

Open Information Policy

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1.0	September 27 2016	Initial draft	Management
1.1	March 7 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated document template. Added link to public policies. 	Decision Support Manager
1.2	April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIM added in and link to annual reports. Details of fields included in IATI removed. 	Planning, Monitoring and Reporting Director
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1. Openness and transparency

As part of our commitment to positive global change, we make information about our work openly accessible and publicly available. This openness not only ensures that we are accountable to our staff, supporters, beneficiaries and partners, but it also facilitates development and progress in our sector.

The principal ways that we practice transparency are:

- Membership of Accountable Now
- Publication of IATI data
- Strategy monitoring via our Strategy Implementation and Monitoring (SIM) card

2. Accountable Now

Sightsavers is a signatory of Accountable Now (formerly the International Non-Governmental Organisations (INGO) Accountability Charter), which outlines our commitment to a high standard of transparency, accountability and effectiveness.

The Accountable Now reporting framework is an internationally recognised global membership platform, which supports civil society organisations (CSOs) in being transparent and responsive to stakeholders. As a long-standing member, Sightsavers submits a full report on a biennial basis, and an interim report in the intervening years.

The full report asks members to provide examples from across their organisation that demonstrate evidence of activities in line with Accountable Now's 12 Commitments - a wide-ranging set of principles and supporting statements.

Members submit a report which includes a statement from the CEO, audited financial accounts, and self-assessment scores against set of questions. The report is then evaluated by the expert panel at Accountable Now who determined the final accountability score, offer feedback, and produce an Improvement Analysis document that requests a focus on certain highlighted areas in the next submission.

The report is then published on both the websites of the submitting organisation and Accountable Now <https://accountablenow.org/members/sightsavers/>.

Additionally, the network offers a range of training opportunities, workshops and forums where CSOs can discuss and develop accountability tools and processes in collaboration with one another.

3. International Aid Transparency Initiative

The International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) is a global campaign that aims to improve the transparency and accountability of aid funding through the publication of open data to the IATI Standard, which is the IATI coding framework. This data is information about all of the activities that we work on. The IATI Standard allows for information published by different organisations to be in the same format, thereby enabling analysis and research.

IATI data builds a comprehensive global map of aid activity across all sectors and activity themes. As open data it seeks to hold development organisations accountable to beneficiaries, donors, the media or taxpayers.

Sightsavers believes in the value of IATI and has been publishing this data since 2013. We publish IATI data on a quarterly basis and are committed to continually refining and improving the information that we provide.

We are also a keen advocate of IATI to our partners. We work with our downstream partner organisations to enable them to publish to IATI, particularly on our FCDO programmes. Sightsavers is committed to transparency and we encourage the organisations that we work with to be the same.

IATI data is available at www.iatiregistry.org and www.d-portal.org.

4. Strategy Implementation and Monitoring

Our strategy is monitored via an interactive dashboard – the SIM card. In keeping with our commitment to transparency, this dashboard is published on our website.

Strategic objectives have been agreed for the organisation and we track performance against these on either an annual or bi-annual basis, via a set of key indicators. This undertaking involves staff across the organisation and goes through a rigorous checking process. Measuring ourselves against these indicators keeps us accountable for our performance and focussed on our organisational objectives. Any performance issues are discussed by management at all levels.

5. Other Useful Information Links

Our websites hold significant amounts of information and the links below are where you can find many of our publications and policies.

Research

research.sightsavers.org

Annual reports

<https://www.sightsavers.org/how-were-run/annual-reports/>

Publications

research.sightsavers.org/publications/

Sightsavers policies

www.sightsavers.org/how-were-run/accountability-and-transparency/

6. How do I request information?

Requests for further information can be made using the details available on our **Contact Us** page. We will make a best effort to honour requests that we feel are in the public interest. www.sightsavers.org/contact-us/

7. Data protection

Sightsavers is compliant with applicable United Kingdom and European Union data protection and privacy legislation. More information can be found in our privacy policy: www.sightsavers.org/privacy-cookies/



www.sightsavers.org

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