

- There is absolutely no information available for 35 out of 89 fields,
- There are only ten fields for which the information is fully available for all the donors
- Commitment date, start date, end date, effective date, contacts and their role, name of the implementing agency amount disbursed, loan term, grant element are some of the fields for which data is largely unavailable or poorly available.
- 51 out of 89 fields used for capturing Non DAC donor's aid data are also used for reporting by DAC donors in the CRS.

Compatibility of South-South Development Cooperation vis-a-vis IATI Standard

- What are the similarities and differences between classification of CRS, AidData initiative, IATI categorisation
 - Some fields remained the same or renamed in the IATI standard
 - Some new fields have been added in the IATI standard
 - Several fields have been merged into one field in the IATI standard to be provided with or without additional details

Compatibility of South-South Development Cooperation vis-a-vis IATI Standard

- Out of 33 IATI categories, 27 categories are fully compatible with the S-S Cooperation definition proposed by UNDCF background study. Only two categories are not compatible and four categories are almost compatible however it needs some minor modifications or addendum.
- <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/Documents/college-social-sciences/government-society/idd/research/aid-data/chapter2.pdf>

Why southern donor's aid data is not captured?

At the Donor Level

- a. Capacity issues as in some cases - the data had never been gathered and in some cases it had been gathered, but not published.
- b. not interested in being seen as a donor by other donors and/ or by their own constituents
- c. unwilling or unable to cooperate
- d. some data is available on donor websites in the form of annual report However the real time disclosure remains the issue for Non DAC donors as 'some of these databases are not up to date' and could be attributed to lack of 'data transparency'

At the Global Institutional Level

- a. no incentive to report to any global institution,
- b. as there is no formal place in the aid architecture thus they do not report their activities according to standards of DAC donors,
- c. technical and institutional problems of data definitions and collection
- d. collecting and evaluating this data from emerging economies is especially challenging, as there is no standardised reporting

Source: Kharas, 2007; Andrade, 2009; Johnson et al 2008: 9; AidData 2011; One's Data Report, 2010; Betancourt and Schulz 2009: 2

Possible Challenges to the IATI and existing DAC donor's architecture

- Since the access to data on other official flows and official export credit is restricted or confidential in nature and made available only in aggregate form, will the same yardstick be applied for 'non ODA' flows of south-south cooperation providers?
- What if southern providers disclose their export credits and ask IATI to extend its coverage to DAC donors export credit as well?
- Should the scope of DAC's definition of ODA be widened by acknowledging that concessional export credits can be extended for economic development of developing countries, and to facilitate disclosure of export credit flows?