



Number of countries supported by DFID to manage their public finances (including natural resources and extractives) more transparently

1. Results

In 2015-2017 DFID supported 30 countries to manage their public finances (including natural resources and extractives) more transparently.

2. Context

Developing countries need to generate more public resources, use them effectively and protect them from corruption to reduce poverty and exit sustainably from aid. Lack of transparency over Government budgeting makes it difficult to track spending, detect misuse of public funds and hold decision makers to account.

DFID is supporting improved transparency and accountability in 30 developing countries. This is vital for a sustainable exit from aid, strong defence against corruption and building capable and legitimate states, core to DFID's stability approach. This work also contributes towards delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 16 (building 'more effective and transparent institutions').

3. Methodology summary

DFID biannually collects results data from all its departments. As part of this, departments report if they have helped countries to manage their public finances more transparently.

Countries will be counted towards the indicator if:

- (1) There is evidence that public finances are, at least to some extent, managed transparent/publicly available;
- And
- (2) The outputs delivered by DFID funding support on PFM support increased transparency of these processes.

When submitting a return spending departments must provide a very short statement of assurance that both conditions are met. This is quality assured by a DFID statistician.

4. Data sources

Data on number of countries supported is collected directly from DFID departments along with evidence they meet the conditions set out above.

Evidence for the first condition can be gauged by programme level or country level reports e.g. annual reviews, membership (and implementation) of relevant conventions and/or organisations (e.g. the Open Budget Initiative), and/or country scores on relevant transparency indices (e.g. Open Budget Survey etc.).

Evidence for the second condition may be available from project documents (e.g. Business Case, Annual Reviews, independent evaluations whether their country has met the OGP minimum eligibility criteria on fiscal transparency, their country's assessment of Partnership Principles. The Partnership Principles on both anti-corruption and accountability will be relevant.

5. Data quality notes

Data is self-reported by DFID departments, so it is possible there is some understatement of how many countries supported.

Whether a country is counted or not depends on whether the statisticians perceive the qualitative data to meet the standards.